

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

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Garvita Sadhwani: This is not the end of my journey in YRKKH

Operation Sindoor not yet over, we hit Pakistan thrice inside its territory: PM Modi

Elon Musk steps down from Trump administration

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BRIEFLY

Intense Showers, Windstorms likely in J&K parts on May 30, 31: MeT

SRINAGAR, May 29 (Agencies): The Meteorological department has forecast brief spell of rain and thundershower at isolated places of Jammu and Kashmir on May 29, and stated a possibility of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places accompanied with intense showers with gusty winds at few places between May 30 and 31. Fine dining reservation-sJammu and Kashmir real estate

An official said that there is a possibility of brief spell of rain and thundershower at isolated places on May 28 (late afternoon) and 29. He said there is a possibility of spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places accompanied with intense showers with gusty winds likely at few places in J&K from May 30-31. "There is a possibility of moderate to heavy rain, thunder and gusty winds at scattered places during May 30-31," he said. The official continued that from June 1-3 the isolated places of Jammu and Kashmir likely to receive brief spell of light rain and thundershower.

Umar's body recovered 4 days after he jumped into River Jhelum

SRINAGAR, May 29 (Agencies): The body of a 24-year-old youth who jumped into the River Jhelum near Zainakadal Bridge on May 26 was recovered on Thursday morning, officials said.

An official said that the body of Umar, a resident of Kawdara, Srinagar, was retrieved by joint teams of SDRF and River Police after three days of continuous search efforts. He said, the body was recovered from the same stretch of the river where the youth was last seen. The body has been sent for medico-legal formalities and will be handed over to the family later. Police have already taken cognizance of the matter.

Day is not far when people in PoK will return to India voluntarily: Rajnath

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): People of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) are part of the Indian family, and the day is not far when they will return to India's mainstream voluntarily, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday.

Laying out India's policy approach towards Pakistan, Singh said New Delhi has "re-designed and redefined" its strategy and response to terrorism and that possible dialogue with Islamabad will be only on terrorism and PoK.

In an address at the CII Business Summit, the defence minister largely attempted to reach out to people of PoK, saying India considers them to be part of its "own" family.



"I believe that the people of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir are our own, part of our family," he said.

"We have full faith that those of our brothers who are geographically and politically separated from us today will also return to the mainstream of India someday listening to their voice of soul," he added.

Singh said most of the people in PoK feel a "deep connection" with India and only a few of them have been "misled".

"India always talks about connecting hearts, and we believe that by walking on the path of love, unity and truth, the day is not far when our own part, PoK, will return and say, I am

India, I have returned," he said.

In a clear message to Pakistan, Singh also said the business of terrorism is not cost effective and it will come with a heavy price as Islamabad has realised now.

In his remarks, Singh also highlighted India's domestic defence capabilities.

India's defence export was less than Rs 1,000 crore 10 years ago but it has now reached a record figure of Rs 23,500 crore, he said.

Today, it has been proven that Make-in-India in defence is essential for both India's security and prosperity, he said.

India's home-grown systems surprised the entire world during

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CDS Gen Anil Chauhan to engage with global military leadership at Shangri-La Dialogue 2025

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan will visit Singapore from May 30 to June 1 to attend the 22nd edition of the Shangri-La Dialogue, hosted annually by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, according to official statement from the Ministry of Defence.



During the visit, General Anil Chauhan will

hold bilateral meetings with Chiefs of Defence Forces and senior military leadership from several foreign countries including those from Australia, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, UK and USA.

The Chief of Defence

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Centre deploys 580 CAPF companies for Amarnath Yatra

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): The Centre has ordered deployment of 580 companies, comprising about 42,000 on-ground personnel, of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) for the annual Amarnath Yatra

in Jammu and Kashmir, official sources said on Thursday. Jammu dining guide Jammu and Kashmir real estate

While 424 companies are being sent to the Union Territory (UT), the rest, including about 80

companies that moved to the UT during Operation Sindoor, will be "relocated" to secure the yatra route, the pilgrims and other areas, including Srinagar, they said.

The Union home

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Two 'Hybrid Terrorists' of LeT apprehended in Shopian

SRINAGAR, May 29 (Agencies): Security forces have apprehended two "hybrid terrorists" of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district, officials said on Thursday.

The officials said it was a "major operational success".

"Hybrid terrorists" are those who are not listed as ultras but are radicalised enough to carry

out a terror strike and then slip back into routine life.

Giving details of the operation, the officials said security forces launched a cordon and search operation (CASO) on Wednesday night in the Baskuchan area of Poonch following specific input.

"The area was effectively cordoned and the movement of terror-

ists was observed in a nearby orchard. Swift and strategic action by the forces led to the successful surrender of two LeT hybrid terrorists, averting a potential encounter," they said.

The two were identified as Irfan Bashir and Uzair Salam, they added.

Two AK-56 rifles, four magazines, 102 rounds, two hand grenades, two

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CRPF constable approaches High Court, challenges dismissal from duty over marriage to Pakistani cousin

JAMMU, May 29 (Agencies): Munir Ahmed, a resident of J&K's Bhalwal, moved the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Jammu, challenging his dismissal from service for marrying a Pakistani national. In his argument he stated that he had informed the force about his marriage to his cousin, Menal Khan on May 24 last year. He told

the court that not only he informed 72 Battalion stationed at Sodra, Sunderbani in Rajouri district but also his last posting at the 41st Battalion of the CRPF at Bangrasia, Bhopal.

Ahmed married his cousin, Menal Khan, on May 24, 2024, via online video conferencing. He showed as proof all related documents, including the Indian

Nikahnama, Pakistani marriage certificate, and wedding invitation. As per his saying the marriage was legally registered in both countries.

After the marriage his wife Menal legally entered India on February 28, 2025, using a valid short-term visa. On March 4, 2025, she applied for a Long Term Visa (LTV). The

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CM Omar's meetings at Pahalgam, Gulmarg aimed to dispel fear: NC Provincial President

JAMMU, May 29 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (NC) provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta on Thursday urged people, particularly tourists across the country, to come to Jammu and Kashmir in large numbers, and asserted that there is nothing to fear now.

He said that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah



organised government meetings at Pahalgam and Gulmarg—popular tourist destinations—to dispel fear in the minds of people of the country,

particularly tourists.

After chairing a Cabinet and tour operators' meeting in Pahalgam, Abdullah chose Gulmarg in the Baramulla district on Wednesday to hold another meeting of top officials in a bid to dispel fear, promote tourism, and ensure a good experience for visitors.

"We want both tourists and pilgrims—whether they come for Mata

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Know Dengue for no Dengue We can prevent ourselves from Dengue

DENGUE

- Dengue is a viral disease.
- It is transmitted by the bite of Aedes mosquito.
- Dengue Fever is a severe, flu-like illness.
- Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever & Dengue Shock Syndrome are more severe forms of disease, which may cause death if not treated properly in time.

Dengue manifests in three forms:

- i) Classical Dengue fever (majority of cases are of this type and can be treated at home).
- ii) Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (severe type needs admission).
- iii) Dengue Shock Syndrome (severe type needs admission).

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- i) Dengue Classical fever.
 - High grade fever.
 - Frontal headache.
 - Pain behind the eyes which worsens with eye movement.
 - Muscle and joint pains.
 - Rash on the body.
 - Pain abdomen.
 - Nausea and vomiting.
- ii) Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever:
 - Bleeding through Gums/nose
 - small hemorrhagic spots over skin
 - blood in vomiting
 - blood in stools (black motion).
 - Abdominal pain
 - Low BP, shock
- iii) Dengue Shock Syndrome:
 - Cold clammy limbs,
 - feeble pulse
 - low B.P, shock
 - If not treated timely and properly can lead to death.
 - unconsciousness

PREVENTION

- Avoid water stagnation in & around the house.
- Empty water reservoirs regularly like storage utensils, air coolers, plant pots, drums, flower pots and bird baths etc. Destroy and dispose off junk items like old tyres, coconut shells, disposable glasses and used cold drink bottles etc.
- Keep water tanks and other water containers tightly covered with lids.
- Use mosquito repellents/ Anti mosquito creams.
- On leaving home, do not wear clothes that expose arms and legs.
- Use mosquito nets while sleeping.
- Use netted screens for doors & windows to prevent entry of mosquitoes.
- Avoid sleeping on terrace to prevent mosquito bites.

Management

- On having symptoms of dengue go to the nearby health institution.
- The tests and treatment are available free of cost in Govt. Health Institutions. Rapid tests are not reliable and should be avoided. ELISA is the only confirmatory test.
- Don't go for self medication.
- For first aid for high grade fever in inaccessible areas and during odd hours you can use tablet Paracetamol and tepid sponging.
- Don't take pain killers and any other medicines without the consultation of Doctors.
- Most of the Dengue cases are mild and can be treated at home.
- Once the fever subsides, the patient needs to be more careful as this is "Lull before the Storm". The severe types of Dengue can develop after the fever is over. Consult doctor immediately in case of symptoms of severe type of Dengue. Patient can resume daily activities only after 2 weeks of onset of fever.
- Take adequate fluids like coconut water, lassi, fruit juices and ORS etc. Take fresh fruits & vegetables and adequate rest in case of symptoms of Dengue.

ISSUED IN PUBLIC INTEREST BY

STATE PROGRAMME OFFICER/STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&K DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, JAMMU

D/P/J-1580/25

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****10th DAY & KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kamla Anand W/o Sh. Vijay Anand.**

10th Day will be performed on 29th May 2025 (Thursday) at 11:00 am at our Residence.

Kriya will be performed on 31st May 2025

(Saturday) at 10:00 am at our Residence.

R/o 222/4 Channi Himmat, Jammu

GRIEF STRICKEN**Sons & Daughters-in-Law**

Vishal & Risha Anand

Vikas & Arti Anand

Lt. Sh. Raman Anand & Lt. Smt. Seema Anand (Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law)

Sh. Pawan & Smt. Sunita Anand (Brother-in-Law & Sister)

Sh. Deepak & Smt. Neeru Anand (Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law)

Sh. Ajay & Smt. Sonia Anand (Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law)

Sh. Rajesh & Smt. Shilpi Anand (Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law)

Brothers-in-Law & Sisters-in-Law

Sh. Subash Kapoor & Lt. Smt. Anjana Kapoor

Sh. Suresh Dhawan & Smt. Anuradha Dhawan

Nayyar Family - Miran Sahib**Grand Children**

Sojanya, Sagarika, Karmanya, Sainsha

Mob: 9419194218, 7006001324, 7889559778

**Smt. Kamla Anand****Anand Caterers**

(The Grand Dreams Saini Colony)

Hotel Sai Shyog (Ganggali)**Vishal Jewellers****National Bardana Store****Trikuta Tin Industries** (Anphalla)**Ajay Anand & Co.****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. 941916983, 7006162450

**Sh Ashoon Kumar****TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Bhooshan Lal Pandit (Advocate)** S/o Lt. Shreedhar Pandit, originally R/o Ganesh Mohalla, Handwara (Kashmir) and currently residing at H.No 162/3, Opp. Soap Factory, Vivek Vihar, Paloura, Jammu.

The **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muthi Ghat, next to Directorate of school education, Jammu on Sunday 1st June, 2025 at 9.00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN**PANDITAS, KOULS, BHANS****Contact :**

Roshan Lal Pandita - 6006444515, Upinder Pandita - 9149570076

**Sh. Bhooshan Lal Pandit (Adv)**
Handwara**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 Kohlian 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. Mannohan 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. Shreedhar 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. Shiveni

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, Anira, Advait, Yaduvir

Contact : 9149570076, 6006444515**Bhushan Lal Pandita (Adv), Handwara****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. Shreedhar 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. Shiveni

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, Anira, Advait, Yaduvir

Contact : 9149570076, 6006444515**Bhushan Lal Pandita (Adv), Handwara****10TH DAY / KRIYA / UTHALA**

With Profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved and respected **SMT. VIDYA DEVI W/O SH. MADAN MOHAN SHARMA** (Resasi Vate) R/o EP 975 MAST GARH, JAMMU on 21st May, 2025 (Wednesday).

10th Day will be performed at Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Dakki Sarajan on 30th May, 2025 (Friday) at 10:00 AM

Kriya will be performed at Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Dakki Sarajan on 31st May, 2025 (Saturday) at 12:00 Noon

Uthala will be performed at Panch Mandir Sector 2, Channi Harwal on 31st May, 2025 (Saturday) from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN:**Sh. Madan Mohan Sharma (Husband)****(Devrani)** Smt. Usha Sharma W/o Lt. Sh. Purn Parkash Sharma**(Daughter-in-law and Son)** Smt. Sonal Sharma & Sh. Avinash Sharma**(Daughters and Sons-in-Law)** Smt. Madhuri Bati & Sh. Rajeev Bati

Smt. Lovely Sharma & Sh. Ashwani Sharma

Smt. Sheetal Sharma & Sh. Sarveshwar Sharma

(Grand Children) Chankar, Bhuvan, Aditi, Saksham, Shaileja, Aditya, Srishiti and Suvarcha

Lakshapala, Koushala, Lotras

9419129473, 9419236500**SMT. VIDYA DEVI****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 Akhnoor 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****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

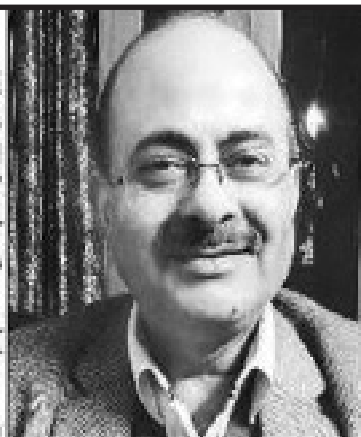
JAYA MATTOO # 9682530722

RAJINDER MATTOO # 9810799717

NARINDER MATTOO # 9599324521

RAKESH MATTOO # 9419020059

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

**SH. RAMESH SAPRU****RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA****30TH MAY 2025****IN LOVING MEMORY OF****Sh Ramakant Nagar****28-04-1945- 19-05-2025**

With shattered hearts and deep sorrow, we share the news of the passing of our beloved **Sh Ramakant Nagar** who left for his heavenly abode on 19-05-2025.

A gentle soul with a heart full of love, your absence has left an unfillable void in our lives. Your memories, values, and unconditional love will remain etches in our hearts forever.

We humbly invite all family and friends to join us in prayer and remembrance.

On 30th May 2025**Rasam Kriya/Bhojan - 12 Noon at Residence****Rasam Pagri-4 pm and Uthala-5 pm at****Mahajan Bhawan, Shalamar Road, Jammu 180001****Forever in sorrow,****Smt. Swarn Lata Nagar (Wife)****Rajesh Kumar Nagar and Arti Nagar (Son and Daughter in Law)****Suresh Nagar and Dipika Nagar (Son and Daughter in Law)****Manju Vyas and Pankaj Vyas (Daughter and Son in Law)****Sh Ramakant Nagar****TENTH DAY & KRIYA (BIRTHDAY)**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Karan Singh Sambyal** S/o Late Sh. Utlam Singh Sambyal R/o Mandi Koti (A/P Link Road Samba).

The **10th Day** will be observed on 29/5/2025

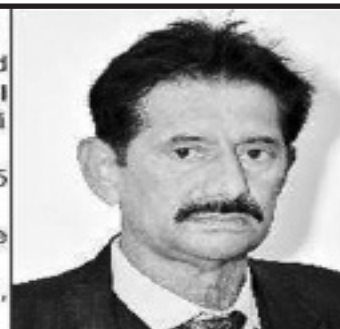
(Thursday) at 11.00 am at our residence.

The **13th Day (Kriya)** will be observed on 1st of June

2025 (Sunday) at our residence.

The **Rasam Pagri** will be observed on 2nd of June,

2025 at 11.00 am at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN**Smt. Kanchan Sambyal (Wife)****Mrs. Vishali & Mr. Nishant (Daughter-in-law & Son)****Mrs. Neha & Mr. Keshav Singh Jamwal (Daughter & Son-in-law)****Miss. Parul Sambyal (Daughter)****(Bhaiya & Bhabhi)****Smt. Veena Sambyal & Sh. Sudharshan Singh Sambyal****Smt. Namrata Sambyal & Jagdev Sambyal****Smt. Indira Sambyal & Hardev Sambyal****Smt. Madhu Jamwal & Surinder Jamwal (Sister & Brother-in-law)****Grand Children : Aanbi & Viraansh****Sh. Karan Singh Sambyal****TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Kewal Krishan Sharma** S/o Lt. Amar nath Sharma R/o H.No. 558, Lane No.5, Surya Vihar, Bohri, Jammu.

10th Day at Radha Krishan Mandir, Bohri (Near Dewan Breweries) at 10.00 AM on 29th May, 2025 (Thursday).

Kriya at our residence H.No. 558/5, Surya Vihar, Bohri at 12.00 Noon on 30-05-2025 (Friday).

Uthala will be performed on 30-05-2025 (Friday) at Pracheen Shiv Mandir Main Talab Tillo Chowk from 5.00 PM to 6.00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN**Smt. Rajni Sharma - Wife****Mr. Saksham Sharma - Son (Krishna)****Ms. Jyoti Sharma - Daughter****Smt. Sushma &**

Kashmiri Pandit Community chart path for return; team Aalav leads solidarity visit to Pahalgam, Gulmarg



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: In a significant step towards reconciliation and rebuilding, gathering of the Kashmiri Pandit community convened at Hart Parbat, Devi Angan, Paloura, Jammu, to reflect on their 34-year-long exile and to propose a comprehensive roadmap for their honorable return to the Kashmir Valley.

The gathering, attended by community elders, intellectuals, and activists, focused on practical ways and means for rehabilitation on the community's own terms. After intense deliberations, a detailed set of demands and proposals was unanimously endorsed.

Key resolutions included strengthening of the security grid in the Kashmir Valley to instill confidence among returning families, and a guaranteed employment package with at least one government job per displaced family to ensure social security. The community further demanded the creation of safe living zones in each district, equipped with robust security arrangements.

Recognizing the need for long-term development, the participants called for a separate Union Budget dedicated to the welfare and upliftment of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, including the restoration and protection of their religious institutions. They also advocated for the grant of minority status and the formation of a Separate Minority Board to represent their interests

effectively.

Among other proposals was the demand for the nullification of all property sales since 1989, creation of IT hubs in the Valley to facilitate the return of youth working in Indian and foreign tech firms, and the accommodation of overaged youth through soft loans and relaxation of government employment rules.

In a major organizational step, the gathering announced the formation of a Kashmiri Pandit Action Committee, with every Kashmiri Pandit across the globe as a natural member. A Core Committee will also be established, comprising respected individuals from various professional backgrounds—judiciary, police, bureaucracy, business, medicine, engineering, academia, and social activism.

Acknowledging that the return of the Pandit community may affect the economy of Jammu, the gathering called for a separate Union budget of no less than Rs 3 lakh crores for the Jammu Division to offset economic disruptions and ensure balanced regional development.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Sandeep Mawa, who reaffirmed the community's commitment to peaceful coexistence and mutual respect.

In a symbolic and heartfelt gesture following the recent tragic attack in Pahalgam on April 22, 2025, Team Aalav, along with 200 Kashmiri Pandits, embarked on a visit to

Pahalgam and Gulmarg. The initiative aims to promote peace, healing, and the revival of Kashmiriyat—the shared cultural and spiritual identity of all Kashmiris.

This solidarity visit comes at a time when the region is reeling from yet another crisis, threatening the tourism-dependent economy and further straining communal harmony. Participants highlighted that since 1990, a small extremist faction—less than one percent of the population—has exploited political unrest through a religious lens, resulting in the deaths of around 3,000 Kashmiri Pandits and nearly 100,000 Kashmiri Muslims. Calling for unity in the face of division, Team Aalav emphasized the need for all Kashmiris to reject the narratives of hate propagated by vested interests on both sides. Drawing on the ancient Indian philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam—the world is one family—the delegation's message was clear: Kashmir belongs to all its people.

The visit is also seen as a step towards rejuvenating cultural, religious, and spiritual tourism in the Valley, and as a call to revive the essence of Kashmiriyat—marked by tolerance, coexistence, and harmony. As the Kashmiri Pandit community prepares for its return, and solidarity movements like this gain momentum, the vision of a peaceful and united Kashmir, where every citizen lives with dignity and mutual respect, appears increasingly within reach.

Contractors appeal for immediate release of pending payments under water supply schemes

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Contractors involved in the execution of crucial public water supply projects have raised alarm over the prolonged non-release of payments under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), and various Languishing Schemes. These projects, which play a vital role in ensuring access to safe drinking water in rural areas, are now facing execution delays and financial distress due to pending dues that have not been cleared for several months.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, most civil and mechanical works have already been completed and are successfully supplying potable water to rural beneficiaries. However, contractors have not received payments for over nine months. This



has made it extremely difficult for them to pay workers, many of whom are now threatening to go on strike. The delay has placed these contractors under severe financial stress, despite having made significant investments to ensure the success of the mission. The urgent release of pending payments is critical to avoid disruption of ongoing work and to maintain the pace of infrastructure development. Similarly, in the

case of Languishing Projects, a majority of the works were completed long ago, yet the final payments and security deposits remain unpaid. Contractors have been persistently approaching concerned authorities, but their repeated requests have been met with inaction.

This prolonged delay is not only unfair but is also disheartening for contractors, discouraging their future participation in government-

sponsored development initiatives. Immediate clearance of dues and the return of security deposits are essential for restoring faith in the system.

The situation is equally dire under the NRDWP, where several works—both from older and newly sanctioned schemes—are either completed or nearing completion. However, payments have not been released, compounding the financial burden on

contractors.

Many are now unable to meet even basic household expenses and have exhausted all credit facilities. They are also defaulting on mandatory payments like GST, which is adding to their financial and legal woes.

Labourers and material suppliers, who too have not received their dues, are threatening to halt work and pursue legal action. This could potentially bring all ongoing public utility projects to a standstill. The current scenario is deeply concerning and demands immediate intervention.

The livelihoods of hundreds of workers and the success of essential public infrastructure projects are at stake. Prompt release of all outstanding payments and dues is not just a financial necessity but a step toward upholding trust, commitment, and the timely delivery of public welfare initiatives.

Rajesh Gupta slams BJP's "political drama" over Nai Basti evictions Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Senior JKNC leader Rajesh Gupta on Thursday strongly criticized the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for what he termed a "scripted and opportunistic display of concern" over the ongoing eviction issue in Nai Basti, Jammu.

"For years, the people of Jammu have faced neglect, discrimination, and exploitation under BJP's rule," said Gupta, highlighting BJP's silence on key issues such as unemployment, the drug menace, illegal tolls, and the allocation of local resources to outsiders.

Referring to BJP's recent support for shopkeepers facing eviction, Gupta stated, "This is nothing but a last-ditch attempt to regain lost ground among Jammu's disillusioned electorate. Where was this outrage when local youth were being robbed of jobs and resources?"

Medhavi Skills University signs MoU with AIRSC to Launch Global Centre of Excellence in Rail Safety and Technology

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29, 2025: In a groundbreaking initiative aimed at transforming railway safety and skill-based education in India, Medhavi Skills University (MSU) and the All India Rail Safety Council (AIRSC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a 24x7 Global Center of Excellence in Rail Safety, Technology, and Management.

This partnership marks a big leap forward in training a new group of world-class experts ready to tackle the changing needs of the railway industry. The strategic partnership between MSU and AIRSC combines MSU's expertise in job-ready education with AIRSC's strong focus on enhancing rail safety. The collaboration aims to work together to create and offer UG, PG degree programs for college students and graduates that are aligned with the industry needs.

MSU and AIRSC will together curate curriculum to develop special training courses and start new research proj-

ects. These programs will be part of the AIRSC Academy of Safety and Disaster Management, which is the learning branch of the All India Rail Safety Council. India's National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 serves as a blueprint for this partnership, which aims to make education more flexible, groundbreaking, and relevant in real time.

The programs will reach students through a three-pronged approach: Online, Blended, and Manual (traditional classroom). This setup ensures that learners across the country can access, adapt to, and build strong practical foundations. To help deliver content, track progress, and engage with specific industries, the partnership will also set up a digital learning portal. As part of this effort, MSU will provide AIRSC-approved courses at its campuses, partner institutions, and authorized centers across the country to boost India's rail safety and operations.

Speaking on the occasion, Kuldeep Sharma, Co-Founder and Pro-Chancellor of MSU said, "This

partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to developing skill-based learning via innovation and industry collaboration. We're launching a 24x7 Global Center of Excellence in Rail Safety Education by combining MSU's workforce development vision and AIRSC's rail safety expertise, offering flexible, job ready programs, structured internships, and dedicated placements to bridge training with global employment opportunities in the rail sector."

Dr. R. Padmanabhan, Chairman of the AIRSC, is leading the partnership with a clear vision pushing for better rail safety and modern infrastructure in India.

Dr. R. Padmanabhan, said, "Our partnership with Medhavi Skills University is a big step forward in our goal to improve safety in Indian Railways and prepare it for the future. By bringing academic knowledge into safety measures and planning rail infrastructure, we want to create a new group of railway experts who are skilled on a global level and focused on safety."

As per a June 2023

PTI news report, over 2.74 lakh posts in the Railways remain vacant, more than 1.7 lakh of them in the vital safety category, highlighting the urgent need for robust skill development initiatives to bridge the talent gap and strengthen the safety and efficiency of India's railway network.

This agreement not only seeks to raise safety standards but also lays the foundation for a transformative partnership, integrating multidisciplinary education and research in railway technology and management.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No: 433, Tele. JAT, 6, 25, 26 Date: 27/05/2025. Closing Date/Time: 18/06/2025 15:00. Sr. DISTRICT JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on <https://www.irps.gov.in> against Tender Notice no. 433, Tele. JAT, 6, 25, 26 Closing Date/Time 18/06/2025 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. KIT HEADER, Contract Type Works, Name of Work Provision of Coach Guidance and PA system at SVDK, SINA stations over Jammu Division. Tender Closing Date Time 18/06/2025 15:00. Date Time of Uploading Tender 27/05/2025 18:30. Advertised Value (Rs.) 19966613.27 Bidding Start Date as per IREPS 04/06/2025. Earnest Money (Rs.) 249800.00 Period of Completion 03 Months 1585/2025
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

J&K Youth Congress slams BJP leader for targeting Indian Air Force, calls remarks "shameful"

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: In a statement on Thursday, J&K Pradesh Youth Congress, has strongly criticized recent remarks made by BJP MLA from Udhampur East Constituency Pathania, who launched a scathing attack on the Indian Air Force during a public meeting in Udhampur.

A joint statement was given by Maan Singh Rathore IYC Secretary Incharge J&K, and Anirudh Sawhney, General Secretary JKPYC condemning the BJP leader for his blunt comments against the Indian Air Force.

The BJP MLA in a recent statement had blamed the Indian Air Force for allegedly taking up land without giving any compensation to local people and blatantly criticized the air force authorities.

The J&K Youth Con-

gress showed it's opposition to this statement from the BJP leader which targeted the air force for political gain.

Maan Singh, Secretary Incharge J&K, expressed outrage over what he described as a "deeply irresponsible and disgraceful" attempt to malign the armed forces, especially the elite Indian Air Force, which has consistently stood as the first line of defense for the nation.

"How can the BJP, a party that never misses an opportunity to take credit for military operations like Operation Sindoor, now stoop so low as to condemn the very same Air Force that protected us from Pakistani aggression?" he questioned. He emphasized that legal disputes, if any, must be handled through proper dialogue and channels, not through threats and public spectacle.

He condemned Pathania's decision to tear official notices in public, calling it a theatrical display meant to incite local unrest rather than seek lawful resolution.

Also speaking on the issue, Anirudh Sawhney, General Secretary JKPYC, referred to the Indian Air Force's critical role in safeguarding the nation, particularly in high-stakes situations along the border.

"During times when our nation stood at the brink, it was the Air Force that rose to the occasion. Disrespecting them now for alleged land issues is not only shameful—it is unpatriotic." "This is a new low for the BJP," he added. "If they claim to support national security and the armed forces, their actions must reflect that commitment. You cannot applaud the military on one hand and attack its institutions the next day."

He added that the J&K Youth Congress calls upon the BJP to clarify its position—whether it stands with the security forces or chooses to politicize sensitive defense matters for local political gains.

Sawhney concluded by reiterating full support for the Indian Air Force and all defense personnel working tirelessly to protect the country, urging leaders across party lines to act with responsibility, especially when national institutions are involved.

Along with Maan Singh Rathore IYC Secretary and Anirudh Sawhney State General Secretary JKPYC, Youth Congress leaders Adv. Ranjith Singh Vice President JKPYC, Happy Randhawa General Secretary, Dr. Suhaib Manhas & Akhil Bogia both Secretary JKPYC, Anmol Kohli Supported the Statement.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, JAMMU
(AKHNOOR ROAD, PHILLAR NO.10, SHAKTI NAGAR JAMMU)
Ch. No. 0191-2553261 Website: www.jijamtu.com

Subject: Placement Fair for ITI (Pass Out) trainees.

Saraswati Agro Chemicals (India) Pvt. Ltd. (J&K), Jammu is going to organize a Placement fair at Govt. ITI Jammu on 17th June 2025 from 10:30 AM onwards for ITI passout trainees.

Eligibility Criteria & schedule:
a) Trade Eligibility: All Trade Eligible.
b) Salary : 15K to 20K. Per Month.
c) Venue : Placement Cell, Govt. ITI, Akhnoor Road, Jammu.
d) Selection Process: Interview—Personal.
e) Contact Person: Sh. Sumit Chandail (7006779886) & Sh. Rakesh Singh (9419155946).

Interest/Eligible ITI Pass out candidates must bring following documents for placement:
1. Cv/Resume (Mandatory)
2. Original Academic/Technical Qualification Certificates
3. Aadhar Card for ID proof.
4. Domicile.

DIP/J-1538/25
No: ITI/J/2025/287-9/
Dated: 27-05-2025
Principal Industrial Training Institute Jammu

EDITORIAL

RESURGENCE IN COVID-19

India is witnessing a resurgence in COVID-19 cases, with active infections surpassing 1,000 nationwide. As of May 29, 2025, the country has reported 1,010 active cases, marking a significant increase from 257 cases on May 19. This uptick is attributed to the emergence of new sub variants, notably NB.1.8.1 and LE7, which are currently under monitoring by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Kerala remains the most affected state, reporting 519 active cases and three recent deaths. Maharashtra follows with 210 active cases and three fatalities. Delhi has recorded 104 active cases, while Karnataka reports 47 active cases, including 40 new infections. Other states like Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh have also reported a rise in cases.

The recent surge is linked to the spread of new Omicron sub variants, particularly NB.1.8.1 and LE7. NB.1.8.1 was first detected in Tamil Nadu in April 2025, while LE7 has been identified in Gujarat.

Although these variants are classified as “Variants Under Monitoring” by WHO, they have not yet been labeled as “Variants of Concern.”

While the majority of new cases are mild, there have been reports of hospitalizations and deaths. Delhi has 19 patients currently hospitalized due to COVID-19. Chandigarh reported its first COVID-19 fatality, a 40-year-old man from Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh. In Maharashtra’s Kalyan-Dombivli region, two deaths have been reported in the past two days.

In response to the surge, state and central health authorities have ramped up surveillance and preparedness. Hospitals like Swaroop Rani Nehru (SRN) Hospital in Prayagraj are enhancing their COVID-19 response systems, including setting up dedicated wards and ensuring the availability of essential supplies. Ranchi Sadar Hospital has implemented visitor pass systems to regulate patient visits and minimize infection risks.

The central government has assured that there is no immediate cause for panic. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta emphasized that COVID-19 is now comparable to a seasonal viral flu and urged residents to remain calm. The Union Health Ministry continues to monitor the situation closely and has advised states to maintain vigilance.

Despite the halt in the production of vaccines like Covishield and Covaxin, the government has confirmed that the existing vaccine stockpile is sufficient to meet current needs. Health authorities are encouraging eligible individuals to get vaccinated and adhere to COVID-19 appropriate behaviors, including wearing masks in crowded places and practicing good hygiene.

The recent rise in COVID-19 cases in India underscores the importance of continued vigilance and adherence to public health guidelines. While the situation is under control, the emergence of new variants necessitates proactive measures to prevent further spread. Authorities are committed to ensuring public safety through enhanced surveillance, healthcare preparedness, and public awareness campaigns.

In response to the rising cases, healthcare facilities in affected regions have reinstated preventive measures. Hospitals are setting up isolation wards, ensuring the availability of oxygen supplies, and conducting regular screenings for influenza-like illnesses. The Vasai Virar City Municipal Corporation, for instance, has reserved a 25-bed ward and made arrangements for liquid oxygen plants.

The Indian government has assured that there is an ample stockpile of COVID-19 vaccines, including Covishield and Covaxin, to meet the current demand. However, the production of these vaccines has been halted, and health authorities are evaluating the efficacy of existing vaccines against the new variants.

Health experts emphasize the importance of continued vigilance. The public is advised to adhere to COVID-19 protocols, including wearing masks in crowded places, maintaining hand hygiene, and practicing social distancing. High-risk groups, such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, are particularly urged to take precautions and seek medical attention if symptoms arise.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has noted a global increase in COVID-19 activity since mid-February 2025, with test positivity rates reaching levels not observed since July 2024. WHO continues to recommend a risk-based, integrated approach to managing COVID-19, emphasizing vaccination, surveillance, and healthcare system strengthening.

While the current surge in COVID-19 cases in India is relatively mild compared to previous waves, the emergence of new variants and the increase in infections across multiple states underscore the need for continued caution. Public health authorities are closely monitoring the situation, and the public is encouraged to stay informed and adhere to recommended safety measures to mitigate the spread of the virus.

Need to tackle the problem of food wastage in the country

By: Vijay Garg

In Indian culture, food is considered a god and is considered an important part of life. This is why insulting food, throwing it away or leaving it uneaten is considered a major sin from all religious and cultural perspectives. But in today’s time, when the blind race of modernity is taking us away from our cultural heritage, we are slowly forgetting this important ritual. The result is that today, hundreds of tons of food are being wasted every day in events like hotels, restaurants and weddings.

This has become a reality not only in India but also in the entire world. While billions of people are suffering from hunger and malnutrition, millions of tons of food are being wasted every day. One-third of the food produced worldwide every year, or about 1.4 billion tons of food, is wasted. This waste is so large that it could feed about two billion people. This problem is very serious in India as well. The level of food waste at weddings and other events is so high that about 40 percent of the food waste is found in garbage dumps near wedding venues.

This situation is very worrying not only from an economic point of view but also from a social and environmental point of view. According to a report by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, every year in India, 230 million tonnes of pulses, 120 million tonnes of fruits and 210 million tonnes of vegetables are wasted due to shortcomings in the distribution system. In addition, according to a report by the World Food Organization, food worth Rs 70,000 crore is wasted in India every year, which is 40 percent of the country’s total production. This food wastage not only affects our financial situation but also puts a huge pressure on our natural resources.

Our country is facing a severe water shortage, while 350 cubic meters of water is being wasted every year in food production. Hunger and malnutrition are a serious problem in our country, especially for millions of families whose income depends on casual labour. A large number of people in Indian society earn their living by collecting garbage or begging. More than 60 percent of the families in the country have casual labour as their main source of income, and about 40 percent of families living in villages have a monthly income of less than Rs. 10,000. In such

a situation, it is a matter of concern that on the one hand, millions of people are struggling with hunger. On the other hand, there is a huge wastage of food grains in our country. The wheat wasted every year in India is equal to the entire wheat production of Australia. The value of the wasted wheat is estimated to be around Rs 50,000 crore, which can feed about 30 crore people for a whole year. In addition, 50 million tonnes of our food grains are wasted simply because we do not have adequate storage facilities to store it. This highlights the shortcomings in our storage and supply chain, which leads to huge wastage of food grains. Food wastage during weddings, celebrations and festivals has become a common sight in India.

A lot of food is wasted on these occasions, which is against our culture. However, the Government of India is concerned to stop this wastage and is running many schemes for this. But the role of women can be important in this direction. Especially children should be taught to serve as much food as they are hungry. The habit of sharing food with each other can also help in preventing food wastage. We need to re-examine our traditions and philosophy, so that we can reduce the wastage of food and grains.

We need to change our habits and voluntary organizations should also take active steps in this direction. Apart from this, initiatives like the ‘Think, Eat and Save’ campaign being run by the United Nations Environment Programme are also a positive step. If we all join this campaign and spread social awareness, food wastage can be stopped.

It is not only the responsibility of the government and organizations, but we all need to bring about changes in our daily lives. If we adopt the habit of saving food, storing it properly and preparing food in adequate quantities, then we can reduce food wastage at our level. This is the time when we need to re-adopt our traditional approach and appreciate food. Only then can we find a solution to this serious problem and take the society forward in a positive direction.

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

Time to Quit Tobacco Use for Good Health

By: Avnish Longonwal

No Tobacco Day is celebrated every year on May 31st globally. The main purpose of celebrating No Tobacco Day is to make the society involved in its use aware of the ill effects of tobacco and to make them aware of it and to stay away from it. According to a research by the French Federation of Cardiology, 80 percent of heart attack patients who are 45 or 46 years of age. are tobacco users. According to the World Health Organization, smoking tobacco products causes many types of diseases such as heart disease, blood pressure, and cancer.

Effects on Health:

According to the International Organization for Tobacco Control, eight million people die every year in the world due to diseases caused by tobacco use, and considering the increasing impact of its ill effects, this death rate is expected to exceed eight million by 2030. People who use it in large quantities suffer from high blood pressure, heart diseases, and respiratory diseases and walk on the path of death.

Situation of developing countries:

In developing countries, substances like tobacco are consumed in large quantities. Due to which a large number of people die of cancer due

to tobacco. In which the most cases of oral cancer are caused by tobacco. According to the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, it is very important to avoid tobacco consumption as it causes diseases like cancer.

Tobacco use in the world:

Tobacco is being used on a large scale in the world. Which is harmful to health. China is the country in the world where tobacco use is the highest. After this comes India. In recent times, the young generation is joining this bandwagon. We should stay away from tobacco consumption, it is not a healthy substance.

The theme for World No Tobacco Day 2025 is: “Unraveling the Appeal: Exposing Industry Strategies on Tobacco and Nicotine Products”. This theme focuses on how the tobacco and nicotine industries use manipulative strategies to attract new users, especially the youth, and keep existing users addicted. These strategies include attractive product designs, appealing flavors and glamorized marketing. Often we see in social media, movies etc. that people smoke beedi, cigarettes to reduce stress and destroy their lives. Tobacco use has increased the incidence of mouth, lung, and stomach cancers.

The biggest cause of heart diseases:

Tobacco consumption is the biggest cause of heart diseases. Continuous consumption of tobacco makes the arteries of the heart narrow, due to which the blood does not flow properly. Due to which death also occurs with each attack. Tobacco contains more stimulants along with nicotine. Smoking reduces the amount of good cholesterol. It is natural for the amount of bad cholesterol to increase. Which hinders the functioning of the heart, causes heart diseases. Apart from this, insomnia, gas problems also occur.

Warning regarding the use of tobacco:

The Honorable Supreme Court has issued an order giving directions to the tobacco manufacturing industry, that its harmful effects should be written in bold letters on its packets. Its sale outside the limits of schools, colleges and other educational institutions has been banned. A tobacco-free zone has been declared within a radius of 500 meters of educational institutions. The sale of tobacco to minors is completely prohibited. The Punjab Education Department has specially appointed a nakour officer to make institutions tobacco-free. In this regard, nakour officer Rishi Kumar said that students are made aware about the ill effects of tobacco from time to time.

Home remedies to avoid

tobacco:

If a person has the willpower, he can get rid of tobacco. The youth and students should stay away from it. We will also have to cooperate with social, educational, religious institutions, and the government. It is necessary to make every possible effort to get rid of it. Some home remedies can be made for this. To get rid of tobacco, take 50 grams of fennel, 50 grams of ajwain and roast it on a pan. Mix a little lemon juice and black salt in it, then put it in its box and keep it. Whenever there is a craving for cigarettes or tobacco, put a few grains in your mouth. It will be of great benefit. If the problem increases, then seek the advice of a doctor and do not use tobacco to stay awake until late at night for work. Let’s stay healthy and alert for the development of health.

Tobacco friendship is a ride to death

No to tobacco, yes to life.

Jai Hind !!
Ma.Avnish Longonwal
District Barnala (Punjab)
7888346465

NCC Unit of GDC Kathua organizes Yoga Session to celebrate International Yoga Day 2025



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: In a proactive step toward the celebration of International Yoga Day 2025, the NCC Senior Division and Senior Wing, 4 J&K NCC Battalion of Government Degree College (GDC) Kathua, organized the first yoga session to mark the beginning of International Yoga Month.

The event was held under the patronage of Prof. Seema Mir, the esteemed Principal of the college, whose encouragement and vision continue to inspire student participation in wellness and national service initiatives.

The session took place at the Girls' Park within the college premises, providing a serene and natural environment for

the cadets to engage in various yoga asanas.

The event was held in collaboration with the Department of AYUSH, Kathua and it witnessed enthusiastic participation from Senior Division and Senior Wing NCC cadets of GDC Kathua, along with students and faculty members.

Expert yoga instructors, Ankush Modeel and Priyanka Sharma, from department of AYUSH led the session, demonstrating various asanas and breathing techniques. They emphasized upon the vital role that yoga plays in enhancing flexibility, improving posture, reducing stress, and fostering inner peace. Practicing yoga Asanas regularly strengthens the immune system and contributes to over-

all well-being, making it an essential part of a healthy lifestyle.

Also present at the event were medical officers Dr. Bodh Paul, Dr. Nittan Sharma, and Dr. Rekha Sharma from the Department of AYUSH, who encouraged participants to adopt yoga as both a preventive and therapeutic approach to health, emphasizing its benefits within modern medical practices.

They also educated the cadets about tuberculosis prevention and treatment as part of the TB Mukht Bharat campaign, highlighting the importance of awareness and early intervention in eradicating the disease.

The event was jointly coordinated by Lt. (Dr.) Daya Ram, Associate NCC Officer and Dr. Pinky, CTO.

World Environment Day 2025 celebrations begin at GDC Nagrota

Top News Report

NAGROTA, May 29: The World Environment Day 2025 celebrations commenced at Government Degree College (GDC) Nagrota, aligning with the global theme of "Ending Plastic Pollution."

A street play (Nukkad Natak) was performed at Nagrota Bazaar in collaboration with Regional Urban Development Agency (RUDA) and J&K Pollution Control Board (JKPCB).

The event was part of the nationwide campaign "One Nation, One Mission: End Plastic Pollution." The program was organised by



Eco Club Sangrakshak and NSS Unit of GDC Nagrota. Under the Program Badlaav of CEE (Centre for Environment Education), Artists from Chhattisgarh performed a captivating Nukkad Natak engaging the local community with a powerful performance.

The act focused on plastic segregation awareness, emphasizing the importance of separating biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste for effective recycling. The students of GDC Nagrota also took out a rally through the bazaar of Nagrota educating local shopkeepers and public.

The street play creatively depicted the

hazards of plastic waste, emphasizing the importance of plastic segregation, recycling, and reducing single-use plastics. The engaging performance resonated with the audience, inspiring them to adopt eco-friendly habits, promote sustainable alternatives, cloth bags were also distributed.

The initiative aimed to discourage the use of plastic bags and encourage people to switch to reusable options.

Principal of the College, Prof. Anjali Mahajan officially flagged off the event. She also addressed the students and appreciated their participation in this initiative.

She stressed upon spreading awareness among common masses about the plastic menace and how students and community can go hand in hand towards plastic free India. She also talked about the waste segregation practices being followed at GDC Nagrota since 2024.

“Advocates revival of tourism, pilgrimage” Raman calls for equal focus on Jammu division as gateway to J&K UT

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: In the wake of the recent terror attack in Pahalgam and ongoing security operations like Operation Sindoor, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Executive Member Raman Suri has called for immediate and robust measures to revive tourism and pilgrimage in the Jammu division, emphasizing its critical role as the gateway to the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (UT). Suri expressed

deep concern over the declining tourist footfall in Jammu, which he noted has been equally affected by the security situation as the Kashmir Valley, yet receives inadequate attention from the administration.

"The Jammu division, with its serene landscapes, pleasant summer climate, and sacred pilgrimage sites, is the gateway to Jammu and Kashmir. However, the ripple effects of the Pahalgam terror attack and security operations have severely impacted tourism and pilgrimage in Jammu as well," said Suri.

"While the UT government is actively

addressing tourism in Kashmir, Jammu seems to be overlooked. This selective approach must end, and the administration, led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who oversees the tourism department, must take concrete steps to restore confidence and promote Jammu as a vibrant tourist destination."

Raman Suri highlighted the significant decline in pilgrim visits to revered sites like Mata Vaishno Devi, with upcoming pilgrimages such as the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra and Machail Mata Yatra also at risk due to waning confidence among tourists and pilgrims.

Civil Defence organizes awareness programme on Disaster Management in Srinagar

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 29: The Civil Defence Srinagar on Friday organized a one-day awareness programme on Disaster Management and Preparedness at Sainik Welfare Chinar Bhawan, Batmaloo.

The event was specifically held for ex-servicemen, aiming to enhance their understanding of disaster preparedness and response strategies.

The programme was graced by Imtiyaz Hussain, Director Civil Defence & SDRF Kashmir, who served as the Chief Guest.

In his address, he emphasized the importance of community participation in disaster management and appreciated the contribution of ex-servicemen towards civil safety and resilience.

Several dignitaries participated in the event, including Group Captain Farooq Fareed Nabi, Secretary



Sainik Welfare; Colonel (Veteran) Ravi Kumar; and Rashid War, PRO of Sainik Welfare Srinagar. The presence of Shabir Hussain Khan, Deputy Divisional Warden of Civil Defence Srinagar—popularly known as the "Blood Man of Kashmir"—added inspiration to the gathering.

The training session was led by Tariq Ahmad, In-Charge of Civil Defence Trainings, along with CD

Instructors Mudasir Ahmad and Showkat Ahmad. The programme included interactive demonstrations and discussions focusing on risk assessment, emergency response, and first aid techniques.

The initiative was highly appreciated by the participants and concluded with a commitment to strengthen grassroots preparedness through continuous engagement and training.

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Finolex Cables Ltd. (FCL) at the meeting of its Board of Directors held today, approved results for the fourth quarter as well as the full year of 2024-25. Revenues for the quarter ended March 2025 were Rs.1594.6 Cr as against Rs.1401.0 Cr for the corresponding period in year 2023-24, representing a 14% growth in value terms. In volume terms, Electrical Wires increased by 7% compared to Q4 of the previous year, while Cables improved by 50%.

Within Communication Cables segment, most product lines posted lower volumes, except OFC where the volume increased by over 30%. For the full year 2024-25, sales were Rs. 5318.9 Cr as against Rs. 5014.4 Cr in the previous year – an improvement of 6%.

During the year, com-

modity prices continued to remain volatile, which led to several price revisions to pass on both cost reductions as well as cost increases to the end customers, resulting in a situation where margins fluctuated every quarter.

For the full year Electrical Wires growth was flat in volume, while Cables grew by 15%; OFC volumes were higher by 30% - however given the price erosion on fiber during the year, revenue at the segment level was slightly below previous years' levels.

There has been a pick up in the growth of new products and revenue crossed Rs 250 Cr for the year – a growth of 14%. Addition to product range, and expansion of distribution network have all contributed to the better revenues and volumes within these product segments.

Profit for the quarter, before taxes, was Rs.208.1 Cr, as compared to Rs.196.1 Cr in

the previous year – the 6% improvement is a result of a combination of volume growth in the major segments, new product introductions as well as some pricing actions.

For the full year, profit before taxes stood at Rs 713.6 Cr as against Rs 752.9 Cr in the previous year – a reduction of 5 %.PAT for Q4 of 2024-25 stood at Rs 151.9 Cr as against Rs 146.2 Cr for the corresponding period of the previous year – an improvement of 4%.

For the full year, profit after taxes were Rs 544.4 Cr as against Rs 571.6 Cr in the previous year – a reduction of 5%.At its meeting today, the Board has recommended a dividend of 400% for the year, which means an outgo of Rs 8/ per for every share of Rs 2/- the overall dividend outgo would be Rs 122 Cr.

For the year ended 31st March 2025, the consolidated results

reflect net sales of Rs 5318.9 Cr as against Rs 5014.4 Cr in the previous year and Profit After Taxes of Rs 700.8 Cr as against Rs 651.7 Cr in the previous year.

Of the previously announced capex plans, the E-Beam facility was commissioned during the year and two new products were introduced during the year – acceptance on both products have been heartening and the Company hopes to improve market penetration through these products.

Work on the Preform manufacturing plant is progressing well – mechanical installation has been completed, while production trials are expected soon.

Expansion of the Auto Cable capacity at Roorkee has been completed and has been available for customers since January 2025. Overall capex for the programs will be within the estimates provided earlier.

SWREL announces new domestic order; emerged L1 bidder for a Solar Project of 225MW

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Limited (SWREL), a leading domestic renewable EPC, announced that the company has emerged as L1 bidder in a tender of a leading PSU developer for a turn-key EPC package for development of a 225 MW (AC) grid connected Solar PV Project in Gujarat, India.

Speaking on the order win, Chandra Kishore Thakur, Global CEO, Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Group shared, "We are

thrilled to announce our first domestic order of FY26 from a very reputed PSU developer and continue to build on our strong position in the Gujarat market. Our domestic pipeline remains very robust and we are confident of building on this order win."

Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Limited (SWREL) is a global pure-play, end-to-end renewable engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) solutions provider. The company provides EPC services for utility-scale solar, floating solar and

hybrid & energy storage solutions and has a total portfolio of over 22.6GWp (including projects commissioned and under various stages of construction). SWREL also manages an operation and maintenance (O&M) portfolio of 8.7GWp solar power projects, including for projects constructed by third parties.

Present in 28 countries today, Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Limited has operations in India, South-east Asia, Middle East, Africa, Europe, Australia, and the Americas.

Kansai Nerolac Paints Limited wins big at ABBY 2025 with ‘Dukaan It Yourself’

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Kansai Nerolac Paints Limited (KNPL), one of the leading Indian paint companies, has won top honours at the prestigious ABBY 2025, with 1 Grand Prix, 4 Gold, 2 Silver, and 5 Bronze awards.

The recognition comes for its groundbreaking Dukaan It Yourself initiative, developed in collaboration with Tribes Communication, which looks at transforming retail spaces and empowering small vendors.

Launched at the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, the Dukaan It Yourself campaign addressed a critical challenge faced by local vendors, of visibility in crowded marketplaces.

Kansai Nerolac's foldable, larger-than-life shade cards, enabled vendors to convert makeshift stalls into organised retail shops with eye-catching and vibrant displays, signage,

and ample storage.

The initiative not only enhanced vendor identity but also further helped boost footfalls and improve livelihoods.

The campaign's success was reflected in its stellar performance at the ABBY. Over the course of three days, Kansai Nerolac secured wins in multiple categories, including OOH, Design, Branded Content and Entertainment, Public Relations, and Design. The winning streak culminated with a Grand Prix, in Brand Activation and Promotions (FMCG – Personal Care, Homecare, Healthcare & Others), on day 3. Its award tally further included Gold in Best Use of Experiential Events, Creative Positioning via Events, OOH (Ambient Media), and Small Budget, Big Impact Marketing.

The tally concluded with two silvers and five bronze awards, among others, further solidifying its impact.

Ramakrishna Naik, Chief Marketing Officer, Kansai Nerolac Paints Limited, said, "Dukaan It Yourself is more than a campaign for us at Kansai Nerolac. We look at it as a movement that celebrates and champions entrepreneurship, creativity, and community upliftment, which makes this awards sweep even more meaningful. Winning at ABBY 2025 is a testament to our commitment towards innovation and in creating impactful experiences that resonate with people. It also is a recognition of the dedication and hard work of the team."

"We launched the initiative at Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, with the purpose of contributing in a small yet meaningful way at the most iconic symbol of India's rich spiritual and cultural heritage. These awards validate our efforts and are an honour that reinforces the impact we aimed to achieve", he added.

Gour Gupta, Managing Direc-

tor & Chairman, Tribes Communication said,

"We didn't set out to win the most awards, we set out to solve a problem for a brand that trusted us.

At Tribes, we've always told stories that are proudly Indian, in colour, character, and conviction. As an independent agency, we pour ourselves into every campaign. And when that passion is recognised on such a global stage, it reminds us why we started — to create work that connects, moves, and matters. This is a win powered by partnership. Together, we've proven what's possible when passion meets purpose."

With over 4.1 million digital views and a double-digit month-on-month sales growth in Uttar Pradesh during the campaign period, Dukaan It Yourself has set a new benchmark in retail activations and brand engagement for Kansai Nerolac.

Pankaj Tripathi: Criminal Justice 4 has definitely improved my bank balance

Pankaj Tripathi is back as lawyer Madhav Mishra in 'Criminal Justice Season 4'. Over the years, the show has become a fan favourite, and so has his character. Speaking to India Today, Tripathi opened up about the show's journey, his role, and how he's changed along the way.

When asked if he has evolved just like his character, Tripathi joked, "Yes, the bank balance has definitely improved. I was just kidding - but it has happened. With time, you experience such things."

Tripathi admits he's changed over the years, "Earlier, I used to talk like a motivational speaker. Now, I feel there's a shortage of motivated people in India. So, I've become a motivational seeker. I listen more now. I feel like I've given enough gyaan (knowledge). Now, it's time to receive. This change has made me quieter. I even feel like giving fewer interviews."

He also admitted that no one expected Criminal Justice to become such a long-running show. "When the show began, we didn't expect it to become this big."

The first season was really good. When I heard Sriram Raghavan was involved in writing it, I was impressed. I thought it was an interesting



show. Jackie Shroff was there, Vikrant Massey was there - so I felt it had potential. But whether it will run or not, no one can tell with any project."

He added, "Just a little while ago, someone was counting all the seasons and prequels I've been a part of. So I quietly began counting too. And I realised - I'm in three seasons of 'Mirzapur', four of 'Criminal Justice', three parts of 'Fukrey', two of 'Stree' (I forgot if there's a fifth), and a few more."

Pankaj continued, "When Shweta (Basu Prasad) said this was her first chance to repeat a role, none of us knew during the first season that there would be a sequel. That's how our industry is—like a milking cow. As long as it keeps giving milk,

we keep milking. These shows are still running, so we keep going. The day we get bored, or the audience does, or the viewership drops, the platforms themselves will say, 'Bas, that's enough.' But until then, we keep trying."

Tripathi is genuinely excited about the new season. He said, "I remember when I heard the first episode of this season's story—I felt it had spark. The writer is new, a young guy, and he has written it really well. It felt fun and interesting. So it's not like we're just doing it for the sake of it. We're involved too."

The audience has trust in us. Even if we go for four or five seasons, the day we feel it's done, we'll let it go. With the same warmth, Applause and

Hotstar will say, 'Let's make something new.'"

Talking about his character, Madhav Mishra, he says he enjoys playing someone so real and flawed. "Very much. Life should be like that. I don't take acting too seriously—just like Madhav Mishra doesn't take law too seriously. In the courtroom, it may look like he's well-prepared, but the moment he starts speaking, you wonder where this is going. It feels like he didn't prepare anything and is just improvising on the spot. I do that deliberately—to keep it from looking too polished or rehearsed. I think that's what the audience connects with—that it feels like he's thinking on the spot, building the case in real-time. He's clever."

He pretends not to be fully ready, but he knows exactly what to say and when to say it. It's a lot of fun. I especially enjoyed the domestic scenes with the wife. That part was reduced a bit this time. Those sequences used to be a lot of fun, one track going on in court, and a totally different one at home. The location changed, but the spirit remains."

Criminal Justice Season 4 is now streaming on JioHotstar and stars Pankaj Tripathi, Surveen Chawla, and Shweta Basu Prasad.

Garvita Sadhwani: This is not the end of my journey in YRKKH



Garvita Sadhwani's journey in the popular television show Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai (YRKKH), has come to an end. The show is gearing up for a 7-year-leap which will see the entry of new characters and story line. Speaking to us, Garvita confirms her exit from the show following the leap. "Yes, the news is true. My journey in Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai has ended. The show has taken a leap, and my character Ruhi is not going to be a part of that leap," she shares.

However, she is quick to clarify that it might not be a permanent departure. "You can't call it an end for my char-

acter, as it's uncertain whether Ruhi will return to the show or not. There is always that possibility," she says.

Garvita explains that she was informed about the creative decision in advance. "I was told about the leap, and for any show to keep progressing, the makers need to keep introducing new twists and turns. The current storyline has no space for Ruhi, but who can predict the upcoming plot of the show," she remarks.

Reflecting on her initial apprehensions on replacing Pratiksha Honmukhe as Ruhi when she joined the show, Garvita shares, "When I came on to the show, I was a little bit worried, as I was taking up a character that was already played by someone. But the kind of love that I have received for this character has left me with immense love and gratitude." She adds, "I don't think I've seen love like this in any other show and neither does any other show on TV has a following like this."

Ask her how the YRKKH cast reacted to her exit, and she mentions: "I actually didn't speak to anybody about it until the very last day. When they found out, they were very shocked because they had no clue. They were sad, but they are also very optimistic that I'll come back."

The actor feels fortunate to have got the chance to play Ruhi, as the character gave her scope to experiment. "There's not one emotion that I've not played with. Be it anger, love, hatred, vulnerability, insecurity, trauma — everything. This is such a fulfilling character and I'm very lucky that I got it," she says.

B Praak's Duniya sets the tone for Punjab's first zombie comedy, Jombieland

B Praak, renowned for his soul-stirring voice, returns with another romantic song, Duniya, the latest track from Jombieland — Punjab's first-ever zombie comedy.

Composed by Avvy Sra with evocative lyrics by Kharaa, Duniya stands out as a tender love anthem set against the most unexpected of backdrops—a zombie apocalypse. The song captures the essence of romance amid chaos.

Starring Binnu Dhillon and Kanika Mann, the music video depicts a love story that refuses to die — quite literally. B Praak's vocals elevate the narrative, turning Duniya into a standout number.

Written and directed by Thaparr, Jombieland blends horror, comedy and romance. The film also features Angira



Dhar, Guri, Dhanveer Singh, Jassa Dhillon

and marks the debut of G Khan.

Punjab's Rachel Gupta steps down as Miss Grand International, cites toxic environment, mistreatment

Rachel Gupta, the first Indian to be crowned Miss Grand International, has stepped down from her title less than a year after her historic win. The 20-year-old model from Jalandhar announced her decision on Wednesday, citing "broken promises, mistreatment, and a toxic environment" within the organisation as the reasons behind her move.

Rachel had won the Miss Grand International 2024 crown in a glittering ceremony held in Bangkok, Thailand, on October 25 last year. Her victory followed her earlier triumph in "Miss Grand India 2024", organised by Glamanand in August last year, which earned her a spot at the international pageant.

In a heartfelt message to her followers, Rachel expressed her disappointment, saying the dream she had worked



hard to achieve had turned into a painful experience. "This wasn't an easy decision, but it was the right one for me," she wrote. "I was filled with pride and hope to represent my country, but what followed were months of silence, disrespect, and neglect." She added that a full video explaining her experience would be released soon.

However, the Miss Grand International Organisation painted a different picture. In a public statement posted on Instagram, the organisation claimed that Rachel had failed to meet her obligations as the reigning titleholder. It accused her of engaging in outside projects without permission and refusing to attend an official trip to Guatemala, which the organisation said amounted to a

breach of contract.

"The Miss Grand International Organisation hereby announces the termination of Miss Rachel Gupta's title, effective immediately," the statement read. "She must return the crown within 30 days."

Rachel first rose to international attention in 2022 when she won the Miss Super Talent of the World title in Paris at just 18. With her poised presence and strong stage performance, she quickly became a favourite in the Indian fashion and pageant scene.

When approached for a response, members of Rachel Gupta's family said she would soon hold a press conference to share her side of the story in detail. They added that an official statement would also be posted on her social media platforms soon.

Amruta Subhash opened up about sexual harassment she faced in the industry

Actor Amruta Subash, who is known for her roles in Sacred Games and Gully Boy, recently opened up about disturbing incidents of sexual harassment she faced in the industry. In a recent interview, the actor revealed two incidents involving big names, while stressing on standing up against inappropriate behaviour.

Amruta recalls when a producer touched her inappropriately

In an interview with Zoom, the actor recalled one such incident and said, "There was a producer of a play. I was climbing some stairs, and maybe my top lifted slightly, I didn't even realise. I felt something - a hand near my waist. I turned around and he was a big producer. I just looked at him and said, 'What did you just do? What was that?' And he just brushed it

off pretending as if nothing happened. I said, 'I felt it. What was that?' Everybody was stunned because he was such a big name. He said, 'No no, your top just moved up,' and I said, 'It's none of your business! How dare you touch me there? You can't do that.'"

Amruta mentioned that everybody else on the set was worried that she would lose work. However, the actor decided to standup against him because no one should have the audacity to touch her without her consent.

Amruta opens about another incident

In another incident, the actor described how she was tired of another senior, well known producer who would force her to drink with him every night. She avoided him for some time but one day, decided



to confront the situation head on.

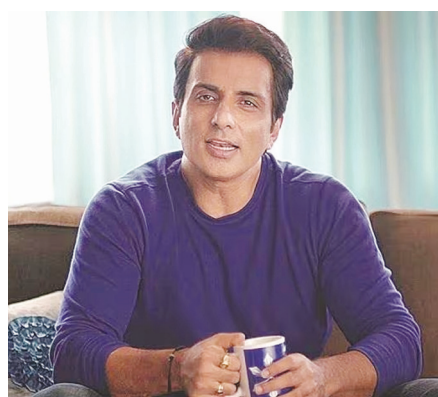
"I banged the door

open and entered. I knew people were watching. He was

shocked. I looked into his eyes and said, 'Sir, you are my father's age. Why are you talking to me like this? What is your problem?' I said it calmly but directly looking into his eyes. He started getting awkward. Of course, I left the door open, not just for his sake, but for my safety too. After that, things settled down."

Amruta will next be seen in Chidiya which also stars Vinay Pathak, Svar Kamble, Ayush Pathak, Brijendra Kala and Muzaffar Khan. Set against the backdrop of a Mumbai chawl, the film revolves around two young brothers, who aspire to play badminton while overcoming the limitations of their modest environment. Directed by Mehran Amrohi, the film is set to hit the theaters on May 30.

'Kindly ignore': Sonu Sood reacts to backlash over viral video of riding bike without helmet in Spiti



Actor Sonu Sood is facing criticism after a video showing him riding a bike without a helmet in Himachal Pradesh's Spiti Valley went viral on social media.

Responding to the viral uproar, the Lahaul-Spiti police issued an official statement on X, confirming an investigation was underway.

Hours later, Sonu reacted to the backlash from netizens in an Instagram Story, this time wearing the helmet.

Sonu said, "Safety First. We always abide by the laws. An old clip without the helmet was a part of our script. So kindly ignore."

Earlier, the footage, which captured the actor shirtless and leading a group of bikers, has drawn widespread back-

lash, particularly because Sonu has previously supported road safety campaigns.

Just days earlier, Sonu had participated in a road safety initiative.

The online reaction was swift and harsh. One X user wrote, "So will @himachalpolice take any action on @SonuSood for riding naked without a helmet in Spiti? No protective gear, no clothes—what is he trying to promote?" Another remarked, "What a foolish thing to do. Attention-seeking behaviour."

Another user commented, "This useless fellow is starved of attention! What an obscene and desperate way to grab eyeballs!" Another took a swipe at his career, saying, "He is trying to revive his flop career—this is the trailer before he opens his OF account?"

The Lahaul-Spiti police acknowledged the viral video.

"A video is going viral on social media in which a Bollywood actor is seen violating traffic rules in Lahaul-Spiti district. According to preliminary information, the video appears to be from the year 2023," the statement said.

The probe has been assigned to DySP Headquarters, Kyelang, and officials have assured that "necessary action" will be taken, if required.

Operation Sindoor not yet over, we hit Pakistan thrice inside its territory: PM Modi

Alleges that Pakistani army had made terrorism and mass murder its 'biggest expertise'

KOLKATA, May 29 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said Operation Sindoor was far from over, asserting that Pakistan had already been hit "three times" inside its home.

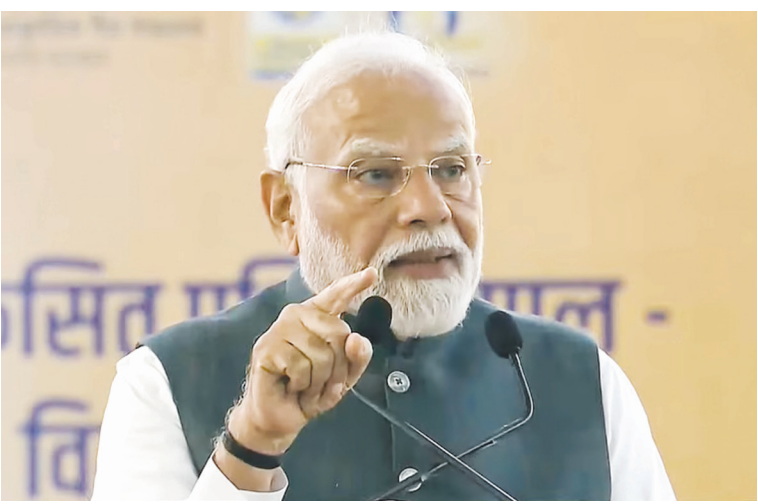
He warned that India would act decisively against all those who sponsor terror.

Addressing a rally in West Bengal's Alipurduar, the first one since Operation Sindoor, the PM said the country's armed forces had avenged the "audacity of terrorists" who insulted the dignity of Indian women.

The PM was referring to the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists were killed.

"From this land of Bengal, I declare on behalf of 140 crore Indians that Operation Sindoor is not yet over," Modi said.

"There was a lot of anger in West Bengal too after the bar-



barity committed by terrorists in Pahalgam on April 22. I understood very well the anger that was within you. The terrorists had the audacity to wipe away the sindoor (vermilion) of our sisters. Our army made them realise the power of sindoor," he said.

Reiterating that India has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism, the prime minister said, "After the Pahalgam attack, India has told the world that if there is a terrorist attack on India now, the enemy will have to pay a heavy price for it. Pakistan should understand

that we have entered its house and struck you three times."

While he did not name the operations explicitly, his remarks are being seen as a reference to India's surgical strikes in 2016, the Balakot air strikes in 2019, and the recent covert cross-border strikes believed to be part of Operation Sindoor.

"We have destroyed cross-border terror infrastructure, which Pakistan had never thought of. We have hit Pakistan thrice by getting inside their homes," he asserted.

In a sharp rebuke to Pakistan's military establishment, Modi alleged that the Pakistani army had made terrorism and mass murder its "biggest expertise".

"Terrorism and mass murder are the biggest expertise of the Pakistani army. Whenever there is a war, they face defeat," the prime minister said.

Operation Sindoor national victory, think God was with us too: IAF chief



NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh on Thursday hailed Operation Sindoor as a "national victory", and said all the Indian forces came together to execute it in a very professional

manner.

In his address at the CII Business Summit here, he also said, "We were taking the path of truth, I think, God was with us also in this."

"This Operation Sindoor that we've been talking about, it's a

national victory. I thank each and every Indian. I am sure, every Indian wanted... was looking towards this victory," the IAF chief said.

"Like it has been said again and again that this was an operation that was executed in a very professional manner by everybody, all the agencies, all the forces, we all came together... and when truth is with you, then everything happens on its own," he said.

Operation Sindoor was launched early May 7 in retaliation to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack.

All subsequent retaliations to Pakistani offensives were carried out under this operation.

Lawrence Bishnoi gang sharpshooter killed in police encounter in UP's Hapur

HAPUR, May 29 (Agencies): A joint team of Uttar Pradesh Police's Special Task Force (STF) and Delhi Police gunned down a sharpshooter of the notorious Lawrence Bishnoi gang in an encounter in the Hapur Kotwali area, officials said on Thursday.

Naveen Kumar was wanted in multiple cases, including for murder and under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA), a senior police officer said.

ADGP (STF) Amitabh Yash said in a statement that on Wednesday night, a joint team of STF's Noida unit and Delhi Police's Special Cell engaged in a gunfight with criminals



in the Hapur Kotwali area, in which Kumar was seriously injured. He was taken to a local hospital, where doctors declared him dead, the officer said.

A resident of Loni in Ghaziabad district, Kumar was an active sharpshooter of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, who worked closely with gang member Hashim Baba, the ADGP said.

As many as 20 cases, including for murder, attempt to murder, kid-

napping, robbery and under MCOCA, were registered against Kumar in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, the officer said.

Kumar was first booked at the Seemapuri police station in Delhi under the Arms Act in 2008. In 2009, he allegedly committed a murder in the Sahibabad police station area, the officer said, adding that he was booked under the Gangster Act in Uttar Pradesh in 2010.

No funds diverted from other departments for Ladki Bahin, read budget rules: Fadnavis

PARBHANI, May 29 (Agencies): Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thursday clarified no funds have been diverted from other departments for the government's flagship scheme for women Ladki Bahin and said those who do not understand budget are making unsubstantiated claims.

Money disbursed for the scheme, which under eligible poor women get a monthly stipend of Rs 1,500, through Tribal Affairs and Social Justice Departments was as per budgetary norms, he insisted.

Talking to reporters here in central Maharashtra, Fadnavis explained budgetary rules stipulate funds should be reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs)



and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Maximum funds should be earmarked for personal benefit schemes and some kept aside for infrastructure development.

"The charges (by opposition that funds were diverted from other departments for Ladki Bahin Yojana) are wrong. Only those who don't understand the budget can make such a charge. Rules say funds should be reserved for SCs/STs. Maximum funds should

be reserved for personal benefit schemes and some for infrastructure development.

"Ladki Bahin Yojana falls under the category of giving personal benefit to beneficiaries. So, if you give money to this scheme, then as per budgetary rules, it has to be shown under the Tribal Affairs Department and the Social Justice Department," the CM stated.

He emphasised Deputy CM Ajit Pawar, who holds the finance

portfolio, has already clarified in this matter.

Fadnavis noted the budget of Tribal Affairs and Social Justice departments has been hiked nearly 1.45 times in 2025-26.

"This (Ladki Bahin funds disbursed through other departments) is a type of accounting. No money has been diverted. There is no wrongdoing in this," the CM asserted.

The state Women and Child Development Department runs the scheme, which is credited with playing a key role in the BJP-led Mahayuti's massive assembly election win in November last year.

Under the yojana, women in the 21-65 years age group with an annual family income of less than Rs 2.5 lakh are

eligible for the monthly stipend.

Earlier this month, Maharashtra Social Justice Minister Sanjay Shirsat had expressed displeasure and accused the Ajit Pawar-led Finance Department of high-handedness in what he termed as illegal diversion of funds from his department without his knowledge.

He had acknowledged that the state was facing financial constraints due to the women-centric welfare scheme launched last year ahead of the assembly polls.

The Shiv Sena minister had said the state government should better "shut" the Social Justice Department instead of periodic diversion of the allocated funds.

Pune Porsche case accused doctor now arrested in kidney transplant racket

PUNE, May 29 (Agencies): Police on Thursday arrested Pune's Sassoon General Hospital's former medical superintendent Dr Ajay Taware in connection with an alleged kidney transplant racket at a leading private hospital here, officials said.

Taware is currently lodged at the Yerwada Central Jail here following arrest last year for allegedly tampering with the blood samples of a

17-year-old boy accused of crashing a Porsche car into a motorbike in Pune's Kalyani Nagar and killing two persons.

The city crime branch has now taken him into custody in connection with the 2022 kidney transplant racket at the Ruby Hall Clinic, a leading private hospital here, police said.

"We have taken Dr Ajay Taware into custody in the kidney racket case and he will be pro-

duced before the court today," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) Nikhil Pingale said.

In 2022, Taware was head of the Regional Authorisation Committee that approved kidney transplants.

The Pune police in May 2022 registered a case against 15 people, including the managing trustee of the Ruby Hall Clinic and some of its employees, in connec-

tion with an alleged malpractice during a kidney transplant procedure in March that year.

A woman from Kolhapur, who was allegedly promised Rs 15 lakh, had fraudulently posed as the wife of a man who needed a transplant and donated her kidney in 2022 to a young woman patient. In turn, the young woman's mother donated her kidney to the man.

Such a swap involving two patients and their relatives is carried out when the patients cannot receive a kidney from their own kin because of a blood group mismatch.

On March 29, 2022, four days after undergoing the transplant surgery at the Ruby Hall Clinic, the woman revealed her real identity after she had a dispute over money.

2 killed, 2 hurt as teenager rams car into bicycle before crashing into jhuggi in Delhi's Janakpuri

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): Two persons were killed after a speeding car being driven by a teenager hit a bicycle before crashing into a roadside jhuggi in west Delhi's Janakpuri area in the early hours of Thursday, police said.

Two persons were also injured in the incident.

A PCR call about the accident was received at the Janakpuri police

station around 3:30 am. A PCR team and the local police reached the spot and rushed the injured to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared two of them brought dead, officials said.

Two of the injured are undergoing treatment. The identities of the deceased and injured are yet to be ascertained, they said.

According to police, preliminary inquiry revealed that the car was being driven by a 19-year-old youth. The speeding vehicle first hit a bicycle and then crashed into a roadside jhuggi.

The driver has been apprehended and is being questioned. Legal action is being initiated in the matter, the police said.

Congress claims special Parliament session being considered to mark 50th emergency anniversary

NEW DELHI, May 29 (Agencies): The Congress on Thursday claimed that a special session of Parliament is being considered next month to mark the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, and said this will be yet another classic exercise in "diversion and distraction" from real and more urgent issues by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said that from

the night of April 22nd itself, the Indian National Congress has been calling for an all-party meeting on the Pahalgam terror attack and its fallout to be chaired by the PM himself.

That has yet to take place, he said.

"On May 10th, both the LoP in the Lok Sabha and the LoP in the Rajya Sabha wrote to the PM requesting for a special session of Parliament to be convened and to demonstrate the nation's collective

resolve through a resolution. The PM has NOT accepted that suggestion as well," Ramesh said in a post on X.

"Now it appears that a special session of Parliament is being considered for June 25-26 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Emergency," Ramesh claimed.

There was no immediate response from the government or the BJP.

The Congress leader said, "This will be yet another classic exercise in diversion and



distraction from real and more urgent issues

by the PM -? the man who has placed the

nation under an undeclared Emergency for 11 years and the man who refuses to answer why the Pahalgam terrorists are still absconding, why he allowed President Trump to broker a ceasefire, and why he gave a clean chit to China publicly on June 19th, 2020?"

The Congress has been asking Prime Minister Modi to break his "silence" on the Trump administration's repeated claims on how the India-Pakistan "cease-

fire" was brought about.

The US President has been repeatedly claiming that he helped settle the tensions between India and Pakistan.

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

Following the Indian action, Pakistan attempted to attack Indian military bases on May 8, 9 and 10. The Indian

forces launched a fierce counter-attack on several Pakistani military installations.

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

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

Japan: Tokushima Prefecture Governor Masazumi Gotoda eyes stronger ties with India

Governor Gotoda, who took office two years ago after serving 23 years in Japan's House of Representatives, has introduced bold administrative reforms aimed at transforming the prefecture.

TOKUSHIMA, May 29 (Agencies): Masazumi Gotoda, Governor of Tokushima Prefecture in Japan, shared his vision for strengthening international relations, particularly with India, to promote exports and attract skilled foreign talent.

Located on Shikoku Island, one of Japan's four main islands, Tokushima has emerged as the most proactive of the island's four prefectures in advancing global engagement.

Governor Gotoda, who took office two years ago after serving 23 years in Japan's House of Representatives, has introduced bold administrative reforms aimed at transforming the prefecture.

Among his first initiatives was the establishment of the International Affairs Office, a division he oversees directly.

"Deepening overseas relations is not just a policy—it's a necessity in a rapidly changing Japanese society," said Governor Gotoda in an exclusive interview with agency.

Tokushima's ties with India are already robust, with several major Japanese firms operating in the country. Otsuka Pharmaceutical and its subsidiaries



have set up facilities in Rajasthan and Gujarat, while the well-known LED manufacturer Nichia Corporation operates in Gurgaon.

Shikoku Koki, another company from the region, exports shelf-stable, paper-packed tofu — a unique food product that does not require refrigeration, showcasing Tokushima's innovation in food processing.

Facing Japan's demographic challenges such as declining population and workforce, Gov-

ernor Gotoda emphasised the need for innovative governance and international collaboration.

A strong advocate of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education, he pointed to the success of Kamiyama Marugoto College, where nearly 90 per cent of students come from outside the prefecture.

"This institution is a symbol of our commitment to cultivating future-ready talent," he said.

Governor Gotoda is also

championing the acceptance of foreign workers to address labour shortages.

Last year, Tokushima recorded Japan's highest increase in both the rate and amount of the minimum wage.

He believes this competitive wage growth will help attract high-level professionals and visitors from India. "We are committed to creating an environment where international talent can thrive," he said.

Tokushima is not only progressive in policy but also rich in tradition and natural beauty.

The prefecture is home to Awa Odori, Japan's iconic dance festival, as well as sacred pilgrimage routes and lush landscapes. Governor Gotoda's office reflects his pride in local culture, adorned with Tokushima's speciality products.

"Promoting our cultural assets through global partnerships is a vital part of our strategy," he added.

In his concluding remarks, Governor Gotoda expressed hope that India and Tokushima will forge even stronger ties in the coming years—anchored in shared values of innovation, tradition, and mutual prosperity.

Elon Musk steps down from Trump administration



WASHINGTON DC, May 29 (Agencies): Tesla CEO Elon Musk on Thursday stepped down as a 'Special Government Employee' amid widespread protests.

Musk thanked US President Donald Trump for giving him an opportunity to reduce the wasteful spending by the government.

In a post on X, he said, "As my scheduled time as a Special Government Employee comes to an end, I would like to thank President Donald Trump for the opportunity to reduce wasteful spending. The DOGE mission will only strengthen over time as it becomes a way of life throughout the government."

Earlier on Wednesday, Musk said he is back to "spending 24/7 at work" and sleeping in conference rooms — as he hopped back into corporate life after his time in Washington, agency reported.

Musk's favourable attitude "extremely hardcore" work cultures is now coming in handy as the billionaire now has to juggle multiple flailing companies together.

Tesla sales are falling. The Cybertruck is shaping up to be a flop for the ages. The social media site X needs "major operational improvements," according

to Musk, after a widespread outage over the weekend, which came less than two weeks after xAI's Grok started spinning conspiracy theories about "White genocide." And, late Tuesday, the latest multibillion-dollar SpaceX launch resulted in its Starship rocket spinning out of control and breaking up over the Indian Ocean, as per agency.

Investors appear relieved that Musk is refocusing on his day job(s). Shares of Tesla — the only publicly traded Musk-owned enterprise — have shot up 25% in the past month (though they are still miniscule relative to their December peak). That optimism is conditioned on Musk actually fixing the problems plaguing the EV maker while also delivering on his promise to launch an autonomous robotaxi service in Austin, Texas, in the coming weeks.

Musk flagged concerns about Trump's sweeping tax and spending cuts package, saying in a video released on Tuesday that he believes it would raise the US budget deficit and undercut efforts by the Department of Government Efficiency, as per agency.

"I was disappointed to see the massive spending bill, frankly, which increases the budget deficit, not just decreases it, and undermines the work that the DOGE team is doing," agency quoted Musk as saying.

"I think a bill can be big or it can be beautiful, but I don't know if it can be both," he added.

DOGE is poised to continue its work even as Musk steps back, with staffers to remain in place, embedded across federal agencies, for months or years to come.

Trump admin urges US defence firms to tap India's expanding military market

WASHINGTON, May 29 (Agencies): The Trump administration is encouraging the country's strong defence industry to target India, which presents a lucrative market for foreign defence manufacturers.

"As one of the largest importers of defence equipment, India presents a lucrative market for foreign defence manufacturers, importing around 60 per cent of its defence requirements," the US Department of Commerce said in a communication to the American defence industry.

India boasts the world's third-largest armed forces and plans to invest billions in defence acquisitions over the next few years, said the Department of

Commerce as it sent an invitation to them to attend a webinar to find out more about the aerospace and defence market in India as well as the Aerospace and Defense Meetings (ADM) Chennai show.

The US-India defence relationship is a cornerstone of their strategic partnership, driving the bilateral relationship forward. A significant milestone was reached in 2018 when the Department of Commerce granted India Tier 1 Strategic Trade Authorisation (STA-1) status, facilitating the export of US products to India, it said.

"US products enjoy a favourable reputation in India, thanks to the strong connections between the people of

the two democracies and the rich government-to-government relationship.

This trust in US products creates a promising environment for collaboration," the communication said.

Organised by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Aerospace and Defence Meetings in Chennai is scheduled for October 7-9 this year. It is a B2B event connecting vetted suppliers and OEMs in the aerospace, defence, space, and naval sectors.

"This event offers US companies a platform to target key supply chain, product development, and procurement teams from top Indian aerospace and defence players," the Department of Commerce said.

WUC concludes III Uyghur National and Youth Summits in Munich with strong call for unity, justice and identity preservation

MUNICH, May 29 (Agencies): The III Uyghur National Summit and Uyghur Youth Summit, led by the World Uyghur Congress (WUC), announced the successful completion of their three-day event held in Munich, Germany, according to the WUC release.

"This summit signifies more than just a gathering; it is a proclamation. A proclamation that the Uyghur people stand united in our struggle, and that no degree of oppression can diminish our identity or silence our mission," stated WUC President Turgunjan Alawudun, as mentioned in the WUC release.

The summit attracted over 150 attendees, comprising more than 50 Uyghur organisations, leaders, human



rights advocates, community representatives, youth activists, academics, and politicians from over 22 nations, aimed at furthering the shared fight for freedom, justice, and the safeguarding of Uyghur identity, according to the release.

The summit acted as a significant platform to enhance solidarity within the Uyghur diaspora and to coordinate international efforts against the ongoing genocide and

extensive transnational repression carried out by the Chinese government in East Turkistan, as stated by the WUC release.

Initiating with a joint program on the first morning, the Uyghur Summit and the Uyghur Youth Summit fostered intergenerational dialogue and a common purpose. Later, the official opening ceremony of the Youth Summit commenced in the

middle of the first day, signifying the beginning of its dedicated sessions, according to the release.

The overall schedule of the summit included a vibrant and varied format, featuring two roundtables, a fireside chat, eight Chatham House-style discussions, and four open sessions, providing an avenue for strategic conversation, storytelling, and cooperative planning, as cited by the WUC release.

Simultaneously occurring with the main summit, the Uyghur Youth Summit centered on topics such as identity, intergenerational dialogue, storytelling, trauma and healing, transnational repression, cultural revival, and youth empower-

ment.

These sessions established a powerful and secure environment for reflection, connection, and building the capacity of Uyghur youth to guide the movement's next chapter, WUC release indicated.

The WUC release underscored that a major result of the summit was the adoption of the Munich Declaration, which reaffirmed the steadfast commitment of Uyghur communities to mutual support, coordinated advocacy, and the peaceful pursuit of justice and freedom for East Turkistan.

The WUC expressed its heartfelt thanks to all participants, partner organisations, and volunteers who contributed to the success of this summit.

China ramps up naval incursions around Taiwan

TAIPEI, May 29 (Agencies): Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense (MND) on Thursday reported Chinese military presence around Taiwan, with eight vessels from the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN), and one official ship detected operating in the region.

The MND did not detect any flight operations by the PLA during this timeframe.

In a post on X, the MND said, "8 PLAN ships and 1 official ship operating around Taiwan were detected as of 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. Illustration of flight path is not provided due to no PLA aircraft operating around Taiwan were detected during this timeframe."

"At 01:31 (UTC+8) today, China launched satellites from XSLC, with the flight path over central Taiwan toward the Western Pacific. The altitude is beyond the atmosphere, posing no threat. ROC Armed Forces monitored the process and remain ready to respond accordingly," Taiwan's MND added.

Earlier on Wednesday, MND reported a military presence around Taiwan, with 31 aircraft from the People's Liberation Army (PLA), nine vessels from the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN), and one official ship detected operating in the region.

Sharing a post on X, MND wrote, "31 PLA aircraft, 9 PLAN vessels and 1 offi-

cial ship operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 22 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, central, southwestern and eastern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded."

Meanwhile, 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".

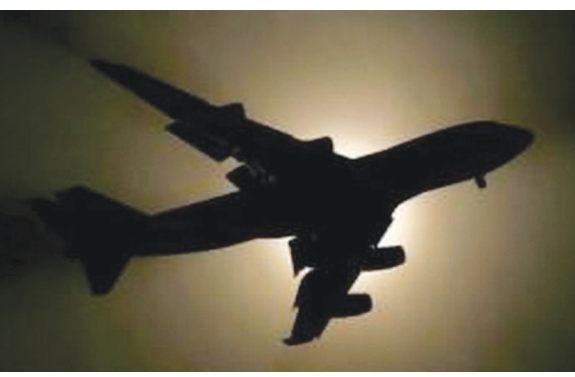
The council remarked that the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) utilisation of various forms of exchanges as tools for united front work does little to bridge differences across the Taiwan Strait and will not earn the acceptance of Taiwanese society, as highlighted by the Focus Taiwan report.

South Korea's Navy plane with 4 people onboard crashes on mountain in Pohang

POHANG, May 29 (Agencies): South Korea's Navy patrol plane carrying four people crashed on a mountain in South Korea's Pohang on Thursday, state media Yonhap reported, citing authorities. The crash happened at 1:50 pm (local time) and witnesses said that smoke was rising from the mountain.

In a notice to reporters, the South Korea's Navy stated, "A P-3 maritime patrol aircraft that took off for training from an air base in Pohang at 1:43 p.m. crashed at a nearby location due to unidentified reasons."

South Korea's Navy said that four people were traveling onboard the aircraft and said that they were carrying investigation into further details, including casualties. Yonhap News Agency reported. Fire authorities have been rushed to the site of the incident to extinguish the fire.



5 dead, over 25 injured in bus accident in Pakistan's Balochistan province

Accident took place near Haji town on the Bolan-Quetta highway



KARACHI, May 29 (Agencies): At least five people died and 27 injured on Thursday when a passenger bus fell into a deep ravine in the Bolan area of the Balochistan province in southwestern Pakistan.

The accident took place near Haji town on the Bolan-Quetta highway in the early hours of the day.

The passenger bus going, from Sadiqabad to Quetta, fell into the

ravine when the driver lost control due to over-speeding at a sharp bend in the mountain terrain, a paramilitary official said.

The paramilitary official said that a rescue operation was still going on to move the injured passengers, including women to the district hospital in Bolan.

He confirmed that four passengers had been killed on the spot while one expired on the way

to the hospital.

"Rescue teams have moved 27 injured to the hospital," he added.

Balochistan province had one of the highest fatal accident rates in the country with around 20,000 accidents reported in different parts of the province in 2024, according to the data from the Medical Emergency Response Centre (MERC).

These accidents resulted in nearly 450 fatalities on the highways in that province.

On March 28, at least six people lost their lives while 20 sustained serious injuries after two passenger buses crashed into each other in Balochistan's Kalat area.

R&R Commissioner reviews arrangements for Kheer Bhawani mela

Inspects progress on transit accommodation for PM package employees



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 29: Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M), Dr. Arvind Karwani, on Thursday took on the spot stock of arrangements being put in place for the ensuing Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela-2025.

Pertinent to mention that the Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela is scheduled to be held on 3rd June, this year, on the auspicious occasion of Jyeshtha Ashthami. The Yatra, as part of

the mela, will be flagged off from Jammu on 1st June at 6 am. After a brief halt at Ramban, the Yatra will proceed for different destinations like Tulmulla (Ganderbal), Tikker (Kupwara), Devsar (Kulgam), Manzgam (Kulgam) and Logripora (Anantnag) and reach the destination by afternoon.

The Relief Organization will facilitate transportation of the devotees from Jammu, as per past practice.

Dr Karwani interacted with the concerned

district administration of Ganderbal, Kulgam, Anantnag and Kupwara besides the Mandir Prabandhak Committee members and devotees.

He reviewed the arrangements related to accommodation, sanitation, logistics, security and basic amenities for the Yatris.

Dr Karwani accompanied by the site engineers inspected various transit accommodations for PM Package employees under construction in the North , South and Central Kashmir.

He also interacted with the PM package employees putting up at various locations in the Valley.

He was apprised of various demands of the employees like allotment of quarters, basic amenities and education for their children.

NCD awareness and screening program held at GDC Tangdar

Top News Report

TANGDAR, May 29: A comprehensive Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Awareness and Screening Program was successfully held at Government Degree College (GDC) Tangdar through a joint initiative of the Health Department, under the supervision of Dr. Arif Khawaja, Block Medical Officer (BMO) Tangdar Karnah, and the administration of GDC Tangdar.

This collaborative event marked a significant effort to raise awareness about lifestyle-related health risks and to promote early detection and prevention, especially among youth in the border region of Karnah.

The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Professor Sadaf Rouf, who highlighted the pivotal role of educational institutions in promoting health literacy. She praised the



Health Department for its outreach efforts in remote and underserved regions.

Shafeeq Khan, Dice Incharge, efficiently coordinated the student engagement activities and ensured active participation from students of various schools across the Karnah subdivision. Several competitions were held, including a youth health quiz, slogan writing, painting and chart-making, and short reels and film presentations, all centered

on themes of NCD prevention and healthy living.

Dr. Farah, Medical Officer, delivered a concise and insightful lecture on the rising burden of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cancer. She underscored the need for early diagnosis, preventive measures, and awareness among young people.

Simultaneously, the Health Department organized free health screening camps within

the college premises. Participants were screened for diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and breast, cervical, and oral cancers.

The medical team ensured thorough documentation and provided brief counseling for those requiring further follow-up.

The event concluded with the distribution of certificates and appreciation notes to students who excelled in the competitions.

Dr. Arif Khawaja, BMO

Tangdar, expressed deep gratitude to the Principal of GDC Tangdar, the faculty, students, and participating schools for their cooperation and enthusiastic involvement.

He also extended thanks to Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) Tangdar, Shah Mohammad, for facilitating participation from various schools and for his continued support in health-education initiatives.

The Principal also conveyed appreciation to the Health Department for selecting GDC Tangdar as the host venue and reaffirmed the college's commitment to future collaborations.

This program stands as a powerful example of synergy between the health and education sectors, empowering the younger generation with life-saving knowledge and reinforcing community-level preventive healthcare in the Karnah region.

JK Contractors Coordination Committee urges Govt to release pending payments



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 29: The Jammu and Kashmir Contractors Coordination Committee (JKCCC), under the leadership of Chairman Ghulam Jeelani Purza, has made an earnest appeal to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to release all outstanding payments due from 1st April, 2025, onwards.

The Committee emphasized the urgency of this demand in light of the upcoming Eid-ul-Adha and the severe financial crisis being faced by contractors across the Jammu And Kashmir

the press, JKCCC Chairman Ghulam Jeelani Purza highlighted several critical issues. He stated that despite contractors having completed substantial work under the Jal Jeevan Mission—a flagship scheme of the Government of India aimed at ensuring clean drinking water to every household—no payments have been made since last year August 2024. Contractors were initially assured timely disbursement of funds under this high-priority national mission. However, due to prolonged non-release of payments, many contractors are now facing financial distress.

Jeelani Purza appealed for the immediate release of contractors' performance security amounts and bill deposits as an interim relief.

He noted that a formal proposal regarding this was submitted to the government in last year, but no action has been taken so far.

The Committee expressed deep concern over the pending payments under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) scheme. Contractors have been continuously executing work under the scheme without receiving any payment for the past three years, leaving their financial situation in a dire state.

Jeelani said that not a single deposit or bill has been released by the treasury since 1st April, 2025.

Where previously bills were cleared within 24 hours, payments are now stalled for over months. He urged Administrative Secretary, Finance Department Shailendra Kumar and Principal Secretary Jal Shakti Department Shaleen Kabra —to resolve the long-pending financial issues in a time-bound manner.

The JKCCC leaders emphasized that contractors should not be subjected to repeated delays, which result in operational and livelihood crises.

JKCCC Chairman Ghulam Jeelani stated "We humbly request the Hon'ble Chief Minister and senior officials of the J&K Government to immediately address this long-standing issue. Contractors have delivered on the ground by executing crucial infrastructure work under national and state schemes. It is now the govern-

ment's responsibility to release the dues without further delay. Timely payments are essential for sustaining developmental progress and protecting the livelihoods of thousands of families dependent on this sector."

The meeting was attended by senior JKCCC members, including Gulzar Ahmad Reshi – Vice Chairman, JKCCC & President, PHE Contractors Association Sopore, Tariq Ahmad Baba – General Secretary, JKCCC, Senior JKCCC Leader Mohammad Amin Raina, Manzoor Ahmad Malik – President, Hydraulic Contractors Association Baramulla, Abdul Majeed – President, PHE Contractors Association Kulgam, District Presidents and Representatives from Kupwara, Bandipora, North Kashmir, South Kashmir and other areas.

The JKCCC leadership jointly urged the administration to resolve this issue in a time-bound manner, ensuring that the contractor community is given the respect and support it deserves for its contributions to public development projects.

“A House or Just a Hotel?”

*Is it a home, or just four walls,
When silence greets in empty halls?
No eager eyes, no welcome near,
No joy that says, “I’m glad you’re here.”*

*You turn the key, the door swings wide,
But warmth is something left outside.
The sofa sits with lifeless grace,
No heartbeat echoes in the space.*

*In hotels too, you come and go,
Strangers pass, emotions low.
No one waits with breath held tight,
No smile to make your burdens light.*

*A home is more than bricks and beams,
It’s stitched with love, with hopes and dreams.
It sings your name, it holds your hand,
It understands what few understand.*

*So if no one waits with love to share,
No soul delights that you are there —
Then pause and ask, with quiet breath,
Is this my home... or just a guest?*

Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, President Vichar Kranti Manch International 9419100743



Day is not far when people in PoK will return to India voluntarily: Rajnath

Operation Sindoor as our platforms and systems displayed their strength, he added.

Today, we are not just building fighter jets or missile systems and we are also preparing for new-age warfare technology, he said.

CDS Gen Anil Chauhan to engage with global military leadership at Shangri-La Dialogue 2025

Staff will address the Academia, Think Tanks and Researchers and speak on the topic 'Future Wars and Warfare'. He will also participate in the simultaneous special sessions as part of the event and address on the topic 'Defence Innovation Solutions for Future Challenges'.

As per the release, Shangri-La Dialogue is Asia's premier defence and security summit that brings together defence ministers, military chiefs, policy makers and strategic experts across the globe. The

event will witness leaders from 40 nations addressing Indo-Pacific Security challenges. The engagements will provide a platform to strengthen defence cooperation, discuss mutual security interests and enhance India's strategic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region.

On May 25, CDS General Chauhan visited Indian Army's Northern Command at Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir and Western Command at Chandimandir Military Station, Haryana.

He interacted with the Army Commanders, Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma and Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar, and senior Staff Officers who were actively involved in the planning and execution of Operation Sindoor.

During the visit, he conducted a strategic review and operational assessment in the Northern and Western theatres.

At Udhampur, the CDS was briefed on the Northern Army's success in neutralising the terror network, the adversary's assets that supported terror, and countermeasures taken to protect their military assets and civil population during Operation Sindoor.

Centre deploys 580 CAPF companies for Amarnath Yatra

ministry, officials said, has directed that these forces move "immedi-

ately" and take position in Jammu and Kashmir by the second week of June.

The Amarnath Yatra will begin on July 3 and end on August 9. The security deployment plan for the pilgrimage is being prepared keeping in mind the challenges emerging from the April 22 Pahalgam terrorist attack in which 26 persons, mostly tourists, were killed, they said.

"The Union home ministry has decided to deploy about 580 CAPF companies for the Amarnath Yatra this time. This includes about 150-160 units already present in the UT," a senior officer said.

The companies are drawn from five CAPFs of CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP and SSB. Each of these companies have an operational strength of about 70-75 personnel, he said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will also review the security arrangements during his proposed visit to Jammu on Thursday.

CRPF Director General (DG) Gyanendra Pratap Singh had reviewed the preparations for the Amarnath Yatra over the week when he was in Kashmir. BSF DG Daljit Singh Chawdhary too is expected to hold a review of border security and the yatra in Srinagar.

The 38-day Yatra, which leads to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave housing a naturally formed ice-shivling, is set to commence on July 3.

Pilgrims can choose between the traditional 48-km route from Pahalgam in the Anantnag district or the

shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in the Ganderbal district.

Two 'Hybrid Terrorists' of LeT apprehended in Shopian

pouches, Rs 5,400 in cash, a mobile phone, a smartwatch and an Aadhaar card were recovered from their possession.

A case has been registered and an investigation has been launched, the officials said.

CRPF constable approaches High Court, challenges dismissal from duty over marriage to Pakistani cousin

petition notes that several Members of Parliament supported the visa application through written recommendations.

In an official order on May 2, the Commandant 41st Battalion of the CRPF at Bangrasia, Bhopal – where he was currently posted – told Munir Ahmed was being dismissed "with immediate effect" for having "harboured a Pakistani National in India".

Munir Ahmed was dismissed after his wife Menal received a notice to 'Leave India' because she is a

Pakistani national, in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people on April 22.

According to sources, Ahmed in his defense alleges that he was terminated in an "arbitrary, capricious and whimsical". According to the CRPF, Article 311 of the Constitution, which outlines the safeguards for civil servants against arbitrary dismissal or removal from service, was used to immediately terminate him.

The CRPF, while terminating Ahmed, had said: "In a matter of serious concern, CT/GD Munir Ahmed of 41 Battalion of CRPF has been dismissed from service with immediate effect for concealing his marriage to a Pakistani national and knowingly harbouring her beyond the validity of her visa. His actions were found to be in violation of service conduct and detrimental to national security."

Ahmed in his plea stated to court "This order violates my fundamental rights under Article 21 of the Constitution. I have been punished for marrying across the border".

On charges of harbouring a foreign national, Munir said his wife had been on a "visit visa" until February 28 this year and had applied for a Long-Term Visa on March 4, which was still pending.

CM Omar's meetings at Pahalgam, Gulmarg aimed to dispel

fear: NC Provincial President

Vaishno Devi or Baba Amar-nath—to visit Pahalgam, Gulmarg, Sonmarg, and other tourist places. We are ready to welcome them, and there should be no fear in anyone's mind," Gupta told reporters here.

He was replying to a volley of questions on whether NC chief Farooq Abdullah playing golf and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah cycling would help revive tourism.

"The Cabinet meeting held in Pahalgam and the officers' meeting in Gulmarg, along with Farooq Abdullah playing golf and Omar Abdullah cycling, all send a strong message to tourists and the public that they should come here in large numbers as everything is normal. It was to dispel fear among the people," he said.

He further said that they should not heed the threats of terrorists. "Jammu and Kashmir is still a paradise—come and enjoy its beauty," he said.

On the Amarnath Yatra, which is commencing in Jammu and Kashmir soon, he said, "We appeal to all pilgrims to come fearlessly and in large numbers. Their presence will send a strong message that will foil the evil designs of terrorists and their sponsors across the border, including Pakistan." Meanwhile, prominent activist Kuldeep Raj Sharma, who recently resigned from the BJP, joined the National Conference in the presence of Gupta at a function in Jammu.

Dr Jitendra convenes DoPT meeting with other Ministries, emphasises 'ease of procedure'

Top News Report

NEW DELHI, May 29: In a first-of-its-kind initiative, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space; and Minister of State for Personnel and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Thursday convened a high-level joint meeting of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) with Secretaries of different other Ministries.

The meeting aimed to iron out, face to face, on the spot, long-standing administrative and personnel-related issues confronting various Ministries and departments. The Minister's emphasis was on "ease of procedure".

Simplification of administrative rules is crucial for India's innovation driven economic growth through ease of R&D, said Dr Jitendra. Emphasizing the simplification of procedures, Dr. Singh observed that many of the issues plaguing scientific



institutions are rooted in inconsistencies in recruitment rules, service conditions, retirement ages etc — which often vary in comparison to other civil servants and line ministries. This ambiguity, he noted, leads to administrative conflicts, particularly since members of the scientific fraternity are engaged through a variety of modes such as national and international institutes, lateral entry, and deputation frameworks.

Dr. Jitendra underlined the need for more uniformity in administrative mechanisms across all Science and Technology departments. He stated, "These administrative roadblocks must be addressed if we are to promote ease of doing research and innovation

in India. Science and Technology, coupled with research and innovation, are going to be the harbingers of India's economic growth, he said.

Recognizing his dual role as the Science and Technology Minister and the Minister of DoPT, Dr. Singh said he was fully aware of the administrative issues being faced by scientific departments. He took the initiative to bring all concerned ministries onto the same page to resolve systemic bottlenecks and lay the groundwork for future policy reforms.

"This is a very important meeting," Dr. Singh remarked, "because it sets the tone for inter-ministerial collaboration, the whole of the Govt approach to achieve

the goal of Viksit Bharat @ 2047. We must shift away from the orthodox route, which takes a long time to channel solutions, and instead use such breakthrough meetings to resolve issues in real time."

Highlighting the government's broader efforts toward administrative efficiency, Dr. Jitendra Singh referred to DoPT's recent drive to weed out more than 1,600 obsolete laws and simplify procedures for the benefit of citizens and the scientific community alike. He credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for providing the visionary framework through the Viksit Bharat @ 2047 initiative, which recognizes that administrative reform is a critical component of national development.

The Minister emphasized, "Administrative procedures should be as simple as possible. We need to move from rule to role, from rigidity to responsiveness, from delay to delivery."

The high-level meeting was attended by key stakeholders, including Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India; Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Director General and Secretary, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR); Rachna Shah, Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT); Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology; Dr. Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology; and Dr. M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences. Other senior officers from the respective departments also participated actively in the deliberations.

Dr. Jitendra concluded the meeting with a strong message, "India's future lies on ease of science and ease of innovation, but its foundation must be built on administrative clarity, simplicity, and synergy. Today's meeting is a significant step in that direction."

Empowering educators through NEP 2020, Action Research: A step toward Viksit Bharat @2047

Top News Report

BARNALA, May 29: A one-day online seminar titled "Empowering Educators through NEP 2020 and Action Research: Paving the Way for Viksit Bharat @2047" was successfully organized by District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Barnala in collaboration with S.D. College of Education, Barnala. The event was conducted on the Zoom platform and witnessed enthusiastic participation from teacher educators and in-service teachers from across the district.

The seminar was held under the leadership of Dr. Munish Mohan Sharma, Principal, DIET Cheema Jodhpur, and Dr. Tapan Kumar Sahu, Principal, S.D. College of Education, Barnala—renowned academicians, NCTE Member, NAAC Peer Team Member, Editor of an international academic journal, and Member of the All India Association for Educational Research.

Key dignitaries who graced the event included Amarinder Kaur, PCS, Director, SCERT Punjab, Buta Singh Sekho, Assistant Director, Sunil Kumar, Nodal Officer, Sunitinder Singh, District Education Officer (Secondary), and Dr. Barjinderpal Singh, Deputy DEO. The event was jointly



coordinated by Master Avnish Kumar, State Awardee Teacher and Coordinator, Research Advisory Committee, DIET Barnala, along with Dr. Jasleen Kaur and Dr. Seema Sharma, Associate Professors and core members of the Research Committee at S.D. College of Education, Barnala.

Two distinguished speakers—Prof. Jayashree Shinde from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, and Prof. Vishwajit Behera, Professor at NIE, NCERT, New Delhi—delivered the keynote addresses.

In her address, Prof. Shinde emphasized that action research is a vital component of

contemporary education and praised the proactive initiatives of SCERT and DIET Barnala in advancing teacher-led research. She encouraged educators to deepen their understanding of pedagogy, learner psychology, and classroom challenges to become reflective practitioners.

Prof. Behera described action research as an essential strategy for enhancing student learning outcomes. He reiterated NCERT's continued commitment to supporting research-oriented teaching and highlighted the significance of teacher-driven innovations in line with the objectives of NEP 2020.

Dr. Ambedkar considered education as powerful medium for social transformation: Balbir

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Balbir Ram Rattan, spokesperson of the

Jammu and Kashmir BJP and former Vice Chairperson, said that Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar is

counted among the greatest social reformers and educationists of the country. He considered education not



only a means of personal advancement but also the most effective weapon for social revolution. Dr. Ambedkar firmly believed that education is the only sustainable and powerful tool to eradicate inequality, casteism, and discrimination prevalent in society.

He was discussing Dr. Ambedkar's perspective on education along with his party colleagues.

Dr. Ambedkar said, "Education is the weapon through which society can be changed."

He not only overcame difficulties to attain higher education himself but also worked to open the doors of education for the underprivileged sections of society.

By studying at institutions like Columbia University and the London School of Economics, he proved that talent is not dependent on caste or social status.

Balbir stated that Dr. Ambedkar established several institutions to spread education and dedicated his entire life

to inspiring Dalits, the backward classes, and the deprived sections to get educated. He believed that no community can fight for its rights without education. He gave the powerful slogan: "Be Educated, Be Organized, and Be Agitated."

Today, as India moves toward social harmony and inclusive development, Dr. Ambedkar's thoughts and contributions have become even more relevant. Educational institutions, social organizations, and governments across the country should draw inspiration from his educational vision so that everyone can have equal opportunities and a just society can be established.

Dr. Ambedkar's life is proof that education not only brings self-reliance but also holds the power to transform social structures.

His ideas will continue to inspire future generations about the importance of education and social awareness.

Union Minister Shivraj Chouhan to inaugurate Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: With an objective to raise awareness among the farmers about modern agricultural technologies and central government welfare schemes, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan along with Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of Science and Technology, Prime Minister's Office; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, Javed Ahmad Dar, Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperatives and Election will inaugurate Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan at village Langrialin R.S. Pura tehsil of Jammu district on Friday.

The programme is organized by Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu). Dr. Narinder Singh Raina, MLA Jammu South, Dr. Garu Ram Bhagat, MLA Suchetgarh, Shailendra Kumar,

Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department and Dr. Rajbir Singh, DDG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR, New Delhi will also join the programme.

Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu and Nodal Officer for Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan in Jammu division while briefing about the campaign said that this programme focuses on educating farmers about region-specific modern technologies for major Kharif crops, promote the use of Soil Health Cards for crop planning and balanced fertilizer application and gather farmers' feedback to identify grass root constraints and innovations and guide future research endeavors.

Prof. Tripathi further elaborated that 30 teams comprising of scientists of SKUAST-Jammu will conduct 1215 programmes at the doorsteps of more than 2 lakhs farmers; covering all the 10 districts of Jammu Division.

The 15-day nationwide programme, part of the Kharif campaign will run from May 29 to June

12. During this period, scientific teams will visit villages to interact with farmers directly and provide on the spot guidance. This campaign will also involve officials and experts representing the departments of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry and fisheries.

Progressive farmers, FPOs, agri-entrepreneurs and other stakeholders in the agricultural ecosystem will also participate in the campaign. Prof. Tripathi also expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan for the pro-farmer decisions, emphasizing that these steps reflect the government's unwavering commitment to the welfare of farmers.

The Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan aims to directly reach and engage with farmers across Jammu Division, bringing Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Lab to Land' into action.

The campaign will also play a crucial role in achieving the objectives of developed agriculture and realizing larger vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'.

As part of this extensive 15-day initiative, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will travel across more than 700 districts of 20 states and interacting directly with approximately 1.5 crore farmers nationwide and agricultural scientists and motivating them to adopt modern farming interventions.

Dimple slams Rs 6500 Relief Compensation, demands restoration of J&K Statehood, special package from HM

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu & Kashmir, expressed serious concern over the relief measures announced for victims of shelling and drone attacks in Jammu city, Bakshi Nagar, Rehari, Janipur, Poonch, Rajouri, Akhnour, and other border areas. He alleged that a meagre compensation of Rs 6500 is being offered to house owners whose properties and vehicles were destroyed, terming it a "mockery" of their losses, which he claimed run into lakhs of rupees.

Welcoming the visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Jammu and Kashmir, Dimple urged him to announce a special financial and employment package for the youth and affected residents of the region. He reiterated his long-standing demand for the restoration of Jammu & Kashmir's statehood along with special status, emphasizing that the region is suffering due to administrative neglect and economic decline.

Referring to the recent Pahalgam attack and Operation Sindoor, Dimple said the tourism, trade, transport, and industry sectors in Jammu & Kashmir have collapsed, leaving the population in distress. He called on the Home Minister to "bring Jammu and Kashmir back on track" by restoring statehood and warned that failure to do so would lead to the intensification of the statehood agitation.



Dimple also criticized the conduct and abrupt cancellation of mock drills, stating that such actions generate fear, panic, and uncertainty among the public, leading to economic paralysis. "These mock drills create chaos, horror, and terror in the minds of the people, as if war is about to begin," he added.

In a bold demand, Dimple urged the Home Minister to issue directives during the Unified Area Command meeting for the liberation of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Gilgit, and Baltistan, and to incorporate these regions into the Jammu and Kashmir state.

The statement concluded with a call for immediate and decisive actions from the central government to address the grievances of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

SBBDT expresses concern over un-attending development projects of the Devsthan

Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: Shri Bawa Bhair Devsthan Trust (SBBDT) today expressed concern over the un-attending development projects of the Devsthan and adjoining areas, due to which it said, devotees are facing a lot of hardships. Addressing a meeting of trust activists at shrine complex Bawa Bhair in Katal Batal tehsil Nagrotra District Jammu, former Deputy Commissioner B.S. Jamwal, NMC President Subash Shastri, Bawa Bhair Devsthan Trust President Balwant Singh, Gen-

eral Secretary Ramesh Sharma, DBPS President Ved Parkash Sharma and other representatives of various social, religious said that with the efforts of the Trust in the past, a proposal for construction of road from Village Aithem to Devsthan was got prepared for onward submission to the concerned quarter alongwith all required qualifying documents in light of the parameter set force by the Union Government but so far no progress on ground has been observed.

They urged all legislators of Jammu region to take up the issue of construction of road

from Village Aithem to Bawa Bhair Devsthan to the LG, Chief Minister and high ups of UT JK Administration. They lamented the fact that in spite of lakh of pilgrims visiting the holy Devsthan annually, the development of the place did not catch attention of public representatives of previous regimes. The Trust members appealed all concerned to pay heed to this noble and genuine cause of the general masses. They further urged Deputy Chief Minister and local MP to pool their wisdom and resources to active the development of Devsthan to which they

are also attached sentimentally and religiously. They also urged the LG and Chief Minister to visit this holy place and include this place in the tourist map of Jammu, as the same is going to provide direct and indirect employment to youth, besides the development of the area.

Among other who were also present on the occasion included Om Parkash Sharma, Ritiz Khajuria, Advocate P.C. Sharma, Devinder Sharma (Baboo) Kirpal Singh, Gurdas Sharma, Subash Sharma, Girdhari Lal Sharma, Advocate Anchit Sharma and others.

PBKS take on RCB for spot in IPL final

Qualifier 1: Iyer's tact up against Bengaluru's flair

MULLANPUR, May 29 (Agencies): The opportunity to grab the golden ticket to the IPL final will drive both Punjab Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru to be at their best in Qualifier 1 here on Thursday.

The winner of the game will directly qualify for the final and take either the Kings or RCB to within touching distance of their maiden IPL title. For RCB's Virat Kohli, the wait has been 18-year long.

So far, the Kings have had a memorable run with a totally revamped side under new coach Ricky Ponting and new captain Shreyas Iyer. However, their performance at this ground has been less than satisfactory, with two wins out of four games this season. One of their defeats came against RCB, when Kohli posted an unbeaten 73.

Though RCB are also familiar with heartbreaks of the knockout stages, this year they are more balanced and have displayed



their efficiency while defending and chasing.

The comeback of Jitesh Sharma, who scored his first half-century of the season in their win against Lucknow Super Giants on Tuesday, is a good sign for the RCB middle-order. It will give greater freedom to top-order batters Phil Salt and Kohli to be aggressive during the powerplay. The likely return of Tim David will give RCB's batting greater depth.

In their win over PBKS here, RCB's bowlers had managed

to restrict the hosts to 157. And pacer Josh Hazlewood's expected return is a big boost for the team.

Meanwhile, Iyer's inspiring leadership will face its toughest test against RCB. Kings find themselves in unfamiliar territory having made the playoffs for the first time since 2014. But they don't seem to be carrying the baggage of the past in the Iyer-Ponting era.

PBKS have remained a batter-heavy side with the likes of Prabhsimran Singh and rookie

Priyansh Arya giving them explosive starts. The recent promotion of Josh Inglis also helped the side build a solid innings. It will be important for the trio to perform against RCB to release pressure off the middle-order. Finisher Shashank Singh is also expected to come loaded with his selection of shots.

However, 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 crucial overs in the powerplay and death. Kyle Jamieson has shown promise but will need to bowl better upfront to make an impact. Batting all-rounder Azmatullah Omarzai could take Jansen's spot. The Kings will be hoping for the return of leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal, who missed the last two games due to a finger injury, even as Harpreet Brar did a commendable job in the senior spinner's absence.

IPL Eliminator: Gill's fumbling Titans up against might of Mumbai Indians

Both Shubman Gill and Hardik Pandya have a point to prove



MULLANPUR, May 29 (Agencies): Among the title favourites but battling a loss of momentum, Shubman Gill's Gujarat Titans will be up against the mighty Mumbai Indians, who also have issues to be addressed, in the winner-takes-all IPL Eliminator here on Friday.

It is a knock-out game but both sides are used to the stage with Mumbai Indians being the five-time champions. The Titans have made the play-offs thrice in the last four seasons, including the trophy-winning run on their debut in 2022.

However, both Shubman Gill and Hardik Pandya, have a point to prove. Gill, the newly appointed India Test captain, would build up his leadership credentials immensely if Titans go all the way.

Hardik has got the love of the fans back after being booed on his return to the team last year and an IPL trophy will cement his place in the list of the fabled greats of the franchise.

added pressure on the likes of Prasidh Krishna who has been the Titans' trump card this season with 23 wickets.

In addition to the shortcomings in the pace department, the ineffectiveness of spin all-rounder Rashid Khan has aggravated their bowling woes.

On the batting front, the top three, including Sai Sudharsan, Gill and Jos Buttler contributed massively to their play-off journey.

Considering that, the absence of Buttler, who left for national duty after the league stage, is bound to be felt.

Kusal Mendis has been roped in as Buttler's replacement but it remains to be seen if he can inspire the same level of confidence.

The middle-order comprising Shahruxh Khan and Sherfane Rutherford is not the most reliable, making Titans vulnerable against Mumbai Indians who would have that at the back of their mind.

Like Titans, Mumbai Indians too have been impacted by the loss of foreign players.

Ryan Rickelton had done a fine job for them at the top of the order alongside Rohit Sharma but the South African has now reported for national duty. The same goes for English batter Will Jacks.

Out of favour England batter Jonny Bairstow is one of the replacement players for Mumbai Indians alongside Richard Gleeson and Charith Asalanka.

Bairstow could open alongside Rohit Sharma at the top of the order.

The Englishman would surely be expecting to start the game, having agreed to join the franchise in the middle of the domestic season back home.

The quiet run of Tilak Varma is another concern facing the team.

Suryakumar Yadav has been doing the heavy lifting in the batting department with a record 640 runs in a season. In case he fails, Mumbai Indians will have a real task at hand.

Batting first, the pace at which Mumbai batters score has also been questioned and that is another area Hardik will have to focus on.

However, their strong bowling attack always poses a bigger threat to the opposition.

"Batting, we'll figure out what is the right template on right tracks and if we bat first, what is the pace we want to bat. (There are a) couple of things which we need to identify, but I don't think there is panic," Hardik had said after the loss to Punjab Kings in their final league game.

Squads:

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

Mumbai Indians: Hardik Pandya (captain), Suryakumar Yadav, Rohit Sharma, Tilak Varma, Bevon Jacobs, Robin Minz, Krishnan Srijith, Naman Dhir, Raj Bawa, Mitchell Santner, Jasprit Bumrah, Arjun Tendulkar, Ashwani Kumar, Reece Topley, Karn Sharma, Trent Boult, Deepak Chahar, Satyanarayana Raju, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Raghu Sharma, Jonny Bairstow, Richard Gleeson, Charith Asalanka.

Match starts: 7.30pm IST.

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

BENGALURU, May 29 (Agencies): The Indian Men's Hockey Team has departed from Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport, ahead of their European leg of the FIH Pro League 2024-25, which is scheduled to take place in Amstelveen, the Netherlands and Antwerp, Belgium from June 7 to 22.

India will kick off their European leg with back-to-back encounters against the Netherlands on 7th and 9th June, followed by a double-header against Argentina on 11th and 12th June, with all four matches set to take place at the Wagener Stadium in Amstelveen.



The team will then head to Antwerp, Belgium, for their next challenge, where they will lock horns with Australia on 14th and 15th June before ending their campaign with two crucial matches against hosts Belgium on 21st and 22nd June.

Before their departure, veteran dragflicker and captain Harmanpreet Singh stated, as quoted by Hockey India press release, "This European leg is crucial for us as we face some of the world's best teams. We had a few mixed results in the Bhubaneswar Leg, but we are in a good position in the standings, and we will build on this. Our focus

is on securing maximum points and qualifying for the next year's World Cup through this tournament."

Vice-captain Hardik Singh echoed a similar sentiment and said, "We have had a very productive training camp over

the last few weeks. I am confident that the boys will deliver in Europe. The atmosphere in the squad is very positive, and everyone is pushing each other to perform at their best.

These matches will be a great opportunity to

test ourselves against some of the best in the world."

India are currently third in the standings with fifteen points and will be eyeing to build on their position with a spot in the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 up for grabs.

England announce their playing 11 for first ODI against West Indies

LONDON, May 29 (Agencies): England have announced their playing 11 for the first ODI against the West Indies on Thursday. The Birmingham fixture will be Harry Brook's first outing as England's ODI captain, according to the ICC website.

The newly appointed skipper will bat at No.4 in a side that looks remarkably different from the one that appeared at the ICC Champions Trophy event in February and March this year.

Pacers Jofra Archer and Mark Wood miss through injury, Phil Salt and Liam Livingstone are omitted, and Brook takes over from long-time captain Jos Buttler.

Buttler remains in the XI and will bat at No.5 and keep wickets, while fellow keeper Jamie Smith is promoted to the top of the order and open the batting alongside consistent left-

hander Ben Duckett.

There is also room in the XI for Jacob Bethell and fit-again pacer Brydon Carse, while star spinner Adil Rashid will headline the bowling attack that includes Saqib Mahmood and Jamie Overton.

The three-match series is crucial for England as they look to build momentum in 50-over cricket ahead of the next ICC Men's Cricket World

Cup in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia, with the side currently ranked in eighth place on the ICC ODI Team Rankings and in the final direct qualifying position for the 2027 tournament.

Brook is aiming to help his side find their rhythm against the West Indies and move up the rankings before the event.

"New era now, new leadership. Hopefully we can bring a lot of energy,

competitiveness, and a lot of fun as well out there, try and engage the fans as much as we can - and yeah, try and get some wins under our belt," Brook said.

England XI: 1. Jamie Smith, 2. Ben Duckett, 3. Joe Root, 4. Harry Brook (c), 5. Jos Buttler (wk), 6. Jacob Bethell, 7. Will Jacks, 8. Jamie Overton, 9. Brydon Carse, 10. Adil Rashid, 11. Saqib Mahmood.

Devieka Palshikaar appointment as Lead Performance Coach of Ratnagiri Jets men's and women's teams

MUMBAI, May 29 (Agencies): Ratnagiri Jets, the two-time champions of the Maharashtra Premier League (MPL), announced the appointment of Devieka Palshikaar as the Lead Performance Coach for both the men's and women's teams, ahead of the eagerly awaited Season 3. Ranjit Pande will continue in his role as Head Coach for both squads, according to a release from MPL.

Season 3 of the Maharashtra Premier League kicks off on June 4, 2025, with the men's team beginning their title defence against

Eagle Nashik Titans. The inaugural edition of the Women's Maharashtra Premier League (WMPL) follows from June 5 - 14, where Ratnagiri Jets will open their campaign against Raigad Royals.

A former India international, Devieka Palshikaar, brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the franchise. Her coaching career includes impactful stints as Batting Coach of the Mumbai Indians in the Women's Premier League and Head Coach of the Kerala Senior Women's Team, where she played a



pivotal role in grooming some of India's emerging women cricketers.

In her new role, Devieka will work closely with Head Coach Ranjit Pande on strategic planning, performance development, and match preparation.

Her dual responsibility across both MPL and WMPL squads is aimed at ensuring a seamless integration of coaching philosophy and training excellence throughout the franchise. Notably, her prior association with Smriti Mandhana is expected to further strengthen player mentorship and foster great-

er team cohesion.

Devieka Palshikaar, commenting on her new role, said: "It's a privilege to join the Ratnagiri Jets franchise, which has already set high standards in Maharashtra cricket. I look forward to working closely with the players and the coaching staff to build a culture of excellence, discipline, and continuous improvement. My goal is to help shape a fearless, confident, and cohesive unit that plays with purpose. With Smriti leading the way and a passionate support team around us, we have the foundation to inspire and achieve something truly special. The dual role across both men's and women's teams is an exciting challenge—one that I embrace wholeheartedly, as we work together to shape future champions of Indian cricket."

Praful Chandawarkar, CEO of Ratnagiri Jets,

added: "At Ratnagiri Jets, our mission goes beyond winning titles—it's about building a sustainable ecosystem for cricketing talent to thrive. Devieka's appointment reflects our commitment to providing world-class coaching, especially as we set the stage for our women's team this season. Her leadership, deep understanding of the game, and dedication to developing players will be instrumental in our pursuit of cricketing excellence across both teams."

JetSynthesys, the driving force behind the Ratnagiri Jets, fuels both

the men's and women's teams through its grass-roots initiative - the 'Jets Club'. Dedicated to identifying and nurturing cricketing talent from underserved regions across Maharashtra, the initiative reflects the franchise's long-term vision for cricket development. With Devieka Palshikaar now leading the charge as Lead Performance Coach, the women's team is not only poised to make a strong impression in the inaugural WMPL season but also to become a beacon of inspiration for aspiring young cricketers across the region.

1st State Teachers Award 2024

Lt Governor Brig Mishra presents awards to finest teachers/masters from Ladakh

Top News Report

LEH, May 29: To celebrate the contribution of the finest teachers/masters in Ladakh and to honour those teachers/masters who, through their commitment and industry, have not only improved the quality of school education but also enriched the lives of their students, the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) presented awards to 12 teachers/masters during the 1st State Teachers Award 2024 organised by the Department of School Education, UT Ladakh, at Arya Nagarjuna Auditorium Hall, Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), Choglamsar.

Teachers and Masters to win the awards included Mehboob Ali from Higher Secondary School, Trespone; Shamima Bano from Higher Secondary School, Chuchot; Farzana Parveen from High School Goma in Kargil; Rinchen Angmo from Boys Higher Secondary School, Leh; Mohd Abdullah from Middle School, Karith; Dr Lotus Rabgaia from Middle School, Takhak (Sakti); Mohd Yusuf from Model Middle School Biathang, Shilikchey; Chamba Yangtak from Igoo, Langkhor; Talib Hussain from High School, Kaksar; Ishey Lamo



from High School, Domkhar; Khadum Hussain from Higher Secondary School, Pashkyum and Sonam Angchuk from Higher Secondary School, Baima, Leh.

Congratulating teachers/masters, who won the first state teachers award- a recognition for their dedication and merit, the LG stated that teachers hold a higher place than God because teachers are the ones who keep students on the right track and teach them the ways of the world. Reiterating education's significance in a person's life and the duty of parents/guardians to provide the best possible education to his/her child, he also highlighted the significant roles played by teachers in shaping the personality of students by providing a composite package to students, thereby fostering a sense of nationalism in them. He asked the teachers to master the

art of shaping students' personalities for the betterment of Ladakh and the overall development of the nation.

The LG highlighted the need to cash in on futuristic trends such as harnessing nuclear energy, as envisioned by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to meet the growing power demand.

Commending teachers/faculty of the Education Department for the progress made over the years to improve the education standard in Ladakh, he highlighted various steps taken for the benefit of students, such as transition from JKBOSE to CBSE curriculum, adoption of National Education Policy 2020, etc.

He also highlighted the need to adopt futuristic trends and asked the teaching staff of the Education Department to adopt good practices and innovative teaching ideas/techniques for the benefit of students and

the overall development of Ladakh.

Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk, congratulating the award winners, highlighted the improvement in board exam results from last year, which, he said, is due to the collective efforts of the teaching staff. He commended the teaching staff for inculcating the habit of critical thinking among students.

He also highlighted various initiatives taken for students, such as providing transportation to government schools, clubbing a few schools in villages to convert them into residential schools and the proposal to train staff to operate Atal Tinkering labs in schools for a better learning experience for students.

Chief Secretary Dr Pawan Kotwal, highlighted the pivotal role played by teachers in shaping the future of students and acknowledged the role his teach-

ers played in helping him achieve success in life.

He informed about the initiatives taken by the UT Administration, under the leadership of the LG, to acknowledge and honour government employees for their exemplary work and dedication.

He also shared the aim of the Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to harness the potential of nuclear energy and the need to raise awareness among people about the potential of nuclear energy for the benefit of the nation.

Dr Pawan Kotwal, also asked the teaching staff to help students from Ladakh become toppers so that they could bring laurels to Ladakh and the nation.

Earlier, Secretary, School Education Department, Bhanu Prabha, welcomed the guests while Director, School Education Department, Tsering Paldan, JKAS, delivered the vote of thanks.

First Lady Neelam Mishra; Councillor of LAHDC Leh/Kargil; elected representatives; Vice-Chancellor, CIBS, Prof Rajesh Ranjan; administrative secretaries; officials, teaching staff and faculty of Education Department; religious heads and government officials were present at the event.

Super comedy play by Natrang on June 2



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: To beat the heat Natrang is going to stage its all-time hit super comedy play 'Sainyan Bhaye Kotwal' under the direction of Padmashiri Balwant Thakur on Monday, 2nd of June, 2025 at Abhinav Theatre Jammu at 6:00 PM.

In the larger interest of popularizing theatre, the entry to the show has been kept free. Written by Basant Sabnis, the music of the play has been scored by eminent singer and musician Suraj Singh.

Giving details about this very special show, Balwant Thakur informed that the most noteworthy feature of this show is the featuring of top ranking actors of Jammu & Kashmir. The lead role is being played by Anil Tickoo who is the one and only National Academy Awardee actor of J&K.

The play also features Six National Awardees/fellows/scholars/State Awardees viz., Sanjeev Gupta (Yuva Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee), Neeraj Kant (National Fellow), Meenakshi Bhagat (National Scholar), Shivam Singh (National Scholar), Suraj Singh (State Awardee). The off-stage team also features Pawan Verma (National Fellow/State Awardee), Mohd Yaseen, (National Fellow/Scholar), and Kananpreet Kaur (National Scholar).

On the occasion Balwant Thakur desired all theatre lovers not to miss this star studded performance featuring highly decorated team of actors and off-stage experts.

He further informed that Mr. Brij Mohan Sharma IFS, Principal Secretary, Department of Culture Govt. of UT of J&K will be the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Play 'Sainyan Bhaye Kotwal' opens at a kingdom 'Surya Nagar' which is shown suffering from corruption, nepotism, and lawlessness. The king is busy in hunting and foreign tours and the functionaries of his government are busy in making the best use of his absence. Kotwal (Chief of police) of the kingdom dies and the king authorizes the Prime Minister to appoint a suitable person at his place. Hawaldar, the only contender of the post who was waiting for the last ten years for Kotwal to die, gets a big setback when Prime Minister appoints his own brother-in-law to the post. Now Hawaldar has no other option but to get the new Kotwal trapped in some criminal case so as to show him the exit. Kotwal, who is fond of music, is taken to a court singer where he falls in love with her and visits regularly. The court singer is already engaged with Hawaldar, who encourages her to continue befooling Kotwal and demand royal things to get her love. In this process most of the royal things are stolen to gift the court singer but the king comes to know only when his royal bed is found missing. The play is a symbolic picture of contemporary political happenings. A caricature of the bad governance has been beautifully depicted in the play.

The other noteworthy performers include Pankaj Sharma an established senior actor of Jammu stage, Subash Jamwal (Stage/Film/TV Actor), T Adaksh Bagal, Kartik Kumar, Aryan Sharma, Vansh Pandotra, Arun Dev Verma, Simran Bhagat and Prerna Sharma. Balwant Thakur assured that this performance of the play 'Sainyan Bhaye Kotwal' is going to be remembered for its mind blowing acting, spectacular design, soulful music and above all hilarious stage actions.

AIIMS Jammu launches Endovenous Laser Ablation Services for varicose vein patients in Interventional Radiology



Top News Report

JAMMU, May 29: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jammu has marked a significant milestone with the successful commencement of Endovenous Laser Ablation (EVLA) services for the treatment of varicose veins patients under the department of Radiodiagnosis & Imaging.

The first case was recently performed in the state-of-the-art Interventional Radiology (IR) suite, signalling a new era of minimally invasive vascular care at the institute with the support of ED and CEO, Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta.

Varicose veins are the enlarged, twisted veins often affecting the lower limbs — can cause considerable discomfort and complications if left untreated. EVLA, a minimally invasive, ultrasound-guided procedure used by interventional radiologists, uses laser energy to close off these problematic veins, offering patients a safe and effective alternative as a daycare procedure. It is almost a scarless and sutureless procedure with good treatment outcomes and quicker recovery time.

The procedure was performed by a team of skilled radiologists led

by Dr Ankit Prabhakar, Assistant Professor, Radiodiagnosis & Imaging with other Faculty members, Senior residents, nursing officers and other staff members.

Speaking on the development, the Radiologist's team at the Department of Radiodiagnosis & Imaging emphasized the importance of such advanced interventions in addressing vascular health issues in the region. Varicose vein patients are now being routinely evaluated in IR OPD at AIIMS.

Patients with symptoms such as leg swelling, pain, skin changes, or visible varicosities are encouraged to consult the Interventional Radiology OPD at AIIMS Jammu for assessment and eligibility for EVLA.

The new service is expected to benefit a large number of patients suffering from chronic venous insufficiency, particularly those seeking modern, non-surgical treatment options.

The dedicated EVLA lab within the IR suite is equipped with cutting-edge technology, ensuring high standards of patient care and procedural safety. This is the first IR care centre in Jammu offering such minimally invasive treatment options to patients. Moreover, the

commencement of IR OPD is first of its kind in whole union territory of J&K with AIIMS Jammu pioneering the same. Patients requiring minimally invasive treatment options for various diseases are encouraged to consult for the same.

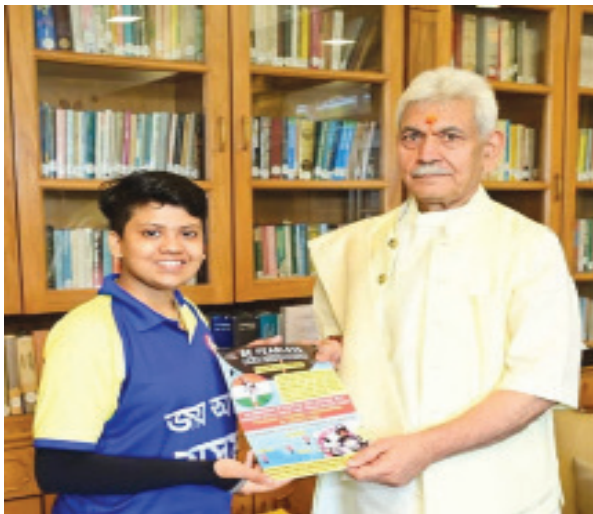
The Head of the Department/Officer-in-

Charge of the Department of Radiodiagnosis and Imaging, Dr. Gita, said that Radiology at AIIMS, Jammu, is equipped with and will be advanced with more imaging intervention services in the very near future.

Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta ED & CEO, AIIMS Jammu added that "The introduction of EVLA marks a significant leap forward in the range of interventional radiology services offered at AIIMS Jammu. This initiative is part of AIIMS Jammu's ongoing commitment to bringing world-class, patient-centered medi-

cal care to the region and establishing itself as a hub for advanced interventional procedures in future."

Self-defence instructor from Guwahati calls on LG Sinha



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, May 29: Ashmita Paul, a self-defence instructor from Guwahati, Assam, called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, on Thursday.

Paul is on a solo two-wheeler journey spanning from Guwahati to Kashmir to Kanyakumari, promoting the

cause of 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' initiative.

The Lieutenant Governor congratulated Ashmita Paul and extended his best wishes for her inspiring journey. He commended Paul's efforts to raise awareness on 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' initiative and her dedication to promoting girls' education and empowerment.

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