

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Indian soldiers defeat Pakistan each time it dares to challenge country's unity, strength: Himanta

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Tariff talks with India going great, think will have deal: Trump



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-12 Issue-118 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Elderly woman dies after allegedly jumping into Jhelum in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Apr 30 (Agencies): An elderly woman died after allegedly jumping into the River Jhelum from a footbridge in the Sonwar- Rajbagh area of Srinagar on Wednesday morning.

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Mirwaiz urges people to trust Kashmiris, ensure locals' safety

SRINAGAR, Apr 30 (Agencies): Kashmir's chief cleric and Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Wednesday urged the people of India not to fall prey to "hatred and media propaganda" creating mistrust of Kashmiris and reciprocate in ensuring

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ACB files corruption case against Manish Sisodia, Satyendar Jain

NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) has filed a case against AAP leaders Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain over alleged corruption in the construction of 12,748 classrooms in Delhi government schools, an official said on Wednesday.

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SIA arrests key accused in drug syndicate from Punjab

JAMMU, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir State Investigation Agency (SIA) has achieved a breakthrough in its probe into a major drug trafficking case involving the recovery of 33 kg of heroin, with the arrest of a key accused from Punjab.

Harjit Singh, son of Sukhwinder Singh and a resident of Kasel in the Tarn Taran district, was apprehended by a

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Cabinet Committee on Security meets for second time after Pahalgam attack



NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): In the wake of the deadly Pahalgam terrorist attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has once again convened a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) which will be followed by the

■ Turn to page 9

Pakistan Army violates ceasefire for sixth consecutive day; Indian Army responds appropriately



SRINAGAR, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Pakistan Army has violated the ceasefire agreement yet again, initiating unprovoked small-arms

firing along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir for the sixth consecutive day, army officials said.

According to official

sources, during the night of April 29-30, Pakistani posts opened unprovoked fire across the LoC opposite the

■ Turn to page 9

India planning military action in next 24-36 hrs, claims Pak

ISLAMABAD, Apr 30 (Agencies): Pakistan on Wednesday claimed it has "credible intelligence" that India is planning military action against it in the next 24-36 hours and warned New Delhi that there would be consequences.

The statement came hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told the top defence brass that the armed forces have "complete operational freedom" to decide on the

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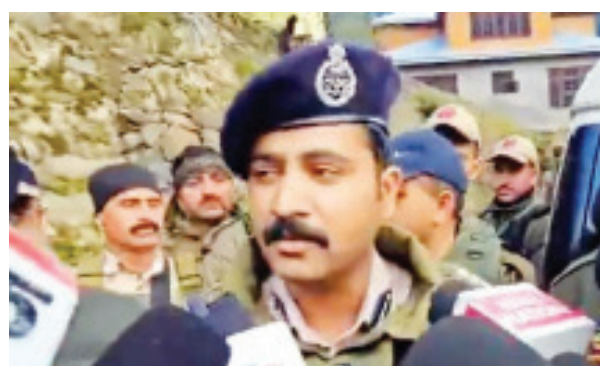
US urges India, Pakistan 'not to escalate' tensions

WASHINGTON, Apr 30 (Agencies): US Secretary of State Marco Rubio called on India and Pakistan to "not escalate" the situation and plans to convey the same message in phone calls to his counterparts in the two countries, Indian External Affairs

■ Turn to page 9



Officials review security arrangements at key tourists destinations near Jammu



JAMMU, Apr 30 (Agencies): A week after the Pahalgam terror attack, a senior police officer visited renowned tourist destinations near Jammu and conducted a comprehensive review of the security situa-

tion, an official said on Wednesday.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban range, Shridhar Patil visited Patnitop and adjoining Nathatop and Sanasar located on the

old alignment of Jammu-Srinagar national highway between Udhampur and Ramban districts which are visited by large number of holiday-makers round-the-year.

Accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police, Ramban, Kulbir Singh and other police and civil officers including representatives of Patnitop Development Authority and officers of Tourism department, the DIG reviewed the security measures taken for the safety of the visitors, a police spokesperson

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Maharashtra man claims terror suspect spoke to him day before Pahalgam attack

JALNA, Apr 30 (Agencies): A young man from Jalna city in Maharashtra, who recently returned from Kashmir, has claimed that one of the suspected attackers in the Pahalgam terror case spoke to him a day

before the carnage. "Hindu ho kya. You don't look like you are from Kashmir," said Adarsh Raut, recalling his interaction with a man at a food stall in the Baisaran Valley on

■ Turn to page 9

ICSE 10th, ISC 12th Results declared at cisce.org

NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) declared the ICSE (Class 10) and ISC (Class 12) board exam results on April 30, 2025,

■ Turn to page 9

16 Kashmiri Shawl sellers flee Mussoorie after assault, Media reports

SRINAGAR, Apr 30 (Agencies): At least 16 Kashmiri shawl vendors have left Mussoorie in haste following an attack on two of their fellow tradesmen, sparking concerns over the safety of

seasonal workers in the popular tourist hill town, reports appearing in media said. The assault, captured on video and widely circulated on social media,

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15 killed in Kolkata hotel fire; BJP slams CM Mamata over 'insensitive' response



KOLKATA, Ail 30 (Agencies): Fifteen people, including a woman and two children, were killed in a

devastating fire at a hotel in the Mechuapatti area of central Kolkata, police said on Wednesday.

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Dry weather continues, Light Rain expected from May 1 till 5th : MET center

SRINAGAR, Apr 30 (Agencies): According to the Meteorological Center, the weather in Jammu and Kashmir is expected to remain hot and dry on April 30. But from 1st May till 5th there is possibility of light rain certain places at isolated regions with thunder and gusty winds.

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GupShup

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Are you a true desi chicken connoisseur? Look no further than Gupshup Restaurant, the only restaurant in Jammu and Kashmir to serve 100% Desi chicken (Jatka) cooked to perfection on a traditional Chullah.

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CHOUBARSI

Choubarsi of our beloved **Sahil Mahajan** will be performed on Thursday 1st May 2025 at 12.00 Noon at our residence 93, Gali Agni Hotri Kachi Chawni Jammu.

Deeply Remembered By

Palvi Mahajan- Wife
Neelam & Ashok- Parents
Deepali & Raju- Didi, Jiju
Ashima & Amit- Didi, Jiju
Lovely & Koushal- Chachi, Chachu
Vaanya & Rudra- Children
Mob. No. 9797595793
Kirpa Ram Amar Nath, Boota Ram Market Jammu



Sahil Mahajan
(Micky)

CHOUVARSI

After having enlightened uncountable lives with your pearls of wisdom, you left this mortal world to join Him eternally. Four years have passed since you left us for your heavenly abode. You are alive in our hearts, actions and thoughts and your presence is felt everywhere and in every moment of our life.

Chouvarsi of our beloved father **Late Pandit Hem Raj Lakhanpal Ji** S/o Late Pt Gyan Chand Sharma Ji shall be performed On 01/05/2025 (Thursday), at our residence Laiter, Tetsil Pouni, Distt Reasi.

Shej will be performed at 12 Noon followed by Bhog at 1pm onwards.

Deeply Missed & Remembered by:

Smt Chanchal Sharma (Wife)
Sons and Daughter in Laws
Ravikant Lakhanpal & Neelam Sharma,
Shashikant Lakhanpal & Preeti Lakhanpal,
Ramakant Lakhanpal & Swati Sharma
Daughter and Son in Law*
Rekha Sadhotra & Raj Sadhotra
(M) 9906070018, 9419122325, 9906072478, 7006913276



Late Pandit Hem Raj
Lakhanpal Ji

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. Shibani 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**

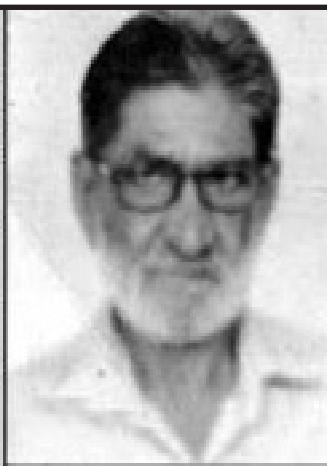
Ankush Dubey - Son

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 Salwari, 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 Jammu Colony, Old Salwari, 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

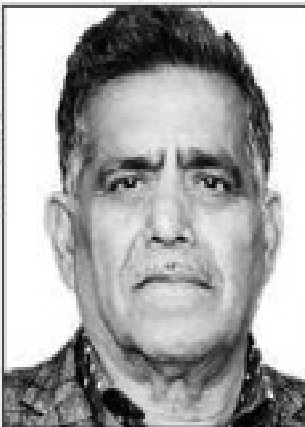
Daughters and Sons-in-law

Smt. Goldy Gupta & Sh. Armit Pal Gupta

Smt. Ruby Gupta & Sh. Ravinder Kumar

Grand Children: Saksham, Sameer, Sankarshan

and all members of our Gupta family



Late Sh. Janak Raj
Gupta

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Dr. Mohan Lal Bhardwaj** (Retd. Medical Superintendent) (S/o Lt. Sh. Lachhman Dass & Lt. Smt. Ram Payari)

10TH DAY ARDAAS shall be performed on 1st May, 2025 (Thursday) at 12 pm followed by Langar at Tali Sahib Gunawara, Talab Tilo near Pacca Gharat.

GRIEF STRICKEN -

Smt. Rani Devi (Retd. SPM) (Wife)

(Son & Daughter-in-law)

Mr. Rohit Bhardwaj and Mrs. Shabnam Dogra

(Daughters & Sons-in-law)

Dr. Palvi Bhardwaj & Mr. Sumeet Chadgal

Mrs. Puja Bhardwaj & Mr. Arun Bhagat

(Sister & Brother-in-law)

Smt. Ratna Kumari & Dr. BR Bawa (Retd. Sr Asst Surgeon)

(Brother & Sister-in-law)

Mr. A K Bhardwaj (Retd. AGM) & Mrs. Anita Kumari (Retd Lt)

(Brother & Sister-in-law)

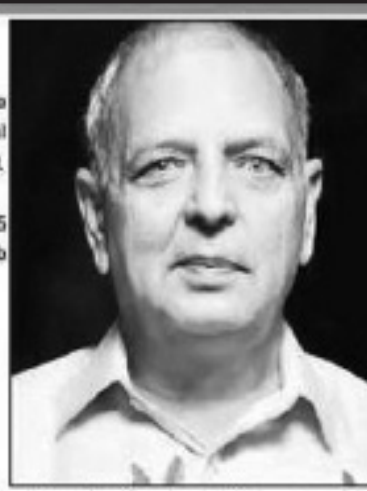
Dr. Ravi Kumar (Dy Dir. AH) & Mrs. Sevita Kumari (Retd Dy Secy JK BOSE)

Er. King Kumar (AEE) & Mrs. Sushma Devi (Retd. AGM) (Brother & Sister-in-law)

Er. Rajesh Kumar (XEN) & Lt. Smt. Kanchan Ranjana (Brother & Sister-in-law)

Er. Vinod Kumar Khullar (AEE) & Mrs. Geetu Bangotra (Coord. Samagra) (Brother & Sister-in-law)

Shanaya Chadgal & Samrat Bhardwaj (Grandchildren) (9419207374, 9149784918)



Dr. Mohan Lal Bhardwaj
(Retd. Medical Superintendent)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief & deep sorrow, we inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Mohan Lal** S/o Lt. Tara Chand, resident of Rajpura Mangotrian Jammu, left for heavenly abode on 22/4/2025.

Tenth Day Satsang in his remembrance will be performed on 01-05/2025, Thursday at 12 Noon at Sheesh Mahal Palace Opp. BSF Palwara followed by Guru Ka Langer.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Kamla Devi - Wife

Smt. Shankari Devi - Bhabhi

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Smt. Reeta Devi & Sh. Sunil Kumar

Smt. Priya & Sh. Ranjak Mahajan

Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Madhu Bala & Sh. Shashi Kumar

Smt. Neetu Diga - Daughter

Smt. Anuradha & Sh. Sanjeev Karulupia - Daughter & Son-in-law

Grand Children

Kapleshwar & Radhika, Kannu & Kanri, Lovish & Loveesha, Nivi & Era

Mob. No.: 9419112898, 7006211756, 9797445009



Sh. Mohan Lal

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 Gotingo Kupwara.

A/P:- Block No. 141, Flat No. 17, Lane no. 23, Jagbi 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)

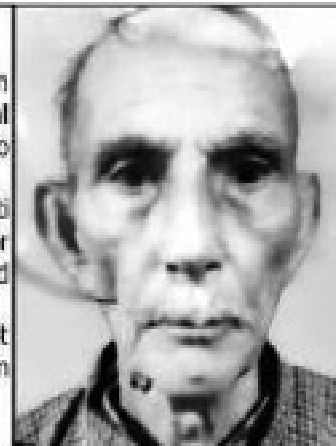
Smt. Nancy Bhan (Sister-in-Law)

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 (Densal 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

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. Bansi 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 Bilon Bowali 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)

Bansi 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 Dow) 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. 9419206948; 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

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you of the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kanta Devi** W/o Lt. Sh. Gopal Raina, R/o Hari Market, Hanuman Mandir, Jammu.

10th DAY will be performed on 01-05-2025 (Thursday) at Sunder Singh Gurudwara Sunder Singh Road Mandir Chowk from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:

Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Jyoti Dubey & Sh. Dar Jyoti Dubey

Smt. Anil Dhawan & Sh. Amit Dhawan

Samast Rana Parwar Hari Market Hanuman Mandir.

Grand Children

Hananjay Dubey, Akshita Dubey, Amira Dhawan

Mobile: 9419197160 / 9622043292 / 94191 64778



Smt. Kanta Devi

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Master Des Raj Sharma** S/o Late Sh. Chaitoo Ram Sharma on 21 April 2025.

10th Day on 30-04-2025 (Wednesday) at 10:30 am at Hari Ghat Canal Road Jammu

11th Day on 01-05-2025 (Thursday) at our Residence H.No. 35-F, Street No. 1, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

Uthala on 02-05-2025 Friday from 5pm to 6pm at Ram mandir, Gurha Bakshi Nagar.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Sons & Daughters-in-Laws

Ramesh Chander Sharma & Smt. Sunita Sharma

(Retd. KAS)

Late Sh. Sat Pal Sharma (CA) & Smt. Manju Sharma

Shri. Yash Pal Sharma (Retd. Master) & Chanderekhia Sharma

Shri. Shanti Bhushan Sharma (Retd. AOR) & Smt. Ursula Sharma

Er. Satish Chander Sharma & Smt. Savita Sharma

Daughters & Son-in-law

Shri. Madan Lal Sharma & Smt. Sudesh Kumari

Late Shri. Rajendra Magotra (Basketball Coach Om) & Smt. Sunita Magotra

Whole Sharma Family

Mob: 7006376442, 7889370824



MASTER DES RAJ
SHARMA

10TH DAY, KRIYA, RASAM PAGRI, UTHALA

In Loving Memory of **Late Sh. Rajeev Rampal** S/o Sh. Surjeet Rampal (Departed on 21st April, 2025)

10th Day - 30th of April, 2025

Kriya - 1st of May, 2025 from 10.00 am onwards

Rasam Pagri / Uthala - 2nd of May, 2025 from 3-4 pm

Ashirwad Resort, Kurjwani Road, Prithipur

Your presence and prayers will mean a lot to the family.

Rampal Family

Sh. Surjeet Rampal

Sh. Narinder Rampal

Mr. Abhinandan Rampal


Mr. Lovish Rampal

Master Abhinav Rampal

Contact: +919596632476, +917051514735, +918492810934



Late Sh



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION REASI

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No.07 of 2025-26 Dated 28-04-2025
(Single Cover System)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (₹ in lacs)	Cost of doc't (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in Rs.₹)	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of Niabat Building at Salal Tehsil and Distt. Reasi.	15.00	600/-	30000/-	6 Month	"B"CD
2.	Macadamization of Circular road via Mahadev Temple for the year 2025-26	8.55	600/-	17100/-	6 Month	"C"CD

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	29-04-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 29-04-2025 to 17-05-2025, 1600 Hrs
4	Bid submission Start Date	29-04-2025
5	Bid Submission End Date	17-05-2025 up to 1600 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	19-05-2025 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

Position of AAA: -

Position of T. S: -

Position of Funds: -

Accorded

Accorded

Demand

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/ Bid Security/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi.** as mentioned in the bid documents.

No:- 665-69

Dated:- 28-04-2025

DIP/J-717/25

SD/-

(Er. Bhopinder Kumar Banotra)

Executive Engineer

PWD (R&B) Division

Reasi

EDITORIAL

HONOURING
BACKBONE OF
SOCIETIES

Labour Day, observed on May 1st in many countries around the world, is a day dedicated to celebrating the contributions, achievements, and rights of workers. Also known as International Workers' Day or May Day, this day not only commemorates past struggles for fair treatment and better working conditions but also serves as a reminder of the ongoing efforts to secure dignity and justice in the workplace. The origins of Labour Day can be traced back to the labour union movement in the 19th century, particularly the push for an eight-hour workday. One of the most notable events was the Haymarket Affair in Chicago in 1886, where a peaceful protest advocating for shorter working hours turned violent. The incident became a symbol of the global fight for workers' rights and eventually led to the declaration of May 1st as International Workers' Day by the Second International in 1889. Labour Day is more than a public holiday; it is a day of recognition and appreciation. Across the world, governments, trade unions, and citizens come together to honour the role of workers in driving economic growth and societal development. Whether it's the farmer working under the sun, the nurse tending to patients, or the factory worker assembling goods, each plays a vital role in building the foundation of our daily lives. Parades, rallies, and cultural programs mark the day in many regions, bringing attention to workers' issues, rights, and the importance of unity among the working class. In countries like India, Labour Day is also known as Antarrashtriya Shramik Diwas and is observed with speeches, awareness drives, and labour welfare initiatives. In today's rapidly changing world, the relevance of Labour Day has only grown. The COVID-19 pandemic, for instance, spotlighted the critical role of frontline workers, many of whom faced increased risks without adequate compensation or protection. It also laid bare the inequalities in job security, access to healthcare, and wage distribution. Moreover, with the rise of the gig economy, remote work, and artificial intelligence, new challenges have emerged. Many workers now face instability, lack of benefits, and unclear legal protections. Labour Day serves as a timely occasion to reflect on these modern issues and push for reforms that ensure every worker, regardless of sector, receives fair treatment and opportunities. While much progress has been made since the early labour movements, there is still a long journey ahead. Ensuring gender equality, fair wages, safe working conditions, and social security for all remains a global challenge. Labour Day reminds us that the dignity of labour should never be compromised and that every job, no matter how big or small, deserves respect. Governments, businesses, and civil society must collaborate to create inclusive and sustainable work environments. Investing in skill development, encouraging ethical business practices, and enforcing labour laws are crucial steps in this direction. Labour Day is not just a historical observance but a living, evolving reminder of the struggles and triumphs of the global workforce. It urges us to value human effort, advocate for justice, and work towards a world where employment is not just a means of survival, but a path to dignity and fulfilment. On this Labour Day, let us not only honour the workers of the past but also commit to uplifting those who continue to build our future with their hands, minds, and hearts.

“Fear of independent women: indigestion of Hindi literature”

By: Priyanka Saurabh

“A thorn in the eye of Hindi literature: Independent women”

The Hindi literature world still cannot digest the real independent and enlightened women. They want a female writer of the kind they want. She should write on soft issues, family, society, some psychology, and man-woman relationships. For them, the synonym of modernity or a modern woman is that she can write boldly. In the name of bold writing, this society praises vulgarity in female writers and bestows them with big words. They do all this in the name of women's freedom.

Those confused women also consider opposing family, opposing culture, and supporting perverted sexuality as bold and modern and keep strutting like puppets in their hands. It is a pity that they do not know that they are puppets; they are made to write whatever they want, and that too by coating them in the syrup of modern, courageous, bold, independent, enlightened words. Writing of slimy literature, destruction, and negativity is what makes them called bold and enlightened.

The Hindi literature world still cannot digest the real independent and enlightened women. They want a female writer of the kind

they want. She should write on soft issues, family, society, some psychology, and man-woman relationships. For them, the synonym of modernity or a modern woman is that she can write boldly. In the name of bold writing, this society praises vulgarity in female writers and bestows them with big words. They do all this in the name of women's freedom.

Those confused women also consider opposing family, opposing culture, and supporting perverted sexuality as bold and modern and keep strutting like puppets in their hands. It is a pity that they do not know that they are puppets; they are made to write whatever they want, and that too by coating them in the syrup of modern, courageous, bold, independent, enlightened words. Writing of slimy literature, destruction, and negativity is what makes them called bold and enlightened.

Even today, enlightened women with independent consciousness are an uncomfortable truth for the Hindi literary world. Women who are masters of their independent intellect, who think, raise questions, and do not fit into the old mold of submissive female writers—they are still not acceptable to the literary community. Even today, they want such female writers who fit into their prescribed mold:

those who write on 'soft' issues—family, society, a little psychology, and some light-hearted male-female relationships.

When 'modernity' is mentioned on the platforms of Hindi literature, it too has a set framework. For them, a "modern" female writer means one who is "bold"—that is, one who serves obscenity in the name of 'bold writin'g. One who is incited in the name of 'sexual' freedom—opposition to the family, mockery of culture, and distortion of relationships—is said to be synonymous with modernity. And this entire trickery is wrapped up with such sweetness that the confused female writers themselves believe this lie to be true. They are filled with pride about how 'bold,' 'independent,' and 'modern' they have become—while they have become mere puppets in the hands of those literary contractors who make them dance according to their convenience. Sadly, they never have the time to raise this question: whether the lesson of freedom that they are being taught, have those male writers taught the same lesson to the women of their homes as well?

The mindset of the literary society is that women's writing should be limited to a hidden realm of tender emotions, beauty, love, separa-

tion, or soft porn. If a woman dares to write seriously on geopolitics, religion, philosophy, spirituality, international relations, sociology, politics, education, economics, or policies, she makes them uncomfortable. This unbearable thought gets embedded in their minds: "These are the fields of men." Women should only embellish words—they should not raise deep questions. Depth of thoughts, sharpness of analysis, and intellectual boldness—all these are still considered 'male bastions' in the Hindi literary scene.

A woman who neither bows down to the desire of any award nor compromises her ideas in the greed of any platform nor is hungry for the favor of any famous critic, a woman who is alert and firm about her thoughts, values, and character—she is still a dangerous presence for the Hindi literary world. Such a woman being the owner of her own conscience and her independence scares them, irritates them, and makes them uncomfortable. They start awarding her with titles like 'arrogant,' 'insensitive,' 'fanatic,' and 'over-intellectual' so that she can be pushed to the margins. But all their ridicule, all their criticism, is just a trivial noise for that woman, who knows that her war is not against the darkness outside but against the dark-

Medicines Lost Ahead of Diseases

By: Vijay Garg

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared antimicrobial resistance i.e. AMR (antimicrobial resistance) as one of the top ten global public health threats in front of humanity. AMR occurs when microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, and some parasites develop mechanisms to resist being killed by antimicrobial. Thus infection is formed and continues to spread to others. The antibacterial component has to rapidly emerge as the world's public health crises to not understand the role of 'diagnostic stewardship' i.e. proper use of drugs in the second place after climate change. The way of suitable and better use of medicines and not knowing its properties and defects, the body becomes home to a variety of diseases, those medicines also stop working, which was so better bearing in the beginning. This problem is all over the world. According to the organisation, this global health threat is expected to grow at a wider level. All the mulls in the world should look into it as a priority. At the time of Corona, millions of people had died despite being treated on the basis of mere symptom of Covid-19. The U.S., Italy, China and India were major countries, where the impact of Corona was widespread. Since then, it had started to feel that due to new diseases in the future, it could continue to be a panic among people at all times because of non-receipt of medicines or the impact of the medicine being minor. The complexity of the

antibacterial component is estimated by it that it also goes difficult or sometimes impossible to treat infections after the resistance of antimicrobial drugs is developed or become. Apparently the sick person slowly succumbs to agony in absence of suitable treatment. Allopathy is seen to have many medicines that stop working after a boundary. How effective will new medicines be in treating new diseases, it is known only after their use. Now concern is that new-born diseases causing panic in the world after Covid-19. Sometimes they started with China, sometimes from African countries, but in all the countries of the world, an atmosphere of panic is formed in a short day. Such situations may never last in the world, as today are. Question why antimicrobial resistance i.e. AMR is a matter of concern? It is a matter of concern that with the gradual and growing growth of resistance to antimicrobial agents, many medicines are losing their ability to treat infections. This threatens to reverse the benefits derived from years of progress in science and medicine. The World Health Organization has warned about its growing threats that drug-resistant diseases can lead to untimely death of a crore people by 2050. Forty lakh 19 thousand deaths were linked to antimicrobial resistance in 2019, according to a study published in the 'Lasef' magazine. The study suggests that any person, at any stage of life, can have antibacterial properties bearing. These are developing so fast that new antibacterial again' has also surpassed the pace of developing. The study suggests that the AMR developed

as global exposure increases through trade and travel has increased fears of spreading around the world. If we do not resolve antimicrobial resistance, regular medical procedures and surgical will also lose the ability to do safely. Antibacterial resistance occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites are naturally mutated with time. and do not react to modern medicines. This makes it difficult to treat the infection. As a result, standard antibiotic treatments become ineffective and the infection persists, increasing the risk for the patient. We can understand this way. In a developing country like India, many drugs are priced out of the status of the common man. This makes diseases grow continuously. The price of antimicrobial resisters (AMR) drugs is very high and can be measured as a loss of human life 'Antimicrobial Stewardship' (AMS) is a commitment to preserve antibiotic bearing for future generations through proper use of antimicrobil drugs. According to medical field researchers, the 'antimicrobill stewardship' initiative aims to ensure that the right antibiotic is given to the right patient from time to time, with the right dose, causing at least harm to the sick. But the kind of disorder that is in the field of medicine, does not think that the ill gets the appropriate medicine at the right time and without any extra pressure without proper treatment. There are a variety of discrepancies and complications in the field of Indian medicine. The entire system of this area is a waste in corruption. Significantly, drugs have a huge market in India. Here arbitrarily they

decide the prices of medicines. With this, millions of people are spontaneously ill with the business of fake drugs and are getting into the mouth of death. These fake medicines are ten to five hundred times expensive only, failing to treat the patient too.

In the last four years, millions of people who have been ill due to AMR R died of death. Significantly, people suffering from AMR have to take medicines continuously. The disease of the people who keep taking medicine does not end, but by constantly taking medicines, they become victims of new diseases. The medicine of these new diseases also starts taking patients, but the effect of the medicine does not occur very rarely or. This is because of keeping taking medicines, the body gets home to diseases due to non-impact of the medicine where the immunity of the body is eliminated. The achievements that have been earned in the world in the medical field have been made medical extremely intuitive and available to everyone in many countries, but the field of medicine in India is filled with so many complications and discrepancies, which are difficult to say something about. Yet we should expect that the global panic will not arise from AMR as it happened in the Corona period.

**(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
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Awareness programme on UPSC/JKAS preparation organised by MIER College

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: The Placement Committee of MIER College of Education organised an awareness programme titled "From College to UPSC/JKAS: How to Begin Early and Stay Ahead" for the Semester IV students of the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSSH) and the School of Education (SOE). The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 100 students from both schools.

The resource person for the event was Dinesh Choudhary, Director of Kartavya IAS Academy, a reputed name in the field of competitive exam coaching. Prof. Nishta Rana, Head of SOE, Dr. Monika Bajaj, Head of SSSH and Deputy Head, Dr. Bharti Tandon, and faculty members



of both schools also attended the event.

The session commenced with a formal welcome and introduction of Dinesh Choudhary by Dr. Sahil Bhagat, Assistant Professor and a member of the Placement Committee.

Dinesh provided an in-depth overview of the diverse career opportunities available to students, highlighting the

structure and stages of UPSC and JKAS examinations, including the Prelims, Mains, and Interview processes.

Emphasising the importance of early preparation, Dinesh advised students to build a strong foundation in General Studies, stay abreast of current affairs, and cultivate effective reading and writing habits.

He also provided valuable guidance on choosing the right optional subject, sharpening analytical and communication skills, managing time effectively, and maintaining motivation and resilience throughout the preparation journey. The session aimed to provide students with a comprehensive roadmap for exploring, planning, and advancing their professional

journeys towards civil services and beyond. This was followed by an engaging Q&A session where students cleared their doubts.

Prof. Adit Gupta, Director and Principal of MIER College of Education, appreciated the efforts of the Placement Committee in organising an event on such a pertinent topic.

He emphasised the crucial role of career counselling in equipping students with a clear understanding of the job market and the skills needed to succeed.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Jyoti Sharma, Convener of the Placement Committee. The event was compered by Sarika Anthal, a student and member representative of the Placement Committee.

GDC R S Pura organizes art and craft workshop

Top News Report

RS PURA, Apr 30: An engaging and colorful art and craft workshop was organized by NSS Unit of GDC RS Pura Jammu, attracting over 100 students. The workshop aimed to nurture creativity and promote hands-on learning through traditional and contemporary art techniques.

The workshop featured demonstration of paper art and origami by a skilled artist Mahinder Rao from Rajasthan who guided attendees by offering tips and demonstrations to help



them develop their art skills.

The whole event was coordinated by Dr Chanchal Angral, NSS PO and NSS committee

members Dr. Shivani Manchanda, Dr. Hari Singh, Dr. Akriti Parihar, Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch and Dr. Savleen Kour.

JKTF Kathua hosts farewell for Kasturi Lal, Headmaster HS Banjal



Top News Report

KATHUA, Apr 30: Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) Kathua, under the leadership of District President Bhopinder Singh, organized a grand farewell ceremony for Kasturi Lal, the respected Headmaster of PM Shri High School Banjal.

The event was a testament to the esteem and affection with which Kasturi Lal is held by his peers and the teaching community.

The farewell ceremony was attended by a large gathering of teachers, educators, and dignitaries from the district. Speeches and presentations highlighted Kasturi Lal's remarkable contributions to the field of education, his leadership, and his unwavering commitment to the students and the institution.

His dedication to fostering an environment conducive to learning and growth has left an indelible mark on the school and the community. Bhopinder Singh, District President of Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum Kathua,

praised Kasturi Lal for his exceptional service and leadership. He emphasized the importance of educators like Kasturi Lal who have not only taught generations of students but have also inspired their colleagues with their passion and commitment. Singh wished Kasturi Lal a happy and fulfilling retirement, hoping that his legacy would continue to inspire future educators.

During the ceremony, Kasturi Lal was felicitated with a shawl and memento. The gesture was a token of respect and gratitude from the teaching fraternity for his years of dedicated service. Speakers at the event lauded his ability to balance discipline with compassion, creating a nurturing environment that allowed students to thrive.

Kasturi Lal, in his heartfelt response, expressed gratitude to the Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum Kathua and the entire teaching community for the warm farewell. He cherished the memories created over the years and

appreciated the support and camaraderie he enjoyed from his colleagues. He wished everyone continued success and progress in their endeavors.

The farewell ceremony underscored the commitment of the Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum Kathua to honoring and appreciating educators who have dedicated their lives to the noble cause of education. State President Sheikh Mohammed Ashraf also wishes him peace, happiness, and good health. His contributions to education will continue to inspire and motivate educators in the region.

The Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum Kathua is a collective voice of educators in the district, working towards promoting educational excellence, supporting teacher welfare, and advocating for policies that benefit the education sector.

Under the leadership of Bhopinder Singh, the forum continues to play a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape of Kathua.

CEC LAHDC Leh inaugurates New Pre-Fabricated Campus of GDC Khaltse, launches Admission Drive-cum-Bridge Course

Top News Report

LEH, Apr 30: In a major step towards strengthening higher education infrastructure in the Sham region, the Hon'ble CEC, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson, along with Banu Prabha, Administrative Secretary, Higher Education Department, Lobzang Sherab, Councillor Khaltse Constituency and Prof. Stanzin Yangdol, Principal GDC, Khaltse inaugurated the newly constructed pre-fabricated campus of Government Degree College (GDC) Khaltse today.

The event also marked the launch of a five-day Admission Drive-cum-Bridge Course aimed at increasing student enrolment and orientation for new entrants.

The programme began with a welcome address by Prof. Stanzin Yangdol, Principal, who extended a warm welcome to all the dignitaries and participants. She spoke about the college's evolving academic vision, the importance of the bridge course in easing the transition to college life, and acknowledged the pivotal support received from the UT Administration, CEC, and former Commissioner/Secretary, Higher Education, Padma Angmo.

Speaking on the occasion,



Banu Prabha reaffirmed the UT Administration's commitment to advancing quality higher education in remote regions of Ladakh. She lauded the college team for their tireless efforts and encouraged students to take full advantage of the opportunities being made available at their doorstep. In his address, Hon'ble CEC Advocate Tashi Gyalson congratulated the people of Sham region on the inauguration of the new campus. He acknowledged the coordinated efforts of the college administration, Sham Education Committee, and local stakeholders in making the vision of GDC Khaltse a reality.

He called for greater community involvement to further strengthen the institution and

promote a culture of learning.

"This campus is not just a structure, but a platform for shaping young minds. I urge students to stay committed to education, and assure you that LAHDC Leh will continue to extend all possible support to GDC Khaltse in the years ahead," the CEC said.

During the event, CEC also released the second edition of the college's official newsletter titled SER-GI MAYON, which captures recent developments, student initiatives, and academic milestones of the institution. Councillor Khaltse Lobzang Sherab, in his remarks, extended heartfelt gratitude to the Hon'ble CEC for his strong support in establishing the campus. He appreciated the consistent

dedication of the college faculty and added, "With continued support and community cooperation, GDC Khaltse has the potential to emerge as a leading academic hub in the Sham region." Lobzang Palmo, a sixth-semester student of GDC Khaltse, shared her experiences at the college. She spoke with pride about her academic journey and appreciated the faculty's encouragement and the supportive learning environment provided at the college.

The ceremony also featured a vibrant cultural performance by the students of GDC Khaltse, reflecting the local ethos and energy of youth.

The programme was concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Konchok Chhoral, Senior Assistant Professor of Political Science.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by the President and members of the Sham Education Committee, Gobas of the Sham region, Sham LBA Representative, Sham LBA Former President, Ex- Sarpanch of Khaltse, representatives of Ama Tsogspa Khaltse, Assistant Professors, faculty and staff of GDC Khaltse, students and teachers from Government Higher Secondary School Khaltse among others.

Brahman Sabha Channi Himmat organizes "Samman Samaroh"



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: Brahman Sabha Channi Himmat organized "Samman Samaroh" function at Sector No.3 Channi Himmat-posh locality of Jammu. The event brought together Vedic Scholars, heads of various religious and social organizations, poets, prominent personalities, students, Ex-bureaucrats, media personnel on one platform.

The event was graced by the Retd IAS Officer Tushar Kant Sharma, Shoba Nath Tiwari, Vedic Scholar from Uttar Pradesh, Subash Shastri NMC President, O.P Dubey Retd Chief Engineer, Diwakar Khajuria, Retd JKAS officer and others stressed on giving due recognition to the Brahmins who have done a lot for the society and country.

Speaking on the occasion Shobha Nath Tiwari and others stressed on giving due recognition to the Brahmins who have done a lot for the society and country.

Sabha lauded the efforts of the Ex-Chief Engineer O.P. Dubey Poetess Girija Sharma, Social Activist Rajesh Bargaotra and others for their contribution in the field of upliftment, downtrodden classes, Literature and social work.

They were felicitated with the presentation of mementos.

Speaking on the occasion Shobha Nath Tiwari from Uttar Pradesh lauded the efforts of the

Channi Himmat Brahman Sabha for arranging such a colourful "Samman Samaroh" especially with the presence of so many Prominent Personalities and heads of various religious and social organizations.

After the address of other speakers Sunil shamra, head of the Channi Himmat Brahman Sabha stressed on propagation of moral values among Brahmins, eradication of Nasha which is rapidly flourishing among youth and celebration of different occasions viz Parshuram Jayanti, National days and Sanskrit events and upkeeping of Dogra Culture and heritage with unity and coordination.

Others included Dr. Vijay Sharma, Chanchal Pal Sharma Retd Executive Engi-

neer, Kewal Krishan Sharma, Bhuvneshwari Sharma, Prem Sharma, P. N. Koul, Chaman Lal Sharma, Sushma Sharma, Anil Sharma, and others.

GDC Marheen organizes expert lecture on Mental Health and hygiene

Top News Report

MARHEEN, Apr 30: Department of Education, Government Degree College (GDC) Marheen organized expert lecture on Mental Health and hygiene. The programme was organized under the patronage of Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Anupama Gupta.

In the lecture Dr. Munisha Devi (HOD, Deptt of Education) and Prof. Suman (Lecturer in Education) highlighted that prioritizing mental health



is essential because it's not just about the absence of illness but encompasses how we think, feel, and behave, profoundly impacting our daily lives, relationships, and overall well-being.

Both the speakers described the significance of knowing our

mental health and its role in everyone's life. They discussed physical and emotional hygiene and also enlightened about emotional injuries which can damage one's confidence and affect one's mental status.

The session revolved around the practices needed, to achieve

emotional hygiene such as awareness of emotional pain, protecting self-esteem, challenging negative thoughts and helping one own self to come out of the difficult situations.

The session concluded with the comment that It's time to invest inside and make oneself resilient, confident and powerful who can conquer the world." Students actively participated and clear their doubts by asking a number of questions after the lecture.

Actor Dibyendu Bhattacharya takes a nostalgic trip down the lane

That renowned actor Dibyendu Bhattacharya grew up playing cricket and doing theatre in Kolkata is common knowledge. During a visit to agency, the Poacher actor shared that he and his friends also ran a literary magazine back in his school days.

The enthusiastic scholars would not only write, edit, print their magazine but also sell it for Rs 10!

In a heartfelt chat Dibyendu opened up about his illustrious journey. "The applause I got when I first went on the stage decided it for me. I was sure that I wanted to pursue acting."

The stage gave me joy and that I could pass that joy on to the audience cemented my belief." He fondly recalled his days at the National School of Drama (NSD). His stint with the NSD Repertoire Company later helped him improve his Hindi, which eventually paved the path to Mumbai.

The actor, who played a small part in Moonsoon Wedding and later acted in films like Dev D, more

recently in Fateh and web series The Railway Men, said his role in Poacher was the closest to his heart.

"Poacher made me aware of so many dark truths. We are in such an alarming situation, at the brink of ending the symbiotic relationship we share with nature. Working on this topic made me feel like a crusader."

The series also won him the Critics Choice Award for Best Supporting Actor.

He was recently honoured with the Pride of Bengal award.

"Though most my works are in Hindi, this honour bestowed by my home state rekindled my desire to do something in my native tongue, Bengali."

Honours, awards sure makes the actor in him happy, but what message his work gives out is also important to him. "We are in the business of entertainment."

But if along with entertainment, our work also gives out a message, phir sone par sugaha



ho jata hai."

This Pride of Bengal shares an equally strong connection with City Beautiful. He found the love of his life and wife, Richa, in Chandigarh! The duo met at NSD.

"In summer she used to come back to meet her parents, and I would follow her to this beautiful city. She had a Kinetic at that time and we would roam around the city. It's pretty nostal-

gic to be back," he said. Dibyendu has worked with many directors and is open to work with both old and new, "I want to work with one and all. Last night I was with Rahul Rawail ji. I want him to make a film and cast me in it."

Simplicity works

"I don't know if I am a good actor, but I keep trying," said Dibyendu. Each time he approaches a new project he feels

the nervous energy. "Acting is a complex craft. One needs to get not just the mannerisms right but also get into the mind of a character."

According to him, to be a good actor one needs to lead a simple life. "Lesser the baggage, better the performance," he explained.

Among his upcoming projects are a horror comedy Kapkapi and the remake of Basu Chatterjee's 1986 film Ek Ruka Hua Faisla and a couple of series.

The trip to Chandigarh was brief and that left him with a lingering wish, "The city is so open and green that I want to settle here!"

Quote

Censorship is a catch-22 situation. A strict censorship curtails an artiste's freedom. We also see misuse of this freedom.

Art is mirror of life and that makes it relatable. I believe age ratings are the best way forward. — Dibyendu Bhattacharya.

Jackie Chan to be honoured at Locarno Film Festival



Legendary actor Jackie Chan will be honoured at The Locarno Film Festival.

The festival organisers will honour Jackie Chan with a lifetime career award, recognising the martial arts master who

helped define Hong Kong action cinema before becoming a Hollywood mainstay.

Chan is 'beloved for action films that bridged the gap between East and West', the Swiss event dedicated to indie

cinema noted in a statement.

Chan, who made his name in martial-arts films in his native Hong Kong before establishing himself in Hollywood with 1995's Rumble in the Bronx and then achieving global attention in the wildly popular Rush Hour films, will be making the trek to the Swiss fest where he will introduce his early films Project A (1983) and Police Story (1985) - both of which he directed and starring in - as part of the tribute.

Chan will hold an onstage conversation in Locarno on August 10.

Chan, who is 71, was celebrated with an honorary Oscar in 2017.

"Director, producer, actor, screenwriter, choreographer, singer, athlete, and daredevil stuntman, Jackie Chan is both a key figure in contemporary Asian cinema and one whose influence has rewritten the rules of Hollywood cinema," said Locarno Artistic Director Giona A. Nazzaro in a statement.

Dev Patel to direct The Peasant

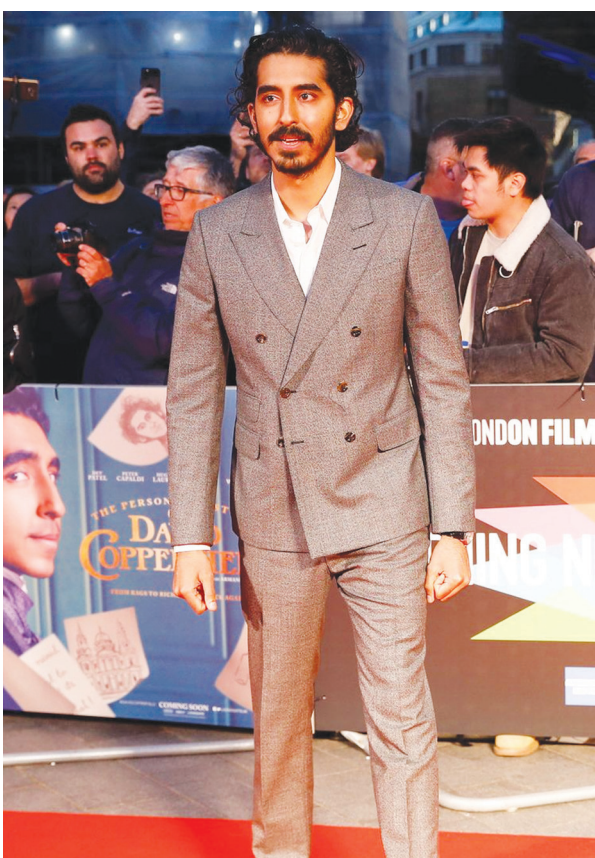
Actor Dev Patel is set to step into the director's shoes once again with his upcoming project The Peasant.

According to reports, the actor will also write and star in the film from Fifth Season and Thunder Road Pictures.

Described as a revenge thriller, the film is said to have shades of Braveheart and John Wick as well as notes of King Arthur as it mashes up medieval knights with feudal India.

Set in the 1300s, it centers on a shepherd who embarks on a rage-fuelled campaign against a group of mercenary knights who ransacked his community, revealing himself to be more than he seems.

Patel, best known for Slumdog Millionaire, made his directorial



debut with Monkey Man last year. The film also

featured Sobhita Dhulipala.

Anupam Kher observes one minute silence for Pahalgam terror attack victims at Tanvi The Great event

Legendary actor Anupam Kher and people gathered at Tanvi The Great press conference here paid homage to the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack by observing a minute's silence.

Kher called for a moment of silence at the beginning of the event to pay tribute to the victims.

"Isse pehle ki hum is programme ko aage le jaaye, I would like to observe silence of one minute for the people who lost their lives in the Pahalgam terror attack," he said.

Tanvi The Great is one



of the first few films to introduce its technicians and behind-the-scenes team before unveiling its lead actress.

The film is set to have its world premiere at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, within the Marche du Film.

Kher revealed Shubhangi as the lead actress of his film Tanvi The Great.

Since the announcement of the film, the lead actress has been kept under wraps.

While introducing her, Kajol asked Shubhangi how she felt about being part of the event. She replied, "Amazing,

excited and you (Kajol) are standing next to me" Kher praised Kajol as an actor and said, "I just called her up and said I am unveiling Tavi, will you come, she said, 'Yes', there was no discussion and she is here."

The introductory teaser of Meet Tanvi has also been released, showcasing Shubhangi as Tanvi.

The debutant was selected from Anupam Kher's acting school, Actor Prepares, where she has trained over the years, as per the press release.

Hania Aamir receives 'water package' from Indian fans amid suspension of Indus Water Treaty

Pakistani actress Hania Aamir enjoys widespread popularity, even across the border in India. However, her fandom recently sparked controversy after a group of Indian fans sent her a box filled with water bottles—intended as a meme gesture—amid rising tensions between the two nations.

Following the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, India announced a strict five-point response plan, which included the suspension of the 1960 Indus Water Treaty. In response, a video surfaced on social media showing Hania's Indian fans packing a carton labelled, "To Hania Aamir, Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan. From, India," and filling it with bottled water.

Although the video was meant for humour, it did not sit well with many on social media. Several netizens criticised the

act, calling it insensitive and inappropriate given the gravity of the situation.

Hania was among the first Pakistani celebrities to publicly react to the Pahalgam terror attack. In an Instagram story, she wrote, "Tragedy anywhere is a tragedy for all of us. My heart is with the innocent lives affected by the recent events. In pain, in grief, and in hope—we are one."

She added, "When innocent lives are lost, the pain is not theirs alone—it belongs to all of us. No matter where we come from, grief speaks the same language. May we choose humanity, always."

Meanwhile, Hania's professional commitments have reportedly been affected by the incident. Rumours suggest she may be dropped from the upcoming film "Sardar Ji 3", which she was reportedly co-



starring in alongside Punjabi superstar Diljit Dosanjh. While the film's UK shooting schedule wrapped up last month, sources claim the production team is now

considering reshooting her scenes with another actress.

As of now, there has been no official statement from the filmmakers.

Not possible at the moment: Javed Akhtar on Pak artistes working in India

Says this is not the time to even think about whether Pakistani artistes should be allowed to work in India

"Should we allow Pakistani artistes to work here?" That, lyricist Javed Akhtar said, is the question to be asked in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack.

There is hardly "any warmth today" in India-Pakistan cultural ties, the veteran screenwriter-poet noted while saying that this is not the time to even think about whether Pakistani artistes should be allowed to work in India.

"This could be thought about in better times and hopefully after some years some sense will prevail."

And there'll be a better attitude towards India from the establishment of Pakistan. And then this can be considered. But at the moment, this question should not be asked. Not possible," Akhtar told agency in an interview.

He added that Pakistani artistes such as Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan,



Mehdi Hassan, Ghulam Ali and Noor Jehan were

welcomed with open arms by Indian authori-

ties in the past but this wasn't reciprocated by the Pakistani establishment.

Akhtar's comments come after government sources said last week that 'Abir Gulal', featuring Pakistani actor Fawad Khan, will not be allowed to release in theatres in India.

The move comes amid growing calls for a ban on the movie, earlier slated for release on May 9, in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack.

Asked whether the ban is fair, Akhtar said there would be a better time for this discussion.

"Particularly whatever has happened recently after that (it) should not even be a topic at the moment. There is hardly any friendly feeling or warmth because of what has happened in Pahalgam," he told agency on the sidelines of the 'IP and Music: Feel the beat of IP' event organised by FICCI.

Indian soldiers defeat Pakistan each time it dares to challenge country’s unity, strength: Himanta

GUWAHATI, Apr 30 (Agencies): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday said that each time Pakistan dared to ‘challenge India’s unity and integrity’, Indian soldiers courageously rose to the occasion and defeated the enemy to uphold the country’s pride.

His comment comes at a time when Pakistani troops engaged in unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in multiple sectors across four districts of Jammu and Kashmir, prompting Indian forces to “respond effectively”.

This marked the sixth consecutive night of ceasefire violations by Pakistan along the LoC, amidst heightened tensions between New Delhi and Islamabad following a recent terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

‘India-Pakistan Wars: A Legacy of Indian Valor and Triumph -since independence, India’s brave armed forces have repeatedly stood tall, defending our nation’s sovereignty against Pakistani aggression,” the chief minister posted on ‘X’.

‘Each time Pakistan dared to challenge India’s unity and integrity, our soldiers courageously rose to the occasion, decisively defeating the enemy and upholding India’s pride’, he said.

Sarma went on to highlight the four wars fought between the



two countries-the Indo-Pak War of 1947-49, the 1965 war, the 1971 war leading to the creation of Bangladesh and the Kargil War of 1999.

‘Every Indo-Pak conflict underscores one enduring truth: whenever India faced aggression, our soldiers stood fearless, undefeated, and unwavering in their resolve,” he asserted.

The CM also said that this legacy of courage and sacrifice continues to inspire every Indian citizen.

“Our armed forces remain vigilant, committed to protecting India’s sovereignty and dignity under all circumstances. Jai Hind!,” Sarma said.

Referring to the Indo-Pak War of 1947–1949 (First Kashmir War), he said that when Pakistan ‘treacherously invaded Jammu & Kashmir soon after independence, India responded swiftly and heroically’.

‘Our soldiers executed the

historic airlift operation to Srinagar, safeguarding the valley and ensuring Kashmir remained an integral and inseparable part of India. The conflict ended with India successfully defending strategic territories and establishing the Line of Control (LoC), Sarma said.

Regarding the Indo-Pak War of 1965, he said that Pakistan launched the deceitful “Operation Gibraltar,” infiltrating Kashmir and subsequently escalating into full-scale war.

‘Indian forces courageously repelled the invasion and carried out daring counter-attacks deep inside Pakistani territory, capturing key areas including the strategic Haji Pir Pass. The enemy’s dreams of victory crumbled before India’s determined military might, and the conflict ended in tactical victory and moral ascendancy for India’, the chief minister said.

The Indo-Pak War of 1971 (Bangladesh Liberation War)

showcased the “extraordinary courage, strategy, and humanitarian spirit” of the Indian Armed Forces, he said.

‘Responding to the Pakistani army’s genocide and the influx of millions of refugees from East Pakistan, Indian forces launched one of the most rapid and decisive military operations in modern history. Within just 13 days, our armed forces secured an overwhelming victory, resulting in the surrender of 93,000 Pakistani soldiers and the liberation of Bangladesh. The subsequent Simla Agreement (1972) reaffirmed India’s diplomatic and strategic supremacy,” Sarma said.

Referring to the 1999 Kargil War, Sarma alleged Pakistan had deceitfully occupied strategic peaks in Kargil, ‘seeking advantage through stealth’. But the Indian army’s response was “swift, brave, and determined”, he said.

‘Battling harsh mountainous terrain and freezing temperatures, our soldiers reclaimed every inch of territory with remarkable valour, forcing Pakistan into a humiliating retreat. This clear victory underscored once again India’s unwavering commitment to territorial integrity,” he added.

The Assam chief minister has been making posts against Pakistan on social media since the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, which claimed the lives of 26 people, mostly tourists.

Oppose fresh IMF loan to Pakistan, take steps to bring back BSF jawan: Congress to govt



NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Congress on Wednesday urged the government to oppose Pakistan’s request to International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a new loan in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, as the case is expected to be taken up by the agency on May 9.

Party MP and senior leader Jairam Ramesh said, “The IMF has just announced that its Executive Board is meeting on May 9th, 2025 to consider Pakistan’s request for a new \$1.3 billion loan under

the IMF’s Resilience and Sustainability Facility.”

“The INC expects India to strongly oppose this assistance,” Ramesh said in a post on X.

The calendar showed that the Executive Board will meet to discuss the “first review under the extended arrangement under the extended fund facility, request for modification of performance criteria, and request for an arrangement under the resilience and sustainability facility”.

Separately, the Congress also asked the Centre about the steps

it was taking to secure the safe return of Border Security Force (BSF) jawan Purnam Sahu, who inadvertently strayed to the Pakistan side of the border.

Pakistan Rangers apprehended the BSF constable from a field along Punjab’s Ferozepur on April 23, a day after the Pahalgam terror attack.

Pointing out that it has been six days since the BSF constable was detained by the Pakistan Rangers, Congress’s media and publicity department head Pawan Khera, in a post on X, said: “His family is anxiously awaiting answers. What steps is the government taking to secure his safe return?”

According to officials, the incident occurred when the constable, who was escorting a group of farmers near the border, stepped away to rest under a tree, and unknowingly slipped into the Pakistani territory.

Centre hikes sugarcane price to Rs 355/quintal for 2025-26

NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): The government on Wednesday decided to increase the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane by 4.41 per cent to Rs 355 per quintal for the upcoming 2025-26 season — beginning October.

A decision in this regard was taken in the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

For the current 2024-25 season, the FRP of sugarcane has been fixed at Rs 340 per quintal. FRP is the minimum price mandated by the government that sugar mills are legally obligated to pay sugarcane farmers for their produce.

I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the FRP of Rs 355 per quintal has been approved for a basic recovery rate of 10.25 per cent. “The FRP for sugarcane for 2025-26 season is 4.41 per cent higher than that of the current season,” the statement said.

A premium of Rs 3.46 per quintal for each 0.1 per cent increase in sugar recovery over and above 10.25 per cent will be provided to farmers. A reduction in FRP by Rs 3.46 per quintal will be for every 0.1 per cent decrease in recovery rate.

The government has also decided

that there will be no deduction in case of sugar mills where recovery is below 9.5 per cent. Such farmers will get Rs 329.05 per cent for sugarcane in the ensuing 2025-26 season.

According to the statement, the cost of production of sugarcane for the 2025-26 season is Rs 173 per quintal. The FRP of Rs 355 per quintal for 2025-26 at a recovery rate of 10.25 per cent is higher by 105.2 per cent over production cost.

The sugar sector is an important agro-based sector that impacts the livelihood of about five crore sugarcane farmers and their dependents and around five lakh workers directly employed in sugar mills, apart from those employed in various ancillary activities, including farm labour and transportation.

The FRP has been determined on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and after consultation with state governments and other stakeholders.

As of April 28, about 87 per cent of total sugarcane dues of Rs 97,270 crore have been paid to farmers in the 2024-25 season, while 99.92 per cent of total dues of Rs 1,11,782 crore were paid to farmers for 2024-25.

7 killed in temple wall collapse in Andhra Pradesh

State Home Minister Anitha says preliminary reports indicate that incident in Simhachalam temple was triggered by soil loosening due to heavy rain

VISAKHAPATNAM, Apr 30 (Agencies): Seven people were killed and several others injured when a rain-soaked wall collapsed at the Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple in Simhachalam, here, in the early hours of Wednesday, the government said.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu expressed deep sorrow and said he had spoken to the Collector and SP. The injured persons were receiving treatment, he said.

“Deeply saddened by the death of seven devotees at Simhachalam.... my condolences to the families. I’m closely monitoring the situation and have ordered continuous review and support for victims,” said Naidu in a post on ‘X’.

Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy also condoled the deaths.

State Home Minister V Anitha said preliminary reports indicated that the wall collapse at



the temple was triggered by soil loosening due to heavy rains in the area.

The wall collapsed on the Rs 300 ticket queue line near the shopping complex on the ghat road from Simhagiri Bus Stand. Heavy overnight rains and strong winds are suspected to have loosened the soil, causing the structure to fall, Anitha told reporters.

Anitha, present at the temple during the incident, visited the

site immediately.

“We were all drenched in rain. As I came out of the temple, I was informed about the incident. The injured were rushed to hospital,” she said, emphasising that there was no negligence in the rescue response.

An official from the temple said that the cause appears to be structural failure triggered by rains, but a detailed probe is underway.

Endowments Minister

Ramanarayana Reddy called the tragedy unfortunate and announced stronger safety protocols.

Rescue operations are underway, with teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and state authorities pressed into service.

According to State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel, eight devotees were trapped under the debris, and seven bodies—three women and four men—were extricated during the rescue operation.

Former CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy expressed shock and urged for best medical support to the injured and compensation to the victims’ families.

The injured have been shifted to a hospital, officials added.

Earlier this year, six devotees waiting to collect tokens for Vaikunta Dwara Darshanam at Lord Venkateswara Swamy temple on Tirumala Hills, were killed in a stampede in Tirupati.

Govt debunks claims of Army commander ‘removal’ after Pahalgam attack as fake

NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): The government’s Press Information Bureau (PIB) on Wednesday debunked claims made in posts by ‘several pro-Pakistan social media accounts’ that Indian Army’s Northern Commander Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar has been ‘removed’ from his post after the Pahalgam attack, and said the general officer is attaining superannuation on April 30.

“The claims being made in these posts are fake,” PIB Fact Check said in a post on X and also shared a collage of ‘reports’ shared by several such accounts, with the false claim.

There have been several misleading posts on social media amid heightened tension between New Delhi and

Islamabad following the recent terror attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. On April 22, terrorists shot dead 26 people, mostly tourists, at a meadow in Baisaran of south Kashmir’s Pahalgam.

Lt Gen Kumar had assumed charge as the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (GOC-in-C) of the Udhampur-based Northern Command of the Indian Army in February 2024.

“Several pro-Pakistan social media accounts falsely claim that Northern Commander Lt Gen Suchindra Kumar has been removed from his post after the Pahalgam incident #PIBFact-Check The claims being made in these posts are #fake,” it wrote on the microblogging platform.

Lt Gen Kumar is attain-



ing superannuation on April 30. And Lt Gen Pratik Sharma will be appointed as the new Northern Army Commander, it said.

Lt Gen Kumar had earlier served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff. The PIB had on Monday flagged that some pro-Pakistan social media accounts are falsely claiming that ‘confidential documents’

related to the preparedness of the Indian Army have been “leaked”.

In a post on X, PIB Fact Check dubbed these documents as “fake”.

PIB Fact Check in its post had said, “Pro-Pakistan social media accounts are falsely claiming that confidential documents related to the preparedness of the #IndianArmy have been leaked. #PIBFactCheck

These documents are #FAKE Please avoid sharing unverified information and rely only on official sources from the Government of India for accurate information”.

The Ministry of Defence on Sunday cautioned that a “misleading” message is doing the rounds on WhatsApp claiming that the government has opened a bank account seeking donations for the modernisation of the Indian Army.

In a statement, the ministry had debunked the message and urged people to “remain cautious and not fall prey to such fraudulent messages”.

The PIB Fact Check had also alerted people about this “misleading” message with a post on X on Sunday.

Centre to conduct caste-based census, first since 1931

NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): In a major decision on the eve of the Bihar Assembly election later this year, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday decided to conduct a caste-based census as part of the upcoming national census exercise.

This would be the first such census since 1931 although state-level caste surveys have been done lately.

Announcing the decision of the cabinet committee on political affairs, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the census is part of the central list as per the Constitution.

Pointing to certain caste-based surveys conducted by some state governments, primarily ruled by the opposition Congress, the minister said the caste surveys did not meaningfully represent or amount to caste-based enumeration.

He said that in order to maintain social harmony and conduct a comprehensive meaningful exercise as per the constitutional principles, the government has decided to make caste enumeration part of the next census exercise.

The minister did not take any questions on the modalities of the rollout of the census.

The timeline for the

national census exercise is also unclear.

The last census that was due in 2021 could not be conducted on account of the Covid-19 pandemic.

After that, the government is yet to plan the rollout of the census exercise.

The minister while announcing the decision that is expected to have far-reaching consequences in Bihar, where the first caste-based survey was conducted when JDU leader Nitish Kumar was chief minister of the ruling Mahagathbandhan which also had the Congress and RJD as its part, said the Congress has always opposed the caste census.

Tariff talks with India going great, think will have deal: Trump

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent says India is easier to negotiate with than many other countries because they have very high tariffs

WASHINGTON, Apr 30 (Agencies): President Donald Trump said that the United States will soon have a trade deal with India.

"India's coming along great. I think we'll have a deal with India," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on his way to Michigan, where he was travelling to deliver a public address on the occasion of 100 days of his administration.

Earlier in the day, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told reporters that things are moving in the right direction on trade deal with India.

"The India negotiations are moving well," Bessent told reporters at a White House news conference, adding that the two countries are very close to finalising a trade deal.

"I think that we are very close on India. And in India, just a little inside baseball, India, in a



funny way, is easier to negotiate with than many other countries because they have very high tariffs and lots of tariffs," Bessent said in response to a question.

"It is much easier to confront the direct tariffs as we go through these unfair trade deals that have been put in

over decades, that the non-tariff trade barriers can be much more insidious and also harder to detect. So a country like India which has the posted and ready tariffs, it's much easier to negotiate with them. So I think the India negotiations are moving well," he said.

The Treasury Secretary was

responding questions on the progress on trade deals with Asian countries like India, Japan, S Korea.

"Can you outline the timeline for when you think some of these deals, particularly with your Asian countries like India, Japan, South Korea, you may have an announcement?" he was asked.

"I'm glad you brought up our Asian trading partners and allies. They have been the most forthcoming in terms of doing the deals. Vice President Vance was in India last week. I think that he and Modi made some very good progress, so I could see some announcements on India. I could see the contours of a deal with the Republic of Korea coming together, and then we've had substantial talks with the Japanese," Bessent said.

Three astronauts return to Earth after six months on China's space station



BEIJING, Apr 30 (Agencies): Three Chinese astronauts landed back on Earth on Wednesday after six months on China's space station.

The crew's landing module came down slowly after separating from the return vehicle, descending on a red-and-white parachute, in Dongfeng, in China's northern Inner Mongolia region on the edge of the Gobi Desert. Their return had been delayed by a day due to strong winds and low visibility. The area is prone to sandstorms this time of year.

The astronauts, Cai Xuzhe, Song Lingdong and Wang Haoze, were launched to the Tiangong space station in October, and they turned over control of the station Tuesday to the new crew that recently arrived to replace them.

The Shenzhou 20 that brought the new crew also carried equipment for space life sciences, microgravity physics and new technology for the space station.

The Tiangong, or "Heavenly Palace," space station has made China a major player in a new era of space exploration and the use of permanent stations to conduct experiments in space, especially since it was entirely Chinese-built after the country was excluded from the International Space Station over U.S. national security concerns.

China's space program is controlled by the People's Liberation Army, the military branch of the ruling Communist Party.

The three Chinese astronauts have carried out experiments and improvements to the space station during their time in space. Two of the astronauts, Cai and Song, conducted a nine-hour spacewalk, the world's longest, during their mission, China's space agency said.

The country's space program has grown rapidly in recent years. The space agency has landed an explorer on Mars and a rover on the far side of the moon. It aims to put a person on the moon before 2030.

Kim Jong Un calls new warship a 'breakthrough' as he oversees missile tests

SEOUL, Apr 30 (Agencies): North Korea said Wednesday leader Kim Jong Un observed the test-firings of missiles from a recently launched destroyer — the first such warship for the North — and called for accelerating efforts to boost his navy's nuclear attack capabilities.

North Korea last week unveiled the 5,000-ton destroyer equipped with what it called the most powerful weapons systems built for a navy vessel. During Friday's launching ceremony at the western port of Nampo, Kim called the ship's construction "a breakthrough" in modernizing North Korea's naval forces.

Outside experts say it's North Korea's first destroyer and that it was likely built with Russian assistance. They say North Korea's naval forces lag behind South Korea's but still view the destroyer as a serious security threat as it could bolster North Korea's attack and defense capabilities. The official Korean Central News Agency said Wednesday that Kim watched the tests of the destroyer's supersonic and strategic cruise missiles, anti-aircraft missile, automatic guns and electronic jamming guns earlier this week.

He appreciated the ship's combination of powerful strike weapons and conventional defenses and set tasks to speed the nuclear-arming of his navy, the report said.

During the ship's launching ceremony, Kim said the destroyer will be deployed early next year. He said the acquisition of a nuclear-powered submarine would be his next big step in strengthening his navy. He underscored the need to beef up North Korea's deterrence capability to cope with what he called escalating U.S.-led hostilities targeting the North.

An analysis of photos of the warship

shows that its anti-air radar system is likely from Russia, said Lee Illwoo, an expert with the Korea Defense Network in South Korea. He said the warship's engine system and some of its anti-air weapons systems also likely came from Russia.

North Korea and Russia have been sharply expanding military and other cooperation in recent years, with the North supplying troops and conventional weapons to support Russia's war efforts against Ukraine. The U.S., South Korea and their partners worry Russia will likely in return provide North Korea with high-tech weapons technologies that can enhance its nuclear program as well as shipping other military and economic assistance.

South Korea's military said Wednesday that South Korean and U.S. intelligence authorities were closely monitoring North Korean warship development. South Korea's spy agency separately told lawmakers that North Korea won't likely be able to deploy a nuclear-powered submarine anytime soon without Russian support. In March, North Korea unveiled a nuclear-powered submarine under construction. Many civilian experts said at the time that North Korea may have received Russian technological assistance to build a nuclear reactor to be used in the submarine. Lee said the deployment of a warship with an advanced radar system off North Korea's west coast could sharply bolster its air defense capabilities for Pyongyang, the capital. Lee said South Korea, which has 12 destroyers, still vastly outpaces North Korea's naval forces. But he said the North Korean destroyer, which can carry about 80 missiles, can still pose a big threat, as South Korea's navy hasn't likely braced for such an enemy warship

Vietnam marks 50 years of fall of saigon with grand parade

HO CHI MINH CITY, Apr 30 (Agencies): Vietnam mounted its biggest-ever celebration of the fall of Saigon on its 50th anniversary Wednesday, including Chinese troops for the first time after Xi Jinping visited to portray Beijing as a more reliable partner than Washington.

Fighter jets and helicopters carrying flags flew overhead, state TV images showed, with a float carrying a portrait of founding leader Ho Chi Minh as part of a march in the city renamed after him.

Thousands of people -- many wearing T-shirts emblazoned with the Vietnamese flag -- including families with young children and the elderly stayed out overnight in the streets, sharing food and waiting for the display.

The celebrations come half a century after tanks of communist North Vietnam crashed through the gates of the city's presidential palace, defeating the US-backed South and delivering a painful blow to American moral and military prestige.

"I am proud of having contributed to liberating the south," said 75-year-old veteran Tran Van Truong who had travelled -- dressed in full military uniform -- from the capital Hanoi to see the parade.

"But what's gone is gone, I have no hatred for those from the other side of the battle," Truong told AFP. "We should join hands to celebrate the end of the war."

Around 13,000 people, including veterans, soldiers and members of the public, were to march down Ho Chi Minh City's Le Duan Street, a major thoroughfare which leads to the Independence Palace.

For the first time, more than 300 soldiers from China, Laos and Cambodia were taking part in the spectacle.

More than 300,000 Chinese troops were involved in the bloody conflict, according to state media, providing crucial anti-aircraft defence support and helping with logistics and supplies.

But this year is the first

time Chinese soldiers have ever been part of large-scale commemorations.

Only four years after the end of the Vietnam War, China itself invaded the country, only to be pushed back by Hanoi's troops.

"I think Hanoi is signalling to China that they recognise China's historical contribution," said Zach Abuza, a professor at the National War College in Washington who focuses on Southeast Asian politics.

"It's also another way for them to signal: 'Don't think our foreign policy is lurching towards the Americans.'"

After years of fighting that ended on April 30, 1975, the United States and Vietnam have rebuilt ties to become strong trade partners.

But Hanoi also follows a "bamboo diplomacy" approach, striving to stay on good terms with both Beijing and Washington.

The celebrations come after Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Hanoi this month.

Beijing is trying to posi-

tion itself as a stable alternative to Washington as Vietnam confronts a threatened 46 percent US tariff and American foreign aid cuts that could jeopardise war legacy programmes.

Reconciliation, excitement

After a war that eviscerated much of Vietnam, killing millions of its people as well as 58,000 US servicemen, the North's victory expanded communist rule over the whole country.

Thousands of Vietnamese who worked for the Southern government fled, while others stayed and were forced into re-education camps.

For many years the victory formed the basis of the Communist Party's legitimacy, before its authority became entwined with economic growth and improved living standards.

In an article published Sunday on the government's news portal, the party's top leader To Lam put an unusual emphasis on reconciliation.

He said Vietnamese people must rid them-

selves of "hatred, separation or division... so that future generations no longer have to experience war".

Most of the population was born after the conflict's end, but many young people appeared excited on Tuesday night as music from a celebratory concert blared through the streets and huge crowds began to form.

Social media users have been anticipating the parade for days after widespread coverage of rehearsals in the media, which is entirely controlled by the state in Vietnam.

Thang Dang, 19, a physical education student at a university in Ho Chi Minh City, was among 250 of his classmates taking part in the parade, carrying Vietnamese national and Communist Party hammer and sickle flags.

"I will tell my future children about this event," he said ahead of the start. "I am so proud and my family is so proud too."

"600 North Korean soldiers killed fighting for Russia": Seoul spy agency

SEOUL, Apr 30 (Agencies): Around 600 North Korean soldiers are believed to have died while fighting alongside Russian forces in the war against Ukraine, with more than 4,000 others reportedly injured, South Korea's intelligence agency informed lawmakers on Wednesday, according to a report by Yonhap News Agency.

During a private session with the National Assembly's intelligence committee, the National Intelligence Service (NIS) shared this assessment.

According to lawmakers Lee Seong-kweun from the People Power Party and Kim Byung-kee of the Democratic Party, the NIS reported that approximately 15,000 North Korean troops have been sent to Russia, with total casualties estimated at around 4,700, including 600 fatalities.

North Korea has deployed its troops to Russia over two phases, and fighting has decreased since April after Moscow took back most areas of its front-line region of Kursk, the lawmakers quoted the NIS as saying, Yonhap reported.

In exchange for providing troops and weapons, North Korea is believed to have received military and technological assets from Russia, including a launch site for reconnaissance satellites, drones, electronic warfare systems, and SA-22 surface-to-air missiles.

Additionally, the two nations are reportedly discussing cooperation to modernise North Korea's industries across 14 sectors such as aviation, energy, and tourism. As part of this collaboration, roughly 15,000 North Korean workers have also been sent to Russia, the NIS

added.

This assessment comes just two days after North Korea, for the first time, confirmed it had sent troops to fight for Russia against Ukraine, and the "sacred mission" was aimed at strengthening friendship with Moscow.

The state news agency KCNA said that Pyongyang's military claimed its soldiers helped Russian forces "completely liberate" the Kursk border region, according to an order given by Kim Jong Un.

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed gratitude to North Korea for helping Russian forces defeat a group of Ukrainian fighters in the Kursk Region. He praised Kim Jong-un and commended Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) soldiers for their "heroism, excellent training and dedication" during the fighting.

16-year-old detained after 3 killed in Sweden shooting

STOCKHOLM, Apr 30 (Agencies): A 16-year-old person was detained early on Wednesday on suspicion of murdering three people in a hair salon in the Swedish city of Uppsala, Swedish prosecutors said.

Three people were shot dead late on Tuesday afternoon just as Uppsala, a university town some 40 minutes north of Stockholm, was gearing up for Walpurgis Night, one of the busiest holidays in the city.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority said a 16-year old was detained on suspicion of murder, on the highest level of suspicion in the Swedish legal system.

"An intensive investigation is underway. We are now gathering information and the police are conducting door-to-door inquiries and interviewing witnesses," the authority said in a statement. "In addition, mobile phones and other material that has been seized are being analysed."

Police told a news conference that it was too early to say if the shooting was gang related, but that it was one of the theories they were pursuing "particularly intensively."

Sweden has suffered from a wave of gang-related violence for more than a decade that has included an epidemic of gun violence.

Court documents, heavily redacted due to the suspect's young age, showed a person had been arrested on Wednesday, just after midnight. The court-appointed lawyer for the suspect did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Police said the incident was believed to be "an isolated event" and not linked to the extensive celebrations expected for Walpurgis Night, a festive occasion where families and students gather around bonfires to celebrate spring.

Hindu monk Chinmoy Das, arrested for sedition in Bangladesh, gets bail

Chinmoy Das's arrest, which sparked outrage in India, came amid a crackdown on members of the Hindu community after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led regime.



DHAKA, Apr 30 (Agencies): Six months after he was arrested in a sedition case, the Bangladesh High Court on Wednesday granted bail to former Iskcon priest Chinmoy Krishna Das. Chinmoy Das's arrest, which sparked outrage in India, came amid a crackdown on members of the Hindu community after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led regime.

During the hearing, the Hindu priest's lawyer said Das was ill and suffering in jail without trial. Das was arrested in Dhaka on November 25 after a case was filed against him for allegedly disrespecting the Bangladesh national flag during a rally of the Hindu community.

He gained prominence after addressing a large protest rally in Rangpur, condemning the vio-

lence against Hindus.

Das was sent to jail by a Chattogram court on November 26. His bail was rejected by the same court on December 11. Das's arrest came against the backdrop of growing violence targeting Hindus in Bangladesh, including attacks on temples, homes, and businesses. Bangladesh authorities also ordered the freezing of the bank accounts of 17 people associated with Iskcon, including that of Das.

According to a reply by the government in Parliament, there have been 76 cases of attacks against Hindus in Bangladesh. Over 200 temples have also been attacked by radical Islamists.

Amit vouches for liberal funding to SCAs in NMDFC NER review meeting held at Mizoram

Top News Report

MIZORAM, Apr 30: Amit Sharma, Secretary to Government, Cooperation & ICT Departments, Mizoram put forth a strong case before the visiting CMD, National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) Abha Rani Singh and her entire team for extending liberal funding to State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) like Mizoram Cooperative Apex Bank (MCAB) and ZIDCO here so that the benefit of same could be ultimately extended to the public of the state.

During his address in the Northern Eastern Region States' Review Meeting held at Mizoram this time, Secretary Cooperation Amit Sharma expressed deep gratitude to NMDFC for selecting Mizoram amongst all NER states to

organise this all-important Meeting wherein he requested NMDFC to adopt liberal funding stance to SCAs especially MCAB here which is the Apex Cooperative Bank of Mizoram and it has maximum branches and reach to citizens in all districts of the state.

CMD NMDFC Abha Rani Singh placed on-record appreciable work being done by MCAB in Mizoram and complemented the working of Secretary Cooperation Amit Sharma for taking regular financial performance reviews of these Cooperative Agencies here and NMDFC, on his request, further offered complimentary automation software and support towards hiring a professional agency for automation of Banking Operations of MCAB, as per RBI guidelines, for which Secretary Cooperatives is pushing hard



since his taking over as Secretary Cooperation here.

Apart from this, Secretary Cooperation Amit Sharma also requested that another old and reputed Apex Cooperative Agency in Handloom and Handloom sector MAHCO from Mizoram should be reg-

istered as SCA by NMDFC at the earliest, for which Mizoram Government has already extended a recommendation, as it shall indeed offer a great help and financial support to high potential handloom & handicrafts sector artisans of Mizoram which are struggling

for adequate funding.

While noting down all take-aways during this important Regional Review Meeting of NMDFC held at Mizoram, Secretary Cooperation Amit Sharma assured the visiting team of much proactive work and close coordination by Mizoram Governemnt with NMDFC in times to come.

The visiting NMDFC team also happened to meet Chief Secretary Mizoram Khilli Ram Meena and they requested the Government to extend pending performance guarantee to NMDFC which shall facilitate more liberal funding to the state here. Apart from Mizoram, the status of other NE states like Assam, Sikkim, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur was also reviewed during the Regional Review Meeting by NMDFC team.

Warm send off accorded to Pratima, Senior Assistant from DHS-J

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: Pratima Senior Assistant posted in the Directorate of Health Services Jammu who superannuated on 30-04-2025 was accorded a warm send off by officers and officials of the Directorate of Health Services Jammu.

She rendered 26 years of service in the Department. She was a sincere and dedicated person. To bid her farewell, a function was organised in the premises of the Directorate. Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar wished her a healthy and prosperous post retirement life. Deputy Director Dentistry complimented Pratima for her devotion towards her work. The staff wished her good health and success in her future endeavours.



FromPage No: 1

Elderly woman dies...

Officials said that the woman, a resident of Palpora Sonwar, allegedly jumped into the river from the Aramwari footbridge.

He said following the incident, rescue teams of River Police Srinagar and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) launched a search operation. He added that her body was later recovered from the river and shifted to a hospital for medico-legal formalities.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognisance of the incident and started further investigation.

Mirwaiz urges people...

their safety.

Mirwaiz was responding to a report which revealed that at least 16 shawl sellers from Kashmir left Mussoorie after two vendors were allegedly attacked by locals last week .

"The physical and verbal assault on Kashmiri shawl vendors in Mussoorie, who had to flee when police refused to guarantee their safety, is very disturbing," he said in a post on X.

"After large-scale detentions, demolition of homes, and crackdowns inside Kashmir, ordinary citizens, students, and small traders outside of J&K are being attacked and forced to return," Mirwaiz added.

The Kashmir's chief cleric said that Kashmiris were themselves at the receiving end of all forms of violence and subsequent suffering for decades.

" Kashmiris' condemnation, empathy, and grief for the victims of the Pahalgam bloodbath is straight from the heart, yet they are being vilified and targeted," he said.

"I appeal to the people of India not to fall prey to hatred and media propaganda creating mistrust of Kashmiris, and reciprocate in ensuring their safety, as they have always done in times of crisis towards all visitors and tourists. The collective punishment being meted out to them both inside and outside Jammu and Kashmir is unjust and inhuman," Mirwaiz added.

ACB files corruption case....

The scam is pegged at around Rs 2,000 crore and involved awarding contracts at highly inflated rates with classrooms reportedly built at Rs 24.86 lakh each, nearly five times the usual cost, the ACB added in a statement. The project was allegedly awarded to contractors linked with AAP.

15 killed in Kolkata...

team of the SIA, it spokesperson said. He has been identified as a crucial link in a trans-national narcotics network operating across borders, he said.

According to investigators, Harjit Singh played a central role in connecting Amritpal Singh alias Fouji—already in custody—with Amritpal Singh Baath, a suspected kingpin of the syndicate, currently absconding and believed to be abroad.

Baath is reportedly affiliated with the Khalistan Zindabad Force, he said. Operating from his shop, Harjit Singh is alleged to have coordinated the movement of drug consignments, the spokesperson said.

On his motivation and assurance, Amritpal alias Fouji joined the network, collected heroin consignments from the border areas in Jammu, and facilitated their handover to Baath's associates in Punjab, he said.

Officials believe this arrest will help uncover deeper layers of the cartel's structure and shed light on its connections to cross-border narco-terror operations.

Further investigations are underway, and more arrests and disclosures are expected, he added.

"Acting on reliable information that a person of Punjab was coming from Akhnoor towards the bus stand with a huge consignment of heroin-like substance. Accordingly, a special checking was conducted by the police party of Police Station Bus Stand and the said suspect was apprehended," Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone, Anand Jain told reporters.

Dry weather continues..

As per the meteorological department, from May 6 to May 8, the weather conditions in the region are expected to remain generally dry, with little to no precipitation. Daytime temperature is likely to stay above normal during this period.

But from 9 to 10 May, a fresh western disturbance is likely to affect the region, leading to a possibility of light rain and thunder at a few places.

Residents and travelers are advised to stay hydrated and to take necessary precautions in case of heat waves.

16 Kashmiri Shawl seller flee..

shows a group of men repeatedly beating and abusing two vendors on Mall Road on April 23. The attackers, allegedly local residents, also demanded identity proofs and ordered the Kashmiris to leave the area.

Mussoorie police told The Indian Express that three men—Suraj Singh, Pradeep Singh and Abhishek Uniyal, belonging to the Bajrang Dal, have been arrested in connection with the incident under Section 81 of the Uttarakhand Police Act, which pertains to disorderly conduct in public places. The trio was challaned and released after tendering an apology, the newspaper reported.

The victims, including 36-year-old Shabir Ahmed Dar from Kupwara, said they had been visiting Mussoorie during summers for nearly two decades without facing hostility. "We have lived near the mosque and worked here for 18 years. Our families have known the locals for a long time," Dar told the newspaper. "But no one defended us when we were attacked. That night, around 11 pm, police told us they could not help and warned that

there were threats against Kashmiris after the Pahalgam attack. We were advised to leave for our safety."

Dar said he contacted his brother in Kashmir, who spoke to a senior officer in their home district, but local authorities maintained they could not guarantee protection. Fearing further trouble, Dar and 15 other vendors left for Dehradun that night, boarded a bus to Jammu, and eventually reached home.

Another vendor, 30-year-old Javed Ahmed, said they left behind merchandise worth Rs 12 lakh in Mussoorie and are uncertain when they might return. "Our fathers sold shawls in this town for years. They were never treated like this," he said.

Mussoorie police, however, have stated that there was no blanket order asking all Kashmiris to leave. They clarified that vendors who had not undergone police verification were advised to complete the process. A verification drive for all outsiders—including tenants, shopkeepers and seasonal vendors—was launched last week by Dehradun police.

Maharashtra man claims...

April 21.

Twenty-five people, mostly tourists, were killed and several were injured when terrorists opened fire at a meadow near the popular tourist town of Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on April 22.

Days after the massacre of tourists, security agencies released sketches of three suspected attackers, and one of them matched the person who had spoken to him, Raut told the media on Tuesday.

According to Raut, he had gone horse riding in Pahalgam on April 21 and had stopped at a "Maggi stall" for food when a man approached him and asked him if he was a Hindu. He also told Raut that he did not look like a Kashmiri.

"The suspect then turned to his companion and said, 'There's less crowd today,'" said Raut.

The Jalna resident said he found the conversation a bit disturbing but did not grasp the full implication of it until the following day, when terrorists killed over two dozen tourists in cold blood in the same area.

"After I saw the sketches released by the NIA (National Investigation Agency), I connected the dots," he claimed.

Raut said he has emailed the NIA a detailed account of his experience in Kashmir.

"I have written everything I could remember. I have also mentioned that I could not initially pay the Maggi stall owner due to network issues. I took his phone number and paid him once I came down from the hill," he said.

Raut said he has not received any response from the NIA. "I'll cooperate with them in every possible way if they reach out to me," he added.

ICSE 10th, ISC 12th Results...

at 11 AM today on its official website. The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) will release the ICSE (Class 10) and ISC (Class 12) board exam results today, April 30, 2025. Students who appeared in the exams can check their results on the official websites — cisce.org and results.cisce.org. To view the result, students will need to enter their Unique ID, Index Number, and the captcha code shown on the login page. It is worth noting that CISCE had stopped declaring toppers' names last year to reduce unhealthy competition among students.

This year, 99,551 students took the ISC (Class 12) exams, and 98,578 passed, making the overall pass rate 99.02. Girls performed better than boys with a pass rate of 99.45, while boys had 98.64. In the ICSE (Class 10) results, the trend was similar—99.37 of girls passed, compared to 98.84 of boys. Girls have once again done better than boys in both exams.

Pakistan Army violates ceasefire..

Naushera, Sunderbani, and Akhnoor sectors in the Union Territory. The Indian Army responded swiftly and proportionately to the provocation.

Further reports confirmed that similar incidents of unprovoked small-arms fire were recorded from Pakistani positions across the LoC in Baramulla and Kupwara districts. Additionally, firing was reported across the International Border (IB) in the Pargwal Sector.

"The Indian Army troops responded swiftly and appropriately," officials added.

Cabinet Committe on Security...

meetings of Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA), the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) and a full Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

The CCS, which has convened for the second time following the Pahalgam attacks, will discuss security preparedness in the wake of the Pahalgam incident.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) last met on April 23 and was briefed in detail on the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, in which 25 Indians and one Nepali citizen were killed.

The CCS condemned the attack in the strongest terms and expressed its deepest condolences to the families of the victims and hoped for the early recovery of the injured.

In the briefing to the CCS, the cross-border linkages of the terrorist attack were brought out. It was noted that this attack came in the wake of the successful holding of elections in the Union Territory and its steady progress towards economic growth and development.

The government then announced a series of measures, including holding the Indus Water Treaty in abeyance, in a strong message to Pakistan for its support of cross-border terrorism.

Earlier on Tuesday, Prime Minister Modi chaired a meeting attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Anil Chauhan, and the three service chiefs.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval was also present at the meeting. Government sources said the Prime Minister affirmed that it is India's national resolve to deal a crushing blow to terrorism.

The sources said PM Modi expressed complete faith and confidence in the professional abilities of the Indian Armed Forces. PM Modi stated that the Indian Armed Forces have complete operational freedom to decide on the mode, targets, and timing of India's response.

The meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Modi, was attended by Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, and Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh.

Officials review security...

said.

After undertaking a detailed evaluation of the security measures in place at key tourist spots, Patil also held an interactive meeting with representatives of various hotel associations, trekking associations, and local residents including former sarpanches, he said.

The spokesperson said the participants were briefed about the security arrangements made for the safety of the public and to maintain law and order.

Additional measures needed to be taken were also discussed besides improving synergy amongst the stakeholders, he said.

The DIG emphasized the importance of ensuring the safety and comfort of visitors.

The officials also discussed strategies to enhance coordination between the police and civil administration, improve surveillance, and maintain law and order for the ensuing peak season, the spokesperson said.

He said the visit reflects the administration's commitment to promoting Patnitop, Nathatop and Sanasar as secure destinations for tourists from across the country.

India planning military action..

mode, targets and timing of India's response to the Pahalgam terror attack, government sources said.

Tensions have risen between the two countries after the Pahalgam terror attack last week that killed 26 people. Modi had said that India will "identify, track, and punish" the terrorist and their "backers" attack and pursue the killers to the "ends of the earth", as India stepped up the diplomatic offensive against Pakistan.

Pakistan's Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said the Indian government is preparing to carry out military action against Pakistan on the basis of "baseless and concocted allegations" regarding Pakistan's involvement in the recent terror attack in Pahalgam.

According to the statement, the minister said Pakistan had itself been a victim of terrorism and had always condemned it in all its forms and manifestations. He added that Islamabad had offered a "credible, transparent and independent" probe by a neutral commission of experts, and accused India of evading investigation and choosing a confrontational path.

Pakistan urged the international community to remain alive warning that any military adventurism by India would be "responded to assuredly and decisively" and that the "onus of any escalatory spiral and its consequences shall squarely lie with India."

Earlier, India announced a raft of measures against Pakistan including expulsion of Pakistani military attaches, suspension of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960, revokement of all visas issued to Pakistani nationals from April 27 and immediate shutting down of the Attari land-transit post.

US urges India, Pakistan...

Minister S. Jaishankar and Pakistani foreign minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar respectively.

The US also urges other world leaders to deliver the same message to the two sides.

"We are reaching out to both parties and telling, of course, them not to escalate the situation," Tammy Bruce, the State Department spokesperson said, reading out a statement from Secretary Rubio on Tuesday. "The Secretary expects to speak with the foreign ministers of Pakistan and India as early as today or tomorrow."

The spokesperson also said Secretary Rubio "is encouraging other national leaders, other foreign ministers, to also reach out to the countries on this issue." Bruce also said the US has engaged India and Pakistan at other levels as well, other than that of the foreign ministers. She did not give details. There were no updates from the state department on the calls.

Rubio's statement came hours after news reports said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had given the armed forces "complete operational freedom to decide on the mode, targets and timing of our response".

This followed a high-level meeting PM Modi chaired, attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, and the chiefs of the three services.

President Donald Trump had called Prime Minister Narendra Modi just hours after the Pahalgam terrorist attack last week.

The Indian Prime Minister had stated on that call: "India is determined to bring the perpetrators and backers of this cowardly and heinous terrorist attack to justice", clearly indicating India's desire to not only punish the terrorists who carried out the attack but also their backers, which is a pointer to Pakistan. Tulsi Gabbard, the director of national intelligence offered US support for India's effort to "hunt down" the perpetrators of the attack in a post on X.

District Srinagar Tennis Ball Cricket Championship 2025 concludes

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 30: The two-day District Srinagar Tennis Ball Cricket Championship (Boys & Girls) concluded at R.P. School Lawaypora. Organized by the District Srinagar Tennis Ball Cricket Association and sponsored by the J&K Sports Council, the event showcased vibrant cricketing spirit under the aegis of the J&K Tennis Ball Cricket Association.

The championship witnessed the participation of 25 teams across all age groups. Boys' matches were held on April 27, followed by a day dedicated exclusively to girls' matches on April 28. The closing



ceremony was graced by Salim Shabir Mir, CEO of R.P. Group of Schools, who distributed trophies to the winners and runners-up.

Boys Results: Club, winner and Dubai Grand School, Runners-up. Girls Results: R.P. School Malbagh, winner and TK School Srinagar, Runners-up.

This annual district-level event plays a vital role in selecting top talents for the upcoming UT-level Championship scheduled later this year. The event not only celebrated competitive sportsmanship but also empowered young cricketers, especially girls, to shine on the pitch.

Sodhi scripts history, becomes 1st Level-2 Softball Coach in North India



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: Popularly known as Sodhi, Harvinder Singh, a big name in J&K's sporting scene, has qualified Level-2 Softball Coach Licence, the certificate of which was awarded to him by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (World's Governing Body for the Olympic Sport of Softball).

Sodhi is now recognized WBSC Level-2 License Coach, which is the highest world level coaching license.

Harvinder is the Head Coach of J&K Softball and has also served as the Head Coach of Indian National Men's Softball Team that had tour of Japan in the year 2023.

Hailing from Jammu, Harvinder Singh is now the only Level-2 Softball Coach Licence holder in North India and among only four in the country, who has the honour of clearing prestigious Level-2 WBSC Softball Coach Licence Coach.Cleared exam at Pattaya in Thailand from February 17 to February 20, 2024 and receiving the

award certificate on April 27, 2025.

Working as a Physical Education Teacher (PET), appointed under SRO-376 of J&K Government for outstanding Sportspersons, Sodhi was the Chief Coach of the Indian National Senior Softball team for the Asia Cup Softball Championship held at Kochi in Japan last year.

Harvinder has the distinction of being the topper of the 2006-2007 batch of Diploma Courses in Sports Coaching Softball discipline, from Sports Authority of India (SAI), National Institute of Sports (NIS), Southern Centre, Bangalore. "It is a proud movement for entire sports fraternity of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir that Harvinder Singh, Physical Education Teacher at Government High School, Raipur, Sattari, Jammu is among top 4 Certified Level 2 Coach from all over the country, and his service will definitely take Softball Sport to great heights in Jammu & Kashmir said Waseem Raja Khan, Hony.General Secretary, J&K Softball Association.

Volleyball Summer camp begins in Poonch



Top News Report

POONCH, Apr 30: Organised by Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club, a month-long Summer Volleyball coaching camp started today at Government Degree College ground, here.

Around 60 boys and girls have been enrolled by the organisers for the specialised training camp. The camp got underway in the presence of star volleyball player from the district, Ayaz Ahmad Madni, who has been selected for the Indian senior men volleyball team camp prior to participation in the CAVA Volleyball League. Ayaz Ahmad

Madni was also felicitated by the chief guest, former Divisional Sports Officer of J&K Sports Council and district association secretary, Krishan Lal Sharma for his achievement.

Earlier, speaking to the budding spikers from different parts of the UT, Krishan Sharma appreciated the efforts of Mohd Tariq, chairman of Shaheed Manjit Volleyball Club for his dedication towards the youth of remote and boarder areas.

Pardeep Khanna was the guest of honour, who briefed the gathering about the month long camp, on behalf of the organisers.

CEC Leh congratulates People of Ladakh on Approval of Rs. 785.61 Cr re for Medical College and SNM Hospital Expansion



Top News Report

LEH, Apr 30: The Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson, has extended his heartfelt congratulations to the people of Ladakh on receiving in-principle approval for the establishment of a new Medical College at Spituk Pharka, Leh, and the expansion of Sonam Norboo Memorial (SNM) Hospital, with an estimated project cost of Rs. 785.61

crore.

CEC Tashi Gyalson expressed profound gratitude to the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, for this landmark approval and conveyed special thanks to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare J.P. Nadda for their visionary leadership and unwavering support towards fulfilling the long-standing aspiration of the people of Ladakh.

He stated that the establishment of the Medical College and the expansion of SNM Hospital will not only enhance healthcare infrastructure in the region but also build local capacity, improve access to quality medical services, and create new avenues for medical education for aspiring students from Ladakh. This milestone marks a transformative step in the development of Ladakh's healthcare and education sectors.

PTTI Vijaypur accords send off to retiring officer

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Apr 30: Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur on Wednesday accorded warm send-off to retiring officer Surrinder Paul Singh-DySP(Telcom) at an impressive farewell function held at PTTI Vijaypur in which a large number of officers/officials of PTTI Vijaypur were present.

On behalf of J&K Police and particularly PTTI Vijaypur, Pawan Kumar-SP, Vice Principal PTTI Vijaypur applauded the tenure of 41 years of police service rendered by the retiree, termed him as an honest, dedicated, sincere officer and wished the retiring officer a happy, prosperous & healthy post retirement life and advised him to work for the welfare and betterment of society in days to come.



All the staff of PTTI Vijaypur also wished the retiring officer all the best for future life. In his address the retiring officer shared his experiences of service rendered by him in

J&K Police and thanked officers/officials of PTTI Vijaypur for organizing the function.

Among others, Devinder Gupta-DySP (Outdoor), Khushwant Singh-DySP (Admn), Asif Iqbal-Sr.PO were present on the occasion.

JU Inter-Departmental Tournament 2025-26 gets underway

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: The University of Jammu witnessed an exciting second day of the Inter-Departmental Tournament 2025-26, held at the Gymnasium Hall. The tournament, featuring Carrom and Badminton competitions for both men and women is being conducted under the aegis of the Chairman, Campus Sports Committee, with leadership and supervision from Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Chairman, Campus Sports Committee, and active coordination by Sh. Raj Kumar Bakshi, Incharge PTI.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, highlighted the significance of such events in nurturing a vibrant campus environment. He stressed that sports not only enhance physical fitness but also contribute greatly to mental well-being, stress management, and overall personality development.

Day 2 Match Results: Carrom (Men's): Geography Dept. defeated Law Dept. by (2-0); Botany Dept. defeated MCA Dept. by (2-0); Geology Dept. defeated

Design Your Degree Dept. by (2-0); Botany Dept. defeated SHTM Dept. by (2-1); Geography Dept. defeated D.S.R.S Dept. by (2-0).

Carrom (Women's): D.S.R.S Dept. defeated The Law School by (2-1); Law Dept. defeated D.S.R.S Dept. by (2-0); Design Your Degree Dept. defeated Commerce Dept. by (2-0).

Badminton (Men's) Semi-finals: Law Department secured a solid victory over IcccR & HRM Department with a score of 2-0; Physical Education Department demonstrated their athletic prowess, defeating the Sociology Department by 2-0, earning their place in the final.

Badminton (Women's) Semi-finals: D.S.R.S Department cruised to the final with a 2-0 win against Design Your Degree Department; Geology Department edged past English Department in a tight encounter with a score of 2-1.

The smooth conduct of matches and enthusiastic participation were made possible through the dedicated efforts of officials Raj Kumar Bakshi, Ravish Vaid, Vikas Karlovia and Gagan Kumar, who ensured effective organization and fair play.

siastic participation were made possible through the dedicated efforts of officials Raj Kumar Bakshi, Ravish Vaid, Vikas Karlovia and Gagan Kumar, who ensured effective organization and fair play.

Dr. Jitendra calls for dynamic curriculum in view of changing governance landscape

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, Apr 30: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on Wednesday called for a dynamic curriculum in view of changing governance landscape and continuous evolution in public administration training modules to meet the rapidly changing requirements driven by emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing.

Delivering the Convocation Address of the 50th "Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration" (APPPA) at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Dr. Jitendra, who is also the Chairman of the IIPA Executive Council, said, "What is relevant today may not be tomorrow. We need to learn every day to stay relevant."

Highlighting the government's focus on Mission Karmayogi and Viksit Bharat, the Minister said the APPPA programme has grown beyond its traditional curriculum



to include exposure to aspirational districts, defence institutions, rural and urban development schemes, and India's rich traditional knowledge systems. "I am happy that the course has evolved with time, integrating themes like Atmanirbhar Bharat and governance reforms," he said.

In a candid and wide-ranging address, Dr. Jitendra emphasized the need for continuous learning and adaptive policy making in the face of exponential technological

advancements.

"We could very well see participants of the 50th APPPA returning for refresher courses by the 55th," he quipped, stressing the need to keep administrative knowledge up to date.

Lauding IIPA's initiative to organize APPPA's golden jubilee programme, Dr. Jitendra Singh underscored the importance of civil-military synergy. "Today's army officers don't just stay in isolation; they are expected to brief the media, interact with civil-

ians and respond jointly in disaster-affected regions," he noted, calling for greater focus on communication skills in future iterations of the course.

The Minister urged participants to assist in visualizing "India@2047" by contributing their domain-specific knowledge to the vision document being prepared by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.

"We mustn't view 2047 through the prism of 2025. Change is unfolding too quickly. We need to project forward with a futuristic mindset," he said.

Dr. Jitendra also appreciated IIPA's recent grassroots initiative, which began training programmes for elected Sarpanches and Panchayati Raj representatives, saying this marks a significant step in democratizing capacity building.

"IIPA has now spread its wings from training senior civil servants to empowering grassroots representatives," he said.

‘Hitman’ turns 38: Rohit Sharma’s journey of patience, persistence and perseverance

NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): India’s ‘Hitman’ Rohit Sharma, a modern-day white-ball legend, turned 38 on Wednesday. Since making his debut for the Indian team in Belfast on June 23, 2007, he has topped several records across formats, establishing his legacy and serving as a beacon of inspiration for the next generation.

Relaxed and easy on the eye, that’s how Rohit has owned all the shots from the cricket book and made some of his own by adding his twist to them. Rohit laboured enough and exuded patience and persistence to become a colossus in the white-ball format.

A young Rohit made a silent contribution to India’s success in the inaugural edition of the T20 World Cup and later played his part in opening India’s pathway to success in the 2013 Champions Trophy.

Despite being associated with the word “talent” by several fans on social media, the selectors often overlooked him, and Rohit had to bide his time on the sidelines, waiting for the opportunity when things finally fell in place for him. The moment eventually arrived in 2012 when he was pushed as an opener, and suddenly, it all clicked for him.

He went out, inflicted carnage at will, flaunted his effortless boundary hitting prowess, and put his talent on exhibition that was visible for the trained eye



and the casual observer. He scored double hundreds for fun, won six IPL titles in 15 editions, and hammered five centuries in the 2019 ODI World Cup without breaking a sweat.

The seasoned opener was deemed Virat Kohli’s ideal successor and took over the captaincy across all formats in 2022. That same year, he captained the Men in Blue in the T20 World Cup, a tournament in which England brutally thrashed India in the semi-finals. Rohit took the brunt on his shoulders and developed a culture in which his players played fearless cricket, leading by example.

Under his reign, India went on a winning spree on home turf in the 2023 ODI World Cup, with Rohit taking on the bowlers

early on and derailing their plans by pulling out a wide array of shots from his arsenal. With his early blitzkrieg and a consistent middle order, India sang in harmony and stormed into the final to face the mighty Australia in Ahmedabad for the coveted title.

The crimson night, meant to end in tears of joy, was transformed into a hellish nightmare that haunted India for months. Australia’s pedigree for success in ICC knockouts was too much for Rohit’s side to bear. Travis Head single-handedly blew apart the high-flying Indian team and robbed Rohit of his dream to lift the invaluable trophy.

Despite the setback, Rohit ended India’s 17-year-long wait for the ICC T20 World Cup by scripting a flawless campaign

in 2024. India went unbeaten, muscled away any opposition that came their way, and outwitted South Africa against the odds to stamp their authority in Barbados.

“Revenge is a dish best served cold”, Rohit savoured the feeling in the same edition when India lined up to face the Baggy Greens in the Super 8 stage. With vengeance in his eyes, Rohit charismatically flicked, drove and pulled the ball towards the fence throughout the Beausejour Stadium.

Mitchell Starc, a powerplay specialist in T20s for Australia, fell in the line of fire as Rohit relentlessly assaulted him and took 29 runs from his single over. It was Rohit’s sizzling 92(41) that showed Australia the pathway to exit and India the road to the semi-finals. After the famous triumph, Rohit retired from the format and paved the way for the youngsters to take the Indian team to new heights.

In less than a year, Rohit had his hands on another ICC title, with India staging an unbeaten campaign to comprehensively take away the precious trophy. When India needed a source of inspiration, he lifted the spir- its with an impeccable 76(83) to steer his side to victory with consummate ease.

As he continues to stroll in the twilight phase of his career, Rohit emerges as one of the unparalleled figures the cricket world has laid its eyes upon.

Nigam assures DC will try to finish in top two; reveals factor that could have turned defeat to victory



NEW DELHI, Apr 30 (Agencies): All-rounder Vipraj Nigam assured that Delhi Capitals will try to push for a comeback and try to land a spot in the top two of the standings following their two home defeats on the trot in the 18th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Delhi’s high-flying campaign, which began at the top of the table, is now tasting the bitter taste of reality after the Capitals fell to their second straight defeat in their home den. Kolkata Knight Riders staged an inspired performance to trounce DC and keep themselves alive in the race to the playoffs with a 14-run triumph.

DC was cruising in the chase with Faf du Plessis and skipper Axar Patel, who kept the

defending champions at bay with their controlled aggression. The 76-run stand kept Delhi in the driver’s seat, but the dynamics completely shifted in Kolkata’s favour after Axar lost his precious wicket to the ever-effective Sunil Narine.

Axar leaned back to clear the ball over extra-cover. The ball struck the upper half of the bat, and Harshit Rana took a clean catch to put Axar’s return ticket to the dressing room on 43(23). Tristan Stubbs’ stumps were rattled following his failed attempt to flick the ball away. Faf made room for himself but didn’t find the desired connection and dispatched the ball straight to Rinku Singh.

DC lost its middle order within three overs, and

Narine had three big fish to his name. While many introspected on DC’s attacking approach for Kolkata’s threatening spinners, Vipraj revealed the idea was always to attack them. He felt that if the set-batters had managed to hold onto their wicket, the outcome could have fallen in Delhi’s favour.

“We had planned to target their main spinners. We did in their first two overs. But shot selection went wrong in a couple of moments, and we lost our set batters. It is hard to straightaway slog on such a surface against their bowling lineup. If set batters continued to play, we would have won,” he told reporters in the post-match press conference.

Despite the defeat, Delhi stayed in the fourth spot, but the gap with the franchises sitting outside the top four spots has now significantly reduced. Despite the rising odds, Vipraj vowed that they would try to stage a comeback and finish in the top half.

“We are still in the top four, and we still have five games left. We will try to make a comeback and finish in the top two,” he added.

After 17-year hiatus, cricket returns to iconic stadium in Faisalabad as Pakistan host Bangladesh for five T20Is

LAHORE, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Wednesday announced that Pakistan will host Bangladesh for a five-match T20I series in May. The series is a part of the Future Tour Programme (FTP) and was initially slated for three ODIs and as many T20Is.

With the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup set to be held next year in India and Sri Lanka, both boards mutually agreed to replace the ODIs with two additional T20Is.

“The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has today confirmed that Bangladesh will tour Pakistan in May for a five-match T20I series. The series, which is part of the Future Tour Programme (FTP), originally consisted of three ODIs and three T20Is,” PCB said in a statement on Wednesday.

“However, with the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup scheduled for next year, both the boards have mutually agreed to replace the ODIs with two additional T20Is,” the statement added.

The five T20Is will be played in Faisalabad and Lahore from May 25 to June 3. The Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad will welcome back international cricket after a 17-year hiatus.

The Iqbal Stadium, which success-



fully hosted the inaugural Champions One-Day Cup in September last year and the National T20 Cup in March, will stage the first and second matches of the series, scheduled for May 25 and 27, respectively.

The historic venue’s last international fixture was an ODI between Bangladesh and Pakistan in April 2008. Between 1978 and 2008, the stadium hosted 24 Tests and 16 ODIs.

Lahore’s Gaddafi Stadium will host the remaining three fixtures, scheduled on May 30, June 1 and 3. The Bangladesh team will arrive on 21 May and will undergo training sessions at the Iqbal Stadium from May 22 to 24.

In their last five encounters, Bangladesh have emerged victorious once in 2023, while Pakistan have stamped its dominance with four victories on the trot.

India women’s hockey team set to test new combinations against Australia

PERTH, Apr 30 (Agencies): After two matches against the Australia A side, the Indian women’s hockey team is set to face the senior team in their next three friendlies at the Perth Hockey Stadium on May 1.

India will be looking to improve upon their performance after suffering two defeats in their first two games against Australia A. In the first match, India fought valiantly but fell short, losing 3-5 to the Australia A team.

The winning side took an early lead, scoring four goals in the first half. India did well to reduce the deficit, but was unable to make a comeback over the next two quarters. Mahima Tete (27’), Navneet Kaur (45’), and Lalremsiami (50’) scored goals for India while Neasa Flynn (3’), Olivia Downes (9’), Ruby Harris (11’), Tatum Stewart (21’), and Kendra Fitzpatrick (44’) recorded goals for Australia A.

In the second match, India suffered an unfortunate defeat with a narrow scoreline of 2-3. This time, it was India that scored the opening goal through Jyoti Singh (13’), after which Australia A came back with goals from Evie Stansby (17’), Dayle Dolkens (48’), and Jamie-Lee



Surha (52’). India’s second goal came through Sunelita Toppo (59’), but the visiting side couldn’t equalise in time.

India’s 26-member squad, led by captain Salima Tete and vice-captain Navneet Kaur, will now face a bigger challenge than the senior team of Australia over the next three matches. The last time both sides met, India enjoyed a 1-0 victory during the FIH Hockey Pro League 2023-24 and will look to obtain a similar result.

Reflecting on India’s perfor-

mance in the tour so far, chief coach Harendra Singh stated, as quoted from Hockey India, “In both the matches, we have conceded some soft goals which were disheartening, but apart from that, we have been very competitive. This is a test series, so it is not about winning or losing, it is about the experience.”

“There are some players who have come out of the country to play for the very first time. I am giving the youngsters a chance to play so they are prepared

to be the next generation,” he added.

Harendra Singh also touched upon the team’s strategy for the matches coming ahead and added, “In the first two games, most of the players have had a chance to play and now we will try out the best combinations among players. I am looking forward to this because this is how we identify the players who can compete in the forthcoming Pro League matches in Europe. Before going to the World Cup next year, the new girls should play a minimum of 35 matches. That is the goal we keep in mind while preparing for such tournaments.”

Talking about his assessment of the young players in the team, the coach said, “Everyone is giving their heart and there is healthy competition within the team. The one girl who has caught my eye is Mahima Tete. She’s mobile, quick and has great potential.”

“Same for Pooja, Sujata, Ajmina and all the other young players. Everyone is working hard and trying to learn. The key is to play simple hockey and gain experience against tough opponents like Australia,” he concluded.

Revitalised Rajasthan Royals look to halt Mumbai Indians’ charge

The hosts still have a mathematical chance of making the play-offs but deep down the management has accepted its fate

JAIPUR, Apr 30 (Agencies): Rajasthan Royals (RR) will turn up against Mumbai Indians (MI) with renewed vigour as they aim to halt the five-time champions’ surging momentum in the Indian Premier League (IPL) here on Thursday.

With 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi potentially playing the knock of the tournament on Monday, the Royals have found a ray of hope in what has been an IPL campaign of missed opportunities.

The hosts still have a mathematical chance of making the play-offs but deep down the management has accepted

its fate.

A side strain to skipper Sanju Samson paved the way of Suryavanshi’s debut and it only took him three innings to become the talking point of the cricketing world.

Samson last played on April 16 and there is no clarity over his comeback, leaving Suryavanshi and Yashasvi Jaiswal to open the innings again. Their 166-run stand against Gujarat Titans ensured they made short work of the 210-run target.

Having put bowlers of international repute to the sword, it would be interesting to see how southpaw Suryavanshi

fares against Jasprit Bumrah.

Lower down the order, there will be pressure on Shimron Hetmyer who has not been at his ballistic best this season where the pitches have been on the slower side. What will probably make the difference in their ordinary run is their inability to close games from winning positions.

In the pace department, Jofra Archer has provided the breakthroughs but has conceded close to 10 runs per over. Sandeep Sharma too has proved to be a tad expensive. In fact, none of their frontline bowlers have



an economy rate of less than 9.

For Hardik Pandya-led Mumbai Indians,

the return of Bumrah has coincided with their ascent to the top of the table. The perennial slow starters have now collected five wins on the bounce and look unstoppable.

“This competition is very tough, can’t get carried away. We need to play good cricket, always prepare for the next game and keep up with the momentum going forward,” Pandya had said after the win over LSG.

One of the positives for MI in the previous game was the performance of debutant Corbin Bosch who scored at a strike rate of 200 besides

taking a wicket.

With likes of Suryakumar Yadav and Rohit Sharma back at their best, MI seem to be peaking at the right time, an ominous sign for the opposition teams.

Squads: Rajasthan Royals: Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shimron Hetmyer, Shubham Dubey, Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Sanju Samson, Dhruv Jurel, Kunal Singh Rathore, Riyan Parag, Yudhvir Singh Charak, Nitish Rana, Sandeep Sharma, Tushar Deshpande, Akash Madhwal, Kumar Kartikeya, Kwna Maphaka, Wanindu Hasaranga, Maheesh

Theekshana, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Ashok Sharma, Jofra Archer.

Mumbai Indians: Suryakumar Yadav, Rohit Sharma, Tilak Varma, Bevon Jacobs, Ryan Rickelton, Robin Minz, Krishnan Shri-jith, Hardik Pandya, Naman Dhir, Raj Bawa, Vignesh Puthur, Will Jacks, Mitchell Santner, Jasprit Bumrah, Arjun Tendulkar, Ashwani Kumar, Reece Topley, Lizaad Williams, Karn Sharma, Trent Boult, Deepak Chahar, Satyanarayana Raju, Muejeb Ur Rahman.

Match starts 7.30 pm IST.

Lt Gen Pratik Sharma takes over as new Northern Army chief

JAMMU, Apr 30 (Agencies): Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma Wednesday took over as the new commander-in-chief of the Udhampur-based Northern Army Command, officials said.

An official told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), he is replacing Lt Gen MV Suchendra Kumar after his 15-month tenure in office.

The incumbent Lt General Suchindra Kumar retires on April 30 with an illustrious service of more than 30 years.

With an illustrious career spanning across three decades, Lt General Sharma is an infantry officer who has served in varied operational environments. He was a part of key opera-



tions such as operations Pawan, Meghdoot, Rakshak and Parakram.

Lt Gen Sharma has held key appointments, including Director General Military Operations, Military Secretary

branch.

He was also the Director General of Information Warfare at the newly institutionalised Information Directorate at the Army Headquarters in New Delhi.

Class 12th results declared in Kashmir; check your score here

SRINAGAR, Apr 30 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) on Wednesday announced the results of the class 12th annual exams with the pass percentage of 74.8 percent.

According to official figures, a total of 103308 students from across Jammu and Kashmir appeared for the exams, out of which 77311 have successfully qualified it.

The girls have outshined the boys in the class 12th examination.

The pass percentage for boys has been recorded at 71.95 percent, while the pass percentage for girls stands at 77.72 percent.

Check your score here: Annual2025-Vol-2Gazette

Commissioner Secy HUDD, JMC Commissioner visit Animal Care Facilities in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: Man-deep Kaur, Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD), Jammu and Kashmir, and Dr. Devansh Yadav, Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), conducted an official visit to the Municipal Animal Care Centre at Roop Nagar and the SPCA Centre at Chowadhi.

The purpose of the visit was to review the status and progress of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) program and associated civil works.

At Municipal Animal Care Centre, Roop Nagar, the dignitaries inspected the ongoing ABC program and reviewed the condition of sick and injured stray animals under treatment.

Commissioner Secretary Kaur emphasized the importance of maintaining hygienic condi-



tions, providing timely medical treatment, and ensuring the humane handling of all animals. She interacted with the veterinary staff, directed them to maintain efficient records, and stressed the need to expand outreach efforts for stray dog sterilization to effectively manage the population.

The team then visited the upcoming ABC Centre at SPCA Chowadhi. A detailed review of the ongoing civil works was conducted.

Commissioner Secre-

tary urged that construction and operational preparations be expedited.

The new facility is expected to significantly boost sterilization capacity and help scale up stray dog sterilization efforts across the city. Directions were given to engineering and veterinary teams to ensure timely project completion and infrastructure readiness.

The visit concluded with a reaffirmation of the department's commitment to animal wel-

fare, effective stray dog population management through sustained ABC operations, and the provision of the best possible care for injured and sick animals.

Also present during the visit were Abdul Star, Joint Commissioner (Health and Sanitation), Dr. Gaurav Chowdhary, Animal Welfare Officer; Ashwani Mitra, DFO Urban; Executive Engineers from the Electric, Civil, and Project Divisions of JMC; and other concerned officials.

Strong military attack should be made on ISI headquarters, terrorist hideouts: Sahni

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: Every Indian wants to make the criminals of Pahalgam shed tears of blood and see POK become a part of India, stated by Manish Sahni, President, Shiv Sena UBT Jammu-Kashmir unit.

In a press conference held on Wednesday at the party's state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that the time has come to teach a lesson to the criminals who have carried out nefarious and cowardly acts in Jammu and Kashmir for the last three and a half decades, including Pulwama, Pahalgam, Uri attacks.

A strong military attack



should be made on the terrorist hideouts and launching pads, including the army and ISI headquarters located in Pakistan, including

Lahore, Karachi, Rawalpindi. Along with this, the promise of making POK a part of India and Jammu and Kashmir should be fulfilled.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: In a unified and urgent call for justice, the All Daily Wager Sangarsh Samiti of Jammu & Kashmir has announced a "No Pay, No Work" protest beginning May 13, 2025, citing years of unfulfilled promises, unpaid wages, and systemic neglect by the authorities.

The protest includes a wide spectrum of grassroots workers: Mid Day Meal Cooks, CPWs (Contingent Paid Workers), Land Donors, ASHA Workers, PHE, PDD, Revenue Department employees, NYC volunteers, Home Department, Irrigation

and Flood Control staff, SRO 43 and 63 beneficiaries, VDGs, SPOs, Malicoms, Chowkidars, and Anganwadi workers—all of whom have long served the educational and administrative machinery of the region, often under grueling circumstances and without adequate compensation.

"We have been the silent force behind the smooth functioning of schools and government institutions," the Union stated. "From preparing meals, sweeping, cleaning, guarding schools, to stepping in during crises when authorities struggled to keep schools open—we have served with dedication. Yet, we remain



unseen, unheard, and unpaid."

Despite repeated assurances from the Education Department and continued promises made over the last decade, these workers claim they have not received their rightful minimum wages, compensation for land donations, regularization of services, or even basic retirement and social security benefits, as recommended by Supreme Court guidelines.

They also highlight a deeply emotional concern—about 10,000 families, affecting nearly 50,000 lives, have been driven to the edge due to financial instability and broken promises.

The Samiti has given a one-week ultimatum starting May 13. If their demands are not met, they vow to escalate the agitation to hunger strikes, and lift all restrictions on land donor participation. "We will abstain

from all duties—no more watch and ward, no more meal preparation, no more sweeping the classrooms we are not allowed to sit in," the statement reads.

A heartfelt appeal was also made to the teaching community for solidarity in the struggle. "We ask for your full cooperation in our movement. If educational institutions suffer due to our absence, the onus lies squarely on those in power who have failed to act."

In a final note of warning, the Union declared, "If within one month our rightful demands are not fulfilled, we will take to the streets."

This will be a people's protest, and the government shall bear full responsibility for the consequences."

Nrityanjali: A Classical Dance Academy pays tribute to Rajmata Ahilyabai Holkar



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: In connection with World Dance Day, Nrityanjali: A Classical Dance Academy organized a mesmerizing cultural evening at its 'Amphitheatre', at Gharonda, Talab Tillo Road, Hazuri Bagh, Jammu, where a host of dignitaries and art lovers gathered to witness a unique tribute to Rajmata Ahilyabai Holkar through classical dance.

The event, conceptualized and choreographed by Dr. Priya Dutta, featured a beautiful Kathak Ballet depicting the life and contributions of Rajmata Ahilyabai Holkar.

Dr. Priya Dutta, a celebrated Kathak exponent, performed along with her talented disciples, bringing alive the legacy of one of India's most revered women leaders.

The Music Track of the Ballet was professionally designed by the able team like Guru Purshotam Kumar, Samuel MasihSami, Amarjeet Singh, Rajkumar Behrupia, Vijay Kumar and Dr. Priya Dutta.

The evening commenced with a Paramparagat Kathak presentation, performed in the traditional style.

The live musical ensemble added grandeur to the performance with Dr. Priya Dutta her-

self on Padmant, Rajkumar Behrupia on Harmonium, Vijay Kumar on Tabla, Parshotam Kumar on Pakhawaj and the newly inducted Bindu Sharma on Sitar.

The participants who showcased their talent were Ritika Sountra, Sonia Devi, Sabha Majid, Manu Saini, Simpy, Pragya Sharma, Akshita Lamba, Radhika Sharma, Maithili, Ojasvi Gupta, Aadya Sharma, Naamya Mangotra, Sriha Sharma, Anandita Dutt, Annaya, Aaradhya, Namasya, Maiyra, Bhavani, Madhvi, Devanshi, Kangana, Ridhi, Agamya, Aryahi, Aarvi and Aaradhya.

Speaking on this occasion, Padma Shri (Prof.) Lalit Mangotra appreciated the endeavors of Nrityanjali under the guidance of Kathak exponent Dr. Priya Dutta and her team. He said that the presentations showed the hard work, research and display of excellence through the classical art form, which deserve great applause.

RJs Juhi Mohan and Shwetma Jamwal also expressed their views and appreciated the role of the community to make the event a success.

Earlier, in her welcome address, Dr. Priya Dutta expressed her gratitude towards her dedicated team and the parents

who have been continuously supporting the Academy's vision. She emphasized the importance of building a nurturing environment for young artists to grow and excel.

The event was graced by several eminent personalities including Padma Shri Lalit Mangotra, Sunaina Mehta JKAS, V K Samy, Suresh Sharma, Deepak Kumar, Pankaj Pardhan, Sunny Dua, RJ Juhi Mohan, RJ Shwetma Jamwal, Amarjeet Singh, Madam Anjana Badyal, O P Sharma and Jang S. Verma, among others.

The evening left the audience spellbound, reaffirming Nrityanjali's commitment to promoting India's rich cultural heritage through classical dance. A heartfelt tribute was also paid to the victims of the recent Pahalgam tragedy, with the entire audience observing a solemn moment of remembrance.

The event was beautifully anchored by Rajkumar Behrupia, an integral member of Nrityanjali Academy.

SP South inaugurates free eye screening camp at Bahu Fort



Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 30: District Police Jammu and Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organized 98th free eye screening check up camp for the devotees, Pujaris and Sewadars of Mata Bawe Wali Temple Bahu Fort.

The camp was inaugurated by Superintendent of Police Jammu South Ajay Sharma accompanying Station House Officer Bahu Fort Inspector Ashwani Sharma, Incharge Police Post Bahu Fort Mandir SI Lekh Raj and others.

The camp was organized with the collaboration of Department of Ophthalmology Government Medical College

Jammu. A total of 103 patients were provided free of cost treatment including Refraction, NCT, AR check up, Vision check up by a team of experts. Free medicines were also given to the patients.

Speaking on the occasion, Ajay Sharma emphasized on the need of regular check-ups, preventive tests and compliance to medicines prescribed by doctors.

He asked the Samvedna team to make the people aware about "eye donation" Ajay Sharma also lauded the efforts of the Samvedna team and assured full support and cooperation to the society.

Keshav Chopra said that our primary goal is

to bridge gaps in healthcare accessibility and ensure that best medical facilities should reach to every individual no matter where they are from. Keshav also said that his team is committed to organize such camps in the coming future also so that maximum people can take benefits of it.

Dr Nancy Sharma (Registrar), Dr Tapan Sharma (Registrar), Dr Sushant Kharkha (PG), Dr Mohammad Abid (PG), Anil Kumar (Sr Refractionist), Anil Kumar (Refractionist), Wasim Hafiz Ophthalmic Assistant, Vikas Kumar, Anju Chopra, Manoj Tandon, Ritika Chopra, Rajesh Nischal, Amit Bagotra and others were also present.