

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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e-paper: [www.topnewsjk.in](http://www.topnewsjk.in)

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-12 Issue-113 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

## BRIEFLY

### Gunshots in Reasi traced to drunk VDC member; terror angle ruled out

SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): The gunshots heard in Reasi last night were found to have been fired by a Village Defence Committee (VDC) member who was in an inebriated state, official sources said. The terror angle has been ruled out.

"Last night, a VDC member residing within the territorial jurisdiction of Reasi district, near the boundary of Rajouri, fired several rounds into the air. He was later found to be under the influence of alcohol," an official said.

He added that no terror-related aspect was associated with the incident.

### Two arrested in UP for Social Media Post on Pahalgam Attack

SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): Two men have been arrested in Uttar Pradesh's Bulandshahr district for allegedly posting objectionable content on Instagram related to the recent terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, according to media reports.

The arrests were made following an investigation initiated by Chhatari police station after they received information about a social media post that was reportedly deemed "insensitive and inflammatory" by local residents, media outlets said.

Citing police sources, media reports stated that the two individuals, identified as Anas and Faiz, were found to have shared content linked to the terror incident in Pahalgam, where 26 civilians were killed after gunmen opened fire on tourists.

"We received information about an objectionable post on Instagram. The matter was immediately taken up for investigation," Tejveer Singh, Superintendent of Police (Rural), was quoted as saying. "During the investigation, the involvement of two youths came to light. Both have been arrested."

A case has been registered under relevant legal provisions, and further proceedings are underway, reports added.

The alleged post surfaced amid nationwide

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## LG Sinha reviews security scenario with Army Chief and Army Commander, Northern Command



SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has asked the Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, who called on him here today to take effective steps not only to bring those responsible for the

Pahalgam terror attack to justice but also to intensify efforts to crush infrastructure of terrorism and its ecosystem.

During the discussion Lieutenant Governor said the nation has full faith in the bravery and valour of our army,

police and CAPFs and they must work in close synergy to identify perpetrators, enablers and OGWs of Pahalgam terrorist killing and pursue the entire chain in a sustained manner and neutralise them.

"Every perpetrator and

supporter of Pahalgam terror attack, whatever his location or affiliation, must be hunted and they must pay the heavy price for the cowardly and dastardly act against our citizens," the Lieutenant Governor told the top army officials.

The meeting also reviewed security mechanisms in place, various short-term, long-term measures and integration and coordination among the various security agencies. The meeting was attended by Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, GOC-in-C Northern Command Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar, Deputy Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Pratik Sharma and GoC 15 Corps Lt Gen Prashant Srivastava.

## Rahul Gandhi in Srinagar, To meet those injured in Pahalgam terror attack



SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday arrived in Kashmir to meet those injured in the Pahalgam terror attack, a Congress leader said. The party leader said Gandhi is likely to visit the Army's Base Hospital in Badamibagh Cantonment here to enquire about the health of those injured in the attack on April 22 that left 26

people, mostly tourists, dead.

Several people were injured in the attack.

Gandhi would also meet various delegations, including from party, and trade and tourism sectors, the leader said.

He said the LoP is likely to have individual meetings with Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha

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## Bandipora Encounter: Overground worker of terrorist killed, Two security force personnel injured

SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): An overground worker of terrorists was killed while two security force personnel were injured in an encounter in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, officials said here.

Security forces launched a cordon and search operation at Kulnar Bazipora in Bandipora district following information about

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## Pahalgam Attack: Houses of two LeT terrorists destroyed in blast

SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): Houses of two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists allegedly involved in the Pahalgam attack were destroyed in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Friday. Jammu travel guide

The houses were destroyed in a blast on Thursday night.

The officials said security forces were conducting searches inside the houses of two LeT terrorists Adil Hussain

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## 3 persons including 2 Navy personnel held for extorting money from Agniveer Aspirants

BHUBANESWAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): Odisha Police arrested three persons including two serving Navy personnel in Khurda district, on the charge of extorting money from Agniveer aspirants during a recruitment drive in November 2024, an officer said on Friday.

The arrested persons were identified as Satyam Chahar, currently working at INS Kesari, Andaman and Nicobar, Vinay Kumar Ray, pres-

ently posted at INS Chilika and retired Navy official Bhoosan, a resident of Uttar Pradesh, the officer said.

The trio were arrested based on a complaint lodged by Lieutenant Commander Adwitiya Singh, a training correspondence officer at INS Chilika, at Balugaon police station on April 19. The case was registered under charges of cheating and extortion.

Khurda SP Sagarika Nath said that the arrest-

ed trio was accused of extorting a huge amount of money from Agniveer aspirants by promising their assistance in police verification, physical examination, and securing a job.

"We have arrested three people and in search of two others allegedly involved in the scam. Hope to nab the remaining two soon," Nath told PTI, adding that the police have informed the Navy to


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## Mehbooba urges religious leaders in Kashmir to remember Pahalgam victims in their prayers

SRINAGAR, Apr 25 (Agencies): PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti Friday appealed to religious leaders in Kashmir to remember the Pahalgam attack victims in their prayers, saying everyone should raise their hands together as one community to pray for the souls of the departed, and for lasting peace across the region. She also welcomed the decision of the authorities to allow Hurriyat Conference chairman and Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq to offer congregational prayers at the Jamia Masjid here.

"Allowing Mirwaiz Umer Farooq sb to lead prayers at Jamia Masjid is a deeply needed &

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## WORLD MALARIA DAY - 2025

25th, April

01  
PREVENT MOSQUITO BREEDING

- Keep surroundings free of stagnant water
- Cover all water containers & frequently change the water
- Disposal of all useless items holding water such as tin/ cans/tyres/bottles etc.

02  
PREVENT MOSQUITO BITES

- Use mosquito net while sleeping
- Use protective clothing (covering full body)
- Use mosquito repellents (creams/ liquid sprays/ mats/coils)

03  
PREVENT ENTRY OF MOSQUITOES

- Mosquito screen for doors/ windows
- Clear weeds and tall grass around the houses
- Improve basic sanitation

04  
FOR FREE TREATMENT AND MORE INFORMATION VISIT

- Nearest Government Health Institution
- ASHA** in your village

STATE MALARIOLOGIST / STATE PROGRAMME OFFICER, NVBDCP, J&K  
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, JAMMU

DIP/J-571/25



**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you of the sad demise of our beloved mother, **Smt. Raj Dulari Gurtu (Raniji)**, wife of Late Sh. Arjun N. Gurtu, originally from 447 Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar, Kashmir, who passed away on Thursday, 17th April 2025.

The 10th Day Kriya will be performed at \_Murad Nagar Ghat (Chhota Haridwar)\_ on Saturday, 26th April 2025 at 7:30 AM.

Following the Kriya, a gathering will be held at our residence: B-4/271, Paryatan Vihar, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi - 110096 at 11:00 AM.

Contact: 9810194530/ 9871634774/ 9560061636



**Smt. Raj Dulari Gurtu (Raniji)**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound sorrow, we inform that **Smt Phoola Kothidar**, W/o Sh M.K. Kothidar D/o Lt Shobawali and Bhagwan Das Durrani R/o presently B-203, Sispal Vihar, Sec-49, Gurugram, left for Vaikunth Dham on 20-04-2025.

**TENTH, ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Haridwar on 28th, 29th, 30th April "May Paramhansa Sri Rama Krishna Bless her at his lotus feet".

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

M.K. Kothidar - Husband  
Amit and Prashansa Kothidar- Son & Daughter-in-law  
Vinu and Rakesh Kaul- Daughter & Son-in-law  
Dulari Tickoo- Sister-in-law  
Usha Safaya- Sister-in-law  
Jai Krishan/Nirja Kothidar- Brother & Sister-in-law  
Upender/Renu Kothidar- Brother & Sister-in-law  
Ipsita Kaul- Grand Daughter  
Idhika Kothidar- Grand Daughter  
**MOBILE : 9867151098, 9004333443, 9149470941, 9892076660**  
**DURRANI'S, KAUL'S, TIKOO'S**



**SMT PHOOLA KOTHIDAR**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Father **Sh. Avtar Krishan Bhat** S/o Lt. Sh. Prem Nath Bhat originally resident of Umaragni (Baniangan), Kashmir presently residing at H.No 491 B, Suraksha Vihar, Paloura Top Jammu who embarked upon his eternal journey towards Hare Krishan's Lotus feet on 18 April 2025.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 27.04.2025, Sunday 9.00 AM at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt. Jaya Bhat - Wife  
(Brother and Bhabhi)  
Sh. Rattan Lal Bhat and Smt. Teja Bhat  
Son and Daughter in Law  
Sh. Vijay Bhat & Smt. Anita Bhat  
Sh. Sandeep Bhat & Smt. Vicky Bhat  
Son in law and Daughter  
Sh. Rakesh Saproo and Smt. Suman Saproo  
Grand Sons and Daughters  
Vignesh, Shivangi, Kaira, Akhilesh, Varika  
Mob: 9858629075, 9419023616, 9419180009



**Sh. Avtar Krishan Bhat**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mr. **K.K. Sharma (Retd Dy Director, Youth Services and Sports Department)** S/o Late Shri Kedar Nath Sharma, who left for heavenly abode on 14th April, 2025.

**Tenth Day Rituals** shall be performed on Tuesday, the 22nd April at 11:00 AM and **KRIYA** shall be performed on 23rd April (Wednesday), both at H.No. 26-J, Lane 6, Tawi Vihar Colony, Sidhra. **UTHALA** shall be performed at Shiv Mandir, Sector 3, Trikuta Nagar on 28th April, 2025 (5:00 PM to 6:00 PM)

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Mrs. Vini (Neena) Sharma (Wife)  
Mrs. Shweta and Mr. Mohinder Sharma (Sister and Brother-in-Law)  
Mrs. Shalini and Mr. Vikas Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-Law)  
Mrs. Shweta and Mr. Dhing Choudhary (Daughter and Son-in-Law)  
Mr. Ronil and Mrs. Hans Jaggi (Nephew and Daughter-in-Law)  
Brothers-in-Law and Bhabhis  
Mrs. Parveen Kuntar W/o Late Shri Jagdish Jaggi  
Mr. Kuldeep and Mrs. Sugandha Malikola  
Mr. Rajnish and Mrs. Jyoti Malikola  
Sisters-in-Law and Co-Brothers  
Mrs. Snehlata and Mr. Naveesh Bhat  
Mrs. Suman and Mr. Ravinder Mahotra

Grandchildren: Vaibhav, Sharmya, Shreej and Divit  
Mobile: 9419243158, 9149477758



**Shri K. K. Sharma**

**10TH DAY AND KRIYA**

"कहने को आत्मा का परिवर्तन अदृश्य साथ और आसीर्वाद पर उग्र मर की अघूरी स्वाहिरों न मूलने वाली उग्र मर की याद"

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Vinod Kumar Kailu (Mrs Kailu Textorium, Udh)** S/o Lt. Sh. Durga Dass Kailu who embarked upon his eternal journey towards Hare Krishan's Lotus feet on 15th April 2025.

10th Day: 24-04-2025 (Thursday) at 11:30 AM, W.No. 13, H.No. 44, Lambi Gali, Udhampur (J&K).

Kriya: 27-04-2025 (Sunday) at 12:00 Noon (Home).

**Grief Stricken**

Smt. Basant Kailu - Wife  
Sh. Sonu Kailu - Son  
Lt. Sh. Monu Kailu - Son  
Miss. Sarika Kailu - Daughter  
All Near & Dear Ones  
Mrs. Kailu Textorium, Main Bazar, Udhampur (J&K)  
Ph. No. 9906291237, 7889646021, 9797518777



**Sh. Vinod Kumar Kailu**

**10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Rohit Kesar** S/o Vijay Vallabh R/o 255, Mehra Mohalla, Toph Sherkhania Jammu.

10th Day will be performed on 26-04-2025 (Saturday) at Toph Sherkhania, Jammu at 10 A.M. Kriya will be performed on 27-04-2025 (Sunday) at Toph Sherkhania, Jammu at 12 noon.

Uthala will be performed on 28-04-2025 (Monday) at Hari Mandir, Rahari Chowk, Jammu at 4 P.M.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

(Father and mother)  
Vijay Vallabh and Sudesh Kesar  
(Brothers and Sister-in-laws)  
Rahul Kesar and Samridhi sharma  
Kewal Krishan Kesar and Swarna Kesar  
Sham Sunder Kesar and Kiran Kesar  
Mobile No : 7298053007, 9419261045



**Rohit Kesar**

**Obituary/ Tenth Day Kriya**

"The soul cannot be pierced by weapons, burned by fire, moistened by water, or withered by the wind."

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Shree Omkar Nath Pandita (Dervesh)** S/o Late Sh. Janki Nath Dervesh of Waterkhani Kupwara A/P L.No. 1, R K Vihar, Behind Ramakrishna Mission Udhaywala Jammu on 20 April 2025(Sunday).

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 29 April 2025 (Tuesday) at 8:30 AM at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education office Jammu.

The mourning from in-laws will be held on same Address.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Pandita (Dervesh), Dass, Koul & Bhat Families**  
7006454327, 9650539383, 7889849367, 6005180573



**Shree Omkar Nath Pandita**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Renu Ganjoo** w/o Sh. Rajesh Ganjoo originally resident of Zaloor Sopore, presently residing at H.No. 31 Gobind Nagar (Bank Colony) Gole Gujral Road, Talab Tillo Jammu, 180002 who breathed her last on 19-03-2025 at a very young age.

10th Day Kriya will be held on 28-04-2025 Monday at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education Jammu) at 8:00 am.

**Grief Stricken:**

Smt. Tosha Ganjoo- Mother in Law  
Sh. Rajesh Ganjoo- Husband  
Miss. Simran Ganjoo- Daughter  
Miss. Shagun Ganjoo- Daughter  
Smt. Simmi Ganjoo and Sh. Sunil Ganjoo - Sister in Law and Brother in Law  
Smt. Fency Pandita and Sh. Anil Pandita - Sister in Law and Brother in Law  
Piyush, Danya, Arin, Kristy- Nephews and Nieces  
**9501544786, 9306601202, 9622045693**



**Smt. Renu Ganjoo**

**Obituary/ 10th Day Kriya**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved mother **Gunwati Pandita** W/o Late Shri Ganesh Dass Pandita R/o Hangalgund, Kokernag, Distt Anantnag who breathed her last on 20 Apr 25 at 1530 hrs at Qasim Nagar, near Exhibition Ground, Jammu.

The Mourning will be held at Durga Vihar, Haji Gali Toll Post Nagrota.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be held at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of school Education) at 0830 hrs on 29/4/2025 (Tuesday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt. Daizy & Sh. Chaman Lal Pandita (Daughter in law & Son)  
Smt. Sulakshana & Sh. Ravi Kumar Pandita (Daughter in law & Son)  
Smt. Basanti & Jai Krishan Koul (Daughter & Son in law.)  
Chand Krishan Bhat H/o Late Sunita Bhat (Son in law)  
Meenakshi Koul & Sandeep Koul (Grand daughter in law & Son)  
Smt. Preeti & Sh. Vinay Raina. (Grand Daughter & Son in law.)  
Grand Children: Monu, Nishu, Neha, Tishu, Khushi  
Mob. No. 9419833812  
C. L. Pandita 9596648300  
Ravi Pandita 9419651919  
Jai Kishan Koul 9419787383, C K Bhat



**Gunwati Pandita**

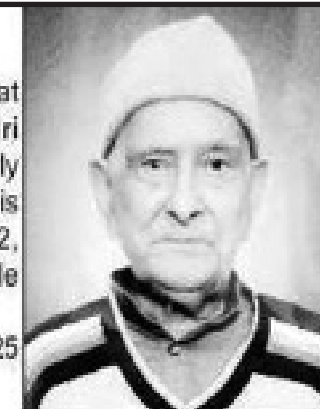
**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow it is informed that the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Badri Nath Kaw** S/o Lt. Sh. Keshav Ram Kaw originally R/o Kawpora Handwara Kashmir breathed his last on 17/4/2025 at his residence H No 124/2, Lane No 3, Govind Nagar Camp Road Gole Gujral Jammu.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 26/04/2025 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat at 9.30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Pyari Kaw - Wife  
Smt. Priya & Bannerji Kaw - Daughter in law & Son  
Bitta & Ramesh Raina - Daughter & Son in law  
Sunita & Amit Bhat - Daughter and Son in law  
Seema and Manoj Pandita - Daughter and Son in law  
Mob number 9797466125 9796810221 9149442145



**Sh. Badri Nath Kaw**

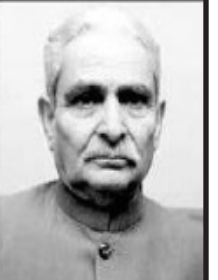
**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Brij Nath Labroo**, S/o Late Sh. Darshan Pandit, erstwhile resident of Ranipora, Anantnag, and presently residing at House No. 18, Durga Vihar, Near Toll Post Nagrota. He passed away on 17/04/2025.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 26.04.2025, Saturday (08:30 AM) at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

**GRIEF-STRICKEN:**

Smt. Kamla Ji (Wife)  
Pyarey Lal Labroo (Son)  
Shubam Ji Labroo and Sunila Labroo (Son and Daughter-in-law)  
Ashok Kumar Bhat and Sunanda Bhat (Son-in-law and Daughter)  
Anshu Ji Raina and Soni Raina (Son-in-law and Daughter)  
Grandchildren: Sachet, Shivam, Rohit, Amit, Ritik, Rakshit  
Somasi Labroo, Ganjoo, Raina, Bhat Parivar. Mobile No: 7006260510, 6006259302, 94195384



**SH. BRIJ NATH LABROO**

**TENTH DAY**

**IN LOVING & EVERLASTING MEMORY OF SMT. RATNI KAUL (25th Feb 1944-17th Apr 2025)**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you of the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Ratni Kaul W/o Late Sh. Roshan Lal Kaul, who left for her heavenly abode on 17th Apr 2025.

The 10th Day rituals shall be performed at Gangnahar Ghat, Murad Nagar, Ghaziabad (U.P.) on 28th Apr 2025 (Saturday) at 7:00 AM.

**REMEMBERED BY**

Archana & Ritesh Kaul  
Rashmi & Sujat Raina  
Nityania, Namish & Shivansh  
Kaul's, Raina's, Padroo's, Bangroo's & Tikoo's  
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: Q-503, VVIP ADDRESSES, RAJ NAGAR EXT'N GHAZIABAD  
CONTACT NO: 9910015812, 9910015416, 7006337019



**SMT. RATNI KAUL**  
(25th Feb 1944-17th Apr 2025)

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely death of our beloved **Pummy Kumari** W/o Sanjay Kumar Pandita R/o Lokipora Sehpora Tehsil Karigund Distt Kupwara. A/p Lane No 16 Block No 74 Flat No 06 R/o Jagti Colony Nagrota Jammu.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held on 30-04-2025 (Wednesday) at Tawi Ghat Nagrota Behind Sainik School Nagrota, Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Phoola Pandita W/o Late Janki Nath Pandita - Mother in Law  
Shri Babu Krishan Pandita - Father in Law  
Sanjay Kumar Pandita - Husband  
Sushma Jai Pandita (Jathari) W/o Late Satish Pandita  
Sh. Pintoo Pandita & Smt. Suman Pandita - Devar and Devrani  
Mayank Pandita - Son  
Vish Pandita - Son  
Mobile No: 9797597887, 7006196335, 7889357182



**PUMMY KUMARI**

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. RATTAN LAL GUPTA** S/o Late Sh. ISHER DAS Gupta, R/o 55-A, SECTOR-4, MARBLE ENCLAVE, TRIKUTA NAGAR, JAMMU on 22nd April 2025.

UTHALA will be performed on 25th April 2025 at SHIV MANDIR SECTOR-3, TRIKUTA NAGAR, Jammu From 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt. Benita Gupta (Wife)  
(Sons & Daughters-in-Law)  
Ravi & Ranu Gupta  
Ajay & Sarita Gupta  
Uma & Seema Gupta  
Pavleen & Inna Gupta  
(Daughters & Sons-in-Law)  
Renu & Ashwini Gupta  
Ravi & Purnesh Gupta  
AND Gupta Family  
Phone No. 9419421239, 9149472899, 9419194412, 9906288647



**Sh. RATTAN LAL GUPTA**

**TENTH DAY**

"The soul cannot be harmed by weapons, scorched by fire, damped by water, or dried by the wind." With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father **Soom Nath Bhat** at H.No. 192, Sector- 2 Janipur, Pamposh Colony, Jammu.

**Tenth Day** will be performed on 30 April 2025 (Wednesday) at 8:30 AM at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education office Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Wife - Prabhawati Bhat  
Shama Ji W/o Lt N Bhat - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Nanney Ji W/o Abhinav Bhat - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Santosh W/o Sanjay Bhat - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Venna Mujoo W/o B L Mujoo - Daughter and Son in law  
Usha Raina W/o S L Raina - Daughter and Son in law  
Sunita Koul W/o J K Koul - Daughter and Son in law  
Grand Children  
Nikhil, Himanshi, Yashu, Ralu, Gudie, Aka, Vickoo, Vibu, Ashu, Amit, Puchu, Yatish  
7006594114, 9419189414, 9419189080, 7006855762



**Soom Nath Bhat**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely death of our beloved **SMT. SATYA DEVI** W/o Sh. Manohar Lal Sharma R/o SANGWAL AP W/o 8 H.No.92 Vijaypur Samba, Who Passed away on Thursday 17-04-2025.

10TH DAY will be held on 26-04-2025 (Saturday).

KRIYA 27-04-2025 (SUNDAY)

UTHALA 28-04-2025 (Monday) at Home W/o 8 H.No.92 Vijaypur

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Sh. Manohar Lal Sharma (Husband)  
(Dever & Devrani)  
Sh. Raj Kumar Sharma & Smt. Sneha Rekha  
(Daughter & Son in Law)  
Smt. Shaveta Sharma & Sh. Devinder Sharma  
Sons & Daughters in Law  
Sh. Akhil Sharma & Smt. Anika Sharma  
Sh. Abhi Rastogi & Smt. Neena Sharma  
Miss. Shavi Rastogi (Daughter)  
Mr. Satvik Sharma & Mr. Davik Sharma (Little Flower)  
Mob - 9419770225, 9541688785, 7788895831



**SMT. SATYA DEVI**

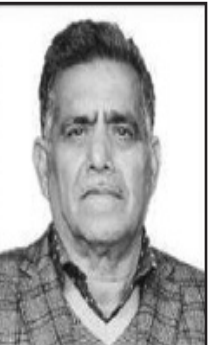
**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sh. Janak Raj Gupta** S/o Sh. Trath Ram Gupta R/o Gharota, Jammu (at present Jawala Colony, Old Sathari, Jammu), who left for his heavenly abode on 17th April 2025 (Thursday).

**TENTH DAY** shall be performed on 26th April 2025 (Saturday) at 11:00 AM at our residence in Jawala Colony, Old Sathari, Jammu near People's Academy School

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt. Kamlesh Rani - Wife  
Daughters-in-law & Sons  
Smt. Priya Gupta & Sh. Rumi Gupta (9018289830)  
Smt. Ekta Gupta & Sh. Rahul Gupta (9622131760)  
Brothers and Bhabhis  
Sh. Jaginder Lal Gupta & Late. Smt. Kamini Gupta  
Sh. Suresh Kumar & Smt. Anjana Gupta  
Daughters and Sons-in-law  
Smt. Goldy Gupta & Sh. Ankit Pal Gupta  
Smt. Ruby Gupta & Sh. Ravinder Kumar  
Grand Children: Saksham, Samarth, Saniksham  
AND ALL MEMBERS OF OUR GUPTA FAMILY



**LATE SH. JANAK RAJ GUPTA**

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EDITORIAL

TAKE AGGRESSIVE ACTION

India stands at the cusp of a new era — one not of restraint, but of resolve. The brutal killing of Sanatani Hindus in Pahalgam has shocked the nation’s soul. The attack, reportedly targeting individuals based on their religion, has awakened not just the Army, but the entire spirit of Bharat — from its defence corridors to its spiritual centers. The nation is no longer willing to tolerate the cancer of terrorism. It is ready to retaliate — fiercely, fearlessly, and finally.

The outrage has surged far beyond politics or policy. It has ignited a deep, ancient fire. Across the country, saints, sadhus, and religious leaders have united in condemnation. Aghori sadhus, known for their fearlessness and ascetic power, have declared themselves ready to march to the border, vowing to devour the evil that walks in the garb of terror. In Ghaziabad’s Dasna temple, Mahamandaleshwar Yati Narsinghanand Maharaj is performing a massive Mahakali Yagya, invoking divine protection for the motherland. The call for divine intervention walks hand in hand with the cry for military might — a rare and historic alignment of faith and firepower.

Experts agree that modern warfare requires more than boots on the ground. The battlefield has expanded to the sky, cyberspace, and satellite zones. The need for pre-emptive strikes, drone jammers, cyber sabotage, and AI-driven threat detection is more urgent than ever. India’s defence strategy is being recalibrated. The whispers of an “Operation Strike First” are getting louder — a doctrine that prioritizes speed, surprise, and overwhelming force against known terror networks before they strike again.

On the ground, the Indian Army, CRPF, BSF, and elite counterterrorism units are on high alert. Reports suggest intensified surveillance along infiltration-prone zones, particularly in the Kashmir Valley and LoC. There is also chatter of deep-strike capabilities being readied — to hit terrorist infrastructure not just in PoK but across the border, wherever threat factories operate. India has already shown its capability in Balakot. The message now is: it will do so again, harder and deeper.

But the war against terrorism is not just to be fought with guns and missiles — it is to be fought with unity and vigilance. The people of India — Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians — are being urged to stand shoulder to shoulder against the common enemy of peace. Communal harmony is being preserved as a sacred weapon against those who aim to divide and destroy.

A core issue also emerging from this national sentiment is the demand for the liberation of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Many believe that the time has come for India to reclaim its rightful territory — not as an act of war, but as an act of justice, of historical correction. Public voices, military veterans, and spiritual leaders alike are pushing for decisive steps to take back what belongs to Bharat. “Break PoK into five parts if you must,” some have declared. “But bring it back.”

India’s defence capabilities are at an all-time high. From advanced BrahMos missiles to nuclear submarines, from cyber warfare units to satellite-guided weaponry, the country has the arsenal. What is being demanded now is the will — the will to use it with clarity, purpose, and precision.

In conclusion, the winds have shifted. The fire that Pahalgam lit is not one that can be extinguished with words or condemnations. It demands action — swift, aggressive, and unforgettable. The world must know: India will protect its people. India will punish its enemies. And India will no longer play the waiting game.

By: Omkar Dattatray

It is not surprising that Pakistan army chief General Asim Munir spewed venom against India and Hindus recently. The army chief said that Hindus and Muslims are two separate people and Muslims have separate culture, traditions, rituals and customs and they are very different from Hindus and thus had its top leader Quid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah laid the foundations of Pakistan as a separate country and nation in 1947 on the basis of well known and feasible two nation theory. It is not uncommon for the leaders of Pakistan to glorify two nation theory and birth of Pakistan. The leaders of Pakistan had been saying so continuously, but, this time these observations have come from a top and chief army general of Pakistan Asim Munir who is a responsible army officer. However these remarks have not come from a horse’s mouth, but still these cannot be taken at their face value. It is not untrue that Munir’s ‘jugular vein’ rhetoric has triggered the unfortunate Pahalgam terrorist attack in which more than two dozen innocent tourists were killed on 22rd April afternoon. Munir’s jugular vein remark has naturally become a talk of town after the Pahalgam terrorist attack. After the Pahalgam terror attack, Asim Munir’s statement is now being viewed as a war cry for terrorists to regroup. The terror attack at Kashmir’s Pahalgam town on Tuesday where terrorists opened fire at a popular tourist spot and killed 26 people came just two days after Pakistan army chief Asim Munir called Kashmir the ‘jugular vein’ .The uncanny timing of the attack has stoked speculations that his statement was a trigger for the terrorist groups to unleash the violence ,especially during US Vice President J .D .Vance’s India visit. Munir’s anti-India rhetoric

came during a meeting of overseas Pakistanis ,in presence of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Spewing venom against India and Hindus ,Munir reiterated Pakistan’s claim on Jammu and Kashmir and defended the two-nation theory that led to the birth of Pakistan in 1947.”Our stance is absolutely clear ,it was our jugular vein ,it will be our jugular vein. We will not forget it. We will not leave our Kashmiri brothers in their heroic struggle. ,”Munir told the crowd. He also stated that there were “stark differences between Hindus and Muslims ” and that the Muslims of Pakistan are “different from Hindus in every possible aspect of life.” He also said, ,”our religion is different .Our customs are different .Our traditions are different. Our thoughts are different. Our ambitions are different. ”He urged Pakistani’s to tell their children not to” forget the story of Pakistan.” India responded to the statement, saying the “only relationship with Pakistan is the vacating of illegally occupied territories by that country.” “How can anything foreign be in a jugular vein? This is the union territory of India,”MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. Munir’s statement,a pathetic attempt to divert attention from the disastrous state of Pakistan’s economic and political situation ,was then interpreted as a war cry and a desperate attempt to quell the fears amid unrest in the country ,which many say could lead to Balkanization. There is also a growing sentiment in Pakistan that Army and the ruling powers have let the population down. Regional analysts also feel Munir’s statement was a call for anti-India terrorists to regroup ,especially in the wake of the passing of the Waqf Amendment Bill. According to Brigadier Rtd. Rahul Bhonsle,Munir’s statement that Kashmir is our jugular vein was a sign that terrorist attacks would continue in Kashmir .”Such an incident which

targeted innocent tourists ,is a disgusting act. We need to make a strategy to fight back US Vice president is in India on a visit and this attack has given an international message as well.Pakistan wanted to send the message that Kashmir and India are not terror safe.”Pak Army chief stated in unequivocal terms that Hindus and Muslims are totally different in all respects and that was the reason that our great leader and father of Pakistan struggled to make Pakistan a full -fledged state in 1947 and we have to protect the state and its Muslim character .Fundamentally Pakistan was founded on Kalima. This remark of Munir found its expression when the terrorists on the other day called innocent tourists to recite Kalma for knowing their identity and when they were unable to recite Kalma, the inhuman and barbaric terrorists pumped bullets on them from close range and killed them .It is also learnt that the savage animals in the form of terrorists also pulled the trousers of the men down to see their private part and ensure that their victims are Hindus and then killed them with sadistic pleasure. The army chief General Munir has spewed venom on India and Hindus thus precipitating the Pahalgam tragedy which resulted in the deaths of 26 innocent and unarmed civilians which has shook whole of India and Jammu and Kashmir. The citizens of India are grieved and are angry. They demand Israeli type attacks on Pakistan and POK as they deserve it as the terrorists who are sponsored by that country have enacted mayhem in Pahalgam in Hamas manner and thus India should attack in Israeli way so that the enemy is taught a strong lesson so that they will not dare in future to inflict wounds on Indian soli and their policy of bleeding India by thousands of cuts is buried once for all. Patience of India is waning and so she should now assert and attack POK as a limited war so that terrorist

masterminds are bombarded and their stooges In India will be discouraged from indulging in terrorists activities. This is the time to take revenge from Pakistan for her involvement in terrorist attacks in Pahagam and other places of our Jammu and Kashmir.PM Modi has said categorically that the enemy will be punished beyond their imagination as they have not only attacked our tourists ,but have dared to attack on India’s soul and as such the enemy has to be punished severely so that he will not again take the liberty of attacking our innocent people and our security forces in ambush. So this is not the time to remain silent but act decisively and protect our sovereignty, our lives and dignity of the people. The people of Indian demand nothing less than a surgical strike on the terrorists camps in POK. Pakistan should be penalized for her misadventures of inciting the indoctrinated youth to indulge in mayhem and thus to resort to targeted killings and thus spoil the peaceful atmosphere in J&K and spoil its economy, tourism and Kashmiriyet which is the syncretism ,composite culture and communal harmony. Pahalgam attack in fact was an attack on humanity and Kashmirs culture and once old brotherhood which today stands broken as a house of cards. To conclude it is clear that Munir’s statement that Kashmir is Pakistan’s Jugular vein is absurd and she be taken to task for such remarks which foment terrorism in India.

*(The author is a columnist, social,KP activist &Freelancer)*

India’s startup surge: A new innovation powerhouse

By: Vijay Garg

In less than ten years, India has transformed from a budding startup landscape into the world’s third-largest startup ecosystem, behind only the United States and the United Kingdom,

In just a decade, India’s startup ecosystem has emerged as a powerful driver of innovation, employment, and national competitiveness. From a nascent startup scene, India has exploded into one of the world’s most dynamic and rapidly expanding startup ecosystems.

The numbers tell a dramatic story, where from approximately 500 Government-recognised startups in 2016, the count surged to over 1.59 lakh by 15 January 2025.

This is not just development, but represents a fundamental change in India’s economic structure, making the country the world’s third-largest startup hub, after the United States and the United Kingdom. The presence of over 100 unicorns depicts the scale and value being created within this vibrant ecosystem.

India’s startup boom, from 2014 to early 2025, is not just a result of entrepreneurial spirit but the outcome of a powerful convergence — the drive of Indian entrepreneurs coupled with proactive government policies designed to nurture a thriving ecosystem.

This remarkable growth highlights the synergy between intentional policy and organic innovation, unleashing hidden potential across the nation. It demonstrates how focused efforts have transformed ideas into successful businesses, paving the way for India’s emergence as a global startup hub.

The exponential growth trajectory of India’s startup ecosystem coincides directly with the rollout of key government programmes and visionary leadership that removed roadblocks and actively fostered innovation. Launched in 2016, these initiatives provided a structured framework that catalysed the entrepreneurial surge. Pivotal to this transformation was the

launch of the Startup India initiative in January 2016.

Envisioned as a flagship programme, its core objective was to cultivate a startup culture, build a robust and inclusive ecosystem, and fundamentally transform India into a country of “job creators instead of job seekers.”

India’s visionary leadership has transformed the nation from job-seekers to job providers, reflecting its entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to building a self-reliant, job-generating economy. It wasn’t just a slogan; it was backed by a comprehensive Action Plan focusing on Simplification, Funding, and Incubation. This framework offered tax exemptions, simplified compliance, and financial support to help early-stage ventures overcome funding and regulatory challenges.

Simultaneously, the Government launched the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in 2016, which fostered a culture of innovation through initiatives like the Atal Tinkering Labs and Atal Incubation Centres. These programmes not only nurtured young talent but also created a robust infrastructure that supported startups across diverse sectors, including technology, healthcare, and manufacturing. AIM’s focus on nurturing creativity and research has played a crucial role in strengthening the ecosystem and preparing it for the future.

In 2024, the Indian Government made a transformative decision by abolishing the angel tax in the Union Budget. Introduced in 2012, this tax had acted as a significant obstacle for investors, discouraging investment by imposing levies on capital raised above fair market value, often hindering critical funding at vital stages. This step has cleared the way for a more investor-friendly environment, fostering growth and opportunity for startups across the nation.

The removal of this tax has been celebrated as a major step towards creating a more investor-friendly environment, helping startups access the funding they need to scale and

succeed.

The decision to abolish the angel tax, alongside other reforms, showcases the Government’s commitment to providing a conducive atmosphere for entrepreneurship to thrive. The growth of India’s startup ecosystem has been far from centralised. While traditional tech hubs like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Gurugram remain significant, a noticeable shift has occurred as entrepreneurs from smaller cities and towns have begun to make their mark.

This democratisation of innovation has been facilitated by the Government’s push for a more inclusive startup ecosystem that is accessible to a broader pool of talent.

Sectors like fintech, healthtech, and agritech have emerged as hotspots for innovation, with over 1,300 active tech startups added in 2022 alone. The Government has played a vital role in fostering growth within these sectors, encouraging investment and providing specialised support to startups that address critical societal needs.

For instance, fintech startups have revolutionised access to financial services, healthtech ventures have improved healthcare delivery, and agritech innovations have brought efficiency to the agriculture sector. Despite facing challenges like funding slowdowns and hiring freezes, the ecosystem demonstrated resilience. In 2023, India added over 1,000 startups, including 400 in emerging areas, underscoring the sector’s adaptability.

The journey of our nation from ancient to modern India is a saga of remarkable achievements and milestones. It begins with the wisdom of great saints, progresses through the profound teachings of Swami Vivekananda and the Upanishads, and extends to the strides of modern innovation like the upagrah (satellite) and the evolution from the traditional Kumbh Mela to the Startup Kumbh Mela. Each chapter of this journey stands as a powerful testament to our nation’s relentless hard work, groundbreaking innovation,

and unwavering self-reliance.

India is now rapidly emerging as a global leader in fostering sustainable, innovative, and thriving startups. As reported by the Press Information Bureau (PIB) on 16 January 2025, the country commemorates nine years of Startup India, a game-changing initiative launched in 2016. National Startup Day marks a key milestone in India’s entrepreneurial journey.

Startup India, launched under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has become a cornerstone of national innovation and growth. It has championed the entrepreneurial spirit across the country, empowering thousands to explore creativity and innovation. As a result, India has become the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world.

India’s startup story is a testament to the indomitable entrepreneurial spirit of New India. Since 2016, our vision has been to drive innovation, provide financial support, and nurture budding businesses. In just under a decade, ideas have evolved into industry giants, and dreams have become tangible realities.

Today, India stands tall, not only as a hub for technology but as a beacon of progress across diverse sectors. Our achievements in areas like vaccination further reflect our scientific prowess and societal resilience.

Inspired by the principles of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family) and Na Phaleshu Kadachana (focus on action, not results), India continues to grow with values at its core. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s push for “Vikas bhi, Virasat bhi” (growth and heritage, hand in hand) defines today’s India — which is modern and aspirational, yet deeply rooted in its rich traditions and culture. India’s story is not just one of economic expansion, but a journey of purpose, passion, and progress.

*(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational columnist street Kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)*



## World Malaria Day 2025 observed across District Doda



### Top News Report

DODA, Apr 25: World Malaria Day 2025 was observed with great enthusiasm across District Doda by the Health Department under this year's theme, "Malaria ends with us: Reinvent, Reimagine, Reignite."

The observance was held under the guidance of Director Health Services Jammu, Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar, and State Malariologist J&K, Dr. D. J. Raina.

The main event was organized by the District Malaria Unit Doda at Government ANMT School Doda, where Chief Medical Officer Doda, Dr. Om Kumar, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

The event was attended by Vidya Kotwal, Principal of Government ANMT School Doda; Umar Anayat, District Epidemiologist;

Mohd Shafi Attu, and Malaria Staff members including Mr. Basharat Ahmed Mir, Liaqat Ali Zargar, Mohd Akbar Dev, and Rajinder Parshad. Faculty members Ms. Naveeda Anjum and Saima Kousar, along with a large number of students, also participated in the programme.

The programme began with a welcome address by Faizan A. Tramboo, Incharge Media Desk of the Health Department, who also elaborated on the significance of World Malaria Day and the global initiatives aimed at eliminating this preventable disease.

Dr. Om Kumar, CMO Doda, in his address, educated the participants about malaria, its symptoms, transmission methods, and emphasized the importance of early diagnosis, timely treatment, and preventive measures such as

using mosquito nets and maintaining hygiene.

Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) material on malaria prevention was distributed among the students and other attendees by the Malaria Unit staff.

Besides the main event in Doda, similar awareness programmes were organized across other blocks of the district, including Assar, Gandoh, and Bhaderwah, under the supervision of respective Block Medical Officers. Health professionals in these areas also conducted educational sessions on malaria awareness, prevention, and control.

The day served as a vital platform to reaffirm the Health Department's commitment toward a malaria-free future and to strengthen community participation in the fight against malaria.

## BLSKS observes World Malaria Day at GHSS Gajansoo with musical play

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS), in coordination with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, marked World Malaria Day 2025 with a compelling blend of cultural expression and public awareness at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Gajansoo, Jammu.

The event, themed "Malaria Ends With Us: Reinvent, Reimagine, Reignite," aimed to re-energize the fight against malaria through education and art. The highlight of the day was the 491st Friday Series Musical Play titled "Machar Dani," which captivated over 250 students and teachers with its engaging message on disease prevention and healthy living.



The program was inaugurated by Rita Angral, Principal of GHSS Gajansoo, who served as the Chief Guest, accompanied by special guests Sandeep Sharma and Ajay Chowdhary, senior educators of the school. A pledge against malaria and substance abuse was administered, and the

Ministry of Social Justice presented a certificate of appreciation to the host school principal.

The BLSKS troupe presented a series of skits and folk performances on themes like "Chara Da Bukhar," "Roko Roko Malaria Gi Roko," and "Machardani De Ve," delivering health messages in a vibrant,

accessible style. The performances aimed not just at awareness but also at promoting India's traditional folk culture, reinforcing unity, health, and national integrity. Dr. M.L. Dogra, Chairman of BLSKS, emphasized the importance of such initiatives in controlling malaria, especially during the monsoon

season when mosquito breeding peaks. He also addressed the dangers of drug abuse, highlighting how addiction damages the brain, not just the liver or lungs, and can lead to fatal consequences like HIV if unsafe practices are used.

The event also included stirring musical numbers like "Savdhan Savdhan Nashakhori Bacha Lo Apne Pran" penned by Dr. Dogra with music by Raju Bajgal, spreading awareness about the perils of intoxication.

Usha Raina, troupe leader, spoke about malaria's seasonal spread and called for community vigilance. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Master Deepak Kumar, celebrating the success of this impactful initiative.

## Dr Rajeev hands over engagement letters to New Anganwadi Workers, Helper

### Top News Report

BISHNAH, Apr 25: Dr. Rajeev Bhagat, MLA Bishnah, along with the CDPO Bishnah, Anjum Ganie, on Friday handed over appointment orders to newly recruited Anganwadi workers and a helper.

The distribution ceremony took place in Bishnah, marking a significant step towards strengthening the grassroots level of child and mother care services in the region.

The newly appointed Anganwadi Workers are Vishali, daughter of Roop Lal resident of Ward No. 1, Bishnah; Priya Bharti, wife of Jagdish Raj resident of Ward No. 2, Bishnah; Diviya Kumari, daughter of Sham Lal resident of Ward No. 2, Bishnah; and Nisha Devi,



daughter of Kuldeep Raj resident of Bamaal. Additionally, Pooja Devi, wife of Rinku Kumar resident of Chak Avtara, Bishnah, received her appointment order as an Anganwadi Helper.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Bhagat congratulated the newly appointed individuals and emphasized the crucial role Anganwadi workers and helpers

play in the holistic development of children and the well-being of mothers in the community.

He highlighted the government's commitment to strengthening the Anganwadi network and ensuring quality early childhood education and nutrition.

Dr. Bhagat urged the new appointees to serve with dedication and sincerity, recognizing their

responsibility towards shaping the future of young children.

Anjum Ganie echoed Dr. Bhagat's sentiments and expressed her optimism about the new team members.

She emphasized the importance of teamwork and community participation in making the Anganwadi centers effective hubs for health, nutrition, and early

learning. Ganie assured the new appointees of the department's full support and guidance in carrying out their duties.

The newly appointed workers and helper expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community and pledged to work diligently towards achieving the goals of the Anganwadi program.

The event was attended by local community leaders and officials from the Social Welfare Department, underscoring the collective effort towards empowering women and children in Bishnah.

The addition of these new members is expected to further enhance the reach and impact of the Anganwadi services in the Bishnah constituency.

## GDC Bishnah celebrates World Earth Day



### Top News Report

BISHNAH, Apr 25: The NSS wing, in collaboration with the Eco Club, observed World Earth Day 2025 by organizing a series of activities under the theme, 'Our Planet Our Power' under the patronage of Dr. Shailu Samyal, Principal of the college.

On the first day, a demonstration on the activity, 'Art out of Waste,' was conducted, where students were taught how to create artifacts from waste paper. On the second day, a slogan-writing event was held, in which ten students participated.

An awareness rally on the importance of 'Save Earth' was also taken out within the college campus by fifty enthusiastic students.

During the rally, students raised slogans advocating for the conservation of Earth and its inhabitants. Along with their active participation in these activities, students also participat-

ed in the Green Olympiad where they won laurels for the college.

The students Muskan Chandan of semester-4, Ariba Ansari and Mohd. Arbaas of semester-2 of ECO Club were felicitated by Principal Dr. Shailu Samyal for being award-

ed with distinction in 'Green Olympiad for Youth' conducted by Teri through online platform.

The entire event of "Earth Day" was coordinated by Dr. Geeta Lakhotra, NSS, PO and Prof. Nisha Bhagat, co-convenor of Eco Club.

## IIC Cell of GCOE organizes Lecture on Intellectual Property Rights

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: The Government College of Education (GCOE), Jammu organized a lecture-cum-awareness programme on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for the students under the banner of the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC).

The event was graced by Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar, who was the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of IPR awareness in academic and professional fields.

Convener of IIC, Cell Sunanda Rani, formally welcome the resource person and highlighting the initiatives of the IIC Cell in promoting innovation and entrepreneurial skills among students.



Dr. Pooja, Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, SPPND Government College, Samba, was the resource person for the programme.

She delivered an insightful session on various aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and its relevance in today's innovation-driven environment.

The event witnessed the pres-

ence of faculty members including Dr. Shubhra Jamwal, Prof. Priyanka Mahajan, Prof. Chanchal Singh, Prof. Kiran Thapa.

The programme concluded with an interactive session where students enthusiastically participated and clarified their queries on the subject.

A formal vote of thanks was given by Dr. Shubhra Jamwal.

## AIBOA Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Committee condemns Pahalgam terror attack, demands enhanced security for bank branches

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: Members of the All India Bank Officers' Association (AIBOA) Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Committee gathered in front of the RBI Jammu and the

J&K Bank Zonal Office at MA Road, Srinagar to solemnly mourn the tragic loss of lives in the recent Pahalgam terror attack.

As a mark of respect and solidarity, bank officers across the region



wore black badges at their respective branches. The gathering stood united in strongly condemning this barbaric act of terrorism.

Members expressed their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and stood in grief and support with them during this difficult time.

While addressing the gathering, Com. Ashwani Pradhan, General Secretary of the Association, and Com. Riyaz Ahmad, President of the Association, made

an urgent appeal to the Home Minister Amit Shah. They demanded the immediate enhancement of security through the deployment of permanent security guards at all bank branches in Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, ensuring the safety of customers, public property, and bank staff.

Additionally, they urged that necessary directives be issued to all banks to minimize the movement of bank staff in sensitive areas, to avoid unnecessary

exposure to risks.

The meeting concluded with the observance of a two-minute silence in memory of the departed souls.

Prominent members who also expressed their condolences included Mufti Shujat Ali, Nikhil Grover, Anil Sharma, Prashant Saini, Showkat Ahmad, Avinash Choudhary, Girish Khajuria, Parshotam Kumar, Rahul Gupta, A.B. Khajuria, Arshad Suhaf, Parvaiz Khan, Balwinder Kumar, among many others.



## Celebrity hairstylist Darshan Yewalekar believes in blending traditional techniques with modern innovations

One has long heard of 'accidental' actors in the industry, we met an 'accidental' hair stylist—Darshan Yewalekar. He styled stars in films like Padmaavat, Bajirao Mastani and Laal Kaptaan; worked with top stars like Salman Khan, Akshay Kumar, Vicky Kaushal and Jaideep Ahlawat, and is fondly called 'Hairdresser-in-Chief' of Ranveer Singh. And, this small town boy landed in the industry, per chance!

A young lad from Bhushawal, Maharashtra, all he wanted to do was to study in a big city. Someone pointed out to his father, "Ye 60 percenter padayi karke kya hi kar lega...send him to do hair styling." With his mother working in a beauty parlour, the family took the suggestion well. Thus, Darshan began his journey at 17, moving to Pune, training under the legendary Hakim Aalim before landing on film sets in Mumbai.

"Having worked with the who's who of the industry, I realised early on that a hairstylist has a big role in making a character believable," shares Darshan. Getting to work with Ran-

veer opened up a whole new vista. "Ranveer has upped the ante of men's styling more than anyone else in recent times."

Darshan talks about Bajirao Mastani and how he vociferously advocated that Ranveer should go bald. "To ask a mainstream actor to go bald for the shoot was too much to ask for! But I believed in myself and was fortunate that we saw it through."

The culture of creating characters has got an overhaul and Darshan is pretty kicked about it. "Now I get a script and am part of the entire process." Having styled Ranbir Kapoor in Saawariya in messy medium-length hair to the rather suave Saif Ali Khan in dreadlocks in Laal Kaptaan, Darshan's work has increased manifold. Darshan wishes to design the entire cast now. "In some upcoming films of mine, I am designing looks of 70 to 80 characters with my team."

Among the most challenging projects that Darshan has helmed, he count 83 to be right on the top. "To create 'Kaps' look for Ranveer was a tough one as Kapil Dev



is a living legend. Even though one trusted Ranveer to get into the skin of the character, there had to be a certain likeness."

Much in love with AI, Darshan finds in it a compelling tool. "When I started, people would give references for looks. Today, one can be creative and convert one's imagination into any visual. Thanks to AI."

He is happy that there is increasing accep-

tance in the industry. "For the film Chhatriwali, Satish Kaushik wore a wig. I suggested that we introduced a new wig each time. He played a factory owner who had a store where he would keep all his wigs," he shares.

Working with celebs, do they come with all their quirks? "Celebs are celebs; not just on the basis of their looks but they are very hard-working folks too, ones who take their looks as

well as craft very seriously." Darshan takes his job as seriously and is open to sharing his vision. "A star may not agree with my vision but as long as you sit with them and explain how you perceive the character, it all falls in place."

Prosthetics make his job even more fun, but challenging at the same time. Darshan believes about 80 per cent goes according to vision, but 20 per cent is dependent on real-time location. "In Laal Kaptaan, for Saif Ali Khan's look everything was decided after careful consideration. But still I wasn't convinced about the beard. So, we worked two hours right on the day of shoot to finalise the look." He is quite excited about upcoming film, Yash-starrer Toxic. "I am exploring new spaces. Each day I wake up with the excitement to do something different."

The stylist, who founded D Barbershop in Mumbai, seamlessly blending traditional techniques with modern innovation, aims at more each day. "I want to elevate Indian hair styling to global standards," he signs off.

## Theatre thespian Neelam Mansingh Chowdhry speaks about the books that shaped her life's journey



I can map my life in terms of the books that have influenced me. I remember when I was in college, I read The Catcher In The Rye and Raise High The Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour by JD Salinger. These books made me understand what it meant to be adolescent, the concept of family and that darkness existed along with light. That was the new form of writing that I experienced.

As I turned older, I read Zen Flesh, Zen Bones, by Paul Reps and Nyogen Senzaki, which are short stories in Zen Buddhism. These gave me a certain understanding on what

to shed or expunge from the system. As in how not hold on to anger, meanness and toxicity, and how to keep on doing a sort of mental flossing.

Later, I grew with the books that I read. In fact, mine were very typical—One Hundred Years of Solitude by Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez—my introduction to magic realism through which I realised that one could explore many other worlds, one could let one's imagination in any direction one wished. I was really taken in by Salman Rushdie, especially his Shame, and, of course, his latest

Knife: Meditations After An Attempted Murder, which shook the core of my being. When Was Modernism by Geeta Kapur is an academic read that made me understand what it meant to be modern in art, philosophy and political standing. Then there are other books by BR Ambedkar. These opened up mind, heart and spirit to alternative ways of thinking; to expand your horizon, to know that there is no single kind of thinking.

I understood through my reading that this whole concept of individuality or being put into silos is not how it was. The characters in all these books are not slotted, it's not a menu card, which you take home. But ever-changing and ever-evolving. My current read is The Ex Daughters of Tolstoy House by Arunima Tenzin Tara, It's a very blood-soaked kind of a book, a kind of gothic novel set in Lutyens' Delhi; it talks about misogyny of desi men. The debut book of this young girl has a very interesting and unusual take on many things—maleness, being part of a social strata. Characters feel like people you know, but the twists and turns are completely unexpected.

## Hina Khan 'wholeheartedly, unconditionally' supports India's resolve to avenge Pahalgam attack: 'As a Muslim...'

Actor Hina Khan has penned a lengthy note as she condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack, saying that those who carried out the act aren't human beings to her. Taking to Instagram, Hina also asked everyone to stand united during these trying times. She also urged the Kashmiris to "bring back our brothers and sisters from the Kashmiri Pandit community".

Hina Khan condemns Pahalgam terrorist attack

Hina also said that the attack affected her mental health, adding that the tragic incident broke her heart. She said that she stands with India, and our security forces. Hina further wrote that she believes "all religions are safe and same in my beautiful country". She wrote, "Condolences. Dark Day. Teary Eyes. Condemnation, Calls of Compassion. Nothing means anything if we fail to accept the reality. If we don't accept what really happened, especially as Muslims, everything else is just talk. Simple talk.. A couple of tweets and that's it."

Hina Khan says 'as a Muslim I want to apologise'

Hina called the terrorists "heartless, inhuman and brainwashed" people. "The way this attack was conducted by heartless, inhuman, brainwashed terrorists who claim to be Muslims is beyond appalling. I can't imagine if a Muslim was forced to revoke his religion at gunpoint and was killed anyway. It breaks my heart. And as a Muslim, I want to apologise to all my fellow Hindus and my fellow Indians. People who lost their lives..Heartbroken as



an Indian. Heartbroken as a Muslim. I can't get over what happened in Pahalgam," she added. Pahalgam attack affected Hina's mental health

The actor said that she is praying for those affected in the attack. "It has affected me and my mental health.. But it's not about me, and it's not my pain. It's the pain of everyone who lost their loved ones. It's the pain every Indian is feeling. I am praying for their strength and peace. I am praying for the souls who we lost. And we must not mince words. I condemn it. I reject it. And I hate those who did it. Wholeheartedly, absolutely, unconditionally," she added.

Hina has a message for citizens of India

Hina also said that she will support India's "resolve to avenge this unconditionally". She wrote, "Those who did this can follow any religion. They are not human beings for me. As embarrassed as I am for the act of some Muslims. I pray to my fellow Indians to not alienate all of us. All of us who call India our home and our motherland. If we end up fighting each other. We would be doing what they want us to do, to divide us,

to keep us fighting and we must not let that happen as Indians. And as an Indian, I stand with my nation, our security forces and I support our country. As an Indian, I believe all religions are safe and same in my beautiful country. I will support my country's resolve to avenge this unconditionally. No excuses. No questions."

Hina has a special request for fellow Kashmiris

In a message to the people of the Valley, Hina urged them to "bring back our brothers and sisters from the Kashmiri Pandit community". "Kashmir. I see change, I see an urge to sustain normalcy. I see the pain and loss in the eyes of the regular Kashmiri. I see faith and loyalty for India in the heart of the young Kashmiri. I see a passion to do well and make India proud in the Kashmiri of today. I feel bad for the regular Kashmiri who is battered in all this hate," she added.

"Relieved to see so many tricolours in the Valley from the past few days. I appreciate the chants of love for India. I hope this continues forever. As a Kashmiri Indian I appreciate how they positively support Kashmiri spirit of brother-

hood. How they want to get out of this vicious cycle of hate and grow in life.. I ask my fellow Kashmiris to extend this spirit and bring back our brothers and sisters from the Kashmiri Pandit community. Will you accept it? I do (wholeheartedly). My first vote.. I wish that you not just support it but facilitate it. You proved that tourism was never a cultural invasion.. IYKYK. It is in fact the source of livelihood of many, many Kashmiri houses.. Now it's time we Kashmiris bring back our Kashmir where a Kashmiri pandit lived like a family with their fellow Kashmiri Muslims.. I believe in coexistence, period," she added.

Hina also wrote that she wants justice for the victims. "Lastly, I want justice as an Indian, as a Muslim and as a human being. We all must come together and support India in these testing times. Let's not give them what they want.. we must come together as one people. No politics. No divisions. No hate. No matter what. We are Indians first (folded hands emojis). Jai Hind (National Flag emoji)," concluded her note. She captioned the post, "Peace and Love (folded hands emoji)."

About Pahalgam attack

The attack, which targeted tourists in the Baisaran meadow of Pahalgam, claimed the lives of 26 people, including 25 Indians and one Nepali citizen. Several people were also injured. It is considered one of the deadliest terror attacks in the region since the 2019 Pulwama bombing, in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed.

## Palak Tiwari on her fashion sense: Our generation is confident in its own style



Palak Tiwari might be a new face in the film industry, but her sartorial choices have been making headlines from even before she made her debut. "What I have learned from my mom (actor Shweta Tiwari) is that fashion is comfort and whatever you look good in. So, comfort is my fashion language.

Whatever makes me feel the most comfortable and my most confident is what I like to wear. And in a time when you are getting styled for all occasions, your personal style becomes just a pair of baggy jeans and a t-shirt," Palak Tiwari says.

The actor, who is set to arrive on the big screen

with her next release The Bhootnii, feels the current lot of actors stands apart in their style due to their confidence. "Our generation is confident in its own style, and we don't take the pressure of people's judgement. Now, we're facing it so much that we have become desensitised to it. It's like, 'You're going to criticise me anyway, so I might as well do what I want to do'," she says.

Talking of judgement, does she feel the pressure of being presentable at all times due to the limelight? "The pressure of looking presentable at all times used to bother me initially in my career. My first few months of being papped, I used to worry about it. But now, I like people knowing that I'm human, that I have bad hair days and I don't have great skin all the time. We need to normalise this a lot more," she responds.

Even though people look up to her style, she

doesn't take the pressure of that responsibility. "I don't take the pressure of creating trends. If we go into it with that intention, then it will never happen. Trends are created when people are feeling their most comfortable and that's why they look so effortlessly cool, and you want to recreate that. The best thing you can do is just not follow any trend at all," she says.

As amazingly as she pulls off western wear, she rocks Indian attires too. Sharing his love for traditional wear, she says, "I love this about our traditional fashion that we've evolved it with time, and we've modernized it. We've made it so with the time and so present. I will look as modern in my Indian traditional wear today, as I will in my western wear. I will look as young as I can with my tank top and jeans, as I will in my kurtis and jeans. It is something that only India has done."

## Ageing gracefully is actress Demi Moore

Actress Demi Moore sets an example for many on how one can age gracefully without feeling any pressure and still look stunning at 62. She has been part of the cultural moment where women in their 50s, 60s, and 70s are being celebrated and recognised. Moore believes things are "very different" today than they would've been in the past. "I think that there was a sense of things ending at a certain point as opposed to the reality, which is just that we're evolving, it's not ending," she said.



"I have also thought recently about this idea that ageing and being old are not the same thing. And somehow we've confused that and that ageing actually is a tremendous gift," the actress said. "I would not trade -you could not pay me to be 21. As good as it might sound, it was torture," she added while speaking at the Time100 summit, according to The Hollywood Reporter. She shared that she is in a "peaceful space of acceptance and freedom".



# Amit Shah dials all CMs, asks them to ensure no Pakistani stays in India beyond deadline

NEW DELHI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday called up the chief ministers of all the states and asked them to ensure that no Pakistani stays in India beyond the deadline set for leaving the country, sources said.

India on Thursday announced revoking all visas issued to Pakistani nationals from April 27 and advised Indian nationals residing in Pakistan to return home at the earliest, as tensions between the two countries escalated over the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, mostly tourists, on Tuesday.

The home minister personally called up the chief ministers of all the states and asked them to ensure that no Pakistani stays in India beyond the deadline, sources said.

The chief ministers were also told to identify the Pakistani nationals staying in their respective areas and ensure their deportation, the sources said.

The revocation of visas does



not apply to the long-term visas already issued to Hindu Pakistani nationals, which "remain valid".

India announced suspending visa services to Pakistani nationals with immediate effect over the cross-border links to the Pahalgam attack, the worst terror strike targeting civilians in the country since the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.

In addition, the government on Wednesday announced that Pakistani nationals will not be permitted to travel to India

under the SAARC visa exemption scheme (SVES) and any Pakistani national currently in India under the SVES visa has 48 hours to leave the country. The deadline ends Friday.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asserted that India will "identify, track, and punish" every terrorist and their "backers" involved in the Pahalgam carnage and pursue the killers to the "ends of the earth", as India stepped up the diplomatic offensive against Pakistan.

Delivering a stern message

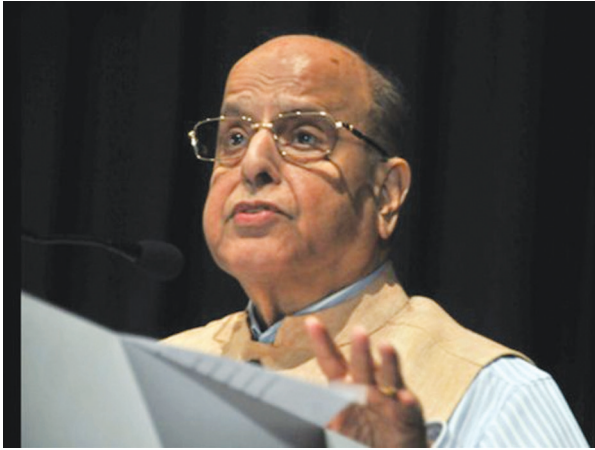
in his first public speech after the Pahalgam attack at Madhubani in Bihar on Thursday, Modi vowed that terrorism will not go "unpunished" and that every effort will be made to ensure that justice is done, adding that India's spirit will never be broken by terrorism.

At an all-party meeting held here on Thursday, leaders across party lines called for a decisive action against terrorism and terror camps, assuring the government of their full support.

Simultaneously, India also informed Pakistan of its decision to keep the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 in abeyance with immediate effect, saying Pakistan has breached its conditions.

Sustained cross-border terrorism by Pakistan targeting Jammu and Kashmir impedes India's rights under the Indus Waters Treaty, Water Resources Secretary Debashree Mukherjee said in a letter addressed to her Pakistani counterpart, Syed Ali Murtaza.

# Former ISRO chief K Kasturirangan dies at 84



BENGALURU, Apr 25 (Agencies): Former ISRO chief and chairperson of drafting committee behind the ambitious new National Education Policy (NEP) K Kasturirangan passed away in Bengaluru on Friday, officials said.

He was 84 and is survived by two sons, family sources said adding, he was suffering from age-related ailments for the past few months.

"He left for heav-

enly abode this morning at his residence in Bengaluru. His body will be kept at Raman Research Institute (RRI) for paying last respects on April 27," the officials said.

Known as the man behind education reforms listed in NEP, Kasturirangan had served as chancellor of the Jawaharlal Nehru University and chairman of the Karnataka Knowledge Commission.

He had also served

as a member of the Rajya Sabha (2003-09) and as member of then Planning Commission of India.

Kasturirangan was also the Director of the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru from April 2004 to 2009.

The former ISRO chief was born on October 24, 1940 at Ernakulam in Kerala to C M Krishnaswamy Iyer and Visalakshi.

Hailing from Tamil Nadu, his family had settled at Chalakudy in Thrissur district. His mother was hailing from Palakkad Iyer family.

The space scientist served as the ISRO chairperson for nine long years before demitting his office in August 2003.

For his exemplary work he was awarded Padma Vibhushan in the year 2000.

# I suspect intelligence failure, someone must be held accountable: Ex-Army chief on Pahalgam terror attack

KOLKATA, Apr 25 (Agencies): Former Army chief General Shankar Roychowdhury (Retd) on Friday said the Pahalgam terror attack was due to "intelligence failure" and demanded accountability at the highest levels.

Speaking to agency, Roychowdhury, the country's 18th Army chief, said, "I suspect intelligence failure. Somebody must answer for the lapses. There is definitely someone responsible for negligence and they must be held accountable for the consequences."

He also said Pakistan and its intelligence agency ISI (Inter-Services Intelligence) have a role behind the Pahalgam attack, where 26 civilians, mostly tourists were shot dead by terrorists in front of their family members.

"There must be complicity somewhere. How did so many infiltrators manage to get through? This needs to be investigated," he added.

The Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) proxy group, The



Resistance Front (TRF), has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Asked whether the Indian government's diplomatic sanctions on Pakistan were an adequate response, Roychowdhury said, "The diplomatic steps taken are not enough. Resistance measures will have to be taken. What shape they take depends on us. Conventional measures would not be enough."

"We will have to react in kind, that is the only way I see it. We must retaliate by maintaining international diplomacy. Enough is enough," Roychowdhury said.

On the possibility of an insider assisting the attackers, he said, "I

am not suggesting that directly, but we must keep our eyes and ears open. Pakistan and the ISI have always played an active role. We have our own intelligence agency, RAW, and we must utilise it effectively."

On whether Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir's statement on Kashmir acted as a catalyst for the terrorists, Roychowdhury said, "I think that is the only thing that works in Pakistan. Definitely, that worked as an impetus for terror outfits. I must say attacking civilians must not be done."

General Munir in a recent address had described Kashmir as Pakistan's "jugular vein".

# 'Time to strike again': Ex-Air Force chief Arup Raha cites Uri, Balakot as precedent

KOLKATA, Apr 25 (Agencies): Former Chief of Air Staff Arup Raha has advocated for a military offensive against 'Pakistan-sponsored terrorists' in the wake of the Pahalgam bloodbath, asserting that India has shattered the 'myth' that two nuclear powers cannot engage in conventional warfare, citing strikes after the Uri and Pulwama attacks.

Referring to the Army's retaliatory surgical strikes on militant launch pads in Pakistan-administered Kashmir following the Uri attack, and the subsequent Balakot air strike after the Pulwama convoy bombing, the retired Air Chief Marshal said India has "done well in the past in punishing perpetrators of terror."

"It's imperative that the Indian armed establishment repeats those counter-offensives so that our enemies know who they are dealing with. This is the need of the hour," Raha told agency.

"The how and when of such operations is something that I am no longer in a position to spell out. But I can say this: we have done it before at Balakot and Uri. We are



used to (doing) it and we can do it again. India has already busted the myth that one nuclear-powered country cannot use military force on another," he added.

Raha made the remark a day after India downgraded diplomatic ties with Pakistan, expelled Pakistani defence advisors and visa-holding citizens from the country, sealed the Attari integrated check post and suspended the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty in response to the dastardly terror attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir where at least 26 civilians, mostly tourists, were gunned down in front of their families.

"The military establishment of Pakistan has no shame left," he said.

"That country suffered the ignominy of surrendering 93,000 prisoners of war as a result of its

1971 misdeeds. The nation is now in dolldrums and is extending its begging bowl to virtually every country that would help. And in times like these, the Pakistani military is seeking revival by promoting such acts of terror," Raha said.

Asked if he was certain about the Pakistani armed forces' involvement in the Pahalgam massacre, Raha responded, "Do you have any doubts on that?"

Underlining the need for upping the task of "actionable intelligence gathering" by means of advanced technological warcraft like satellite imageries, drones and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to effectively tackle terror infiltration, the air force veteran stressed that the tried and tested mechanism of information gathering

through human intelligence should also be made foolproof.

"Effective and actionable intelligence is the only means to prevent such attacks in future. Intelligence gathered through technology must be corroborated by multiple sources to make them actionable. That's where human intelligence plays a crucial role," Raha said.

"We have suffered on account of intelligence failures in the past. We are suffering even now," he added, hinting at possible intelligence lapses failing to stop the Pahalgam attack.

Stating that "fundamentalist forces" must be treated with strong-arm military tactics besides imposing diplomatic and economic embargoes, Raha said that the Indian democracy needs to overcome its inherent challenges to rise to the occasion.

"The steps taken by the Indian government are important and hard-hitting. But they may not be sufficient to bring Pakistan-sponsored militancy to its knees," the officer said.

On September 28, 2016, eleven days after

the Indian Army headquarters in Uri were attacked allegedly by Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), a Pakistan-based jihadist terror outfit which killed 19 soldiers and injured many more, the army conducted pre-emptive surgical strikes on terror teams who were preparing to "carry out infiltration and conduct strikes inside Jammu and Kashmir and in various cities in other states." Jammu travel guide

The operation allegedly neutralized some 150-odd militants, the army said.

Two-and-a-half years later, on February 26, 2019, a dozen fighter jets of the Indian Air Force crossed the Line of Control and bombed JeM training camps in Balakot and claimed to have killed nearly 350 terrorists.

The retaliatory strike was carried out after a convoy of trucks carrying Indian security personnel was attacked by a vehicle-borne suicide bomber on February 14 in Pulwama, killing 40 CRPF jawans. The responsibility of the attack was claimed by the JeM.

# Social activist Medha Patkar arrested in 23-year-old defamation case

NEW DELHI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Social activist Medha Patkar was on Friday arrested by the Delhi Police, two days after a local court issued a non-bailable warrant against her in a 23-year-old defamation case filed by Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena, when he headed an NGO in Gujarat.

The case, initiated by Saxena in 2000 when he led the National Council for Civil Liberties, stems from a press release issued by Patkar on November 24 that year. In the press release, she had labelled Saxena a "coward" and accused him of being involved in hawala transactions. She had alleged that he was "mortgaging" the people and resources of Gujarat to foreign

interests.

These statements, a magisterial court ruled last year, were not only defamatory but also designed to provoke negative public sentiment.

On May 24 last year, the court found her guilty of defamation. It concluded that her comments constituted a direct assault on Saxena's personal integrity and his role in public service. Following arguments on sentencing, which concluded on May 30, 2023, the court reserved its judgment on June 7.

On July 1, Patkar was sentenced to five-month simple imprisonment. However, she later secured probation of good conduct, with a condition to deposit



a fine of Rs 1 lakh. The Sessions Court, under Judge Vishal Singh of the Saket court, granted this leniency recently on April 8.

Despite this concession, Patkar failed to appear in the court on Wednesday for the formal furnishing of probation bonds and payment of the fine. Her

absence, combined with non-compliance, led the court to issue a non-bailable warrant through the Commissioner of Delhi Police.

"The intention of convict Medha Patkar is apparent that she is deliberately violating the court order. She is avoiding appearing before the court and

also avoiding to accept the terms of sentence passed against her. There is no order of suspension of sentence passed by this court on April 8," read the court order.

Judge Singh further noted that the court is left with no option but to enforce the production of convict Patkar through coercive order. "Issue NBWs against convict Medha Patkar, through the office of Commissioner of Police, Delhi Police, for the next date," read the order.

The court had also fixed May 3 as the next date of hearing and warned that failure to comply with its orders may result in reconsideration of the "benevolent sentence" granted earlier.

# 3 Chennai college students drown in Coimbatore river



CHENNAI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Three college students from Chennai have drowned in the outflow channel of the Aliyar reservoir in Pollachi, near Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore, this morning.

Those dead have been identified as P Tarun Viswastharangan, Revanth M and G Joseph Anto Jeniff, all physiotherapy students of a private college in Chennai. Investigators say the tragedy occurred when the students got down to bathe in the water body.

"There was no heavy outflow in that place, but it was deep. We are investigating," Dr K Karthikeyan, Superintendent of Police (SP) of Coimbatore,

told agency,

Fire and rescue personnel rushed and extricated the bodies of the students. Videos show emotional scenes as fellow students broke down as rescuers brought their bodies to the shore. Coimbatore Police has registered a case.

Police say around 25 students from the Saveetha College of Physiotherapy were on an official trip from the college to this area with their faculty.

The Aliyar Dam, part of the Parambikulam-Aliyar basin, is a popular tourist spot in Pollachi. However, these stretches are also known for their depth and sometimes treacherous waters.



## Ukraine says Russia kills 3 in another drone attack after Trump rebukes Putin

*Officials say a Russian drone has struck an apartment building in a southeastern Ukraine city, killing three people and injuring 10 others*

KYIV, Apr 25 (Agencies): A Russian drone struck an apartment building in a southeastern Ukraine city, killing three people and injuring 10 others, officials said Friday, a day after U.S. President Donald Trump rebuked Russia's leader for a deadly missile and drone attack on Kyiv while Washington endeavors to stop the more than three-year war.

Among the civilians killed in the nighttime drone strike in Pavlohrad, in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region, were a child and a 76-year-old woman, the head of the regional administration, Serhii Lysak, wrote on Telegram.

Russian forces fired 103 Shahed and decoy drones at five Ukrainian regions overnight, Ukraine's air force reported. Authorities in the northeastern Sumy and Kharkiv regions reported damage to civilian infrastructure but no casualties.

Russia pounded Kyiv in an hourslong barrage Thursday, killing at least 12 people and injuring 87 in its deadliest assault on the Ukrainian capital since July.

The attack drew a rare rebuke of Russian President Vladimir



Putin from Trump, who has said that efforts to end the war are coming to a head.

"I am not happy with the Russian strikes on KYIV. Not necessary, and very bad timing. Vladimir, STOP! 5000 soldiers a week are dying," Trump wrote in a post on his Truth Social platform. "Lets get the Peace Deal DONE!"

Trump's frustration is growing as his effort to get a peace agreement between Ukraine and Russia has failed to make a breakthrough. Senior U.S. officials have warned that the administration could soon give up attempts to stop the war if the two sides do not come to an agreement.

Trump envoy Steve Witkoff was expected to meet with Putin in Moscow on Friday, their second meeting this month and the fourth since February.

Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy plan to arrive in Rome on Friday for the funeral of Pope Francis in the Vatican's St. Peter's Square on Saturday. It wasn't immediately clear if they would meet separately.

Russian forces used Thursday's Kyiv attack as cover to launch almost 150 assaults on Ukrainian positions along the roughly 1,000-kilometer (620-mile) front line, Zelenskyy said late Thursday.

"When the maximum of our

forces was focused on defense against missiles and drones, the Russians went on to significantly intensify their ground attacks," he wrote on Telegram.

Western European leaders have accused Putin of dragging his feet in the negotiations and seeking to grab more Ukrainian land while his army has battlefield momentum.

Trump accused Zelenskyy of prolonging the "killing field" by refusing to surrender the Russia-occupied Crimea Peninsula as part of a possible deal. Russia illegally annexed that area in 2014. Zelenskyy has repeated many times during the war that recognizing occupied territory as Russian is a red line for his country.

Zelenskyy noted Thursday that Ukraine agreed to a U.S. ceasefire proposal 44 days ago, as a first step to a negotiated peace, but that Russian attacks continued.

During recent talks, Russia hit the city of Sumy, killing more than 30 civilians gathered to celebrate Palm Sunday, battered Odesa with drones and blasted Zaporizhzhia with powerful glide bombs.

## Six killed as police plane crashes near popular beach town in Thailand

*The plane was reportedly conducting a test flight to prepare for parachute training in Hua Hin district before it crashed*



BANGKOK, Apr 25 (Agencies): A small police plane crashed into the sea near a popular beach town in Thailand, killing all six people on board, officials said.

The plane was con-

ducting a test flight to prepare for parachute training in Hua Hin district before it crashed around 8 am, said Royal Thai Police spokesperson Archayon Kraithong.

Officials did not imme-

diately share the model of the propeller plane, but photos from the scene appear to show a Viking DHC-6 Twin Otter.

The plane crashed near Hua Hin Airport, said the public relations department of Prachuab Kiri Khan province.

The photos show the plane in the sea about 100 meters off shore. The body of the plane appeared to be broken in two. All six people on board were police officers, Archayon said, adding that five died at the scene and one died later at a hospital.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known. Archayon said officials are gathering evidence including data from the plane's black box.

## Palestinian President condemns "heinous" Pahalgam attack, reaffirms support for India



RAMALLAH, Apr 25 (Agencies): Following the deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas expressed his sorrow and condemnation over the "heinous act" that claimed the lives of numerous civilians. Abbas also reaffirmed Palestine's support for India's security and stability.

In a letter addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Abbas wrote, "We have followed with sorrow the news of the tragic incident that claimed the lives of and injured dozens of innocent civilian tourists as a result of a criminal shooting in the regions of Jammu and Kashmir."

"We strongly condemn and denounce this heinous act, and affirm our support for India in preserving its security and stability. We extend to Your Excellency, to your friendly people, and to the families of the victims our heartfelt condolences," the letter stated.

The Palestinian President also wished a speedy recovery for the injured in the terror attack and prayed for prosperity for India and its people.

"We pray for mercy and peace for the departed, a speedy recovery for the injured, and for continued prosperity and well-being for India and its people. Please accept, Your Excellency, the expression of our deepest sympathy," the letter added.

Following the terror attack, the Central government announced several diplomatic measures, such as closing the Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Attari, suspending the SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme (SVES) for Pakistani nationals, giving them 40 hours to return to their country, and reducing the number of officers in the High Commissions on both sides.

India also halted the Indus Waters Treaty signed in 1960 in the wake of the Pahalgam attack. Terrorists attacked tourists at Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam on April 22, killing 25 Indian nationals and one Nepali citizen while leaving several others injured.

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960, following nine years of negotiations between India and Pakistan, with the assistance of the World Bank, which is also a signatory to the treaty. The talks were initiated by Eugene Black, a former president of the World Bank.

Recognised as one of the most successful international treaties, it has endured frequent tensions, including conflict. It has provided a framework for irrigation and hydropower development for over 50 years.

The Treaty allocates the Western Rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan and the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India. At the same time, the Treaty allows each country certain uses of the rivers allocated to the other. The treaty allocates 20 per cent of the water from the Indus River System to India, with the remaining 80 per cent to Pakistan.

## "Strongly support whatever India does to pursue terrorists": UK MP Bob Blackman on Pahalgam attack

LONDON, Apr 25 (Agencies): UK MP Bob Blackman has expressed strong support for whatever India does to pursue the terrorists and those who have backed the terrorists behind the terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

He expressed hope that all the political parties in the UK will join the Indian government in expressing support for whatever India decides to do, including military action, if necessary, to eliminate those terrorist bases that exist on the opposite side of the Line of Control (LoC) between India and Pakistan.

In his address at the commemorative ceremony held at the India House in London to remember the victims of the Pahalgam attack, Blackman offered condolences to the victims, their families and all the Hindus. He even recalled his visit to Kashmir and spoke about the beauty of the region.

Bob Blackman said, "We come to share the grief. When terror strikes, it strikes the hearts of humanity... This act (the terrorist attack) demonstrates the hatred towards people because of their religion, and this cannot be tolerated. I raised this issue in the House of Commons. I asked for a statement from the government to make sure that we express not only our grief and our support for India, but also for the actions that India believes fit following this terrorist attack. The sad reality is that we could see a rapid escalation. I offer my condolences to the victims, to their families and all Hindus... We are so sorry about it."

"I had the opportunity nine years ago to visit the Kashmir valley, and the beauty of the valley is forever etched on my mind. So the reality is that these people seek to stop tourism. We cannot allow the terrorists to do such acts...

So, from my personal perspective, let me say, I would strongly support whatever India does to pursue the terrorists and those who have backed the terrorists, make sure they are brought to justice. If they can't be brought to justice, they must be eliminated. It's my expectation that all the political parties in the United Kingdom will join the Indian government in expressing that support, whatever action India chooses to take, including military action, if necessary, to eliminate those terrorist bases that exist on the opposite side of the Line of Control (LoC)," he added.

The High Commission of India in the UK held a solemn commemorative ceremony at the India House to remember the victims of the terrorist attack that took place in Pahalgam on April 22.

Catherine West, Labour MP and Foreign Office Minister for the Indo-Pacific, offered condolences over the "horrific terrorist attack" in Pahalgam. She expressed the UK's support for India in the face of "cowardly attacks of terrorism" against innocent civilians.

In her speech at the event, West said, "I wanted to express condolences for the horrific terrorist attack in Pahalgam and my thoughts are with those affected, their loved ones and the people of India... Indian diaspora, including so many of the people in this room, is a living bridge between the UK and India, and I know many people feel this tragedy very personally. As the Secretary of State, Lisa Nandy, also said last night, the UK stands shoulder to shoulder with India in the face of the cowardly attacks of terrorism against innocent civilians... I wanted to thank both parties, the main parties in the House, for attending this evening as backbench



members across the House of Lords and my Lords, my Ladies, who are sitting here as well."

"Both the upper House and in the House of Commons, we had very solemn words from both sides of the House today, remember those families, those victims, and we must pull together dangerous times like this. To emphasise an element of justice, but also to put our arms around the families and the communities who are in deep sorrow. Thank you so much for this opportunity to be part of the prayer for peace today. We are with you," she added.

Several dignitaries, including Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs L Murugan, Maharashtra's Minister of Social Justice Sanjay Shirsat, Bob Blackman and several other UK MPs, joined the gathering to express their condolences and support.

The event brought together members of the Indian diaspora from across the UK, who came to pay their respects and stand in solidarity with the victims and their families. India's High Commissioner to UK, Vikram Doraiswami, addressed the attendees, emphasising the importance of resilience, unity, and justice in the face of such tragedies.

Doraiswami said that the attack was conducted to prevent people of Jammu and Kash-

mir from carrying out normal day-to-day businesses, to stop them from improving their lives through work and business.

Doraiswami said, "First and foremost, why is this something that is worthy of our attention. It is so because this is the largest killing of civilians since the Mumbai terror attacks. In 2019, there was a similar terror outrage... it was a targeted attack on the paramilitary convoy. In this case, people were pulled out, identified on the basis of their identity, their religious identity and shot dead. These were civilians in the vast majority, and all who were there were just to have a holiday. The purpose of this exercise was purely to create terror and to undermine the ongoing normalisation of circumstances in Jammu and Kashmir."

"The purpose of this exercise was to prevent people of Jammu and Kashmir from carrying out normal day-to-day businesses, to prevent them from improving their lives through business, through work, to intimidate people from coming to this beautiful part of India and to undermine the normalisation of the political process that had been brought into play through the very successful conduct of an election... I can tell you this, you have seen for the last several decades repeated efforts to intim-

idate, otherwise distract India in its development journey or to try and break the spirit of India and to break the unity of the people of India across language, caste, creed and religion. I can tell you this, it hasn't worked before. It won't work now, it will never work. There are 1.4 billion of us. We are a nation moving forward. We are a nation moving together. We are a nation dealing with our challenges, some left over by history, some left over by acts of our own, but none that will be deterred, no part of our journey that will be deterred by people who believe that killing people is a solution," he added.

Vikram Doraiswami said that people had travelled to Pahalgam to enjoy the holiday and mentioned some of the victims, including a newly married couple and a child. He reiterated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks that India will never forget and forgive, instead, there will be price that will be paid by those who were behind the attack.

He said, "I ask you to remember, however, that these were lives of ordinary people. I ask you to remember that these were lives of people like you and I who seek to spend time with family, to seek to have what everybody believes is their right - the opportunity to travel, opportunity to broaden the mind, the opportunity to spend a few precious moments together in this short journey that we call life. And it was these people for whom that very, very simple, basic opportunity to live was taken away from them. Look, for instance, at the picture of that young lady there. That young lady and her husband were newly married. They were there on their honeymoon. That young child's life, as we

do it, for no particular purpose, won't change the tragedy of history. It won't change the art of destiny; we are building that one. It is not going to make a difference."

"Those who believe that they can organise and send people like that, they'll like this across the line of control to create terror, that which was always going to create, all it does is light the lives of the people. And so I ask you to remember in everything that you do that we have no place in our hearts for hatred. We have no place in our minds for enmity. Every one of us is an Indian. No matter what language we speak, where we come from, how we pray, this is our country, and it is not for others to dictate how we will respond. What I can tell you is this: what our Prime Minister said recently, we will never forget, we will never forgive, and we will exact a punishment for this. There will be no commitments. There will be no forgiveness, there will be a price to be paid by the people who committed this act, by the people who planned it and the people who backed it. And there will be nothing in the world that will stop us from doing that. And there will be nothing in the world that will deter us from our mission, no matter where they are, how far they are," he added.

Terrorists attacked tourists at Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam on Tuesday, killing 25 Indian nationals and one Nepali citizen while leaving several others injured, in one of the deadliest attacks in the valley since the 2019 Pulwama strike in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed. Following the attack, India has taken strong countermeasures against Pakistan for its support of cross-border terrorism.



## JKNPP (Bhim) flays CM for exclusion from All Party Meet

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: The Jammu & Kashmir National Panthers Party (Bhim) has strongly flayed the deliberate exclusion of the party from the All Party Meet convened by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir on April 24, 2025.

In a formal communication addressed to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Party President Vilakshan Singh expressed deep disappointment and concern over what he termed a "calculated affront" to the voice of the Dogras and a blatant act of discrimination against the Jammu region.

"The exclusion of our party is not a mere pro-

cedural oversight—it is a reflection of the persistent and systemic bias shown by Kashmir-centric political forces against parties representing the aspirations of the Jammu region," said Singh.

He further highlighted that the J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim) is the only political outfit that has contested elections from all five parliamentary constituencies of Jammu & Kashmir, thereby representing a truly inclusive and pan-territorial voice.

Singh emphasized that the Panthers Party Bhim has consistently championed the rights of the poor, the downtrodden, and the Dogra community, and that such

exclusion is a manifestation of the National Conference-led government's unwillingness to engage with dissenting yet democratic voices.

"The people of Jammu are watching, and such acts of political discrimination will neither be forgotten nor tolerated," Singh warned, calling upon the Chief Minister to uphold democratic values and ensure fair representation of all recognised political parties in crucial deliberative platforms.

The Jammu & Kashmir National Panthers Party (Bhim) reiterates its unwavering commitment to unity, justice, and democratic participation across all regions of the Union Territory.

## DBPS cancels Bhagwan Parsuram Shobha Yatra in view of Pahalgam terror attack

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: While expressing concern and grief over the recent violence incident at Pahalgam area in which several nationalist lost their life falling prey to the bullet of militant, Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha (DBPS) on Friday urged upon the Prime Minister and Union Home Minister to continue the governance under Union Territory till the increasing the trend of terrorism is arrested, dispelling the grant of statehood as is demanded by the some entities. Interacting with media persons, President of DBPS Ved Parkash Sharma said that during the past about six months, the terrorist incidents has increase the alarming causing the wave of fear and uncertainty amongst the masses. Chairman of the DBPS Advocate P.C Sharma

also appealed the Prime Minister to take the control of situation personally to dismantle infrastructure of terrorist industries in POK.

Meanwhile, Sharma further informed that Bhagwan Parsuram Mahotsav Shobha Yatra has been withdrawn in view of Pahalgam incident which was take place on 27th of April 2025, however Shradhanjali programme on same day will be organized as usual.

Similarly on 29th of April 2025 Bhagwan Parsuram Mahotsav, Hawan and Chanting of Hanuman Chalisa will be held as per the already announced programme, beside on 30th of April 2025, Yagyopavit Ceremony at Brahman Sabha Jammu at 8:00 AM onward.

Retired DC B.S Jamwal alongwith various representatives of Community Sabha head were requested to par-

ticipate in large number to pay homage to the Bhagwan Parsuram as also homage to the victims of recent terrorist attack on innocent tourist at Pahalgam to show solidarity with them and the nation.

Pt V.M. Magotra, N C Sharma, M L Sharma, Advocate Chander Mohan Sharma, Subash Shastri Spokeperson (DBPS), Rajesh Bargar, Sunil Sharma, Soujanya Sharma, Satyanand Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, M L Padha, Shiv Ram Sharma, Ritiz Khajuria, Jagan Nath Sharma, K L Sharma, Davinder Sharma (Baboo), S S Baru, Barita Ram Sharma, Kuldeep Shukla, Sanjeev Keri, Gurdass Sharma, Sat Paul Sharma, Raman Sharma, Prem Balotra, Ramesh Sharma, Tarun Sharma, Bubesh Thappa and others were also present in the press conference.

## GDC R S Pura organizes candle march

### Top News Report

RS PURA, Apr 25: To honour the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack, students and staff of Govt. Degree College R.S. Pura organized a candle march under the patronage of Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour.

Students and staff of Govt. Degree College R.S. Pura marched through the town condemning the brutal attack on innocent tourists in Pahalgam which left 26 people dead, with placards and banners in



their hands. Students lit candles in the memory of the deceased. They raised slogans and demanded strict action against the culprits and justice for the innocent victims.

The candle march was filled with emotions as students stood united against terrorism. The event was jointly organized by NCC, NSS Unit and staff of the college. Principal of the college,

## DSS condemns provocative remarks, expresses solidarity in fight against terrorism

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: The executive body of Dogra Sadar Sabha met under the chairmanship of its President Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, former Minister to examine the latest developments in the India-Pakistan relations after the dastardly terror attack at Pahalgam.

DSS discussed in detail the ramifications of the punitive measures as declared by the Government of India against Pakistan and the Pakistan's reactions thereupon.

All the members of the Sabha (an amalgam of various religious, social and trade organisations of Jammu region) strongly condemned the recent provocative remarks made by Pakistan's Army Chief, General Asif Munir, at the Overseas Pakistanis Conference held in Islamabad.

His statements concerning Jammu and Kashmir are not only baseless but also clearly reflect that the power structure in Pakistan continues to thrive on a divisive and hate-driven agenda.

The words of Pak Army Chief are in complete resonance with the recent barbaric action of the Pak sponsored ter-



rorists on the innocent tourists in Pahalgam.

He said that Pakistan has been making multi pronged attacks in India to destabilize our country, by a narcotics Jihad in J&K and Punjab, pumping arms, infiltrators and running terror training camps on their soil and in PoJK.

Charak, while appreciating the Government of India's firm and decisive action plan which is a timely and necessary response to continued acts of aggression that threaten the sovereignty and security of India, urged upon the government to take more stronger punitive measures to avenge the loss of innocent lives of the civilians, thereby putting an end to the proxy war imposed by Pakistan.

He also expressed deep appreciation to the people of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh for their unity and resil-

ience in unequivocally condemning the heinous Pahalgam incident by observing a complete Bandh across the Union Territory.

Furthermore, he appreciated the representatives of various social and trade organizations in Kashmir for their recent press conference, where they not only expressed solidarity with the victims but also pledged support to the government in combating terrorism.

He urged the people of all the three regions to come together and form a Joint Coordination Committee to strengthen collective efforts against terrorism and to promote lasting peace in the Union Territory.

The members of the executive highlighted that this incident is an indicator of a serious security lapse on the part of the administration, as there were no

proper security arrangements in place at the newly inaugurated mega tourist destination where hundreds of tourists were reportedly present. DSS 'demanded' a detailed enquiry into this security lapse.

Moreover, they urged the government to strengthen the grass-root institutions like Panchayats, Numberdaars, Chowkidars, and VDCs which can play a more active role in combating such heinous acts of terrorism including narco terror.

Charak further said, the government of India must not forget to combat the menace of narco-terrorism which is spreading its tentacles in India at an unexpected rate.

This unholy alliance between drugs and terror doesn't just fund attacks; it aims to weaken our society from within, poisoning our

youth while simultaneously financing acts of unimaginable cruelty. He demanded a comprehensive and coordinated response to dismantle both terror networks and their funding sources.

Lastly, DSS appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir in particular, and to all the citizens of India in general, to maintain peace & harmony and remain vigilant and against the malicious designs of foreign powers aiming to incite communal unrest and disturb the unity of our great nation.

In the end members of the executive committee of DSS paid rich tributes to Hav Jhantu Ail Sheikh, a Para Commando who laid down his life while fighting terrorists in Dudu-Basantgarh of Distt. Udhampur and prayed to Almighty to rest his soul in peace.

Let us stand united in our commitment to peace, progress, and national integrity.

Prominent among others present in the press conference were Gambhir Dev Singh, Adv. H C Jalmaria, G A Khwaja, Col. Dr. Virendra K Sahi Vrc, Abdul Majid, Arvinder Singh Amn, Amanat Ali Shah, Dr Nasib Singh, Narinder Singh Jamwal Ehtsham ul Haq, and others.

## Sacrifice of Syed Adil Hussain Shah sets narrative of J&K in Right Direction: Khatana

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 25: Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana, Senior BJP Leader and Member of the Rajya Sabha, on Friday paid tribute to the heroism of Syed Adil Hussain Shah and other brave citizens whose selfless actions

saved innocent tourists during the recent Pahalgam attack.

Khatana began his day with heartfelt prayers at a BJP-organized congregation in Srinagar, solemnly remembering those who lost their lives in the cowardly assault on tourists in Pahalgam. He then participated in an all-party meeting at the SKICC to foster unity and resolve among J&K's political leadership.

Early this morning, Khatana visited the family of martyr Syed Adil Hussain Shah at their home in Poniwala, offering his deepest condolences and assuring them that the people of Jammu & Kashmir stand united in honoring his sacrifice.

Shah's courageous intervention not only saved lives but also sent a powerful message of solidarity across the region.

"I salute the bravery of Adil Hussain Shah and all those ordinary



citizens who rose to protect innocent lives," said Khatana. "Their actions have set our community on the right path—one of courage, communal harmony, and unwavering resilience against terror."

Later, Khatana called on the family of the late Lt. Aga Syed Baker al-Moviei, a respected religious leader who

passed away recently, to convey his sympathies and support during their time of grief.

He also engaged with numerous deputations throughout the day, listening to their concerns and reaffirming his commitment to ensuring peace and security for all residents.

Khatana extended his gratitude to every citizen

of Jammu & Kashmir for "standing as a rock against terrorism" and lauded the exemplary courage shown by ordinary men and women.

He urged that those found responsible for the Pahalgam attack be dealt with "the full severity of the law," emphasizing that justice must be swift and exemplary.

## FromPage No: 1

### Rahul Gandhi in Srinagar, To meet those injured in Pahalgam terror attack

and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. Jammu travel guide

Gandhi has come with a message of "healing the wounds" of the people of the country, including Kashmiris, in the wake of the attack and its aftermath.

The Congress leader cut short his visit to the United States to attend the crucial meeting of the Congress Working Committee that was called on Thursday in the aftermath of the attack.

He also attended an all-party

meeting called by the government to brief parties on the horrific terror attack.

### Bandipora Encounter: Overground worker of terrorist killed, Two security force personnel injured

presence of terrorists in the area, the officials said.

They said the search operation turned into an encounter after the hiding terrorists opened fire on the security forces' positions.

One terrorist associate and two policemen were injured in the firing by terrorists, the officials said,

adding the injured terrorist associate later succumbed to injuries.

### 3 persons including 2 Navy personnel held for extorting money from Agniveer Aspirants

verify whether any candidate fraudulently got into Agniveer.

The SP said police have seized several transaction proofs and bank documents during the course of their investigation. "Preliminary investigation revealed that the accused had been collecting huge money from job seekers with false promises of getting them employ-

ment in the Navy. Further investigation is in progress to ascertain the exact network of the scam.

She said police have also seized some transaction proofs and bank documents during the course of their investigation.

"As per intelligence inputs, two more persons are suspected to be involved in the racket. Police have so far frozen 12 bank accounts linked to the fraudulent activities," the SP said.

### Mehbooba urges religious leaders in Kashmir to remember Pahalgam victims

### in their prayers

welcome step in this moment of profound grief. As our nation mourns the tragic loss of innocent lives in the Pahalgam attack we find ourselves seeking solace & unity in faith,' she said in a post on X.

The former Chief Minister said on this sacred day of Friday prayers, "I earnestly appeal to Mirwaiz as well as all Imams and religious leaders to remember the Pahalgam attack victims in their heartfelt prayers".

"Let us raise our hands together as one community to pray for the souls of the departed, for strength to their families and for lasting peace and healing across our region," she added.

Earlier, the office of the Mirwaiz, in a post on X, said that authori-

ties have told him that he would be allowed for prayers. "After four consecutive Fridays of restrictions, the authorities have conveyed that @MirwaizKashmir will be allowed to go to Jamia Masjid to offer Friday prayers," the Mirwaiz's office said.

### Two arrested in UP for Social Media Post on Pahalgam Attack

outrage over the Pahalgam attack, prompting calls for action against those spreading provocative content online. Authorities have reiterated their commitment to maintaining public harmony and taking strict action against those attempting to disturb communal peace through digital platforms.



## IHSA wins 18 medals in 2nd Inter-District National Roller Skating C'ship in Mohali



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: Indian Hawks Sports Academy (IHSA) has yet again brought laurels to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir by bagging 18 medals in 2nd Inter-District National Roller Skating Championship held recently in Mohali, Punjab.

The performance of the speed skaters trained under the banner of IHSA was stupendous as several breathtaking moments during the national open tourney stunned the audience leaving the spectators spellbound.

The Indian Hawks Sports Academy has lately emerged as a real asset for the UT as its phenomenal performance at the national arena of speed skating has helped J&K to surmount all the previous records achieved so far by skaters of the region in the past.

The star performance of Indian Hawks—Uday Narayan and Kartikeya Puri was mind boggling as they ruled the roost throughout the competition starting from first heat till the finals and consequently won three gold medals each.

Other skaters of the club who also

reined the podium with their dominating game include Tabish Haider Chib (one gold, one silver and one bronze), Puneesh Puri (two gold medals and one silver), Tamanna Saini (one gold and two bronze), Achintya (one bronze) and Samarjot Singh (two silver).

Applauding the stunning performance of Skaters, Ashok Gandotra Chief Patron IHSA said that the Academy has proved that the UT has got extraordinary talent and if the players of the region will get this kind of professional training only sky's the limit for them.

He appreciated the way the IHSA was honing the skills of the budding skaters to help them achieve new heights and wished them good luck for the upcoming School National to be held in Delhi later in April month.

He also expressed gratitude to Jammu and Kashmir Roller Skating Association President G S Khurmi and Secretary J&K Sports Council Nuzhat Gul for extending wholehearted and timely support to J&K skaters besides providing a meaningful platform to youngsters to streamline their energy in the best possible manner.

## Workshop on Communication Skills and Personality Development organized by Department of English MAM College

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: The Department of English, Govt. MAM College, Jammu organized a two-day Inter-college workshop on the topic "Communication Skills and Personality Development".

The aim of the workshop was to empower students to understand and learn communication skills as well as techniques to improve their personality.

Four colleges of Jammu city with 60 students participated in the workshop. Principal of the College, Prof. Archana Kaul, was present at the inaugural function.

Dr Monika Sharma, Dean of Humanities and Liberal Arts, was the chief guest of the event.

She gave a pertinent speech regarding the rapid change in communication systems today and advised students to become ideal commu-

nicators and articulate their thoughts clearly, develop confidence and enhance their personality.

Prof. Ruth K Masehi presented the keynote address on the aim of the workshop. On the first day of the workshop, eminent resource person Dr. Gurdeep Kour, former Associate Professor of English, delivered a lecture on the importance of Listening Skills.

She deliberated on the importance of posture and active listening. The second lecture was delivered by Dr. Reena Salaria Head of the Department Linguistics and Literature. Her lecture focused on oral narrations and linguistics. She made the students aware of the scientific study of language.

The second day commenced with the lecture of Prof. Ruth K. Masehi on the importance of Reading skills. Many interesting activities



were part of this session.

A spontaneous reading exercise was organized where many students participated and gave a practical application of the reading skills. Many students participated in this impromptu exercise. An entertaining interlude of anecdotes was also part of this session.

The second session was a special lecture delivered by Prof.

Archana Kaul, Principal of the college, on the importance of creative thoughts, ideas and expression. She emphasized the importance of imagination and inspiration in language.

The last lecture of the session was delivered by Dr. Shiv Mangal Singh, Assistant Professor of Psychology, on the topic "Personality Development, Unlocking Your Best Self". He

spoke about the importance of personality and its impact on a student's life.

The programme was conducted by Prof. Menaka Rajput, welcome address was given by Dr. Atiya Noor, Dr. Kawaljit Kour and Prof. Nishu were active organizers of the programme. Prof. Sanjay Samyal presented a vote of thanks at the end of the programme.

## Distribution of sleeping bag and mosquito net to Bakarwal community at Salani, Poonch



### Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 25: In an initiative aimed at enhancing the living conditions of the Bakarwal community in the remote areas of Poonch district, Indian Army has distributed essential winter gear and health protection items. Recognising the challenges faced by this nomadic community, especially during the harsh winter months, Indian Army provided sleeping bags to offer warmth and comfort, and mosquito nets to safeguard against vector-borne diseases prevalent in the region.

The distribution event, was attended by local leaders and community elders. These areas are known for their rugged terrain and limited access to basic amenities, making such initiatives crucial for the well-being of the residents.

The sleeping bags are designed to withstand low temperatures, ensuring that individuals, particularly children

and the elderly, remain warm during the cold nights. The mosquito nets provided are treated with insecticides, offering protection against diseases such as malaria and dengue, which are common in the region due to the presence of stagnant water bodies.

Community members expressed their gratitude towards the Indian Army for this timely assistance, highlighting the positive impact on their daily lives. This distribution is part of a broader effort to support marginalised communities in Jammu and Kashmir, aligning with the government's initiatives to uplift the tribal population and improve their living standards.

Through such collaborative efforts, Indian Army plays a pivotal role in bridging the gap between remote communities and essential resources, fostering a sense of solidarity and support among the people of Poonch district.

### Top News Report

DODA, Apr 25: As part of its ongoing commitment to community outreach and youth empowerment, the Indian Army organized an awareness lecture on drug abuse for school students and teachers in Bhagwah. The session aimed to sensitize the students & teachers about the dangers of substance abuse and the importance of fostering a safe and healthy environment for young minds.

Held at Higher Senior Secondary School Bhagwah, the event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 70 attendees, including students & faculty members.

The lecture covered the harmful effects of drug consumption on physical health, mental well-being, and social



life. Special emphasis was placed on the long-term consequences of addiction, including its impact on education, family ties, and future prospects. The session also addressed legal implications and shared practical strategies to prevent drug abuse, empowering parents and teachers to play an active role in guiding the youth. Interactive discussions and real-life examples helped

reinforce the message of staying drug-free.

Local residents and school authorities appreciated the Indian Army's proactive role in spreading awareness and contributing to the holistic development of the younger generation.

The Indian Army reaffirmed its dedication to building a resilient, responsible, and drug-free society through continued engagement with local communities.

## Zonal Level Inter-School Tournament ignites sporting spirit in Basohli

### Top News Report

BASOHLI, Apr 25: An Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament for Under-14 and Under-17 girls was held with great enthusiasm at Govt. Model Higher Secondary School (GMHSS) Basohli, following the Activity Calendar issued under the direction of the Director General of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Jammu and Kashmir UT, and under the guidance of DYSSO Kathua, Sunil Singh Sambyal.

The tournament was inaugurated by Principal Brij Bhushan of GMHSS Basohli, along with Zonal Physical Education Officer Tara Singh and the physical education staff of Zone Basohli.

Competitions were organized in Kabaddi, Volleyball, Chess, and Painting for both U/14 and U/17 girls, drawing an impressive participation of 545 girls from government and private schools across Zone Basohli.

In Cluster Basohli,



Kabaddi matches saw S.T. Anne's Convent High School Basohli defeat Govt. GMS Mandala in the U/14 category, while GGHS Basohli overcame GHS Palakh in the U/17 group. In Volleyball, GHS Palakh won against GHS Basohli in the U/17 category with a clean 2-0 set.

The Chess final was won by S.T. Anne's Convent High School Basohli, who defeated GGHS Basohli. In Cluster Sheel Nagar, GGMS Dodla claimed victory over GHS Bhiker in U/14 Volleyball, while GHS Sialag edged out

GHS Bhiker in the U/17 match. Kabaddi results from this cluster had GHSS Hutt winning against Govt. MS Shara in the U/14 match with a 17-point lead, and GHS Sialag defeating GHSS Hutt in the U/17 category by 5 points.

The tournament celebrated not only the sporting talents of young girls but also promoted team spirit, discipline, and unity among the students of the region, marking a vibrant day of competition and community bonding in the beautiful town of Basohli.

## Airtel announces new plans to revolutionize International Roaming (IR) experience

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: Bharti Airtel has announced new plans to its IR portfolio that will make it simpler, more affordable and completely hassle-free for customers. The company has unveiled India's first unlimited\* IR plans that offers unlimited data across 189 countries.

Additionally, for the long-staying NRI community, Airtel also launched a unique recharge plan for Rs. Rs 4000 with one-year

validity. The plan offers 5GB data and 100 voice minutes for use when abroad, while in India customers can use the same plan and get 1.5GB daily data and unlimited call benefits.

The plan give customers a hassle-free connectivity experience anywhere across the 189 countries and use the same number while in India without having to do a separate recharge.

Siddharth Sharma, Director Marketing and CEO – Connected Homes, Bharti Airtel,

said, "At Airtel, we are dedicated to simplifying our customers lives and delivering greater value and convenience to them. We have dramatically simplified our IR plans that will truly redefine our value proposition for customers and give them the freedom to use data and voice generously while roaming the world. We remain continuously committed to delivering solutions that meet our customers' ever-evolving needs."

Customers will continue to enjoy other IR

benefits with these plans that include In-flight connectivity, auto activation of services upon landing overseas, 24x7 contact center support; One Plan for travel to 189 countries. No confusion over which zone or pack to select.

No need for multiple packs across multiple countries or transit airports; Auto renewal feature for frequent travelers.

This will remove the need to buy the pack multiple times and will enable hassle free

travel; Affordable packs. These will be more affordable than most in-country / local sims and will eliminate the hassle and expense of acquiring local SIM cards, providing globetrotters with a simplified solution to stay connected.

All control will rest in the customer's hands. They will be able to manage their entire International roaming needs on the Airtel Thanks app with updates on usage, billing amount and addition of data or minutes as needed.

### Top News Report

RAJOURI, Apr 25: Keeping in view of Indian Army's core objective of maintaining cordial relations with local citizens through Awam and with the aim of motivating the future of the nation, the school children, towards joining Armed Forces and to instill a sense of patriotism, Indian Army organised a 'Motivational Lecture by Gallantry Awardee' at Thanamandi.

The aim of the event was to spread awareness amongst students about how to join armed forces and various initiatives taken by the Govt. During this event, representative of Indian Army gave a motivational lecture on the subject matter for Students of Government Higher Secondary School, Thanamandi.

The representative also conveyed to the

teachers that tremendous potential in terms of talented and academically bright students is available in the region, however, due to lack of proper guidance, they fail to harness their full potential.

Keeping the same in perspective, the interaction was aimed to tap the raw potential from these students and to urge them to join armed forces through Sainik Schools, other educational institutions and through pre commissioning training academies.

The event helped in spreading awareness amongst the students about the significance of education and its role in growth of society. Representative of Indian Army also advised the children to pursue their aim in respective fields and contribute towards the environment, society and country as a

responsible citizen.

He motivated and assured them of all possible guidance and assistance from Indian Army for their future endeavors.

The Students and Teachers appreciated the initiatives taken by Indian Army for the welfare of the local populace, students and the school.

This endeavour by Indian Army to reach out to the population residing in remote areas, where civil administration has limited accessibility, will go a long way in developing and strengthening trust between Indian Army and Awam.

The event also served as a platform to strengthen the bond between Indian Army and the people of this region. It showcased the Indian Army's commitment towards service to the nation.





# Getting hate and abuse for inviting Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem to NC Classic: Neeraj Chopra

*Javelin throw star highlights the targeting of his mother for her statement after the Paris Games last year*

NEW DELHI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Indian javelin throw star Neeraj Chopra on Friday said he has been bombarded with “hate and abuse” for inviting Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem to next month’s NC Classic in Bengaluru, clarifying that the Olympic champion’s presence was “completely out of question” in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack.

The Tokyo Olympics gold-medallist and Paris Games silver-winning star from Haryana said he was deeply hurt to see his and his family’s integrity being questioned in abusive social media posts.

Chopra invited Nadeem, who defeated the Indian in Paris last year to win gold, for the inaugural Neeraj Chopra Classic to be held in Bengaluru on May 24.

“After all that has taken place over the last 48 hours, Arshad’s presence at the NC Classic was completely out of the question. My country and its interests will always come first,” Chopra, who is a Subedar Major in the Indian Army, said in a lengthy post on X.

“To those that are going through the loss of their people, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Along with the entire nation, I am both hurt and angry at what has taken place,” said Chopra.

“I am confident that our coun-



try’s response will show our strength as a nation and justice will be served,” he added.

Nadeem had declined to come citing other commitments.

The 27-year-old Chopra said he is well aware of the chatter surrounding his invitation to Nadeem after the Pahalgam attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were gunned down by terrorists.

“...most of it has been hate and abuse. They haven’t even left my family out of it,” said Chopra.

“I usually am a man of few words, but that doesn’t mean I will not speak up against what I think is wrong. More so when it comes to questioning my love for our country, and the respect

and honour of my family,” he wrote.

Chopra said invites for NC Classic were sent out on Monday, a day before the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed.

“The invitation I extended to Arshad was from one athlete to another—nothing more, nothing less. The aim of NC Classic was to bring the best athletes to India and for our country to be the home of world-class sporting events.

“Invites had gone out to all athletes on Monday, two days (sic) before the terrorist attacks at Pahalgam,” he added.

Mother targeted

Chopra also highlighted the targeting of his mother, Saroj, for her statement after the Paris Games last year in which she described Nadeem as akin to her son.

“I also find it difficult to understand how people switch opinions. When my mother - in her simplicity - had made an innocent comment a year ago, there was an outpouring of praise for her views.

“Today, the same people haven’t held back from targeting her for that very same statement.”

“I, meanwhile, will work even harder to ensure that the world remembers India and looks at it with envy and respect for all the right reasons.”

One of India’s most decorated athletes, Chopra said he has represented the country with pride for several years.

“...so it hurts to see my integrity being questioned. It pains me that I have to explain myself to people who are targeting me and my family, with no good reason,” he wrote.

“We are simple people, please don’t make us out to be anything else. There are so many false narratives that certain sections of the media have created around me, but just because I do not speak up, it doesn’t make it true.”

# “I believe CSK will win against SRH,” Sanjay Bangar backs Chennai against Hyderabad



NEW DELHI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Former Indian batting coach Sanjay Bangar shared his thoughts on the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 “Revenge Week” fixture between Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) and Chennai Super Kings (CSK).

Speaking on Jio Hotstar, Bangar predicted that CSK will win against SRH, citing CSK’s strong spin bowling led by MS Dhoni and their focus on developing young players as key factors. He believed SRH’s inconsistency makes them vulnerable.

Speaking on JioHotstar’s ‘Match Centre Live’ Bangar, the JioStar expert for IPL 2025, said, “I believe CSK will win against SRH. CSK’s spin strength, backed by MSD, will be key, and they’ll ensure there’s assistance for the spinners. The team is evolving, moving away from

its earlier pattern with more focus on youngsters. SRH, on the other hand, has been inconsistent.”

Five-time titleholders Chennai Super Kings will host the Sunrisers Hyderabad on Friday in a last-place showdown in the ongoing Indian Premier League at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Both teams share the same records as they approach the match: two victories and six losses in eight matches.

Historically, CSK has enjoyed a significant upper hand in the CSK vs SRH rivalry, winning 15 out of the 21 matches played between the two teams. At Chepauk, Chennai’s record against Hyderabad is even more impressive, having won all five encounters at this venue.

SRH lost their last match against the Mumbai Indians (MI)

by seven wickets, on the other hand CSK also suffered a defeat against MI in their previous match by nine wickets.

Chennai Super Kings Squad: Shaik Rasheed, Rachin Ravindra, Ayush Mhatre, Vijay Shankar, Ravindra Jadeja, Shivam Dube, MS Dhoni(w/c), Jamie Overton, Noor Ahmad, Khaleel Ahmed, Matheesha Pathirana, Ravichandran Ashwin, Anshul Kamboj, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Sam Curran, Ramakrishna Ghosh, Rahul Tripathi, Deepak Hooda, Shreyas Gopal, Devon Conway, Mukesh Choudhary, Nathan Ellis, Dewald Brevis, Andre Siddarth C, Vansh Bedi.

Sunrisers Hyderabad Squad: Travis Head, Abhishek Sharma, Ishan Kishan, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Heinrich Klaasen(w), Aniket Verma, Pat Cummins(c), Harshal Patel, Jaydev Unadkat, Zeeshan Ansari, Eshan Malinga, Abhinav Manohar, Mohammed Shami, Rahul Chahar, Sachin Baby, Wiaan Mulder, Kamindu Mendis, Atharva Taide, Simarjeet Singh, Smaran Ravichandran.

# “Returned to default style”: Virat Kohli earns praise from former RCB coach Bangar for “risk-free” cricket

NEW DELHI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Former cricketer head coach Sanjay Bangar outlined the invaluable “risk-free” cricket played by the franchise stalwart Virat Kohli during Royal Challengers Bengaluru’s first home win in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 against Rajasthan Royals.

While pursuing their first home victory, Bengaluru were put to bat on a tricky surface at their home den. The pitch posed complicated challenges, considering the variance in bounce and pace. Virat played the anchor’s role to clear RCB’s pathway to a target of 200-plus.

Virat understood the challenge ahead of him and embraced it with open arms. With his flamboyance, Virat raised a 95-run stand for the second wicket with Devdutt Padikkal to set up a grand finish for the first innings.

Padikkal’s swift fifty and Virat’s belligerent 70(42), RCB blazed its way to a daunting 205/5, a formidable score for Rajasthan to chase down, even though the conditions became more favourable for the batters in the second innings.

After managing a couple of narrow escapes, Virat relied on his heavily loaded arsenal to keep the scoreboard ticking. He chopped the ball for four using his back foot, picked up the short-length delivery early and pulled it away for a boundary, and continued his love

affair with the flick shot.

The former Bengaluru head coach, who worked closely with Virat during his tenure, quickly identified the “typical” Virat knock, characterised by risk-free cricket, and set the game up for the hosts.

“This was typical Virat Kohli. After a couple of low scores, he returned to his default style—risk-free cricket, constructing the innings patiently. Once the game was set up, he opened up with attacking shots. The key was how he handled the first 7-8 overs, giving assurance not just to his partner, but also to the dugout. The way he paced the innings helped RCB post a slightly above-par total,” Bangar said on JioHotstar.

After Virat’s stellar show, it was time for Josh Hazlewood to deliver his blockbuster hit with a sizzling four-wicket haul. He drew blood in the powerplay and then broke the backbone of Rajasthan’s heist in the penultimate over when Rajasthan needed 18 from the last 12 deliveries.

He returned with figures of 4/33 in four overs to claim the Player of the Match award after Bengaluru cruised to an 11-run triumph. With an all-round stellar show, Bengaluru climbed to the third spot with 12 points while Rajasthan licked its wounds and rued its fifth defeat on the trot.

# Special game, you can be inspiration for thousands of children: Nita Ambani urges MI players ahead of ESA Day

MUMBAI, Apr 25 (Agencies): Mumbai Indians’ game against Lucknow Super Giants, scheduled for Sunday at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, will be dedicated to the Education and Sports for All (ESA) initiative championed by Nita M. Ambani.

The annual ESA game is one of the biggest highlights of the IPL season every year for the Mumbai Indians, with thousands of spirited children from NGOs across the city lighting up the stadium with their infectious energy and dreams.

Ahead of the upcoming ESA game, speaking to the Mumbai Indians team, Nita Ambani said, “People who have been with Mumbai Indians know our next game is very special, we have underprivileged children coming, and the energy is really special. So please, put up your best show for them. They



wait for years in line to get to come and see one match. We give them food parcels - from the time they board the bus till the time they come here and they go back, so there’s four meals a day that we provide for.”

She also recalled a moving experience from a past ESA Day: “I was sitting in the stands with all of them, and this girl wasn’t eating much. She was picking on her food. I asked her why, and she said, ‘I’m saving it for my brother, because he’s never tasted cake in his life.’ These are

the things that we want to support. We want to inspire these kids, that in spite of coming from different backgrounds, you can achieve wonders.”

Urging the players to make the day extra special, she added: “This is a very special game me and for all of you who have been a part of this for many years. You can be the inspiration for these children and show them that they can be whatever they dream to be.”

A sunlit Sunday afternoon will see the iconic Wankhede Stadium

transformed into a sea of blue and gold, with around 19,000 children from diverse NGOS supported by Reliance Foundation across Mumbai, including 200 children with special needs, cheering for their favourite cricketers. The match will mark the first-ever live match experience for most of the kids and a memory they will cherish for life.

ESA, a flagship initiative of Reliance Foundation (the CSR arm of Reliance Industries Limited) in collaboration with Mumbai Indians, was launched in 2010 with the vision of making education and sports accessible to children from all backgrounds. Each year, MI’s one IPL match is designated as the ESA game, bringing to life the initiative’s mission to empower young minds, inspire ambition, and instil the joy of

sports and learning.

Over the years, ESA has become a symbol of inclusion and hope, echoing the dreams of India’s youth. It is an embodiment of Reliance Foundation’s belief that every child deserves the opportunity to learn, play, and grow. In addition to the ESA Match, the initiative supports year-round activities that provide educational, sports, and cultural experiences to children from humble communities.

Since its inception, Reliance Foundation’s sports initiatives have impacted the lives of over 23 million children and youth across India, with ESA playing a key role in nurturing both talent and aspiration. The ESA Match is more than just a game -- it is a celebration of spirit, inclusion, and the unifying power of sport.

# Shreyas Iyer returns to Eden Gardens to lead Punjab Kings against Kolkata Knight Riders

KOLKATA, Apr 25 (Agencies): The man who led them to glory just a season ago could now stand in the way of Kolkata Knight Riders’ (KKR) playoff qualification when the side hosts the Shreyas Iyer-led revamped Punjab Kings (PBKS) in a high-stakes Indian Premier League (IPL) clash here at the Eden Gardens on Saturday.

Twelve months ago, Iyer had led KKR to their first IPL title in a decade. On Saturday, he returns in opposition colours, at the helm of a rejuvenated Punjab side chasing a playoff spot.

Let go by KKR in one of the most surprising off-season moves, Iyer has found both comfort and purpose in Punjab Kings.

Reuniting with his old Delhi Capitals mentor Ricky Ponting, the duo has steadied PBKS into the top five of the table with five wins from eight games.

The partnership has given Iyer the space to lead confidently and he has tallied 263 runs with three half-centuries so far. However, he comes into the weekend game, carrying three single digit scores.

Saturday offers him the perfect chance to make a statement—much like KL Rahul

did the other against his former franchise Lucknow Super Giants with a composed 57 not out.

Iyer too could have a Rahul-like moment under the Eden lights.

KKR, on the other hand, are in desperate need of momentum.

With five defeats in eight matches, another stumble could tighten their already narrow path to the playoffs.

Their top-order remains unsettled, the middle-order erratic, and the spin attack ineffective on a surface they once called their fortress.

KKR’s middle-order trio of Russell, Rinku and Ramandeep has failed to deliver the finishing punch this season, prompting calls for a shake-up.

The team may be forced to bring in Caribbean all-rounder Rovman Powell, whose power-hitting and handy pace can add much-needed spark and balance.

Angkrish Raghuvanshi, one of the few bright spots in KKR’s batting, might once again look to negotiate the tricky phase when the likes of Arshdeep Singh (Punjab’s leading wicket-taker with 11 scalps) and



Yuzvendra Chahal operate.

Skipper Ajinkya Rahane too will be under the scanner, having anchored the innings well at times but struggled to shift gears and finish games.

He will be wary of Chahal, who dismantled KKR in their demoralising 95 all-out

collapse only last week by claiming the wickets of Rahane, Raghuvanshi, Rinku Singh, and Ramandeep Singh in a devastating spell.

With Marco Jansen providing the early menace and new find Nehal Wadhwa managing tidy finishes, PBKS certainly look a more confident and well-rounded outfit.

For KKR’s bowling unit, Harshit Rana’s duel with PBKS opener Priyansh Arya could set the tone. Arya smashed a century against Chennai Super Kings earlier this season.

Despite their troubles, KKR are, however, still alive in the playoffs race.

Winning five of their remaining six games could be sufficient, but anything less would leave them dependent on other results.

For this to happen, KKR must fix their home record, which is just one win from four matches here.

The much-publicised friction with Eden curator Sujan Mukherjee over pitch preparations has drawn unwanted attention and debates over spin-friendly surfaces, fairness, and even calls from commentators to consider shifting base.

Despite it being slow and sniply, which is exactly what KKR wanted, Sunil Narine has taken just two wickets at the Eden. Varun Chakravarthy (4) has been marginally better, while Moeen Ali has failed to strike in two matches.

Teams (from):

KKR: Ajinkya Rahane ©, Rinku Singh, Quinton de Kock (wk), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (wk), Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Rovman Powell, Manish Pandey, Luvnith Sisodia, Venkatesh Iyer, Anukul Roy, Moeen Ali, Ramandeep Singh, Andre Russell, Anrich Nortje, Vaibhav Arora, Mayank Markande, Spencer Johnson, Harshit Rana, Sunil Narine, Varun Chakravarthy and Chetan Sakariya.

PBKS: Shreyas Iyer ©, Yuzvendra Chahal, Arshdeep Singh, Marcus Stoinis, Nehal Wadhwa, Glenn Maxwell, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Yash Thakur, Harpreet Brar, Vishnu Vinod, Marco Jansen, Lockie Ferguson, Josh Inglis, Xavier Bartlett, Kuldeep Sen, Pyla Avinash, Suryansh Shedge, Musheer Khan, Harnoor Pannu, Aaron Hardie, Priyansh Arya, Azmatullah Omarzai.

Match starts: 7.30pm.



## People's Hut Foundation inks MoU with Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu to enhance healthcare access in Jammu region

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: The People's Hut Foundation and Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Friday to improve healthcare access and delivery in the region, leveraging the strengths of both organizations to benefit the community.

The MoU signing ceremony took place in Jammu and was signed in presence of representatives from both institutions. Dr. Harmeet Singh, Managing and Medical Director and Group Director – Emergency & Trauma at Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu, represented the Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity along with Ritvik Mahajan, Management Consultant and in presence of Dinesh Sharma, Marketing Head and Mehran Khan, Marketing Officer at Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu while as People's Hut Foundation was represented by Dr. Rohit Koul, Director and CEO and Dr. Ritu Koul, Director and COO, in presence of Advocate Meenu



Padha, Legal Advisor and CTM at People's Hut Foundation.

While speaking to media Dr. Rohit Koul said through this MOU, Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu and People's Hut Foundation will work together on various initiatives, including organizing free medical camps to provide essential healthcare services to underserved populations and training the youth of Jammu and Kashmir

in CPR and Emergency Support services. This partnership underscores the commitment of both Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu and People's Hut Foundation to improving the health and well-being of the community in Jammu and Kashmir.

Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Jammu is a leading healthcare provider in the region, offering a wide range of medical services and committed to delivering

quality care to its patients and People's Hut Foundation which is a registered national NGO dedicated to providing essential services, including healthcare, to underserved communities under its flagship initiative "Mobile Health Clinic Program".

Dr. Harmeet Singh said that this partnership with People's Hut Foundation marks a significant step in our commitment to providing better healthcare facilities to the underprivileged communities of the society who lack the basic healthcare facilities. Meanwhile Director and COO of People's Hut Foundation Dr. Ritu Koul emphasized that this initiative sets a new benchmark in community healthcare and follows the principle of giving back to the society.

Meanwhile, Advocate Meenu Padha, Legal Advisor and CTM at People's Hut Foundation praised the collaboration between two Institutions. She also highlighted MoU's potential to not only provide advanced healthcare access but also pave the way for community societal development.

## Dimple leads protest, calls for retaliation against Pakistan



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: In a storm of passion, resolve, and patriotism, Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu & Kashmir, ignited a fiery protest against Pakistan in the heart of Jammu today, demanding swift and decisive action in the wake of the recent Pahalgam attack.

Waving torches of fury and soaked in the spirit of justice, protestors set ablaze effigies of Pakistani leaders and burnt Pakistan's flag in symbolic defiance.

"The blood of innocents shall not go in vain," thundered Dimple as crowds chanted in unison, their voices rising like a tide.

Dimple demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi rise to the moment and issue clear directives to the Chief of Defence Staff and Indian Armed Forces to commence a full-scale war against Pakistan.

"It is time," Dimple said, "to reclaim what is ours, to avenge what we have lost, and to

silence the guns across the border forever."

With fervent support, Dimple welcomed the bold decisions under consideration — the scrapping of the Indus Water Treaty, closure of the Pakistan Embassy in India, the halting of visas for Pakistani nationals, and the cessation of the historic Amritsar-Attari railway line. But amidst the thunderous chants and war cries, Dimple also struck a note of brotherhood.

"Let no hand be raised against our neighbors, our friends, our fellow countrymen. Whether Hindu, Muslim, or Sikh — we are all India's children," he said, urging the public to uphold communal harmony in these testing times.

He fiercely condemned the Pahalgam targeted killing, alleging it was a calculated attempt by Pakistan and anti-national forces to incite communal riots reminiscent of 1947.

"This cowardly act is aimed at shaking the roots of peace, to halt the sacred Amarnath

Yatra and paralyze our lifeline — the new railway service to Kashmir."

Railing against what he called the government's "decade of political games," Dimple criticized the BJP for failing to curb militancy even after the abrogation of Article 370.

"Jammu was once a cradle of calm — now, militancy spreads like wildfire," he warned, listing security lapses in regions like Kathua, Doda, Samba, and Poonch.

"The borders bleed, the heart bleeds. The infiltration rises with each passing day," he cried. "We must liberate POK and begin Operation All-Out now."

Let there be no more waiting. Start the war."

Standing beside Dimple were other senior leaders — Biloo Pahlwan, Arun Verma, Kala Singh, Vijay Virdi, Lohri Shaha, Rajinder Gupta, Babu Kumar, and many others — all rallying behind the cause with thunderous conviction.

## Shiv Sena demands strict & similar action against Bangladeshis, Rohingyas Find "snake in the sleeve" and crush its hood: Sahni

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: Modi government should issue strict orders to expel illegal Bangladeshis and Rohingyas from the country, stated by Manish Sahni, President, Shiv Sena(UBT) Jammu and Kashmir Unit.

In a press conference held today at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni has demanded the Jammu and Kashmir police and intelligence agencies to find the accomplices (snake in the sleeve) of the terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and take strict legal action against them.

Sahni said that these snakes of the sleeve, who are helping the terrorists in their nefarious, cowardly activities in the Pahalgam attack, have bitten the Hindu Muslim brotherhood along with the economy of Jammu and Kashmir which



should be crushed with strictness. Sahni termed the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis illegally camping in the country and Jammu and Kashmir as a serious threat from the security point of view and said that they have been found involved in many criminal and anti-national incidents including drug trafficking, women trafficking in Jammu and Kashmir.

Before these illegal intruders dare to carry out any major unpleasant incident, strict action should be taken in time

and they should be shown the way out of the country.

Sahni has demanded that Pakistani citizen Seema Haider, who illegally entered the Indian border through Nepal about two years ago (May 13, 2023), should be sent back to Pakistan within the stipulated time frame.

Sahni has demanded from the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir to immediately arrest and expel illegal Bangladeshis and Rohingyas.

## YCET organizes workshop on "WordPress"

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: The Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Yogananda College of Engineering and Technology (YCET) organized workshop on "Unlocking the Power of WordPress" on Friday for 4th and 6th semester students of Computer Science & Engineering Department.

The resource person for the workshop was Balbeer Singh from Techno solutions along with his team Rishant Kakapuri, WordPress Expert and Bhargav Shridhar, Technical Support.

They provided invaluable insights and hands-on training to our students on word Press.

The workshop covered the fundamental concepts of WordPress.

It is a versatile content management system (CMS) primarily used

for building and managing websites. While it started as a blogging platform, it has evolved to support various website types, including business websites, online stores, portfolios, and even learning management systems. Its ease of use, extensive customization options through themes and plugins, and large community make it a popular choice for both beginners and experienced web developers.

The main aim of the workshop was to empower students with WordPress Skills and to equip students with the foundational skills needed to build and manage websites using WordPress.

## MS Ridefusion one stop showroom inaugurated by Kavinder

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 25: MS Ridefusion, a state-of-the-art tyre solution showroom, was today inaugurated by Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

The grand opening marked a significant step in providing high-quality and comprehensive tyre solutions to customers in the region.

With a strong focus on customer satisfaction, MS Ridefusion has been established with the mission of delivering top-tier products and services under one roof.

The owners of the showroom, Akshit and Nimish both the highly educated duo, proudly presented their vision of creating a one-stop destination under one roof that makes the tyre, and other car accessories experience both convenient and enjoyable.

Speaking at the event, Kavinder Gupta praised the initiative and expressed confidence in the shops ability to meet the growing demands of motorists through pro-



fessionalism and quality service. Our aim is to redefine how people approach tyre maintenance and replacement, said Nimish. We want to make sure every customer leaves satisfied,

with the right product and the best service.

Akshit added, Mahashakti MS Ridefusion is more than just a tyre shop. It's about creating trust, offering expert guidance, and

being part of our customers journey on the road. The new showroom showcases a wide range of branded tyres, accessories, and related services, making it a hub for automobile enthusiasts and everyday drivers alike. With dedication and a customer-first approach, MS Ridefusion is set to become a trusted name in tyre retail and service in the region and as a part of promotional offer we will be offering 10% discount on all products and free alignment for a week, added Nimish.

## LIC relaxes claim settlement rules for victims of Pahalgam terror attack

### Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Apr 25: Life Insurance Corporation on India on Friday announced relaxation in claim settlement procedure for victims of Pahalgam terror attack.

The dastardly terror attack that took place on Tuesday in Kashmir's Pahalgam killed 26 people, mostly tourists.

Expressing grief over the death of citizens in the terror attack, LIC in a statement said it is committed to supporting those affected and will expedite claim settlements to provide financial relief.

LIC CEO & MD Siddhartha Mohanty

said the insurance company announced many concessions to mitigate the hardships of the claimants of LIC policies.

In lieu of death certificates, any evidence in government records of death of the policyholder due to the terrorist attack or any compensation paid by central/state government will be accepted as proof of death, he said.

All efforts will be taken to ensure that the claimants are reached out and claims are settled expeditiously to the affected families, it said.

For further assistance, the claimants may contact the nearest LIC branch/division/customer zones or may call at 022-68276827.

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