

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

**Pakistan fails to attack Indian Army's Cyberspace**

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Pakistan-based cyber actors have once again failed in their attempts to violate Indian cyber sovereignty.

With its imprints in the Pahalgam terror attack clear, the Pakistani forces have been violating the ceasefire on the Loc every day.

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**IAF to get new Vice Chief, tri-services to get new CISC, Army getting new Northern Army commander**

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): The Indian Air Force will get a new Vice Chief as Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari would be succeeding incumbent Air Marshal SP Dharkar on May 1.

Dharkar is superannuating on April 30 after an illustrious career of 40-plus years in the force. Air Marshal Tiwari is presently commanding the South Western Air Command in Gandhinagar.

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**Ahmedabad man's video of zipline ride in Pahalgam captures terror attack**

AHMEDABAD, Apr 29 (Agencies): A tourist from Ahmedabad who was on a zipline ride at Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam inadvertently captured on video the terror attack in which 26 people

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**SC refuses to entertain fresh pleas challenging Waqf (Amendment) Act**

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to entertain 13 more petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, saying it cannot add any more pleas as they would become difficult to "handle". "We are not going to increase the number of petitions now... This will keep on piling and would become difficult to handle," a bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar

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## 'Samay Simit Hai, Lakshya Bade Hai': Did PM Modi Just Drop A Big Hint On Situation With Pakistan?



NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Almost a week after the deadly Pahalgam terror attack,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday made another veiled remark which could be

an indication of India's retaliatory action against Pakistan. Addressing the YUGM Conclave held in New Delhi, PM Modi said that India has a lot to achieve but time is limited. Prime Minister Modi also applauded the nation's youth, calling them ready and disruptive, and further stated that the country's youth were establishing milestones in research and driving breakthrough

innovations.

"Samay Simit Hai, Lakshya Bade Hai (Time is limited, goal is big)," said PM Modi in his own style and as soon as the attendees started clapping, the PM said that he was not talking about the

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## 'India is my home, don't want to go back to Pakistan'



A woman cries at Attari-Wagah border crossing as a Border Security Force official gestures after India revoked visas issued to Pakistani citizens following an attack on tourists near Pahalgam.

ATTARI BORDER, Apr 29 (Agencies) With only a day to go before the Uttar Pradesh government deports the "last" Pakistani citizen, Islamabad native Maryam on Tuesday made a frantic appeal to the Centre to stay on in the state with

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## Emergency cabinet meet underway at CM Omar Abdullah's Jammu home



JAMMU, Apr 29 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has convened an emergency meeting of his cabinet colleagues at his residence in Jammu, sources said here.

Sources said that the cabinet meeting is underway at the Wazarat residence of the Chief Minister in Jammu.

They said that all his cabinet colleagues are present in the meeting. It was not immediately known what the agenda of the meeting is.

The meeting assumes significance in the wake of the April 22 deadly

terror attack in Pahalgam that left 26 civilians dead. Earlier, Chief Min-

ister also chaired a cabinet meeting in Srinagar to condemn the attack.

## Mehbooba Mufti urges Amit Shah and CMs to intervene and ensure safety of Kashmir students residing in country

SRINAGAR, Apr 29 (Agencies): Chief of People's Democratic Party (PDP) Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Chief Ministers of all states to intervene and ensure the safety of Kashmiri students living in the country.

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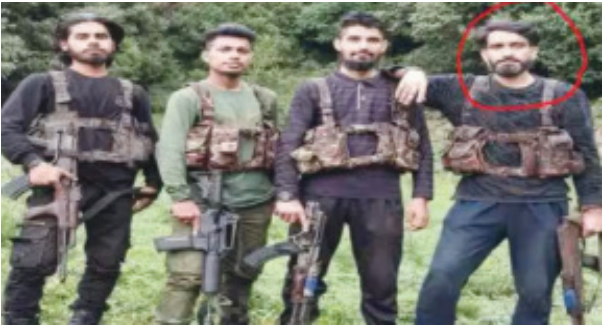
## J&K Police conducts searches at residences of 36 terrorist associates in Srinagar



SRINAGAR, Apr 29 (Agencies): The Srinagar Police conducted searches across multiple locations in the Srinagar at the residences of terrorist associates of proscribed terrorist outfits in connection with the investigation into cases registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) to dismantle terror-supporting infrastructure.

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## Pahalgam Attack: Elite Pak Commando Behind Terror Plot? Explosive Revelations Surface



Hashim Musa: From Pakistan's SSG To LeT

SRINAGAR, Apr 29 (Agencies): In a dramatic expose in the wake of the ghastly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, intelligence officials have established that one of the major perpetrators, Hashim Musa, is a retired paracommando of the Pakistan Army's

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## Pak troops fire along LoC for 5th straight night



Pakistan violates the ceasefire by firing shelling with mortars along LoC.

AKHNOOR, Apr 29, (Agencies): Pakistani troops violated the ceasefire along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir for a fifth consecu-

tive night, expanding the arc of violations to the Akhnoor sector of Jammu district, an official said on Tuesday. This was the fifth con-

secutive night that Pakistan resorted to unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC) amid heightened

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**All Major Tourist Destinations in Kashmir Open, Say Officials**  
**Only a Few Offbeat Locations Temporarily Closed; Security Measures in Place**

SRINAGAR, Apr 29 (Agencies): Authorities on Tuesday confirmed that all major tourist destinations across Kashmir, including Pahalgam, Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Dal Lake, and the Mughal Gardens, remain fully operational and continue to

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# GupShup

## RESTAURANT

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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 grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of **Smt. Mohan Pyari Ambardar** W/o Lt. Sh. Manmohan Nath Ambardar R/o Motiyar, Rainawari, Kashmir at present Sader Bazar, Satara on 24th of April, 2025.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Satara on 3rd of May 2025.

**Grief Stricken.**

**Daughter-in-law**

Ragnee Ogra Ambardar

W/o Lt. Sh. Surindar Ambardar

**Daughter**

Rajni Ambardar Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Shiban Ji Bhat

**Grand daughter and Grand son-in-law.**

Rachna Sus and Neel Sus

Rushali and Aditya Anand

**Grand son and Grand Daughter- in-law**

Rahul and Shafalica Ambardar

Nitesh and Daulat Bhat

**Great Grandsons and Great Granddaughters**

Reva, Rahm, Taruni, Twisha, Nimaay, Nitaay and Nandini

**And Samast Ambardar Parivar**



**Smt. Mohan Pyari (Bhabhi)**  
(24-04-2025)

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we informed that our beloved **Sh. Vijay Suman Dubey** S/o Late Sh. Vishwa Nath Dubey R/o H.No. 143-A Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, has left for his heavenly abode on 20-04-2025 (Sunday).

**TENTH DAY** shall be performed at our residence on 29-04-2025 (Tuesday) from 10 - 11 AM.

**KRIYA** shall be performed at our residence on 30-04-2025 (Wednesday) at 12:00 Noon.

**UTHALA** shall be performed at Shiv Temple, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on 02-05-2025 (Friday) from 05-06 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Veena Dubey - Wife**

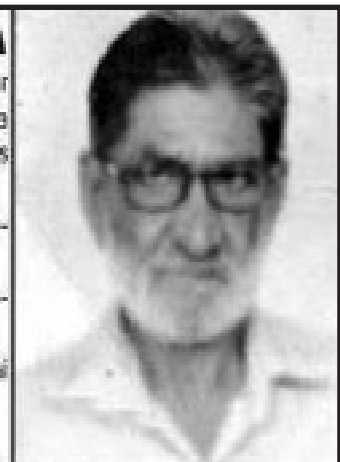
**Ankush Dubey - Son**

**Priyanka -Daughter-in-law**

**Roo Dubey & Ivana Dubey -Grand Children**

**& ALL NEARS & DEARS.**

**PHONE NO'S. 9596141111, 9906002255.**



**Sh. Vijay Suman Dubey**

**13TH DAY KRIYA & RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA**

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

**13TH DAY KRIYA** shall be performed on 29th April 2025 (Tuesday) from 12 Noon onwards at our residence in Jawala Colony, Old Salwar, Jammu near People's Academy School.

**RASAM PAGRI /UTHALA** shall be performed on 2nd May 2025 (Friday) from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at our residence in Jawala Colony.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

**Smt. Kamlesh Rani - Wife**

**Daughters-in-law & Sons**

**Smt. Priya Gupta & Sh. Rumi Gupta (9018289830)**

**Smt. Ekta Gupta & Sh. Rahul Gupta (9622131760)**

**Brothers and Bhabhis**

**Sh. Joginder Lal Gupta & Late. Smt. Kamini Gupta**

**Sh. Suresh Kumar & Smt. Anjana Gupta**

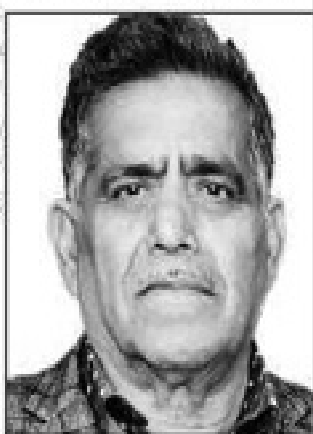
**Daughters and Sons-in-law**

**Smt. Goldy Gupta & Sh. Armit Pal Gupta**

**Smt. Ruby Gupta & Sh. Ravinder Kumar**

**Grand Children: Saksham, Sameer, Sankarsham**

**and all members of our Gupta family**



**Late Sh. Janak Raj Gupta**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. PURSHOTAM LAL PAGOTRA (SENIOR LECTURER RETD.)** RESIDENT OF CHAK BAGLAN, VIJAYPUR, WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 20-04-2025.

**TENTH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 29-04-2025 AT 10 A.M. AT OUR RESIDENCE CHAK BAGLAN.

**KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 30-04-2025 AT 8 A.M. AT OUR RESIDENCE CHAK BAGLAN.

**RASAM PAGRI** ON 30-04-2025 AT 4 P.M. AT OUR RESIDENCE CHAK BAGLAN.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**SMT. SHIV KUMAR (WIFE)**

**SMT. VIMLA DEVI (WIFE OF LATE SH. VARINDER KUMAR SHARMA) (BHABHI)**

**SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW**

**SH. DEEPAK SHARMA (A/C) AND SMT. SEEMA SHARMA (T)**

**DAUGHTERS AND SONS-IN-LAW**

**SMT. SUMAN AND SH. ASHOK KHAIJURIA**

**SMT. KUSUM AND SH. PURSHOTAM SHARMA**

**SMT. PARVEEN AND SH. B.D. SHARMA**

**NEPHEW**

**SH. ASHEESH SHARMA**

**SMT. RENU SHARMA (WIFE OF LATE SH. AJAY SHARMA)**

**GRAND CHILDREN: RIDHIMA, VANSHAJ, MAN K, VASUDEV, BHUPESH**



**SH. PURSHOTAM LAL PAGOTRA**

**13TH DAY (TERAHVAIN)**

"Those we love do not go away. They walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear."

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Usha Devi** W/o Sh Shankar Lal (Retd SI JKP) R/o Jodhpur Doda at present Gurha Brahmana Patoli Jammu.

**13th Day** will be performed on 30th April, 2025 (Wednesday) from 10 am to 1 pm at our residence, Gurha Brahmana Patoli Jammu behind SDPO office.

**Grief Stricken :**

**Sh Shankar Lal (Husband)**

**Sunil Kumar (Son)**

**Smt Rimpu and Manjeet Singh (Daughter and Son in law)**

**Smt Sapna and Rajbir Singh (Daughter and Son in law)**

**Grand Childrens :-**

**Zaain Raj, Varun Raj, Zeeshan, Divya Rani**

**Contact : 9906998100, 9419177990, 9906877990**



**Smt Usha Devi**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With Profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Bal Ji Bhan** son of Lt. Madow Ram (Bhan), R/o Gobingo Kupwara.

A/P:- Block No. 141, Flat No. 17, Lane no. 23, Jagti Migrant Township Nagrota, Jammu. who departed for heavenly abode on Friday 02.00 am dated 25.04.2025.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 04.05.2025 (Sunday) at 8.30 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Sh. Kuldeep Bhan (Son)**

**Smt. Jasvinder Kour (Daughter-in-law)**

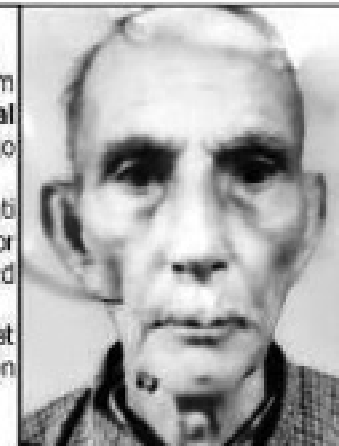
**Smt. Nancy Bhan (Sister-in-Law)**

**Smt. & Sh. Bushan Lal Bhan (Brother)**

**Smt. & Sh. Moti Lal Bhan (Brother)**

**Smt. & Sh. Ashok ji Bhan (Brother)**

**CELL NO.9469133259.**



**Sh. Bal Ji Bhan**

**10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Savitri Devi** W/o Lt. Pt. Dwarka Nath Pandotra (Dansal Wale) on 21-04-2025.

**10th Day** on 30-04-2025 (Wednesday) at 11:00 am at Shiv Mandir, Vikas Nagar Sarwal.

**11th Day (Kriya)** on 01-05-2025 (Thursday) at our residence 1/22 B Vikas Nagar, Sarwal.

**Uthala** on 02-05-2025 (Friday) from 3 pm to 4 pm at Shiv Mandir, Vikas Nagar, Sarwal.

**Grief Stricken**

**Sons & Daughter-in-laws**

**Kasturi Lal Sharma & Smt. Chander Kanta**

**Kewal Krishan Sharma & Smt. Promila Sharma**

**Yash Paul Shastri & Smt. Anita Kumari**

**And All Pandotra Family**

**Mob. No. 9149702442**



**Smt. Savitri Devi**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Prana Raina** W/o Late Shri Bansil Lal Raina resident of Mahind Bijbehara (Anantnag) presently at H No 30, Lane No 1, Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu on 26-4-2025.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be performed on 05-05-2025 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8 AM.

**Mourning from Moulin side** also will be performed at the same address i.e. H No 30/1 Anand Nagar Bohri.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Samast Raina, Razdan and Pandita Parivaar**

**Mob No. 9419284925, 9429260431, 9419265430**



**Smt. Prana Raina**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and Sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of **Late Sh-Raman Kumar Khajuria** S/o Sh. Bansil Lal Khajuria R/o W.No.7, Chanakya Chowk Dhar Road Udhampur.

The **Tenth Day** will be Performed at old Age home (Vidh Ashram) Near Billion Bawali Udhampur on 1st of May (Thursday) 2025 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

**KRIYA** will be performed at Devika Ghat on 2nd of May (Friday) 2025 at 10:00 AM.

**Grief Stricken.**

**Smt. Anjana Khajuria (Wife)**

**(Father and Mother)**

**Bansil Lal Khajuria and Smt. Koushalya Devi**

**Dhruv Khajuria and Sheetal Sharma (Son & Daughter in law)**

**Rakesh Khajuria and Shruti Khajuria (Brother and Sister in law)**

**Sh. Vijay Bargotra and Smt. Kiran Bargotra (Sister and Brother in law)**

**Sh Sham Khajuria and Kailash Devi (Chacha & Chachi)**

**Asha (Persino Devi) W/o Late Bal Krishan Khajuria (Chacha Chachi)**

**Mob. 9906276271, 9906320908**



**Late Sh-Raman Kumar Khajuria**

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **MUNU JEE KOUL** SON OF LATE RUGH NATH KOUL ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF RATNIPORA PULWAMA AT PRESENT H NO. 11, LANE NO. 2, SECTOR B1 LAKSHIPURAM CHINORE ON 26TH APRIL 2025.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 5TH MAY 2025 AT 9:00 AM AT MUTHI GHAT, NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCATION, JAMMU

**GRIEF STRICKEN :-**

**SMT PRABH/PYARI (WIFE)**

**PHONE NO. 9419206848; 6005433508**

**DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW**

**LOVELY AND SH H L KOUL**

**ANJALI AND SH SUNIL ZALPURI**

**NEETU AND SH SUNIL KOUL**

**AND SAMAST MAHADEV PARIVAR**

**OF RATNIPORA (PULWAMA)**

**7006730483**



**MUNU JEE KOUL**

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

**Sh. Pinoo Pandita & Smt Suman Pandita -Devar and Devrani**

**Mayank Pandita- Son**

**Yash Pandita- Son**

**Mobile No: 9797597887, 7006196335, 7889357182**



**PUMMY KUMARI**

**10th DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Shiv Bhakhri (Ex-Sanitary Inspector, JMC)** who left for his heavenly abode on 20th April 2025.

**10th Day** will be performed on 29th April, 2025 (Tuesday) at 10:30 at Banvaridas temple, Mubarak Mandi.

**Kriya** will be performed on 30th April, 2025 (Wednesday) at 11 am at Kuchanaar Singh opposite JMC Park, Panjithri (our residence).

**Uthala** will be performed on 30th April, 2025 (Wednesday) at 5 pm to 6 pm at Trikuta Yatra Ved Mandir Complex, Ved Mandir Road

Amphala, Jammu.

**GRI**



## Dr. Jasrotia condemns Opposition's "Political Opportunism" amid national mourning over Pahalgam massacre

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: In a strongly worded address, senior BJP leader and prominent Kashmiri voice Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, along with former MLC Girdhari Lal Raina and media Incharge Dr Pardeep Mahotra today denounced what he described as "shameful political opportunism" by opposition parties in the aftermath of the Pahalgam massacre, where 26 innocent civilians lost their lives in a brutal terrorist attack.

Speaking at a press conference at the BJP Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Dr. Jasrotia expressed deep anguish over the statements made by leaders from the Congress and National Conference. "While the nation mourns and families struggle to cope with unspeakable loss, some political leaders are irresponsibly attempting to deflect attention from the tragedy by peddling misplaced narratives," he said.

He strongly criticized calls for dialogue with Pakistan and attempts to rationalize the terror attack. "This is not the time for political games. It is a time for



national unity. To suggest that terrorists do not see religion is not only misleading but also an affront to the families who lost their loved ones—be they Hindu pilgrims or Kashmiri workers," Dr. Jasrotia remarked.

Calling out what he termed as "a betrayal of national sentiment," he urged the opposition to reflect on the pain of the grieving families instead of offering indirect justifications for terrorism. "Go and look into the eyes of the widows of Pahalgam. Tell them their loss is due to political misunderstandings. The people of this country will not accept such insensitivity," he said.

Dr. Jasrotia further stated that

those who once justified the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits are now speaking the language of appeasement towards terrorist forces. "History will not forgive those who play politics with the blood of martyrs. The sacrifice of the victims of Pahalgam must unite us against terrorism and its sympathizers."

Girdhari Lal Raina, in his address said that the barbaric terrorist attack on innocent and unarmed tourists in Pahalgam has reopened our wounds. No words are sufficient to condemn this assault on humanity. The silver lining, if any, is the voluntary expression of grief by even those who hesitated to come

out in open earlier. This speaks volumes about change that Jammu Kashmir has undergone in recent years.

Frustrated by this visible change, forces inimical to peace and prosperity and anti-India echo-system has activated narrative controlling mechanism. Old videos were circulated in a manner to create an impression that students from Kashmir were under threat in different parts of the country.

This was to divert attention away from the heinous crime committed against humanity in Pahalgam, said Raina.

"It was repeat of 1990 when Jagmohan theory was propagated to divert focus from real perpetrators of mass exodus of entire religious minority of Kashmir," said Girdhari Lal Raina.

The press conference concluded with a solemn silence observed in memory of the victims.

Dr. Jasrotia reaffirmed BJP's commitment to justice and national security, declaring: "We will not allow their sacrifice to go in vain. India stands united against terror and those who seek to justify it in any form."

## Ganga, Gharu Ram hold Public Darbar at BJP headquarters

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: In a continued effort to ensure prompt redressal of public concerns, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders Chander Parkash Ganga, MLA from Vijaypur Assembly Constituency, and Prof. Gharu Ram, MLA from Suchetgarh, held a Public Darbar at the BJP Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Public Darbar witnessed the participation of numerous deputations and individual citizens hailing from different areas to bring attention to the issues affecting their daily lives.

Among the primary concerns raised by the attendees were unscheduled and prolonged power cuts, irregularities in ration supply under the public distribution system, scarcity of clean drinking water in many localities, and delays in execution of essential developmental works such as road repair, drainage systems, and sanitation. Chander Parkash Ganga and Prof. Gharu



Ram Bhagat gave a patient and empathetic hearing to all grievances presented during the Darbar. Taking immediate action, the leaders issued written communications to the concerned departments and officials on the spot. These letters emphasized the urgency of the matters raised and pressed for timely redressal in the interest of public welfare.

Listening to the grievances, Chander Parkash Ganga highlighted the BJP's unwavering commitment to the welfare of the people. He stated, "The BJP has always believed in listening to the voice of the common man. Our objective is to take people's issues directly to

the corridors of power and ensure their swift resolution. We are a party that thrives on public trust, and it is our duty to live up to that trust through prompt and efficient action."

Prof. Gharu Ram echoed similar sentiments and underlined the significance of such public interaction platforms. "Public Darbars like this one act as a vital bridge between the citizens and their representatives. They not only allow the public to voice their concerns freely but also help us as leaders stay connected with the ground realities. This two-way communication is essential for good governance and effective policymaking," he said.

## TNWS organizes public interaction meeting

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: A public interaction meeting was held on Tuesday at the TNWS Complex, Main Market, Trikuta Nagar Colony, Jammu, where the Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society (TNWS), Jammu extended a warm welcome to key officers of the Jammu South Police Division.

Present at the event were SP Jammu South, Ajay Kumar Sharma, SDPO South, Shezan Bhat, and SHO Inspector Rajesh Jasrotia, who interacted directly with the residents in a spirit of mutual respect and community collaboration.

The session commenced with a heartfelt welcome by Rajinder P. Kakkar, President of TNWS Jammu. In a symbolic gesture of reverence and spiritual unity, he presented Shrimad Bhagavad Gita and a Pink Chunariya—representing blessings from Lord Krishna—to SP Sharma.

SDPO Bhat was offered a floral bouquet as a token of appreciation. Following this, Kakkar introduced the TNWS team members to the guests, setting the tone for an open and meaningful dialogue.

During the interactive session, the President presented a series of



issues and demands raised by the residents of Trikuta Nagar Colony. The foremost concern was the growing menace of drug abuse, with residents urging the police to expose abusers in public forums and TNWS social media groups to encourage community involvement and information sharing. They believed such transparency would help law enforcement crack down on offenders more effectively. Another key issue raised was the rash driving by outsiders, often with triple riding and modified silencers, especially in the inner lanes of the colony. This behavior has created both noise pollution and safety hazards for

the elderly and children in the area. Residents requested stricter patrolling and action against such riders.

The TNWS team also called for better coordination with law enforcement, specifically by sharing the beat constable names and contact numbers sector-wise, and increasing police presence in the colony. This, they said, would significantly improve response times and enhance public confidence in policing.

While acknowledging the commendable work done by police in curbing thefts and drug activities since the last meeting, residents highlighted that drug hotspots continue to shift frequently.

They appealed for random surprise nakas in the internal lanes to keep offenders on edge and discourage the spread of addiction.

Security during night hours was another pressing concern. The residents demanded enhanced night patrolling and proper verification of chowkidars, as there have been reports of fake guards collecting monthly charges without offering any real protection. This is especially troubling in a colony populated largely by senior citizen couples and retired pensioners.

The issue of unverified tenants living in vacant plots was also raised, with residents fearing these spaces could harbor criminal elements, including drug users. A demand for mandatory tenant verification was strongly voiced. Additionally, TNWS members requested that fruit and vegetable vendors (rehriwalas) be shifted from main roads into lanes to ensure smoother traffic flow and avoid congestion in key areas.

In response, SP Ajay Kumar Sharma addressed each concern with patience and sincerity. He assured residents that all genuine problems would be tackled promptly, but emphasized the need for cooperation between

the police and the community.

He shared valuable insights from his experience and encouraged residents to be proactive.

Importantly, he announced that his team would hold a monthly press conference on the last date of each month to maintain transparency and keep the public informed about actions taken.

SDPO Shezan Bhat also spoke with compassion and clarity, sharing insights into how drug addicts fall into the trap of substance abuse and the sensitive yet strategic methods police use to save both the individual and their families.

To conclude the gathering, Advocate Harshvardhan Gupta, General Secretary of TNWS, delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks. He urged more residents to join TNWS as life members to stay informed, benefit from government facilities, and be an integral part of building a stronger, safer colony.

Among the many respected community members in attendance were Indu Puri, Shailja Gupta, Vijay Gupta, Varinder Kapoor, Deepak Daftari, Kewal Sher, O.P. Sharma, Anil Sharma, N.K. Bali, Er. Ashok Kumar Arora, S.N. Kaul, Er. Ravinder Kaul, and Kulveer Singh.

## BJP Kisan Morcha condemns Naresh Tikait's statement; calls for public apology and boycott



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: In a strongly worded press conference held at the BJP headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Sarbjot Singh Johal, President of BJP Kisan Morcha (J&K) and DDC member, condemned the recent remarks made by self-proclaimed farmer leader Naresh Tikait regarding the Government of India's decision to cancel the Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan.

Johal termed Tikait's statement as "seditious" and "deeply hurtful" at a time when the nation is mourning the brutal killing of 26 Hindu pilgrims in Pahalgam by Pakistan-backed terrorists. "There is a nationwide outrage against Naresh Tikait's rhetoric. His statement, at a time of national grief and unity, is nothing short of an insult to the martyrs and their families," Johal

said.

Highlighting the Centre's firm response, Johal stated that under the decisive leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has ended political ties with Pakistan and begun the process of abrogating the Indus Water Treaty, 1960. He emphasized that this action sends a clear message that India will no longer tolerate terrorism under any circumstances.

Referring to Tikait's statement that "Indian and Pakistani farmers are the same" and that "the treaty should not have been cancelled," Johal questioned the misplaced sympathy. "We ask Naresh Tikait—should we continue to support a nation that continues to kill our innocent citizens? If he feels so much love for Pakistan, he is welcome to go there," he added. Johal also criticized

Tikait's comment that "terrorism has no religion." He countered by saying, "If that's the case, why are most terrorists caught affiliated with the same ideology? Go and ask the grieving families who lost their loved ones in the name of religion."

Concluding the press conference, Johal demanded a public apology from Naresh Tikait and urged the farming community and society to socially boycott individuals who make anti-national statements. "Such people must be shown that there is zero tolerance for anti-India sentiments. Their hookah-pani must be stopped," he said firmly. The BJP Kisan Morcha reiterated its unwavering support to the government's national security measures and stood united with the people in demanding justice for the Pahalgam martyrs.

## FCI Jammu organizes Internship-cum-Placement Drive for students

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: Food Craft Institute (FCI), Jammu, on Tuesday organized Internship-cum-Placement Drive for the Diploma students of the 2024-25 Sessions, reaffirming its commitment to creating strong industry linkages and career opportunities for its students.

Leading hospitality brands participated in the drive, conducted interviews for Industrial Training placements.

Training Partners included Marriott Jaipur, JW Marriott Chandigarh, Pride Plaza Aerocity, The Orchid Pune, The Khyber Gulmarg, Ramada Katra, Vivanta Jammu, and Radisson Jammu. Clarks Amer Jaipur, Novotel Jodhpur, Westin Sohna, Le Meridien Amritsar, J.W. Marriott Aerocity. As a result of this initiative, nearly 70 students have been successfully placed for their Industrial Train-



ing across these prestigious properties. List available on our website [www.fcijammu.org](http://www.fcijammu.org)

The placement drive was meticulously coordinated by Prince Anayat, Faculty member and Incharge, Training and Placement Cell, who played a

key role in arranging interviews and ensuring seamless coordination between the institute and industry partners.

Principal Jyoti Bhatti conveyed that the placement drive reflects FCI Jammu's commitment to bridging the gap between aca-

demic learning and industry requirements, ensuring that students receive the best possible start to their professional careers.

Faculty Members of Food Craft Institute, Jammu, Dr. Rajinder Singh, Gagan Deep and Reyaz Ahmad congratulated all the selected students and extends heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to its Training Partners for their continued support and trust.

The institute remains dedicated to empowering its students with the skills and experiences needed to excel in the dynamic hospitality sector.

Students placed were pursuing the Diploma in Food Production, Diploma In food and Beverage Services, Diploma in Front office , Diploma In Bakery and Confectionery and the Admission Process for the Session 2025-26 has been started.

## Army conducts Cyber Security Awareness Lecture at Kulhand

### Top News Report

DODA, April 29: The Indian Army organized an informative lecture on Cyber Security at the Kulhand today, aimed at spreading awareness about digital threats and promoting safe online practices among the local population.

The session was part of the Indian Army's ongoing outreach efforts to empower civilians, especially youth, with the knowledge required to navigate the digital world safely. During the lecture, key topics such as common cyber threats, online frauds, social media safety,



and preventive measures were covered in an easy-to-understand manner. Real-life examples were shared to help participants relate to the importance of cyber hygiene in everyday life. The initiative was well received by the attendees, who appreciated the Indian Army's com-

mitment to ensuring not only the physical security of the region but also the digital well-being of its residents. Such awareness programs are crucial in today's interconnected world and reflect the Indian Army's proactive approach toward holistic national security



EDITORIAL

CALL FOR NATIONAL ONENESS

In these changing times, when the world is facing challenges that know no borders, the call for national oneness rings louder than ever. India, with its vast tapestry of languages, religions, regions, and cultures, is a living example of diversity. But this diversity must never be mistaken for division. Instead, it must be recognized as our greatest strength. National unity is not merely a slogan—it is the heartbeat of a resilient nation, the foundation upon which all progress is built.

From the snow-laden peaks of Kashmir to the sunlit shores of Kanyakumari, from the deserts of Rajasthan to the tea gardens of Assam, we are one people. Our stories are different, our languages many, our traditions rich and varied—but our future is shared. National oneness does not require us to erase our identities or our histories. Rather, it asks us to rise above narrow divisions and find common ground. It asks us to respect every culture, every faith, every community—because each one contributes a vital thread to the national fabric.

History has shown that when India stands united, nothing can break its spirit. In times of crisis, be it natural disasters, pandemics, or national threats, we have time and again demonstrated the power of collective will. This sense of unity must not be reserved for emergencies alone. It must become part of our daily consciousness—how we think, how we speak, how we act toward one another. It must shape the way we vote, the way we work, and the way we raise our children.

A united nation is not built on grand speeches alone. It is built in classrooms, where children are taught to respect each other regardless of religion or caste. It is built in workplaces, where merit takes precedence over bias. It is built in our homes, where we teach the value of empathy, tolerance, and cooperation. National oneness grows in every act of kindness, in every moment we choose understanding over judgment, and in every effort we make to listen before we speak.

We must challenge the forces that try to divide us. Whether it's political rhetoric, misinformation, or social prejudice, we cannot afford to allow hatred to fracture our society. Our strength lies not in suppressing differences, but in harmonizing them. A tree does not grow tall by rejecting its branches—it grows by feeding them from the same roots. Likewise, a nation thrives when every citizen, regardless of background, feels a sense of belonging and pride.

Let us be mindful of how we engage in conversations—online and offline. Words have power. They can either wound or heal. In a time when social media can often fan the flames of division, let us use it to spread messages of unity, peace, and cooperation. Let us highlight stories that inspire, that showcase brotherhood, and that remind us of the values enshrined in our Constitution—justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.

National oneness also means working toward economic and social equality. True unity cannot exist when large sections of society feel left behind. We must ensure that development is inclusive, that opportunities are accessible, and that dignity is guaranteed for all. The nation can only move forward when every citizen walks together—not a few running ahead while others are left behind.

Let our festivals be times of shared joy, not isolated celebration. Let our places of worship be seen not as walls that separate us, but as sanctuaries that teach compassion and peace. Let every national day—Independence Day, Republic Day, Gandhi Jayanti—be a moment of recommitment to unity. These are not mere holidays; they are reminders of the dreams and sacrifices that gave us this land we now share.

In calling for national oneness, we are not asking for blind conformity. We are calling for unity of purpose. We are calling for a collective commitment to peace, progress, and justice. We are calling for every Indian to look beyond labels and boundaries, and to see one another as fellow travelers on a common journey.

Our destiny is not written by a single hand, but by the hands of a billion citizens. If we hold together, no challenge is too great. If we stand as one, no force can break us. Let the world look at us and see not a crowd of contradictions, but a chorus of conviction. Let history remember us as the generation that rose above division, and built a future of harmony, strength, and shared purpose.

Parashuram Jayanti—When Dharma took Up the Axe!

By: Omkar Dattatray

Bhagwan Parshuram Jayanti is celebrated to honor the birth anniversary of Maharashi Parasuram, who is considered to be the sixth avatar of Lord Vishnu in Hindu mythology. In the states of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana, it is being celebrated on 29th of April 2025 Tuesday with great fervor and enthusiasm. On this auspicious occasion big processions depicting the life of Bhagwan Parshuram are organized and taken to celebrate this day. The day is observed by fasting as a way of sacrificing the comforts of life in order to attain higher goals. Fasting usually begins the day before. It is also celebrated as an auspicious occasion to begin new endeavors and acquire new possessions, whether it is starting a business or buying gold jewelry. This day is also called, Akshai Tritiya. Parshuram jayanti holds a special significance in Hindu religion. Akahaya Tritiya is also celebrated on the same day. Parahuram Jayanti marks the birth anniversary of Lord Parshuram. Parashuram Jayanti occurs on the Tritiya Tithi of Shkula Paksha in the month of Vaishakha. Parshuram Jayanti holds a great religious significance among Hindus as this day is commemorated to celebrate the birth anniversary of Lord Parshuram. He is considered as the sixth incarnation of Bhagwan Vishnu, the preserver of this universe. He was born on Tritiya Tithi under the Pradosh Kaal. The main purpose of Parshuram Ji's incarnation was to eliminate irreligious, sinful and ruthless kings and also to reduce the burden of earth. He also destroyed Kshatriyas 21 times from earth. Lord Parshuram ji was a Brahmin who had qualities of a kshatriyas. It is also believed that once

Lord Parshuram attacked Lord Ganesha. Parshuram is one of the Ashta Chrianjeevi's and still present on earth somewhere in the mountains. According to the Hindu scriptures, Bhagwan Parshuram ji will become the mentor of Lord Kali [one of the 10th incarnations of Lord Vishnu who will teach him martial arts and give him shastra and Shashtra Vidhya. Lord Parshuram is not widely worshipped as Lord Krishna and Lord Rama but has many temples situated in South India such as Udupi in Karnataka. There are several temples of Bhagwan Parshuram situated in the Western coast of India. Parshuram Jayanti has been celebrated on the third day of Shukla Paksha in the month of Vaishakha that is on April 29,2025. On this day people visit temples that are dedicated exclusively to the Maharashi in order to pay their obeisance to him. They also visit temples dedicated to Lord Vishnu as he is considered to be his incarnation. Parshurama also referred to as Rama Jamadagnya, Rama Bhargava and Virarama. is the sixth avatar among the Ddashavatara of the preserver god Vishnu in Hinduism. He is believed to be one of the Chiranjivi's –immortals, who will appear at the end of the Kali Yuga to be the guru of Vishnu's tenth and last incarnation, Kalki Born to Jamadagri and Renuka the Brahmin Par-surama was foretold to appear at the time overwhelming evil prevailed on earth. The kshatriya class, with weapons and power, had begun to abuse their power, take what belonged to others by force and tyrannize people. He corrected the cosmic equilibrium by destroying the Kshatriyas twenty one times. He married to Dharnani, an incarnation of Lakshmi, the wife of Vishnu. He is present in Ramayana due to the conflict with Rama. He is men-

tioned in the Mahabharata as the guru of Bishma, Drone, Rukmi and Karna. According to Hindu mythology, Parshuram was born to the sage Jamadangri and his Kshatriya wife, Renuka. In local tradition, it is believed they lived in a hut located at Janapav. They had a celestial cow called Surabhi, which gave them all that they desire—Surabhi is the daughter of cow Kamadhenu. A king named Kartavirya Arjuna learns about this cow of plenty and wants it. He asks Jamadangri to give it to him, but the sage refuses while Parsuhram is away from the hut, the king takes it by force. When Jamadangri pleads his case and seeks to return the cow, the king strikes him with his fist, killing him. Parsuhram learns about this crime, and is upset. With axe in his hand, he challenges the king to battle. They fought and Pasrashuram defeats and kills the king. according to the Padma Purana. The wicked-minded one lost his velour due to his own sin. The mighty son of Renuka, being angry cuts off his head. as mighty Indra did peak of a mountain, and he who was brave and angry killed Sahasrabahu and all the kings with his axe in the battle. Seeing Rama, the very fearful one, all kings on the earth, struck by fear, ran away as elephants do on seeing a lion. The angry Rama killed the kings even though they have fled due to the resentment against his father's murder as angry Garuda killed serpents. The valorous Rama made the entire world clear from Ksatriyas, but protected only the great family of Ikshvaku, due to its being the family to which his maternal grandfather was related, and due to his mother's words. The warrior class challenges him, and he slays every single member of the class, save for those belonging to the lineages of Manu and Ikshvaku. The mighty son of Jamadagri, having

rid the world of the Kshatriyas, then performs the ashvamedha sacrifice. He grants the earth with seven islands to principal rishis belonging to Brahmin class. Having renounced the earth and his violent deeds, he retires to the hermitage of Nara-Narayana to engage in penance. The legend likely has roots in the ancient conflict between the Brahmin varna, with knowledge duties and the Kshatriya varna, with warrior and enforcement roles. In Ramayana, following Rama's wedding to Sita at Mithlia and during their homeward journey to Ayodhya, his party comes across a number of inauspicious signs. Amid an earthquake and a dust storm, Parshuram appears before the party. After accepting the libation offered to him, Parshuram challenges Rama to combat, on the condition that the prince show his strength to the sage by placing a bow within the string of the latter's bow, Sharanga and discharging it. Ignoring Dasharatha's plea to spare Rama this task, Parshurama relays the divine origin of the bow and the history of its ownership, appealing to Rama's skills as a warrior. Rama seizes the bow from Parshuram and strings it, an act that causes the latter to become bereft of his divine power. Humbled, Parshuram acknowledges that Rama is an incarnation of Vishnu and requests the prince to allow him to return to mountain Mahendra so that he could practice yoga and accrue merit. After circumambulating Rama in worship, Parshuram returns to his hermitage. In short let us remember and worship Parshuram in today's world and seek blessings from Him.

(Author is a columnist, social, KP activist &Freelancer)

Solving the problem only by adopting an overall policy

By: Vijay Garg

With the change of weather, the state of air pollution in the country's capital becomes critical, making an atmosphere of suffocation and transfusion. One reason for this is to burn the remaining parali after harvesting wheat in the fields. The smoke that comes out in this process and adversely affects suffocation health. Experts in Punjab and Haryana say that burning of remains of crops is not the only reason for pollution, but the growing chaotic mechanism has also made the life of metros toxic and suffocated. Detailed strategies are required to deal with this mechanism. In fact, the marginal farmer from Punjab and Haryana does not have time to destroy agricultural residues due to the crop cycle. They are neither ready to buy machines for disposal, nor show eagerness to hire machines. The easiest way for the farmer is to save time by burning the remains of the crop. These days there are common visuals of a cosmic burn in rural areas of Punjab-Haryana. The farmer finds it convenient and avoids extra expenses. Now the ques-

tion is what will be the permanent solution to this problem. After the crutches, when the wheat crop is harvested, the problem of settling the left nad in the fields arises. This time the Punjab government has resolved to curb completely on burning remains of crops. The Rs 500 crore action plan has been prepared for this purpose, and control campaigns will be carried out on burning of naar more effective from last year. Now crop residue management machines will be made available on more subsidies and proper measures of crop residue management will be taken. Under this, Naad management machines will be provided on rent for marginal farmers. Farmers who want to buy these machines will be given huge subsidy. Individual farmers will receive 50 percent subsidy on the purchase of these machines, while 80 percent subsidy will be given to cooperative societies and village panchayats. This initiative is a key step towards pollution control and improvement in the agriculture sector by the Punjab government, allowing farmers to also address their problems and reduce the adverse impact on the environ-

ment. The crop residue management campaign was quite successful last year, with 70 per cent success, says Punjab agriculture experts. However, this success was much better than the previous years, but it did not succeed in preventing it completely due to non-serious crime to burn the remains. Agriculture department says strict action is needed in cases of burning remains in the fields, and in every case the culprits should get penalties, so that this problem can be permanently solved. Last year the government had established the availability of 17,600 machines and 1331 custom hiring centres, allowing farmers to easily get tools to settle the remains of crops. But the question arises whether this achievement is enough? The accessibility and low-rent availability of machines in agricultural staple states like Punjab and Haryana is extremely essential, in order to solve the problem of burning remains of crops. These days air pollution is getting generated to a great extent due to misutilization and mechanism of old vehicles, coal. In such a situation, it is imperative that this situation

be understood from a broader perspective. Farmers need to be aware that they can increase their productivity by pressing the nad into the fields. But the solution to air pollution and environmental crisis is not limited to burning remains of crops only. It requires a comprehensive and empowered mechanism. While controlling the pollution caused by burning the remains of crops in the fields on one hand, on the other, also destroy the increasing mechanical pollution and smoke kalima in urban areas. Sometimes solving the problem partially causes its impact to be half-incomplete. Therefore, when the remains of crops burn, all the blame is given to the farmer itself and the urban pollution is neglected. This time if we succeed in combating this pollution and suffocation with a balanced policy, we can consider this pollution control campaign as meaningful.

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Eminent Educationist street Kour Chand MHR MALOUT Punjab)



# Dimple leads anti-drug, liquor rally in Jammu

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: A resounding voice of resistance echoed through the streets of Amphalla, New Plot, Janipur, and High Court Road in Jammu today, as an anti-drug and anti-liquor rally was held under the leadership of Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood.

The rally drew an overwhelming participation of youth, local residents, and community leaders who united with a common cause—to save the youth of Jammu & Kashmir from the clutches of drugs and liquor. Raising spirited slogans against drug abuse and liquor sales, the demonstrators demanded a complete ban on liquor across the Union Territory and harsh punishment for drug peddlers.

Addressing the mam-



moth gathering, Sunil Dimple issued a fervent appeal to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, urging immediate government intervention to curb the rising menace of drug trafficking. Dimple called for a government ordinance to outlaw the sale of both drugs and alcohol, which he described as the root of gangsterism and youth destruction.

Dimple demanded life imprisonment and even death penalties for drug peddlers and those involved in the drug trade.

He emphasized that drug mafias were turning into organized criminal gangs, some allegedly backed by Pakistan, with the sinister aim of destabilizing Jammu & Kashmir and ruining the future of its youth.

He further alleged that the police force

has become helpless in tackling this growing threat due to the strength and network of these drug syndicates.

In a strong and compassionate message, Dimple also condemned recent incidents of mob lynching targeting Muslim students and laborers, allegedly linked to the aftermath of the Pahalgam killings. He urged the people of India not to succumb to Pakistan's divisive tactics meant to fracture communal harmony.

tics meant to fracture communal harmony.

"We must stand united," Dimple said, "and not allow hatred to break our bonds of brotherhood. Our strength lies in our unity, and we must not allow evil forces to sabotage the peaceful fabric of our country."

The rally concluded with a passionate pledge by the youth to continue the anti-drug and liquor-free movement, vowing to spread awareness and build a safer, healthier future for Jammu & Kashmir.

Prominent figures who joined the rally included Peter Paul, Ronney, Ashu Peter Mattoo, Suresh Kumar, Anil Mattoo, Ch. Mohan Lal, along with several other respected community leaders who stood shoulder to shoulder with the citizens in this noble cause.

# BLSKS celebrates International Dance Day



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: To celebrate the International Dance Day and to promote the performing art of Jammu & Kashmir & Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) in co-ordination with Sangam Tru Art Production presented its 492th Regular Series Musical Play Rangila Duggar at Durga Bahwan Janipur Jammu.

The Program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr.Tara Singh Charak, Former Deputy Director, Health Department J&K. Among the Guest of honor present were V.K.Magotra, former Regional Director, Directorate of Field Publicity, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India Government.

The songs were written, & produced by Dr.M.L.Dogra Chairman (BLSKS). The program was commenced with songs "Jammu Sada Dogre Da saher", "Ae Desh Ke Dularo", Duggar Desh de vasiyo, "Loka Kadu chuk Goriye", "Oh Jija kiya jana Udhamputra, Salira Dhara.

The music of the songs was composed by renowned singer Raju Bajgal & songs sung by artists of BLSKS and all students of the institute.

The main attraction of the program was a group song Chan Mada Chadiya- Chadiya Upper Tirki sung by artists of BLSKS. The Chief Guest said Dance is expressive movement with purpose and form.

Through Dance, students express, question and celebrate human experience, using the body as the instrument and movement as the medium for personal, social, emotional, spiritual and physical communication. International Dance Day is celebrated on April 29 every year to encourage participation and education in dance. Several dance events and festivals held on this date all over the globe.

The International Dance Day 2025 theme is Dance's unifying power to transcend cultural and geographical boundaries. Even it is said that to increase the reach hash tags can be used, share the message about the importance of heritage with friends, relatives and family as much as possible. The songs were recorded and uploaded on social media for benefit of general public.

M.L.Dogra, highlighted the event and said this day celebration is for those who can see the value and importance of the art form Dance, and acts as a wake-up-call for governments, politicians and institutions which have not yet recognised its value to the people and to the individual and have not yet realized its potential for economic growth.

This day maintain the cultural legacy and make people think about its susceptibility. the International Dance Day and decided to celebrate the day on April

29 to honour the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, who is known as the creator of modern ballet.

The International Dance Day aims to celebrate dance, revel in the universality of this art form, and cross all political, cultural and ethnic barriers.

The day aims to bring people together with a common language-dance. Activities include taking dance classes, attending performances, sharing dance videos online, and exploring different dance styles around the world.

Usha Raina, Troupe Leader BLSKS said the main core objective of International Dance Day is to raise public awareness of dance as an art form, a means of cultural expression, and an educational tool.

Dance, is the movement of the body in a rhythmic way, usually to music and within a given space, for the purpose of expressing an idea or emotion, releasing energy, or simply taking delight in the movement itself. The singers, musician, actors and students of music and computer institute who performed in the program were Zulekha Farid, K K Joshi, Bindia Okheda, Kuldeep Raj, Naiya Digra, Renu Bala, Mukesh Singh and many others presented the enthralled performance at last of the program Master Deepak Kumar presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the program.

# Randhawa starts blacktopping work commences in Ward 43



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: In a significant development for local infrastructure, the long-awaited blacktopping work in Ward No. 43, Nanak Nagar was formally inaugurated by MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa.

The initiative, taken up in collaboration with the Public Works Department (PWD), aims to improve road conditions and facilitate smoother traffic movement in the area.

The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of senior officials from the PWD and an array of prominent local leaders and community representatives. Among the dig-

nitaries present were Rahul Kumar (Mandal President), Surjeet Choudhary (Ex-Corporator), Bhushan Verma, Mohan Lal, Narinder Koki, Satvir Singh, Aman Rajesh Sharma, Vijay Verma, and others who have been actively advocating for developmental works in the region.

Speaking at the occasion, MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa reaffirmed his commitment to the welfare of the people and emphasized the importance of quality infrastructure in boosting local development.

"This is not just road work; it is a step toward transforming Nanak Nagar into a better, more connected neigh-

borhood," he said. He also highlighted that similar projects are in the pipeline for adjoining areas and assured continuous monitoring to ensure timely completion.

Residents of the area expressed gratitude for the commencement of the work, calling it a long-pending demand finally met. The improved roads are expected to benefit daily commuters, shopkeepers, schoolchildren, and elderly residents alike.

The event also served as a platform for public interaction, where concerns related to drainage, street lighting, and sanitation were heard and noted by the officials for prompt action.

# Kaith, others praise retiring Zonal Education Officer Kasturi Lal



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: R.L.Kaith and many others, honoured highly praised the retiring Zonal Education Officer Kasturi Lal Kaith during a function arranged at Marh yesterday.

Kaith said to ZEO,"Retirement is about embracing the time to pursue your hidden passions and dreams. May your retirement be the key that unlocks the door to new opportunities and

adventures."

While his staff members praising the ZEO said, "He has a soft heart. He has always treated everyone working in his zone with kindness. Infact, he is a unique personality who serves as a good citizen. His personality has made us admire and respect him the most".

All present in the function wished Kasturi Lal endless days of relaxation and joy in his retirement.

## Top News Report

KATRA, Apr 29: The School of Electronics and Communication

# Workshop on Virtual Lab held at School of ECE, SMVDU



Engineering (SoECE), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), organized a one-day workshop on Virtual Labs. The event was coordinated by Dr. Vikram Singh, with Dr. Purnima served as the Organizing Secretary, under the guidance of Dr. Anil Kumar Bhardwaj, Head, SoECE. The School extends heartfelt thanks to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor for providing this valuable opportunity.Virtual Labs (VLab) is an initiative by the Ministry of Edu-

cation, Government of India, aimed at providing remote access to laboratory experiments in various disciplines of science and engineering. It enhances learning by offering an interactive platform where students can perform experiments virtually, thereby bridging the gap between theoretical education and practical implementation. Particularly valuable for institutions with limited laboratory facilities, VLab ensures equitable access to high-quality

resources across the country.The workshop featured expert training sessions conducted by Mr. Nipun Jain and Mr. Aakar Saini (Project Associates) and Mr. Pankaj Saini (Project Assistant) from IIT Roorkee. Around 100 students from the School of Electronics and Communication Engineering (SoECE), School of Electrical Engineering (SoEE), and School of Computer Science and Engineering (SoCSE) participated actively. The event provided

hands-on exposure to Virtual Labs, enabling students to simulate real-time experiments and improve their understanding of core engineering concepts. In addition to the training sessions, the workshop also created opportunities for interaction between students and trainers, and information was shared regarding internship opportunities with the Virtual Labs project, encouraging students to engage in further research and development activities.

# LPEF holds condolence meeting

DODA, Apr 29: The Low Paid Government Employees Federation (LPEF), Doda unit, expressed deep sorrow over the sad demise of Mohd Shafi Rather,

resident of Bhalla, in a condolence meeting held on Tuesday.

The meeting was chaired by District President Niaz Ahmed Rahi, with senior leaders like

Ghulam Hassan Pampori, Shakeel Ahmad dev, Er Nazir Ahmad Sheikh in attendance.

They remembered Mohd Shafi Rishu as a great, honest, brilliant, and hardworking person who served diligently in the Education Department. He was a respected personality known for his integrity and dedication. He was a great pillar of our society.

It was noted during the meeting that the deceased was the cousin brother (Mamu ka Beta) of District President Niaz Ahmed Rahi.

Er. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh, District President of JK Pensioners Association, expressed solidarity with the bereaved family and said, "We stand with them in this time of grief



and sorrow."

The members of the association observed a one-minute silence and prayed to Almighty God to grant the departed soul the highest place in Jannah.

Prominent persons present in the condolence meeting included Gopal Singh, Anaytullah Shan, Vishwamitter, Vicky Kumar, Faizan Ali Trambboo, Manzoor Ahmad butt, Ghulam Rasool (PDD), Mohd Ashraf Khokhar, Nayeem Ahanger, Hafizullah Fani, Ghulam Hassan Bagwan, and Akhter Hussain Gattu.

# JKTF announces Zone Arnas body

## Top News Report

REASI, Apr 29: Under the aegis of Jammu and Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) Reasi, and in pursuance of the directives of the State leadership headed by State President Sheikh Mohd Ashraf, the Zonal body of Teachers Forum of Zone Arnas has been reconstituted with immediate effect.

The newly constituted office bearers of Zone Arnas include Zonal President: Parshotam

Singh, Vice President: Sukhdev Singh, Chief Advisor: Prem Singh, General Secretary: Narotam Thakur, Spokesperson: Shazad Ahmed, Secretary: Ghulam Mustafa, Chief Coordinator: Ahmed Nawaz, Finance Secretary: Mukesh Kumar, Advisor: Mohd Rafiq, Coordinator: Bishan Singh, Media Advisor: Shokat Ali, Publicity Secretary: Onkar Singh, Organizer: Javed Iqbal, Joint Secretary: Om Parkash.



## The 5th Chandigarh Music and Film Festival opens with a bevy of stars

The mood was sombre yet full of hope as stars gathered at the opening of the 5th Chandigarh Music and Film Festival at Municipal Bhawan-35 Chandigarh.

From renowned director Rahul Rawail, actor comedian Ali Asgar, actor-director Priti Sapru to Bollywood veteran Nirmal Rishi, the night was dedicated to celebrating cinema, in the shadows of Pahalgam attack.

Actor-singer Karamjit Anmol enjoyed his star status as enthusiastic fans scrambled to get clicked with him, and he readily obliged. What's more, he even sang Dheeyan da Geet to the delight of his fans.

Seema Kaushal said cinema is the food for her soul. The actress, who has been a part of the changing landscape of the entertainment industry, said, "Our cinema has evolved over the years. For its sustenance and growth we need audience to come and watch films in cinema."

Dazzling in yellow, actor-director Priti Sapru thanked her fans. "An artiste is successful only if people accept and love her. I am grateful for all the love that has come my way," said the Heer Ranjha actress. Born into a Kashmiri family, who embraced Sikhism, she took the opportunity to share about her Yatra Pukaar. "The Sikh Gurus sacrificed everything to save the Hindus. This time again, we are starting Yatra Pukaar starting from Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib to save Kashmir!"

She also talked about the need



of starting a film institute in the region. "The youth is very talented and a film institute can help the youngsters from the region to make their mark in the industry."

Anang Desai, dressed in sharp suit, evoked the old-world charm. Thanking the organisers for the festival, he shared, "I want to use this platform to pay tributes to the Pahalgam victims. I pray for peace and justice!"

It was Kapil Sharma show's 'dadi', Ali Asagar, who lightened the mood. "I have no connection with Chandigarh. No relatives or no time spent but the real essence of dadi is Punjabi." Looking at Nirmal Rishi, he shared, "I am missing my suit-

dupatta get-up, should have brought it along."

The opening night was also a forum to discuss and promote cinema. Inaamul Haq brought along a film, The Shoes I Wore, which he has produced. The film is getting good initial response. He avers, "It's a real fight for good cinema to reach its goal. Struggle is a huge part of it."

Though they claim that 'content is the king' but the truth remains the star is still the king, he pointed out. "About 2,000 films are made each year in our country, but many lose the race before their finishing line."

"The run of many independent films is confined to in the festival circuits only. If you come across the release of small films in

cinema, please go and watch it. Skip the popcorn but do support cinema," the National School of Drama alumnus pleaded.

Another film which was promoted here was Love Karu Yaaa Shaadi. It stars Ali Asgar and Mushtaq Khan. "When I was called for the film's promotions, I was not sure but when they mentioned Chandigarh, I jumped at the opportunity," shared Mushtaq Khan. "The film offers a fair smattering of love, romance and drama. In a world where live-in has become a precursor to marriage, it's going to be relatable to different age groups," shared the film's director Jaiprakash Shaw. The film will release on May 23.

Among the heavyweights who attended the opening ceremony were Rahul Rawail, who directed films like Love Story, Betaab, Arjun, Dacait, Anjaam, Arjun Pandit and others. "If you ask me, love is enough," he quipped. Actor Dibyendu Bhattaharya won hearts as he shared that it was in Chandigarh where he found the love of his life and wife – Richa Bhattacharya.

The two-day festival will continue today at Chandigarh University, offering screenings and interactive sessions with film industry professionals.

Rajesh Sharma, director of the festival, said, "This festival is a platform where stories, voices and creative visions from across the country come together. It's heartening to witness such overwhelming participation from both veterans and emerging talent."

## Kambakht Ishq changed everything: Fardeen



Actor Fardeen Khan on Sunday took a stroll down memory lane and shared how the

Kambakht Ishq song from Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya changed 'everything for him'. Sharing a video of the hit song, Fardeen wrote, "24 years ago, the song, Kambakht Ishq, from Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya changed everything for me. There's a before and after this moment in my journey... what a ride it's been. Grateful to everyone who was a part of it, but most of all to all of you who made it what it became. Thank you & sending all my love." Fardeen's post left fans nostalgic.

In the comment section, a netizen wrote, "Omg! What a song! It was everywhere." "This was the mega blockbuster song of the 90's," another user commented.

Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya was produced by Ram Gopal Varma. It also starred Urmila Matondkar and Sonali Kulkarni. The story revolves around Ria, a young woman whose life takes a dark turn due to obsessive love.

Fardeen made a comeback last year with Sanjay Leela Bhansali's directorial Heeramandi. He will next be seen in Housefull 5.

## I have evolved, says actress Samridhii Shukla

Samridhii Shukla, who plays the lead role of Abhira in Rajan Shahi's long-running show Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai, believes that growth is an ongoing process. About her journey in the television industry, she shared, "I would like to believe that I have evolved. But I don't know if that's for me to decide. I can see many changes in myself, but I also know there's a long way to go." Shukla, who has been part of the TV industry for three years, constantly strives to improve her craft. "Even with Abhira, I am always looking for ways to reinvent. I keep asking myself—how can I perceive this emotion differently?" she said.

On the evolution of content in television, she said, "If television wants to stay relevant, it has to reflect society's shifts. In Yeh Rishta Kya



Kehlata Hai, the women of different generations reflect these changes. Today, audiences want

to see women who have ambitions and take a stand for themselves," she said.

## Kashmiris are angry, nation stands united: Nawazuddin Siddiqui on Pahalgam attack

Actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui spoke about solidarity and the angst in the hearts of the Kashmiri residents after the Pahalgam attack. The actor was present at an event when he was asked to react to the terrorist attack which claimed 26 innocent Indian lives last week.

Siddiqui, known for his sincere performances on screen, told the media that the incident united the entire nation. He also shared that Kashmiris are currently carrying a fire within, feeling furious at the incident, thinking about how it could happen on their land.

He said in Hindi, "I am very angry and saddened. Our government is working, and justice will definitely be served. We all expect this. What happened was truly tragic. It's shameful, actually (translated)."



The 50-year-old resonated with the pain of the nation, and reflected a deep sense of hurt. He continued, "Of course, tourism has been greatly affected. But even more, the people there are angry because we are all brothers, and the way Kashmir welcomes visitors, that's something beyond money. I see so much love there. The love in the hearts of Kashmiris for all of us, I can't even describe it. Those who travel there, when they return, praise Kashmiris so much. They truly deserve it. After this incident, the people of Kashmir are upset, they are angry, asking how this could happen on their land (translated)."

The actor went on to talk about what the incident has done to the people of the country. He said the Pahalgam

attack has brought a sense of shared grief and anguish among our countrymen, and we should all hold on to it to honour our unity. "The best thing is that the entire country has come together after this incident. Whether Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, or Christian, it's a tragic event, but we have all united as one," he concluded.

Siddiqui echoed the sentiments of the nation which is currently mourning and demanding justice for the 26 lives lost on April 22 when a few terrorists launched an open-fire on tourists in the popular Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam.

Several celebrities from across the film industry have condemned the attack, requesting the government to take strict action against the terrorists and those backing them.

## Health tips from celebrities—small changes can make a big difference

Maintaining good health isn't just about working out or eating right—it's about listening to your body and making consistent, mindful choices. Celebrities share their health mantras.

Go for meditation

Mohit Daga

To maintain good internal health, meditation can be a powerful remedy. Closing your eyes is not meditation in itself. It's important to understand the process of meditation and focus on it. Since I'm somewhat connected to meditation, I believe that the number of minutes we meditate should correspond to our age. What people usually do is close their eyes for five or seven minutes and feel like they've meditated. I think that's fine for their satisfaction, but it won't bring any internal change. Until we can properly observe our breath, we won't reach the stage we are truly meant for in life.

Remain positive

Shubhangi Atre

If I had to share just two tips

about taking care of your health, they would firstly be eat right—I believe that what you eat matters a lot. I'm a pure vegetarian, so I try to eat clean, simple and well-balanced food. I start my day in a positive way and I always try to eat mindfully. Second, think right—I try not to let outside negativity affect me. Of course, there are times when things disturb me, but I make a real effort to keep myself away from those situations. Whether it's negative thoughts or low moments, I focus on positivity.

Regular workout

Srikant Dwivedi

I do my best to stay fit by going to the gym, running, or even doing basic exercises at home if the gym is closed. Sometimes, because of my busy work schedule, I can't go to the gym, so I make sure to work out at home or even create a small space for exercise on set. Another important thing I do for my health is eating healthy. I try to eat food that is nutritious and rich in pro-

tein. I avoid junk food as much as possible, though I do have cravings once in a while. Maybe once a week or once in two weeks, I allow myself that treat. But, otherwise, I make sure my diet is healthy.

Traditional methods

Ashita Dhawan

I take a morning shot of one orange along with black pepper, kacchi haldi (raw turmeric) and ginger, as my grandma always said this is great for immunity. I also have ash gourd and amla juice. Ash gourd is packed with vitamins and has so many health benefits. It's especially good for the lungs and the entire body system. There's one more thing I do, I always consume raw jeera before every meal. It helps reduce inflammation, improves digestion and clears blockages. These are my ways of keeping my health in check, even on busy days.

Water route

Mitu

I drink a lot of water and try to

sleep on time because the two most important things are keeping your body hydrated and allowing it to rest. Apart from that, I walk, exercise and eat the right foods at the right times—foods that suit my body. Ignoring our bodies can lead to situations that are not conducive to well-being. If you have good health, you have everything—being able to function properly is a big deal.

Don't take stress

Saanand Verma

If I had to offer just two tips for better health, they would be quite simple yet effective. The first one is to stay away from stress as much as possible. Mental peace is just as important as physical fitness. A calm mind keeps the body healthy. Secondly, maximise your intake of raw, natural foods—especially fruits, green vegetables and salads. The less cooked and processed your food is, the more nutrients you preserve and the better your body responds. I try to eat as naturally as possible.

## Afiya Tayebali loves her character in Kabhi Neem Neem Kabhi Shahad Shahad



Kabhi Neem Neem Kabhi Shahad Shahad on Star Plus is a show

that promises a soulful journey through life's bitter and sweet

moments. Actress Afiya Tayebali who makes her television debut with the role of Katha in this unique narrative, says, "Katha is deeply rooted in her culture. She finds joy in old Bollywood melodies, holds on to values, and believes that even the smallest sign from the universe can guide her path." About the nature of her character, she adds, "She may seem sweet and innocent, but she has a strong mind. She stands up for what's right and protects her loved ones fiercely. Every character in the show is unique and lovable in their own way."



# PM Modi to hold key meet on security tomorrow, second since Pahalgam attack

*Pahalgam terror attack: The government is reviewing its security preparedness in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack.*

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): A series of meetings under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled for tomorrow as the country reviews its security preparedness in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 dead in Jammu and Kashmir last week.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) - the country's highest decision-making body on national security - will hold a meeting around 11 am. It will mark the second round of discussions at the highest level since the Pahalgam attack. Security preparations are likely to be discussed at this meeting.

After the meeting of CCS, the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) will also meet



under the chairmanship of PM Modi.

Besides the Prime Minister, the CCPA comprises Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, Health Minister JP Nadda, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and other senior ministers.

The Cabinet's Economic Affairs Committee will meet thereafter, followed by a cabinet meeting.

At its last meeting on Thursday, two days after the Pahalgam massacre, the CCS had

reviewed the overall security situation of the country and put the forces on alert, vowing that the perpetrators would be brought to justice.

Taking strict action against Pakistan after their role emerged in the Pahalgam attack, it had decided to suspend the Indus Water Treaty, a crucial water-sharing agreement with Islamabad. It also suspended SAARC visas, shut down the Wagah-Attari border, and downgraded diplomatic ties with Pakistan.

The government had also asked all Pakistanis living in India to return to their homeland by Sunday, giving a breather till Tuesday to those holding medical visas. In response, Pakistan had suspended all bilateral pacts with India, including the Simla agreement.

# ‘Look forward to working with you’: PM Modi congratulates Canada’s Mark Carney on election victory



NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday congratulated Canadian leader Mark Carney on the electoral victory of his Liberal Party, and said that he was looking forward

to unlocking greater opportunities for people of the two nations.

Carney's Liberal Party registered a historic victory in the Canadian elections.

“Congratulations @MarkJCarney on your

election as the Prime Minister of Canada and to the Liberal Party on their victory,” Modi said in a social media post.

“India and Canada are bound by shared democratic values, a steadfast commitment to the rule of law, and vibrant people-to-people ties,” he said.

“I look forward to working with you to strengthen our partnership and unlock greater opportunities for our people,” Modi added.

India-Canada ties came under severe strain under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government.

# One shot dead, car set ablaze as quarrel between two groups in UP turns violent; two detained

SHAHJAHANPUR, Apr 29 (Agencies): A fracas between two groups in this Uttar Pradesh district escalated into a full-fledged fight that saw guns fired, killing a man and injuring two others, and a car set ablaze, police said on Tuesday.

The incident occurred late on Monday night in the Azizganj locality here.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Rajesh Dwivedi told PTI that the two groups got into a heated argument that soon turned violent with

each of them calling up reinforcements and attacking each other with sticks and rods.

In the melee, someone whipped out a gun and started firing, injuring three brothers - Kamlesh (40), Jitendra (32), and Akhilesh (28), the police officer said.

Upon receiving information about the incident, police officials dashed to the spot and took the three siblings to a hospital, where Kamlesh died during treatment, Dwivedi said.

“I have reviewed the situation and visited the

Government Medical College. Officials have been directed to form a team to immediately arrest the accused,” the SP said, adding it was also being probed as to who set the car on fire.

Meanwhile, police have taken two suspects - Ramniwas and Sumit - into custody for questioning.

An FIR has been registered against four named individuals and one unidentified person, an official said, adding Kamlesh's body has been sent for post-mortem.

# Akhilesh Yadav slams Centre over Pahalgam attack; questions tourist security, VIP protection

LUCKNOW, Apr 29 (Agencies): Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday assailed the BJP-led Centre over the Pahalgam terror attack with pointed questions on the apparent “lack” of security for tourists.

He accused the government of prioritising VIP protection over public safety.

At least 26 people, mostly tourists, died in the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam. The execution-like killing by terrorists after reportedly asking about the victims' faith has left the entire country grieving and outraged.

Voicing the concern of tourists who survived the attack, Yadav, in a post on X, asked, “Why was there no one to protect me (the public) amid danger?” In the social media post, he went on to question the government's secu-



city policies, ostensibly referring to alleged Gujarat conman Kiran Patel who had allegedly posed as a PMO official and visited Kashmir under security cover.

“Why are some individuals, who later turn out to be frauds, given such tight and comprehensive security by the government?” the SP chief posted.

Patel was arrested at a Sri-

nagar hotel on his third visit to the valley in March last year.

Yadav, the MP from Kannauj, also raised doubts about background checks done on individuals in sensitive areas, suggesting that anyone could gain access to high-security zones without proper scrutiny.

He also took a dig at the ruling party, saying, “When the celebration-loving BJP organises controversial private events in such sensitive areas, thousands of security personnel are deployed for the safety of around 250 VVIPs whose job is to be the voice of others. On what basis do such people, who have no existence of their own and even disrespect courts, get security and not tourists?” the former UP chief minister posed and termed these “very seri-

ous questions” that demand answers.

Yadav was referring to BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's reported high-profile family event in Gulumarg under strict security cover, just days before the April 22 attack that has raised eyebrows among the BJP circles.

The MP from Jharkhand's Godda had stirred a controversy with his comments on the Supreme Court and by blaming Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna for “religious wars” in India.

Taking a dig at the government, the Samajwadi party chief also said, “Even if statements are changed under pressure from those who lost their loved ones, BJP should remember that altering statements doesn't change the truth.

# Demolition drive launched in Ahmedabad following detention of 6500 suspected Bangladeshi immigrants

AHMEDABAD, Apr 29 (Agencies): The civic authorities and police in Ahmedabad on Tuesday launched a mega demolition drive in the Muslim-majority area of Chandola lake, days after 6500 people, mostly Muslims, were detained and accused of being illegal Bangladeshi immigrants.

While the demolition drive is being spearheaded by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, around 2,000 policemen, headed by Joint Commissioner of Police-Crime Sharad Singhal, were deployed at the site to maintain law and order, Police Commissioner G S Malik said.

Malik, who reached the lake to take stock of the demolition drive, told reporters that all police stations in the city were put on ‘alert’ to deal with any situation in view of the demolition drive at Chandola Lake.

Singhal said the AMC started the drive early in the morning with 50 teams, each equipped with an earthmover machine. “The last demolition drive at Chandola Lake was carried out in 2009. Recently, a survey conducted by the AMC revealed that government land had been encroached upon again, and shanties were constructed around the lake. Illegal Bangladeshi immigrants lived in areas like Siyasatnagar and Bengali Vaas surrounding this lake,” he said.

According to Malik, an FIR is being registered against Mehmood Pathan alias Lallu Bihari, the alleged mastermind behind the encroachment on government land at Chandola Lake.

He also allegedly helped illegal Bangladeshi immigrants get rental accommodation and Aadhaar cards, according to officials.



“We have deployed 2,000 policemen along with 20 companies of the State Reserve Police (SRP) to assist the AMC in clearing illegal constructions at Chandola Lake, which includes areas like Siyasatnagar and Bengali Vaas. Police in the entire city have also been put on alert. Strict action will be taken if anyone tries to take the law into their hands,” Malik said.

He claimed the minority community residing near the lake wants the authorities to take action

against Bangladeshi immigrants living in illegal settlements.

The top cop said the authorities have also razed Pathan's farmhouse built illegally on the banks of the lake.

“We have started the process of registering a first information report against Pathan. He helped illegal immigrants get accommodations using bogus rent agreements and procured Aadhaar cards. It is also suspected that some people in the area had also acquired passports,” Malik said.

Deputy Municipal Commissioner DC Parmar said nearly 2,000 illegally built houses and other properties were identified for demolition, and 50 per cent of the work was completed by noon.

He said Chandola Lake is a water body, and no construction is allowed around the lake.

Earlier on Monday, DGP Vikas Sahay said around 450 Bangladeshi nationals were found to be residing illegally in Gujarat after police launched a crackdown and detained nearly 6,500 Muslims, who are suspected to be citizens of the neighbouring country.

Sahay said following mega search operations in Ahmedabad and Surat, similar exercises were undertaken across the state, with 6,500 suspected illegal Bangladeshi immigrants detained and their identities being verified.

# Uttar Pradesh: Congress MP Rahul Gandhi chairs DISHA meeting in Raebareli



RAEBARELI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Congress MP and Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday chaired a District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) committee meeting in Raebareli DISHA committee meetings are held on a quarterly basis, under the chairmanship of the MP.

Earlier in the day, Rahul Gandhi inaugurated the newly-built Shaheed Chowk and Degree College

Chauraha in Raebareli. He also visited and offered prayers at Shri Peepaleswar Mahadevi Mandir and Hanuman Mandir in the city.

Rahul Gandhi, currently serving as the Member of Parliament for Rae Bareilly, is on a one-day visit to the district. During his visit, he will also inaugurate roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Notably, Rahul Gandhi won the Rae Bareilly Lok Sabha seat in the 2024

general elections by a significant margin of 390,030 votes.

Later in the day, Rahul Gandhi will visit Hyderabad to meet with intellectuals and stakeholders regarding the caste survey initiated by the state govt ..

Giving details about the caste survey Telangana Minister Ponnampet Prabhakar said that it is being conducted for the first time in Telangana.

“Rahul Gandhi will reach Hyderabad to hold a meeting with intellectuals, stakeholders on caste survey initiated by the state government... A caste survey is being conducted for the first time in Telangana... Each enumerator has been given 150 houses to survey and accordingly, the decision will be taken for their benefit,” Telangana Minister Prabhakar said.

# BJP slams Congress over ‘headless kurta’ post, alleges echo of extremist slogans

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday strongly criticised the Congress over a social media post that featured an image of a headless kurta-pyjama ensemble with the caption “Gayab” (missing), widely interpreted as a jibe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's absence from a recent

all-party meeting convened following the Pahalgam terror attack.

The post, shared from Congress' official X handle, triggered a wave of condemnation from BJP leaders who accused the opposition party of promoting violent imagery and divisive politics.

In a statement posted

to its official account, BJP alleged that the image bore resemblance to the extremist slogan “Sar Tan Se Juda”, and claimed that the Congress was “echoing violent threats” under the guise of political criticism.

“The Congress flaunts a headless kurta to echo the extremist ‘Sar Tan

Se Juda’ slogan, exposing its continuous slide into Muslim League 2.0 — divisive, desperate, and directionless,” the party wrote.

It further stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has spoken the only language Pakistan understands, “Islamabad's official handles are parroting the same

beheading cry, laying bare their jihadist creed”.

“Let Pakistan and its fellow-travellers in the Congress party threaten all they wish; New India will neither bend nor break. Terror will be met with bullets, not bribery. This is the era of decisive leadership,” it said further.

Union Minister Anurag

Thakur also weighed in, accusing the Congress of engaging in “shameful” tactics and suggesting that the image sent a “message of support to Pakistan and terrorists.”

The controversy further escalated after former Pakistan minister Fawad Chaudhry reshared the image with a mocking caption, a

move that BJP leaders cited as evidence of the Congress's alignment with narratives adversarial to India's interests.

BJP IT Cell head Amit Malviya described the Congress image as “not satire”, but a “dog whistle for their Muslim vote bank” and “a veiled threat to our Prime Minister.”

“It is not for the first time that the Congress has resorted to such tactics. Rahul Gandhi, on multiple occasions, has both instigated and justified violence towards the Prime Minister. Yet the Congress will never succeed, for the Prime Minister enjoys the love and blessings of millions of Indians,” Malviya said.



## Mark carney: Banker-turned-politician who led embattled liberals to victory

*Carney, who won his first parliamentary seat on Tuesday, was the first person to become Canadian prime minister without having experience as a legislator or cabinet member.*

OTTAWA, Apr 29 (Agencies): The Liberal Party, led by Prime Minister Mark Carney, secured control of Canada's parliament by winning the federal election 2025 on Tuesday. The two-time central banker and crisis fighter, who replaced Justin Trudeau as prime minister just last month, now faces his biggest challenge of all-- steering Canada through US President Donald Trump's tariffs.

In his victory speech on Tuesday, Carney promised to chart "a new path forward" in a world "fundamentally changed" by the United States under Trump that is hostile to free trade.

"We are over the shock of the American betrayal, but we should never forget the lessons. We will win this trade war and build the strongest economy in the G7," said Carney, who led the central banks of Canada and Britain before entering politics earlier this year.

The 60-year-old former banker had never held office. In normal circumstances, this would have undermined his candidacy, but his high-profile banking career played to his advantage, with the Liberal leader arguing he is the only person prepared to handle Trump.

Carney, who won his first parliamentary seat on Tuesday,



was the first person to become Canadian prime minister without having experience as a legislator or cabinet member. He was elected Liberal leader in March, replacing former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who resigned amid low approval ratings after nearly a decade in office.

Soon after taking office, he axed an unpopular carbon tax on consumers and capital gains tax measures. Carney then called for snap polls and ran a low-key five-week campaign to convince voters that his experience managing economic crises made him the ideal candidate to defy Trump.

About Mark Carney Carney was born in Fort Smith in the remote Northwest Territories. He attended Harvard

University, where he played college-level ice hockey as a goaltender. A globetrotter, he spent 13 years at US investment bank Goldman Sachs before being named deputy governor of the Bank of Canada in 2003. He left in November 2004 for a top job in Canada's Department of Finance and returned to become governor of the central bank in 2008 at the age of just 42.

Carney won global praise for his handling of the 2008 financial crisis, following which rumours started swirling that he would seek a career in politics with the Liberals. However, when asked about his possible political ambitions in a 2012 interview, the Liberal leader said, "Why don't I become a circus clown?"

Impressed by this work at the Bank of Canada, the Bank of England poached him in 2013, making him the first non-British governor in the central bank's three-century history, and the first person to head two G7 central banks. Britain's finance minister at the time, George Osborne, called Carney the "outstanding central bank governor of his generation."

Carney, though, had a challenging time, forced to face zero inflation and the political chaos of Brexit. He struggled to deploy his trademark policy of signalling the likely path of interest rates and infuriated Brexit supporters by talking about the economic damage that he said was likely to be caused by leaving the European Union.

After leaving the Bank of England in 2020, Carney served as a United Nations envoy on finance and climate change. From 2011 to 2018, Carney also headed the Financial Stability Board, which coordinates financial regulation for the Group of 20 economies. He has also served on the board of Brookfield Asset Management and was chair of the Bloomberg board, but resigned his UN special envoy position and left all commercial posts after he launched his bid for the Liberal leadership.

## Australian woman accused of murdering 3 by serving mushrooms faces trial



SYDNEY, Apr 29 (Agencies): The trial of a woman accused of murdering three elderly people after serving them a lunch of poisonous mushrooms began in Australia on Tuesday, as additional charges of the attempted murder of her husband were dropped by prosecutors.

Erin Patterson is charged with the 2023 murders of her mother-in-law Gail Patterson, father-in-law Donald Patterson and Gail's sister Heather Wilkinson, along with the attempted murder of Ian Wilkinson, Heather's husband, in a case that

has gripped Australia.

All four became ill after the lunch hosted by the accused at her home in Leongatha, a town of around 6,000 people, some 135 kilometres (84 miles) from Melbourne.

Prosecutors allege the mushrooms were served to the victims as part of a beef Wellington.

Fifteen jurors were selected on Tuesday at the Latrobe Valley Magistrates' Court in nearby Morwell, with the opening arguments expected to begin on Wednesday morning.

Charges regarding

the attempted murder of the accused's husband, Simon Patterson, have been dropped by prosecutors, Justice Christopher Beale told the court on Tuesday.

"Those charges have been dropped and you must put them out of your mind," he told the jury.

Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

The case has generated huge interest both in Australia and internationally, with the six seats in the courtroom reserved for media allocated in a daily ballot. Dozens more are expected to watch proceedings in an overflow room set up at the court.

State broadcaster ABC is producing a daily podcast during the trial, which is expected to run for five to six weeks, while streaming service Stan has commissioned a documentary on what it says is "one of the highest profile criminal cases in recent history".

## UN says over 50 aid workers in Gaza were abused in Israeli detention

GAZA CITY, Apr 29 (Agencies): The UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, on Tuesday said more than 50 of its staff in Gaza were abused and used as human shields while in Israeli military detention.

"Since the start of the war in October 2023, over 50 UNRWA staff among them teachers, doctors, social workers, have been detained and abused," UNRWA head Philippe Lazzarini wrote on X.

"They have been treated in the most shocking & inhumane way. They reported being beaten" and used as "human shields."

Lazzarini cited the testimony of one of the staff members who had been detained by the Israeli military before being released.

"I wished for death to end this nightmare I was living through," the staff

member was quoted as saying.

"Received this awful testimony from a colleague who was rounded up in Gaza, tortured while in Israeli detention and finally released," they added

Lazzarini said those detained had been subjected to "sleep deprivation, humiliation, threats of harm to them & their families" and attacks by dogs.

"Many were subjected to forced confessions. This nothing short of harrowing & outrageous."

The military had no immediate response to the accusation.

Israel has banned UNRWA from operating on Israeli soil, after accusing some of its staff of taking part in Hamas' October 7, 2023 attack that sparked the Gaza war. Independent investigations say it has

not provided evidence for its allegation.

The International Court of Justice is currently hearing dozens of nations and organisations to draw up an advisory opinion on Israel's humanitarian obligations to Palestinians, more than 50 days into its total blockage on aid entering war-ravaged Gaza.

Israel is not participating at the ICJ but hit back immediately, alleging that the hearings were "part of the systematic persecution and delegitimisation" of the country.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar on Sunday claimed the hearings were "part of a systematic persecution and delegitimisation of Israel."

"It is not Israel that should be on trial. It is the UN and UNRWA," he said.

## Taiwan detects Chinese military activity near its territory

TAIPEI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence (MND) has said that 27 sorties of People's Liberation Army (PLA) aircraft, nine People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) vessels and one ship were detected operating near Taiwan until 6 am (local time) on Tuesday.

According to Taiwan's MND, 27 sorties crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait and entered Taiwan's northern and southwestern Air Defence Identification Zone (ADIZ).

In response to Chinese activity, Taiwan's armed forces deployed aircraft, naval ships, and coastal missile systems to monitor the situation.

In a post on X, Taiwan's MND stated, "27 sorties of PLA aircraft, 9 PLAN vessels and 1 official ship operating around Taiwan were



detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 27 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern and southwestern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded accordingly."

This incident follows a recent pattern of escalated manoeuvres by China around Taiwan, sparking concerns over regional stability as Beijing continues to

assert its claims over the island. Taiwan has been governed independently since 1949. However, China considers Taiwan part of its territory and insists on eventual reunification, by force if necessary.

Last week, Taiwan's ruling party responded to growing fears about Chinese spying by requiring its members to declare their plans before visiting China,

particularly Hong Kong and Macau, according to a report by Radio Free Asia (RFA).

China and Taiwan have frequently accused one another of spying, and Taiwan has arrested several people it says Beijing has hired to get intelligence or sway public opinion. According to RFA, Beijing usually rejects any role in espionage operations against Taiwan, referring to the charges as "politically motivated" or "groundless."

Taiwan's President and Chairman of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party, or DPP, Lai Ching-te, declared on Wednesday that all party members are now required to report in advance and submit a follow-up report if they visit China or interact with individuals connected to the Chinese government.

"Any betrayal of the

party's core values for personal gain must be met with strict disciplinary action and the harshest legal consequences," Lai told the party's weekly meeting, as quoted by the RFA report.

Lai announced steps, including enhanced internal education for party members to increase their knowledge of national security and legal responsibilities, as well as the requirement to disclose visits to China.

He also called for tighter control over parliamentary and local council aides, with party caucuses being entrusted with creating certain procedures and training courses, according to the RFA report. The actions follow the DPP being the target of previous Chinese espionage investigations.

## Spain, Portugal scramble to restore electricity after still-unexplained power outage

BARCELONA, Apr 29 (Agencies): Officials in Spain and Portugal were racing to restore electricity early Tuesday after a huge power outage that grounded flights, paralysed metro systems, disrupted mobile communications and shut down ATMs.

Before dawn, power was gradually returning to several regions across Spain and Portugal as the nations reeled from the still-unexplained widespread blackout that had turned airports and train stations into campgrounds for stranded travellers.

By 5 am, the Spanish electricity operator, Red Elctrica, said that more than 92% of energy demand had been restored. Monday night, many city residents, including in Spain's capital of Madrid, went to

sleep in total darkness.

The normally illuminated cathedral spires of Barcelona's Sagrada Familia Basilica became indistinguishable from the night sky. Streets remained deserted even in neighbourhoods where lights flickered back on, as people stayed home after a day of chaos.

"We have a long night ahead," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said when he addressed the European nation late Monday. "We are working with the goal of having power restored to the entire country."

In Madrid, cheers erupted from balconies where the electricity had returned.

But more than 16 hours after the outage first hit, people all over the Iberian Peninsula were still struggling to call their

loved ones, hampered by the loss of mobile phone service.

Stranded overnight at train stations and airports

As metro service stopped, train stations cleared out and shops and offices closed, and thousands of people spilled onto the streets of Madrid. Some resorted to hitchhiking. Others walked hours just to get home.

Spanish national TV broadcast images of commuters clambering out of stalled trains in unlit tunnels.

Emergency workers in Spain said they rescued some 35,000 passengers stranded along railways and underground. By 11 pm, there were still 11 trains backed up by the power loss awaiting evacuation, Sánchez said.

Uncertainty about when power might return fueled frustration and anxiety in major cities.

"We feel unsafe, unsure, we don't know what to do," said Curt Muriel, a French tourist with her husband and two kids who fled the darkened subway and managed to hail a rare cab to Madrid's city centre from the airport.

The blackout turned sports centers, train stations and airports into makeshift refuges late Monday.

"We were in the north of Portugal and did get any notifications until we got here because of internet outage," said Ian Cannons, a British tourist trying to get home who was forced to spend the night in Lisbon's airport. "We can't book any hotels. Nothing."

The Barcelona munic-

pality distributed 1,200 cots to indoor recreation centers to host residents with no way to get home and international travelers left in limbo. All over Barcelona and Madrid, people were sleeping on train station benches and floors.

Cash and radios in high demand

As internet and mobile phone services blinked offline across Spain and Portugal, battery-powered radios flew off the shelves. Those fortunate enough to find service shared whatever news updates they could with strangers on the street.

Lines snaked out of the few supermarkets running on backup generators in Barcelona and Lisbon as people stocked up on dried goods, water and battery-powered flashlights

and candles. Clerks counted euros by hand, since many cash registers had stopped working.

Hector Emperador, picking his kids up from school in Barcelona, said he resorted to raiding his sons' piggybank to ensure he had cash on hand after ATMs and some online-banking services shut down.

"The coronavirus pandemic will be nothing compared to this," he said.

Few gas stations were operating, sending the drivers who dared navigate without traffic lights scrambling for fuel. Residents with electric door keys found themselves locked out of their homes.

The many inconveniences became a threat to survival for those with medical needs like

refrigeration for insulin or power for dialysis machines and oxygen concentrators. Some hospitals — but not all — stayed open with the help of generators.

Cause unknown Officials did not say what caused the blackout, the second such serious European power outage in as many months after a fire at Heathrow Airport shut down Britain's busiest travel hub on March 20.

They said there was little precedent for this kind of widespread electric failure across all of the Iberian Peninsula, with a combined population of some 60 million. Across the Mediterranean Sea, Spain's Canary Islands, Balearic Islands and the territories of Ceuta and Melilla were spared.

"We have never had a

complete collapse of the system," Prime Minister Sanchez said, explaining how Spain's power grid lost 15 gigawatts, the equivalent of 60% of its national demand, in just five seconds.

In his televised address, Sánchez said that authorities were still investigating what happened. Portugal's National Cybersecurity Center threw cold water on feverish speculation about foul play, saying there was no sign that the outage resulted from a cyber attack.

Speaking to reporters in Brussels, Teresa Ribera, an executive vice president of the European Commission, also ruled out sabotage. Nonetheless, the outage "is one of the most serious episodes recorded in Europe in recent times," she said.



# CMF by Nothing launches CMF Phone 2 Pro, Buds 2, Buds 2 Plus, Buds 2a in India

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: CMF, the dynamic sub-brand of the London-based technology innovator Nothing, has officially launched four new products in India: the CMF Phone 2 Pro, along with CMF Buds 2, CMF Buds 2 Plus, and CMF Buds 2a. This latest product wave reflects the brand's growing presence and innovation in the mid-range smartphone and audio segments.

Nothing has had a stellar start to 2025. According to Counterpoint Research's Q1 2025 India Smartphone Shipment report, Nothing is now the fastest-growing smartphone brand in India for the fifth consecutive quarter, showcasing a remarkable 156% year-on-year growth. This historic achievement makes Nothing the only brand in the last decade to sustain such momentum in the Indian smartphone market.

At the heart of the launch is the CMF Phone 2 Pro, designed to be the ultimate daily companion. With a premium design, the device is just 7.8 mm thin and weighs 185 grams, making it the slimmest and lightest smartphone Nothing has ever made — 5% thinner than its

predecessor, the CMF Phone 1. The Phone 2 Pro will be available in White, Black, Orange, and Light Green, each offering a unique finish and texture.

One of the standout features of the CMF Phone 2 Pro is its advanced triple-camera setup. It includes a 50 MP main camera that captures 64% more light than CMF Phone 1, a 50 MP telephoto lens with 2x optical zoom and up to 20x Ultra Zoom for distant subjects, and an 8 MP ultra-wide lens ideal for sweeping landscapes. The 16 MP front-facing camera ensures sharp selfies with every click.

Powering the phone is the MediaTek Dimensity 7300 Pro 5G processor, which offers a 10% boost in processing speed and 5% better graphics performance than the previous generation. The phone features a 5000 mAh battery, capable of lasting nearly two full days on a single charge. Visuals come to life on a 6.77" FHD+ flexible AMOLED display, supporting 1.07 billion colors, Ultra HDR, and an impressive peak brightness of 3000 nits.

Alongside the smartphone, CMF also introduced its refreshed CMF Audio lineup with three new TWS

earbuds: Buds 2, Buds 2 Plus, and Buds 2a. These new audio products are tailored for a range of users — from everyday listeners to audiophiles seeking personalized sound and immersive experiences.

The pricing of the newly launched CMF Phone 2 Pro is highly competitive. The 8GB + 128GB variant is priced at INR 17,999, while the 8GB + 256GB variant will retail at INR 19,999, inclusive of all offers. As a special introductory offer on May 5, the prices drop to INR 16,999 and INR 18,999, respectively. Additionally, a Day 1 exchange offer includes an INR 1,000 exchange bonus and an INR 1,000 bank discount, applicable across major banks.

The CMF Buds 2a will retail at INR 2,199, CMF Buds 2 at INR 2,699, and the Buds 2 Plus at INR 3,299. The CMF Phone 2 Pro will be available for purchase starting May 5, 2025, via Flipkart, Flipkart Minutes, Vijay Sales, Croma, and all leading retail stores. The CMF Buds lineup will hit Indian shelves by the end of Q2 2025.

CMF also announced that accessories for the CMF Phone 2 Pro will be launched soon, further enhancing the ecosystem experience for users.

# India no longer follower, beckons others to follow her: Dr Jitendra

## Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Apr 29:

In a high-energy confluence of ideas, vision, and strategy at the "Innovation Conclave" "YUGM" held at Bharat Mandapam on Tuesday, Union Minister for Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh declared that "India is no longer a follower, but beckons others to follow her".

Addressing a packed gathering of policymakers, scientists, educators, and entrepreneurs, at the "Innovation Conclave" "YUGM" held at Bharat Mandapam here today, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "Gone are the days when the so called developed countries accomplished successful initiatives and India followed the same after ten to fifteen years, citing the instance of television. Today, India creates success stories and others follow, he



said, citing the examples of Covid vaccine, Chandrayaan and Quantum mission.

"The 21st century belongs to India, and the 2020s will be India's decade," asserted the Minister attributing this transformation to the growing emphasis on science, technology, and innovation under

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

The conclave included the launch of a landmark ₹1,400 crore joint project co-funded by the Wadhvani Foundation and government institutions. The initiative seeks to fast-track late-stage research, deepen industry-academia partnerships, and drive

innovations toward real-world impact.

Dr. Jitendra Singh noted that India's transformation from a resource-constrained innovation ecosystem to a global frontrunner has been made possible by strong political will and a deliberate push for inclusive participation. "Today, successful experiments are being conducted in India, and the world is following us — whether it's the COVID vaccine or Chandrayaan," he said.

Highlighting the rise in the Department of Science and Technology's budget — from Rs 2,777 crore a decade ago to Rs 28,509 crore now — Dr. Jitendra Singh said the increase reflects not just financial commitment but a cultural shift. Moreover, the private sector is now being aligned in a big way in government projects, he added.

## FromPage No: 1

### Pakistan fails to attack Indian...

Now, Pakistan has redirected its efforts towards publicly accessible welfare and educational websites after finding mission-critical national networks impenetrable. Operating under the moniker "IOK Hacker" - Internet of Khilafah, the group sought to deface pages, disrupt online services and harvest personal information. India's layered cybersecurity architecture detected the intrusions in real-time and quickly traced their origin to Pakistan.

Sources say that Intelligence assessments confirm four related incidents.

The websites of Army Public School (APS) Srinagar and APS Ranikhet were both targeted with inflammatory propaganda. APS Srinagar also faced a distributed-denial-of-service assault. An attempted breach of the Army Welfare Housing Organisation (AWHO) database was likewise detected, while a concurrent effort was made to compromise the Indian Air Force Placement Organisation portal.

All four sites were promptly isolated, and restorative action was undertaken; no operational or classified networks were affected at any stage. These frustrated attempts highlight both the adversary's intent and its limitations.

The Indian Army remains resolute in defending its digital space, continually upgrading its cyber posture, and safeguarding the welfare of soldiers and their families. Meanwhile, the Indian Army has effectively responded to the Pakistan Army's unprovoked small arms firing across the Line of Control (LoC) on the night of April 28-29 in areas opposite to Kupwara and Baramulla districts as well as in the Akhnoor sector in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the Indian Army, the Indian troops responded swiftly and effectively to the unprovoked small arms firing by the Pakistan Army.

This is the fifth consecutive day of India's effective relations since the Pakistan Army's unprovoked small arms firing on the night of 25-26. Earlier, the Indian Army responded effectively to the Pakistan Army firing along the LoC on the night of April 27-28 in areas opposite of Kupwara and Poonch districts, as per officials. Tensions remain high along the LoC even as security forces intensified anti-terror operations in the Kashmir valley in the aftermath of the Phalgam terror attack that killed 26 people on April 22.

### Ahmedabad man's video ...

lost their lives last week. In the video, which has gone viral on social media, Rishi Bhatt is seen enjoying the ride even as the attack unfolded on the ground below at Baisaran Valley on April 22.

The 53-second video, shot using a selfie stick, showed people running for their lives, with one of them falling, apparently after being gunned down by a terrorist. Talking to reporters, Bhatt said he had gone to Baisaran Valley with his wife and a child, and they decided to enjoy a zipline ride. While his wife and child took the ride safely and reached the other side, the firing started just as his ride began, said the Ahmedabad resident, who is in the event management business. "When my son and wife reached down safely, and I started my zipline ride, the first shots were fired.

As soon as I landed, I saw that someone was asked about his religion and then shot," he recalled. Bhatt said he detached himself, jumped off the zipline and ran with his family.

He said the zipline operator sent nine people for the ride before him. "When I got ready and got the selfie stick ready, he (the operator) said, 'Allah hu Akbar' three times. And the firing started. He kept looking down while uttering the words.

"Within 20 minutes of the incident, the Army had covered all tourists and brought them to the parking lot," he said, expressing hope that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would act against terrorists within 15-20 days.

### SC refuses to entertain fresh pleas..

said when a battery of lawyers of several petitioners urged that they be also heard along with other petitioners.

The bench, however, asked the petitioners, including Firoz Iqbal Khan, Imran Pratapgadhi, Shaik Muneer

Ahmad and the Muslim Advocates Association, to intervene in the main pleas if they have additional grounds to challenge Waqf law. "We will hear all...Five cases have been registered. If you want to argue additional points, then move implementation applications," the CJJ said. T

he bench passed a similar order on Monday and asked counsel for petitioner Syed Ali Akbar to file an intervention application in five pending cases, which will be taken up on May 5 for passing interim orders. On April 17, the bench decided to hear only five of the total number of pleas before it and titled the case: "In Re: Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025".

### 'India is my home, don't...

her Indian husband.

It is so far unclear whether Maryam, who holds a short-term visa, is the last Pakistani left in Uttar Pradesh to be "expelled" under the Centre's orders after the Pahalgam terror attack.

Maryam's appeal comes at a time when Uttar Pradesh, according to an official statement, became the first state to achieve almost 100 per cent repatriation of Pakistani nationals within 24 hours, with only one remaining to be deported.

The state government did not mention the exact number of Pakistani citizens sent back or their visa details (short-term or long-term). It also did not specify who the last Pakistani citizen left to be deported on April 30.

Maryam got married to Amir, a resident of Khurja in Bulandshahr district, three years ago. The Pakistani woman has been living in Khurja since she received her short-term visa two months ago.

"I am from Islamabad, but I am married here. I came to this country after leaving mine. Now this is my country. I don't want to go back," Maryam said, adding that immediately after her arrival, she applied for a long-term visa to remain in the country with her husband.

"Where my husband lives, that is my home. I want to stay here with him," she pleaded.

"I am deeply saddened by what happened in Pahalgam. Those responsible for this act should be punished," Maryam said.

Responding to the situation, Superintendent of Police (Rural) Tejveer Singh, said, "Maryam has submitted an application. Further action will be taken as per directives from higher authorities."

### Pahalgam Attack: Elite Pak..

Special Services Group (SSG). The expose has evoked anger in India and strengthened calls for forceful action against Pakistan.

Hashim Musa was sent to Kashmir by Pakistan's military establishment after he underwent specialised training in the SSG. He was subsequently shifted to terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba, revealing the web of deep contacts between Pakistan's armed forces and the jihadi elements. Musa was said to be working on orders received through satellite communication during the Pahalgam attack.

Musa is also suspected of having been party to earlier terror attacks, such as the October 2024 Ganderbal attack that killed seven civilians and the Buta Pathri attack in which two soldiers and one civilian were killed.

#### Pakistan's Role Laid Bare

Security agencies affirmed that the adoption of a Pakistani paracommando who has received training as the mastermind in the Pahalgam attack is the hardest evidence to date of Islamabad's direct role in cross-border terror. With Pak Army Chief Asim Munir being put on the hot seat, the Indian establishment is reminding Pakistan of its duplicity globally.

#### Top Terrorists On Army Radar

In the meantime, the Indian Army and Jammu & Kashmir Police have escalated operations, and a list of 14 most-wanted terrorists is under watch. The prime targets are

**From Sopore: Adil Rehman**

**From Pulwama: Amir Nazir Wani, Yawar Ahmad Bhat**

**From Shopian: Asif Ahmad, Nasir Ahmad, Shahid Ahmad, Amir Ahmad Dar, Adnan Dar**

**From Anantnag: Zubair Ahmad Wani, Haroon**

#### Rashid Gani

These suspects are suspected to be masterminding attacks and hiding infiltrators.

#### India Demands Global Accountability

The ghastly character of the Pahalgam attack, which has been blamed on Pakistan's militarily trained terrorists, has urged Indian authorities to seek international action. As Islamabad continues to protest its innocence, the evidence being unearthed at the Pahalgam massacre has gravely undermined its credibility.

### 'Samay Simit Hai,...

current situation. This comes days after PM Modi warned Pakistan from Bihar saying that India will hunt down terrorists and their masters to the end of the earth. "Therefore, it's important that the journey from prototype idea to the product is completed at the earliest," said PM Modi.

PM Modi's statement comes amid Pakistani Defence Minister Khwaja Asif's remark that a military retaliation is likely from India. Asif told Reuters that Pakistani Army has briefed the government about possible attack from India. "We have reinforced our forces because it is something which is imminent now. So in that situation, some strategic decisions have to be taken, so those decisions have been taken," he said.

The Pahalgam terror attack took place on April 22 where 5-6 terrorists killed 26 people, mainly tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Baisaran, known as mini-Switzerland. Since then, there have been tensions at the borders between India and Pakistan.

### Mehbooba Mufti urges Amit Shah ..

This comes after Mufti received distressing calls from the students due to the ongoing unrest after the Pahalgam terrorist attack. Taking to social media X, Mufti in a post wrote, "Receiving distressed calls from Kashmiri students across India living in fear due to ongoing unrest. Some institutions have postponed exams & advised students to return home until normalcy is restored, while others have decided otherwise. Urge Amit Shah and the the Chief Ministers of all states to intervene and ensure the safety of all students until they can safely return home."

Further, in her post, Mufti wrote that a strong message should be sent to those spreading hate on social media, further stating that divisive forces should be identified. "Additionally, a strong message must be sent to those spreading communal hate on social media. Such divisive forces must be identified and dealt with firmly to maintain peace and harmony," the post further read. Meanwhile, Nasir Khuehami, Convenor of Jammu and Kashmir Students Association stated that Amit Shah had been personally monitoring the safety of Kashmiri students and after his intervention there is zero tolerance on any such incidents.

Nasir Khuehami, Convenor of, J&K Students Association, said, "There have been incidents of harassment of Kashmiri students across the country after the Pahalgam terrorist attack...In Uttarakhand, a Hindu Raksha Dal gave a statement in which they threatened the Kashmiri students to leave the state within 24 hours." He further said that there was a sense of fear in North Indian states like Haryana, Punjab, and Himachal.

"We immediately wrote a letter to the Union Home Minister, on the basis of which he instructed all the CMs and DGs. Union HM is personally monitoring the situation where students of J&K are studying and wherever cases of harassment have come up. All the DGs and CMs have been instructed that these cases should be personally intervened. In Uttarakhand, Union HM immediately instructed the DGP and CM Dhani to deal with the matter personally and make immediate inquiries.

An FIR was also registered in this case against the fringe elements."

He further said that in states like Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab at the SSP, DIG and IG level students have been assured that there would be zero tolerance on any harassment towards the Kashmiri students. Meanwhile, a mess worker at the Jamia Millia Islamia University in the national capital has been detained for allegedly assaulting a Kashmiri woman student on campus, police said. The alleged assault took place around 9:30 pm on April 27 when a 24-year-old second-year MA

student was allegedly assaulted by a 22-year-old mess worker, identified as Abid. "

The accused was detained the same night. The student has not yet filed a formal complaint, but she is expected to do so today, after which an FIR will be registered," a police official stated. Police added that the altercation stemmed from a personal matter.

### J&K Police conducts searches ..

According to a police release, the Police has conducted searches at the residences of Javid Ahmad Najar, Adil Ahmad Sofi, Shabir Ahmad Ganie, Sheikh Faisal Rashid, Momin Javari Gojri, Rayees Ahmad Najar, Mubashir Rashid, Ashiq Hussain Bhat, Farooq Ahmad Dar, Burhan Ahmad Shah, Altaf Ahmad Dar, Umer Hamid Sheikh, Tawheed Ahmad (under PSA), Ilyas Ahmad Sangeen, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, Tawous Ahmad Gadda, Junaid Ahmad Parry, MehrajUd Din Khan, Musavir Nabi Bhat, Arash Koul, Shakir Farooq Bhat, Bashrat Ahmad Bazaz (under PSA), Furqan Nazir, Zulafkar Ahmad Najar, Momin Ahmad Shiekh, Qasir Altaf Hakeem, Manzoor Ahmad Danposh, Sajad Ahmad Gilkar, Ashiq Hussain Rangrez, Aqib Lateef Wani, Farooq Ahmad Wani, Syed Ahmad Parimoo, Syed Asrar Qardi, Jasia Nazir and Bashir Sultan Bhat. The searches were conducted in accordance with proper legal procedures in the presence of Executive Magistrates and independent witnesses under the supervision of the officers of J-K Police. The searches were carried out to seize arms, documents, digital devices, etc., with the objective of evidence collection and intelligence gathering to detect and deter any conspiratorial or terrorist activity against the security of the Nation.

This decisive action of J&K Police aims to dismantle the terrorist ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir by identifying and taking legal action against individuals engaged in such anti-national and criminal activities. The Srinagar Police remains committed to maintaining peace and security in the city. Any individual found furthering the agenda of violence, disruption, or unlawful activities will face strict legal consequences under the law. Earlier on April 26, the Srinagar Police conducted searches at the residences of 63 individuals.

### Pak troops fire along LoC..

tensions between New Delhi and Islamabad following last week's terror attack in Pahalgam.

"During the night of April 28-29, the Pakistan Army resorted to unprovoked small arms firing across the LoC in areas opposite Kupwara and Baramulla districts, as well as the Akhnoor sector," a defence spokesperson said.

The Indian Army responded in a measured and effective manner to the provocation, he added.

There were no immediate reports of any casualties.

Starting with unprovoked small arms firing at several posts along the LoC in Kupwara and Baramulla districts of north Kashmir, Pakistan expanded its ceasefire violation to the Poonch sector and subsequently to Akhnoor.

### All Major Tourist Destinations...

welcome visitors.

A senior official in Tourism department told said that tourist activity remains unaffected at key locations, which are witnessing a steady influx of visitors. "Destinations like Pahalgam, Gulmarg, Sonamarg, and other prominent sites are open and secure.

Tourists are moving freely, and all necessary security arrangements are in place to ensure their safety and comfort," the official said.

He clarified that only some lesser-known offbeat destinations—accounting for merely 4-5% of the overall tourist footfall—have been closed temporarily as a precautionary measure.

"There is no restriction on visiting any of the primary tourist circuits. Tourists are being warmly welcomed, and the local communities, along with administration and tourism stakeholders, are fully facilitating their stay," the official added. The statement comes amid concerns following a recent isolated incident near Pahalgam. Officials emphasized that the situation is under control, and there is no cause for alarm



# BOMIS holds closing ceremony of U-17 Inter-School Badminton Tournament

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: Birla Open Minds International School, Jammu, hosted the closing ceremony of the much-anticipated Under-17 Inter-School Badminton Tournament for both boys and girls on Tuesday. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students across various schools, showcasing their athletic spirit and talent on the court.

The grand closing ceremony was graced by Satish Sharma, Minister of Youth Services and Sports, as the Chief Guest. His presence added great value and encouragement for all the budding sports stars present at the event.

The ceremony commenced with a warm welcome of the Chief Guest, Satish Sharma, followed by a speech by students highlighting the importance of sports in education and overall development. A vibrant dance performance set an energetic tone for the day.

The school's Chairperson, Dr. Panna Manhas Choudhary addressed the gathering "I am proud to witness our students shine with such confidence and talent today. Events like these reflect the holistic vision we uphold at BOMIS. She further added that school focuses on such activities to keep them away from drugs and toxic environments. My heartfelt congratulations to all participants and gratitude to everyone who made



it a success."

The event was further elevated by an inspiring address by the Principal, Aparana Kohli, who emphasized the significance of sports in shaping discipline, determination, and teamwork among students.

She stated, "At Birla Open Minds, we believe in nurturing every aspect of a child's growth — academic, emotional, and physical. Tournaments like these empower students to push boundaries, embrace challenges, and celebrate victories with humility."

She also thanked all the participating schools, coaches, and staff members for making the tournament a grand success.

The school took pride in felicitating the winners and participants of the badminton tournament.

Of the final matches played today, Boys single match played

between APS Samba vs Heritage, Heritage won the match. Girls double match played between APS Samba vs Heritage, APS Samba won.

Certificates of appreciation were also presented to Birla Open Minds students who showcased commendable performances. Furthermore, national-level players of football, cricket, wushu and taekwondo were honoured for their achievements.

Zuish Saheel, Umair Nissar and Vivek were felicitated for playing in football nationals, Devasya Sharma for playing in basketball nationals and Aahana Sharma for playing in Cricket nationals. Vardaan Verma won gold medal in Wushu state championship, Kumail won silver in Wushu state championship; Farhan, Tayab and Wasiq won bronze in Wushu state championship. Shakeel and

Farhan won gold in Wushu district championship, Kumail won silver in Wushu district championship; Atif, Shivansh and Yatish won bronze in Wushu district championship. Zaad Ziya Wani was felicitated for playing nationals in taekwondo.

In addition, students excelling in the Science Olympiad Foundation (SOF) and winners of the Inter-School Show and Tell competition were recognized. A special felicitation of the Chief Guest was also held to express gratitude for his continued support to youth sports initiatives.

The audience was then addressed by the Chief Guest, Shri Satish Sharma, who lauded the school's efforts in promoting sports at the grassroots level. He said, "Events like these are the foundation for developing not just athletes but strong, disciplined citizens of tomorrow. I am truly impressed by the talent showcased today and urge every student to remain committed to both academics and physical fitness. My heartfelt congratulations to all the winners and participants."

He also emphasized the government's ongoing support for youth sports initiatives and infrastructural development in schools across the region.

The event concluded with the inauguration of the newly constructed basketball court, a testament to the school's commitment to holistic development and sports infrastructure.

# Tajinder Singh wins gold in Body Building Championship

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: Tajinder Singh achieved a remarkable feat by securing second place at the recent Body Building Championship, held at the Police Auditorium in Jammu.

The event was organized by the Body Building Association of Jammu and Kashmir (BBAJK) in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council. This accomplishment earned Tajinder Singh the prestigious silver medal, a testament to his dedication and hard work.

Vinay Sharma, Vice President of BBAJK, congratulated Tajinder on his impressive victory, expressing confidence in his potential to set similar records in the future.

Sharma highlighted that the primary goal of



organizing such Championships is to inspire youth to stay away from drugs, negative influences, and harmful associations.

By promoting a healthy

lifestyle and positive engagement, BBAJK aims to steer young individuals towards constructive pursuits and foster a drug free community, he said.

# Vice Chancellor Open Badminton Tournament concludes at SKUAST-J



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: The three-day Vice Chancellor Open Badminton Tournament, organized for students, faculty members and staff concluded successfully at the Sports Complex of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J), Chatha.

Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu was the Chief Guest on the occasion and distributed trophies to the winners and runner-ups.

In his address, Vice Chancellor lauded the efforts of the organizing committee and congratulated the participants for displaying great sportsmanship, enthusiasm and dedication which contributed to the grand success of the tournament.

He emphasized the importance of sports in fostering discipline, fitness and teamwork

among students and staff and encouraged continued participation in such events at state, national and international levels.

The tournament was organized under the overall supervision of Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, Dean Student Welfare and witnessed enthusiastic participation of more than 50 players from various categories. In the students' category, Antargya (4th Year Agriculture) emerged victorious in men's singles defeating Gurtez (2nd Year Agriculture) while in men's doubles the duo of Gurtez and Antargya clinched the title against Kashish and Sachin.

The women's singles title went to Sumbul (2nd Year) with Takshi (3rd Year) finishing as runner-up.

Fiza and Rithika won the women's doubles, while Sumbul and Takshi were the runners-up. In a spirited mixed doubles match, Antargya

and Shreya outplayed Gurtez and Fiza to win the title.

In the teaching staff category, Dr. Sushil won the singles title with Dr. Amitesh finishing as runner-up. In the doubles, the pair of Dr. Vinod Gupta and Dr. P.K. Rai won the tournament while Dr. Sushil and Dr. Amitesh finished runner-up. In the mixed doubles event, Dr. Sushil teamed up with Dr. Puja to claim the title defeating the team of Dr. Amitesh and Dr. Julie D Bandral.

All the statutory officers of the university were present during the award ceremony.

The tournament concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, DSW in the presence of all statutory officers and faculty members. The event served as a platform for promoting fitness, friendly competition and unity among the SKUAST-Jammu fraternity.

# Photography Exhibition-cum-Workshop at Jammu University

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: The University of Jammu's Rinchen Bzangpo Art Gallery, in association with Aperture-The Photography Club of Jammu, is organizing a five-day Group Photography Exhibition-cum-Workshop. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Umesh Rai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of University of Jammu, on April 25, 2025, at Rinchen Bzangpo Art Gallery. Prof. Manju Bhasin, Dean Academics, University of Jammu, was the special guest on this occasion. Participating artists, Chandan Sunder, Dr. Ashok Kumar, Amarjeet Singh Jandhu, Mohud Anwar Alnasir, and Shishu Pal, along with Sh. Rakesh Sharma, Coordinator, Rinchen Bzangpo Art Gallery, Sh. R K Goyal, President, Aperture, and a large number of art lovers and award winners in photography, were present in

the inaugural ceremony.

About the Exhibition-cum-Workshop

This Exhibition-cum-Workshop has been dedicated to Sh. Chandan Bhadransh, popularly known as Dada (1920-1994), the celebrated photographer of the yesteryears & the Founder of Aperture-The Jammu Photography Club. Forty-five exceptional works by renowned photographers Chandan Sunder, Dr. Ashok Kumar, Mohud Anwar Alnasir, Shishu Pal, and Amarjeet Singh Jandhu, reflecting diverse themes, artistic perspectives, and technical brilliance, have been put on display in the show.

Awards to various photographers contributing in the field of photography were given to Veteran Photographer Afzal Shah, Nitin Kanotra, Pawan Dogra, Raman Raina, Devinder Thakur, Anku Sethi, Pard-



deep Bakshi, Mir Imran, Shilpa Thakur, Neha Raina, Jasneet Kour (Ex-Student of University of Jammu who has won national and international awards in photography), and Asvina Anil Bhat (a III-year student of IMFA).

Visiting Information

The workshop, which was inaugurated on April 25, will conclude tomorrow. We invite art enthusiasts and interested individuals to visit the exhibition at Jammu University.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Umesh Rai expressed appreciation for the powerful and evocative photographs on display, highlighting the imaginative powers of the artists.

He also informed that a program for senior people is being started to make them share their experiences of life during the last seventy years, associated with various fields of activities, particularly in the field of art & culture.

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: A delegation of BMS under the leadership of Prant Sangathan Mantri Sh. Ashok Choudhary Ji met Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K at Raj Bhawan Jammu and apprised his Excellency about important issues of working classes of J&K UT.

The representatives of All India Jammu And Kashmir Bank Officers Organization accompanied the delegation and represented the cause of employees of J&K bank that Performance Linked Incentive and TDS on perquisites may be addressed by the bank management in line with the banking industry of India. The delegation requested that frozen component of salary of employees may be unfrozen in the interest of employees of the bank.

They apprised that transfer policy as prescribed by Department

# Delegation of BMS meets LG J&K

of Financial Services Govt. of India may be implemented in the bank and Transparency must be enhanced in promotion policy of the bank by implementing sliding upto scale III.

All appeals submitted by dropped officers pending disposal before bank management may be re-considered on merit. Loan facility to leftover workmen may be extended as per policy of the bank. Fresh recruitment may be ordered in the bank.

BMS represented that state minimum wages was last revised in 2022 in J&K on the basis of 2021 inflation and since the minimum wages in J&K are not linked with VDA, it lost relevance in last three years so BMS demanded that minimum wages in J&K may be linked with VDA for inclusive and progressive growth of working classes of J&K.

The central wages may be implemented in the power projects of Kishtwar in line with the directions of Chief Labour Commissioner and wages are not being paid regularly to project workers which create industrial tension and delay the commissioning of the projects, so BMS demands that wages may be paid regularly to all workers in all projects.

BMS further said that the state share of honorarium paid to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers has not been increased for the last 14 years.

Again Asha workers and Midday meal workers of J&K are not being paid any state share but many states are paying their respective state shares to these working classes.

BMS demanded that state share to Angan-

wadi workers and helpers may be increased and the same may be applied to Asha Workers and Midday meal workers.

The delegation consisted of Neelam Sharma (UT Gen Secy BMS), Mukesh Kumar

(Dy. Gen. Secy. BMS and Gen. secy AIJK-BOO), Raghubir Singh Jamwal (President AIJKBOO), Shabir Ahmad Khan and Zubair Anjum Khan (President & Gen Secy AIJKBOO Kashmir unit), and Chand Ji Kher (President AIJK-BEF).

# 1999–2002 Batch college students condole demise of staff member

## Top News Report

DODA, Apr 29: The students of the 1999–2002 batch of Govt. Degree College Doda express their deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences on the passing of Nissar Ahmed Gattu Sahib, a resident of Gattu Mohalla, Doda, and a cherished member of the college staff.

Nissar Sahib was known for his dedication, kindness, and unwavering support to students during their formative years at the institution. "We are deeply saddened by the loss of Nissar Ahmed Gattu Sahib. He was more than a staff member; he was very cooperative and a friend to many of us," said Ahtsham Hussain Bhat, Advocate at JKHC, a representative of the batch. "Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time." The 1999–2002 batch joins together in mourning and prays: May his soul rest in peace.

Fayaz Ahmed Shah of the Social Welfare Department, Sheikh Salahuddin, Cultural Officer, and others attended the condolence meeting.

# Army distributes sleeping bags to Gujar and Bakkarwals at Budhal



## Top News Report

RAJOURI, Apr 29: In a continued effort to support and strengthen ties with local communities in remote and high-altitude regions, the Indian Army conducted a humanitarian outreach program by distribution of high-quality sleeping bags to members of the Gujar & Bakkarwal communities at Budhal in the Rajouri district of Jammu & Kashmir.

The initiative aimed to provide essential assistance to these nomadic tribes who frequently endure harsh weather conditions during their seasonal migration. The sleeping bags, specifically designed for cold climates, will enhance

the comfort and safety of the community members as they navigate difficult terrains in extreme temperatures.

This outreach programme reaffirms the Indian Army's commitment to the welfare of local population, especially in remote areas with limited access to basic amenities.

Local leaders and residents expressed heartfelt gratitude acknowledging the Indian Army's constant support and empathetic approach to addressing ground realities. The Indian Army remains dedicated to fostering peace, security and cooperation through sustained civic action and goodwill initiatives in the region.



# Bihar CM Nitish Kumar announces reward of Rs 10 lakh for record-breaking Vaibhav Suryavanshi

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced a prize money of Rs 10 lakh for the 14-year-old rising sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi following his record-breaking ton against Gujarat Titans on Monday at the Sai Mansingh Stadium.

Suryavanshi left an everlasting impression in the history of the T20 format with his grand spectacle at the Sai Mansingh Stadium. The 14-year-old, who has recently taken baby steps in his career, toyed with GT's bowling unit, boasting 694 international caps.

At 14 years and 32 days, the boy wonder, who hails from Bihar, became the youngest player to score a century in T20 cricket and the second-fastest to hit a ton in the cash-rich league's history after Chris Gayle's 30-ball heroic effort against Pune Warriors in 2013.



It took a searing yorker from Prasidh Krishna to put an end to Suryavanshi's relentless onslaught.

Nitish congratulated Suryavanshi for his impeccable performance during Rajasthan's resounding 8-wicket triumph and on Tuesday announced a prize of Rs 10 lakh from the state government.

"Congratulations and best wishes to Vaibhav Suryavanshi of Bihar, who became the youngest player (14 years) to score a century in the history of

IPL. He has become a new hope for Indian cricket as a result of his hard work and talent. Everyone is proud of him. I met Mr Vaibhav Suryavanshi and his father in 2024, and at that time, I wished him a bright future. After his brilliant performance in IPL, I also congratulated him over the phone. Vaibhav Suryavanshi, a young cricketer from Bihar, will also be given a prize money of Rs 10 lakh by the state government. I wish that Vaibhav creates new records for the Indian team in the future and brings glory to the country," Nitish wrote on X.

Union Minister Chirag Paswan also hailed the 14-year-old for his memorable performance and told reporters, "On behalf of the party, I wish him all the best. He is a young talent and has made such a beautiful start at such a young age. His future is very bright."

# IPL hoping to expand to 94-game season



NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): The Indian Premier League is hoping to expand to a 94-match season in 2028 which would allow each of the 10 teams in the competition to play each other home and away, chairman Arun Singh Dharmal said.

The IPL was extended

to 74 matches in the 2022 season, when the Lucknow Super Giants and the Gujarat Titans became the newest franchises to join the league.

Asked if the tournament would be further expanded in the next International Cricket Council FTP (Future Tours Programme) calendar beginning in 2028, Dharmal said discussions had begun with the world governing body and the BCCI.

"Ideally, we'd want a larger window, or to maybe go from 74 games to 84 or 94 at some point. So that every team gets to play against every team home and away, for that, you need 94 games," Dharmal said.

# "Need to focus on upcoming matches": Harshit Rana ahead of Delhi Capitals clash

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) pacer Harshit Rana expressed confidence in his team's ability to bounce back as they prepare to face Delhi Capitals in their upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) match on Tuesday.

During pre-match press conference, Rana emphasised the importance of leaving behind their recent defeats and focusing on future challenges.

"The more we leave our last two results behind, the better it will be for us. Because as a team, we will go down if we take those games too seriously. We have to win all matches in the future," said Rana, according to the KKR release.

The young pacer shared insights about the pitch conditions at Delhi's Arun Jaitley Stadium.

"The bounce is usually low on this pitch. If you look at their last match, the ball was gripping the slower ones. The RCB bowlers used that



well. Our Indian bowling group is very strong. There is nothing missing. Overall, our bowling has been very good in the tournament."

On a personal note, while acknowledging room for improvement in his own performance this season, Rana discussed the evolution of his bowling techniques.

"Reverse swing has become very important. Moreover, we can use saliva now. This helps us in our death bowling," he noted.

The pacer also spoke highly of the team's support staff, particularly highlighting the return

# Struggling Chennai Super Kings look to turn around fortunes against Punjab Kings

CHENNAI, Apr 29 (Agencies): Their play-off hopes all but over, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) would look to turn around a floundering campaign when they square off against a better-placed but erratic Punjab Kings (PBKS) in their Indian Premier League match here on Wednesday.

It has been a disappointing season for five-time champions CSK, languishing at the bottom of the table with just two wins out of nine games.

PBKS, on the other hand, are placed fifth in the standings with five wins from nine matches and would look to rise up with a victory against a demoralised CSK side, which failed to get its combinations right so far in the season.

What has been most disheartening for CSK is their inability to master the home conditions at the Chepauk, considered a fortress for a long time.

CSK would be desperate to register their third win of the tournament to keep slim hopes of making it to the playoffs alive.

Even a talisman like Mahendra Singh Dhoni has failed to fire up the side after taking over the leadership from Ruturaj Gaikwad, who has been ruled out due to an elbow injury.

And Dhoni admitted that CSK are struggling to get their line-ups right.



"If you see the powerplay, whether it was the combination or the conditions, we are struggling with both bat and ball," Dhoni had said.

Key match-ups

CSK's young recruit Ayush Mhatre, who grabbed eyeballs on his IPL debut, will look to put on a strong display when he takes on Arshdeep Singh in the powerplay.

The most entertaining battle is expected to be between Shivam Dube and Yuzvendra Chahal in the middle overs.

Chahal has been in magnificent form for PBKS in the second half of the tournament, and it would be interesting to see how the CSK middle order handles him.

Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh have been in good form for PBKS while opening the batting and the onus would be on left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed to contain the duo.

In skipper Shreyas Iyer, PBKS have got a batter, who can control the pace of the game, but CSK would rely on Afghanistan spinner Noor Ahmad to deliver the goods.

At 43, Dhoni has shown glimpses of his legendary finishing skills but despite being a shrewd tactician, he is struggling to field a winning combination on the field.

Rachin Ravindra too has been inconsistent at the top. The struggles of Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin and

Matheesha Pathirana haven't helped CSK's cause either.

On the batting front, the likes of Vijay Shaker, Deepak Hooda and Rahul Tripathi have been below par.

In Marco Jansen, PBKS have a very good all-rounder, while the bowling unit will be spearheaded by Arshdeep and Chahal.

Teams:

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

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

Match starts at 7:30pm IST.

# Kevin Pietersen backs KL Rahul for India T20I recall, says, "I would bat KL at...."

NEW DELHI, Apr 29 (Agencies): England great Kevin Pietersen backed experienced Indian batter KL Rahul for a T20I team recall, highlighting his vast improvement in white-ball cricket over the last couple of years.

Rahul has been one of India's most consistent performers in 50-over cricket in recent times, with the right-hander playing a pivotal role in helping his side to the final of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in 2023 and to success at the ICC Champions Trophy earlier this year.

But the 33-year-old hasn't featured for his country at T20I level since India's semi-final loss to England in Adelaide at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in 2022 after posting 128 runs in six matches at a poor average of 21.33, with two fifties, despite some excellent domestic form in the shortest format.

Rahul finished as the seventh leading run-scorer at last year's

edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), amassing 520 runs for the Lucknow Super Giants at an average of 136.12, with four fifties. He has further upped his efforts this year as he continues to sit high up the run charts overall following some excellent innings for the Delhi Capitals, having made 364 runs in eight innings so far at an average of 60.66, with a strike rate of over 146 and three fifties.

It's at Delhi Capitals where Rahul has caught the eye of Pietersen, with the England legend working closely with the Indian star in his role as team mentor and predicting a return at T20I level for the talented right-hander.

While India has a plethora of options among their top-order, Pietersen believes Rahul is capable of slotting in at second drop in India's T20I side and providing the team with a reliable middle-order option.



"I would bat KL at four for India in T20 cricket," Pietersen said in the post-match press conference after Delhi Capitals' defeat to Royal Challengers Bengaluru, as quoted by ICC.

"I think you guys (India) have got plenty of opening batters, you have got Surya (Suryakumar Yadav) who bats at the top, you have got all of these guys but the way that KL Rahul is playing cricket now, he would be my first choice to bat at four and keep wicket for India."

Rahul has three half-centuries for Delhi during the ongoing IPL season, with his best

how he finished off a couple of the games for India and almost sealed the deal in the Champions Trophy in Dubai," Pietersen noted.

"I have had a lot of incredibly brilliant conversations with him about batting, a lot of deep and meaningful conversations because when you grow up as a youngster like he did and you get taught defence - elbow up, ... and then all of a sudden in your 30s, you've got to change it and you have got to become a different kind of player for a different format which is evolving all the time."

"It's very, very difficult. So the way that he has accepted that he's needed to change, the way that he has changed is of great, great credit to the person that he is. He is so positive, the way that he practices, the way that he trains, the way he thinks about the game and also the way that he talks about the game. That's KL," he concluded.

knock to date coming against Royal Challengers Bengaluru at the start of the month when he contributed an unbeaten 93\* from just 53 deliveries in a match-winning performance in Bengaluru.

Pietersen suggested Rahul had adapted his game in recent times to play with more flair, and the confidence he picked up when dismissed just once at this year's Champions Trophy event is continuing to show in the middle.

"KL has been playing in a very positive manner since late last year, mid to late last year. We saw

# Suryakumar, Shreyas, Rahane among eight India stars named icon players for T20 Mumbai League 2025

MUMBAI, Apr 29 (Agencies): As excitement builds for the much-anticipated T20 Mumbai League 2025, the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) today announced a star-studded line-up of icon players, headlined by India stars Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer and Ajinkya Rahane.

The T20 Mumbai League, one of India's leading franchise-based domestic T20 tournaments, returns after a six-year break with the third edition scheduled to take place at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai from May 26 to June 8.

Joining the roster of icon players are Sarfaraz Khan, Shardul Thakur, Prithvi Shaw, Shivam Dube and Tushar Deshpande. All eight players have represented India at the highest level, which highlights the exceptional depth of talent within

Mumbai's cricketing pipeline.

"We are delighted to unveil eight icon players who have brought immense pride to Mumbai with their performances on both the domestic and international stage. They represent the spirit, legacy and excellence of Mumbai cricket. Their presence will not only inspire and mentor emerging talent but also serve as a valuable learning opportunity for them as we remain committed to discovering and promoting the next generation of India's cricketing stars. Having these players in the league will also raise its stature and provide fans with a thrilling and memorable experience," said Ajinkya Naik, President of MCA.

Each franchise will be allowed to select one icon player as part of their squad, adding both

experience and star power to their line-ups. The MCA will announce the date of the auction soon.

In its previous editions, the T20 Mumbai League has served as a proven platform for emerging talent, offering young cricketers the opportunity to showcase their skills alongside some of the game's most established names. The upcoming season has seen an overwhelming response with over 2800 player registrations.

The T20 Mumbai League will feature eight franchises: North Mumbai Panthers, ARCS Andheri, Triumph Knights Mumbai North East, Namo Bandra Blasters, Eagle Thane Strikers, Aakash Tigers Mumbai Western Suburbs, along with two new teams, SoBo Mumbai Falcon and Mumbai South Central Maratha Royals.



# Tourism & Cultural Heritage Society condemns Pahalgam attack, urges national unity, policy reform

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: In the wake of the tragic terror attack in Pahalgam, Anantnag on April 22, where 27 innocent tourists from across India and one brave local lost their lives, the Tourism & Cultural Heritage Society, led by its President Raminder K. Sanhotra, held an emotional and urgent press conference today.

The Society expressed its deepest condolences to the bereaved families and strongly condemned the horrific act of terror that has shaken the collective conscience of the nation.

"Baisaran has fallen silent, the mighty Himalayas that once echoed with laughter now mourn in solitude," said Sanhotra, opening the conference with a heavy heart.

He noted how four days on, the pain of



families still lingers in disbelief, the nation mourns in fury and Kashmir grieves the loss of a fragile peace that tourism had so carefully begun to restore.

Calling the attack a "major security lapse and an intelligence failure of the highest order," Sanhotra urged both the Jammu & Kashmir Administration and the Union Home Ministry to bring the perpetrators and sponsors of this heinous act to justice.

He emphasized that terrorism in all its forms must be eradicated, and protecting the lifeblood of J&K's economy—tourism—should be a national priority.

Sanhotra raised grave concerns over the negative ripple effects on Jammu's tourism economy, especially with upcoming religious pilgrimages like the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra and visits to Mata Vaishno Devi.

"Tourism was already

on a ventilator post-COVID.

This attack shuts down the little hope that was returning. Stakeholders in Jammu, who rely heavily on footfall from Kashmir-bound travelers, are now staring into economic darkness," Sanhotra lamented.

The Society called on the Department of Tourism and Ministry of Home Affairs to launch publicity campaigns assuring tourist safety and to involve stake-

holders directly in policy-making.

This, Sanhotra asserted, is the only way to rebuild trust and revive the tourism sector in Jammu & Kashmir.

On another serious note, Sanhotra warned about "Boycott Kashmir" trends circulating on social media, calling it a "dangerous narrative that fuels separatism."

He urged all patriotic citizens to reject such divisive content, emphasizing that national unity must prevail over hate.

Sanhotra also highlighted the skyrocketing airfares in the aftermath of tragedies, urging the Ministry of Civil Aviation to regulate ticket pricing during crises, saying "Airfare should not fluctuate like stock markets in tragedy. This exploitation is unacceptable and adds further burden to the already grieving families and hesitant tourists."

# CAT grants major relief to daily wagers in J&K: Orders restoration of revised Wages under S.O. 513

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: In a major development that may benefit hundreds of daily wagers and casual labourers in Jammu & Kashmir, the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jammu Bench, has directed the Public Works Department (PWD) to continue paying wages to the labourers as per the revised structure notified under S.O. 513 dated October 12, 2022.

The matter pertains to Murtaza Anjum & Ors vs. Union Territory of J&K & Ors, of PWD (R&B) Division Rajouri of Peer Panjal Zone, wherein the petitioners challenged the unlawful reduction of wages from their entitled categories (Skilled, Semi-Skilled, Highly Skilled, Ministerial) to the lowest wage bracket of 311/day,

meant only for unskilled workers. Advocate Aftab Ahmed Mir and Advocate Karan Prasher represented the Petitioners.

The case of the petitioners was that they were receiving wages according to the classification of labour under S.O. 513 dated 12-10-2022, issued by the Labour and Employment Department, wherein wages were prescribed for Unskilled, Semi-Skilled, Skilled, Highly Skilled, and Administrative/Ministerial categories.

The said S.O. was implemented in the PW(R&B) Department vide endorsement No. CEJ/Legal/25316-42 dated 25-02-2023 and the petitioners accordingly started receiving wages as per revised rates as defined under S.O. 513. However,

by virtue of Communication No. CEP/R&B/2024-25/11724-39 dated 20-03-2025 and Communication No. PWD-ACCT/104/2023 dated 19-03-2025, the petitioner's wages were arbitrarily reduced to a uniform rate of Rs. 311/- per day, wrongly relying upon Government Order No. 32-F of 2023 dated 21-02-2023, which pertains exclusively to Unskilled Workers.

The case was listed before the Bench of Member (Judicial) Rajinder Singh Dogra and Member (Administrative) Ram Mohan Johri, who granted interim relief to the petitioner by directing the PW(R&B) department to continue paying wages to the petitioners as per revised wages as provided under SO 513 dated October 12, 2022.

# JKNC Central Zone condemns Pahalgam terror attack; endorses CM's initiatives

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: The Central Zone of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) on Tuesday convened a meeting under the leadership of former minister and Central Zone president, Babu Rampaul. The meeting, attended by senior party workers and zonal office-bearers, was primarily focused on the recent tragic terror attack in Pahalgam.

In a strongly worded resolution, the meeting condemned the heinous attack, terming it a "massacre of innocents" and a "cowardly act aimed at disturbing the peace and harmony of the region."

Babu Rampaul expressed deep anguish over the loss of lives and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

He also endorsed the proactive move of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for calling a Special Session of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly to discuss the grave situation arising from the Pahalgam attack. Rampaul hailed

the decision as timely and necessary, emphasizing that a united political response was vital to send a strong message against terrorism.

Further, Rampaul lauded the government's decision to depute ministers to various states to safeguard the interests of Jammu and Kashmir students and businessmen.

He said that the move would not only ensure the security and well-being of J&K citizens residing outside the Union Territory but would also "thwart the nefarious designs of Pakistan, which aims to create divisions among the people of India."

"Such attacks are aimed at sowing seeds of fear and mistrust among our citizens. It is our collective responsibility to stand united and reject these attempts to destabilize the nation," Rampaul said. He urged all the nationalist forces to unite in this hour of need and thwart the nefarious designs of enemies who are hell bent to divide the people in the name of religion.

Senior leader of JKNC also appealed to the

people of nation, all political parties, social organizations and the civil society to remain vigilant against the fringe elements which are trying to instigate the people and protect the Jammu and Kashmir students and business holders who are being attacked in other states of the nation.

The meeting concluded with a unanimous pledge by all JKNC Central Zone members to stand firmly against terrorism and uphold the values of peace, communal harmony, and brotherhood across the Union Territory and the country.

Among those who attended the meeting were Ankush Abrol Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC, Dr Vikas Sharma, Coordinator Jammu District and Zonal Secretary, Sham Lal Mehra, Adv. Rajinder Chanyal, Rahul Mahajan, Nirmal Singh, Dr. Gourav Bharat, B.D Dalotra (retd. S.P), Surjeet Singh Sasan, Adv Lovesh Bharat, Prem Kumar Verma, Hemraj, Naved Raja, Sat Paul, Manhor Lal, Harbans Lal, Jatinder Kumar, and others.

# World Dance Day celebrations: Balwant glorifies power of dance



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: Natrang Jammu in connection with the celebrations of the International Day of Dance organised an event signifying the role of dance as an art form in a multi-cultural region like Jammu & Kashmir.

While glorifying the power of dance, the director of Natrang Padamshiri Balwant Thakur who took the dances of Jammu & Kashmir to global audiences dwelt in detail about the significant role local dances have played in integrating this region.

Jammu & Kashmir boasts of a remark-

able diversity in its languages and cultural expressions. The variegated variety of different colors, rhythms, costumes, design patterns of Jammu & Kashmir are unique in the world. But it was only through the dances of Jammu & Kashmir we have been demonstrating the amazing cultural diversity to the world.

On the occasion to mark the world dance day celebrations, a presentation of the dances of Jammu & Kashmir entitled 'Celebrating Diversity' was also showcased which Natrang has been presenting world over.

Fact remains that the

outside world is not aware about this unique feature of Jammu & Kashmir and it was only through this special presentation of Natrang that the world was exposed to this rarest fact.

Be it 'Asia Pacific Festival' Germany, 'Days of India' in Russia, 'Diwali Festival' at Trafalgar Square in London, 'Kashmir Festival' in Kyrgyzstan, 'J&K Festival' in Dubai, 'Festival of India' in South Africa or G20 Celebrations in Kashmir, Natrang in a very artistic and innovative manner designed and presented the electrifying vibrancy of unique cultural diversity

of Jammu & Kashmir.

Fact remains that on no occasion all diverse cultures 'Kashmiri', 'Dogri', 'Gojri', 'Pahari', and 'Bhadarwahi' of Jammu & Kashmir have got this kind of recognition. Never before the initiative of Natrang, the different ethnic groups got the opportunity to come-together on one stage and celebrate its unparalleled diversity.

Balwant Thakur firmly believes that for the integration of different cultural regions of Jammu & Kashmir, the dances have played a cementing role in bringing them together, appreciating each other's culture and unique artistic signifi-

cances.

Speaking about the purpose of World Dance Day Celebrations Balwant Thakur said that the core objective of the celebrations of this day is to raise public awareness of dance as an art form. Dance is a means of cultural expression and an important educational tool. Despite being an important part of human life, it lacks official recognition and patronage worldwide. This is also an occasion, a wakeup call for the governments, politicians and the members of the civil society to realise the value of this art form which has been highly instrumental in shaping societies since ages.

"This world day has been celebrated since 1982 when the dance committee of International Theatre Institute which works under the aegis of UNESCO, recognised this day to celebrate dance as an art form and promote its significance worldwide" Balwant Thakur concluded.

# Online portal for submission of Examination Forms for June 2025 TEE closed, late fee of Rs.1100 implemented

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: The online portal for submission of online examination forms to appear in the June 2025 Term-end examination without any Late Fee has closed on April 28, 2025. IGNOU commenced the exam form submission for all UG, PG, Diploma, and Certificate level courses under the Online & ODL mode from 14th March, 2025. The examinations are likely to commence from 2nd June 2025. From April 29, 2025 onwards, a late fee of Rs.1100 will be applicable in addition to the examination fee of Rs.200 per course. Earlier the last date for online submission of examination forms was 20th April, 2025 which was extended till 28th April, 2025 without Late Fee.

The examination forms are to be submitted through the Student Portal on the Samarth



Platform. Students shall be required to login to their student account at <https://ignou.samarth.edu.in>. If a student is already registered on the Student Portal, he/she may login to submit the examination form. If the student is not registered, he/she needs to first register on the portal by clicking NEW REGISTRATION and following the instructions. In case of any difficulty in registering on the Student Portal, students may seek assistance from the Regional Centre by dropping a mail on [rcjammu@ignou.ac.in](mailto:rcjammu@ignou.ac.in).

The University reserves the right to reschedule/cancel examinations/papers at any time in all the Examination Centre across the Country or in any particular Examination Centre/ State due to any exigency or any other reasons.

For any query regarding non-receipt of the control number or about status of Examination Form, students are advised to send email to [termendexam@ignou.ac.in](mailto:termendexam@ignou.ac.in) or contact over phone no. 011-29572209.

Regional Centre Jammu has established 32 Examination Centres spread across all ten districts of the Jammu region with Examination Centre at each of the ten district Headquarters so that the students do not have to travel longer distances for appearing in the exams", said Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, Regional Centre Jammu.

# NSF pays tributes Bal Krishna on 65th Death anniversary

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 29: National Secular Forum (NSF) paid tributes to Bal Krishna Sharma on his 65th Death Anniversary at University Campus, who laid his life for the country.

Ankush Abrol Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC and Ex-Member BCCI was the chief guest while, Dr. Vikas Sharma Coordinator Jammu District and Zonal Secretary JKNC presided over the function and Dr Sukhdev Singh State President NSF, was the guest of honour.

Speaking on the occasion Ankush Abrol appreciated the initiative taken by the University Unit NSF to remember the death anniversary of those who have contributed their lives for the Country.

Abrol also said that Bal Krishna Sharma, known under the pen name Naveen, was an Indian freedom activist, journalist, politician and a poet of Hindi literature.

# MD JJM, J&K directs officers to speed up pace of execution of water supply projects in district Kupwara

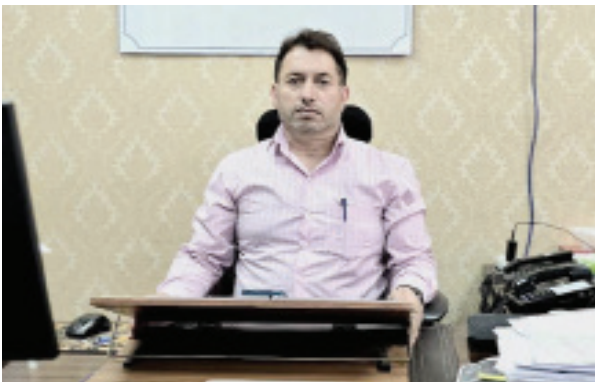
Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 29: Mission Director (MD), Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), J&K Khurshid Ahmad Shah on Tuesday reviewed the implementation of JJM in district Kupwara.

The MD was apprised about the various components under execution through a power-point presentation.

As per the figures the district comprises 355 villages with 1, 56,179 rural households out of which 1, 29,755 households have been provided with Functional Household Connections (FHTC's).

The MD directed the concerned officers to speed up the pace of execution of water supply schemes so that the remaining 26,000 odd households are provided with FHTC's soon.



The MD was informed the failure of nine bore wells due to no or less discharge have impeded the progress in scheme completion.

The MD sought response from the Executive Engineer, Ground Water Division, Srinagar who informed the chair that letter of intent for these wells has been issued and the contractor has mobilized the machinery.

The MD directed the Executive Engineer, Ground Water to per-

sonally monitor the drilling of these bore wells in coordination with Superintending Engineer, concerned.

The Mission Director while reviewing the time-lines for various works enquired about non-starter of General Service reservoir's (GSR's) in the keran sector.

The MD was assured that the allotments have been issued and with the improvement of weather the works on these GSRs will be started within a week's

time. The Mission Director directed the Executive Engineers to certify all Har Ghar Jal (HGJ) reported villages as large number of HGJ reported villages remain uncertified.

He directed Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic Circle Kupwara to personally monitor the certification of reported HGJ villages. The MD outlined action items and follow-up tasks for officers to ensure mission advancement.

The meeting was attended by Superintending Engineer, (Hydraulic) circle Kupwara, Executive Engineers of field divisions, AEE's and JE's besides their counterparts from the Mechanical wing through virtual mode from their respective offices to avoid time loss.