

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT

| 6

Vidya Balan talks about post pandemic situation in film industry



NATIONAL

| 7

Railway Minister Vaishnav says redevelopment of 500 more stations to be completed by 2027

INTERNATIONAL

| 8

US shooting: Israel PM Benjamin Netanyahu says security heightened at country's missions abroad



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-12 Issue-140

Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Seized drugs destroyed in South Kashmir following Court Orders

SRINAGAR, May 22 (Agencies): Acting on the orders of the NDPS Court, Anantnag, authorities destroyed seized narcotic substances related to two cases registered under the NDPS Act.

"A committee comprising SDPO Railways Anantnag Sartaj Ahmed, SHO GRPS Inspector Rahul Mahajan, and Naib Tehsildar Anantnag Mohd Furqan Mir supervised the incineration of the drugs at SIDCO Lassipora, Pulwama. The destroyed contraband included 10.89 kg of poppy straw from FIR No. 03/2019 and 140 grams of cannabis concentrate from FIR No. 03/2023, both registered at Railway Police Station, Anantnag," police said.

Railway Police reiterated their commitment to combating drug trafficking and said that such actions are vital for ensuring public safety and upholding the rule of law.

Despite orders, teachers remain deployed outside schools; SED issue stern warnings

SRINAGAR, May 22 (Agencies): The repatriation of the teaching staff of schools deployed and attached in other government department has thrown up a major challenge for the School Education Department (SED) to utilise services of its human resource effectively.

Despite repeated orders and circular instructions from the Administrative department regarding repatriation of teachers to schools, the deployment of staff continues.

The School Education Department (SED) has taken a serious note of the poor implementation of the orders district level citing that the "uninformed practice" of deployment of staff of SED to other departments has left the department disarrayed.

In an official communication addressed to all the Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of Kashmir division, the Directorate of School Education

■ Turn to page 9

Two terrorists killed in encounter in Kishtwar

SRINAGAR, May 22 (Agencies): Two terrorists were killed in an ongoing gunfight with the security forces in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, officials said.

The encounter broke out at about 6:50 am after the troops of 2 Para SF, Army's 11RR, 7th Assam rifles and SOG Kishtwar launched a search operation between Shari and

■ Turn to page 9



ED crossing all limits: Supreme Court slams probe agency over TASMAL raids

NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): The Bench said the ED's probe against the state-run TASMAL will not proceed in the meantime. File photo

Advertisement The Enforcement Directorate is crossing "all the limits" and violating the federal concept of governance,

the Supreme Court on Thursday said while staying the money laundering probe against Tamil Nadu-run liquor retailer TASMAL over alleged corruption in grant of wine shop licences.

Issuing notice to the ED on pleas filed by the Tamil Nadu government and the Tamil

Nadu State Marketing Corporation (TASMAL), a Bench comprising Chief Justice B R Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih told Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for the anti-money laundering probe agency, that "Your ED is crossing all the limits."

■ Turn to page 9

Statehood legitimate aspiration of J&K people, Must be fully restored: TMC



SRINAGAR, May 22 (Agencies): The TMC on Thursday called for the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, saying the local government should be fully empowered.

A five-member delegation of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) called

on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at his residence on Wednesday, immediately after their arrival in the city.

"We believe that statehood is a legitimate aspiration of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We firmly believe that statehood must be fully

restored to Jammu and Kashmir," said TMC Rajya Sabha MP Sagari Ghose, who is a part of the delegation.

The TMC leader said her party believed in the principle of federalism.

"The federal principle is ingrained in our Constitution and, therefore, to empower an elected government is an article of faith for us, a legitimate aspiration of the people," she said.

"We are fully in support of the elected government of Jammu and Kashmir and we believe that the elected government of Jammu and

■ Turn to page 9

Month after massacre of Tourists, Pahalgam locals count livelihood losses

PAHALGAM, May 22 (Agencies): A month after the deadly terror attack on tourists in Pahalgam, locals in the south Kashmir resort town stare at mounting livelihood losses, even as the perpetrators have managed to evade the massive crackdown launched by security forces to track them down.

While several top terrorists have been killed in various operations launched after the deadly April 22 attack



at Baisaran meadows, the terrorists who carried out the massacre have eluded the security forces, officials said on Thursday.

Terrorists descended on the picturesque Baisaran meadows of Pahalgam on April 22 and shot dead 25

■ Turn to page 9

Kishtwar Encounter: Soldier succumbs to injuries

SRINAGAR, May 22 (Agencies): An Army soldier was killed during an ongoing encounter between security forces and militants in the Singhpora area of Chatroo in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on Thursday.

Official sources said the firefight began after a joint team of the Army and police launched a cordon-and-search operation in the area based on intelligence inputs about the pres-

ence of militants. As the forces approached a suspected hideout, they came under fire, triggering a fierce exchange.

"One soldier sustained injuries and was evacuated to a nearby medical facility where he succumbed to his injuries," officials said, adding that four militants have been cornered and are believed to be holed up in the area.

The operation is ongoing, with a heavy

■ Turn to page 9

School timing to change from Monday: Sakina Itoo

SRINAGAR, May 22 (Agencies): Minister of Education, Sakina Itoo Thursday said that the school timing will be changed from coming Monday in view of heat wave across Jammu and Kashmir.

Itoo said, "I have already instructed the School Education Department to change the school timing in view of heat wave."

"I have been informed by the parent that their wards feel dizzy in the morning assembly," she said.

Itoo further said, "From Monday, the school timing will be changed and I have directed the concerned team that morning assembly shall not be conducted in the open field."

"As far as summer vacations are concerned, we will have to wait for the appropriate timing for it," she said.

'An assault on Press Freedom': Mehbooba on Ad ban in Jammu Kashmir

SRINAGAR: Former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday urged the Jammu and Kashmir government to immediately restore suspended government advertisements to local newspapers, warning that the survival of the region's print media is at stake.

"The suspension of government advertise



ments is not just a financial blow; it's an assault on the freedom of the press," Mufti said,

calling on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to take urgent cognisance of the situation. She described the move as a direct threat to press freedom and democratic accountability in the Union Territory.

Mehbooba said the abrupt discontinuation of government ads—critical to the financial viability of newspapers in the region—has led to

■ Turn to page 9

GupShup

RESTAURANT

Where Hunger Meets Happiness

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

Visit us at:
Ban Bantaleb, Old Nagrota Highway, Jammu (J&K)
+91-9086207123 | +91-9086072548

ORDER NOW

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Chuni Lal Bhat** S/o Late Damodhar Bhat originally R/o Kanipora, Sonawari Distt. Bandipora at present Srinagar Kmr.

The mourning will be held at Jammu at the residence of Avtar Krishan Bhat, Sharda Colony, Patoli Brahmana.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on 26-5-2025 at 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Desha Bhat -Wife

Sumit Bhat -Son

Doora Dhar -Bhabi

Avtar Krishan Bhat & Girja Bhat -Brother & Bhabhi

R L Bhat & Dazy Bhat -Brother & Bhabhi

Samast Bhat & Raina Parivar

Cell:- 7006974366 9469334827 9958578555



Sh Chuni Lal Bhat

TENTH DAY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BROTHER **SH RAJESH KUMAR (TONY)** S/O LATE SH KULDEEP RAJ AND SMT SHAKUNTALA DEVI. ORIGINAL RESIDENT OF MOHALLA PAHARIAN JAMMU AT PRESENT R K VIHAR NEAR GANESH MANDIR WARD NO. 67, LOWER MUTHI. THE 10TH DAY KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED AT HIS RESIDENCE MUTHI AT 10 AM ON 23RD OF MAY 2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN

SEEMA DEVI- WIFE

BROTHERS AND BHABIS :

SH RAKESH KUMAR AND SMT SANTOSH BHAGAT

SH RAMESH KUMAR AND SMT DEEPIKA

SH SURINDER KUMAR AND SMT TRIPTA

SH ANIT KUMAR AND SMT NISHA

SONS AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

SH AJAY KUMAR AND SMT SANJANA

SH ABAY KUMAR

GRAND CHILDREN :- VIVAAN, VAMIKA

MOBILE :- 9419190979, 9419142103, 7780870654



SH RAJESH KUMAR (TONY)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Shanti Devi** W/o Lt Kapoor Chand R/o Biyawa, Kunzer, Baramulla A/P H No. 26/D. Sec-1, Lane-2, Durga Nagar Jammu on 15-05-2025.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 24-05-2025 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education, Jammu at 8:30 am.

Grief Stricken :

Sh Moti Ram & Smt Desha Devi (Brother & Bhabhi)

Sh Babu Ram S/o Lt Mangat Ram (Brother)

Smt Shakuntala Sharma W/o Lt Bansal Sharma (Sister)

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Sh Virender Kumar & Smt Saroj Najawan

Sh Shammi Kapoor & Smt Dazy Najawan

Sh Ravinder Kumar & Smt Deepa Najawan

Daughter & Son-in-law

Sh Shami Mahajan & Smt Renu Mahajan

Grand Children

Chahal, Daksh, Sarvi, Tushar, Gauransh, Nshu, Ashu

Ph No. 7006113164, 9858050432, 7005225110



Smt Shanti Devi

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Jai Kishori Raina** W/o Late Sh. Gopi Nath Raina originally from Chattabal Srinagar P/A H.No. 90, Lower Laxmi Nagar Sarwal Jammu. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be held on 26th May, 2025 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat (8 AM).

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Lalita Shouri Raina

Daughter-in-law & Sons

Smt. Veena Ji & Saroj Kumar Raina

Smt. Ushaji Raina - Daughter-in-law

Smt. Kanta & Lalit Khazanchi

Grand Children:

Smt. Sheeba Tickoo & Samir Tickoo

Smt. Nidhi Raina & Aditya Raina

Smt. Vaishali & Aditya Kachroo

Smt. Diksha & Shailan Mattoo

Smt. Mimica & Rahul Khazanchi

Grief Stricken:-

Samast Chattabali, Dhar, Parimoo, Saraf Parivar

M.No: 9419184840, 9622155869



SMT. JAI KISHORI RAINA

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Satish Kumar Bhat** S/o Anand Ram Bhat of Rajghat Baramulla A/P Block No. 47, Lane No. 8/9, Flat No. 2, Jagti left for heavenly abode on 16/5/2025.

Tenth Day shall be performed at Muthi Ghat, Jammu on Sunday 25/5/2025 at 9.00 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Gudi Bhat (Wife)

Smt. Sheela Bhat W/o Late Kanya Lal Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Ashok Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Hari Krishan Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Tej Krishen Koul

Smt. & Sh. Arun Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Shrawan Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Mahesh Koul

Mob.: 7839644824, 9419141454, 9082862816, 9419189542, 7006480435



Satish Kumar Bhat

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of **Smt. Kanta Sharma (Pooja)** W/o Sh. Sudesh Kumar Sharma R/o H.No. 4/45, Pandoka Colony, Paloura, Jammu. **Tenth Day** will be performed on Thursday, 22nd May 2025 at Prachin Shiv Mandir, Pandoka Colony, Paloura at 11:00 am.

Kriya will be performed on Saturday, 24th May 2025 at our residence at 12:30 pm.

Uthala will be performed on Saturday, 24th May 2025 at Prachin Shiv Mandir, Pandoka Colony, Paloura from 4 pm to 5 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sh. Sudesh Kumar Sharma (Husband)

Priya & Dhara Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-Law)

Madhuri & Sunil Malhotra (Daughter & Son-in-Law)

Shivam Sharma (Son)



SMT KANTA SHARMA (POOJA)

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about sad demise of **Sh. Dwarika Nath Bhat** S/o Late Sh. Sansar Chand Bhat R/o Dever Tral A/P RZF 43, Gali No-3, Mahavir Enclave, New Delhi -45 on 17th May 2025.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 26th May 2025 (11.00 am) at Upper GANGA, canal road Muradnagar Yusufpur, Manota, Uttarpradesh, Sh. Dwarika Nath Bhat

Grief Stricken

Son and Daughter in law

Smt. Monika Bhat & Sh. Raj Kumar Bhat

Smt. Dazy Bhat & Sh. Manoj Bhat.

Daughter and Son in law

Smt Renu Bhat & Sh. Prince Jee Bhat

2025 at Prachin Shiv Mandir, Pandoka Colony, Paloura

Grand Children : Priyanka , Purvashi , Nisha , Sahil , Esha , Shreya , Nikunj , Namish

Mob : 7053631651 , 7051076445 (Only Whatsapp call)



Sh. Dwarika Nath Bhat

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

ਜੇਹਾ ਚੀਜ਼ੀ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਤੇਹਾ ਕਰਕੁ ਕਰਾਇ॥
ਘਲੇ ਆਦਿ ਨ ਨਕਰਾ ਸਦੇ ਉਠੀ ਜਾਇ॥੧॥

With profound grief, we inform that our beloved **Prof. Sdr. Hernal Singh (Principa)** left for heavenly abode on 17th of May, 2025.

Smt. Akhand Path Sahib is being organised to honour his life and legacy. We seek your presence for strength and comfort during this time of grief.

Smt. Akhand Path Sahib

Residence : Friday, 23 May, 2025, 9:00 am

Bhog : Sunday, 25 May, 2025, 9:30 am

Venue : 312 Preet Nagar, New Poles, Jammu

Kriya & Antim Ardas : Sunday 25 May 2025 from 10:30 am onwards

Venue : Kalgidhar Gurudwara, Rajnagar followed by Guro Ka Langar.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sardar Inderjit Kaur (Wife)

Mrs. Sarveen Hans (Daughter) & Maj Gen HPS Bhat (Son-in-law)

Mrs. Shikha Kaur (Daughter) & Mr. Anil Gupta (Son-in-law)

Col Anil Pratap Singh (Son) & Col Tameer Kaur (Daughter-in-law)

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY THE GRAND CHILDREN

(Eshika, Sarika, Rajans, Samana, Samrith & Sila)

FAMILY :

Mrs. Pushpa Raj Kaur & Prof. Gurcharan Singh

Mrs. Pushpinder Kaur Bhat & Late Mr. Gurpreet Singh Bhat

Mrs. Sarvesh Kaur Bhat & Mr. Salinder Singh Bhat

Mrs. Ravinder Kaur Bhat & Mr. Rajinder Singh Bhat

Late Mr. Harinder Singh (Bhat) & Late Mrs. Navinder Kaur

Mr. Salinder Singh & Mrs. Gurmeet Kaur

Mr. Inderjit Singh & Mrs. Salinder Kaur



Prof. Sdr. Hernal Singh (Principa)

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Vishno Khajuria** W/o Late Sh. N.N. Khajuria R/o 3/163, Shant Nagar, Jampur Jammu.

10th Day will be observed on May 19, 2025 (Monday) at our residence at 11 AM.

Kriya will be performed on May 20 (Tuesday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

Uthala will be performed at Geeta Mandir Bakshi Nagar, Jammu on May 26 (Monday) from 5 PM to 8 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Devar & Devrani

Sh. Yoginder Pal Khajuria & Smt. Veena Khajuria

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Er. Ajay Khajuria & Smt. Kanchan Sharma

Er. Vinay Khajuria & Smt. Preeti Khajuria

Daughters & Son-in-law

LI Smt. Kanchan Sharma & Sh. Subash Manotra

Smt. Suman Sudan & Dr. Faendra Sudan

Nephew & Niece -in-law

Vikas Khajuria & Priyanka

Grand Children: Tania Khajuria & Hitesh Sharma - Grand Daughter & Son-in-law

Abhishek Khajuria, Tushar Khajuria, Tapas Sudan, Sidharth Sharma & Arushi Khajuria

9419200501, 9419113883



Smt. Vishno Khajuria

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Bushan Lal Warikoo** S/o Lt. Dina Nath Warikoo originally from Laloshashgary Bagh Hyderpora Budgam Kashmir presently residing at H.No. 32 Sec. B-1 Gali No. 02 Lane No. 04 Laximi Puram Chinore Bantalab Jammu on 15-05-2025.

Tenth Day will be held at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on 24-05-2025 at 8.00 am.

Grief Stricken

Smt. Nimmi Warikoo- Wife

Smt. Sunita Zutshi & Sh. Vinod Zutshi- Daughter & Son-in-Law

Smt. Jai Kishori Warikoo W/o Lt. Krishen Lal Warikoo - Bhabhi

Smt. Usha Jee & Sh. Praboo Jee Warikoo- Bhabhi & Brother

Samast Raina's, Warikoo's, Aima's, Naqab's, Bhat's

Ph.: 9697275275, 9796446568, 7006168452



Sh. Bushan Lal Warikoo

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely demise of our beloved **Sunamika** W/o Sh. Ashutosh Raina. Originally from K.P. Road, Anantnag, presently residing in Virginia, USA, where she left us on May 15, 2025.

Condolence is being held at H.No. 209/P, Sector-2, EWS Colony, Lower Roop Nagar, near Green Land Palace, Jammu. The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 24.5.2025 (Saturday) at 9 am at Muthi Ghat Near Director School Education department Jammu.

Grief Stricken:

Sh. Ashutosh Raina - Husband

Anaya Raina - Daughter

Parents-in-law

Smt. Kishni Koul and Sh. Ashok Raina

Uncle and Aunt

Sh. T.N. Bhat

Smt. Kundan Raina

Smt. Vijay Fotadar and Mr. M.J. Fotadar

Smt. Asha Raina

Smt. Usha Kiran and Mr. Bal Ji Razdan

Smt. Sunita Raina and Sh. Reshan Raina

Smt. Annapurna Raina and Sh. Bansi Lal Raina

Bhabis and Brothers

Natasha Raina and Dr. Pankaj Raina

Dr. Rinkoo Pandit and Dr. Rakesh Raina

Nisha Munshi and Dr. Sagar Raina

Shipra Raina and Vishal Raina

Riya Raina and Sahil Raina

Aneesha Raina and Rubinder Raina

Premia and Akshay



Sunamika

Aditya Raina (Brother)
Aditi Raina (Sister)
Children: Rodhi, Rishik, Varshika, Vaibhav, Riyaan, Pravya and Myra.
SAMAST RAINA (GUZARWAN) PARIVAR AND ALL NEARS AND DEARS.
9418105533, 9419208682, 9419125050, 9418038155.

TENTH DAY

It is with deep sorrow and profound grief that we announce the passing of **Sh Chaman Lal Turki**, beloved son of the late Smt. Tarawali Turki and the late Sh. Amar Nath Turki. Formerly a resident of Bagh Jogi Lanker, Rainawari, Srinagar, he was currently residing at The Residency Apartment, 202, Plot 62, Sector 2 A, Koperkhairne, Navi Mumbai. His memory will forever remain in our hearts.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on Monday 26th May at 10 a.m. Siva Saayujyam Building Plot 20, Sector 14, Koperkhairne, Navi Mumbai, Behind Krishna Tower.

Grief Stricken

Brother & Sister-in-law

Smt. Shashi Turki W/o Lt. Sh. Nana Jee Turki

Sh. Bushan Lal Turki & Smt. Bita Turki

Son & Daughter -in-law

Sh. Vinod Kumar Turki & Smt. Anjana Turki

Sh. Virender Kumar Turki & Smt. Neetu Turki

Sh. Sunil Turki & Smt. Sarita Turki

Sh. Sachin Turki & Smt. Vandana Turki

Sh. Ritesh Turki & Smt. Annie Turki

Integrated Command & Control Centre operational at Vaishno Devi Shrine

Top News Report

KATRA, May 22: As per the directives of the Hon'ble Chairman (Lt. Governor, JK-UT), the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has operationalised the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra to enhance pilgrim safety and security. This state-of-the-art facility utilizes a network of 700 CCTV cameras equipped with advanced features like gesture, face recognition and PTZ, enabling real-time monitoring for efficient decision-making and swift response mechanism in the Shrine area.

A joint inspection of the ICCC was conducted today by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Sarah Rizvi, DIG Udhampur-Reasi Range alongwith Addl. Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; SSP, Reasi; Commandant, CRPF; Jt. Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; SP, Katra; Tehsildar, SMVDSB and officers from Army, intelligence agencies, local administration and Shrine



Board. The inspection was followed by a comprehensive security review meeting to discuss and strengthen various security measures brought out in the joint security review conducted last year.

Notably, the ICCC will enhance pilgrim safety and security by leveraging advanced technologies like surveillance systems, data analytics and communication networks. A joint team from the Shrine Board and security agencies is now conducting real-time monitoring of key areas including ingress points, movement of pilgrims and service providers and critical infrastructure on the track,

ensuring a seamless and safe experience for prompt emergency response and improved situational awareness.

The security review meeting stressed for action on diverse fronts and crucial decisions were taken for hassle free pilgrimage including the issuance of fresh UHF cards to pithoo and ponywallas and installation of readers to prevent impersonation and ensure their legitimate presence on the track.

The meeting also involved an in-depth discussion on identified threats with a focus on devising effective countermeasures to mitigate potential risks. Furthermore, measures

were discussed to plug unauthorized ingress points in the Shrine area, thereby strengthening the overall security apparatus for a safer environment for pilgrims.

The concerned quarters were directed to undertake the numbering of private shops along the track, facilitating easy identification and reference for security agencies. Emphasis was laid on early activation of the integrated hotline system to enable seamless communication amongst the stakeholders for swift response to emergencies and further strengthening the security infrastructure.

The meeting also explored deployment

of additional security personnel, area domination and the use of drones and other advanced technologies to monitor the Shrine and surrounding areas.

The CEO reiterated the importance of effectively utilizing advanced security equipments crucial for maintaining robust security measures provided to security agencies. These equipments include X-Ray Baggage Scanners, Door Frame Metal Detectors, Hand-Held Metal Detectors and Under Vehicle Search Mirrors / Scanners recently procured and installed by the Board in the Shrine area.

The meeting took a stern view of the begging menace in Katra, deeming it a nuisance to pilgrims and a potential security threat. Directions were given to concerned quarters to strictly curb the practice with a focus on rescuing and rehabilitating minors by sending them to shelter homes, thereby ensuring a safer and more dignified environment for pilgrims visiting from across India and abroad.

Two bovine smuggling attempts foiled, 7 bovines rescued, two accused arrested, vehicles seized

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 22: Continuing its crack-down on bovine smuggling, Udhampur Police successfully foiled two separate smuggling attempts and rescued 07 bovines under the jurisdictions of PP Sudhmahadev and PP Roundmail.

A Bolero Pick-up (registration number JK14K-2371) driven by Mohd Waseem of Latti, was intercepted at Sudhmahadev Nakapoint. Upon inspection, 03 bovines were found tied in a cruel and inhumane manner, being transported without any legal permission. All bovines were rescued and the accused was arrested on the spot. A case has been registered at PS Chenani and further investigation



is ongoing.

A Tata Yodha (registration number JK14K-3200) driven by Haroon Ahmed of Roun-Domail, was intercepted at the Roundmail naka point. During the search, 04 bovines were found being transported ille-

gally without any valid permission.

An FIR No. 183/2025 U/S 223(a) BNS & 11 PCA Act has been registered at PS Udhampur. The accused has been arrested and the vehicle seized. Further investigation is underway in both cases.

ABRSM delegation J&K School Wing calls on Director School Education Jammu; submits charter of demands

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: A delegation from the Akhil Bhartiya Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasabha (ABRSM), J&K School Wing, led by State President Rattan Sharma, met with the Director School Education Jammu to discuss pressing concerns affecting the teaching community. The delegation submitted a detailed charter of demands and held deliberations on long-pending administrative issues.

Among the key issues raised were the pending Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs) for District Cadre posts, the delay in the Annual Transfer Drive (ATD) for teachers, and the regu-



larization of In-Charge Teachers, whose cases have been pending since 2018.

The delegation highlighted that while DPCs for Teachers to Masters were conducted in June 2024, the number of posts filled was minimal compared to the actual vacancies across districts. This shortage has adversely impacted the academic delivery in schools and caused deep frustration among eligible teaching staff.

The ABRSM urged the Director to expedite DPCs for both State Cadre and District Cadre posts, which have been left unattended for years despite repeated orders issued in 2021, 2024, and 2025.

A major concern emphasized was the regularization of over 150 Laboratory Assistants, who were promoted as In-Charge Teachers in 2018. Despite a gap of six years and several representations

made by the ABRSM and individual teachers to both the Commissioner Secretary Education and the Director School Education, no concrete progress has been made.

The delegation stressed that this delay is unjustified and is demoralizing experienced teaching staff.

The delay in the Annual Transfer Drive also came under sharp criticism. The delegation noted that ATD was last effectively conducted in 2023, receiving appreciation from the teaching community, especially those who had been serving in far-flung Zone-III, Zone-IV, and Zone-V areas for over six years. However, the absence of ATD in the

last two years has left many teachers in hardship, both professionally and personally.

The delegation insisted that transfers should be conducted not only in accordance with the Transfer Policy but also on humanitarian grounds, ensuring fair and timely postings.

The Director School Education Jammu gave a patient hearing to the delegation and assured that the DPCs for District Cadre posts would be conducted next month.

On the matter of the Annual Transfer Drive, the Director informed the delegation that the process will commence only after receiving directions from the Education Minister, Sakina Ilttoo.

Executive Team of KSS honours Nari Shaktiveers of BSF jawans at Forward post in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: Fulfilling social and nationalistic duties towards our armed forces by encouraging their morale at the spot of their working, the Executive Body team of one of the apex bodies of Kashmiri Pandit community, Kashmir Sahayak Samiti, Trikuta Nagar (KSS) today along with prominent civil society members of Jammu visited forward border area post under R S Pora Sector of Jammu province for organising an impressive function of thanks giving and honoring BSF jawans for successfully conducting the Operation Sindoor and guarding our borders during recent hostilities forced by our enemies.

While conducting the proceedings, Dr. Daleep Pandita, General Secretary of KSS applauded the invaluable role of Armed forces and paid rich tributes to the martyrs who laid down their lives for the safety of our nation during Operation Sindoor. His words of praise forcefully underlined the importance of such operations and appreciated the dedication of armed forces in guarding our vast and difficult borders particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. Officers were honoured with Mata Ki Chunre by B. N. Sadhu and Pankaj Bhan from KSS, Jawans were garlanded with flowers by R. N. Kakroo and T. P. Singh from Senior Citizens Welfare, J&K and sweets were distributed among all the ranks by Ashwani Jorja and Sanjay Gupta from Sahyog India under thundering applause by the participants.

In this patriotic function Nari Shaktiveers of BSF were also felicitated separately. Commanding Officer of local unit of BSF on behalf of the entire unit reciprocated this goodwill gesture of KSS and thanked senior citizens in his over whelmed speech. The function culminated with patriotic songs as a symbol of victory celebrations followed by light refreshment. The prominent civil society members who attended this function included Nimi Bhat Pandita from Mahak Foundation, Balwinder Singh RTI Activist and many other civilians of repute.

AIIMS Vijaypur takes major step towards public safety with functioning of Poison Information and Management Centre

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: The Poison Information and Management Centre (PIMC) at AIIMS Vijaypur, Jammu, operational since July 2024, has emerged as a crucial lifeline for both the public and healthcare providers in the fight against poisoning incidents.

It plays a vital role in offering timely toxicological support, expert medical advice and poison surveillance, especially in rural and semi-urban areas where the risk of exposure to agricultural chemicals, animal bites, and household toxins is significantly higher. For any poisoning-related emergency or consultation, the public can reach the PIMC 24x7 helpline at 9103967500.

Since its inception, the Centre has responded to over 33 poisoning emergencies, including cases involving pesticide ingestion, accidental chemical exposure,

snakebites and rare toxic substances.

In each case, the prompt guidance provided by PIMC has contributed to effective treatment and, in many instances, has helped save lives. Operating 24/7, the Centre is staffed with trained toxicologists and clinical pharmacologists who provide real-time treatment recommendations to doctors across the region. In addition to clinical support, PIMC actively works to educate the public about poison prevention strategies, first-response actions and awareness on handling toxic substances safely. Beyond emergency assistance, PIMC also supports data collection and toxicovigilance to help public health authorities track trends and develop preventive strategies.

The Centre is committed to strengthening the healthcare system by empowering medical professionals and

ensuring that communities are better prepared to deal with toxic exposures.

Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu, has emphasized that the establishment of the PIMC reflects the institute's unwavering commitment to safeguarding public health. He stated that such dedicated centres are essential for building a responsive and resilient healthcare system capable of addressing modern-day toxicological challenges.

AIIMS Vijaypur urged the public and healthcare workers to report any poisoning incident without delay. Timely reporting and expert intervention can make a life-saving difference. The institution remains steadfast in its mission to protect lives through knowledge, preparedness, and swift medical response. For more information, visit: <https://www.aiimsjammu.edu.in>

Randhawa starts blacktopping work from Raja Mandleek to Bawe Chowk

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: In a significant push towards improving road infrastructure in the Bahu constituency, blacktopping work from Raja Mandleek Chowk to Bawe Chowk was officially started today by Hon'ble MLA Bahu, Ch. Vikram Randhawa. The project, sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs 1.40 crore, is expected to provide a smoother commute and enhance the overall connectivity for residents of the area.

The inauguration witnessed the presence of several key local leaders and community representatives including Mandal President Surjeet Singh Sonu, Ex-Corporator Sharda Devi, Sunny Sangotra, Ajay Sharma, Rakesh Kumar, Sajjan Gupta, Karuna Chettri, Sumit Kumar, Dalbir Singh, Yashpal Chouhan, Daljeet Singh, and other active residents from the locality.

The project is being executed under the supervision of the Public Works Department (PWD) with AEE Bikram Bilouria and JE Kamaljeet present on-site to oversee the technical aspects and ensure quality standards are met.

MLA Ch. Vikram




Randhawa, while addressing the gathering, said, "This project reflects our commitment to providing world-class infrastructure to the people of Bahu constituency. We are determined to ensure that such development initiatives are carried out in a time-bound and transparent manner. Better roads mean better opportunities for the public – in terms of safety, economic activity, and overall quality of life."

Local residents expressed gratitude for the long-pending demand being addressed and praised the proactive efforts of the administration and leadership in taking up developmental works on the ground.

The blacktopping work is expected to be completed within the scheduled timeline, ensuring minimum disruption to commuters while significantly improving the road condition.

NORTHERN RAILWAY					
E-Tender Notice					
Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer/J&K acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the works/services listed below. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tenders. Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.irps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.					
Tender Type	Bidding System	Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Closing Date/Time	Date and Time of opening E-Tender	
Open	Single Packet System	20.05.2025	11.06.2025 at 15:00 Hrs.	11.06.2025 at 15:30 Hrs.	
S. No	Tender Number	Details of Tender			
1	02-2025-DEMU_BDGM	*Repair, upgradation, restoration and Comprehensive AMOC of automatic Coach Washing Plant at Budgam.*			
Advertised Value	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion		
Rs. 80.37,020/-	Rs. 1.60,800/-	45 Days	36 Months		
Funds are available in Allocation Number 20427505					
For more details, please log on to www.irps.gov.in					
1488/2025					
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE					



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TRANS. LINE
MAINTT.DIV-IV, JKPTCL, AMBEDKAR CHOWK, JAMMU
J&K.

Email: xentlmd04@gmail.com Ph/Fax: 0191-2453427

Subject: Extension of e- NIT No- TLMD-IV/ J/03 of 2025-2026 Dated: 06/04/2025

EXTENSION OF DATES

The dates of captioned E-NIT's are hereby extended:

1	Last date for submission of hard copy of e-bid	28.05.2025 (02.00PM)
2	e-Bid submission (end) date & Time	28.05.2025 (02.00PM)
3	Online Commercial and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time	29.05.2025 (02:00 PM)

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

DIP/J-595-P/25
-sd/
Executive Engineer,
Transmission Line Maintt. Div.-IV,
Jammu

EDITORIAL

ANTI-TERRORISM DAY

Anti-Terrorism Day is observed every year on May 21 across India to spread awareness about the dangers of terrorism and to promote unity, peace, and harmony among the people. The day marks the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was assassinated on this day in 1991 in a brutal suicide bombing attack carried out by a terrorist organization. Since then, the Government of India has dedicated this day to reaffirm the nation's commitment to countering terrorism in all its forms.

Rajiv Gandhi, India's youngest Prime Minister, was assassinated on May 21, 1991, in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, during an election campaign. The attack was carried out by a suicide bomber from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan Tamil militant organization. His death was a turning point in India's political history and a harsh reminder of the devastating impact of terrorism.

Following this tragic incident, the Indian government decided to observe May 21 as Anti-Terrorism Day every year, with the aim of raising awareness about terrorism, its root causes, and its consequences. The objective is also to promote a spirit of unity and brotherhood among all citizens, transcending religious, cultural, and social boundaries.

Anti-Terrorism Day is not just a remembrance of Rajiv Gandhi's sacrifice, but a larger effort to educate the public, especially the youth, about the need to uphold democratic values, defend national security, and stand united against the forces that seek to divide and destroy. The observance plays a critical role in instilling a sense of responsibility among citizens to remain alert and proactive against anti-national activities.

On this day, people across the country take the Anti-Terrorism Pledge, which reinforces their commitment to oppose terrorism and violence in all forms. The pledge typically includes promises to uphold and promote peace, social harmony, and human dignity, and to fight the forces of disruption and division.

Terrorism is a global threat that transcends borders and ideologies. In India, it has taken various forms—ranging from cross-border terrorism to homegrown extremism. States like Jammu & Kashmir, parts of the North-East, and regions affected by Naxalite insurgency have seen the worst consequences of terrorist violence.

Terrorism affects every aspect of national life—economic development, social harmony, internal security, and the overall psyche of the population. It breeds fear, mistrust, and hatred, often targeting innocent civilians and creating long-lasting trauma.

India has been at the forefront of combating terrorism through various legislative, diplomatic, and military measures. Organizations like the National Investigation Agency (NIA), Armed Forces, and Intelligence Bureau work tirelessly to counter terrorist threats. India also collaborates with international partners to enhance intelligence sharing and operational coordination.

The youth have a crucial role to play in the fight against terrorism. Educating young minds about the consequences of radicalization, promoting critical thinking, and encouraging interfaith harmony are essential steps to prevent extremist ideologies from taking root.

Educational institutions, media, and community leaders must work together to guide the youth towards constructive engagement, national service, and global citizenship.

Anti-Terrorism Day serves as a solemn reminder of the challenges that terrorism poses and the importance of collective vigilance and resilience. It is a call to action—for governments to strengthen security frameworks, for citizens to stay informed and united, and for communities to reject hatred and violence in all forms.

As India observes Anti-Terrorism Day, it reaffirms its unwavering commitment to peace, democracy, and national integrity. Let this day inspire all citizens to work together for a future free from fear, filled with hope, unity, and progress.

Pak PM Rewards Asif Munir for Pakistan’s Defeat

By: Omkar Dattatray

It is unbelievable ,surprising but very much true that Pakistan Prime minister Shahbaz Shrief has rewarded Pak Army chief Asim Munir for leading Pakistani army against India and rewarded him with the rank of Field Marshal equal to Field Marshal General Ayoub Khan ostensibly for Pak's honour but in fact for the defeat of Pakistan at the hands of India.It has been done to give impression to the international community that Pakistan has triumphed in conflict with her neighbour India.It has also been done to attract the attention of the gullible masses of Pakistan and divert their attention from the pressing problems which Pakistani's face. seems that Pak PM Sharif has awarded Munir with the rank of field marshal so that the Jehadi general is kept in good mood so that the chair of Pak PM is kept in tact as in that country PM remains in the chair at the goodwill of the army and so has the Pak Prime Minister tried to keep the army general pleased for the safety of his own chair otherwise there was no room for the elevating in the rank of general Asim Munir except to keep him in good mood.The promotion of Pakistani army chief Asim Munir to Field Marshal has been packaged as a reward for his so-called military success against India.However,it is more a desperate attempt to mask the failure of his Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos .Munir's elevation cements his control not credibility.In a sense reminiscent of the Obama-awards -Obama

meme ,Asim Munir effectively handed himself the title of Field Marshalon even as Pakistan faced military defeat in the four daymini war with India.Magic it must be ,else ,what really explains it ? Just day's after Pakistan's armed forces ,under the command of army chief General Asim Munir ,were dealt a humiliating blow by India,the war Hafiz -e-Quran has been promoted to a Field Marshal. It is a move as symbolic as it is telling.But then again ,Pakistan is a nation ,built on curious contradictions and such absurdities ,which are no less than a miracle.Based on the fake and fabricated narrative that Pakistan with Munir's "high strategy and courageous leadership defeated India "in its Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos ,the hybrid Rawalpandi -Islamabad regime is busy patting itself on the back and handling out congratulatory notes.Munir's promotion is a testament to theillusion. Pakistan's federal cabinet ,led by prime minister Shahbaz Sharief on Tuesday approved the promotion of Asim Munir from General to Field Marshal "for ensuring the security of the country and defeating the enemy based on high strategy and courageous leadership of the battle of truth ,Operation of Bunyan-um-Marsoos.""General Syed Asim Munir has promoted himself to Field Marshal ,"wrote UK-based social media Imtiaz Mahmood on X.Expertsalso said it was Munir who commanded that the civilian puppet government promote him to the position of Field Marshal ,a position Redundant for decades.The last army chief to be promoted to

the rank of Field Marshal Khan. Until Munir's elevation ,Khan remained Pakistan's only Field Marshal ,having assumed the rank in 1965 during the Indo-Pak war."Promoting Munir to Field Marshal just proves how helpless and useless government and civil administration are.He is doubling down on his narrative of victory and by elevating his position ,tighteninghis Jolly captured the perception that Munir's c could be less about merit and more about consolidating power in a country where military has overshadowed civilian governance.Munir's promotion at this juncture also shows how it could be an attempt to bolster Hafiz -ie-Ouran's image as Pakistan's "great savior",a narrative that was on explicit display during his anti-Hindu and anti-India rhetoric the speech delivered days before the Pahalgam attack on April 22.The reality of pakistan's Operation Bunyan al -Marsoos starkly contrasts Pakistan's claims of victory.India's Operation Sindoor was a precise and devastating response to the Pahalgam attack .Nine terror launch pads ,including key ones in Bhalwalpur and Muridke ,were destroyed by Indian strikes.,killing around 100 terrorists .India's strikes targeted terrorist groups like Jaish -e-Mohammed and LeT ,which Pakistani deep -state has long been harbouring and using against India.Pakistan's retaliatoryoperation,far from achieving strategic success saw its drones and missiles neutralised with India hitting back even harder.Four days of mini -war with India revealed Paki-

stan's defensive posture and inability to match India's military prowess.This clearly exposes Munir's claims of a "historic victory" 'as hallow lies that the hybrid regime is propagating. Yes,Munir's elevation to Field Marshal is as symbolic as it is telling .It reflects the tricky position he is in.The de facto supremo of Pakistan had been facing eroding support , as a result of the country's economic and political pushback from supporters of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan.Munir already operating from a position of disadvantage ,had begun consolidating power by empowering military courts to try civilians, months after his tenure was quietly extended from three to five years.His April 16 speech ,invoking two nation theory and targeting Hindus and India ,was seen as a signal to terror proxies ,escalating tensions that culminated in the Pahalgam attack. Munir's promotion ,far from a reward for success,appears to be the military chief's desperate bid to project strength,where he is cementing his control while Pakistan is grappling with the fallout of his failed strategies. In short ,Munir's magic is losing a war ,then getting a bigger crown.

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

Summer Hair Masks

mental stressors.

What makes them different from instant conditioners is that the ingredients are usually more concentrated, and the mask is left on your hair for longer — anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours.

1---Olive oil and sugar hair mask-----

An olive oil and sugar hair mask combines the moisturizing benefits of olive oil with the exfoliating properties of sugar to treat dry hair and dandruff.

Take two tablespoons of brown sugar and five tablespoons of olive oil. Stir the two a little, but do not dissolve the sugar completely. Work it through your hair gently focusing on the scalp and roots to exfoliate and hydrate and then rinse it out after 15-20 minutes , followed by a shampoo and conditioner.

This mask is a great exfoliant for the scalp and hair shaft. It will clear the product buildup and also treat flakiness.

2---Coconut Honey hair mask----

Mix 1 tablespoon Coconut Oil and 1 tablespoon Honey well in a glass bowl .Now, transfer this mixture to a pot and heat it till it's melted. Apply this mix to your hair from top to bottom, then cover your hair

using a shower cap . Leave it for 30 mins and finally rinse with lukewarm water. Coconut oil is a natural conditioner for every hair type . It strengthens and moisturizes hair when utilized in a hair mask.

3---Honey and Banana hair mask-----

A banana hair mask offers ample hydration to improve shine and manageability if you have damaged or dry hair.

Mix one banana and 2-3 tablespoons of honey in a blender. Apply the paste to your hair and keep it on for 30 minutes. Use cold water to rinse it thoroughly.

This will provide relief if you are suffering from an itchy scalp. . Bananas contain potassium, which strengthens the roots, while honey draws moisture to the scalp, keeping them from becoming dry and irritable.

4---Banana Honey and Olive Oil Hair Masks--- Churn a ripe banana in a mixer and strain the puree using a muslin cloth. Now, add 2 tablespoons honey and 1 tablespoon olive oil to the puree and mix well. Apply the hair mask on the scalp, hair strands, and tip of the hair for 60 minutes.. Bananas help to strengthen hair, moisturize dry scalp, and cure symptoms of dandruff. Honey helps in

moisturizing hair and improves its texture .Olive oil softens hair, improves its volume, and strengthens them.

5--Avocado and banana hair masks ----

For dry and damaged hair, use this deep-conditioning homemade formula that contains nutrient-rich ingredients, adding the needed protein that would make your hair strands look shiny and healthy. Simply take two tablespoons of banana and two tablespoons of avocado. Mash rather blend both of them together along with other ingredients like honey, yogurt, or olive oil until you get a smooth and whipped texture.

Apply it from root to end thoroughly. Let it sit for 15 minutes and then rinse it out in warm water to open up the hair cuticles..

(The author is international fame beauty expert and is called herbal queen of India)

GDC Mahanpur celebrates ‘International Biological Diversity Day’



Top News Report

MAHANPUR, May 22: Department of Environmental Sciences at GDC Mahanpur in collaboration with Eco Club and Seminar/Webinar Committee of the College celebrated ‘International Biological Diversity Day’ on the theme “Harmony with nature and sustainable Development” on Thursday.

It was organized by Dr. Nishu (HOD Department of EVS) and Dr. Mohinder Nath sharma Convener of the Eco Club and Nisha Bhagat, Convener of Seminar Committee /Webinar Committee under the supervision and able guidance of Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

The chief guest of

today’s event Principal, Dr. Sangeeta Sudan delivered an inspiring address, highlighting the urgent need to protect Earth’s rich biological diversity.

As a part of the event Dr. Raj Kumar Rampal, eminent expert speaker (Former Dean Life sciences and Former Head of the Environmental Science Department, University of Jammu delivered an insightful lecture on Harmony with nature and sustainable development.

In his intellectual presentation, he emphasized the critical importance of the Biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. His comprehensive analysis of Biodiversity conservation strategies and their alignment

with sustainable development goals has significantly enhanced student’s understanding of critical subject.

The event featured expert talks and interactive sessions on conservation efforts. Souvenirs were presented to the chief guest and expert speakers as a token of gratitude.

More than 50 students were participated in this event. The celebration was concluded with vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Nishu (HOD, Environmental Sciences). The faculty members present on the occasion were Dr. Sapna Devi, Dr. Hilal Ahmed Bhat, Dr. Anju Bala, Prof. Namita Trogia, Dr. Suhail Dar, Prof. Nirmal and Sunny.

GDC Darhal marks International Biodiversity Day



Top News Report

DARHAL, May 22: Government Degree College (GDC) Darhal celebrated International Biodiversity Day with great enthusiasm and academic fervor, reaffirming its commitment to environmental awareness and sustainability.

The day-long event was organized to highlight the crucial role biodiversity plays in maintaining ecological balance and supporting life on Earth.

The programme was jointly coordinated by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and the National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of the college under the esteemed patronage of Prof. Zamir Ahmed Mirza, Principal, GDC Darhal.

The celebration commenced with a thought-provoking lecture delivered by environmentalist Dr. Muzamil Shah, who served as the key-note speaker. Addressing faculty, students, and community members, Dr. Shah provided a detailed overview of this year’s Biodiversity Day theme and underscored the critical need to preserve Earth’s diverse ecosystems.

He encouraged students to act as ambassadors of change, stat-

ing that youth play a vital role in shaping a sustainable future. His lecture also touched upon the importance of integrating environmental consciousness into academic life, urging institutions to include biodiversity and sustainability in their curriculum.

Biodiversity is not just about the variety of species — it is the very foundation of human existence. Our food, water, medicine, climate resilience, and overall well-being depend on it,” said Dr. Shah. He discussed how urbanization, deforestation, pollution, and climate change are endangering natural habitats and emphasized the urgent need for collective action at both local and global levels.

A large number of students and staff members participated in the seminar. Prominent among others were Dr. Ghulam Abass, Dr. Mohd Saleem Wani, Dr. Taseem Ahmed, Dr. Mohd Akhlaq, Dr. Anzaar Ahmed, Dr. Atta Ul-Rehman, Dr. Sugar, Dr. Mukhtar, Dr. Shakeel Kataria, Dr. Mohd Shakkor, Dr. Sumina, and several others.

Earlier, Dr. Mohd Akhlaq Malik, NSS Programme officer of the

College, introduced the audience about the program and conducted the proceedings of the program.

Dr. Atta UIRehman Malik, HOD of Political Science, presented the formal vote of thanks.

Govt Polytechnic College Jammu conducts admission awareness Campaign in Zone Bhalwal



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: Government Polytechnic College Jammu conducted an admission awareness programme in the schools of Bhalwal Zone inviting eligible youth for 3 - year Diploma in Engineering/ Non - Engineering Programmes.

On the orders of the Principal Er Talet Mahmood, a group of faculty consisting of Raj Shekhar (HoD Automobile), Mehmood Ahmed,

GHSS Razloo Kund celebrates Annual Day

Top News Report

KULGAM, May 22: The Government Higher Secondary School Razloo Kund on Thursday observed the enchanting celebration of “Annual Day Function-2025” at school premises here.

MLA Devser Peerzada Feroz ahmad Shah graced the occasion as the Chief guest while Mohd Shabir, Chief Education Officer (CEO) kulgam was the guest of honour.

Among the other dignitaries present were District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Kulgam Mushtaq Ahmad Pampori, Principle Govt Higher Secondary School Razloo Kund Ghulam Murtaza Shah, BDO kund Arif Ayaz Dar, ZEO Devser Gh Nabi Dar and other officers of Junior Engineer Jal Shakti, Junior Engineer PDD. Among others, the function was also attended by Local citizens along with teaching and non-

teaching faculty members and students were present on the occasion.

Principal of the Higher Secondary school extended a warm welcome to the participants and other dignitaries.

Meanwhile Principle presented the Annual Report of the school. He read out the academic and co-curricular achievements of the school. This was followed by mesmerizing cultural events, including Kashmiri Rouf, gazals, and documentary of a variety of events that transpired during the current academic session which mesmerized the participants.

On the occasion, MLA Devser appreciated the efforts put in by the incumbent school principal, teaching and non-teaching faculty, students, and other stakeholders in taking this institution to new and unprecedented horizons. They laid emphasis on the sanctity of educational institutions

and role of teachers in moulding & shaping the character of students.

Furthermore, the best-performing students during the current year were given certificates of appreciation, medals, mementos and trophies by the hands of MLA Devser Peerzada Feroz ahmad Shah for their outstanding performance in curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

At the end of the ceremony, vote of thanks were given by the Principle to the participants.



Kaith Biradari commends orphan girl Neha for being admitted to B. Sc Nursing College in Kolkata

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: The Kaith Biradari on Thursday commended an orphan girl Neha Kumari for being admitted to a B.Sc. Nursing college in Kolkata.

Biradari Member R.L.Kaith said to her, “This is a fantastic achievement and a great step towards a rewarding career in healthcare. Wishing



you all the best for your studies, your future as a nurse, and your success in your chosen profession.”

Neha Kumari told the Biradari members that she was very small when her father died. Her grandparents and her Dad’s elder brother Jagdish Raj brought her up. They had provided food, clothes and shelter for her and also assisted her in getting admission to B.Sc College in Kolkata. She said she would remember this compassionate act of theirs ever after.

Dy Director Elementary Education Kangra conducts surprise inspection of Gahlian School

Top News Report

KANGRA, May 22:, Deputy Director Elementary Education Kangra located in Dharamshala Ajay Sambyal did a surprise inspection of Government Excellent Senior Secondary School Gahlian.

Deputy District Education Officer Ashwini Bhatt, Assistant Director Sanjay Thakur also reached with him. Deputy Director Ajay Sambyal addressed the children and told them to never give up in life and also congratulated all the students, teachers and Principal Gulshan



Awasthi for the good results of 10th and 12th. On this occasion, Hindi teacher of the school Rajiv Dogra presented

his first book ‘Ankahe Jazbaat’ to Deputy Director Elementary Education Kangra Ajay Sambyal.

Honda expands production capacity by adding new production line at fourth motorcycle plant in India

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India Pvt. Ltd. (HMSI), Honda’s motorcycle production and sales subsidiary in India will build a fourth production line at its fourth plant (Vithalapur, Ahmedabad district, Gujarat). Planned to begin operation in 2027, the new line will have an annual production capacity of 650,000 units, bringing the total capacity of the fourth plant to 2.61 million units, making it Honda’s largest assembly plant for Honda motorcycles in the world.

HMSI currently has four production plants in India with a total annual production capacity of 6.14 million units. In addition, the cumulative production volume reached 70 million units in April of this year, after 25 years since start of production in 2001.

The fourth plant start-

ed operation in February 2016 with an annual production capacity of 600,000 units, and in June of the same year, the company expanded its capacity to 1.2 million units with the start of its second line.

Furthermore, the third line started operation in January 2024, taking annual production capacity to 1.96 million units.

Honda will be investing approximately 9.2 billion rupees (1 rupee = 1.75 yen, and approximately 16.1 billion Japanese yen) to construct a fourth line capable of producing 650,000 units of 125cc class motorcycles per year on the premises of the fourth plant.

This will bring 1800 new jobs and increase the total production capacity of the fourth plant to 2.61 million units, making it one of Honda’s largest assembly plants for motorcycles in the world. In addition to the fourth

production line at the fourth plant, HMSI’s total annual production capacity is expected to increase from the current 6.14 million units to approximately 7 million units in 2027 through further expansion of production capacity planned for other plants in India.

Tsutsumu Otani, President & CEO, HMSI said, “Honda has long been investing and expanding its production capacity in India, the world’s largest motorcycle market, to bring joy to its customers. 25 years on, with much support, HMSI has reached the milestone of 70 million units of cumulative production. With the additional investment in our fourth plant, Honda will continue to deliver attractive products and services to its customers around the world who have higher expectations and trust in the company, and further solidify its Indian motorcycle business.”

Salman Khan to return with Bigg Boss 19 in July: Report

Salman Khan-hosted 'Bigg Boss 19' is reportedly set to return in July. As per reports, the actor will shoot for the promo at the end of June.

Salman Khan is set to return with his popular reality show, 'Bigg Boss 19'. As per reports, the show is returning in July and the actor will shoot for the promo at the end of June. This news comes amid reports of an alleged rift between Colors TV and the show's production house, Banijay Asia.

As per agency, 'Bigg Boss Season 19' is happening and will now be produced by Endemol Shine India. The upcoming season is expected to deliver all the drama, challenges, and entertainment fans have come to love.

Adding to the excitement, Salman Khan is reportedly believed to return as host. The



59-year-old actor is set to shoot the first promo for 'Bigg Boss 19' by the end of June, with the new season likely to premiere in late July.

Other than this, 'Bigg Boss' has also ventured into the digital space, with three OTT seasons released so far. The first season was hosted by filmmaker

er Karan Johar. While there was initial skepticism from fans, he eventually won them over with his approach to managing the contestants. Divya Agarwal took home the trophy, while Nishant Bhatt ended up as the runner-up in the debut OTT edition.

Previously, according to a source, 'Bigg Boss' and 'Khatron Ke Khiladi' may find a new home on Sony due to creative differences between the channel and the production house. The talks are already on. Earlier, agency had exclusively reported that the future of 'Khatron Ke Khiladi' was uncertain after the producer of the reality show, Banijay Asia, pulled out at the last minute.

We have given our best to 'War 2', not easy to make films of this scale: Hrithik Roshan

Superstar Hrithik Roshan, who is reprising his role as RAW agent Major Kabir Dhaliwal in Yash Raj Films's 'War 2', says the movie will be an "action spectacle" for the audiences.

Roshan is happy with the response to the teaser of the film, which was unveiled on Tuesday and features Jr NTR as the main antagonist and Kiara Advani opposite him.

"War is a really special franchise for me. So, seeing the appreciation that War 2's teaser is getting, seeing how people are pouring their love for NTR, Kiara,

Ayan, for me, and the entire team makes me really happy. It is not easy making films of this scale, and we have given our best to make War 2 an action spectacle for people," the actor said in a statement.

"I have always been a huge fan of the action genre since I was a kid, and I really have fun whenever I do films like War 2. So, for me, I had the best time reliving Kabir—a character that has given me love from all quarters for years now."

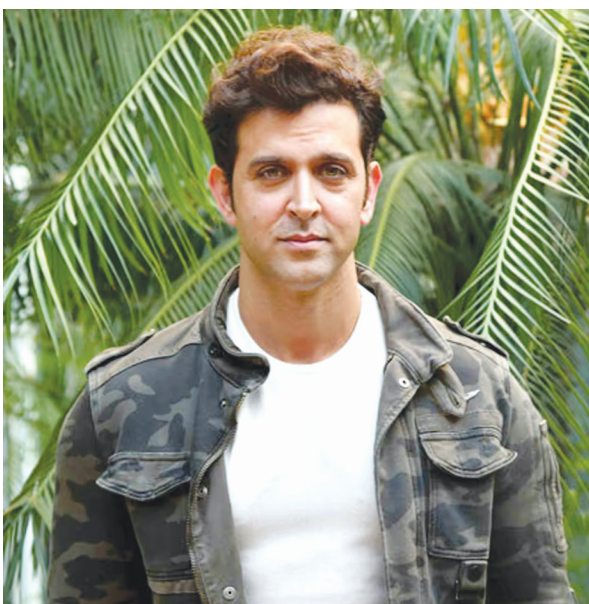
The movie, which is the sixth title in YRF's ambitious spy universe,

is scheduled for release in Hindi, Tamil & Telugu on August 14, 2025.

"I'm delighted and humbled by the love and feedback that War 2 is getting right from the start of our campaign. I can't wait to see the reaction of people when they see War 2 on the big screen."

Produced by Aditya Chopra and directed by Ayan Mukerji, "War 2" promises to deliver six major action sequences shot across five countries over 150 days.

The YRF Spy Universe also includes Salman Khan's "Tiger" movies and Shah Rukh Khan's



"Pathaan". The next instalment in the fran-

chise is "Alpha", starring Alia Bhatt and Sharvati.

Kamal Haasan says on 8-week gap between theatrical and OTT release of Thug Life is pragmatic

Superstar Kamal Haasan has decided to extend the gap between the theatrical and OTT release of his upcoming film Thug Life, saying it was a pragmatic thing to do.

The gap between the theatrical run and OTT release of movies has been decreasing over the years with many opting for a four-week window over the usual eight-week delay between a film's theatrical release and its arrival on streamers.

At a promotional event for the Mani Ratnam-directed movie here, Haasan expressed

hope that his initiative would inspire others in the industry to adopt a similar approach.

"It is not even an experiment, it's a pragmatic thing to do. I'm glad that the OTT (Netflix) agreed. It's a plan that maybe others could follow."

"It will make the industry healthy and we are glad that we were the first to be there to avail of that opportunity," Haasan told reporters here.

The movie reunites the Tamil superstar with Ratnam after 35 years. The duo last collaborated on the 1987 critical



hit "Nayakan".

In Thug Life, Haasan essays the role of Rangaraya Sakthivel Nayakar, a man caught between crime and justice.

The event was also attended by actors Silambarasan TR, Trisha, Abhirami, Ashok Selvan and music composer A R Rahman.

Aishwarya Lekshmi, Joju George, Nassar, Mahesh Manjrekar, Ali Fazal, Rohit Saraf, Rajshri Deshpande and Sanya Malhotra round out the cast of Thug Life.

The film is scheduled to hit theatres around the globe on June 5.

Aishwarya Rai's Operation Sindoor message for the world at the Cannes



Bollywood star Aishwarya Rai Bachchan opted for a traditional look for her 2025 Cannes Film Festival debut, gracing the red carpet in an elegant ivory handloom Banarasi saree.

The actor, who has been a regular at Cannes for the past 20 years, made an appearance at the film gala ahead of the premiere of filmmaker Oliver Hermanus' historical drama

"The History of Sound", starring Paul Mescal and Josh O'Connor.

Aishwarya looked resplendent in the embroidered ivory saree with a long 'pallu' and a flowing lace train, which was designed by ace couturier Manish Malhotra.

She completed her look with a layered ruby necklace, also by Malhotra's label, and vermilion in her hair parting.

"The OG Indian Queen of Cannes @aishwaryarabachchan_arb embraces Classic White Handloom in a handwoven kadwa ivory Handloom Banarasi saree with a handwoven tissue drape and imperial heirloom of rubies from @manish-malhotrajewellery," the designer wrote on his Instagram page.

Videos circulating on social media showed the 51-year-old actor smiling warmly and waving as she greeted fans on the red carpet.

The 78th Cannes Film Festival is witnessing a significant Indian presence this year with filmmaker Payal Kapadia being part of the main competition jury.

Bollywood icons Sharmila Tagore and Simi Garewal attended the world premiere of the newly restored version of Satyajit Ray's 1970 classic "Aranyer Din Ratri" On Wednesday, director Neeraj Ghaywan presented his film "Homebound" at the film gala under the Un Certain Regard segment. He was accompanied by actors Janhvi Kapoor, Ishaan Khatter and Vishal Jethwa as well as producer Karan Johar.

Miley Cyrus recalls 'traumatic' health scare that nearly made her quit music

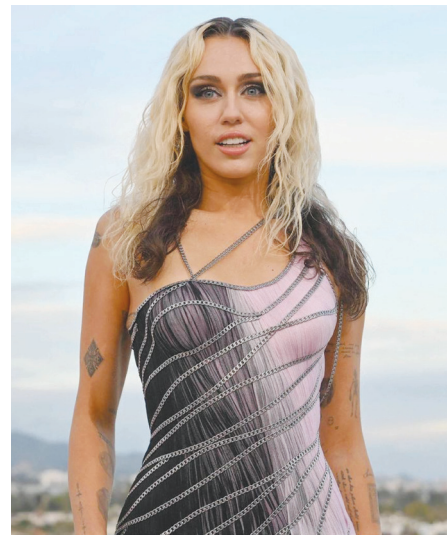
Did you know singer and actor Miley Cyrus nearly quit music in 2023? The 32-year-old opened up about a painful ovarian cyst rupture that occurred mid-performance on New Year's Eve, during an interview on The Zane Lowe Show. She spoke about the excruciating experience that almost led her to step away from the music scene entirely.

Miley Cyrus, who is currently working on her upcoming studio album 'Something Beautiful', featuring Britany Howard and Naomi Campbell, recalled a traumatic health scare that struck just as she was preparing to ring in the New Year alongside Dolly Parton, Paris Hilton, and Sia.

"I had a pretty traumatic experience on a show that I was doing with Lorne [Michaels]," Miley said, reflecting on the sudden and painful moment. The incident occurred as she stepped in to co-host NBC's 'Miley's New Year's Eve' Party with Dolly Parton. "I had a medical emergency. I had an ovarian cyst rupture," she added.

Miley wasn't sure what was happening to her at the time, but she knew it was something serious. Despite the intense pain, she chose not to cancel the show and went on to complete it. "It was pretty traumatic because it was extremely excruciating, and I did the show anyway," she said. "But it was really, really hard on me."

Miley was so shaken by the pain that she briefly considered quitting music.



Recalling a conversation with Lorne Michaels, she shared, "I had dinner with Lorne, and he said something that has really stuck with me. He goes, 'Six months—everybody has six months to feel sorry for themselves, and then we start to rebuild. You have no idea how many artists have sat in this chair and told me they were quitting music. Everyone does this.'"

She concluded, "What I've always realised is that it will quit me before I ever quit it. That's just not in the cards for me."

Cyrus last released the album 'Endless Summer Vacation' (2023), which was preceded by the hit single 'Flowers,' which helped the artiste bag her first ever Grammy.

Janhvi Kapoor's Cannes debut look reminds fans of her mother Sridevi



Janhvi Kapoor walked the iconic red carpet of the prestigious Cannes Film Festival with the team of her film, Homebound. She left no stone unturned to steal attention with her outfit.

Dressed in ace designer Tarun Tahiliani's custom outfit, Janhvi looked like a vision in pink. She wore a long pleated skirt and corset crafted in tissue, specially woven in Benaras. Rhea Kapoor styled the ensemble. She elevated the

attire with an integrated duppata-like drape that was attached to her sleek bun.

The surface of the outfit was "brought to life with a hand-crushed technique that lent depth and texture, while a signature TT drape added a touch of sculptural fluidity." Janhvi exuded princess vibes. Many fans even said that her look reminded them of her mother and late actress Sridevi.

Vidya Balan talks about post pandemic situation in film industry

Vidya Balan, who is known for acing women-centric films, feels that post-pandemic, the studios are feeling the pinch financially and hence are going back to the safer bet of choosing male-led films.

In a recent interview with agency, Vidya opened up about her illustrious career and making a niche for herself by choosing films which have strong and layered female characters. However, when the actor was starting her acting journey, she didn't have the luxury of choice as such characters were simply not being written.

"There was no question of strategising (to



play strong characters) because one had never really seen women

take centre stage in mainstream films. The few films that I enjoyed

where women were leading the story were in art house cinema. The only film I can think of which was commercially viable and led by a woman was Chaal-baaz," said Vidya.

Vidya on picking power packed characters But then came her debut film Parineeta in 2005, which was an author-backed role based on a novel by Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay. While discussing her filmography, the actor talked about films like Paa, where she played a single mother to a 12-year-old son with a rare genetic condition called Progeria; getting into the skin of the titular role in Shakuntala Devi—

also known as a human computer. And the ambitious housewife who becomes a radio jockey for a late-night relationship advice show in Tumhari Sulu.

However, the actor feels that after COVID-19, audiences stopped going to theaters, making it difficult for studios to invest in women-centric films.

"Post-pandemic, people in India have lost the habit of going to the theatres to watch films. The studios feel it would be safer to bet on the historically male-led films. In my opinion, this calls for a reinvention in the female-led film space," Vidya said.

Indo-Pak conflict: Sindoor turned into barood, says PM Modi; lauds Armed Forces

Addresses first public rally in Rajasthan after Operation Sindoor

BIKANER (RAJ), May 22 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asserted that the country's enemies have learnt what happens when 'sindoor' becomes 'barood' (gunpowder) and lauded India's armed forces for creating such a trap that Pakistan was forced to go down on its knees.

In his first public address in Rajasthan after Operation Sindoor that was launched in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack, the Prime Minister slammed Pakistan, and said in response to the attack on April 22, "we destroyed nine biggest terror hideouts in 22 minutes".

"The world and the enemies of the country have seen what happens when sindoor turns into 'barood' (gunpowder)," he said.

Before his address, the Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple development projects worth Rs 26,000 crore.

Referring to the April 22 attack, PM Modi stated that while the bullets were fired in Pahalgam, they pierced the hearts of 140 crore Indians, uniting the entire nation in its resolve to fight terrorism.

He also highlighted a significant coincidence — five years ago, following the Balakot air strike, his first public rally was held in Rajasthan. Similarly, after the recent Operation Sindoor, his first rally is once



again in Rajasthan, this time in Bikaner, reaffirming the state's deep-rooted legacy of valor and patriotism.

In an apparent reference to Pakistan, the Prime Minister stated that those who assumed India would remain silent are now in hiding, while those who once boasted about their weapons now lie buried beneath the rubble.

"Those who sought to erase the sacred sindoor have been reduced to dust, and those who shed India's blood have now paid the ultimate price," he said.

Modi stated that Operation Sindoor was not an act of revenge, but a new form of justice. He remarked that it was not merely an expression of outrage, but a powerful demonstration of India's unwavering strength and determination.

He asserted that the nation has adopted a bold approach, striking the enemy directly and decisively. "Crushing terrorism is not just a strategy but a principle. This is India, this is the new India," the Prime Minister said.

Outlining the three key principles established through Operation Sindoor in India's fight against terrorism, PM Modi stated the first principle: any terrorist attack on India would be met with a decisive response, with the timing, method, and terms determined solely by India's Armed Forces.

Second, he asserted that India would not be intimidated by nuclear threats. Third, he emphasised that India would no longer differentiate between terrorist masterminds and the governments that support them, rejecting Pakistan's distinction

between state and non-state actors.

Highlighting ongoing global efforts to expose Pakistan's role in fostering terrorism, the Prime Minister added that seven distinct groups, comprising leaders from various political parties and foreign policy experts, are actively working to present Pakistan's true face to the world.

PM Modi asserted that Pakistan can never win a direct confrontation with India.

"Pakistan has long used terrorism as a weapon against India, resorting to violence and creating an atmosphere of fear. Any terrorist attack on India will result in severe consequences, with Pakistan paying a heavy price—felt in its military and its economy," the Prime Minister said.

India carried out precision strikes under Operation Sindoor on terror infrastructure early on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people.

Following the Indian action, Pakistan attempted to attack Indian military bases on May 8, 9 and 10. The Indian forces launched a fierce counter-attack on several Pakistani military installations.

India and Pakistan reached an understanding on May 10 to end the military confrontation after four days of intense cross-border drone and missile strikes.

Railway Minister Vaishnaw says redevelopment of 500 more stations to be completed by 2027



NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the driving force behind the remarkable transformation of Indian Railways over the past 11 years.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony of 103 Amrit Bharat stations to the nation in Bikaner, Rajasthan, Vaishnaw said, "In the last 11 years our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has done unprecedented reforms in the basic structure of the railway. More than 34,000 km of rail tracks has been made in these 11 years."

The Railway Minister described the laying of new rail tracks during this period as a record-breaking feat, surpassing even what a developed nation like Germany had achieved. "More tracks have been laid down in India in these 11 years than in the entire Germany," he said.

"Under the constant monitoring and visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, India has electrified 47,000 rkm," he claimed, adding that the Vande Bharat, Namo Bharat, and Amrit Bharat series of trains represent the new generation of railway vehicles.

He further said that Indian Railways has also undertaken the conversion of old ICF coaches to LHB coaches in mission mode, resulting in the creation of 42,000 new LHB coaches over the

past 11 years.

The minister highlighted that numerous initiatives have been launched under the Prime Minister's leadership to elevate Indian Railways to world-class standards in both amenities and services, with an emphasis on safety and comfort.

"With all these efforts, the Railways have become a good means for the poor and middle-class families of our country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has initiated huge works for reforms in railway reforms and new construction of stations. For the first time after independence, for the first time a government has paid attention to the railway by a Prime Minister and he is PM Narendra Modi ji," he said.

Vaishnaw also mentioned that PM Modi had laid the foundation stones for 1,062 stations in August 2023 and 2024 simultaneously. "And you all know how Modi ji's way of working, Modi ji also keeps the foundation and Modi ji also does the inauguration. So in this big programme, today 103 stations are being inaugurated simultaneously in the country by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," the minister said during his address.

He informed the public that following the inauguration of these stations, another 100 will be ready for inauguration within the next eight months as part of the Amrit Bharat scheme.

"The people are watching that work is going on with tremendous speed at the station and all over the country. By 2027, the work of 500 stations will be completed with new construction," the Railway Minister announced.

He praised the Prime Minister for providing such inspirational leadership to Indian Railways, which, according to him, is continuously setting new records in development.

Rahul Gandhi discusses inclusion, education policy with SC, ST, OBC students at DU

NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday visited Delhi University's North Campus to interact with students from Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and Other Backward Class (OBC) communities, focusing on issues of representation, equality and academic justice.

The interactive session held at the office of Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) president witnessed enthusiastic participation of students from multiple colleges and departments.

Engaging with the students, the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha highlighted the importance of democratic participation and inclusive academic spaces, a DUSU statement said.

The students raised concerns over caste-based discrimination, lack of representation of marginalised communities in faculty positions and top administrative posts, and their "exclusion" from hiring in top multinational corporations.

They also voiced grievances about the disproportionate academic weightage of skill enhancement courses (SECs) and value addition courses (VACs) under the National Education Policy (NEP), which they alleged gave excessive power to the faculty members.

Another key issue highlighted was the marking of ER (essential repeat), NA (not available), and absent statuses,



which the students claimed were being used unfairly, affecting thousands.

Rahul Gandhi urged the students to draw inspiration from B R Ambedkar's message to "educate, agitate, and organise", as he encouraged them to play an active role in creating a just and inclusive educational ecosystem.

"The role of students goes beyond classrooms — they must stand up for the rights of the oppressed and under-represented," the Congress leader said.

DUSU president Ronak Khatri thanked Rahul Gandhi for the interaction, saying his visit "energised the student community and reaffirmed the importance of youth voices in shaping India's democratic and educational future", the statement said.

Last week, Rahul Gandhi met students at an Ambedkar hostel in Bihar's Darbhanga district as part of his 'Shiksha Nyay Samvad'. The event, held without official permission, led to the registration of two FIRs against Rahul Gandhi and more than 100 Congress workers.

Why this thundering silence: Cong slams govt after Trump reiterates India-Pak ceasefire claims

NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): With US President Donald Trump repeating his claim that he settled the recent conflict between India and Pakistan through the promise of trade, the Congress on Thursday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not rejected such statements even once and asked why this "thundering silence".

Congress' general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said that for the eighth time in 11 days, President Trump has claimed full credit for the ceasefire between India and Pakistan, praised the PMs of India and Pakistan equally and put them on par in every way, and also reiterated that trade with the US was the instrument he used to get the two countries to declare a ceasefire.

"Yet our PM — Donald bhai's great buddy —



is completely silent on what the US President is repeatedly saying. The External Affairs Minister also continues to maintain complete quiet on what his pal, the US Secretary of State, has said in support of the US President's claims and about the 'neutral site' for talks between India and Pakistan," Ramesh said in a post on X.

Why this thundering silence, he asked.

Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said this is the eighth time President Trump has made this claim that he got Operation Sindoor

and Pakistan.

"And I said, 'What are you guys doing?'" Trump said.

"Somebody had to be the last one to shoot. But the shooting was getting worse and worse, bigger and bigger, deeper and deeper into the countries. And we spoke to them, and I think we, you know, I hate to say we got it settled, and then two days later, something happens, and they say it's Trump's fault."

"But... Pakistan has got some excellent people and some really good, great leader. And India is my friend, Modi," Trump said to which the South African president replied, "Modi, mutual friend".

"He's a Great guy and I called them both. It's something good," Trump said.

The US President has been repeatedly claiming that he helped settle

the tensions between India and Pakistan.

India carried out precision strikes under Operation Sindoor on terror infrastructure early on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people.

Following the Indian action, Pakistan attempted to attack Indian military bases on May 8, 9 and 10. The Indian forces launched a fierce counter-attack on several Pakistani military installations.

India and Pakistan reached an understanding on May 10 to end the military confrontation after four days of intense cross-border drone and missile strikes.

On May 10, Trump had announced that India and Pakistan agreed to a full and immediate ceasefire after a long night of talks "mediated" by Washington.

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini carries out Tiranga Yatra to honour Op Sindoor soldiers

LADWA, May 22 (Agencies): Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Thursday carried out the Tiranga Yatra to honour armed forces for Operation Sindoor.

The CM, in his address to the people, stated that the rallies were occasions to pay true homage to the sense of patriotism and sacrifice.

"Tiranga Yatra is being organised in Ladwa today. Tiranga Yatras are being organised across the country...These Yatras are not just events but occasions to pay true homage to the sense of patriotism and sacrifice...This Yatra is not just of the tricolour, this is a Yatra of our pledge, bravery and self-respect. This Yatra is for those brave jawans who, through Operation Sindoor, elevated India's honour, safety and prestige," Mr Saini said, addressing the people.

He further stated that the Operation Sindoor was just not a military operation but a symbol of the great bravery of the Indian soldiers.

"Operation Sindoor is a saga in its own. This was not just a military operation, it was a symbol of the great bravery of Indian soldiers. It was the pledge of keeping 'sindoor'



on the forehead of Maa Bharati safe. I salute this brave soil of Haryana, where lakhs of youth are always eager to serve Bharat Mata. This Tiranga Yatra is a message to those brave soldiers that the entire nation stands with them. This Tiranga Yatra today salutes the bravery of those soldiers who made Operation Sindoor successful," he added.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) launched the 'Tiranga Yatra' on May 13 and this will contin-

ue until May 23. The yatra aims to honour the valour of Indian soldiers and inform citizens about Operation Sindoor's recent success.

Earlier on May 21, CM Saini paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to congratulate him on the success of Operation Sindoor and express his gratitude to the Army, said an official release.

While addressing the media persons at Haryana Bhawan in New Delhi, Mr Saini praised the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, stating that under his guidance, the brave soldiers of the country had successfully destroyed terrorist hideouts on their own land. "Only the Prime Minister could have taken such a historic decision," he remarked.

The Chief Minister condemned the cowardly attack by terrorists in Pahalgam, in which innocent civilians were killed. He said the incident deeply hurt and angered the people of the country, who demanded strong action against terrorism. Responding to the nation's sentiments, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took decisive steps and launched Operation Sindoor, through which our brave soldiers eliminated the terrorists on their own land.

Four girls including three sisters drown in UP's Pratapgarh district



PRATAPGARH, May 22 (Agencies): Four minor girls, including three sisters, drowned in the Bakulahi River on Thursday while collecting clay from the riverbed, police said.

The incident occurred around 11 am at Cheti Singh Ka Purwa village under the Kunda police

station area, about 70 km from the district headquarters, said Additional Superintendent of Police (West) Sanjay Rai.

The deceased girls have been identified as Swati (13), Sandhya (11) and Chandni (6) - all sisters from Jalalpur Dihwa village and their neigh-

bour, Priyanshi (7).

According to police, the girls had gone to collect clay from the river to plaster their kitchen and walls with mud, a traditional practice in rural households.

While digging near the bank of the river, the girls reportedly ventured into deeper water and drowned.

Other children present at the site raised the alarm, following which locals rushed to the spot and pulled the girls out, but by then, all four had died, officials said.

The bodies have been sent for post-mortem examination, police added.

US shooting: Israel PM Benjamin Netanyahu says security heightened at country's missions abroad

TEL AVIV, May 22 (Agencies): Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday announced heightened security at Israeli embassies worldwide following the fatal shooting of two embassy staffers outside an event at the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, DC.

"We are witness to the terrible cost of the antisemitism and wild incitement against the State of Israel. Blood libels against Israel have a cost in blood and must be fought to the utmost," the Prime Minister of Israel said on X.

In a statement, Netanyahu said, "My heart grieves for the families of the young beloveds, whose lives were cut short in a moment by an abhorrent antisemitic murderer. I have directed that security be increased at Israeli missions around the world and for the state's representatives."

He said he has been brief by the Israeli Ambassador to the US Yechiel Leiter and US Attorney General Pam Bondi who "detailed everything that is known at this time about the identity of the murderer and the two embassy employees."

"Prosecutor Bondi expressed deep, heartfelt sorrow. She informed me that President Donald Trump was closely following the incident, and that US authorities would do everything they could to bring the killer to justice. She also asked to convey her condolences to the families of the young couple who were about to get engaged," Netanyahu said.

Meanwhile, the Israel Embassy in Delhi in a statement on X said, "We are deeply saddened by the tragic and brutal murder of our colleagues, Yaron Lischinsky and his fiancée Sarah Milgram, this morning in Wash-



ington DC. Israel stands united against terror. Terror will not deter us from continuing to represent our country with pride."

Agency reported that the suspect named after Wednesday night's deadly shooting is being interviewed by the Washington, DC Metropolitan Police along with the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Forces, according to Deputy FBI Director Dan Bongino.

Bongino said the shooting happened close to the FBI's Washington Field Office, and that FBI police officers responded immediately and rendered aid after the attack.

The suspected shooter, identified as Elias Rodriguez, 30, of Chicago, was apprehended at the scene. Witnesses report he shouted "Free Palestine" during his arrest.

Israeli President Isaac Herzog denounced the shooting as a "despicable antisemitic terror attack," adding, "America and Israel will always stand united in defending our peoples and common values. We won't let terror and hate break us."

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar called the attack "terrible news," and insisted "Israel won't give in to terror," according to

The Press Service of Israel (TPS-IL).

US President Donald Trump has condemned the "horrible DC killings, based obviously on antisemitism"

In a post on the Truth Social social media platform, Trump said, "Hatred and Radicalism have no place in the USA."

Israeli state media TPS reported that two Israeli embassy staff members were fatally shot outside the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, DC on Wednesday night in what Israeli and US officials are calling a targeted act of antisemitic violence.

According to Tal Naim Cohen, a spokesperson for the Israeli embassy, the two staffers were a young couple about to become engaged. They were "shot at close range" while leaving an event at the Capital Jewish Museum.

US Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem in a post on X said, "We are actively investigating and working to get more information to share," adding, "We will bring this depraved perpetrator to justice."

Washington, DC, Police Chief Pamela Smith in a press conference late Wednesday said, "Despite all life-saving efforts,

both victims succumbed to their injuries," Smith said. "The attack occurred as the victims were exiting the museum. A suspect had been seen pacing outside shortly beforehand."

Smith identified the shooter as 30-year-old Elias Rodriguez of Chicago, Illinois. "The suspect opened fire on a group of four, killing a man and a woman. While in custody, he chanted, 'Free, free Palestine.'" After the shooting, the gunman entered the museum and was detained by event security, Smith said. Once handcuffed, he told security where he had discarded the weapon, which was recovered by authorities.

Israeli Ambassador to the US Yechiel Leiter was cited by The Press Service of Israel as saying that the male victim had recently purchased an engagement ring and was planning to propose next week in Jerusalem. "The couple that was gunned down tonight in the name of 'Free Palestine' was a couple about to be engaged," Leiter said.

Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon also denounced the attack as "a depraved act of antisemitic terrorism." "Harming diplomats and the Jewish community is crossing a red line," Danon said. "We are confident US authorities will act decisively."

The fatal shooting near the Capital Jewish Museum on Wednesday occurred on the same night as the American Jewish Committee was holding an event for young professionals, agency reported.

The man accused of killing the young couple "pretended to be a witness" and waited for police to arrive for over 10 minutes before claiming he "did it for Gaza," eyewitness Sara Marinuzzi told agency.

Record floodwaters in eastern Australia leave 2 dead and 2 missing



MELBOURNE, May 22 (Agencies): Record floodwaters on Australia's east coast left two people dead and two others missing, officials said Thursday, as more heavy rain was forecast in the area.

More than 500 people were rescued in the flooding emergency in New South Wales state north of Sydney. The area has been hit with heavy rain since Tuesday. The flooding exceeds local records set in 1921 and 1929.

News South Wales Premier Christopher Minns said some areas were forecast to receive as much as 30 centimeters (1 foot) of rain in the next 24 hours. He said 50,000 people were warned to prepare to evacuate or be isolated by floodwaters, telling reporters: "We are bracing for more bad news."

The body of a 63-year-old man was recovered from a flooded house in Moto in New South Wales on Wednesday afternoon, Fire and Rescue Commissioner Jeremy Fewtrell said.

A coroner will determine whether a pre-existing medical condition played a part in his death, he added.

The body of a man, aged in his 30s, was recovered from floodwaters early Thursday, a police statement said. He had disappeared while attempting to drive through a flooded intersection on Wednesday night.

A 60-year-old woman remained missing after her SUV became trapped in floodwaters on Wednesday night. The SUV was found Thursday, police said.

A 49-year-old man also failed to return home after walking near a flooded road on Wednesday night, police said.

Minns said more than 500 people had been rescued from floodwater in just over two days, many after trying to drive across flooded roads.

Emergency Services Minister Jihad Dib said 330 flood rescues were conducted in the past 24 hours. Helicopters have

been used to rescue people stranded by floodwaters from rooftops and verandahs.

"We've seen more rain and more flooding in the mid-to-north coast area than we've ever seen before," Dib said.

The flooding has hit communities including Taree, Kempsey, Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour and Bellingen in New South Wales.

Taree received a month's rain in 24 hours, an official said.

"Up around the Taree area, we've seen communities that have never flooded in recorded history now flooding," Fewtrell said.

The region has opened 14 evacuation centers as of Thursday.

Government meteorologist Angus Hines said a low-pressure weather system had stalled over the flooded region since Monday, bringing 60 centimeters (2 feet) of rain to some parts.

"If it had only been one day and then it had gone, we would have seen some minor or moderate flooding but it wouldn't have been too bad. But four days in a row of this amount of rainfall and we see this significant and extensive, widespread and major flood event happening in front of our eyes," Hines said.

The rain was losing intensity on Thursday, Hines said.

Israel says missile fired by Yemen's Houthis downed after sirens spark panic

TEL AVIV, May 22 (Agencies): The Israeli military said it intercepted a missile launched from Yemen targeting Israel early on Thursday, in the latest attack bearing the hallmarks of Yemen's Houthi militants.

The missile triggered sirens in several areas of central Israel, the military said in a statement.

Undeterred by Israeli strikes on Yemen, the Houthis have continued to fire missiles at Israel in what they describe as an act of solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza, although they have

agreed to halt attacks on US ships. The group has not claimed responsibility for Thursday's launch.

Israel has carried out retaliatory strikes, including one on May 6 that damaged Yemen's main airport in Sanaa, and another last week targeting the Red Sea ports of Hodeidah and Salif. Since the start of the Israel-Hamas war in October 2023, the Houthis have launched dozens of missile and drone attacks targeting Israel, most of which have been intercepted or have fallen short.

Philippines says China Coast Guard fired water cannon, 'sideswiped' government vessel

MANILA, May 22 (Agencies): The Philippines fisheries bureau accused the China Coast Guard on Thursday of firing water cannon and sideswiping a Filipino government vessel while it collected sand for a research project.

China and the Philippines have engaged in months of confrontations in the contested South China Sea, which Beijing claims almost entirely, despite an international ruling that the assertion has no legal basis.

Wednesday's encounter happened near a group of small sandbanks in the Spratly Islands where two Filipino ships were collecting sand samples "as part of a marine scientific research initiative", the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources said in a statement.

"At approximately 0913H, CCG vessel 21559 water cannoned and sideswiped



the BRP Datu Sanday (MMOV 3002) twice ... putting at risk lives of its civilian personnel."

It was the first time water cannon were used against Philippine vessels near the disputed Sandy Cay reef, the bureau added.

The "aggressive interference, dangerous maneuvers, and illegal acts" damaged the Philippine ship's port bow and smokestack, according to the bureau's statement.

The Philippines scientific team was still able "to complete its operations in Pag-Asa Cays 1, 2 and 3", the statement said, using the Philippine term for the

Sandy Cays.

China's foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said she was not aware of the incident. "What I can tell you is that the Chinese Coast Guard always enforces the law in accordance with laws and regulations," she said.

Last month, the Philippines slammed as "irresponsible" a Chinese state media report claiming that Sandy Cay 2 was put under China's control.

Chinese state broadcaster CCTV said that the country's coast guard had "implemented maritime control" over Tiexian Reef in mid-April.

Japanese strategic expert Sindoor, calls out Pakistan for supporting terrorism

TOKYO, May 22 (Agencies): Japanese strategic expert Satoru Nagao, a Fellow (Non-resident) at the Hudson Institute, has praised India's Operation Sindoor, calling it a "responsible and proper" response against state-sponsored terrorism. He called out Pakistan for supporting terrorism and called it a "suicide" as no one can control terrorists.

The expert whose primary research area is the US-Japan-India security cooperation in an interview with agency, termed the April 22 terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam as "terrible". As many as 26 people were killed and several others were injured in that terrorist attack.

The Japanese expert emphasised that India has suffered from terrorism and Pakistan supports this terrorism. He also noted that support Islamabad's support for terrorism has a long history.

On the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, he said, "That was terrible, of course, because even the Japanese got a chance to see what happened. In one picture, we see a picture in which (a woman is) just side of her husband...ofcourse we were moved emotionally. But at the same time, we want to know more because India's voice is always good."

"But at the same time, Japanese should know more about this because for a long time, India suffered this terrorism and this is terrorism supported by Pakistan, that is ... crime... So we need to tell Pakistan, they must crackdown on such kind of terrorists, not support terrorists. That is a very important message. And in this case, one by one, step by step, the Japanese has understand why India needs to deal with this terrorism and what is the Pakistan supported terrorism. So, that's why this is a very important issue."

"But at the same time, we need Indian voice more. I personally, of course, support India strongly, of course. ...Pakistan support



of terrorism has a long history. They do not think this is a wrong thing, that is a problem. We need to tell this is a wrong thing and indeed, this is suicide for Pakistan, too, because terrorists, is indeed, no one can control. So that's why this terrorist is very risky, not only against, of course, India, but in other countries, ...at the same time, Pakistan itself will suffer because they support them. This is tragic situation. They should regret it, I believe," the expert said.

Satoru Nagao, praised India for targeting terrorist sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir on May 7 and called it a "good example of punishment." He stated that Pakistan should know that supporting terrorists is a risky strategy.

When asked about his views on India targeting terror sites in Pakistan and PoJK under Operation Sindoor, he responded, "That is responsible attack, I believe, because only terrorist camps they attack. This is very responsible because India's operation is careful manner military operation. Firstly, they attack terrorist-related facility in Pakistan carefully because this is punishment of the Pakistan support terrorists and terrorist activity. Many terrorists have died, but these terrorists were perpetrators of many terrorist in the past."

"So, that's why this is a good example of the punishment, proper response, I think. And at the same time, Pakistan should know this is risky strategy, supporting terrorism is risky strategy because for long time the world just waits at their response towards terrorists. But now one by one India punishes each ter-

rorist and each terrorist activity that's why the other sending the message this operation Sindoor is a very good responsible, proper response against state sponsored terrorism," he added.

In response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack, Indian Armed Forces launched Operation Sindoor in the early hours of May 7, targeting nine terror sites in Pakistan and PoJK, leading to the death of over 100 terrorists affiliated with terror outfits like the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Hizbul Mujahideen (HM).

When asked whether international community has failed to hold Pakistan responsible for state-sponsored terrorism, the Japanese expert responded, "That's a little bit tragic but yes people in the world start to understand Pakistan is supporting terrorists, this is a problem. But at the same time, still many people believe this is a regional issue not a world affair. So, that's why the people should know this properly and reply to the terrorists is very important."

"Recently there are too many wars in the world and there's big news...So that's why the US without the effort of the experts or of course Indians of course, but we should take charge to tell the people to understand the situation. That is also the responsibility for us. We need to know India's right and supporting terrorism is tragic crime. And at the same time, cracking terrorists is indeed not a regional problem, this is a world problem," Satoru Nagao said.

Nagao who was awarded his PhD by Gakushuin University in 2011 for his thesis, "India's Military Strategy" has praised India for sending a delegation to Japan to explain India's viewpoint, as people of Japan cannot get enough chances to read about it in the Indian media. He called India a "strong country" to deal with terrorists.

On a Indian Parliamentary delegation's visit to Japan, he said, "Yeah, I think so. Because without visiting Japan, there is

no chance to exchange opinion about it. So this is very clever way, I think, sending the delegation to the other country and explaining India's view, which is right view, of course, and proper view. Because Indian media for Indians. So that's why Japanese cannot get enough chance to read it."

"Only some experts like me can access these media. But if the delegation come and explain in front of the many media experts at the same time, in this case, this is a very precious chance for them to get access to Indian viewpoint. That is very important because India is right in this case because India is a victim, but India is a strong country to deal with terrorists because of India's strong and India's right. These kind of facts people should know, even in Japan, people should know. So that is the reason this delegation contributed a lot, I believe," Nagao said.

Meanwhile, Hirose Hiromi, Political Science Professor, Kindai University, said, "The terrorist attack is very bad, killing innocent civilians, visiting the tourist sites, nothing to do with international conflict or nothing to do with religious conflict, this kind of attack should be condemned very severely. We Japanese do not know much about the background of the conflict. I think we should know much more about the deep cause of this conflict."

The All-Party Parliamentary Delegation, led by Sanjay Kumar Jha, includes Ambassador Mohan Kumar, BJP MP Hemang Joshi, CPI(M) MP John Brittas, TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee, BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi, BJP MP Brij Lal, and BJP MP Pradan Baruah, arrived in Tokyo today.

The delegation aims to brief international partners on India's response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack and its broader fight against cross-border terrorism while engaging with leaders in Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, South Korea, and Singapore.

KC Public School organizes Investiture Ceremony 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: The Investiture ceremony of KC Public School (Senior Wing) was held today morning in the general hall of KC Sports Club. It was a ceremonial occasion when elected representatives of the School Students' Council for the academic year 2025-26 were given their badges and insignias of authority. Being the only school in J&K to enjoy the privilege of global membership of the Round Square, KCPS gives tangible shape to the Round Square ideals of Democracy and Leadership by conducting elections and conferring leadership roles on its students in



the day-to-day running of the school. Dr. Vikas Sharma, JKAS, Deputy Director (Estates, Jammu), Govt of J&K, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The ceremony commenced with the singing of the school song by the school choir

group. It was followed by ceremonial march-in by all the office bearers of the Students' Council constituted of school and House level appointments. After the march-in, school Principal Amarendra Kumar Mishra administered a collective oath to all

office bearers, laying particular stress on the elements of honesty, sincerity and commitment in performing their leadership roles. The ceremonial proceedings concluded with bestowal of badges and other insignia of authority on the members of

the Council by the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest in his address to the audience expressed his delight at being present on the occasion and lauded the school for setting up very high standards of excellence. He congratulated all the elected Council members and wished them success in carrying out their duties and responsibilities. He also put in a word of appreciation for the entire school staff for their deep devotion to their duties for the cause of quality education for the children of Jammu and Kashmir. The function concluded with vote of thanks by the Vice Principal and the national anthem.

“Patience Comes Alone”

*Patience comes with silent feet,
No trumpet sounds, no grand retreat.
It walks alone through storm and flame,
Yet leaves us never quite the same.*

*It bears no crowd, no cheering voice,
Yet teaches hearts the wiser choice.
Through trials deep and sorrows wide,
It plants the strength we hold inside.*

*No gold it brings, no gift in hand,
But teaches us to understand—
That even pain has truth to show,
And only time will help us grow.*

*So when it knocks—though faint, unknown—
Let it in, though you're alone.
For patience, humble, quiet, true,
Will leave behind the best in you.*



Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain State yoga Commissioner Jammu 9419100743

DBN Vidya Mandir Mubarak Mandi honours Board toppers in felicitation ceremony

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: DBN Vidya Mandir, Mubarak Mandi, Jammu, held a heartfelt Felicitation Ceremony to recognize and honour the stellar academic achievements of its students in the JKBOSE Board Examinations 2024–25. The event was more than a celebration of high scores; it was a tribute to the values of hard work, resilience, and academic excellence that the school strives to instill in its students. The ceremony commenced with the honouring of the Chief Guest, Ajay Khajuria—an esteemed educator, accomplished writer, cultural ambassador, and a proud alumnus of the school. He was

welcomed with a token of appreciation by the school management, setting a gracious and nostalgic tone for the event. In her address, Principal Priya Singh proudly presented the school's board results. From Class XII, 28 students appeared in the examination, with 3 securing above 90% and 15 earning distinctions. In Class X, out of 35 students, 7 scored above 90% and 15 received distinctions. These achievements reflect the dedication of both students and faculty. The event's highlight was the felicitation of the school's top achievers. Shambhavi (Humanities) topped with 94.2%, followed by Tejasvi Pandita (Medical) and Rishit Aggarwal

(Humanities) with 94% each, and Danish Gupta (Commerce) with 90%. From Class X, Aarya

their parents to receive awards from the dignitaries in an emotional and proud moment for



Sharma stood out with an exceptional 97.8%, followed by Avni Nanda with 97%, and Naman Sharma with 96.8%. Each student was invited on stage along with

all. Adding a personal touch, one of the toppers shared her journey, expressing gratitude to her teachers, parents, and school for

their unwavering support and guidance. Her speech resonated with the audience, inspiring many young minds in attendance. He encouraged students to let their achievements speak for themselves, to remain humble yet determined, and to take pride in their roots. He emphasized the importance of mastering Hindi, English, and Dogri to become confident communicators and proud bearers of their cultural heritage.

The event was attended by Trust Manager Rajendra Kakar, Co-Manager Darshan Lal Sharma, Assistant Manager Valvinder Singh, Headmistress Sunna Syal, devoted teachers, and proud parents.

GCW Bhagwati Nagar organizes awareness lecture on Civil Defence

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: Government College for Women (GCW), Bhagwati Nagar, organized an awareness lecture on Civil Defence aimed at sensitizing students and staff about the importance of preparedness and response during emergencies and disasters. Civil Defence is crucial for protecting citizens and property during disasters and emergencies, both natural and man-made.



The event was organized under the patronage of principal of the college, Dr. Naveen Anand. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Anju Bala, Head, Department of English. She explained the structure, responsibilities, and significance of the Civil Defence organization. She also gave practical insights into emergency response, disaster management, and first-aid techniques. Students were encouraged to volunteer for civil defence and participate actively in community preparedness programs. The lecture was attended by faculty members of the college, NSS volunteers, and a large number of students who enthusiastically interacted with the speaker during the Q&A

session. The program concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Prof. Nisha Bhagat, Convenor of IQAC, who emphasized on the need for civil defense awareness programmes among youth, especially in today's uncertain times. She further highlighted the role educational institutions in preparing society for unforeseen challenges.

FromPage No: 1

Two terrorists killed in encounter in Kishtwar

Mandral Dhok area of village Singhpora Chatroo. As the security forces approached the suspected site, the hiding militants opened fire, leading to an encounter. An official said that two terrorists have so far been killed in the gunfight. More details will be shared soon, he added.

Kishtwar Encounter: Soldier succumbs to injuries

exchange of fire reported from the encounter site. Reinforcements have been rushed to prevent the militants from escaping the cordon.

ED crossing all limits: Supreme Court slams probe agency over TASMAR raids

“The Enforcement Directorate is violating the federal concept (of governance),” the Bench observed, adding that the ED’s probe against the state-run TASMAR will not proceed in the meantime. The law officer opposed the order, saying the issue involved corruption over Rs 1,000 crore and the ED is not crossing the limits “at least in this case.” The Bench took note of the submissions of senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Amit Anand Tiwari that the state itself has lodged over 40 FIRs in cases related to allotment of liquor shop licences from 2014 and now the ED jumps in the picture and raids the TASMAR.

‘An assault on Press Freedom’: Mehbooba on Adhan in Jammu Kashmir

the downsizing of staff, a reduction in publication frequency, and in some cases, complete shutdowns. “Our publications are struggling to survive, and with them, the voices of the people of Jammu and Kashmir,” she said. “Journalists, editors, printers, and support staff are being pushed into financial distress. This cannot be allowed to continue.” She alleged that more than two dozen newspapers have been denied advertisements without explanation, claiming the media policy lacks transparency and fosters selective ad distribution. “This policy has bred fear and self-censorship,” Mehbooba stated. Criticising the current media advertisement policy as discriminatory and politically motivated, the PDP chief warned that such measures further weaken the democratic framework of the region. “If we truly value democracy and press freedom, we must support and protect our media, not strangle it,” she added. The PDP has consistently raised concerns about the growing financial and editorial pressures facing local newspapers, especially since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, which many media professionals claim has led to a gradual erosion of independent journalism in Kashmir.

Statehood legitimate aspiration of J&K people, Must be fully restored:

TMC

Kashmir must be the empowered agency to look after the welfare and wellbeing of the people of Kashmir,” she added. Ghose said the TMC delegation spent 90 minutes with Abdullah. “We had a very good meeting. He told us in detail what the problems are of the people in border villages — Poonch, Rajouri and Uri. More people died in the cross-border shelling from Pakistan than in Pahalgam (terror attack),” she said. Every life matters and it is extremely important that the problems of the people in the border villages are addressed on an urgent basis, she added. “The chief minister assured us that his government was doing everything possible to give medical help, rebuild schools and colleges, and provide compensation. We also believe that the government of Abdullah must be fully empowered,” Ghose said. The TMC delegation left for Poonch on Thursday to meet the people affected by Pakistani shelling.

Month after massacre of Tourists, Pahalgam locals count livelihood losses

tourists and a local man who tried to save them. Though the exact number of terrorists who carried out the attack is not known, sources have said there were between four and six terrorists. Preliminary investigations have revealed that the terrorists shot the victims after verifying their religion by asking them to recite the “kalma”, the verse recited to profess Islamic faith. The officials said the security

forces were conducting relentless operations to track down the terrorists. “They have managed to evade the security forces thus far but it won’t be too long before we get them,” a senior police officer said. Thousands of suspects across Kashmir were called in for questioning while hundreds were detained as the security grid launched a massive crackdown to hunt down the perpetrators of the massacre. Nearly 100 persons were booked under the Public Safety Act and sent to various jails. There are reports that security forces also picked up youngsters who had already served terms for past associations with militancy. Meanwhile, locals in Pahalgam and adjoining areas are counting their losses as tourists have stopped visiting. “The place looks desolate. We used to have thousands of tourists on any given day in Pahalgam, providing livelihood opportunities for everyone — shopkeepers, roadside vendors, ponywallahs, cab drivers and hoteliers,” said tour operator Nasir Ahmad. He said Pahalgam had not worn such a deserted look even at the peak of the early 1990s’ insurgency. “We used to host local visitors (Kashmiris) and that sustained the economy at the worst of times. However, this time, even local visitors are not coming,” he said. Mohammad Irshad, a shopkeeper, said the situation for those earning a livelihood from tourism had started to turn desperate. “The government will have to do something. People have not earned a penny in the past month and it cannot go on like this for too long,” he added.

Despite orders, teachers remain deployed outside schools; SED issue stern warnings

Kashmir (DSEK) has said that the Deputy Commissioners (DCs) were given instruction to restrict the deployment and attachment of teaching and non-teaching in their offices, to maintain stability, fairness and the effective functioning of the educational institutions in all the districts of the J&K. “In case of requirement of staff, the matter should be referred to the designated authority- Directorate of School Education and the Administrative Department,” the fresh official communication reads. The DSEK has stated that despite government instructions, staff of the education department were being assigned various jobs by district administration. “You are accordingly advised to ensure the compliance of the circular in letter and spirit. Any teaching or non-teaching staff presently working in any other office without proper authorisation from the Directorate or Administrative Department shall be immediately called back and directed to resume their duties at original place,” the official communication reads. The DSEK has warned that in case of failure to do so, the concerned DDOs shall not release their salary till further orders and shall initiate action as warranted under J&K Civil Service Regulations, 1956. “Further, you (CEO) are also advised that if any requirement has been raised by any Deputy Commissioner or any other office, the same may be processed and forwarded to the Directorate, in a time bound manner, for consideration,” the official communication reads. Similarly, the Directorate of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) has also taken serious note of teaching and non-teaching employees of SED working in

offices other than the education department without prior approval of the competent authority. “This uninformed practice of deployment of staff of SED to other departments has left the department disarrayed specially at the time when the department is already facing the problem of shortage of staff, leaving schools understaffed and underperformed,” reads an order issued by DSEJ. “Government has recently issued instructions for restricting the utilisation of services of such staff in departments other than SED,” the order reads. The DSEJ has ordered that pursuant to the directions of the Administrative Department and in order to meet out the acute deficiency of staff and smooth functioning of ensuing academic session in the schools of winter and summer Zone, all the staff members attached or deployed in office outside the jurisdiction of SED without proper approval of the competent authority be recalled with immediate effect. “The concerned DDO shall personally ensure that all such staff members report back to their respective places of posting and resume academic, allied duties,” the order reads. The DDOs have been asked not to withdraw salary in favour of any such employee who fails to report back to his/her original place of posting. “DDOs shall ensure that salary in case of these employees is released only after examining the proper Biometric or facial attendance records duly marked at their original place of posting-schools,” it reads. As per the order, all the CEOs of Jammu division have been directed to identify such delinquent officials who fail to join duties at their original place of posting and initiate disciplinary action against them. “Action taken report be submitted to this Directorate by or before May 30 of 2025,” it reads.

YSS Kathua holds Inter-Zone District Level Competitions



Top News Report

KATHUA, May 22: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Kathua, successfully organized inter-zone district-level competitions in cricket and football for under-17 boys at two different venues—Government HSS Chandwan and Sports Stadium Hiranagar.

This morning, District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Kathua, Sunil Singh Sambyal, along with Activity Incharge Dharminder Singh, visited the Sports Stadium in Hiranagar and interacted with the young athletes, boosting their morale and encouraging sportsmanship.

The cricket final featured a competitive clash between Zone Kathua and Zone

Bhaddu. Winning the toss, Kathua elected to bat first and posted a commanding total of 140 runs for 9 wickets in the allotted 15 overs. Jaskaran emerged as the star performer, scoring 46 runs off 23 balls, including one six and six fours. He also shone with the ball, taking 5 wickets in 3 overs while conceding only 18 runs. In response, the Bhaddu team was bowled out for 84 runs, giving Kathua a resounding 56-run victory.

Meanwhile, on the football field at Government HSS Chandwan, the final match was contested between Hiranagar and Marheen. The Hiranagar team delivered a dominant performance, winning the game 4-0 and securing the football championship title.

At the conclusion of the events, DYSSO Kathua

Sunil Singh Sambyal awarded trophies to the cricket winners and runners-up in the presence of Venue Incharge and ZPEO Hiranagar Yog Raj Sharma, whose close supervision ensured smooth conduct of the matches. Officials from the YSS department were also present during the prize distribution.

Simultaneously, at the football venue, Principal of HSS Chandwan, Om Prakash Sharma, felicitated the winning and runner-up teams, applauding their effort and sportsmanship.

The competitions not only highlighted the sporting talent in the region but also emphasized the importance of organized youth sports events in fostering discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness among students.

Dr Jitendra inaugurates ‘Sagar Bhavan’ at Goa, refers to geopolitics of oceans

Top News Report

JAMMU/GOA, May 22: 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 today inaugurated “Sagar Bhavan” and “Polar Bhavan”, two first-of-its-kind facilities in India and among the very few in the world at Goa’s “National Centre of Polar and Ocean Research” (NCPOR).

At a time when nations across the world are deliberating over the nuances of the ocean geopolitics or geopolitics of oceans, the Minister expressed confidence that in the times to come, the institute will facilitate India’s increased role in geopolitics and even enable India to play a global role in ocean geopolitics. In addition, the new facilities will also enable the institute to gain supremacy in the study of weather patterns as also to address the climate concerns, he said.

The newly inaugurated facility marks a significant step in India’s growing focus on polar and ocean studies.

The Minister’s visit coincided with the Silver Jubilee of NCPOR.

Dr Jitendra Singh also unveiled a documentary highlighting NCPOR’s 25-year journey and took a virtual walkthrough of the upcoming museum, which is expected to offer immersive, science-based



public engagement experiences. He also launched the “Science On Sphere (SOS)” initiative, a 3D visualization platform for displaying earth systems and climate-related data.

Polar Bhavan, now the largest building at the NCPOR campus, spans 11,378 square metres and was constructed at a cost of Rs 55 crore. It includes laboratories for polar and ocean research, 55 rooms for scientific personnel, a conference room, seminar hall, library, and canteen. It houses the newly inaugurated SOS facility and will eventually serve as the home of India’s first Polar and Ocean Museum.

Sagar Bhavan, covering 1,772 square metres, was built at a cost of Rs 13 crore. It includes two -30°C ice core laboratories and +4°C storage units for archiving sediment and biological samples. The building also features 29 rooms, including a metal-free Class 1000 clean room for trace metal and isotope studies.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, clad in warm Antarctica clothing also visited the Minus 20 degree

Centigrade lab section.

The Minister noted that the addition of these facilities positions NCPOR among a select group of institutions with integrated polar and ocean research capabilities. He highlighted that the institute’s scientific efforts are not only regionally relevant but globally significant, given the transboundary nature of polar phenomena.

Citing expert assessments, the Minister said that nearly 70% of the world’s freshwater is held in polar ice. If significant melting were to occur, it could lead to a sharp rise in sea levels, affecting low-lying coastal regions. With India’s coastline now estimated at over 1,000 kilometres, such changes pose environmental and socio-economic challenges that demand sustained scientific monitoring and response.

He further acknowledged NCPOR’s role in maintaining India’s research presence in critical zones, including Antarctica (with stations Maitri and Bharati), the Arctic (Himadri), and the Himalayas (Himansh). The institute also leads India’s Deep Ocean Mission, a key ini-

tiative under the country’s Blue Economy roadmap.

Linking ocean science to national development goals, Dr. Jitendra Singh pointed to the increasing relevance of ocean geopolitics in global affairs. He said institutions like NCPOR will be central to India’s scientific and strategic engagement, particularly in view of the government’s vision of “Viksit Bharat by 2047.” He recalled that the Prime Minister has, in two consecutive Independence Day speeches from the Red Fort, emphasised the importance of the Blue Economy and Deep Ocean Mission.

Dr. Jitendra Singh referred to India’s Arctic Policy (2022) and the Indian Antarctic Act (2022) as guiding frameworks that enable science-led, environmentally responsible engagement in polar regions. He noted that the Indian Antarctic Act provides the legal foundation for India’s activities in the continent, aligning with international commitments and standards.

India’s polar research has extended its geographic and temporal reach in recent years, with missions now venturing into the Canadian Arctic, Greenland, and Central Arctic Ocean across seasons.

The Minister concluded by underlining the need for strategic, science-driven participation in global climate and ocean initiatives. He said the new infrastructure at NCPOR is expected to support India’s continued contributions in this field and facilitate deeper international collaboration.

Ladakh U20 Football Team returns after strong showing at National Championship

Top News Report

LEH, May 22: The Ladakh U20 Football Team has returned after a commendable performance at the Swami Vivekananda U20 Men’s National Football Championship 2025 held in Chhattisgarh.

The team met with Secretary, Department of Youth Services and Sports, UT Ladakh, Vikram Singh Malik and briefed him on their tournament journey, experiences, and key achievements. The players also highlighted the areas where additional infrastructural and logistical support is needed to further improve perfor-



mance and competitiveness at the national level. The Secretary congratulated the team on their spirited efforts and assured them of continued support and improved facilities from the UT Administration going forward.

The Ladakh Football Association (LFA) extended its gratitude to the UT Administration for its recognition and encouragement, and reaffirms its commitment to developing football talent across the region.

3 day orientation programme under Academia-Industry collaboration concludes at SKUAST-J

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: Sher-e Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu successfully concluded 3 Day Orientation Programme of RAWE & AIA Interns at Main Campus, Chatha.

The programme was conducted under Academia-Industry collaboration between SKUAST-Jammu and Bayer Crop Science, India. In his address, Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor said that industry academia



collaborations provide students with valuable industry exposure, practical skills and professional networks, enhancing their employability and readiness for the workforce.

He further said that such collaboration plays a vital role in enhancing the quality of research and education as practitioners benefit as research helps them to gain new perspectives, learn new technologies, develop critical competencies and gain access to unique facilities.

Besides, students develop higher level thinking, communication skills, self management and leadership skills.

Prof. B.N. Tripathi also interacted with the participants, offering valuable insights, practical suggestions, and encouragement to the aspiring students. He congratulated students on their selection in Bayer Crop Science.

A total of 25 selected candidates attended the orientation programme.

The participants were provided with comprehensive training on agri-input industry, sales, marketing, market development, breeding and production, entrepreneurship mindset in corporate

careers, effective communication skills and customer relationship management and networking.

The training was jointly facilitated by Division of Agricultural Extension Education and Counseling and Placement Cell of the university while the guest lectures were delivered by the officials from Bayer Crop Science.

A notable feature of the

programme was interactive sessions that were organized daily which offered shared experiences, practical guidance of participants and developing entrepreneurial acumen among aspiring students.

After the orientation programme, RAWE & AIA interns shall join one month internship programme in Bayer Crop Science and prepare project report fol-

lowed by evaluation of the project work.

The programme was attended by Dr. S.K Gupta, Director Research, Dr. Rajinder Peshin, Director Education, Dr. Anil Kumar, Registrar SKUAST-J and Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. Sanjay Guleria, Dean, Faculty of Basic Sciences and Incharge Counseling and Placement Cell, scientists, ministerial staff and students.

The programme concluded on a positive note, with participants expressing enthusiasm to work in corporate sector and contribute meaningfully to the economic growth of the country.

Proceedings of the programme were conducted by Dr. P.S. Sathia and Dr. Poonam Parihar. Vote of thanks was extended by Dr. J.S. Manhas.

BRO starts blacktopping of Bhadarwah-Basohli Pathankot National Highway

Top News Report

BHADARWAH, May 22: In its efforts to boost tourism by improving road network to the high altitude destinations, BRO (Border Roads Organisation) on Wednesday started blacktopping of Bhadarwah-Basohli Pathankot National Highway from Village Punaja

Located at a height of 11000 feet above sea level, Guldanda is a famous tourist destination and everyday hundreds of visitors drop in the vast grasslands surrounded by thick pine trees with gushing stream flowing through the meadows there. The interstate Bhadarwah Bani Basoli Pathankot road passes through this mundanely beautiful spot of Additional District Bhadarwah. Apart from this spot, Chhattargala Pass and popular tourist spot Sarthal valley are also connected by this road. Notably, due to heavy snowfall and other types of geographically triggered barriers, the road gets blocked and becomes less traffic worthy for at least six months.

To make the journey more comfortable and safe, BRO has started blacktopping of the road.

“Gul Danda is the major tourist destination of summers like Padri Dhar is in winters. Whoever visits Bhadarwah prefers to go to Jaie first, although the road to the high-



altitude grassland was in good condition except some patches but still to make the journey more enjoyable for the visitors, BRO has started blacktopping of the road,” said OC Griff 118 RCC Gaurav Tiwari adding: “This will surely give a major boost to the tourism industry and in coming days it can emerge as an important parameter of Bhadarwah-Basohli Pathankot National Highway tourist circuit.”

Acting swiftly, the 118 RCC of Border Roads Organization (BRO) has commenced blacktopping on Bhaderwah-Pathankot National Highway (NH) making this vital NH functional for vehicular traffic.

In a communication issued in this regard, the BRO stated that blacktopping operation was aimed to facilitate the seamless movement of vehicular traffic along this vital link connecting J&K with Punjab.

Gorav Tiwari, OC 118 RCC/BRO said: “This proactive measure by BRO exemplifies its tireless efforts

in maintaining crucial road infrastructure, especially during the summer season.”

According to BRO, with the clearance of this stretch of NH, medical and other facilities have become easily available to a large population living along side this National Highway. “The whole exercise was carried out under the guidance and supervision of Commander 35 BTRF Udhampur, S.K Singh,” Tiwari maintained.

Expressing gratitude to BRO, Mohit Kotwal, a resident of Puneja Bhaderwah said: “The action of BRO has demonstrated its unwavering dedication by promptly blacktopping on Bhaderwah Pathankot NH giving a sigh of relief to the people.”

“All the credit goes to OC Griff 118 RCC Gaurav Tiwari, OIC T.K.Bag and Junior Engineer (JE). Their tireless efforts brought relief to the people of Bhadarwah,” explained Kotwal.

Members of IHCNBT call on Lt Governor Brig Mishra

Top News Report

LEH, May 22: A delegation comprising members of the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT), led by its Secretary, Adv. Malinga Gombu and President IHCNBT Ladakh, Venerable Shatup Chamba, called on the Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at Raj Niwas to request financial support for the IHCNBT’s corpus fund.

During the meeting, the delegation emphasised the importance of sustaining the IHCNBT and noted that Himalayan states such as Arunachal Pradesh and



Sikkim have already contributed towards the corpus fund. They requested the UT Administration Ladakh to extend financial assistance, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Council.

The HLG assured the delegation that the UT Administration would

examine the matter in consultation with the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Principal Secretary, Sanjeev Khirwar, IAS; Commissioner/Secretary to the HLG, Dr. L Franklin, IAS and members of the IHCNBT were present during the meeting.

Neeraj Chopra up against Weber again in Poland after 90m duel in Doha

Since crossing 88m in 2018, the 90m-mark has been on the 27-year-old Chopra's radar

CHORZOW (POLAND), May 22 (Agencies): The coveted 90m frontier finally breached in Doha last week, Neeraj Chopra will be eying an even bigger throw in yet another top-class men's javelin field at the ORLEN Janusz Kusocinski Memorial meet here on Friday. Chopra sent his spear to 90.23m at the Doha Diamond League though he had to settle for a second-place finish after German Julian Weber produced a 91.06m effort in his last attempt to upstage the Indian. It was also Weber's maiden 90m throw.

Weber, a European champion in 2022 and silver-medallist in 2024, will be there in Poland, too, along with two-time world champion Anderson Peters (PB: 93.07m) of Grenada, who finished third in Doha with a throw of 84m.

Polish national record holder Marcin Krukowski (PB: 89.55m) and compatriots Cyprian Mrzygłod (PB: 84.97m) and Dawid Wegner (PB: 82.21m), Andrian Mardare (86.66m) of Moldova and Ukraine's Artur Felner (PB: 84.32m) complete the eight-man field.

Since crossing 88m in 2018,



the 90m-mark has been on the 27-year-old Chopra's radar. Relieved that the monkey is finally off his back, Chopra made it clear that "it was just the beginning" and he will be gunning for farther distances in the long season ahead.

The climax of the season will be the World Championships in September in Tokyo where he will be defending his title.

He is no longer troubled by the groin niggle that affected his performance in the last few years. He is also much more confident after roping in the iconic Jan Zelezny, who holds the world record for longest throw.

"I and my coach are still working on some aspects of my throw. I am still learning things. We started working together only in February this year," Chopra had said in Doha.

"So I believe I can have more 90m throws and I can throw farther distances in the upcoming events this year till the World Championships.

"I was always feeling something in my groin in the last few years. I did not give my best because of that. This year I feel much better."

Chopra was earlier slated to compete in the inaugural NC Classic — an event to be hosted

by him on May 24 in Bengaluru — alongside several global and Indian stars. But the event was postponed in the wake of military confrontation between India and Pakistan.

The event in Poland will be the third competition for Chopra this season. He started in South Africa at the Potch Invitational Track event—a World Athletics Continental Tour Challenger competition—in Potchefstroom on April 16, emerging on top with a modest throw of 84.52m.

ORLEN Janusz Kusocinski Memorial is a World Athletics Continental Tour silver event. It is the oldest continuously held track and field meeting in Poland and one of the oldest in Europe.

Since the first edition in 1954, organised on the initiative of friends of the legendary Olympic champion runner Janusz Kusocinski, the event has attracted the biggest names in the world of track and field.

After this event, Chopra is also set to compete at the Golden Spike 2025 athletics meet in Ostrava, Czech Republic on June 24, hoping to be third time lucky after pulling out in the last two editions due to injuries.

Major champ McIlroy to headline DP World India Championship



NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): In a major boost for Indian golf, Rory McIlroy has confirmed his participation in the \$4 million DP World India Championship. This would be the first time that he will tee it up in India. The DP World India Championship is scheduled to take place at the Delhi Golf Club on October

16-19.

The 2025 Masters champion confirmed his status as a golfing icon after he completed the career Grand Slam in memorable fashion in April, adding the Green Jacket to his four previous Major victories at the US Open in 2011, the US PGA Championship in 2012 and 2014 and The Open in 2014.

McIlroy said he was excited to travel to India to take part in the DP World India Championship. "I'm excited to not only tee it up in India for the first time but also visit a country that I've always wanted to explore," McIlroy said in a statement.

"I'm proud to play in the inaugural DP World India Championship. I've always enjoyed playing a global schedule and as I have previously said, there is tremendous potential to grow golf further in the country. This is a great opportunity, and I can't wait to play in front of Indian golf fans," he added.

Yuvraj Narayan, Group Deputy CEO, DP World, said, "We are delighted to welcome Rory McIlroy to the DP World India Championship. Having a player of his calibre underscores the commitment both we and the DP World Tour have to the success of this tournament."

Kidambi Srikanth enters Malaysia Masters quarterfinals

KUALA LUMPUR, May 22 (Agencies): Seasoned Indian badminton player Kidambi Srikanth entered the quarterfinals of Malaysia Masters after defeating Ireland's Nhat Nguyen in his second-round match here on Thursday.

Srikanth prevailed 23-21, 21-17 in the 59-minute showdown against world number 33 Nguyen.

Srikanth, whose world ranking has plummeted to 65 owing to a prolonged lean patch, will face France's Toma Junior Popov in the last-eight stage.

Popov ousted another Indian, Ayush Shetty, with a 21-13, 21-17 triumph



in his second round match.

Also bowing out was Sathish Karunakaran. He was beaten 14-21, 16-21 by Toma's brother and doubles partner Christo Popov.

In the doubles competition, Tanisha Crasto and Dhruv Kapila advanced

to the quarterfinals of the mixed event with a 21-17, 18-21, 21-15 victory over France's Lea Palermo and Julien Maio.

They will next be up against the Chinese combination of Jiang Zhen Bang and Wei Ya Xin.

Ayush Mhatre to lead India U19 squad for England tour; Sooryavanshi among key players

NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): BCCI's Junior Cricket Selection Committee has announced the Indian U19 squad for their upcoming tour of England, which is scheduled to take place from June 24 to July 23, 2025. The month-long tour will include a 50-over warm-up match, a five-match Youth One-Day series, and two Multi-Day matches against England U19, according to a media advisory from BCCI.

Chennai Super Kings' (CSK) opening batter Ayush Mhatre will lead the squad. Mhatre has impressed in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025, scoring 206



runs in six games at a remarkable strike rate of 187.27. He narrowly missed out on a well-deserved century, getting dismissed for 94 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB).

The 14-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is also in the squad. The youngster made headlines this season when he smashed a 38-ball

101 against Gujarat Titans (GT) for Rajasthan Royals (RR) in Jaipur, becoming the youngest ever centurion in men's T20 cricket. His century, which came in just 35 balls, is now the second-fastest in IPL history. He finished the season with 252 runs in seven matches, averaging 36.00 with a phenomenal strike rate

of 206.56, including one century and a half-century.

Abhigyan Kundu, who will also serve as the wicketkeeper, has been named vice-captain of the side. Another wicketkeeping option in the squad is Harvansh Singh. The team also features other talented players such as Vihaan Malhotra, Mauliyarajsinh Chavda, Rahul Kumar, R S Ambrish, Kanishk Chouhan, Khilan Patel, Henil Patel, Yudhajit Guha, Pranav Raghavendra, Mohammed Enaan, Aditya Rana, and Anmoljeet Singh.

The standby players for the tour are Naman Pushpak, D Deepesh, Vedant Trivedi, Vikalp

Tiwari, and Alankrith Rapole, who is a wicketkeeper.

India will begin their tour with a 50-over warm-up match on June 24 at Loughborough University. The first One-Day match will be held on June 27 at Hove, followed by the second and third matches on June 30 and July 2 at Northampton. The fourth and fifth One-Day matches are scheduled for July 5 and 7 in Worcester.

Following the white-ball series, the team will play two multi-day matches. The first will take place from July 12 to 15 in Beckenham, and the second will be held from July 20 to 23 in Chelmsford.

Hockey India announces 24-member India Team for FIH Hockey Pro League 2024-25 European leg

NEW DELHI, May 22 (Agencies): Hockey India on Thursday announced the 24-member Indian Men's Hockey Team for the European leg of FIH Hockey Pro League 2024-25 (Men), which is scheduled to take place in Amstelveen, the Netherlands and Antwerp, Belgium from June 7 to June 22, as per a release from Hockey India.

Experienced drag-flicker Harmanpreet Singh will continue to lead the side as Captain, with mid-field maestro Hardik Singh joining him as Vice-Captain. India will begin their European leg with two matches each against the Netherlands on June 7th and 9th, followed by the doubleheader against Argentina on June 11-12 at the Wagner Stadium in Amstelveen.

The team will then travel to Antwerp to face Australia on June 14th and 15th before ending their campaign against hosts Belgium on June 21st-22nd.

The squad includes Krishan Bahadur Pathak and Suraj Karkera as the goalkeepers. Sumit, Amit Rohidas, Jugraj Singh, Nilam Sanjeep Xess, Captain Harmanpreet Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, Sanjay and Yashdeep Siwach will occupy the team's defence.

In midfield, the team features Raj Kumar Pal, Nilakanta Sharma, Vice Captain Hardik Singh, young prodigy Rajinder Singh, Manpreet Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, and Shamsher Singh. Gurjant Singh, Abhishek, Shilanand Lakra, Mandeep Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Dilpreet Singh, and Sukhjeet Singh will be the attackers for



Team India.

India played the home leg of the FIH Hockey Pro League 2024-25 (Men) in Bhubaneswar earlier this year. They secured fifteen points with five wins in eight games and now stand third in the points table. With the highest-placed team of the league securing a spot in the 2026 Men's FIH Hockey World Cup, India will be hoping to improve upon their performance and win maximum points in the remaining eight matches of the tournament.

Speaking on the squad selection, Indian Men's Team Chief Coach Craig Fulton stated, as quoted from a release by Hockey India, "We wanted a bit more experience in the squad this time around and I am really happy with the selection. The team has been training well as we're looking to try and push as hard as possible and win the Pro League. Since there's qualification for the World Cup on the line, we want to try and get as many points to put ourselves in a good position for that."

Reflecting on the Bhubaneswar

leg and the way ahead, Fulton said, "We haven't drawn any games so far in the tournament and I believe we need to turn our losses into draws and then go for a shootout, so if we don't really get the desired results, we can still get points on the board. We also need to improve our penalty corner conversion rate so yes, we've got some good objectives to try and achieve this time around."

Indian Men's Hockey Team for FIH Pro League 2024-25 European leg:

Goalkeepers: Krishan Bahadur Pathak, Suraj Karkera
Defenders: Sumit, Amit Rohidas, Jugraj Singh, Nilam Sanjeep Xess, Harmanpreet Singh (C), Jarmanpreet Singh, Sanjay, Yashdeep Siwach

Midfielders: Raj Kumar Pal, Nilakanta Sharma, Hardik Singh (VC), Rajinder Singh, Manpreet Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Shamsher Singh

Forwards: Gurjant Singh, Abhishek, Shilanand Lakra, Mandeep Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Dilpreet Singh, Sukhjeet Singh.

Suryakumar's sweet gesture wins hearts, reveals story behind dedicating POTM award to his wife

MUMBAI, May 22 (Agencies): Mumbai Indians' dynamic Suryakumar Yadav's "sweet" gesture won hearts after he dedicated his Player of the Match award to his wife, Devisha Shetty, following their commanding performance against Delhi Capitals at the Wankhede Stadium in the 18th season of the Indian Premier League.

Mumbai raced away with the last playoff spot at the cost of Delhi after stamping its authority with an emphatic 59-run victory over the Capitals in their home den. Suryakumar was fundamental with his sizzling 73* from 43 deliveries that lifted Mumbai to a competitive 180/5 on a Wankhede strip that wasn't true to its high-scoring nature.

With Mitchell Santner and Jasprit Bumrah running rampant, Delhi never threatened to pose a challenge to Mumbai throughout their feeble attempts to stay alive in the playoffs.

Moments after Mumbai's victory lap, it



rained cats and dogs at Wankhede. Suryakumar, with an umbrella in his hand, arrived at the presentation ceremony to accept his POTM award. He shared a heartwarming story that made his award "special".

"It's been 13 games now. My wife told me a sweet story today. She said you've got all the awards except MoM. This award is special today. From the team's point of view, the knock was important, and also, this trophy is for her. She waits for such moments and we celebrate it obviously, looking forward to

it," Suryakumar said in the post-match presentation.

Mumbai withered at 58/3 after losing its top-order in a cluster. Suryakumar delivered a knock riddled with luck to change Mumbai's fate. He stayed till the end, patiently waiting for the right moment to make DC bowlers perish and eventually found it in the last over.

Naman Dhir set the tempo for the explosive batter in the penultimate over. With his swash-buckling display, he reeled off two fours and as many sixes to garner 27 runs off Mukesh

Kumar, who enjoyed a decent outing before that point.

Suryakumar was a walking nightmare for Dushmantha Chameera as he finished things off with two boundaries and the same number of sixes to lift Mumbai to a position of dominance. For the 34-year-old, Naman's exploits in the 19th over and the energy that he "shared" with him were the turning point of the fixture.

"It was important for a single batter to bat till the end. We knew there was one over of 15-20 runs somewhere, so we had to wait till the end. The way Naman came in and shared that energy with me was also a turning point," he concluded.

Following Mumbai's win, the playoffs seats are confirmed with Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Gujarat Titans and Punjab Kings being the remaining three sides. The next group stage clashes will determine which spot these four sides will occupy in the standings before the playoffs.

‘Publish Non-Gazetted Merit List, appointment of outstanding sportspersons under SO 12, SO 412’

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: The prevailing bureaucratic inefficiency within the Youth Services and Sports Department of Jammu & Kashmir is causing severe hardship to hundreds of outstanding sportspersons, particularly those from border and conflict-hit regions. These individuals, many of whom are displaced and battling basic livelihood challenges, continue to wait helplessly for their rightful appointments. Despite the recruitment rules for non-gazetted posts having been finalized and published in the official gazette on 4th October 2024, the merit list remains unpublished—a delay that appears to be driven by internal red tape and vested interests. There are 225 such sportspersons who have represented Jammu & Kashmir and the nation with distinction. Their dedication and achieve-



ments remain unrewarded due to administrative apathy. While these sportspersons have completed all necessary formalities and are fully eligible under SO 12 read with SO 412, they are being forced to wait indefinitely. The delay is allegedly linked to ongoing discussions around 10 gazetted posts, whose recruitment rules are yet to be finalized. This is both illogical and unjust, as the non-gazetted appointments form a separate process that should proceed independently. The files concern-

ing gazetted posts are reportedly moving from desk to desk within the Civil Secretariat, causing obstruction without any justifiable reason. It is unacceptable that the careers and lives of deserving non-gazetted sportspersons are being held hostage by procedural bottlenecks unrelated to their appointments. This bureaucratic entanglement, colloquially referred to as “babu shahi,” has created a tragic impasse for hundreds who have already suffered displacement, instability, and years of

waiting. This delay transcends mere administration—it is an inhumane oversight. Many of these sportspersons come from marginalized and war-affected communities and have given their all for the pride and honor of the country. What they receive in return is silence, neglect, and indefinite delay. It is vital that the Youth Services and Sports Department separates the non-gazetted recruitment process from the gazetted one, as their linkage is unwarranted and detrimental.

We therefore issue this urgent appeal to the Lieutenant Governor, the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, and the Youth Services and Sports Minister to take immediate action. We demand that the non-gazetted merit list be published without any further delay, that the appointments proceed independently of the gazetted-level recruitment, and that accountability be established for the undue and prolonged delay. Furthermore, it is imperative that the suffering and vulnerability of sportspersons from conflict areas be acknowledged and addressed with urgency. Justice delayed is justice denied. In this case, 225 lives and careers are at stake due to administrative lethargy. These athletes have upheld the honor of the Union Territory and the nation—it is now time for the government to respond with fairness, dignity, and decisive action.

Director Agriculture Jammu conducts two days extensive visit of Banihal-Ramban



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: Director Agriculture Jammu, Sh. Arvinder Singh Reen, undertook a two-day extensive tour of District Ramban, focusing on the implementation and progress of various ongoing agricultural initiatives and schemes. During the visit, Director Agriculture convened a detailed review meeting at the Chief Agriculture Office, Ramban, where he assessed the status of several central and UT-sponsored schemes including HADP, JKIP, CSS, and NABARD. He also reviewed the progress of various flagship programmes under SHCS, PMFBY, KCC, PM Kisan, and RKVY. CAO Ramban Vinay Kumar Jandyal briefed Director Agriculture about the status of works going on in the field. Meeting was attended by Ayaz Rishi Sub-Divisional Officer Ramban, Naveen Kumar Sub-Divisional Officer Gool, Jamshed Ahmad ASCO Ramban, SMS-DL, other senior officers and field staff of District Ramban. Director A.S Reen inspected key agricultural infrastructure in the district, including the Mushroom Unit and Honey Processing Plant at DCTC Ramban, and visited the Integrated Farming System (IFS) Model established by progressive farmer Sh. Zubair Ahmad Sohail at Chenab Valley Farm, Village Chamalwas, Banihal. Commending the initiative, he urged farmers to embrace Integrated Farming for sustainable income generation. Further, Director Agriculture inspected a Low-Cost Polyhouse of beneficiary Abdul Rashid Khan in Panchayat Karwah, Zone Banihal, highlighting the importance of protected cultivation. At a well-attended farmers’ gathering in Banihal, he elaborated on various com-

ponents of HADP, encouraging farmers to utilize the Kisan SATHI Dashboard to apply for government schemes related to plantation, protected cultivation, water harvesting, drip irrigation, custom hiring centers, farm machinery, processing units, and nursery establishment. Emphasizing water as a critical input in agriculture, Director A.S Reen urged farmers to ensure the proper and judicious utilization of available water resources in the district. He highlighted the importance of adopting efficient irrigation techniques such as drip and sprinkler systems to maximize productivity with minimal water usage. He also encouraged the construction of water harvesting structures to conserve rainwater for agricultural use, especially in hilly terrains. On the second day, Director Agriculture visited the SM Farm Tethar, Banihal, to assess on-ground farm activities. While interacting with farmers and beekeepers at Ramban, he issued instructions to field functionaries to provide immediate technical support to address the challenges faced by farmers. Emphasizing the potential of apiculture in the region, especially following the GI tagging of Sulai honey, Director Agriculture called for the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Apiculture in Ramban. He advised regular inspections and proper management of bee colonies and encouraged the extension staff to promote beekeeping as a viable agri-enterprise to enhance farmers’ income. Later, Director Agriculture inspected the Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG), Banihal, and interacted with Krishi Udyamias, reaffirming the Department’s commitment to handholding entrepreneurs in agriculture.

648th Parkash Utsav of Guru Ravidas celebrated with religious fervour at Kattal Batal



Top News Report

NAGROTA, May 22: The 648th Parkash Utsav of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj was celebrated with great religious enthusiasm and devotion at Kattal Batal, Nagrota. The grand religious congregation witnessed the participation of devotees from various parts of the region. Shri Shri 108 Swami Gurdeep Giri Maharaj graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered a spiritual discourse that left the gathering inspired. Vijay Lochan, Chairman of JKNC SC Cell, was the Guest of Honour. The programme was meticulously organized under the leadership of Rattan Lal, President of Guru Ravidas Sabha, Kattal Batal. The premises of the Sabha were beautifully decorated, and devotional songs

and bhajans filled the air, creating a spiritual ambiance. During the programme, Shri Shri 108 Swami Gurdeep Giri Maharaj honoured Vijay Lochan for his selfless service towards the general public. Addressing the gathering, Swami Gurdeep Giri Maharaj said that Guru Ravidas Ji’s teachings of equality, love, and devotion are timeless and continue to guide humanity toward a just and compassionate society. Gurdeep Giri Maharaj urged the followers to walk on the path of righteousness and service as laid down by the revered Guru Ji. “The message of Guru Ravidas Ji transcends caste and creed and is a beacon of light for all mankind,” he said. Speaking on the occasion, Vijay Lochan lauded the efforts of the

Guru Ravidas Sabha in promoting social harmony and spreading the teachings of the great saint. He reiterated that the present Omar Abdullah-led government is deeply committed to the welfare and upliftment of marginalized and weaker sections of society. He assured the gathering that every effort will be made to resolve the issues being faced by these communities, particularly in terms of education, employment, and social justice. The event concluded with a community Langar, served to all devotees, signifying unity and brotherhood. Among those who were present on this occasion included: Sham Lal, Rtd Master Baldev Raj, Panch Lal Chand, Kuldeep Raj, Dogra, Raman Thappa and others.

Activist Sajjad Kargili calls on Lt Governor Brig Mishra



Top News Report

Leh, May 22, 2025: Activist Sajjad Kargili called on the Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at Raj Niwas. Principal Secretary, Sanjeev Khirwar, IAS and Commissioner/Secretary to the LG, Dr L Franklin, IAS, were present in the meeting. At the outset, Sajjad Kargili thanked the HLG for the UT Administration’s assistance in planting more than 1 lakh saplings in Kargil to improve the green cover in the district. He also apprised the LG of several other issues, viz. the need for a rehabilitation centre to provide speech and other therapies to

people suffering from various such health issues; the need to expedite the purchase of MRI machine for District Hospital, Kargil; the need to set up a camp office of General Administration Department (GAD) of UT Ladakh for effective and efficient administrative functioning; the need to expedite projects under AMRUT 2.0 which have not kickstarted despite getting administrative approval and the need to hold Panchayat elections at the earliest, etc. After a proper discussion with the Administrative Secretaries, the HLG assured to look into the matter and take necessary steps for the benefit of the people of Ladakh.

BJP cadre is true strength of the party: Balbir

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) believes that its greatest strength lies in its dedicated cadre of workers. The party is an ideology-based organization where positions are not attained through individual influence, but through hard work and loyalty. Speaking during a discussion on the expansion of the BJP with senior party activists, spokesperson and former Vice Chairperson, Balbir Ram Rattan, emphasized this point. Balbir stated that in the BJP, any individual who works sincerely and remains committed to the organization, can rise to the highest positions within it. He added that the uniqueness of the BJP is that leadership is not imposed but emerges from the tireless efforts and grassroots connection of its workers. Leaders like Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah have themselves risen from the ranks of workers to the top leadership, proving that with continuous dedication and commitment to the organization, even the impossible can be achieved. The BJP’s organizational structure is among the largest democratic setups in the world, with its back-



bone being the workers spread across every village. From the booth level to the national executive, active participation of workers at every level strengthens the party. Balbir further said that the BJP is an open platform for all those who are driven by the spirit of national service and want to see the country become progressive and strong. The party’s history and present are testimony to the fact that it is driven not by dynastic politics, but by the value

of hard work. This is the fundamental difference between the BJP and other parties. The BJP continuously focuses on the training of its workers, organizational development, and leadership building. This is why the BJP today is not just a political party, but a mass movement. Joining Balbir in this discussion were senior party activists Ashwani Sharma, Rachhpal Verma, Daljit Singh Chib, Surinder Bhagat, and Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal.

Max Super Speciality Hospital Mohali Celebrates Mother’s Day

Top News Report

MOHALI, May 22: On the occasion of Mother’s Day, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali, hosted a heart-warming event themed ‘Maa Ke Liye’ to honour and celebrate the remarkable spirit of motherhood. The event served as a tribute to mothers who nurture, lead, and inspire across homes, workplaces, and communities, embracing their journey of motherhood with strength and grace. Over 120 participants took part in the event. The event served as a platform for working mothers to share their unique journey of motherhood. A special “Patient Storytelling” session was arranged where the patients shared their embracing



motherhood experiences of becoming parents under the expert care of the Max Hospital, Mohali’s Gynaecology team. These personal stories reflected the hospital’s compassionate care and commitment to women’s health. Dr. Pinak Moudgil,

Senior Vice President, Hospital Operations, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali, said, “Mother’s Day is globally celebrated occasion dedicated to honouring the selfless love and unwavering support of mothers. Managing work life and mother-

hood journey are the two full-time roles, yet a growing tribe of inspiring women are redefining both. This Mother’s Day, we celebrate the incredible journeys of all mothers. Whether building careers or shaping lives behind the scenes, their strength, love, and

impact resonate across generations.” Adding vibrancy to the celebration, there were a series of engaging activities conducted, including cultural dance performances, an interactive quiz show, and a ramp walk. A special felicitation ceremony was also conducted, where 40 mothers, including working mothers, were honoured for their resilience, leadership, and dedication to both their families and careers. At Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mohali, we salute the strength, resilience, and determination of mothers who continue to inspire us by successfully balancing their personal and professional lives while nurturing their families with boundless love and dedication.

JKNPP (Bhim) expels party leaders from basic membership

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 22: J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim) expelled Hakikat Singh Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Dar, Abdul Rashid Ganie and Mushtaq Ahmed from the basic membership of the party for their involvement in anti party activities. In a decision taken by the party under the Chairmanship of the Party President Vilakshan Singh, besides expelling the said leaders, the entire bodies of the Kashmir Province were dissolved with immediate effect. It was decided in the meeting that the different bodies of the Kashmir province shall be reconstituted soon.