

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SUNDAY, JUNE 01, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### CBI arrests IRS officer in bribery case

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): The CBI has arrested Additional Director General Amit Kumar Singhal, who was posted at the Directorate of Taxpayer Services, for allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 25 lakh, officials said on Sunday. Singal, a 2007-batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service, had allegedly demanded a total bribe of Rs 45 lakh. The first instalment of Rs 25 lakh was being delivered to his residence in Mohali on Saturday, they said.

Following a complaint regarding the alleged demand, the CBI laid a trap and arrested a private individual, Harsh Kotak, while allegedly accepting the bribe on Singal's behalf at the officer's Mohali residence, officials added.

"The demand for the bribe was accompanied by threats of legal action, imposition of heavy penalties, and harassment in case of non-compliance," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

Singal was arrested from his residence in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. The CBI is conducting searches at multiple locations across Delhi, Punjab and Mumbai in connection with the case.

### Police books 'trouble monger' in Poonch

POONCH, Jun 1 (Agencies): In a move to maintain law and order in the society, the Jammu and Kashmir police on Sunday booked a person for attempting to disturb peace and social harmony in the society through the misuse of social media platforms. The person was identified as Ajaz Ahmad S/O Mohd Bashir Sheikh R/O village Salian, a police official said.

In a statement issued to the Greater Kashmir, police said, "To maintain law and order in the region, Ajaz Ahmad has been booked under preventive detention and sent to judicial lockup. This proactive measure underscores the commitment of the Poonch Police to ensuring public safety and security."

"This proactive step highlights the firm commitment of District Police Poonch towards maintaining communal harmony, public order, and the safety of all citizens," it added.

The general public is

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## "Our Criminal Justice system entering new era": Amit Shah emphasises evidence-based law and order

NANDED, May 26 (ANI): Union Home Minister Amit Shah addresses the gathering during 'BJP Shanknaad Jahir Sabha', in Nanded on Monday.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, on Sunday, said that the country's criminal justice system is entering a new era, underlining the importance of strong forensic institutions to ensure a secure, transparent, and evidence-based framework.

Amit Shah, who is on a two-day visit to West Bengal, inaugurated the new building of the Cen-



tral Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) at Rajarhat in Kolkata.

In his address after the inauguration, Shah said, "The Indian government is creating a

secure, transparent and evidence-based criminal justice system....it is necessary that those who stop crime should be two steps ahead of the

criminals. Our criminal justice system is entering a new era."

He further pointed out that the central government in 2020 established the first National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), way before the three new criminal laws – BNS, BNSS and BSA – came into force.

He highlighted that eight such institutions have already been established nationwide, with eight more planned, emphasizing that graduates from these colleges will play a vital role in

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## J&K Assembly Speaker to discuss functioning of house committees Tomorrow

9 chairpersons/chairmen, top officials to attend

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Speaker of the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly has convened a meeting with chairpersons of different House Committees on Monday. Fine dining reservations Jammu and Kashmir tourism



Sources said that Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather has called a meeting on Monday with heads of nine House Committees constituted recently to perform functions prescribed to them

under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in J&K Assembly. "The meeting would discuss functioning of the Financial and other committees," they said.

Those asked to attend the meeting include Sham Lal Sharma, Chairman Committee on Public Accounts; Shamim Firdous, Chairperson Committee on Estimates; Ali Mohammad Sagar, Chairman Committee on Public Undertakings; Sajad Gani Lone, Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances; Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami, Chairman Committee on Environment; Surjeet Singh Slatia,

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## Several deputations meet Minister Javed Rana



SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): Several deputations on Sunday met Minister Javed Ahmed Rana at his camp office, apprising him of their issues and seeking early redressal. The Minister listened attentively to their concerns and assured them that their issues would

be looked into and appropriate action would be taken.

A deputation of daily wagers from Poonch, working under the CAMPA scheme in Social Forestry since 2013, met the Minister and sought regularization of their services. The Minister assured

them that their demand would be considered taken for early resolution.

Another delegation of Kisan Khidmat Ghar, operating in Poonch district, met the Minister and sought financial support to cover operational costs, aiming to improve efficiency and community outreach.

The Minister assured the delegation that their demand would be examined and suitable action would be taken. Minister Javed Ahmed Rana assured both deputations that their concerns and issues would be addressed in a timely manner.

The deputations

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## J&K Police Chief visits Mata Kheer Bhawani Temple in Ganderbal ahead of Festival

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police chief Nalin Prabhat on Sunday visited the Mata Kheer Bhawani temple in Ganderbal to take stock of security arrangements for the upcoming fair there.

Kheer Bhawani mela will be held at five Ragnya Bhagwati shrines at Tulmulla in Ganderbal, Manzgam



and Devsar in Kulgam, Logripora in Anantnag

and Tikkar in Kupwara on Tuesday.

Amid tight security arrangements, hundreds of people, mostly Kashmiri Pandits, left for the Valley in a convoy of 60 buses early Sunday from here to take part in the Kheer Bhawani mela, one of the biggest religious functions of the community.

The director general of Jammu and Kashmir Police was

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## 7 active COVID-19 cases in J&K; 4 in Kashmir, 3 in Jammu

SRINAGAR, Jun 1 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir currently has seven active COVID-19 cases, with no new infection reported from the Kashmir division in the past two days, officials said on Sunday.

A senior health department official said that one local resident from Srinagar and an elderly man from Bandipora tested positive two days ago and remain under home isolation.

Earlier, two dental college students from Kerala had tested posi-



tive. "As of now, there are four active cases in Kashmir," the official said, adding that no fresh case has been reported from Kashmir in the past two days.

In Jammu division, the

remaining three active cases include a student from Reasi, one individual from the Bhabiana area of Jammu, and another from Kathua district, the official added.

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## Hundreds of Kashmiri Pandit devotees leave for Kheer Bhawani mela



JAMMU, Jun 1 (Agencies): Amid tight security arrangements, hundreds of people, mostly Kashmiri Pandits, left for the

Valley in a convoy of 60 buses early Sunday from here to take part in the Kheer Bhawani mela, one of the biggest

religious functions of the community.

Kheer Bhawani mela will be held at five Ragnya Bhagwati shrines at Tulmulla in Ganderbal, Manzgam and Devsar in Kulgam, Logripora in Anantnag and Tikkar in Kupwara on Tuesday.

The usual rush of devotees was missing this year, presumably due to the Pahalgam terror attack and the military

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# GupShup

## RESTAURANT

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**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief, we inform the untimely demise of Dear Julie Pandita (Dhar), W/o Sunil Dhar, R/o Jablipora, Bijbehara, district Anantnag at present H.No 55, Lane no 1 (Dr. Dhigra Gali) Amrit Vihar, Upper Barmal, Jammu, who left for heavenly abode on 27.05.2025.

The Tenth Day Kriya will be observed on 5th June 2025 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of school education Jammu. The Assembly will be held at 8:30 am, at Muthi Ghat.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt Reeta Dhar- Mother-in-Law  
Mr. Sunil Dhar- Husband (9906215971)  
Smt & Dr. Makhan Lal Dhar (9816054048)  
Smt & Sh Pran Nath Dhar (9419797047)  
Naman Dhar- Son  
Smt & Sh Shadi Lal Dhar (9816086946)  
Mrs. Rozy Dhar- Sister-in-Law (9906611154)  
Smt & Sh Ashok. K. Pandita (7607835776)  
Mr. Pawan Koul- Brother-in-Law  
Smt & Sh Sanjay Sadhu (9419182594)  
Smt & Sh Pirey Lal Dhar Smt & Sh Rakesh Bhat (9419149858)



Julie Pandita (Dhar)

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Smt. JAI KISHORI HANDOO (Draupadi Bakshi) W/o Late Sh Jia Lal Handoo erstwhile resident of Khah Bazar, Anantnag, Presently residing at H.No 40, Lane 2/3, Block -B, Roop Nagar Enclave, Jammu, who left for her heavenly abode on 24.05.2025.

MOURNING FROM MALUN PARIVAR will also be observed at the same address Roop Nagar enclave as mentioned above

The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at 8:30 AM on 2nd June 2025 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of Education Office) Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :-**

HANDOO, BAKSHI AND BHAT PARIVAR  
7006948922, 9419175482, 9419143078, 9419112496



SMT. JAI KISHORI HANDOO (DRAUPADI BAKSHI)

**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**

Prilma Devi - Wife  
Amesh Pandita - Son  
Shweta Pandita and Ashutosh Gupta - Daughter & Son in law  
Ph. 9419165983, 7006162450



Sh Ashoon Kumar

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY**

With Profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Shri Girdhari Lal Raina S/o Late Shri Shamboo Nath Raina Originally R/o Kanilbagh Baramulla on 28/05/2025 and presently residing at S 907, Eden, StoX, Godrej Garden City, Ahmedabad. The Tenth Day will be performed on 06/06/2025 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

**Grief Stricken**

Sunita Raina (Wife)  
Pankaj Raina (Son)  
Neeraj and Nisha Raina (Son and Daughter in law)  
Yashu (Grand Daughter)  
And Samast Parivar  
Contact: 9879882575, 9560780364.



Shri Girdhari Lal Raina

**KRIYA / UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Santosh Abrol W/o Late Sh. Kundan Lal Abrol R/o H. No 7 Lane No 32A, Near Govt High School Kaluchak, Greater Kailash, Jammu on 21st May 2025.

Kriya will be performed at our Residence at 12:00 Noon on 2nd of June 2025 (Monday).  
Uthala will be performed at Shiv Mandir, Sector 3, Trikuta Nagar from 05:00 PM to 06:00 PM on 2nd of June 2025 (Monday).

**Grief Stricken:**

(Daughter-in-law and Son):  
Smt. Nidhi & Sh. Parveen Kumar Abrol (Retd. AEE, PHE)  
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Vinay Abrol  
(Daughter and Son-in-law):  
Smt. Madhu & Dr. Ramesh Verma  
Smt. Pawan and Sh. Koshal Sawhney  
(Grand Daughter and Grand Son-in-law):  
Nivedita & Atul Gupta  
(Grand Daughter-in-law and Grand Son):  
Dr. Sonica & Rajat Verma  
Payal & Abhijeet Sawhney  
Aditya Sawhney  
Shreya & Shubham Abrol  
Shagun & Ayush Abrol  
(Great Grand Children):  
Aaradhya, Siddhant, Ayaan, Agastya  
Mobile: 9419124535, 9149516413, 8825043249, 7298967533  
M/s Abrol Mattresses Manufacturing Co



Smt. Santosh Abrol

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh Nikhil Raina S/o Lt. Smt Preetam Raina and Lt. Sh Avtar Krishan Raina originally resident of Ali Kadal Srinagar at present Khasra No. 150, Khata No. 701Khwat No. 7, Gurha Brahmana, Tehsil & Distt Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Muthi, Jammu on 2nd June 2025 (Monday) at 10.00 am.

**Grief Stricken**

Smt Anu Raina -Wife  
Sister & Brother-in-law  
Smt Sheena & Sh Abul Sanjeev Kumar  
Aunty & Uncle  
Smt Shanta Raina & Sh M L Raina  
Smt Isha Raina & Sh Ashok Raina  
Bua & Phufad  
Smt Asha Bhat & Lt. Sh O N Bhat  
Smt Girja Koul & Lt. Sh O N Koul  
Smt Sarla Bakshi & Lt. Sh Surinder Bakshi  
Mami & Mama  
Smt Santosh Padma & Lt. Sh Rishi Padma  
Smt Gyana Padma & Sh Nagesha Padma  
Smt Nisha Padma & Sh Neeraj Padma  
(Mourning from in laws is being held at Gurha Brahmana near Vasuki Nag Mandir)

**In laws**

Mother/Father-in-law  
Smt Sushma Devi & Sh Puran Gir  
Sister/Brother-in-law  
Smt Pooja Gir & Sh Rakesh Gir  
Smt Anju & Sh Shami Kumar  
Ms Meenakshi Gir -Sister-in-law  
Mob. No. 8899427009, 9682557588, 9596615146



SH NIKHIL RAINA

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

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

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

**Grief Stricken**

Son and Daughter in Law  
Late Sh. R.L Parimoo & Mrs. Veena Ji  
Daughters and Sons in Law  
Mrs. Duma Chhangoo & Late Sh. Manu ji Chhangoo  
Late Mrs. Promilla & M.L Daltari  
Mrs Nimi & A.K Razdan  
Mrs Jyoti & Late Kamlesh Bakaya  
Mrs Rozi & Ramesh Raina  
Nephews & Nieces  
Ravinder Misri & Mrs Veena  
Mrs Sweety & Ramesh Machama  
Grand Sons and Daughters in Law  
Dr. Vinod Daltari & Ms Sunaina  
Mr Piyush Bakaya  
Mr Ayush Bakaya



MRS. CHUNI DEVI PARIMOO

**TENTH DAY & KRIYA (BIRTHDAY)**

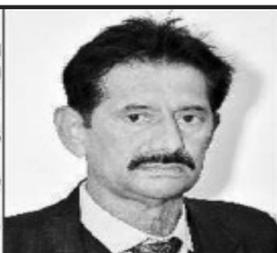
With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Karan Singh Sambyal S/o Late Sh. Uffam Singh Sambyal R/o Mandi Koti (A/P Link Road Samba).

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 & Viaansh



Sh. Karan Singh Sambyal

**10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and sudden demise of our beloved Smt. Shakuntla Gupta W/o Sh. Kasturi Lal Reghra (Chenani Wale) R/o 63 Gali Devi Dwara below Purnani Mandi, Jammu at present 149 A Rouli Bakshi Nagar, Jammu on 24/05/2025.

10th Day will be performed on 02/06/2025 (Monday) at Samriti Bhawan Bakshi Nagar, Jammu at 11 AM.  
Kriya on 5/6/25 (Thursday) at our residence 149 A, Rouli Bakshi Nagar.  
Uthala on 6/6/2025 (Friday) at Central Mahajan Sabha Shalamar Road Jammu from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sh. K.L. Gupta - Husband  
Sons & Daughters-in-law  
Mr. Raman & Mrs. Sapna Gupta  
Mr. Pawan & Mrs. Ritu Gupta  
Mrs. Anjali & Mr. Ramesh Gupta - Daughter & Son-in-law  
Parth, Vaibhav, Ananya, Abhey, Aryan, Namita, Satyam & Arya - Grand Children  
All Reghra & Phagotra Family  
M/s Chinar Advertising Agency, Exchange Road  
M/s Hotel Royal Inn, Moti Bazar Jammu  
M/s Shivam Provisional Store, Moti Bazar, Jammu  
M/s Shivam Advertising Agency, Moti Bazar, Jammu.  
Mobile: 9419187957, 9419197787, 9419162788



Smt. Shakuntla Gupta

**KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Vijay Kumar Gupta S/o Late Sh Durga Dass Gupta.

Kriya will be performed on 2-06-2025 (Monday) at our Residence Hno 84 Malhotra Street Jammu at 12:00 noon.

Uthala will be performed on May 2nd (Monday) From 4:00 Pm to 5:00 Pm at Mahajan Hall Shalamar Road Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Vinod Gupta (Wife)  
Son & Daughter in Law  
Mr Atin & Mrs Meenu Gupta (Daughter & Son in law)  
Mrs Surbhi & Lt Sh Sourab Gupta  
Mrs Suruchi & Mr Munish Bhagat (Brothers & Sister in law's)  
Late Sh Romesh Gupta & Late Smt Jiwan Asha  
Late Sh Sudesh Kumar  
Late Sh Ashok Gupta & Smt Chander Mohini Gupta (Sister & Brother in Law)  
Smt Nirmal Gupta & Sh Ashok Gupta  
Ph No:- 7780873929, 9796288258, 9086226216



Sh Vijay Kumar Gupta

**TENTH DAY/ KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of beloved Sh. Bodh Raj Sharma (Rtd. Assistant Manager, Super Bazar) S/o Lt Pt. Amar Nath Sharma (Kada Wale, City Chowk) R/o 16 Kailash Nagar, Opp. Govt. Guest House, Canal Road, Jammu on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2025

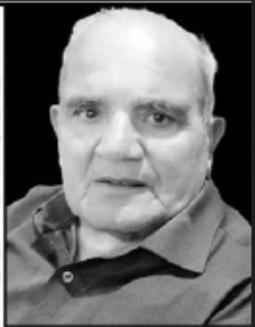
TENTH DAY will be performed at OM Palace, Shakti Nagar, Jammu on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025 (Sunday) at 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

KRIYA will be performed at our Residence on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 (Monday).

UTHALA will be performed at OM Palace, Shakti Nagar, Jammu on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 at 5:00 PM to 06:00 PM

**Grief Stricken:**

Daughters & Son-in-Law  
Smt. Ritu & Dr. Pawan Sharma  
Smt. Monika & Neeraj Khajuria  
Varun Sharma - Son  
Contact No.: 9796061862 8493029939



Sh. Bodh Raj Sharma (Rtd. Assistant Manager Super Bazar)

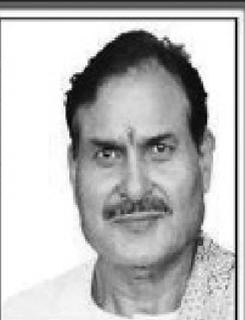
**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Maharaj Krishen Bhat S/o Sh. Ram Chand Bhat R/o Sirhama, Anantnag, Kashmir presently at H.No. 35/C, Om Nagar, Udhaywala, Bhorl, Jammu on 26th May 2025.

The TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 4th June 2025 (Wednesday) at Muthi Ghat, Near Director School Education, Jammu. Assembly will be held at 8:30 AM at the Ghat.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Wife -Smt. Veena Ji (Nirmala Ji)  
Son & Daughter in Law  
Samveer Bhat & Simran Bhat  
Babhi- Smt. Dulari Bhat  
Brother & Bhabhi  
Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat & Smt. Usha Bhat  
Brother in Law & Sister  
Sh. Prem Nath Raina & Smt. Binia Raina  
SAMAST BHAT PARIWAR (SIRHAMA), RAINA PARIWAR (SOMBRUN)  
KOUJ PARIWAR (HARDU TOORU)  
Family can be reached at  
Mob: 7006797161, 9797890011, 9018144919



Sh. Maharaj Krishen Bhat

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief we wish to inform you about the untimely demise of Shri Sushil Kumar Raina, resident of Adarsh Nagar, Bantala, Jammu, presently residing at 1406, Building 1, DB Ozone, Dahisar, Mumbai, on May 25.

The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be held on June 3 at Gaimukh Chowpaty, Ghodhunder Road, Thane West, between 9:30 am and 11 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Mrs Veena Raina (Wife)  
(Daughter-in-law and Son)  
Sonali & Ashish Raina  
Samast Raina, Tikoo & Kaul Parivar  
9419155815, 7006383267, 7045075927



Shri Sushil Kumar Raina

**10TH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad demise of Sh. Neelam Kumar S/o Late Sh. Amarnath Bali R/o Plot No.3, Lane No.19, Jawahar Nagar, New Plot, Jammu.

10th Day for the departed soul will be performed on 2nd June Monday at our residence at 10 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Darshna Devi - Wife  
Sh. Jugal Kishor Bali - Brother  
Smt. Sunita Malik - Sister  
Smt. Meenu Bakshi - Sister  
Smt. Rajni Bali  
Vipin Bali, Shivam Bali, Satyam Bali - Sons



SH. NEELAM KUMAR

**UTHALA**

With profound grief & deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Kamlesh Sabharwal (Bobby) W/o Lt. Suresh Sabharwal R/o 192 Near Park Resham Ghar, who left for her heavenly abode on 22nd May 2025.

Uthala will be performed at Shiv Durga Mandir Resham Ghar on 2 June 2025 (Monday) from 4 pm to 5 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Son & Daughter-in-law  
Sunny Sabharwal & Menu Sabharwal  
Daughter & Son-in-law  
Neeli Phool and Sunil Phool (Poonch Wala)  
Grand Children  
Gon Phool, Gungun Phool and Rakshit Sabharwal  
Sabharwal & Anand Family  
Ph. 7889938300, 7051378015



Smt. Kamlesh Sabharwal (Bobby)

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## Animal Husbandry Deptt Jammu celebrates World Milk Day

### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu celebrated the World Milk Day on Sunday with the theme "Let's celebrate the Power of Dairy".

Dr. Parvinder Singh, Director Animal Husbandry Department Jammu was the Chief Guest on the occasion accompanied by Dr. Zahid Saleem, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Jammu.

Dr. Parvinder Singh was welcomed by the officers and lot of dairy farmers who were present on the occasion. Sandeep Chib, President Dairy Association Jammu presented the memento on behalf Dairy Farmers to Director Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu and Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Jammu and thanks the department for giving the benefits to the farmers in dairy sector including Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Inte-



grated Dairy Development Scheme (IDDS) and other schemes of the department.

On the occasion, Dr. Zaffar Iqbal, Livestock Development Officer, Jammu briefly explained the theme and importance of World Milk Day "Let's celebrate the Power of Dairy" to the farmers. Dr. Anjal Kumar, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Gajansoo also explained various schemes to the farmers under HADP & IDDS on the eve of World Milk Day. After that, Dr. Parvinder Singh appreciated the dairy farmers for taking benefits of various departmental schemes

and announced that milk production has been remarkably increased in the last five years. No liquid/raw milk is being imported in the Union Territory of J&K. J&K now exports the milk to other neighbouring states, however dairy animals are being inducted for establishment of dairy farms under IDDS Scheme. J&K is in the process of boosting dairy sector & under HADP/other dairy related schemes it is expected to grow @7.5 % Per Annum. Director Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu also explained that Milk production in

2015 was 827.25 Thousand Metric Tonnes, Per capita. Milk availability in India was 471 gm and in J&K was 577 gm/day as per NDDDB, MoDAHD&F, Gol data for year 2023-24. Milk Production in Jammu Division in the year 2020 was 1286.86 Thousand Metric Tonnes. Milk villages in Jammu province are 07 approved in no.'s, in 20th Livestock Census population (including buffaloes)- 20.03 lacs in Jammu Division, the Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu has established 5228 units during last 5 years, 81 milk collection units, 19 milk processing units,

135 Heifer Rearing units established in Dairy Development in J&K under HADP Scheme in Jammu Division, In J&K, milk production in 2015 was 2273 Thousand metric tonnes, In 2020 was 2506 be Thousand Metric Tonnes and in 2023-24 was 2875 Thousand Metric Tonnes as per the NDDDB, MoAHD&F, Gol Data.

The Director Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu also expressed satisfaction over the manner in which department is implementing various schemes under HADP and IDDS at grass root levels which is benefitting the dairy farmers through employment generation and income enhancement.

During the occasion, Dr. HP Singh, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Gujjar Colony, Dr. Shadab Hussain, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Narwal Bala, Dr. Sudhir Langeh, Technical Officer to CAHO Jammu and other officers/officials of Jammu District were also present.

## GGF J&K dispatches 3rd consignment of Relief for Poonch



### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Gandhi Global Family (GGF), in collaboration with several civil society organizations, on Saturday dispatched the third consignment of relief material for families affected by Pakistani shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch districts.

The consignment will be officially handed over to the respective District Administrations in Poonch. The relief material was collectively arranged by GGF J&K, Mission Peace & Compassion Healing the Wounded Humanity headed by Father Yasudeep Sandhu Director Little Flower School Udhampur, Shiksha Niketan School Jeevan Nagar, Jammu headed by Rameshwar Mengi, Lawrence Public School Sidhra Jammu headed

by Manish Joshi, News 4 You Channel headed by Naresh Maini, Unnat NGO headed by Ankush Abrol and Dr. Monica Narang from University of Jammu. It includes biscuits, maggi, grocery kits, sanitary napkins for women and sports items for children. This symbolic consignment was jointly handed over by prominent members of all supporting organizations headed by GGF J&K President Dr. S. P. Varma to Dr. Nitan Sharma, General Secretary, GGF Jammu region.

The event witnessed the presence of academicians such as Prof. Lalit Sen Sharma (Provost, Boys Hostel), Dr. Surinder Sharma (Warden), Dr. Rajesh Sharma & Dr. Satya Priya (Warden).

Also present were senior members of Gandhi Global Family

J&K, including Dr. Dinesh Gupta General Secretary GGF J&K, Manish Joshi Secretary GGF J&K, Ved Prakash President GGF Jammu Urban, Kirtan Singh Advisor GGF Jammu Urban, Gurmeet Singh President GGF Jammu Border and Naresh Maini Coordinator Media Incharge GGF Jammu.

Dr. S. P. Varma expressed gratitude for the timely support extended by all the donors for their generous contribution toward the affected families.

He also urged more individuals and organizations to come forward and support those impacted along the LoC.

The relief material was handed over in presence of members of Gandhi Global Family who joined virtually and volunteers of Boys Hostel, University of Jammu.

## Mindhāl Mata Chandi Yatra commences



### Top News Report

DODA, June 1: The revered Mindhal Mata Chandi Yatra commenced on June 1, 2025, with immense spiritual fervor and participation from thousands of devotees across Jammu and Kashmir. Organized by

the Aadi Shakti Devi Chandike Sewak Sanstha (ASDCSS), Doda (J&K), the yatra marks the sacred journey from Maa Chandi Mandir Balasu, Doda to the holy shrine at Mindhal in Himachal Pradesh.

The holy Charri Mubarak was flagged off from Doda on June

1 by ADC Doda, Sh. Anil Kotwal, in the presence of religious leaders and hundreds of pilgrims. The Charri is being led by Sh. Pyar Singh Ji, Maa Sewak and Chief Patron of the Sanstha, under the spiritual guidance of Prof. D.S. Manhas, President ASDCSS.

The Yatra schedule includes night halts at key spiritual locations including Gauri Shanker Mandir, Kishtwar.

Thousands of yatis are part of this divine journey, being provided with langar, medical facilities, and all necessary amenities by the Sanstha in collaboration with various regional Langer Committees and temple trusts.

The District Administration of Doda, in coordination with the Sanstha and local stakeholders, has made elaborate arrangements to ensure the safe and smooth conduct of the yatra. The contribution of the civil and police administration has been widely appreciated for their seamless coordination.

The six-day spiritual journey will culminate at the Mindhal Mata Temple in Himachal Pradesh on June 6, 2025, with the final darshan and religious rituals being performed at the sacred shrine.

ASDCSS has extended gratitude to all volunteers, district officials, donors, and the devotees for their unwavering support and cooperation.

The yatra is not only a spiritual expedition but

also a symbol of the rich cultural and religious heritage of the region.

For more details and contact information, devotees may refer to the official list of regional coordinators or connect directly with the ASDCSS Doda office.

## AAP demonstrates in support of Mehraj Malik, raises water problem of people of Ranjan village of Nagrota

### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Under the leadership of senior Aam Aadmi Party leader and in-charge of Nagrota Assembly Amit Kapoor, Aam Aadmi Party leaders and workers today demonstrated vigorously in support of their state president and Doda MLA Mehraj Malik outside the Press Club in Jammu and demanded a high level investigation into the allegations leveled by him against Dr. Madhu of GMC Hospital, Doda. Along with this, they raised the issue of people not getting drinking water in Ranjan village of Nagrota Assembly constituency and warned the Chief Engineer of PHE department that if this basic issue of the people is not resolved immediately, a big movement will be started against it.

Let us tell you that despite the rain this morning, supporters and leaders of Aam Aadmi Party from different areas of Jammu gathered outside the Press Club Jammu and demonstrated vigorously on these issues under the leadership of senior party leader Amit Kapoor. During this time, a large number of policemen were deployed to foil the protest, but despite this, AAP



leaders and workers protested vigorously. Addressing the protesters, Amit Kapoor demanded withdrawal of the FIR lodged against Doda MLA and party president Mehraj Malik and a high-level investigation into the benefits obtained by him by making fake RBA certificate against Dr. Madhu. Along with this, he also demanded the dismissal of Dr. Madhu. Along with this, he also raised the issue of drinking water problem of the people of village Ranjan of Nagrota assembly constituency and warned the Chief Engineer of PHE that if this problem of the people is not resolved,

then Aam Aadmi Party will start a big movement against it and the government will be completely responsible for the situation arising out of it.

During the demonstration, senior party leader Amit Kapoor along with Engineer Harpreet Singh, Yasir Mattoo, Sujjan Singh, Gurmeet Singh, Adv. Sandeep Gupta, Suresh Bhagat, Amrik Singh, Virji Kachru, Joginder Singh, Ranjeet Singh Goldy, Mohammad Shakeel, Harbhajan Singh, Gagan Singh and other leaders were present along with a large number of women.

## IYA & IIMUN conclude transformative Yoga Conference 2025 at Doon International School

### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: A powerful and transformative three-day Yoga Conference 2025, jointly organized by the Indian Yoga Association (IYA) and India's International Movement to Unite Nations (IIMUN), concluded at Doon International School, Chowadhi, Jammu. Focused on the theme "Stress Management among Youth (18-20 Years) through Yoga, Naturopathy, and Lifestyle Changes," the event aimed to equip young minds with practical tools to combat psychological stress and lead a balanced life.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and Chairman of IYA (J&K UT Chapter), who served as the Chief Guest. In his opening address, Dr. Jain elaborated on the vision and mission of IYA, emphasizing its goal to unite all streams of yoga under one national platform, standardize yoga education, promote scientific research in yoga, and enhance mental health through traditional practices.

The IYA team present at the event included prominent members such as Sudha Chander Sharma (Joint Secretary, IYA), Angrej Singh, Yesh Paul Sharma, Abhinandan Jain, Rajeev Gupta, Kanupriya Garg, Anju Bansal, and Rajni Bala. A variety of sessions were held throughout the conference, each tailored to address specific aspects of youth stress and well-being.

In his keynote address titled "Understanding and Managing



Student Stress," Dr. Jain explained the emotional and academic pressures faced by students in the 18-20 age group. He underscored the role of yoga, pranayama, and holistic lifestyle changes in reducing anxiety and improving concentration and emotional resilience.

The event featured live yoga demonstrations conducted by Angrej Singh and Renu Thaper, who introduced foundational asanas like Tadasana, Vrikshasana, Bhujangasana, and Paschimottanasana. These were followed by a session on pranayama and breathing techniques led by Kanupriya Garg, who demonstrated the calming benefits of Anulom-Vilom, Bhramari, and Kapalabhati.

A collective meditation session, led by Sudha Chander Sharma, focused on inner peace and emotional balance. The spiritual ambiance was further enhanced by a soulful bhajan presented by Anju Bala, which left the audience reflective and calm. Additionally, practical guidance on naturopathy and lifestyle management was offered, with an emphasis on nutrition, digital well-being, sleep routines, and self-expression.

The IIMUN team, comprising Issa, Maryam (Assistant Director), and Ehsan (Director), actively participated in coordinating and engaging with the students. A felicitation ceremony was held in honor of Dr. Jain, acknowledging his leadership and unwavering dedication to the well-being of India's youth.

Founded in 2008 and headquartered in New Delhi, the Indian Yoga Association operates under the guidance of Swami Chidanand Saraswati, President of Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh. The IYA works in collaboration with esteemed organizations such as Patanjali Yogpeeth, S-VYASA, The Yoga Institute (Mumbai), and international bodies like the WHO and the Ministry of AYUSH.

The Yoga Conference 2025 was more than an educational program—it was a movement toward self-realization, emotional intelligence, and inner transformation. With leadership from IYA and IIMUN, the youth of Jammu were inspired to adopt yoga not just as a physical practice, but as a way of life for enduring clarity, strength, and peace.

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI PHE (M) DIVISION KATHUA**

Tele/Fax: 01922-237825/E-Mail - [phejmundkathua@gmail.com](mailto:phejmundkathua@gmail.com)

**Extension notice-I**  
**e- NIT No. 29/JSPHEMK dated: 24-05-2025 Due on 30-05-2025**

Due to poor response the last date for uploading of tender documents and opening of tenderers vide e-NIT No.29/JSPHEMK dated 24-05-2025 Due on 30-05-2025 issued vide No:-JSPHEMK/676-88 dated 24-05-2025 for Fabrication and erection of iron sheet shed & other allied works under WSS KohagLahari, is hereby extended as under:-

Last date for uploading of tender document	04-06-2025 upto 04:00 PM
Last date for opening of tender document	05-06-2025 upto 01:00 PM

All other terms and conditions of NIT's referred above shall remain the same.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division  
Kathua

No:-JSPHEMK/824-36 DIP/J-1680/25  
Dated 30-05-2025

## EDITORIAL

GLOBAL SUPPORT  
AGAINST TERRORISM

India's persistent and firm stance against terrorism has increasingly found resonance on the global stage, as more countries and international organizations recognize the grave threat that terrorism poses to peace, stability, and development. Over the past few years, India has taken several strategic steps to not only safeguard its national security but also to lead international efforts to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

India has consistently used global platforms such as the United Nations, G20, BRICS, SCO, and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to call for collective global action against terrorism. At the UN General Assembly and Security Council, Indian representatives have reiterated that terrorism is one of the most serious threats to humanity, requiring zero tolerance and unified international cooperation. India has urged the global community to adopt the long-pending Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT), which aims to define terrorism and streamline international efforts to fight it.

At the recent SCO Summit and BRICS forums, India reiterated that terrorism, including cross-border terrorism, must be tackled through coordinated intelligence sharing, capacity building, and blocking financial and logistical support. India has also emphasized the need to hold state sponsors of terrorism accountable, a reference to Pakistan's support for terror groups operating in Kashmir and beyond.

India's tireless diplomatic efforts have resulted in growing international support. Key countries such as the United States, France, Russia, Japan, and Australia have strongly backed India's stand. The U.S. has designated several Pakistan-based terrorists as global terrorists under its domestic laws and has supported India's right to defend itself against terror attacks.

France, a long-time strategic partner, has repeatedly condemned terrorism against India and backed the listing of Pakistan-based terrorists like Masood Azhar under the UN Security Council's sanctions list. Russia has extended military cooperation and intelligence-sharing support to India to enhance its counter-terrorism capabilities.

Australia and Japan, as members of the Quad group alongside the U.S. and India, have stressed the importance of a free and secure Indo-Pacific, with coordinated efforts to tackle non-traditional security threats like terrorism. The UAE and Saudi Arabia, influential players in the Gulf, have also shown solidarity with India's stance, condemning terror attacks and urging peace and stability in South Asia.

India's pressure on the global community to act against financial networks of terrorist groups has gained momentum, especially through the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), an international watchdog on terror financing. Pakistan, long accused of providing safe havens to terror outfits, was placed on FATF's grey list due to India's persistent advocacy, compelling it to take action against some terror groups and their financing structures.

India has also actively worked with the UN to strengthen counter-terror mechanisms. It hosted the special meeting of the UN Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee in October 2022, where issues like misuse of emerging technologies by terrorists were discussed. India has contributed to UN trust funds and capacity-building programs for counter-terrorism in other developing countries.

India has bolstered its own capabilities to fight terrorism, both domestically and through international cooperation. It has strengthened counter-terrorism forces like the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and improved border management through better surveillance and intelligence networks. India has entered into mutual legal assistance treaties (MLATs) and extradition agreements with several countries to facilitate action against terrorists hiding abroad.

Joint counter-terrorism exercises and intelligence sharing agreements have been signed with numerous nations. Indo-U.S. and Indo-Russian joint training programs for anti-terror operations have improved interoperability and readiness. India has also increased cyber security measures to counter online radicalization and propaganda.

Apart from government efforts, India has used public diplomacy to highlight the human cost of terrorism. India has organized global conferences, exhibitions, and academic forums to narrate the stories of victims and create awareness about cross-border terrorism, particularly in Kashmir. These efforts have led to greater international understanding of India's security challenges and the need to isolate and penalize countries supporting terrorism.

India also played a leading role in initiating the "No Money for Terror" Ministerial Conference, pushing for stronger financial action against terror funding networks. This initiative brought together more than 75 countries who pledged to enhance cooperation on tracing and freezing terrorist assets.

With growing backing from major powers and multilateral forums, India is not only defending its own citizens but also helping shape a global consensus that terrorism in any form is unacceptable and must be fought with unity, resolve, and concrete action.

## Education reform needed for digital age success

By: Vijay Garg

To thrive in the digital age, education systems worldwide must undergo comprehensive reforms that integrate technology, foster essential skills, and ensure equitable access. Here's how countries are adapting and what steps are crucial for future-ready education:

## Embracing Technology in Education

## 1. Integrating AI and Digital Tools

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing classrooms by reducing administrative burdens on teachers, allowing them to focus more on instruction. In Australia, AI tools have streamlined tasks like lesson planning and grading, leading to improved student engagement and learning outcomes.

Estonia stands out by providing personal AI accounts to students and teachers, promoting self-directed learning and digital literacy. Their approach emphasizes pragmatic use of smartphones in education rather than outright bans.

## 2. Expanding Vocational and Skill-Based Education In India, the Director-

ate of Education in Delhi has introduced vocational courses in 257 additional government schools, covering areas like IT, AI, and entrepreneurship. This initiative aims to align education with industry needs, though challenges like teacher shortages and infrastructure gaps remain.

## Evolving Teaching and Learning Models

## 1. Blended Learning Approaches

Blended learning, which combines online and face-to-face instruction, offers flexibility and personalized learning experiences. This model has been effective in enhancing student achievement and engagement.

## 2. Teacher Training and Support

For successful digital integration, continuous professional development for educators is essential. Training programs focusing on digital ethics, self-directed learning, and educational equity are being implemented to equip teachers for the evolving educational landscape.

## Addressing Equity and Access

## 1. Bridging the Digital Divide

The digital divide remains a significant barrier, especially for students in underserved communities. In the U.S., approximately 50% of students report being unable to complete homework due to lack of internet access or devices. Initiatives like providing free high-speed internet and devices are crucial steps toward equitable education.

## 2. Personalized Learning for Rural Areas

Platforms like MindCraft in India leverage AI to offer personalized learning and mentorship for rural students, aiming to bridge educational gaps and promote inclusivity.

## Ensuring Safe Digital Environments

With increased digital integration, safeguarding students and teachers from cyber threats is paramount. In Australia, concerns over cyber abuse have led to calls for stricter controls on digital device usage in schools and the development of national anti-bullying measures.

## Steps Toward Future-Ready Education

To effectively reform education for the digital age:

## Curriculum Alignment:

Collaborate with industry experts to ensure curricula meet current market demands.

Infrastructure Investment: Enhance digital infrastructure, especially in underserved areas, to provide equitable access.

Professional Development: Offer ongoing training for educators to adapt to new technologies and teaching methods.

Policy Implementation: Develop and enforce policies that protect students and teachers in digital environments.

Community Engagement: Involve stakeholders, including parents and local communities, in the reform process to ensure holistic development.

By embracing these strategies, education systems can better prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the digital era.

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

## BJP's Clampdown from its Earlier Stand on Caste Census

By: Omkar Dattatray

BJP the right-wing Hindutva party has finally come down from its stated stand and position on caste census. For political expediency and solely for vote bank politics, BJP has gradually and slowly and steadily clampdown for its ideological stand that caste census will amount to division of the Hindu society. Now BJP has second thought and it is trying to come closer to the Scheduled, Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes in order to leech to the power as it fully realises that it is the majority and dominant vote share of the ST, SC, and OBC's that have dominant impact upon politics and the political fortunes of a political party hinges on caste equations and caste politics. So all most all political parties are favouring caste census as caste politics seem ingrained in the blood and flesh of political outfits and now the BJP does not feel shy of advocating caste enumeration in the forthcoming census of India. It seems that by propounding caste census and showing interest in the welfare of SC, ST and OBC's and going all out for caste census, BJP is giving the impression that it is a party of not rich and upper castes only but is equally if not more the party which cares for the interests of the marginalized sections of the society. By announcing that BJP also stands for caste census, it dispels the impression that it is the party of neo-rich people. BJP in fact has climbed down from its earlier stand that caste census will give rise to unwanted division in Hindu community and that was the reason behind BJP's not supporting rather opposing

caste census up to 2024, as it was as late as March 2025 that BJP started to give vent to the feeling that it wants to ensure the interests of all the marginalised sections of the society. It is however, uncertain how much will the shifting stand of Saffron party viz a viz the caste census helps the party electrically. However, it may fetch some electoral dividends to BJP in the general elections slanted in 2029. Agreed if the shifting of stand towards the caste census and caste politics will not propel BJP to power again on the support of the votes from lower classes, the charismatic and popular leadership of the BJP/NDA will definitely turn the political tide in favour of the Hindutva party in 2029 general elections. It is in the fitness of things to mention here that more than religion religious affiliations; it is the caste politics and caste syndrome which hugely impacts the outcome of all polls in Indian democracy. It is because of this fact and its understanding and realisation which forces all the political parties including die-hard opponents of caste census and caste politics to come closer to lower castes and all marginalized sections of the Indian society. Thus, presently all political parties and even the BJP is going a step forward in announcing the inclusion of caste enumeration in the forthcoming census of the country. In fact, it can be said that BJP has stolen the agenda of caste census from the opposition parties and it has stepped into the shoes of Opposition parties and is now from some time advocating caste census to get the lower castes rid of some problems. But the moot question is how will the affirmative stance of the saffron party with regard to caste census

help the Hindutva party to consolidate votes in a caste ridden society. However, one thing is certain that by becoming the messiah of all the marginalized sections of the society, the BJP is coming nearer to the people rather voters of all lower classes of the people and such a modified attitude towards the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes will definitely bring BJP nearer to the lower classes and gain the support and backing of these lower sections of the population. BJP and its ideological mentor RSS have realised that to be relevant in the caste ridden Indian society, there is no other way but to come closer to the lower classes of people and all marginalised sections of the population. So, the BJP has shunned its opposition to caste politics and has made it crystal clear that caste enumeration will be included in the census of the country. This changed attitude towards lower castes and caste census is in fact U-turn of BJP on its earlier stand and ideology of the Saffron party and the party expects to gain the sympathy of lower castes and it will also nullify the wrong impression that BJP is the party of the haves only while the fact is that it is the party of all the people of India and its pro-rich tag stands obliterated with the BJP announcing that it stands for the enumeration of the caste census in the general census of the country. Caste census will help the powers to know the plight of all marginalized sections of the society including the lower castes and then programmes and schemes for the economic, political and social development of SC, ST and OBC's will be framed accordingly to benefit these sections of the people. This

way inclusive ethos of the country will also get a boost as caste census will help inclusivity of the all marginalised and lower sections of the population. We have to lift the lower classes of our population, there is no way out from caste census and it has to be included in the population census so that schemes of development will be framed keeping the lives of marginalised sections of the society into consideration. Caste census will not divide our society but it will help in national unity and national integrity as lower castes will have a sense of belongingness thus realising the dream and vision of Inclusive and Viksit Bharat which is the vision and dream of our beloved Prime minister Narendra Modi. In fact, no section of our population should remain aloof from development and thus the fruits of development and progress should reach to the last man in the queue and for this the government should know the statistics regarding all sections of the people and no section should be left behind from our national five-year economic planning. The surest way is to enumerate the data regarding the lower sections of our society so that they also will be developed along with other sections of the people. Thus, there is no sense in opposing caste census and this has now been realised by the BJP and hence their support for caste census.

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

## Army conduct Rock Craft Training for youth of Dras



### Top News Report

LEH, June 1: The Rock Craft and Rappelling Camp 2025, hosted at the prestigious Kargil Battle School from 26 May to 31 May 2025, concluded with resounding success today, leaving behind a trail of empowerment, courage and a growing spirit of adventure among the youth of Kargil and surrounding regions.

This remarkable initiative brought together enthusiastic community youth, who stepped up to challenge their physical limits and develop essential mountaineering skills under the guidance of High Altitude Warfare School (HAWS) qualified Army instructors and trained local mentors. Over six days, participants underwent rigorous hands-on training in rock climb-

ing techniques, safety protocols, endurance-building activities.

The camp was more than just a training ground- it became a powerful bridge between the Indian Army and local community, strengthening mutual trust and collaboration. The trainers didn't just teach climbing techniques: they shared stories of grit and survival techniques to build a shared vision for Dras as a future hub of adventure tourism.

The closing ceremony was marked by heartfelt speeches from the young climbers, many of whom expressed their gratitude for this life-changing opportunity to achieve personal growth & as employment opportunity.

Several participants shared aspirations of taking their climbing

journey to professional heights, with dreams of representing the region in national and international mountaineering events.

This initiative has not only equipped the youth with technical skills but also instilled in them a spirit of resilience, teamwork and self-confidence.

With growing interest in adventure sports, such initiatives promise a brighter future for Dras- one where the peaks aren't just nature wonders, but platforms for local dreams to soar.

As the final ropes are packed and chalk settles on the rugged rocks of Kargil Battle School, the Rock Craft and Rappelling Camp 2025 leaves behind more than memories- it plants the seed of an enduring adventure culture in the hearts of youth from Dras.

## AJBRCEAK pays tribute to Bhagat Amarnath, reiterates for implementation of reservation in promotion in J&K

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, June 1: The All Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees Association Kashmir (AJBRCEAK) on Sunday paid a solemn and rich tribute to Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath on his Shaheed Diwas at Raj Bagh Srinagar.

The commemorative event saw the presence of hundreds of Jammu-based employees serving in Kashmir, all gathered under the chairmanship of Vipen Kumar. He reiterated that fight of Shaheed Amarnath Bhagat for implementation of Reservation rules in J&K. His sacrifice continues to resonate deeply



within the community, serving as a poignant reminder of the challenges faced by employees in JKUT.

In his heartfelt statement, Chairman Vipen Kumar lauded Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath's unwavering dedication and paid tribute to his martyrdom. He high-

lighted that the most fitting and meaningful tribute to such a noble soul would be the immediate notification and implementation of Reservation in Promotion.

Kumar underscored that the demand for restoration of Reservation in Promotion is not merely an admin-

istrative request but is deeply intertwined with the sentiments and well-being of the entire community.

"Notification of reservation in promotion will be the real tribute to a noble soul.

The association believes that such a reservation policy is

essential for maintaining morale and ensuring a conducive working environment.

Among the prominent members present at the occasion were Navneet Kundal, Vice President AJBRCEAK; Yashpal Bhagat, General Secretary; Lalit Kumar, Legal Advisor; Vice President Naveen Kumar, joint Secretary Jairmail Singh, Treasurer; Shashi Goutam, Advisor AJBRCEAK; and Vijay Dutt, Joint Secretary, along with other esteemed executive members.

The AJBRCEAK vowed to continue its efforts until the Reservation in Promotion is not restored in the JKUT.

## Nirjala Ekadashi on June 6, 7; Fasting symbolizes self-restraint and spiritual discipline: Mahant Rohit Shastri

### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Nirjala Ekadashi, one of the most significant and spiritually powerful fasts in the Hindu calendar, will be observed this year on Friday, 6th June by followers of the Smarata Sampradaya (general householders) and on Saturday, 7th June by those of the Vaishnava Sampradaya.

The Ekadashi tithi begins at 2:17 AM on 6th June and ends at 4:49 AM on 7th June. Since the tithi prevails at sunrise on 6th June, Smarata followers will observe the fast on that day, while Vaishnavas will follow it on the next.

Highlighting the spiritual and health benefits of the Nirjala Ekadashi vrat, Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, emphasized that the fast promotes mental discipline and self-restraint. It is also believed to offer longevity, immense spiritual merit (punya), and moksha (liberation from the cycle of birth and death).

The fast, known for its strictness, involves complete abstinence from food and water, hence the name 'Nir-

jala', meaning 'without water'. It is also referred to as Pandava Ekadashi or Bhimasena Ekadashi, after the Mahabharata character Bhima, who was advised by Sage Vedavyasa to observe this singular Ekadashi for gaining the benefits of all the other Ekadashis in the year.

Mahant Shastri explained that those who have taken initiation (diksha) from Smarata Gurus should fast on 6th June, while those initiated by Vaishnava Gurus—who typically wear Tulsi malas and mark their bodies with Chandan or Gopi Chandan—should observe the fast on 7th June.

According to scriptures such as the Padma Purana, observing this fast grants spiritual benefits equivalent to bathing in all sacred rivers and visiting all holy pilgrimage sites. Devotees mark the day with chanting of "Om Namo Vasudevaya", worship of Lakshmi-Narayana, and acts of charity.

Donations made on Nirjala Ekadashi are considered especially meritorious. Items such as umbrellas, water pots, amla (gooseberries), melons, mangoes, hand fans, clothes, barley, and even cows

are traditionally donated to Brahmins and the needy, along with sweets (mishtanna) and monetary offerings (dakshina).

The rituals begin on Dashami, the day before Ekadashi, with consumption of only satvik (pure vegetarian) food. On the day of the fast, devotees take a holy bath, offer water to the Sun, take a vow of fasting (sankalp), and worship Lakshmi-Narayana. Elaborate pujas are performed using traditional Shodashopachar methods, which include 16 offerings to the deities.

After a day of strict fasting, fruits (phalahar) may be consumed in the

evening post worship. The fast is broken on the next day, Dwadashi, by feeding Brahmins or the needy and offering proper dakshina.

Mahant Shastri reminded devotees to avoid tamasic food, intoxicants, anger, falsehoods, and physical indulgences during the fast. He also emphasized not to wear black, cut hair or nails, or wear leather items on this day. Hurting others' feelings is considered especially sinful during this vrat.

In many places, chabeels (stalls offering sweetened water) are set up as acts of service. Bathing in holy rivers, charity, and mantra



chanting form an integral part of the observance.

This deeply revered vrat serves not only as a powerful spiritual practice but also as a means to cleanse the mind and rejuvenate the body, instilling values of compassion, discipline, and service in everyday life.

## DBPS celebrates Birth Anniversary of Acharya Chanakya



### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: The Brahmin Community, Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha (DBPS) Organization all over the region today celebrated the Birth Anniversary of Acharya Chanakya in the name of Vishwa Brahman Divas to remember the contribution of the Brahmin Community with fervour and enthusiasm.

A function was organized by the DBPS in the premises of the sabha under the presidency of Ved Parkash Sharma said that Vishwa Brahmin Divas is a Hindu Celebration to commemorate the pride of Brahmin Communities in the Hindu Tradition.

Speaking on the occasion, chairman of DBPS Advocate P.C. Sharma pointed out that translation of Vishwa Brahmin Divas is World Brahmin Day. It is celebrated on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the Indian Philosopher cum diplomat Acharya Chanakya, he added.

NMC President Subash Shastri, former Dy. Commissioner B.S.

Janmal that the actual birth date of Acharya Chanakya Janmotsav on 1st June as his symbolic birth anniversary Acharya Chanakya is considered as the pride and ideals of Indian Politics.

Senior BJP Leader Chander Mohan Sharma, Bawa Bhair Dev Sathan Trust General Secretary Romesh Sharma and Former JMC Commissioner Soujanya Sharma while paying rich tributes to Acharya Chanakya said that he was an accomplished politician, diplomat and strategist as well as the author of Indian Text Arthashastra.

Among others who paid their tribute included N.C. Sharma, M.L. Sharma, Satyanand Sharma, M.L. Padha, Pt. Barita Ram, Ritiz Khajuria, Shiv Ram Sharma, Jagan Nath Sharma, K.L. Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, Davinder Sharma (Baboo), S.S. Baru, Gurdass Sharma, Sat Paul Sharma, Raman Sharma, Som Nath Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, Prem Balotra, Sanjeev Keri, Krishan Lal Sharma, Girdhari

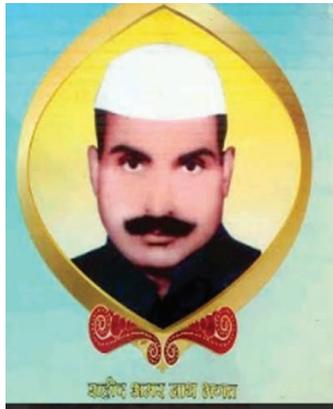
Lal, said that Acharya Chanakya also called Kautilya because of his deep understanding of various subjects. Beside that Acharya Chanakya Challisa, Hawan Yajna were also performed on the occasion.

## Tributes paid to Shaheed Bhagat Amar Nath on his Balidan Diwas

### Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Various social and political activists paid tributes to Shaheed Bhagat Amar Nath here today and said, Real heroes never die; they live on in our hearts and memories.

BJP activist R.L. Kaith while paying heartfelt tribute said that the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir State when came into force on January 26, 1957 was silent over any provision relating to reservation in services and posts for the Scheduled Castes. There was a great resentment among members of the Scheduled Castes. Then a strong leader Bhagat Amar Nath came to the fore and began a fast unto death to get a provision of reservation in J&K State legislature and Govt services for Scheduled Castes. Unfortunately, on June 1, 1970, Bhagat Amar Nath breathed his last and immediately after that, the then J&K State Government accepted the proposal and announced reservation for the Scheduled Castes both in State legislature and Government services.



Prominent among those who paid tributes included RTI India Newa Channel Sansar Singh Motan, Hans Raj Loria, Sub Inspector retired Darshan Kumar Bassa, Subedar Baldev Chand Sandhu (Retd), Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Tilak Raj Bassa and Jagdish Raj Kaith.

## GDC Budhal takes a stand against drug abuse



### Top News Report

BUDHAL, June 1: As part of the nationwide initiative Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (Drug-Free India Campaign), the NSS Unit of Government Degree College Budhal organized a pledge ceremony on Sunday to spread awareness against drug abuse and to motivate youth to stay away from substance use.

The event was conducted in the college premises and witnessed enthusiastic participation from students.

The ceremony commenced with a brief

introduction by Prof. Tahir Nadeem, the NSS Programme Officer of the College, who highlighted the objectives of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, emphasizing the importance of collective efforts in eradicating the menace of drug addiction, particularly among the younger generation.

He encouraged students to act as ambassadors of change and to sensitize their peers and communities regarding the harmful effects of drug abuse.

Following the introductory remarks, all participants stood together

to take the anti-drug pledge.

The pledge was read aloud by Mehak Naseer, a senior NSS volunteer, and the gathering repeated it in unison, committing themselves to lead a healthy, drug-free life and to motivate others to do the same.

The College Principal, Prof. Manzoor Ahmed Dar, appreciated the NSS Unit for organizing such a meaningful and socially relevant event.

He stressed the need for awareness, counseling and active youth participation in this national campaign.

## Anupam Kher, victim of terrorism, applauds Operation Sindoor: Felt vindicated

Actor Anupam Kher spoke about his personal experience with terrorism, describing himself and his family as victims. He recalled the plight of Kashmiri Pandits who were forced to leave their homes on the night of January 19, 1990. Speaking exclusively to agency, the actor-director also commended the Narendra Modi-led government's Operation Sindoor, an attack against terror bases in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Kher expressed his feelings of anger rather than helplessness, especially after seeing distressing visuals such as a woman sitting beside her deceased husband during the Pahalgam attack on April 22. He said seeing the distressing images evoked anger in him like that of any common Indian.

"I am a victim of terrorism. My family is a victim of terrorism. For 32 years, nothing hap-



pened to the Kashmiri pundits, who had to leave their homes one night on January 19, 1990. And then again, there's something like this [referring to the Pahalgam incident] happening after the abrogation of Article 370. Lots and lots of people are going over there [to Kashmir]. I've stopped feeling helpless. I get angry because when I see the visual of a woman sitting next to her dead husband, it

makes me angry like any other common Indian," he explained.

Applauding the government's retaliation by launching Operation Sindoor against Pakistan, he said, "You expect your government or your leadership to act and when they did that, I felt vindicated. I don't know whether that's the right word, but I did feel that that's how it should have happened. Within two days, we know what happened

there. People have their own theories, but now we are getting to know the facts and how precise our attack was."

Kher also appreciated our Indian Armed forces for their precise attack on nine terror bases in Pakistan. "How wonderful our armies, how intelligence worked. It is the leadership which takes the decision. Unfortunately, when 26/11 happened in Mumbai, the leadership did not do anything about it and it was unfortunate. Now we know that we have people who will not take things for granted," he explained.

Twenty-six people were killed in one of the worst terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir that took place on April 22. India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7 and attacked nine terror bases in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

## Manushi Chhillar calls out misogynistic remarks against women: A deep-rooted bias



Actor Manushi Chhillar recently called out the misogynistic mindset towards women in the entertainment industry. She questioned the bias which led to women being discussed with such disrespect and contempt. The actor also criticised the sexist remarks like gold-diggers and manipulators often used for females.

While opening up about her values and upbringing in an empowered, educated environment, the 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' actor shared

a long post on X. She wrote, "A misogynistic mindset finds it easier to attribute a woman's success to a man's patronage than her own merits. I've always really ignored silly comments which have no consequence in the real world, but I constantly see working women, especially in the entertainment industry, being discussed with such disrespect and contempt (sic)."

Manushi further wrote, "I grew up in an empowered, educated environment where, irrespective

of gender, we all had equal value to add. But I have also been exposed to this mentality of 'men are hard-working and talented if successful, whereas women and opportunists, gold diggers or manipulators.' Is it as simple as 'if you hear something bad about a woman, it's from a female who can't be her or a male who can't have her.' Or is there a deep-rooted bias?"

Manushi made her Bollywood debut with Chandraprakash Dwivedi's period action-drama 'Samrat Prithviraj' featuring Akshay Kumar in the titular role. She later starred in Vicky Kaushal's 'The Great Indian Family,' directed by Vijay Krishna Acharya. The actor also played an Air Force pilot in Varun Tej's Telugu action-drama 'Operation Valentine.'

Her last Hindi release was Ali Abbas Zafar's 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan,' featuring Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Sonakshi Sinha and Prithviraj Sukumaran in crucial roles.

Manushi will be seen next in John Abraham's geopolitical thriller 'Tehran,' directed by Arun Gopalan.

The actor shot to fame after being crowned Miss World 2017.

## Nobody had faith in Priyanka Chopra: Director Suneel Darshan on Andaaz casting

When 'Andaaz' was released in 2003, it not only became a box office hit but also marked the Bollywood debut of two beauty queens - Miss Universe Lara Dutta and Miss World Priyanka Chopra. Now, more than two decades later, director Suneel Darshan is shedding light on the unexpected casting decisions that helped launch both actors' careers.

In an exclusive conversation with agency, Darshan revealed, "They were not in the film. When the film was planned, it only had Akshay Kumar. He was a part of everything that was happening."

Darshan explained that, initially, he had envisioned established stars for the female leads. "It was a foregone conclusion that either Karisma Kapoor or Kareena Kapoor would play one of the leads. Then, there was another big female star who wanted to be a part of the film - I won't name her," he said.

"But I just thought there was no freshness coming out of it as a proposal. I said I need to do something about it," he continued. "There was a little bit of difference on certain issues with one of them. Also,

I felt they were not complimenting each other in the film. So, I had to find two girls who could compliment each other," he said as he explained his choices.

HOW LARA DUTTA LANDED THE ROLE

Speaking about how Lara Dutta came on board, Darshan said, "Destiny played its game. Lara was known. She had done a photo shoot with Akshay Kumar for a Filmfare cover, and I had seen that. I said, 'That was interesting.' So, I called for her. She was in Bangalore, where her parents lived. She came in immediately."

He continued, "The next morning, she was in town and we spoke. She was more than happy to be a part of the cinema because she had actually done videos before that - which I didn't know at the time. Maybe if I had known, I would have had second thoughts. But I thought she was fresh, she was available, and we wanted to make a movie in a quick timeframe."

PRIYANKA CHOPRA - 'THIS IS REKHA COMING BACK'

Darshan went on to recount how Priyanka Chopra came into the picture. "The second lead had to be someone



who could match Lara. And out of the blue, again destiny played its game. I was sitting in my chamber, and I got a call. An actor's secretary had come with a girl he wanted to introduce me to."

"My system is - when a newcomer comes in, I meet them. That day, it was Prakash Jaju, who was Priyanka Chopra's secretary. She was Miss World," he recalled.

Initially, Darshan admitted he wasn't particularly impressed. "My first response was not wow. But later, she groomed herself - evolved is the right word. Fifteen minutes into the conversation, I observed her eyes and said to myself, 'Iski aankhein kya kamaal hai, aur iski awaaz Rekha ki yaad

dilati hai."

He added, "That day I was sure - this is Rekha coming back. I had known Rekha ji earlier. But except for me, nobody else involved in the film saw that or had faith. They were more supportive of Lara and her personality. Priyanka was a different ball game. But I was very sure Priyanka Chopra was going to be a top star."

'AKSHAY KUMAR WAS SUPPORTIVE'

Speaking about Akshay Kumar's response to the casting, Darshan said, "Akshay's reactions to all his heroines have always been very pleasant and courteous. He's never said, 'No, I don't want to work with someone.' Never. He never told me any-

thing like that, ever." WERE PRIYANKA AND LARA FRIENDS ON SET?

On their equation during the shoot, Darshan remarked, "They were Punjabi kudis. Whatever the competition was between them, on set it felt like an all-Punjabi crew — Akshay talking Punjabi, Lara talking Punjabi, Priyanka talking Punjabi. It was quite funny, but that's the way it was."

He further stated, "They were buddies. Lara, Priyanka, Bipasha, Celina - five or six of them had come around the same time. I thought they were basically friends in their own right. The competition may have been there, but it never showed on the sets."

## Prithviraj Chauhan once more

Sony Entertainment Television is all set to unveil its historical drama, Chakravarti Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan, a captivating journey inspiring the rise of a young prince who grew to become one of India's bravest warrior kings.

Set against the backdrop of royal legacies and timeless values, the show brings to life the early years of Prithviraj Chauhan, exploring his character, courage and leadership. At the heart of this lies the emotional journey of a father and son — a dynamic that forms the soul of this epic saga.

Reflecting on his role, Ronit Roy shares, "Playing the role of King Someshwar wasn't very different from being a father in real life. He's not just a king — he's



a father who wants the best for his son. As a father myself, I didn't have to imagine those emotions, I simply felt them. The pride, the worry, the hope all came naturally. While the setting may be historical, the father-son bond is timeless. Every father sees a bit

of himself in his child's strength, and I tried to bring that heartfelt connection to the screen. I hope viewers feel the same depth of emotion I did while portraying this role. Through this role, I was able to connect not just with the history, but with something deeply human."

## Shilpa Shirodkar recalls being called 'panauti' after her 2 films were shelved

Not every actor finds an easy path into the film industry, and Shilpa Shirodkar's early years in Bollywood were marked by setbacks and harsh labels. In an interview with Zoom, the actor, best known for her roles in Kishan Kanhaiya and Hum, spoke candidly about being labelled jinxed after two of her initial projects fell through before they could go on floors.

Shilpa Shirodkar recalls dream debut getting shelved

Shilpa recalled what was meant to be a dream launch in 1986 with filmmaker Sawan Kumar Tak's Sautan Ki Beti, which never saw the light. "On the 9th of August, I did my Mahurat at Filmalaya Studios. It was one of the biggest launch pads. Sawan ji was making Sautan Ki Beti, and I was playing the title role. It couldn't have been bigger than that. But two years later, nothing had happened. Sawan ji said, 'I'm not making the film. If you get something from outside, take it,' she shared.

Following that, her mother reached out to photographer



Gautam Rajadhyaksha, who connected her with Boney Kapoor and Surinder Kapoor for a film. She said that Boney's father liked her and promised to cast her opposite Sanjay Kapoor in a film called Jungle. But they dropped that idea and decided to make Prem instead, and she didn't fit the role. That film also slipped out of her

hands.

Shilpa recalled people calling her a panauti

Shilpa added that industry insiders began gossiping about her string of missed opportunities, following which a well-wisher approached Mithun Chakraborty. "He said, 'Dada, this girl's two films have been shelved and now the industry is calling her all sorts of names—please launch her.' They said I was jinxed, a panauti. Whenever I signed a big film, it got shelved. But if you have strong family support, these things don't matter."

Eventually, Shilpa made her acting debut in Ramesh Sippy's Bhrashtachar in 1989, starring alongside Mithun Chakraborty and Rekha, where she portrayed a blind girl. The film earned her recognition, and she soon appeared in hits like Kishan Kanhaiya (1990), Trinetra (1991), and Hum (1991). Her filmography went on to include notable titles such as Khuda Gawah, Aankhen, Pehchaan, Gopi Kishan, Bewafa Sanam, and Mrityudand.

## Kangana Ranaut says 'politics is kinder to older women than film industry'

It's not uncommon for actors to speak out about the lack of substantial roles for older women in the film industry. Now, Kangana Ranaut has joined the conversation, reflecting on ageing and how politics has offered her a more accepting space than cinema.

Kangana Ranaut celebrates ageing

The actor-turned-politician took to Instagram to share a series of photos flaunting her curly hair, and penned a candid note on the joy of ageing. She wrote, "My pilgrim soul never feared ageing, but when my film crew saw grey hair, they panicked and used mascaras/colour sprays. Happy to be in a place where my ageing face or body doesn't take anything away from me. Ageing is such a joy."

Kangana also compared her experience in politics to that in film, saying she now feels more at peace because her appearance no longer defines her. "Do you guys think politics is kinder to older women than movies? I definitely think so. #nofilter used in this pic-



ture #joyofageing #delhivibes. The most beautiful place in the world is where there is no gap between who you are and how you are perceived."

Kangana is currently serving as

the BJP Member of Parliament from the Mandi constituency in Himachal Pradesh. She frequently shares glimpses of her time in Parliament on social media.

Kangana Ranaut's recent and upcoming work

Kangana was last seen in the film Emergency, which she directed and headlined as former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. While her performance drew praise from fans, the film underperformed at the box office, earning only 23.75 crore worldwide. The ensemble cast includes Anupam Kher, Satish Kaushik, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry, and Miiind Soman. The film is now available on Netflix.

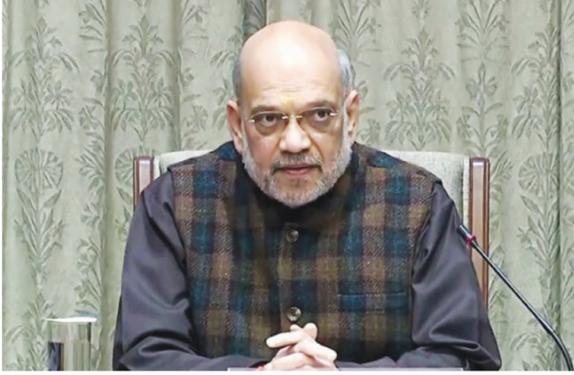
According to Variety, Kangana is now set to make her Hollywood debut with the upcoming horror film Blessed Be The Evil, produced by US-based Lions Movies. She will star alongside Teen Wolf actor Tyler Posey and Scarlet Rose Stallone. The film is slated to begin production later this year in New York.

## Amit Shah inaugurates new building of Central Forensic Science Laboratory near Kolkata

KOLKATA, Jun 1 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday inaugurated the new building of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Rajarhat on the outskirts of Kolkata, asserting that it will help in taking a holistic approach towards investigation of complex cases in eastern and north-eastern states.

Shah said the inauguration marks a significant milestone in the Centre's long-standing efforts to build a secure, transparent and evidence-driven criminal justice system.

"It is a moment of immense satisfaction as we continue to strengthen each link in the chain



of modern forensic and investigative infrastructure," he said. "This will significantly contrib-

ute to strengthening the criminal justice system in West Bengal and the Northeast," Shah said.

The home minister also noted the impact of recent criminal law reforms and said that after the introduction of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), "in 60 per cent cases, we have witnessed chargesheets being filed within 60 days".

He said the central government is planning to set up seven more CFSL laboratories in Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Kerala and Bihar.

Shah, who is on a two-day visit to West Bengal, will also interact with BJP leaders and functionaries during a party convention at the Netaji Indoor Stadium here later in the day.

## 81 'anti-nationals' arrested in Assam after Pahalgam terror attack



GUWAHATI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Two more persons, accused of being "anti-nationals", have been apprehended in Assam, taking the total number of such arrests to 81, since the Pahalgam terror attack in April, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Sunday.

In a post on X, Sarma said one person each was apprehended from Sonitpur

and Kamrup districts.

"81 Anti-Nationals are now behind bars for sympathising with Pak... Our systems are constantly tracking anti-national posts on social media and taking action," he added.

Earlier, opposition AIUDF MLA Aminul Islam was arrested on sedition charges for allegedly defending Pakistan and its complicity in the Pahalgam terror attack.

After getting bail in the case, Islam was again detained under the National Security Act (NSA).

On May 2, Sarma had threatened to take stringent action against those who raised the 'Pakistan zindabad' slogan in the aftermath of the Jammu and Kashmir terror attack.

Terrorists struck at a prime tourist location in Pahalgam in south Kashmir on April 22, killing 26 people, mostly tourists, and injuring several others.

## Rule of law not functioning properly in UP, new DGP has challenge to control crime: Mayawati

LUCKNOW, Jun 1 (Agencies): BSP chief Mayawati on Sunday said the newly appointed Director General of Police (DGP) in Uttar Pradesh faces a "big challenge" to establish the rule of law and provide relief to people of all sections of society.

Her remarks came after 1991-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rajeev Krishna took charge as the new acting DGP of Uttar Pradesh on Saturday.

In a post on X, the former chief minister voiced concern over the prevailing "dominance of feudal and criminal elements" in the state, resulting in caste-based and communal hatred, violence, injustice, oppression, and the displacement of people.

"Such incidents prove that the rule of law is not functioning properly in Uttar Pradesh," she said.

"In this environment, the new head of UP Police has the major challenge of controlling crime and establishing the rule of law to provide appropriate relief



to people of 'sarvsamaj' (all communities). The state government and those in power must also extend all possible cooperation and play an active role in ensuring rule of law in UP," she added. Mayawati stressed that Uttar Pradesh should be the backbone of India's progress, given its size and significance, but it often remains in news for law and order issues instead of emerging as a growth engine.

"Is it in the interest of the people and the nation for the state to remain mired in concerns over law and order, rather than contributing to India's multi-faceted development?" she asked.

## Punjab: 'AAP failed on all fronts, people still dying of drugs,' says BJP leader Tarun Chugh

LUDHIANA, Jun 1 (Agencies): BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh Sunday alleged that the Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab has "completely failed" on all fronts.

Chugh made the remark campaigning for party candidate Jiwan Gupta for the upcoming Ludhiana West assembly bypoll.

The seat fell vacant following the death of AAP MLA Gurpreet Bassi Gogi in January.

The bypoll for the seat will take place on June 19 and the counting will be held on June 23.

Speaking to the media, Chugh alleged that Punjab was currently "suffering" under



AAP's "chaotic and directionless governance." "Punjab is facing a grave law and order crisis and due to complete financial mismanagement, the state is reeling under a debt of more than Rs 4 lakh crore," Chugh alleged. Ludhiana, once hailed as a major industrial

hub, is afflicted with rickety infrastructure, a surge in organised crime, and rampant drug abuse, claimed Chugh.

"Investors are fleeing to other states, while the youth feels betrayed by the AAP's empty promises of jobs and prosperity," he alleged.

The AAP government could do nothing for the state, the BJP leader said, as he reminded the Bhagwant Mann government for its "unfulfilled" promise of Rs 1,000 per month to each woman.

"The AAP government has completely failed on all fronts in the state," he alleged.

The BJP leader also accused the Bhagwant Mann government of failing in its anti-drug campaign, claiming people were still "dying of drugs" in the state.

"I want to ask Bhagwant Mann that May 31 was the last day for wiping out drugs from the state under 'Yudh Nashian Virudh'. But even today, people are

dying of drugs. Was it a fake campaign? We will expose the ineffective state government over this issue," he said.

Chugh called Mann a "puppet" of the party and its supremo Arvind Kejriwal.

"Just like the people of Delhi rejected Kejriwal, the people of Punjab will do the same to Bhagwant Mann in 2027," he said.

BJP nominee Gupta said the business community in Punjab is particularly suffering under the Mann regime "due to the absence of a clear, consistent industrial policy." He said with public support, he will champion every voice that the AAP has "silenced" in Punjab.

## Heavy rain continues to batter Assam, disrupting train services and road transport

GUWAHATI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Relentless rainfall continued to lash Assam on Sunday, severely disrupting road and rail transport across the northeastern state. According to officials, at least eight people have died so far due to floods and landslides.

More than 78,000 residents across over 15 districts have been affected, prompting widespread concern.

The Central Water Commission (CWC) has issued an 'orange bulletin' for Assam, warning of a "severe flood situation" as ten major rivers including the Brahmaputra and Barak are currently flowing above the danger level.

A spokesperson for Northeast Frontier Railway stated that, following incessant rainfall in the past 24 hours and water overflowing onto the tracks in the Baraigram-Dullabcherra section, the Dullabcherra-Silchar passenger train has been cancelled for the day. Additionally, the Dullabcherra-Guwahati



Express will now originate from Baraigram instead of Dullabcherra.

In Kamrup district, large portions of National Highway-17 have been inundated near Shingra Shalibari in the Chaygaon area since Saturday. Officials noted that the situation has been worsened by heavy runoff from neighbouring Meghalaya.

Authorities are taking measures to redirect traffic via alternative routes to maintain connectivity.

According to the CWC bulletin,

the Brahmaputra is flowing above the danger mark in Dibrugarh and Nematighat (Jorhat). Other rivers breaching danger levels include:

at Garmura (Hailakandi), Rukni at Dholai (Cachar), Katakhal at Matijuri (Hailakandi), Barak at Badarpur Ghat (Sribhumi), Buridehing at Margherita (Tinsukia), Kushiyara in Sribhumi, Dhansiri at Numaligarh (Golaghat) and Kopili at Kamrup (Nagaon).

An Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA)

bulletin reported that, as of Saturday evening, five people had died in landslides and three in floods.

Three western districts were placed on 'red alert' on Saturday, while eight others were under an 'orange alert', according to the Regional Meteorological Centre. Rainwater from upstream regions of Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya has further exacerbated the flooding.

Multiple agencies, including the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), police, and fire and emergency services, have been deployed for rescue and relief efforts. Evacuation operations are underway in the worst-affected areas.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Friday that the state is facing an "abnormal situation" due to persistent downpours triggered by a massive cloud cover across several parts of the Northeast.

## Scolding does not amount to provoking someone to take own life: Supreme Court

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has discharged a man who was accused of driving a student to suicide by scolding him.

The accused, in-charge of a school and a hostel, had scolded the deceased following a complaint by another student. After the incident, the student hanged himself in a room.

A bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Prashant Kumar Mishra stated that no ordinary person could have imagined that a scolding would result in such a tragedy.

The top court set aside an order of the Madras High Court, which had

refused to discharge the teacher for the offence of abetment to suicide under Section 306 of the Indian Penal Code.

"Having considered the matter in its entirety, we find it a fit case for interference. As has rightly been submitted by the appellant, no normal person could have imagined that a scolding, that too based on a complaint by a student, would result in such a tragedy due to the student so scolded taking his own life," the bench said.

The apex court said such scolding was the least to ensure that the complaint made against the deceased by another student was taken note of and remedial mea-

sures were effected.

"In the considered opinion of this court, under such admitted factual position, no mens rea (knowledge of wrongdoing) can be attributed to the appellant, much less, with regard to abatement of suicide committed by the deceased," the bench said.

The man, through his lawyer, had submitted that his response was justified and was merely a chiding as a guardian to ensure that the deceased did not repeat the offence, and to maintain peace and tranquillity in the hostel.

He had submitted that there was nothing personal between him and the deceased.

## Greedy people playing politics with me: Tej Pratap Yadav on ouster from RJD, family

PATNA, Jun 1 (Agencies): Former Bihar minister Tej Pratap Yadav, who was recently expelled from the RJD by his father and party supremo Lalu Prasad, on Sunday blamed "greedy people playing politics with him" for his predicament within the party and the family.

Prasad had on May 25 expelled his elder son Yadav from the party and snapped all family ties with him, stating that his actions were "irresponsible" and not in accordance with public conduct.

In a post in Hindi on X, Yadav said: "My dear mom and dad... My whole world is just you two. You and any order given by you are greater than God. If you are there, then I have everything. All I need is your trust and love, nothing more.

"Daddy, if it weren't for you, neither this party would exist, nor would those greedy people like 'Jaichand' who play politics with me. Mom and dad, may you both always stay healthy and happy (sic)."

Yadav, however, did not elaborate on what he meant by people playing politics with him.

His expulsion came barely a few months ahead of the Bihar assembly polls, which the RJD will fight under the leadership of Prasad's younger son, Tejashwi Yadav. Born to Prasad and Rabri Devi, both former chief ministers of Bihar, the two brothers are among four of nine siblings active in politics.

Tej Pratap Yadav had made his political debut in the assembly polls of 2015, and is a second-term MLA with two brief stints in the state Cabinet.

## Days after erroneous release from Faridabad jail, prisoner caught from village in Bihar

FARIDABAD, Jun 1 (Agencies): A prisoner jailed on charges of raping a minor who was released from the district jail here due to a mistaken identity was caught from his village in Patna, Bihar, police said on Sunday.

He was produced in a city court and sent into judicial custody again in Neemka jail, they said.

Nitesh Pandey was mistakenly released from Neemka jail instead of another inmate named Nitesh who received bail from a Faridabad court, leading the suspension of five jail officials.

The fathers of the Niteshs also had the same name, adding to the confusion.

A senior police officer said that during interrogation, accused Nitesh Pandey revealed that he knew that the other Nitesh was to get bail in a case in which he was being tried for trespass and assault.



After the second Nitesh got bail on Monday, the prisoners were called. The inmate who got the bail was not present at the spot on Tuesday and the rape accused identified himself as Nitesh and came out of the jail, he added.

A case was registered against Nitesh Pandey, son of Ravindra Pandey, under sec-

tions of rape and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) in 2021 at Sector-58 police station.

He was lodged in Neemka jail after his arrest.

The other Nitesh Nitesh, son of Ravindra and a resident of Shastri Colony under Old Faridabad Police Station area, was also lodged in the jail after being arrested in a case of assault, police said.

After the goof up, the jail administration claimed that Nitesh Pandey managed to obtain his release by "hiding his identity" and an FIR was registered at Sadar Faridabad police station.

Jail Assistant Superintendent Mohanlal, Deputy Assistant Pradeep Tyagi, Havaladar Rajendra and two wardens, Sanjeev and Rajesh, were suspended for negligence over the entire incident.

## 21 Palestinians killed while heading to Gaza aid hub, hospital says

**Witnesses said Israeli forces opened fire on people as they headed toward aid distribution site, there was no immediate comment from Israeli military**

RAFAH (GAZA STRIP), Jun 1 (Agencies): At least 21 people were killed on Sunday as they went to receive aid from an Israeli-backed foundation in the Gaza Strip, according to a hospital run by the Red Cross that received the bodies.

Officials at the field hospital said another 175 people were wounded, without saying who opened fire on them. An Associated Press reporter saw dozens of people being treated at the hospital.

Witnesses said Israeli forces opened fire on people as they headed toward an aid distribution site. There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military.

New aid system marred by chaos

The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation's distribution of aid has been marred by chaos, and multiple witnesses have said Israeli troops fired on crowds near the delivery sites. Before Sunday, at least six people had been killed and more than 50 wounded according to local health officials.

The foundation says the private security contractors guarding its sites did not fire on the crowds, while the Israeli military has acknowledged firing warning shots on previous occasions.

The foundation did not immediately respond to a request for



comment. In an earlier statement, it said it distributed 16 truckloads of aid early Sunday "without incident." It dismissed what it referred to as "false reporting about deaths, mass injuries and chaos."

Shooting broke out near distribution hub

The gunfire on Sunday erupted at a roundabout around a kilometer (1,000 yards) from the distribution site, in an area that is controlled by Israeli forces, witnesses said.

Ibrahim Abu Saoud, an eyewitness, said Israeli forces opened fire at people moving toward the aid distribution center.

"There were many martyrs, including women," the 40-year-old resident said. "We were about 300 meters (yards) away from the military." Abu Saoud said he saw many people with gunshot wounds, including a young man who he said had

died at the scene. "We weren't able to help him," he said.

Mohammed Abu Teaima, 33, said he saw Israeli forces open fire and kill his cousin and another woman as they were heading to the hub. He said his cousin was shot in his chest and died at the scene. Many others were wounded, including his brother-in-law, he said.

"They opened heavy fire directly toward us," he said as he was waiting outside the Red Cross field hospital for word on his wounded relative.

The hub is part of a controversial new aid system

Israel and the United States say the new system is aimed at preventing Hamas from siphoning off assistance. Israel has not provided any evidence of systematic diversion, and the UN denies it has occurred.

UN agencies and major aid groups have refused to work

with the new system, saying it violates humanitarian principles because it allows Israel to control who receives aid and forces people to relocate to distribution sites, risking yet more mass displacement in the territory.

The UN system has struggled to bring in aid after Israel slightly eased its total blockade of the territory last month. Those groups say Israeli restrictions, the breakdown of law and order, and widespread looting make it extremely difficult to deliver aid to Gaza's roughly 2 million Palestinians.

Experts have warned that the territory is at risk of famine if more aid is not brought in.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 251. They are still holding 58 hostages, around a third of them believed to be alive, after most of the rest were released in ceasefire agreements or other deals.

Israel's military campaign has killed over 54,000 people, mostly women and children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not say how many of the dead were civilians or combatants. The offensive has destroyed vast areas of the territory, displaced around 90% of its population and left people almost completely reliant on international aid.

## 7 killed, 69 injured in bridge collapse, train derailment in Russia's Bryansk region



KYIV, Jun 1 (Agencies): At least seven persons were killed and 69 injured when a highway bridge collapsed onto railway tracks after an "illegal interference", derailing a train in Russia's Bryansk region that borders Ukraine, the Russian authorities said early on Sunday.

The train's locomotive and several cars derailed "due to the collapse of a span structure of the road bridge as a result of an illegal interference in the operation of transport", the Russian Railways said on the Telegram messaging app.

Alexander Bogomaz, the governor of the Bryansk region, said on Telegram that 44 persons were hospitalised. Three children were among those injured with one in serious condition, he added.

Russia's ministry of emergency situations

said on Telegram that efforts to find and rescue victims continued throughout the night, and that some 180 personnel were involved in the operation.

Among those killed was the locomotive driver, Russia's state news agencies reported, citing medics.

Social media pictures and videos showed passengers trying to help others climb out of the train's damaged carriages in the dark and firefighters looking for ways to reach passengers.

Russia's Baza Telegram channel, which often publishes information from sources in the security services and law enforcement, reported, without providing evidence, that according to preliminary information, the bridge was blown up.

Agency could not independently verify the Baza report.

There was no immediate comment from Ukraine.

Since the start of the war that Russia launched more than three years ago, there have been continued cross-border shelling, drone strikes and covert raids from Ukraine into the Bryansk, Kursk and Belgorod regions that border Ukraine.

The train was going from the town of Klimovo to Moscow, the Russian Railways said. It collided with the collapsed bridge in the area of a federal highway in the Vygonichskiy district of the Bryansk region, Bogomaz said. The district lies some 100 km (62 miles) from the border with Ukraine.

US President Donald Trump has urged Moscow and Kyiv to work together on a deal to end the war, and Russia has proposed a second round of face-to-face talks with Ukrainian officials next week in Istanbul.

Ukraine is yet to commit to attending the talks on Monday, saying it first needed to see Russian proposals, while a leading US senator warned Moscow it would be "hit hard" by new US sanctions.

## China says US 'should not play with fire' on Taiwan, slams Hegseth's remarks

BEIJING, Jun 1 (Agencies): China on Sunday warned the United States it "should not play with fire" over Taiwan and said it had lodged "representations" with Washington over comments made by Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth at a summit in Singapore.

The US secretary of defence used his speech at an annual security forum on Saturday to warn that China was "credibly preparing" to use military force to upend the balance of power in Asia. He added that the Chinese military was building the capabilities to invade Taiwan and "rehearsing for the real deal."

In a statement released just after midnight, China's foreign ministry said it had "lodged solemn representations with the US side" over Hegseth's comments, adding that it "strongly deplores" his remarks.



"The US should not try to use the Taiwan issue as a bargaining chip to contain China and should not play with fire," it said.

Beijing, which did not send its defence minister Dong Jun to the Singapore summit, called the "Taiwan issue" China's "internal affair" and said foreign countries had no right to interfere.

China considers the self-ruled democratic island as its territory and has not ruled out using force to take control of it.

Hegseth also accused Beijing of "illegally seizing and militarising lands" in the disputed South China Sea.

Beijing claims almost the entire waterway, despite an international ruling that its assertion has no merit.

The foreign ministry on Sunday claimed there had "never been any issue" with navigation in the waterway.

China "is committed to safeguarding its territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in accordance with the law", a ministry spokesperson said.

Beijing also accused the United States of turning the Indo-Pacific region into a "powder keg" by deploying weapons in the South China Sea.

## Oman minister presented US nuke deal proposal, will respond: Iran Foreign Minister Araqchi

TEHRAN, Jun 1 (Agencies): Iran's foreign minister Abbas Araqchi has announced that his Omani counterpart Badr Al Busaidi to Tehran, during his visit to Tehran, has presented the elements of the US proposal to Iran for a nuclear deal between the two countries, state media reported.

"My dear brother @badrbusaidi, distinguished Foreign Minister of Oman, paid a short visit to Tehran today to present elements of a US proposal which will be appropriately responded to in line with the principles, national interests and rights of the people of Iran," Araqchi wrote in a post on his X account.

According to the official news agency IRNA, Iran and the US have held five rounds of talks -- three in Muscat and two in Rome--mediated by Omani Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Al-Busaidi. The talks sought to



replace the agreement that President Donald Trump withdrew the US from during his first term in office.

As per a report in Al Jazeera, the IAEA in a confidential report that has been seen by several agencies, said that as of May 17, Iran had amassed 408.6kg (900.8 pounds) of uranium enriched up to 60 percent - the only non-nuclear weapon state to do so, according to the UN agency - and had increased its stockpile by almost 50 percent to 133.8kg since its last report in February.

Iranian foreign minister Araqchi on Saturday strongly rejected Western demands for Iran to abandon uranium enrichment, calling them an effort to impose dominance over the Iranian nation, IRNA reported.

"When the other parties say you must not have enrichment, they are essentially trying to assert a kind of dominance and superiority over us," he said. "Under international law, we have the same right as any other country to benefit from peaceful nuclear technology, including enrichment."

Earlier, in a May 22-dated letter addressed to the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, UN Security Council President Evangelos C Sekeris, and the IAEA, Chief Rafael Grossi, Araqchi, warned that any Israeli adventurism targeting Iran's nuclear sites would be met with a decisive response, as has been the case in the past. The Iranian foreign minister cited a CNN report from May 20, 2025, which quoted U.S. officials alleging that the Israeli regime was preparing an attack on Iranian nuclear facilities.

Araqchi also emphasised that Israel's nuclear program presents a serious threat to global security, urging the international community to exert pressure on the Israeli regime to dismantle its nuclear arsenal and commit to disarmament agreements.

Washington maintains that Iran's uranium

enrichment programme could lead to developing nuclear bombs, while Tehran has consistently denied the claim, insisting that its nuclear programme is meant for civilian purposes.

In July 2015, the Iran nuclear agreement-known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was signed between Iran and several world powers, including the United States, which capped Tehran's enrichment level at 3.67 per cent and reduced its uranium stockpile to 300 kilograms.

The deal collapsed in 2018 with Trump's unilateral withdrawal of the US from the accord. Since then, Iran has started exceeding agreed-upon limits to its stockpile of low-enriched uranium in 2019, and began enriching uranium to higher concentrations up to 60 per cent purity, which is very close to the weapons-grade level.

## Sheikh Hasina charged with crimes against humanity during Bangladesh protests

DHAKA, Jun 1 (Agencies): The Bangladesh prosecutors on Sunday charged former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with crimes against humanity for her alleged role in the violent crackdowns during the 2024 student-led uprising, which ultimately led to her resignation. This marks the formal commencement of the trial of the 77-year-old leader, who is currently living in self-imposed exile in India.

An investigation report concluded that Hasina "directly ordered" state security forces, her

political party, and affiliated groups to carry out operations that resulted in mass casualties, and she is accused of "abetment, incitement, complicity, facilitation, conspiracy, and failure to prevent mass murder during the July uprising," according to the prosecutors.

"These killings were planned," Mohammad Tajul Islam, Chief Prosecutor at Bangladesh's domestic International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), said during a televised hearing on Sunday, citing video evidence and encrypted commu-

nications between various agencies.

"Upon scrutinising the evidence, we reached the conclusion that it was a coordinated, widespread and systematic attack. The accused unleashed all law enforcement agencies and her armed party members to crush the uprising," the Chief Prosecutor was quoted as saying by news agency.

Prosecutors further alleged that Hasina, as head of government, holds command responsibility for the actions of security forces during



the unrest. Along with Hasina, former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and former police chief Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun were named co-accused

in the complaint submitted to the court.

The charges against Hasina come weeks after the interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, banned all activi-

ties of the Awami League under the Anti-Terrorism Act following days of protests. This development also unfolds amid increasing pressure on the Yunus administration and widespread calls for an immediate election in the country.

In early 2024, what began as a student-led protest against a controversial government job quota system rapidly escalated into a broader demand for Sheikh Hasina's resignation, fuelled by widespread public outrage over alleged corruption, authoritarianism, human

rights abuses, and unfair elections during her nearly 15-year rule.

At the height of the massive and sustained protests, Sheikh Hasina resigned on August 5, 2024, and fled to New Delhi, where she has been residing since.

According to United Nations estimates, nearly 1,400 Bangladeshis were killed between July and August 2024 during a government-led crackdown on protesters, orchestrated by Hasina's administration with support from the then-opposition Bangladeshi National

ist Party (BNP) and its allied groups.

In October last year, the International Crimes Tribunal issued an arrest warrant for Hasina, and later sought her extradition from India.

The tribunal was set up by Hasina in 2009 to investigate crimes committed by the Pakistani army during Bangladesh's war for independence in 1971. It sentenced numerous prominent political opponents to death and became widely seen as a means for Hasina to eliminate rivals.

## Medical and Veterinary Camp organised at Jai Ghati



### Top News Report

DODA, June 1: As part of the ongoing outreach and helping local population, the Indian Army has taken an initiative to conduct a Medical and Veterinary Camp at Jai Ghati.

This initiative was specifically designed to cater the healthcare needs of local population with a special focus on the Gujjar and Bakkarwal communities and their livestock's.

The camp was inaugurated by Indian Army personnel, who assured the locals of unconditional and everlasting support of Indian Army to the locals.

A medical team comprising of 01 Medical Officer, 02 Nursing Assistants and 02 Battle Field Nursing Assistant from Army, 01 Lady Medical Officer, 01 Pharmacist from Sub District Hospital Dandi and 01 Veterinary Doctor from Government Hospital for providing the much needed medical cover to the gents, ladies, children, elderly people and livestock's during the camp.

Project Sadbhavana's, Medical and Veterinary Camp has brought smiles to numerous faces, demonstrating the power of compassion and community service. The initiative has

not only improved the health and well-being of people and their animals but also strengthened the bond between the community and the Indian Army.

A large number of patients turned up for the medical check-up from the nearby villages.

This medical camp was organised by making necessary arrangements including various types of medicines, medical equipment and facilities for examination of patients.

Wide publicity was given to ensure that maximum people avail this opportunity. During the camp a total of 242 patients and 768 livestock's were treated.

The local population were grateful to the Army for their concentrated efforts and assistance in providing medical aid at their door step in the far flung area of Jai Ghati. Indian Army also gave information about Health, Nutrition and Child Care to the parents in order to spread medical awareness amongst the Gujjar and Bakkarwals.

## Kathua pedals toward fitness with 'Sundays On Cycle' event under Fit India Movement

### Top News Report

KATHUA, June 1: District Kathua witnessed an enthusiastic participation in the "Sundays On Cycle" event, successfully conducted under the banner of the Fit India Movement and Khelo India initiative.

The event was organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Kathua, to promote a healthy and active lifestyle among the public. Cycling ral-



lies were held across all zones of the district, with students and field staff

of the YSS Department actively taking part. A total of 348 cyclists

from various zones joined the event, spreading the message of fit-

ness and well-being.

The Fit India Movement is a nationwide campaign that encourages citizens to embrace physical activity and sports as a part of their daily routine, aiming to create a healthier and more active India.

The event received an overwhelming response from participants and spectators alike, reinforcing the district's commitment to fostering a culture of fitness and sports.

## Kashmiri Hindu community reaffirms commitment to homeland, rejects distortion of genocide narrative

### Top News Report

NEW DELHI, June 1: In a significant gathering held in Delhi NCR, Kashmiri Hindu leaders, organizations, intellectuals, and social activists came together under the banner of Youth 4 Panun Kashmir to address increasing concerns over attempts

to distort the Kashmiri Hindu genocide narrative. The gathering was a unified response to efforts aimed at floating fabricated leadership, sidelining genuine community voices, and bypassing the core ideological demand for a separate homeland within the Union of India. The event saw an overwhelming reaffirmation of the community's stand: "No reconciliation without justice, no return without dignity, and no future without Homeland." Although unable to attend due to health reasons, Dr. Agnishekhar, Founder Convenor of Panun Kashmir, sent a powerful message stating, "Our resolve is our identity. No self-respecting nation negotiates its genocide, nor shall we." His statement set the tone for a gathering that echoed with unity, clarity, and an uncompromising stance.

Kundan Kashmiri, President of the Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC), emphasized that the community is well aware of attempts to misrepresent their aspirations. He cautioned the government against promoting figures who do not represent the true voice of

the displaced community. Similarly, Sumeer Churungoo, President of Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, firmly reiterated that the demand for Homeland is non-negotiable and any move to undermine it is dangerous and unacceptable.

Addressing the issue of narrative manipulation, Dileep Mattoo, President of Jammu Kashmir Vichar Manch, highlighted efforts to replace authentic voices with curated narratives, asserting that such moves will be strongly resisted.

Amit Raina of Roots in Kashmir echoed this sentiment, reminding everyone that previous attempts to create false legitimacy have failed and will continue to do so. "Our truth is rooted in blood and history," he stated.

Senior activist Ashwani Churungoo underscored the need for complete clarity at this juncture, asserting that there should be no engagement with those who deny the genocide or the community's lived experience. Dr. Ramesh Raina, former President of All India Kashmiri Samaj, pointed out that the battle is not just about returning home, but about

reclaiming moral and political authority. "Narrative building is essential. We must define the discourse," he said.

Concluding the session, Vithal Chowdhary, President of Youth 4 Panun Kashmir, stated that this was not just resistance against false-

hoods but a reaffirmation of the community's right to memory, truth, and future. He declared that the line has been drawn—there will be no recognition of imposters, no illusion of return without justice, and no compromise on the Homeland demand.

## Awareness Program organised on World No Tobacco Day at GHS Salani

### Top News Report

POONCH, June 1: On the occasion of World No Tobacco Day the Indian Army organised a special awareness event at Government High School, Salani, Poonch District.

The program aimed to educate students and the local community about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption. This initiative was part of the Indian Army's ongoing outreach efforts to promote health, wellness, and positive lifestyle choices in the region especially among the youth.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and local civilians, fostering a spirit of unity and shared responsibility in building a healthier future. The program included awareness talks and interactive sessions with anti-tobacco themes.

The Indian Army personnel highlighted the dangers of tobacco use, including cancer, heart dis-



ease, and respiratory problems, while stressing the importance of making informed life choices. Students were encouraged to act as ambassadors of change by spreading awareness within their families and communities.

The event not only educated attendees about the physical consequences of tobacco use but also addressed its psychological and social impacts, particularly on young minds.

By involving the local school and

fostering collaboration between students and soldiers, the event strengthened the bond between the Indian Army and the civilian population.

Such initiatives reflect the Indian Army's commitment not just to national security but also to nation-building and community development.

The program concluded with a collective pledge by all participants to stay away from tobacco and lead healthy, productive lives.

## FromPage No: 1

### "Our Criminal Justice system entering new era": Amit Shah emphasises evidence-based law and order

strengthening the state's law and order.

"We have extended help to every state to establish a forensic van in every district. Many states have expanded their forensic labs. We had already established the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in 2020. Sixteen institutions have been approved, eight have already been established, and the remaining eight are in process. We have already completed the creation of trained human resources. I believe the new students will contribute to our law and order," he added.

"Our duty is to ensure that every poor person can get justice as soon as possible. I believe that we will create an environment where our people will trust the law and order of the country," the Union Minister said, stressing the priority of delivering justice to the poor at earliest.

His visit comes days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to North Bengal, underscoring the central leadership's sustained

focus on the state.

Earlier, Shah had posted on X in both English and Bengali: "Leaving for Kolkata. Tomorrow, will inaugurate the new building of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, which will contribute immensely to strengthening the criminal justice system in West Bengal and Northeast India." "In the afternoon, will interact with the Karyakartas at Vijay Sankalp Karyakarta Sammelan in Kolkata. Looking forward to attending the programmes," he added.

The visit is also expected to focus on the BJP's roadmap for West Bengal ahead of the 2026 assembly elections.

### J&K Assembly Speaker to discuss functioning of house committees Tomorrow

Chairman Ethics committee; Nizam-ud-din Bhat, Chairman Committee on Privileges; Hasnain Masoodi, Chairman Committee on Subordinate Legislation; and Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, Chairman Committee on Petitions.

In addition to the chairmen/chairpersons, other officials who have been requested to attend the meeting include Principal Accountant General, J&K; Commissioner Secretary to Govern-

ment, General Administration Department; and the Secretary to Government Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

### Several deputations meet Minister Javed Rana

thanked the Minister for his understanding and support, expressing hope that their issues would be resolved soon.

### J&K Police Chief visits Mata Kheer Bhawani Temple in Ganderbal ahead of Festival

accompanied by senior police officials from the Ganderbal district during his visit to the temple. He also paid obeisance to Mata Ragnya Devi at the temple shrine.

All arrangements are in place for the security and lodging of pilgrims, officials said but added that fewer devotees have been turning up for the mela time compared to last year.

### 7 active COVID-19 cases in J&K; 4 in Kashmir, 3 in Jammu

"As of now, a total of seven COVID-19 cases are active in Jammu and Kashmir. There is no need to panic, but precautions are necessary," the official said.

Health authorities said surveillance is ongoing and urged the public to continue following COVID-appropriate behavior, even as the overall situation remains under control.

It is pertinent to mention that the number of active cases across India has reached 3,395. Kerala leads with 1,336 active cases, followed by Maharashtra and Delhi. Unfortunately, four COVID-related deaths were also reported nationwide in the last 24 hours.

### Hundreds of Kashmiri Pandit devotees leave for Kheer Bhawani mela

action between India and Pakistan following it.

Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley and other parts of the country gathered in huge numbers at the Kheer Bhawani temple at Tulmulla.

Relief Commissioner (Migrants) Arvind Karwani along with Deputy Commissioner, Jammu Sachin Kumar Vaishya and senior police officers jointly flagged off the convoy of Road Transport Corporation (RTC) buses from Nagrota on the outskirts of Jammu this morning.

The devotees will perform 'darsan' at the temples on Tuesday and will return to Jammu a day later.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu Joginder Singh said all required security arrangements have been made for the pilgrims.

"All arrangements are in place for their safety and security and boarding and lodging en route and in the Valley," Relief Commissioner Karwani said.

Fewer devotees have turned up for the mela as compared to last year. Tourists were targeted in the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22. Most of the 26 people killed in the attack were tourists.

India and Pakistan were on the brink of a full-fledged war after the attack. On the intervening night of May 6 and 7, Indian armed forces carried out missile strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

The two countries were engaged in an intense military conflict for four days and reached an understanding to halt all firing on the evening of May 10.

Shruti Dhar, an elderly devotee, said: "I am a regular visitor to Kheer Bhawani and have no fear of going there this time around. We have been witnessing such situations from our childhood days. Whatever happened in Pahalgam is highly condemnable and barbaric."

Dhar, who had migrated from

Sanat Nagar in Srinagar to Jammu, said she is happy to join the caravan and offer her prayers at the temple to seek blessings and pray for the prosperity of J&K, the country and the return of Pandits to the Valley.

Saroj, a non-Kashmiri married to a Kashmiri Pandit, said this was her first visit to the Valley and there is no fear in her mind.

"Kashmir is part of India and the (Pahalgam) attack was possibly an attempt by the terrorists to frighten us. We have to defeat their designs and visit the place in good numbers," she said.

Delhi-based Raj Kumar, also a member of the displaced community, said the government should be more alert to prevent Pahalgam type of incidents. Sarla Bhat said she is happy to visit her birthplace in Kashmir. "I have full faith in Mata that we will complete the pilgrimage without any trouble."

### Police books 'trouble monger' in Poonch

urged, the police said, to use social media platforms with utmost responsibility and report any such instances of misuse to the nearest police station.

"All social media platforms are being monitored & Poonch Police is committed to take strict actions against any element trying to disturb peace in the region," it added.

### "The Hands That Clap"

*The hands you raise to cheer and praise,  
That echo loud in crowded haze,  
Have strength not just to make a sound,  
But build a world where love is found.  
These hands that clap in joy and pride,  
Can wipe a tear, stand by a side.  
Before they seek the world's acclaim,  
Let them uphold a sacred name.  
For hands that serve, not just applaud,  
Are truly blessed, are touched by God.  
So bend them not just to delight,  
But use their grace to do what's right.  
Let every cheer that leaves your palm,  
Be matched with acts of healing calm.  
To parents' feet, those roots so true,  
Let these same hands give what is due.  
The world may hail your fleeting fame,  
But serve your roots — that earns your name.  
Clap for the world if you so please,  
But first, bring home your hands in peace.*



Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain (State Chairman Indian Yoga Association)

## RBI's monetary policy decision, global trade negotiations to guide markets next week

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Investors will keenly watch the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) upcoming monetary policy decision for future market guidance. Additionally, market participants will monitor global developments, particularly trade tensions, to navigate the ongoing consolidation phase.

India's equity market closed in the red this week. The subdued performance was primarily driven by global trade tensions and anticipation around domestic policy decisions.

Benchmark indices, the Sensex and Nifty, experienced significant swings before closing lower amid uncertainty over U.S. tariff developments and caution ahead of the RBI's policy announcement. Both indices declined over 1%, with the Nifty ending at 24,750.70 and the Sensex at 81,451.01.

"Despite encouraging domestic cues, mixed signals from global markets kept investor sentiment on edge. Initially, optimism prevailed following the RBI's record dividend



payout and positive updates regarding the monsoon. However, as the week progressed, concerns surrounding rising U.S. bond yields, trade tensions between the U.S. and the European Union, and the ongoing legal battle over U.S. tariffs weighed on market sentiment, limiting the scope for any meaningful recovery," said Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking.

He added that looking ahead, all eyes will be on the outcome of the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting scheduled for June 6. The

market is pricing in a 25bps cut, which will improve the outlook for rate-sensitive sectors.

"The central bank's stance on the rate trajectory, especially amid mixed macroeconomic signals, will be critical in shaping market direction... Globally, developments in the U.S. bond market and any updates regarding ongoing trade negotiations will continue to influence investor sentiment," stated Mishra.

Puneet Singhania, Director at Master Trust Group, said that despite the weekly downturn, both benchmark indices remained comfortably above

their key moving averages, signaling resilience in the broader market trend. The PSU Bank index led sectoral performance, surging nearly 4%, buoyed by positive sentiment towards public sector banks.

He added that in the derivatives segment, the Nifty's Open Interest Put-Call Ratio (OI PCR) for the upcoming weekly expiry stood at 0.58, while the Sensex's OI PCR was 0.62. These levels, significantly below 1, suggest that call writers currently hold a dominant position, reflecting bearish sentiment among options traders.

Mishra said they maintain a constructive view on the markets and recommend looking for buying opportunities unless the Nifty decisively breaks below the 24,600 mark. "Within sectors, banking and financial services remain our top picks, while FMCG and IT are expected to trade subdued. With the broader market showing resilience, investors should continue focusing on fundamentally strong stocks that offer a favorable risk-to-reward ratio," he stated.

## India's economic growth hits 4-year low of 6.5% in FY25



NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): India's economy grew by 6.5% in the financial year 2024-25 (FY25), marking its slowest pace in four years, according to data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

The figure is lower than the previous year's growth and shows a cooling down in the overall economic activity. In comparison, the Indian economy grew at a much faster pace during the pandemic recovery years.

According to the government's statement, "Real GDP has been estimated to grow by 6.5% in FY 2024-25. Nominal GDP has witnessed a growth rate of 9.8% in FY 2024-25." The government has also slightly lowered its earlier forecast for nominal GDP growth, which was 9.9%.

While the full-year GDP number has slowed, data for the last quarter of FY25 painted a better picture. The

real GDP growth for the March quarter (Q4) stood at 7.4%, which is the fastest among all four quarters of the year. Growth in the third quarter climbed to 6.2%, up from the previously estimated 5.6%.

With these latest numbers, India remains among the world's fastest-growing economies. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) also projects that India will overtake Japan in economic size by the end of the year, reaching \$4.18 trillion.

Nominal GDP growth for the same quarter came in at 10.8%.

"The Q4 FY25 GDP numbers are marginally higher than our expectations but broadly track the government's earlier estimate. The GVA estimate, however, remains more tepid at 6.8%. Expectedly, the high net indirect tax growth has led to the wide gap between the two," said Upasna Bhardwaj, Chief Economist, Kotak Mahindra Bank.

The high frequency data in the last few months continues to

point towards a patchy recovery, with the sequential momentum suggesting moderation compared to the previous quarter. We expect the benign inflation and soft growth to continue to provide the MPC room for incremental monetary easing, with 25 bp cut in the upcoming June policy," she added.

Private consumption rose by 7.2% year-on-year, up from 5.6% in the previous fiscal. This increase was supported by stronger rural demand, helped by easing food prices and increased spending during the festive season compared to the previous year.

Agriculture witnessed a growth of 4.6% in FY25, a notable rise from 2.7% in the previous year. During the fourth quarter, the sector expanded by 5.4%, a sharp jump from just 0.9% in the same quarter a year earlier.

The construction industry recorded a year-on-year growth of 9.4%, slightly below the 10.4% growth in the preceding year. However, in the March 2025 quarter, the sector expanded by 10.8%, up from 8.7% in Q4 FY24.

Manufacturing saw a slowdown, growing by 4.5% in FY25 compared to 12.3% in the previous fiscal. For the fourth quarter, manufacturing rose by 4.8%, down from 11.3% during the same period last year.

## High-fat diet sets off metabolic dysfunction in cells, leads to weight gain: Study

WASHINGTON DC, Jun 1 (Agencies): Researchers find high-fat diets set off metabolic dysfunction in cells, leading to weight gain, but these effects can be reversed by treatment with an antioxidant.

Consuming a high-fat diet can lead to a variety of health problems -- not only weight gain but also an increased risk of diabetes and other chronic diseases.

At the cellular level, hundreds of changes take place in response to a high-fat diet. MIT researchers have now mapped out some of those changes, with a focus on metabolic enzyme dysregulation that is associated with weight gain.

Their study, conducted in mice, revealed that hundreds of enzymes involved in sugar, lipid, and protein metabolism are affected by a high-fat diet, and that these disruptions lead to an increase in insulin resistance and an accumulation of damaging molecules called reactive oxygen species.

These effects were more pronounced in males than in females.

The researchers also showed that most of the damage could be reversed by giving the mice an antioxidant along with their high-fat diet.

"Under metabolic stress conditions, enzymes can be affected to produce a more harmful state than what was initially there," says Tigist Tamir, a former MIT postdoc.

"Then what we've shown with the antioxidant study is that you can bring them to a different state that is less dysfunctional," added Tigist Tamir.

Tamir, who is now an assistant professor of biochemistry and biophysics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, is the lead author of the new study, which appears today in *Molecular Cell*.

Forest White, the Ned C. and Janet C. Rice Professor of Biological Engineering and a member of the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT, is the senior author of the paper.

In previous work, White's lab has found that a high-fat diet stimulates cells to turn on many of the same signalling pathways that are linked to chronic stress.

In the new study, the researchers wanted to explore the role of enzyme phosphorylation in those responses.

Phosphorylation, or the addition of a phosphate group, can turn

enzyme activity on or off. This process, which is controlled by enzymes called kinases, gives cells a way to quickly respond to environmental conditions by fine-tuning the activity of existing enzymes within the cell.

Many enzymes involved in metabolism -- the conversion of food into the building blocks of key molecules such as proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids -- are known to undergo phosphorylation.

The researchers began by analysing databases of human enzymes that can be phosphorylated, focusing on enzymes involved in metabolism.

They found that many of the metabolic enzymes that undergo phosphorylation belong to a class called oxidoreductases, which transfer electrons from one molecule to another.

Such enzymes are key to metabolic reactions such as glycolysis -- the breakdown of glucose into a smaller molecule known as pyruvate.

Among the hundreds of enzymes the researchers identified are IDH1, which is involved in breaking down sugar to generate energy, and AKR1C1, which is required for metabolising fatty acids.

The researchers also found that many phos-



phorylated enzymes are important for the management of reactive oxygen species, which are necessary for many cell functions but can be harmful if too many of them accumulate in a cell.

Phosphorylation of these enzymes can lead them to become either more or less active, as they work together to respond to the intake of food.

Most of the metabolic enzymes identified in this study are phosphorylated on sites found in regions of the enzyme that are important for binding to the molecules that they act upon or for forming dimers -- pairs of proteins that join together to form a functional enzyme.

"Tigist's work has really shown categorically the importance of phosphorylation in controlling the

flux through metabolic networks. It's fundamental knowledge that emerges from this systemic study that she's done, and it's something that is not classically captured in the biochemistry textbooks," White says.

To explore these effects in an animal model, the researchers compared two groups of mice, one that received a high-fat diet and one that consumed a normal diet.

They found that overall, phosphorylation of metabolic enzymes led to a dysfunctional state in which cells were in redox imbalance, meaning that their cells were producing more reactive oxygen species than they could neutralise.

These mice also became overweight and developed insulin resistance.

## Blood type incompatibility key factor for kidney exchange transplant in India, finds study

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Blood group 'ABO' incompatibility could be a major factor driving kidney exchange transplants in India, where living donor transplants face numerous challenges, a study published in 'The Lancet Regional Health Southeast Asia' journal has found.

ABO incompatibility occurs when a donor's blood group differs from that of a recipient, leading the recipient's immune system to reject the transplanted organ.

The study conducted by researchers, including those from Smt. G R Doshi and Smt. K M Mehta Institute of Kidney Diseases and Research Center (IKDRC), Ahmedabad, noted that a third of healthy and willing living donors in India are incompatible with their intended recipients, largely due to blood group mismatches.

The team said that no large-scale data is available on kidney or liver exchange transplants in low and middle-income countries, including India.

Kidney exchange transplants involve two or more donor-recipient pairs swapping donors to enable recipients to receive compatible kidneys.

The IKDRC's website explains, a

donor of one pair of donor-recipient could donate a kidney to a recipient of a second pair while the donor of the second pair could donate to the recipient of the first pair. The exchange allows two ABO incompatible recipients to receive healthy, more compatible kidneys.

The study analysed 1,839 kidney exchanges from 65 centres across India, revealing that ABO incompatibility was the main reason for entering such exchanges in 1,610 (87 per cent) of the cases.

The remaining exchanges were due to compatible pairs 126 (seven per cent) and sensitisation 103 (six per cent), according to the authors of the study.

A notable gender imbalance was found, with more men (82 per cent) being recipients in kidney exchanges, and more women (80 per cent) being donors. The researchers also looked at 259 liver exchange transplants from seven centres across India.

"The majority of (liver exchange transplants) were 2-way swaps (125 two-way versus 3 three-way swaps), predominantly involving male recipients (222 male versus 37 females) and for ABO incompatibility," the authors wrote.

## Warmer climate could be making cancer among women more common

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Global warming could be making cancer in women more common and deadly, according to a study conducted in the Middle East and North Africa.

The region is predicted to reach three to four degrees Celsius of warming about three decades earlier than the rest of the world.

Summers in Middle Eastern nations, such as the United Arab Emirates, are characterised by extremely high temperatures - sometimes touching 50 degrees Celsius—while North Africa sees temperatures in the range of 40-50 degrees Celsius.

Analysing prevalence and deaths due to cancer with temperatures between 1998 and 2019, researchers, including those from The American University in Cairo,

Egypt, found a "small, but statistically significant" rise in prevalence and death rates of breast, ovarian, uterine, and cervical cancers.

For an increase in temperature by a degree Celsius, prevalence of the cancers was found to rise by 173-280 cases per one lakh people—cases of ovarian cancer rose the most, and those of breast cancer the least.

Death rates increased by 171-332 per one lakh people for each degree of temperature rise, with the biggest rise in ovarian cancer cases and the smallest in cervical cancer.

Findings, published in the journal *Frontiers in Public Health*, suggest that an increased ambient temperature is probably a risk factor for breast, ovarian, uterine, and cervical cancers.



"As temperatures rise, cancer mortality among women also rises—particularly for ovarian and breast cancers," first author Wafa Abuelkheir Mataria of The American University in Cairo, said.

"Although the increases per degree of temperature rise are modest, their cumulative public health impact is substantial," Mataria said.

Studies have shown that condi-

tions driven by climate change - rising temperatures, compromised food and water security, and poor air quality - increase the risk of disease and death worldwide.

In the context of cancer, people are potentially exposed more to risk factors like environmental toxins and are less likely to receive a prompt diagnosis and treatment—and women are especially physiologically vulnerable, the researchers said.

The health risks are "compounded by inequalities that limit access to healthcare. Marginalised women face a multiplied risk because they are more exposed to environmental hazards and less able to access early screening and treatment services," co-author Sungsoo Chun, of The American University in Cairo, said.

The researchers added that the higher number of cancer cases observed in the study could also reflect improvements in cancer screening.

However, an improved screening would be expected to result in fewer deaths, as early-stage cancer is easier to treat, they said. But both death rates and prevalence rose, suggesting that the driving factor is exposure to risk factors, the team said.

"Our analysis indicates a significant correlation between prolonged exposure to high ambient temperatures and all four cancer types studied. Notably, the prevalence of breast, ovarian, and cervical cancers is markedly influenced by temperature increases," the authors wrote.

## “We will win most medals in wrestling in 2036 Olympics...”: Yogeshwar Dutt

**Dutt was speaking at the landmark 25th edition of the Fit India Sundays on Cycle initiative, termed Tiranga Rally, as a tribute to the Indian Armed Forces, taking place in Delhi on Sunday.**

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Former wrestler and Olympic medalist Yogeshwar Dutt said that India aims to better its record in wrestling in the coming years, after a period marred by protests against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) ex-president Brij Bhushan Singh and consequent setbacks. The sport he added will be the biggest contributor to the country's medal tally in the 2036 Olympics, if they are held in India.

He said this on the sidelines of the 25th edition of the 'Fit India Sundays on Cycle' initiative, termed Tiranga Rally, as a tribute to the Indian Armed Forces, taking place in the national capital today.

Speaking about the lifting of the ban on WFI imposed by the Sports Ministry in March and the current wrestling scenario in the country, Dutt said, "The last two years were very bad for wrestling. There was a negative image of wrestling all over the country. There is a case going on in the court. But we have won medals in wrestling in five Olympic Games. We have won medals from 2008 to 2024



in this sport, and the wrestlers are strong. But it has been very bad for two years. Otherwise, we could have won two or three medals in the Paris Olympics."

"But our target is to do even better in wrestling. And the federation has started doing its work in its own way. Before that (before protests), wherever we used to go, we used to win medals. And a lot of sponsors came to us. We started the Pro Wrestling League (in 2015). So that the poor wrestlers get a chance. And we get an international platform in our country through the league. So that our

junior wrestlers can benefit."

"And we will win more medals in the upcoming Olympics. Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream is that the Olympics will be held in India in 2036. India is working hard for that. So that we can become a global power in sports. And I believe that wrestling will be its biggest contribution. The Olympics will be held in India in 2036. So I believe that we will win the most medals in wrestling," he said.

Speaking on the 'Tiranga Rally' initiative during the Fit India 'Sundays on Cycle', Dutt said, "This was in honour of our

forces. It is a good thing that in the 25th edition of Fit India Sundays on Cycle, we honoured our forces. What they did was a huge matter of pride for us. This Fit India Sundays on Cycle initiative will give a message to everyone in the country that, as long as we are fit and healthy, the nation stands strong."

Notably, Operation Sindoor was India's decisive military response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. Launched on May 7, Operation Sindoor led to the death of over 100 terrorists affiliated with terror outfits like the Jaish-e-Mohammed, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and Hizbul Mujahideen.

After the attack, Pakistan retaliated with cross-border shelling across the Line of Control and Jammu and Kashmir as well as attempted drone attacks along the border regions, following which India launched a coordinated attack and damaged radar infrastructure, communication centres, and airfields across 11 airbases in Pakistan. After this, on May 10, an understanding of the cessation of hostilities between India and Pakistan was announced.

## “PSG deserved to win this game, trophy...”: Inter Milan coach Simone Inzaghi after CL final



MUNICH, Jun 1 (Agencies): Following his side's loss to Paris-Saint Germain in the final of the UEFA Champions League, Inter Milan head coach Simone Inzaghi hailed his opposition for being the deserving winners of the trophy and added that his side needs to learn from their losses, come out stronger from them.

Inter's dreams of a fourth UEFA Champions League title were crushed by a ruthless, relentless onslaught from PSG, who rammed five goals past a helpless Inter Milan defence to clinch a maiden title and register the biggest win in the tournament's final history.

Speaking as quoted by Sky Sports, Simone said that the loss is as hurtful as their 1-0 loss to Manchester City in the 2023 UEFA Champions League final.

"Paris deserved to win this game and the trophy. We are disappointed, but the path to this point was great. As a coach, I am proud of my players. The game, of course, was not good enough on our part."

"I thanked my players for what they did this season. We did not win a trophy, but I am proud to be their coach."

"We need to learn from defeats and come out stronger. This hurts like the

Istanbul final [2023 defeat to Manchester City]. It was a different game. Paris was constantly first on the ball. We needed to do much better."

"We gave everything we had to get to this point, playing 58 games this season. We're disappointed, sad. The players gave their all," he concluded.

Luis Enrique managed side registered wins over giants Manchester City, Liverpool, Aston Villa, and Arsenal on the route to the final and never felt the pressure of playing with three-time champions, who ousted FC Barcelona 7-6 on aggregate to secure their spot in the final.

The French giants were dominant right from the start and took the lead with Achraf Hakimi putting the ball in the net in the 12th over.

Eight minutes later, the lead was doubled as Desire Doue beat a helpless Yann Sommer to make it 2-0.

The scoreline went undisturbed for the rest of the first half. Though Khvicha Kvaratskhelia could not score in two of his opportunities, Desire managed to get a brace, as a no-look flick from Ousmane Dembele reached Vitinha, who gave the ball to Desire, who put it in the bottom corner of the goal in the 63rd minute.

Kvaratskhelia finally got it right, putting in the fourth goal past a tired Inter Milan defence in the 73rd minute, while Senny Mayulu delivered the fifth and final blow in the 86th minute.

With this win, PSG became the only French side to win the UEFA Champions League title after Marseille in 1993.

## South Africa to play against Zimbabwe ahead of WTC final against Australia

NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): South Africa will lock horns with Zimbabwe in a four-day warm-up match from June 3 at the Arundel Castle Cricket Ground in Sussex, England, as per the ICC official website.

This will serve as key preparation for the Proteas ahead of their all-important World Test Championship Final at the Oval against Australia starting June 11.

South Africa last featured in the longest format in a 2-0 home series win over Pakistan in January 2025, and this warm-up against their neighbours will provide them with a chance to acclimatise to red-ball cricket ahead of the Ultimate Test.

Zimbabwe, meanwhile, are coming off in a one-off Test against England at Trent Bridge, their first Test on English soil in two decades, a landmark moment in their cricketing journey.



Despite England winning the contest by an innings and 45 runs, Zimbabwe had plenty of moments to remember from the game, especially Brian Bennett's fighting ton in the first innings.

Zimbabwe will be without the services of Sikandar Raza, Blessing Muzarabani and Richard Ngarava, but are otherwise expected to field a strong outfit, with the likes of Sean Williams, Bennett, Victor Nyauchi, Clive Madande, and Craig Ervine in the mix.

South Africa Squad for the WTC 2025 Final: Tony de Zorzi,

Ryan Rickelton, Aiden Markram, Temba Bavuma (c), David Bedingham, Tristan Stubbs, Kyle Verreynne, Wiaan Mulder, Marco Jansen, Corbin Bosch, Kagiso Rabada, Lungi Ngidi, Dane Paterson, Keshav Maharaj, Senuran Muthusamy.

Zimbabwe Squad: Craig Ervine (c), Brian Bennett, Tanaka Chivanga, Ben Curran, Alex Falao, Clive Madande, Wessly Madhevere, Tanunurwa Makoni, Wellington Masakadza, Vincent Masekesa, Newman Nyamhuri, Victor Nyauchi, Tafadzwa Tsiga, Nicholas Welch, Sean Williams.

## Massive milestone on watch for PBKS skipper Iyer during Qualifier two IPL clash against MI

AHMEDABAD, Jun 1 (Agencies): Punjab Kings (PBKS) skipper Shreyas Iyer would be aiming to become the fifth skipper to complete 50 wins in the Indian Premier League (IPL) as his side takes on five-time champions Mumbai Indians (MI) at Ahmedabad in the Qualifier two.

It would be now or never for Iyer as his in-form PBKS, which topped the league stage with nine wins in 13 completed games, will be aiming to bounce back from a crushing eight-wicket loss to Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the Qualifier one to book their place in the title clash against RCB at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium.

So far in the IPL, Iyer has led Delhi Capitals (DC), Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), and PBKS in a total of 85



matches, winning 49 of them, including two by tie and losing 34. Two matches ended in a no-result. His win percentage is over 57 per cent.

For DC, Iyer won 23 out of 41 matches and lost 18, with a win percentage of 56.09 per cent. He became the first team to lead them to the final in 2020 and ended up as runners-up to the Mumbai Indians (MI). He also led KKR to their first IPL title in a decade and overall

third last year, winning 17 out of 29 matches for them, losing 11, and one ending in a no result. For PBKS so far, he has won nine, lost five, and one match ended in a no result. His win percentage reads 60.

Iyer is the only captain to have led three different IPL teams to at least playoff spots. He is also the only captain to have led two different teams (KKR and PBKS) to top-place finishes in the league stage in a row.

Only four IPL captains have fifty or more wins in IPL history, namely MS Dhoni (136 wins in 235 matches) for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rising Pune Supergiant (RPG), Rohit Sharma (87 in 158 matches) for MI, Virat Kohli (66 wins in 143 matches) for RCB and Gautam Gambhir (71 wins in 129 matches) for DC and KKR.

So far in the season, Iyer has fired 516 runs with the bat, scoring at an average of 46.90 and a strike rate of 170.86 with five half-centuries. His best score is 97\*.

Will Iyer get that 50th IPL win, which will book PBKS a shot at redemption against RCB?

Squads:  
Punjab Kings Squad: Priyansh Arya, Prabhsimran Singh, Josh Inglis(w), Shreyas Iyer(c), Nehal Wadhara, Marcus Stoinis, Sha-shank Singh, Azmatullah

Omarzai, Harpreet Brar, Kyle Jamieson, Arshdeep Singh, Musheer Naushad Khan, Vijaykumar Vyshak, Praveen Dube, Xavier Bartlett, Suryansh Shedge, Yuzvendra Chahal, Vishnu Vinod, Yash Thakur, Aaron Hardie, Kuldeep Sen, Mitchell Owen, Harnoor Singh, Pyla Avinash

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

## Ultimate Table Tennis Season 6: Debutants Kolkata ThunderBlades open against Stanley's Chennai Lions

AHMEDABAD, Jun 1 (Agencies): Debutants Kolkata ThunderBlades will kick off their IndianOil Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) Season 6 campaign against Season 3 champions Stanley's Chennai Lions on Monday in the day's first tie, scheduled for 5 PM.

Following that, U Mumba TT will clash with Western rivals Ahmedabad SG Pipers in a highly-anticipated derby at 7:30 PM, as per a UTT press release.

Staged under the aegis of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) and promoted by Niraj Bajaj and Vita Dani, IndianOil UTT continues to grow as a premier professional league. All 23 ties, over 16 action-packed days, will take place at Ahmedabad's EKA Arena.

Led by an all-star foregroup of Olympians Aruna Quadri and Adriana Diaz, as well as India's 18-year-old

sensation Ankur Bhattacharjee, Kolkata ThunderBlades are well-positioned to make an impact in their debut season. Aruna (World Ranking 27), returning for his fifth season with UTT, is the highest-ranked men's player this season, while Diaz (WR17), back for her second assignment after 2018, is the second-highest-ranked women's player.

All eyes, however, will be on Ankur, who was the undisputed find of the previous season. Storming into the arena with unbridled intensity, Ankur won four of his five matches and 10 of the 15 games he contested-at a win rate of 66.67, the second-highest in Season 5-and stacked high across the board in terms of numbers in a breakout campaign.

On the opposite end will be the former Youth World No. 1 Payas Jain, flanked by seasoned



international stars Fan Siqi and Kirill Gerassimenko. Fan, the highest-valued player at this season's auction, is only the third player from China to partake in the league, while Kazakhstan's Gerassimenko is back for his third taste of UTT, after previously appearing in seasons three and four.

In the day's second tie, U Mumba TT will aim to settle scores from last season's 9-6 defeat against Western rivals Ahmedabad SG Pipers in what promises to be a closely fought clash. While both sides would have completed their

opening fixtures by then, this matchup carries an extra edge, with both teams fielding revamped and balanced line-ups for Season 6.

Leading the charge for U Mumba is World No. 12 Bernadette Szocs, the highest-ranked player in the league. She'll be supported by returning Frenchman Lilian Bardet and rising Indian star Yashaswini Ghorpade. For the hosts, Ricardo Walther-fresh off a strong debut despite a 10-5 loss to Dempo Goa Challenge-ers--will be key. His growing chemistry with Ayhika Mukherjee in

the mixed doubles category adds intrigue to an already high-stakes contest.

Squads  
Match 1  
Stanley's Chennai Lions: Fan Siqi (China), Kirill Gerassimenko (Kazakhstan), Payas Jain, Sudhanshu Grover, Poymantee Baisya, Nikhat Banu.

Kolkata ThunderBlades: Adriana Diaz (Puerto Rico), Aruna Quadri (Nigeria), Ankur Bhattacharjee, Selena Selvakumar, Ananya Chande, Deepit Patil.

Match 2  
U Mumba TT: Bernadette Szocs (Romania), Lilian Bardet (France), Yashaswini Ghorpade, Swastika Ghosh, Akash Pal, Abhinandh PB.

Ahmedabad SG Pipers: Ayhika Mukherjee, Ricardo Walther (Germany), Snehit Suravajjula, Giorgia Piccolin (Italy), Divyansh Srivastava, Yashini Sivashankar.

## Jasprit Bumrah is the vaccine that can cure any illness for bowling side: Varun Aaron



NEW DELHI, Jun 1 (Agencies): Former India cricketer turned commentator Varun Aaron has showered massive praise on fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah, comparing him with a vaccine. Bumrah has been in marvellous form ever since his return to action after three months in the ongoing Indian Premier League 2025 (IPL 2025).

The speedster has orchestrated several thumping victories in the ongoing season, playing one of the biggest roles in their run to Qualifier 2 so far. Bumrah's game-changing prowess was once again on display in the Eliminator fixture against Gujarat Titans as he dismantled Washington Sundar's stumps with a toe-crushing Yorker to help Mumbai Indians (MI) make a comeback into the game.

Following his remarkable performance, Vaurn Aaron came up with a unique 'vaccine' analogy for Bumrah, calling him the cure for every illness of the bowling team.

"He's like an antidote, a vaccine that can cure any illness, which a bowling side can have. If you want wickets, he comes and gets you wickets. If you want to stop runs, he stops runs for you. Man, what a bowler," Aaron said on ESPNcricinfo 'Timeout'.

Furthermore, Aaron mentioned how Bumrah calmed a flustered Mahela Jayawardene on the boundary line by assuring him of a comeback when the game was slipping away from MI's grasp.

"And the belief he has in his ability. You have an international coach Mahela Jayawardene, who is obviously panicking because his bowlers have suddenly started to go to the cleaners, and he just turns around and is like 'just calm down, I'll do the job for you'. Comes in, runs in, gets hit for a six and then gets that ball," said Aaron.

In the ongoing season, Bumrah has scalped 18 wickets from 11 innings at an average of 15.33 and an economy of 6.36. He will be eager to continue his form as MI will next take on Punjab Kings (PBKS) in Qualifier 2 on Sunday, June 1 at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. The winner of the fixture will meet Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the final of the tournament on Tuesday, June 3 at the same venue.

# Natrang's Summer Theatre Camp-2025 for children inaugurated by Balwant Thakur

## Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Natrang's Summer Theatre Camp for children-2025- the most sought after and ultimate professionally devised event for children in the region inaugurated here on Sunday at Natrang Studio Theatre, Jammu with the lighting of traditional lamps by Director Natrang, Padmashri Balwant Thakur.



Children programme is that it focuses more on social development, self-development, emotional development, critical thinking, public speaking, empathy fostering and enhancing cognitive.

Children Theatre Camp-2025 will be conducted by Sumeet Sharma who is a National Awardee for direction in theatre. Neeraj Kant and Gauri Thakur in addition to Balwant Thakur will also conduct sessions in this workshop. Natrang's Children Theatre Wing was started in the year 1990 and since then, annual Summer Theatre camps, Spring Theatre workshops, Winter Theatre Workshops have been a regular feature of Natrang's children activities. Over 5,000 children have been trained in this process and the majority of them are now top professionals in varied fields. Fact remains that theatre transforms an individual to a level that he/she excels and

succeeds in every field. The period of Summer Vacations is exclusively dedicated for Children Theatre every year by Natrang as this is the only time when children have many days in continuity to learn, explore and groom their personalities and improve their immense inner abilities in a fun-filled creative space and occasion. Till now, Natrang has groomed the personalities of thousands of children with an effective and efficient transforming tool called theatre.

A new full-length play would also be prepared by the participants during Natrang's Theatre Camp-2025 which would be presented before larger audiences who get a chance to watch a wonderful children's play every year as the outcome of the summer theatre camp.

The training module is designed by Padma Shri Balwant Thakur, who has taken the children theatre of Jammu to the entire length and

breadth of the Country. His children theatre productions like 'Mere Hisse Ki Dhoop Kahan Hai', 'Aap Hamare Hain Kaun', 'Hum Hain Na', 'Udaan' etc. are considered to be the landmark children productions of India. His play 'Aap Hamaare Hain Kaun' has been translated and staged in French, English and Creole internationally.

Special training focus of the workshop will be on developing communication skills, public speaking and imbibing of confidence through latest developed techniques of theatre.

The skill developing techniques, devised by Sumeet Sharma during his consistent work with children for over 25 years, prove very successful in imparting the benefits of theatre to the children.

A dedicated team of artists/trainers which includes Mohd Yaseen, Kananpreet Kaur and Kartik Kumar will facilitate the smooth func-

tioning of the workshop.

Those who are attending this workshop include Supria Gorka, Tavi Bajgotra, Aqeedat Dogra, Vamika Verma, Vivaan Verma, Araiya Shan, Shreen Shaan, Vivaan, Saanchi Dutta, Dwijesh Dutta, Ruhaan Chandan, Dhanak Chandan, Mahira Singh, Amayra Mahajan, Viyaan Sharma, Advik Sharma, Adira Sharma, Nandita Mahajan, Reyansh Vaid, Kavish Sharma, Addeha Singh, Aashrita Sharma, Nirvana Shah, Jazz Shah, Tanishqa Sharma, Vivan Kahjuria, Krishna Singh, Akshaj Mehta, Anvay Mehta and Mehak Chib.

# JTGC Women Putting Competition 2025 held

## Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC), Sidhra organized "Women Putting Competition" on Sunday to inculcate competitive spirit among the women.



Many women players participated in the competition with great enthusiasm and zeal. Ankita Sethi displayed some great skills and lifted the trophy while Minaal-e-Gul was the runner-up. Third place was bagged by Dr. Shafiq Banoo.

Pratima Sharma, Mamta Kapahi, Megha Kapahi, Dr. Deepika Saroj, Ayeza Kohli, Diksha Thakur, Ankita Sethi, Mallika Baseera,

Dr. Shafiq Banoo, Gul-e-Sukhrab, Gul-e-Menhal, Aruna Pathania, Devika Sharma and Pallavi Gupta participated during the competition.

Ansuya Jamwal, Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu was the Guest of Honour. She said that putting contest is an innovative way to entice women players

towards golf and nurture talent in Jammu and Kashmir.

Besides that Secretary, Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Manav Gupta was also present on that occasion and he said that several steps have been initiated to popularize Golf in Jammu and such events will be organized on regular basis.

# MLA from Jasrota Rajiv Jasrotia appointed Party's Chief Whip in J&K Assembly

## Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir unit, has announced key responsibilities for its members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs). These appointments aim to strengthen the party's organizational structure and legislative functioning in the Assembly. According to handout issued, Rajiv Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson & MLA from Jasrota appointed party's Chief Whip in J&K Assembly and Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat, MLA from Suchetgarh and Yudhvir Sethi, BJP Vice-President & MLA from Jammu East as whips.

Other key appointments include Surjit Singh Salathia, BJP Vice-President & MLA from Samba, Pawan

Gupta, MLA from Udhampur West as Deputy Leaders of the Opposition, Choudhary Vikram Randhawa, MLA from Bahu as Secretary, Arvind Gupta, BJP Secretary & MLA from Jammu West as Treasurer and Balwant Mankotia, MLA from Chenani, Shakti Raj Parihar, BJP Vice-President & MLA Doda West as Spokespersons.

Jasrotia expressed gratitude to the party leadership for the appointment and assured them that he would uphold the party's core principles and ideology. As Chief Whip, Jasrotia pledged to highlight pressing public issues in the Assembly, ensure the government remains accountable, and remind them of their electoral promises. He also vowed to address genuine concerns of all societal sections ami-

cably. As Chief Whip will ensure party discipline and cohesion within the legislative assembly and that party members adhere to the party's whip and voting instructions. He assured facilitating the passage of bills and other legislative business in the Assembly, informing members about the party's stance on various issues and bills. He pledged to advocate for the party's interests and policies in the Assembly, added Jasrotia.

Jasrotia further said that as Chief Whip will maintain party unity, ensuring effective legislative functioning and representing the party's interests in the Assembly. He said these appointments reflect the party's commitment to empowering its legislative team and ensuring effective representation of public interests in



the Assembly. The BJP continues to strive for responsive, accountable, and development-oriented governance in Jammu & Kashmir.

Jasrotia has been a member of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly from Jasrota constituency since 2024 and previously represented Kathua constituency from 2014-2019. He served as the Minister for Forest, Environment, and Ecology in the PDP-BJP coalition government for a brief period in 2018.

# Shiv Sena questions BJP's commitment to Jammu's development

## Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Shiv Sena (UBT) has strongly criticized the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for allegedly neglecting the development of Jammu's economy, trade, and tourism.



Speaking at a press conference held at the party's central office, Manish Sahni, President of Shiv Sena's Jammu-Kashmir unit, accused the BJP of betraying the trust of the people of Jammu.

Sahni remarked that since 2014, instead of entering a phase of progress, Jammu has seen a decline in development and economic stability. "The so-called Amritkaal turned into Vishkaal for Jammu. The connection of Katra to the railway line and the discontinuation of the historic Darbar Move

have severely affected the region's economy," Sahni stated.

He further alleged that while economic efforts and tourism development have focused solely on Kashmir, Jammu has been sidelined. "BJP leaders, who once made controversial statements targeting the army for political gains, are now silent on the plight of Jammu," Sahni said.

Highlighting the impact of recent security incidents, he warned that the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack has already affected the Shri

Mata Vaishnodevi Yatra, with possible impacts on the Kheer Bhavani, Machail Mata, and Amarnath Yatras as well.

Sahni also criticized the BJP for what he called "token efforts" in the name of rehabilitation during Operation Sindoor and questioned their failure to support Jammu's industrial growth and local traders. "The BJP quickly came forward to support its business allies in Kunjwani, but the shopkeepers affected by road expansion near Nai Basti were left with nothing more than a photo-

op protest," he added.

Calling out the lack of a special development package for Jammu and the absence of efforts to restore statehood and special privileges, Sahni said, "The BJP's promise to regularize daily wagers within 10 days of coming to power remains unfulfilled."

In a scathing attack, he referred to a controversial remark made by a BJP MLA from Udhampur about the Indian Air Force during Operation Sindoor, claiming it demonstrated that "for the BJP, politics is paramount and Hindu nationalism is a sham."

Shiv Sena demanded immediate attention to Jammu's developmental needs and called for balanced economic and tourism policies that benefit both regions of the Union Territory equally.

# Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans emphasizes meditation as the path to realizing the soul

## Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: While delivering a soulful discourse at Rakhbandhu, Jammu, Sadguru Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, revered spiritual leader of Sahib Bandagi, captivated the congregation with profound spiritual insights. He spoke on the immortality and purity of the soul, stressing the importance of meditation to reconnect with the true self.



Sadguru Ji reminded devotees that while we universally accept that the soul is immortal, most people continue to live bound by Maya (illusion) and the mind's distractions. "There is no flaw in the soul—it is natural, conscious, and blissful. It is the unending energy of the Divine," he said. Comparing the inherited qualities of children from parents, he explained that, likewise, being a part of God, the soul carries divine attributes.

Despite this knowledge, people are entangled in lust, anger, greed, and worldly attachments. "We all

know that the soul is veiled by Maya, yet we make no effort to move forward spiritually. We are living physical lives, trapped by forces that constantly pull us away from truth," he explained.

He urged devotees to identify and overcome these inner obstacles through understanding and discipline. Highlighting the futility of conflicts and inner battles, Sadguru Ji explained that our internal opposing forces often make us act against better judgment.

Quoting the teachings of Sahib, he said, "The whole world is blind; no one truly understands." The only

means to attain the soul, he said, is meditation. "The consciousness within your body is the soul—it is tied to the inert body. Meditation helps in uniting the conscious soul with the Supreme," he stated.

Drawing analogies, he added, "Just as the essence of oil is in sesame and the essence of ghee is in milk, the essence of consciousness lies in the body. Through meditation, we must extract that essence." But, he acknowledged, unseen forces within us resist meditation—the mind wavers, the body fidgets, and thoughts wander. He concluded by saying that the goal of meditation is complete stability—of the body, mind, and consciousness. "That one moment of deep stillness is equivalent to an entire cycle of time. Caring for our consciousness and stabilizing it is the true way to reach the Divine," Sadguru Ji emphasized.

The discourse left the audience deeply moved, inspiring many to commit themselves to the path of meditation and self-realization.

# District Admin Ramban welcomes Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra 2025 at Chanderkote

## Top News Report

RAMBAN, June 1: The District Administration Ramban extended a warm and traditional welcome to the devotees participating in the Shri Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra 2025 at Chanderkote, reaffirming its commitment to communal harmony and hospitality.



Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, led the welcoming ceremony, joined by Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, Addl. SP Mujeeb-ur-Rehman, ACR Shoket Hayat Mattoo, ACD Shrinath Suman, CMO Dr. Kamal Je Zadu, Tehsildar Deep Kumar, Dy. SP Om Prakash, CEO MC Sudershan Kumar, XEN PWD Ranjeet Singh, various senior officers,

religious leaders, and prominent citizens of the area.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 3,000 devotees, including members of the Kashmiri Pandit community,

who began their sacred journey from Jammu to attend the annual Kheer Bhawani Mela in Kashmir.

He assured them that comprehensive arrangements have been put in place by the District and

Police Administration to ensure a safe and comfortable journey for all pilgrims. These included adequate provisions for meals, health services, sanitation, security, and other essential amenities.

The Deputy Commissioner Ramban also extended his heartfelt wishes to the devotees for a peaceful and spiritually fulfilling journey. He expressed hope that the blessings of Mata Kheer Bhawani would bring harmony, prosperity, and well-being to all.

After partaking in the Langar at Chanderkote, the pilgrims resumed their onward journey to Tulmulla in District Ganderbal, Kashmir, to participate in the holy celebrations of the revered Mata Kheer Bhawani festival.

# Education is best mean to ensure a bright future: Balbir

## Top News Report

JAMMU, June 1: Urging retired senior citizens of his community to inspire the youth in their families towards education, former Vice Chairperson, J&K SC, ST, BC Development Corporation, Balbir Ram Rattan, said that those who dedicate more of their present time to books are the ones who lay the foundation for prosperity and success in the future.

Balbir Ram Rattan stated that retired individuals can best understand from their own experiences

that progress in life is not possible without education. He urged them to reflect on their past when they themselves were unemployed, and how education empowered them to secure jobs and earn a livelihood.

"Even today, after retirement, you are living a financially independent and respectable life, and the credit for this goes to education," Balbir said.

Referring to history, Balbir Ram Rattan emphasized that evidence clearly shows education is the

key to success. He said, "There are numerous examples in society where education has provided dignity, rights, and opportunities to people from marginalized sections."

In this context, he mentioned Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, stating that it was education that elevated him to such heights that the nation feels proud of him. Dr. Ambedkar not only faced social discrimination but also, through his knowledge and education, became the architect of the Constitution and earned a powerful place in society.