

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

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Scarlett Johansson says she wants to direct for Marvel



Justice BV Nagarathna to become part of Collegium after Justice AS Oka's retirement

Okay to go to India, but no US sales without tariffs: Trump to Apple



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BRIEFLY

Residential house gutted in Habba Kadl fire mishap

SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): A residential house was damaged in a fire incident in the Gadood Bagh area of Habba Kadal on Saturday morning.

An official said that massive fire broke out in the Gadood Bagh area this morning, and soon after fire tenders reached to the spot.

He said that by the time fire tenders reached to the spot, a residential house was damaged, however, due to timely intervention fire was prevented from spreading further.

The cause of fire was not immediately known when the reports last came in.

37 Mobile towers suspended in Bhaderwah till May 27 over security concerns

JAMMU, May 24 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Home Department has temporarily suspended mobile data services on 37 telecom towers in the Bhaderwah area of Doda district. The shutdown will remain in effect till May 27, 2025.

The order, issued under Government Order No: Home-12(TSTS) of 2025 and signed by Principal Secretary Chandraker Bharti, confirms earlier directions from the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu Zone. These directions were issued under the Temporary Suspension of Telecommunication Service Rules, 2024, which allow the authorized officer to take immediate action in situations deemed sensitive to national security and public peace.

Day 2: Massive search operation continues in Paribal Ganderbal to trace out forest guard who drowned in Sindh

GANDERBAL, May 24 (Agencies): The rescue operation continued on Saturday for second day to trace out the forest employee who reportedly drowned in nallah Sindh at Paribal area of

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Cong leader Rahul Gandhi reaches Poonch to meet victims of Pak shelling

JAMMU, May 24 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday reached Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Saturday to meet the victims of the cross-border shelling by Pakistani troops earlier this month.

This is the second visit by the leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha to the Union territory since the dastardly April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26



lives, mostly tourists.

Gandhi visited Srinagar on April 25 to meet those injured in

the terror attack. He had also met the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant governor, the chief min-

ister and several stakeholders then.

On Saturday morning, Gandhi reached Jammu airport and left for Poonch in a helicopter to visit the areas affected by the cross-border shelling and meet the bereaved families, a Congress leader said.

The Poonch sector was witness to heightened artillery and mortar shelling after India carried out precise strikes

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CM Omar attends NITI Aayog Meeting, Flags JK development issues



SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday said he will attend the 10th Governing Council Meeting

of NITI Aayog in New Delhi, where he plans to raise the development priorities and challenges faced by Jammu and Kashmir.

In a post on X, Omar said: "Attending the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi today. I will be highlighting the concerns and development priorities of Jammu & Kashmir and advocating for greater support to

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Relief from heatwave expected as rain, gusty winds forecast across J&K: Director MeT

SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Saturday said that Jammu and Kashmir is expected to witness a significant change in the prevailing weather pattern from today, offering relief from the ongoing spell of intense heat and dry conditions.

Director MeT Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad said that on May 24, the weather is expected to remain generally cloudy with intermittent brief spells of rain and thundershowers across many areas of Kashmir division and scattered places in Jammu division. A few places may also experience gusty winds and intense showers.

From May 25 to 26, weather conditions are forecasted to be

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Patient dies due to alleged medical negligence at Paras Hospital, Sgr

SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): A family from Pampore area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district staged a protest after their patient died allegedly due to medical negligence at Paras Hospital, Srinagar.

Family members alleged that a 34-year-old patient, Waseem Ahmed Pathan, a resident of Bilal Colony Pampore, died at Paras hospital due to medical negligence of the doctor.

They said that Waseem, who was admitted to the hospital eight days ago for treatment of an intestinal infection, died earlier this morning.

His family and relatives gathered outside the hospital premises, staging a protest and demanding accountability.

According to the protesting family members, the doctor allegedly charged Rs 2.5 lakhs

for the treatment. They claim that despite the hefty sum, the doctor failed to provide proper care, which led to Waseem's untimely death.

Waseem had cyst that was removed before few days and he was discharged but on next day, he again complained of pain following which they brought him to the hospital again.

"Waseem had to undergo another

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Sharp decline in Kashmir Airfares after Pahalgam attack

SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): Tourist arrivals in the Kashmir valley have fallen sharply following the recent attack in Pahalgam. As a result, flight operations to and from Srinagar have been reduced by half. The drop in demand

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"Poonch has been worst affected by Pakistani Shelling": Karra

POONCH, May 24 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hamid Karra on Saturday said that Poonch district in the Union Territory was the worst affected by Pakistan's recent cross-border shelling.

Karra also said that Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, is visiting there to show solidarity with the affected people.

"Poonch has been the worst affected by Pakistani shelling... Rahul Gandhi is the first national leader to come here, and he is coming to show solidarity with the people. He will visit all the institutions that have been affected by the shelling... He will meet the civil society and talk to them, and then he will come to the Dak Bungalow," Karra said.

He also asked why a "third country"

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Efforts needed to revive Pahalgam Tourism within 6-12 months: MLA

PAHALGAM, May 24 (Agencies): While Kashmir's famous resort Pahalgam is deserted a month after ghastly terror attack left 25 tourists and a local dead, the local lawmaker Altaf Ahmed Wani, popularly known as Altaf Kaloo, remains optimistic that if peace is maintained and recovery efforts are well-coordinated, the tourism could bounce back within 6 to 12 months.

A three-time legislator and the deputy chief

whip of the ruling Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) in the state assembly, Kaloo was among the first politicians to reach the Baisaran valley, the site of the massacre on April 22.

He acknowledged the profound impact the attack has had on the local psyche and economy.

"Peace is gradually returning, but there's still a sense of fear among locals and tourists,"

Kaloo said in an interview to agency.

He noted that the security situation has improved significantly with enhanced deployment of forces.

"The local administration is working hard to restore normalcy," he said.

Tourism is the economic backbone of Pahalgam, providing direct and indirect livelihoods to thousands. The attack delivered a

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J&K ACB files disproportionate assets case against public servant in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Anti Corruption Bureau registered a case against an official posted in Deputy Commissioner Srinagar's office for possession of assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.

According to a statement, a discreet veri-

cation conducted by the Bureau into the financial transactions and asset holdings revealed that public servant Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat has accumulated assets grossly disproportionate to his known and legitimate sources of income.

"The assets identified during the verification include a residential

house at Firdousabad, Batamalo, constructed on land measuring 11 marlas, an additional structure with appurtenant land measuring 6.5 marlas, land measuring 10 marlas and 13 marlas at Mouza Nowgam, and movable assets including luxury vehicles, including a Toyota

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Statehood will be restored by Parliament, not by NC or PDP: BJP's Sunil Sharma

SRINAGAR, May 24 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, Sunil Sharma, on Saturday said that the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood is the prerogative of the Parliament and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), not regional parties like the National Conference (NC) or the



People's Democratic Party (PDP).

Speaking with reporters in Karnah, Sharma said that the NC and PDP have no role in the restoration of statehood and that people should not be misled.

He said people should ask these parties for basic needs like free electricity, extra ration, and subsidised LPG.

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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.

**Sh Chuni Lal Bhat**

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

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, We regret to inform the sad demise of **Sdri. Manjeet Kaur Ji** W/o Mistry S. Khem Singh Sudan Presently residing at Near Deva palace Preet Nagar Who left for her heavenly abode on 16th May 2025.

Katha time 6:30 to 7:30 from 18 May to 22 May 2025 at our residence Near Deva Palace Preet Nagar Jammu.

Antim Ardas will be performed as per given program:-

Aarambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib: 23 May 2025 (Friday) 9:30 AM at our residence, near Deva Palace Preet Nagar. **Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib:** 25th May 2025 (Sunday) 10:00 AM at our residence.

Kirtan and Antim Ardas at Gurudwara Guru Angad Dev ji Preet Nagar 10:30 am to 12:00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Mistry S. Khem Singh Sudan (Husband)
S. Arvinder Singh Sanju
S. Gurpreet Singh Honey (Son)
Sdn. Rupinder Kaur (Daughter)
Sdn. Sukvinder Kaur & Harbhajan Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Contact No.: 9018145533, 7051126087

**Sdri. Manjeet Kaur Ji****TENTH DAY / KRIYA / PRAYER MEETING**

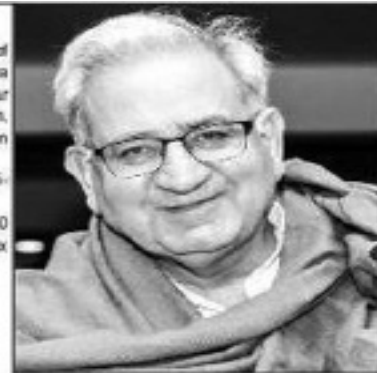
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Shri Narinder Safaya** S/o Late Shri Brijender Nath Safaya (Tabardar). Original resident of Chitrali mohalla Habbakadal, Srinagar and was residing at 112 New Surya Kiran Apartment 65, IP Extension, Delhi-110092. Presently at 31 C Sanchar Lok Apartment 108 IP Extension Delhi 110092.

The **10th Day** will be performed Chhoti Haridwar Muradnagar, U.P. on 25-05-2025 at 7:00 AM.

PRAYER MEETING will be held on 25th May 2025 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at CD Dasmuth Auditorium, India International Centre 40 Max Mueller Marg New Delhi 110003.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY

Smt. Geeta Safaya - Wife
Smt. Sangeeta Safaya - Bhabhi (W/o Late Shri Sunil Safaya)
Shri Siddharth Safaya - Son
Shri Chaitanya & Smt. Suruchi Safaya - (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Shri Dhruv Safaya - Son of Late Shri Sunil Safaya
Sisters and Brothers-in-law:-
Smt. Late Shashi Safaya and Shri Tej Kishan Khosa
Smt. Late Shashi Tickoo and Shri Ravinder Tickoo
Smt. Urmila Safaya and Shri Tejohvan Pandita
Smt. Sunila Kaul and Late Shri Rajender Kaul
Smt. Seema Kaul and Shri Sujit Kaul
Granddaughter - Harekha Safaya,
Samast Parivars:-
All Safaya's, Kuchroo's, Pandita's, Khosha's, Tickoo's, Pandita's, Kaul's (Mallot, Kachroo's, Ganyani's, Kaul's, Adali's, Zolpuri's, Thaploo's, Walli's, Sapru's
Also remembered by:-
Vishnu and Neelinder, Hemanshu and Tanvi, Rahul and Rashli, Neha and Ankush, Nikhil, Sahil, Tathagat and Shreen
Mob: 9919479303, 9999959584

**Shri Narinder Safaya****SHADMOS/ MASWAR**

"A Life So Beautifully Lived,
A Heart So Deeply Loved"

In Loving Memory of Late **Shri Brijnath Bhat** (Papaji) of Delina, Baramulla/New Plots Jammu.

It has been six months since you left for your heavenly abode, yet not a single moment passes without thoughts of you. In silence, in conversations, in quiet reflection-you are always with us. It's hard to believe that half a year has gone by.

You dedicated your life to our comfort and happiness, always putting others before yourself. That love, that selflessness, remains a part of us forever. You live on in our hearts, in our thoughts, and in all that we do.

At times, it feels as though you've only just stepped out, and might return at any moment.

May you rest in peace dear Papaji

SHADMOS and MASWAR being performed at our residence on 24th & 25th of May, 2025

Forever remembered & missed by:

Mrs. Jaikishori & the entire Bhat family, along with Pandita's, Koul's, Dhar's, Wazir's, Bhat's.

9419121667, 8491849817, 8888881778

**Late Shri Brijnath Bhat (Papaji)****SHADMOS AND MASVAAR**

It has been six months since we lost our beloved **Late Sh. Moti Lal Zutshi**, Son of Late Sh. Prem Nath Zutshi, Erstwhile resident of Anantnag.

A man of unwavering discipline, grace, and dignity, his warmth, affectionate nature, and ever-charming smile left an indelible mark on our hearts.

The **SHADMOS and MASVAAR** ceremonies will be performed on 25th & 26th May 2025, respectively, At our residence in Bangalore.

Not a day goes by without a thought of you. Though you are gone from sight, you are never gone from our hearts.

Time may move on, but love and memories remain forever etched in our hearts.

We remember you with love, respect, and immense gratitude for the legacy you left behind.

May your noble soul continue to rest in eternal peace.

Om Shanti.

Fondly remembered by:

The Zutshis, Bhats, Kouls, Bakshis & Razdans

**LATE SH. MOTI LAL ZUTSHI****ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief, we regret to inform you of the sad demise of our beloved **Mrs. Gurdip Kour** who left for her heavenly abode on 18.05.2025.

To honour her memory and offer prayers for peace for the departed soul **ANTIM ARDAS** will be held at Gurudwara Fateh Singh Sahib, Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar on Sunday, 25 May 2025 from 5-6 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Rabinder Singh Madaan - Husband

Dr. Nirupam Madaan - Daughter

Navneet Kour and Dipender Singh Madaan - Daughter in Law and Son

Upinder Soni and Iqbal Singh Soni - Sister in Law and Brother in Law

Dr. Ravinder Madan - Sister in Law

Prisha Madaan and Hayanveer Singh Madaan -Grand Children

PHONE: 9419198880; 9419100710

**MRS. GURDIP KOUR****TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. P. S. Dutta (Senior Advocate & Former President, J&K Bar Association)** S/o Sh. Hari Chand Dutta R/o H.No. 28 Ext. Karan Nagar Jammu who left for his heavenly abode on 16/05/25 (Friday).

Tenth Day will be performed on 25-5-2025 (Sunday) at 10.00 AM, at Ved Mandir Ambphalla Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on 26-5-2025 (Monday) at 12.00 Noon at our residence 28, Extension, Karan Nagar Jammu.

Grief Stricken

Smt. Prem Lata (Sister-in-law)

Mr Nityan Dutta & Mrs Priyanka Dutta (Nephew & Daughter-in-Law)

Mr. Rajesh Sharma & Mrs. Vaneeta Sharma- (Son-in-law & Niece)

Mr. Divay Jyoti Sharma & Mrs. Monika Sharma- (Son-in-law & Niece)

Samast Parivars:-

All Bali, Sharma, Vaid & Dutta Family

Tanishq, Priyansh, Rohan, Pranit, Arya & Adhya (Grandsons & Granddaughter)

Ph:- 9622337513

**Sh. P. S. Dutta**
(Senior Advocate & Former President, J&K Bar Association)**BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Late Sdri. Manjeet Kour Ji** W/o Mistry S. Khem Singh Sudan who passed away on Friday 16th May 2025. Her **Antim Ardas** shall be performed as per the following Schedule :

Antim Ardas will be performed as per given program:-
Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib: 25th May 2025 (Sunday) 10:00 AM at our residence Near Deva Palace Preet Nagar Jammu

Antim Ardas shall be performed at Gurudwara Shri Guru Angad Dev Ji Preet Nagar Jammu at 10:30 am to 12:00 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Mistry S. Khem Singh Sudan (Husband)

S. Arvinder Singh Sanju (Son)

S. Gurpreet Singh Honey (Son)

Sdn. Rupinder Kaur (Daughter)

Sdn. Sukvinder Kaur & Harbhajan Singh (Daughter & Son-in-law)

CONTACT NO: 9018145533, 7051126087

**SDRN. LATE MANJEET KAUR JI****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 25th May at 10 a.m. Siwa 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 Vinender Kumar Turki & Smt Neetu Turki

Sh Surender Turki & Smt Sarita Turki

Sh Sachin Turki & Smt Vandana Turki

Sh Ritesh Turki & Smt Annie Turki

Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt Kimi & Sh Navaneer Kaul

Smt Sanjay & Sh Kuldeep Kumar Dhar

Sister & Brother -in-law

Smt Indu & Shaban Krishan Koul

Brother-in-law

Sh Ram Krishan Bhatt (Kaul) - USA/India

Sh Satish Shankar Bhatt & Smt Pushpa Bhatt-USA

**Sh Chaman Lal Turki**

Grandchildren
Raksha, Chakshu, Mahima, Koshicki, Anirudh, Mohit, Dharaaj, Chivan, Veresh
TURKI'S, KOUL'S, KAUL'S, DHAR'S, JAIKHANI'S, BHATT'S AND SAPROO'S AND NEAR AND DEARS

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform, the sad demise of our beloved Karmyogi father, **Sh. Soom Nath Raina**, originally resident of Nowgam Kuthar, Anantnag, who left for his heavenly abode on 17th May. To honor and pay our last respects, the **10th Day Kriya** will be held at Muthi Ghat, near the Directorate of School Education, on Monday, 26th May, at 8:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Smt. Mohani Raina and Sh. C.L. Raina (Bhabhi and Brother) - 9910503285

Inder Raina and Lovely Raina (Son and Daughter-in-Law) - 9419036995

Rajinder Raina and Brij Bala Raina (Son and Daughter-in-Law) - 9906904323

Sh. P.N Koul H/o Late Bimla Koul (Son-in-Law) - 9796249678

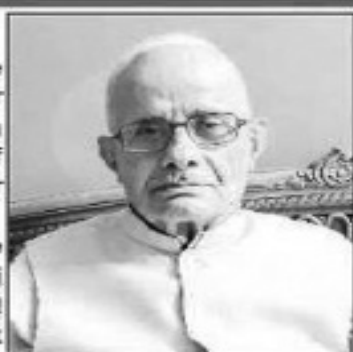
Babli Koul W/o Late Suman Koul (Daughter) - 8717070220

Grand Children: Bunty, Bantoo, Bobby, Sonu, Meetu,

Shalu, Rahul, Vidhi and Pavana

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:

Raina's, Bhat's, Kouls and Dass's.

**Sh. Soom Nath Raina****OBITUARY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Son **Sh. Sushil Kumar Bhatt** S/o Late Sh. Hirday Nath Bhat R/o Fatehpura Anantnag who left for his heavenly abode on 21-5-2025, at present address: Metro Pillar Number 798, UG -267/ A Kashmiri Gali Near Shree Ram General Store Vipin Garden New Delhi -110059.

Grief Stricken:-

Smt. Asha Bhat (Wife) W/o Late Sh. Hirday Nath Bhat (Mother & Father)

Smt. Renu Bhat W/o Late Sh. Postkar Nath Bhat (Aunt & Uncle)

Smt. Rajni Bhat (Wife) W/o Late Sh. Hirday Nath Bhat (Mother & Father)

Smt. Priya Kaul W/o Sh. Aditya Kaul (Daughter & Son-in-Law)

Smt. Alka Bhat W/o Sh. Kamal Krishan Bhat (Bhabhi & Brother)

Smt. Sunita Pandit W/o Sh. Sunit Kumar Pandit (Sister & Jiji)

Smt. Sudhima Dhar W/o Sh. Raja J (Sister & Jiji)

Smt. Indu Raina W/o Sh. Ravinder Raina (Sister & Jiji)

Smt. Ruby W/o Sh. Mohd Khat (Sister & Jiji)

Smt. Ravi W/o Sh. Anil Fokhar (Sister & Jiji)

Smt. Manisha Pandit W/o Sh. Sunit Pandit

**SH. SUSHIL KUMAR BHATT**

Smt. Sarthi Bhat W/o Sh. Sonu Bhat
Hans, Drunkia, Rishabh, Rashmi, Jansh, Shiv & Poo
Pandita's, Bhat's, Kouls,
+91 602084044 (Sister), +91 7708910088 (Jiji)
+91 8899004045 (Brother).

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 Chattabai 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 Jai & 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 Chattabai, 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 Rajhat 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 Krishan Koul

Smt. & Sh. Arun Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Shrawan Bhat

Smt. & Sh. Mahesh Koul

Mob.: 789644842, 9419141454, 9082862816, 9419189542, 7006480435

**Satish Kumar Bhat****TENTH DAY**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER
With deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother, **SMT. BILMA GUPTA**, who left for her heavenly abode on 16th May.

Her **10TH DAY RITUALS (DASVID)** will be held on 25th May at 10:30 am, at Hanuman Mandir Hall - Dignia Park, Jammu. Following the rituals, a **SHRADDHANJALI SABHA** will be held to pay tribute to her noble soul and to celebrate the love and values she shared with us. We invite all family, friends, and well-wishers to join us in offering prayers and memories to the departed soul.

DEEPLY MOURNED BY:

Shwari Gaudotra & Ansh Gaudotra (Daughter & Son in Law)

Indira Handoo & Ramesh Handoo (Daughter & Son in Law)

Sant & Arav Gaudotra (Grandsons)

Deepak Gupta & Veena Gupta (Bhaiya & Bhabhi)



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JMC initiates development of Green Spaces under NCAP



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: In a major step towards enhancing urban greenery and improving air quality under the National Clean Air Program (NCAP), Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Dr. Devansh Yadav, today conducted an extensive tour to various areas under the jurisdiction of Jammu Municipal corporation. During the tour, the Commissioner visited the various area

which include Narwal, Bathindi, Sunjwan, Greater Kailash, Bakshi Nagar (near Pawan Ice Cream), near BSF Paloura, near Super Specialty Hospital, and BC Road. The objective of the tour was to assess and identify suitable spots for the development/creation of green spaces aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and public well-being. The initiative is a significant step under NCAP to transform open

spaces in urban areas into eco-friendly zones, thereby contributing to cleaner air and a healthier living environment for city residents. Among others, Joint Commissioner, (H&S), Abdul Star, Joint Commissioner (Works) Firdous Ahmed Qazi, Executive Engineer, Project, Lokesh, Gupta, Chief Transport Officer Dharamveer Singh, and other senior officers accompanied the Commissioner during the tour.

Non Gazetted Horticulture Employees Union delegation welcomes new Director Horticulture Kashmir



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: A delegation of the Non Gazetted Horticulture Employees Union led by State President Fayaz Ahmad Bhat warmly welcomed the newly appointed Director Horticulture Kashmir at the Directorate Office in Rajbagh today. The delegation comprised State Vice President Mohd Maqbool Yatoo, Provincial President Mohd Amin Dar, Chief Organiser Farooq Ahmad Malik, members of the state body, all District Presidents, and

numerous union members. During the meeting, President Fayaz Ahmad Bhat extended greetings to the new Director and expressed hope for a progressive and collaborative future for the department. On the occasion, President Fayaz Ahmad Bhat highlighted the long-pending and genuine demands of the Non-Gazetted cadre, which have remained unresolved for years. He urged the Director to take immediate steps for redressal and bring long-overdue reforms in the interest of the working staff.

The Director Horticulture Kashmir expressed gratitude for the warm welcome and assured the delegation that all genuine issues concerning the Non-Gazetted cadre will be addressed in a time-bound and transparent manner. He emphasized his commitment to improving departmental efficiency and fostering a work culture of accountability and fairness. The meeting concluded on a positive note, with mutual assurance of continued dialogue and cooperation in future.

AIIMS Jammu to open advanced unit for safer pregnancies and healthier babies

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: AIIMS Jammu is set to enhance maternal and child healthcare services in the region with the upcoming launch of a dedicated Maternal and Fetal Medicine (MFM) unit. This specialized unit, operating within the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, will offer expert care for mothers and their unborn babies, particularly during complicated pregnancies. The initiative marks a significant advancement for healthcare in Jammu and Kashmir, as AIIMS Jammu joins a select group of hospitals in India providing such comprehensive MFM services. Maternal and Fetal Medicine specialists are doctors with advanced training focused on the health of both the mother and the developing baby during pregnancy. They use specialized knowledge and technology to monitor pregnancies closely, especially when there are existing health concerns for the mother, if she is expecting multiple babies, or if there's a possibility of a health issue with the baby. Their goal is to identify

and manage potential problems as early as possible. The new MFM unit at AIIMS Jammu will concentrate on the early screening and proactive management of significant pregnancy complications. This includes careful screening for conditions like pre-eclampsia, a serious issue involving high blood pressure in pregnant women through early checks and specialized ultrasound scans. This allows for timely steps to protect both mother and baby. Another key area will be addressing Fetal Growth Restriction (FGR), where a baby may not be growing at the expected rate inside the womb and Preterm labour (giving birth too early). The unit will also screen the women who might be at risk of FGR and preterm labour through ultrasound which helps doctors to keep a close watch on the baby's development and offer required intervention. If initial screening tests indicate a higher chance of a genetic condition, the MFM specialists will discuss further diagnostic testing options with the parents to get more defini-

tive answers. One such test is Chorionic Villus Sampling (CVS), which usually takes place between 11 and 14 weeks of pregnancy and involves carefully taking a tiny sample of the placenta for genetic analysis. Another option, typically offered after 15 weeks of pregnancy, is Amniocentesis. This procedure involves taking a small sample of the amniotic fluid – the water surrounding the baby – which contains cells from the baby that can be tested for genetic information. These specialized tests, when necessary, empower parents with knowledge and help doctors plan the best course of care. Dr. Vishakha Gupta, a Maternal and Fetal Medicine specialist at AIIMS Jammu, shared her enthusiasm: "With this new MFM unit, our aim is to bring comprehensive, world-class care to the families of Jammu and Kashmir under one roof. Expectant mothers will have access to advanced ultrasound scans for a detailed look at their baby's health, alongside early screening for conditions like pre-eclampsia and growth issues. Our collaboration with the genomics team will be

invaluable in providing precise information and support to families when there are concerns about fetal development. We are dedicated to guiding and supporting them throughout their pregnancy journey." Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS Jammu, emphasized the importance of this development: "AIIMS Jammu is committed to providing the highest standard of healthcare. This Maternal and Fetal Medicine unit, particularly with its linkage to our advanced genomics centre, represents a significant step forward. It will enable us to address complex pregnancy issues with greater precision, offering advanced and personalized care that is not widely available. We believe this will make a substantial difference in ensuring more healthy mothers and healthy babies in our region." The launch of this new MFM unit at AIIMS Jammu, combining expert fetal care with the insights of modern genomic medicine, promises a brighter and healthier future for expectant mothers and their babies in Jammu and Kashmir.

Natrang artist Supria Gorka wins National Scholarship Award

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Promising young Natrang artist Supria Gorka brought laurels for the UT of Jammu & Kashmir by winning the National Scholarship Award in the field of Theatre Acting. This award of National scholarship has been instituted by the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Supria is the only artist from J&K in all the categories of this competition to win this prestigious National Award. Supria was introduced to theatre by Balwant Thakur through a professional theatre training process with his play 'Rang Badalti Duniya' and later she was given the opportunity by Natrang to perform in the play 'The Wizard of Oz', 'Parampara', and 'Rehearsal' under the direction of Neeraj Kant. Director of Natrang, Padamashiri Balwant Thakur complimented



both Kesar Parveen and Sham Lal Gorka, the mother and father of Supria Gorka for bringing pride and honour not only for Natrang but for the entire Jammu & Kashmir. Terming this very big for the reason that only one artist from the entire J&K could make it to

that. This accomplishment of hers will inspire many young artists of the region to achieve and excel in this field. Balwant Thakur further said that Natrang has played a very crucial role in introducing the art of theatre amongst youth through its various innovative initia-

tives and programmes. On the occasion he also complimented Sumeet Sharma the head of Children wing of Natrang for holding regular theatre workshops and training programmes and maintaining the tradition of regular children theatre in Jammu.

The National Award to Supria is the result of such dedicated efforts and initiatives of Natrang. Under this award of National Scholarship, Supria will undergo intense theatre training under Balwant Thakur till she attains the age of 20.

NORTHERN RAILWAY					
TENDER NOTICE					
<p>Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Ferozpur 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 tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tender. Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.ireps.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.</p>					
Tender Type	Bidding System	Date of Uploading tenders	Bid Closing Date/Time	Date and Time of Opening of E-Tender	
Open	Single packet System	23.05.2025 Time 16:12 Hours.	16.06.2025 Time 15:00 hours	16.06.2025 Time 15:00 hours.	
SN	Tender Number	Details of Tender			
1	05-2025-ACR	Repair & Servicing of Air Compressor (Diesel Driven)01 & Electrical Driven07 installed at various C&W depot Ferozpur Division.			
	Advertised Value	Tender Document Cost	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of completion
	1907312.26	00.00	38200.00	30 Days	06 Months
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE					1528/25

BJP holds meeting to discuss series of programmes in honour of Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: J&K BJP held a meeting at the party headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, here to deliberate upon a series of programmes to be organized in honour of the great Maratha queen, Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar. The legendary ruler is remembered for her inclusive leadership, spiritual wisdom, social reform initiatives, and tireless commitment to public welfare. The meeting was chaired by former minister Priya Sethi, and attended by programme co-convenors BJP Mahila Morcha President Sanjita Dogra, Amar Singh, Adv. Neha Mahajan, & Reema Padha, District Presidents Adv. Rajesh Gupta, & Naresh Singh Jasrotia, as well as Mandal Presidents and other senior party functionaries. During the meeting, detailed discussions



were held regarding the structure, content, and outreach of the proposed programmes. These events are scheduled to be organized across various levels, with active involvement of the civil society, women, youth, and cultural organizations. While addressing the meeting, Priya Sethi described Ahilyabai Holkar as a timeless symbol of good governance, compassion, and justice. "Her reign is remembered for its administrative excellence, peaceful coexistence, and significant contributions to infrastructure, including the renovation and con-

struction of temples, dharamshalas, and water bodies across India," Sethi said. She added that Ahilyabai's leadership was rooted in Indian cultural values, and her ideals of justice, inclusivity, and development continue to serve as guiding principles for modern governance. "The upcoming programmes aim to educate party workers and the general public about these enduring values, which also resonate with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has consistently emphasized Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas." Sethi further empha-

sized the importance of connecting today's youth with such historical icons whose work laid the foundation for an equitable and harmonious society. "It is crucial that we draw inspiration from such towering personalities and integrate their legacy into our current socio-political framework," she concluded. The BJP leadership reaffirmed its commitment to organizing meaningful and inclusive programmes that pay tribute to the legacy of Ahilyabai Holkar while instilling a spirit of service, pride, and cultural awareness among the masses.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
Office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Jammu
Phone: 0191-2577745, Email: ifcj.xenmidjmu@gmail.com

ABSTRACT OF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
e-NIT No. MID/J-e-NIT/2025-26/12 Dated: 22/05/2025

Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Canal Road, Jammu, on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K UT, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered and reputed Firms for Rewinding/repairs to 50 HP motor of 6 cusec HC pumping unit-II along with allied works at LIS Jandi nud. The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz. Cover 'I' -Tender fee and Earnest Money Deposit, fulfillment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance of terms and conditions of the tender and Cover 'II' - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No.	Name of Work	Qty.	Earnest Money	Cost of tender document	Period of completion	Validity of Rates	Name of Division
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Rewinding/repairs to 50 HP motor of 6 cusec HC pumping unit-II along with allied works at LIS Jandi nud.	Complete job as per Scope of Work	2% of the quoted value	Rs200.00	10 Days	180 Days from date of Submission of bid.	Mechanical Irrigation Division, Jammu.

1.

Date of Issue of Tender Notice , viewed and downloaded from <http://jktenders.gov.in>

22/05/2025 (06:00 PM)

2.

Bid submission Start Date

23/05/2025 (10:00 AM)

3.

Bid Submission End Date

02/06/2025 (02:00 PM)

4.

Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Cover-I)

03/06/2025 (02:00 PM)

DIP/J-1427/25

-sd-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical Irrigation Division
Jammu

EDITORIAL

FOSTERING
INTEGRITY

In an age of rapid digital transformation and global cultural shifts, the youth often find themselves navigating a sea of influences, many of which are fleeting and superficial. Amidst this, connecting young minds with historical icons—leaders, reformers, scientists, philosophers, and cultural figures—serves as a vital anchor. These icons are not just remnants of the past; they are torchbearers of ideals, values, and perseverance. Cultivating a connection between youth and such figures can play a transformative role in shaping identity, encouraging civic responsibility, and inspiring a deeper sense of purpose.

Historical icons symbolize the struggles, victories, and values that form the bedrock of a nation’s identity. Whether it’s Mahatma Gandhi’s philosophy of non-violence, Subhas Chandra Bose’s valour, Swami Vivekananda’s message of spiritual strength, or Rani Lakshmibai’s fearless resistance, each story provides a narrative that transcends time. These individuals were once ordinary people who rose to extraordinary challenges, making them relatable and aspirational models for today’s youth.

Understanding these legacies helps young people appreciate the roots of their society. In India, for example, engaging with icons from the independence movement not only fosters patriotism but also a recognition of the sacrifices that underpin the freedoms they now enjoy. Historical figures become conduits for values like courage, selflessness, and justice—qualities essential for responsible citizenship.

To connect youth with historical icons effectively, educational institutions must go beyond rote learning. History should be taught as a dynamic subject—full of human emotion, moral complexity, and practical relevance—rather than a static list of dates and events. Schools can incorporate project-based learning where students research and present on icons from various fields. Role-playing and dramatization of historical events can bring the past to life, making students active participants in history rather than passive observers.

Technology also offers creative opportunities. Interactive apps, virtual reality tours of historical sites, documentaries, and gamified learning platforms can make the stories of these icons engaging and immersive. Social media campaigns celebrating their legacy through short reels, quotes, and stories can make their wisdom accessible in a language the youth understand.

Moreover, national days like Gandhi Jayanti, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti, and Ambedkar Jayanti should be celebrated not just ceremonially but as platforms for dialogue and introspection. Student debates, essay competitions, and exhibitions on these occasions can stimulate critical thinking about historical legacies and their modern implications.

When youth connect deeply with historical icons, they find not only inspiration but also a sense of mission. Icons like Bhagat Singh, Sarojini Naidu, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, and Baba Saheb Ambedkar were changemakers who challenged the status quo. Their lives inspire students to become socially aware, question injustice, and work towards inclusive development.

For instance, understanding Ambedkar’s fight for equality may motivate youth to speak up against caste discrimination. Learning about Dr. Kalam’s journey from a humble background to becoming the President of India can reinforce the value of hard work, education, and national service. These stories shift the focus from celebrity culture to substance, from fame to purpose.

In a time when material success often takes precedence, historical icons ground young people in deeper moral values. Many of these figures lived by principles such as truth, discipline, humility, and compassion. They offer a blueprint for character development.

Cultural icons like Rabindranath Tagore and M.S. Subbulakshmi introduced the world to the richness of Indian art, music, and literature. Familiarity with such figures can cultivate pride in one’s heritage and a willingness to preserve it. This cultural grounding is essential in an increasingly globalized world where local identities are at risk of being diluted.

Engaging with historical icons helps youth internalize leadership qualities. They learn about decision-making under pressure, the importance of vision, and the courage to act against opposition. Such understanding equips them to take on leadership roles in their own lives—be it in academic institutions, communities, or professional domains.

Leadership is not just about authority but about influence and integrity, as demonstrated by historical figures. Encouraging youth to emulate these traits fosters a generation that values ethics over expedience, service over self-interest.

By: Omkar Dattatray

The emotion of hatred stems from human psychology and it is closely related with hate and hatred is a negative human instinct and emotion and it is dangerous for the human society and the country in which we live. It has been said long ago but is very much true at the present time and that is love begets love and hatred gives birth to more hatred and thus we can say that hate begets hate and therefore as conscious and responsible citizens and human beings we should give vent to , and as far as possible avoid hatred and hate for the betterment of the society and the country and at large for the world. Love and affection are the emotions which should guide us and we should follow love while dealing with other individuals and citizens of the country. For the collective good, we should be ready to sacrifice our selfish interests and love should be the basis or the foundation stone of the societal good and all of us should give expression to love in our individual and collective endeavours and be successful in the end. The philosophy of hatred ,while a topic of deep concern ,is not a single ,unified system of thought. Instead, it encompasses various perspectives and interpretations of the emotion of hatred ,its origins ,and its consequences. The detailed aspects of the philosophy of hatred can be given in the following way---1—Hatred as a destructive force—Some psychologists, like Dane Harron

, suggests ,believe that hatred is often rooted in fear of oneself and the projection of unwanted aspects of the self onto others. They see hatred as a defence mechanism ,a way to maintain a sense of self-worth. 2---Sociological Perspectives---Sociologists often view hatred as a tool used to maintain power structure ,create social divisions ,and fuel conflict. 3—Philosophical perspectives—Some philosophers like Berit Brogaard ,argue ,that hatred is a dangerous and destructive emotion that can lead to violence ,prejudice ,and even genocide. She explores how hatred can arise between individuals ,groups ,and even nations ,and the psychological and sociological factors that contribute to it. In Indian case if Sofiya Qurashi and wing commander Vomika Singh has to be the victims because of the narrow mindedness of individual and so the image of India gets blurred .In the life of a soldier life and death in the battle field for the protection of his country so religious and communal hatred has no scope and place. When first independence day was celebrated in British India on 26th January 1930, there was great enthusiasm and love truth the people of India. In 1947 ,independence day of a free nation was celebrated in various states of India and national flag was hoisted .Dualism and Advaita has being and is discussed in Indian Philosophy and the doctrine and Bahunjan Sukhaya Bahunjan hitaya that translates to for the happiness and welfare of many has

defined the image of India. So many years after independence has India preserved the inclusive thinking of Saint and monk Sawmi Vivekananda .According to Vivekananda ,the soul of Indian culture is spirituality and it means the struggle of man to the highest goal of salvation. He has said that a man’s life is interlinked with society and with overall and without society individual life has no meaning and is beyond imagination and unthinkable. This is immortal truth and it is the foundation of the world and cosmos. But when this societal good is eclipsed by the irresponsible behaviour of some people into religious and communal colour and it gives much pain. To paint Sofia Qurashi and Wing Commander Vomika Singh in communal and religious colour is totally unacceptable and there is no scope for such ideas in Indian society and we should guard against this dangerous hatred and hate which can lead to dangerous propositions and that is land a soldier is above religion, sect, caste, creed ,geography ,linguistic divide ,language and for a soldier nation is the foremost priority and nation’s service and protection of nation’s sovereignty, unity and integrity remains uppermost in his mind. Soldiers love for nation is so intense that he can go to any extent to protect the nation and secure his patriotism and nationalism. Thus there is no place for hate and hatred with the lives and endeavours of the soldiers and it is grossly and primarily wrong

to see our soldiers from the lens of communalism and caste and same is true with our national heroes such as Col. Sofiya Qurashi and Wing Commander Vomika Singh who fought bravely for the country and it is because of these and other many soldiers that Pakistan and its Jihadi general came on their knees begging for ceasefire just after three days. There is no place for hate and hatred in the country and we should love our country and our defence forces. Sofiya Qurashi, Vomika Singh and all the brave hearts of the country deserves our salute and we are really proud of them as without their service and sacrifice we cannot live in peace as they guard our country in peace and war. We should not paint such national heroes with communal colour and should desist from seeing them as two great ladies of our defence forces with religious and communal angle and thus avoid hatred with such national heroes. Hate and hatred has no place while we are addressing our soldiers and for heaven’s sake leave soldiers from the attack of hatred. Jai Jawan, Jai Bharat. Hats off to the two great soldiers of India. Rest we should learn to love our forces and avoid hate and hatred. The philosophy of hatred is very dangerous so keep away from it for the national cause.

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

By: Vijay Garg

It does not have two opinions that linguistic diversity is the carrier of India’s beauty like colourful flowers. At the same time, this diversity is also the basis of cultural prosperity of the country. It is ironic that the front for Hindi protest is often opened in the name of the pride of the regional language for political gain. Undoubtedly the controversies that emerge from time to time only highlight the challenges of balancing between regional pride and national unity. A similar controversy a while ago revealed the controversy of slapping an officer by accusing Marathi of not adopting him in practice. The imperative of Marathi in the Kalantar BJP-ruled state was implemented in functioning. Now the fresh controversy has lifted over the refusal of a State Bank of India manager in Karnataka to speak in Kannada. Who had to say that she is Hindi speaking and will have a conversation in Hindi. Officer was transferred and khasha controversy in this manifestation. The political parties

who naturally took regional language politics became Khase active. Meanwhile, public service also sought training of linguistic sensitivity. Anyway, employees and officers from departments and banks working as central services often keep transfers in different states. It is not even possible that every person can speak the language of every state, but the employees directly employed in public services should use the local language of the state to communicate with consumers in a comfortable manner. At the other hand, a technical professional in Bengaluru was denied parking facility due to speaking in Hindi. The incident renewed the debate of linguistic tolerance in non-Hindi speaking areas. Surely both incidents pose a challenge for linguistic and cultural unity. Which needs to be considered seriously.

It is noteworthy that these incidents have taken place in the backdrop of the tri-language formula of National Education Policy i.e. NEP 2020. In fact, the National Education Policy has advised students to learn three lan-

guages. Which should have at least two India native languages. However, the aim of this educational policy is to promote multilingualism and national integration, but the resistance to this policy has emerged in Tamil Nadu. Political parties are calling it a threat to impose Hindi and their linguistic identity. Tamil Nadu has an old history of protest politics over Hindi. Especially since the exercise of making Hindi a national language started. However, the National Education Policy has been emphasizing with flexibility that no language will be imposed on any state. Also with that the issue of selection of languages will be left on state, regions and students. At the same time, certain political parties have been alleging that the practical implementation of the language in the National Education Policy is an extramarital issue. Nonetheless, the issue is debating about its impact on regional languages and the alleged dominance of Hindi. However, there is a need to build a mutual respect and understanding environment

to move forward from such disputes. Public institutions should ensure that their services are made available in the local language. At the same time, employees and officers be trained in cultural and linguistic sensitivity. Undoubtedly, educational policies must be implemented with full flexibility. In which regional priorities should be respected while promoting multilingual efficiency. Undoubtedly, India’s linguistic plurality should be encouraged as an integrated power rather than a divisive factor. By adopting the diverse languages of the country with empathy and openness, we can strengthen the fabric of our nation. Also can ensure that language becomes a bridge, not an obstacle.

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

Govt Polytechnic College Jammu conducts admission awareness campaign in government schools of Zone Bhalwal

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: 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, Manjeet Singh, Vicky Sharma and Rakesh Kumar visited Government High School Kangrail, Government High School Seri Panditan, Government High School Gurah Brahmana and Government High School Marjali (Zone Bhalwal) and informed the students



regarding courses/Scholarships offered in Government Polytechnic College Jammu.

The team further motivated the students for taking admission in the technical courses offered in Government Polytechnics to improve their skill and employability.

Speaking on the occasion, Er Vicky Sharma

said, "Polytechnic education offers practical skills, hands-on training, and faster employability. "Our awareness campaign will help students and parents make informed decisions about technical careers. Interested students are encouraged to take admission in Government Polytechnic College Jammu," he invited the students

Mega Scholarship & Career Counselling event held at GDC Kishtwar



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 24: The Career Counselling and Guidance Cell, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology at Government Degree College (GDC), Kishtwar, organized a highly impactful Mega Scholarship and Career Counselling Event aimed at 12th pass-out and graduate students. The event was held in association with the

BGGI Group.

Held under the patronage and able guidance of Prof. Basharat Iqbal, Principal of GDC Kishtwar, the session was convened and coordinated by Prof. Asma Javaid, who also delivered the welcome address.

The event covered a range of crucial topics for students, including Admission guidance for study abroad programs and scholarship

schemes; Financial assistance for meritorious students; Career opportunities after graduation; Postgraduate admissions across various universities; and Prospects in management courses.

Adnan Shabir, CEO of BGGI Group, and Basharat Bin Shamas served as the key resource persons, providing expert insights into academic and career planning.

Prof. Basharat Iqbal, Principal of GDC Kishtwar and Chief Guest of the event, addressed the students and commended the organizing team for their dedication to supporting students in their career development.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from over 250 students representing local schools and the host college. Faculty members including Prof. Waseem Rasheed, Dr. Usman, Prof. Ashfaq Ahmed Wani and others.

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India Launches All-New CB750 Hornet and CB1000 Hornet SP

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India (HMSI) on Friday announced the launch of two powerful new additions to its premium portfolio – the CB750 Hornet and the CB1000 Hornet SP.

Bookings for both the motorcycles are now open and their deliveries are set to commence from June 2025 onwards. The All-New Honda CB750 Hornet has been priced at Rs. 8,59,500 and the CB1000 Hornet SP has been priced at Rs. 12,35,900, ex-showroom Gurugram. The CB750 Hornet will be available across all Big-Wing Topline and Big-Wing dealerships while the CB1000 Hornet SP will be sold exclusively through BigWing Topline

dealerships in India.

Introducing the new premium motorcycles, Tsutsumu Otani, Managing Director, President & CEO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India, said, "The Indian premium motorcycle segment has shown tremendous growth over the years, especially among young and passionate riders looking for performance with style. With the launch of the CB750 Hornet and CB1000 Hornet SP, we aim to further strengthen our presence in the fun biking space. These motorcycles are a true representation of Honda's legacy of engineering excellence, aggressive design, and thrilling performance. We are confident these Hornets will strike a chord with riders who seek a dynamic and sporty

riding experience."

Speaking on the launch, Yogesh Mathur, Director, Sales and Marketing, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India, said, "Hornet has always held a special place in the hearts of enthusiasts, and with the introduction of the CB750 and CB1000 Hornet SP, we are taking that legacy to the next level. These motorcycles combine cutting-edge technology, iconic design, and a commanding road presence, making them a compelling choice in their respective segments. The growing appetite for performance motorcycles in India excites us, and we believe these Hornets will resonate with every thrill-seeker out there. We look forward to a great response from the biking community."

Jal Shakti PHE employees demand immediate action on pending wages and staff shortages

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 24: The Jal Shakti (PHE) Employees and Workers Association convened an executive body meeting at the PHE Complex in Udhampur under the leadership of Som Nath, District President of the Association and a senior trade union leader from Jammu Province. The meeting focused on the persistent neglect of daily wage workers' concerns by the government, especially regarding non-payment of wages, absence of regularization, and acute staff shortages in the department.

Som Nath, addressing the gathering, voiced serious concerns about the ongoing challenges faced by daily wagers. He condemned the government's indecisive and inconsistent approach towards policy-making for these workers. Although a committee had been established to review the issues of daily wagers, Nath pointed out that the committee has no role in resolving pending wage disbursements or in implementing the Minimum Wages Act, thereby rendering it ineffective.



A number of key demands were highlighted during the meeting. First and foremost, the Association demanded the immediate regularization of CP, ITI, and land case workers who have completed more than seven years of service. These workers, they argued, should be regularized under SRO-64, and all pending documentation and formalities must be completed promptly to ensure they receive timely payments and job security. Another major issue raised was the release of pending wages. Daily wagers have not received wages for an alarming period of 65–70 months, dating back to 2014. The Association insisted that these dues be cleared immediately and with interest, particularly for those workers who retired after dedicating

over 25 years of service to the department.

The implementation of the Minimum Wages Act was also strongly advocated. The Association criticized the significant wage disparity, pointing out that daily wagers in Jammu are paid a mere Rs. 311 per day—one of the lowest rates in the country. They emphasized that while the Leh UT government had already enhanced wages for its workers, the same action is still pending in Jammu,

despite similar needs and circumstances.

The issue of severe staff shortage was another critical point of discussion. The Association reported that thousands of posts remain unfilled across various divisions, which is negatively impacting the operation of newly commissioned water supply schemes. Mr. Nath warned that due to ongoing retirements and lack of new appointments, many schemes are becoming non-functional. He criticized the department for relying on private workers instead of hiring permanent staff and cautioned that daily wagers will not continue to work beyond their assigned responsibilities without appropriate recognition and compensation.

In his concluding remarks, Som Nath urged the government to immediately address

these longstanding issues and ensure justice for the daily wage employees. He reiterated that no worker should be expected to shoulder the workload left behind by retired staff or newly launched projects without proper employment terms.

Several senior leaders including Vijay Kumar Sharma, Suraj Parkash, Dinesh Kesar, Karan Singh, Mohan Singh, Puran Chand, Prabu Lal, Makhan Chand, Shambu Nath, and Tilk Raj Katoch were also present and supported the demands raised during the meeting.

The Association made a collective appeal for urgent government intervention to bring relief to thousands of daily wage workers who continue to serve under the Jal Shakti Department without adequate compensation or job security.

“Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi”- 7 J&K BN NCC Kupwara hosts youth network programme at AGS Wayne

Top News Report

KUPWARA, May 24: Demonstrating a strong commitment to nurturing leadership, cultural awareness, and civic responsibility among young people, the 7 Jammu & Kashmir Battalion NCC Kupwara successfully conducted a Youth Network Programme at Army Goodwill School (AGS), Wayne.

The event, organised under the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel (Lt Col) SS Misquith, Administrative Officer of the battalion, was marked by active participation from NCC cadets, local youth, and students. Attendees engaged in an inspiring

lecture and interactive session designed to motivate and empower the next generation of leaders. The programme was honoured by the presence of National Conference youth leader Shahrukh Nasir Khan who attended as the Chief Guest. In his keynote address, Khan commended the initiative, applauding both NCC and AGS Wayne for their efforts in guiding youth towards constructive engagement and national development.

"The youth are not just the leaders of tomorrow; they are the strength of today. Programmes like this equip them with the tools, vision, and

courage to bring about meaningful change," Khan remarked.

The event centred around the theme 'Vikas for Viksit Bharat 2047', highlighting the importance of culture, heritage, and roots. It forms part of the NCC's wider objective to unite communities and empower young individuals, especially in border areas.

Lt Col SS Misquith underscored the vital role the NCC plays in cultivating disciplined, responsible citizens and extended heartfelt appreciation to local authorities and the school administration for their support in making the programme a success.

NSF celebrates 129th birth anniversary of Shaheed Kartar Singh Sarabha

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: National Secular Forum (NSF), organized a program in University Campus, and on the Birth anniversary of Kartar Singh Sarabha who laid his life for the country. Amid slogans "Kartar Singh Sarabha Amar Raha "inquilaab Zindabad" 'Bharat Mata ki jai", they paid tributes to Kartar Singh Sarabha and garlanded the portrait of the son of soil.

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

Speaking on the occasion, Ankush Abrol appreciated the efforts of NSF members to come forward and organize these functions.

He also said that the right tribute to Kartar Singh Sarabha would be to launch the struggle for restoration of full status of Jammu and

Kashmir State.

Ankush also said that Shaheed Kartar Singh Sarabha is regarded as one of the most prominent faces in the independence movements against the Britishers.

He further said Bhagat Singh was inspired by Kartar Singh Sarabha. "On Bhagat Singh's arrest, a photo of Sarabha was recovered from him.

He always carried this photo in his pocket.

On this occasion, Dr Vikas Sharma said that we all should take oath not to sit silent and continue our endeavor to regain Jammu and Kashmir State. He said that J&K suffered immensely due to misadventures of the Centre. Dr Sharma urged the youth to come together on a single platform to push for this demand.

Dr Vikas also said that Kartar Singh Sarabha was an Indian revolutionary. He was 15-years old when he became a member of the Ghadar Party; he then became a leading luminary member and started fighting for the

independence movement. He was one of the most active members of the movement. In November 1915 at Central Jail, Lahore, he was executed for his role in the movement. He was 19 years old.

Dr Sukhdev Singh threw light on the life of martyr Kartar Singh was born on 24 May 1896 in the village of Sarabha, located in Punjab. He was the only son born in a humble Sikh household and was raised by his grandfather after the early death of his father. Vikshay Vashist, State Secretary NSF, also spoke on the occasion.

Gourav Partap Singh University Unit President delivered the welcome address; Abhishek Uppal Chairman Jammu District was delivering the vote of thanks.

Among those who were present on the occasion included, Roshan Sharma, Innam Nasser, Ashwani Sharma, Ankush Sharm, Farhan Khan, Ajay Singh, Imtiaz Ahmed, Shoaib Mehmood, Arun Sharma, Aditya Sharma, Ashaf Ahmed, and others.

Dr. Uppal Conferred Gandhian Fellowship Award – 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal has been honored with the Gandhian Fellowship Award – 2025 by the International Institute of Self-Reliance. The award recognizes his exceptional dedication to Gandhian ideals of self-reliance, rural development, and educational empowerment.

Dr. Uppal's impactful work in banking reforms and grassroots education has brought



meaningful change to rural communities. He expressed gratitude to Dr. Acharya ji for his continued support.

Kaith Biradari felicitates brilliant students with ‘Certificates of Appreciation’



Top News Report

R.S.PURA, May 24: The Kaith Biradari felicitated its distinction-holding students namely-Neha Kaith, Shivani Kaith, Raja Ram Kaith, Vipul and Jattin with 'Certificates of Appreciation' in a brief function held at Village Gegian.

Speaking on the occasion, R.L.Kaith said along with studies, students should try to explore themselves in different fields like sports, cultural activities and social work to enhance their personality, and that in this competitive era one should

also try to keep themselves up to date with current affairs.

Kaith further asserted, "Time is very precious, each and every student should learn how to use time productively and try to utilize each minute of their life by learning new significant skills and become a responsible citizen of the nation."

Those who were present during the event were Messers Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Dev Raj Kaith Jagdish Raj Kaith, Naresh Kaith, Kamal Kishore Kaith, Raj Kumar Kaith and Panch Soma Devi.

Tusshar Kapoor says people tried to derail his career as he was a star kid

Nepotism may be the buzzword in Bollywood over the last few years, but there was a time not too long ago when actors from the film industry did not face that much scrutiny from the audience. However, even the old-timers say that the scrutiny from a section of the media existed even two decades back. In a no-holds-barred chat with agency, Tusshar Kapoor recalls his first year in films and how people tried to pull him down.

Tusshar, the son of 70s' star Jeetendra, made his acting debut with *Mujhe Kuch Kehna Hai* in 2001. The actor agrees that the discourse around nepotism was not as prevalent when he began, but it was starting. "It had started in my time, too," he recalls, adding, "Especially if you were from a film background, then the glass is always half empty for a certain section of the media. You have to be very thick-skinned. Bahut neecha giraane ki koshish, bahut negativity thi (There were efforts to pull you down, a lot of negativity)."

Tusshar says that a certain section of the media tried to



find faults with whatever star kids did. "If you come to a press conference naturally without makeup and hair, you are criticised that aap hero dikhne ke laayak nahi ho (you don't look like a hero). If you come with makeup and hair done, you are told you are too filmy. Everyone was trying to pull you down," he says.

'There was attempt to derail my path'

Having spent 24 years in the industry now, Tusshar feels it was all down to having a thick skin very early on. "I feel fortunate enough to have the willpower to tolerate it and just concentrate on my work. That

work ethic is what took me forward. The film (*Mujhe Kuch Kehna Hai*) released, and it did really well. Otherwise, I could have been crushed under this pressure. I didn't come into the industry feeling I had to live up to someone's expectations. But there was an attempt to constantly judge and derail my path. But the audience is very pure. They will judge you based on what they see on the screen."

'Star kids don't have it easy'

The general perception is that star kids, as the term goes, are born with the proverbial silver spoon. However, Tusshar says that is not true. "Contrary to what people think, when

you are a star son, you don't exactly have a red carpet," he says bluntly, adding, "You can get your first film much easier. It can come into your lap. But even that is a chance. To finish that film and what choices you make after that, it's all unknown. The constant scrutiny and that feeling of 'no matter what you do, the glass is half empty', that is something you have to face and move on from."

The actor also has a bone to pick with how star kids are sometimes unfairly treated in comparison with the 'outsiders'. He explains, "There are so many actors who are not from an industry background who haven't had that kind of success. But they are hailed as icons of diversity. And there are a number of actors like me who are from the industry, we are always judged. No matter how many successful films we do, we hear 'acha ye sirf multi-starrers karta hai. You have to learn to ignore it."

Tusshar is currently starring in the horror comedy *Kapkapii*. The Sangeeth Sivan film also stars Shreyas Talpade

Eijaz Khan calls cancellation of Adrishyam 2 midway a 'shocker'



Actor Eijaz Khan, who was thrilled to be back with his web series *Adrishyam 2* which released last month, was disappointed when the show was halted after only six episodes. Speaking to us, the actor mentions, how the viewers had expected a

richer offering—more episodes, but felt disappointed with the sudden change.

"No one was expecting the show to be cut short in the middle. It was a shocker for the cast too. The discussions are still ongoing with the producers and channel,

and there's a possibility that the show might be revived. If that happens, I think everyone will be happy," he says, lamenting the uncertainty of the show's future.

Despite the inconsistency in his projects, Eijaz feels fortunate, as while many struggled for work post-COVID, he had back-to-back opportunities. The actor was seen in *Jawan* (2023), *Adrishyam*, *City of Dreams* Season 3 and *Dhoom Dhaam*, which released earlier this year.

However, he acknowledges that he is currently experiencing a lull in his career. "I am just an actor who is trying to act," says Eijaz, adding, "I was supposed to start shooting for *City of Dreams* Season 4, but it's been postponed. And in my 20 years in this business, 99.9% of postponed projects never come back. That's just how it is."

Scarlett Johansson says she wants to direct for Marvel

Actress and singer Scarlett Johansson, after premiering her directorial debut *Eleanor the Great* at Cannes 2025, shared that she would be open to potentially directing a Marvel Cinematic Universe movie. "I think the movies that I like that are big action movies also have the human connectivity piece," said Johansson, who notably portrayed the MCU character *Natasha Romanoff/Black Widow* in eight MCU movies between 2010's *Iron Man 2* and 2021's *Black Widow*.

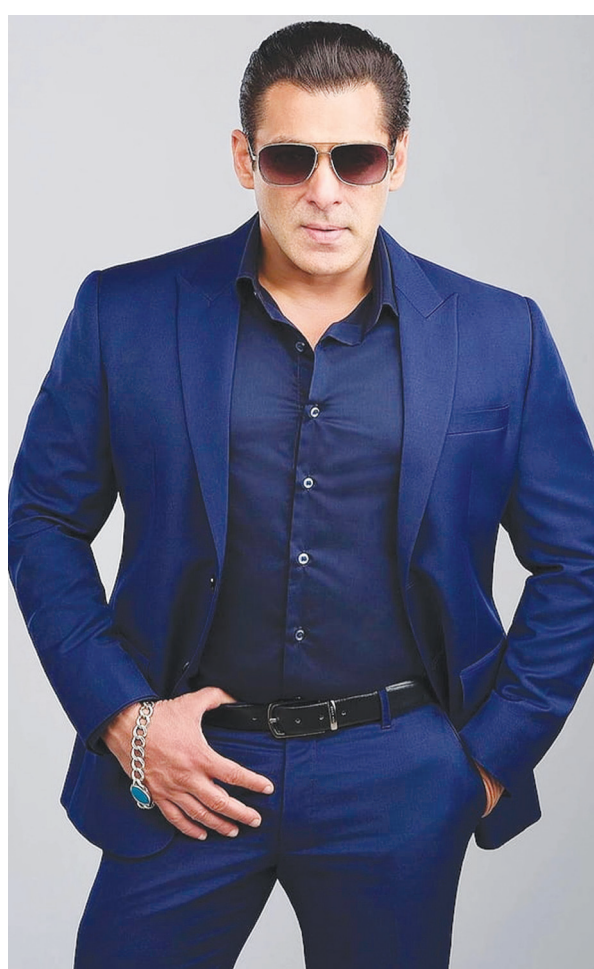
Johansson's *Eleanor the Great* received a five-minute standing ovation after its Cannes premiere, which she attended with her husband Colin Jost. Johansson said bringing the film to Cannes "really is a dream come true."



Salman Khan trains in low-oxygen condition for war-drama on Galwan valley clash

Actor Salman Khan is all set to portray the iconic role of Galwan Valley war hero Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu. While training for his upcoming epic war drama based on the 2020 Indo-China clash, he is leaving no stones unturned. Khan has been focusing on staying true to playing a decorated officer as it's about 'honouring a legacy.'

While speaking about the actor's ongoing intense prep work for the larger-than-life character, an independent industry source said, "Given the high-altitude challenges of shooting in Leh and the physical demands of portraying a decorated Army officer like Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu, Salman has committed to an intense training regimen. He's not just preparing to carry the weight of the



uniform - he's carrying the weight of the story. The AK-47 he'll be seen with is symbolic, but the real test is enduring the thinner air, long shoots, and rugged terrain. This prep isn't just physical; it's about doing justice to a national hero."

The source further said, "Salman is approaching this role with the utmost sincerity. He understands the responsibility of portraying someone like Colonel Babu - it's not just about getting the physicality right; it's about honouring a legacy. He's training not just for the camera, but out of respect for every soldier who serves the nation."

The 2020 Galwan Valley clash was a violent skirmish between Indian and Chinese troops, escalating tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). It led to casualties on both

sides, with reports indicating at least 20 Indian soldiers and 45 Chinese soldiers killed. Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu won the Maha Vir Chakra posthumously for his valour during the tensions with China in the Galwan valley.

According to an earlier Bollywood Hungama report, the movie is touted to be based on the novel 'India's Most Fearless 3' by Rahul Singh and Shiv Aror. The epic film will be directed by Apoorva Lakhia. The war drama is expected to go on floors in the second-half of 2025.

Salman was last seen in 'Sikandar', directed by AR Murugadoss, co-starring Rashmika Mandanna, Sathyaraj, Kajal Aggarwal, Sharmen Joshi, Prateik Smita Patil, Kishore, Jatin Sarna and Sanjay Kapoor.

Paresh Rawal returns signing amount with 15% interest after exiting Hera Pheri 3; his fee was 15 crore: Report

As per a clause, Paresh Rawal didn't like a clause which said that he would receive the rest of his fees only after the film's release.

Amid a row over Paresh Rawal's decision to leave *Hera Pheri 3*, it is now being reported that the actor returned the signing amount along with an interest of 15%. As per agency report, Paresh was being given 15 crore to do the film. The actor, according to the report, also had "reservations" about a particular clause in the term sheet.

Paresh reportedly paid more than the signing amount and the interest. Citing its source, agency reported, "Paresh Rawal has returned the signing amount of 11 lakhs with 15% p.a. interest and also a little more money for stepping away from the series. Paresh Rawal was paid 11 lakhs as a signing amount as per the term sheet. His

total fees were locked at 15 crores.

The actor, as per a clause, would receive the rest of his fees only after the film's release, which wouldn't be until next year or 2027. "The term sheet mentioned that Paresh Rawal would receive the balance amount - 14.89 crores - only one month after the release of the film. The senior actor had reservations about this clause. Also, the film's principal shoot was to commence sometime next year. This means that *Hera Pheri 3* was unlikely to be released before late 2026 or in the year 2027.

In short, Paresh would have had to wait for nearly two years to get the rest of his acting fees," as per the report.



Akshay Kumar's team warned Paresh of 'severe legal consequences'

Paresh's sudden departure from the project last week shocked the film industry and fans of the franchise who have been waiting for the third part for close to 20 years. Akshay Kumar, who also serves as a producer on *Hera Pheri 3*, sued Paresh for his actions.

Pooja Tidke, Joint

Managing Partner of Parinam Law Associate, which represents Akshay's banner, told news agency, "I think there will be severe legal consequences. It's of course hurt the franchise.

We have written to him letting him know that there are a lot of legal consequences involved. There have been expenses incurred towards the cast, towards the crew,

towards leading senior actors, logistics equipment, shooting of the trailer."

About Paresh and *Hera Pheri* franchise Paresh portrayed the role of Baburao Ganpatrao Apte in the *Hera Pheri* franchise. *Hera Pheri* released in theatres in 2000 while *Phir Hera Pheri* hit the cinema in 2006. The first film was directed by Priyadarshan, who is also attached to the third instalment.

Hera Pheri (2000) also starred Akshay, Suniel Shetty, Tabu, Om Puri and Gulshan Grover. *Phir Hera Pheri*, directed by late Neeraj Vora, featured Bipasha Basu, Rimi Sen, Sharat Saxena, Johnny Lever, Rajpal Yadav, and Manoj Joshi among others.

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan dazzles in Gaurav Gupta outfit



For her second appearance at the 78th Cannes Film Festival red carpet, Bollywood star Aishwarya Rai Bachchan chose a custom couture ensemble by designer Gaurav

Gupta. Gupta, who recently dressed actor Kiara Advani for the 2025 Met Gala in New York, shared pictures of Aishwarya on his official Instagram page. The ensemble, titled

Heiress of Clam, blended celestial design with Indian heritage and spiritual symbolism. It featured a sculptural gown in draped form, intricately hand-embroidered with an abstract rendition of the cosmos. The design included bursts of silver, gold, charcoal, and black, accentuated with micro glass crystals to reflect light.

Complementing the futuristic gown was a Banarasi brocade cape, handwoven in Varanasi, and bearing a Sanskrit shloka from the Bhagavad Gita.

Gupta said the couture look was 'imagined in draped form and spiritual detail'. Aishwarya made her red carpet debut at the 2025 edition of the film gala. She wore an ivory handloom Banarasi saree by designer Manish Malhotra. The 78th Cannes Film Festival is witnessing a significant Indian presence this year with filmmaker Payal Kapadia being part of the main competition jury.

If Centre, states work together like Team India, no goal is impossible: PM Modi

Modi is chairing the 10th Governing Council meeting of Niti Aayog

NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said if the Union Government and states work together like Team India, no goal is impossible.

Modi is chairing the 10th Governing Council meeting of Niti Aayog.

There is a need to increase the speed of development, he said.

"We have to increase the speed of development. If the Centre and all the States come together and work together like Team India, no goal is impossible," Niti Aayog in a post on X quoted the Prime Minister as saying.

The theme of the Governing Council meeting is 'Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047'.



"Viksit Bharat is the goal of every Indian. When every state is Viksit, then Bharat will be Viksit. This is the aspiration of its 140 crore citizens," Modi said.

The council, the apex body of Niti Aayog, includes all state chief ministers, lieutenant governors of Union

Territories, and several Union ministers. Prime Minister Modi is the chairman of Niti Aayog.

"We should have the aim of making each state viksit, each city viksit, each Nagar Palika viksit and each village viksit. If we work on these lines, we will not have to wait till 2047 to become Viksit Bharat," Modi said.

The Prime Minister also suggested that states should develop at least one tourist destination per state at par with global standards and by providing all facilities and infrastructure.

"One State: One Global Destination. It would also lead to the development of the neighbouring cities as

tourist places," he said. Noting that India is getting rapidly urbanised, Modi said, "We should work towards future-ready cities".

Growth, innovation and sustainability should be the engine for the development of India's cities, he added.

Modi also emphasised the need to work towards the inclusion of women in the workforce. "We must make laws and policies so that they can be respectfully integrated into the workforce," he said.

It is the first major meeting of the prime minister with chief ministers of all states and lieutenant governors of Union Territories after Operation Sindoor.

'Ayogya body': Congress slams Niti Aayog meet as exercise in 'hypocrisy', 'diversion'



NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): Calling the NITI Aayog an "Ayogya body", the Congress on Saturday hit out at the Centre and said the NITI Aayog meeting was yet another exercise in "hypocrisy and diversion".

Congress general secretary in-charge of communications, Jairam Ramesh, said the governing council of the NITI Aayog will meet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday to reportedly review the progress on the so-called 'Viksit Bharat' goal.

"What sort of Viksit Bharat will it be if those in power themselves destroy the bonds of social harmony by their malicious words and deeds," Ramesh asked in a post on X.

The Congress leader continued, "What sort of Viksit Bharat will it be if those in power subvert Parliament, judiciary, universities, media, and Constitutional and statutory authorities to fulfill

their nefarious goals?

"What sort of Viksit Bharat will it be if the values that India always stood for are systematically assaulted in full glare of the world?"

"What sort of Viksit Bharat will it be with sharpening economic disparities and inequalities even as wealth continues to accumulate in the hands of a few?"

Ramesh also asked what sort of Viksit Bharat will it be if India's glorious diversities are "deliberately sought to be insulted and erased".

"What sort of Viksit Bharat is it where not only is freedom of speech under threat but freedom after speech is also endangered," he asked.

"Today's meeting of the NITI Aayog – an 'Ayogya' body if ever there was one – is yet another exercise in hypocrisy and diversion," Ramesh alleged.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Saturday chair the 10th governing council meeting of the NITI Aayog, which

will focus on states, with a view to make India a developed nation by 2047, an official statement said.

The theme of the meeting is 'Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047'. It will be the first major meeting of the Prime Minister with the chief ministers of all the states and Union Territories after Operation Sindoor.

"In line with his commitment to take all the states together as 'Team India' for a Viksit Bharat, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will chair the 10th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog on May 24, 2025.

"The Governing Council meeting will discuss the approach on Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047," NITI Aayog said in a statement.

The idea of Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat is a call for states to craft bold, long-term, and inclusive vision documents aligned with national priorities yet grounded in local realities, the statement said.

"These visions must include time-bound targets," it said.

The statement also said that states must leverage their unique geographic and demographic advantages while focusing on human development, economic growth, sustainability, technology, and governance reforms.

Man pours toilet cleaner acid on wife after argument over loud music

BENGALURU, May 24 (Agencies): A man allegedly poured toilet cleaner acid on his wife following an argument between the couple over the volume of music playing on his mobile phone here, police said on Saturday.

The incident occurred on May 19 at NMH layout in Sidedahalli in north Bengaluru, they said. The 44-year-old woman who sustained injuries over her head

and face is now stated to be out of danger. She is recuperating at a hospital here.

According to police, the woman, who is a beautician by profession, alleged that around 9 pm, her husband asked her for money to buy liquor. When she refused, he began harassing her. Eventually, he managed to get money.

Later, he came home drunk and started playing songs on his

mobile phone at high volume. When she requested him to keep it down, he refused.

This led to an argument between the couple. He then brought a bottle of toilet acid cleaner from the bathroom and allegedly poured it over her head and face, he said.

As she cried for help, he fled the spot, police said. The victim was rushed to hospital by the neighbours.



"A case has been registered and efforts are being made to nab her husband. Further investigation is under way," he added.

2 Maoists, including splinter group chief with Rs 10 lakh bounty, killed in Jharkhand

LATEHAR, May 24 (Agencies): Two Maoists, including JJMP supremo Pappu Lohra, who was carrying a bounty of Rs 10 lakh on his head, were killed in a gunfight with security forces in Jharkhand's Latehar district on Saturday morning, police said.

Lohra, the chief of the Jharkhand Jan Mukti Parishad (JJMP), a Maoist splinter group, and his associate were killed during an anti-Naxal operation, conducted jointly by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Jharkhand Police, in a forest under the Latehar Police Station limits, a senior officer said.

"Two Maoists were killed in a gunfight with security forces. The police have recovered their bodies," Palamu DIG YS Ramesh told agency.

The police said the bodies of Lohra and another person, whose identity is



yet to be ascertained, have been recovered.

One dreaded member of the group, who was injured, has been arrested, and an INSAS rifle has been recovered from him, sources said.

Acting on a tip-off that Lohra and his associates were in the forest, a team of security personnel led by Latehar Superintendent of Police (SP) Kumar Gaurav launched a search operation, the police officer said.

"As the Maoists spotted the security personnel, they fired targeting them, and the team retaliated," he added.

Justice BV Nagarathna to become part of Collegium after Justice AS Oka's retirement

NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): Justice BV Nagarathna, in line to become the first woman Chief Justice of India, is set to become a member of the Supreme Court Collegium after the retirement of Justice Abhay S Oka.

Being the fifth senior most judge now, Justice Nagarathna will officially become part of the collegium on May 25 and will be part of it until she retires as Chief Justice of India on October 29, 2027.

The Collegium will now comprise Chief Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai, Justice Surya Kant, Justice



Vikram Nath, Justice J K Maheshwari, and Justice Nagarathna.

According to apex court sources, CJ Gavai is likely to convene his inaugural collegium meeting on Monday to address vacancies in

the top court and make crucial appointments in several high courts.

After Justice Oka's retirement, there will be a vacancy of three judges in the top court.

Under the collegium system, which came into

existence in 1993 after a Supreme Court judgement, five top judges of the apex court recommend the appointment, transfer and elevation of judges to the Supreme Court and the 25 high courts.

The government can return the recommendation to the collegium under this system. It usually accepts the recommendation if it is reiterated by the collegium. But there have been cases when the government has returned the file again or has not responded to the recommendations.

Justice Nagarathna, born on October 30,

1962, is the daughter of former CJI E S Venkataramiah.

She enrolled as an advocate on October 28, 1987, in Bangalore and practised in the fields pertaining to the Constitution, commerce, insurance and service.

She was appointed as an Additional Judge of the High Court of Karnataka on February 18, 2008, and became a permanent Judge on February 17, 2010.

She will have a tenure as an apex court judge till October 29, 2027 and may have a tenure of over one month as the first woman CJI after September 23, 2027.

Man shot dead during wedding procession in UP over alleged love affair



SHAHJAHANPUR, May 24 (Agencies): A 32-year-old man who came to attend a marriage function in Shahjahanpur district was shot dead, allegedly over a love affair, police said on Saturday.

Superintendent of Police Rajesh Dwivedi told agency that Amit Trivedi, a resident of Lakhimpur Kheri dis-

trict, had come to attend the marriage ceremony from the bride's side at Jeba Mukundpur village, under the Nigohi police station limits.

Trivedi's body, bearing a gunshot wound, was discovered on a road outside the village during the wedding procession on Friday night, the SP said.

According to those

familiar with Trivedi, his in-laws hailed from Jeba Mukundpur. His wife had passed away around two to three years ago.

Trivedi was reportedly in a relationship with a woman from his late wife's family, which may have been the motive behind the fatal shooting, the officer added.

Police have registered a case against two individuals Abhishek and Aman based on a complaint lodged by Trivedi's uncle. Locals identified Abhishek as the cousin of Trivedi's deceased wife.

The two accused have been absconding since the incident, the SP confirmed.

Four killed, including wildlife activist, in Jaisalmer road accident



JAISALMER, May 24 (Agencies): Four people, including a wildlife activist, were killed when their camper vehicle collided head-on with a truck in Jaisalmer district, officials said on Saturday.

The accident took place on Friday night in the Lathi police station area, as the victims were reportedly en route to investigate a tip-off regarding suspected deer poaching in the region.

According to police, the collision was so severe that the camper vehicle was completely crushed, trapping all four occupants inside. They had to be extricated with the help of a crane.

The deceased have been identified as Radheshyam Vishnoi, a noted wildlife activist; Shyam Prasad; Kavaraj Singh Bhadoria; and Surendra Chaudhary, police confirmed.

Building collapses after fire at factory triggers blast in Delhi

NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): A massive fire broke out at a factory in Delhi's Bawana industrial area early Saturday, triggering a powerful explosion that caused the building to collapse, the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) said.

"Seventeen fire tenders were rushed to the spot in Sector 2 after a call reporting a fire at a factory manufacturing plastic bottles was received at 4.48 am," DFS chief Atul Garg said.

Thick black smoke was seen billowing from the multi-storey building, which collapsed after an explosion, as the flames rapidly engulfed the entire structure.

No injuries or casualties have been reported so far, officials said.

The explosion, which



occurred shortly after the fire broke out, jolted the residents in the nearby areas, triggering panic as several locals rushed out of their homes, fearing further blasts, they said.

The rescue and containment operations faced difficulty due to the debris scattered all around, they said.

Police have launched a probe to find out what triggered the fire and the subsequent explosion.

The building's structural integrity and adherence to safety protocols are being examined.

Operations are underway to extinguish the flames completely and clear the debris.

Kyiv hit by explosions as Russia launches airstrike after prisoner exchange

Prisoners swap on Friday was first phase of a complicated swap involving the exchange of 1,000 prisoners from each side

KYIV, May 24 (Agencies): Ukraine's capital came under a large-scale Russian drone and missile attack early on Saturday with explosions and machine gun fire heard throughout the city, forcing many Kyiv residents to take shelter in underground subway stations.

The nighttime Russian attack came hours after Russia and Ukraine began a major prisoner exchange, swapping hundreds of soldiers and civilians in the first phase of an exchange that was agreed on by the two sides at a meeting in Istanbul last week. The agreement was a moment of cooperation in otherwise failed efforts to reach a ceasefire in the three-year-old war.

The debris of intercepted missiles and drones fell in at least four city districts of the Ukrainian capital early Saturday, acting head of Kyiv military administration, Tymur Tkachenko, wrote on Telegram.

According to Tkachenko, six people required medical care after the attack, two fires sparked at Solomianskyi district of Kyiv.

Prior to the attack, city mayor Vitalii Klitschko warned Kyiv residents of more than 20 Russian strike drones heading towards Kyiv.

As the attack continued, he said drone debris fell on a



shopping mall and a residential building in Obolon district of Kyiv. Emergency services were headed to the site, Klitschko said.

The prisoners swap Friday was the first phase of a complicated swap involving the exchange of 1,000 prisoners from each side.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the first phase brought home 390 Ukrainians, with further releases expected over the weekend that will make it the largest swap of the war. Russia's Defence Ministry said it received the same number from Ukraine.

The swap took place at the border with Belarus in northern Ukraine, according to a Ukrainian official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak

publicly.

The released Russians were taken to Belarus for medical treatment, the Russian Defence Ministry said.

As the freed men entered the medical facility Friday, people holding signs and photos of their relatives shouted names or brigade numbers, seeking any news of a loved one. The returning men inspected the photos, and a serviceman said he shared a cell with one of those on the sea of portraits held out toward him.

"Vanya!" cried Nataliia Mosych, among the gathered relatives, "My husband!"

The exchange, which would be the latest of dozens of swaps since the war began and the biggest involving Ukrainian civilians at one time, didn't herald any

halt in fighting.

Battles continued along the roughly 1,000-km front line, where tens of thousands of soldiers have been killed, and neither country has relented in its deep strikes.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan had called the prisoner swap a "confidence-building measure." But Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Friday that there has been no agreement yet on the venue for the next round of talks as diplomatic maneuvering continued.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Friday night that Moscow would give Ukraine a draft document outlining its conditions for a "sustainable, long-term, comprehensive" peace agreement once the ongoing prisoner exchange had finished.

European leaders have accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of dragging his feet in peace efforts while he tries to press his larger army's battlefield initiative and capture more Ukrainian land.

The Istanbul meeting revealed that both sides remained far apart on key conditions for ending the fighting. One such condition for Ukraine, backed by its Western allies, is a temporary ceasefire as a first step toward a peaceful settlement.

Okay to go to India, but no US sales without tariffs: Trump to Apple

Trump warns of 25 per cent tariff on the technology company's products if not made in US



WASHINGTON, May 24 (Agencies): US President Donald Trump has said it is okay for Apple to go to India to build its plants, but then the technology company will not be able to sell its products in the US without tariffs.

Trump's remarks came as he signed multiple executive orders in the Oval Office to boost US nuclear power.

"...But I had an understanding with Tim (Cook) that he wouldn't be doing this. He said he's going to India to build plants. I said, 'That's okay to go to India, but you're not going to sell into here without tariffs.' And that's the way it is," Trump said

"We're talking about the iPhone. If they're going to sell it in America, I want it to be built in the United States," he said.

Trump said in a social media post that he expects Apple iPhones that will be sold in the US to be manufactured in America and "not India, or anyplace else", threatening to put a 25 per cent tariff on the technology company's products if it does not comply.

"I have long ago informed Tim Cook of Apple that I expect their

iPhones that will be sold in the United States of America will be manufactured and built in the United States, not India, or anyplace else. If that is not the case, a Tariff of at least 25 per cent must be paid by Apple to the US. Thank you for your attention to this matter!" Trump said.

Just last week, Trump had said in Doha during his visit to the Middle East that he had told the Apple CEO to not build in India and instead build its manufacturing capacity in the US.

"We have Apple, as you know, that's coming in, and I had a little problem with Tim Cook yesterday," Trump had said in Doha in remarks to top executives.

"I said to him, 'Tim, you're my friend. I treated you very good. You're coming here with USD 500 billion but now I hear you building all over India. I don't want you building in India. You can build in India if you want to take care of India because India is the highest, one of the highest tariff nations in the world. It's very hard to sell into India. And they've (India) offered us a deal where, basically they're willing to literally charge us no tariff," he had said.

Earlier this month,

Cook had said in a Q2 2025 Earnings Conference call that the existing tariffs that apply to Apple today are based on the product's country of origin.

"For the June quarter, we do expect the majority of iPhones sold in the U.S. will have India as their country of origin and Vietnam to be the country of origin for almost all iPad, Mac, Apple Watch, and AirPods products sold in the US," Cook had said.

On Trump calling for Apple to shift iPhone production from India to the US, research firm Counterpoint Research Director Tarun Pathak had said last week that "this is a familiar Trump tactic: He wants to push Apple to localise more and build a supply chain in the US, which is not going to happen overnight. Making in the US will also be much more expensive than assembling iPhones in India."

Counterpoint Research Vice President Neil Shah said that Apple has been doing a lot of groundwork in India, which has helped it successfully manage some of the US iPhone demand from its India production facilities.

"In terms of capacity, India has enough to potentially meet all US iPhone demand in the future, but the ecosystem needs to be ramped up. We will see more efforts towards this as well as products beyond iPhones. We expect made-in-India iPhones to account for 25-30 per cent of global iPhone shipments in 2025, as compared to 18 per cent in 2024."

India rebuts Pakistan's disinformation on Indus Water Treaty at UNSC

NEW YORK, May 24 (Agencies): India, in a firm and unequivocal statement at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), accused Pakistan of spreading disinformation over the Indus Water Treaty and reiterated its commitment to responsible water management even amid persistent cross-border terrorism.

Delivering the statement at the Arria Formula Meeting on "Protecting Water in Armed Conflict - Protecting Civilian Lives", Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations Parvathaneni Harish strongly refuted Pakistan's claims regarding the Indus Water Treaty.

Harish highlighted Pakistan's violation of the treaty's spirit through its support for cross-border terrorism and its obstructionist approach to modifying the treaty.

Harish affirmed that India has always acted responsibly as an upper riparian state and accused Pakistan of distorting facts. "India entered into the Indus Water Treaty 65 years

ago in good faith," he said, recalling that the agreement was signed in a spirit of goodwill and friendship.

He pointed out that Pakistan has violated the treaty's spirit by inflicting three wars and thousands of terror attacks on India, resulting in over 20,000 Indian lives lost in the last four decades.

"Pakistan has violated the spirit of the treaty by inflicting three wars and thousands of terror attacks on India. In the last four decades, more than 20,000 Indian lives have been lost in terror attacks, the most recent of which was a dastardly targeted terror attack on tourists in Pahalgam last month. India has shown extraordinary patience and magnanimity throughout this period. Pakistan's state-sponsored cross-border terrorism in India seeks to hold hostage the lives of civilians, religious harmony, and economic prosperity," he added.

He added that Pakistan's state-sponsored terrorism threatens civilian lives, religious

harmony, and economic prosperity.

He emphasized that significant changes have taken place in the past 65 years, including escalating security concerns, growing requirements for clean energy, climate change, and demographic shifts.

"In these 65 years, far-reaching fundamental changes have taken place not only in terms of escalating security concerns through cross-border terror attacks, but also growing requirements for producing clean energy, climate change, and demographic change. Technology for dam infrastructure has transformed to ensure safety and efficiency of operations and water use. Some of the old dams are facing serious safety concerns," he added.

"Some old dams face serious safety concerns," he said, pointing out that terrorists even attacked the Tulbul Navigation Project in Jammu and Kashmir in 2012.

"In fact, in 2012, terrorists even attacked the Tulbul Navigation



Project in Jammu and Kashmir. These cynical acts continue to endanger safety of our projects and lives of civilians," added Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations.

Harish stated that India has formally asked Pakistan to discuss modifications to the treaty, but Pakistan has continued to block consistently any changes to this infrastructure and any modifications of the provisions which is permissible under the treaty.

"Against this backdrop, India has finally announced that the treaty will be in abeyance until Pakistan - a global epicentre of terror credibly and irrevocably ends its support for

cross-border terrorism," he stated.

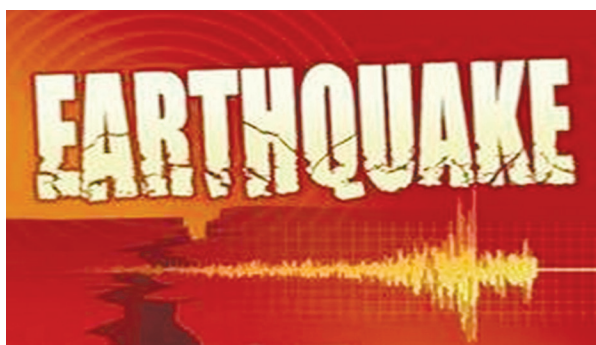
India has formally asked Pakistan to discuss the modifications of the treaty on several occasions in the past two years.

However, Pakistan continues to reject these and Pakistan's obstructionist approach continues to prevent the exercise of full utilisation of the legitimate rights by India.

"It is clear that it is Pakistan which remains in violation of the Indus Water Treaty," Harish concluded.

India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty in April 2025, following the Pahalgam terror attack, which it blamed on Pakistan-based terrorists.

Earthquake of magnitude 4.5 rocks Afghanistan



KABUL, May 24 (Agencies): An earthquake of magnitude 4.5 jolted Afghanistan on Saturday, a statement by the National Center for Seismology (NCS) said.

As per the NCS, the

earthquake occurred at 120km.

In a post on X, the NCS said, "EQ of M: 4.5, On: 24/05/2025 14:27:53 IST, Lat: 36.60 N, Long: 71.39 E, Depth: 120 Km, Location: Afghanistan."

China urges Kinmen and Lienchiang residents to obtain Chinese IDs to "Blur" Taiwanese identity

TAIPEI, May 24 (Agencies): The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is urging residents of Kinmen and Lienchiang counties to obtain Chinese ID cards to "blur national identities." This initiative is part of China's strategy to create a "Kinmen-Xiamen twin-city living sphere, which includes a cross-strait integration pilot zone within China's Fujian Province," as reported by Taipei Times.

"The CCP is treating individuals from these

outlying islands as Chinese citizens. Additionally, it has amplified its 'united front' strategies and the infiltration of these islands." "There is growing evidence of espionage activities in Kinmen, particularly involving the recruitment of Taiwanese military personnel by the CCP," the Taipei Times reported.

The CCP's distribution of Chinese IDs and residence permits to obscure the identities of Taiwanese nationals

in Kinmen and Lienchiang mirrors a tactic previously used by Russia in the Donbas region before the Russia-Ukraine conflict. "Bestowing citizenship upon a large number of pro-Russian residents resulted in numerous individuals with dual identities who were less resistant to invasion," they noted, adding that China aims to replicate this approach in light of its potential invasion plans. In the past, Taiwanese citizens could

only apply for Chinese residence permits after residing in Fujian for over six months, but China has recently removed that stipulation to hasten integration. "In certain instances, Taiwanese individuals can even request Chinese ID cards without relinquishing their Taiwanese ID or passport, effectively allowing for dual identity."

"The CCP is fully cognizant of Taiwan's single-household registration policy, which states

that holding a Chinese ID would nullify one's Taiwanese citizenship, so it intentionally refrains from disclosing the number of Taiwanese who possess Chinese ID cards," as mentioned in a Taipei Times report.

An investigation revealed that residents of Kinmen are more inclined to have Chinese ID cards compared to those living in Taiwan proper, indicating that Taiwanese individuals with Chinese ID cards face potential coercion

from the CCP, according to the Taipei Times.

"The more Kinmen residents acquire Chinese IDs, the more advantageous it will be for an invading force," stated Ho Cheng-hui, Deputy Secretary-General of the Taiwan National Security Institute. "Prolonged infiltration in the region would facilitate any invasion or influence operation. The current situation heightens the risk of annexation of these outlying counties," he remarked.

MLA Rajeev Bhagat unveils Rs. 4.65 Cr school development projects

Top News Report

BISHNAH, May 24: A significant stride towards bolstering educational infrastructure in the Bishnah Constituency was made today as Dr. Rajeev Bhagat, MLA Bishnah, inaugurated new school buildings at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Arnia and Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Allah. In a forward-looking move, Dr. Bhagat also laid the foundation stone for a new double-story building at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Trewa. These projects, collectively costing an impressive Rs. 465.39 Lacs, underscore a concerted effort to enhance learning environments and provide modern facilities for students in the region.

The inauguration ceremonies and foundation stone laying event were graced by the presence of Block Development Officer, Arnia, Tehsildar Arnia, officials from the executing agency PWD (R&B) Sub Division Bishnah, Principals of Higher Secondary Schools, ZEO, Arnia, ex-sarpanches, ex-panches, and other prominent personalities of the area. Their collective presence highlighted the community's strong support for educational advancement.

At Government Higher Secondary School, Arnia, Dr. Bhagat officially opened newly



constructed facilities amounting to Rs. 49.65 Lacs. These vital additions, implemented under the central government's "SAMAGRA Shiksha" scheme, include a state-of-the-art Art/Craft room, a well-equipped Science Lab, two additional spacious classrooms, and a comprehensive library. These improvements are expected to significantly enrich the academic experience for students, fostering creativity, scientific inquiry, and a love for reading.

Following this, the delegation proceeded to Government Higher Secondary School, Allah, where new infrastructure worth Rs. 29.88 lakh, also under the SAMAGRA Shiksha initiative, was inaugurated. This project saw the addition of three new rooms, an Art/Craft facility, a Science Lab, and a dedicated library, providing essential resources and an improved learning environment for the students of GHSS Allah.

The highlight of the day was the laying of the foundation stone for a grand new double-story building at Government Higher Secondary

School, Trewa. This ambitious project, with a substantial allocation of Rs. 385.86 Lacs under the CAPEX Budget, will feature a sprawling 810 Sqm floor area and house 10 modern classrooms. This expansion is poised to address the growing demand for quality education in the area, offering ample space and improved amenities for the students of Trewa.

Dr. Rajeev Bhagat, in his address, reiterated his unwavering commitment to strengthening the education sector across the region. He emphasized that these projects are not merely about constructing buildings but about investing in the future of the youth, providing them with the necessary tools and environment to excel academically and personally. The expanded and modernized facilities at these schools are set to bring about a positive transformation in the educational landscape of Bishnah, empowering students with better learning opportunities and contributing to the overall development of the community.

Women Grievance Cell organizes awareness programme on POSH Act 2013 in collaboration with DLSA Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, May 24: The Women Grievance Cell of Government Degree College (GDC), Kishtwar, in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Kishtwar, organized a comprehensive awareness programme on the Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, 2013. The event was held under the convenship of Dr. Tabasum and the esteemed guidance of Principal Prof. Basharat Iqbal.

The objective of the



programme was to sensitize students and faculty members about the legal provisions, importance, and practical implementation of the POSH Act, which is a cornerstone in safeguarding women's rights and ensuring a safe,

inclusive working and learning environment. Advocate Afshan Malik and Advocate Iram Sabha, both respected legal professionals, served as resource persons. They conducted engaging and informative sessions focusing

on the legal framework of the POSH Act, real-world case studies, complaint redressal mechanisms, and the roles and responsibilities of Internal Complaints Committees. The programme saw active participation from approximately 150 attendees, includ-

ing students and faculty members. Notable faculty members present at the event included Dr. Yasar Ahmed, Dr. Sehrish Gazal, and Dr. Usman.

An interactive Q&A session concluded the event, offering participants an opportunity to seek clarifications and discuss key legal and procedural aspects in greater depth.

The Women Grievance Cell and DLSA, Kishtwar, reiterated their commitment to promoting awareness, legal literacy, and a culture of safety and dignity for women within educational institutions and beyond.

Local people have first right on vacant land along National Highway: BSP

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: The Jammu & Kashmir unit of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has strongly demanded that the government ensure justice for the local people whose land was acquired by the National Highway Authority for highway construction. The BSP insists that these affected families not only deserve fair compensation but should also be granted access to the now-vacant roadside land to establish businesses and sustain their livelihoods.

BSP JK UT President Darshan Rana stated that it is unfair for the National Highway Authority to allocate vacant roadside land to



outsiders while ignoring the very families whose land was taken for the highway project. He emphasized that these local families, some of whom lost all their land to the construction work, should be given priority rights to this vacant land.

Rana further expressed concern that the exclusion of local stakeholders from development opportuni-

ties fosters resentment and economic hardship. "Once the road construction is completed, the first right to use the adjoining vacant land must belong to those who sacrificed their land," he said.

The BSP fully supports the ongoing protests in District Ramban and has declared its solidarity with the affected people. The party warned that if justice is not delivered, the Bahujan Samaj Party will actively join the agitation. The BSP called on the Jammu and Kashmir Government to address the legitimate demands of the local population without delay and ensure that development projects benefit the communities directly impacted by them.

Power of inner emotions

*When anger flames and ego grows,
The heart shuts tight, no kindness flows.
Our words turn sharp, our faces stern—
And peace takes flight, too hurt to return.*

*But when we plant sweet love and grace,
Forgiveness finds its rightful place.
With kindness sown and mercy shared,
A home once cold feels deeply cared.*

*So know this truth forevermore—
Our hearts decide our heaven's door.
With pride and rage,
we build our hell,
But love makes even
shadows dwell...
In light, where peace
and angels dwell.*

Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain
President Vichar Kranti Manch International
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FromPage No: 1

Cong leader Rahul Gandhi reaches Poonch to meet victims of Pak shelling

under Operation Sindoor on nine terror hubs in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on May 7 in response to the dastardly Pahalgam massacre.

A wave of artillery shelling, missiles and drone strikes by Pakistan killed 28 people, 13 in Poonch district alone, and injured more than 70 between May 7 and 10 across Jammu and Kashmir.

Thousands moved hearth and home from areas near the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border areas to seek refuge in government-run relief camps.

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 Saturday, the Congress' Jammu and Kashmir unit president Tariq Hameed Karra said, "Gandhi will visit shell-hit structures, including a gurdwara, a temple, a madrasa and a Christian missionary school. He will also meet the bereaved families and the members of the civil society."

"Gandhi is the first national leader to reach out to the affected population to express his solidarity and share their pain," he said.

During his visit to Jammu and Kashmir last month following the terror attack, Gandhi had said the idea behind the terror strike was to divide the people of the country and it was imperative that India stood united to defeat terrorism once and for all.

CM Omar attends NITI Aayog Meeting, Flags JK development issues

address the region's unique challenges and ensure inclusive growth for our people."

Relief from heatwave expected as rain, gusty winds forecast across J&K: Director MeT

generally hot and dry. However, there is a chance of a brief spell of light rain at isolated places, mainly during the late afternoon hours.

Between May 27 and 31, brief spells of rain or thundershowers are expected at scattered to many places across the Union Territory. Some of these events may be accompanied by intense showers and gusty winds.

According to the advisory issued by the MeT Centre Srinagar, a respite from the ongoing heatwave is expected, with maximum temperatures likely to drop by 2-3°C at many locations starting today. The advisory also mentions the possibility of thunder and gusty winds at a few locations over the coming days.

Residents have been advised to stay updated with weather forecasts and prepare for temporary weather disturbances. The forecast is a welcome development for the region which has been reeling under prolonged dry and hot conditions.

Patient dies due to alleged medical negligence at Paras Hospital, Sgr

surgery as according to him, doctors had injured his intestine during first surgery," said his brother.

"This is not just a case of negligence, this is murder. We want strict action against the doctor and the hospital administration," he said.

Other protestors said that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah should take cognizance of the matter.

The protestors demanded an immediate inquiry into the matter and immediate action against the involved doctor.

They have also appealed to the health department and concerned

authorities to take stringent action to ensure justice is served.

Meanwhile, the officials from Paras hospital administration could not be contacted.

"Poonch has been worst affected by Pakistani Shelling": Karra

announced the cessation of military action by India and Pakistan. "We expect Pakistan to remain committed to the ceasefire, though questions have been raised – why did a third country announce it despite the government's policy of no third-party intervention... We don't know what they (Pakistan) might do next, so the security forces have to be alert," he said.

Sharp decline in Kashmir Airfares after Pahalgam attack

has also led to a significant fall in airfares. As reported by Times Now, one-way air tickets from Delhi to Srinagar, which were recently priced from Rs 13,000, are now available for as low as Rs 4,000 to Rs 4,800. Similarly, flights from Mumbai that had earlier reached Rs 25,000 are now being sold for under Rs 6,000.

Stakeholders in the tourism sector have raised concerns over the airline pricing model. According to Times Now, industry players say that while ticket prices rise steeply during high demand, they fall just as quickly when demand drops. This pattern is seen as unhelpful in creating a stable tourism environment.

Before the attack, tourism in Jammu and Kashmir had seen a steady recovery in 2023 and 2024. Tourist numbers had increased in locations such as Gulmarg, Sonamarg, and Pahalgam. The Amarnath Yatra in 2024 had nearly five lakh pilgrims, a significant rise compared to the pandemic years.

However, the recent attack has disrupted this growth. The incident

occurred at a time when there was a general belief that Kashmir was safe for travel. Following the attack, there have been widespread cancellations of hotel bookings and tour packages. Embassies in Europe, North America, and the Middle East are also expected to revise their travel advisories.

Efforts needed to revive Pahalgam Tourism within 6-12 months: MLA

crippling blow to this crucial sector. Hoteliers, pony wallas, guides, and shopkeepers have all been deeply affected.

"Tourism has taken a major hit, but there is hope with the improving situation," Kaloo said.

He said the government is already working on a series of initiatives to address these challenges.

"Promotional campaigns and safety assurances are being planned to attract tourists back. It will take consistent efforts over time to regain tourist confidence," he said.

"The spirit of the people is strong, and that gives us hope," he added. Kaloo emphasized that extensive investments in tourism infrastructure have already been made in Pahalgam over the years. In the aftermath of the attack, detailed loss assessments have been submitted to the government.

"We have submitted detailed reports to the government regarding losses," he said, adding that relief packages and soft loans are being demanded for affected investors. "The government has promised support, but we are pushing for faster implementation," he said.

One of the hardest-hit groups has been the pony wallas, who now face regular questioning and increased scrutiny.

"I have raised the issue with authorities. We are seeking relaxed checks, issuance of identity cards, and immediate financial relief for these daily earners," Kaloo said.

The local MLA also voiced concern over the blanket closure of public parks and tourist sites, a decision taken in the immediate aftermath of the attack to prevent

further threats.

"Closing parks further discourages tourism and affects local businesses. While security is important, complete shutdowns hurt recovery efforts," he said.

Kaloo urged the administration to reopen public spaces under controlled conditions, ensuring security without completely shutting down the tourist attractions.

"I am urging authorities to open parks with controlled access and security measures," he added.

J&K ACB files disproportionate assets case against public servant in Srinagar

Fortuner, Maruti Wagon-R, and Renault Duster," reads the statement.

It reads that the verification also brought to light substantial expenditures incurred on the higher education of his children.

"Scrutiny of various bank accounts revealed multiple suspicious transactions and unexplained cash deposits. Imtiyaz and his family members were found operating several bank lockers in J&K Bank, and were in possession of multiple immovable properties of considerable value. The public servant was also found to be maintaining a lifestyle that is inconsistent with his declared income," it added.

It reads that a formal case bearing FIR No. 09/2025 has been registered against Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat at Police Station Anti-Corruption Bureau, Srinagar, under Section 13(1)(b) read with Section 13(2) for criminal misconduct.

"Following the registration of the FIR, search warrants were obtained from the competent Court and simultaneous search operations were carried out at the residential and other premises of the accused. The searches were conducted by ACB teams in the presence of Executive Magistrates and were facilitated by the local police and other agencies", it reads.

It further reads that during the course of these searches, incriminating documents and evidence pertaining to both movable and immovable assets were recovered.

ered, while further investigation is underway.

Statehood will be restored by Parliament, not by NC or PDP: BJP's Sunil Sharma

"Statehood will come. We will bring it. Not at the request of NC or PDP, but when the time is right, through Parliament and through PM Modi," he said.

Calling NC unfamiliar outside Jammu and Kashmir, Sharma said the party has only three members in Parliament. "In a crowd of 543, they're not even visible. We are ruling in more than 20 states. They cannot be compared to us," he said.

Sharma was visiting the Karnah sector near the Line of Control in Kupwara to assess the damage caused by Pakistan shelling after Operation Sindoor.

Day 2: Massive search operation continues in Paribal Ganderbal to trace out forest guard who drowned in Sindh

Shallabugh in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

An official said that search operation resumed for second day on Saturday to trace out the forest employee who accidentally slipped into the nallah Sindh near Paribal area here while on duty, adding that the joint rescue teams of SDRF, Police, forest department and locals are trying to trace out the missing employee from waters.

Notably, in a tragic incident, A forest employee drowned into Nallah Sindh in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Friday.

Officials said that a forest employee accidentally slipped into Nallah Sindh near compartment no.1 in Paribal area here.

He has been identified as Shameem Ahmad Mir (40), son of Ghulam Mohammad Mir, resident of Batwina Ganderbal.

DYSS Poonch Inter-School Zone Level Competition in full swing



Top News Report

POONCH, May 24: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Zone Poonch, is conducting the Inter-School Zone Level Competitions in multiple disciplines including Volleyball, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Chess, and Badminton for Under-14 boys and girls at the Sports Stadium, Poonch.

Organized under the dynamic leadership of Director General, YSS J&K, Rajinder Singh Tara, the event is part of a broader initiative to empower youth through sports and foster talent at the grassroots level.

The competitions are

being held under the supervision of DYSSO Poonch, Mohd Qasim, and ZPEO Poonch, Sarla Bakshi, with Pawan Kumar serving as the overall Incharge of the event.

On the second day of the competition, around 420 girl students in the Under-14 category from various government and private schools across District Poonch participated with great enthusiasm. Their display of skill, discipline, and sportsmanship set a lively tone for the ongoing matches.

The events are being technically supervised by Shafqat Hussain Shah (PET), Aman Sharma (REK) (Volley-

ball), Ruchika Sharma (PET), Jasmeet Kour (PET), Prabjot Kour (REK) (Badminton), Rajinder Singh (PEM), Narinder Kumar Verma (PEM), Bhupinder Kour (PET) (Kho-Kho), Rajesh Kumar (PEM), Nirdosh Kumar (PET), Gurdeep Kour (PET) (Kabaddi), Harmik Singh (PET), Pawandeep Singh (PET) (Chess).

Results of the Day: Kabaddi: MS Deri Sahib beat MS Sheesh Mehal. Kho-Kho: DNRM Girls High School Degwar (M) beat Rani Sarmori GMS Poonch. Chess: SAI School of Education beat Nanak Academy. Volleyball: Nanak Academy beat High School Karmara. Badminton: Jamia Ul Uloom beat Nanak Academy

Prominent personalities present included Rajinder Singh (PET), Press & Publicity Incharge, Zone Poonch, along with all PEMs, PETs, and REKs of Zone Poonch who remained actively involved throughout the event.

Make donations according to Zodiac Sign on Jyeshtha Amavasya: Mahant Rohit Shastri



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Jyeshtha Amavasya holds deep spiritual significance and is considered a highly auspicious day for performing rituals dedicated to ancestors. Mahant Rohit Shastri, Jyotishacharya and President of Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, has advised people to carry out Shraddha, Tarpan, and other ancestral offerings starting from 12:12 PM on Monday, 26th May. The Amavasya Tithi ends at 8:32 AM on Tuesday, 27th May, and thus, the Amavasya fast will be observed on Tuesday.

Bathing in holy rivers such as the Ganga or performing a sacred bath at home using Ganga Jal is considered highly meritorious on this day. People are encouraged to make donations, perform chants, and observe penance before 8:32 AM on 27th May. These actions are believed to bring peace to the souls of ancestors and attract positive spiritual energy into the devotee's life.

On Amavasya, fasting and rituals are said to please not only the Pitru Dev (deity of ancestors) but also deities like Brahma, Indra, Surya, Agni, and Vayu. To remove poverty and gain blessings, one may offer sesame seeds, milk, ghee, and sweets made of sesame under a Peepal tree. Chanting the mantra "Om Pitribhyo Namah" and reciting the Pitru Sukta during these offerings is highly beneficial.

Mahant Shastri also recommends offering Arghya (water oblation) to the Sun by mixing Ganga water, red sandalwood, and clean water in a copper vessel. This should be done three times while chanting "Om Pitribhyo Namah." Other beneficial practices include reciting Neelkanth Stotra, Sarpa Sukta, and Shri Naray-

an Kavach, as well as feeding a Brahmin and donating in memory of ancestors.

To bring peace and prosperity, certain remedies and symbolic offerings based on zodiac signs are suggested. These include Aries: Donate peanuts, black gram, or land. Taurus: Offer white clothes, pearls, milk, oil, and sugar. Gemini: Donate green items, bronze utensils, green fodder, or emeralds. Cancer: Offer rice, flour, ghee, curd, and pearls. Leo: Donate copper, saffron, red clothes, and jaggery. Virgo: Offer green vegetables, bronze items, and emeralds. Libra: Donate white clothes, pearls, curd, and sugar. Scorpio: Give red clothes, coral, coconut, or land. Sagittarius: Offer bananas, yellow items, books, saffron, and gold. Capricorn: Donate oil, sesame, iron, and dark blue or black clothes. Aquarius: Offer mustard oil, black clothes, sesame, and iron. Pisces: Donate turmeric, banana, chana dal, honey, and yellow items.

For those suffering from Rahu dosha, Mahant Shastri recommends worshipping silver serpents and immersing them in flowing water. To promote household harmony and prosperity, devotees should light a ghee lamp with a red thread wick in the northeast corner of their homes.

As part of the sacred observance, individuals must avoid tamasic foods, alcohol, and intoxicants. Celibacy should be maintained, and activities like cutting hair, nails, or wearing leather and black clothes are to be strictly avoided. Above all, hurting someone emotionally on this day is considered a major sin.

Additionally, the Vat Savitri Vrat, which is dedicated to married women praying for the long life of their husbands, will also be observed during this fortnight on Monday, 26th May. By observing these rituals and precautions with sincerity and devotion, individuals can seek peace for their ancestors and invite happiness, prosperity, and spiritual growth into their lives.

Ashok Koul chairs organizational meeting of Kathua BJP, focuses on grassroots work



Top News Report

KATHUA, May 24: Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), J&K BJP, chaired a meeting of BJP District Kathua at its District Office in Kathua.

The meeting served as a platform for detailed discussions on party activities, strategies, and the way forward in strengthening the party's base across all levels.

District President Updesh Andotra, Hiranagar Assembly MLA Adv. Vijay Sharma, Kathua Assembly MLA Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Vice President of District Development Council (DDC) Raghunandan Singh Bablu, senior leaders Gopal Mahajan, Prem Nath Dogra, Kuldeep, Ravinder Sharma, Gagan Sharma, and other prominent leaders were present in the meeting.

Ashok Koul addressed the gathering with a

strong emphasis on organizational discipline and unity. He highlighted the BJP's status as the largest political party in the world and urged all workers to take pride in being associated with such a monumental political force. He further motivated the cadre to continue working with dedication and in an organized manner to ensure the successful implementation of the party's vision and policies at the grassroots level.

"The strength of any political party lies in its workers. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the party's ideology reaches every household. Our programs must be effectively communicated and implemented at the booth level to build a strong and responsive organization," Koul stated.

Updesh Andotra, on the behalf of senior leaders, district, mandal

teams expressed the determination to work collectively for the continued growth and success of the BJP in the region.

Adv. Vijay Sharma assured the senior leadership of his commitment to the party's goals. He stated that the leadership's directives are being followed with utmost sincerity and that every possible step is being taken to bolster the party's presence from the booth to the state level.

Dr. Bharat Bhushan reaffirmed that consistent efforts are underway to expand the BJP's base and to connect with the masses more effectively, ensuring inclusivity and development for all.

A sapling was planted in the premises of the BJP District Office by Ashok Koul, symbolizing growth, sustainability, and the party's commitment to a greener future.

PTTI Vijaypur organizes special guest lecture on cyber crime

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, May 24: Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI), Vijaypur organized a special guest lecture on cyber crime/cyber security for trainees and regular staff of the Institute.

The lecture was attended by about (400) trainees presently undergoing various courses at the Institute besides staff members.

On this occasion, Ranjit Singh Sambyal-IPS, Principal PTTI Vijaypur in his inaugural address welcomed Mohd Yaseen Kichloo-IPS, SSP CICE J&K Jammu for accepting the invitation to deliver the special lecture on the subject.

Thereafter, the guest speaker delivered a comprehensive lecture and highlighted the importance of proper understanding of various forms of cyber crimes happening through mobile



calls/SMSs/whatsapp etc. whereby the cyber scammers ask for updating of accounts, cards, document verifications, invite for investment schemes, loans, etc. To overcome such frauds, the guest speaker laid stress upon for not sharing any sensitive information viz OTP, bank details & passwords etc. while using their mobile phones and not to click on any unknown link, photograph, SMS, spam e-mails, un-trusted websites etc on mobiles in

order to avoid trapping in such scams. Lastly, the guest speaker also displayed some informative video clips and also demonstrated some essential physical tips and tricks to prevent these frauds.

Besides trainees, the lecture was attended by staff members including Pawan Kumar Sharma, Vice Principal, Asif Iqbal-SrPO, Davinder Gupta-DySP(Outdoor), Khushwant Singh-DySP(Admn) and NGOs of PTTI Vijaypur.

Max Hospital Bathinda raises awareness on heat waves, its impact on health

Top News Report

BATHINDA, May 24: With temperature rising each day, doctors at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Bathinda, shared key insights on protecting against heat-waves and its impact on overall health. This initiative reflects the hospital's ongoing commitment to improving public health and addressing the need of the hour for people, particularly in the Malwa region of Punjab.

Dr. Ranjana Bhatt, Consultant - Internal Medicine, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Bathinda said, "Extreme heat can cause severe health conditions by putting undue stress on our bodies and disrupting our routines. While an increase in temperature might not seem like an immediate risk, it can put vulnerable groups like children, the elderly, and outdoor workers



at severe risk of heat related illness."

Dr. Ranjana Bhatt further shared some easily doable tips that can be applied in everyday life as stated, "Staying hydrated during summer can help you naturally regulate your body temperature and prevent heatstroke, fresh fruits like watermelon, cucumbers, and oranges are extremely nutrient-rich and can

help you stay hydrated. Dress to beat the heat as cotton and linen don't absorb heat and ensure sufficient airflow, one can also avoid tight-fitted clothes in dark colours for the same reason. Make sure to carry a hat or scarf while stepping out in the sun and don't forget to put on your sunscreen to protect you from the harsh sun."

Not everyone has the natural resilience to cope with extreme weather. These are the different vulnerable groups that require special care and attention as heat waves are brutal not just because of the discomfort and exhaustion, their impact can even be life-threatening. As the temperature begins to rise beyond the normal range, the effects will start reflecting on our environment, health, and everyday life in unprecedented ways.

DDC Chairperson reviews RDSS implementation in Ramban, emphasizes timely completion

Top News Report

RAMBAN, May 24: To review the implementation of the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in Ramban district, a high-level meeting was convened today under the chairmanship of the Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Ramban, Dr. Shamshad Shan, at the Conference Hall, Maitra. The meeting was attended by DDC Councillors, Additional District Development Commissioner Roshan Lal, Superintendent Engineer PDD, Chief Planning Officer Dr. Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, Executive Engineers of STD, JPDCL and NTPC, District Incharge NTPC, AEEs, AGM SJ Transformers, RDSS contractors, and other concerned officials.

At the outset, the Chairperson reviewed the area-wise progress and achievements under RDSS. Officers briefed the house on the objectives of the scheme, highlighting its focus on modernizing and strengthening the

power infrastructure to ensure quality, reliable, and affordable electricity supply to the public.

Expressing concern over the slow pace of implementation, the Chairperson instructed the executing agencies to coordinate closely with DDC Councillors to expedite the progress of ongoing works. She underscored the urgency of completing the projects before the onset of the rainy season, which typically hampers developmental activities due to adverse weather conditions.

The Chairperson also took note of the challenges affecting the execution of projects, including Right of Way (ROW) issues, delays in forest clearances, and insufficient fund releases. She directed the concerned departments to resolve these impediments on priority to avoid further delays. The Chairperson emphasized the need to execute all RDSS works in a mission mode to improve the power scenario across Ramban district, thereby ensuring tangible benefits to the local population.

PMFME workshop organised at Kaldi Suglar in Udhampur district



Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, May 24: A one day workshop on PMFME scheme was organised, on Saturday, at village Kaldi Suglar, block Jaganu in Udhampur district by Area Marketing Office, Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing Udhampur.

The Area Marketing Officer Udhampur is the

District Nodal Officer for the PMFME scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Government of India for Udhampur district.

A number of SHG members, farmers and unemployed youth from Kaldi Suglar and adjoining villages, apart from a number of experts, participated in the workshop.

Anuj Verma, Area Marketing Officer Udhampur, Dr Munish Sharma Senior Scientist SKUAST-J, Pankaj Sharma Manager PNB Udhampur, Shiny Sharma DRP PMFME, Ankur Sharma AEO Ghordi, Prakash Sharma farmer/ social activist, Rekha Sharma, Rukhsana, PMFME beneficiaries from Udhampur Rohit Salaria, Sunil Kumar & Bishan Dass, Kamal Kishor AGMO Udhampur and Ab Kabir Wani MI were present on the occasion.

Anuj Verma AMO Udhampur and other speakers from different departments briefed the audience about PMFME scheme. The Government of India scheme being implemented by the J&K Agriculture Production Department in J&K envisage 35% subsidy, easy bank finance, help in Documentation/ preparation of DPR and complete hand holding including branding & marketing.

Anuj Verma emphasized the people to take advantage of the PMFME scheme and be part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat movement launched by the Prime Minister of India.

Dr Munish Sharma Senior Scientist KVK informed the gathering that the Central and the UT governments have announced a number of schemes for farmers, unemployed youth and SHG females with subsidy up to ninety percent. He asked farmers and SHG members to take benefits of Government schemes in toto and embark on the path of Prime Minister Sankalp of Viksit Bharat. Farmers were asked to adopt the latest technologies as well as techniques like crop diversification, Market diversification, grading & packaging, storage & processing so as to get good returns of their produce. Other speakers also briefed the audience about salient features of the PMFME scheme.

The PMFME beneficiaries narrated their success stories. They were also honoured and presented with mementos by the Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department. The welcome address and vote of thanks were presented by Kamal Kishore AGMO.

Neeraj Chopra finishes 2nd in Poland event behind Weber

Chopra could only produce best throw of 84.14m which came in his sixth and final attempt

CHORZOW, May 24 (Agencies): Star Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra was not at his best as he managed a second-place finish, failing to hit the 85m mark in a rare outing in his illustrious career, at the Janusz Kusocinski Memorial meet here.

Chopra could only produce a best throw of 84.14m which came in his sixth and final attempt. He was at the third spot till the end of the penultimate round.

Germany's Julian Weber, who had beaten Chopra for the top spot in the Doha Diamond League on May 16 in a 90m duel, again emerged victorious with his second round throw of 86.12m. He was a European champion in 2022 and silver-medallist in 2024.

Two-time world champions Anderson Peters of Grenada was third with a best throw of 83.24m. He was third in Doha as well.

In fact, it was a repeat of the Doha top three finish, the only difference was that all three of them were below their best under overcast conditions after rain at the Silesian Stadium earlier in the day.

The 27-year-old Chopra had finally breached the coveted 90m mark with a throw of



90.23m in Doha though Weber had won the top spot with his last attempt of 91.06m. Peters had a best throw of 85.64m in Doha.

In fact, there were only 85m-plus throws in the whole competition, with Weber producing all of them. After his second round 86.12m, Weber had 85.03m and 85.11m in his fifth and sixth attempts.

Chopra, the reigning world champion, must be disappointed as since winning gold in Tokyo Olympics in 2021, he had produced below 85m throws in an event only five times before Friday.

He had 82.27m while winning gold at the Federation Cup in Bhubaneswar in May last year

and a 84.52m throw in South Africa in April.

The double Olympic medallist from India began with a foul and then had 81.28 in his second throw. But he struggled to get a big throw and was seen consulting with his coach Jan Zelezny, the legendary and world record holder javelin thrower, who spoke to Chopra from the stands.

Chopra's third and fourth throws were fouls. He had 81.40m in the fifth round, which kept him at the third spot before the 84.14m effort in his last attempt took him to the second spot. He had just three valid throws out of six attempts.

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 Indian and global stars, including Weber and Peters. But the event was postponed in the wake of the military confrontation between India and Pakistan.

This Poland event is Chopra's third competition 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.

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. The next Diamond League which has men's javelin in the roster is in Paris on June 20.

Mairaj Ahmad Khan, Ganemat Sekhon top Second Shotgun National Trials



NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): Olympian Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Ganemat Sekhon finished on top in the skeet finals of the Second Shotgun National Trials, held at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range.

Mairaj shot 55 in the finals, edging out Paris Olympian Anantjeet Singh Naruka, who shot 54, by a single shot. Ganemat also secured victory by a one-shot margin, finishing with 53 ahead of Maheshwari Chauhan's 52. Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Pari-

naaz Dhalwal finished third in the men's and women's categories, respectively.

In the final two rounds of qualification, Bhavtegh Singh Gill shot 22 and 24 to add to his 73 from yesterday, qualifying in first place. Mairaj totaled 118, while Smit Singh with 117, Angad with 116, and Anantjeet with 115 completed the top six qualifiers.

In the women's category, Ganemat topped the qualification round with 114 shots, followed closely by Maheshwari

with 113. Parinaaz also shot 113, while Oshmi Shrivastava, Darshana Rathore, and Mansi Raghuvanshi rounded out the top six with scores of 108, 107 (SO-3), and 107 (SO-2), respectively.

A separate selection trial was not conducted for junior athletes; as a result, Oshmi and Mansi were also placed first and second in the junior category with the same scores.

Agrima Kanwar placed third with a score of 104. In the Men's Junior category, Yuvaan finished on top with a score of 110, while Yashwardhan Singh Rajawat and Anjaneya Singh Mandaw finished second and third with scores of 108 and 106, respectively.

The Selection Committee will consider the scores from the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany, for junior athletes participating in that event, as Selection Trials 2 coincides with it. Scores of such shooters will not be marked as "zero."

There's still plenty of motivation: Assistant coach Mott as Delhi Capitals look to end IPL 2025 on high

JAIPUR, May 24 (Agencies): Delhi Capitals will look to conclude IPL 2025 on a winning note as they take on Punjab Kings in their last match of the season at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur on Saturday.

Reflecting on the campaign, Delhi Capitals assistant coach Matthew Mott said, "There's still plenty of motivation (to play this last game). Yes, we had a disappointing end to what was an encouraging campaign. We obviously came out of the box in the early stage, won a lot of games early, but the second half has been patchy. So, I think it's an opportunity for us to sign off on a positive note."

Talking about Axar Patel's availability, the 51-year-old said, "The honest answer is I don't fully know. He's not training today. But, we'll find out when we get back there today. Obviously, he wasn't



well the other day. He's had a pretty rugged time with a few different little niggle and injuries. I'm sure he's motivated to come out and play, but we'll probably know a little bit more tonight when we go back and see the medical stuff."

"Samir (Rizvi) in the last game looked really good. Abhishek Porel has played some really good counter-punching knocks and probably his next step is turning them into match-winning contributions. But throughout our group is exciting and talented," he further

said. Mott lavished praise on Indian young talent and added, "Someone like Vipraj (Nigam) who came under the radar this year right from the first match, played pivotal innings with the bat. I thought he was magnificent the other day when he came out and nearly turned the game. He's been entrusted with big overs, power play overs and crucial overs."

The Axar Patel-led side will leave no stone unturned to wrap the proceedings on a high.

Gujarat Titans seek top-two finish, CSK a consolatory win

AHMEDABAD, May 24 (Agencies): Gujarat Titans would aim to secure a top-two spot while Chennai Super Kings would continue their planning for the future when the two teams meet in the Indian Premier League here on Sunday.

With Royal Challengers Bengaluru losing to Sunrisers Hyderabad, the Titans still control their playoff destiny. A win against CSK will take them to 20 points and ensure a top-two berth, giving them two shots at making the final.

For CSK, already out of playoff contention, the focus will remain on building for the future as they look to test younger players and combinations in what has been a season of mixed returns.

The majority of GT's success with the bat has been built around the top three, comprising Shubman Gill, Sai Sudharsan and Jos Buttler, who would leave for national duty after the team's last league game on Sunday.

With Buttler not being available for play-offs, it is critical that the middle-order gets more time. Shahrukh Khan and Sherfane Rutherford got much needed runs under their belt against LSG and would be



eager to get another hit in the middle.

The bigger concerns for GT lie in the bowling department with star spinner Rashid Khan far from his best. He is in the middle of his most expensive IPL season but the team continues to keep the faith in him.

GT also need to improve in the pace department, specifically the fourth seamer option beyond Kagiso Rabada, Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna. The issue might exacerbate when Rabada leaves for national duty following the league stage.

CSK, on the other hand, are likely to finish at the bottom of

the table irrespective of what happens on Sunday afternoon. The game is another opportunity for youngsters like Ayush Mhatre, Urvil Patel and Dewald Brevis to make an impact.

After the loss to Rajasthan Royals in Delhi, CSK head coach Stephen Fleming had no qualms in admitting that his team is fittingly at the bottom of the standings. A win in that context will not mean much but CSK's ultra-loyal fan base would want the team to exit with two points.

M S Dhoni has kept the suspense on his IPL future alive since his international retire-

ment in 2020. Will the game on Sunday be his last for the fabled franchise? The answer lies only with the charismatic leader.

Teams (From): Gujarat Titans: Shubman Gill, Sai Sudharsan, Kumar Kushagra, Anuj Rawat, Rashid Khan, Rahul Tewatia, Shahrukh Khan, Nishant Sindhu, Ravishrinivasan Sai Kishore, Gerald Coetzee, Jayant Yadav, Arshad Khan, Karim Janat, Sherfane Rutherford, Mahipal Lomror, Washington Sundar, Manav Suthar, Gurmoor Brar, Ishant Sharma, Kagiso Rabada, Prasidh Krishna, Kulwant Khejroliya, Mohammed Siraj, Dasun Shanaka, Kusal Mendis, Jos Buttler

Chennai Super Kings: Shaik Rasheed, Andre Siddarth C, Rahul Tripathi, Devon Conway, MS Dhoni, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, Vijay Shankar, Deepak Hooda, Anshul Kamboj, Rachin Ravindra, Jamie Overton, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Ramakrishna Ghosh, Ravichandran Ashwin, Sam Curran, Matheesha Pathirana, Shreyas Gopal, Mukesh Choudhary, Nathan Ellis, Noor Ahmad, Khaleel Ahmed, Ayush Mhatre, Dewald Brevis, Urvil Patel. Match starts 3.30 IST.

Birendra Lakra joins Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team as assistant coach

NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): Hockey India (HI) has officially announced that former Indian Men's Hockey Team stalwart Birendra Lakra has joined the Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team as assistant coach. The 35-year-old veteran defender will work closely with legendary goalkeeper PR Sreejesh, who currently serves as the coach of the team.

Lakra's transition from a player to a mentor is expected to strengthen the Indian Junior Men's Team's defensive structure and overall game temperament, key elements as they gear up for a highly competitive FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2025 at home, scheduled to take place from November 28 to December 10 in Chennai and Madurai, the release stated.

A seasoned international, Lakra made his debut for India in 2010 and went on to become

one of the country's most consistent and reliable defenders. He represented India in two Olympic Games - London 2012 and Tokyo 2020, where India won a historic Bronze medal. Over an illustrious career spanning over a decade, Lakra played a key role in India's campaigns at the World Cup, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, and other major tournaments.

His impressive career highlights include a Gold medal at the 2014 Asian Games, Bronze in 2018, Silver at the 2013 Asia Cup, Silver at the 2014 CWG, and Silver at the 2018 Champions Trophy. He was also part of the Indian squad that won Bronze medals in the World League Finals in 2015 (Raipur and Bhubaneswar) and achieved podium finishes at the Asian Champions Trophy (Gold in 2016, Silver in 2012).

Most recently, Odisha-born



Lakra showcased his fitness and zeal playing for Team Gonsika in the Hero Hockey India League 2024-25, further underlining his enduring commitment to Indian hockey.

Speaking about his new role, Birendra Lakra said, "It is a great honour to be part of the Indian Junior Men's setup at such an important time. I know what it takes to wear the India jersey, and now I look forward to helping the next generation of players prepare for the big stage.

Working alongside someone like Sreejesh, who has been a teammate and an inspiration, is an exciting challenge. We are committed to building a fearless and well-prepared team for the tournaments ahead, especially the all-important Junior World Cup, which will take place later this year."

PR Sreejesh, Coach of the Indian Junior Men's Team, expressed his enthusiasm about the addition and stated, "Having Birendra join us is a massive boost. He brings a wealth of experience, tactical intelligence, and calm leadership that will be invaluable to these young players. We have shared many battles on the field, and I'm confident we will bring the same synergy and commitment to this new chapter as coaches. Together, we want to nurture a squad that can make the country proud."

Hockey India Masters Cup 2025 to begin from June 18 in Chennai

NEW DELHI, May 24 (Agencies): Hockey India (HI) has officially announced the venue and dates for the first-ever Hockey India Masters Cup 2025 (Men's and women's).

The inaugural edition of this pioneering tournament will be hosted by the Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu in Chennai from June 18 to June 27.

This event marks a new chapter in Indian hockey, offering a dedicated platform for veteran players. With competitions in both men's and women's categories, the Hockey India Masters Cup is poised to be a celebration of longevity, passion, and the enduring love for the game.

As per the regulations, a player must be aged 40 and above to compete in the men's category and 35 and above in the women's category.

The names of the teams for both categories will be released shortly. To participate in the event, players must register through their respective State Member Units.

The competition will follow a league-cum-knockout format, with pools structured based on the final number of participating teams.

Former Indian Women's Hockey Team captain Asunta Lakra expressed her excitement for the tournament and said, as quoted by the Hockey India press release, "Being part of the first-ever Hockey India Masters Cup is a deeply emotional and exciting moment for me. Hockey has shaped who I am, and to have the chance to return to the field, surrounded by fellow veterans who've shared similar journeys, is truly special."

"This tournament isn't just about competition—it's about legacy, passion, and the lifelong bond we all have with the sport. I applaud Hockey India for creating this platform for former players to relive the joy of the game and continue inspiring the next generation. I'm proud to wear my boots again, not just for the love of the game, but for everything it has given us over the years," she added.

GGF dispatches 2nd consignment of relief for Rajouri & Poonch

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Gandhi Global Family (GGF), in collaboration with several civil society organizations, on Friday dispatched the second consignment of relief material for families affected by Pakistani shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Rajouri and Poonch districts. The consignment will be officially handed over to the respective District Administrations in Rajouri and Poonch.

The relief material was collectively arranged by Gandhi Global Family J&K, J&K Ex-Services League, Tawi Welfare Society, and Unnat NGO. It includes juices, biscuits, sports items for children, sanitary napkins for women, grocery



kits and mosquito nets. This symbolic consignment was jointly handed over by prominent members of all supporting organizations, including Dr. S. P. Varma, Lt. Gen. Rakesh Sharma (Retd.), Neena Abrol and Dr. Alka Sharma, to Dr. Nitan Sharma, Regional General Secretary, GGF Jammu.

The event witnessed the presence of academicians such as Prof. Lalit Sen Sharma (Provost, Boys Hostel), Dr. Surinder Sharma (Warden), Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Dr. Satya Priya (Warden) and Dr. P. P. Singh. Also present were senior members of Gandhi Global Family, including Dr. Dinesh

Gupta, Dr. Robert Robin Gill, Summi Sahi Seth, Dr. Parvinder Kour, Joginder Kour, Punit Kour, Manish Joshi, Er. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Amit Varma, Ved Verma, Ch. Mumtaz Ahmed Kabir, Kirtan Singh, Raj Kumar, Naresh Maini and Er. Ankush Varma. Dr. S. P. Varma expressed gratitude

for the timely support extended by Anu Radha Lal, President of GGF Women, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and her compassionate team for their generous contribution toward the affected families. He also urged more individuals and organizations to come forward and support those impacted along the LoC.

The relief material was handed over in the presence of Col. Rajinder Singh, Ashwani Dubey, Kanchan Sharma, Gaurav Abrol, Adv. Waqar Hussain Shah, Rakesh Singh Dogra, Surinder Gupta, Rampal Gupta, Nand Kishor, Ashok Kumar, Narinder Singh, Rajinder Singh and numerous volunteers from Gandhi Global Family and Boys Hostel.

Bone & Joint Hospital runs without approved medical staff, RTI reveals: Balvinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Balvinder Singh, renowned RTI Activist, has brought to light a distressing reality that, though hard to believe, is tragically true.

The Bone & Joint Hospital which was established on October 16, 2023, was envisioned as a crucial healthcare facility catering to orthopedic patients in Jammu.

However, despite the passage of one year and seven months, the institution remains without a sanctioned strength of doctors and paramedical staff. An RTI reply has confirmed that no official posts have been approved, despite repeated proposals sent to the Health & Medical Education Department.

This glaring administrative lapse has forced the hospital to rely on borrowed staff from GMC and its Associated Hospitals, which are themselves struggling with an acute shortage of medical personnel. Such an arrangement is unsustainable and compromises patient care, as overburdened doctors and paramedics cannot provide the specialized attention required for orthopaedic cases.

The absence of dedicated staff undermines the hospital's efficiency, leading to delays in treatment and increased patient suffering. An RTI reply has confirmed that no official posts have been



approved, despite a proposal for 299 posts being submitted by the Principal, Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu to the Administrative Department of Health & Medical Education. The sanctioning of these posts is still awaited.

So the RTI Activist urge upon the Government to immediately sanction the required posts to ensure the hospital functions optimally. A well-equipped Bone & Joint Hospital is essential for the region, and its continued dependence on borrowed staff is unacceptable. Authorities must act swiftly to rectify this oversight and provide adequate staffing to uphold healthcare standards.

AIBOA calls for economic development, special recruitment drive

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: The All India Bank Officers' Association (AIBOA) Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh State Committee held an important meeting in Jammu to deliberate on pressing regional issues. Key concerns discussed included the development of the state's economy and the need for a special recruitment drive in the banking sector.

The committee emphasized that Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, often referred to as the "Switzerland of India" for their stunning natural beauty, agricultural richness, and religious and tourist destinations, deserve urgent and sustained economic support.

The Association urged the Central Government to allocate and promptly release adequate development funds to accel-



erate the region's progress. With a democratically elected government now functioning, the Association called for unhindered support from the Centre, stating that delays in fund disbursement could

hamper the implementation of development projects and disrupt administrative functioning.

The AIBOA committee also highlighted the urgent need for a special recruitment drive to

meet the banking needs of unbanked and remote areas of the state. The association asserted that banks serve as crucial links in connecting people with the economic framework of the country, especially

in rural and underdeveloped regions.

It recommended that recruitment be localized, with preference given to candidates from Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, considering the linguistic and cultural uniqueness of the area.

This move, they said, would enhance efficiency and better connect banks with local communities. Moreover, the committee emphasized the need for trained security personnel at every bank branch, appointed through government establishments, to ensure safety and smooth operations.

The Association called on banking authorities and the government to give serious consideration to these demands in the interest of the region's economic stability and social integration.

HSS Narrari Bala organises awareness program on drug abuse



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Higher secondary School Narrari Bala organised comprehensive awareness program on drug abuse as part of its ongoing IEC (Information Education and Communication) initiative. The event featured diverse activities and expert lectures.

The initiative aimed to educate students and parents about the harmful effects of drug abuse and the promote a healthier, drug free lifestyle among the youth.

The program began with symbolic lamp lighting ceremony where dignitaries from various departments signed and pledged to combat drug abuse.

Dr. Gharo Devi, Principal HSS Narrari Bala delivered a warm welcome address emphasizing

sizing the importance of the campaign. A thought provoking video on the harmful effects of various drugs was screened leaving a last impact on the audience.

Lectures were delivered by experts from various departments Dr. Sushant Sharma from medical department lucidly address the grave issue of drug abuse followed by Subhash Sharma, Exercise Department, elaborate legal aspects of substance abuse. Mohan Singh, Police Department, delivered an impactful lecture on role of law enforcement in combating drug abuse.

Adding further depth to the program Ashok Sharma from education department and Jott Kumari from Social Welfare Department delivered motivational address/

Further students of the school showcased their creativity and awareness through a powerful skit on drug abuse.

The program was hosted by Dr. Avineet Prashar (Lect) while Abhilasha Rajput (teacher) oversees all arrangements for the programme.

Other notable attendees include members of school management committee (SMC), parents and staff of the school. The program concluded with the vote of thanks delivered by Renu Sharma (lect.) followed by an oath taking ceremony by Anju sharma (master) were students pledge to abstain from drugs.

This campaign aims to educate and raise awareness about danger of drug abuse promoting a healthy and safe for community.

Annual Mindhal Yatra 2025 to be held from June 1 to 6: ASDCSS



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: Prof. Daljeet Singh Manhas, President of Aadi Shakti Devi Chandike Sevaks Sanstha (ASDCSS), Blassu, Doda (J&K), has officially announced that the Annual Mindhal Yatra 2025 will take place from June 1st to June 6th. The Yatra, a deeply revered religious pilgrimage, witnesses participation from thousands of devotees each year who come to seek the blessings of Maa Chandi.

Prof. Manhas shared that the Yatra will commence on June 1st from Maa Chandi Temple, Blassu, Doda, under the banner of ASDCSS. The spiritual journey is led by Pyar Singh, Chief Patron of the Sanstha, along with Chhari Mubariks (sacred staffs) from various parts of Jammu and Kashmir including Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur, Ramban, Bhaderwah,

Doda, and Bhallesa.

As per the itinerary, the Yatra will reach Gouri Shankar Temple, Kishtwar on June 1st, proceed to Maha Kali Temple, Sohla, Padder on June 2nd, and arrive at the sacred Mindhal Darbar, Pangti (HP) on June 3rd. The main spiritual gathering, Mindhal Mela, will be observed on June 4th, featuring Havan-Pooja, Bhaderwahi Kud (folk dance), and Jagran (devotional night vigil) at the holy shrine of Maa Chandi. After seeking divine blessings, devotees will begin their return journey, reaching Gouri Shankar Temple, Kishtwar on June 5th and concluding at their respective hometowns including Blassu, Doda on June 6th.

The Sanstha is working diligently in collaboration with Maa Chandi Sevaks from Kathua, Jammu, Udhampur, Batote, Ramban, Prem Nagar, Thathri, Kisht-

war, Galhar, Kundal, Sohla, Tyari, Lujh, Killar, and Mindhal, and with active support from the district administrations of Doda, Kishtwar (J&K) and Chamba (HP) to ensure smooth execution of the Yatra.

Prof. Manhas made a heartfelt appeal to the district authorities of Doda, Kishtwar, Kellar,

and Pangti, along with Chhari Sevaks and all devotees, to extend their full cooperation for the safe and smooth conduct of this sacred pilgrimage.

He also urged those arranging Bhandaras (community meals) and other facilities to manage them properly and respectfully, in line with the spiritual sanctity

of the event.

He further acknowledged the dedicated efforts of the ASDCSS executive members including Pyar Singh, Prem Singh, Ajay Sethi, Katar Singh, Ravinder Singh, Prof. Shrikant, Satish Kumar, Muninder Singh Kotwal, and Arun Manhas in organizing and managing the Yatra successfully every year.

DLSR Production, Dr. S.P. Gupta shine spotlight on Dogri Language and Culture with film “Gallan Pyaar Diyan”

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 24: DLSR Production, under the visionary leadership of Dr. S.P. Gupta (Former Professor, University of Jammu), proudly celebrates the overwhelming response to the private screening of the Hindi-Dogri feature film “Gallan Pyaar Diyan”, held at Platinum Cinemas, Palm Island Mall, Jammu.

This powerful cinematic work is a heartfelt tribute to the late Ramesh Kumari Gupta. It stands as a cultural milestone in the mission to revive and preserve the Dogri language through the expressive medium of film and music. The screening was met with thunderous applause and emotional resonance from all corners of society — academia, arts, literature, and public service.

With a legacy of promoting Dogri heritage, “Gallan Pyaar Diyan” isn't just a film — it is a

movement. It showcases the artistic brilliance of Dogri language, once the heartbeat of Jammu's cultural identity, and now in need of conscious revival. This production is a clarion call to every Dogri-speaking citizen and art lover to support, celebrate, and safeguard their linguistic legacy.

The film includes soulful original Dogri songs, penned by Dr. S.P. Gupta and set to music by the legendary Brij Mohan, whose melodies add depth, emotion, and regional authenticity.

These songs are not only melodious but carry deep cultural messages — making them essential listening for anyone who cherishes Jammu's heritage.

We earnestly urge audiences to experience these beautiful Dogri songs, feel their depth, and share them widely. This is how we collectively keep Dogri language alive — through art, emotion, and connection.

The screening event was attended by a galaxy of distinguished guests and supporters of regional art, including Prof. Anil Gupta, Head, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Jammu, Prof. Jeevan Jyoti, Department of Commerce, University of Jammu, Prof. Sangeeta Gupta, Head, Department of Library Sciences, University of Jammu, Retd. Prof. Rajinder Gupta, University of Jammu, Retd. Prof. M.R. Rana, Retd. Prof. J.R. Dhotra, Retd. Dr. D.L. Choudhry of University of Jammu, Chief Engineer K.K. Magotra, J.E.E. Mohan Lal Sharma.

Also present were respected members of the Society and Dogri film and art fraternity, including Rajan Gupta, Keshav Chopra, Corporators Ch. Surinder Singh, Anu Bali, Rajinder Samyal, Neelam Phull, Amit Gupta, Ravinder Sharma, Rekha Sharma, Archana Sharma, Savita Khajuria,



Vinay Daggar, Palak Verma (Silver Shadow), Rakesh Chalotra (President, Vishwakarma Sabha), Priyanka Dogra (NC), Deepak Raghuvanshi, Parvez Mir, Nitika Sharma, Baljeet Singh Raina, Mayank Mago-

tra, Bhawana Gupta, Ronit DJ, and Sapna Gupta.

Their united presence exemplified an unwavering commitment to the promotion of Dogri language through meaningful storytelling.