

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

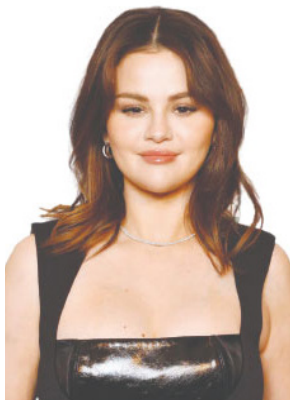
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**Selena Gomez opens up on her mental health journey**



**UP govt will respond firmly to any threat to national security: Adityanath**



**JSMM Chairman appeals to India: 'Sindh is not Pakistan' amid rising Indo-Pak tensions**

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## BRIEFLY

### JKNC Delegation Visits Family of Syed Adil Hussain in Pahalgam

SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): A delegation of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) visited the Hapatnarda area of Pahalgam on Saturday to express solidarity with the family of Syed Adil Hussain, who lost his life while protecting tourists during the Baisaran massacre.

The party leaders, while paying tributes, said that the JKNC stands firmly with the family in this hour of grief and acknowledged the sacrifice made by Adil Hussain in saving innocent lives.

The delegation included MLAs Altaf Ahmad Wani, Salman Ali Sagar, Ahsan Pardesi, State Spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar, Zahir Abdullah, and Zamir Abdullah. The leaders visited the residence of the deceased and offered condolences to his father, Syed Haider Shah.

The delegation also included Abhijeet Patil, a representative from Raja Rani Tour and Travels and the Maharashtra Tour Operators Association, who also expressed solidarity with the bereaved family.

The leaders emphasised that the courage shown by Adil Hussain will be remembered and honoured.

### Terrorist hideout busted, Huge cache of arms seized in Kupwara: Police

SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): A huge cache of arms and ammunition was seized as security forces busted a terrorist hideout in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district on Saturday, police said. Jammu travel guide

The development came days after terrorists gunned down 26 people near Pahalgam. Acting on specific intelligence inputs, a search operation was launched by the security forces in the forested area of Sedor Nala, Mushtaqabad Machil (the Samsha Behak forest region), in the north Kashmir district, a police official said. He said a terrorist hideout was successfully located and busted during the operation.

A significant cache of arms and ammunition, including five AK-47 rifles, eight AK-47 magazines, a pistol, a pistol magazine, 660 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, a pistol round and 50 rounds of M4 ammunition, was seized from

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## CM Omar Abdullah leaves for Ramban to assess damage after cloudburst

SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah left his residence in Srinagar on Saturday to visit the Ramban district to assess the situation following a cloudburst a week ago. This will be his second visit to the area, following his initial visit on April 22.

Incessant rains, hailstorms, and landslides have caused widespread damage in the region, with at least three people, including two children, losing their lives in the Bagahana



village after a house collapsed.

Restoration efforts began on April 22, following the cloudburst, which also caused damage to a temple and several vehicles.

Imtiyaz Ahmed, Sub

Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Gool, said that the flash floods damaged 37 houses and one temple.

He added, "Yesterday, a cloudburst occurred here, and the flash floods damaged 37 houses and

a temple. Although there was a significant loss of property, no lives were lost. Several cattle are also reportedly missing."

The SDM further mentioned, "A complete assessment of the loss will be done, and all the required help will be given. Rehabilitation is being done and we are providing all necessary things like medicine and food..."

Accompanied by the Deputy Commissioner Ramban and senior civil and police officials, Chief Minister Abdullah

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## Pakistan military resorts to unprovoked firing along LoC

SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): The Pakistani military resorted to unprovoked firing all across the Line of Control and Indian troops effectively responded to them, military sources said on Saturday.

The exchange of fire for a second consecutive night came amid heightened tension between India and Pakistan following Tuesday's Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 civilians.

The Pakistani troops fired at Indian positions along the Line of Control (LoC) on Thursday night as well and India had responded appropriately.

"On the night of April 25 and 26, unprovoked small arms firings were carried out by various Pakistan Army post all across the LoC in Kashmir," a source said.

"Indian troops responded appropriately with small arms,"

they said.

No casualties were reported in the firing.

The Pakistan military has been put on high alert following India's assertion that it would hunt down the terrorists involved in the Pahalgam strike.

In view of the cross-border linkages to the Pahalgam attack, India on Wednesday announced a raft of punitive measures,

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## Tourists feel 'safe' in Srinagar, applaud warmth and support of locals



SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): Amid heightened security following the Pahalgam terrorist attack that claimed 26 lives, tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's (J-K) Srinagar say they feel safe

and welcomed, crediting the warmth and support of locals.

While Dal Lake remains lively with visitors enjoying the picturesque landscape of the valley, nearby Pahalgam

appears deserted, with a heavy security presence replacing the usual tourist crowds.

"I don't feel good about leaving today. I've had a great time here. The hoteliers have supported us throughout our stay. We felt no fear, and locals have been welcoming. Tourists must visit — there is no fear as such," said Vikram Bhai Vyas, a tourist from Gujarat's Vadodara.

Another tourist, Bakul Sharma, who came

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## Pahalgam attack: Houses of three more terrorists destroyed in south Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): The government of Jammu and Kashmir has razed three more homes of suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists in South Kashmir's Pulwama, Shopian, and Kulgam following the Pahalgam attack, Times Now reported. This brings the total number of terrorist homes demolished over

the past 24 hours to five.

The three houses demolished by authorities belonged to Ahsan Sheikh from Pulwama, Shahid Ahmad Kuttay from Shopian, and Zahid Ahmed from Kulgam.

As per reports, Ahsan was among the three Kashmir-based Lashkar Overground Workers who provided logistical and even direct support

to the Pakistani terrorists in the Pahalgam terror attack.

Kuttay and Ahmed are accused of being involved in anti-national activities for the past 3-4 years.

Prior to this, authorities on Friday blew up the houses of two other Kashmir-based OGWs who participated in the Pahalgam terror attack

— Asif Sheikh and Adil Thoker.

Authorities, however, ensured that the family members had vacated the homes before the demolitions. The houses were demolished in precision strikes to avoid collateral damage to nearby properties, according to reports.

"This action is clearly aimed at

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## JK Cabinet Minister Javed Rana arrives in Lucknow to meet J&K students, businessmen and UP authorities

LUCKNOW, Apr 26 (Agencies): In the backdrop of recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam and with the objective of reassuring and instilling sense of security among students and businessmen from Jammu & Kashmir currently residing in different parts of Uttar Pradesh, J&K Minister Javed Ahmed Rana today arrived in



Lucknow. Rana will be available to interact with students,

businessmen and other members of J&K community at VVIP Guest House Saket, Mahatma Gandhi Marg Lucknow. He will also be meeting senior functionaries of UP Government.

All interested student groups, business leaders or individuals from J&K wishing to meet the Minister may contact

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## Satish Sharma reaches Dehradun, available to meet J&K students, Business community



JAMMU, Apr 26 (Agencies): In consonance with the directions of

Chief Minister and view a purpose to reassure and instill a sense of

security among students, business persons from Jammu and Kashmir currently pursuing studies, carrying out business activities in Dehradun, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Sports has reached Dehradun.

During his visit, the Minister will be available to interact with students,

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## Minister Sakina Itoo reaches Chandigarh, Punjab to assist J&K residents

SRINAGAR, Apr 26 (Agencies): In the aftermath of the recent terror incident in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir Minister Sakina Itoo has reached Chandigarh and Punjab to coordinate with students, businesspersons, and individuals from J&K, as per directions of the



Hon'ble Chief Minister. In a post on X, Minister Sakina Itoo as per news

agency JKNS wrote, "On the direction of HCM, I am available in Chandigarh and Punjab to meet students, business community and individuals from J&K to ensure a sense of security. Anyone facing any issue can reach out to me through the below

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# GupShup

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**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Madan Lal Gupta** S/o Late Sh Rattan Chand Jandial R/o Salathia Gali, Udhampur.

**10th Day** will be performed on 27th April, 2025, Sunday, 11:30 am at Mahajan Hall, Silla Mandir Gali, Chabutra Bazar, Udhampur.

**Kriya** will be performed on 30th April 2025 (Wednesday), at Devika Ghat, Udhampur.

**Grief Stricken:**

**Wife:** Smt Anjana Gupta (Gudo)

**Brother & Sister in Law:**

Sh Babu Ram & Smt Shushma Gupta

**Brother & Sister in Law:**

Sh Yash Pal Gupta and Smt Shakti Gupta

**Daughter and Son in Law:**

Pooja & Sahil Gupta

**Sons & Daughter in Law:**

Nitin & Shivali Gupta

Shubham Mahajan



**SH. MADAN LAL GUPTA**

Mobile No. : 9797056827;  
9419996296; 9149504390

**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 **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, Nikhlesh, Vamika

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 Vri (Neena) Sharma (Wife)

Mrs Sheetal and Mr. Mohinder Sharma (Sister and Brother-in-Law)

Mrs Shalini and Mr. Vikas Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-Law)

Mrs Shweta and Mr. Dinesh Choudhary (Daughter and Son-in-Law)

Mrs. Ronil and Mrs. Hans Jaggi (Nephew and Daughter-in-Law)

**Brothers-in-Law and Bhabis**

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



**Shri K. K. Sharma**

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

**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** (M/s 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, Lamti 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**

M/s Kailu Textorium, Main. Bazar, Udhampur (J&K)

Ph. No. 9906291237, 7889846021, 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

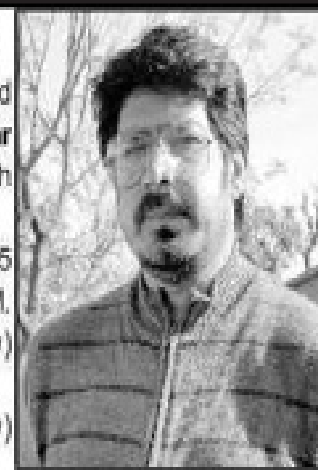
(Brothers and Sister-in-laws)

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 with be held on same Adress.

**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**

**ANTIM ARDAAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, it is informed that our beloved

**S. Kartar Singh**

(S/o Late S. Ishar Singh) left the world for heavenly abode on 20-04-2025.

To pay our obsequies to the departed soul,

**Arambh Sri Akhand Paath Sahib** on 27-4-2025 at 10:00 AM.

**Bhog Sri Akhand Paath Sahib** on 29-4-2025 at 10:00 AM.

**Kirtan and Ardaas** till 11:30 AM followed by

Guru ka Langar at our residence

at Secret Niwas, Sector 14, Guru Nanak Nagar, Jammu

**Antim Ardaas** will be held at Gurdwara Baba Fateh Singh Ji,

Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on Tuesday, 29-04-2025

from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sardarni Seerat Kaur - Wife

**Son & Daughter-in-law**

S. Sandeep Singh (Adv) & Sardarni Gurmeet Kaur

**Son & Daughter-in-law**

Er. Harbinder Singh & Sardarni Anest Kaur

**Daughter & Son-in-law**

Sardarni Harmeet Kaur & Maj Gen J.S. Ishar (Retd)

Sardarni Navdeep Kaur & S. Rabinder Singh (Nephew)

**Gurpreet Kaur - Niece**

Sidhveer Singh, Shubkarm Singh, Montek Singh, Harinder Singh,

Gurjwal Singh, Idhbir Singh- Grand Children

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**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 Je Pandita (Jathari) W/o Late Satish Pandita

Sh. Pintoo Pandita & Smt Suman Pandita -Devar and Devrani

Mayank Pandita- Son

Vash 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. Benia Gupta (Wife)

(Sons & Daughters-in-Law)

Ravi & Renu Gupta

Ajay & Sarita Gupta

Uma & Seema Gupta

Parveen & Inna Gupta

(Daughters & Sons-in-Law)

Renu & Ashwani Gupta

Ravi & Purnee Gupta

**AND Gupta Family**

Phone No. 941942139, 9148472899, 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.</



# MLA, DC conduct joint tour of Kishtwar town



### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Apr 26: MLA Kishtwar, Shagun Parihar, along with Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan (JKAS), on Saturday conducted a comprehensive tour of various parts of the town to assess key civic issues, including drainage, electricity infrastructure, and market regulation.

During the visit many prominent citizens met both of them and apprised about the critical issues of the town. The Hon'ble MLA asked the intervention of the District Administration and early redressal. The DC issued on-spot directions to the Executive Officer, Municipality Kishtwar, for the beautification of Gudhali Chowk under the town Beautification plan.

He also instructed the Public Works Department to undertake widening works at Dak Bungalow Chowk and Harra Pond Chowk within two days to

facilitate the installation of clock towers at both locations.

The Deputy Commissioner further directed the EO Municipality to expedite the preparation and submission of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for drainage works from Hidayal Chowk to Shall Gadi, setting a timeline of one week for submission.

Emphasizing the need for synergy, the DC called for close coordination among all the concerned departments to ensure timely and efficient completion of Drainage Work.

Additionally, the Power Development Department (PDD) was directed to streamline the town's electricity infrastructure by removing irregular electrification and ensuring a more organized and safe setup.

Public of the area thanked the MLA for her visit and assured to extend full cooperation in the developmental works.

# Two terrorist associates arrested; Arms & ammunition recovered



### Top News Report

KULGAM, Apr 26: Kulgam Police along with 1RR and 18 Bn CRPF have arrested two terrorist associates in Kulgam and recovered arms and ammunition from their possession.

During checking at a checkpoint established at Matalhama Chowk Thokerpora, Qaimoh, two terrorist associates identified as Bilal Ahmad Bhat son of Abdul Salam Bhat and Mohd Ismail Bhat son of Ghulam Mohammad

Bhat both residents of Thokerpora, Qaimoh were arrested. After search, arms ammunition including 02 pistols, 25 pistol rounds, \*02 pistol magazines were recovered from their possession.

Regarding the incident, a Case vide FIR NO. 29/2025 under relevant sections of law have been registered in Police Station Qaimoh and investigation has been initiated.

# Randhawa inaugurates construction and improvement work of Nallah Wall in Trikuta Nagar

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: Ch. Vikram Randhawa, MLA of Bahu Constituency, on Saturday inaugurated the construction and improvement work of the left side wall of the Nallah passing through Sector No. 4, Ward No. 53, Trikuta Nagar.

The project, undertaken by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), aims to strengthen the drainage system, prevent soil erosion, and address long-standing issues of waterlogging in the area.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by UEED officials including AEE Madan Gopal and JE Supriya Khajuria, who provided technical insights into the project.

Prominent personalities present on the occasion included Nitish Mahajan (Mandal President), Ajay Gupta (Ex-



Corporator), Lucky Puri (Ex-Corporator), along with local leaders and residents like Pardeep, Rattan Dhar, Sanjay Ghai, Makrant, Rajinder Gupta, Rama Jamwal, Divya Jain, and Pawan Khajuria.

Speaking on the occasion, Randhawa emphasized the importance of modernizing civic infrastructure to cope with urban growth. He noted that the project would provide significant relief to the residents of Trikuta Nagar and adjoining areas by improving drainage efficiency, especially during the monsoon season.

He further assured that similar projects will be undertaken across the constituency to ensure a better standard of living for all citizens.

Residents expressed their gratitude to the MLA for his proactive approach and continuous efforts towards addressing civic issues. The MLA also interacted with the public and took note of other local demands to be addressed in the upcoming phases of development.

# Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society celebrates 32nd Foundation Day

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: The Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society (Regd.) marked a glorious milestone — the 32nd Foundation Day, a testament to three decades of selfless service and unwavering community spirit. The celebration unfolded in the TNWS complex, where tradition, gratitude, and hope danced hand in hand.

Sat Paul Sharma, President of BJP J&K UT, graced the ceremony as the Chief Guest. Alongside him, the MLA of Bahu Constituency, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, and esteemed leaders Rekha Mahajan and Nitish Mahajan adorned the day with their noble presence.

The ceremony began with a heartfelt welcome by Rajinder P. Kakkar, President of TNWS Jammu, and his dedicated team.

A profound moment of silence, marked by the chanting of the Gayatri Mantra thrice, paid homage to the departed souls of the Pahalgam terror tragedy — a tribute stitched with love and sorrow into the day's tapestry.

The spirit of gratitude and respect shone brightly as dignitaries were honoured: Sat Paul Sharma received a TNWS memento, a



copy of the Shrimad Bhagavad Gita, and a ceremonious turban as a symbol of deep reverence from the people of Trikuta Nagar.

Similarly, Ch. Vikram Randhawa was honoured by Er. Ashok Kumar Arora, Patron TNWS, while Rekha Mahajan and Nitish Mahajan were also warmly felicitated, ensuring that the spirit of honour flowed like a river of goodwill.

A proud and historic moment unfolded as the TNWS Newsletter Magazine 2024-2025 was unveiled, a vivid chronicle of the society's selfless endeavours and milestones, captured in

words and photographs. Speaking to the gathered audience, Ch. Vikram Randhawa praised the dynamic leadership of Rajinder P. Kakkar and assured the residents that all pending developmental demands would be fulfilled systematically, with the promise of expanding the TNWS complex — a structure once built for fifty, now standing strong as the heart of a thriving colony.

In his address, Sat Paul Sharma lauded the extraordinary efforts of Team TNWS Jammu, honouring their legacy of thirty-two years. He pledged unwavering support to the society's

future initiatives, promising that no call for help would go unheard. His words were not mere promises but seeds of commitment, planted in the rich soil of trust and service. The guests jointly inaugurated the 9th Subsidized Ration Distribution Camp for the residents of Trikuta Nagar, organized by TNWS in collaboration with NCCF Jammu. Appreciation certificates were awarded to key service providers — JEE PDD Er. Subhash Kumar, JEE PDD Er. Kulveer Singh, JEE PHE Er. Abhinash Sharma, JEE JDA Er. Baljeet Singh, and Supervisor JMC Sanjay Teji— who have served the colony with unmatched dedication and sincerity.

Vijay Gupta, Secretary TNWS Jammu, presented a summary of the society's vibrant activities throughout the year, culminating in a warm vote of thanks to the guests, the media of J&K UT, and residents of Trikuta Nagar.

Dr. Subhash Abrol, Shailja Gupta, Rama Jamwal, Madan Sharma, Anil Sharma, O.P. Sharma, Sandeep Sharma, Amarjeet Singh, Jaswinder Singh, Kewal Sher, Neeraj Puri, Ajay Kumar Gupta, Er. Ravinder Kaul, Er. Varinder Kumar Suri, and Suneel Mahajan, were also present

# GGSCMT signs MoU with APPWARS Technologies Delhi to advance academic excellence

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology (GGSCMT) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with APPWARS Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Delhi, marking a significant step forward in its mission to promote academic excellence and industry-oriented education. This strategic partnership aims to bridge the gap between academia and the evolving needs of the industry by offering students access to cutting-edge training programs, workshops, internships, and real-time project opportunities.

Through this collaboration, GGSCMT students and faculty members will benefit from hands-on exposure to the latest technologies, including Artificial Intelli-



Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal  
Emeritus Professor (Ph.D. S.I.L.)  
Principal, GGSCMT



Mr. Sonu Prakash  
Director  
APPWARS Technologies

gence, Data Science, Cloud Computing, Cyber security, and more. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal, Professor-cum-Principal of GGSCMT, emphasized, "This collaboration will empower our students with industry-ready skills and significantly enhance their employability. By working alongside industry experts, our students will gain practical insights that complement their academic learning."

Sonu Prakash, Director, APPWARS Technologies expressed their enthusiasm, highlighting their commitment to nurturing talent and contributing to the development of a future-ready workforce.

The MoU reflects GGSCMT's ongoing commitment to providing holistic education and ensuring that its students stay ahead in an increasingly competitive global environment.

# President NDS condemns brutal attack on tourists at Pahalgam



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: Advocate Dogra Harish Kaila, President, Nami Dogri Sanstha, has strongly condemned the cowardly and inhumane terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed innocent lives and left sev-

eral injured. Expressing deep anguish, Advocate Dogra Harish Kaila termed the attack a barbaric attempt to destabilize the region and disrupt the growing atmosphere of peace and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir.

He stated that such brutal acts of violence are a direct attack on humanity and must be condemned by all right-thinking citizens. "These desperate actions reflect the frustration of those who oppose peace, development, and communal harmony but the people of Jammu and Kashmir have always shown resilience," he

said. Advocate Dogra Harish Kaila further emphasized, "Kashmir has stood tall against these challenges and has come forward on the path of peace and reconciliation. This is a welcome step that must be nurtured and protected."

The Nami Dogri Sanstha family, including Prof. Anupama Sharma (Patron), Yash Paul Yash (General Secretary), Capt. Lalit Sharma (Convenor), Dr. Sushil Bhola, Parvinder Singh Apple, Sheikh Fiaz, and Balwinder Singh Jammu (Executive Members) joined Advocate Dogra Harish Kaila in unequivocally condemning the

attack. They expressed deep sorrow over the loss of innocent lives and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

The Sanstha called upon the administration to take stringent action against the perpetrators and provide all necessary support to the victims. They also urged civil society, cultural and literary organizations and citizens across J&K to remain united and vigilant against forces trying to create unrest.

Nami Dogri Sanstha reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to the values of peace, unity, and brotherhood.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL  
DIVISION JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER  
(Short Term)

MHDJ/e-NIT 35 of 2025-26

Dated: 24.04.2025  
Due : 05.05.2025

On behalf of the President of India, e-tenders in two cover system on turnkey basis are invited from registered/reputed firms having sufficient relevant experience for the work mentioned below:

S. No	Description of work	Project Authority	Estt	Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of tender document	Time of completion	Eligibility Criterion of Bidder
1	Repair of Gyser installed at Pathology Lab and power supply to Cath lab by making connections at distribution panel at Govt. Super Speciality Hospital, Jammu.	Principal GMC & Associated Hospital Jammu	0.375 LACS	Rs 1000.00 in the shape of CDR/FDR/TDR valid for 12 months pledged to the Executive Engineer MH Division Jammu	Rs 200.00 in the shape of Challan through J&K Govt. Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date and also indicating the name of work duly credited to 0059-PWD (Revenue) and uploading a copy of treasury challan / receipt on e-tendering portal. OR The bidder may deposit tender fee in the shape of e-Challan through Account no. 0097010100002163 in the name of Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospital Division Jammu Name of Bank: J&K Bank Town Hall Jammu Branch Code: 0097 IFSC code: JAKA0TNHALL MICR CODE: 180051025	10 days	Registered & Reputed firms having sufficient experience as per Annexure "C" similar nature of work

THE NIT CONSISTING OF Qualifying INFORMATION, ELGIBILITY CRITERIA, BILL OF QUANTITIES (BOQ) SETS OF TERMS & CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT & OTHER DETAILS CAN BE VIEWED / DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).

DIP/J-591/25

SD/-  
(Er. Vishal Mahajan)  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical & Hospital Division  
Jammu



EDITORIAL

PROMOTE  
BOOK READING

In an increasingly digital world, the way we consume information has changed dramatically. Traditional book reading and online reading each offer unique experiences, with their own sets of advantages and drawbacks. Understanding the differences between these two modes can help readers make more conscious choices about how they engage with text. Book reading has been a treasured habit for centuries. Holding a physical book provides a tactile experience that many find deeply comforting. The feel of turning pages, the smell of old or newly printed paper, and the simple act of physically engaging with a text create a sensory connection that digital reading struggles to replicate. Beyond sensory pleasures, books often encourage deeper focus. Without hyperlinks, pop-ups, or notifications, readers are less likely to be distracted, allowing for extended periods of concentration and immersion in the material. Moreover, reading books is associated with better retention of information. Studies suggest that the linear, slow-paced nature of reading a physical book aids memory and comprehension. Readers are also more likely to recall where in a book they read a particular piece of information, using spatial memory — something much harder to achieve on a scrolling screen. Book reading fosters patience, encourages critical thinking, and often promotes a more thoughtful, reflective interaction with ideas. On the other hand, online reading offers unparalleled convenience and accessibility. With a smartphone, tablet, or computer, readers can access millions of articles, books, academic papers, and news sources instantly. This immediacy is a major advantage in today's fast-paced society where time is often scarce. Online reading also makes it easy to search for specific topics, meanings of words, or related information, enhancing the research process and broadening learning opportunities. Additionally, online reading offers interactive elements like hyperlinks, videos, and audio which can enrich the experience. A simple article can expand into a deep dive through a web of interconnected content, offering a more dynamic form of engagement. For students and professionals alike, online platforms provide tools such as adjustable font sizes, night modes, and text-to-speech options, making reading more accessible for people with different needs. However, online reading comes with its challenges. The very strengths of online media — connectivity and abundance — can become weaknesses. The temptation to click on ads, check social media, or open new tabs often disrupts the reading flow, leading to fragmented attention spans. “Screen fatigue” is another issue; prolonged reading on devices can strain the eyes and lead to physical discomfort, making it harder to maintain deep focus. Furthermore, not all online content is curated for quality. The internet is a vast sea where credible sources coexist with misinformation. Discerning trustworthy information requires critical evaluation skills that not every reader may possess, especially younger audiences. In contrast, traditional book publishing often involves rigorous editing, fact-checking, and peer reviews, lending a layer of reliability to printed works. Another important consideration is the emotional connection formed with books versus screens. Books often become treasured possessions, tied to memories and milestones. A beloved novel from childhood or a life-changing philosophy text often holds sentimental value beyond the words themselves. E-books and web pages, while convenient, rarely carry the same emotional weight. Ultimately, the choice between book reading and online reading depends on context and personal preference. For immersive, reflective, and distraction-free engagement, nothing beats a physical book. For quick research, interactive learning, and immediate access to vast information, online reading is unmatched. A balanced approach might be the best solution. Books can be reserved for times when one seeks depth and focus, while online resources can be utilized for convenience and breadth. In an ideal world, readers would learn to appreciate the strengths of both mediums, adapting to different situations rather than strictly favoring one over the other. As technology continues to evolve, so will our reading habits. Yet the core purpose remains the same: to seek knowledge, inspiration, and understanding — whether through the quiet rustle of paper or the bright glow of a screen.

Political, Diplomatic & Economic Strike Post Pahalgam Massacre

By: Omkar Dattatray

The government of India is serious about striking at the very roots of terrorism and all political parties and the whole nation is in unison to give of final blow to terrorists and also to identify and catch those savages who were involved in the heinous and barbaric crime of killing 26 innocent and unarmed tourists. The Pahalgam massacre is not only the attack on innocent Hindu tourists but an unprecedented attack on the tourism,economy ,peace, tranquility and above all on Insaniyet and Kashmiri-yet .Modi government had begun political and diplomatic strike on Pakistan before resorting to surgical and air strike on the enemy country. In the wake of the brutal terrorist attack, in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam that unfortunately claimed 26 lives, India has launched a series of strong diplomatic and political as well as strategic countermeasures against Pakistan ,which it holds responsible for backing cross –border terrorism .These measures of political and diplomatic nature will in fact strike at the very roots of terrorism and drain Pakistan economically and will strike at the agriculture base of that country. Modi has rightly stated in categorical terms that Pahalgam terrorist carnage is not only the attack on innocent civilians but is an attack on the very soul of India and therefore the terrorism and its masterminds in Pakistan will be punished. The diplomatic and political strike at Pakistan is unprecedented in history as such strike had never been taken in the past over 35 years of terrorism. Thus it is hoped that the present political and diplomatic strike will have its desired effect and will checkmate terrorism sponsored from Pakistan. The attack, which targeted tourists in the Baisaran valley ,was later claimed by The Resistance Front –an offshoot of the banned Pakistan based and backed terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba. Describing the massacre as a direct assault on India's

peace and progress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi vowed to hunt down and punish every terrorist and their backers.” India will identify,trace and punish every terrorist and their backers .We will pursue them to the ends of Earth .India's spirit will never be broken by terrorism ,”PM said in a strong message from Bihar .Following a high –level review by the Cabinet committee on Security-CCS ,chaired by the prime minister ,India announced a set of stringent measures in response to the cross –border links of the attack. The following unprecedented diplomatic and political countermeasures have been taken to strike at the roots of Pak sponsored terrorism---1 Suspension of Indus Water Treaty---India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 with immediate effect. This is for the first time that GOI has suspended IWT and it will have adverse effect on the agriculture ,fragile economy and on the people.IWT was put in abeyance till Pakistan will stop exporting and sponsoring terrorism on India soil and its Jammu and Kashmir. New Delhi suspended water-sharing treaty, announced the closure of the main land border crossing with Pakistan. This measure will also adversely impact the power generation in Pakistan. It will affect irrigation prospects of farm and other produce. Pakistan reacted to suspension of IWT as an act of war cry. In fact this measure will strike at the very roots of terrorism.—2—Asks Pakistani Nationals to leave India within 48 hours.3—India cancels SAARC visas to Pakistani nationals with immediate effect. India orders Pakistani citizens to leave Earlier on Thursday, India hit Pakistan with a raft of mostly symbolic diplomatic measures ,but analysts warn a military response may yet come, with some speculating that a response may come within days while others say it will take weeks.-3---Downsizing diplomatic ties and withdrew visas for Pakistanis on Wednesday night ,just over 24 hours after gunmen killed 26 men in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. New Delhi said ,it had suspended visas services ,with immediate

effect “ and ordered all Pakistani nationals to leave the country ,with the exception of remaining diplomats.4—India decreases the strength of its embassy at Pakistan from 55 to 30.India's retaliatory measures also included an attempt to isolate Pakistan on the global stage by holding a meeting with top diplomats and envoys following the Pahalgam attack. In fact the brutal massacre of 26 tourists by terrorists in Pahalgam was met with an equally furious response by India as it announced a series of punitive diplomatic actions while hinting at further retaliation. The retaliation, the strongest since the measures taken after the 2019 Pulwama attack ,encompassed all spheres ,trade, diplomatic ties ,soft power ,visas as well as social media. The multipronged measures did not end there as India also attempted to isolate Pakistan on global stage by holding a meeting with top diplomats and envoys of the US, the UK, European Union ,Italy ,Qatar ,Japan, China ,Russia, ,Germany, France etc. That India is not done with its retaliatory moves was spelt loud and clear by PM Modi on Thursday.PM said ,”India will identify ,trace , and punish every terrorist and their backers. We will pursue them to the ends of the Earth. ”To put the diplomatic measures in specific terms it can be as follows—1—In an unprecedented move ,India suspended all visa services ,including medical visas ,to Pakistani nationals with immediate effect. All Pakistani nationals have been asked to leave India while Delhi advised its nationals to avoid travelling to Pakistan.—2—India has also cancelled all visas granted to certain categories of Pakistani nationals under SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme-SVES .Those in the country have been asked to leave by Friday evening.—3—The official X account of the Pakistani government has also been suspended in India. A message says the account has been withheld due to a legal request.—4—Another strong move was the closure of the Wagah-Attari border in Punjab ,the only land crossing between the two countries .The step ,in

effect, puts a stop to cross border trade, affecting thousands of small traders and manufactures.—5—The suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, which survived three wars and terror attacks, including the 26/11 and Pulwama ,was another move that will further cripple Pakistan and impact its agricultural sector.—6—India has also expelled the Pakistani air ,navy and army advisers ,declaring them persona non grata and cut down the diplomatic strength from the already downgraded 55 to 30.—7—The Border Security Force –BSF also ‘scaled down’ the retreat ceremony held at Attari ,Hussainiwalla and Sadki along the India-Pakistan in Punjab.—8—Soft power has also been casualty. While bilateral crick-eting ties between India and Pakistan have long been paused ,the government sources said ”Pakistani actor Fawad Khan's comeback film Abir Gulal would not be allowed to release. The film, which is slated for release on May 9,has faced boycott calls. India's economic strike will strike at the very roots of Pak economy. Trade, business, exports and imports will be affected. It will further curtail trade which has more than halved since 2018, trade experts and analysts say. It will have a negative impact particularly on Pakistan's pharmacy sector ,if supplies from India are affected .Trade via third countries with Pakistan will be severally affected. In short all the above measures are diplomatic and political and they should be supplemented by military strike on the terrorist camps operating on the soil of POK and Pakistan.

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

Ramanujan: Eternal lamp in the temple of mathematics

By: Vijay Garg

On April 26, 1920, the nation lost Srinivasa Ramanujan a rare mathematical genius. His mathematical consciousness illuminated the world for eternity. This is not merely his death anniversary; it is a celebration of a saint — like devotee of numbers who elevated mathematics to the realms of philosophy and the divine  
When numbers resonate and equations seem to dance with the soul, one name echoes through the very fabric of creation — Srinivasa Ramanujan. On April 26, 1920, a dark day in Indian history, the nation lost this priceless gem.  
Yet, in that moment, his mathematical consciousness illuminated the world for eternity. This is not merely a death anniversary; it is a celebration of a saint-like devotee of numbers who elevated mathematics to the realms of poetry, philosophy, and divine connection. Ramanujan was no ordinary mathematician — he was a mystic of numbers, a seeker of hidden truths, a visionary who saw the universe through the lens of infinite equations.  
His story is a spark that turns the impossible into the possible. Born on December 22, 1887, in the small town of Erode, Tamil Nadu, Ramanujan's life was nothing short of a modern fairy tale. Raised in a humble Brahmin household, surrounded by financial hardships and lacking formal education, he faced walls that would deter most.  
But his genius was a relentless wave that shattered every barrier. From a young age, numbers were his companions and his playground. While other children played with toys, he delved deep into the mysteries of mathematics.  
School textbooks quickly proved inadequate, and he began exploring advanced mathematical concepts on his own. At the age of

15, he discovered A Synopsis of Elementary Results in Pure Mathematics by GS Carr — a book that became his sacred scripture. It fuelled his imagination and transformed his notebooks into treasure troves of original formulas and theorems.  
To Ramanujan, mathematics wasn't just about calculations — it was a spiritual quest. He often credited his insights to his family deity, Goddess Namagiri, saying, “Every formula that comes to my mind is by the grace of the Goddess.” To him, mathematics and divinity were two expressions of the same truth. His work — be it infinite series, continued fractions, or partition functions — read like verses of a cosmic poem.  
His formulas for calculating p are so elegant and precise that they are still used by modern supercomputers. His partition function transformed number theory, and his discoveries in theta functions and modular equations have found applications in cryptography, physics, and even black hole theory. The world took notice of his genius in 1913, when he sent a letter filled with groundbreaking formulas to the eminent Cambridge mathematician GH Hardy.  
Initially sceptical, Hardy was soon astonished. Upon meeting Ramanujan, he said, “Ramanujan's mathematics is beyond the human mind; it is divine inspiration.” Ramanujan was invited to Cambridge, and his collaboration with Hardy sparked a revolution in mathematics. The Hardy — Ramanujan formula on the distribution of prime numbers, along with their other contributions, are considered monumental achievements.  
Ramanujan's greatest legacy lies in his notebooks — thousands of formulas, many without proofs, that took mathematicians decades to fully understand.  
His mock theta functions, penned

during his final days, baffled mathematicians for nearly a century but are now essential in quantum physics and string theory.  
His contributions to the Riemann zeta function continue to influence research on one of mathematics' most profound mysteries — the Riemann Hypothesis.  
Yet, Ramanujan's journey was not without immense struggle. At Cambridge, he battled cultural isolation, dietary challenges, and the harsh English climate. Diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1917, his health deteriorated, and he returned to India in 1919.  
Just a year later, on April 26, 1920, at the age of 32, he passed away in Kumbakonam. But though his mortal life ended, his spirit lives on through his work.  
The discovery of his “Lost Notebook” in 1976 reignited excitement and opened new doors in mathematical research. Ramanujan's influence goes far beyond mathematics. His story is a beacon for dreamers and doers who dare to rise above adversity. In 1987, India marked his birth centenary by declaring it National Mathematics Year. His legacy continues in the world's top institutions, and his life inspired Robert Kanigel's biography The Man Who Knew Infinity, later adapted into a global film.  
In his honour, December 22 is now celebrated as National Mathematics Day in India. Ramanujan's life is proof that genius needs no degree, wealth, or privilege. His journey is a testament to passion, faith, and the boundless potential of the human mind. His discoveries not only advanced science but also revealed a deep philosophical truth — that within each of us lies the power to touch the infinite.  
Today, as we remember him on April 26, we do more than pay tribute — we renew our commitment to nurturing the spark within us. Like Ramanujan, may we turn our dreams into devotion. Equa-

tions may evolve and theorems may change, but there will never be another Ramanujan.  
He is the eternal lamp in the temple of mathematics — forever radiant. His legacy is not India's alone — it belongs to all of humanity. As long as numbers are written and equations are solved, Ramanujan will remain immortal — a soul who touched infinity and offered its light to the world.  
Srinivasa Ramanujan was not just a mathematician — he was a visionary who transformed numbers into a divine language. On April 26, we don't just mourn his passing; we celebrate a life that elevated mathematics into art, spirituality, and cosmic truth.  
Despite humble beginnings and relentless hardships, his passion and genius blazed trails that continue to shape modern science.  
His discoveries — ranging from infinite series to mock theta functions — remain cornerstones of mathematics, physics, and beyond. Ramanujan's journey proves that brilliance needs neither privilege nor pedigree.  
His life is a testament to what the human spirit can achieve with faith, curiosity, and devotion. Today, his legacy lights the path for dreamers, thinkers, and seekers of truth across the world. As we remember him, we also honour the infinite potential within us all.  
Ramanujan lives on, not just in equations, but in the eternal quest for knowledge he so passionately embodied. He is, and always will be, mathematics' guiding flame.

*(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)*



# Awareness Programme and Health Camp conducted at NRLM Office Kishtwar



## Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Apr 26: A Training cum Awareness Programme and Health Camp was successfully organized today at the NRLM Office, Training Hall, DC Office Mini Secretariat, Kishtwar. The event was a collaborative initiative aimed at promoting health awareness and empowering Self Help Group (SHG) members through essential healthcare knowledge and services.

The programme was chaired by Ab Hamid

Lone, Block Programme Manager, NRLM (Umeed) Kishtwar. He emphasized the importance of health and hygiene awareness for SHG members, especially women, to ensure the holistic development of communities.

Medical support and expert guidance were provided by Dr. Nazir Hussain, Medical Officer, and Dr. Sabha, Community Health Officer (CHO), who conducted health checkups and interactive sessions on various health-related issues. They high-

lighted key preventive healthcare measures and addressed queries from participants.

The programme saw enthusiastic participation from SHG members of CD Blocks Thakrie and Trigam, who appreciated the initiative and actively engaged in the sessions.

This joint effort under NRLM (Umeed) reflects the commitment to building a healthier and more informed community, empowering rural women with the tools they need to take charge of their well-being.

# Charak appeals to Union Tourism Minister to promote Jammu Division as safe & scenic tourist destination

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: In light of the recent incident in Pahalgam, noted social activist and Chief Functionary of the Nations Development Association (NDA), Sushil Singh Charak, has formally written to Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Tourism, Government of India, urging the ministry to spotlight Jammu Division as a "Safe and Secure Tourist Zone."

Highlighting the peaceful and spiritually rich environment of the Jammu Division, Charak called for renewed attention and promotion of the region's diverse tourism offerings.

He emphasized that while parts of Jammu & Kashmir have experienced unrest, Jammu Division remains peaceful and welcoming, offering a wide range of religious, ecological, and



historical sites suitable for both domestic and international visitors.

"It is imperative to restore tourist confidence in Jammu & Kashmir. By promoting Jammu Division—home to iconic destinations like Vaishno Devi, Patnitop, Bhaderwah, and many others—we can send a strong message of peace, safety, and cultural richness to the world," said Charak.

In his letter, Charak listed 60 major tour-

ist destinations across Jammu Division, including: Spiritual sites: Vaishno Devi, Shivk-hori, Machail Mata, Raghunath Temple. Scenic spots: Patnitop, Sanasar, Bhaderwah, Jai Valley. Historical landmarks: Akhnoor Fort, Rajouri Fort, Krimchi Temples. Ecological zones: Mansar Lake, Surinsar Lake, Nandini and Jasrota Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The appeal stresses the potential for economic revitalization, employment generation, and regional development through targeted tourism promotion and infrastructure development.

Charak also called for immediate campaigns and initiatives by the Ministry of Tourism to incorporate these destinations into national and international tourism circuits.

# 3 teachers of DPS Udhampur win India's Top 40 Inspiring Educators Award at NYAF-2024

## Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Apr 26: Delhi Public School Udhampur, announced that Three Exceptional Educators from our school have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to education with the prestigious "India's Top 40 Inspiring Educator Award" at the National Young Author Fair 2024 (NYAF). This esteemed honor acknowledges their innovative approach to teaching and their remarkable success in encouraging students to explore their creativity through book writing.

Roshni Sharma, (TGT ) English, Sushma, (TGT) Hindi



and Arun Kumar, (TGT) Maths have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to nurturing the creative potential of their students. Under their guidance, an unprecedented number of students from their class have participated in book writing projects, showcasing

their literary talents and imagination. This achievement also highlights the students' enthusiasm and dedication to creative writing.

Organized by BRIBOOKS, this competition drew participation from lakhs of teachers from all across the country. It is

a matter of Colossal Pride that three of our teachers made it to the Top 40 Inspiring Educators. The National Inspiring Educator Award recognizes educators who have made significant contributions to the field of education, demonstrating innovative approaches,

# GDC Majalta hosts its first-ever annual prize distribution function

## Top News Report

MAJALTA, Apr 26: In a momentous celebration of academic excellence, talent, and dedication, Government Degree College (GDC) Majalta organized its Maiden Annual Prize Distribution Function at the college campus.

The event aimed to recognize and honour the achievements of its outstanding students and faculty members.

The ceremony was graced by Dr. Kuldeep Kumar Sharma, Principal, GDC Jindrah, as the Special Invitee. He applauded the consistent efforts of students and staff, commending the college for fostering an environment conducive to holistic development. The program commenced with a welcome address by Dr.



Shalini Sharma, Principal of GDC Majalta, who underscored the significance of such events in encouraging academic and extracurricular pursuits among students. She emphasized that the function not only motivates students to excel but also strengthens the spirit of healthy

competition and institutional pride.

In his keynote address, Dr. Kuldeep Sharma praised the institution's commitment to excellence and the vibrant participation of students across various disciplines. He expressed confidence in the college's progressive

future and encouraged students to keep striving for success.

The highlight of the event was the distribution of awards in various categories.

Best Student of the Institution-Shipali Rajput; Best NSS Volunteer-Rohit Sharma; Best Orator-Sundar Ali;

Best Library User-Priya Verma; Best in Cultural Activities-Neeru; Best Athlete-Santosh Kumari; and Best in Event Management- Akram Rahi.

In recognition of his exceptional service and dedication, Vinod Kumar, a faculty member, was honored with the Award of Excellence.

The event was seamlessly anchored by Dr. Chander Mohan, Associate Professor of English, whose eloquent presentation kept the audience engaged throughout the program.

The function concluded with a vote of thanks and a cultural presentation by students, adding vibrancy to the formal proceedings. The entire event was marked by enthusiasm, applause, and a strong sense of achievement.

# Samvedna Society organises eye screening camp



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra Organises 97th Free Eye Screening/Check Up for the members of All India Punjab National Bank Pensioner Association. The Camp was organised in collaboration with the Department of Ophthalmology GMC Jammu.

The camp saw great attendance; a total of 138 People were provided free of Cost Treatment including Refraction, NCT, AR Check Up, Vision Check Up by a team of experts and Free Medicines were also given.

Speaking during the Camp Circle President of All India PNB Bank Pensioner Association Jammu Balbir Singh Chib praised the Samvedna society's initiative to provide voluntary services to the retired employees by organizing Eye Check Up Camps for them at one place so that they can

take benefit of it.

Speaking during the camp, Keshav Chopra said that this camp is dedicated to the Martyrs of Pahalgam terror attack, Samvedna Society is committed to work for all sections by providing best healthcare facilities to the people at their doorstep.

This camp was planned exclusively to benefit the senior citizens and to foster a culture that is devoted to the serving of all. Cataract removal surgeries will also be done free of cost on Ayushman Bharat Golden Card, Keshav added.

Dr Riya Gupta (Registrar) GMC, Dr Bhavya Jad (Registrar) GMC, Dr Neeharika (PG), Dr Mannat (PG), Circle Secretary C.L Bhat, Anil Kumar & Deepak Kumar (Refractionist), Anju Chopra, Manoj Tandon, Vikas Kumar, Nipun Malhotra, Sourav Gupta, Divyansh and others were also present.

# Large number of devotees pay obeisance at Uttami Devi temple in Marh Bagh



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: In a vibrant display of devotion and communal harmony, the annual day of Uttami Devi, a reverral spiritual female deity, was joyously marked at her temple in Marh Bagh. Organised by the Kaiths, the grand religious function drew large number of devotees from various corners.

The temple complex

radiated with spiritual fervour as devotees converged to pay obeisance to Uttami Devi, seeking her blessings for the peace and prosperity of humanity. Amidst Pooja-Archana rituals and sacred hymns, the devotees fervently expressed their reverence for the deity.

A Bhandara was also organised on the occasion, from which all devotees partook Parsad.

The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries including Messrs R.L.Kaith, Music Director Vicky Kaith, Numberdar Chiman Lal, Raj Kumar Sargotra, Jagdish Raj, Girdhari Lal, Yash Paul, Krishan Lal, Tara Chand, Khem Raj, Nanak Chand, Kapoor Chand, Paras Ram. Rinku Kumar, Sahil Kumar, Deepak Kumar, Rohit Kumar, Vicky Kumar and Radhe Kumar.

# GDC Thannamandi observes World Intellectual Property-cum-World Book Day

## Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Apr 26: The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) in collaboration with Department of Library Sciences under the aegis of IQAC of GDC Thannamandi observed World Intellectual Property cum World Book Day as part of Viksit Bharat@47 Abhiyan here today.

On this occasion a

workshop on the theme "IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP" with special reference to Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) & IP management for Start-ups" organized under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, Principal of the College wherein Dr. Ashaq Malik, IQAC Coordinator and Head, Department of Botany was the resource person. Anuj Bali, College Librarian and Vice President IIC, coordinated the event.

The event began with a thought-provoking and interactive presentation by Dr. Ashaq Malik who explained historical background, legal and ethical basis as well as exemplified various types of Intellectual Property Rights and their significance in today's academic and research landscape.

He also gave an account of various schemes and startups and how students and youth can get benefit through IIC. Dr. Gulshan Rashid Bhat also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the role of intellectual property in fostering innovation and creativity in Music and arts.

Anuj Bali spoke passionately about the importance of cultivating a habit of book reading, stressing how books remain timeless companions and sources of wisdom in a fast-evolving digital world.

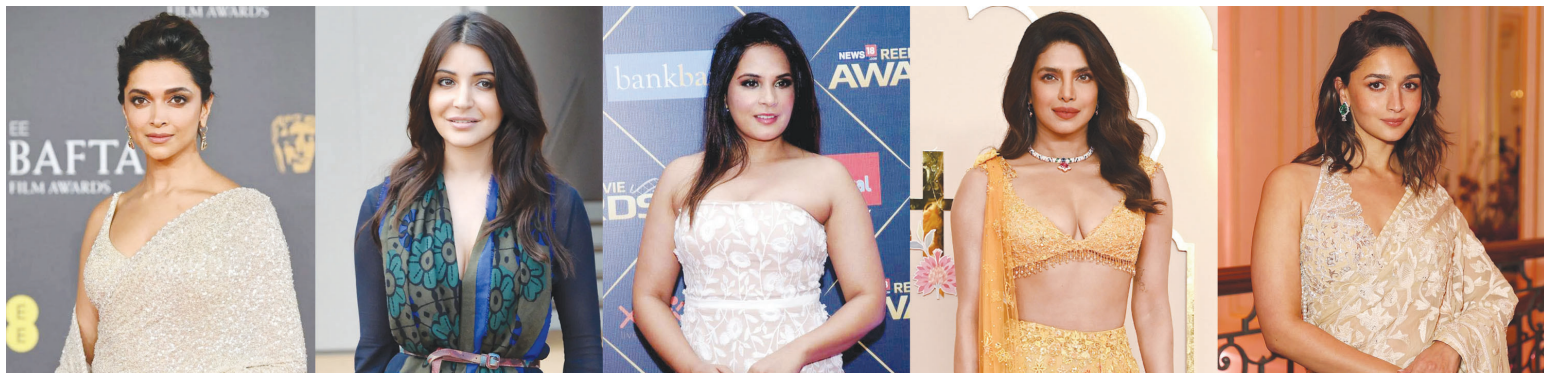
Later, Dr. Naseem Ahmed, Head of the Department of Chemistry and the officiating Principal, shared his valuable insights on the relevance of IPR in safeguarding creative and scientific endeavors.

The event was graced by the presence of several staff members, who came together to underline the importance of books and intellectual property in shaping an informed, responsible society. The college reiterated its commitment to promoting reading culture and awareness of intellectual rights among students, encouraging them to contribute meaningfully to academic and professional fields.

Dr. Aftab Ahmed from Department of Geography conducted the proceedings of the programme whereas Dr. Nazar Ul Islam, Head Department of Islamic Studies presented the formal vote of thanks.



## Here are five B-town actresses who delivered big ticket successes with their debut as producers



Taking charge behind the camera is no small feat, but these leading ladies from Bollywood proved that they can call the shots just as powerfully as they deliver them on screen. These women have shown that producing isn't just a business move—it's a creative force and they're using it to amplify voices, break moulds and back stories that matter. With bold, impactful choices and box-office success, here are five actresses who aced their debut as producers.

**Deepika Padukone:** Chhapaak (2020)

With Chhapaak, Deepika made a courageous choice to tell the real-life story of an acid attack survivor. While emotionally intense, the film was praised for its sensitive storytelling and Deepika's bold choice to produce such an unconventional narrative for her first outing behind the scenes.

**Richa Chadha:** Girls Will Be Girls (2024)

Richa Chadha made waves on the global festival circuit with her debut production Girls

Will Be Girls, co-produced under her and Ali Fazal's banner Pushing Buttons Studios. The film earned international accolades, premiered at Sundance and SXSW, and marked Richa as a formidable new voice in independent cinema.

**Anushka Sharma:** NH10 (2015)

Anushka took a gritty leap with NH10, a neo-noir thriller that stunned critics and audiences alike. Her production house Clean Slate Filmz immediately stood out for backing bold con-

tent. The film was both a critical and commercial success, cementing her status as a producer to watch out for.

**Priyanka Chopra:** Ventilator (2016)

Under her Purple Pebble Pictures banner, Priyanka Chopra ventured into Marathi cinema with Ventilator, a heartwarming family drama that turned out to be a national award-winning hit. Her commitment to promoting regional stories paid off beautifully and showcased her global vision

for Indian cinema.

**Alia Bhatt:** Darlings (2022)

Alia Bhatt's debut as a producer under her banner Eternal Sunshine Productions hit the mark with Darlings, a dark comedy about domestic violence, co-starring Shefali Shah and Vijay Varma. The film, released on Netflix, received massive acclaim and became one of the platform's most-watched Indian films, showing Alia's sharp instinct for strong content.

## Poulami Das is loving her role in Dulhaniya Beediwali

Poulami Das, who plays the role of Champa in ALTT'S Dulhaniya Beediwali, says she loves her new role. "Well, I've never played a character of a ghost, so it is something new for me but I always wanted to do such a character. Secondly, I've done so many shows with ALTT previously. So, I am very close to the team, so when they asked me, I couldn't just say no," she says.

The show has a mix of mystery and supernatural elements, she adds, "The way they shoot such scenes is extremely different from how we genuinely shoot. So it was very exciting." As to how she prepared for the role, she says, "I was very excited for this role. I didn't do anything exceptional as far as preparation goes, but it was more like I knew what I was supposed to do."



## Selena Gomez opens up on her mental health journey

Actress and singer Selena Gomez opened up about her mental health journey and said she must advocate for the same. "At the end of the day, I believe it matters to be vocal about issues that matter to you, whether you are famous or not," said Gomez, who will be honoured as Woman of the Year at the 2025 Billboard Latin Women in Music event on May 1.

"It's not for the faint of heart because you are putting yourself out there and trust me, there will be a lot of opinions that come at you for even having the nerve to say anything at all," she added.

She recalled the first time she spoke about her journey and the fear she experienced, "It was scary to be that vulnerable and I didn't ever want anyone to think I am a victim," she said. Gomez shared, "I thought by sharing my own story I could help others, and I will take any negative opinions that come with that because I see the bigger picture of how the conversations have changed around mental health."

Meanwhile, in October 2023, she hosted her



first annual Rare Impact Fund Benefit at Nya Studios in Hollywood to raise money for youth mental health organisations. At the event, she said, "I struggled with the world inside my head for a long time, and I felt lost and I felt hopeless at times. And in 2020, I received my diagnosis

of bipolar disorder. And to be honest, everything quickly changed. I actually got the knowledge and the answers that I had been desperate for so long. And understanding that obviously makes me become more aware of it and I'm less afraid than I used to be."

## Was Pakistan actor Fawad Khan paid Rs 10 crore for 'Abir Gulaal' and Vaani Kapoor only got Rs 1.5 crore?

Pakistani heart-throb Fawad Khan is making waves with his much anticipated Bollywood comeback in "Abir Gulaal", but not for the right reasons. While excitement initially brewed around his return to Indian cinema after nearly a decade, the film has found itself at the centre of a controversy following the terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir.

According to reports by Siasat, the "Kapoor & Sons" actor, who earns Rs 15-20 lakh per televi-

sion episode in Pakistan and Rs 2 crore for each film, was paid a whopping Rs 5-10 crore for "Abir Gulaal".

Meanwhile, sources suggest that his co-star, Bollywood actress Vanni Kapoor, was paid approximately Rs 1.5 crore for her role in the film.

However, the film's release now hangs in uncertainty. A source close to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of India revealed that "Abir Gulaal" will not hit theatres in the coun-



try, with the tragic terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22 casting a long shadow over the project. In response to the

attack, both leading actors took to social media to express their grief. Fawad wrote on his

Instagram story, "Deeply saddened to hear the news of the heinous attack in Pahalgam. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims of this horrifying incident and we pray for strength and healing for their families in this difficult time."

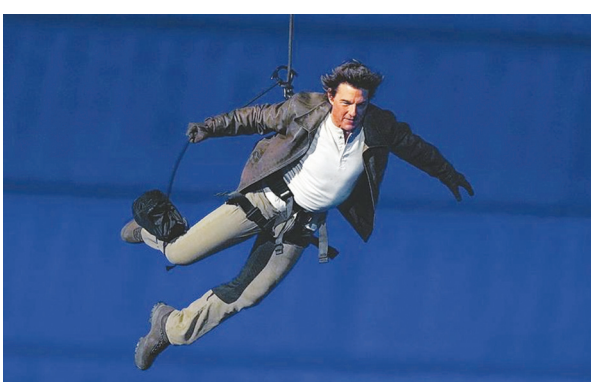
Vaani expressed her sadness, writing, "Have been numb, at a loss of words since the time I have seen the attack on innocent people in Pahalgam. Guttled. Devastated. My prayers are with the families."

## Tom Cruise's 'Mission: Impossible - Final Reckoning' to debut in Indian theatres on May 17

"Mission: Impossible - Final Reckoning", the eighth and final installment of Tom Cruise's blockbuster action franchise, will open in Indian cinemas on May 17, six days before its release in the US, Paramount Pictures India announced.

The Hollywood superstar reprises his fan-favourite spy Ethan Hunt for one final mission in the movie, which will be released in India in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

#MissionImpossible - 'The Final Reckon-



ing' now releases early in India. New date - 17th May. Releasing in English, Hindi, Tamil & Telugu," Paramount Pictures India posted on

its official social media handles.

On May 14, the movie will have its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, where

Cruise previously showcased Ron Howard's "Far and Away" (1992) and "Top Gun: Maverick" in 2022.

Cruise has portrayed the character of Ethan Hunt since the beginning of the franchise with 1996's "Mission: Impossible".

He has followed it up with successful sequels— "Mission: Impossible 2" (2000), "Mission: Impossible III" (2006), "Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol" (2011), "Mission: Impossible – Rogue Nation" (2015), "Mission: Impos-

sible – Fallout" (2018) and "Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning" (2023).

"Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning" also stars Hayley Atwell, Esai Morales, Henry Czerny, Simon Pegg, Pom Klementieff, Vanessa Kirby, Hannah Waddingham, Nick Offerman, Katy O'Brian and Trammel Tillman.

Directed by Christopher McQuarrie, the film is presented by Paramount Pictures and Skydance.

## Meenakshi Seshadri graces Mohit Kapoor's Ae Dil Tu launch

Veteran actress Meenakshi Seshadri made her presence felt at the recent launch of young director and producer Mohit Kapoor's soulful track Ae Dil Tu. While Mohit has directed and produced the number, it has been sung by Shaan and Palak Muchhal, and features Akshita Sukhija and Isha Singh.

Meenakshi looked wonderful in a black and gold salwar-kameez. She had teamed up the look with a stone necklace and matching earrings as well as bracelets. She completed her look with cocktail rings.

Host Mohit Kapoor said, "Meenakshi ji gracing my event was a blessing. She values relationships and is a very positive personality. I am grateful to her for making my event special."

The highlight of the evening was the moment when Shaan, who also attended the event, sang a few lines with Meenakshi. Their



performance took the entertainment level of the show a notch higher.

Ae Dil Tu is a romantic number filmed in the stunning locales of Baku, Azerbaijan.

## Meet actor Shabir Ahluwalia in a different avatar

Sony SAB has unveiled the intriguing teaser of its upcoming rom-com, Ufff... Yeh Love Hai Mushkil. Promising a refreshing blend of humour and love, the show explores the transformative power of love amidst the delightful chaos of family life.

Television's beloved star Shabir Ahluwalia takes the lead in this unique venture. As seen in the teaser, Shabir craves for something different—and he's found it in this never-seen-before avatar. Known for his portrayal of morally upright characters, Shabir breaks away from his usual mould to play a quirky, unpredictable and slightly messy character. Fans have



long-awaited Shabir's return to a fresh narrative and they are now in for a treat.

Shabir Ahluwalia, who plays the role of Yug Sinha, said, "I'm thrilled to be back on television with a role that's so different from anything I've done before."

After years of playing the 'perfect husband' or romantic hero, it was a conscious choice to break away and explore a more layered and unique character. Ufff... Yeh Love Hai Mushkil is not just about one character; it's about an interesting 'opposites-attract' love story along with the madness and heart that comes with being part of a chaotic family."



# PM Modi distributes over 51,000 appointment letters at 15th Rozgar Mela

NEW DELHI, Apr 26 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed 51,236 appointment letters to newly-recruited candidates in central government departments and organisations as part of the 15th Rozgar Mela, organised on Saturday. The event was held virtually and coordinated across 47 locations nationwide.

In his address, PM Modi congratulated the youth stepping into permanent government roles, stating, "With your new responsibilities, you now play a crucial part in strengthening India's economy, infrastructure, internal security, and the welfare of its people. The more dedicated you are, the faster we progress towards a Viksit Bharat."

Calling youth the driving force behind national progress, the Prime Minister stressed their vital role in making India a global force.

"If the youth are stakeholders in a country's development, then rapid growth follows. Today, India's youth are proving their potential," he said.

Highlighting self-employment opportunities, PM Modi pointed to initiatives like Skill India, Startup India, and Digital India, which he said have created open platforms for innovation and talent.

"In this decade, our youth have taken India to unprecedented



heights in technology and innovation. Platforms like UPI, ONDC, and GeM show how young Indians are leading digital transformation," he added.

The Prime Minister also spoke about the new Manufacturing Mission, announced in Budget 2025-26, aimed at boosting the 'Make in India' initiative and empowering the youth to produce globally competitive products.

He cited record-breaking growth in sectors like automobile, footwear, and Khadi and cottage industries, with the latter now crossing a turnover of Rs 1.7 lakh crore.

Inland water transport also featured in PM Modi's remarks as a symbol of India's infrastructure progress.

"From 18 million tonnes in 2014, cargo via waterways has surged to 145 million tonnes

Modi said, "The youth will get the opportunity to learn and understand AI and emerging media. Various workshops will be organised for this purpose. This will bring new energy to India's digital content future. The most commendable thing about the success of India's youth today is its inclusiveness."

He also encouraged the youth to participate in the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative as a contribution to the country in honour of their mothers.

Concluding his address, PM Modi said, "Together, we will build a Bharat that will be 'Viksit' (developed) as well as 'samridh' (prosperous)."

The appointees will serve in key ministries, including the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Higher Education.

Since its inception in October 2022, the Rozgar Mela has resulted in the appointment of over 10 lakh individuals to permanent government jobs. The first edition distributed 75,000 letters, while 71,000 were handed out in the 14th edition in December 2023.

The initiative is part of the government's broader strategy to bridge employment gaps and empower the country's youth with meaningful opportunities.

# UP govt will respond firmly to any threat to national security: Adityanath



LAKHIMPUR KHERI (UP), Apr 26 (Agencies): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said his government will respond firmly to any threat to the nation's security.

Speaking at a public meeting in Lakhimpur Kheri district, Adityanath began his speech by condemning the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22 that

killed 26 people, mostly tourists.

"I condemn the terrorist attack on behalf of the people of Uttar Pradesh and express my condolences to all the bereaved families. There is no place for terrorism or anarchy in society," Adityanath said.

Emphasising the state government's commitment to security and development, the chief

minister said, "The model of security and good governance of the Government of India is based on development and the welfare of the poor. If someone dares to compromise our security, we will reply in the language they understand under our zero tolerance policy."

"The 'New India' under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi does not tease anyone. But if someone teases us, that person will not be spared," he added.

Speaking about the security situation in Uttar Pradesh, the chief minister said, "Under the guidance of Prime Minister Modi, we have made the state mafia-free, freed it from anarchy and riots, and made it the leading economy of the country."

# Assam CM warns NSA action for 'pro-Pakistan' posts, 11 held so far

GUWAHATI, Apr 26 (Agencies): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday said anyone found supporting Pakistan, directly or indirectly, would be arrested under the National Security Act (NSA).

"We will arrest anyone who makes an anti-India statement. If somebody supports Pakistan, directly or indirectly, NSA will be slapped," Sarma said on the sidelines of the BJP's unveiling of the manifesto "Sankalp Patra" for next month's panchayat polls.

"There are no similarities between Bharat and Pakistan. The two countries are enemy nations and we must remain like that," Assam CM told reporters on the sidelines of a programme at the state BJP office here.

Meanwhile, three more persons were arrested in the state for alleged anti-India remarks over the Pahalgam terror attack. These took the total number of such



arrests to 11.

Md Mustak Ahmed alias Sahel, son of Kabir Ahmed from Saykut village under Karimganj police station in southern Assam's Barak Valley, was arrested on Friday night for posting "Pakistan Zindabad" on Facebook.

Two others were arrested by the police in the Cachar district of the valley for posting content on social media supporting Pakistan.

The accused were identified as Bakht Hussain Barbhuiya, a resident of Ramnagar under Sonai police station, and Md Imran Hussain Borbhuiya, a resident

of Malugram Ganiwala under Silchar police station.

Aminul Islam, an MLA of the opposition party All India United Democratic Front, was the first to be arrested on Thursday. He had allegedly linked the BJP-led central government to the Pahalgam attack. A local court in central Assam's Nagaon district on Friday sent him to four-day police custody.

Terrorists struck Baisaran, a prime tourist location in Pahalgam in south Kashmir on Tuesday, killing at least 26 people, mostly tourists, and injuring several others.

# Four, including two minors, killed in cracker blast in Tamil Nadu's Salem district

SALEM, Apr 26 (Agencies): Four persons, including two boys, were killed in an accidental firecracker blast near a temple at Kanjanaickenpatti village in the district on Friday night, police said today.

Expressing his heartfelt condolences and sympathies to the bereaved families, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Saturday announced a solatium of Rs 3 lakh each to the affected families.

A bundle of firecrackers being carried in a gunny bag on a two-wheeler, to be burst during the festival at the Draupadi Amman temple, caught fire and exploded at around 8.50 pm on Friday near the

Poosaripatti bus stand, Kanjanaickenpatti village, police said.

"The incident happened when a man attempted to test the firecrackers," a police official said, and added that the mishap occurred about one km away from the temple where a large number of people had gathered for the festival.

The deceased have been identified as Selvaraj (29) from Kottamedu, Kanjanaickenpatti, and two boys from Guruvaliyur aged 11, while Lokes (20) died at the Salem Government Medical College Hospital.

"I was deeply shocked and pained to hear the tragic news. I express my deepest condo-



lences and sympathies to the families who lost their kin," the chief minister said in a statement announcing a relief of Rs 3 lakh each to the families of the deceased from the Chief Minister's

festival in Kanjanaickenpatti village is very shocking and painful. I express my deepest condolences and sympathies to the families of the deceased."

Such accidents have become a recurring story under the present DMK regime because proper protocols were not followed during temple festivals and proper security was not provided, he alleged in a post on the social media platform X.

Palaniswami urged the state government to enhance the relief sum and also take appropriate measures to ensure safety protocols were in place so that such accidents do not happen again.

# Eminent historian M G S Narayanan dies at 93

He was suffering from age-related ailments

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM/KOZHIKODE, Apr 26 (Agencies): M G S Narayanan, an eminent historian, academic and former chairman of Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), died at his residence in Malaparamba, Kozhikode, on Saturday due to age-related ailments, family sources said.

He was 93. He is survived by wife, son, and daughter.

One of India's most reputed historians, he headed the department of history at University of Calicut from 1976 to 1990 and served as ICHR chairman from 2001-2003.

In his condolence message, Kerala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar said the noted historian, writer and columnist had left a deep imprint on the field of historiography.

His commendable contributions as the former chairman of the ICHR

will always be remembered, he said.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan condoled the death of Narayanan, saying it was a great loss at a time when organised efforts are being made to misinterpret and rewrite history for narrow interests.

"MGS adopted a different path from the traditional historical writing by comprehensively analysing documents and interpreting them scientifically," the CM said in his message.

The CM said Narayanan did not try to completely reject myths, but analysed the social role they played and made them a part of our history.

"Narayanan played a major role in shaping history and historiography as a form of knowledge and contributed writings to society that could be studied and analysed again," he said.

While at one point he expressed strong dis-

agreement with the Left, he later strongly resisted the right-wing pressure to subordinate history writing to narrow interests, the CM said.

"In 2015, he protested in strong language along with other historians against the growing intolerance under the Sangh Parivar rule in the country," Vijayan recalled in his message.

Leader of the Opposition in Kerala Assembly, V D Satheesan, in his message, said MGS had always stood against the rigid theory that history should be constructed in accordance with the interests of rulers.

"He fought against everyone who distorted or fabricated history. Bidding farewell to the country's most courageous and authoritative historical researcher," Satheesan said.

Kerala Assembly Speaker A N Shamseer said Narayanan had made unique contributions to historical



research in Kerala.

"His style of openly expressing his positions on political and social issues was always notable," Shamseer said in his message.

BJP state president Rajeev Chandrasekhar, in his message, said Narayanan had left an indelible mark on the study of Indian and Kerala history through his fearless intellectual integrity and scholarly contributions.

"A towering academic, he leaves behind a rich legacy of intellectual courage, scholarly depth, and a lifelong dedication to truth in

Kerala's socio-political history from the 9th to the 12th centuries.

From 1976, he was active in the Indian History Congress and led multiple historical research projects in collaboration with ICHR. He also worked as a visiting professor at several universities in India and abroad.

Narayanan focused on Kerala history, the history of Tamilakam, ancient Indian history and the methodology of historiography.

He mentored over a thousand students and supervised many postgraduate research projects. With more than 200 published articles in Malayalam and English, he made historical scholarship more accessible through his literary flair.

He had served as a Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London and as

visiting fellow at the University of Moscow and the Institute of Oriental Studies in Leningrad.

Born Muttayil Govinda Menon Sankara Narayanan on August 20, 1932, Narayanan, commonly known by his initials as MGS, had been a major cultural presence in Kerala for more than six decades.

He was educated at the University of Madras where he earned a master's degree in History with first rank. He taught at the Guruvayurappan College, Kozhikode, before moving to the postgraduate department of History of the University of Kerala, then located in Kozhikode.

The centre was later incorporated into the University of Calicut and on its inception, Narayanan became the head of the history department, where he taught for nearly 15 years. During this period, he brought in a major shift in the way history is

studied and taught in Kerala.

He was closely associated with the Indian History Congress, where he served in various capacities. He also served the ICHR as its first member secretary and later its chairman.

Narayanan had received training in epigraphy and was proficient in Malayalam, English, Tamil, and Sanskrit, as well as Brahmi, Vattezhuthu and Grantha scripts.

Besides his contributions in the field of history, Narayanan had also made his presence felt in Kerala as a poet, literary critic, political observer, critic, and social activist.

He did not hesitate to openly express his views on history, politics, and society. The positions he had taken at times led to criticism and controversy, but the steadfast approach also earned him admirers.



## Hamas says open to freeing hostages, five-year truce in Gaza

GAZA, Apr 26 (Agencies): A Hamas is open to an agreement to end the Gaza war that would include the one-time release of all remaining hostages and a five-year cessation of hostilities, an official from the Palestinian group said Saturday.

"Hamas is ready for an exchange of prisoners in a single batch and a truce for five years," the official told agency on condition of anonymity, as a delegation from his group was set to meet mediators in Cairo later in the day.

On April 17, Hamas, which opposes a "partial" ceasefire agreement, rejected an Israeli proposal that included a 45-day truce in exchange for the return of 10 living hostages.

The group has consistently demanded that a truce agree-



ment must lead to the end of the war, a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, a prisoner exchange, and the immediate and sufficient entry of humanitarian aid into the war-battered Palestinian territory.

Israel, for its part, demands the return of all hostages and

the disarmament of Hamas and other armed groups in Gaza -- the latter being a "red line" for the Islamist movement.

The war was triggered by Hamas's unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, which resulted in the death of 1,218 people on the Israeli side,

mostly civilians, according to an agency count based on official figures.

Of the 251 people taken hostage that day, 58 are still being held in Gaza, including 34 who are dead, according to the Israeli army.

A truce from January 19 to March 17 allowed the return of 33 hostages to Israel, including eight who were dead, in exchange for the release of about 1,800 Palestinians from Israeli prisons.

According to figures published by the Hamas-run territory's health ministry, at least 2,062 Palestinians have been killed since the Israeli offensive resumed on March 18, bringing the total death count in Gaza to 51,439 since the start of the war.

## JSMM Chairman appeals to India: 'Sindh is not Pakistan' amid rising Indo-Pak tensions



MUNICH, Apr 26 (Agencies): Amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSMM) Chairman Shafi Burfat has appealed to the Indian leadership to distinguish between the Sindhi people and the Punjabi-dominated Pakistani state in any potential military conflict.

In a detailed statement, Burfat positioned Sindh as a distinct and historically oppressed nation, forcibly incorporated into Pakistan in 1947. "Sindh is not Pakistan," Burfat declared, alleging that the region was annexed without the consent of its people and has faced systemic cultural and political suppression by what he described as a "Punjabi military establishment."

His statement depicted a stark picture of internal colonialism within Pakistan, drawing comparisons between the historic genocide in Bangladesh and

the current plight of Sindhis, Baloch, Pashtuns, and other marginalised communities.

Calling on India to act with caution and strategic clarity if tensions escalate, Burfat urged, "Please do not target Sindh's cities, people, irrigation systems, or cultural heritage - especially Mohenjo-Daro," referring to the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation site he described as a shared symbol of human heritage.

Positioning Sindh as a natural ally of India, Burfat highlighted the Sindhi people's commitment to peace, pluralism, and humanism. "We do not see India as an enemy," he said, adding that many in Sindh view India as a cultural homeland. He emphasised the longstanding historical and civilisational ties between Sindh and India, predating the creation of Pakistan.

Burfat also condemned Pakistan's role in promoting religious extremism and terrorism across the region, including in Jammu and Kashmir. He asserted that the "Punjabi military elite use terrorism as a tool of state policy," and stressed, "These are not Sindh's wars," urging India to target only the Pakistani military and extremist infrastructure based in Punjab.

The JSMM Chairman's appeal comes as tensions remain high following a recent terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam that claimed 26 innocent civilian lives.

## Pope Francis' funeral draws thousands, cardinal says his legacy must survive

VATICAN CITY, Apr 26 (Agencies): Presidents, royalty and a multitude of simple mourners bade farewell to Pope Francis on Saturday at his funeral, where a cardinal said the pontiff's legacy of caring for migrants, the downtrodden and the environment must not die with him.

On one side of Francis' coffin in the vast St. Peter's Square sat U.S. President Donald Trump, who clashed with the pope on those issues.

On the other side sat cardinals who must decide if Francis' successor should continue with his push for a more open Church or cede to conservatives who want to return to a more traditional papacy.

"Rich in human warmth and deeply sensitive to today's challenges, Pope Francis truly shared the anxieties, sufferings and hopes of this time," said Italian Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, who presided over the funeral Mass.

The Argentine pope, who had reigned for 12 years, died at the age of 88 on Monday after suffering a stroke.

The crowd broke into applause when Re spoke of Francis' care for immigrants, his constant pleas for peace, the need for negotiations to end wars and the importance of the climate.

Applause also rang out at the start of the ceremony as 14 white-gloved pallbearers carried the coffin, inlaid with a large cross, out of St. Peter's Basilica and into the square.

Aerial views of the Vatican showed a patchwork of colours - black from the dark garb of the world's leaders, red from the vestments of some 250 cardinals, the purple worn by some of the 400 bishops and the white worn by 4,000 attending priests.

Choirs sang Latin hymns and prayers were recited in various languages, including Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese and Arabic, reflecting the global reach of the 1.4-billion-member Roman Catholic Church.

The faithful hurried to St. Peter's from the early hours while many camped out to try and secure spots at the front of the crowd. The Vatican estimated some 200,000 people had gathered at the start of the service.

"We want to say goodbye because he (was a) living saint, very humble and simple," said Mary James, a Franciscan nun, who had stayed up overnight to guarantee a good place.

FOREIGN DIGNITARIES

Francis' death ushered in a meticulously planned period of transition, marked by ancient ritual, pomp and mourning. Over the past three days, around 250,000 people filed past his body, which was laid out in an open coffin before the altar of the cavernous, 16th-century basilica.

Before taking their seats, Trump and his wife, Melania, paid their respects to Francis' coffin in St. Peter's Basilica. The coffin was



sealed shut on Friday night.

Among the other heads of state who flew into Rome were the presidents of Argentina, France, Gabon, Germany, the Philippines and Poland, together with the prime ministers of Britain and New Zealand, and many royals, including the king and queen of Spain.

Many people in the square clapped when Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy appeared. Zelenskiy met Trump while both were in Rome, and had a "very productive discussion" a White House official said. Their meeting came at a time when Trump is pushing for a deal to end the war in Ukraine.

BREAKING TRADITION

Francis, the first non-European pope for almost 13 centuries, battled to reshape the Roman Catholic Church, siding with the poor and marginalised, while challenging wealthy nations to help migrants and reverse climate change.

"Francis left everyone a wonderful testimony of humanity, of a holy life

and of universal fatherhood," said a formal summary of his papacy, written in Latin, and placed next to his body.

Traditionalists pushed back at his efforts to make the Church more transparent, while his pleas for an end to conflict, divisions and rampant capitalism often fell on deaf ears.

The pope shunned much of the pomp and privilege usually associated with the papacy. He carried that desire for greater simplicity into his funeral, having rewritten the elaborate, book-long funeral rites used previously.

Francis also opted to forego a centuries-old practice of burying popes in three interlocking caskets made of cypress, lead and oak. Instead, he was placed in a single, zinc-lined wooden coffin, which was sealed closed overnight.

In a further break with tradition, he will be the first pope to be buried outside the Vatican in more than a century, preferring Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major, some 5.5 kilometres (3.4 miles) from St. Peter's,

as his final resting place.

His tomb has just "Franciscus", his name in Latin, inscribed on the top. A reproduction of the simple, iron-plated cross he used to wear around his neck hangs above the marble slab.

The funeral motorcade will drive him through the city for one last time, allowing Romans to say farewell.

Italy mounted one of the biggest security operations the country has seen since the funeral of John Paul II. It closed the airspace over the city and called in extra security forces, with anti-aircraft missiles and patrol boats guarding the event.

As soon as Francis is buried, attention will switch to who might succeed him.

The secretive conclave to elect a successor is unlikely to begin before May 6, and might not start for several days after that, giving cardinals time to hold regular meetings beforehand to sum each other up and assess the state of the Church, beset by financial problems and ideological divisions.

## Under pressure, Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif makes appeal for neutral probe on Pahalgam attack

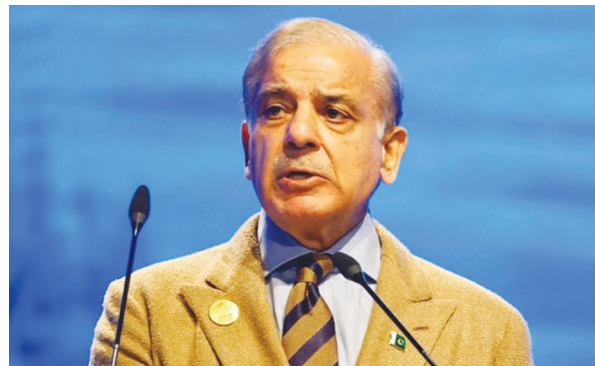
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, Apr 26 (Agencies): Pakistan on Saturday offered to join any "neutral and transparent" probe into the Pahalgam terrorist attack that killed 26 people.

"The recent tragedy in Pahalgam is yet another example of this perpetual blame game, which must come to a grinding halt. Continuing with its role as a responsible country, Pakistan is open to participating in any neutral, transparent and credible investigation," Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said while addressing the army-cadets passing-out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's Kakul.

Talking about the suspension of the Indus Water Treaty by India, Sharif said any attempt to stop, reduce or divert the flow of water belonging to Pakistan would be responded to with full force and might.

Sharif threatened to use all options if the water of its share was stopped by India.

"Water is our lifeline and a vital national interest, and its availability will be safeguarded at all costs and under all circumstances," he said.



He said the entire nation stood by the armed forces of Pakistan to safeguard every inch of the homeland. "Our valiant armed forces are capable and remain fully prepared to defend the country's sovereignty and its territorial integrity against any misadventure," he said.

"Our armed forces are a symbol of valour, exemplary discipline and unwavering commitment to the nation." "Peace is our preference but must not be construed as our weakness," the prime minister said, adding that "we will never compromise on our dignity and security of the country".

Sharif said, "Pakistan has always condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations." "We have endured immense loss of over 90,000 casualties and economic losses

exceeding USD 600 billion," he said, adding that there cannot be a more powerful manifestation of "our commitment that we will not tolerate any kind of terrorism of any hue and colour".

The prime minister said he regretted that India continued the pattern of exploitation, levelling baseless allegations and false accusations without a credible investigation or verifiable evidence.

Sharif said Muhammad Ali Jinnah had called Kashmir a jugular vein of Pakistan. He said the "globally recognised dispute" remained unresolved despite UN resolutions.

"Pakistan shall continue to support the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people till they achieve their rights through their great struggle and sacrifices," the prime minister said.

## Massive explosion and fire strikes Iranian port city of Bandar Abbas



TEHRAN, Apr 26 (Agencies): A massive explosion and fire struck the Iranian port city of Bandar Abbas on Saturday, officials said.

Mehrdad Hasanzadeh, a provincial disaster management official, told Iranian state television there were injuries in the blast, without elaborating. He added that first responders were trying to reach the area while others were attempting to evacuate the site.

Hasanzadeh said the blast came from containers at Rajaei port in the city. Social media videos showed a huge plume of black smoke. Rajaei port mainly handles container traffic and also has oil tanks and other petrochemical facilities.

## Indian community in Melbourne protest against Pakistan-backed terrorism

MELBOURNE, Apr 26 (Agencies): In a display of outrage following the Pahalgam terror attack, thousands from the Indian community gathered at Melbourne's Federation Square on Saturday to protest against Pakistan-backed terrorism.

The demonstrators held placards and chanted slogans such as "Pakistan Stop Terrorism," "Pakistan Army Terrorist Army," and "Hindu Lives Matter."

Meanwhile, people also held protests near the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu over the Pahalgam terror attack.

Twenty-five Indian citizens and one Nepali national were



killed in the terrorist attack on April 22 in Pahalgam.

The members of the Indian community had also held a protest outside the Pakistan High Commission in London on Friday and condemned the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam.

Holding Indian flags, banners, and placards, the protesters expressed deep sorrow over the loss of innocent lives and demanded justice for the victims. They raised slogans against terrorism and criticised Pakistan for supporting and sheltering terror groups

responsible for such attacks.

The Indian community demanded that the UK Government summon Pakistan's High Commissioner for an official explanation, Pakistan must publicly condemn the killings and commit to ending the sponsorship of terrorism, and Diplomatic pressure must be applied to bring the perpetrators and their funders to justice.

Terrorists attacked tourists at Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam on April 22, killing 25 Indian nationals and one Nepali citizen while leaving several others injured.

Following the terror attack, the Indian 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. 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.



# District-Level RAMP awareness workshop by JKTPO conducted at Poonch

Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 26: Continuing its efforts to promote awareness and outreach for the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme, the Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), in association with the SPIU – Grant Thornton Bharat LLP and the District Industries Centre (DIC) Poonch, successfully organized a district-level awareness workshop at Dak Bunglow, Poonch.

The workshop is part of a larger series of district-level initiatives being conducted across Jammu and Kashmir under the RAMP scheme to enhance understanding of various support mechanisms available to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). These workshops aim to foster an enabling ecosystem for MSME growth through focused interventions, capacity building, and improved access to markets and finance.



The workshop was chaired by ACR Poonch, Mohd Sayeed, who underscored the significant role of MSMEs in the district's economic growth. He encouraged MSME units and stakeholders to utilize the support mechanisms provided by the RAMP scheme to boost productivity, enhance market access, and strengthen institutional linkages. DIC General Manager, Khalid Hussain

Wafa remarked that this workshop is to build awareness and capacity among MSMEs, stakeholders and implementing agencies under the RAMP initiative. The workshop saw active participation from MSME entrepreneurs, stakeholders of self-employment schemes, officials from the Industries and Commerce Department, ITI students, representatives from financial

institutions, and other notable attendees. The workshop provided an overview of the RAMP scheme's objectives, key components, and various programs being rolled out for the benefit of MSMEs in the Union Territory. Speaking on the occasion, representatives from JKTPO/SPIU emphasized the importance of proactive participation by MSMEs to fully leverage the oppor-

tunities provided under the scheme. They also outlined the upcoming initiatives and encouraged entrepreneurs to connect with DIC and JKTPO for further support and guidance.

The District Industries Centre, Poonch, also facilitated an interactive session where participants raised queries and shared feedback on challenges faced at the grassroots level. These insights will help shape future interventions under the RAMP framework to make them more responsive to local needs.

The RAMP scheme, supported by the World Bank and Ministry of MSME, Government of India, aims to strengthen MSME competitiveness, build resilient enterprises, and catalyze sustainable growth across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

JKTPO remains committed to empowering MSMEs and creating a robust industrial ecosystem through continued engagement and collaboration with stakeholders at the district level.

# Musician V Kaith honoured with 'Certificate of Appreciation'



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: At a brief function held in Uttami Devi temple Marh Bagh on Saturday, the Musician V Kaith was honoured with a Certificate of Appreciation for promoting a Bhajan on Kaith Biradari's tutelary deity.

While speaking on the occasion, the Bharatiya Janata Party's Activist R.L.Kaith said, V Kaith is a composer and musician, who has complete-

ly changed, enhanced and revolutionized music. His fusion of classical music with contemporary sounds has garnered him recognition, and has also established him as an innovative man who brought fame to a rather regional and underrated musical equipments.

After receiving the certificate, V Kaith said to his Biradari members, "I'm truly thankful for your kind support. You've helped me grow as a musician".

All present in the function wished V Kaith all success in his future endeavor.

The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries including Messrs R.L.Kaith, Numberdar Chiman Lal, Raj Kumar, Jagdish Raj, Yash Paul, Krishan Lal, Tara Chand, Khem Raj, Nanak Chand, Kapoor Chand, Paras Ram, Rinku Kumar, Sahil Kumar, Deepak Kumar, Rohit Kumar, Vicky Kumar and Radhe Kumar.

# Koul, Sunil, Raina visit Pahalgam Martyr Syed Adil's family to offer condolences

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 26: In a heartfelt show of solidarity and grief, senior leaders of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir, today visited the residence of Syed Adil Hussain Shah at Hapat Nar, Pahalgam. Syed Adil, a young pony handler and the lone Kashmiri Muslim, tragically lost his life during the recent cowardly terror attack on tourists at Baisaran meadow, Pahalgam.

The BJP delegation was led by Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), J&K BJP, along with Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition & General Secretary, J&K BJP, and Ravinder Raina, former



President, J&K BJP. Several other senior leaders and local party workers also accompanied them to express their condolences to the bereaved family.

Sofi Yusuf, Arif Raja, Altaf Thakur, Mudasir Wani, Ali Mohd., Mir, Ashraf Azad, Mohd Rafiq Wani, Sajid Yusuf Shah, Sahil Bashir Bhat, Bilal Parre, Salinder Singh, Ashok Bhat and other senior leaders of BJP were present on the occasion.

The BJP leaders termed the killing of Syed Adil Hussain Shah as a brutal and inhumane act, emphasizing that terrorism knows no religion and continues to claim innocent lives. They paid rich tributes to Syed Adil's courage and dedication, recognizing him as a symbol of Kashmiri resilience and hardworking spirit.

Speaking at the occasion, Ashok Koul said, "We stand shoulder to shoulder with the family

of Syed Adil in this moment of profound grief. His sacrifice will not be forgotten, and we assure full support to his family. The entire nation mourns with them."

Sunil Sharma highlighted the urgent need to defeat the forces of terror that seek to destabilize peace and communal harmony in Jammu & Kashmir.

"The killing of an innocent, hardworking youth like Adil is a stark reminder of the evil

designs of terrorists who are enemies of humanity," he stated.

Ravinder Raina also spoke with the family members and the local community, assuring them that BJP is committed to safeguarding the lives and aspirations of every citizen in Jammu & Kashmir.

The BJP leadership has asked the administration to provide immediate financial assistance and a government job to a member of Syed Adil Hussain Shah's family to secure their future.

The visit was marked by prayers for the departed soul and an expression of unwavering commitment towards restoring lasting peace in the region.

# Congress Party delegation visits family of martyred Syed Adil Hussain Shah, meets stakeholders

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 26: A high-level Congress Party delegation on Saturday visited the family of martyred Syed Adil Hussain Shah at Hapatnag Pahalgam in Anantnag District and expressed their heartfelt condolences and sympathies with the bereaved family.

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hamed Karra, CLP Leader and AICC General Secretary Ghulam Ahmad Mir led the delegation.

Congress Party delegation met the family members of Syed Adil Hussain Shah and expressed their heartfelt condolences and deep solidarity with the bereaved family. They hailed the valor of late Adil Hussain who sacrificed his life ensuring the



safety of tourists.

Both Karra and Mir along with other members of the delegation including Anantnag District President Zaffar Farooq Salati offered prayers for the departed soul, wishing the family strength and courage to endure this irreparable loss. The leaders hailed Shah's bravery emphasizing that his sacrifice will always be remembered as a symbol of service to humanity.

The delegation later

met stakeholders including hoteliers, tourist guides, pony walls, transporters, etc and appreciated them for risking their lives while facilitating and saving the tourists.

Senior Congress Leaders Nissar Ahmad Mundoo, Dr.Audil Farooq Mir (Lasjan)Tanveer Hussain, Danish Khan, Dr.Waleed Karra and various other senior leaders of Anantnag district were part of the delegation.

## FromPage No: 1

### CM Omar Abdullah leaves for Ramban to assess damage after cloudburst

had earlier travelled by road from Srinagar to Marog, one of the worst-hit villages.

Demonstrating the deep concern and commitment of his government, he trekked several kilometres on foot through rugged terrain to reach Kela Morh, where the cloudburst had triggered flash floods, leaving a trail of destruction, according to an official statement.

Interacting with local residents and officials from the district administration, the Chief Minister was briefed on the scale of the damage and the progress of ongoing rescue and relief operations.

The district administration had informed the Chief Minister earlier that clearance operations are in full swing. Teams from the Public Works Department (PWD), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), disaster response units, police, volunteers, and the local population are working around the clock to remove mudslides and boulders and restore normalcy in the affected area.

### Pakistan military resorts to

### unprovoked firing along LoC

including the suspension of the 65-year-old Indus Waters Treaty, closing of the Attari land-border crossing and the expulsion of Pakistani military attaches.

New Delhi also asked all Pakistanis who entered the country via the Attari land border to leave by May 1.

In its response, Pakistan on Thursday announced shutting its airspace to all Indian airlines and suspended trade with New Delhi, including through third countries.

Pakistan also rejected India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty and said any measures to stop the flow of water belonging to Pakistan under the pact would be seen as an "act of war".

Amid nationwide outrage over the Pahalgam attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the killers would be pursued "to the ends of the earth" as he promised to "identify, track and punish every terrorist and their backers".

### Pahalgam attack: Houses of three more terrorists destroyed in south

### Kashmir

disincentivising local terrorism or any kind of support to terror," said a J&K government functionary, as per a report. "It is a stern reminder to local youths that if they pick up the gun and join terror ranks, their families will have a heavy price to pay. Their families will also be denied government benefits and facilities, including passports, government jobs, and police clearances. This is all part of the Centre's and J&K administration's zero-tolerance policy against terrorism," the official added.

### Tourists feel 'safe' in Srinagar, applaud warmth and support of locals

to Srinagar on April 21, said, "We feel completely safe. There are no issues. There is no fear. People planning a visit should come."

Vaibhavi Vyas, also from Gujarat, said she felt reassured by the visible presence of army personnel in the region.

However, visuals from Pahalgam's Baisaran valley — the site of the attack — tell a different story. Once teeming with tourists, the area now shows sparse movement, limited to a few civilians and patrolling security forces. Meanwhile, security agencies

and Jammu and Kashmir authorities have intensified their crackdown on those linked to the attack.

On Saturday, authorities demolished another residential structure at Chotipora village in Shopian district, allegedly linked to a terrorist, believed to be involved in the Pahalgam attack.

Another house belonging to a suspect, identified as Zakir Ahmad Ganie, at Muthahama village in Kulgam district was also demolished. Ganie has been active since 2023 and is believed to be directly involved in the attack.

Earlier on Friday, the house of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist Adil Thokar, also known as Adil Guree, was demolished.

Adil Guree, a resident of Guree village in Bijbehara block of Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir, is believed to have been involved in the Pahalgam attack that killed 26 people, including a Nepalese national, mostly tourists. He has been declared the most wanted, and the Anantnag Police have offered a reward of Rs 20 lakh for any specific information leading to his arrest. Two Pakistani nationals were also declared most wanted in the case.

The attack on innocent civilians by terrorists at Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam on April 22, killing 25 Indian nationals and one Nepali citizen, while leaving several others injured, has caused a huge uproar across the nation.

The Indian Army is on a high

alert, launching several search operations to neutralise the terrorists following the attack in Pahalgam. The incident has sparked nationwide outrage, with widespread protests erupting across the country, demanding stricter action against Pakistan over the Pahalgam attack.

### JK Cabinet Minister Javed Rana arrives in Lukhnow to meet J&K students, businessmen and UP authorities

Mr. Muddasir Latifi Tasir, OSD (9419168268) and Mr. Raiyaz Ahmed, APS (9103792688).

### Satish Sharma reaches Dehradun, available to meet J&K students, Business community

business community and other members of J&K community.

All interested student groups, businessmen, individuals from J&K wishing to meet the Minister are requested to contact at 9419180515 9906204222 and 9796491417.

### Minister Sakina Itoo reaches Chandigarh, Punjab to assist J&K residents

mentioned numbers: Sakina Itoo +91 94190 04823; +91 70060 65102."

The Minister's outreach comes as part of the government's wider efforts to address safety concerns of J&K residents outside the Union Territory.

### Terrorist hideout busted, Huge cache of arms seized in Kupwara: Police

the site, the official said. This was a major success, especially in view of indications that terrorists were preparing to carry out activities aimed at disturbing peace and order in the region, he added.

The timely action by the security forces has dealt a major blow to such nefarious designs and averted potential threats to civilian lives and public safety, he said.

Twenty-six people, mostly tourists, were killed and several injured when terrorists opened fire at a meadow near the popular tourist town of Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday afternoon.



# J&K Fencers Vishal, Shreya to represent India at World and Asian Fencing Championships

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir continues to shine on the national sports stage, as ace fencers Vishal Thapar and Shreya Gupta have earned selection to represent India at the upcoming World Championship and Asian Championship in fencing.

Their selection follows an impressive performance at the selection trials held on April 25, 2025, by the Fencing Association of India at Haldwani, Uttarakhand.

Both athletes exhibited exceptional skill, composure, and determination, outperforming their opponents to secure a coveted place in the national squad.

Their success at the trials was built upon a strong foundation laid at the 35th Senior National Fencing Champion-



ship (Men & Women) 2024-25, held in Kannur, Kerala, where both Vishal and Shreya clinched bronze medals in the sabre event, representing Jammu and Kashmir under the banner of the J&K Fencing Association

(JKFA), the only affiliated unit of Fencing Association of India (FAI).

Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, congratulated the fencers and their families on this remarkable

achievement and extended her best wishes for their upcoming international competitions.

The J&K Sports Council has granted formal approval for their participation, paving the way for them to compete on the international stage and bring further glory to the Union Territory and the nation.

International fencer Rashid Ahmed Choudhary, along-with Adv. Supriya Chouhan and Maninder Pal Singh, also praised the athletes for their outstanding performance and called it a proud moment for the region.

The President of J&K Fencing Association, Vijay Kumar, and General Secretary, Javed Choudhary, expressed their delight over this achievement and assured full support to the athletes in their future endeavors.

# Over 500 girls compete in Zonal Level Sports Tournament in Basohli

## Top News Report

BASOHLI, Apr 26: Following the vibrant vision set forth by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, Jammu & Kashmir UT, and under the guidance of DYSSO Kathua, Sunil Singh Sambyal, the Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament of Zone Basohli unfolded with great zeal at GMHSS Basohli.

Under the leadership of Zonal Physical Education Officer Tara Singh and the dedicated physical education staff of Zone Basohli, the tournament embraced the disciplines of Kho-Kho, Badminton, Cricket, Rope Skipping, and Table Tennis (T.T) for the spirited girls in Under-14 and Under-17 years age groups.



Today, the fields and courts of Basohli came alive as matches of Kho-Kho, T.T, Badminton, Cricket, and Rope Skipping for U/14 and U/17 Girls were fiercely yet joyfully contested. An overwhelming participation of 534 girls from both government and private schools of

Zone Basohli illuminated the event, filling the atmosphere with vibrant energy and youthful determination.

In Badminton Under-14, the spirited team from KGBV School Basohli clinched victory over GGMS Mandala with a convincing 2-0

set win. Meanwhile, in the Under-17 category, GGHS Basohli showcased their skill and resilience to defeat St. Anne's Convent High School Basohli by 8 points, proving their mettle on the court.

The battle on the Kho-Kho field was equally intense and exhilarat-

ing. In the Under-14 clash, GGHS Basohli triumphed over St. Anne's Convent High School by 8 points, while in the Under-17 category, the spirited girls of Government Middle School (GMS) outplayed their opponents by 5 points, securing a proud victory.

The rhythmic beats of the Rope Skipping event crowned GHS Sialag as the first-place winners in the Under-14 category, while the agile and determined team from GHS Draman took the top honours in the Under-17 category, a testament to their speed and coordination.

In a thrilling match of Badminton Under-14, GMS Shara emerged victorious, demonstrating admirable teamwork and sportsmanship.

# Jodhamal students shine at Model MUN Conference hosted by Legendary Scindia School Gwalior

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: In a stellar display of intellect, diplomacy, and oratory, students of Jodhamal Public School brought pride to the institution with their remarkable performances at one of the most prestigious Model United Nations Conferences held in April 2025—at Scindia School, Gwalior.

Competing alongside India's top institutions including Mayo College, Ajmer; Genesis Global School, Noida; Assam Valley, Assam; Gyanshree School, Noida, Jodhamal Public School stood out not only for its performance but also for being the only school representing Jammu at this elite gathering of young minds.

The Jodhamal delegation comprising Aarav Handoo,



Swarit Dev Singh, Aarit Gupta, Pavit Singh, and Meharab Singh captivated audiences with their well-researched arguments and confident presentations, showcasing exceptional understanding of global issues and diplomatic procedures. Aarav Handoo emerged as a standout delegate, earning the Best Delegate Award for his commanding presence and sharp articulation. Aarit Gupta was recognised

with the Outstanding Delegate Award, impressing the committee with his in-depth analysis and persuasive reasoning. Pavit Singh received a Special Mention for his commendable participation and active engagement. Swarit Dev Singh and Meharab Singh also made impactful contributions, adding strength to the overall performance of the delegation. This noteworthy achievement was made pos-

sible through the consistent mentorship and preparation led by CCA Coordinator Pooja Sharma, MUN Coordinators Anjali Gupta and Raghunandan, and the dedicated faculty of Jodhamal Public School.

Congratulating the delegates on their exemplary performances, Nandan Kuthiala, Trustee; Arati Kuthiala, Director; Girish Kumar, Principal; and Amita Arora, Vice Principal, commended the students' achievements and reaffirmed the institution's commitment to fostering leadership, critical thinking, and global citizenship.

The triumph at the Scindia School MUN not only accentuates Jodhamal's culture of excellence but also reinforces its position as a rising powerhouse in the national MUN circuit.

# DPS Jammu students excel in GREEN Olympiad 2024; felicitated on Earth Day 2025

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: Adding yet another feather to its cap, Delhi Public School Jammu proudly celebrates the outstanding achievements of its students in the prestigious GREEN Olympiad 2024, organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi. Focused on sustainable development and environmental solutions, TERI's flagship Olympiad saw participation from over 2,200 schools and nearly 120,000 students across India.

Thirty-four students from Classes IV to



XII represented DPS Jammu in the Olympiad held in November 2024.

Among them, 11 students earned Certificates of Merit, demonstrating exceptional environmental awareness and bringing laurels to the school. The meritorious students are: Jastej Singh (V),

Snaya Choudhary (V), Hargundeep Singh (V), Aradhya Rana (V), Ayaan Verms (VI), Meerab Angral (VI), Aditri Chandel (VI), Suhail Abbas (VI), Amishika Dogra (VIII), Sanjin Kalsi (VIII), Ayat Sartaj (IX).

To commemorate Earth Day on April 22,

2025, the school hosted a special felicitation ceremony, reaffirming its commitment to nurturing environmentally responsible citizens and integrating sustainability into everyday learning.

Aligned with national initiatives like Mission LiFE by NITI Aayog and the National Educa-

tion Policy (NEP) 2020, DPS Jammu continues to embed environmental education across its curriculum. Participation in the GREEN Olympiad is a testament to the school's enduring mission of developing responsible global citizens.

The esteemed management of DPS Jammu—President-RCT Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC Ritu Singh, Director S.S. Sodhi, and Principal Ruchi Chabra—extended their heartfelt congratulations to all achievers and wished them continued success in championing sustainability.

# KCIS hosts Shri Vinay Mahajan U-17 Inter-school Cricket Tournament 2025

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: KC International School (KCIS) concluded the Shri Vinay Mahajan Under-17 Interschool Cricket Tournament 2025, an exhilarating event organized in collaboration with CAP Academy.

The tournament's grand finale showcased an electrifying display of cricketing prowess, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

The event was graced by distinguished dignitaries, including the Chief Guest Ranjeet Kalra, Member, J&K Sports Council; Guests of Honour Zorawar Singh Jamwal -Vice President, Press Club Jammu, and Randeep Singh - Social Activist; along with Special Guests Rajesh Dhar, Member, Jammu Cricket Association, Chaitanya Chowdhary, President KCIS, Anupama Sinha, Principal KCIS, and Roma Vice Principal, KCIS.



With participation from eight leading schools, the final match saw an intense battle between KC International School and Model Academy Jammu emerged victorious, clinching the Winner's Trophy. The tournament also celebrated individual excellence with the following awards: Man of the Match: Mehran Khan, Best Batsman: Karanveer Sharma and Best Bowler: Mehran Khan. Special appreciation was extended to the match officials, Mohit Sharma and Manik Singh, for their fair and seamless conduct of the tournament.

The Runner-Up team, KC International School,

Jammu. After a closely contested game, Model Academy Jammu emerged victorious, securing the Winner's Trophy. The tournament also celebrated individual excellence with the following awards: Man of the Match: Mehran Khan, Best Batsman: Karanveer Sharma and Best Bowler: Mehran Khan. Special appreciation was extended to the match officials, Mohit Sharma and Manik Singh, for their fair and seamless conduct of the tournament.

The Runner-Up team, KC International School,

was awarded medals and a trophy, while the winning team, Model Academy Jammu, received the Winner's Trophy along with medals.

In her vote of thanks, Principal Anupama Sinha expressed heartfelt gratitude to the distinguished dignitaries, players, coaches, teachers, and all supporters whose efforts made the tournament a grand success. She also applauded the contributions of Babita Bhau, Activity Coordinator, and the coaches for their tireless work.

# Motivational lecture conducted for youth at Mandir Gala

## Top News Report

RAJOURI, Apr 26: An inspiring motivational lecture was conducted for the local youth under the initiative of the Indian Army.

The focus of the lecture was on maintaining physical fitness and embracing a healthy lifestyle.

The event was took place at Mandir Gala and aimed to guide and motivate young individuals towards positive and disciplined living.

This initiative proved



to be yet another milestone under Operation Sadhbhavana in the Area of Responsibility.

The Indian Army continues to foster good-

will and development through such outreach programs, strengthening the bond between the armed forces and the local population.

# Army conducts interaction with Gujjar and Bakkarwals at Batsiyala

## Top News Report

REASI, April 26: As part of its ongoing efforts to foster harmony, build trust, and strengthen connect with tribal communities in remote regions, the Indian Army conducted a meaningful interaction with members of the Gujjar and Bakkarwal communities at Batsiyala in Reasi.

The outreach program was aimed at engaging with the nomadic tribal population residing in the high-altitude areas, understanding their concerns, and extending support through awareness, basic services and community welfare initiatives.



During the interaction, Indian Army personnel addressed issues related to education, healthcare and livelihood, while also highlighting the importance of national integration and cooperation in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

Community elders, youth, and women actively participated in the program, sharing their experiences and expressing appreciation for the Indian Army's consistent efforts in reaching out to neglected and remote areas.

The interaction was

also marked by distribution of essential supplies and informative sessions on health, hygiene, and basic first aid. The initiative reaffirmed the Indian Army's role not just as a security force but as a committed partner in the socio-economic upliftment of border and tribal communities, ensuring their inclusion in the mainstream.

# BLSKS strongly condemns killing of tourists in Pahalgam

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: All the artists & students of Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS), Sangam Tru Art Production & National College of Computer Education, have strongly condemned the brutal killing of tourists in Pahalgam, terming it a cowardly and inhuman act aimed at disturbing peace and communal harmony in the region.

Expressing deep anguish over the attack, the Dr. Mohan Lal Dogra, Chairman BLSKS said, "Violence against innocent civilians, especially tourists who come to experience the beauty and culture of Kashmir, is unacceptable and deserves the strongest condemnation."

He urged the administration to ensure those behind the heinous crime are identified and punished severely.



IPL 2025: Subplots galore as evenly matched RCB, DC clash at Kotla

Kohli remains the biggest draw as he returns to his 'home ground' at the back of five half-centuries in nine games

NEW DELHI, Apr 26 (Agencies): Virat Kohli and K L Rahul will headline the battle of anchors while Mitchell Starc versus Josh Hazlewood in the pace department can only add more spice to the contest between the in-form Delhi Capitals and Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the IPL here on Sunday.

Things can change rather quickly in the IPL but on current form, both DC and RCB are expected to make the play-offs. Two points at the Feroz Shah Kotla will significantly help the winning team in that context.

Kohli remains the biggest draw as he returns to his 'home ground' at the back of five half-centuries in nine games. Four of them have come away from the Chinnaswamy Stadium and despite being in the opposition camp, the Delhi crowd will be hoping the Indian superstar extends his prolific run in the tour-



nament.

Slower surfaces this season has made stroke-making tougher but RCB's leading run-getter Kohli has thrived on that challenge to flourish for his team. Another batter who has done remarkably well under the circumstances is Rahul, who has scored the most runs for Delhi Capitals.

Not part of India's T20 set-up, Rahul has forced the selectors to take notice with his stellar performances in the middle order and behind

the stumps.

Starc versus Hazlewood

The two champion Australian fast bowlers, Hazlewood and Starc, have already showed the immense value they bring to their respective IPL teams. Hazlewood is among the leading wicket takers in the tournament with 16 scalps and effectively won the game for RCB in their previous outing against Rajasthan Royals with an exemplary 19th over.

His compatriot Starc is not far behind on the

impact table and coincidentally it was also against Royals that he came up with a barrage of wide yorkers to seal the game for DC. Their duel will be exciting to say the least.

Kuldeep versus Suyash, Axar versus Krunal

Kuldeep has foxed the batters in the middle overs throughout the IPL with his googly causing maximum damage to the opposition. Besides 12 wickets in eight games, the left-arm wrist spinner has conceded runs at a

frugal rate of 6.50 runs per over.

His presence will pose the biggest challenge to the in-form RCB batters on Sunday night.

Delhi boy Suyash Sharma has also given a good account of himself in RCB jersey and will be using all his local knowledge to out-think the DC batters.

While DC captain Axar Patel has led from the front, he has not bowled a lot in the competition due to a niggle but has completed his full quota of overs in the last game, marking another positive for a team on the charge.

Krunal will be performing a similar role for the RCB camp. With 12 wickets in nine games, the left-arm spinner has done the job for his new franchise.

DC have been playing only three foreign players since dropping Jake Fraser McGurk and that is likely to continue with Abhishek Porel and Karun Nair at the top of the order.

India guaranteed 43 medals at Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing Championships after four more seal semis berths



AMMAN, Apr 26 (Agencies): Amman [Jordan], April 26 (ANI): Team India has confirmed 43 medals at the inaugural Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing Championships, organised by the newly recognised Asian Boxing body under World Boxing, with four more pugilists punching their way into the semi-finals on Day 7, as per a press release from the Boxing Federation of India (BFI).

India is now assured of at least 25 medals in the

U-15 category and 18 in the U-17, as all semi-finalists are guaranteed bronze.

Aman Siwach (63kg) and Devansh (80kg) led the charge in the U-17 'boys' section, both securing Referee Stopped Contest (RSC) wins over opponents from the Philippines and Jordan, respectively, in the last set of quarter-finals bouts.

In the girls' division, Simranjeet Kaur (60kg) posted a commanding 5-0 win over Jor-

dan's Aya Alhasanat, while Himanshi (70kg) ended her bout in the very first round with an RSC against Palestine's Farah Abou Layla, joining their cohorts in the penultimate round.

Day 7 Results  
Men's U-17 - Quarter-finals

60 kg: Sahil Duhan (IND) lost to Amiral Meh-rabi (IRI) - WP 2:3, 63 kg: Aman Siwach (IND) def. Ziadrach James Cabrera (PHI) - RSC R2, 66 kg: Anant Gauris-hankar Deshmukh (IND) lost to Daniyal Shalkar-bay (KAZ) - WP 0:5, 75 kg: Priyansh Sehrawat (IND) lost to Khurshid-bek Juraev (UZB) - WP 0:5, 80 kg: Devansh (IND) def. Abdallah Ald-abbas (JOR) - RSC R3, 80+ kg: Lovan Gulia (IND) lost to Farhoud Ghorbani (IRI) - WP 0:5  
Women's U-17 - Quar-terfinals

60 kg: Simranjeet Kaur (IND) def. Aya Alhasan-at (JOR) - WP 5:0, 70 kg: Himanshi (IND) def. Farah Abou Layla (PLE) - RSC R.

“His team must be really pleased”: Varun Aaron on Ishan Kishan's innings against CSK

NEW DELHI, Apr 26 (Agencies): Former Indian fast bowler Varun Aaron was impressed with Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) batter Ishan Kishan's performance against Chennai Super Kings in the ongoing Indian Premier League.

Varun discussed Kishan's recent struggles and how he scored more runs in this innings than in his previous seven.

He felt Kishan would be disappointed with his dismissal, as it wasn't a good delivery, and he hit it straight to a fielder.

“His team must be really pleased. He had a string of really bad scores. I think he scored more runs in this innings than in his last seven innings. He would have been really disappointed not to take it home, as it wasn't like a really good delivery [he got out to]. There was a fielder right there [at deep midwicket] and he hit a straight down his throat.” Varun Aaron said as quoted by ESPNcricinfo.

Kishan showed indications of regaining his form. With SRH pursuing 155 against Chennai Super Kings, he stepped in during the very first over after Abhishek Sharma was



dismissed for a duck.

He took his time - at one point, he was on 21 off 20 - before concluding with 44 off 34 balls.

In nine innings so far in this IPL, Kishan has made 186 runs, in which he scored 106\* against the Rajasthan Royals in SRH's initial match.

Former Australian captain Aaron Finch also praised Kishan's ability to read the situation and not be overly aggressive early on.

He highlighted his assessment of the conditions and ability to play nicely despite the pressure of maximising the powerplay.

“His ability to read the situation and not over-play his hand early on and be overly aggressive [stood out]. He made sure he assessed the conditions, which is

never easy because you want to maximise the powerplay. On the back of an early wicket, he assessed it and played nicely.” Aaron Finch said.

A four-wicket performance by Harshal Patel and strong innings from Ishan Kishan and Kamindu Mendis were the standout moments as Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) triumphed over Chennai Super Kings (CSK) by five wickets in their Indian Premier League (IPL) matchup.

With this victory, SRH has risen to the eighth position in the points table with three wins and six losses, totalling six points.

CSK occupies the last place with two wins and seven losses, resulting in only four points.

You can plug a hole or two, but if majority does badly, it's difficult: Dhoni

CHENNAI, Apr 26 (Agencies): A distraught Mahendra Singh Dhoni has expressed his helplessness at Chennai Super Kings' extended poor run in the ongoing IPL and said it's difficult for a team to get the desired result when four-five players lose form at the same time.

CSK lost to Sunrisers Hyderabad by five wickets here on Friday after another shoddy batting effort from the hosts, the result dealing a near-fatal blow to their play-off chances.

Bowled out for 154, CSK saw the visitors reach their target with eight balls to spare.

“In a tournament like this, if you have one or two areas where you can plug in the holes, it is good. But if majority of your players are not doing well, it becomes very difficult,” Dhoni said at the post-match press conference.

CSK, who are known to maintain continuity in team selections over the years, have fielded around 19 players in nine games so far, and Dhoni said he had no option but to explore various combinations.

“Because you have to do a few changes, but if majority are doing well then you give those guys that extra few games and if it doesn't



work out than you move onto the next one. But if four of them are not performing at the same time, you are bound to make that change, because you can't just keep on going,” Dhoni added.

CSK have had one of their worst IPL seasons and are currently placed at the bottom of the points table with seven defeats. What is worse is that four of those losses have come at Chepauk, which remained their fortress for the longest time.

Bit it foreigners such as Devon Conway, Rachin Ravindra, Sam Curran or Indian players like Rahul Tripathi, Deepak Hooda and Vijay Shankar, none of them could step up in the first nine games.

Dhoni identified the batters' failure to attack spinners in the middle overs as one of the big reasons for the dismal show and felt that

South African youngster Dewald Brevis would be a vital cog going forward.

Brevis scored 42 against SRH, but more importantly, looked good against the spinners.

“I think he (Brevis) batted really well and we need something like that in the middle order, where we have slightly struggled when the spinners come in, that's a time we need to either you do it by batsman-ship, where you pick up your areas or try to play the big shot in your area.

“I feel that's where we have been lacking and not been really able to dominate or get runs against spinners at good pace in the middle. Because we are not putting enough runs on the board, because it is essential right now, the game has changed.

“I am not saying it is always 180-200, but assess the conditions and then look to put

the runs on the board,” Dhoni said, his frustration and anger quite palpable.

He made no bones about CSK's failure with the bat on Friday, saying the pitch was good for stroke-making and the total was way below par.

“We kept losing wickets, and in the first innings the wicket was slightly better and 155 is not a justifiable score, because it wasn't turning a lot. Yes, after the 8-10th over, it became slightly two-paced when it comes to the fast bowlers, but nothing that was out of the ordinary.

“I feel we could have put few more runs on the board. Yes, second innings there was a bit of help, our spinners the quality was there and they bowled in the right areas and it was stopping a bit but we were short by 15-20 runs,” he concluded.

It was tough to hit cross-batted shots: Harshal

Harshal Patel, a fine exponent of the slower ball and cutters, got the Player-of-the-Match award for returning excellent figures of 4/28, and he believed that the Chepauk track wasn't conducive for playing horizontal bat strokes, and so it became easy for the SRH medium pacer to dominate the

home team.

“I figured out pretty early, hitting the lengths and keeping it at the sticks was important. It was tough to hit the horizontal bat shots. I wanted the batters to hit me over square-leg and mid-wicket. So, I kept pulling the length back and mixing my pace up.”

Unlike other, who have tried bowling wide yorkers to Dhoni in order to keep it out of his hitting arc, Harshal did the complete opposite.

“Was trying to bowl length to him (Dhoni). Wasn't trying to bowl wide. Was one of those variations that you try and bowl something but it doesn't come off. But glad it came off and went to hand,” he said.

His skipper Pat Cummins was happy that SRH finally won their first game at Chepauk after failing all these years.

“That was great. Few things came together tonight. Boys played well. Good to see a few smiles. Couple of guys at the top looked like taking the game on.

“In these conditions, threw Klaasen at the top and Nitish to finish it off. Our record here isn't great. Be more clinical going forward but pleased with the win,” Cummins said.

Sourav Ganguly calls for breaking India's cricketing ties with Pakistan following Pahalgam terror attack

Ganguly spoke to agency in Kolkata. Over the years, India and Pakistan have been only meeting in ICC events, such as the T20 and 50 over World Cups, ICC Champions Trophy and Asian Cricket Council (ACC) organised Asia Cup events.

KOLKATA, Apr 26 (Agencies): Former Indian captain and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president Sourav Ganguly said that India should break all cricketing ties with Pakistan.

Ganguly spoke to agency in Kolkata. Over the years, India and Pakistan have only

met in ICC events, such as the T20 and 50 Over World Cups, the ICC Champions Trophy, and Asian Cricket Council (ACC)- organised Asia Cup events.

Speaking to agency, Ganguly said, “100 per cent, this (breaking ties with Pakistan) should be done. Strict action

is necessary. It is no joke that such things happen every year. Terrorism cannot be tolerated.” Due to strained political relations between the two nations, India has not toured Pakistan since 2008, when they participated in the Asia Cup. The two arch-rivals last played a bilateral series



in 2012-13 in India, comprising white-ball matches.

During the recently organised ICC Champions Trophy, India did not travel to Pakistan; instead, they played all their matches in Dubai under a hybrid model.

Also, the International Cricket Council (ICC) chair-

man, Jay Shah, has decided on the hybrid model for all ICC events in the 2024-27 cycle, which will be held in India or Pakistan.

Following the dastardly terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 people, 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.



# Sakeena Itoo calls on Punjab Governor; raises issues of J&K students, business community in wake of Pahalgam attack

## Interacts with scores of J&K students, business community members

### Also visits Universal Group of Institutions, Saraswati Group of Colleges Chandigarh to discuss security concerns of J&K students with college Admins

#### Top News Report

CHANDIGARH, Apr 26: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo on Saturday called on Governor of Punjab and Administrator of UT of Chandigarh, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria at Raj Bhavan here.

During the interaction, the Minister discussed several issues concerning safety and security of J&K students and business community, in wake of the recent tragic attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister requested the Governor to take steps for instilling some sense of security among the J&K students and business community.

The Governor assured the Minister of full cooperation and said that the Punjab and Chandigarh Administrations will ensure safety and security of all J&K residents and students.

DGP, Punjab, Gaurav Yadav and DGP, Chan-



digarh Police, Surendra Singh Yadav were also present on the occasion.

Later, the Minister also met Chief Secretary, Punjab, Shri K A P Sinha to discuss the issues of J&K students, business community and other individuals in the aftermath of Pahalgam attack.

Additional Chief Secretary, Home Affairs Punjab, Shri Alok Shekhar was also present during the interaction.

During the meeting, the Minister requested the Chief Secretary and ACS to take steps for restoring sense of security among J&K students and the business community currently in Punjab and Chandigarh.

The Chief Secretary and ACS assured full cooperation to J&K Government for welfare and safety of all J&K students and business community currently in Punjab.

Earlier, on the directions of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo arrived in Chandigarh Punjab to instil sense of security among the J&K students and business community, in wake of the recent tragic attack in Pahalgam. During her visit, Sakeena personally engaged with cross-section of the Jammu and Kashmir student community and business professionals based in Punjab. The Minister held interactions with them on their safety concerns and emotional well-being, especially in the aftermath of Pahalgam attack. She also engaged with several students and individuals on phone in view of the prevailing situation.

# Member NITI Aayog Dr VK Saraswat calls on LG Brig Mishra



#### Top News Report

LEH, Apr 26: Member, NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog, Dr Vijay Kumar Saraswat, called on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at Raj Niwas.

The LG and Dr VK Saraswat discussed various topics and issues, such as developments that have taken place in Ladakh after becoming

a Union Territory post abrogation of Article 370; the issues arising due to the cut in budget allocation to UT Ladakh for the Financial year 2025-26; the decision taken by the Government of India to create five new districts in Ladakh; steps that can be taken to overcome degeneration of tourism in Ladakh to increase the footfall of tourists in the region along with boosting winter tourism in Ladakh, etc.

While inquiring about UT Ladakh's expectations from NITI Aayog, Dr Saraswat assured full support from NITI Aayog in all sectors, including the major solar power project at Pang.

The LG appreciated NITI Aayog's support and stated that the UT Administration would share with them the areas/sectors in which their help would be required for the overall benefit and development of Ladakh.

# Kathua Media boycotts police, BJP coverage after brutal assault on journalist

#### Top News Report

KATHUA, Apr 26: Three days after the brutal attack on senior journalist Rakesh Sharma by BJP workers in the presence of three BJP MLAs and Kathua police officers, no concrete action has been taken against the accused. Despite the viral video evidence and the serious injuries sustained by the journalist, Kathua Police has



not arrested the perpetrators. Instead, in a shocking display of bias, the police registered a counter FIR against the victim himself, further intensifying public anger. In response to the police and BJP's alleged complicity and inaction, the entire media fraternity of Kathua has decided to boycott all coverage related to Kathua Police and BJP leaders.

A meeting of the Kathua Press Association, led by Manuj Kesar and attended by around 30 journalists, voiced strong condemnation of both the police and the BJP MLAs. The journalists alleged that political pressure has crippled the police's ability to act fairly and termed it a direct assault on the freedom of the press and democracy.

The boycott includes refusing to report on any statements, events, or activities involving the police or BJP leaders until justice is delivered.

The journalists have demanded the immediate arrest of all the accused, suspension of the police officials involved in shielding the culprits, and a high-level judicial inquiry monitored by a High Court judge into the roles of the BJP MLAs and police officers. They have also appealed to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for direct intervention.

Warning of a region-wide agitation if their demands continue to be ignored, the journalists made it clear that the fourth pillar of democracy will not succumb to threats, violence, or political influence. The Kathua media's bold step is being seen as a strong and unprecedented stand against injustice and suppression of press freedom.

#### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: A free medical camp was organized by Swarnkar Sangh Jammu under the Presidentship of Ajay Verma, in collaboration with the Directorate of AYUSH, Government Ayurvedic Hospital Jammu, at Shri Luxmi Narayan Temple, Dhakki Sarajan near Link Road Chowk, on Saturday.

An expert team of doctors and para-medical staff provided free consultations, health check-ups, and essential medicines to the needy, reflecting a strong commitment to community welfare. Various specialists, including experts in Eye, ENT, Gynecology, General Medicine, Surgery, and Cardiology, attended the camp. Numerous general body tests were also conducted free of cost, ensuring comprehensive healthcare support to attendees.

The event was graced by Yuvhvir Sethi, MLA, Jammu East, as the Chief Guest, and Vivek

Shekhar Sharma, Superintendent of Police, Jammu North, as the Guest of Honour.

The camp was held under the direct guidance of Dr. Vandana Dogra, Superintendent, Government Ayurvedic Hospital Jammu, and under the supervision of Dr. Arun Gupta and his dedicated associate team. Ajay Verma welcomed and thanked all distinguished guests, dignitaries, doctors, and medical staff for their invaluable contributions.

MLA Yuvhvir Sethi lauded the efforts of Swarnkar Sangh Jammu for organizing such a beneficial initiative and praised the doctors and medical staff for their selfless services towards society.

Prominent personalities who marked their presence included Ajay Vaid (Chairman, Swarnkar Sangh Jammu), (President, Jewellers Association Jammu), Sandeep Jain (General Secretary, Jain Welfare Society),

Sajan Babbar (Additional General Secretary, Swarnkar Sangh Jammu), along with Parveen Babbar, Sunil Verma, Munish Sehdev, Pawan Chouhan, Arun Thothla, Rakesh Abrol, Rajkumar Nischal, Naveen Nischal, Sachin Verma, Yogesh Khanna, Gaurav Luthra, and many other eminent citizens of Jammu.

The medical camp witnessed enthusiastic participation from people across all sections of society, reaffirming the spirit of community solidarity. Speaking at the occasion, Ajay Verma emphasized the need for collective efforts to uplift the weaker sections of society and reiterated the commitment of Swarnkar Sangh Jammu to continue serving humanity with dedication.

The event concluded with a strong message encouraging capable individuals and organizations to step forward and contribute towards the betterment of society.

# Dimple leads candle march, raises voice for Pahalgam Martyrs & J&K sovereignty



#### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: In a heartfelt outpouring of solidarity, a river of flickering lights flowed through BC Road and Rehari Chungi Chowk as people of every faith — Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs — stood shoulder to shoulder, bound by grief and a common dream. Under the solemn sky, Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a candlelight march to honor the innocent souls lost in the cruel targeted killings at Pahalgam.

Their memories, shimmering in the gentle glow, ignited a roaring call for justice and strength.

The night air vibrated with chants against Pakistan as Dimple,

alongside senior leaders Happy Kumar, Sunny Kumar, Rocky Kapoor, Narendra Chowdhary, Sanjay Kumar, Sanjeev, Baba Gupta, S. Vikram Singh, S. Harjeet, Gola, Raja and countless others, rallied the citizens, painting the streets with hope, determination, and righteous anger.

Addressing the gathering, Dimple delivered a passionate appeal to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. With a voice as steady as the hills and as fiery as the rivers, Dimple demanded the passing of six historic resolutions in the upcoming Assembly session on Monday, April 28.

The resolutions include

affirm that Jammu and Kashmir is an inseparable part of India and call for war with Pakistan to end the cycles of terror forever; Liberate PoK, Gilgit, and Baltistan, holding plebiscites to reunify the full crown of Jammu and Kashmir with Mother India; Restore the Dogra State to its full traditional glory, reviving the spirit of valiant heritage and undivided governance; Pledge unflinching support to the Centre's initiatives against militancy, standing tall in unity to crush cross-border terrorism; Scrap the outdated Indus Water Treaty, endorse the Cabinet Committee on Security decisions, and revoke Pakistan visas for residents in Jammu and Kashmir; and Close

UNO offices in Jammu and Kashmir and pass decisive motions to deport illegal Rohingyas and Bangladeshi infiltrators from the region.

Dimple's further demanded to shut the doors of the Pakistan embassy in India, Withdraw the Indian embassy from Pakistan, cease operations of the Amritsar-Attari railway line, and cancel all Pakistani visas and passports granted in India.

With fiery resolve, Dimple called upon Home Minister Amit Shah to launch "Operation All Out" a mission to eradicate militancy, deport all illegal settlers, and liberate PoK from the clutches of terror, forever stitching the tricolor more deeply into the soil of Kashmir.

# Special Lok Adalat held in Jammu

#### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 26: In compliance to the directions of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, a Special Lok Adalat for Consumer Cases was held on Saturday under the Chairmanship of Y. P. Bourney (Pr. Distt. & Sessions

Judge Jammu) Chairman District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Jammu, and overall supervision of Smriti Sharma, Secretary DLSA Jammu.

Bench No. 01 comprises of Pawan Dev Kotwal, President, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission,

Jammu and Adv. Kavita Raina, Panel Lawyer of DLSA Jammu. Total 01 bench was constituted in Consumer Court to deal with the matters of Consumer cases. A total 05 cases were taken up out of which 01 case were settled and an amount of Rs. 4,03,844 was also settled.

