

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

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Stardom's evil partner is arrogance; hard to stay grounded: Kamal Haasan

Grateful nation can never forget Savarkar's courage, struggle: PM Modi

"World War 3": Ex-Russian President warns Trump after Putin's criticism



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BRIEFLY

Mock drill across border districts of J&K, Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan on May 29

NEW DELHI, May 28 (Agencies): Security drills will be held in border districts of states neighbouring Pakistan on Thursday, days after India launched Operation Sindoor, which targeted terror sites in Pakistan, as per TV reports. The mock drills will be held in Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir, the reports stated.

India's first mock drill post 1971, on May 7 was followed that very night by the operation destroying terror launch pads across the border in Pakistan.

Three key objectives, political, military, and psychological were successfully achieved by India, through its military strikes.

Two drug peddlers arrested with heroin in Udhampur

UDHAMPUR, May 28 (Agencies): Two drug peddlers were arrested along with 5.7 grams of heroin from Chak Magiote in the Rehambal area of Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district on Wednesday, police said.

The duo has been identified as Sham of Kotli Pain and Simraan Khan of Jakhani, agency reported.

A case has been registered against the two under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, a spokesperson said.

He said Sham was also wanted by police in multiple cases related to drug peddling and theft.

Man found dead near his house in Reasi

REASI, May 28 (Agencies): A man was found dead under mysterious circumstances near his residence in Tulli area of Reasi district on Wednesday.

Official said that the deceased has been identified as Mohammad Shabir, a resident Tulli village, falling under Tehsil Chassana.

His body was

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Neha Bhandari, lone BSF officer who commanded border outpost along IB during Operation Sindoor

JAMMU, May 28 (Agencies): Commanding a border outpost within eyeball-to-eyeball contact of a Pakistani post along the International Border, Assistant Commandant Neha Bhandari led her troops to silence three forward hostile posts across the zero line (area closest to enemy territory) by giving a befitting reply.

Apart from Neha, six women constables held a gun position on a forward border post, with their 'josh' rising with every bullet they fired at enemy positions across the IB in Samba-R S Pura-Akhnoor sectors.

Neha, a third-generation officer from her family in Uttarakhand, takes pride in being part of the BSF and commanding a border outpost in the Pargwal forward area of the Akhnoor sector in the Jammu district during Operation Sindoor.

"I feel proud to be manning a post along the International Border with my troops. It is approximately 150 meters away from the Pakistani post in the Akhnoor-Pargwal area," Neha told agency



here.

Her feelings are vivid as she confidently says that commanding the post during Operation Sindoor was an honour for her. "It was an honour to serve at the forward post and give a befitting reply with all available weapons from my post to enemy posts," she added.

Giving details of how she silenced three hostile posts resorting to unprovoked firing on her position during Operation Sindoor, she said, "I had three posts falling in my area. I pinned down the people at all three hostile locations. We hit them with every weapon we had. They were forced to flee their

posts."

The posts were decimated to ensure they were silenced, she said, adding that her troops performed their best during retaliation.

Expressing the high morale among the troops manning the post, she said, "The 'josh' was quite high. Everyone among us gave their best, because everything we did was for the country and its honour."

Neha's grandfather served in the Army, and her parents are from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), making her a third-generation officer in the family. "My grandfather served in the Army. My father was in the CRPF. My mother

is in the CRPF. I am a third-generation officer in the force," she said.

She maintained that women did not lag behind, as they stood shoulder-to-shoulder with their male counterparts to give Pakistan a befitting reply during the three-day-long skirmishes.

"I had 18 to 19 women border guards with me. To be precise, six women were engaged in direct firing at observation post locations. We are proud of them," said Neha, who was the lone BSF woman officer to command a forward post along the IB in Jammu frontier during the operation.

Praising the role of women in combat at forward posts and their engagement in firing on Pakistani posts, Inspector General of BSF Shashank Anand said, "BSF women personnel played an outstanding role in this operation. Although they had the option to move to the battalion headquarters, they chose to stay at forward posts with their male counterparts and

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MHA, Ladakh leaders reach consensus, settle on 15-yr domicile rule



SRINAGAR, May 28 (Agencies): In a significant development, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Ladakh leaders have reached a consensus on a 15-year prospective residency requirement, effective from 2019, to qualify for domicile status in the Union Territory of Ladakh. The agreement was described as the "Biggest Achievement" The meeting was chaired by Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai, held at North Block in New Delhi, The News Now reported.

The agreement has been hailed as the "biggest achievement" of the MHA-constituted High-Powered Committee (HPC) meeting. "It's a positive step that we have finally reached a

conclusion. The issue of domicile had been pending for a long time. Today's decision is the biggest achievement of the HPC meeting," said Chering Dorjay Lakruk, Co-chairman of the LAB, while addressing a press conference in New Delhi.

"We strongly advocated for a 30-year continuous residency in Ladakh as the criterion for domicile status. The government has assured us that it will examine the legal aspects of this demand and respond in the next meeting scheduled for next month," he added.

Ladakh leaders stated that the MHA also assured that it would consult the Law Ministry and legal experts "to examine the feasibility" of a 30-year residency

requirement for domicile status—a key demand put forth by the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) during the meeting.

Sajjad Kargili, the KDA leader said, "Keeping in view the current scenario, our leaders from LAB and KDA unanimously decided that we should reach a conclusion. Both groups showed flexibility to reach today's consensus. We agreed to a 15-year continuous residency from 2019. However, we reiterated our demand for a 30-year domicile policy, which the MHA agreed to legally review. We also expect discussions on other core issues, such as a separate Public Service Commission (PSC), statehood, and inclusion under the

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After Pahalgam, Omar Abdullah to hold meeting in Gulmarg



SRINAGAR, May 28 (Agencies): Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will on Wednesday chair a

meeting of his ministers and top officials in Jammu and Kashmir's ski resort Gulmarg as

part of his government's efforts to bring back tourists to the union territory after the deadly Pahalgam terror attack. Fine dining reservations

The CM will chair the meeting in Gulmarg at 12 noon, a notice issued by the General Administration Department stated.

Besides top civil administration officials, the meeting is expected to be attended by

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Punjab: Fazilka SSP suspended after four cops arrested in bribery case

CHANDIGARH, May 28 (Agencies): The Punjab government on Wednesday suspended Fazilka Senior Superintendent of Police Varinder Singh Brar, a day after four police officers were arrested in a bribery case, sources said.

A station house officer and three other police

personnel were arrested in Fazilka on Tuesday for allegedly accepting Rs 1 lakh bribe.

The case came to light when Dharinder Singh, father of a 17-year-old boy, approached Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann with "evidence" of bribe demands by the Cyber Crime Police Sta-

tion, Fazilka.

The station had confiscated the minor's phone following a complaint.

Despite repeated attempts by the family to resolve the issue, they were forced to pay bribe to settle the matter.

The arrested officials include the SHO, a

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Bovine smuggler detained under PSA in Kathua

JAMMU, May 28 (Agencies): A bovine smuggler has been detained under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Wednesday. Fine dining reservations

Abdul Gani was taken into custody from the Maggar Khad area in

Lakhanpur, they said.

He has been lodged at Central Kot Bhalwal Jail here under the PSA to curtail his illegal activities, a police spokesperson said.

He said 10 FIRs have been registered against Gani at three different police stations under various sections of the Prevention of Cruelty

to Animals (PCA) Act in Kathua since 2008.

To prevent Gani's illegal activities, police prepared a dossier against him and sent it to the Kathua district magistrate, who issued a detention warrant against the accused under the PSA, the spokesperson said.

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10TH DAY KRIYA

It is very painful & sorrowful to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Rekha Raina**, wife of Sh Ravi ji Raina, who left heavenly abode on 22/05/2025, originally resident of Mattan (Nagbal) Anantnag and at Present house no.132/B Uttam Nagar Kunjwani Bye Pass Jammu

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education, on 31st May, 2025 Saturday and the **Assembly** will be held at 9:00 am -Muthi Ghat.

Grief Stricken :-

Sh Ravi Ji Raina - Husband

Mr. Akshay Raina - Son

Mr. Ritik Raina - Son

Mrs. Sheetu Raina - Daughter

Mr. Amit Raina - Son

Smt Santosh & Sh Brij Lal Raina (Jethani & Jeth)

Lt. Babli Raina & Sh Chaman Lal Raina (Jethani & Jeth)

Smt Pinky Raina & Sh Jagmohan Raina (Jethani & Jeth)

Smt Daizy Raina & Sh Kamal Raina (Devrani & Devar)

Lt. Smt Shama Talashi & Lt. Sh Moti Lal Talashi (Nanand & Nandoi)

Smt Reeta Raina & Sh Avtar Krishan Raina (Nanand & Nandoi)

Smt Jeeta Koul & Sh Bushan Lal Koul (Nanand & Nandoi)

Rainas & Kous

Mob:- 7889787354, 9419121024, 7780876100, 9149642134

**Smt Rekha Raina****BARKHI**

ONE YEAR HAS GONE SINCE YOU LEFT FOR THE HEAVENLY ABODE. BUT WE ALWAYS FEEL YOUR PRESENCE EVERY WHERE. YOUR MEMORIES WILL REMAIN WITH US FOREVER.

BARKHI OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **LATE SMT. SUHAAG RANI (SANTOSH SHARMA)** EX. PRESIDENT PRAJA PARISHAD, JAN SANGH & MEMBER BJP MAHILA WING JAMMU W/O LT. SH. MULKH RAJ SHARMA OF PIR MITHA, JAMMU. **BARKHI** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 29TH MAY 2025 (THURSDAY) AT DEVI DAWARA MANDIR, PIR MITHA JAMMU AT 12.00 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN**DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON**

SMT. ANITA SHARMA & KULDEEP RAJ

SMT. MANJU SHARMA & RAMESH CHANDER

SM. ANITA SHARMA & PARVEEN SHARMA

DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW

SH JUGAL KISHORE & RAJ RANI

ASHISH, SHAURYA, PANKAJ, YOGESH, NARESH & HARSH -**GRAND SONS**

M/S MULKH RAJ & SONS

M/S KASHMIR CHAKKI HOUSE

PIR MITHA & CHANNI HIMMAT JAMMU

MOB. 9419141686, 9419223377, 8494017949

**LATE SMT. SUHAAG RANI (SANTOSH SHARMA)****TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Ashoon Kumar** S/o Lt. Sh Omkar Nath currently residing at Swam Colony, Trilokpur, Gole Gujral, Talab Tillo, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 25-05-25.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education on 02-06-25 at 8AM

GRIEF STRICKEN

Prima Devi - Wife

Amesh Pandita - Son

Shweta Pandita and Ashutosh Gupta - Daughter & Son in law

Ph. 9419165983, 7006162450

**Sh Ashoon Kumar****CONDOLENCES**

Management, Principal, Staff and Students of Rich Harvest School convey heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family on the sad and untimely demise of our alumni **Aniket Nischal and Kalash Nischal**. May the Almighty give strength and fortitude to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

**Aniket Nischal and Kalash Nischal****10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Kaushliya Bhat** W/o Lt. Tarachand Bhat originally from Sirhama Anantnag Kmr presently at H. No 20 Kailash Vihar Neter Kothian Barmal Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 25-05-2025.

10TH DAY KRIYA for the departed soul will be held on 03-06-2025 (Tuesday) between 7-9 am at Muthi Ghat (Near Director Education Deptt.)

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mr & Mrs. Anurag Krishan Bhat - Son & Daughter in Law

Mr & Mrs. B.N. Kaul - Daughter & Son in Law

Mr & Mrs. P.N. Raina - Daughter & Son in Law

Mr & Mrs. Veerji Bhat - Daughter & Son in Law

Mr & Mrs. Manmohan Bhat - Daughter & Son in Law

Mr & Mrs. Annet Bhat - Grand Son & Daughter in Law

Kunsh & Kavish - Grand Son

MOBILE NO: 9419630796, 9149754688, 7889711564

**Smt Kaushliya Bhat****OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that **Sh. Bhushan Lal Pandita (Advocate)** S/o Lt. Shreehar Joo Pandita originally R/o Ganesh Mohalla, Handwara (Kashmir) and currently residing at H.No 162, Sec-3, Vivek Vihar, Paloura, Jammu achieved nirvana on 23rd May 2025.

The 10th Day will be performed on 1st June, 2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Shanti Pandita - Wife

Brother & Sister in Law

Sh. Roshan Lal Pandita (Adv.) & Lt. Smt. Basanti Pandita

Sister & Brother in Law

Smt. Santosh Pandita & Sh. Ashok Kumar

Sons & Daughter in Law

Sh. Upinder Pandita & Smt. Sunaina

Sh. Rohit Pandita & Smt. Shivani

Daughters & Son in Law

Smt. Upasana & Sh. Subash Koul

Smt. Aika & Sh. Vinod Pandita

Smt. Urmila & Sh. Sandeep Bhan

Smt. Reema & Sh. Sumeer Raina

Grand Children

Suraj, Ojas, Akash, Khushi, Dhani, Aaira, Advait, Yaduvir

Contact : 9149570076, 600644515

**Bhushan Lal Pandita (Adv.)****10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Virender Kak (Nitu Ji)**, who left for the heavenly abode on 22nd May 2025.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** for the departed soul will be performed on 31st May 2025 (Saturday).

Pooja Timing: 7 to 10 am.

Venue for the Pooja: Shree

Gaurishankar Mandir Opp. Pillar No 54 near DHBVN

office New Palam Vihar Gurgaon.

GRIEF STRICKEN:**Kaks, Bhardwajs, Bhans, and Dhars**

Contacts: 8851956768, 9015369972

**Virender Kak (1963 - 2025)****OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that **Sh. Bhushan Lal Pandita (Advocate)** S/o Lt. Shreehar Joo Pandita originally R/o Ganesh Mohalla, Handwara (Kashmir) and currently residing at H.No 162, Sec-3, Vivek Vihar, Paloura, Jammu achieved nirvana on 23rd May 2025.

The 10th Day will be performed on 1st June, 2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Shanti Pandita - Wife

Brother & Sister in Law

Sh. Roshan Lal Pandita (Adv.) & Lt. Smt. Basanti Pandita

Sister & Brother in Law

Smt. Santosh Pandita & Sh. Ashok Kumar

Sons & Daughter in Law

Sh. Upinder Pandita & Smt. Sunaina

Sh. Rohit Pandita & Smt. Shivani

Daughters & Son in Law

Smt. Upasana & Sh. Subash Koul

Smt. Aika & Sh. Vinod Pandita

Smt. Urmila & Sh. Sandeep Bhan

Smt. Reema & Sh. Sumeer Raina

Grand Children

Suraj, Ojas, Akash, Khushi, Dhani, Aaira, Advait, Yaduvir

Contact : 9149570076, 600644515

**Bhushan Lal Pandita (Adv.)****OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Julie Pandita (Dhar)** W/o Sunil Dhar R/o Jabilpora, Bijnahra District Anantnag at present H.No. 65 Lane No. 1, (Dr. Dhigra Gali) Amrit Vihar, Upper Barmal, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 27.05.2025.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Reeta Dhar : Mother in Law

Sunil Dhar : Husband (9906215971)

Naman Dhar : Son

Rozy Dhar : Sister in Law

(9906611154)

**Julie Pandita (Dhar)****DISCLAIMER**

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

BARKHI

In the loving memory of our beloved **Late Sh Hans Raj Gupta** S/o L Sh. Beli Ram Gupta (Kotliwale) who left us, one year ago for his eternal journey, but his memories are still alive with us and we pray, your soul be rest in peace forever.

BARKHI will be solemnised on 29-05-2025 (Thursday) Cheja at 12:00 Noon/PM at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, near Petrol Pump Ved Mandir Complex, Ambphalla Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Smt. Kamla Rani (Wife) 9796422344

Mrs. Anju & Mr. Rajeev Saraf (Daughter & Son in law)

Mrs. Mohini & Mr. Kuldeep Gupta (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Mrs. Baby & Mr. Rajesh Gupta -do-

Grand Childrens

Sumit, Sonali, Kanav, Riya, Dinkar, Mayank, Sudanshu, Sajal & Ria

Mob : 9419190504, 9149483692, 9149853006

**Late Sh Hans Raj Gupta****TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound and grief We inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mrs. Chuni Devi Parimoo** W/o Late Sh. Gndhari Lal Parimoo on 24.05.2025 at 3.30 pm in Jammu, Originally resident of Habakadal, Srinagar (Kashmir) presently residing at H.No 1492, near Jain Temple Camp Road Talab Tillo Jammu.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 2nd June 2025 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat, Jammu from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

Grief Stricken**Son and Daughter in Law**

Late Sh. R.L. Parimoo & Mrs. Veena Ji

Daughters and Sons in Law

Mrs. Duma Chhangoo & Late Sh. Manu ji Chhangoo

Late Mrs. Promilla & M.L. Dattari

Mrs. Nimi & A.K. Razdan

Mrs. Jyoti & Late Kamlesh Bakaya

Mrs. Rozi & Ramesh Raina

Nephews & Nieces

Ravinder Misri & Mrs. Veena

Mrs. Sweetie & Ramesh Machama

Grand Sons and Daughters in Law

Dr. Vinod Dattari & Ms. Sunaina

Mr. Piyush Bakaya

Mr. Ayush Bakaya

Grand Daughters and Sons in Law

Mrs. Manju & Prakshit Koul

Ms. Veenu & Akhil Sood

Dr. Sonali & Nikhil Saraf

Ms. Priya & Rohit Gigoo

Ms. Shivani & Nikhil Wakhloo

Ms. Diksha & Amit Hasloo

Great Grand Children

Kiboo, Kishu, Dr. Piku, Phu, Ishu, Bani, Golu, Ladoo

**MRS. CHUNI DEVI PARIMOO****10TH DAY & KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Asha Wazir** W/o Lt. Brij Singh Wazir.

10th Day will be performed on 27th May 2025 (Tuesday) at 11.00 AM adjoining Kalimata Mandir Opposite AG Office.

Kriya will be performed on 30th May 2025 (Friday) at 12.00 Noon at our residence H.No. 557 C/o ICON Creations, Opposite Pillar No. 28 of Flyover Akhnour Road Talab Tillo Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sanjeev Wazir & Madhulika Wazir

Kuldeep Singh Manhas & Jyoti Manhas

Yashpal Singh Bist & Arti Bist

Jagdev Singh Chib & Seema Chib

Sehdev Singh Jamwal & Neha Jamwal

Dharminder Singh Manhas & Shivani Manhas

Mobile No. 9103519396, 8082643213**Smt Asha Wazir****VEHARWAR AND MASWAR****One Year Remembrance of****Dr. Rajander Kachroo: Veharwar & Maswar**

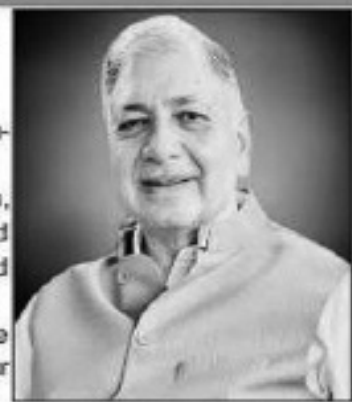
A year has passed and not a day has gone by without feeling the weight of your absence.

You were truly one of a kind - an incredible son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend, whose compassion, humour, optimism and resilience touched the lives of all those around you. You were the soul of our family - your intelligence inspired us, your strength grounded us, and your witty remarks brought us so much joy.

We love and miss you more than words can express and your presence lives on in everything we do, and we will carry your legacy and love with us - always and forever.

In loving memory of an extraordinary man who will be forever remembered and forever loved, **Veharwar and Maswar** of our dear **Late Dr. Rajander Kachroo** will be performed on 28th & 29th May 2025 respectively at Villa 20, Adarsh Serenity, Kannamangala, Whitefield, Bangalore.

Deeply missed & remembered by All Nears & Dears

**Dr. Rajander Kachroo****BARKHI**

One year have passed since you left us for heavenly abode but your loving memories will always remain with us.

Barkhi of our beloved **Late Smt. Kamla Rani Gandotra** W/o Late Sh. Dharam Brat Gandotra R/o JMC 363, Lane No. 3, Anand Vihar Bohri, Jammu performed on 29th May, 2025 (Thursday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

Grief Stricken**Sons & Daughter-in-Law**

Smt. Puja & Sh. Ajay Kumar Gandotra

Smt. Sonika & Sh. Abhay Kumar Gandotra

Smt. Bhavana & Sh. Ajeet Kumar Gandotra

Grand Sons & Grand Daughters

Vansh, Vyantika, Udhay, Parul, Harsh and Dhanvi

Mob. No. 9469214010, 9469145347, 9419620812**Late Smt. Kamla Rani Gandotra****TENTH DAY**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. RAMESH SAPRU** S/O (LATE SH. MADAN MOHAN SAPRU & LATE SMT. RANI DAVI SAPRU) ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF SAFRIYAR HABBA KADAL. PRESENTLY RESIDING AT H.NO. 77, POCKET B, SARITA VIHAR, NEW DELHI ON 22/05/2025.

THE **10TH DAY KRIYA** IS SCHEDULED ON SATURDAY, 31/05/2025 AT MURAD NAGAR GHAT UP AT 08.30 AM.

PRAYER MEETING/SHRADHANJALI WILL BE HELD AT ARYA SAMAJ MANDIR OPPOSITE POCKET F, SARITA VIHAR, NEW DELHI ON 31/05/2025 FROM 4 PM TO 5 P.M.

IN GRIEF

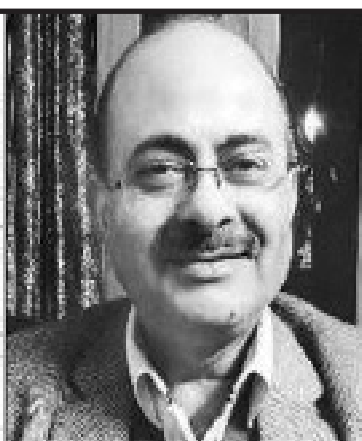
JAYA MATTOO # 9682530722

RAJINDER MATTOO # 9810799717

NARINDER MATTOO # 9599324521

RAKESH MATTOO # 9419020059

H.NO.77, LANE 2, ANAND VIHAR, BOHRI, JAMMU

**SH. RAMESH SAPRU**

Fight against terrorism is an existential struggle, not a battle for petty politics: BJP

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Operation Sindoor the meticulously orchestrated and efficiently executed response to terrorism post barbaric Pahalgam massacre has taken the fight against Terrorism to a new level.

Operation Sindoor not only defined a new normal marking a noticeable shift in India's policy of restraint to deterrence by punishment but also pushed India to leadership role globally in the fight against Terrorism.

India is leading by example and uniting nations, countries, societies, think tanks and others for survival of Humanity not only in India or South Asia but across the continents.

This was stated by Girdhari Lal Raina Ex-MLC and spokesperson of BJP Jammu Kashmir. He was addressing a press conference along with Rajni Sethi, spokesperson of BJP and Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP.

GL Raina strongly criticized opportunistic



opposition parties for attempting to shift narrative from fight against terrorism to petty political issues. These opposition parties are trying to bail out Pakistan, the manufacturing factory and sponsor of cross border terrorism in India and other countries across the world.

GL Raina cautioned people to identify and expose all forces inimical to peace, progress, prosperity and development. It is a struggle for the existence of humanity. Politics can wait for an appropriate time, he asserted.

The Modi Government is making every effort to take the entire country

into confidence as is visible in the selection of teams of Parliamentarians and others for taking the Indian viewpoint to the world community.

These delegations are not just emissaries of GOI; they are narrative architects and strategic communicators. Tasked with restoring clarity and countering Pakistan's narrative rooted in the communalism of the 'two-nation theory.' They are also exposing Pakistan for its use of terror as statecraft which is a global challenge to the integrity of international counterterrorism norms.

Rajni Sethi said that in a cowardly act, Pakistan-backed terrorists

targeted Hindus in our country, brutally attacking civilians during the Pahalgam incident. In a heartbreaking display of cruelty, they killed husbands and removed the Sindoor from the foreheads of Hindu women. In response, the Indian Army launched Operation Sindoor, a decisive mission that dismantled multiple terrorist camps across Pakistan.

Sindoor is more than just a symbol—it represents the dignity and identity of Indian women. In this operation, the valor of women in uniform stood out. Colonel Sofia Qureshi and Wing Commander Viomika Singh played

crucial roles in planning and execution. Alongside them, BSF Assistant Commandant Neha Bhandari, Constables Manjeet Kaur, Jyoti, and others responded fiercely, targeting enemy posts and giving a strong message: India will not tolerate terror.

Prime Minister Modi has repeatedly emphasized that "terror, talks, and trade cannot go together." Operation Sindoor reinforced that resolve. It also highlighted that nationalism transcends gender—in defending the nation, men and women stand equally. Unfortunately, in this crucial time, opposition leaders like Rahul Gandhi visited Poonch but failed to mention Pakistan's role in the Pahalgam attack. Some regional parties, too, are attempting to divert attention by focusing on unrelated issues like tourism and statehood. Is this the time for such distractions? When the nation stands united against terror, it is the responsibility of all leaders to show solidarity—not silence, said Rajni Sethi.

BJP slams Omar Abdullah's selective tourism revival strategy, demands focus on Jammu region: Gaurav Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Gaurav Gupta, Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, has strongly criticized the Omar Abdullah-led government for its selective approach in reviving the Union Territory's tourism sector following the tragic terror attack in Pahalgam. While the Chief Minister's decision to convene Special Cabinet meetings in Pahalgam and Gulmarg to restore confidence among tourists is welcome, the complete disregard for the Jammu region—equally impacted in terms of tourism and business—reflects a narrow and one-sided policy, the BJP stated.

In a press release issued here today, the BJP spokesperson Gaurav Gupta said,

"The ripple effect of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack has not spared Jammu. Katra, the gateway to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine and one of the most visited pilgrimage destinations in the country, has seen a steep decline in pilgrim footfall. Jammu's prominent markets like Raghunath Bazaar, Gandhi Nagar, are struggling, hotels are witnessing mass cancellations, and the overall tourism economy is in distress. Yet, not a single high-level meeting has been planned in Jammu to assess the situation or provide reassurance to the stakeholders," he noted.

Gaurav Gupta emphasized that a true revival of tourism in J&K demands an inclusive and balanced approach.

"Jammu is not merely a transit point; it is a vital pillar of the UT's cultural and



spiritual tourism. From Katra to Patnitop, from historical temples to bustling markets—Jammu offers immense value to the tourism map of the region. The government must recognize this and act accordingly," he added.

He urged the Chief Minister to immediately convene a comprehensive review meeting in Jammu, involving senior administrative officials, representatives of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, hotel and travel associations, and local business leaders.

"Confidence-building measures must not be restricted to the Valley alone. Jammu too deserves the same attention, resources, and reassurance. Selective governance will only deepen regional imbalances and further alienate stakeholders," Gaurav Gupta asserted.

The BJP reaffirmed its commitment to equitable development and called upon the administration to adopt a holistic tourism revival strategy that encompasses both Jammu and Kashmir regions.

MVD conducts active enforcement drive at Banihal

Top News Report

RAMBAN, May 28: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, a comprehensive early morning enforcement drive was conducted in Banihal to address public transport-related issues and ensure strict compliance with road safety norms. The drive was led by ARTO Ramban, Kuldeep Singh, along with a team of MVI and AMVI officials.

In line with the guidance of Transport Commissioner J&K, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, the team continued checking drives on the National Highway and surrounding link routes to curb violations by vehicle operators. As part of the initiative, a road safety audit of school buses operated by private schools in Banihal was also carried out to ensure the safety of school-going children.

In addition to the enforcement measures, an awareness program was organized at Alam Shah Convent Higher Secondary School, Banihal, where students and staff were sensitized about road safety rules and the importance of



adhering to traffic regulations.

During the drive, several vehicles were challaned and seized for various violations. Another round of checking was also carried out in Magerkot, Ukhral, and Alinbass areas, resulting in the seizure and challaning of vehicles in the Ukhral region.

Further, during the enroute inspections, ARTO Ramban Kuldeep Singh, accompanied by MVI Vishawjeet Singh Raju and AMVI Darpen Sharma, engaged with transport operators and passengers traveling in passenger vehicles. They were sensitized

about the importance of maintaining safe speeds and avoiding overloading to ensure commuter safety.

Transport operators were also instructed to increase the frequency of passenger vehicles during peak hours to minimize public inconvenience and ensure timely travel for commuters.

The District Administration is continuing its road safety drive to ensure public safety and maintain discipline among vehicle operators. Similar drives will be conducted across the district in the coming days.

CSIR-IIIM Jammu to host 3rd Lavender Festival 2025 at Bhaderwah on June 1-2

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: The CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu, is set to organize the 3rd Lavender Festival 2025 on June 1 and 2 at the Government Degree College Bhaderwah, in District Doda.

The festival will be inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, and Vice President, CSIR along with other notable guests including DG CSIR, various Directors of CSIR Labs, Industrialists, Policy Makers, Scientists, Startups and Members of Civil Society will be participating from different part of the countries.

Addressing the media, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, highlighted that this year's festival will be unique in many ways, as it celebrates the growing success of lavender cultivation under the CSIR-Aroma Mission, not only across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir but also in extended regions such as Uttarakhand and the North-Eastern



states.

Under the CSIR-Aroma Mission, CSIR-IIIM has played a pivotal role in empowering rural communities through the cultivation of lavender by engaging over 5,000 farmers and young entrepreneurs in remote areas, providing free Quality Planting Material (QPM) and complete technological support, covering cultivation, processing, value addition, and marketing.

Under this mission, more than 50 distillation units across J&K were installed to support local-level processing of lavender produce.

Dr. Zabeer shared, Tehsil Bhaderwah in District Doda has emerged as a model region under the mission, wherein farmers

have sold QPM worth over 1 crore. Local growers have produced 1,500 kilograms of lavender oil and 93,000 kilograms of dried lavender flowers, which were successfully marketed.

A total business turnover of 10.5 crore has

been recorded, highlighting the mission's substantial socio-economic impact.

The initiative has not only boosted income levels but also fostered women's empowerment, with increased participation of women in lavender

der farming and related enterprises.

The primary objective of the Lavender Festival is to celebrate this success and further promote agro-based entrepreneurship in aromatic crops. Several farmers who earlier practiced traditional farming have successfully transitioned to lavender cultivation, with many now running their own entrepreneurial ventures.

The event will bring together a diverse group of participants, including, Farmers, Scientists and Researchers, Start-ups and Industrialists, Policy makers and civil society representatives from across the country.

GCW Gandhi Nagar organises awareness program on PM-USPY

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: PSPS Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, in collaboration with Rotary Club, Jammu Elite, organized an awareness program for students under the special scholarship scheme for the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, PM-USPY.

The program was initiated under the guidance of the Principal, Dr. Geetanjali Andotra. Dr. Neetu Raina, Nodal



Officer, PM-USPY, PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar, highlighted the

key features of PM-USPY, including the courses offered across

various streams, financial support, and scholarships. She empha-

sized the importance of utilizing these schemes for academic growth and career advancement.

A question-and-answer session was held with Prof. Amjad Khan Bhatti, who addressed queries related to PM-USPY.

Other dignitaries present included Prof. Archana Bakshi, Head, Department of English; Prof. Poonam; Dr. Davinder Kour; Dr. Jagmeet; and Dr. Ujjwal Sharma.

The vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Sugandha Mahajan.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Short Term)

MHDJ/e-NIT 59 of 2025-26

Dated: 26.05.2025
Due : 02.06.2025

On behalf of the President of India, e-tenders in two cover system on turnkey basis are invited from registered/reputed firms having sufficient relevant experience for the work mentioned below:

S. No	Description of work	Project Authority	Estt	Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of tender document	Time of completion	Eligibility Criterion of Bidder
1	SITC OF AIR CONDITIONING UNITS ALONG WITH ALLIED WORKS TO BE INSTALLED AT IT SECTION OF GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE, JAMMU..	Principal GMC & Associated Hospital Jammu	1,674 LACS	Rs1000.00 in the shape of CDR/PDR/TO R valid for 12 months pledged to the Executive Engineer HH Division Jammu	Rs 200.00 in the shape of Challan through J&K Govt. Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date and also indicating the name of work duly credited to 0059-PWD (Revenue) and uploading a copy of treasury challan / receipt on e-tendering portal. OR The bidder may deposit tender fee in the shape of e-Challan through Account no. 00970101000 02163 in the name of Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospital Division Jammu Name of Bank: J&K Bank Town Hall Jammu Branch Code:0097 IFSC code: JAKA00THALL MICR CODE: 180051025	10 days	Registered & Reputed firms having sufficient experience as per Annexure "C" similar nature of work

THE NIT CONSISTING OF Qualifying INFORMATION, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, BILL OF QUANTITIES (BOQ) SETS OF TERMS & CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT & OTHER DETAILS CAN BE VIEWED / DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE www.jktenders.gov.in.

DIP/J-1510/25

Sd/-
(Er. Vishal Mahajan)
Executive Engineer
Mechanical & Hospital Division
Jammu

EDITORIAL

Knowledge over Ignorance

Knowledge has always stood as the foundation of progress, awareness, and enlightenment. It plays a critical role in shaping individuals, societies, and civilizations. On the other hand, ignorance often leads to stagnation, prejudice, fear, and regression. The triumph of knowledge over ignorance is not merely a philosophical ideal but a necessary path for the evolution of humanity. It is through the pursuit of knowledge that we overcome barriers, bridge differences, and discover solutions to the problems that affect our world. Knowledge empowers individuals. It gives people the ability to make informed decisions, think critically, and understand the world around them. With knowledge, one can distinguish between right and wrong, truth and falsehood. Ignorance, however, keeps individuals confined within a limited perspective. It breeds misconceptions and fuels fear, superstition, and intolerance. The importance of education lies in its ability to remove the veil of ignorance and replace it with clarity, understanding, and reasoning. Throughout history, the greatest advancements in science, technology, medicine, and social reform have been driven by the desire to know more. From the discovery of gravity by Isaac Newton to the revolutionary theories of Albert Einstein, knowledge has continuously expanded the boundaries of human capability. Social leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. relied on knowledge and wisdom to challenge unjust systems and lead movements for justice and equality. These examples reflect that knowledge is not only a tool for personal growth but also a force for social transformation. In the modern world, knowledge is more accessible than ever. With the internet, books, and educational platforms, a wealth of information is at our fingertips. Yet, the presence of misinformation, fake news, and manipulation of facts shows that access alone is not enough. The ability to discern reliable knowledge from falsehood is equally important. Critical thinking and scientific temper must accompany the acquisition of knowledge. Without this, ignorance can persist even in an age of information. The contrast between knowledge and ignorance is also evident in global issues. Climate change, for instance, is a well-documented and scientifically validated threat. Yet, due to ignorance—sometimes willful—many individuals and even leaders continue to deny its reality. This denial delays action and worsens the crisis. Similarly, during the COVID-19 pandemic, knowledge in the form of medical science, public health guidelines, and vaccines played a crucial role in saving lives. In contrast, ignorance and misinformation contributed to panic, vaccine hesitancy, and unnecessary loss of life. These examples highlight how dangerous ignorance can be, and how powerful knowledge is when applied responsibly. In the realm of social development, education is the greatest equalizer. It lifts people out of poverty, reduces gender disparities, and promotes peace and stability. Societies that invest in education and promote a culture of inquiry and learning are more likely to thrive economically and socially. Conversely, regions plagued by ignorance often struggle with violence, inequality, and underdevelopment. Ignorance, in this sense, is not merely a lack of information—it is a barrier to progress and justice. Promoting knowledge over ignorance requires collective effort. Parents, teachers, communities, and governments all have a role to play in nurturing a culture of curiosity and lifelong learning. Schools must encourage questioning, creativity, and critical analysis. Media must act responsibly in presenting facts and combating misinformation. Individuals must take personal responsibility to seek the truth, challenge their own biases, and remain open to learning. Religions and spiritual traditions around the world have also emphasized the value of knowledge. The ancient Indian Upanishads proclaimed “Tamaso Ma Jyotirgamaya” – “Lead me from darkness to light,” symbolizing the journey from ignorance to knowledge. Islam speaks of the importance of seeking knowledge as a duty for every believer. Christianity too regards wisdom and understanding as divine gifts. Thus, knowledge is not only an academic concept but a deeply moral and spiritual pursuit. Knowledge is the light that dispels the darkness of ignorance. It empowers individuals, drives societal progress, and fosters peace and understanding. As we move into an increasingly complex world, the need to uphold knowledge over ignorance becomes even more critical. Let us commit ourselves to learning, to questioning, and to sharing what we know for the betterment of all. In doing so, we not only elevate ourselves but contribute to a more informed, compassionate, and enlightened world.

Jiske Jitne Sankhya Bari Uske Utni Hesadari, BJP’s U-Turn on Caste Politics

By: Omkar Dattatray

Revelation and enumeration of caste in the country’s census was not in the ideology and itinerary of the BJP right from the days of the Jan Sangh and so it was never an issue for the new incarnation of Bhartiya Jansangh that is Bharatiya Janata Party .But now under the compulsion of vote bank politics and for political expediency ,BJP has made a U -turn and has stated that caste enumeration will form part of the census operations in the country. BJP has made a volte face and has come a full circle so far as the caste census is concerned.It will not be an exaggeration to say that BJP has stooled caste issue from the opposition parties and has made the caste census in one of its main issues and with the inclusion of caste census in the political itinerary and the founding fathers of the Jansang / BJP will be uneasy in the heaven on seeing that its later incarnation BJP has included caste census in its agenda.However one side BJP tries to gain in terms of attracting votes of the Scheduled Castes,Scheduled Tribes and OBC’s but on the other and more important side it is the moral triumph of the opposition parties including the bet nori Congress.The opposition parties like socialists ,Congress ,Leftists all were in favour of the caste census even from before the freedom of the country from British Yoke.But with the onset of independence of the country opposition parties bated for the caste census but it was not incorporated in the census of the independent India.Now that the BJP is in favour of the enumeration of the caste data in the upcoming census,it shows that under

the political compulsion,BJP has stated that caste data will form a part and parcel of the census.In fact the BJP’s decision has unsettled its ideological moorings while granting opposition parties a moral victory in their pursuit of social justice. For years together Opposition parties in the country have been advocating nationwide caste census and as against the right wing party BJP advocating Hindu unity has opposed and resisted such calls.But now all of a sudden in a surprising move,the BJP has now resolved to conduct a caste census alongside the population census which is in fact a U-turn of the saffron party which has been advocating and propounding Hindu unity and thus was the fiery critic of the caste census from very beginning.One wonders why this U-turn on the most important issue of caste census? It seems that theBJP under the compulsion of caste politics and for gaining the sympathy of the lower castes in the country,BJP has resolved to get caste data enumerated in the general census of the country.It seems the BJP is aiming to neutralize the Opposition parties who thrive on caste politics and BJP wants to wane away the lower caste votes from the Opposition parties and thus to take advantage of the caste politics. This shift of the BJP contradicts the philosophy of its ideological mentor the RSS.Now the question is how will the BJP reconcile with RSS on the issue of caste census which it has resolved to include in the general census of the nation.The latest shift in accepting the enumeration of caste data in the census militates with the core ideology of BJP,but the party is trying to encash votes by adopting the caste politics.All along BJP had been vociferously criticising the Opposition parties includ-

ing the Congress for their love for doing caste politics and highlighting the caste census demand.But now the most ardent critic of the caste census is stepping into the shoes of the Opposition parties and has in fact stolen this important issue from the Opposition parties and BJP does not feel any shame on doing the U-turn on the issue of the caste politics.It follows that for vote bank politics and political compulsion a party can stoop so low as is evidenced by the saffron party’s neo love for caste politics and thus caste census.The caste yields significant impact on the political landscape of the parties in the states and so parties give much importance to those issues which are closely related with caste politics.Thus caste yields more impact upon politics than even religion and so the political parties across the spectrum give much importance and attention to caste politics and all the political outfits want to undo the others in the politics of the country.So electoral strategies hinge on caste affiliations and thus all political parties want to reap political dividends on caste politics.Mind last caste census was conducted along with the general census in 1931 in British India.In independent India in 2011 census UPA government initiated a Socio-Economic and Caste Census -SECC,but political manoeuvring prevented the release of its findings. After losing power,congress begun advocating for a caste census to further social justice and this was largely ignored by BJP.The RSS the ideological mentor of the BJP has consistently opposed caste census,saying it is more important to have Hindu unity than caste divisions in the nation.When RJD-JD alliance in Bihar conducted a caste census in 2023,BJP and RSS vehem-

ently objected to it.Similar exercises in Karnataka and Telangana faced criticism from the RSS and BJP accused these parties of fuelling caste -based vote politics.BJP and RSS said caste census should not become a political tool and must be conducted scientifically to address social inequalities.The decision to enlist caste enumeration in national census by BJP appears driven by political and electoral compulsions rather than being an ideological realignment of the saffron party. Some argue the announcement as a tactic to divert the attention of the gullible masses from the security lapse in the Pahalgam terror attack.Opposition parties including Congress,Samajwadi,left BSP and others mount pressure on the BJP as they push caste census agenda. This decision of the BJP may yield short terms electoral gains to the party but poses long -term challenges.Caste remains a dominant and formidable force in the Indian politics and so all parties are attracted towards caste politicking and BJP thought it fit not to lag behind and thus decided to the enumeration of the caste data in the general census of the country.In the end one can say that BJP made a U-turn from its earlier stand and stance and it also compromised its philosophy and core ideology at the altar of caste politics and thus decided for having a caste census in the country.

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

A knock of change in the language of justice

By: Vijay Garg

Hindi experiment in Rashtrapati Bhavan on May 14 created a new history. The oath-taking ceremony of Justice Bhushan Ramakrishna Gawai became historic as the 52nd Chief Justice of the country. He started a new tradition by taking oath in Hindi. So far, all the Chief Justice has been taking oath in English only. Major personalities like the Prime Minister of the country, President, Vice President, Governor of the States and Chief Minister have already been sworn in in Hindi, but the highest post of the judiciary was untouched by it so far. Justice Gavai, who belongs to Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, broke that tradition by taking oath in Hindi and gave respect to Hindi, neglected in the judiciary so far. His decision is being welcomed by various social organizations. Using the mother tongue in her swearing-in, Justice Gavai has filled the lovers of millions of Hindi and other Indian languages of the country with a new hope. People hope that all Indian languages including Hindi in the judiciary under their leadership will receive due respect and space. It is ironic that hearing has been allowed in Hindi in the courts of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) six years ago, while the

Supreme Judiciary of India is still limited to English today. Expectations from Justice Gavai are also because there are important rights inherent in his post. The language of proceedings in any High Court cannot become local without the consent of the Chief Justice. According to Article 348(1)(a) of the Constitution, the proceedings of the Supreme Court and all High Court will be done in English only. However, part (2) of the same paragraph also provides that if a state wants to do judicial work in its official language, the Governor can obtain the consent of the President and allow the use of Hindi or other official language of the state in the proceedings of the concerned High Court. Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963 also provides similar provision. Under this, the Governor, with the prior consent of the President, may permit English as well as Hindi or other use of the State for the judgment or orders of the High Court. Unfortunately, despite these constitutional and legal provisions, the use of them has been very limited till date. Under the provisions of the Constitution Hindi was to get permission to function throughout the country as an official language from January 26, 1965. But with sharp opposition against it, Tamil Nadu’s Dravid politics jumped into

the ground. However, when he realised that it would not be appropriate to do so on Republic Day, he did so one day earlier i.e. on January 25. The Cabinet Committee was constituted for consideration of policy because of such disputes arising out of the use of languages in the High Court. In the eyes of Indian language lovers, this provision is the biggest obstacle in the way of becoming the language of justice of Indian languages. The functioning permit in Hindi under the Samvidhanik provision was first achieved to Rajasthan, which was allowed to take action in Hindi in 1950. Hindi proceedings were allowed in the Allahabad High Court in 1969, while Madhya Pradesh received 1971 and Bihar in 1972. There are many states that asked for permission to take action in their high court in their languages from time to time, but they only got failure. Although the enthusiasm of Indian language lovers did not diminish despite all the constitutional provisions and their hindrance. They have been demanding Indian languages to form the language of judiciary. It has also affected the higher judiciary. Of

course judicial proceedings are not happening in Indian languages, but the jurisdiction has moved towards making smooth access to common people till decisions and judicial proceedings. Under this, the proceedings and decisions are being promoted to translation from English to regional languages. The Supreme Court has constituted an AI assisted legal translation advisory committee under the chairmanship of Justice Abhay S Oka. Through this, thousands of decisions, etc., are being translated in 16 languages so far. Like Oka committee all highcourts have also made committees for their translation here. The Bar Council of India under the Ministry of Law and Justice has taken place before the former Chief Justice of the country, Justice S.A. Bobde chaired by ‘Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti’ has also formed. This committee is developing a similar vocabulary for all Indian languages with an aim to translate legal content into regional languages.

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

GDC R S Pura organizes awareness lecture on “female health and hygiene”



Top News Report

R S PURA, May 28: An awareness lecture on “Female Health and Hygiene” was organized by Women Development under the worthy patronage of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour and supervision of Dr. Neena Gupta Rohmetra, Head department of English and Convener Women Development Cell.

Promoting menstrual hygiene, and understanding about its biological processes helps reduce stigma and promotes better health outcomes.

Menstrual hygiene refers to the practices and products that individuals use to manage menstruation in a safe, healthy, and dignified way. It includes maintaining cleanliness during menstruation, using appropriate menstrual products, and understanding reproductive health.

The event was organized under CSR

(Corporate Social Responsibility) initiative My Menstruation My Pride”. CSR have been undertaking menstrual hygiene among school & college girls covering almost 2000+ schools & colleges and 1,00,000 beneficiaries at pan India level.

The resource person for the session was Harshita Upadhyay, an accomplished educator and an active member of NGO (Global hunt) where she is deeply committed to promoting menstrual health and hygiene awareness.

She had conducted informative sessions on this crucial topic, empowering students with essential knowledge and breaking down societal taboos surrounding menstruation.

The session started with the welcome note addressed by Dr. Savleen Kour, Assistant Professor in Veterinary Technology. The session entails a comprehensive understanding

on the what, why and how of menstruation comprising of meaning of menstruation, develop a biological understanding, talk on related social taboos and aware them on hygiene practices to be maintained during menstruation. More than 50 female students actively participated with full enthusiasm.

Other faculty members present in this session were Dr.Chanchal Angral, Dr Anupama Pandotra, Prof Radhika Mahajan, Dr Shivani Manchanda, Prof Shelly Kalsi, Prof Meeshu Pandita and Prof Neelam Kumari.

Principal of the college appreciated the efforts of organizing committee and also advised the students to follow the guidelines practically in their lives in order to become healthy in every aspect. The session was concluded with a formal vote of thanks given by Prof Harpreet Kour, Assistant Professor in English.

JKADCSA (Ministerial Federation) accords farewell to Dinesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: The Jammu Kashmir All Department Clerical Staff Association (Ministerial Federation) Jammu organized a farewell party to Dinesh Gupta, SO Directorate School Education Jammu on his retirement.

The ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries, including Provincial President of the Federation Jammu Gurmeet Singh, Sr Vice President Umar Jan, Provincial General Secretary Jagdish Thakur, District President JKADCSA Jammu Neeraj Sethi, District

President Non-Teaching Staff of School Education Department Unit Kishtwar Sunil Arya and Ashish Vaid, Vikramjeet Mehta, Verjinder Singh Sr Member of the federation and representatives of various departments associations.

The occasion was marked with warm felicitations, heartfelt speeches, and good wishes for his future endeavors. The federation appreciated his contributions to the education sector during his tenure especially the tenure he rendered in Directorate of School Education Jammu.

The presentees praised Gupta for his

expertise in the field of clerical work.

Provincial President Jammu Gurmeet Singh lauded Gupta’s contributions, saying, “His dedication to the education sector has been exemplary, and his retirement is a significant loss to the department.

The farewell ceremony was a testament to Dinesh Gupta SO DSEJ, upon his commitments and hard work. Meanwhile the Central Body as well as Provincial Body of the federation and the entire leadership of the Association also wished him good health, happiness, and fulfillment in his future endeavors.



Three-day yoga workshop for faculty organized at GDCW Kathua

KATHUA, May 28: The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Government Degree College for Women (GDCW), Kathua organized a three-day Yoga Workshop for the college faculty, held from May 26 to 28, 2025, on the theme-Promoting Wellness and Mindfulness through Yoga.

The main aim of the workshop is to promote physical health, mental well-being, and a stress-free lifestyle through the practice of yoga.

The workshop was inaugurated by the Principal of the College,

Dr. Savi Behl who welcomed the participants and resource person, Sunita Devi, currently serving at Government High School Pariwand, Kathua.

In her inaugural address, the Principal emphasized the relevance of yoga in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, especially in today’s high-pressure academic environment.

She appreciated the initiative by IQAC and encouraged faculty members to adopt yoga as a regular part of their routine.

Sunita Devi, a trained



and experienced yoga instructor, conducted the workshop with dedication and insight. Over the course of three days, she guided participants through various yoga Asanas, breathing techniques (pranayama), and relaxation exercises, tailored to meet the needs of educators who often deal with stress and sedentary routines. Her sessions also included discussions on the philosophy of yoga and its therapeutic benefits.

The workshop received an enthusias-

tic response from faculty across different departments.

Participants expressed their appreciation for the practical and accessible approach of the sessions, noting improvements in their flexibility, focus, and overall sense of well-being.

On the final day of the workshop, Dr.INDERJEET Kour delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the efforts of the organizing team, the active participation of faculty, and the valuable contribution of Sunita Devi. She also

extended special thanks to the Principal for her unwavering support and encouragement of wellness initiatives within the institution.

This three-day event marked a meaningful beginning in the college’s ongoing commitment to holistic faculty development and mental health awareness.

IQAC plans to organize more such workshops in the future to continue fostering a culture of health and mindfulness on campus.

GDC Ramgarh organizes summer internship counselling session in collaboration with SWD

Top News Report

RAMGARH, May 28: In a commendable initiative aimed at enhancing the employability and entrepreneurial capabilities of its students, Government Degree College (GDC), Ramgarh organized a Summer Internship Counseling Session for upcoming 5th semester students.

The event was conducted in collaboration with SANKALP-Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti, Social Welfare Department, Samba.

The session was held under the esteemed guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol, Principal, GDC Ramgarh, who has consistently empha-



sized the importance of skill development and career readiness for students, particularly women.

The counseling session was coordinated and conducted by Dr. Snobar, Convener, Entrepreneurship Cell, with active support from other dedicated members of the cell including Prof. Sandeep Kumari, Ashok Kumar, Prof.

Brham Dutt, Dr. Shivali Panigotra, Darpan Malhotra, Priya Sharma, and Dr. Neeraj Bargoitra.

The event witnessed a vibrant interaction between students and Mansi Abrol, Gender Specialist, Social Welfare Department, Samba, who served as the chief resource person.

She provided valuable insights into the objec-

tives and schemes under Mission Shakti, through skill-based learning and financial independence. Mansi Abrol highlighted various skill development programs offered through the Sankalp Hub, including Bakery and Culinary Arts, Resin Art and Craft, Handicrafts and Tailoring, Beauty and Wellness Training. She encouraged students

to actively participate in these programmes to enhance their skill sets and explore alternative career pathways.

Principal Dr. Meeru Abrol, in her concluding remarks, appreciated the efforts of the Entrepreneurship Cell and the Social Welfare Department for organizing such a meaningful session.

Dr. Snobar, in her address, emphasized the role of entrepreneurship in shaping a self-reliant future and encouraged students to think creatively and utilize available resources effectively.

Other faculty members shared their insights and motivated the students to step forward with confidence and curiosity.

Motorola launches the Razr 60 at just Rs. 49,999

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Motorola, a global leader in mobile phone innovation and India’s leading-AI smartphone brand today launched the all-new motorola razr 60, a striking addition to its premium razr lineup that redefines the flip phone category.

Designed for the style-forward Gen Z creators, the razr 60 features the World’s first gesture-based video recording paired with a 100% True Colour Camera validated by Pantone delivering unparalleled colour accuracy and lifelike visuals. It is also India’s first flip phone to offer luxurious Pearl Marble and Fabric finishes, elevating the design language with premium materials. Built for durability, the device boasts a titanium-

reinforced hinge tested for over 500,000 folds, complemented by IP48 dust and water resistance and Corning® Gorilla® Glass Victus protection.

The razr 60 also leads with the segment’s largest 3.6” pOLED external display, offering a 90Hz refresh rate and versatile flex modes - from desk and tent to laptop and camcorder. Furthermore, it is the segment’s only flip with motoAI and Google Gemini on the outer display, providing smart, contextual assistance and proactive ‘Next Move’ prompts for a seamlessly intuitive experience.

The motorola razr 60 redefines mobile videography with the world’s first Gestures based video recording on a flip phone, combined with 100% True Colour Camera validated by

Pantone™ for incredibly lifelike visuals. With intuitive Air Gesture controls, users can capture content without ever touching the screen—raise an open palm to start a countdown, clench a fist to pause, and show a fist to stop recording.

This intuitive, hands-free operation transforms content creation into a seamless experience, perfect for vlogging or capturing candid moments on the go.

Powered by motoAI, the motorola razr 60 features a pro-grade 50MP main camera with Optical Image Stabilization (OIS) and Instant AI-Pixel Focus, delivering ultra-sharp, blur-free shots with exceptional low-light clarity. It’s paired with a versatile 13MP Ultrawide + Macro Vision lens that captures expansive 120°

landscapes and intricate close-ups from just 2.5cm away.

For selfie enthusiasts, the 32MP autofocus front camera with Quad Pixel technology ensures bright, detailed self-portraits—even in low light conditions.

The motorola razr 60 transforms how users capture content with its innovative Flex View technology, enabling hands-free photography and videography with unmatched ease. Record videos single-handedly by folding the device to about 90 degrees—just like a camcorder—and enjoy seamless filming in both portrait and landscape modes. Recording starts automatically, and users can pause, resume, or zoom with intuitive gestures and a super-simple interface.

Talla Jewellers & LFO-BHF NGO sign MoU on CSR Project in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Talla Jewellers, in collaboration with Live For Others – Being Helpful Foundation (LFO-BHF), has launched a six-month CSR initiative under the initiative of “Mission Make – Make All Kids Educated.”

The project aims to promote education and raise drug abuse awareness across Jammu and Udhampur districts.

As part of the initiative, 1,000 educational kits—including notebooks, drawing pads, pens, pencils, erasers, and other essentials—will be distributed to 20 students in each selected school.

In addition, 50 awareness sessions on drug abuse—25 in Jammu and 25 in Udhampur—will be conducted to engage youth, parents, and communities.

The MoU was signed between Kashish Gupta, CEO of Talla Jewellers, and Vivek Parihar, Director & CEO of LFO-BHF, in the presence of Abhishek Raina,



Secretary (National Body), and Abhinandan Sharma, Senior member of LFO-BHF.

Speaking on the occasion, Kashish Gupta said, “We at Talla Jewellers strongly believe in giving back to society. This initiative is close to our hearts as it focuses on both education and the urgent issue of drug abuse among youth.”

Vivek Parihar added,

“This project is not just about distribution or awareness—it’s about long-term change and empowering the next generation to make informed, healthy choices.”

This collaboration reflects a deep commitment to education, youth empowerment, and social reform, aiming to bring lasting impact across communities.

Stardom's evil partner is arrogance; hard to stay grounded: Kamal Haasan

In his film career spanning over 65 years, Kamal Haasan has done it all: acting, direction, scriptwriting, choreography and even makeup. Anything left to do?

Many things. But, he declares (without a hint of false modesty), that he stopped learning at some point. Oh! Why? "Avarice," he replies.

Greed for more money got in the way, he says. "I like money. I want it to come to me," Haasan told agency in an interview this week.

In one of his most candid conversations about life, films, AI, philosophy, legacy and his frailties, Haasan acknowledges the inherent contradictions of a movie star's life: the joy of reaching a "larger demographic" and the regret of not receiving real applause or honest criticism.

He should know, having been in the business almost all his life. He was just three years old when he got a role in a Tamil movie. Since then, barring a few hiatuses, the 70-year-old has been constantly reinventing himself to stay in step with the changing times.

After that extraordinary career and achieving all this, does he feel like patting himself on the back and saying 'well done Kamal'?

Haasan's reply makes it clear that he sees success as ephemeral.

"My favourite writer Jayakanthan says 'Once you climb Everest, don't stay on top because there is no place (to stay). Then you will cling on to it and won't let anyone else climb it'. And you become eccentric, literally, because you're not at the centre of people," Haasan, a self-confessed admirer of the news business, said in the interview after touring the news agency's headquarters.

It can also be lonely at the top, said the consummate heart-tugger who bridged the north-south cinematic divide early in his career when pan-India was decades away from being a buzzword.

The star of films such as "Apoorva Raagan-gal", "Nayakan", "Thevar Magan", "Sadma", "Pushpak Vimana" and "Chachi 420", each different in mood and treatment, is now getting ready for his latest ven-

ture "Thug Life", directed by Mani Ratnam and set for theatrical release in multiple languages on June 5.

The actor, who started a political party like many other stars from the southern film industry, has also directed a range of films, including "Hey Ram" and "Vishwaroopam". He said frankly that it is very difficult for stars because the inner circle is always trying to carry them aloft and not let their "feet touch the ground".

"The beauty of cinema is that you can reach a larger demographic but it also takes you away from the actual witnessing of your applause. So, you distance yourself and arrogance sets in because you don't hear criticism, nor do you hear applause. It all comes through reporting to us, or when you meet your fans and they cheer you, but that's not the actual data," he added.

As someone who has been in the film industry for more than half of Indian cinema's 120-year existence, Haasan is quick to downplay his achievements and speaks about his early years with rare candour.



"Because of my work schedule, I stopped seeking more gurus. I think my avarice for money stopped me from learning. Otherwise, I would have learned more."

Affluence, according to Haasan, is what people dream of in their 20s and he was not that different. "I pursued that path for quite some time at peril to my heart. Then I woke up and started my own company. Fortunately, I did that before I became 30. It was a risky thing to do."

What does Haasan

want someone going through a cinema history book in 2075 to read about him?

Let alone a mention in history books, he would be grateful if anyone even remembers him 50 years hence, he said.

"I hope they remember my name. They'll confuse me for some other guy, and I will take his credit for no reason. After some time, people vaguely say, 'Who did that film?' Was it Buster Keaton or Chaplin?"

"...I'm going to be lost in that crowd, and I'm happy to be (lost), as

long as someone with a microscope is looking for me and still finds me."

Haasan describes himself as a child of cinema. When he was a little over five, he won the Presidential Medal for his performance in the 1960 film "Kalathur Kannamma".

Six decades and more later, he is a superstar loved by the masses, a director who has proved his mettle, a producer, one of the finest classical dancers among actors, lyricist, storywriter and always a seeker, who spent three months in the US last year to educate himself about artificial intelligence.

The superstar, who grew up with a lawyer father taken in by the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi and changed his children's surname to 'Haasan', said he thought of himself as an "extraordinary and gifted child".

"That is a complacency that went away when I was seven or eight. I realised that there are many more talented children who could have eaten me for breakfast. That's when I panicked. I don't know whether

to call it graduation or experience or immersion but from cinema I went to theatre."

"Usually, it is the other way around. So that's when I met other talented people. At first, I suffered from an inferiority complex, and then they accepted me and I realised I have to keep learning more," he said.

Haasan is currently on a promotional blitzkrieg for "Thug Life", which reunites him with Mani Ratnam 38 years after "Nayakan", the cult gangster classic.

The actor, who has also produced the movie through his production house Raaj Kamal Films International alongside Ratnam's Madras Talkies, said it was a mistake they did not collaborate all these years.

"At first we wanted to (but) we were apprehensive about how this will turn out and how all eyes are on us. We were scared. I thought, 'Let them forget 'Nayakan' and then we'll make another. And they refuse to forget 'Nayakan'. That's one of the reasons why it got delayed," he said, adding they both had

their companies to run.

Who gets the final say if there are any creative differences?

"We never set the rules of the game," Haasan responded. Their 44-year friendship, he added, helped them develop a shorthand that made people on the set believe they had already rehearsed the scenes.

In a career of more than 230 films, Haasan said there are only a dozen or so films he considers among his best. Included in this are his performances in "Sagara Sangamam" and "Nayakan".

Both films still make him cry.

"Public confession? Yes, I do. It doesn't matter whether it's Kamal Haasan or any other actors, if the scene is pertinent and touches me, I can... There are films like that, they'll make you cry after 40 years, 50 years."

Has the ever busy star ever thought of taking a back seat?

"That age will tell me, achievements won't. They may not even convince you. Age will convince you, it's yet to convince me," he said.

Sandeep Reddy Vanga slams actor for 'playing dirty PR games'

Filmmaker Sandeep Reddy Vanga, known for "Animal" and "Kabir Singh", shared a cryptic post on his social media, calling out an actor for playing "dirty PR games".

Without taking any names, Vanga posted a lengthy tweet on his X handle.

"When I narrate a story to an actor, I place 100 per cent faith. There is an unsaid NDA (non-disclosure agreement) between us. But by doing this, you've 'DISCLOSED' the person that you are... Putting down a younger actor and ousting my story? Is this what your feminism stands for," the post began.

"As a filmmaker, I put years of hard work behind my craft and for me, filmmaking is everything. You didn't get it. You won't get it. You will



never get it. Aisa karo.... Agli baar poori kahani bolna... kyunki mujhe jarra bhi farak nahi padtha. #dirtyPRgames. I like this kahawath very much...Khundak me billi khamba noche," he added.

This comes days after he announced taking Tripti Dimri as a female lead in his upcoming

film "Spirit", which also stars Prabhas. Reportedly, Deepika Padukone was supposed to be in the project but exited it.

"Spirit" reunites Vanga with Dimri, who have previously worked together in "Animal" (2023). It is produced by Bhushan Kumar's T-Series and Vanga's Bhadrakali Pictures.

Can't do movies like these forever: Lindsay Lohan on doing romantic comedies for Netflix

Hollywood actor Lindsay Lohan, who has been a part of three romantic comedies on Netflix back to back, says she wants to "think about other stuff" as she can't do the same projects forever.

Lohan featured in Netflix's "Falling for Christmas" (2022) alongside Chord Overstreet. Post that she went on to star in "Irish Wish" (2024) and "Our Little Secret" (2024), with each film making it to the top ten on the streaming platform.

The 38-year-old actor said she loves to make films of that genre, but can't make the same thing forever. "I always want to make movies like that...things that make people happy and bring people together. I love making movies for



that reason, for people to escape and find something that they can

take into their own life and realize everything's going to be okay," she

told agency in an interview. "But with Netflix, I was like, 'Okay, now we need to be thinking about other stuff.' I can't do movies like these forever," she added.

Lohan will next feature in Disney's "Freakier Friday". The film is a sequel to "Freaky Friday". The first part was directed by Mark Waters and featured Lohan alongside Jamie Lee Curtis, who is also returning for the sequel.

The film revolved around a mother and daughter with a rocky relationship, who find themselves trapped in each other's bodies after their visit to a mysterious Chinese restaurant.

The actor said "everything felt at ease" while making the sequel.

"I feel like everything felt at ease when we

were making it, and I feel that's the best way to describe how I felt when I watched it. It felt easy and fun, and fresh at the same time. There's not a lot bringing me to the movie theaters personally right now.

"It is a feel-good movie (Freakier Friday), which is what I want to give people. And it's fun. When I saw the second cut, I wanted to get up and dance at the end. I was like, 'Oh, this is cool. I like this song. I want people to do that,'" she said.

"Freakier Friday" is directed by Nisha Ganatra and is written by Jordan Weiss. Slated to release on August 8, the film also stars Mark Harmon, Chad Michael Murray, Christina Vidal Mitchell, Haley Hudson, and Lucille Soong.

Raja Kumari on winning American Music Award: Happy to bring this home to India

As rapper Raja Kumari becomes first Indian to win an American Music Award, she explains how she manifested the win.

Indian origin singer-songwriter and rapper Raja Kumari has won at the American Music Awards (AMA) for Arcane League of Legends: Season 2 at the 51st AMA held in Los Angeles. She was nominated in the Favourite Soundtrack category, becoming the first Indian origin musician to be nominated for an AMA. Speaking about the win, she tells us, "Honestly, I've felt like an underdog in a lot of situations and all eyes on the underdog which is a lyric from City Slums. I've always had to believe in myself, and this win just confirms that belief and encourages me further. I'm so excited to bring this home for India."

She adds, "I put a lot of Indian flavour into the

song. I included a thal and really showcased my culture. So, for this to win, it just means that the times are changing and that people genuinely love our music. I can't wait to show the world what I have planned next."

Ask if she saw the win coming, and Raja Kumari says, "I felt it. Honestly, I felt like God told me it was mine. That might sound crazy, but I truly believed I could achieve it. To succeed, I think you first have to visualise yourself winning. I really wanted to see it. We worked so hard on the song, and it was incredible to see it reach the Top 10 on the Spotify Viral 50 chart. Having it become a part of so many people's lives — through reels, all



the stories and more — I had a good feeling that

it had a great chance." This win definitely

makes India shine. Did that add to the spirit of the win? "Exactly. Of course it did. India to the world," she exclaims, as she goes on to share what made the project so special.

"Whenever you work with a huge public platform [that has a global reach], so many people get to experience your work.

It introduces you to new audiences and allows them to connect with you as an artiste. So, it's very special, because I feel like a whole new demographic got to hear my voice and their reactions have been so rewarding and fun! I'm just happy to have this opportunity and to represent India on such a big stage," she ends.

TV actor Dipika Kakar diagnosed with stage 2 cancer: I will sail through this



Popular television actor Dipika Kakar has revealed that she has been diagnosed with stage 2 cancer in her liver. The 'Sasural Simar Ka' actor shared the news with fans through an Instagram post and asked them to keep her in their prayers.

Sharing her cancer diagnosis with her fans,

Dipika wrote, "As you all are aware last few weeks have been quite difficult for us... walking into the hospital for a pain in the upper area of my stomach... and then finding out it's a tennis ball-sized tumour in the liver... and then finding out that the tumour is second stage malignant (cancerous)... it has

been one of the most difficult times we have seen (sic)."

Despite the diagnosis, the actor remains hopeful and strong. "I am all positive and determined to face this and walk out stronger, InshAllah! With my entire family being by my side... and all the love and prayers pouring in from all of you, I will sail through this too!" she added.

The actor also urged her followers to keep her in their prayers as she begins treatment.

Many celebrities commented on the post and wished her a speedy recovery.

Dipika Kakar is best known for her role in 'Sasural Simar Ka' and was the winner of 'Bigg Boss 12'. She married actor Shoaib Ibrahim in 2018, and the couple welcomed their first child in 2023.

Grateful nation can never forget Savarkar's courage, struggle: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, May 28 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid rich tributes to Hindutva icon Veer Savarkar on his birth anniversary, saying a grateful nation can never forget the saga of his indomitable courage and struggle.

Lauding him as a true son of "Mother India", Modi said even the harshest torture from the colonial British power could not dent his dedication to the motherland, and that his sacrifices and commitment will serve as a beacon for the building of a developed India.

Born in 1883 in Maharashtra, Savarkar was a proponent of revolutionary methods to gain freedom from the British empire before his imprisonment in the Andaman Islands under extremely punishing conditions.

A hero to Hindu nationalists, he is credited with developing the political framework of Hindutva and was a prolific author and poet.

Criticised by secular parties like the Congress for his advocacy of Hindutva, Savarkar has been a venerable figure for the ruling BJP.



SC extends interim bail to Ashoka University professor, says no impediment on right to speech

NEW DELHI, May 28 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Wednesday told Ashoka University professor Ali Khan Mahmudabad, accused of making contentious social media posts on Operation Sindoor, that there was no impediment on his right to speech and expression, but he can't post anything online with respect to the cases against him.

A partial working day Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Dipankar Datta refused to modify as of now, the interim bail condition imposed on him on May 21 that he will not write any online post, article or make any oral speech related to either of the two online posts, which are subject matter of the investigation.

The top court had also restrained the professor from expressing any opinion in relation to the terrorist attack on Indian soil or the counter-response given by the Indian Armed Forces.

The Bench said it is extending the interim bail granted to the professor and directed the SIT to furnish the investigation report on the next date of hearing.

The top court made it clear that the subject matter of investigation was two FIRs lodged against the professor and asked the Haryana Police not to go "left and right" in the investigation and seek the "devices", which the cops said they would like to examine.

The Bench also asked the Haryana Police to apprise it about their response to the NHRC notice on registration of FIR against the professor.

On May 21, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said it has taken "suo motu cognizance" of a media

report in connection with the arrest.

The rights panel has noted that "the report, which contains a gist of the allegations based on which he has been arrested, discloses, prima facie, that the human rights and liberty of the said professor have been violated".

On May 21, the top court granted interim bail to the professor, who was arrested for his contentious social media posts on Operation Sindoor, but refused to stay the investigation against him.

It had directed the setting up of a three-member SIT to look into the FIRs lodged against him.

Haryana Police arrested Mahmudabad on May 18 after two FIRs were registered against him. His contentious social media posts on Operation Sindoor, it is alleged, endan-

gered the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

The two FIRs -- one based on a complaint by the chairperson of Haryana State Commission for Women, Renu Bhatia, and the other on a complaint by a village sarpanch -- were lodged by Rai police in Sonapat district.

"On the Commission chairperson's complaint, the FIR has been lodged against Professor Ali of Ashoka University under BNS sections 152 (acts endangering sovereignty or unity and integrity of India), 353 (statements conducing to public mischief), 79 (deliberate actions aimed at insulting the modesty of a woman) and 196 (1) (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion)," police said.

Several political parties and academicians have condemned the arrest.

Chennai court finds accused guilty in varsity student sexual assault case

CHENNAI, May 28 (Agencies): A Mahila Court here on Wednesday pronounced as guilty A Gnanasekaran, the biriyani vendor arrested in the sensational Anna University woman student sexual assault case, with the prosecution seeking "maximum punishment" for him.

Holding that the prosecution has proved the case beyond reasonable doubt, the court found Gnanasekaran guilty of the charges framed against him in the sexual assault case that rocked Tamil Nadu in December 2024.

Mahila Court Judge Rajalakshmi said she will pronounce the verdict on June 2.

The government coun-

sel later told reporters that the prosecution filed 11 charges against Gnanasekaran and proved all of them using documentary and forensic evidence.

"Today, he was pronounced guilty by the court. The details of the sentence will be given on June 2," she said.

Giving a brief update on the proceedings on Wednesday, she indicated that Gnanasekaran sought a lenient sentence claiming he was the sole bread-winner of the family.

"The prosecution strongly objected to this and sought the maximum punishment," she added.

The sensational case had triggered a political row over Gnanasek-



aran's alleged connections with the ruling DMK in the state, although the party president and Chief Minister MK Stalin had in January said he was only a sympathiser and supporter, and not a member of the Dravidian party.

The case came to light after the victim lodged a complaint before the All

Women police station in Kotturpuram here on December 23 last year. In her complaint, the victim alleged that Gnanasekaran threatened her when she was with a male friend and then sexually harassed her.

Gnanasekaran was later arrested.

The FIR of the case

was downloaded from the CCTNS website of Tamil Nadu police and broadcast by certain sections of the media which created a furore.

Later, the Madras High Court transferred the investigation of the case to a Special Investigation Team, which also probed the FIR leak.

The SIT filed a charge sheet in February before a magistrate court. Thereafter, the case was transferred to the Mahila Court.

The Mahila Court framed charges against Gnanasekaran under various sections of the BNS, including sexual harassment, BNSS, IT Act and the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Women Harassment Act.

Man promises to marry 73-year-old Thane woman, cheats her of Rs 57 lakh

THANE, May 28 (Agencies): A 73-year-old woman from Maharashtra's Thane district has been allegedly cheated of more than Rs 57 lakh by a man who promised to marry her, police said on Wednesday.

The victim, resident of a housing society on Nana Shankarshet Road in Dombivli area, got in touch with the 62-year-old man through his matrimonial advertisement published in a newspaper, Vishnu Nagar police station inspector Vivek Kumutkar said.

After gaining the woman's confidence, the man promised marriage and a peaceful life together in Pune, he said.

"The man told the victim that he intended to buy a house in Pune and convinced her to transfer Rs 35 lakh for it. He gave her fabricated receipts and fake property documents to assure her," the official said.

After temporarily living at the woman's house, the accused also allegedly stole her gold ornaments valued at around Rs 20 lakh. He also allegedly stole her debit card and used it to withdraw Rs 2.4 lakh, according to the police.

After duping the woman of her funds last month, the accused disappeared and is currently untraceable, the official said.

Based on the victim's complaint, the police on Monday registered an FIR against the man under various Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita sections, including 316(2) (criminal breach of trust), 318(2) (cheating), 305 (theft in a dwelling house), 336(2) & 336(3) (forgery), 338 (forgery of valuable security, will, etc) and 340(2) (using a forged document or electronic record as genuine).

"We are probing the matter thoroughly and efforts are under way to trace the accused," the official said.

UP school teacher accuses dean of pressuring for sexual favours: Cops

VARANASI, May 28 (Agencies): A female teacher has accused the dean of a school here of pressuring her for sexual favours, police said, adding that a case has been registered and they are investigating the matter.

Sigra Station House Officer (SHO) Sanjay Kumar Mishra said that an FIR was filed against the dean of a private school, based on the teacher's complaint.

According to the police, the survivor alleged in her complaint that while she was in an empty classroom for a call, the dean allegedly

snatched her mobile phone, used abusive language and asked her to visit his flat at night.

Following this, the school management allegedly expelled the survivor without any prior notice.

The survivor claimed that the entire incident



was recorded on the school's CCTV cameras.

She further alleged that the dean has a history of pressuring other female teachers for physical relationships, and those who resist are terminated from their jobs.

Inspired by "Drishyam" film, Gujarat woman fakes death using man's burnt body: Cops

PATAN, May 28 (Agencies): A married woman and her paramour from Patan district of Gujarat allegedly killed a middle-aged man and dressed the corpse with her clothes before setting it on fire to fake her own death, police said on Wednesday.

The half-burnt body of the man from Jakhotra village in Santalpur taluka of Patan was recovered on Tuesday night, following which the police nabbed Geeta Ahir (22) and her lover Bharat Ahir (21) in the early hours of Wednesday from Palanpur railway station, an official said.

The accused woman told the investigators that she hatched a conspiracy to fake her own death after getting inspired by "Drishyam" film, he said.

Addressing a press conference, Patan Superintendent

of Police (SP) V K Nayi said, "Geeta, who lives with her husband at Jakhotra, came up with this plan and convinced her lover to arrange a dead body so that they can fake her death and live together after fleeing from Gujarat." On Tuesday night, Geeta left her house when everyone was asleep. Later, when her husband and other family members were searching for her, they found a half-burnt body lying near a pond on the outskirts of the village, Nayi said.

"Since Geeta's 'ghagra' (long traditional skirt) and her anklets were found on the body, her kin initially thought that it was Geeta's body. However, after bringing the body home, they found that the deceased was a man. After being informed about it, we registered a case of murder and

launched a probe," the SP said.

The dead person was later identified as 56-year-old Harjibhai Solanki, who used to live a nomadic life at neighbouring Vauva village in Santalpur taluka, according to Nayi.

After coming to know that Geeta was in love with Bharat and both might flee to Rajasthan by train, a police team nabbed both of them from Palanpur railway station, where they were waiting for a Rajasthan-bound train, the SP said, adding that both of them admitted to their crime.

"Geeta told us that since she had seen "Drishyam" as well as "Drishyam 2" movies, she came up with this plan to fake her death so that she can spend the rest of her life with Bharat, who agreed to act as per her plan and started searching for a man or a woman for murder. On May 26, he spotted Solanki and offered him a lift on his motorcycle," the SP said.

Bharat stopped his vehicle at a secluded place and killed Solanki by strangling him before taking the body near a pond at Jakhotra, the official said.

As planned, Geeta fled her house on Tuesday night when everyone was asleep and reached the spot with a bottle of petrol, said Nayi.

"They first put Geeta's ghagra as well as anklets on Solanki's dead body, and set it on fire using petrol brought by her. They fled from the spot and reached Palanpur railway station as they had planned to go to Jodhpur by train. However, our team nabbed them from the spot," Nayi said.

Odisha man kills 2 by sending parcel bomb as wedding gift, gets life term

BHUBANESWAR, May 28 (Agencies): A lecturer was sentenced to life imprisonment by a court in Odisha's Bolangir district on Wednesday for killing two persons, including a groom, by sending a parcel bomb as a wedding gift.

Punjilal Meher, a lecturer at Jyoti Vikas College in Bhainsa, had a professional enmity with the groom's mother at the college where she worked as the principal. Due to this reason,

Punjilal hatched the conspiracy to kill her son Soumya and sent the bomb as a wedding gift in 2018, the police said.

The Patnagarh Additional District Judge (ADJ) court has convicted the accused Punjilal Meher in the case and sentenced him to life imprisonment, government counsel Chittaranjan Kanungo said.

The court convicted him under Sections 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder) and 201

(destroy evidence of a crime) of IPC and Sections 3 and 4 of the Explosive Substances Act, he said.

The court sentenced life imprisonment under two sections, 10 years of imprisonment under two charges and seven years imprisonment under another charge. Kanungo said that all the sentences would run concurrently.

"Our submission was to treat it as a rarest of rare cases.



However, the court did not observe it as a rarest of rare cases because all heinous crime cases cannot be treated like that," the public prosecutor said.

He said the quantum of punishment pronounced by the court is

very encouraging. It will give a positive message to the society at large.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 1.70 lakh on the convict.

He will remain behind bars for the rest of his life, Kanungo informed media persons outside the court.

Soumya Sekhar, a man in his mid-twenties, and his 85-year-old grandmother were killed in the blast.

His wife, Seema Sahoo, suffered critical injuries when a parcel bomb, disguised as a wedding gift, exploded at their Patnagarh home in Bolangir district on February 23, 2018.

The blast had taken place when the groom opened the gift.

Following a request by the new bride and her family, the then chief minister Naveen Patnaik had ordered the Crime Branch to probe into the incident.

The Crime Branch took over the investigation

on March 23, 2018, and arrested Meher in April 2018.

He is currently lodged in the Patnagarh sub-jail.

The Crime Branch, in its charge sheet, has accused Punjilal Meher an English lecturer at the college where the victim Soumya Sekhar's mother Sanjukta Sahu was the principal.

The investigating agency has said that revenge was the motive behind the crime.

“World War 3”: Ex-Russian President warns Trump after Putin’s criticism

The threat came as Trump said he would “absolutely” consider new sanctions on Moscow amid missile and drone bombardment in Ukraine that left many dead.

MOSCOW, May 28 (Agencies): Former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has warned Donald Trump of World War III after the US President said his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, was “playing with fire” by continuing the war with Ukraine.

The threat came as Trump said he would “absolutely” consider new sanctions on Moscow amid missile and drone bombardment in Ukraine that left many dead.

“Regarding Trump’s words about Putin ‘playing with fire’ and ‘really bad things’ happening to Russia. I only know of one REALLY BAD thing - WWII. I hope Trump understands this!” Medvedev said in a post on X.

Medvedev served as Russia’s President of Russia between 2008 and 2012 and Prime Minister between 2012 and 2020.



Trump’s Frustration With Putin
Trump’s frustration at his failure to end a war he said he could solve within 24 hours boiled over the weekend after Russia’s drone barrage killed at least 13 people. Diplomatic efforts to end the war have intensified in recent weeks, but

Putin has been accused of stalling peace talks.

On Tuesday, he warned Putin of serious consequences, saying, “What Vladimir Putin doesn’t realise is that if it weren’t for me, lots of really bad things would have already happened to Russia, and I mean REALLY

BAD. He’s playing with fire!”

Though Trump did not specify what the serious consequences would be, the Wall Street Journal and CNN both reported that the Republican was now considering fresh sanctions as early as this week. Trump told reporters on Sunday he was “absolutely” weighing such a move.

Meanwhile, Moscow, which invaded Ukraine in February 2022, did not react to Trump’s comments on Tuesday, but it had earlier sought to blame Ukraine for the impasse.

Moscow insisted it was responding to escalating Ukrainian strikes on its own civilians and accused Kyiv of trying to “disrupt” peace efforts. Russian authorities said almost 150 Ukrainian drones had been intercepted, including 33 heading toward Moscow.

Israeli military claims it did not open fire on crowds at Gaza aid distribution point

JERUSALEM, May 28 (Agencies): The Israeli military on Wednesday said soldiers did not fire at civilians at an aid distribution point in the Gaza Strip the day before, after a United Nations official reported numerous gunshot wounds.

“We are checking information from the UN. At the time we are speaking, we have no information on this matter,” military spokesman Colonel Olivier Rafowicz told agency, referring to the wounded civilians.

Israeli soldiers “fired warning shots into the air, in the area outside” the centre managed by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), he said, adding that “in

no case (did they fire) towards the people”.

Rafowicz added that “Hamas is doing everything to prevent humanitarian aid”.

Ajith Sunghay, the head of UN Human Rights Office in the Palestinian territories, said on Wednesday that “about 47 people were injured” on Tuesday when thousands of Palestinians rushed toward a new aid distribution centre in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip.

“Most of the injuries were caused by bullets,” and “the shots came from the Israeli army”, he said.

According to agency journalists at the site, thousands of Palestinians rushed toward the centre being managed

by the GHF, an organisation created with the support of the United States and Israel to distribute aid inside the Gaza Strip.

The United Nations and international aid agencies have declared they will not cooperate with the GHF, which has been accused of working with Israel without any Palestinian involvement and bypassing the UN.

“We have raised numerous concerns with this mechanism,” Sunghay said.

“What we saw yesterday is a very clear example of the dangers of distributing food under the circumstances which the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation is doing.”

Indonesia, France call for Gaza ceasefire, unimpeded humanitarian access

JAKARTA, May 28 (Agencies): Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto and visiting French President Emmanuel Macron on Wednesday called for an immediate halt to hostilities in Gaza and unimpeded access to humanitarian aid.

President Prabowo welcomed Macron at the State Palace, where the two leaders discussed a range of issues.

“We agreed to coordinate with each other in upholding respect for international law,” President Prabowo said during a joint press conference following their meeting.

According to Prabowo, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to supporting efforts



toward Palestinian independence as a sovereign state.

“Indonesia views only a two-state solution, the independence of the Palestinian nation, as the only way to achieve lasting peace,” he stated.

Prabowo emphasised that Indonesia would recognize Israel’s sov-

ereignty and establish diplomatic relations if Israel acknowledges Palestine’s independence.

Both Indonesia and France, as conveyed by Prabowo, urged Israel to open the widest possible access to Gaza, allowing humanitarian aid to reach those in need.

Taiwan slams China’s Cross-Strait summits as ‘United Front Lectures,’ shuns events in Beijing

TAIPEI, May 28 (Agencies): Taiwan’s Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) criticised China on Wednesday for organising two summits for Taiwanese participants later this week, claiming these gatherings aim to “lecture” rather than promote authentic exchanges across the Taiwan Strait, as reported by Focus Taiwan.

The MAC stated that the upcoming summits are “conducted under the guise of cultural and media exchanges aimed at summoning Taiwanese media and cultural figures to Beijing for lecturing and instruction.” The council emphasised that these events do not embody the essence of true cross-strait cultural and educational exchanges and are “not supported by the Taiwanese government”.



The council remarked that the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) utilisation of various forms of exchanges as tools for united front work does little to bridge differences across the Taiwan Strait and will not earn the acceptance of Taiwanese society, as highlighted by the Focus

Taiwan report.

The two summits mentioned by the MAC are the second Cross-Strait Chinese Culture Summit and the sixth Cross-Strait Media Summit, which are set to commence in Beijing on Wednesday and Thursday, respectively. Before the official start of these

events, a Taiwanese delegation of around 30 individuals, including former Kuomintang Chairperson Hung Hsiu-chu, was greeted on Tuesday by Wang Huning, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference in Beijing.

Wang stated during the reception that Chinese culture represents “the root and soul of the Chinese people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait,” and called for collective efforts to “unite and strive for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation”.

The Taiwan-China issue presents a complex and enduring geopolitical conflict centred on Taiwan’s sovereignty. Taiwan, formally known as the Republic of China (ROC), operates

an independent government, military, and economy, effectively functioning as a self-governing state.

Conversely, China regards Taiwan as a breakaway province and insists on the “One China” principle, which declares that there is only one China, with Beijing as its capital. This stance has led to decades of tension, particularly since the Chinese Civil War (1945-1949), when the ROC government retreated to Taiwan after the Communist Party, led by Mao Zedong, assumed control of mainland China.

Beijing has consistently voiced its ambition of reunifying with Taiwan, employing diplomatic, economic, and military pressure to marginalise Taiwan on the global stage.

Iran executes man convicted of spying for Israel, activists slam ‘unfair’ trial

Activists and his family said that the case against him was deeply flawed and he had notably been denied the right to a lawyer of his choosing during the legal process.

PARIS, May 28 (Agencies): Iran on Wednesday executed a man convicted of spying for Israel, in defiance of pleas from his family and activists for his life to be spared after what they described as an unfair trial.

Pedram Madani, 41, was hanged in Ghezel-hesar prison in Karaj outside Tehran after earlier this week being transferred from Evin prison in the capital where he had been held following his arrest in 2019.

He is the second man to be executed by Iran on charges of spying for Israel within two months, amid a surge in executions on all charges which activists say is aimed at instilling fear in the population.

The hanging comes against the background of a new period of escalating tensions between Iran and Israel, which the Islamic republic does not recognise, over the Iranian nuclear programme.

The judiciary’s Mizan Online website said Madani had been

“spying in favour of the Zionist regime”, using the term employed by institutions in the Islamic republic to denote Israel.

“Following the complete process of criminal procedure and the final confirmation and upholding of the verdict by the Supreme Court, he was brought to justice and executed,” it said.

Unfair process

But activists and his family said that the case against him was deeply flawed and he had notably been denied the right to a lawyer of his choosing during the legal process.

Madani “was sentenced to death by the Revolutionary Court without access to a lawyer of his choice, through an unfair and non-transparent process orchestrated by security agencies,” Mahmood Amiry-Moghaddam, the director of Norway-based NGO Iran Human Rights (IHR) which tracks the death penalty in Iran, told agency.

“The Islamic Republic’s goal in executing Pedram Madani and



others who are hanged daily is solely to instill fear within society and to conceal the regime’s widespread corruption and systemic failures.”

The Dabban legal monitor said in a statement on social media that in such a trial before a Revolutionary Court the defendant is denied the possibility of defending himself and the judge also has “no option” of rejecting the case.

“It is more than a legal accusation -- it is a charge used as a tool to issue and carry out the death penalty,” it said.

In a video posted on Tuesday by IHR and other groups warning of the risk of the imminent execution, his mother described Madani as a “man who loves his country and loves his family.”

“My son’s case is full of flaws and his death sentence must be revoked,” she said.

False confessions

There had on the eve of the execution been numerous pleas from Iranian campaigners for his life to be spared, including from Nobel peace prize winner Narges Mohammadi, currently on temporary release from serving her own prison sentence.

“The Islamic republic uses the death penalty as a tool to instill fear and intensify repression against the people,” she said in a video statement.

“There was not even a chosen lawyer on the case. Pedram’s cellmates testify he confessed falsely and under pressure. In Revolutionary Courts these false confessions serve as

the basis of death sentences,” she added.

According to ‘Mizan’, Madani was accused of transmitting classified information and holding meetings with Mossad officers abroad, including in Brussels.

The judiciary said he had travelled to “the occupied territories” -- the term used by Iranian officials to describe Israel -- prior to his arrest in 2020-2021.

He was also convicted of acquiring “illicit wealth” by receiving euros and bitcoin from Israel.

In April, Iran executed Mohsen Langarneshin for allegedly aiding Mossad in the 2022 killing of an Islamic Revolutionary Guards colonel in Tehran.

Rights groups including IHR have said Langarneshin was executed after an unfair trial and a confession extracted under torture.

According to IHR, there have been at least 478 executions in Iran this year alone, including more than 60 hangings in the last 10 days.

Sri Lankan authorities seize 600kg of heroin and meth in major drug bust



COLOMBO, May 28 (Agencies): Sri Lankan authorities have reportedly seized more than 600 kilograms of heroin and crystal methamphetamine in a major maritime drug bust, arresting 11 suspects and confiscating two fishing trawlers used in the smuggling operation.

The interception occurred during a joint operation conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy, State Intelligence Service, and Police Narcotics Bureau in the country’s southern territorial waters. The two vessels were escorted to Dikowita Fisheries Harbour on Wednesday, where both the drug consignment and

suspects were formally taken into custody.

According to the Sri Lankan Navy, initial assessments confirm a haul exceeding 600 kg, though final verification is on. The seized drugs -- heroin and methamphetamine (locally referred to as “ice”) -- were hidden aboard multi-day fishing trawlers commonly used in maritime trafficking routes, reports News First.

Sri Lanka has long faced international drug smuggling challenges, owing to its strategic position in the Indian Ocean. The island nation has often been used as a transit point by crime syndicates for regional, as well

as international drug smuggling.

In response, Colombo has intensified its crack-down on narcotics operations in recent years, increasing surveillance, and jointly collaborating with Indian intelligence and Naval authorities for seizing drug consignments.

Deputy Defence Minister Aruna Jayasekara, who inspected the seized contraband alongside senior security officials, pledged firm legal action against the traffickers. “This is part of our commitment to building a drug-free society,” he said.

The suspects and contraband have been handed over to the Police Narcotics Bureau for further investigation and legal proceedings.

This latest bust marks one of the largest in recent memory and underscores Sri Lanka’s growing role in regional anti-drug trafficking efforts, as authorities continue to confront sophisticated smuggling networks exploiting the island’s vast coastline.

Civil Defence Basic Training Program held at GDC Tangdar



Top News Report

KARNAH, May 28: A Civil Defence Basic Training Program was successfully organized at Government Degree College (GDC) Tangdar under the supervision of Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Karnah, Mr. Zaffar Ahmad Lone. The program witnessed wide participation from all sections of society, including representatives from all villages of Block Tangdar and Teetwal, such as ex-Sarpanches, Lambar-dars, and Chowkidars. The event also saw active involvement from the Tehsil Administration, including Tehsildar Karnah, Naib Tehsil-

dar, and the concerned Patwaris, reflecting the administration's commitment to strengthening disaster preparedness at the grassroots level. Hosted at GDC Tangdar, the program was supported by Principal Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, along with the college staff and students, who welcomed the initiative and contributed to its successful execution. The training was held as per the Tehsil-wise schedule communicated by the Deputy Controller, Civil Defence/SDRF Kupwara, aimed at equipping Civil Defence, Home Guard, and Aapda Mitra Volunteers with essential skills for disaster response and

community safety. In line with the official directive, Tehsildar and Block Development Officer instructed to mobilize volunteers from their jurisdictions and ensure their participation. The Deputy Controller, Civil Defence has been entrusted with coordinating with the respective Tehsildars and arranging all necessary logistics for the program. The event marked a significant step towards building a resilient and well-prepared community in the Karnah region, with strong collaboration between the administration, educational institutions, and local stakeholders.

Induction program for students of 4th semester skill course organized

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: An induction program for the students of 4th semester skill course (Journalism) was organized for the forthcoming Summer internship program -25 by the Department of English, Urdu, and Punjabi under the patronage of Prof. Archana Koul, Principal of M. A. M. College on Wednesday in the auditorium hall of the college. The program began with a welcome address by HOD, English Prof. Ruth K Masehi. The resource person invited for the lecture was Suhail Kazmi, a renowned lawyer and Editor-in-Chief of Urdu Newspaper Daily Taskeen. The topic of his lecture was "Scope of Journalism for Students." Kazmi's lecture focused on the importance of journalism



and enlightened the students regarding its changing trends. The lecture included the importance of authentic news and the role of media in society. He motivated the students to take up this internship with positivity and complete the training for future career aspirations. He also spoke about the role of social media, advanced technology and the scope for students to take journalism as a career option. Prof. Archana Koul also spoke extensively about the various aspects of journalism and the ben-

efits of an internship for the employability of students. About 131 students of all three departments participated in the induction program. The HOD English Prof. Ruth K Masehi, HoDUrdu Dr. Akhtar and HOD Punjabi Dr. Harbhajan Singh and the faculty of these departments were present in the program. The program was organised in collaboration with IQAC Convener Dr. Neeraj Sharma. The Proceedings of the Program were conducted by Prof. Menaka Rajput. The program concluded with a vote of thanks.

Women Empowerment Committee GDC Bani conducts awareness lecture on Menstrual Hygiene for girl students

Top News Report

BANI, May 28: In a significant step towards promoting health awareness and empowering young women, Women Empowerment Committee GDC Bani in collaboration with AYUSH Sub District Hospital Bani, organized a lecture on Menstrual Hygiene Management on Wednesday at Government Degree College (GDC) Bani. The session was conducted by a team of doctors from Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Bani lead by Dr. Monika and Dr Shivani both are the medical officers at SDH Bani. The main aim of this lecture was to educate and sensitize girl students about the importance of menstrual hygiene and its impact on overall health and well-being. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of female students and faculty members.



The team of doctors, led by Dr. Monika and Dr Shivani delivered an informative and interactive session covering various aspects of menstrual health, including: The biological process of menstruation, Importance of maintaining proper hygiene during menstruation, Common myths and misconceptions, Safe usage and disposal of sanitary

products, Awareness about infections and how to prevent them. The speakers emphasized that open dialogue and proper education about menstrual hygiene are crucial for breaking taboos and ensuring that girls grow up with confidence and dignity. They encouraged students to approach medical professionals without hesitation for any health-related concerns. The entire programme was coordinated by Dr

J S Soodan, Physical Director and conducted by Dr Nisha Devi, HOD Hindi along with other staff members Prof. Komal Mehta and Prof. Mehnaz Raffiq. This invited lecture was organized under the overall supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Manohar Lal, Principal of GDC Bani. Dr Soodan expressed gratitude to the SDH Bani team for their valuable contribution and stressed the importance of such awareness pro-

grams in educational institutions. The session concluded with a Q&A segment, where students actively participated and received clarifications on various concerns. This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to promote women's health and hygiene awareness at the grassroots level and is expected to pave the way for healthier practices and informed choices among young women in the region. The programme concluded with the formal vote of thanks by Dr Nisha Devi. Other faculty members who were present in the lecture Dr Resham Singh, Dr. Narinder Kumar, Dr Sunil Kumar, Prof. Sajjad Ahmad, Prof. Naseem, Prof. Nusrat Ul Islam, Prof Vishal Sharma, Prof Seema Kotwal, Neena Sondhi, ACT and Ratchpal Sharma.

Randhawa slams NC Govt, assures redressal of public grievances at BJP Public Darbar

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Senior BJP leader and MLA from Bahu Assembly Constituency, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, strongly criticized the National Conference (NC) government for neglecting the everyday issues of the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Addressing a Public Darbar at the BJP Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Randhawa urged the J&K government to prioritize public welfare and grassroots concerns. He also mentioned the immediate need to address the issue of rehabilitation of Nai Basti Shopkeepers. Highlighting the people-centric approach of the Modi government, Randhawa reiterated BJP's commitment to resolve public grievances through the collective efforts of its 28 MLAs in the Union Territory. He emphasized the importance of pragmatic governance led by an elected government that remains connected to citizens' daily challenges.



"This Public Darbar is a reflection of our resolve to remain accessible and accountable. Under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, the government has continuously stayed connected with the grassroots," Randhawa stated. The Darbar saw a massive turnout, with several deputations presenting pressing local issues. These included demands for community infrastructure, resolution of electricity bill concerns, land issues, drug abuse control, and civic infrastructure development. Among other issues, a deputation from Shiv Vihar, Janipur requested for construction of a Community Bathroom and Matador Stand. A deputation from Bawe

highlighted their concern about the excessive electricity Bills. A deputation raised concern about his land availability in KC Colony, lying pending in the Revenue Department. A large deputation presented requested for the construction of Parking near ERA Nallah at Trikuta Nagar. A deputation requested for transfer of shop from JDA. A deputation requested for opening of Ration Depot at Narwal Bala. A deputation complained about the increased Drug Menace in Rajiv Nagar. A deputation apprised about the non-functional lights in Ward No. 20 Gandhi Nagar. Different deputations from Extension Trikuta Nagar, Nai Basti and other areas complained about scarcity

of drinking water. Deputations from Trikuta Nagar, and Greater Kailash requested for the construction/ repair of lanes/ drains. Ch. Randhawa attentively heard the grievances, personally contacted officials of concerned departments for on-the-spot solutions and issued formal com-

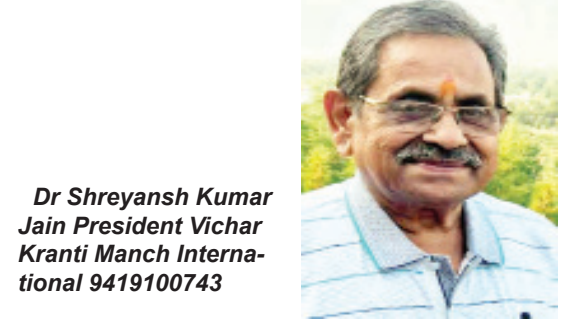
munications for pending matters. He assured the public of swift follow-up and resolution. The event was smoothly coordinated by Er. T.K. Sharma, Co-convenor of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, J&K BJP, ensuring effective interaction between citizens and party leadership.

When Man Forsakes the Giver

*When man departs from Life's true Source,
And claims his will as guiding force,
He builds a throne of pride and might,
But dims the soul's eternal light.*

*No thanks he gives, no reverent song,
Forgets who held him all along.
In dreams, no gratitude can grow,
Where ego blinds the truth we know.*

*Yet if he turns with humble heart,
And lets the higher will take part,
Then grace returns, and with it, peace—
And gratitude begins to breathe.*



Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain President Vichar Kranti Manch International 9419100743

Neha Bhandari, lone BSF officer who commanded border outpost along IB during Operation Sindoor

responded strongly to Pakistan." Anand said that BSF women personnel, including Assistant Commandant Neha Bhandari, had shown exemplary courage by manning forward posts and engaging enemy positions near the IB. "Women BSF soldiers played a crucial role in this operation and stood at the front lines to protect the country's sovereignty and borders," he said. Constable Shankari Das, who too manned a gun position on a forward post, said, "We have our duties. Just as we are deployed at the border, we carry out our tasks as usual. Our senior commanders briefed us on the situation and warned that firing might take place. We were instructed to respond to fire with fire. So, as soon as firing started, we responded with fire," she said. Similarly, constables Swapna

Rath, Anita, Sumi, Milkeet Kour, and Manjeet Kour were manning gun positions at various posts, like their male counterparts, and giving a befitting reply to Pakistani troops. "We feel proud to man gun positions and retaliate. It was an honour for us," Manjeet Kour said. The BSF has hit back at 76 Pakistani border outposts and 42 forward defence locations (FDLs), and destroyed three terrorist launch pads among several other posts, in a strong retaliation to unprovoked firing and shelling by Pakistani Rangers along the IB in the Jammu frontier under Operation Sindoor. They The BSF action came after Pakistan launched heavy shelling on 60 Indian posts and 49 forward positions, providing cover for an attempted infiltration by 40-50 terrorists, officials said.

MHA, Ladakh leaders reach consensus, settle on 15-yr domicile rule

Sixth Schedule, in the next meeting," he said. Thupstan Chhewang, chairman LAB described the outcome of the

HPC meeting as "historic occasion" where they achieved a "big breakthrough". "We had been insisting on reserving maximum seats for Scheduled Tribe (ST) students of Ladakh on the pattern of North-East and other places. There had been discussions on this particular subject and we are happy that the government of India has been kind to resolve these issues. We express our gratitude to the Government of India, particularly the Prime Minister, the Union Home Minister, the chairman of HPC and other members for resolving the issue," Chhewang said. Former minister and LAB member Nawang Rigzin Jora said, "Majority of jobs are generated in the non-gazetted category. While non-gazetted jobs are already reserved 100 percent for Ladakh Resident Certificate holders, we were concerned about gazetted posts being filled through JKPCS or UPSC. The new arrangement ensures that almost 95 percent of jobs will be reserved for locals and 10 percent for EWS, while the remaining 5 percent will be open to other Ladakh domiciles," he said, adding "Any recruitment agency including UPSC will not make much difference to the recruitment

now." He further said they requested the Centre not to extend the Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Civil) Services (DANICS) to Ladakh UT. "We urged the Centre to either create a separate administrative cadre for Ladakh or merge it with the J&K cadre. Now, there is a possibility that the Centre may positively consider our demand for separate administrative and police services for Ladakh in the next meeting," Jora said. The last formal meeting of the LAB and KDA leaders with the MHA was held on January 15. A follow-up meeting, initially proposed for February 15, did not materialize, with the MHA reportedly opting for backchannel talks to evolve a consensus on certain key issues prior to making any announcements. After Pahalgam, Omar Abdullah to hold meeting in Gulmarg inspector general of police, Kashmir; deputy inspector general, North Kashmir; and senior super-

intendent of police, Baramulla. On Tuesday, Abdullah chaired a meeting of his council of ministers in south Kashmir's Pahalgam. The aim behind holding meetings outside the fortified Civil Secretariat is to alleviate fear and reinforce a sense of security and trust, the officials said. This would lead to a revival of tourism in Kashmir following the massive setback after the April 22 terror attack, in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed, they said. The Jammu and Kashmir government is hosting a group of tour and travel operators from various parts of the country as part of its efforts to bring back tourists. Punjab: Fazilka SSP suspended after four cops arrested in bribery case reader, and two constables. Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Tuesday had reiterated the government's zero-tolerance policy against corruption. "This case highlights the firm resolve of the Punjab government to root out corruption. The prompt action in this matter demonstrates

that the government is on the side of the common citizen, ensuring justice and accountability at every level," Cheema had said on Tuesday. Bovine smuggler detained under PSA in Kathua Two drug peddlers – Sham of Kotli Pain and Simraan Khan of Jakhani – were arrested along with 5.7 grams of heroin from Chak Maglote in the Rehambal area of Udhampur district on Wednesday, police said. A case has been registered against the two under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, the spokesperson said. He said Sham was also wanted by police in multiple cases related to drug peddling and theft. Man found dead near his house in Reasi discovered lying close to his home, triggering panic in the locality. Police have taken cognizance of the matter, and further investigation has started.

Hell Energy Drink welcomes cricketer Shreyas Iyer as a Face of Brand in India

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Hell Energy Drink, one of the fastest-growing Energy Drink brands in the world, has announced celebrated Indian international cricketer Shreyas Iyer as a face of the brand in India.

The association marks a significant step in the brand's journey to deepen its connect with consumers and enthusiasts across the country. He joins global icon Michele Morrone, who represents Hell Energy Drink internationally, positioning the brand as a powerful blend of global appeal and local relevance.

As a face of the brand, Shreyas will be active across communication touchpoint, with a focus on engaging India's evolving energy drink

consumers.

He will represent Hell Energy Drink and its range of products, as well as its ongoing biggest consumer campaign in India - #Win-WithHell. With this partnership, Hell Energy Drink aims to further its India presence, aligning with Shreyas Iyer's dynamic personality, athletic excellence, and an ever-growing fan base.

Known for his consistent performance, dynamic personality, and leadership on and off the field, Shreyas perfectly embodies the values that Hell Energy Drink stands for — performance, confidence, and an unstoppable spirit.

Unnikannan Gangadharan, Director, Hell-Energy Private Limited, said, "We are elated to

welcome Shreyas Iyer to the Hell Energy Drink family. As an exceptional performer and youth icon, Shreyas resonates strongly with our brand ethos. His determination, style and winning mindset make him an ideal face for Hell Energy Drink in India, especially, as we connect with consumers who are bold, ambitious, and energetic."

Sharing his thoughts on the partnership, Shreyas Iyer, said, "I am thrilled to join Hell Energy Drink as face of the brand in India. As an athlete, I understand the importance of being energised and pushing your own limits and boundaries. Hell Energy Drink reflects the same bold approach and driven spirit. Together, let us power India's next wave of go-getters!"

KCPS student clinches bronze medal in Khelo India Youth Games



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Aahana Gupta of KC Public School (KCPS) clinched bronze medal in the Under-17 Fencing Championship in Khelo India Youth Games 2025, held in Rajgir, Bihar recently. The event brought together some of the finest young fencers from across the region.

Aahana, a diligent student known for her perseverance both in academics and sports,

showcased exceptional talent and determination throughout the championship.

Her journey to the podium reflects not only her own commitment but also the robust sports culture fostered at KC Public School.

"The achievement of Aahana Gupta is a remarkable testament to her hard work and resilience," said Amarendra Kumar Mishra, Principal of the School.

"We are immensely proud of her perfor-

mance and the spirit she displayed during the competition. Aahana's success serves as an inspiration to her peers and embodies the values of dedication and excellence that we uphold at our school," he added.

The Under-17 Fencing Championship featured various categories, and Aahana competed against numerous skilled athletes. With her strategic thinking and quick reflexes, she advanced through the rounds, ultimately securing the bronze medal in a thrilling final match.

Her performance not only highlights her individual talent but also showcases the support provided by the sports department at KC Public School.

The management of the school congratulated and appreciated Aahana for her glorious achievement.

GDC Ramgarh observes pledge ceremony as part of World Environment Day 2025 Pre-Campaign Activities



Top News Report

RAMGARH, May 28: In alignment with the district-wide pre-campaign initiatives for World Environment Day (WED) 2025, Government Degree College (GDC) Ramgarh conducted a Pledge Ceremony to promote awareness on this year's global theme, "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally."

The event was conducted under the esteemed guidance of Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol.

The event was organized by the Department of Environmental Science, led by Dr. Shivali Panigotra (HOD, Environmental Sci-

ence). Faculty members including Dr. Snobar, Prof. Sandeep Kumari, Ashok Kumar, Prof. Brham Dutt, Darpan Malhotra and students participated enthusiastically in taking the pledge to eliminate plastic usage and advocate for sustainable practices.

During the pledge, the participants vowed to contribute towards a clean, healthy, and plastic-free India, to avoid the use of plastic in their daily lives, to educate others on the harmful effects of plastic pollution and to commit themselves to protecting the planet for a secure and brighter future.

This initiative marks the beginning of a two-

week pre-campaign launched across Samba district, as directed by the Deputy Commissioner Samba, focusing on awareness drives, cleanliness campaigns, workshops, webinars, and other environment-focused activities involving various departments and stakeholders.

Principal Dr. Meeru Abrol appreciated the initiative and commended the active participation of students and faculty. She encouraged everyone to continue their involvement in future environmental activities, workshops, cleanliness drives, and webinars that are scheduled as part of the World Environment Day 2025 campaign.

National-Level Weightlifting Competition 2025 concludes at CRPF Base in Srinagar

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 28: The inter-zonal CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) Weightlifting Competition-2025 was successfully organized by the 166th Battalion, CRPF from May 26 to 28 at the CRPF Group Centre in Srinagar.

The event was inaugurated on May 26 by Assistant Commandant Sangeeta Chouhan, and concluded on May 28 in the presence of several senior officials including Assistant Commandant Niraj Kumar Jha, and other officers of the 166th Battalion.

A total of 17 Group Centres/Battalions from across the country participated in the competition under the CRPF's

Sports Division. These included units 06, 24, 33, 38, 52, 72, 76, 84, 121, 126, 137, 160, 166, 187, and 246 from Srinagar, as well as the Group Centre from Hiranagar.

Participants competed in 10 weight categories (55kg, 61kg, 67kg, 73kg, 81kg, 89kg, 96kg, 102kg, 109kg, and 109+kg), demonstrating their strength and technique in Snatch and Clean & Jerk events.

The overall performance rankings based on individual weight class achievements were 166 Battalion, first, 137 Battalion, second and 38 Battalion, third.

The competition was conducted with strict adherence to national standards and the

guidelines issued in coordination with the CRPF Sports Board and the Directorate General Headquarters in New Delhi.

After the intense and high-energy final performances, a formal closing ceremony was held, during which Assistant Commandant Sangeeta Chouhan congratulated all participants. She delivered an inspiring address, encouraging the athletes to continue striving for excellence and praised their discipline and dedication.

The successful execution of this event has further strengthened camaraderie among CRPF personnel and highlighted the importance of fitness and sports in force readiness.



Inter-Zonal District Level Youth Sports Competitions conclude in Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), District Jammu, successfully concluded the Inter-Zonal District Level Competitions across multiple sports disciplines for boys and girls at various venues in Jammu. The events were organized under the patronage of Sh. Rajinder Singh Tara (JKAS), Director General YSS, and supervised by Deputy Director Central Sh. Jitender Mishra (JKAS), Joint Director YSS Sh. Ved Parkash (JKAS), Accounts Officer Sh. Sunil Kumar Sharma, and DYSSO Jammu Sh. Sukhdev Raj Sharma.

The badminton U-14 girls' finals were held at MA Stadium, where Zone Gandhi Nagar emerged victorious by defeating Zone Jammu 2-0 in sets. In football, Zone Gandhi Nagar continued its dominance, clinching both U-14 and U-17 boys' finals by beating Zone Jammu 1-0 and Zone Satwari 3-0 at the



Parade Ground.

Simultaneously, competitions in kabaddi (U-17 boys), volleyball (U-17 boys), and kho-kho (U-14 boys) were held at various venues. In kabaddi U-17 boys, the combined team of Zone Satwari, Gandhi Nagar, and Miran Sahib beat Zone Jammu, Dansal, Marh, and Bhalwal by a convincing margin of 52-26 points. In volleyball U-17 boys, the team from Zone Akhnoor, Jourian, Khour & Chowki Choura defeated their counterparts from Zone Jammu cluster with a 2-0 set win.

In kho-kho U-14 boys, Zone Jammu cluster (Jammu, Dansal, Marh, and Bhalwal) defeated Zone Satwari cluster by 12-06 points, while in the U-17 boys' kho-kho, Zone Bishnah, Arnai, and RS Pura outplayed Zone Akhnoor, Jourian, and Chowki Choura.

In the girls' volleyball U-14 event, Zone Satwari, Gandhi Nagar, and Miran Sahib defeated Zone Akhnoor cluster by 2-1 sets. The yoga competition for U-14 girls concluded with Sadhya securing 1st place, followed by Nidhya and Kabit.

Gymnastics events

also witnessed spirited performances. In the U-14 boys' category, Trishiva Proch won 1st place, and Veerbhadra Singh secured 2nd. In the U-17 boys' gymnastics, Kevya Sarmal and Krishna Mehra clinched the first and second positions respectively.

Approximately 500 students from various government and private schools across Jammu participated in the competitions, showcasing remarkable talent and sportsmanship. The competitions aimed to identify and nurture young sports talent for future higher-level

events.

Speaking at the event, DYSSO Jammu Sh. Sukhdev Raj Sharma praised the efforts of the participants and encouraged them to remain actively involved in sports to enhance their physical fitness and overall development. He extended his best wishes to all the players for their future competitions.

The entire event was successfully coordinated by a team of experienced sports officials and physical education instructors, including Harvinder Kour (ZPEO), Usha Fotedar (ZPEO), Ram Murti (ZPEO), Avinash Kumari (ZPEO), Jatinder Kour (ZPEO), Dinesh Kumar (ZPEO), Joginder Singh (ZPEO), Nirmal Singh (PEL), Ajay Kumar (PEM), Yash Paul Sharma, and other technical officials of the department.

The event proved to be a grand success, offering young athletes a platform to shine and paving the way for their selection to upcoming higher-level competitions.

Manjit Singh, along with party colleagues, visits border areas in Samba Apni Party leaders engage with border residents to understand their issues

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Apni Party Provincial President for Jammu, Manjit Singh, on Wednesday led a delegation of party leaders to the Ramgarh area in Samba district to assess the issues faced by the local residents.

According to a press release issued here, the residents in the Ramgarh area (Block Ramgarh and Panchayat Nanga) informed Apni Party leaders that, in view of the recent cross-border shelling, they feel insecure due to the absence of security bunkers. They also complained that the PDD is sending them power bills without providing power supply. Also, they highlighted several other challenges affecting their daily lives.

Manjit Singh assured the residents that he would bring their demands to the attention of the concerned officials and ensure prompt redressal of their issues.

He urged the government to provide individual family bunkers to these border residents. He said that those who own land should provide their personal land for building these bunkers, while those who do not own any land should be provided land by the government for their construction.

The prominent leaders who accompanied Manjit Singh during this visit included party's Provincial Senior Vice president Faqir Nath, Provincial Vice President Arun Chibber, Provincial Secretary Ajaz Kazmi, District President Samba Raman Thapha, Provincial Spokesperson Advocate Sahil Bharti, Provincial in-charge Jammu (Youth Wing) Vishal Naranian, Provincial Social Media in-charge Vaibhav Mattoo, Block President Vijaypur Bachan Lal, Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee member, Samba Sardar Mohan Singh, Satnam Kour, and others.

Awareness Camp on Menstrual Hygiene organized by GGM Science College



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: The NSS Units, Department of Environmental Sciences, GGM Science College Jammu, in collaboration with the Prithibhaya-Vedantsara Foundation (NGO), organized an Awareness Camp on Menstrual Hygiene along with a Sanitary Pad Donation Drive at Maratha Mohalla, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

This community outreach initiative was aimed to raise awareness about menstrual health and hygiene while ensuring access to

essential sanitary products for underprivileged women and girls.

The event was held under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal, GGM Science College, Jammu.

He commended students, faculty, and NGO partners for leading this impactful effort.

The camp included informative sessions, interactive discussions, and free distribution of sanitary pads, promoting open dialogue and helping break societal taboos associated with menstruation.

Dr. Rahul kait and

Dr. Neha Sharma NSS Programme Officer and Prof. Poonam Kundan, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, GGM Science College visited the community to carry out awareness camp.

The faculty emphasized the importance of menstrual hygiene in ensuring women's health, dignity, and equality, especially in underserved communities.

The NSS volunteers supported faculty members in delivering talks and managing group activities, playing a vital role in engaging community.

IPL playoffs: Iyer’s tact up against RCB’s flair in battle of equals

MULLANPUR, May 28 (Agencies): Shreyas Iyer’s inspiring leadership will face its toughest test yet when Punjab Kings host an equally upbeat Royal Challengers Bengaluru in Qualifier 1 of the Indian Premier League here on Thursday.

Having earned the cushion of a top-two finish, one can expect both teams to have a no holds barred approach knowing they will get another shot at reaching the final even if they come up short on the opening night of the play-offs.

Punjab Kings find themselves in unfamiliar territory having made the play-offs for the first time since 2014 but they are not carrying the baggage of the past in the Iyer-Ricky Ponting (head coach) era.

RCB, on the other hand, are way too familiar with heartbreaks of the knock-out stages and like every season, are hoping to end their title drought. In their own words, the job is only half done for both title contenders.

The Iyer-Ponting partnership has resulted in a stellar turnaround for Punjab Kings, who have finally cracked the consistency code after more than a decade of under-performance.

The combination has managed to get the best out of the players making them a well-oiled unit.

The opening duo of Prabhsimran Singh and rookie Priyansh Arya has laid the platform for the likes of Iyer and Josh Inglis to build.

Finisher Shashank Singh



continues to improve his game with each passing season and more recently, Australian import Marcus Stoinis finding his range with the bat makes the batting look more formidable.

The concerns lie in the bowling department, especially after the departure of South African Marco Jansen, who has returned home for national duty.

Jansen bowled the crucial overs both in the powerplay and death and the team will certainly miss him on Thursday night.

Kyle Jamieson showed promise in his debut for the franchise but will need to bowl better upfront to make an impact. Batting all-rounder Azmatullah Omarzai could take Jansen’s spot.

Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal, who missed the last two games due to a finger injury, is expected to return for the big game and bowl alongside the ever accurate Harpreet Brar.

Arshdeep Singh has been the standout pacer for his long-

time franchise, delivering in all phases of the game.

RCB too had injury concerns going into the business end of the tournament but they have been allayed to a good extent.

Pacer Josh Hazlewood is expected to regain full fitness and Tim David too would be available for selection, lending more balance to the side.

RCB have been branded as a top heavy outfit for years but that appears to be changing with the likes of Jitesh Sharma realising their potential in the middle-order. Jitesh played the best innings of his IPL career on Tuesday night and his confidence will be sky high going into the play-offs.

It would be important from the team’s point of view that Phil Salt is at his destructive best in the powerplay and Virat Kohli keeps batting like he has been through the season, racking up fifties with ridiculous ease.

RCB will take positives out of their win over Punjab Kings at

this venue in the league stage. The pitch has been rather unpredictable with 200 scored only once in the first innings of the four games played here.

But Punjab Kings will have the belief of winning from the brink at their home ground having defended 111 against KKR last month.

The stakes will be high but both teams will treat the game as a stepping stone to their ultimate goal.

Squads:

Punjab Kings: Nehal Wadhwa, Harnoor Singh, Shreyas Iyer, Musheer Khan, Pyla Avinash, Prabhsimran Singh, Vishnu Vinod, Josh Inglis, Marcus Stoinis, Praveen Dubey, Priyansh Arya, Azmatullah Omarzai, Aaron Hardie, Harpreet Brar, Suryansh Shedde, Shashank Singh, Yuzvendra Chahal, Arshdeep Singh, Xavier Bartlett, Kuldeep Sen, Vijaykumar Vyshak, Yash Thakur, Mitchell Owen, Kyle Jamieson.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru: Virat Kohli, Rajat Patidar ©, Swastik Chikara, Jitesh Sharma, Philip Salt, Manoj Bhandage, Tim David, Krunal Pandya, Liam Livingstone, Romario Shepherd, Jacob Bethell, Swapnil Singh, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Josh Hazlewood, Nuwan Thushara, Yash Dayal, Rasikh Dar Salam, Suyash Sharma, Mohit Rathee, Abhinandan Singh, Mayank Agarwal, Blessing Muzarabani, Tim Seifert.

Match starts 7.30 PM.

Pant’s calibre and ability was never in doubt: LSG mentor Zaheer



LUCKNOW, May 28 (Agencies): Lucknow Super Giants mentor Zaheer Khan has asserted that skipper Rishabh Pant’s calibre and ability were never in doubt despite his underwhelming performances for most of the IPL season. Khan also said that the charismatic stumper will emerge stronger after this learning curve.

Bought for a whopping Rs 27 crore at the mega auction, Pant endured a lean patch, managing just 269 runs from 13 innings. He found his trademark big-hitting touch only in the last game of the season with a 61-ball 118 but that too ended up in a losing cause against Royal Challengers Bengaluru here.

“He’s been good as a leader. That was a positive for us throughout the season. The form with the bat was defi-

nately a learning experience for him, having this kind of season.”

“But the ability and calibre—no one had any doubt about it,” Zaheer said in the post-match press conference.

The former India pace spearhead said it was good to see the swash-buckling keeper-batter end the season on a high.

“We’re happy he finished on a really strong note - that’s the calibre he has, and the impact he can have on the game,” Zaheer added.

It was a disappointing season for LSG, who finished seventh with six wins and eight losses. A spate of injuries to key bowlers disrupted their rhythm and consistency.

“When you start off the IPL season, your first goal is to think of the playoffs, how you are going to get there...We obviously made the con-

scious effort of (trying to handle) the challenges which we are facing in the beginning of the season, which is losing a few of our main bowlers to injuries,” he said.

“We made an effort to not pay too much attention to that...and finding ways of winning the match,” Zaheer said.

“That is the process which everyone was aligned to and looking at that, we have had a decent season...but yes, we fell short and putting the game together was a challenge which was evident right through the season...,” Zaheer said.

Despite the bowling woes, Zaheer said the stability in the batting unit was a major positive. The overseas trio of Aiden Markram, Mitchell Marsh, and Nicholas Pooran—the team’s standout performer with the bat—brought solidity to the line-up.

“There are positives, a lot of positives—the stability was evident with regard to batting.”

“But with regard to bowling, we were trying to figure out the combinations, we were trying to figure out the options which can get us over the line and that is something that was the story right throughout the season,” he conceded.

Satwik-Chirag make winning return; Lakshya retires hurt

SINGAPORE, May 28 (Agencies): India’s top men’s doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty made a winning return, while there was heartbreak for Lakshya Sen, who was forced to retire midway through his opening round clash at the Singapore Open Super 750 badminton tournament here on Wednesday.

Back on court for the first time since their withdrawal from the All England Open in March due to Chirag’s back injury, the former world No.1 displayed no signs of rust as they beat Malaysia’s Choong Hon Jian and Muhammad Haikal 21-16, 21-13 in just under 40 minutes in the round of 32.

It was Satwik and Chirag’s second win over the 41st-ranked Malaysian pair. The Indians are currently ranked 27th in the world.

The pair had also missed the Sudirman Cup earlier this month, with Satwik battling health concerns. Prior to that, they had made semifinal appearances at both the Malaysia Open and India Open this season.

India’s no 1 singles player Sen was forced to retire hurt during his opening-round clash against Lin Chun-Yi of Chinese Taipei.

Sen, currently ranked 17th in the world, started strong and took the first game 21-15. But his opponent, world



No. 19 Lin, bounced back to claim the second 21-17.

The match was evenly poised in the decider when Sen trailed 5-13 before he retired due to injury. The exact nature of Sen’s injury is not known.

In mixed doubles, Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde advanced into the pre-quarters defeating the American pair of Chen Zhi Yi and Francesca Corbett 21-16, 21-19 in 35 minutes.

In the women’s singles, Aakarshi Kashyap put up a spirited fight but ultimately went down to world No. 4 Han Yue of China 21-17, 13-21, 7-21 in a 58-minute contest.

Kashyap, ranked 46th in the world, started well and took the opening game 21-17.

However, the third seeded Han bounced back strongly to win the next two games 21-13, 21-7, showcasing her superior control.

India series will be real test for Crawley, Pope: Geoffrey Boycott

LONDON, May 28 (Agencies): Legendary Geoffrey Boycott remains unconvinced that England’s Zak Crawley and Ollie Pope have overcome their “technical and mental issues” despite scoring centuries against Zimbabwe, insisting that their real challenge will come in next month’s five-Test series against India.

Crawley has endured a tough few months, struggling in New Zealand where he averaged under nine and fell to Matt Henry in all six innings.

Pope, too, had a rollercoaster 2024. His brilliant 196 in the opening Test against India in Hyderabad stands among the finest overseas knocks by an Englishman, but he has been extremely inconsistent since.

“We cannot say suddenly that Crawley and



Pope have solved the technical and mental issues that have dogged their careers because the Zimbabwe bowling was so average,” the former English opener wrote in his column for the ‘Daily Telegraph’.

England’s top-three of Crawley, Ben Duckett, and Pope all struck dominant hundreds as the hosts piled up 565/6 declared against what Boycott termed a Zimbabwean “club-bowling” attack, en route to an innings and 45-run vic-

tory in the recently concluded one-off Test.

“They were medium pacers not good enough or consistent enough to expose any flaws in Crawley and Pope’s batting. We will have to wait until the India series to see if there really is any improvement against better bowlers. That will be the real test and give us a better idea of where they stand.”

The 84-year-old however acknowledged that the runs would boost confidence for England’s

top-order. “The top three of Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett and Ollie Pope made hundreds. Well done. It is not their fault the bowling was so poor.”

“It was exactly what any batsman wants early season: easy runs. Runs breeds confidence, confidence sets you up for the summer. Form and confidence is everything. They did their job but, if we’re honest, it was not a great advert for Test match cricket.”

“It flattered one team and knocked seven bells out of the other one. But England’s top three go into the Test series against India full of confidence. They have no excuse now.”

Describing the game as a “mismatch”, he added: “It was like putting a heavyweight boxer in with a flyweight. The heavyweight toyed with the flyweight before

knocking him out with one punch.”

“Zimbabwe were just out of their depth. Anyone could see it. England batted first on a flat pitch and took advantage of club bowling and enjoyed easy batting practice.”

England will face India in a five-Test marquee series beginning June 20 at Leeds. Their next assignment in the World Test Championship cycle will be the high-profile Ashes series in Australia, starting November 21.

“My worry for the Ashes series later this year has always been England’s bowling and I saw nothing at Nottingham to change my mind.”

“The seamers were made to look very ordinary by a Zimbabwe team that were not much better than a minor county side.”

Indian Junior Women’s Hockey team edge past Argentina 2-0 in shootout at Four Nations Tournament

ROSARIO, May 28 (Agencies): The Indian Junior Women’s Hockey Team clinched a hard-fought 2-0 win in the shootout against hosts Argentina after a 1-1 draw in regulation time in their third match of the Four Nations Tournament in Rosario, Argentina.

Kanika (44’) scored India’s lone goal during regulation time, while Lalrinpuui and Lalhantlangi netted in the shootout to secure the victory, as per the Hockey India press release.

Argentina got off to a strong start, with Milagros Del Valle (10’) giving the home side the lead in the first quarter. India responded in the third quarter when Kanika found the equal-



iser in the 44th minute to bring her side back into the contest, it added.

With no further goals, the match was tied at full time and went to a penalty shootout. Goalkeeper and captain Nidhi proved to be the difference, pulling off four consecutive saves to shut out the hosts. Lalrinpuui and Lalhant-

luangi converted their chances to hand India a well-earned win.

Earlier, the Indian junior women’s hockey team enjoyed a 3-2 victory over Uruguay in their second match during the friendly Four Nations Tournament in Rosario, Argentina.

Sonam (21’) and Kanika Siwach (46’,

50’) scored crucial goals for India while Milagros Seigal (3’) and Agustina Mari (24’) found the net for Uruguay.

Uruguay took an early lead in the game as Milagros Seigal successfully converted a penalty corner in the 3rd minute to push her side ahead early on. In the second quarter, India

scored the equaliser as Sonam scored through a penalty corner in the 21st minute. However, just three minutes later, Uruguay reclaimed the lead as Agustina Mari scored a goal through a penalty corner as well.

The game remained level by the end of third quarter but Kanika Siwach scored a crucial brace in the final stretch to help India emerge victorious. She first scored through a penalty corner in the 46th minute, followed by a decisive field goal in the 50th minute to seal the well-deserved win.

India will look to continue their strong showing as they head into the next fixture against Chile on May 30.

IPL 2025: LSG skipper Rishabh Pant fined for maintaining a slow over-rate against RCB

LUCKNOW, May 28 (Agencies): Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) captain Rishabh Pant has been fined after his team maintained a slow over-rate during their match in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium, Lucknow on Tuesday, according to a IPL media advisory.

As it was his team’s third offence of the season under the IPL’s Code of Conduct relating to minimum over-rate offences, Rishabh Pant was fined 30 Lakh. The remaining members of the Playing XI, including the Impact Player, were each individually fined 12 Lakh or 50 per cent of their respective match fees, whichever is lesser.

Coming to the match, with a six-run defeat against Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Lucknow’s topsy-turvy IPL 2025 campaign ended on a bitter note in their home den. Churning out five victories out of their eight fixtures and then standing with a solitary win in the

last six fixtures ruled them out of the race for the playoffs.

Stand-in RCB captain Jitesh Sharma arguably played the knock of his life and lifted Royal Challengers Bengaluru to a handsome victory as they overcame Lucknow Super Giants with a six-wicket triumph in the final group stage game of the 18th season of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Punjab stayed at the top of the standings, while RCB moved to the second spot with two more points. RCB have booked a date with Punjab Kings in Qualifier 1 on Thursday, while Gujarat Titans, who slipped to third, will face Mumbai Indians in the Eliminator on Friday.

Bengaluru pulled off the third-highest successful run chase in the tournament’s history, courtesy of an unbeaten 107-run partnership between Mayank Agarwal and Jitesh Sharma. Notably, this was just the third time RCB chased down a 200-plus run target. RCB’s six-wicket triumph is the highest total chased in Lucknow.

MP Khatana slams Pakistan in Paris, warns of retaliation over cross-border attacks

PARIS, May 28 (AGENCIES): BJP Rajya Sabha MP Engineer Ghulam Ali Khatana launched a fierce attack on Pakistan, accusing it of state-sponsored terrorism and defaming Islam on the global stage.

Speaking to the Indian diaspora in Paris, Khatana didn't mince words as he accused the neighbouring country of orchestrating violence across borders while portraying itself as a victim.

"We are here to tell the world—we respect our neighbour, we want their progress, but we cannot afford the killing of innocent citizens. If they send a bullet, we will fire a bomb. There is zero tolerance. Anything that happens from the side of Pakistan will be considered an act of war," Khatana declared.

Reaffirming India's robust



stance on national security, the BJP MP asserted, "If a single bullet comes from their side, we will retaliate with shells. Pakistan must understand that India is an atomic power. We will not be blackmailed."

Khatana accused Pakistan of inflicting the greatest damage

on the image of Islam, stating that its actions have globally distorted the religion's message of peace. "Pakistan has damaged Islam more than anyone else. Its true character is far from humanity. It is very important to tell the world what Pakistan is doing—this is state-sponsored

terrorism," he said. Highlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's diplomatic outreach, Khatana praised the initiative of sending MPs and senior officials across the world to present India's perspective on Pakistan's alleged involvement in terrorism.

"The Prime Minister has taken an excellent decision to send Indian representatives to expose Pakistan's role in promoting terror and misrepresenting Islam," he added.

Khatana also hinted at stronger measures if provocations continue from across the border. "Let's give it 15 days. After that, there will be further action. Pakistan should stop taking us lightly," he warned, signaling a potentially tougher diplomatic or military response if ceasefire violations persist.

Shiv Sena releases poster ‘All is well in J&K’ message to Amarnath pilgrims, tourists Appeal to increase last date of registration and Tatkal quota



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit has appealed to the devotees of Baba Barfani to participate in Shri Amarnath Yatra in record numbers, salute Operation Sindoore and the bravery of Indian forces and give a thumbs down to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism along with this demand was made to extend the last dates of Amarnath Yatra registration and simplify the Tatkal registration system and increase the Yatra quota.

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni and senior party leaders present today released a poster in a program organized at Jammu Press Club and gave the message of 'All is well in Jammu and Kashmir' and appealed to the devotees of Baba Barfani to be a part of the Holy Shri Amarnath Yatra in record numbers, show faith in the security forces and encourage them.

Sahni said that after the Pahalgam attack,

the economy of Jammu and Kashmir, which is dependent on the tourism business, has almost come to a standstill, and this campaign has been launched to bring it back on track.

He said that as per the instructions of party national secretary and MP Anil Desai, message of 'All is well in J&K' will be given to tourists and devotees by distributing about 50,000 posters across the country.

Sahni said that after Operation Sindoore, the situation is becoming normal rapidly. He appeals to tourists, devotees of Shri Amarnath, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi and Machail Mata to visit without any fear.

Sahni appealed to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (who is also the Chairman of Shri Amarnath Board) to extend the last date of Yatra registration (which is 31 May) to 15 June and issue instructions to immediately increase the registration counters and quota. Along with this, the demand to make the Yatra registration free was also reiterated.

On this occasion Meenakshi Chhibber, Sanjeev Kohli, Balwant Singh, Raj Singh, Rohan Malwal were present.

Sahni said that during the Amarnath Yatra, a group of Shiv Sainiks will be present at the main base camp Pahalgam to welcome and encourage the Shri Amarnath pilgrims during the Yatra period. He said that a written request for permission has been made to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu-Kashmir and Shri Amarnath Shrine Board.

He said that his aim is to end the atmosphere of fear about Jammu-Kashmir among the pilgrims and tourists after the Pahalgam attack.

Sahni also requested Home Minister Amit Shah to visit Pahalgam along with Jammu and Poonch during his two-day visit and give the message of 'All is well in J&K'.

Home Minister Amit Shah is reaching Jammu for a two-day visit on 29th for the first time after Operation Sindoore.

Conrad K Sangma launches Rs 516 crore Climate-Adaptive Community Water Harvesting Project in North Garo Hills

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: With an aim to enhance water security and increase community climate resilience in Meghalaya, Conrad K Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister, today launched the Climate Adaptive Community based Water Harvesting Project, an externally funded by Asian Development Bank (CABWHP - ADB), under the Soil & Water Conservation department, at Mendipathar College Cricket Ground, North Garo Hills.

The Chief Minister, along with senior officials, visited remote areas of North Garo Hills to help better understand the situations and connect with citizens at a grassroots level.

The project aims to establish 50 weather stations for climate data gathering and monitoring, and micro-irrigation systems in all 12 districts of the State. The project will support the construction of 533 water harvesting facilities across 12 districts. These facilities will incorporate climate-resilient designs to capture and manage heavy rainfall and flash floods during monsoon season.

This project amounting to \$ 62.5 million (Rs 516 crore) aims to create 10 million cubic meters of water storage, protect 12,500 hectares of catchment areas, and transform about 3,297 hectares of command area to provide reliable irrigation areas for farmers.

Dignitaries included Conrad K Sangma, Chief Minister, Marcuse N. Marak, Minister, Soil & Water Conservation Department; Bah Paul Lyngdoh, Minister, Social Welfare Department, Marthon J. Sangma, MLA, Mendipathar Constituency, Rupert Momin, MLA, Kharkutta constituency. Key officials included Pravin Bakshi, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Dr. Joram Beda, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Government of Meghalaya, and Dr. Abhishek Solni, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, North Garo Hills.

The Chief Minister stated that the project aligns with the Meghalaya State Water Policy (MSWP) 2019, which seeks to achieve sustainable development, management, and utilisation of the state's water resources through a participatory approach, reduce vulnerability, and promote integrated water resource management.

"Megh Adapt Pay" project was also launched, amounting to Rs 47.19 Crores, which is part of the Climate Adaptive Community Based Water Harvesting Project for afforestation, conservation of existing forests and agricultural land development implemented by Soil and Water Conservation Department.

The chief minister also informed that through the project the community and government will forge partnerships to help protect forests, restore degraded lands, improve ecosystem health, rehabilitate degraded catchment area, and expanding green cover across the state.

"I have seen the same commitment and sincerity in all of you, and I assure you that I will give my best in all the work that we do for the people and for the state. And we will work together to change our state and to take our state forward", the Chief Minister added.

Marcuse N. Marak highlighted the Chief Minister's vision for the state's overall development, aiming to rank Meghalaya among India's top 10 states by 2028, noting improvements in education, infrastructure, and tourism for the benefit of the people.

He emphasized that without preserving water and the environment, achieving this ranking would be challenging, underscoring the importance of the climate-adaptive program and the PMGSY scheme.

The Chief Minister also distributed cheques to 87 Nos of Village Employment Council under Megha Adapt Pay, ADB and 37 SHGs under PMKSY WDC 2.0. He also laid the foundation stone for construction of Koknal Water Harvesting Structure at Rangmangre village, North Garo Hills in the presence of Shri. Marcuse N Marak, Hon'ble Minister i/c Soil & Water Conservation and Dr. Joram Beda IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Soil & Water Conservation, Govt of Meghalaya, Officials and Community.

Delegation of representatives from Nubra calls on Lt Governor Brig Mishra

Top News Report

LEH, May 28: A delegation comprising councillors, political leaders, and community representatives from Nubra, led by Deputy Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk, and Former Member of Parliament, Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, called on Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) to request LG's intervention in the inclusion of the Shatse Taknak Bridge over the Shayok River in the CRIF sanctions scheme.

The delegation emphasized the significance of the Shatse Taknak Bridge, stating that it is one of the most crucial infrastructure projects for the region and has been on the priority list of LAHDC Leh. Despite its importance, the bridge was not included in the recently announced projects under the CRIF sanctions scheme. Concerned about this exclusion, the delegation sought LG's support in ensuring its inclusion.

LG sought clarity from the Secretary, Public Works Department (PWD) Michael D'Souza, IAS, regarding the omission of the project and also sought an update on the way forward. In response, the Secretary PWD,



through a phone call with LG, informed that the project would be taken up in the supplementary proposal sought by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway from the LAHDCs.

Assuring the delegation of his commitment, LG stated that the matter would be pursued on a

priority basis in the supplementary proposal. Deputy CEC LAHDC-Leh, Tsering Angchuk, Commissioner/Secretary to the HLG Dr. L

Franklin, IAS; former MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Councillor Tigar, Rigzin Lundup, Councillor Panamik Shri Tsering Sangdup, Chief Engineer PWD Abdul Mutaib, Deputy Secretary PWD Jigmat Raftan, JKAS; former councillor Rigzin Wangdus, LBA Nubra President, Nambaradar Charassa and youth representatives were present during the meeting.

ICAI J&K Branch hosts public outreach program on Income Tax Bill 2025



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: The J&K Branch of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), under the aegis of the Direct Tax Committee, ICAI, organised a Public Outreach Program at ICAI Bhawan, Jammu to deliberate upon the recently proposed Income Tax Bill 2025. The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from professionals, industry leaders, and representatives from various trade associations.

The program was graced by Kachoo Mehboob Ali Khan, Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals), as the Chief Guest. Special Guests

included G. Velladurai, IEDS, Joint Director & Head, MSME Jammu, Nooh Siddiqui, IRS, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, and Dr. Ritu Singh, Women Leader and Trustee, Maharaja Hari Singh Foundation.

CA Sourav Pargal, Chairman of the J&K Branch of ICAI, delivered the welcome address, extending gratitude to the dignitaries and highlighting the significance of the proposed bill in simplifying the direct tax regime and promoting ease of doing business.

CA Ayush Sawhney, Executive Member of the Branch, moderated the proceedings of the session. CA Gourav Choudhary, provided

a comprehensive overview of the Income Tax Bill 2025, elucidating its key provisions, structural reforms, and its comparative analysis with the existing Income Tax Act.

The program concluded with a formal vote of thanks by CA Amit Gupta, Vice Chairman of the Branch, acknowledging the valuable insights shared by the speakers and the active participation of the attendees.

The outreach program witnessed active participation from various trade and industry associations including FICCI FLO Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh Chapter, Kanak Mandi Traders Association, Nanak Nagar Shopkeepers Association, Bar Council of J&K High Court, and several others, who lauded the initiative of ICAI for fostering tax awareness and industry engagement.

CA Jatin Malhotra, Secretary, CA Sanchit Aggarwal, Treasurer and CA Ayush Mahajan, Executive Member along with many other chartered Accountants were also present in the program.

Dimple leads protest rally demanding restoration of J&K Statehood



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 28: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir, led a massive protest rally today at Rehari Chungi, BC Road, ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's two-day visit to Jammu on May 29-30. The rally, attended by hundreds of supporters, sent a strong and clear message to the Centre, demanding the immediate restoration of J&K statehood, revival of the historic Darbar Move, and announcement of a special financial and employment package for the youth.

Addressing the rally, Dimple voiced deep concerns over the deteriorating situation in Jammu and Kashmir. He urged Home Minister Amit Shah to take urgent action on restoring the Dogra state, grant special status, and initiate robust security measures, especially for upcoming religious pilgrimages like the Mata Kherwani and Amarnath Yatras.

"The people and youth of Jammu and Kashmir are caught in the crossfire between LG Manoj Sinha and former CM Omar Abdullah. The region's economy has been derailed by repeated terror attacks like Pahalgam, Pulwama, Shivkhori, and the recent Operation Sindoore," said Dimple.

He strongly criticized the BJP government, questioning its achievements post the abrogation of Article 370. "Terrorism continues to haunt the region.

Trade, tourism, and transport have collapsed. What development is the government talking about?" he asked.

Dimple demanded a concrete timeframe from the Home Minister for the restoration of statehood. He also called for special provisions including Free drinking water and electricity, 12 free LPG cylinders annually, Double ration distribution, Free 200 units of electricity per household, and a package for border area residents and war victims.

He further pressed for the liberation and integration of PoK, Gilgit, and Baltistan into Jammu and Kashmir.

Dimple urged Omar Abdullah and other political leaders to stand firm on demands for restoration of statehood, special status, and Article 370. "This is the time to unite and raise our voice. If the Centre does not respond, we will intensify the statehood agitation," he warned.

Prominent local leaders including Sudeh Kumar, Mohinder Kumar, Tarsem Lal, Sgarjet Singh, Rocky Kapoor, Shami Kumar, Happy Kumar, Narender Chowdhary, Sanjeev Kumar Suny, Raju, and many others joined Dimple in the protest.

The rally concluded with a collective appeal to the Home Minister to prioritize the concerns of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and take concrete steps to restore peace, development, and dignity to the region.