

TOP NEWS OF J&K



ENTERTAINMENT

JAMMU, MONDAY, JUNE 02, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper



NATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan army uses Kashmir to line their pockets, looting nation: Adnan Sami

Kharge asks Centre to provide funds for northeastern states grappling with floods

Right-wing Karol Nawrocki wins Poland presidential election

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BRIEFLY

Search operation underway in Kathua

JAMMU, Jun 2 (Agencies): Security forces on Monday launched a search operation near a forest area in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district after suspicious movement was detected, officials said.

The operation was launched after a civilian spotted three suspected persons in Saladhi area of Hiranagar, they said.

A joint operation team is engaged in the search, and vigilance has been intensified in the area and along the highway, they added.

3 Army personnel dead, 6 soldiers missing as landslide hits military camp in Sikkim

GANGTOK, Jun 2 (Agencies): Three army personnel died and six soldiers went missing after a landslide hit a military camp at Chhaten in Sikkim, a defence official said on Monday.

The landslide, which occurred at 7 pm on Sunday near Lachen town in Mangan district, was triggered by heavy rainfall in the area, he said.

"...A catastrophic landslide occurred following intense and continuous rainfall in the region causing death of three combatants, identified as Havaldar Lakhwind Singh, Lance Naik Munish Thakur, and Porter Abhishek Lakhadra," the official said in a statement.

Bodies of the personnel have been recovered, while four other soldiers were rescued with minor injuries, the official said in a statement.

"Rescue teams are working round-the-clock under challenging conditions to locate the six missing personnel," he said.

The army has expressed deep condolences to the families of the deceased and assured all necessary support, the defence official added.

Two-Year-Old dies after falling into water trench in Central Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Jun 2 (Agencies): A two-year-old boy died after accidentally falling into a water trench located in the lawn of his house in the Gagingear area of

■ Turn to page 9

Dr Jitendra launches India's First AI Based 'Large Language Model' For Indian Languages



NEW DELHI, Jun 2 (Agencies): Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh, today launched 'Bharat

Gen', India's first-of-its-kind, indigenously developed, Artificial Intelligence (AI) based, government-funded Multimodal "Large Language Model" (LLM) for

Indian languages, at the prestigious "BharatGen Summit"—India's largest Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and LLM summit and hackathon.

Developed under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) and implemented through TIH Foundation for IoT and IoE at IIT Bombay, BharatGen aims to revolutionize AI development across India's linguistic and

■ Turn to page 9

Mehbooba Mufti seeks dignified return of Kashmiri Pandits

SRINAGAR, Jun 2 (Agencies): PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday sought dignified return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits, saying their reintegration must not be viewed merely as a symbolic return, but as an opportunity to build a shared, inclusive and forward-looking future for Jammu and Kashmir.

The former chief minister, who called on Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at the Raj Bhavan here, submitted an "inclusive and phased roadmap" to facilitate "meaningful progress" on the front.

The PDP chief also submitted copies of the proposal to Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah.



"This issue goes beyond politics and touches the very core of our collective conscience. It is a moral imperative and a societal responsibility to ensure that our Pandit brothers and sisters, who were tragically displaced from their homeland, are provided with the opportunity to return in a manner that is dignified, secure and sustainable," she said in the letter.

Mehbooba said every political party in the union territory, irrespec-

tive of ideology, has consistently supported the idea of their return.

"The shared pain of their displacement and the yearning for reconciliation bind us all in the belief that Kashmir can once again be a place where communities coexist peacefully. To facilitate meaningful progress on this front, an inclusive and phased roadmap has been attached for your consideration," she said.

The PDP president said the proposal emphasises an all-stakeholders approach, ensuring that any policy or plan pitched is rooted in empathy, mutual trust and most importantly, the on ground realities. "I urge your office to initiate a dialogue driven process involving representatives from the

■ Turn to page 9

Dr Karan Singh urges devotees to Visit Mata Kheer Bhawani in large numbers

GANDERBAL, Jun 2 (Agencies): Senior Congress leader and former Sadr-e-Riyasat of Jammu & Kashmir, Dr Karan Singh, on Saturday urged devotees to visit Mata Kheer Bhawani temple in large numbers, emphasising faith and unity.

Speaking at the temple in Ganderbal, Dr Singh, who has been visiting the shrine for over 80 years, said, "This place

is a great blessing of the Goddess. I appeal to everyone to come here as they did in the past. We must not be afraid and must show the world that we are strong in our faith."

Dr Singh also highlighted the importance of security arrangements at the temple, saying that the government and Dharmarth Trust have ensured all necessary measures. "I have faith

in the arrangements. People must come here and seek blessings," he said, adding that it is time for Kashmiris to rebuild their glory through collective efforts.

Dr Singh stressed that the people of Kashmir have suffered the most during the conflict and urged all to rise above fear and support the region's revival by participating in religious and cultural events.

Four new deaths from Covid-19, Active cases near 4,000 in India

NEW DELHI, Jun 2 (Agencies): India's active COVID-19 cases stand at 3,961 as of 8 AM on Monday, June 2, according to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The cumulative COVID-19 deaths in the country since January this year have increased to 32, with four deaths reported since Sunday. According to official

data, 203 new cases were added to the active case count since Sunday.

Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Kerala each reported one COVID-19 death since Sunday.

Delhi reported 47 more COVID-19 cases, increasing the total active cases in the national capital to 483.

In Kerala, active COVID-19 cases rose to 1,435, with 35 new cases reported since Sunday.

In Maharashtra, 21 new COVID-19 cases were reported, taking the active case count to 506.

In West Bengal, 44 new COVID-19 cases were reported, increasing the state's active cases to 331.

Bhupinder Kumar gets Addl Charge of Resident Commissioner J&K

JAMMU, Jun 2 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government has assigned Bhupinder Kumar, IAS, additional charge of Resident Commissioner in New Delhi and Administrative Secretary of the Hospitality and Protocol Department, in addition to his current roles as Secretary of the R&B Department and Director, Citizen Registration, for J&K and Ladakh.

Mehbooba Mufti meets LG Sinha for First time after Article 370 abrogation

SRINAGAR, Jun 2 (Agencies): Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti met Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan in Srinagar today, marking their first formal meeting since the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019. A senior

PDP leader confirmed to agency that Mehbooba intends to raise pressing public issues and security-related concerns during the meeting.

Since the revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, Mehbooba has been one of the most vocal critics of the central government's policies in the Union Territory.

Two killed, Six injured in Bani-Basohli Road accident in Kathua



JAMMU, Jun 2 (Agencies): At least two persons were killed and six others suffered injuries in a mishap on the Bani-Basohli road in Bani tehsil of Kathua district in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday.

Police said that a cab

met with an accident and rolled down on the road on the Bani-Basohli road, in which eight persons suffered injuries.

"Two people were killed and six others, including a female, were injured," they said, adding that with the help of locals and police, the injured were rushed to the nearby hospital, and out of them, a teenager was referred to the Government Medical College and Hospital Kathua.

Panic grips Jammu railway station after hoax bomb call

JAMMU, Jun 2 (Agencies): A bomb threat targeting Jammu railway station turned out to be a hoax after an intensive search of the premises by security agencies, police said on Monday. Jammu dining guide

The hoax call was received from an unknown caller regarding the presence of a bomb at the main station on Sunday evening, a police official said.

Police along with Railway police acted swiftly and the whole station was thoroughly searched, checked and cleared but nothing suspicious was found, the official said.

He said the process of identification of the caller is going on.

Officials said the joint search operation at the railway station continued for several hours during the intervening night of Sunday and Monday.

Sniffer dogs and metal detectors were also utilised during the search

■ Turn to page 9

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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 Piarey Lal Dhar Smt & Sh Rakesh Bhat (9419149858)



Julie Pandita (Dhar)

BARKHI

One year since you left us and yet your warmth and wisdom continue to guide us every day. You may be gone in presence, but never in spirit.

BARKHI of Late Sh. Parshotam Kumar Khosla S/o Late Sh. Kashmiri Lal Khosla shall be performed at our residence 136/6 Channi Himmat, Jammu on 3rd June at 12:00 Noon.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:

Veena Khosla - **Wife**
Seema & Col. Vishal Uppal - **Daughter & Son-in-Law**
Sahil & Mridul Khosla - **Son and Daughter-in-Law**
Utkarsh, Dhairya & Soumil - **Grandchildren**



Sh. Parshotam Kumar Khosla

CHOUBARSI

4 years have passed since you left us for your heavenly abode. Fragrance of your sweet memories is as fresh as ever. May the almighty grant eternal peace to your noble soul.

It is informed to you all that

"CHOUBARSI" of Lt. Sh. Tirath Ram Gupta will be held on 03-06-2025 at our residence Q.No. 114, Sarwal Colony Jammu.

DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:-

Smt. Chand Rani Gupta - **Wife & ALL FAMILY MEMBERS**

Contact: 9469646150, 7889709005, 8826566228, 8141471057



LT SH TIRATH RAM GUPTA

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 Purani Mandi, Jammu at present 149 A Rouki 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, Rouki 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

CHOUBARSI

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday unseen, unheard but always near, still missed and very dear.

It is with very heavy heart and enduring love that we remember our beloved **Sh Romesh Kumar Mishra** on the occasion of his **Choubarisi**. **Shej** will be performed on Tuesday, 3rd of June 2025 at our residence, Om Som Niwas, New Deeli Railway Crossing at 12:00 Noon.

Deeply Remembered By :

Smt Anuradha - **Wife**
Himanshu - **Son**
Arvi & Hitanshu - **Daughter in law & Son**
Himani & Sunil - **Daughter & Son in law**
Bhaiya & Bhabhi:
Smt Vaishno W/o Late Sh Inder Kumar
Smt Manisha & Sh Shiv K Sharma
Sister & Brother in Law
Smt Anuradha & Sh Satish C Sharma
Brother in law & Sister in Law
Smt Santa & Sh B B Sharma
Smt Roshmi & Sh Lokesh Sharma
Smt Neeru & Sh Pawan K Sharma



Sh Romesh Kumar Mishra

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved

Smt. Veena Gupta

W/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta

R/o H.No. 88, Sec-6, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu on 25-05-2025



SMT. VEENA GUPTA

TENTH DAY will be performed on Tuesday, 3rd June 2025, from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon at K.C. REGALIA, Near Bahu Plaza, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN :-

Smt. Kailash Devi - **Mother-in-law**
Ashok Gupta - **Husband**
Son & Daughter-in-law
Arun Gupta & Shruti Gupta
Daughter & Son-in-law
Ashima Mahajan & Vineet Mahajan
Grand Childrens : Ayush, Avishi, Ishani

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9419146358, 9419188228, 9419191214

OBITUARY

"Dear Papa,

We are deeply saddened by your passing on May 29, 2025, leaving us with an unfillable void. Your love and guidance will always be remembered. We miss you immensely and find it difficult to imagine spending the rest of our lives without your warm smiles. We pray to God to bless your noble soul with eternal peace and happiness. Rest in peace, Papa."

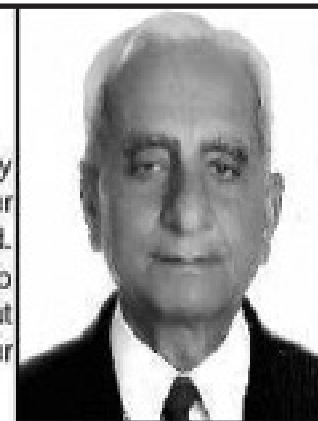
From

Your Daughters and Son in law

Santosh Sharma W/o Col RK Sharma

Veena Sharma W/o Late Adv GD Sharma

Rajni Sharma W/o Shri KB Magotra (KAS)



Sh L M Khajuria

MOURNING FROM MALUN SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved maternal uncle (mama ji) **Jawahar Lal Ganjoo** H/o Bita Ganjo (D/o Late Smt And Shri Niranjan Nath Dhar) of HUGAM Anantnag on 30 May 2025 (Friday). At present: Mini Town Ship Jagti Colony, Lane No 25 back side Community Hall.

Mourning from MALUN SIDE is being held at H.No. 6-411, Ward No. 62 Street Number 622 near Apple Kids School Chinore.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Sister in Law's Son and Daughter in law:

Pawan Raina and Namita Raina

Sister in Law's Daughters and Son in laws:

Pooja Raina and C.K.SINGH

Babli Raina and Ramesh Bhat.

MOB NO. 97177 80701



JAWAHAR LAL GANJOO

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:

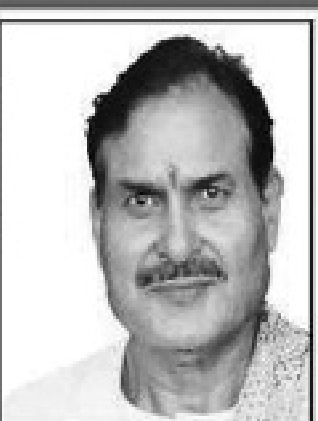
Wife -Smt. Veena Ji (Nirmala Ji)
Son & Daughter in Law
Sanjeev Bhat & Simran Bhat
Babhi - Smt. Dulari Bhat,
Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Ashok Kumar Bhat & Smt. Usha Bhat
Brother in Law & Sister
Sh. Prem Nath Raina & Smt. Binia Raina

SAMAST BHAT PARIWAR (SIRHAMA), RAINA PARIWAR (SOMBRUN)

KOUL PARIWAR (HARDU TOORU)

Family can be reached at

Mob: 7006797161, 9797880011, 9018144919



Sh. Maharaj Krishen Bhat

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 Purani Mandi, Jammu at present 149 A Rouki 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, Rouki 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**
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M/s Shivam Advertising Agency, Moti Bazar, Jammu.
Mobile : 9419187957, 9419197787, 9419162788



Smt. Shakuntla Gupta

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 Shambho 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

10TH DAY KRIYA

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

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

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mr & Mrs. Autar Krishen Bhat - **Son & Daughter in Law**
Mr & Mrs B.N Kaul - **Daughter & Son in Law**
Mr & Mrs P.N Raina - **Daughter & Son in Law**
Mr & Mrs Veerji Bhat - **Daughter & Son in Law**
Mr & Mrs Mannohan Bhat - **Daughter & Son in Law**
Mr & Mrs Annet Bhat - **Grand Son & Daughter in Law**
Kunsh & Kavish - **Grand Son**
MOBILE NO: 9419630796, 9149754688, 7889711564



Smt Kaushliya Bhat

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Makhan Lal Bhat** S/o Lt. Sh Ram Chand Bhat (Drussoo) Pulwama. At present Flat 10, Block 83, Lane17 Jagti colony Nagrota Jammu

Tenth Day will be performed on Wednesday 04/06/2025 7:30 am at muthi gath near Directorate of school Education Jammu

GRIEF STRICKEN

All Family Members
Ph.7006594441, 9697245434



SH. MAKHAN LAL 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, Bantaleb, 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

CHOUBARSI

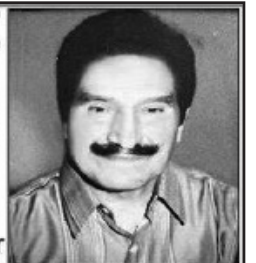
In loving memory of **Late Sh. Parman Singh Jamwal (Retired Sports Master)** R/o Raipur Bantaleb Jammu.

CHOUBARSI of our beloved will be performed on 3rd of June 2025 at our residence.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:

JAMWAL FAMILY

MOBILE NO: 9419618062, 6006343770



Late Sh. Parman Singh Jamwal (Retired Sports Master)

ADH-BARKHI

Adh- Barkhi of our beloved Mother **Smt Pushpa Sharma** W/o Lt Dr Shiv Dutt Sharma will be performed at our residence Gandhi Nagar on 3rd June (Tuesday) at 12 AM.

Grief stricken

Daughter-in-Law & Sons
Smt Sujata & Lt Hareesh Sharma
Smt Seema & Umesh Sharma

Daughter & Son-in-Law

Smt Manisha & GL Khajuria
Dr Sudisha & Lt KK Dubey

Sister-in-Law & Brother

Smt Swarna & Dr BD Sharma
Mobile no. 9414122810 9419111252



Smt Pushpa Sharma

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Director Agriculture Jammu conducts tour of District Doda



Top News Report

BHADERWAH, Jun 2: Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen, conducted an extensive tour of District Doda on Monday to review ongoing agricultural initiatives and interact with farmers and entrepreneurs. He was accompanied by Chief Agriculture Officer Doda, Amjad Hussain Malik, and other field officers during the visit.

The tour commenced with a visit to the Herbal Garden at Sungli, Bhaderwah, where the Director Agriculture inspected the cultivation and conservation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs). He shared his insights on the potential of MAPs in improving farmer incomes and gave on-ground directions to strengthen conservation and commercial cultivation efforts under eco-friendly practices.

Following this, the Director visited the paddy fields of Farmer

Rakesh Kumar in Village Dhreja, Bhaderwah, during the ongoing transplantation phase. He appreciated the farmer's commitment to sustainable agriculture and traditional practices, highlighting the importance of preserving heritage farming techniques while integrating modern methods.

Director A.S. Reen visited the Hi-Tech Polyhouse established under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) by beneficiary Tauqeer Ahmed in Panchayat Dhreja, Satingal, Sub Division Pranoo. The Director inspected the cultivation of exotic vegetables under protected conditions, encouraging innovation and sustainable intensification through advanced technologies.

Continuing his field tour, Director Agriculture attended the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA) programme at Village Bhalra, Pranoo, where he interacted

with local farmers. He emphasized the critical role of scientific and modern agricultural practices, particularly for the Kharif season, to boost yields, improve efficiency, and ensure climate resilience in agriculture.

He also inspected the Oil Extraction Unit of Rajat Raina at Village Manwah, Zone Bhalra, Bhaderwah, appreciating the entrepreneurial initiative and the importance of value addition in agri-based rural industries.

In addition, Director Agriculture attended the Valedictory Function of Lavender Festival 2025, organized by CSIR-IIIM Jammu at Government Degree College Bhaderwah. During his address, A.S. Reen commended the remarkable progress made in aromatic crop cultivation, especially lavender, in the Bhaderwah region.

He emphasized that lavender farming has become a symbol of rural transformation, creating new livelihood opportunities, empowering women, and establishing Bhaderwah as a key center for aromatic plants in the country.

He also highlighted the supportive role of CSIR-IIIM, government schemes, and farmer participation in making the lavender mission a success. He encouraged more farmers to adopt high-value aromatic crops and assured continued institutional support for their promotion.

Army continues demolition of unexploded shells to ensure civilian safety



Top News Report

POONCH, Jun 2: In an ongoing effort to protect lives and property in border regions, the Indian Army has been conducting systematic demolition of unexploded shells left behind after cross-border shelling by Pakistan.

The shelling, which often target civilian settlements, pose a persistent threat to residents and livestock in the affected areas. As of now, a total of "67 unexploded shells" have been successfully located and neutralized in the villages of Chajla, Jhulas, Mendhar, Mankot, and LKG.

These operations are part of a broader initiative by the Army to clear populated and agricultural areas of dangerous ordnance. The Indian Army, working in close coordination with local administration, has been conducting these

demolitions with utmost caution.

The affected areas are first cordoned off, and civilians are temporarily relocated to ensure no harm during the controlled explosions. Local residents have expressed relief and gratitude for the Army's efforts as these shells are potentially dangerous. Indian Army reiterates the commitment to safeguarding border communities.

The Army is continuing area sanitization and disposal operations wherever shelling has taken place.

The Indian Army remains vigilant not only in responding to hostile actions but also in ensuring that post-shelling dangers like unexploded ordnance do not cause further casualties. The clearance mission will ensure that all potentially dangerous munitions are rendered harmless.

SKUAST-K is steadily progressing under Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai: Mahant Rohit Shastri

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Jammu & Kashmir, and recipient of the State Award, paid a courtesy visit to Professor Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Shalimar, Kashmir. On this occasion, he presented a felicitation volume dedicated to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha.

During the meeting, Mahant Rohit Shastri stated, "SKUAST-Kashmir is steadily advancing under the capable leadership and visionary guidance of Professor Nazir Ahmad Ganai. The university has not only emerged as a premier center of excellence in agricultural education, but its contributions in the fields of research,



innovation, and inclusive development are highly commendable. The developmental dimensions being established by the university are a matter of pride for the entire academic community."

He further remarked, "One of the most notable aspects of SKUAST-Kashmir is that students from various states across the country come here to pursue higher education, making this institution a vibrant symbol of national unity

and academic harmony."

Addressing the students on the occasion, he delivered an inspiring message: "I urge all students of the university to use the knowledge they acquire here to serve Indian society and the nation while remaining in the country. Your knowledge, experience, and values should play a crucial role in India's holistic development, self-reliance, and cultural renaissance—this is our earnest wish."

Randhawa conducts public outreach tour in Ward No. 45

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: In a significant step towards community engagement and development, MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa conducted a comprehensive public outreach tour in Ward No. 45, Digiana. The tour was held in the presence of officials from key departments including PDD, PWD, JMC, EESL, PHE, among others, to address public grievances and review on-ground issues.

Accompanying the MLA were prominent local leaders and dignitaries including Ritika Trehan (Mandal President), Narinder Koki, Sahil Kumar, Sanjay Gupta, Satpaul Choudhary, Varinder Gupta, Vinod, and several others.

During the tour, various issues raised by residents—such as irregular electricity supply, damaged roads, inadequate sanitation, water supply problems, and the need for improved street lighting—were noted and addressed. On-the-spot



directions were given to departmental officers for swift action. The MLA assured residents that development and infrastructure works will be carried out in a time-bound manner.

On the spot, MLA Randhawa instructed the PWD and JMC officials to prepare estimates for immediate road repairs and desilting of drains. PDD was directed to replace faulty transformers and improve load management, while EESL was asked to expedite installation of energy-efficient

streetlights. PHE officers assured augmentation of water supply infrastructure.

Ch. Vikram Randhawa emphasized that such visits are crucial to bridge the gap between the administration and the public. He reiterated his focus on transparent, responsive, and development-oriented governance.

The residents expressed satisfaction over the outreach initiative and appreciated the MLA's continuous efforts to bring tangible change at the local level.

Journalism Department inaugurates Internship Program for students of GCW Industry experts share expertise on evolving role of journalists in digital age

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu started on Monday a 10-day internship program for approximately 140 students from the Padma Shri Padma Sachdev (PSPS) Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

The program aims to provide hands-on training in media and communication, equipping students with practical skills to navigate the dynamic field of journalism and Mass Communication.

Media industry, invited to guide the students, shared their expertise on the evolving role of journalists in today's digital age.

Roshan Kishore, Data & Political Economy Editor Hindustan Times emphasized the importance of adaptability, ethical reporting, and storytelling in media.

"Journalism is not just about reporting facts; it's about crafting narratives that inform and inspire.

This internship will help students master these skills through practical assignments,"



Roshan Kishore said. Sumit Chaturvedi, Delhi Bureau Chief, Senior News Editor, ET Now also shared his experiences with the students. He highlighted the significance of practical exposure in journalism education.

"The media landscape

is evolving rapidly, and programs like this empower students to understand real-world challenges and develop skills that align with industry standards," Sumit Chaturvedi said. Earlier, the program was inaugurated with a welcome address by

Prof. Garima Gupta, Head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies. She emphasized the importance of experiential learning in shaping future media professionals.

"This internship is a platform for students to

bridge the gap between academic knowledge and industry demands. It is an opportunity to explore the intricacies of media and communication while fostering critical thinking and creativity," she said and added that this internship program is inspired by the visionary initiatives of the Vice Chancellor, Prof Umesh Rai.

Prof Dushyant Kumar Rai, senior professor of journalism and media studies extended formal vote and thanks. He noted that the internship would provide students with insights into reporting, content creation, and media ethics, preparing them for successful careers.

The 10-day program is designed to offer students a comprehensive understanding of media and communication processes, including news production, digital media, and public relations.

Through workshops, field assignments, and interactions with industry experts, the 140 participating students will gain hands-on experience in various aspects of journalism.

Liberty General Insurance steps up for customers affected during Operation Sindoor

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: In the aftermath of the recent cross-border shelling during Operation Sindoor, Liberty General Insurance Ltd. demonstrated its unstinted commitment to customer care by becoming one of the first insurers to offer on-ground support and approve ex-gratia settlements for vehicle damage—even though such events fall under standard exclusions in most motor insurance policies. Typically, losses arising from war, invasion, or acts of foreign enemies are not covered under motor insurance as per industry norms. However, guided by one of its core values, 'Put People First', Liberty chose to go beyond contractual terms and offer timely assistance to impacted customers during a period of extreme uncertainty and distress. Liberty's Claims Team was among the first to respond in the affected region. Their presence and readiness helped ensure that customers received immediate support, guidance, and assurance at a time they needed it most.

What set Liberty apart in this situation was not just its speed of response, but the spirit of compassion that drove

every decision. While regulatory frameworks and policy documents are essential pillars of the insurance industry, moments like these reveal the importance of institutional empathy, when doing the right thing matters more than doing the expected.

Speaking on this development, Sachin Joshi, President-Claims, Operations and Customer Service, Liberty General Insurance Ltd. said, "When lives are disrupted by forces beyond anyone's control, the true essence of customer service is tested. For us, this wasn't about interpreting exclusions—it was about interpreting responsibility. Our team responded with urgency, empathy, and clarity of purpose. The surveyors acted swiftly, ensuring no time was lost in assessing the damage and guiding our customers. In moments like these, it's not just the claim amount that matters—it's the assurance, the presence, and the promptness. That's what builds lasting trust."

This gesture during Operation Sindoor reflects Liberty's belief that insurance goes beyond paperwork—it is about standing with people when they need it the most. This is Liberty's 'Bharose Ka Vaada'—and what it truly means in times like these.

EDITORIAL

URGENT MEASURES
REQUIRED

The recent spell of heavy rainfall across multiple regions of the country has led to a severe flood situation, affecting thousands of lives, property, agriculture, and infrastructure. With rivers overflowing, low-lying areas submerged, and disaster response teams stretched thin, the situation demands immediate attention from authorities and support from civil society.

Over the past week, multiple states have experienced incessant rains, with some areas recording rainfall far above normal levels. This sudden and continuous downpour has overwhelmed local drainage systems and caused rivers to breach their danger marks. In several districts, rivers such as the Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, and their tributaries have swollen beyond safe levels, flooding nearby villages and towns. In hilly areas, landslides triggered by water-logged soil have blocked roads and disrupted connectivity.

States such as Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and parts of Jammu and Kashmir have borne the brunt of the floods. In Assam, more than 500 villages have been submerged, affecting over 3 lakh people. Relief camps have been set up in schools and community halls to house displaced residents. In Jammu & Kashmir, flash floods caused by cloudbursts in mountainous regions have led to road blockages and temporary isolation of some remote areas.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Forces (SDRF) have launched rescue and relief operations. Over 10,000 people have been evacuated to safer locations, with hundreds still stranded in inaccessible areas. Helicopters are being deployed in the worst-affected areas for aerial surveys and relief drops.

One of the gravest consequences of the floods has been the destruction of crops. Paddy fields, vegetable patches, and orchards have been washed away, causing distress to thousands of farmers already battling inflation and economic uncertainty. In many areas, cattle and livestock have been lost to the floodwaters, adding to the burden on rural families who depend on agriculture for sustenance.

The floodwaters have damaged crucial infrastructure including roads, bridges, electricity poles, and water pipelines. Several highways and railway routes have been either suspended or rerouted due to waterlogging and landslides. In urban areas, sewage systems have collapsed under the pressure of heavy rainfall, leading to contamination of drinking water sources and increased risk of waterborne diseases.

With stagnant water collecting in streets and fields, the risk of vector-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria, and chikungunya has sharply increased. Additionally, water contamination is leading to cases of diarrhea, cholera, and skin infections. Health officials have warned of a potential outbreak if sanitation is not maintained in relief camps.

The supply of clean drinking water, medicines, and basic hygiene materials such as sanitary pads and disinfectants is being prioritized by health departments and non-governmental organizations.

The state governments have issued alerts and advisories, urging people in flood-prone areas to relocate to safer zones. Chief Ministers of affected states have conducted aerial surveys and are coordinating with central agencies for financial aid and logistical support. Temporary shelters, food distribution, and mobile health clinics have been set up in many districts.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a review meeting with disaster management officials and assured full support from the central government. Emergency funds have been released to the worst-hit states, and restoration work has begun in areas where water levels have started to recede.

Local volunteers, youth groups, and NGOs are playing a critical role in supporting government efforts. They are helping in distribution of food, clothes, and first aid, as well as assisting elderly and disabled persons in evacuation.

Social media platforms are being used to spread awareness about helpline numbers, emergency contacts, and safe routes. Relief donation campaigns are also being mobilized to raise funds for victims.

While the flood situation remains serious, coordinated response efforts have helped minimize casualties. However, experts emphasize the need for long-term solutions such as better urban planning, river embankments, afforestation, and timely desilting of rivers to reduce the impact of such disasters.

As the monsoon continues, constant monitoring, early warning systems, and public cooperation will be vital in ensuring safety and speedy recovery. The floods have once again reminded us of the urgent need for climate-resilient infrastructure and disaster preparedness across all levels.

BJP’s Clampdown from its Earlier Stand on Caste Census

By: Omkar Dattatray

BJP the right-wing Hindu-tva 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 OBG’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 diehard 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 cer-

tain 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)

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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

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Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India sells 4,65,115 units in May 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India today announced its sales numbers for the month of May 2025. The company's total sales for May'25 stood at 4,65,115 units. This includes domestic sales of 4,17,256 units and 47,859 units exports. It is worth mentioning that HMSI's YTD FY26 (April'25 – May'25) total sales stand at 9,45,979 units. This includes domestic sales of 8,40,155 units and 1,05,824 units exports. HMSI strengthened its BigWing portfolio with the launch of several all-new premium motorcycles.

The company introduced the all-new Rebel 500, X-ADV, CB750 Hornet, CB1000 Hornet SP, and the flagship

50th Anniversary edition of Gold Wing Tour. Moreover, the E-Clutch versions of CB650R and CBR650R are also now on sale in India. Honda reached a significant milestone by producing its 500 millionth motorcycle globally, marking 76 years since the company's first mass-produced motorcycle, the Dream D-Type, was launched in 1949. Moreover, HMSI announced the expansion of its production capacity by adding a new production line at its Vithalapur plant in India.

Expanding road safety awareness in India, HMSI promoted campaigns in 13 locations across India –Jalgaon and Kolhapur (Maharashtra), Hazaribagh (Jharkhand), Ghaziabad and Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Kotputli (Raj-

asthan), Faridabad (Haryana), Vadodara (Gujarat), Thanjavur and Chengalpattu (Tamil Nadu), Patiala (Punjab), Bhagalpur (Bihar) and Kadapa (Andhra Pradesh). Additionally, a summer camp was organised at Traffic Training Park in Hyderabad, along with the Hyderabad Traffic Police to encourage early adoption of road safety behavior. The Honda RC213V was back on the top step of the podium thanks to Johann Zarco with Luca Marini close to the top ten in a dramatic race of French GP. CAS-TROL Honda LCR rider Johann Zarco claimed a historic victory at the French Grand Prix, securing a long-awaited home win in his 150th MotoGP race start.

PNB Launches Monthly Agriculture Outreach Programme to Boost Rural Financing

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Punjab National Bank, India's leading public sector bank, is set to roll out its monthly nationwide Agriculture Outreach Programme on June 2, 2025. Aimed at supporting agricultural communities across the country, this initiative will take place on the first day of every month, ensuring consistent engagement with farmers and agri businesses. The program seeks to enhance awareness and access

to financing for a broad spectrum of agricultural needs—from traditional farming practices to modern high-tech solutions. PNB will facilitate this outreach through Krishi Chaupals, Digital Zones, and PNB Booths, reinforcing its commitment to rural financial inclusion and empowerment. Commenting on the initiative, Shri Ashok Chandra, MD & CEO of PNB, emphasized the bank's dedication to strengthening India's agricultural sector: "Agriculture forms the backbone of our econ-

omy. We remain deeply committed to empowering farmers and rural communities. Through this outreach program, we aim to provide easier access to credit, raise awareness about our digital lending solutions, and forge partnerships that strengthen the agricultural value chain." This ongoing initiative marks a significant step in bridging the gap between financial institutions and the agricultural sector, ensuring sustainable growth and economic progress for rural India.

Odysse Electric Vehicles Records Stellar 43% Growth in Sales for May 2025

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Odysse Electric Vehicles, one of India's fastest-growing premium electric vehicle manufacturers, has registered a 42.9% increase in sales for May 2025, clocking 223 units, compared to 156 units in May 2024. Odysse Electric witnessed this impressive growth due to rising consumer demand for sustainable mobility solutions, expanded distribution networks, and product launches.

The company recently announced the successful debut of Evoqis Lite, a sleek and sporty electric motorcycle offering high performance at an accessible price, and HyFy, an ultra-affordable, low-speed electric scooter tailored for daily urban travel.

Odysse's commitment to innovation, affordability, and eco-friendly transportation has resonated strongly with urban commuters and businesses alike. Nemin Vora, Founder and CEO of Odysse Electric Vehicles, said

"We're encouraged to see steady growth in our monthly performance. It reflects the gradual but positive shift toward electric mobility in the country.

We will continue working towards offering reliable and affordable EV solutions to both individual riders and fleet partners."

Odysse Electric remains focused on enhancing its dealership footprint, product offerings, and service network as it supports India's transition to cleaner transportation.

Social, political activists honour Sansar Singh Motan for excellence in journalism

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: RTI India News Chairman Sansar Singh Motan was honoured for Excellence in Journalism with a 'Certificate of Appreciation' by various social and political activists.

While speaking on the occasion, BJP Activist R.L.Kaith said, Sansar Singh Motan critically evaluates information, identifies patterns, draws conclusions based on evidence, and presents information in a logical and coherent manner, even when



dealing with complex or controversial issues.

I am deeply grateful for this certificate of appreciation for my excellence in journalism.

This recognition

means a lot to me, and I am truly honored to receive it, said Sansar Singh Motan to all.

The event among others was attended by Sub Inspector Darshan

IPRS leads from front as India Records 357% Growth in Royalty Collections as captured in CISAC's 2025 Global Report

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The Indian Performing Right Society Ltd. (IPRS) welcomes the release of the CISAC Annual Report 2025, which showcases India's strong growth in royalty collections and outlines a global call for ethical AI regulation in the creative industry. The report underscores the importance of protecting creators' rights and adapting to technological advancements to ensure fair remuneration and sustainable growth in the music sector. India's progress in royalty collections reflects the country's commitment to strengthening its creative economy.

The IPRS remains dedicated to supporting music creators and users by providing guidance on music copyright and facilitating legal music usage. As the industry evolves, the IPRS continues to advocate for policies and practices that uphold the rights of creators and promote the responsible use of technology in creativity. According to the report, total royalty collections in India crossed Rs. 7 billion in FY24-25, reflecting a 42% increase over the previous year, and a 357% growth compared to 2020. This performance has

moved India up significantly in global rankings - making it one of the fastest-growing music markets. The report also highlights IPRS's ongoing collaboration with CISAC to develop a strategic roadmap aimed at positioning India among the world's top 10 creative economies. This includes targeted efforts to strengthen digital collections, address non-digital revenue challenges, and improve the licensing and distribution ecosystem. Sharing his views, legendary creator and IPRS Chairman, Mr. Javed Akhtar, said, "A society that cherishes music must ensure that its creators are not forgotten in the shadows of technology and commerce. The significant rise in royalty collections is more than a number - it is a reflection of growing awareness around intellectual property, fair value for creative work, and the need for compliance across the industry. Yet, many challenges remain - as music travels far and wide in the digital age and AI presents new threats. From educating creators about their rights to ensuring the ethical use of their work across platforms, our mission is far from over. As a body representing those behind

the music, we at IPRS are committed to protecting the rights of every music creator, addressing systemic gaps, and building an ecosystem where creativity is respected, rewarded, and rightfully owned." Highlighting the significance of the report Mr. Björn Ulvaeus, CISAC President, mentioned, "We are living through an era of unprecedented transformation. Nowhere is this more evident than in the rise of generative AI - a force that raises fundamental questions about the nature of authorship and creativity. Protecting creators' rights in no way means trying to stop the advance of technology.

On the contrary, it means embracing and licensing AI tools in a safe, legal environment. I say this as the number one fan of AI and of its possibilities for enhancing human creation. What is pre-requisite, however, is that creators' rights are respected.

Upholding creators' rights is not only about fairness, it's also about economic good sense." Mr. Rakesh Nigam, CEO of IPRS, added, "The remarkable growth in India's royalty collections reflects not just a rising music economy, but also

a growing recognition of creators' rights - though there is still significant ground to cover. At IPRS, we are proud to lead this transformation—empowering creators, strengthening systems, and working with global partners to raise the standards of copyright governance. As technology reshapes the creative landscape, it is critical that innovation does not come at the cost of artistic integrity. Through strategic collaborations and a robust rights management framework, we remain committed to ensuring that every creator is respected, rewarded, and ready for the future.

"The report also spotlights IPRS's participation in a global pilot project to link ISWC (musical work codes) with ISRC (sound recording codes), a step that will lead to more accurate and faster royalty payments for Indian creators. On the global front, CISAC has raised a strong call for regulation of Generative AI. Its newly released Global Economic Study, published in partnership with PMP Strategy, warns that by 2028, music creators could lose up to 24% of their revenues if clear policies around AI-generated content are not implemented.

JKTF appeals for early salary disbursement, GP Fund clearance ahead of Eid ul Azha

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF), affiliated with the All India Secondary Teachers Federation (AISTF) and Education International (IE), has urged the authorities to ensure the timely release of the June 2025 salary budget, along with pending GP Fund, ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

As per the Statement of Forum Spokesperson Joginder Singh Thakur, State President Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh highlighted the importance of salary disbursement before Eid-ul-Azha to help employees fulfill their religious and financial obligations.

"The government must ensure that employees receive their salaries before Eid. Timely payments will enable them



to celebrate the festival with dignity, support their families, and contribute to charitable causes," said Mr. Ashraf Sheikh.

Mohd Ashraf Sheikh said that thousands of employees have applied for GP funds, but these have not been distributed. In light of this, Mr. Mohd Ashraf Sheikh appealed to Hon'ble Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to ensure the immediate release of GP funds to provide much-needed financial relief to employees during this significant occasion.

SNM organizes plantation-cum-cleanliness drive

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Nature has always been a constant companion of human life. Under its shelter, civilizations have taken shape, cultures have flourished, and life has evolved continuously. However, when human greed exceeded the limits of balance, this life-sustaining nature had to suffer.

Often, humans forget that they themselves are an integral part of this very nature.

Today, the echo of environmental crisis is shaking global consciousness, and as a result, the United Nations observes World Environment Day every year on June 5.

Inspired by this global initiative, the Sant Nirankari Mission's social wing, Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, under the benevolent and visionary guidance of Satguru Mata Sudik-

sha Ji Maharaj, is organizing a massive Tree Plantation and Cleanliness Drive on June 5, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM, at 18 major hill and tourist destinations across the country. This campaign, centered around the UN-designated theme "Beat Plastic Pollution," is not just a strong step toward a clean, green, and balanced environment, but also an inspiring effort to sensitize the youth towards nature and instill a sense of environmental responsibility. It is an initiative that connects service, harmony, and awareness with public consciousness.

Joginder Sukheja, Secretary of the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, shared that since 2014, the Mission has been observing World Environment Day in alignment with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) theme. This is not merely a one-day event but a continuous

public awareness campaign aimed at reinforcing a harmonious relationship between nature and humanity.

On this occasion, Mission volunteers, Sewadal members, devotees, and local citizens will come together to begin the program with a prayer.

Following this, young volunteers will raise public awareness about the harmful effects and solutions of plastic pollution through street plays, cultural performances, and creative messages. Human chains holding placards and banners with environment-related messages will be formed to inspire society.

On this World Environment Day, the dedicated initiative by the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation conveys a meaningful message:

Let us unite to protect the environment and build a clean, beautiful, and balanced planet for future generations.

ABRSM expresses concern sudden decrease in Summer Vacation in Jammu division

serious concern over the continued silence of the administration, particularly the School Education Department, on key issues affecting the teaching faculty in the Jammu division. In a strongly worded press release, UT President Rattan Sharma and General Secretary Gulshan Raina criticized what they described as a discriminatory approach toward Jammu in matters of Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs), annual transfers, and summer vacations.

The ABRSM leaders noted that over the past three years, the Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has issued three separate promotion lists of teachers to the post of masters, while only one promotion list with a very

limited number of candidates has been issued in the Jammu region during the same period. They also pointed out that no general transfers of teachers or masters have taken place in the Jammu division for the past five years. Many teachers have been posted in remote or hard zones for over a decade, while others with influence have secured convenient postings in urban areas and towns.

When ABRSM leaders met with the Director of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) last month, they were informed bluntly that no transfers were planned in the near future. The DSEJ even suggested that they approach the UT Education Minister for further action. The ABRSM has now publicly appealed to the



Education Minister to intervene and direct the DSEJ to immediately begin the transfer process, involving Chief Education Officers (CEOs) and Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs) to ensure transparency and fairness.

ABRSM criticized the administration for failing to establish a fixed calendar for summer and winter vacations, as well as for Pooja holidays. They called this lack of consistency a form of injustice toward the stu-

dents and teaching community of the Jammu division.

In conclusion, ABRSM has demanded the immediate release of pending promotion lists from teachers to masters, initiation of a fair transfer drive, withdrawal or revision of the recent order limiting summer vacation to just 35 days in Jammu, and regularization of in-charge teachers who were promoted from Laboratory Assistant posts.

Hope I die with my shoes on: Aamir Khan says Mahabharat could be his last spectacle

Actor Aamir Khan has hinted at his final film project, which could be a grand cinematic spectacle. The 60-year-old, who has spoken about his desire to make 'Mahabharat' for long, stated that the epic-drama might be his last movie. "I hope I die with my shoes on..." he said while talking about the film. The 'Sitaare Zameen Par' actor feels that the grandeur of this project is going to be such that after making the film based on India's ancient text by sage Ved Vyas, he will have nothing else left to do.

The superstar raved about the sheer grandeur and emotional resonance of 'Mahabharat' in a podcast with Raj Shamani. While speaking about the scale of creating the epic on-screen, he said, "It's layered, it has emotion, it has scale, everything you find in the world, you will find in



'Mahabharat'."

He further said, "Maybe after doing this, I will feel that I have nothing left to do. I cannot do anything after this, as the material of this film is going to be like that."

The actor concluded, "I hope that I die with my shoes on, but

since you are asking, this is the one thing I can think of. Perhaps after this, I will feel that I don't need to do anything else."

In a previous interview with The Hollywood Reporter, Aamir spoke about his vision for 'Mahabharat' and said, "That's one of my biggest ambitions.

We'll see who we should cast based on who's appropriate for which part."

The actor further said, "I don't think you can tell the 'Mahabharat' in one film, so it will be multiple films. I am looking at the large scale." While pointing out that the film might need multiple directors, he concluded, "To complete it within a set time, we will need more than one director."

Aamir is currently gearing up for his sports drama 'Sitaare Zameen Par,' scheduled to release on June 20, 2025. He will also be seen in Rajinikanth's 'Coolie,' directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj.

The actor is also producing Sunny Deol's period-drama 'Lahore 1947,' directed by Raj-kumar Santoshi.

Jackie Chan was 40 when he learnt his father was a spy: My original name is Fong



Legendary actor Jackie Chan, celebrated for his remarkable martial arts prowess, recently shared a fascinating personal history. The actor revealed that his father was actually a spy.

The 71-year-old Hong Kong actor recently reflected on the surreal moment when his late father, Charles, revealed that he had once worked as a spy for the Chinese government in the 1940s. In a retrospective with PEOPLE, Chan shared that he didn't discover this "secret" until he was in his 40s.

While talking about the same, he said, "One day, I was driving a car, my father suddenly said, 'Son, I'm old. I might sleep and never wake up. I have a secret to tell you'."

His father then informed him of his

true identity, revealing that their surname was Fong.

Jackie Chan's rich family history was spotlighted in Mabel Cheung's 2003 documentary 'Traces of the Dragon: Jackie Chan and His Lost Family'.

The film delves into the life of the actor's late father, who worked as a spy for Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist Kuomintang (KMT) during the 1930s and 1940s. Following political turmoil, he escaped to Hong Kong in the 1950s to avoid persecution by the Communists.

The actor revealed that he was "very shocked" at the revelation and initially felt unable to listen to his father Charles' explanation of his past.

Chan's mother led an equally fascinating life. Before settling in Hong Kong, she was a stage performer in Shanghai and was involved in smuggling opium. In his retrospective with PEOPLE, Chan described her as a "very traditional" woman who supported his film career but couldn't bring herself to watch him perform dangerous stunts on screen.

Meanwhile, the actor returned to the Karate Kid franchise with 'Karate Kid: Legends'. The film is the sixth installment in the 'Karate Kid' franchise.

'Stranger Things 5' set for three-part release, finale to come out on New Year's Eve

Streaming service Netflix has announced that the fifth and final season of their smash hit series "Stranger Things" will debut later this year in three-parts.

At its annual Tudum event, the streamer revealed that the first part of the final season will come out on November 26, followed by the second part on Christmas on December 25, and the series finale on New Year's Eve on December 31.

"Stranger Things", created by Matt Duffer and Ross Duffer, is set in the 1980s and takes a look at the fictional town of Hawkins, Indiana, where a secret government lab accidentally opens a door to a parallel dimension referred to as the 'The Upside Down'.

The series regulars returning to the final outing include Winona Ryder, David Harbour, Finn Wolfhard, Millie Bobby Brown, Gaten Matarazzo, Caleb McLaughlin, Noah Schnapp, Sadie Sink, Natalia Dyer, Charlie Heaton, Joe Keery, Maya Hawke, Priah Ferguson, Brett Gelman, Cara Buono, and Jamie Campbell Bower.

"Stranger Things 5" is set in the fall of 1987. "Hawkins is scarred by the opening of the Rifts, and our heroes are united by a single goal: find and kill Vecna. But he has vanished — his whereabouts and plans unknown.



Complicating their mission, the government has placed the town under military quarantine and intensified its hunt for Eleven, forcing her back into hiding. As the anniversary of Will's disappearance

approaches, so does a heavy, familiar dread."

"The final battle is looming — and with it, a darkness more powerful and more deadly than anything they've faced before. To end this nightmare, they'll need every-

one — the full party — standing together, one last time," read the official synopsis.

The final season will also feature Linda Hamilton, the star of "Terminator" franchise, in a pivotal role.

Selena's shout-out for bestie

Selena Gomez and Taylor Swift's friendship is the kind we all dream of—a perfect example of 'best friend goals.' Gomez, recently, took to Instagram to cheer for her bestie Swift and showed just how 'proud' she was after the singer confirmed that she finally owns the masters of her first six albums.

Sharing her excitement, Selena wrote, "Yes, you did that, Tay. So proud!"

Earlier, Swift posted on Instagram to confirm the news. The singer shared three pictures of herself sitting on the floor, smiling and surrounded by her early albums. She wore a light purple top, jeans, and her signature red lipstick. Along with the pictures, Swift added a caption that read, "You belong with me," referencing her 2008 hit from the album, Fearless.

Almost six years ago, Swift's music catalogue was sold to music executive Scooter Braun without her approval.



Braun later sold it to Shamrock Capital. In response, Swift began re-recording her albums with Taylor's Version to take back ownership of her work.

Pakistan army uses Kashmir to line their pockets, looting nation: Adnan Sami

Singer Adnan Sami blasted Pakistan in his latest interview. The popular playback singer, who got his Indian citizenship a few years back, blamed the Pakistani army for exploiting their own people and the Kashmir issue in front of the world to fill their pockets.

Sami appeared on the India TV show 'Aap Ki Adalat' and exposed the Pakistani establishment left, right, centre. He said he is an artiste, but he understands how the Pakistani army doesn't let its people and government prosper.

"Those who say that I came to India carrying top secrets, they should know I am a musician, a singer and a composer. Those generals did romance on my tunes and danced to my songs. The entire army establishment, including ISI, wants to keep the Kashmir issue alive in the guise of Islam," he said.

The 53-year-old called Pakistan's military the 'looters' of the nation. He added that it's a strange country where any politician who is loved by the people is 'packed off'.

"But reality is different. They hype up the Kashmir issue to get donations and funds from other countries to line their pockets. They live a life of luxury after loot-



ing the nation, while the people have no money or food. The entire nation is run by generals," he said.

Sami went on to mention popular Pakistani leaders Benazir Bhutto and Imran Khan - killed, and put in jail, respectively. "In other countries, an army lives within a country, but Pakistan is a waahid mulk (unique country), where the country was born inside an army. The army there even sells cornflakes. Any politician who becomes popular is packed off," he said.

"Then, they finished off Benazir Bhutto. In today's times, Imran Khan is the most popular leader in Pakistan; he is a sports hero, but he has been thrown in jail," he continued.

Pakistan doesn't have democracy, he said, adding that they want

to go to war. "Of course. There is no democracy. Whenever they wish, they dislodge the government, and whenever politicians (from India) try to reach an agreement, the army says it won't suit them, chalo, Kargil kar lo," he explained.

Sami expressed how grateful he is as an Indian citizen, and to the Indian government for honouring him with a Padma Shri and recognising his talent. The singer recalled the day his mother died, and the Pakistani government denied issuing him a visa. "I had to watch her funeral on WhatsApp video," he concluded.

A Canadian citizen earlier, Sami was granted Indian citizenship in 2016. His father, Arshad Sami Khan, was in the Pakistani Air Force, and was later appointed as diplomat.

Rashami Desai on delving into Gujarati industry

With a career spanning across mediums, actor Rashami Desai added another feather to her cap with her debut in Gujarati theatre with the play Mrs Mara Online Che. Calling it a new beginning, she says, "This is the best possible medium of acting where you learn the craft like never before. I have been inclined towards theatre in the past as well, and I am loving every bit of it."

However, performing in front of a live audience came with its own set of challenges. "The biggest pressure is the fact that it's a live audience. While shooting in other mediums, you can have multiple cuts and retakes, but in the theatre, it has to be perfect in the first and only attempt. You need a tremendous amount of practice and rehearsal and coordination with other actors since the background doesn't



change. The stage remains the same," Rashami Desai shares.

Apart from theatre, Rashami recently did a Gujarati film too, titled Mom Tane Nai Samjay. Rekindling her roots and serving her regional audience has been a special feeling for her. "It feels amazing, and the love and positivity that I received from the Gujarati audience is incredible. It just makes me hungrier to do even better work in this language as an artiste," she says.

While she has worked on all mediums, be it films, television, OTT or theatre, it's the small screen that made her a household name. But it's been a while since she was last seen on it. Apart from small cameos in Waggle Ki Duniya - Nayi Peedhi Naye Kissey this year and Naagin 6 in 2022, Rashami's last full-fledged TV role was in Naagin 4 in 2020.

Has she bid adieu to the medium for good now? "I have definitely not quit television," she states, adding, "The medium has given me so much and I can only have love and gratitude towards it. If there's anything special that comes to me, I would love to do it. Every artiste can do every medium. Let's be more open about this."

Ask her if the quality of content is the issue due to which she hasn't done a TV show in a while, and the actor says, "Entertainment industry at the end of the day is business, so when content is made, the commercial angle is taken into consideration. Maybe it's this reason why at times, content on TV might look repetitive. But content is made catering to the preference of the audience. Of course, there's room to do better, but I have full faith in the industry."

Reality show The Traitors gets an Indian twist with Karan Johar at helm

When it comes to a game of trust, betrayal and high-stakes deception, every glance, pause and word carries weight. In a psychological reality show such as The Traitors, where strategy is key and suspicion runs deep, the role of the host is far from ornamental — it is vital.

Enter Karan Johar. With his trademark charisma, wit and intelligence, he is the ideal figure to steer this tension-filled series.

Set against the backdrop of a majestic

palace, The Traitors brings together 20 celebrity contestants in a high-stakes game of trust, manipulation and mind games. As alliances crack and doubts escalate, Johar remains the constant: silent, observant and unreadable. He says almost nothing — yet he changes everything. With decades of experience crafting narratives and hosting, Johar knows drama inside out. His understanding of character, motive, and tension — paired with his innate sense of what keeps

audiences captivated — makes him uniquely suited to this world of strategy and suspicion.

Produced by BBC Studios India Productions, The Traitors marks the Indian adaptation of IDTV's globally acclaimed format, developed in collaboration with All3Media International. The show has won both BAFTA and Emmy awards, and now makes its way to Indian screens. The show will stream on Prime Video from June 12 with new episodes every Thursday at 8 pm.

Hope people of Telangana march ahead on path of progress: Prez Murmu on statehood day

NEW DELHI, Jun 2 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Monday greeted people of Telangana on their statehood day, and said the young state has a vibrant ecosystem of economic and technological development.

"I wish that the people of Telangana march ahead on the path of progress and prosperity," she said in a post on X.

Telangana was carved out of Andhra Pradesh and accorded statehood on this day in 2014.

"Warm greetings to the people of Telangana on Statehood Day! This young State has a rich cultural heritage and a vibrant modern ecosystem of economic and technological development. I wish that the people of Telangana march ahead on the path of progress and prosperity," Murmu said.

Kharge asks Centre to provide funds for northeastern states grappling with floods



NEW DELHI, Jun 2 (Agencies): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday attacked the Modi government over the flood situation in the northeastern states, and hoped Prime Minister Narendra Modi will open the floodgates of his PM CARES Fund, where he claimed crores lie without any audit.

Referring to Assam, he said PM Modi had promised in 2016 to make the state flood-free but it seems the BJP's double engine governments have betrayed Assam.

In a post on X, he noted that the northeast is reeling under devastating floods, landslides and heavy rains.

Assam, Arunachal,

Manipur, Sikkim and Meghalaya are among the worst affected states, where many lives have been lost and lakhs of people have been affected, he observed.

Congress leaders and workers must do everything to provide assistance to the people, he said.

"In 2016, BJP had promised to make a 'Flood-Free' Assam. In 2022, Home Minister, Amit Shah repeated this promise.

"Looking at the visuals from the so-called 'SMART CITY' Guwahati, one is reminded how Modi ji and his double engine governments have betrayed Assam," Kharge said in his post.

"Diversion, Distraction and Digression from basic developmental issues to emotive and polarising subjects has been the hallmark of BJP's politics," the Congress chief said.

He said the Modi government must release more funds to all the states of northeast, especially Assam for flood preparedness.

"Perhaps Modi ji could open the floodgates of PM CARES Fund, crores of which lie, without a public audit," Kharge said while taking a swipe at the PM.

The flood situation in northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh is grim after heavy rainfall in several parts.

Ten people have died so far in floods in Assam and more than four lakh people remained affected in over 20 districts, with seven major rivers in spate.

The situation is likely to aggravate for people living in low-lying and river bank areas due to continued heavy rainfall in the state and neighbouring areas.

Bihar has tremendous potential for agricultural development: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

MOTIHARI (BIHAR), Jun 2 (Agencies): Maintaining that Bihar has tremendous potential for agricultural development, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Monday said for a "developed India, agriculture must develop and farmers must also prosper".

Chouhan said this on Monday when he visited Motihari, the district headquarters town of East Champaran district and interacted with farmers as part of his nationwide tour under the VKSA campaign.

"I have come to Bihar to support and serve the farmers here and help increase agricultural productivity. For me, serving farmers is like worshipping God... 'Ek Rashtra, Ek Krishi, Ek Team' (one nation, one agriculture, one team) is the motto of this campaign," he said.

"The Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA) of the Central government is a landmark initiative aimed at transforming Indian agriculture. For a developed India, agriculture must develop and farmers must also prosper....Bihar has tremendous potential for agricultural development.....and the VKSA campaign will accelerate the state's agricultural transformation and empower farmers through greater access to innovation, infrastructure, and institutional support," he said.

The VKSA campaign aligns with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a self-reliant and sustainable India, and seeks to promote the widespread adoption of advanced agricultural technologies across the nation as well as in Bihar, said the union minister.

The campaign's ambitious goal is to reach farmers across India through technology dissemination, capacity building, and grassroots engagement, he said adding the path to national development passes through agricultural prosperity and farmers' welfare.

"Around 16,000 agricultural scientists are engaging directly with farmers. Scientists, state and central agriculture departments and agricultural universities, are working together to find ways to increase production, reduce input costs, ensure fair prices for farmers, and provide compensation in case of losses. Efforts are being made to increase the production of Bihar's famous jardalu mango, shahi litchi and marcha rice by helping farmers through advanced agriculture technologies..." said the Union minister.

The government in April 2023 awarded the 'Geographical Indication' (GI) tag to 'marcha rice' (appears like black pepper). This rice is famous for its aromatic flavour, palatability and aromatic chura (rice flakes) making qualities. Prior to this, Bhagalpur's jardalu mango, katarni dhaan (rice), Nawada's maghai paan and Muzaffarpur's shahi litchi have already been awarded GI tag.

A GI is a label applied to goods with a particular geographic origin and characteristics or a reputation derived from that origin. An indication that a product is made in a specific location is necessary for a sign to be considered for GI tag.

Bihar's famous shahi litchi is worldwide popular and this fruit has only 48 hours of shelf-life, now the government is exploring options to preserve it for a longer period so that farmers get better prices, said Chouhan. Also, cold storages should be built so that farmers can



get the facility to store litchis, he added.

Maize production is increasing rapidly in Bihar and maize is also getting good prices. "It is the result of the policy of our PM that maize is now also being used to make ethanol," he said.

"Today I got the opportunity to come to this holy land of Champaran," he said, adding this land where the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, started a movement (Champaran movement) against the atrocities and injustice being done by the British on the farmers.

The VKSA-2025 campaign, which started on May 29 will continue till June 12, engaging farmers across all districts in a mission to build a resilient, inclusive, and future-ready agricultural sector, said a senior official of the state agriculture department.

Lok Sabha MP from East Champaran, Radha Mohan Singh, several party MLAs and senior officials of the state agriculture department and district administration were also present on the occasion.

Unease around ups and downs of Akash Anand's political journey natural: Mayawati



LUCKNOW, Jun 2 (Agencies): BSP chief Mayawati on Monday said it was "natural" that there was some unease regarding the "ups and downs" of party leader Akash Anand's political journey and his recent appointment as the chief national coordinator of the party.

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) president cautioned against rival parties that align with the Congress, BJP and the Samajwadi Party, saying her party was the only true Ambedkarite party.

In a post on social media platform X, Mayawati said, "BSP is the only true Ambedkarite party committed to the welfare of the Bahujan community. It has a tradition of taking action in the party interest and taking them back if they show remorse." "It is natural for some people to feel uneasy about the ups and downs in Shri Akash Anand's political journey and his appointment as the party's chief national coordinator," she added.

Mayawati's remarks come amid internal reshuffling within the BSP. A month after he

was brought back into the party fold, Anand was appointed as the chief of national coordinators.

As chief national coordinator, Anand will function above the three national coordinators.

The post has been created especially for Anand, making him virtually the party's second in command.

Mayawati expressed confidence that Anand would now fully commit himself to carrying forward the message of BR Ambedkar and BSP founder Kanshi Ram.

"The party has no place for opportunistic and self-serving individuals," she said.

Taking a dig at rival political parties, Mayawati cautioned supporters against organisations and leaders whom she described as "seasonal frogs" attempting to weaken the BSP and "Bahujan unity" by aligning with parties like the Congress, BJP and Samajwadi Party.

"Leaders who, for personal gain, may become MLAs, MPs or ministers by aligning with such parties will not bring any real benefit to the community.

People must stay alert," she warned.

RSS sympathisers 'infiltrated' professional institutes, 'destroyed' them: Cong

NEW DELHI, Jun 2 (Agencies): The Congress on Monday alleged there is a systematic infiltration of the RSS into professional institutes which are being destroyed, while citing "irregularities" in the Indian Council of Historical Research which are being probed by the CVC.

Congress general secretary, communications, Jairam Ramesh said, "Since May 2014, there has been a systematic infiltration of the RSS into professional institutions. One such example is the Indian Council of Historical Research." "Now these activists stand indicted by no less a body than the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) for financial misdeeds. It is a Rs 14 crore scam, which for the ICHR is a big amount," he alleged.

Citing media reports, Ramesh alleged that at the heart of the "scam" is a RSS outfit called



the Akhil Bharatiya Itihas Sankalan Yojana (ABISY).

"The ICHR is not alone. Many prestigious institutions, including top universities, are being destroyed by

RSS sympathisers with extremely dubious academic credentials. We shouldn't be surprised really since this dubiousness starts from the very top," the Congress leader alleged.

Media reports claimed the CVC is probing a Rs 14-crore "scam" in ICHR and has advised the government to act against some members of the ABISY.

There was no immediate comment from either the ICHR or the ABISY.

16 Naxalites surrender in Chhattisgarh; Kerlapenda village becomes Maoist-free

SUKMA, Jun 2 (Agencies): Sixteen Naxalites, including six carrying a collective cash reward of Rs 25 lakh, surrendered in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Monday, police said.

Of them, nine cadres belonged to Kerlapenda village panchayat under Chintalanar police station limits.

With this surrender, the village has become Naxalite-free, making it eligible for development projects of Rs 1 crore as per a new scheme of the state government, an official said.

All 16 cadres, including a woman, turned themselves in before senior police and CRPF officials, here citing disappointment with the "hollow" and "inhuman" Maoist ideology and atrocities by ultras on local tribals, Sukma Superintendent of Police Kiran Chavan said.

The cadres were also 'impressed' by the Chhattisgarh government's 'Niyad Nellanar' (your good village) scheme, aimed at facilitating development works in remote villages, and the state's new surrender and rehabilitation policy, he said.

Among those who surrendered, Rita alias Dodi Sukki (36), a woman who was active as member of the central regional committee (CRC) company number 2 of Maoists, and Rahul Punem (18), a party member within PLGA battalion no. 1 of Maoists, carried a reward of Rs 8 lakh each, he said.

Besides, Lekam Lakhma (28) carried a bounty of Rs 3 lakh, while three more cadres carried a reward of Rs 2 lakh each, the official said.

Out of the surrendered cadres, nine belonged to the Kerlapenda village panchayat.

With their surrender, the place has become Naxal-free, the official said.

As per the Elvad Panchayat Yojna of the state government, the village will be provided an incentive of Rs 1 crore for development works, he said.

The scheme has been introduced under the new Chhattisgarh Naxal Surrender/Victim Relief and Rehabilitation Policy-2025.

It provides for a sanction of development works of Rs 1 crore for those village panchayats which facilitate in the surrender of Naxalites active in their area and to pass a resolution declaring them as Maoist-free.

This is the second such village panchayat in the district to get rid of the Naxal menace after the state government recently introduced the scheme.

In April, Badesatti was declared Naxal-free after all 11 lower-rung Naxalites from there surrendered before police.

All the Naxalites who surrendered were provided an assistance of Rs 50,000 each, and will be further rehabilitated as per the government's policy, the SP said.

Last year, 792 Naxalites surrendered in the state's Bastar region, which comprises seven districts including Sukma.

Man, 21, dies by suicide after father could not buy him luxury car: Telangana cops

HYDERABAD, Jun 2 (Agencies): A 21-year-old man allegedly died by suicide in Siddipet district of Telangana after his father, who worked as a farm labourer, could not afford to buy him a luxury car, citing his financial condition, police said on Monday.

The incident happened at Chatlapally village on May 30. The man went to his agricultural field and consumed an unknown pesticide. Later, he went to his house and informed his parents that he had taken the extreme step, cops said.

He was taken to a hospital and died while



undergoing treatment on May 31, police said.

The man had discontinued his studies. He was addicted to alcohol and his mental condition was not stable. He used to argue with his

parents, demanding luxury things, including a modern house and a luxury car, a police official at Jagadevpur police station said.

His parents own two acres of land and, due to their financial condition, they tried to convince him. However, he refused and insisted on buying the luxury car. They went to Siddipet on May 30 and offered to purchase another car, but the man refused and later in the afternoon consumed the "poisonous" substance, police said.

The father of the man complained, and a case was registered.

Right-wing Karol Nawrocki wins Poland presidential election

WARSHAW, Jun 2 (Agencies): Polish nationalist opposition candidate Karol Nawrocki won the second round of the country's presidential election with 50.89 per cent of the votes, the electoral commission said early on Monday, in a blow to the reform agenda of the pro-European government.

His rival, Rafal Trzaskowski, the liberal Warsaw mayor and an ally of the government led by Donald Tusk, got 49.11 per cent. An exit poll on Sunday had shown Trzaskowski winning with a razor-thin majority.

Nawrocki, 42, a eurosceptic historian who ran a national remembrance institute, campaigned on a promise to ensure economic and social policies favour Poles over other nation-



alities, including refugees from neighbouring Ukraine.

The amateur boxer won despite his past dominating the last days of the presidential campaign - from questions over his acquisition of a flat from a pensioner to an admission that

he took part in orchestrated brawls.

While Poland's parliament holds most power, the president can veto legislation, and the vote was being watched closely in Ukraine as well as Russia, the United States and across

the European Union.

Nawrocki, supported by the Law and Justice party (PiS), is expected to continue the policies of his predecessor, President Andrzej Duda, also an ally of the largest opposition party, including blocking any attempts by the government to liberalise abortion or reform the judiciary.

On social media platform X, Duda thanked Poles for going to vote in large numbers. Turnout was 71.31 per cent, the electoral commission said, a record for the second round of a presidential election.

"Thank you! For participating in the presidential elections. For the turnout. For fulfilling your civic duty. For taking responsibility for Poland. Congratulations to the winner! Stay strong Poland!" Duda wrote.

"Groundless": China rejects Trump's 'Beijing violated Geneva trade deal' claim

BEIJING, Jun 2 (Agencies): China said on Monday that US President Donald Trump's accusations that Beijing had violated the consensus reached in Geneva trade talks were "groundless", and promised to take forceful measures to safeguard its interests.

The comment by the commerce ministry was in response to Trump's remarks on Friday that China had breached a bilateral deal to roll back tariffs.

The ministry said China had implemented and actively upheld the agreement reached last month in Geneva, while the US had introduced multiple "discriminatory restrictive" measures against China.

Those measures included issuing guidance on AI chip export controls, halting sales of chip design software to China and revoking visas for Chinese students, the ministry added.

"The US government has unilaterally and repeatedly provoked new eco-

nomie and trade frictions, exacerbating uncertainty and instability in bilateral economic and trade relations," the ministry said in a statement.

It did not elaborate on what forceful measures it might take in response.

Beijing and Washington agreed in mid-May in Geneva to pause triple-digit tariffs for 90 days. In addition, China also promised to lift trade countermeasures that restricted its exports of the critical metals needed for US semiconductor, electronics and defence production.

Trump on Friday also announced a doubling of import tariffs on steel and aluminium to 50%.

While China is the world's largest steel producer and exporter, it ships very little to the United States after a 25% tariff imposed in 2018 shut most Chinese steel out of the market. China ranks third among aluminium suppliers.

Ukraine drone attacks on Russia spark fires, disrupt traffic, officials say

MOSCOW, Jun 2 (Agencies): Ukraine's overnight drone attacks on Russia's Kursk and Voronezh regions sparked residential fires and disrupted traffic on a major highway, regional officials said early on Monday.

Russian air defence units destroyed a total of 162 Ukrainian drones overnight, downing 57 of the air weapons over the Kursk region that borders Ukraine.

Falling debris from destroyed drones in the Kursk region sparked fires at several houses and damaged private apartments, said acting governor of the region, Alexander Khinshtein, on the Telegram messaging app.

In the southern Russian region of Voronezh, where Russian air units



destroyed 16 Ukrainian drones, regional governor Alexander Gusev said drone debris cut through power lines which fell on the M-4, a major expressway.

A small section of the highway, which links the cities of Moscow, Voronezh, Rostov-on-Don and Krasnodar, was closed, Gusev said. Falling drone debris also damaged the facade

of several houses, he added on Telegram.

There were no injuries reported, the governors of the regions said.

The attacks come as both Russia and Ukraine are about to meet for a round of peace talks, trying to find a way to end the war that Russia launched with a full-scale invasion on its smaller neighbour more than three years ago.

"India took steps to protect its national interest," says Malaysian minister YB Kulasegaran Murugeson

KUALA LUMPUR, Jun 2 (Agencies): Expressing strong concern over the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, Malaysian leaders have acknowledged India's measured response and affirmed their support for peace and regional stability.

YB Kulasegaran Murugeson, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Law and Institutional Reform) of Malaysia, said the incident was "shocking" and "should not have happened at all."

Speaking to agency, Murugeson stated, "India has taken necessary action. We spoke about Malaysia's concerns, and we feel India took steps to protect its national interest." He added, "We hope cross-border terrorism doesn't take place anymore," underscoring Malaysia's desire for peace in the region.

Malaysia's Deputy Minister of National Unity, YB Senator Saraswathy Kandasami, echoed similar sentiments following a meeting with an Indian all-party delegation. She said the message brought by the del-



egation was clear -- that India seeks peace and development, not conflict.

"There was a detailed explanation of what had happened on 22 April, and the Indian government's measured reaction after the attack. The all-party delegation very clearly conveyed the aspiration of the Indian government that India is not at all interested in war," Kandasami told agency.

Highlighting India's economic focus, Kandasami said, "India, as the world's fourth-largest economy, is focused on continued economic growth with the goal of becoming the third-largest economy. There needs to be an end to this aggression... They were seeking support from Malaysia and other countries in

this region."

She emphasised that India and Pakistan are both friendly countries to Malaysia and noted that the Indian delegation urged Malaysia to help convey the message of peace and development to Pakistan. "They brought us this message so that we could convey it to Pakistan - that the need of the hour is not conflict, but economic development," she added.

Reaffirming Malaysia's stance, Kandasami said, "Our response has been made very clear by our Prime Minister--that Malaysia also has zero tolerance towards any form of violence, be it in any part of the world."

The Group 3 Indian delegation, led by JD(U) MP Sanjay Kumar Jha, met with representatives of Malaysia's Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) - People's Justice Party - in Kuala Lumpur. The PKR delegation was headed by Deputy Minister Saraswathy Kandasami.

The Indian delegation includes Aparajita Sarangi (BJP), TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee, Brij Lala (BJP), John Brittas (CPI-M),

Pradan Baruah (BJP), Hemang Joshi (BJP), Salman Khurshid, and Mohan Kumar.

This meeting marked a significant engagement between Indian lawmakers and Malaysian political leaders as part of a broader diplomatic outreach to brief international partners on India's counter-terrorism efforts.

The visit comes in the backdrop of Operation Sindoor, launched on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack by Pakistan-sponsored terrorists, which killed 26 people. As part of the operation, Indian Armed Forces targeted terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, eliminating over 100 terrorists affiliated with groups including Jaish-e-Mohammed, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and Hizbul Mujahideen.

The delegation's tour includes visits to Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, and Singapore to highlight India's firm stance against cross-border terrorism and to reinforce its commitment to peace and development.

Smuggling and land grabs allegedly driving military profits in Pakistan

PARIS, Jun 2 (Agencies): Grave allegations have emerged against the Pakistan Army, accusing it of operating a billion-dollar economic empire built on unregulated businesses, corruption, and illicit trade with Balochistan at the core of its shadow economy.

Taha Siddiqui, a Pakistani journalist living in exile in France, stated that the Pakistan Army maintains vast commercial interests across real estate, consumer goods, and agriculture. According to Siddiqui, the military's business ventures are prioritised in the allocation of government contracts, functioning with little oversight or accountability.

"Due to such financial interests, its professional role as a military force has come under fire," Siddiqui said. "But given its authoritarian control and its manipulation of the judiciary and political class, the army continues to exploit the Pakistani nation for its own benefit."

Qambar Baloch, General Secretary of the Baloch Advocacy and Studies Centre (BASC), said that Balochistan has long served as a profitable zone for Pakistan's military elite. He alleged that the army has built an illicit, unregulated economy in the province, driven by border smuggling, drug trafficking, and the misappropriation of public funds.

He highlighted the 900-kilometre-long Goldsmid Line -- the border between Pakistan and Iran -- as a major corridor in an extensive fuel smuggling operation. "Each day, around 6 to 8 million litres of Iranian petroleum enter Pakistan-controlled Balochistan. Approximately 40 percent of the vehicles

involved reportedly belong to the Pakistan Army, its informers, or pro-army death squads," Baloch stated.

While local traders are limited to loading their vehicles once every 30 to 40 days, army-affiliated transporters operate daily -- allegedly earning the military nearly \$1 million per day through this illicit trade.

Baloch also accused the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency and the Pakistan Coast Guard -- the latter commanded by an army officer -- of facilitating illegal trawling by Chinese and Karachi-based fishing vessels. "This practice is rapidly depleting marine resources in Balochistan's coastal waters and is devastating the livelihoods of local fishermen," he warned.

Simultaneously, the army has reportedly acquired prime coastal land in Gwadar and has been aggressively promoting investment by overseas Pakistanis and foreign entities, further marginalising the local population.

Baloch added that six of the nine major drug trafficking routes from Afghanistan pass through Balochistan. Despite the heavy presence of security checkpoints manned by various agencies, narcotics move freely, while ordinary citizens face frequent and rigorous inspections -- raising suspicions of complicity by the authorities.

The Pakistan Army is also accused of draining the provincial budget under the guise of security. In 2018 alone, between Rs 20 and 30 million per month was reportedly spent on the Frontier Corps (FC) to police Quetta. The Auditor General of Pakistan highlighted

financial irregularities of over Rs 570 million involving the FC in 2014. That same year, the National Accountability Bureau uncovered widespread corruption, including smuggled luxury vehicles and links to drug trafficking.

According to Baloch, the army's influence over electoral processes in Balochistan has allowed it to extract bribes from candidates seeking office. Seats are often awarded to military loyalists -- many of whom are allegedly involved in drug trafficking and the suppression of nationalist voices.

"Moreover, the army-run Frontier Works Organisation (FWO) has monopolised highway construction contracts and entered mineral exploration through a partnership with Pakistan Petroleum Limited. Their operations target copper and gold deposits in Eastern Chagai, covering 239 square kilometres under license EL-207," Baloch added.

These revelations raise serious concerns about Pakistan's compliance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards. The reported activities suggest significant lapses in Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Counter-Terrorism Financing (CTF), anti-corruption frameworks, and judicial enforcement.

As international scrutiny intensifies over the Pakistan Army's dominance and its alleged economic exploitation of Balochistan, calls are mounting for independent investigations, judicial accountability, and structural reforms to dismantle what critics describe as a "military-mafia" system entrenched in the state.

4 dead in west Japan in suspected murder-suicide

TOKYO, Jun 2 (Agencies): Four people were found dead in a suspected murder-suicide on Monday in the western Japanese prefecture of Osaka, local media reported.

An emergency call was made around 6:20 a.m. local time to report a man collapsed on a street in Suita City in Osaka Prefecture.

The 26-year-old man was later pronounced



dead at a hospital, Kyodo News reported.

Police visited his home nearby where they

found the bodies of a woman and two children with blood around their abdomens, the report

said.

Police identified the man's home from his belongings and found a blood-stained bladed object and what appeared to be a suicide note he had written in the apartment, it added.

The police suspect the 26-year-old woman and two girls, aged one and two, were related to the man.

Pakistan's anti-polio drive suffers blow after enclave reports first case in 7 years



PESHAWAR, Jun 2 (Agencies): Pakistan efforts to eliminate polio suffered another blow on Monday after a northern enclave reported its first case in seven years. Overall, it was the country's 11th case since January, despite the launch of several immunization drives.

The virus was detected in a child from the district of Diamer in the Gilgit-Baltistan region, according to the country's polio eradication program.

Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan remain the only two countries where the spread of the wild polio virus has not been stopped, accord-

ing to the World Health Organization. There are ongoing outbreaks of polio linked to the oral vaccine in 10 other countries, mostly in Africa.

The new case was reported after Pakistan on Sunday wrapped up its third nationwide polio vaccination drive of the year, aiming to immunize 45 million children.

Mohammad Iqbal, a director at the polio program in the northwest, said local health officials were still trying to determine how the poliovirus that was found in the southern port city of Karachi had infected the child in Diamer.

During the summer season, thousands of tourists from Karachi and elsewhere visit tourist resorts in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Pakistan's polio eradication program has been running anti-polio campaigns for years, though health workers and the police assigned to protect them are often targeted by militants who falsely claim the vaccination campaigns are a Western conspiracy to sterilize children.

Since the 1990s, attacks on polio vaccination teams have killed more than 200 workers and security personnel.

GDC Ramgarh hosts its first Alumni Meet



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Jun 2: Government Degree College (GDC) Ramgarh proudly hosted its first Alumni Meet, bringing together former students for a day of reminiscing, networking, and celebration. The occasion was held under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college, and emphasized the importance of alumni in shaping the future of educational institutions.

The event was orga-

nized and led by Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Head of the Department of English and Convener of IQAC. She welcomed and interacted with the alumni from the past years. The meet served as a vibrant platform for former students to reconnect with their peers and faculty, share memories, and explore ways to contribute to the growth of their alma mater. Addressing the alumni, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol highlighted the enduring bond between alumni

and the institution. She expressed heartfelt gratitude to the alumni for their continued support, saying, "Our alumni are the pillars of our legacy. Their achievements reflect the excellence of the college, and we are proud to honor their journey." The event concluded with some melody, and renewed commitments to strengthen alumni-institution ties through mentorship programs, and collaborative projects and college improvements.

GAMC Akhnoor organizes Yoga Awareness Camp



Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Jun 2: The Government Ayurvedic Medical College (GAMC), Akhnoor organized a Yoga Awareness Camp at the Government Nursing College (GNC), Akhnoor as part of the ongoing 21-day count-down program leading up to the International Day of Yoga. The event was held under the guidance of the Principal of GAMC Akhnoor and coordinated by the Department of Swast-havritta and Yoga.

During the camp, students actively participated in performing Yoga Asanas and Pranayam, strictly following the pro-

toocol issued by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. The session aimed to spread awareness about the importance of integrating yoga into daily life for better physical and mental well-being. Dr. Abhishek Magotra, Associate Professor, addressed the gathering and emphasized the need to incorporate yoga into daily routine to promote a healthy lifestyle. Dr. Sheetal Gupta, Assistant Professor, and Archana Sharma, Yoga Teacher, demonstrated the complete yoga protocol and guided students through various postures and breathing techniques.

Dr. Raman Kumar Bhagat, Principal of GNC Akhnoor, along with other faculty members, also attended the camp and encouraged students to actively engage in such wellness initiatives. Among the student participants were Bisma Idrees, Tahir Mehmood, and Zahid Bashir from GAMC Akhnoor, who contributed to the success of the event through their active involvement. The camp reflected the growing importance of yoga in educational institutions and highlighted the collaborative efforts between medical and nursing colleges in promoting holistic health practices.

Max Fashion drops a tropical collection inspired by Disney's 'Lilo & Stitch' this summer

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Ahead of the highly anticipated theatrical release of Disney's Lilo & Stitch, Max Fashion has unveiled their latest collection - for Kids, Teens & Youth. This exciting new line captures the island spirit and tropical charm, offering fresh and playful styles for fans. "We launched our first Disney-themed collection nearly a decade ago and we have always been inspired by Disney's timeless stories," said Sumit Chandna, Deputy CEO of Max Fashion. "Taking inspiration from the classics always helps our young consumers connect with the collection in a big way. Our latest 'Lilo & Stitch'-themed collection is a testament to our strong creative collaboration with Disney." The vibrant collection by Max Fashion, a leading fashion brand known for its trendy and accessible apparel, launched on May 24th at a lively showcase in Megumi, Mumbai. The event fea-



tured a fun fashion walk with prominent parenting Influencers and their kids that brought the story's island spirit to life. Actress Bipasha Basu graced the show as the showstopper, emphasizing the collection's stylish appeal. It features whimsical movie-inspired elements, vibrant prints, and a bright summer palette of oranges, breezy blues, refreshing greens, and dreamy pastels. "Character-led licensing has inspired stand-out collections over

the years from Max Fashion, who has really leaned into the growing appetite for infusing popular characters into fashion and bringing that creativity and flair to consumers. It also gives us exciting opportunities to team up and engage audiences in bigger, creative and bolder ways," says Priya Nijhara, Director, Disney Consumer Products India. This collection is now available at 520+ Max stores across India and online at maxfashion.com, ready to add a

sprinkle of Disney magic to every wardrobe. This launch marks Max Fashion's ninth collaboration with Disney Consumer Products India, building on the success of previous popular collections inspired by Disney's The Jungle Book, Disney Princess, Star Wars, Marvel's Guard-

ians of the Galaxy and more. With each release, Max Fashion has cemented its position as a key player in character-themed collections, consistently delivering sought-after merchandise that resonates with everyone.

Ajeet seeks uninterrupted supply of ration, essential commodities

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 2: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference senior leader and Chenab Valley Zone spokesperson Ajeet Bhagat has urged the district administrations of Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban to ensure the smooth and uninterrupted supply of ration and essential commodities to residents of the Chenab Valley region. In his statement, Bhagat emphasized the importance of closely monitoring supply chains to prevent any potential shortages or manipulation of prices, especially in rural and remote areas. He called on the administrations to remain vigilant against black market activities and hoarding, cautioning that such exploitative behavior by profi-



teers could deepen the hardship for common people. Bhagat further appealed to the concerned authorities to pay special attention to rural areas, where access to essential goods is often more challenging. He stressed that the welfare of the rural population must be a priority and urged prompt administrative action to ensure that no family faces deprivation due to negligence or mismanagement in the supply of basic necessities.

Cycle rally held across Kathua Zones to mark World Environment Day 2025

Top News Report

KATHUA, Jun 2: In a spirited celebration of World Environment Day 2025, a grand cycle rally was jointly organized today by Zone Hiranagar, Zone Bhaddu, and Zone Mahanpur. The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 149 cyclists representing various government and private schools across the region. In Zone Bhaddu, the rally commenced from the main road Dharmani and concluded at Barota. The event aimed to spread awareness about environmental protection, encourage healthy living, and promote cycling as a sustainable mode of transport among the youth. The rally was flagged off by I/C ZPEO Bhaddu Mohd Sharief, along with Principal MTC Dharmani Yash Sharma, DTI and his staff, and the physical education staff of Zone Bhaddu.



Also present on the occasion were Principal MTC HSS Prithvi Raj and several prominent citizens of the Dharmani area. Addressing the gathering, Yash Sharma emphasized the urgent need to educate youth and society about the harmful effects of environmental pollution. DTI also encouraged the participants to maintain cleanliness and work towards a pollution-free future.

Meanwhile, at Hiranagar, a cyclothon was flagged off from the Sports Stadium and concluded at Kali Mata Mandir. Participants rode with banners and slogans promoting a plastic-free and eco-friendly environment. The entire event was conducted under the banner of World Environment Day 2025, echoing a strong message of environmental sustainability and community responsibility.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Surinder Kumar S/o Late Sh. Karamchand, resident of House No. 2-C, Mohalla Kalith, Hari Market, Jammu, do hereby declare that I have no concern or connection whatsoever with M/s Hotel Green Palace Lodge, or any transport business run in the name of my father Late Sh. Karamchand or in my name. If any license, ownership, or operations are being conducted under my name or that of my father without our knowledge or consent, the same is unauthorized and not binding on me. Any person, organization, or authority having any objection, claim, or interest regarding the said property, business, or license is hereby requested to submit the same in writing to the undersigned within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be deemed that there are no claims or objections, and I shall not be responsible in any manner whatsoever for any liabilities, dealings, misuse, or legal consequences arising therefrom.

Sd/-
Surinder Kumar
S/o Late Sh. Karamchand
House No. 2-C, Mohalla Kalith, Hari Market,
Jammu

Mobile No.: 9319114502
Date: 02/06/2025

FromPage No: 1

Dr Jitendra launches India's First AI Based 'Large Language Model' For Indian Languages

cultural spectrum. The initiative is supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and brings together a robust consortium of leading academic institutions, experts, and innovators. Speaking at the Summit, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Minister of State for Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh, described BharatGen as a "national mission to create AI that is ethical, inclusive, multi-lingual, and deeply rooted in Indian values and ethos." The platform integrates text, speech, and image modalities, offering seamless AI solutions in 22 Indian languages. "This initiative will empower critical sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture, and governance, delivering region-specific

AI solutions that understand and serve every Indian," said Dr. Singh. Recalling a success story from his own constituency, Dr. Jitendra Singh spoke about AI-powered telemedicine services where an AI doctor communicates fluently in the patient's native language. "It not only builds trust but has a placebo-like psychological effect, enabling better care in remote regions connected with superspecialty hospitals across India," he noted. Dr. Jitendra Singh emphasized that BharatGen aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "India's Techade"—not just for innovation but for inclusion. He hailed India's AI progress as a global benchmark, including CPGRAMS, now studied by several countries as a model grievance redressal system. The Minister reiterated that Anusandhan NRF will further boost India's R&D and innovation ecosystem, and highlighted the ongoing transformation through flagship schemes like PM MUDRA Yojana, PM SVANidhi, and PM Vishwakarma Yojana, which uplift street vendors, artisans, and micro-entrepreneurs. Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted

the transformative role of Generative AI in grassroots governance, citing the integration of multi-lingual feedback systems into platforms like CPGRAMS to enhance citizen engagement and grievance redressal. He underscored the inclusive vision of NEP 2020, which promotes interdisciplinary learning by enabling students to combine technical and humanities disciplines, thus enhancing their employability and innovation potential. Dr. Jitendra Singh celebrated the success of over 3,000 Agri-tech StartUps, particularly those pioneering initiatives like lavender cultivation in Jammu & Kashmir, as evidence that innovation thrives beyond metros and IT sectors. The summit also witnessed a significant MoU exchange ceremony aimed at deepening collaboration across government departments and research hubs. Jammu dining guideJammu and Kashmir real estate The launch of the Generative AI Hackathon 2025 marked a major step in engaging student innovators to solve real-world problems through AI. The BharatGen initiative is being executed through a network of 25 Technology Inno-

vation Hubs (TIHs), four of which have been upgraded to Technology Translational Research Parks (TTRPs). The Mission's four pillars include technology development, entrepreneurship, human resource development, and international collaboration. The BharatGen Summit witnessed the esteemed presence of key dignitaries including Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DST); V. Srinivas, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG); Rajit Punhani, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; and Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and IT (MEITY). The event also featured industry stalwart Kris Gopalakrishnan, Co-founder of Infosys, and Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan, Principal Investigator of BharatGen. Their participation, alongside senior government officials, leading academicians, and young student innovators, added depth and vision to the summit's focus on advancing India's AI ecosystem.

Panic grips Jammu

railway station after hoax bomb call

operation which was carried out under the direct supervision of senior police officers, they said, adding security has been further beefed up at the railway station.

E-mail verification via OTP for all rti requests starting Jun 16: Govt

and data security, besides strengthening the portal's cybersecurity framework, it said. Citizens can file Right to Information (RTI) applications through the portal — www.rtionline.gov.in — which also allows users to file appeals and know their status. "To enhance citizen privacy and data security, and to strengthen the portal's cybersecurity framework, email verification via OTP will be implemented for all RTI requests starting Monday, June 16, 2025," read a message on the website under the administrative control of

the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

Mehbooba Mufti seeks dignified return of Kashmiri Pandits

community, civil society, local leaders and relevant administrative agencies. Only through inclusive deliberations can we chart a future where no community feels alienated in their own land," she added in the letter to the LG. Two-Year-Old dies after falling into water trench in Central Kashmir Gund. The incident occurred while the child was playing in the lawn. The deceased has been identified as Mahir Ahmad Chohan, son of Gulzar Ahmad, a resident of Gagingear Gund. Authorities have taken cognisance of the incident.

Utkarsh Gupta to represent India in 1st Juniors Roll Ball World Cup 2025 in Kenya

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: In a proud moment for Jammu & Kashmir sports, Utkarsh Gupta, son of Richa Gupta and Neeraj Gupta, a promising young talent from Jammu, has been officially selected to represent Team India at the 1st Juniors Roll Ball World Cup 2025, set to take place in Kenya.

Organized by the International Roll Ball Federation (IRBF), the 1st Juniors World Cup is a prestigious global tournament that brings together the best young athletes from across the world to compete in this dynamic, fast-paced sport.

The event is scheduled to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from June 22 to 29, 2025, and will witness participation from over 30 nations. Utkarsh Gupta was selected during the selection trial held at Indore M.P from May 17 to 22, 2025.

Utkarsh Gupta, 16 years, has consistently demonstrated exceptional skill, dedication, and sportsmanship in the

field of Roll Ball. A student of MHAC Nagbani School Jammu, he has earned accolades at various state and national championships, and now takes a major step forward by earning a coveted spot on the national team.

Speaking about the selection, Utkarsh Gupta said, "It's a dream come true to wear the Indian jersey and compete at the world level. I am deeply thankful to my coaches, parents, and mentors who supported me throughout my journey."

"We are incredibly proud of Utkarsh Gupta and confident in their ability to perform on the international stage," said Madhu Sharma, Head Coach of the Indian Roll Ball Junior Team.

The Jammu & Kashmir Roll Ball Association congratulated Utkarsh Gupta on this remarkable achievement and extended best wishes for a successful tournament in Kenya.

Before Departing for Kenya he will attend a preparatory Coaching Camp at Pune from June 6. Team will leave Nairobi, Kenya on June 21, 2025.

SHTM, Phy Edu Deptt win in JU's Inter-Departmental Cricket Tournament



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The University of Jammu is currently hosting its prestigious Inter-Departmental Cricket Tournament 2025-26 for Men at the University Cricket Ground. As one of the flagship sporting events on campus, the tournament aims to foster health, fitness, sportsmanship, and camaraderie among students from various departments. The tournament has seen enthusiastic participation, high-energy performances, and strong crowd engagement, reflecting the vibrant sports culture and holistic development that the University promotes. The event is being held under the supervision of Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Chairman of the Campus Sports Committee, and is being coordinated efficiently by Raj Kumar Bakshi, Incharge PTI, Campus Sports Committee. Their

leadership has ensured smooth operations with a focus on discipline, fair play, and organizational excellence.

In a thrilling semifinal match, the SHTM Department secured a spot in the final by defeating The Law School by 13 runs. Batting first, SHTM posted a total of 148/8 in 15 overs, thanks to a brilliant innings by Sachin, who scored a commanding 73 runs. Despite a strong bowling effort by Aryan from The Law School, who claimed 4 wickets for 12 runs, SHTM managed to put up a challenging total.

In response, The Law School scored 135/8 in 15 overs, falling short by 13 runs. Abhay led the chase with a valiant 64 runs, but lacked support from the rest of the batting lineup. SHTM's bowlers kept things tight, with Sachin contributing again by taking 2 wickets, and Sparsh claiming 2 crucial dis-

missals to stifle The Law School's momentum.

In another match, the Physical Education Department delivered a dominant performance to defeat DD&OE by 9 wickets. Batting first, DD&OE was bowled out for 101 runs in 14.4 overs, with Jeetinder Singh being the lone fighter, scoring 53 runs. For Physical Education, Shoaib Naik bowled a tidy spell, taking 2 wickets for just 16 runs.

Chasing a modest target of 102, Physical Education cruised to 104/1 in 11.4 overs, with Aryan Bhaleal anchoring the innings with an unbeaten 57 runs, guiding his team to a comprehensive win and a place in the final.

The matches were professionally managed and officiated by Vijay Kumar, Ashok Singh, Raj Kumar Bakshi, and Anirudh Singh, ensuring a high standard of conduct throughout the games.

Army conducts awareness lecture on World No Tobacco Day at Samote



Top News Report

RAJOURI, Jun 2: Indian Army has been working for the amelioration of the local populace. The area is free from militancy due to the relentless Counter Insurgency and Counter Terrorism Operations by Indian Army.

The unit is focused to change the perception of the underprivileged population, which ultimately manifests in sustained peace and prosperity in the region. Indian Army unit at Samote conducted an awareness talk on 'World No Tobacco Day' and 'Drug Abuse'

at H.S.S Samote. World No Tobacco Day is observed around the world every year on 31 May.

This yearly celebration is to inform the public on the dangers of using tobacco and drug abuse, business practices of tobacco companies, efforts of World Health Organization to fight against the use of tobacco, drug abuse and what people around the world can do to claim their right to healthy living. A total of Str 39, students (37 x Boys) and 02 x teachers attended the same. Teachers and students

thanked and expressed their profound gratitude towards the Indian Army for organizing the awareness talk and taking this noble initiative for locals which will create a positive atmosphere between the Indian Army and the locals.

Shrine Board's archer to represent India at World University Games, Germany-2025

Top News Report

KATRA, Jun 2: Under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, JK-UT, Manoj Sinha, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) is dedicated to fostering the growth and development of the region's youth. To realize this vision, the Shrine Board has established a world-class Sports Complex at Katra as a Centre of Excellence, wherein athletes are being trained to reach their full potential and contribute to the region's sports development and overall well-being.

As part of this endeavor, the Shrine Board has taken a significant step to support budding sports talent, Hritik Sharma, a promising archer from the SMVD Sports Complex, Katra by extending financial assistance amounting to Rs. 2.37 lakh to facilitate his participation in the prestigious World University Games, Germany-2025.

He has been training



at the Complex since September-2020 and showcased his potential by winning accolades in the Khelo India University Games, 36th / 38th National Games, 19th NTPC Senior National Championship, North zone Inter university Championship, J&K UT Archery Championship and 2nd NTPC National Ranking Archery Tournament making him a promising prospect for future sporting excellence. Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB said that the

sponsorship highlights the Board's dedication to fostering young talent and enabling athletes in the Sports Complex to shine globally.

He underscored that by offering vital support, the Shrine Board seeks to facilitate sporting aspirations for bringing accolades to both the region and the nation.

He highlighted the Board's sustained investment of Rs.2.5-3 crore annually over the past 9-10 years in developing world-class sports infrastructure and nur-

turing talented athletes at the SMVD Sports Complex. He cited the remarkable success of Rakesh Kumar and Sheetal Devi, two world-class archers trained at the Complex, who have made a significant global impact and were honored with the prestigious Arjuna Awards for their outstanding achievements.

CEO also congratulated three para-archers from the Sports Complex - Rakesh Kumar, Sheetal Devi and Jyoti Balian who made the

nation proud by winning four medals, including two gold and two bronze, at the recently concluded Para Archery World Ranking Tournament held in Rome.

Their impressive performance contributed significantly to India's overall tally of eight medals in the tournament wherein, Rakesh won double Gold and Sheetal Devi won bronze along with Jyoti.

Notably, the SMVD Sports Complex is currently nurturing the talents of over 150 aspiring athletes across various sports disciplines, who have been consistently delivering promising results in national and international competitions. The SMVDSB Archery Academy, part of the Complex, has earned the prestigious accreditation under the Khelo India program by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, in recognition of its excellence in promoting sports development and nurturing young talent.

Model Academy School organises Pratham & Dwitiya Sopan Camp for Scouts, Guides



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The Bharat Scouts and Guides wing of Model Academy successfully organized the Pratham and Dwitiya Sopan Camp from May 28 to 30 at the MIER Campus, providing a dynamic platform for young Scouts and Guides to learn, grow, and lead.

The camp was formally inaugurated by Pramod Kumar Srivastava, Principal, and J.K. Dhiman, Vice Principal of the school. A total of 62 students — 32 Scouts and 30 Guides — enthusiastically took part in the camp under the able mentorship of Ms. Veena Vaid and Mr. Imran.

The three-day camp was packed with engaging and skill-building activities such as knotting, flag procedures, BP6 exercises, rope work, patrol system, the court of honour, first aid, and camp signs. These sessions offered participants hands-on learning

experiences while instilling values of discipline, teamwork, and leadership.

To observe World No Tobacco Day on May 30, a special painting activity was held, raising awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco and encouraging healthy living choices.

Adding further depth to the camp, two Rovers from the State Headquarters — Krishna Nischal and Tanmay Pandotra — joined the sessions.

A highlight of the camp was the impactful session on Youth-Led Action on Climate Change (YLACC) conducted by a National Master Trainer (NMT), which emphasized environmental awareness and the importance of sustainable practices.

Reflecting on the success of the camp, Rupa Gupta, Joint Director of MIER, said, "Such camps play a pivotal role in shaping responsible, skilled, and socially aware citizens."

84 Bn CRPF celebrates 40th Raising Day at Ramban

Top News Report

RAMBAN, Jun 2: 84 Battalion CRPF proudly celebrated its 40th Raising Day at the Battalion Tactical Headquarters in Chanderkote, Ramban. Raised on 1st June 1985 at Group Centre CRPF New Delhi, the Battalion has been dedicated to serving the nation with unwavering commitment across various conflict zones including Jammu & Kashmir, Northeast India, and Punjab.

Since 2010, 84 Bn CRPF has been deployed in Jammu and Kashmir, entrusted with the critical task of securing the strategic National Highway 44 (NH-44), the vital life-line connecting Kashmir Valley with Jammu and the rest of India, over a 47 km stretch in Ramban district.

The day's celebrations commenced with a solemn prayer at the Sarv Dharm Prarthana Sthal, where personnel gathered for a joint prayer seeking success and safety in the year ahead. The Unit paid homage to its martyrs who laid down their lives in the line of duty. A new flag was hoisted at the Quarter Guard followed by the Commandant receiving the Guard of Honour.

In his address to the Unit personnel during



the Sainik Sammelan, the Battalion Commandant, N. Ranbir Singh extended his heartfelt greetings to all members and their families. He lauded the Battalion's glorious legacy and valiant service, urging all to uphold the highest ideals to keep the Battalion, CRPF, and the nation's flag flying high.

As part of the Raising Day activities, 20 personnel voluntarily donated blood in collaboration with the District Hospital Ramban, reinforcing the Unit's commitment to social responsibility. To promote environmental sustainability, 200 saplings were planted within the campus and its surroundings.

In the lead-up to the Raising Day, various competitions including physical endurance, weapon handling, firing,

badminton, volleyball, and lawn tennis were organized to foster camaraderie and esprit de corps among the personnel.

The day culminated in a vibrant cultural evening performance graced by DIG CRPF, Vivek Bhandral, as the Chief Guest. Special felicitation was accorded to a CRPF Veer Naari Rubeena Begum, and resident of Maitra, Ramban, for her exemplary dedication. Certificates and prizes were distributed to blood donors and winners of the competitions.

The celebrations concluded with a grand Bada Khana attended by officers, personnel, and their families, symbolizing the spirit of unity and dedication that defines 84 Battalion CRPF.

Punjab wrestler Chota Gani lifts 5th Talwara Dangal title

Top News Report

KATRA, Jun 2: Wrestler Chota Gani of Hosiarpur in Punjab lifted 5th Talwara Dangal Title 2024 by defeating Wrestler Sandeep of Jalandhar in Punjab in the first main bout that lasted for 6 minutes.

Winner Chota Gani was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 31,000 while runner-up Sandeep got cash prize of Rs. 20,000.

Dangal Committee Talwara organized annual Vishal Dangal in association with J&K Indian

Style Wrestling Association under the overall supervision of Jagdev Singh (President) and Gain Chand (General Secretary).

Former Joint Secretary J&K State Sports Council and President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association, Shiv Kumar Sharma was the chief Guest on the occasion, who gave away cash prizes of Rs. 2,75,000 to the winners and runner-up wrestlers.

Former BDC Chairman Mohd Rafiq, Ex Sarpanch Kewal Singh

and Ex. Sarpanch Ravi Kumar were the Guests of Honour.

In total, 65 bouts were played. Second main bout was fought between wrestler Upkar Pandit, Akhara Ram Avtar Gurgoan and wrestler Surjit of J&K Police resident of Narkote Reasi. This bout ended in a draw that lasted for 21 minutes. Cash prize of Rs. 20,000 was jointly given to both the wrestlers.

Third bout was won by Madan Singh of Reasi who defeated wrestler Sourav, Akhara Ram

Avtar Gurgoan. Winner Madan Singh was cash awarded with Rs. 10,000 while runner-up got Rs. 8,000. Another third bout was won by Munner of J&K Police who defeated Yuv Raj of Akhnoor. Winner Munner was cash awarded with Rs. 10,000 while runner-up Yuv Raj got Rs. 8,000.

Fourth bout was won by Sanjay of J&K Police who defeated Babba of Kot Bhawal, Jammu. Fifth bout was won by Maam Hussain who beat Soni of Patti.

Other bouts: Amir Khan



of J&K Police defeated Bablu of Basantgarh, Ranjit Singh of J&K Police defeated Anyant of BSF of Manwal, Chain

Singh beat Vivek of Delhi, Balwan Singh of Kalka Akhara Reasi beat Ali of Pati, Dillar Khan of J&K Police beat Shakti.

RCB and Virat Kohli's 18-year wait meets Punjab Kings' tenacity as IPL set to crown new winner

This will be Kohli's last appearance on the cricket field for a while, having recently retired from Test cricket and India's next ODI assignment a few months away

AHMEDABAD, Jun 2 (Agencies): Virat Kohli's nearly two-decade long agonising wait to lay hands on an IPL Trophy with Royal Challengers Bengaluru will be up against Shreyas Iyer's resolve to make first-time winners out of the tenacious Punjab Kings when the 18th season finale of the world's biggest T20 league unfolds here on Tuesday.

The summit clash here at the Narendra Modi Stadium could witness a thousands of fans donning jersey No.18 to support Kohli, who is in an IPL final for a fourth time overall.

The sentiments of the fans would indeed run high given it will be Kohli's last appearance on the cricket field for a while, having recently retired from Test cricket and India's next ODI assignment a few months away.

Parting ways with issues that plagued their previous campaigns, RCB have been clinical all the way through, coming into the final with an eight-wicket hammering of Punjab in a one-sided Qualifier 1.

Kohli (614 runs) has gone about his business like every other year, piling up runs at the top and continuing to lay platforms, but where it has made the difference for RCB is that there's a lot more substance to their batting beyond the superstar.

Kohli has not been the only one to carry the focus and atten-



tion this year, rather he has quietly gone about his business in fortifying for RCB.

Phil Salt is a perfect foil for the Indian superstar who goes all-out in his attack, while Mayank Agarwal, skipper Rajat Patidar and Jitesh Sharma are the trusted lieutenants of that batting line-up.

Since he has missed RCB's last two games, it remains to be seen if Tim David is fit for this contest as he forms a vital death overs batting pair with another burly hitter in Romario Shephard.

Like Kohli in their batting, the calm and composed Josh Hazlewood (21 wickets) has been at the helm of RCB's rise and the fourth highest wicket-taker and the Australian would want to add more to move up the ladder in one last game.

On their part, stung by that crushing defeat in their home-ground at Mullanpur, Iyer's

Kings showed no scars from that defeat as they knocked out five-time winners Mumbai Indians in Qualifier 2 to reach their first final after 11 years.

It's only fitting that PBKS and RCB, who finished at the top two positions, respectively after a gruelling 70-match league round, have a crack at the trophy which has eluded them from the time the competition began.

Perennial finishers in the second half of the 10-team points table, Punjab Kings have staged a sensational turnaround with two dogged personalities in captain Iyer and coach Ricky Ponting at the helm.

For Iyer (603 runs), a second consecutive appearance in an IPL final after winning it last year with Kolkata Knight Riders speaks volumes about his capabilities as a leader who marshals his troops as good as any other in the format.

It is, therefore, not a surprise to see Iyer being the only cricketer in the 18-year history of the tournament to have led three different teams in IPL finals, with Delhi Capitals being the third.

Iyer's perseverance is not the only quality that stands out for the 30-year-old Punjab captain, but also the fact that he remains as hungry to win this IPL as he was when he began the journey with the franchise a few months ago.

In Prabhsimran Singh, Josh Inglis, Priyansh Arya and Shashank Singh, Iyer has adequate support to hold his fort staunchly and even lead aggressive attacks on the opposition camp.

Punjab's bowling, without Marcus Jansen, did look a little depleted, but having managed to keep a lid on Mumbai Indians' for the entirety of an innings on a batting-friendly wicket tells that there is more to it than what has been perceived.

Yuzvendra Chahal is still dealing with a hand injury and was not at his absolute best in the Qualifier 2, but Punjab would need him to fire against his former franchise.

While there are no predictions of rains impacting the contest, an additional hour to the play-time extending the duration to 120 minutes and having a reserve day in the final are the measures in place to ensure the contest is completed.

Shreyas Iyer's knock helps Punjab Kings set up IPL final against Royal Challengers Bengaluru



AHMEDABAD, Jun 2 (Agencies): Skipper Shreyas Iyer uncorked a remarkable unbeaten 87 to carry Punjab Kings to a five-wicket win over Mumbai Indians in the Qualifier 2 here on Sunday, and to the IPL final against Royal Challengers Bengaluru, ensuring the league will have a new champion on June 3.

This will be Punjab's first title clash since 2014, and second successive for Iyer as captain after marshalling Kolkata Knight Riders' triumph in 2024.

Chasing 204, Iyer stood tall with an imperious knock (87 not out, 41b, 5x4, 8x6) as PBKS moved past the target with an over to spare.

Once Mumbai posted a 200-plus total, Punjab required someone to play with composure and a sense of purpose, and they found the best man in their ranks putting his hand up.

However, Iyer and PBKS will also profusely thank the plucky Nehal Wadhwa for exploiting his two reprieves to peel off an important 48 off 29 balls and adding 84 runs for the fourth wicket with his captain.

Naman Dhir misjudged a catch off Mitchell Santner at deep midwicket and allowed a four in the ninth over while Boult spilled a catch at fine-leg off Pandya in the 10th over when Wadhwa was on 13.

But the star cast was Iyer as he nonchalantly guided the PBKS' hunt.

Josh Inglis (38 off 21 balls, 5x4s, 2x6s) also played his part early after the early loss of Prahsimran Singh (6) to Boult (1/38) and Priyansh Arya (20).

Inglis went after Jasprit Bumrah in the sixth over to smack two sixes and as many fours and collect 20 runs.

Bumrah's final figures 4-0-40-0 was also a just reflection of MI's struggles with the ball on the night.

However, the tables turned in the 13th over bowled by pacer Reece Topley, with the Englishman putting three deliveries in Iyer's hitting arc and the batter dispatched each of them into the stands, signalling Punjab gaining steam.

Soon, Iyer finished off the chase with four sixes in the 19th over off left-arm pacer Ashwini Kumar.

Earlier, a collective batting performance led by Suryakumar Yadav and Tilak Varma took Mumbai Indians to a par 203 for six in the rain-delayed contest.

While no overs were lost as the contest got underway nearly two hours and 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, it was Mumbai Indians who emerged their noses slightly ahead.

Jonny Bairstow (38), Tilak Varma (44) and Suryakumar Yadav (44) kept Mumbai on track for a big total, while Naman Dhir's late exploits (18-ball 33) pushed them past the 200-run mark.

Unlike the last game, Rohit Sharma (4) failed to capitalise on an early reprieve when Azmatullah Omarzai (2/43) dropped a tough chance running behind from short third off Kyle Jamieson (1/30) in the third over.

Unfazed by the early blow, MI motored on to reach a scoring rate of 10 runs an over which they maintained through the course of the innings.

Tilak smacked his second ball down the ground for a six while Bairstow unleashed powerful strokes on either side of the wickets as they added 51 runs for the second wicket in a little under six overs to stage a robust recovery.

MI scored 65/1 in the powerplay with Bairstow going after Omarzai in the sixth over to collect 15 runs but his charge ended in the next over when Vysakh Vijaykumar had the MI opener caught behind off a scoop shot which went straight to the wicket-keeper Josh Inglis.

Suryakumar's arrival at the crease saw Punjab immediately summoning Yuzvendra Chahal (1/39) but the move did not work until the final over of the leg-spinner.

Suryakumar (44 off 26 balls, 4x4s, 3x6s) swept Chahal for a six and hit a glorious down the ground boundary to keep the pressure on the leg-spinner, until he fell on the penultimate ball of the spinner's spell.

Tilak, who hit a couple of sixes and fours to make 44 off 29 balls, perished when a mistimed stroke off Jamieson reached Priyansh Arya at mid-off.

With Suryakumar and Tilak dismissed in quick succession, MI skipper Hardik Pandya (15 off 12 balls) could not really force the pace.

Rajeev Shukla set to become acting BCCI president as incumbent Binny hits age cap

NEW DELHI, Jun 2 (Agencies): Veteran cricket administrator Rajeev Shukla is set to replace Roger Binny as BCCI president in an interim capacity after the latter turns 70 next month, BCCI sources told agency on Monday.

Binny, who had replaced Sourav Ganguly as the Board president in 2022, turns 70 on July 19, crossing the age-limit threshold for a BCCI office-bearer.

Shukla, 65, is currently serving as the BCCI vice-president, a post he has held since 2020. He would be the active BCCI chief until fresh elections are held during the body's AGM in September.

"As per convention, the senior most office-

bearer takes charge in a such a scenario. He (Shukla) will perform that role until fresh elections are held in September," said a BCCI source.

The Rajya Sabha MP from the Congress party has previously also served as the chairman of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Most recently, C K Khanna had served as the acting BCCI president from 2017 to 2019 during the tenure of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators that governed the board for 33 months.

Binny was the president of the Karnataka State Cricket Association before taking charge of the world's richest cricket board three years ago.



Counted among the greats of the game, the former all-rounder was a member of the 1983 World Cup-winning team under Kapil Dev. He later went on to coach the India Under-19 team that won the 2000 edition of ICC World Cup for that age group.

Stuart Broad takes first coaching role post retirement, joins SA as consultant ahead of WTC final against rival Australia

JOHANNESBURG, Jun 2 (Agencies): Former England pacer Stuart Broad has been roped in as a consultant for the South Africa men's team ahead of the ICC World Test Championship final against Australia, reported the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Monday.

Taking on his first coaching role since retiring in 2023, Broad will attend Proteas training on June 9 at Lord's as Temba Bavuma's side aim to dethrone Australia as defending World Test Championship mace-holders.

Broad took 604 wickets in 167 Tests, second on England's all-time list, of which he took 153 of those against Australia, the most by any player in red-ball history. The fast bowler also boasts a strong record at Lord's, taking 113 wickets in 28 Test matches. This experience and expertise of Broad against Aussies will help SA in their preparation for their first-ever major world title in cricket.

The Proteas have convened in the UK and face Zimbabwe at Arundel Castle Cricket Ground in Sussex from Tuesday in their Final build-up, before their meeting with Australia on June 11.

Australia are defending champions, having beaten India at The Oval in 2023.

Dates: June 11-15, 2025 (Reserve Day: June 16), Venue: Lord's, London Start Time: 10:30 AM (Local Time)

The Proteas' WTC journey started with a 1-1 drawn series against India at home, before being handed a 2-0 series defeat by New Zealand, as per ICC.

They then travelled to the West Indies, winning 1-0, before picking up pace with 2-0 wins against both Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. This meant that a thrilling two-wicket win against Pakistan at Centurion was enough to help them

seal their berth in the showdown. They eventually went on to win the series 2-0 against Pakistan, earning their seventh consecutive Test win in this cycle, helping the Proteas qualify as the table toppers with eight wins, three losses and a draw. The ICC number one-ranked Test team Australia started their journey to the WTC Final with two Ashes wins before England's comeback to draw the series 2-2. This was followed by a clinical clean sweep at home, winning three Tests against Pakistan. They were not able to finish the home Test summer unbeaten, dropping the second Test against the West Indies to draw 1-1 thanks to Shamar Joseph's heroics for the tourists in Brisbane. A 2-0 sweep away from home against New Zealand followed, before Australia hosted India for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. After being handed a huge defeat in the first Test, Australia hit back with three wins in the next four Tests to help them seal their spot in the Ultimate Test. The Aussies' final two Tests of the WTC 2023-25 cycle concluded with the visitors defeating Sri Lanka 2-0 in the subcontinent and finishing second in the table.

Squads
South Africa: 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
Australia: Usman Khawaja, Sam Konstas, Marcus Labuschagne, Steve Smith, Travis Head, Alex Carey, Josh Inglis, Cameron Green, Beau Webster, Pat Cummins (c), Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood, Scott Boland, Nathan Lyon, Matt Kuhnemann. Travelling reserve: Brendan Doggett.

Don't want to play for selfish reasons: Maxwell retires from ODIs to focus on T20 cricket

MELBOURNE, Jun 2 (Agencies): Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell on Monday retired from ODIs to focus on next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, saying that he did not want to "play for selfish reasons" given how his body has been struggling to hold up.

The 36-year-old explosive batter and often underestimated off-spin bowler played 149 ODI matches for Australia including what is regarded by many the greatest one-day innings of all-time.

Maxwell came in against Afghanistan at the 2023 World Cup with his side reeling at 7-91. In a high-pressure situation and battling severe cramps in searing heat, he smashed 201 off just 128 balls to snatch victory from jaws of defeat. Australia went on to win the World Cup, beating favourites India in Ahmedabad.

"I felt like I was letting the team down a little bit with how body was reacting to the conditions. I had a good chat with (Chair of Selec-



tors) George Bailey and I asked him what his thoughts were going forward," he told the 'Final Word Podcast'.
"We talked about the 2027 World Cup and I said to him 'I don't think I am going to make that, it's time to start planning for people in my position to have a crack at it and make the position their own'." Maxwell had recently returned from an IPL stint with Punjab Kings that was cut short by a broken finger.

"I always said I wasn't going to hand my position over if I felt like I was

still good enough to play. I didn't want to just hold on for a couple of series and almost play for selfish reasons," said the explosive batter.

Maxwell's strike rate of 126 is the second highest in ODI cricket, behind only the West Indian heavy hitter Andre Russell. He has four hundreds and 23 half centuries along with 77 wickets.

"Maxwell has made the decision to prioritise his preparation for the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, the Big Bash

League and his other global commitments," Cricket Australia said in a statement.

Maxwell played many incredible games across his decorated one-day career which included two ODI World Cup wins. The announcement marks second significant retirement of an Australian team member following Marcus Stoinis' decision to quit ODI cricket earlier this year.

"I think back to right at the start I was picked ahead of my time and out of the blue. I was just proud just to be playing a couple of games for Australia. I thought I was just going to have that," said Maxwell reflecting on his ODI career.

"Since then, I have been able to go through the up and downs of being dropped, being brought back, playing in a few World Cups and being a part of some great teams." Todd Greenberg, CA Chief Executive congratulated Maxwell an exciting and influential one day international career.

"Glenn's ballistic batting has lit up the cricket

world and been one of the cornerstones of Australia's continued success in the 50 over game, including his heroic role in the 2023 World Cup triumph," he said.

"As with other greats of the game, crowds have flocked to grounds just to watch Glenn bat and children have been inspired to pick up a bat after seeing him put opposition attacks to the sword with a breathtaking array of shots." Former Australia captain and current chief selector George Bailey too spoke glowingly of Maxwell.

"Glenn will be known as one of the one-day game's most dynamic players, who had key roles in two ODI World Cup victories.

"His level of natural talent and skill is remarkable. Fortunately, he still has much to offer Australia in the T20 format. All things going well he will be pivotal in the next 12 months as we build toward the World Cup early next year," said Bailey.

Delay in Panchayat polls blocking development funds: AJKPC

Rural governance paralyzed in J&K, rural areas worst-affected: Anil

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) has expressed deep concern over the prolonged delay in holding Panchayat elections in the Union Territory while pointing out that more than a year has passed since the dissolution of Panchayats on January 9, 2024.

In a strong appeal to the Union Territory administration, AJKPC president Anil Sharma, during a press conference, has called for immediate action to restore grassroots democracy and unlock developmental funds meant for rural areas.

Sharma said that failure to conduct elections within one year of dissolution has resulted in blockage of funds meant for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). These funds, he stressed, are vital for the execution of key development proj-



ects across rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir. "We had hoped that once Assembly elections were conducted in Jammu and Kashmir, the Panchayat elections would follow. Unfortunately, that has not happened," the AJKPC leader said.

He regretted that rural development has been severely impacted due to the absence of elected Panchayat bodies. Projects related to roads, electricity, drink-

ing water supply, and ration distribution have reportedly slowed down or come to a complete halt in many areas.

He also reminded the government of its long-standing demand for the establishment of a State Election Commission (SEC) that is independent of political influence and capable of conducting elections on time.

"We fought for the establishment of a State Election Commission so that the people are not

dependent on political parties for the conduct of elections. However things are not moving in right directions as elections are getting delayed," the AJKPC leader said.

He has urged the administration to not delay further, and to set a clear timeline for both Panchayat and Block Development Council (BDC) elections. The delay, they warned, is not only a setback to democratic governance,

but also a major road-block to rural development and delivery of essential services.

The AJKPC leader has said that the dissolution of Panchayats, and the delay in fresh elections, has left a democratic vacuum at the village level. "Elections are not a formality—they are a necessity.

Without them, rural governance is paralyzed, and the common man suffers," he said.

"We request the government to conduct the elections without further delay.

The UT administration must take responsibility and act in the interest of rural people who are waiting for development, accountability, and representation," the AJKPC leader concluded.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included Des Raj Bhagat, Jatinder Singh, Rakesh Sharma, Milkhi Ram, Ram Saroop Sharma.

11th Telangana Statehood Day celebrated at LG Secretariat



Top News Report

LEH, Jun 2: Under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative, the 11th Statehood Day of Telangana was celebrated at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat in the presence of guests from Telangana serving in different institutes and armed forces, along with staff from the LG Secretariat.

Telangana, which is India's youngest state, was carved out of Andhra Pradesh on June 2, 2014, as the 29th state of India. Telangana is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, historic landmarks and unique cuisine. It's famous for its ancient temples, forts and the iconic Charminar in Hyderabad, along with its vibrant festivals and textile arts. The state's cuisine, particularly Hyderabad Biryani, is

also a major draw, and Telangana is a major producer of cotton, leading to vibrant textile-based crafts.

Under the visionary Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative, launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Foundation/Statehood Days of all States and Union Territories are celebrated with great enthusiasm at Raj Bhavans/Raj Niwas across the country. This unique cultural exchange programme is aimed at strengthening national unity and integrity by showcasing the rich linguistic, cultural and traditional heritage of each region.

The initiative fosters the spirit of 'Unity in Diversity' by encouraging citizens to embrace and appreciate the diverse cultures of their fellow countrymen. It promotes mutual

understanding, cultural collaboration, and emotional bonding between people from different states and UTs.

Guests from Telangana, including K. Sathy-anarayan, Sheikh Nana-sahib, and D. Kiran from the armed forces, and Sai Supriya, a Scientist working at DIHAR-DRDO in Leh, spoke on the occasion, highlighting Telangana's major highlights, the state's growth as one of the fastest economies in the country, and their experiences of working in Ladakh.

The video message of Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Jishu Dev Varma, was played on the occasion.

Dr Asif Hussain, OSD to LG, presented a detailed PowerPoint presentation on Telangana state, highlighting its decade-long progress.

DFSS organizes protest against MLA Mehraj Malik, demands strict action

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA from Doda, Jammu & Kashmir, Mehraj Malik, has come under fire following serious allegations of misconduct towards doctors at Government Medical College (GMC) Doda. An FIR has been lodged against the legislator based on a complaint filed by an associate professor at the medical college. The woman doctor alleged that Mehraj Malik used social media platforms to issue public threats and made abusive, gendered, and derogatory remarks targeting her.

The incident has sparked widespread outrage, prompting the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena, under the leadership of Ashok Gupta, to organize a massive rally in Jammu city. Protesters demanded strict action against the MLA, expressing solidarity with the medical community and condemning the unacceptable behavior displayed by a public representative.

During a live visit to the hospital, Mehraj Malik was reportedly seen scolding junior doctors in the emergency room for



not wearing aprons. He also reprimanded paramedical staff for not maintaining proper duty rosters and accused several doctors of engaging in private practice during official working hours.

His conduct, widely circulated through media and social media platforms, has drawn criticism for being threatening and unprofessional.

President Ashok Gupta emphasized that while the MLA has the right to raise concerns or write to the concerned minis-

ter or administrative secretary, resorting to hooliganism and verbal abuse, especially against female doctors, is completely unacceptable in a civilized society. He stated that if any wrongdoing is found on part of the medical staff, proper administrative action can be taken after inquiry—but intimidation and harassment cannot be tolerated.

Gupta further said that the resident doctors now feel threatened and demoralized. Many have reportedly received worried calls from their families,

urging them to return home due to safety concerns. He noted that the language used by the MLA was not only disgraceful but deeply hurtful, especially to female doctors, and has caused significant emotional distress.

He also alleged that this was not the first instance of Mehraj Malik targeting the medical community for "cheap publicity" without appreciating the challenging conditions under which doctors perform their duties. Welcoming the filing of the FIR, Mr. Gupta urged the police to investigate the matter thoroughly, including the past behavior of the MLA towards medical professionals.

Ashok Gupta assured the medical fraternity, particularly female doctors, that Dogra Front and Shiv Sena stand firmly with them and will ensure they receive full protection against such criminal conduct, regardless of the political position of the individual involved.

Prominent party workers present at the protest included Raju, Bantu, Ganesh, Kalu, Prem, Abhishek, Sunil, Naresh, Vikky, and many others who raised slogans in support of the medical staff and demanded immediate action.

Dimple leads protest ahead of PM Modi's visit on June 6, demands restoration of J&K Statehood



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a strong protest rally at Rehari Chungi, BC Road in Jammu, ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to Katra on June 6. The rally was organized to send a clear and powerful message from the people of Jammu and Kashmir to the Prime Minister, demanding the immediate restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, along with the reinstatement of its special status.

Addressing the protestors, Dimple appealed to Prime Minister Modi to announce the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood during his visit to Katra, where he is set to inaugurate the new train service from Katra to the Kashmir Valley. He urged the Prime Minister to provide a clear timeline for restoring the Dogra state of Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the historic and emotional significance it holds for the region's people.

Dimple also demanded

that the Prime Minister hold the long-pending Rajya Sabha elections for the four vacant seats in Jammu and Kashmir. He further appealed to the central government and its alliance partners to nominate a deserving Dogra candidate to the Rajya Sabha—specifically someone who has never been defeated in Assembly or Parliamentary elections.

Among other significant demands, Dimple called on the government to take concrete steps for the liberation of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Gilgit-Baltistan, which he asserted are integral parts of the Indian Union and historically belong to Jammu and Kashmir. He also demanded that the current Lieutenant Governor be replaced with a local, non-political figure from the state—preferably a retired official from the judiciary, IAS, or IPS.

Criticizing the BJP and central leadership, Dimple alleged that the promises made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 have not been fulfilled.

He said that the youth of the region are suffering due to unemployment and worsening economic conditions. He accused the BJP MLAs of behaving irresponsibly and focusing only on increasing their salaries rather than addressing public grievances.

Dimple further alleged that after Jammu and Kashmir was downgraded from a state to a Union Territory, all major power projects were sold off, the traditional Darbar Move was halted, and the region saw an influx of liquor and mining mafias from outside the state. He warned that the struggle for the restoration of Articles 370 and 35-A, as well as the Dogra identity, will continue until justice is achieved. He reaffirmed that the people of Jammu will not compromise on the conditions of the Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh.

Senior leaders present at the protest included Rocky Katoor, Happy, Narender Chowdhary, Sanjeev, and many others who stood in solidarity with the demands raised.

Civil Defence Jammu starts 5 days CD training programme



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: On the directions of Directorate of HG, CD and SDRF J&K, 05 days Civil Defence basic training programme is started at Govt. Degree College for Women Gandhi Nagar, Jammu under the supervision Dy. SP. Zia-ul-Haq, Deputy Controller Civil Defence, Jammu. In the training camp 250 Students of College are attending the said training. This training is on the knowledge of First Aid, prevention, man-

agement and control of Fire Fighting, Snake bite, Choking and other basic life saving technique especially preventive measures during the air attack and natural/manmade disaster.

On the inaugural programme of the training, Dy. Controller Civil Defence highlighted the role of Civil Defence and importance of this training. He emphasized the significance of Civil Defence training in the current era. He stated that disaster preparedness is not just an institutional respon-

sibility but a social commitment, and such programs empower students with essential life-saving skills. Paramjit Kumar, Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu also delivered a lecture and highlighted the role of Civil Defence wardens service in the organization. Professor Dr. Gitangali Angotra Principal of the College appreciated the programme and thanked the Civil Defence team for organizing such trainings in the institution.

R. Vijay Magotra, Dy. Chief Warden CD,

Jammu. Cap. Shawani Sharma (Convenor NCC), Smt. Suman Bala ANO, GDC women

Gandhi Nagar, and other staff of the College also present on the occasion.

Foundation Day of Ancient Raja Mal Dev Temple Kali Jani to celebrate on June 16

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 2: The Management Committee of the Annual Raja Mal Dev Temple, in a public meeting, has announced that the Foundation Day of the Ancient Raja Mal Dev Temple, located at Kali Jani, Jammu, will be celebrated on 16th June 2025 with traditional fervor and devotion.

As per the schedule finalized by the Committee, the day's proceedings will begin with a Havan at 7:00 AM, invoking blessings for peace and prosperity.

This will be followed by a Kirtan session at 11:00 AM, where devotees will participate in spiritual

hymns and devotional singing. The celebrations will culminate in a Bhandara starting at 12:00 noon, open to all attendees.

The Management Committee cordially invites all residents of the area and devotees to be a part of this auspicious occasion, participate in the spiritual activities, and seek the divine blessings of Raja Mal Dev Ji.

Prominent citizens and Committee members attended the meeting which includes Satish Tandon, Raman Tak, Sonu Kumar, Arun Jangotra and Sachin Kumar besides other also present on the occasion.