

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, MAY 05, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Rajouri Wall Collapse: Minor girl succumbs to injuries at Jammu Hospital

SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): A minor girl who was critically injured in a wall collapse during a wedding function in Rajouri's Dhanidhar area has succumbed to her injuries at SMGS Hospital Jammu.

Officials said that the minor was among around 20 people injured when a wall

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Soldier dies of cardiac arrest in Poonch

SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): An army soldier died of cardiac arrest in the Haveli area of Poonch district on Monday.

Officials said that during the intervening night of May 4 and 5, the soldier suffered a cardiac arrest. He was shifted to District Hospital Poonch, where doctors declared him

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In Tral, Kashmiri Sikh donates land for Muslim Graveyard in rare gesture of Brotherhood

SRINAGAR, May 5: (Agencies): In a heart-felt act of communal harmony, Pushvinder Singh, a retired Sikh schoolteacher and social activist from Saimoh village in South Kashmir's Tral, has donated a portion of his land to pave a path to the local Muslim graveyard, a gesture that is drawing praise across the Valley.

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Four held over sexual assault, murder of nomadic woman in Srinagar: Police

SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): Srinagar Police acted promptly upon receiving information regarding an attempted sexual assault on a woman (name withheld) by a group of individuals near Water Works Road, Nishat," said a police spokesman.

He said the victim had sustained grievous injuries and was shifted to

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All gates of Salal Dam on Chenab River closed, significant drop in water levels witnessed in Reasi



JAMMU, May 5 (Agencies): All the gates of Salal Dam on Chenab River were closed resulting in a significant drop in water levels in the Reasi district on Monday.

Water was seen flowing from the Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Project Dam on Chenab River in Ramban.

In a post on X BJP IT

Cell chief Amit Malviya lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi after this action.

"It takes political will to make tough decisions in India's interest, and Prime Minister Modi has demonstrated that through his actions. This is the muscular Modi Doctrine, firm and unwavering in its fight

■ Turn to page 9

Terrorist hideout busted in Poonch; IEDs, Wireless sets seized



MENDHAR/JAMMU, May 5 (Agencies): Security forces unearthed a terrorist hideout in a forest area in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, leading to the

recovery of five improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and two wireless sets, officials said on Monday. Jammu travel guide

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Detained for Pahalgam attack, Kulgam man jumps into river, drowns



KULGAM, May 5 (Agencies): Residents of a village in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district found the body of a 22-year-old man on Sunday amid allegations that the deceased was picked up by security forces for questioning in the aftermath of the

Pahalgam terror attack, officials said. PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, National Conference Lok Sabha member Aga Ruhullah Mehdi and Jammu and Kashmir Minister Sakina Ittoo said there were serious allegations of

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CM Omar Abdullah resumes office in Srinagar, Vows focus on Governance and Development



SRINAGAR, May 5 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah resumed office at the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar on Monday, marking the traditional biannual Darbar Move after a six-month gap.

The reopening of the Civil Secretariat in the summer capital signals the administration's shift to Kashmir for the warmer months.

Abdullah in a post on X, emphasized that his government's priority

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Five Journalists honoured at 2025 Danish Siddiqui Journalism Awards



NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Five journalists received the Danish Siddiqui Journalism Awards 2025 for their impactful reporting across print, digital, broadcast, and photo-journalism.

The awards ceremony, held at the India

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PAHALGAM ATTACK

Defence Secretary meets PM Modi

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh on Monday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi against the backdrop of increasing tensions between India and Pakistan over the Pahalgam terror attack.

The meeting comes a day after Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh met Prime Minister Modi and is understood to have



discussed the security situation.

Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi had

on Saturday apprised the prime minister on the overall situation in

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Punjab: 30-minute blackout drill held amid India-Pak tension

FEROZPUR, May 5 (Agencies): A 30-minute blackout rehearsal was conducted at the Ferozepur Cantonment area in Punjab on Sunday evening amid heightened tension between India and Pakistan following the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam.

All lights were turned off in the area after a siren went off at 9 pm, they said.

Earlier, the Ferozepur Cantonment Board wrote to Deputy Commissioner Deepshikha Sharma about carrying out the blackout drill.

"You are requested to ensure adequate security arrangements during this period, given the total blackout. This rehearsal aims to ensure preparedness and effectiveness in implementing blackout procedures during prevailing war

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UN Security Council to hold closed consultations on Indo-Pak tensions today

NEW YORK, May 5 (Agencies): The United Nations Security Council will hold closed consultations on Monday on the situation between India and Pakistan after Islamabad sought an emergency meeting amid tensions between the two nations following the Pahalgam terror attack.

Pakistan currently sits as a non-permanent member of the powerful 15-nation Security Council, which is being presided over by Greece for the month of May.

Islamabad "requested closed consultations" on the tensions between the two countries and the Greek Presidency

■ Turn to page 9

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TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Subash Chander Kotwal** (Reld. Dy. Registrar, University of Jammu) S/o Late Smt. Nand Kumari Kotwal & Late Sh. Pritam Chand Kotwal, who left for heavenly abode on Friday 25th of April 2025.

Tenth Day will be held at Ved Mandir, Jammu on Sunday, 4th of May 2025 at 8 AM.

Kriya will be performed at our residence, Lane No. 1, Lower Karan Nagar, Jammu on Wednesday, 7th of May, 2025 at 11:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Suresh Kumari - Wife

Tejvsi Singh - Son

Daughter & Son-in-law

Mrs. Deepika & Mr. Rohit Luthra

Mrs. Priyanka & Mr. Malikit Singh

Brothers & Bhabhis

Smt. Neena & Late Sh. Suresh Kotwal

Smt. Anju & Sh. Sunil Chander Kotwal

Smt. Kalpana & Sh. Vipin Kotwal

Grand Children : Rudra Dev, Angad Dev, Viraj Singh Kotwal, Yuvaan Kotwal

Ph.No.: 9086125643, 6005801261



Sh. Subash Chander Kotwal
(Reld. Dy. Registrar at Jammu University)

SATSANG

We are immensely grieved to announce the sad and untimely demise of beloved Son-in-law of Manjit Singh Mehta (Jawahar Nagar) currently residing at Jeevan Nagar, Rani Bagh

We request you to attend his **Ardas Satsang** on 7th May 2025 (Wednesday) and pray for his peace and well being in heaven.

Time : 4PM-5:30 PM

Venue: Gurudwara Digiana Ashram, Jammu

Manjit Singh Mehta and Family

6005184737, 9419835697



Gurpreet Singh
(Honey)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **RAJRANI BHAT**.

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 8TH MAY 2025 FROM 8 AM TO 10 AM AT GAURI SHANKAR TEMPLE NEW PALAM VIHAR GURGAON.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Omkar & Rajkumari Bhat

Avtar & Shobha Bhat

Ashok & Sudha Bhat

Kishni Kaul

Krishan & Veena Khosa

Grand Children & Great Grand Children

Ph: 7006474732, 9810616194, 9312658554



RAJRANI BHAT

TENTH DAY KRIYA

The 10th Day Kriya of our beloved Father **Sh. Veerender Krishan Koul (Veer Ji)** S/o Late Sh. Madhusudhan Koul of Roop Nagar Enclave, Lane No. 2-A, H.No. 112C will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education on 6th May, 2025 (Tuesday) at 9.00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Samast Koul Parivar

Mob.: 7889955425, 7006483045, 9906730747



Sh. Veerender Krishan Koul (Veer Ji)

TENTH DAY/MOURNING FROM MALYUN SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our Brother in law **Sh. Tej Krishan Kandhari** H/o Smt. Reeta Kandhari (Babli Ji) of Kharyar Srinagar and Son of late Sh. Girdhari Lal Kandhari and late Smt. Sham Rani Kandhari A/P A-10278, Gali No. 13A, Phase-5 Aya Nagar, New Delhi on 27-04-2025.

Mourning from Malyun Side will be held at our residence H. No. 9/A, Lane-1, Bharat Nagar Bantala Jammu. **Tenth Day** will be performed at Chota Handwar Muradnagar on 6-05-2025 at 10 am.

Grief Stricken

Smt. Vijay Raina W/o Late Deepak Raina
Sh. Ravinder Kumar Raina and Smt. Anita Raina
Sh. Surinder Kumar Raina and Smt. Reena Raina
Smt. Asha Bhat W/o Late Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat
Sh. Shubhan Ji Mattoo and Smt. Sarita Mattoo

7780932157, 9086573743



Sh. Tej Krishan Kandhari

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY/KRIYA

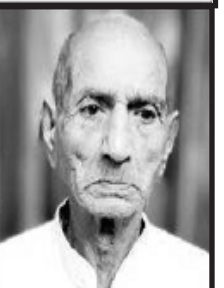
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father **Sh. Triloki Nath Raina** S/o Late Sh. Sudershan Raina originally from Razdan Mohalla Handwara Kashmir A/p 34-B Om Nagar Udhaywala Jammu on 02-05-2025.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 11-05-2025 (Sunday) at Muthi Ghat at 8 AM

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Raina's, Koul's, Pandita's, Tickoo's, Kachroo's, and Dhar's
Bushman Lal Raina (Son)

MOBILE NO: 9103253103, 9086395626



Sh. Triloki Nath Raina

10TH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the sad demise of our beloved father, **Shri Dev Khosla** son of Late Shri B D Khosla, who departed for his heavenly abode on Friday, 25th April 2025.

The **10th Day** will be held at our residence village Dhok Waziran (near Sainik School Nagrota) on Sunday, 4th May 2025

The **Uthala** will be observed on Wednesday, 7th May 2025 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM

In Grief:

Smt. Sudesh Khosla (Wife)

Sameer Khosla and Kamal Jeet (Son and Daughter-in-law)

Simmi Dasari and Dr. Dipesh Dasari (Daughter and Son-in-law)

Shivani Dogra and Jeet Dogra (Daughter and Son in law)

Grand children : Reet, Hemant, Mitaksh Shweta and Dr. Arush (Grand Son in law)



Shri Dev Khosla

10 TH DAY KRIYA

With utmost pain and grief, it is to inform that the **10TH DAY KRIYA** of our beloved Lt Sh. Ashok Bhat (AIR) H/O Smt. Sarita Wazir Bhat; who attained nirvana at Zirakhpur (Chandigarh) is being performed on 8th May - 25, Thursday at Muthi Ghat (near Dir. Education) Jammu at 8.00 AM 'concluding time'

C I Bhat - Shama ji

H I Bhat - Asha ji

S K Bhat

Phola Bhat Koul - N J Koul

Bimla B Koul -Ramesh Koul

Punica Bhat Sharma - Yougesh Sharma

(GIGOO'S, WAZIR'S, BHAT'S, KOUL'S, SHARMA'S)



Lt Sh. Ashok Bhat (AIR)

MOURNING / TENTH DAY

With Profound Grief and Sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Phoola Pandita (Tathi)** W/o Sh. Jag Mohan Pandita R/o Akhram, Kulgam at present R/o A-11, Park Avenue, New CG Road, Chandkheda, Ahmedabad.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday 4th of May 2025 at 9 AM at Triveni Sangam Chandi Baroda Gujarat.

Condolence Prayers will be held at Jammu from 5th Of May 2025 to 16th of May 2025 on below address: B/55 JMC 1113 Lane No 7, Bhawani Nagar, Talab Tilo, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. Jag Mohan Pandita (Husband)

Sh. R L Tickoo and Smt. Ratna Tickoo

Sh. Vinendra Matto and Smt. Nirm Matto

Sh. R L Shoda (Bilaji) and Smt. Sunila Shoda

Sh. Sanjay Pandita and Binny Pandita

Smt. Rita Pandita W/O Late O N Pandita

Sh. R L Pandita and Smt. Phoola Pandita

Sh. H L Pandita and Smt. Sarita Pandita

Sh. Brij Nath Pandita and Smt. Rashmi Pandita

Sh. Sushil Pandita and Prati

Sh. Subash Pandita and Sonika

Sh. Sunny Pandita

Rohi/Shiv/Sharmila Pandit and Karvi Pandit (Grand Children)

SAMAST PANDIT PARIVAR OF AKHRAM,

PH- 81 28 17 99 13 60 60 17 11 51 91 48 52 79 99 41 96 45 54 97 97 41 32 84



Smt. Phoola Pandita (Tathi)

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TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret the sad demise of **Sh. Nagar Mal Gupta** S/o Late Sh. Jiwan Mal on 25/4/2025.

The **10th Day** will take place on 4/5/2025 at 11.00 am at Mahajan Hall Kathua.

The **Kriya** will take place on 7/5/2025 at 10.00 am at our residence Ward No. 4, Near Sat Sarovar Mandir, Kathua.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Surishta Gupta (Wife)

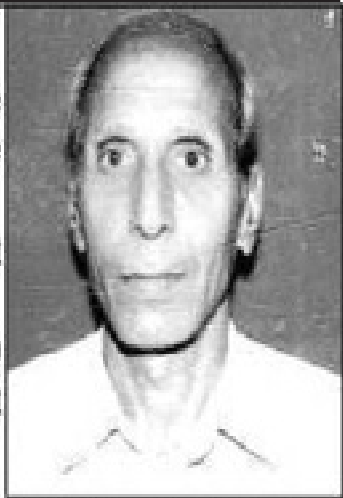
Sh. Tarsem Gupta (Brother)

Sh. Ram Pal Gupta (Brother)

Sh. Brij Mohan Gupta (Son-in-law)

Arun Gupta (Son)

Amnisha Gupta (Son)



Sh. Nagar Mal Gupta

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

Our beloved **Sanjay Sharma** S/o Late Comrade Shiv Kumar R/o 325 Shastri Nagar Jammu passed away on 26-04-2025.

10th Day will be performed at our residence 325 Shastri Nagar Jammu on 5-5-2025 (Monday) at 11.00 AM.

Kriya will be held at our residence 325 Shastri Nagar Jammu on 6-05-2025 (Tuesday) at 1.00 PM.

Uthala will be performed on 07-05-2025 (Wednesday) at Ram Mandir, Shastri Nagar from 5 to 6 PM.

Grief Stricken

Ratna Devi -Mother

Brothers & Sister-in-laws

Sanjeev Sharma & Palvi Sharma

Rajeev Sharma & Sunila Sharma

Mob. 9419144712, 9419785396

Sisters & Brother-in-laws
Sandhya Sharma & Late Anil Gour
Anjali Sharma & Vipin Sharma
Seema Sharma & Rajesh Mansotra



Sanjay Sharma

MOORNING/TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **Karmyogi Smt Vijay Bharti Raina** W/o Sh. Makhan Lal Raina originally resident of Batagund Krendigam, A/P lane No 5, H.No 12, Sarswati Vihar Anand Nagar Bhoir Jammu on 1st May 2025.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 10th May, 2025 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat near Director Education Office.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Makhan Lal Raina (Husband)

(Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law)

Smt. Uma Shori & Sh. Badi Nath Raina

Smt. Sanjay Raina (Sister-in-law)

Smt. Ruby & Sh. Kuldeep Raina (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Smt. Reena & Sh. Ashok Raina (Daughter in law & Son)

Smt. Beauty & Sh. Sanjay Raina

Smt. Nancy & Sh. Mahesh Krishna Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Daisy & Sh. Manoj Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Jyoti & Sh. Sanjay Pandit (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Rita & Sh. Suresh Bazzaz (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Anju & Sh. Vijay Koul (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Indu & Sh. Sunil Tickoo (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Soniya & Sh. Bipin Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Vineeta & Sh. Satish Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Grand Children: Uchay, Yutika, Tanish, Prateek, Mani, Lavanya, Danika, Urvasi, Sahil, Sindhuja

SAMAST RAINA PARIVAR



KARMYOGI SMT VIJAY BHARTI RAINA

TENTH DAY/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you of the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Darshana Devi** wife of Lt. Sh. Babu Ram R/o H.No. 33, Mohalla Pahanian, Jammu, who left us for heavenly abode on 25th of April, 2025.

The **10th Day** shall be performed at Mahajan Hall Shalamar Road, Jammu on 4th May, 2025 from 10 AM to 11 AM. **Uthala** will be performed on 7th May, 2025 from 4 PM to 5 PM at Mahajan Hall, Shalamar Road, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Romesh Chander Gupta & Babli Gupta

Ajay Kumar Gupta & Neelika Gupta

Daughters & Sons-in-law

Veena & Sh. Madan Lal

Anju & Sh. Chander Mohan

Ritu & Sh. Ravinder Gupta

Monika & Sh. Parashotam Lal

Grand Daughters & Grand Sons-in-law

Sunmya & Sachin Gupta

Surbi & Naren Gupta

Grand Children: Anvi Gupta, Ananya Mahajan, Shivansh Mahajan



SMT. DARSHANA DEVI

Great Grand Children: Ritihri, Aadvik, Tryaksh, Kriehna
Contact No: 9418105306, 9418263339

OBITUARY

With profound grief and heavy hearts, we inform the sad demise of our beloved, **Shri Pushkar Nath Ganjoo** S/o Late Pt. Radha Krishna Ganjoo originally of Bagh-i-sunder Bala, Chattabal & Banzulla, Srinagar, Kashmir, at present 107, Banda House, Plot No 40 A, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi 110075 (Opp Ayushman Hospital) on Sunday 4th May 2025. He lived and taught us how to live life to the fullest. We are forever grateful for the values he so generously bestowed upon us.

May Bhagwaan Vishnu grant him Mokshachham and place him at His sacred feet.

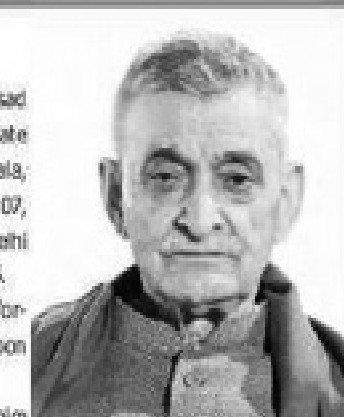
FONDLY AND FOREVER REMEMBERED BY:

Smt. Kiran Ganjoo & Sh. Ashok Razdan

Razdans, Dhars, Kauls (Karhalloos).

Kakrus & Samast Poshkuj Parivar

Mobile 9971834658, 9810236133.



Shri Pushkar Nath Ganjoo

CM Omar Abdullah urges early implementation of budget proposals

Chairs high-level meeting on functioning of offices at Civil Secretariat Srinagar



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 5: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday emphasized that the efforts of the govern-

ment should become visible in the coming six months in terms of governance, delivery of public services and overall improvement in functioning of the gov-

ernment across Jammu and Kashmir. He stressed that governance must not remain confined to the Civil Secretariat or government offices alone.

Final Publication of Electoral Rolls – Special Summary Revision, 2025 with respect to 01.04.2025 for Assembly Constituency 77-Nagrota

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: District Election Officer, Jammu handed over copies of Final Electoral Rolls to the representatives of Political Parties consequent to the successful conclusion of Special Summary Revision, 2025 which was started on 8th April, 2025, in the 77-Nagrota Assembly Constituency with respect to 01.04.2025 as the qualifying date. Further, the public of the Assembly Constituency is informed about publication of the Final Electoral Rolls.

The Revision process was preceded by, rationalization of Polling stations of 77-Nagrota AC resulting in the increase of 5 Polling stations, thus raising the total number of Polling stations to 150 from earlier 145.

The process involved active participation of Booth Level Officers (BLOs), public awareness through SVEEP initiatives, and collaboration with political parties, educational institutions, and civil society groups to reach every eligible voter. It also included awareness through a dedicated van with state of the art facilities provided by the CEO known as "Democracy on Wheel". To facilitate maximum participation, four Special Camp



Days were organized across all polling stations within the constituency on 12th, 13th, 19th and 20th April 2025. During these camps, eligible electors engaged enthusiastically in the registration process. All operations of the SSR were conducted in a transparent manner which includes meetings with stakeholders and sharing of claims and objections on weekly basis.

The Final Electoral Rolls are now available for public inspection at all Polling Stations in 77- Nagrota Assembly Constituency, Offices of the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) and Assistant EROs and the official website of the CEO J&K "https://ceo.jk.nic.in". DEO Jammu while handing over the copies to the Politi-

cal parties advised all political parties as well as Electors in general to verify their name in the final list, note their EPIC number, Part number, and Serial number and any person aggrieved with any decision of the ERO can file an appeal to the District Magistrate.

The District Election Officer, Jammu, appreciates the dedicated efforts of the field staff, BLOs, nodal officers, and the cooperation of citizens in successfully completing this crucial democratic exercise and urged all to continue strengthening the electoral process by being informed, aware, and active participants in democracy.

For further information, please contact the District Election Office, Jammu or call the Voter Helpline – 1950.

DIPR Cultural unit promotes anti drug campaign at GMHSS Camp Roopnagar

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: A Cultural Awareness Programme themed "Nasha Mukht Bharat" (Say No to Drugs) was organized on Monday by the Cultural Unit of the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), Jammu at Government Mixed Higher Secondary School Camp Roopnagar.

The purpose of the initiative was to generate awareness about the harmful consequences of drug abuse and to advocate for a drug-free society. Artists from the Cultural Unit, Jammu engaged the audience with theme-based songs, effectively illustrating the impact of drug addiction on individuals, families, and society as a whole.

Present at the event were Lecturers, Teach-



ers and students of the School. Principal of school Pushpa Bhatt and students shared their viewpoints on the topic and emphasized its relevance to the audience.

The School Principal lauded the Department of Information and Public Relations

for hosting such an impactful event aimed at spreading awareness.

The programme was conducted under the directions of Joint Director Information Jammu Deepak Dubey and under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu, Mukesh Kumar Sharma.



RGCN celebrates “International Midwives Day”

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing celebrated "International Midwives Day" in collaboration with SOMI (Society of Midwives India) Jammu and Kashmir chapter. To celebrate the event, Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing organized one day educational seminar titled "LATEST TRENDS AND INOVATIONS IN OBSTETRICS AND GYNOCOLGY AND ROLE OF INDEPENDENT NURSE MIDWIFE PRACTITIONAR". Prof. Rafiq Bashir Principal RGCN & President SOMI Jammu and Kashmir Chapter and Mrs. Sumaya Siddiqui Incharge Principal Govt. Nursing College Jammu & secretary SOMI Jammu and Kashmir Chapter were the Chief Guests of the event. Mr. M.S. Katoch Chairman of RGCN was the Special Invitee of the event. Mrs. Anjana Bavouria, Director of RGCN and faculty members of RGCN also attended the event. The event was inaugurated by welcome address delivered by Mrs. Shrista Sotra, Tutor, RGCN, Jammu.

Lamp lighting was performed by Mr. M.S. Katoch Chairman of RGCN, Prof. Rafiq Bashir Principal RGCN, Jammu, Mrs. Sumaya Siddiqui In-Charge Principal GCON, Mrs. Anjana Bavouria, Director of RGCN and esteemed faculty members

of RGCN.

The event commenced with an enlightening keynote session by Mrs. Sumaya Siddiqui secretary SOMI (J&K), who addressed the growing importance of independent Nurse Midwife Practitioner and advocated for their integration into mainstream healthcare services. The session was followed by Special Speech from Prof. Rafiq Bashir Principal and President SOMI (J&K) who spoke on the innovations and trends in obstetrics and Gynecology offering valuable insight into current technological breakthrough, including AI, Digital fetal Monitoring and patient Centered Advancements shaping modern Obstetrics Practices.

Case scenario based Group Activities were also given to the participants in which all the participants participated actively. Interactive case-based group activities allowed participants to apply theoretical knowledge to real-life clinical situations

The program concluded with closing remarks by Chairman M.S. Katoch, who lauded the efforts of the organizing committee and emphasized the relevance of such seminars in fostering skill development and policy awareness in maternal healthcare In the end, the Programme was concluded by vote of thanks by Ms. Aasia Manzoor, faculty, RGCN.

Samba police arrested drug smuggler with 24.40 grams heroin like substance

Top News Report

SAMBA, May 5: Continuing its drive against drug smugglers/peddlers, Samba Police has arrested a drug smuggler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana and recovered 24.40 grams approximately heroin (chitta) like substance from his possession.

A Police party headed by SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana under the supervision of SDPO Bari Brahmana and under the overall supervision of SSP Samba intercepted a car near BBIA Club having registration No. PB35U-7185 which was coming from Balole Khad and moving towards Bari Brahmana. During checking, 24.40 grams approximately heroin like substance was recovered from the possession of the person driving the car.

The drug smuggler identified as Imran



Hussain S/o Mohd Afzal R/o Dhanore Jarallan tehsil & district Rajouri has been arrested and contraband item alongwith vehicle have also been seized.

A case FIR No. 69/2025 U/S 8/21/22/25 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Bari Barhmana and investigation started.

Samba police seizes six vehicles for illegal mining

Top News Report

SAMBA, May 5: Continuing its drive against illegal mining, Samba Police has seized six vehicles across the district Samba which were being used for illegal transportation/ mining of the construction material.

Police teams of Police Station Purmandal, Police Station Ramgarh, Police Station Vijaypur and Police Post Mansar of PS Samba while performing patrolling duty in their jurisdictional areas, have seized six vehicles including two dumpers bearing registration Nos. JK14F-0261& JK21F-1853 and four tractor trolleys without bearing registration



Nos. which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material in the area. The above men-

tioned vehicles have been seized by Samba Police and handed over to the Geology & Mining Department, Samba for further legal action.



DC Reasi reviews progress of work on DAK Expressway

Top News Report

REASI, May 5: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik on Monday chaired a meeting with stakeholders, including officials from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to review the progress of work on Delhi-Amritsar-Katra (DAK) Expressway.

The meeting focused on resolving pending issues related to the portion of the expressway falling under in the District. The DC assured all stakeholders of full support in removing any hurdles to facilitate the swift completion of this important project.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the follow-up actions from the previous meeting. NHAI representatives informed that several previously discussed issues have now



been successfully resolved and work is progressing smoothly.

However, two issues, including land mutation issue and one land dispute case were discussed today. The DC assured that one of these matters would be resolved by the

evening, while the others would be addressed within two days.

The Deputy Commissioner gave clear instructions to NHAI to take immediate and appropriate action regarding residential structures that have developed cracks due to land cutting and

excavation activities related to the expressway construction.

She emphasized that it is NHAI's responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of affected residents. Any damage or loss caused due to construction activities would be solely the responsibility of NHAI. Safety must be the top priority.

The DC instructed NHAI officials to promptly assess the extent of damage to affected houses and carry out the necessary repair work to restore their structural integrity. She stressed that repairs must ensure the houses are made safe and fit for habitation.

The meeting was attended by ACR Reasi Nitin Verma, Project Director Anuj Kumar, Site Engineer Abhishek Tagotra and Project Manager from AFCO.



EDITORIAL

Mata Baglamukhi Temple

Mata Baglamukhi Temple is a revered shrine dedicated to Goddess Baglamukhi, one of the ten Mahavidyas in Hinduism, symbolizing power, protection, and victory over enemies. Located at various places in India, some of the most famous temples are in Nalkheda (Madhya Pradesh), Kangra (Himachal Pradesh), and Datia (Madhya Pradesh). Each temple attracts thousands of devotees, especially during Navratri and other auspicious occasions, who come seeking the blessings of the powerful goddess. The name “Baglamukhi” is derived from the Sanskrit words “Bagla” (meaning bride) and “Mukhi” (meaning face or headed). However, spiritually, “Bagla” is also interpreted as “Valga” meaning “to rein in” or “to control.” Thus, Baglamukhi is known as the goddess who has the power to paralyze enemies, stop negative energies, and grant victory in disputes and legal matters. She is often worshipped by those facing legal challenges, competitors, or adversaries in any field. The idol of Mata Baglamukhi is usually depicted in a striking pose, holding the tongue of a demon with her left hand and raising a club in her right hand to strike him. This imagery symbolizes the suppression of enemies’ speech and actions, granting the devotee power to overcome harmful influences. Her yellow attire and the use of turmeric (haldi) in rituals signify her association with the yellow color, representing prosperity and auspiciousness. The temple’s architecture typically follows traditional Hindu temple designs, with ornate carvings, a sanctum sanctorum (garbhagriha), and beautifully crafted idols. Many temples also have a yajna shala (ritual hall) where specific tantric rituals and havans are performed under the guidance of priests. It is believed that rituals performed here with devotion and proper methods yield quick and effective results. Devotees flock to the Mata Baglamukhi Temple for various reasons. Many seek relief from enemies, protection from evil forces, or victory in court cases. Others come to gain mental strength, courage, and the power to speak effectively. The temple is especially crowded on Thursdays, considered auspicious for the goddess, as well as during Navratri, when special prayers and night-long rituals are organized. Legends associated with Mata Baglamukhi narrate that she emerged during a great storm threatening the universe. To stop the chaos, she appeared and silenced the storm, symbolizing control over disorder. This legend reinforces her role as a goddess who stops negative forces and grants stability. Another belief is that worshipping her not only grants victory but also prevents future harm from arising. A unique aspect of Baglamukhi worship is the use of tantric rituals. Unlike other deities where simple prayers suffice, the sadhanas (spiritual practices) of Baglamukhi involve specific mantras, mudras, and offerings performed under strict guidance. Devotees often fast, wear yellow clothes, and use yellow offerings such as turmeric, yellow sweets, and yellow flowers. Some rituals are performed secretly at midnight for specific purposes. Apart from spiritual benefits, the Mata Baglamukhi Temple also promotes community gatherings, spiritual discourse, and charity. Many temples organize free meal services (bhandara) and educational or health camps for devotees and the local population. Pilgrims visiting the temple often express a deep sense of spiritual fulfillment and inner strength after darshan (sighting) of the goddess. In recent years, the popularity of Mata Baglamukhi worship has spread beyond India, with temples and devotees worldwide invoking her for protection against obstacles in both personal and professional life. The temple stands not only as a place of worship but also as a beacon of faith in the power of the divine feminine. Mata Baglamukhi Temple holds a unique place in Hindu spirituality. Whether one seeks victory over external enemies or internal fears, the goddess offers her blessings to those who approach her with sincerity and devotion. Visiting the temple is not just a religious act but a transformative experience, inspiring strength, courage, and unwavering faith.

“Fraud in the name of KCC: Predatory capitalism of private banks and looting of farmers”

By: **Dr. Satyawan Saurabh**

While giving loans to farmers under the KCC scheme, private banks quietly deduct money from their accounts in the name of insurance and policies. Recently, a similar act of Axis Bank was exposed in Rajasthan when a farmer made a video and exposed the truth. This is not just an incident but a frightening trend spread across the entire banking system. The inaction of the government and RBI makes it more dangerous. Now is the time for farmers to wake up, raise questions, and demand their economic rights.

India is an agricultural country. We have been learning this sentence in schools since the first grade, but the question is, does the heart of India really beat with the farmers? Do governments, banking institutions, and economic policymakers respect this agricultural dominance? Recently, a video from Rajasthan revived this question, where an educated farmer exposes the trick of Axis Bank, which is being done with lakhs of innocent farmers like him—money is deducted from their Kisan Credit Card (KCC) account in the name of insurance and policies without informing them. This incident is not just of one state but is part of an entire economic exploitation system.

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was launched by the government to provide farmers with affordable credit so that they can meet their farming costs without falling into the trap of moneylenders. The soul of this scheme was easy, transparent, and reliable financial assistance. But when the same scheme goes

into the hands of private banks, they turn it into a marketable product. Farmers are forcibly given life insurance, accident insurance, and sometimes even mobile SIMs or other services in the name of KCC. The cost of all this is deducted directly from their account—without their consent, without their knowledge.

A video recorded by a farmer in Rajasthan unravels the layers of this entire system. The farmer asks Axis Bank on what authority money was deducted from his account. The bank employees have no clear answer. They talk about the policy but are unable to show any documents of consent. The video clearly shows that this is not a “policy” but meanness. The farmer’s language, confidence, and factual preparation show that if the farmers become aware, this system will not last long.

It is not that only Axis Bank is involved in such activities. Many other private banks—ICICI, HDFC, IDFC, and even some cooperative banks—have also been accused by farmers’ organizations. Thousands of rupees are deducted from the farmers’ accounts every year in the name of insurance. Many times they do not even know that a policy has been started in their name. When they go to the bank to complain, they are either silenced or are told, “This is the rule,” “It is deducted from the system,” or “You signed the form.” Here, signature means a form filled out forcibly, which the farmer is unable to understand.

This question is very important: What are the governments doing about this? Do they not have information that farmers are being cheated by banks? If yes, then why has no strict action been taken till now? Whether it is

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi or loan waiver schemes, all these run in the name of farmers. But when their own money is silently deducted, then why do the same governments become silent? Has the government become a silent partner in this ‘illegal earning’ of private banks?

In recent years, farmers have filed PILs on this issue several times. The High Courts of some states have also paid attention to this, but no concrete policy has emerged at the national level. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued some guidelines, such as adding insurance or any other product only with the explicit permission of the customer, but the ground reality is completely opposite to this.

When an educated customer living in cities goes to the bank, he is told everything related to insurance, policy, and transaction. But when the same bank opens a branch in a village, the books of rules disappear there. Considering the rural customer as ‘weak, illiterate, and naïve,’ the attitude of the banks becomes ‘looting and intimidating.’ This is what we call economic inequality—where there are no facilities, only ‘exploitation’ reaches.

The government should organize digital and banking literacy camps at every panchayat level. It is important to explain to the farmer what he is signing and what its effect will be. Also, RBI should create an online portal where the farmer can know the reason for every rupee deducted from his account, and he should get the facility to lodge a complaint without going to the bank. If such complaints come from many branches of a bank, then the services related to farmer loans should be banned at that bank. Farmer awareness com-

mittees should be formed at the village level, which monitor banking fraud and boycott the bank if needed.

Today, the Indian farmer is not only fighting the weather, the land, and the market, but is also grappling with the hypocrisy of the banks. The banks that once promised to be his financial backbone are now stabbing him in the back. In such a situation, it is important that we are not just surprised by watching the video but adopt the consciousness of the farmer who asks questions, demands answers, and raises his voice for his rights.

The farmer should not be considered just a grain-growing machine. He is also a vigilant citizen. In a country where the budget is prepared in his name, those who empty his pockets cannot be forgiven. “Sanskhaar (culture) has taught us to bow down, but not in front of anyone’s arrogance”—do not limit this sentence to just a picture. This is the real story of the farmers’ struggle. Now the time has come that every farmer, every citizen, every journalist, and every policy maker should understand this—if the farmer’s voice is not heard, then tomorrow the field will go silent and so will the plate.

(Dr. Satyawan Saurabh, Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, All India Radio and TV panelist, 333, Pari Vatika, Kaushalya Bhavan, Barwa (Siwani) Bhiwani, Haryana – 127045, Mobile :9466526148,01255281381)

Package as well as Jammu based Employees held as Hostage in Kashmir

By: **Omkar Dattatray**

Both the Prime Minister Package Employees as well as the SC, ST, OBC Jammu based employees working across Kashmir valley are working in perpetual threat to their life, limb and dignity and they are made to work in most unfavorable and undesirable conditions. Both these groups of employees are made to lick the dust. In fact it is no exaggeration to say that these employees of the UT are made to work in continuous fear and risk to their lives and in fact are held as hostages and they can be targeted at any time by the Islamic terrorists and so they are working in risk to their life and the government is very unjust to both these categories of employees. So far as package employees are concerned they have to work in Kashmir Valley up to their superannuation and this is big injustice to these employees. These posts are supernumerary, as such are additional posts and they have to work when some JK employee is on leave but the height of injustice is that these package are made to work as regular employees and they are overburdened with the work, when justice demands and deserves that Package employees should be given work when any employees is away on leave. Most disgusting is the travesty of justice that these PM package employees posts were made non-transferable which is a big injustice with these hapless employees when the fact is that for all purposes they are like the other regular employees of Jammu and Kashmir. The height of injustice and unlawfulness is that these package

employees are made to execute a bond to the effect that they will not claim their transfer to Jammu division till their retirement. It negates the civil services rules and now that Jammu and Kashmir is a union territory so these package employees have a right to be transferred to any part of the UT and so their bond is void ab initio and so they should be given the right of transfer to other division of Jammu and Kashmir. It is very illegal, unlawful and negation of the CSR that the package employees are required to execute a bond at the time of joining the service. So what is needed and is also lawful the package employees service should be made transferable so that they can also reap the fruits of transferring to other division or region of J & K and doing this will end injustice with the package employees to a vast extent. Both Package employees and the reserved category employees are made to work under threat to their life, limb and honor as they are working in most unfavorable environment where the rite of the terrorists looms large and these employees are held as hostages and thus there is immense risk to their precious lives ,but the government has been denying their sad plight. So the package employees and reserved category employees working across Kashmir should be allowed to claim transfer to Jammu region and to the home district in the case of RCE .At present the environment across the valley is most fragile and there is an atmosphere of fear psychosis as there is great and severe risk to their lives. So to both the package and reserved category employees an option needs to be given for work from home till the normalcy returns the valley. At

present the situation is very serious and unfavorable to both these categories of the employees .They are in continuous fear ,panic ,grief and gloom and they are susceptible to killings and assaults and therefore it is not feasible for them to live and work across Kashmir and thus to lessen their fear and gloom ,it is necessary to issue order for their work from home till the situation becomes normal. If this is not done ,these hapless and helpless employees will have the risk of being kept as hostage and therefore there is risk of some of them being killed while in the line of duty. Both the package employees as well as RCE are in a very difficult ,peculiar and trying circumstances because one side local police of J & K are unofficially asking them to stay away from their duties because of the possibility of terrorist threat and attack on their lives and on the other hand their immediate bosses /DDO’s are asking them to attend duties continuously and so these unfortunate employees fell themselves entangled into such a situation in which they are unable to decide the right course of action. Thus to save them from the harassment, intimidation ,fear and uncertainty the best and only course will be to allow them to work from home so that there is no harm done to their precious lives. So the LG administration should take a decision in this regard at the earliest so that it seems that the government thinks and cares for them. So they should not be given the feeling that they are kept as hostages by the government where there is risk and continuous threat to their life, limb and dignity. It is opportune and appropriate time to take the opportunity and order

their work from home so that on one side the work of the government will not suffer and on the other hand the lives of these soft targets are saved from the bullets of the savage terrorists. No delay should be made in this matter as it will prove counterproductive and harm the life, limb and honor of these employees. It seems that these employees are more than bonded laborers and their lives have been made hostage by the insensitivity and apathy of the government. Therefore the authorities should see the reason and at the earliest order work from home for these employees till the situation becomes feasible and normal for their work in valley. These employees are facing mental tension and depression as they are forced to work across valley and their old, ailing parents and children and families are far away in Jammu and it is at such a time when their old parents want them with their parents and when their parents need their services. Therefore government should see the issue from humanitarian angle and make no further delay in ordering work from home for package employees and reserved category employees and in this lies the good of the powers ,government work and these employees. What has been written above is truth and undiluted and concentrated truth and nothing beyond that. But is there anybody listening is the million dollar question?

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

Beat the heat with ‘Fab Grab Fest’, Samsung announces huge discounts on gadgets and appliances

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, is turning up the heat this summer with the return of its blockbuster sale — Fab Grab Fest! Kicking off on May 1, this much-anticipated shopping extravaganza brings sizzling, limited-time deals on a wide range of Samsung's cutting-edge products, available exclusively on Samsung.com, Samsung Shop App and Samsung Exclusive Stores.

As the sale kicks off, customers can enjoy up to 41% off on select models of Samsung Galaxy S, Galaxy Z, and Galaxy A smartphone series. Whether it is the latest foldables or powerful camera-centric models, there is something for every tech enthusiast. In addition, select Galaxy tablets, accessories and wearables will be available at discount of up to 50% off, making it the perfect time to complete your Galaxy ecosystem.

Not just that, users seeking a

seamless and versatile tablet-like experience can avail up to 35% off on select Galaxy Book5 and Book4 laptops and elevate their workflow with Galaxy AI.

Customers purchasing the all-new Galaxy Tab S10FE series will get 45W charger without cable worth INR 2999 free.

Unmissable deals on Samsung's flagship TVs are also lined up in this edition. Customers can expect up to 48% off on popular models including the Neo-QLED 8K, Neo QLED, OLED, QLED, The Frame, and Crystal 4K UHD series. Those looking to turn their walls into a confluence of art and technology can choose The Frame TV. With a flush fit, Samsung's Frame seamlessly transcends into an art piece when turned off — and now, with an instant cart discount of up to INR 11000, premium design and cinematic experiences are more accessible than ever. Additionally, customers can avail benefits of up to INR 5000 exchange bonus on purchase of select TVs.

Samsung is also rolling out

exclusive offers on its full suite of digital appliances. Shoppers can enjoy deals across refrigerators, washing machines, microwaves, air conditioners, and monitors.

For those seeking top-tier performance and design, select models of side-by-side refrigerators, French-door refrigerators will be up for grabs at an exclusive deal of up to 43% off.

Select models of washing machines will be available at up to 43% off. Additionally, they will get a generous 20-year warranty on the Digital Inverter Motor for both Fully Automatic Front Loading and Fully Automatic Top Loading machines. For easy access, the affordable EMI option is also available starting at just INR 1590 for Fully Automatic Front Loading, INR 990 for Fully Automatic Top Loading, and INR 890 for Semi-Automatic Washing Machines.

To beat the heat this summer, select WindFree™ AC models can be availed at a fabulous deal of 58% off, with an additional 5% discount on the purchase

of two or more units. These ACs also include a 5-year warranty on the PCB part and a 10-year warranty on the compressor, delivering both savings, comfort and peace of mind.

Customers can continue to indulge in a premium experience through our 'Buy More Save More' deals. Shoppers purchasing two or more smart home appliances via Samsung.com or the Samsung Shop App will receive an additional discount of 5%.

The programme invites users to handpick their own personalized bundles from a variety of digital appliances that suit their needs, while maximizing savings.

Select Samsung monitors will be available at discounts of up to 60%. Customers purchasing Galaxy Book Series laptops can avail a multi-buy offer on monitors — where pairing the two together will mean more savings. Additionally, Samsung is offering an instant cart discount of up to INR 7000 on gaming monitors.

Low-Paid Government Employees Federation observes International Labour Day

Top News Report

DODA, May 5: The Low-Paid Government Employees Federation (LPEF), Jammu observed International Labour Day (May Day) under the chairmanship of State President Shri Kabla Singh. A large number of workers, pensioners, and employees gathered to pay homage to the martyrs of Chicago and to commemorate the spirit of May Day (Yoom-e-May) on May 1, 2025 at Press Club, Jammu.

Leaders of the federation appealed to the working class to remain united in their struggle for better rights and working conditions. Various demands were raised during the program, reflecting the aspirations and grievances of the employees.

Members of the Pensioners and Senior Citizen Welfare Society, led by their Chief Patron Noor Hussain Malik, along with trade union leaders, addressed the gathering. Prominent speakers included Anchal Dev Singh, Jugul Kishore, J.S. Awal, R.K. Maini, Om Parkash Chowdhary, Gohar Hafees Fani, Niaz Ahmad Rahi, Er. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh,



Isher Das Sangra, Babu Ram Sharma, Chander Shekher, Basheer Ahmad, Manzoor Ahmad Kichloo, Shabir Jafri, Anil Verma, and Ghulam Mohammad.

Er. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh urged the Lieutenant Governor's administration to immediately release the 2% Dearness Allowance (DA) pending from January 2025. Niaz Ahmad Rahi called on the National Conference government to enhance the medical allowance from Rs 300 to Rs 1,000, pointing out that employees in Ladakh UT are already receiving Rs 1,000. He questioned, "Why are we being deprived? Aren't

we also part of India? Is this a separate state?"

Concluding the event, Ghulam Hassan Pampori appealed to the government to regularize all daily-wage workers, Asha workers, need-based workers, cooks in education, teachers, and safai karamcharis of the Municipal Corporation.

He also urged the regularization of Anganwadi workers and the prompt payment of salaries to all categories.

The event emphasized solidarity, workers' rights, and the urgent need for policy reforms to address the plight of low-paid employees and pensioners across Jammu and Kashmir.

KVK-Ramban trains youths on use of Agriculture related Apps



Top News Report

RAMBAN, May 5: In order to upgrade the skills of the farming community especially youths in the use of various Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), KVK-Ramban conducted a training programme at its Kendra situated at Dhalwas, Ramban.

The said programme conducted under the leadership of Prof. B. N. Tripathi, HVC and guidance of Prof. Amrish Vaid, DE aimed to enhance the usage of various agriculture related apps to get real time information on various aspects of farm and

allied sectors.

Dr. Parveen Kumar SMS (Ag. Extension) at the Kendra told that the present era is witnessing Digitalization of Agriculture and the use of ICTs particularly agriculture related applications in this sector holds great potential in dissemination of relevant and timely information to the farming community.

Various mobile apps catering to the diverse needs of farming community have been developed by different ministries of Government of India, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Agricultural Universities, various individuals and entre-

preneurs.

Participants were trained on the use of various agriculture related apps like Kisan Suvidha, Pusa Krishi, Plantix, IFFCO Kisan, PMKISAN, Poultry Manager, Crop Insurance, Damini, Meghdoot, Agri-Media Video, Feed calculator, Farm Bee and various other related apps.

The youths were also trained on registration under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) to avail subsequent benefits under the 29 different projects going on in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

They were also sensitized on various e-commerce sites available in the country where they can sell or from where they can purchase different products without being physically present at the places.

The training programme ended with an appeal to all to use these apps as well as to train and aware their fellow farmers and youths on the usage and importance of ICTs.

JKHCBAJ condoles demise of Advocate Ramesh Arora



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: A condolence meeting was held on Monday which was presided over by K. Nirmal Kotwal, President JKHCBAJ to mourn the untimely demise of Advocate Ramesh Arora (Former MLC and Senior Additional Advocate General) who left for heavenly abode on May 4, 2025. The members of the Association abstained from work in all the Courts including High Court, Subordinate Courts, Tribunals and Revenue Courts, Forums. His contribution to the Bar remembered by all the members present in the meeting. The legal fraternity bids farewell to a truly exceptional lawyer. With his departure, the Bar has lost not only a skilled Advocate but also a pillar of wisdom, integrity and dedication. His absence will be deeply felt by colleagues as his contributions have felt an incredible mark on the profession. The legacy, he has left behind will continue to inspire future generations of Lawyers. The meeting was attended by Former Bar Presidents namely Sr. Adv. Ved Raj Wazir, Sr. Adv. Sunil Sethi, and Sr. Adv. U.K. Jalali, Sr. Adv. K. S. Johal, Sr. Adv. Surinder Kour, Sr. Adv. Rahul Pant, K.S. Puri, M.P. Gupta, S.C. Mansotra, M.R. Qureshi, Ashok Sharma, Sh. H.C. Jalmeria, Inderjeet Gupta, Raghu Mehta, Rupinder Singh, M.A. Bhat, Mohd Shabir, Rajinder Jamwal, Sheikh Sha-keel Ahmed, Ajay Singh Kotwal, Naveen Choudhary, Ajay Bakshi,

Ashtkar Ahmed Khan, Yassir Akhoon, Mazher Ali Khan, Arif Wani, Dalvinder Kumar, Varun Kotwal, Majid Hussain Shah, Majid Parray and many others.

All the members present in the meeting prayed to almighty to provide strength and courage to the family in this hour of crises.

All the office bearers of J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu namely Baldev Singh, (Vice President), Pradeep Majotra, (General Secretary), Anshu Mahajan, (Joint Secretary) and Rahul Aggarwal, (Treasurer) and also the team of Young Lawyers Association, namely Aman-deep Sharma (President), Bhagirat (Vice President), Saksham Gupta (General Secretary), Hitesh Koul (Joint Secretary) and Susheel Thappa (Treasurer) were also present in the condolence meeting.

Smile Foundation appreciates Umer Wani



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 5: In a touching moment of collaboration and recognition, Umer Wani, President of the JK NGOs Association, was honored by the Smile Foundation for his outstanding contributions to social welfare. The recognition was presented by Smile Foundation's dynamic Chairperson Masrat Jan and dedicated President Sajjad Ahmad Sholla, underscoring the vital role of NGOs in fostering positive change within the community.

Speaking to media

representatives, Umer expressed his heartfelt thanks saying, "It's truly an honor to be recognized by such a passionate and impactful organization like the Smile Foundation. Together, we can amplify our efforts to bring smiles and hope to those in need."

His words resonated with the audience, emphasizing the strength of unity and collaboration in humanitarian efforts.

Chairperson Masrat Jan, brimming with enthusiasm, highlighted the partnership, saying "Umer's leadership and

commitment to the JK NGOs Association have been instrumental in driving impactful initiatives. It's inspiring to see what we can achieve when we work together for a common cause."

Echoing this sentiment, President Sajjad Ahmad Sholla added, "Appreciation fuels our passion. Recognizing each other's efforts is vital in this journey, and today, we celebrate not just achievements, but the bonds we've built along the way."

The event was more than a ceremonial acknowledgment—it was a celebration of community spirit, shared goals, and the unwavering dedication of individuals working for social betterment. As Umer Wani continues to champion meaningful change, the Smile Foundation stands proudly alongside him, united in their mission to create brighter futures and bring hope to those who need it most.

GDC Khour staff elects new Staff Secretary



Top News Report

KHOUR, May 5: Dr. Chetan Sharma from the Department of Physics has been unanimously elected as the Staff Secretary of the Government Degree College (GDC) Khour.

The proposal for his nomination received wholehearted support from all staff members, reflecting a strong consensus and trust in his leadership abilities.

Dr. Chetan Sharma expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the staff for having

confidence in him. He humbly accepted the responsibility and emphasized that the role would be carried out through a spirit of collective effort, strengthening communication and fostering a spirit of collaboration among the staff will be his foremost priorities. He also said that he will strive to fulfill the expectations placed upon him to the best of his abilities.

The Principal of the College, Dr. T. K. Sharma, congratulated Dr. Chetan Sharma on his unanimous election as Staff Secretary of the College Staff.

National Lok Adalat on May 10, arrangements review at Udhampur

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 5: A virtual meeting was held on Monday at the Conference Hall of the District Court Complex in Udhampur to discuss preparations for the upcoming National Lok Adalat scheduled for May 10th, 2025.

The meeting was attended by representatives from various banks in Udhampur, insurance companies, and their respective advocates.

The meeting was chaired by Sh. Virinder Singh Bhou, Principal District and Sessions



Judge (Chairman DLSA) Udhampur along with Sh. Kamlesh Pandit, Addl. District and Sessions Judge Udhampur.

The primary objective of the meeting was to review pending cases and discuss strategies for efficient case management and settlement

of disputes through the Lok Adalat. By promoting amicable resolution, the meeting aimed to reduce court backlogs and provide relief to litigants.

The meeting's focus on collaboration between the judiciary and financial institutions under-

scored the importance of mutual cooperation in resolving disputes.

By leveraging the Lok Adalat platform, the stakeholders aimed to achieve speedy and cost-effective resolutions, benefiting all parties involved.

I crave to be put in a situation where I need to work on the character, says Priya Bapat

As Costao released and to favourable reviews, its lead actress Priya Bapat was having a major FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) sitting at San Jose, USA, where she is touring with her Marathi play! Reluctant to accept the role of a mother of three to begin with, the casting of Nawazuddin Siddiqui and the long meetings with director Sejal Shah sealed the deal for Priya, who is happy she chose the film.

Costao's story

It has never mattered to me how big or short my role is. Everyone knew its Costao's story, it's his struggle and family is just one part of this. The crime and investigative part of the story aside, how one decision can affect the dynamics in the family and how that affects the man and woman, brings the human aspect and drama in Costao. I am so grateful to Shivam (casting director) and Sejal (Shah) ma'am for

taking me on board.

Becoming Maria Fernandez

Readings do help. I crave to be put in a situation where I need to work on the character. Playing a Marathi wife is a little easier for me as I am familiar with the culture, how they think, react and respond. This was set in Goa during the 90s. Before approaching any character, I try to get a distinct body language and approach to dialogue delivery. Keeping the script in mind, I have given my best and hope it fetches audience's love.

Sejal as director

In my very first meeting, I knew she knew exactly

what she wanted. So, shooting was fairly comfortable because her vision was crystal clear. We would come on set, do the marking rehearsal and then the shot. I don't think we did many retakes! Any retakes that were there were on



technical account.

Nawaz as co-star

One of the biggest highs of this project was teaming up with Nawaz sir. He is so simple that this honesty reflects in the characters that he essays. His journey as

an actor so inspiring. Whenever I feel really low, I look at his brilliant graph. To have come such a long way only on basis of his talent is huge. Sure the industry took long to realise his potential, but when it

did the results are there for everyone to see. He is so amazing that he never overpowers you on screen. Rather, he offers all his support.

Roller-coaster life

I did my first film in sixth standard. It was National Award-winning movie Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, in which I played young Ramabai. It was only after my post-graduation that I decided to pursue acting full-time, but what a journey it has been. Marathi cinema and theatre has been my mainstay. I started with City of Dreams when OTT just started. As an actor, life is a constant flow of highs and lows. With a release and all appreciation, when it doesn't translate into new opportunities it is quite heart-breaking. But I am happy that my journey, even if slow, is steady. I am working with great people, amazing teams, living one day at a time. Still trying to carve my own place.

"I could have died...": Nicolas Cage opens up about harrowing surfing experience



Nicolas Cage had a harrowing experience while training for his new film, 'The Surfer,' which is now in theatres.

According to Variety, the actor nearly encountered a shark and got stuck in a rip tide while surfing, an experience

he described as potentially life-threatening.

Cage revealed that his surfing lessons were more challenging than he anticipated.

Despite having some experience with surfing, he struggled to navigate the waves and

was eventually "pounded to smithereens." He recounted the terrifying moment when he got stuck in a rip tide, saying, "I'm climbing up the leash as I'm somersaulting, and I could have died," as quoted by Variety.

The close call has left Cage reevaluating his priorities, especially now that he has a young child.

"Now I have a young kid, I don't know if I want to do it anymore," he said, as quoted by Variety.

However, he hasn't ruled out surfing entirely, joking that his goal is to "retire, surf, drink red wine, and eat spaghetti." 'The Surfer' explores themes of obsession, trauma, and the human psyche.

Cage plays a businessman who becomes fixated on buying back his childhood home in Australia, only to face resistance from a group of mysterious bullies.

Shah Rukh Khan confirmed to walk Met Gala 2025 in Sabyasachi designs

Actor Shah Rukh Khan is set to make his debut on the red carpet of the 2025 edition of the Met Gala in an ensemble crafted by fashion designer Sabyasachi.

There were reports that the actor has opted for designs by the celebrity designer for the annual fundraising fashion gala in New York but the collaboration was confirmed by Pooja Dadlani, Shah Rukh's manager, on Monday morning.

She shared two Instagram Stories with the logo of Sabyasachi's label with 'King Khan' and 'King Khan. Bengal Tiger' as captions.

Sabyasachi's official Instagram page later shared the same posts.

The brand's Instagram page on Sunday posted a Story with the



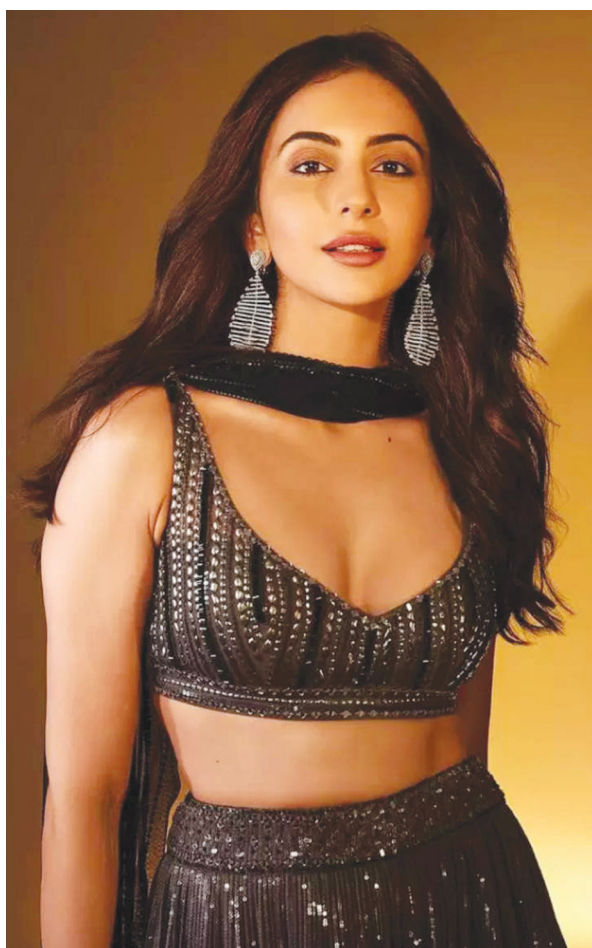
caption, 'Namaste New York'. Videos of Shah Rukh arriving in New York on Saturday along with Pooja are doing the

rounds on social media. Besides, actors Diljit Dosanjh and Kiara Advani will also debut at this year's Met Gala.

Rakul Preet Singh: I'm positive that the industry is going to bounce back soon

The Hindi film industry is going through a challenging time right now, with many big films bringing in big losses. Filmmakers like Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri, Hansal Mehta and Anurag Kashyap have recently spoken up about the reinvention that the industry needs. Acknowledging the current phase, actor Rakul Preet Singh says, "It is an uncertain time and even the number of films being made have reduced. But you have to keep working."

Ask her how she adjusts her process and mindset as an artiste in these uncertain times and she says, "You need to have faith in yourself. You've to remind yourself about why you are doing this and I always do that. Today we're talking about a scenario that there are lesser



films and lesser work, but there was also a time, 12-13 years back when I started auditioning or standing in Aram Nagar queues, where there was no work. But I had the belief that I will crack it. So today, I need to reiterate that in my head that even if times are tough, you will sail through and do it well."

The actor adds, "I'm not saying that I'm the most talented or the prettiest, but I know I'm the most hard-working. I know that if your intention towards your work is right, the universe will make it happen for you. I believe in that, and I just leave it to the universe."

Talking about her belief and where it comes from and she says, "When you've started from ground zero, you have nothing. You don't have anyone to tell you don't

do this, how to dress up or what you should do. The only thing you walk into a room with is self-belief and that belief is going to continue. That is why I don't succumb to these situations. Sometimes you may feel like things are not happening and it's normal to feel. But then the next day you just rise up and say, what more can I do? I've got that attitude of a fauji, 'uthega jawan, ladega jawan'."

And she is already seeing things changing for the better: "This is a temporary phase, things are starting to get better, and by next year, we'll all be in a much better place. I'm very positive that the industry is going to bounce back, look at the number of hits we've already had. It means people are going to theatres."

Angelina Jolie says it was an 'honour' to sing opera for Maria Callas biopic

Angelina Jolie steps in to play legendary opera singer Maria Callas in Pablo Larrain's biographical psychological drama film Maria. The screen icon opened up about her decision to lend her vocals for the part in an exclusive statement. Maria, which had its World Premiere at the Venice Film Festival last year, opened to universal acclaim for Angelina's performance. It is directed by Pablo Larrain, written by Steven Knight.

'Her voice and her art are very present'

Speaking about the opportunity to step into this role of a lifetime was not an easy task. It demanded a lot from the actor. Angelina said, "Well, the good news about playing Maria Callas is nobody expects you to sing Maria Callas because nobody in the world can sing Maria Callas, right? Nobody at her time could match her, and it would be a crime to not have her voice through

this, because in many ways, she is very present in this film. Her voice and her art are very present. She's the partner in this film with me; she and I are doing this together. It was an honor and sometimes a bit of a head trip to be me playing her and us playing a third person on stage. As an actor, I wasn't doing my performance of say, Anna Bolena, but Maria's. It was me trying to understand why she made those performance choices. I've never played a performer before. As I would learn of her choices, I just became more of a fan of her work. She was also a brilliant actor."

Director Pablo Larrain was also there to help. Maria completes the trilogy of films by the director based on famous female figures from our recent history- the previous ones being Jackie (starring Natalie Portman as Jacqueline Kennedy) and Spencer (starring Kristen Stewart as Diana).



'It's a very unusual script and construction' Angelina spoke about her collaboration with Pablo, and said, "I met Pablo Larrain many years ago and told him how much I respected him as a filmmaker and hoped to work with him one day. He reached out to me about Maria, and he took the process of casting very seriously,

which I appreciate. He really wants to make sure the artist is up for it and understands the job. I'm also a huge fan of writer Steven Knight's work; it's a very unusual script and construction. There's a lot of bravery in the choices they've made in their storytelling, which says a lot about how capable they both are. I was

happy that I was with a very serious filmmaker coming to me to do real work and expecting a lot of me and challenging me. That's not always the case. It wasn't just an opportunity to tell the story of Maria Callas, a woman I find interesting and care for, but it's really to have a director who's going to take you on a journey and is so serious about the work and tough on you. I like that he was tough on me! He's a dream director, and I would want to work with him again and again. Also, I learned such a lot as a director myself, from watching him work."

Maria follows Callas as she retreats to Paris after staying in the public eye for years, set during her final years in the 1970s. It also stars Pierfrancesco Favino, Alba Rohrwacher, Haluk Bilginer, and Kodi Smit-McPhee.

Maria releases on Lionsgate Play on May 9.

'Ro doongi': Hania Aamir reacts as Indian fans use VPN to access her Instagram



The Indian government has geo-blocked the Instagram accounts of several Pakistani celebrities, including Hania Aamir, Mahira Khan, Ali Zafar, Sanam Saeed, Bilal Abbas, Iqra Aziz, Imran Abbas and Sajal Aly, following the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22. Indian users attempting to access these Instagram profiles are now shown the message: "Account not available in India. This content has been restricted in response to a legal request."

Despite the block, many Indians have found workarounds by using VPN services to continue following their favourite Pakistani artists. Among those receiving a surge of online support is actor Hania Aamir.

One fan commented on her post, "Don't worry, humne VPN subscription liya hai apke liye (We have taken a VPN subscription for you)," to which Hania responded with, "Ro doongi (I'm going to cry)," followed by "Love you."

The digital restrictions are part of a series of measures taken by India following the terror attack.

According to government sources, India has also banned 16 Pakistani YouTube channels accused of spreading provocative, communally sensitive content and anti-India narratives targeting national security forces.

The move is part of a broader set of punitive measures taken by India in response to the attack, which killed 26 civilians and has been attributed to Pakistan-based terrorists. In addition to the online clampdown, India has suspended the Indus Waters Treaty, cancelled visas issued to Pakistani nationals, suspended bilateral trade, imposed a ban on Pakistani flights using Indian airspace, and halted certain exports as part of a comprehensive diplomatic and economic response.

Putin dials Modi, conveys Russia's full support to India's fight against terrorism

Says perpetrators of Pahalgam terror attack and their supporters must be brought to justice

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Russian President Vladimir Putin called Prime Minister Narendra Modi and expressed full support to India in its fight against terrorism, following the recent terror attack in Pahalgam.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal shared details of the call on social media platform X.

"Putin strongly condemned the terror attack in Pahalgam, India. He conveyed deepest condolences on the loss of innocent lives and expressed full support to India in the fight against terrorism. He emphasised that the perpetrators of the heinous attack and their supporters must be brought to



justice," Jaiswal said.

Both leaders reiterated their commitment to further deepen the India-Russia special and privileged strategic partnership.

PM Modi conveyed greetings to President Putin on the celebration of the 80th anniversary of Victory Day (May 9) and invited him for the annual summit to be held in India later in the year.

Last week on May 2, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, had spoken to his Russian

counterpart Sergey Lavrov and conveyed the perpetrators, backers and planners of the Pahalgam attack must be brought to justice.

Jaishankar posted on social media platform that he had discussed the Pahalgam terrorist attack with Lavrov. "Its perpetrators, backers and planners must be brought to justice," the post said.

The Russian side also issued its account of the telephone conversation with the Russian Embassy in New Delhi stating, "They (Lavrov and Jaishankar) discussed the aggravation of Indian-Pakistani relations following the terrorist attack near Pahalgam."

Japan backs India's fight against terrorism



NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday hosted his Japanese counterpart Gen Nakatani for wide-ranging talks touching upon the scourge of terrorism and ways to expand bilateral defence ties in the wake of China's military posturing in the Indo-Pacific.

Gen Nakatani, whose visit to India comes amid its heightened tensions with Pakistan in the wake of the Pahalgam attack, condemned the terrorist attack and expressed solidarity with India in the fight against terrorism.

In his opening remarks at the delegation-level talks that followed a

one-on-one meeting, Singh said, "I would like to thank the government of Japan for their strong expression of solidarity with India in wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack".

"Both sides condemned terrorism in all forms and emphasised the need for enhanced collaboration and joint efforts to counter cross-border threats," Singh said Nakatani expressed solidarity with India in the wake of the Pahalgam attack and offered "full support" to India.

It is learnt that the two sides also deliberate on ways to boost India-Japan defence industrial cooperation.

The two ministers also

exchanged "views and ideas" on the current regional and international security situation.

It was the second meeting between the two defence ministers within six months after their maiden interaction in November on the sidelines of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus at Lao PDR.

At that meeting, Singh and Gen Nakatani deliberated on a reciprocal provision of supply and services agreement for greater interoperability between their militaries.

The reciprocal supply and services pact, if sealed, would provide for the militaries of the two countries to use each other's bases for repair and replenishment of supplies, besides facilitating the scaling up of overall defence cooperation.

It is learnt that the two sides also reviewed the situation in the strategic waters of East and South China Seas where Beijing has been increasing its military posturing.

'Understand Pakistan's reality': Himanta's message to 'Aman ki Asha' group

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): Senior BJP leader and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday cautioned peace seekers with Pakistan about what he described as the "grim realities" of the neighbouring country.

"To those in India who continue to preach 'Aman ki Asha' without grasping the ground reality — understand this: In Pakistan, talking about peace with India is treated as a crime," Sarma said on X.

His remarks came on the same day when Pakistan demanded closed-door consultations at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to discuss

rising tensions with India following the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22.

Sarma said, "In India, talking about peace with Pakistan is tolerated, debated — even promoted in mainstream platforms. But romanticising Pakistan while enjoying Indian freedom is not idealism — it is ignorance at best, hypocrisy at worst — and a betrayal of your own motherland."

Sarma argued his case by mentioning Pakistan's treatment of pro-India voices.

"They resort to surveillance and profiling. Every post, tweet or article with a pro-India

sentiment is tracked by Pakistan's intelligence agencies, especially the ISI. Students, activists, and journalists are routinely placed on watchlists," he said.

Sarma also accused Pakistan of censorship.

"The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) actively blocks and removes any content deemed favourable to India.

Even hashtags promoting peace or dialogue are erased without explanation. Under the draconian PECA, people are arrested for expressing anything seen as pro-India. Vague charges like 'anti-state' and 'glorify-



ing the enemy' are used to silence voices of reason," he said.

The senior BJP leader added that Pakistan citizens have been picked up by intelligence agencies, tortured, and jailed without trial—often for something as harmless as a poem, peace

Congress spreading rumours about Waqf Amendment Act: Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav



NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): The rights of Muslim groups and individuals to create, manage and regulate Waqf will remain intact, Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav said on Monday, and alleged that the Congress is spreading rumours about the Waqf Amendment Act, 2025.

Addressing a press conference at Delhi BJP office, the Union minister said that Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi has come up with various reforms in the fields of social justice, economic growth, transparency and gender equality.

"The Waqf Amendment Act, 2025 recently passed by Parliament is an important milestone of this progressive journey," he asserted.

The Congress is spreading rumours that the rights of Muslims will end due to the Act, he alleged, adding that

it was not for the first time that the Act was amended.

Some issues like transparency and management in Waqf affairs remained unaddressed in the last amendment in 2013, which have been taken care of now by the Waqf Amendment Act, 2025, he said.

"The rights of the Muslim groups and individuals to create, manage and regulate Waqf will remain intact even after the latest amendment," Yadav said.

The latest amendments to the Waqf Act were discussed and consulted in detail when the government referred the subject to the Joint Parliamentary Committee to incorporate all views, he said.

Congress, its allies acting like 'fifth column' against Indian armed forces, alleges BJP

NEW DELHI, May 5 (Agencies): The BJP on Monday alleged that the Congress and its allies have become a "fifth column" working to lower the morale of armed forces after the Uttar Pradesh Congress president took a 'toy Rafale' jibe at the government over its response to the Pahalgam terror attack.

BJP national spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi sought to draw a parallel between Pakistani army and leaders of INDIA bloc, saying the former is bombarding the Indian armed forces from across the

border by violating the ceasefire while opposition leaders are targeting them with their comments from within.

The ruling party's fresh attack on opposition parties, especially the Congress, came following Uttar Pradesh Congress president Ajai Rai's taunting remarks for the alleged lack of action by the government against terrorists.

Rai showed a toy plane depicting Rafale fighter aircraft with lemon and chillies hanging from it and targeted the government for not putting them to use.

Trivedi noted that it is



in a series of comments from opposition leaders aimed at demoralising the armed forces.

Citing past comments of a number of Congress leaders, he said while hardly any Pakistani leader is being quoted in the Indian media for any remarks against the Pakistani army, Indian politicians are being frequently cited in the neighbouring country for their criticism of the government and allegedly lowering the more of Indian armed forces.

The BJP leader said

the Indian Army is much stronger than its Pakistani counterpart and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has showed a determined leadership, adding that Pakistan, however, scores over India when it comes to leaders speaking in once voice.

He mocked the Congress official stand of supporting the government in its action following the Pahalgam terror attack, likening it to Pakistan's pronouncement of supporting peace while promoting terrorism in India behind the scene.

4 Killed, 6 injured in car-bike collision in Madhya Pradesh

BHOPAL, May 5 (Agencies): Four lives were lost in a tragic accident when a car collided with a bike near Pidoura village on the Etawah-Uttar Pradesh highway that passes through Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, leaving six others with severe injuries.

The incident occurred at around 1 a.m. on Monday in the Barohi police station area of Bind district.

The police reached the spot and sent the victims for post-mortem examinations.

A local legislator from Bind, Narendra Singh Kushwaha, who was passing through the highway, first saw the injured lying on the road. He took the injured to the district hospital of



Bind in his vehicle.

Among those killed, three were riding the bike, while the fourth victim was a passenger in the car.

Of the three injured, all are in critical condition, they were later referred to Gwalior for further treatment.

Narendra Singh Kushwaha, when he came upon the scene, said the injured were strewn across the road. He halted his journey and took immediate action, arranging for their transport to the district hos-

pital.

The legislator not only ensured their admission to the hospital but also personally oversaw their treatment.

As reports emerged about the gravity of the accident, Mr Kushwaha took to social media to express his commitment: "After admitting all the injured victims in the road accident near Pidoura village to Bind hospital, I personally reached the hospital and took stock of the condition of the victims and on that basis, arranged for

their proper treatment and sent the more seriously injured victims to Gwalior for treatment," wrote the legislator on his X handle.

The deadly head-on collision between the car and the bike resulted in instantaneous deaths, with the sheer impact claiming four lives on the spot.

This incident serves as yet another grim reminder of the pressing need for enhanced road safety measures.

According to police, the victims, who were riding the bike, have been identified as Biharilal Baghel (40), a resident of Kathma village, along with his uncle Sujan Singh Baghel (50) and cousin Rishikesh Baghel (22) and the car occupant Mehmood (23).

5 of family killed in fire at 5-storey building in Kanpur

KANPUR, May 5 (Agencies): A couple and their three minor daughters died in a blaze that broke out in a five-storey building in Chamanganj area here, police said on Monday.

Huge flames engulfed the building in the Prem Nagar area that houses shoe manufacturing units on its first and second floors, they said.

The bodies of Mohammad Danish, 45, his wife Nazneen Saba, 42, were retrieved from the fourth floor at around 1 am, while those of their daughters -- Sara, 15, Simra, 12, and Inaya, 7, -- were found on the same floor at around 6 am, said Additional DCP (Central) Rajesh Srivastava.

It took firefighters several hours to gain access to the fourth floor, officials said, adding that the victims were taken to the Ursula Horseman Memorial Hospital, where the doctors declared them brought dead.

According to police, the neighbours noticed huge flames and thick smoke emanating from the building on Sunday night and alerted the fire department and police.

Assistant Commissioner of Police (Seesmau) Manjay Singh said an investigation had been launched to determine the cause of the fire.

Preliminary probe suggests that the fire started in the basement and engulfed the first and second floors



before being noticed by the neighbours, the ACP added.

"Initial suspicions point towards a possible short circuit or faults in the internal wiring, potentially originating from the floors where the shoe factory was operating," the ACP said.

"The fire led to blasts in a couple of domestic LPG cylinders that worsened the situation," he added.

State Disaster Response Force teams were also called to help the firefighters in the relief operations to extinguish the blaze completely, said ACP (Colonel-ganj) TB Singh.

"People from over half a dozen neighbouring buildings were evacuated to ensure their safety," he added.

The officials have been instructed to investigate the building's legality and fire safety status and take action accordingly, a senior official said.

Trump orders 100 per cent tariff on all movies produced outside US

He said that the movie industry in the US is ‘dying’ a very fast death and added that other nations were offering incentives to draw the American filmmakers and studios away from the US.

WASHINGTON, May 5 (Agencies): A US President Donald Trump has announced that he has directed the Department of Commerce and the US Trade Representative to immediately start the process of imposing a 100 per cent tariff on all movies coming into the US that are produced in other nations.

He said that the movie industry in the US is “dying” a very fast death and added that other nations were offering incentives to draw the American filmmakers and studios away from the US and termed it a “national threat.”

In a post shared on his social media platform Truth Social, Trump stated, “The Movie Industry in America is DYING a very fast death. Other Countries are offering all sorts of incentives to draw our filmmakers and studios away from the United States. Hollywood, and many other areas within the U.S.A., are being devastated.



This is a concerted effort by other Nations and, therefore, a National Security threat. It is, in addition to everything else, messaging and propaganda! Therefore, I am authorizing the Department of Commerce, and the United States Trade Representative, to immediately begin the process of instituting a 100% Tariff on any and all Movies coming into our Country that are produced in Foreign

Lands. WE WANT MOVIES MADE IN AMERICA, AGAIN.”

Trump’s decision comes amid the ongoing tariff war between the US and China. On April 10, China announced that it has decided to “moderately reduce” the release of Hollywood films in the Chinese market. China’s National Film Administration directly connected its decision to tariffs imposed by the US on Chinese products.

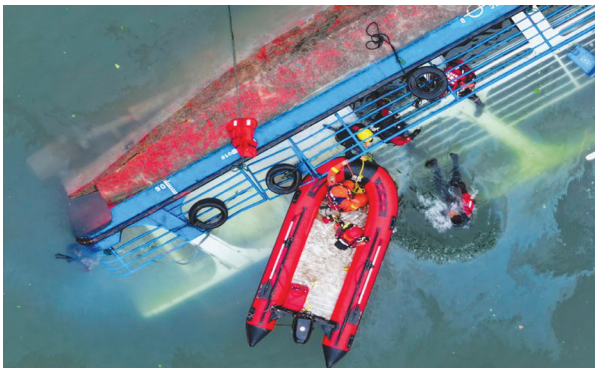
In a statement, China’s National Film Administration said, “The wrong move by the US government to abuse tariffs on China will inevitably further reduce the domestic audience’s favourability towards American films,” Al Jazeera reported.

It stated, “We will follow market rules, respect the audience’s choice, and moderately reduce the number of American films imported.”

Notably, China accepts 10 films a year from Hollywood, and the Chinese market was once considered a key source of revenue for the American film industry.

Reacting to China’s decision, Trump had said that he was untroubled by China’s National Film Administration’s decision to target the film industry, Al Jazeera reported. In response to a question, Trump had said, “I think I’ve heard of worse things.”

Tourist boats capsized in sudden storm in southwest China, leaving 9 dead, 1 missing



BEIJING, May 5 (Agencies): Four boats capsized in a sudden storm on a river in southwestern China, leaving nine people dead and one missing, state media said Monday.

More than 80 people fell into the water when strong winds hit the scenic area in Guizhou province on Sunday afternoon, state broadcaster CCTV said.

The boats capsized after a sudden rain and hail storm hit the upper reaches of the Wu River, a tributary of the Yangtze, China’s lon-

gest river. In one video shared by state media, a man could be seen performing CPR on another person, while one of the vessels drifted upside down.

Initial reports said two tourist boats had capsized, but state media said on Monday that four boats were involved. The other two boats had no passengers, and the seven crew members were able to save themselves, CCTV said.

Guizhou’s mountains and rivers are a major tourism draw, and many Chinese are travelling during a five-day

national holiday that ends Monday.

Chinese President Xi Jinping called for “all-out efforts” to find the missing and care for the injured, the official Xinhua News Agency said on Sunday.

Noting a recent series of fatal accidents, Xi underscored the importance of strengthening safety at tourist attractions, large public venues and residential communities, as well as for the rush of people returning at the end of holidays.

CCTV said the capsized boats each had a maximum capacity of about 40 people and were not overloaded.

An eyewitness told state-owned Beijing News the waters were deep but that some people had managed to swim to safety. However, the storm had come suddenly and a thick mist obscured the surface of the river.

Nepal Parliament orders Government to advance high-level diplomatic dialogue with India to probe KIIT student death

KATHMANDU, May 5 (Agencies): Nepal’s lower house of Parliament on Monday has asked the country’s Government to advance high-level diplomatic dialogue with India to probe the death of a Nepalese student at the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) in Odisha.

A day ago, the National Assembly, Nepal’s Upper House of Parliament had passed a similar directive for the government.

Speaker of the lower House of Representatives or the Pratinidhi Sabha, Devraj Ghimire, on Monday issued a ruling to the government to advance high-level diplomatic dialogue with India.

“The serious attention of the House has been drawn to the issue raised by the honourable members at an urgent time regarding the death of Prisa Sah, a Nepali student studying at the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) in Odisha, India. The incident of mysterious deaths one after another of students who had gone abroad to study with dreams of a bright future is also a serious issue related to the sensitivity and responsibility of the nation. I direct the government to take deep interest in this incident and to initiate diplomatic dialogue at the highest level with the Indian

government to find out the truth and provide necessary legal assistance to the family,” Ghimre said.

The first-year BTech, Computer Science student who was said to be planning to return back home for vacation in mid of this month, was found dead inside her hostel room on May 1. This is the second incident of the death of a Nepali female student at the same university reported within a span of three months.

Earlier this year, a Nepali student from the same university was found dead in the hostel on February 16, triggering protests from Nepali students. The protesting students had alleged that a fellow student had harassed her and that the college had failed to act despite multiple complaints. Later, the accused student was arrested on February 17.

“Before it was the death of Prakriti Lamsal. Before we recover from the pain of losing her another female Nepali student’s untimely death has left us deranged. Female student enrolled in B. Tech First year at Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) in Odisha, India, Prisa Sah had to give up her life. My tribute to her and condolences to the family. She held telephonic conversation with her father at around

3 PM the same day but she took her life in the evening. An estimated 1200 Nepali students are enrolled in that varsity, these kinds of incidents are just coincidence or there is some other reason behind? I would demand for serious investigation onto the topics,” Devendra Paudel, also the former Education Minister said. Amresh Kumar Singh, an independent lawmaker in Nepali parliament also demanded action by the Nepal’s Government and Foreign Ministry over the issue.

“This incident is not a coincidence. About three months back, another female student from Butwal- Prakriti Lamsal also had similar incident. Our government at that time showed readiness but now it has remained silent now just because the student is from Madhesh. I want to ask the Government and Foreign Ministry.. do they have a duty to safeguard and raise concern for its citizens abroad? Be it any place across the globe, I demand a judicial investigation into the case. Why do our Cheli-Beti always face ordeals in the same university and eventually end their lives?” Singh said.

Following the death of a Nepali female student at Odisha’s Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), India’s Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)

on May 2 had expressed its deepest condolences and stated that the Odisha government has extended support for the family, and a thorough investigation is being conducted by the state police.

The MEA in a statement said, “We are deeply saddened by the tragic demise of a Nepali student of KIIT University, Bhubaneswar. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family during this difficult time.”

“Ministry of External Affairs has been in constant touch with the Odisha State Government since we became aware of the tragic incident. The State Government of Odisha has extended full support to the family of the deceased, and a thorough enquiry is currently being conducted by the Odisha Police,” it said.

The MEA further said that the safety, security and well-being of all international students is a priority for the Indian government. “Government of India takes the safety, security and well-being of all international students very seriously. We remain in close contact with the Nepali authorities, the Odisha State Government as well as KIIT management to ensure real-time communication and coordination in this matter,” the statement read.

Israel plans to capture all of Gaza under new plan, officials say

TEL AVIV, May 5 (Agencies): Israel approved plans on Monday to capture the entire Gaza Strip and remain in the territory for an unspecified amount of time, two Israeli officials said, in a move that if implemented would vastly expand Israel’s operations in the Palestinian territory and likely bring fierce international opposition.

Israeli Cabinet ministers approved the plan in an early morning vote, hours after the Israeli military chief said the army was calling up tens of thousands of reserve soldiers.

The new plan, which the officials said was meant to help Israel achieve its war aims of defeating Hamas and freeing hostages held in Gaza, also would push hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to southern Gaza, what would likely exacerbate an already dire humanitarian crisis.

Since a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas collapsed in mid-March, Israel has unleashed fierce strikes on the territory that have killed hundreds. It has captured swathes of territory and now controls roughly 50% of Gaza. Before the truce ended, Israel halted all humanitarian aid into Gaza, including food, fuel and water, setting off what is believed to be the worst humanitarian crisis in nearly 19 months of war.

The ban on aid has prompted widespread hunger and shortages have set off looting.

Israel is trying to ratchet up pressure on Hamas

The Israeli officials said the plan included the “capturing of the strip and the holding of territories.” The plan would also seek to prevent the militant Hamas group from distributing humanitarian aid, which Israel says strengthens the group’s rule in Gaza. It also accuses Hamas of keeping the aid for itself to bolsters

its capabilities. The plan also included powerful strikes against Hamas targets, the officials said.

The officials said Israel was in touch with several countries about President Donald Trump’s plan to take over Gaza and relocate its population, under what Israel has termed “voluntary emigration” yet which has sparked condemnations from Israel’s allies in Europe and the Arab world.

One of the officials said the plan would be implemented gradually. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were discussing military plans.

For weeks, Israel has been trying to ratchet up pressure on Hamas and prompt it to show more flexibility in ceasefire negotiations. But international mediators trying to bring the sides toward a new deal have struggled to do so. Israel’s measures do not appear to have moved Hamas away from its negotiating positions.

The previous ceasefire was meant to lead the sides to negotiate an end to the war, but that goal has been a repeated sticking point in talks between Israel and Hamas. Israel says it won’t agree to end the war until Hamas is defeated. Hamas meanwhile has demanded an agreement that winds down the war.

Israel’s expansion announcement has angered families of the hostages. The Hostage Forum, which supports families, said on Monday that the plan puts every hostage at risk and urged Israel’s decision-makers to secure a deal and prioritize the hostages.

At a Knesset committee meeting Monday, Einav Zangauker, whose son Matan is being held hostage, called on soldiers “not to report for reserve duty for moral and ethical reasons.”

Israel wants to prevent Hamas from handling

aid

The Israeli officials did not disclose details on how the plan seeks to prevent Hamas from involvement in aid distribution. One said the ministers had approved “the option of aid distribution,” without elaborating.

According to an internal memo circulated among aid groups and seen by The Associated Press, Israel told the United Nations that it will use private security companies to control aid distribution in Gaza. The U.N., in a statement Sunday, said it would not participate in the plan as presented to it, saying it violates its core principles.

The memo, sent to aid organizations on Sunday, detailed notes from a meeting between the Israeli defense body in charge of coordinating aid to Gaza, COGAT and the UN.

Under COGAT’s plan, all aid will enter Gaza through the Kerem Shalom crossing, letting approximately 60 trucks enter daily and distributing 20 kilograms of aid parcels directly to people on the day of entry, although their contents were unclear as was how many people will have access to the aid.

The memo said the aid will be distributed at logistics hubs, which will be run by private security companies. The memo said that facial recognition will be used to identify Palestinians at the hubs and SMS alerts will notify people in the area that they can collect aid.

Aid workers say the plan to centralize aid, rather than delivering it to Palestinians where they are, will forcibly displace people.

The fighting has displaced more than 90% of Gaza’s population, often multiple times, and turned Gaza into an uninhabitable moonscape.

The UN accuses Israel of wanting to control aid

as a ‘pressure tactic’

The U.N. said the plan would leave large parts of the population, including the most vulnerable, without supplies. It said the plan “appears designed to reinforce control over life-sustaining items as a pressure tactic – as part of a military strategy.”

The memo says that the U.S. government has voiced clear support for Israel’s plan, but it’s unclear who would provide funding for the private military companies or the aid.

COGAT and the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Earlier this week, the AP obtained dozens of documents about aid groups’ concerns that the hubs could end up permanently displacing Palestinians and forcing them to live in “de facto internment conditions”.

Meanwhile, Israeli strikes across Gaza continued overnight, killing at least 17 people in northern Gaza, according to hospital staff. Strikes hit Gaza City, Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya and among the dead were eight women and children, according to staff at the Shifa hospital, where the bodies were brought.

The war in Gaza began when Hamas-led militants attacked southern Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking about 250 hostages. Israel says 59 captives remain in Gaza, although about 35 are believed to be dead.

Israel’s offensive has killed more than 52,000 people in Gaza, many of them women and children, according to Palestinian health officials, who do not distinguish between combatants and civilians in their count.

Israel occupied Gaza in the 1967 Mideast war and withdrew troops and settlers in 2005. Two years later, Hamas took over and has controlled the territory since.

9 people shot at restaurant in suburban Phoenix, police say

GLENDALE, May 5 (Agencies): Nine people were shot at a restaurant in a Phoenix suburb on Sunday night, police said today.

Police received calls reporting shots around 7.45 pm at El Camaron Gigante Mariscos & Steakhouse, Glendale Police Department Officer Moroni Mendez said during a briefing at the

scene. The number of victims was not immediately clear as the initial investigation moved forward but it was believed to be “approximately nine”, Mendez said.

The medical condition of the victims was not immediately available.

Police believe there was more than one shooter involved. Investigators did not have a



suspect in custody but multiple people were

being questioned, Mendez said.

Heritage School organizes workshop on ‘General Etiquette and Academic Improvement’



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: An enriching workshop on General Etiquette and Academic Improvement was conducted at Heritage School on 5th May 2025 for students of Classes VII and VIII. The session was led by renowned educationist and certified Soft Skills Trainer, Renu Gupta, former Principal of Army Public School Damana and Founder of RISE U – an institute dedicated to soft skills training.

With her vast experience of over 19 years in educational leadership and her presence as a CBSE Resource Person, Gupta engaged students in an interactive and impactful session focused on nurturing discipline, respectful behaviour, and effective academic strategies.

She emphasized the importance of manners, time management, self-motivation, and a positive attitude towards learning.

The workshop aimed

at sensitizing students about the significance of good etiquette in everyday life and practical tips to enhance academic performance. Through real-life examples and student-centric discussions, Gupta successfully inspired the young learners to strive for personal excellence both inside and outside the classroom. The Principal, Akash Pradhan, presented a token of appreciation to Gupta and conveyed heartfelt gratitude for her invaluable insights.

DSS spearheads compassion for birds and water conservation in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: A wave of environmental awareness and compassion swept across Jammu today as hundreds of citizens, including prominent personalities, NGOs, students, educators, and civil society members, gathered under the leadership of Gulchain Singh Charak, Former Minister and President of Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS), for the 23rd Annual “Save Birds, Save Water Day.” The impactful event took place at Sabha Bhawan, Dogra Hall, Zanana Park, and various other locations across the city. In his keynote address, Charak passionately urged citizens to uphold the Dogra tradition of compassion toward all living beings. He emphasized the plight of voiceless birds and animals, especially with the onset of intense summer heat in urban areas, where rapid development has reduced natural water sources. Charak appealed to everyone—citizens, teachers, and



students—to adopt a simple, meaningful practice like placing earthen pots of water on terraces, rooftops, fences, hanging traditional ‘chhikkus’ (small water holders) from tree branches in gardens and lawns. He noted that this small act of kindness would not only quench the thirst of birds but also revive the Dogra tradition of feeding grains and water to birds before meals.

The event also focused on water conservation, with speakers offering practical advice to prevent water wastage and protect rivers, streams, canals, and

ponds from pollution, including dumping of garbage, sewage, and plastic waste. The day featured powerful speeches from distinguished personalities including D.C. Raina, Former Advocate General J&K & Ladakh High Court, G.A. Khwaja, Additional General Secretary DSS, Arvinder Singh Amn, Additional General Secretary DSS, Lt. Gen. R.K. Sharma, Col. Dr. Virendra K. Sahi VrC (Retd), Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, In-Charge Youth Wing DSS, Maj. Gen. Sunita Kapoor VSM, Abdul Majid (President Muslim Federation) Amanat Ali

Shah, Dr. Nasib Singh Manhas, Brig. V.S. Dheman, Col. Rajinder Singh, Lt. Col. O.S. Chauhan, Balwinder Singh, Dr. Raghubir Singh, Jagdeep Singh, Chhankar Singh, Madan Bhagat, and others. Cultural highlights included colorful performances by students from Rich Harvest School, Bari Brahmana, and Dogra Higher Secondary School, Shastri Nagar, showcasing the event’s theme. Students from Oriental Academy Higher Secondary School, Humanity Public School Bassi Kalan, Dogra Degree College, Dogra College of Edu-

cation, and Dogra Law College also delivered thoughtful speeches and presentations. Representatives from Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir, Gandhi Nagar, Makka Masjid Bhatindi, and Bhatindi Welfare Committee also participated. Renowned radio and TV artist Ravi Kant Sharma skillfully conducted the event.

NOTICE

I Kanchan Billowria W/o Suman Singh R/o VPO Barwal Tehsil and District Kathua A/P Qtr No. 15 Block 4 Gulshan Ground Gandhinagar Jammu Tehsil Bahu District Jammu. That my name has been wrongly written in my daughter’s D.O.B Certificate and in KV records as Kanchan Jasrotia instead of correct name Kanchan Billowria . Now I am applying for the necessary correction objection if any may be conveyed to concerned Authority within seven days from the date of publication of thisnotice failing.

FromPage No: 1

Rajouri Wall Collapse...

collapsed on Sunday during a wedding gathering. She was initially treated at GMC Rajouri and later referred to SMGS Hospital Jammu in critical condition, where she passed away. Authorities have taken cognisance of the incident, and further proceedings are underway.

Soldier dies of cardiac arrest..

brought dead. He has been identified as Naik Gurban Singh (32), son of Pritam Singh, a resident of Punjab. After completion of medico-legal formalities, the body was handed over to his unit. Meanwhile, police have taken cognisance of the matter.

In Tral, Kashmiri Sikh donates ..

In Saimoh Tral, Pushvinder Singh, with local MLA Rafiq Ahmad Naik, shows the land donations he made for the local graveyard. For years, residents of Sheikh Mohalla in Saimoh had struggled with access to their community graveyard. On more than one occasion, funeral processions had to pass through Pushvinder Singh’s old house yard, situated adjacent to the cemetery. “The lack of a proper entrance to the local graveyard was causing problems, and this need had been under discussion for a long time,” Singh told local reporters. After attempts by the administration to find a solution failed, Singh decided to take the initiative himself. “I provided a strip of land measuring 6 feet by 90 feet in front of my house. It was the only viable solution acceptable to everyone, both villagers and officials,” he said. The district administration later developed the route, paving it with tiles. The gesture, simple yet deeply symbolic, has become a beacon of communal harmony in the region. Singh, who contested the 2024 Assembly elections from Tral as one of the nine independent candidates backed by the All Parties Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC), had promised to serve people of all communities. “All the land around the graveyard was fenced. There was no clear way left for the funeral processions to pass. This was a matter that affected everyone emotionally and spiritually,” Singh said. His act, he added, is in keeping with the Sikh spirit of service and the broader idea of communal unity: “Hindu-Muslim-Sikh Ittehad is not a slogan, it is a way of life.”

Four held over sexual assault..

the hospital, where she was declared brought dead. Following the incident, FIR No. 35/2025 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Nishat, and investigation was immediately initiated. During the course of investigation, the following four accused persons were identified and arrested: Suhail Bashir Bhat, S/O Bashir Ahmad, R/O Asham Sumbal Adil Ali Bhat, S/O Ali Mohammad, R/O Zeethyar Nishat Firdous Ahmad Rather, S/O Ghulam Ahmad, R/O Zeethyar Nishat Suhail Afzal Bhat, S/O Mohammad Afzal, R/O Pahlao Brein In a swift and decisive operation, all the accused have been apprehended. Further investigation in the case is ongoing. Srinagar Police remains steadfast in its commitment to uphold the rule of law, eliminate crime from society, and ensure the safety and dignity of every citizen. For any information related to criminal activity, please contact the nearest police station or dial 112.

All gates of Salal Dam..

against terrorism. Water and the blood of our citizens cannot flow together. Let that be clear,” he shared on X. Dinesh, a local, said, “We are happy that the government has stopped the flow of water to Pakistan. The way they killed our tourists in Pahalgam, Pakistan

deserves a befitting reply. We are with the government in whatever decision they take.” Another local said, “This is a very big achievement. This step by the government is very good. Our government is giving Pakistan a befitting reply in a lot of ways. We are all with the government.” The river Chenab’s water level rose on May 2 following heavy rainfall in the Akhnoor sector of Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on April 28 hailed the decision to put the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance, as a bold step under Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership. Speaking to ANI, CM Dhami emphasised that today’s India knows how to maintain both friendship and enmity. “This is a very good decision under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Blood and water can’t flow together. Today’s India knows how to maintain both friendship and enmity,” he said. The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960, following nine years of negotiations between India and Pakistan, with the assistance of the World Bank, which is also a signatory. Former World Bank President Eugene Black initiated the talks. Recognised as one of the most successful international treaties, it has endured frequent tensions, including conflict, and has provided a framework for irrigation and hydropower development for over half a century. Former US President Dwight Eisenhower described it as “one bright spot ... in a very depressing world picture that we see so often.” The Treaty allocates the Western Rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan and the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India. At the same time, the Treaty allows each country certain uses of the rivers allocated to the other. The treaty gives India 20% of the water from the Indus River System and the rest 80% to Pakistan. The attack in Pahalgam is one of the deadliest attacks in the Valley since the 2019 Pulwama strike, in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed. Following the Pahalgam terror attack, India has taken strong measures against Pakistan for its support of cross-border terrorism, including the abeyance of the Indus Water Treaty.

Detained for Pahalgam attack..

foul play in the death of Imtiyaz Ahmad Magray, whose body was fished out from the Adbal stream in the Aharbal area of the district on Sunday morning. Police have taken cognisance of the incident and launched an investigation to ascertain the exact cause of death, officials said. A drone footage, which surfaced hours after Magray’s body was recovered, showed a youth jumping into the gushing Adbal stream and getting washed away. Police claimed that Magray, who “confessed” to being an overground worker (OGW) for terrorists, tried to escape while leading security forces to a hideout in a forest area. Sakina Ittoo has called for a judicial probe, claiming there was nothing against the deceased in police records. “There should be a judicial probe (into Magray’s death) so that the truth comes out,” she said. “The Pahalgam attack was very sad and unfortunate. We all are aggrieved by it. However, an atmosphere of fear has been created. I request the lieutenant governor (Manoj Sinha) that instructions be given to the home department to ensure that innocent people are not harassed and harmed,” Ittoo added. In a press release, National Conference MP Mehdi said he was deeply worried by the recovery of Magray’s body. “According to credible reports, Magray was picked up by security forces days ago, and today he was returned to his family lifeless. “Kashmiris cannot be treated as collateral damage in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack. Arbitrary detention, custodial killings and torture are violations of every

democratic and legal principle,” Mehdi said. The Lok Sabha member from Srinagar also said that the family’s demand for a swift and independent investigation into Magray’s death and full accountability for all those involved must be upheld. “We cannot allow a culture of impunity to destroy what little trust remains,” he added. In a post on X, Mehbooba Mufti said, “Yet another body has been recovered from a river in Kulgam, raising serious allegations of foul play. Local residents allege that Imtiyaz Magray was picked up by the army two days ago and now his body has surfaced mysteriously in the river.” The former chief minister also said the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, which killed 26 people on April 22, appeared to be a “calculated attempt” to derail the “fragile” peace and disrupt tourism in Kashmir, and undermine communal harmony across the country. “If a single act of violence can shake the entire system, triggering arbitrary arrests, home demolitions and the targeting of innocent civilians, the perpetrators have already achieved their objective,” she claimed. Calling for an impartial probe into Magray’s death, Mufti said, “Allegations of misconduct – be it the Bandipora encounter or this latest incident in Kulgam -- are deeply troubling and warrant a thorough impartial investigation.”

CM Omar Abdullah resumes..

over the next six months would be “action, accountability, and ensuring that every individual benefits from good governance and development.” He urged officers to adopt a results-driven approach and said the government would redouble efforts to address public grievances and push forward developmental initiatives across the Valley. “Let’s make these six months count,” the chief minister stated in a brief underscoring his intention to fast-track projects and improve service delivery. The Darbar Move, a century-old tradition started by the Dogra rulers, involves shifting the seat of governance between Jammu and Srinagar to escape the extreme weather of either region. The practice, while often criticized for its logistical costs, is seen as a symbol of unity between the two regions.

Five Journalists honoured..

International Centre (IIC) on Sunday, honours the legacy of the late Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Danish Siddiqui and celebrates journalism rooted in integrity, courage, and service to the public. The list of winners included Meghna Bali of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) for her investigation into visa fraud affecting Indian students in Australia, and Sarvapriya Sangwan of BBC News India for her Hindi series “The Last Man” on India’s most marginalised communities. Saumya Khandelwal, contributing photojournalist for The New York Times, was recognised for her visual story on the exploitation of women in Maharashtra’s sugar industry. Among the winners were also independent journalist Greeshma Kuthar, who received the award for her investigative report on vigilante groups in Manipur, published in The Caravan, and Vaishnavi Rathore of Scroll.in for her detailed coverage of the environmental and social impact of development on Great Nicobar Island. The winners were selected by a jury comprising senior journalist Rajdeep Sardesai, Frontline editor Vaishna Roy, journalism academic Kishalay Bhattacharjee, and Reuters Pictures’ Gabrielle Fonseca. Former chief election commissioner SY Quraishi, who was the chief guest at the event, stressed on the importance of independent journalism in a democracy and praised the awardees for bringing marginalised voices to the forefront.

Punjab: 30-minute blackout drill...

threats. Your support and cooperation are crucial in making this exercise successful,” the letter said.

Sharma said in a statement that the blackout was part of a routine preparedness exercise. “Electricity supply in the cantonment area will be shut from 9 pm to 9:30 pm. There is no need to panic. The administration is fully alert and ready to respond if required,” she said. DIG Harmanbir Gill, meanwhile, said police are closely monitoring all anti-social elements, known offenders and smugglers in the area. Vigilance has been ramped up at the toll barriers to track vehicle movement while social media activities are also under surveillance, the DIG said. The Border Security Force (BSF) has intensified patrolling along the international border while Punjab Police has set up checkpoints at all strategic locations as a precautionary measure. Defence Secretary meets PM.. the critical sea lanes in the Arabian Sea. In a high-level meeting with the top defence brass, Prime Minister Modi on last Tuesday gave the armed forces “complete operational freedom” to decide on the mode, targets and timing of the response to the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people dead. Modi also emphasised the national resolve to deal a “crushing blow to terrorism”.

Terrorist hideout busted..

All the ready-to-use IEDs, weighing between half-a-kg and five kg, were destroyed in a controlled explosion on-the-spot, thwarting terrorist plans to set off explosions in the border district, the officials said. The hideout was busted during a joint search operation by army and special operations group of J-K police at Suranthal in Marhote area of Surankote late Sunday evening, the officials said. While two IEDs were found planted inside steel buckets, three others were packed in tiffin boxes, the officials said. In addition, the officials said two wireless sets, five packets containing urea, one five litre gas cylinder, one binocular, three woolen caps, three blankets and some trousers and utensils were recovered from the hideout.

UN Security Council to hold..

has scheduled the meeting for May 5 in the afternoon. Apart from the five veto-wielding permanent members -- China, France, Russia, the UK and the US -- the 10 non-permanent members in the Council are Algeria, Denmark, Greece, Guyana, Pakistan, Panama, South Korea, Sierra Leone, Slovenia and Somalia. Amid rising tensions between the nuclear-armed South Asian neighbours following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations and President of the Security Council for the month of May Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris had last week said that if a request comes for a meeting to discuss the situation between India and Pakistan. “As I said before, as a position of principle, we strongly condemn any act of terrorism and this is what we did” on the “heinous terrorist attack” that took place in Pahalgam in which innocent civilians died, Sekeris had said. In the weeks following the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir in which 26 civilians were killed, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke with all Council members, with the exception of China and Pakistan. In his calls, Jaishankar underlined that “its perpetrators, backers and planners must be brought to justice.” He also spoke with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot and South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul, among others. Last Friday, Pakistan’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad said at a press conference at the UN that his country has the right to convene a meeting when “we feel appropriate”.

Mata Baglamukhi Jayanti Celebrated with devotion and spiritual fervor at Khara Madana hilltop temple

Top News Report

SAMBA, May 5: The auspicious Jayanti of Mata Baglamukhi was celebrated with great devotion and spiritual enthusiasm at the serene hilltop temple in Khara Madana, District Samba. The event was jointly organized by the Trikutanagar Development Council (TDC) and the Senior Citizens Rejuvenation Centre (SCRC), led by Shubhchander Verma, President TDC, and K.S. Samyal, President SCRC.

The celebrations commenced with a sacred Havan performed in two Yagashalas, accompanied by the chanting of powerful mantras that reverberated through the temple premises for over three hours. Following the Havan, a devotional Satsang was held, featuring a soulful series of bhajans dedicated to Mata Baglamukhi. Esteemed participants, including Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, Chairman, Senior Citizens Joy Society, and Anju Bansal, rendered



heartfelt bhajans, evoking deep emotional and spiritual responses from the gathered devotees.

Prominent members of the Senior Citizens Joy Society, including Ashok Gupta (President), Dharamvir Bansal, Kulbir Khazuria, Vandna Maini, and Dr. Jain, actively participated in the event, adding to its spiritual vibrancy. During the occasion, speakers highlighted the spiritual significance of Mata Baglamukhi, revered as one of the Ten Mahavidyas in Hinduism. Known for her unique power

of Stambhana—the ability to paralyze and silence negative forces—Mata is worshipped for victory over enemies, protection, and mastery over speech. Devotees were reminded that according to Hindu scriptures, she manifested during Satyuga to calm a catastrophic storm, symbolizing her divine power to bring stillness amid chaos.

Worshippers, dressed in yellow as per tradition, offered yellow sweets and prayers, invoking her blessings with powerful mantras such as:

“Om Hleem Baglamukhi Sarv Dushatanam Vacham Mukham Padam Stambhaya Jivhaam Keelaya Buddhim Vinashay Hleem Om Swaha”

A religious Langar was organized, serving blessed food infused with spiritual joy to all attendees.

Several prominent members of TDC and SCRC, including N.K. Gupta, T.R. Puri, T.C. Taggar, Ramesh Chander, Ashok Gupta, and Sh. Manulife Raizada, graced the occasion with their presence and support.

Adding a health dimension to the event, an Ayurvedic Health Camp was held by the Ayush Department, Khara Madana, under the supervision of Dr. Nitika Sharma. Many patients were examined and provided with free consultations and medicines.

The celebration concluded on a spiritually uplifting note, leaving devotees blessed and rejuvenated by Mata Baglamukhi's divine grace.

Bharatiya Dalit Sahitya Akademy pays tribute to its Founder President Babu Parmanand on his 17th Death Anniversary

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: The Bharatiya Dalit Sahitya Akademy (BDSA) observed the 17th death anniversary of its Founder President, Babu Parmanand, with a solemn and dignified commemorative event held at the Akademy's headquarters in Roopnagar, Jammu.

The ceremony commenced with floral tributes being offered to both Babu Parmanand and Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, symbolizing the Akademy's steadfast commitment to the Ambedkarite movement and its core values of equality, justice, and social upliftment.

The homage was followed by a soulful musical tribute presented by noted artist B.D. Thappa, whose renditions highlighted the historic struggles and visionary leadership of Dalit icons.

A host of distinguished speakers graced the occasion, including Hemraj Phounsa, Desraj Bhardwaj, Balbir Ramrattan, Y.P. Kundal, and R.L. Bharati.

Hemraj Phounsa threw light on Babu Parmanand's lifelong dedication to the empowerment of marginalized



communities and his unparalleled contributions toward building a more equitable society.

He underscored the importance of carrying forward his mission, particularly in today's socio-political climate.

The speakers expressed their appreciation for the current leadership of the BDSA, which they credited with revitalizing the institution and reaffirming its ideological foundations.

Balbir Ram Rattan, Ex-Vice Chairperson SC, ST, BC Corporation Ltd. said that BDSA is an important organization in Jammu and Kashmir that is purely rooted in the philosophy of Babasaheb Ambedkar.

Ruplal Bharati (Retd, IFS) emphasized that the true homage to

Babasaheb lies in upholding the Constitution of India—drafted under his stewardship—and ensuring its implementation in both letter and spirit.

In his address, Y.P. Kundal, former Minister, reflected on the profound influence of Babuji's ideals on his own political journey. He stressed the importance of transcending political affiliations to support and strengthen the Akademy.

He also urged the community to place its trust in the capable leadership of B.R. Kundal (IAS, Retd.), who currently serves as the Working President of BDSA.

“The Akademy must become a beacon for intellectual and literary contributions from Dalit

writers across the Union Territory,” he appealed.

Vijay Bhagat, General Secretary of BDSA and a close associate of the late Babuji, conducted the proceedings of the event with grace and reverence. The program culminated with a presidential address delivered by B.R. Kundal (IAS, Retd.), who provided an overview of recent developments under his leadership.

He shared that the BDSA has recently reactivated its library and seminar hall, both of which are now accessible to members and the public, encouraging intellectual and cultural engagement.

Kundal emphasized the importance of outreach and inclusivity.

“We are committed to

expanding the Akademy's reach and rejuvenating its intellectual culture. Several outreach activities have already been undertaken, and more are in the pipeline,” he noted.

He also suggested practical measures to enhance the financial sustainability of the Akademy, including the enrollment of new members and increased community participation. In a moment of shared grief, the gathering also paid heartfelt tributes to the victims of the recent Pahalgam terrorist attack. The speakers condemned the violence in the strongest terms and called upon the government to take swift and decisive action against the perpetrators.

The event witnessed the presence of several eminent personalities and long-time supporters of the Akademy. Among those in attendance were Darshan Rana (President BSP), Sewa Dass, Nagarmal, R.L. Bhagat, Mohan Lal Thappa, P.L. Bhushan, Pawan Kundal, Prof. Samyal, T.R. Azad, Somnath Banal, Amit Chalotra, and Arvind Manyal, Hansbans Lal, Vijay Kumar Kundal, Parshotam Lal, Bihari Lal among others.

SHO RS Pura enlightens students of on landmark criminal law reforms

Top News Report

R S PURA May 5: In a laudable initiative to foster legal literacy among the youth, an impactful awareness program was organized today at Government Boys Higher Secondary School, RS Pura, aimed at educating students about the newly enacted criminal statutes of India—Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam.

The distinguished Station House Officer of RS Pura, Ravi Singh Parihar, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Ramesh Kumar Sharma, Head of Department, DIET Jammu, honoured the event as the Guest of Honour, accompanied by other esteemed officials from the District Institute of Education and Training. The program was conceptualized and flawlessly



executed by Dheeraj Singh, Lecturer, whose commitment to civic education was evident throughout the session. The event was masterfully compered by Kanchandeep Kour, whose eloquence and poise added grace to the proceedings.

Under the chairmanship of Principal Neelam Gupta and dynamic support of Vice Principal Rachna Tomar, the event was conducted with remarkable coordination and purpose.

Both SHO Ravi Singh Parihar and Dr. Ramesh Kumar Sharma delivered enlightening and

thought-provoking addresses, decoding the essence, relevance, and societal implications of the new criminal laws.

They emphasized the role of informed citizens in nation-building and urged the students to remain vigilant, law-abiding, and aspirational in their future endeavours. This initiative not only disseminated critical legal knowledge but also ignited a spirit of civic responsibility among the students, reinforcing the school's commitment to holistic education and nation-conscious citizenship.

Empowering Youth for a Drug-Free Future: IEC Campaign held at GGHSS Doda

Top News Report

DODA, May 5: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, an impactful IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) campaign was organized on Monday here at Government Girls Higher Secondary School. The event aimed to raise awareness among students about the harmful effects of drug abuse and the importance of building a drug-free society. Koshal Sharma, a representative from the Youth Services & Sports Department, delivered a powerful and heartfelt speech, urging students to stay away from drugs and become ambassadors of change in their communities.

Sharma highlighted the devastating impact of substance abuse on individuals, families, and society at large. He encouraged students to take an oath to live a healthy and drug-free life, stressing that the youth are the backbone of the nation and their well-being is essential for a prosperous future. The campaign aimed



not only at spreading awareness but also at fostering resilience and positive mental health among young minds through education and collective commitment.

The event was held under the overall supervision of Principal Surinder Singh Balaria, who emphasized the role of educational institutions in shaping responsible citizens. The program was efficiently anchored by Miss Sumaiya, who kept the audience engaged and motivated throughout the session. The campaign also featured interactive discussions on the psychological, social, and economic consequences of drug abuse, encouraging students to become peer leaders in this noble

cause. Among the notable attendees were Shahista Kouser from the Education Department, representatives from the Health and Social Welfare Departments, DUDA Self Help Group members, and faculty members including lecturers Shahid Bashir and Imran Tantray. Their presence highlighted the collaborative approach needed to fight drug abuse through awareness, prevention, and community participation. The event concluded with students taking a solemn pledge to stay drug-free and spread awareness within their families and neighborhoods, reinforcing the vision of a Nasha Mukta Bharat.

Speaker visits Assembly Complex Srinagar Inspects office functioning, emphasizes smooth operations



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 5: Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, on Monday visited the Assembly Complex in Srinagar to review the functioning of various offices.

During his visit, the Speaker inspected several sections within the complex and interacted with the staff.

While reviewing functioning of offices, the Speaker directed the

employees to maintain highest level of professionalism and regular attendance, besides ensuring prompt and efficient disposal of files.

Emphasizing the importance of smooth office functioning in Srinagar, the Speaker conducted a detailed review of essential facilities, including availability of potable drinking water and electricity. He also assessed the status of transfer of official records from Jammu, where a month long

Budget session was conducted recently.

He urged the officials to ensure timely disposal of files besides effective functioning of their respective departments.

The Speaker was accompanied by Additional Secretary Legislative Assembly, Bilal Ahmad Bhat and senior officers of Legislative Assembly including Qazi Mushtaq Ahmad, Shabir Ahmad Wani, Mohammad Jamaludin and Fayaz Ahmad Joo.

Open campus placement drive conducted at Govt. SPMR College of Commerce

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Govt. Sri Pratap Memorial Rajput (SPMR) College of Commerce, Jammu, organized an Open Campus Placement Drive today, providing valuable employment opportunities to graduating students. The drive, conducted in collaboration with HDFC Bank and Axis Bank, attracted enthusiastic participation from aspiring candidates seeking careers in the banking sector.

The event was graced by prominent resource persons Rahul Sharma, Shakun Mahajan, and Ravi, who addressed the gathering and shared insightful perspectives on the growing opportunities in the banking industry. They highlighted the recruitment process and career progression pathways, with a special focus on opportunities at Axis Bank, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank. Their interactive sessions motivated students to explore dynamic roles within the financial services sector. The placement drive featured a structured selection process, including an on-the-spot screening interview, online aptitude tests, AI-based interviews, and a panel interview round, aimed at selecting candidates for residential training programs leading to confirmed placements. In his message to students, Principal of the College Prof. (Dr.) Rajinder Singh urged them to make the most of such opportunities, stay committed to lifelong learning, and uphold the values of integrity, dedication, and excellence in whichever path they choose. He noted that it was essential for students to chart out a direction for their careers during graduation, so that they can become productive members of society.

Inter-School Zonal sports Competition Day 4 U-14 Girls display impressive talent across multiple sports at Ghat

Top News Report

DODA, May 5: The fourth day of the Inter-School Zonal Level Competition 2025–26 unfolded with energy and enthusiasm at Ghat-Doda, spotlighting an impressive display of talent by Under-14 Girls across multiple sports disciplines on Monday.

Organized under the leadership of District Youth Services & Sports Officer, Pritam Singh and coordinated by Zonal Physical Education Officer, Zone Ghat, Surinder Kumar, the day's events featured competitions in Kabaddi, Volleyball, Kho-Kho, Badminton, Chess, Carrom, and Yoga.

A total of 127 young athletes, representing various schools from across the region—including remote and underserved areas—competed with remarkable passion, skill, and sportsmanship. Their spirited performance



was a testament to the growing culture of grassroots sports in the district.

The event's success was made possible through the tireless efforts of the dedicated field staff of Zone Ghat, who ensured smooth execution and a professional competitive environment.

Addressing the gathering, Pritam Singh lauded the participants for their enthusiasm and highlighted the importance of such events in identifying and nurturing future sports talent. He under-

scored the critical role of physical education in fostering a healthy and active lifestyle among youth. Surinder Kumar also commended the athletes and expressed appreciation for the meticulous coordination by the organizing team.

With momentum building day by day, the Inter-School Zonal Level Competition continues to be a vibrant platform for young athletes to shine, setting the stage for even more thrilling performances in the days ahead.

Prabhsimran smashes 91 as Punjab Kings push Lucknow towards exit door

DHARAMSALA, May 5 (Agencies): Prabhsimran Singh was in his element as he smashed a 48-ball 91 to not only help Punjab Kings defeat Lucknow Super Giants by 37 runs but also surpass the 200-run mark at the HPCA Stadium after 14 years in the IPL.

It was in 2011 when Punjab Kings (previously Kings XI) posted 232/2 against Royal Challengers Bangalore. It was a repeat of that performance by Punjab as Prabhsimran made full use of a lifeline, hitting seven sixes and six fours, to lead the hosts to 236/5. It is the second-highest IPL total at this ground. With this win, the Kings now jumped to the second spot with 15 points. Meanwhile, LSG suffered their third consecutive loss to stay in seventh place.

Playing his first match after two years, left-arm pacer Akash Singh tried his best to stop the Punjab Kings top-order. However, an expensive two-over spell by Mayank Yadav undid Akash's good work and helped the hosts to build a strong foundation.

While Yadav leaked 36 in two overs, Akash conceded 20 in



three during the powerplay. He also accounted for two wickets — Priyansh Arya (1) and Josh Inglis, who was promoted to one-down and smashed a 14-ball 30 studded with four towering sixes. Akash eventually finished with figures of 2/30.

Meanwhile, Yadav's expensive spell forced LSG skipper Rishabh Pant to introduce Avesh Khan and Digvesh Rathi to the attack. However, the Kings' batters — espe-

cially Prabhsimran — were in no mood to be tied down. The Kings launched 16 sixes out of which 13 were off the pacers.

They reached the 100-run mark in 10 overs as Prabhsimran showcased his class. The opener made the most of the lifeline after being dropped by Nicolas Pooran at mid-off in the 6th over. Prabhsimran, with the support of skipper Shreyas Iyer, led the team to 128/2 in 12 overs.

Iyer hit 45 off 25 balls studded

with four boundaries and two sixes. The duo added 78 runs before Iyer misjudged Rathi's length and ended up getting caught at backward point. Prabhsimran continued to hit some of his trademark shots. He helped the side maintain an 11.75 run rate and even launched the longest six of the match off Khan.

The Punjab batter should have got his second IPL hundred but an ambitious switch hit off Rathi saw him head back to the pavilion. Towards the end, Shashank Singh posted 33 off 15 balls.

Chasing a steep target, LSG needed a strong start but fell to 36/3 in the powerplay after Arshdeep Singh dismissed the top-three — Mitchell Marsh (0), Aiden Markram (13) and Pooran (6).

Their departure led to the arrival of skipper Pant but his poor run continued. Attempting a six off Azmatullah Omarzai, Pant lost his grip on the bat and the ball ended up in the safe hands of Shashank at deep point. Ayush Badoni (74 off 40 balls, five sixes and five fours) and Abdull Samad (45) put up a fight with an 81-run partnership but couldn't get LSG the win.

IPL 2025: Kolkata Knight Riders beat Rajasthan Royals by 1 run in must-win game



KOLKATA, May 5 (Agencies): Kolkata Knight Riders beat Rajasthan Royals by one run in their Indian Premier League match here on Sunday to keep their play-off qualification hopes alive.

Chasing 207 for a win, RR could manage 205 for 8 in 20 overs to lose the match.

Captain Riyan Parag top-scored for RR with a 45-ball 95 while Yas-hasvi Jaiswal and Shimron Hetmyer contributed 34 and 29 respectively.

For KKR, Varun Chakravarthi 2/32, Moeen Ali (2/43), Harshit Rana (2/41) and Vaibhav Arora (1/50) were among the wickets.

Earlier, Andre Russell

struck a 25-ball 57 not out to lift KKR to 206 for four.

Apart from Russell, Angkrish Raghuvanshi (44), opener Rahman-ullah Gurbaz (35) and skipper Ajinkya Rahane (30) were the other main contributors.

For RR, Jofra Archer (1/30), Yuvraj Singh Chahal (1/26), Maheesh Theekshana (1/41) and Riyan Parag (1/21) were among the wickets.

The win kept KKR alive for the play-offs while RR are already out of the reckoning.

Brief Score.

Kolkata Knight Riders: 206 for 4 in 20 overs (Andre Russell 57 not out; Jofra Archer 1/30)..

Rajasthan Royals: 205 for 8 in 20 overs (Riyan Parag 95, Yas-hasvi Jaiswal 34; Varun Chakravarthi 2/32, Moeen Ali 2/43, Harshit Rana 2/41).

Injury blow for SRH as Smaran ruled out, Harsh Dubey named replacement

HYDERABAD, May 5 (Agencies): Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) have suffered another setback in their disappointing Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 campaign, with 22-year-old Karnataka batter R Smaran ruled out due to injury. Smaran, who had replaced Australian spinner Adam Zampa in the squad earlier this season, will now be replaced by Harsh Dubey, according to ESPNcricinfo.

22 year old Dubey is a left-arm spinning all-rounder from Vidarbha. He made headlines during the 2024-25 Ranji Trophy season by taking a record 69 wickets--breaking Ashutosh Aman's previous mark of 68 wickets in a single season. His impressive performance helped Vidarbha lift the Ranji title this year.

Dubey joins SRH at his base price of INR 30 lakh, but while he has shone in red-ball cricket, his performances in limited-overs formats have been modest so far. He has taken 21 wickets in 20 List A matches at an average of 34.66 and nine wickets in 16



T20 innings with an economy of 6.78. Still, his Ranji success has boosted his reputation ahead of this IPL stint.

SRH's season has been far from ideal. After reaching the IPL 2024 final, they have managed just three wins in ten matches this year and sit ninth on the table. Even if they win their remaining four matches, they can only reach 14 points, meaning their playoff hopes rely on other teams' slipping. To make things worse, their net run rate of -1.192 is the worst among all teams, including already-eliminated Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR).

Ahead of their match against Delhi Capitals (DC), Sunrisers Hyderabad head coach Daniel Vettori clarified

that there are no fitness concerns about an out-of-form pacer Mohammed Shami and that the veteran is working hard in the nets to turn things around for himself.

Shami came to the IPL after a solid ICC Champions Trophy winning campaign for India, taking nine wickets in five matches at an average of 25.88 with a five-wicket haul to his name. Since his return after more than an year from an injury, Shami has managed 14 wickets in nine international games at an average of 27.64.

However, Shami's IPL numbers have been disappointing, having taken just six scalps in nine matches at an average of 56.16, leaking runs at an economy rate of 11.23.

Playoff favourites Mumbai Indians, Gujarat Titans face off in high-intensity IPL battle

MUMBAI, May 5 (Agencies): Gujarat Titans' on-song top three will face a stern test against Mumbai Indians' potent bowling attack when the two teams that are favourites to reach the Indian Premier League playoffs clash here on Tuesday.

With the best Net Run Rate among all teams, third-placed MI need two wins from remaining three matches to ensure a direct spot in the final four.

The five-time winners will play two of these games at home, where they have won four out of five matches.

GT, who are ranked fourth, have four matches left of which two will be at their home-ground in Ahmedabad where they too have won four out of five times.

The Shubman Gill-led side essentially needs two more wins to sail into the playoffs.

The top order troika of B Sai Sudharsan (504 runs), Jos Buttler (470) and skipper Gill (465) have dominated the tournament like no other, setting up many a wins for the Titans.

But the outcome of Tuesday's contest could be determined by how they perform against arguably the best bowling attack in the competition with Trent Boult (16 wickets), Hardik Pandya (13), Jasprit Bumrah (11) and Deepak Chahar (9) ensuring tough times for opposition batters.

Ever since MI began their winning streak, which has swelled to an impressive six matches on



the trot, they have not conceded a total in excess of 200 either at home or away even once. It is enough to ring alarm bells in the Titans' camp, whose winning formula has largely been based on piling up heavy totals batting first.

But MI will also be wary of Titans' impeccable record while chasing as they have won each of their three games batting second by heavy margins.

But while GT's top three have dominated the batting charts, the others naturally have not got much time in the middle barring Sherfane Rutherford (201 runs), which means MI's bowlers would look to strike hard and early in order to gain the upper-hand.

Only three seasons ago, Hardik led the Titans to a title win in their maiden appearance but this year, he is at the helm of Mumbai Indians' robust revival after early blips which included a

loss to GT in Ahmedabad.

Perhaps no other all-rounder in the tournament has floated through his roles and performed as admirably as Pandya (157 runs, 13 wickets), providing MI with a lot of spunk.

Rohit Sharma's (293 runs) readiness to switch gears in the middle to build long innings and Suryakumar Yadav (475) getting into his elements are indeed the greatest worrying signs for MI's opponent.

Ryan Rickelton (334) has banished a slow start for impressive scores of late while taking pressure off Rohit to attack first up.

Will Jacks is also getting into his rhythm as an all-rounder while Tilak Varma (239) and Naman Dhir (155) provide solidity to that batting line-up.

To their credit, Gujarat Titans' bowlers have also done a splendid job in the absence of Kagiso Rabada, who has linked back after admitting that he served

provisional suspension for recreational drug use earlier this year. It is not yet clear whether he can play the upcoming games as the length of his suspension is still not known.

GT's Indian bowlers have performed admirably.

Led by Prasidh Krishna, who is topping charts in this IPL with 19 wickets, the attack featuring Mohammed Siraj (14) and R Sai Kishore (12) has managed to deliver for the side quite consistently.

Teams (from): Mumbai Indians: Hardik Pandya (c), Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Robin Minz (wk), Ryan Rickelton (wk), Shriyath Krishnan (wk), Bevon Jacobs, Tilak Varma, Naman Dhir, Will Jacks, Mitchell Santner, Raj Angad Bawa, Raghu Sharma, Corbin Bosch, Trent Boult, Karn Sharma, Deepak Chahar, Ashwani Kumar, Reece Topley, VS Pemeetsa, Arjun Tendulkar, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Jasprit Bumrah.

Gujarat Titans: Shubman Gill (c), Jos Buttler (wk), Kumar Kushagra (wk), Anuj Rawat (wk), Sherfane Rutherford, Nishant Sidhu, Mahipal Lomror, Washington Sundar, Mohammed Arshad Khan, R Sai Kishore, Jayant Yadav, Karim Janat, B Sai Sudharsan, Dasun Shanaka, Shahrulkhan Khan, Mohammed Kumar, Prasidh Krishna, Manav Suthar, Gerald Coetzee, Gurnoor Singh Brar, Ishant Sharma, Kulwant Khejroliya, Rahul Tewatia, Rashid Khan.

Match starts at 7:30pm IST.

Manolo Marquez delighted as FC Goa clinch second Kalinga Super Cup title

BHUBANESWAR, May 5 (Agencies): FC Goa (FCG) head coach Manolo Marquez expressed his happiness after the Gaurs (FCG) comfortably defeated Jamshedpur FC (JFC) in the final to secure their second Kalinga Super Cup crown. The dominant performance capped off a strong campaign, leaving Marquez pleased with his team's effort and execution on the big stage, as per the official website of ISL.

The win also secured FC Goa's return to continental football after a four-year gap, with the team set to feature in the Preliminary Round of the 2025-26 AFC Champions League

Two.

Keeping in mind Jamshedpur FC's reputation for defensive solidity in the Super Cup, FC Goa took the initiative early on. Borja Herrera opened the scoring in the 21st minute and later doubled the advantage with a sensational long-range strike. Dejan Drazic added a third, effectively sealing the result and leaving Khalid Jamil's men with no way back into the game.

This was also FC Goa's first victory over Jamshedpur FC this season, having suffered defeats in both their Indian Super League (ISL) encounters earlier in the campaign.

"It was a great tournament and a fantastic



group, they completely deserve to be the champions. We arrived here knowing we had to win four games, and we did it," said Marquez, interacting with the media post-match, as quoted from the official website of ISL.

Since taking charge, Manolo Marquez has instilled much-needed stability and structure

into the FC Goa setup, restoring their place among Indian football's top contenders. Yet, silverware continued to elude them.

The Gaurs finished third in the ISL 2023-24 season and improved to second in 2024-25 under Marquez, only to fall short in the semi-finals of the playoffs on both occasions. Heading

into the Kalinga Super Cup in Bhubaneswar, the hunger for a title was stronger than ever.

"In these two seasons, the team was very competitive with two different teams, different styles. This year, the group is very, very strong. They are friends, more than teammates.

"I feel that we finished second in the ISL Shield because we faced a very strong Mohun Bagan Super Giant (side). We lost in the semi-final due to small details. Here, we wanted to win and secure the Asian competition slot, and we played four very good games," Marquez stated.

Since their inception in 2014, FC Goa have built a reputation as one

of the most consistent and successful clubs in Indian football. Head coach Manolo Marquez praised the club's management for their professionalism and organisation, and extended his congratulations to everyone involved in making this triumph possible.

"We are very happy because we got this trophy, but I am happier for the group. Not just the players, for also the staff at the club and a lot of people. I feel, maybe not the best in titles, but FC Goa is the best club in India in terms of organisation. When you are a coach, it's a dream to train a team like this because the atmosphere (here) is top," he commented.

Osaka wins first WTA title since maternity break



PARIS, May 5 (Agencies): Four-time Grand Slam winner Naomi Osaka won her first WTA title since triumphing at the 2021 Australian Open after beating Slovenia's Kaja Juvan 6-1 7-5 in the final of the L'Open 35 de Saint-Malo — a WTA 125 tournament on clay.

It was the 27-year-old Japanese player's first WTA title since she became a mother in July 2023.

"Kinda ironic to win my first trophy back on the surface that I thought was my worst. That's one of my favourite things about life though, there's always room to grow and evolve," Osaka posted on X.

The former world No. 1 is set to feature in the main draw of the French Open later this month.

Dr Jitendra calls for AI led innovations, deep-tech StartUps

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, May 5: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Monday chaired a comprehensive review of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), calling for bold new directions in science-driven growth, including AI-led innovations, deep tech StartUps and enhanced infrastructure sharing.

The meeting saw the Minister focus particularly on the evolving role of the newly constituted Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), as well as ongoing national missions like the Geospatial initiative.

Dr. Jitendra Singh held detailed discussions with Prof. Abhay Karandikar, ANRF's newly appointed CEO, Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman and other senior officials of the Ministry. During the meeting, Dr. Kalyanaraman presented an ambitious vision for the ANRF, promising catalytic funding mechanisms, deep integration with private industry, and strategic missions modeled on globally successful institutions such as the National



Science Foundation (NSF) and DARPA.

In a significant step aimed at boosting indigenous innovation, ANRF is preparing to launch a "Small Business Deep Tech Innovation" programme, which will empower startups and MSMEs to scale breakthrough technologies for real-world applications.

Recognising the need to better utilise existing national research infrastructure, the Minister reviewed ANRF's plan to create a "Cloud of Research and Innovation Infrastructure," a digital platform that would offer deep-tech startups and academic institutions access to underused scientific equipment and facilities across the country. This move is expected to democratise research capabilities, especially for smaller

players who often lack access to high-end lab tools.

Among the major scientific thrusts discussed, the ANRF's "AI-for-Science" initiative took centre stage. The programme aims to leverage artificial intelligence to accelerate discoveries in physics, chemistry, and biology by using machine learning to model complex scientific equations.

The Minister directed the ANRF leadership to kickstart a few select projects under this initiative and demonstrate tangible outcomes in the near term. He also encouraged the CEO to engage with university Vice Chancellors to raise awareness about the ANRF mission and opportunities for collaboration.

In another key direction, Dr. Jitendra Singh asked the ANRF to explore the possibil-

ity of helping medical colleges establish their own medical research parks — a move that could boost clinical innovation and local biotech entrepreneurship. The Minister further underscored the importance of building an indigenous "India AI Open Stack" — a foundational AI architecture embedded with science and engineering models tailored for Indian researchers. This, he noted, could position India as a global frontrunner in AI-driven scientific applications.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also revisited the concept of "deep science-to-deep tech acceleration," urging the ANRF to focus on converting academic research — such as publications and patents — into commercial technologies. He emphasized the need for partnerships with top-tier industry players and the creation of venture-builder models to ensure that discoveries don't remain confined to laboratories.

The Minister concluded by asking the ANRF to prioritise key areas of national relevance, including climate forecasting, material science, aerospace, biochemistry, and drug development. He stressed that the time has come for India to move from isolated innovation to a more integrated, impact-driven ecosystem that links research, startups, and industry.

French Club Jammu delegation meets LG Sinha



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: Arun Sharma, Founder and President of French Club Jammu, along with his team, called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to discuss key issues related to the promotion of languages in Jammu and Kashmir.

During the interaction, Sharma emphasized the global career opportunities and advantages of

being a polyglot, highlighting how proficiency in multiple languages opens doors in sectors such as tourism, business, and international relations.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the vision and efforts of the French Club in fostering linguistic diversity and cultural exchange. He assured his support for the club's initiatives aimed at expanding lan-

guage education and creating new avenues for youth empowerment.

Among the French Club members present on the occasion were Ravinder Pal Singh, Muskan Mahajan, and Priyanka Khajuria.

The meeting marked an important step toward encouraging multilingual learning and cultural integration in the Union Territory.

J&K Retired Police Pensioners protest pay anomaly, demand long-pending justice



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: The Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum today held a protest at Hari Singh Park, Jammu under the chairmanship of Ajit Singh, voicing strong concerns over discrimination in pay anomaly and benefits faced by retired personnel of the J&K Police and J&K Fire Services.

Addressing the gathering, Ajit Singh outlined key demands on behalf of the forum, urging the Jammu & Kashmir UT Government to resolve long-standing grievances.

The forum criticized that the effect of the order was applied prospectively (from the date of issuance), instead of retrospectively from 1996 when the 5th Pay Commission was imple-

mented across the state. "Our department was unjustly left out; many affected pensioners have passed away waiting for justice. The surviving members deserve the rightful arrears," Singh emphasized.

Currently, only retirees post-2019 receive the ECH (Extended Contributory Health) Card benefits. The forum demanded that all retirees, irrespective of their date of retirement, should be extended this health facility.

Singh highlighted the plight of retired officers/officials who are summoned for court appearances as witnesses or accused in cases but receive no travel allowance (TA) or financial support despite relying solely on their pension.

The forum demanded Higher wages for SPOs

(Special Police Officers) in line with Punjab Police SPOs, Provision of uniforms, mess facilities, and regularization policies for SPOs, Parity for Village Defence Committee (VDC) paid members with SPOs, including entitlement to risk allowance, medical benefits, and ration money at par with Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

Singh further informed that the Tribunal Court has already passed orders in their favor, and the forum now awaits prompt implementation of the verdict.

He urged the Lieutenant Governor's administration to act swiftly in delivering long-delayed justice to the retired police personnel who have dedicated their lives in service to the state.

ZEO Ghat defies orders from DSE Jammu, CEO Doda

Top News Report

DODA, May 5: In a glaring example of administrative non-compliance, the Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) Ghat, Doda district (J&K), has reportedly defied direct orders from the Director School Education Jammu (DSEJ) and Chief Education Officer (CEO) Doda, raising serious concerns about governance and accountability in the education sector.

An inquiry report by a three-member committee headed by the Joint Director School Education Doda—constituted under Order No. 693-DSEJ of 2023, dated 03-01-2023—has exposed a fraudulent appointment scam involving 18 Rehbar-e-Taleem (ReT) teachers in Zone Ghat. The committee found that these individuals secured appointment orders without any sanctioned vacancies, advertisements, selection panels, or approvals from competent authorities.

The report, submitted to the Director School Education Jammu under No: JD/UR/U/29 dated 01-06-2024, named the following as beneficiaries of these alleged backdoor appointments Mohd Iqbal, Gh. Mohd, Shahid Iqbal, Perveen Begum, Saleema Begum, Mohd Ashraf, Waseem Raja, Mohd Irfan, Pinky Devi, Farhat Raiz, Indira Devi, Mohan Lal, Hamidullah, Santosh Kumar, Deepak Kumar and Usha Devi

Following a thorough review, the Commissioner/Secretary of the School Education Department J&K and the Director School Education Jammu took serious note of the fraudulent appointments, issuing immediate termination orders for the 18 individuals under Order No: DSEJ/Legal/21366-67 dated 09-09-2024. Subsequently, the CEO Doda directed the ZEO Ghat, via communication No: CEO/D/Legal/2024/394 dated 13-09-2024, to implement these termination orders within three days. However, the ZEO Ghat failed to comply, allegedly under the influence of vested interests. Instead of acting, the office reportedly enabled the appointees to obtain a status quo order from the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) Jammu on 20-09-2024 (MA No: 921/2024, OA No: 1047/2024), effectively stalling the terminations. This inaction has been viewed as a deliberate subversion of official directives, collusion with fraudulent appointees, and a blatant misuse of office. According to reports, the fraudulent appointments have caused an estimated loss of over ₹65 lakh to the Union Territory exchequer through unauthorized salary disbursements.

CTTIK president meets Union Tourism Minister

Top News Report

JAIPUR, May 5: During the ongoing Great Indian Travel Bazaar (GITB) in Jaipur, the President of the Chamber of Tourism and Trade Industry Katra (CTTIK), Raj Kumar Padha, met with the Union Minister of Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, to discuss the current situation in Jammu & Katra, particularly in light of the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

Padha conveyed the deep concerns of tourism stakeholders regarding the impact of the incident on the region's travel and pilgrimage sectors.

He emphasized the urgency of restoring confidence among tourists and ensuring robust security for visitors.

In response, Shekhawat strongly condemned the Pahalgam attack and assured Padha that the Government of India is taking comprehensive measures to stabilize the situation.



He affirmed that detailed plans are being drawn up for the revival of tourism across Jammu & Kashmir, with a special focus on promoting and strengthening pilgrim tourism in the Jammu region.

To deepen collaboration and emphasize the spiritual importance of the region, Raj Kumar Padha extended a cordial invitation to the Minister to visit the holy

shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi in Katra. Shekhawat graciously accepted the invitation and expressed his reverence for the sacred site.

Both sides expressed confidence that through joint efforts and strategic planning, normalcy will be restored, and tourism in Jammu & Kashmir will witness a renewed phase of growth and resilience.

Outstanding Sportspersons of J&K appeal for immediate publication of Non-Gazetted Merit List, Appointment under SO 12, SO 412

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: The outstanding sportspersons of Jammu & Kashmir brought to the urgent attention of the Government the unprecedented delay in the publication of the non-gazetted merit list and subsequent appointment of candidates under SO 12 read with SO 412.

Despite the finalization of non-gazetted recruitment rules on October 4, 2024, officially published in the government gazette, the merit list for the non-gazetted cadre remains unpublished for nearly a year. This delay continues even though all recruitment formalities for the non-gazetted cadre have been completed, leaving 225 deserving sportspersons in limbo, they said in a press con-



ference.

"We are deeply concerned that the entire recruitment process has come to a standstill due to pending approval of recruitment rules for just 10 gazetted posts, while the fate of 225 non-gazetted positions, which require no further policy clarification, remains unjustly tied to it. Official sources confirm that files are being moved from table to table within the Civil Secretariat, leading to bureaucratic stagnation and prolonged

uncertainty for us athletes who have excelled at state, national, and international levels," they said.

It is disheartening that the provisional list of eligible players was published on July 19, 2024, and yet, almost a year later, no final list has been released nor appointments made. This unnecessary delay has severely impacted our lives and professional futures. Many of us have crossed the upper age limits or missed other opportunities

due to this prolonged wait, they added.

They submit that recruitment under SO 12 and SO 412 is not merely a job opportunity but a recognition of our hard work, dedication, and the pride we have brought to Jammu & Kashmir through our sporting achievements. The continuous postponement is a grave injustice, eroding our trust and morale.

They earnestly appeal to the Lieutenant Governor and the concerned authorities to immediately publish the final merit list of non-gazetted posts without linking it to pending gazetted recruitment rules and issue appointment orders to all eligible outstanding sportspersons under SO 12 and SO 412 without further delay.

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 5: National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Adviser & Chancellor, Lamrin Tech Skills University, Dr. Sandeep Kaura addressed Aryans Nursing, Pharmacy, Cardiac Care, Anesthesia, Operation Theatre, students & inspired them to grab international jobs through skill development programs through NSDC. Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura Near Chandigarh presided over.

Dr. Kaura said that lot

of students from India specifically from Punjab go abroad through illegal route, but NSDC has brought a golden opportunity wherein students are trained for specific countries according to skill requirements.

Further he said that the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), a central agency, has set a target to send one-lakh qualified nursing professionals to various countries, including the US, Canada, the UK and Australia, by 2025. The governments of the UK, Canada, the US and Australia have

approached India to get trained healthcare professionals, mentioned Kaura.

Dr. Anshu Kataria said that Punjab is among the key states from where after graduating in nursing, the youth desire to work abroad. Aryans Group of Colleges is committed to providing quality training and placement opportunities for its 2000 healthcare students, preparing them for roles in this growing workforce.

He expressed gratitude to Dr. Kaura for sharing his knowledge and experience with the students.

