

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, JUNE 06, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

| 6

NATIONAL

| 7

INTERNATIONAL

| 8

Remakes are a new canvas for me, will do them all my life: Aamir Khan

Empowering youth the most powerful thing a nation can do: PM Modi

North Korea says it has raised a capsized destroyer upright as it continues repair



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BRIEFLY

Man shot at Gangyal Chowk in suspected group rivalry

JAMMU, Jun 6 (Agencies): A man was shot and injured in broad daylight at Gangyal Chowk on Friday in what police suspect to be a case of group rivalry.

Initial investigations have ruled out any terror-related angle.

The victim has been identified as Paramjeet Singh, a resident of Sehora and a known history-sheeter of Police Station Gangyal.

Police said he was attacked by unidentified persons and sustained injuries in the firing.

They have taken cognizance of the incident, and a case has been registered.

Meanwhile, further investigation is underway to trace the attackers and ascertain the exact motive behind the attack.

Kupwara DM bans firecrackers ahead of Eid-ul-Azha

SRINAGAR, Jun 6 (Agencies): District Magistrate Kupwara Ayushi Sudan on Friday imposed a complete ban on the sale and use of firecrackers across the district on the eve of Eid-ul-Azha, citing concerns over public health, air pollution, and public safety.

As per the official order, the district administration observed that the use of firecrackers during festive occasions leads to significant noise and air pollution, causing harm to health and property, and creating public discomfort. "In the interest of public safety, it has become imperative to restrict the use and sale of firecrackers," the order reads.

Invoking powers under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS), the District Magistrate said the ban will remain effective during the forthcoming Eid-ul-Azha celebrations.

The order directs the Senior Superintendents of Police for Kupwara and Handwara to ensure strict enforcement of the directive in both letter and spirit.

Fruit growers hail Srinagar-Katra Rail link as 'Historic Boost' to Jammu Kashmir's Economy

SRINAGAR: The inauguration of the Srinagar-Katra Vande Bharat rail link has been welcomed as a transformative step for Jammu and Kashmir's economy, with the

■ Turn to page 9

Pakistan attacked 'insaniyat', Kashmiriyat in Pahalgam: PM Modi

KATRA, Jun 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday accused Pakistan of attacking 'insaniyat' and Kashmiriyat by targeting tourists in Pahalgam, saying the intent was to trigger communal clashes in India and rob Kashmiri people dependant on tourism of their livelihoods.

The prime minister was speaking after flagging off the first train service to the Kashmir Valley, and inaugurating sever



al development projects, including the world's highest railway bridge over the Chenab River.

He said tourism provided employment and acts as a connecting link between people, but unfortunately, the

neighbouring country is an enemy of humanity, harmony and tourism.

"Not only that, Pakistan is also the enemy of poor's bread and butter. What happened on April 22 in Pahalgam is an example of that. Pakistan attacked 'insaniyat' and Kashmiriyat in Pahalgam.

"The intent of Pakistan was to trigger communal riots in India. It wanted to strip people of Kashmir of their earnings that's why Pakistan attacked tourism," he said.

Kashmir Rail Service connected hearts of people: LG Sinha

KATRA, Jun 6 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said 'Kashmir to Kanyakumari' is no more a slogan but has become a reality with the flagging off the Vande Bharat train to the valley.

The inauguration of the Kashmir rail service has connected hearts of people of J-K with rest of the country and will pave way for economic prosperity for the region, he said.

"I feel Kashmir to Kanyakumari is not



just a slogan any more after the prime minister showed the green flag to the Katra-Srinagar and Srinagar-Katra Vande Bharat trains sometime back. It is now a reality,"

Sinha said at a public rally here.

He said by connecting the two extreme regions of the country by rail, the dream of former home

■ Turn to page 9

Anticipatory bail must not be given mechanically: Supreme Court

NEW DELHI, Jun 6 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has said anticipatory bail in cases involving serious offences should not be given in a mechanical manner.

A three-judge bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sanjay Karol and Sandeep Mehta made the observation while setting aside an order of anticipatory bail to four accused in a murder case.

"The order of the High Court (Patna) does not disclose any reasoning for granting anticipatory bail in a matter involving serious offences under Sections 302 and 307

IPC," the bench said in its May 1 order.

It continued, "The impugned order is cryptic and lacking in judicial analysis. In cases involving serious offences, the grant of anticipatory bail in such a mechanical manner cannot be sustained and is liable to be set aside."

On a plain reading of the FIR and accompanying material, the court noted that the appellant's father was assaulted and killed in the presence of the appellant, who was also the informant.

"The incident appears to have stemmed from a dispute regarding

obstruction of a pathway. The specific roles attributed to the accused, as stated in the FIR, indicate that they participated in the assault even after the deceased had collapsed," the top court said.

The high court, it said, "clearly failed" to appreciate the gravity and nature of the allegations in the case.

The accused persons was, as a result, directed to surrender within eight weeks.

The order came on a plea filed by the son of the victim, challenging the order granting them anticipatory bail.

■ Turn to page 9

Omar rakes up Statehood issue, Hopes J&K will again be State

KATRA, Jun 6 (Agencies): Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday raked up the issue of restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir at the flagging off of the maiden train to Kashmir by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this pilgrim town.

"There are four persons on this stage who were present at the inauguration of the Katra



railway station (in 2014). You had just won the election, becoming

the Prime Minister for the first time. MoS in PMO Jeetendra Singh

was present then and our LG Manoj Sinha sahib was discharging duties as MoS Railways and I was here as chief minister.

"If you see, by the blessings of Mata (Vaishno Devi) Sinha has got a promotion and I had a demotion. I was chief minister of a state and now I am a CM of the UT. However, I believe that it will not

■ Turn to page 9

Minister Javed Rana participates in Regional Power Ministers' Conference

CHANDIGARH, Jun 6 (Agencies): Minister Javed Rana participated in Regional Power Ministers' Conference, 2025 of Northern States/UTs in Chandigarh, deliberating on critical power sector issues.

The Minister emphasised the need for firm & assured power supply to J&K from Gol during winters at reasonable prices, strengthen



ing cyber security & transmission infrastructure via upgradation of

Kishenpur-Moga line & completion of 400 KVA

■ Turn to page 9

ACB files chargesheet in illegal appointment of 82 persons in Municipal Committee Sumbal

SRINAGAR, Jun 6 (Agencies): J&K Anti-Corruption Bureau presented a chargesheet in the Court of Special Judge Anti-Corruption, Baramulla for the illegal appointment of 82 persons in Municipal committee (MC) Sumbal Bandipora during 2009-2010.

The chargesheet was submitted on Thursday against Ghulam Ahmad Wani alias Gulzar, then President of MC Sumbal, Abdul Rashid Shah, then In-Charge

Executive Officer, and 82 beneficiaries.

The case originated from a complaint received by the then Vigilance Organization Kashmir (VOK), now ACB J&K, regarding large-scale fraudulent appointments in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across Kashmir.

A probe by VOK revealed that during 2009-2010, President and In-charge Executive Officer MC Sumbal, in league with accused beneficiaries by abuse

of their official position and in gross violation of the standing government rules, made 82 illegal appointments of various persons to different posts on the regular pay scale.

The ACB probe found that their salary was drawn by Shah, who also attested service particulars of these 82 illegal appointees.

Verification conducted revealed that these 82 accused beneficiaries were illegally &

■ Turn to page 9

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10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Shashi Kanta** W/o Mahan Lal Sharma R/o House No. 557 Sector 3 Channi Himmat, Jammu.

10TH DAY will be performed on 6 June 2025 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at residence.

KRIYA will be performed on 7 June 2025 at 12:00 AM at residence.

UTHALA will be performed on 7 June 2025 at Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat, Jammu from 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mahan Lal Sharma (Husband)
Ankush Sharma and Neena Sharma (Son and Daughter in law)
Vinay Sharma and Satuti Sharma (Son and Daughter in law)
and All Sharma Family Members.
Phone nos.: 9586732372, 786932994, 7006187649

**Smt. Shashi Kanta****OBITUARY**

With tears in our eyes & prayers on our lips, we inform that our Mother **Smt. Janak Rani Gagroo**, W/o Lt. Janki Nath Gagroo, Originally from Aga Hamam, Habbakadal, Srinagar, presently residing at Plot No 4, Block-F, Swam Vihar, Jammu (Near Apollo Multispeciality Diagnostic Centre), attained Nirvana at Indrapuram, Ghaziabad on 31st May 2025 at 5:18 PM.

The **CREMATION** was done on 1st June 2025 at Antim Niwas, Sector-94, Noida.

MOURNING will be held at Flat No 509/3, Express Garden, Vaibhav Khand, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Muradnagar Nagar Ghat Ghaziabad on 9th June 2025 at 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Rajaish Gagroo (Son) 9622220261

Nancy & TK Peer (Daughter & Son-in-law) 9899252675

Pinki & Rajesh Mujoo (Daughter & Son-in-law) 9810780499

**SMT. JANAK RANI GAGROO****TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Krishna Devi** W/o Late Sh. Qabla Singh Bandral at Village Southal.

Tenth Day will be performed on 06-06-2025 Sunday at 11am and 13th day will be performed on 11-06-2025 Wednesday.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughters-in-law & Sons
Smt. Usha & Sh. Govind Singh (Ex Asst. Comd. BSF)
Smt. Reva & Sh. Chandan Singh (Rtd Master)
Daughters & Sons-in-law
Smt. Santosh & Sh. Swarn Singh
Smt. Vashni & Late Sh. Pritam Singh
Smt. Shoba & Sh. Parbad Singh
Granddaughter-in-law & Grandsons
Dr. Dube & Sh. Gulshan Singh (Senior Ex)
Granddaughters & Grandsons-in-law
Smt. Poonam & Sh. Rajul Singh
Smt. Parul & Sh. Bhawani Singh
Mr. Harsh Dev Singh - Grandson
Yashvi Singh - Great Grandchildren

**Smt. Krishna Devi****TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Miss Shakuntla Devi** D/o Late Sh. Thakur Dass Chib R/o Lower Chowadhi, Lane No. 22, Greater Kailash, Jammu.

The **Tenth Day** will be performed on 06-06-2025 (Friday) at Greater Kailash, Jammu Lane No. 22, Time 11:30 AM.

Kriya will be performed on 09/06/2025 (Monday) at residence 10:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Brothers & Sisters-in-law
Mrs. Shakuntla Devi & Late Sh. Dalbir Singh
Mrs. Vijay Kumari & Sh. Balbir Singh
Late Mrs. Sudesh Kumari & Sh. Joginder Singh
Nephews & Niece-in-law
Mrs. Geeta Chib & Sh. Surjeet Singh
Mrs. Jyoti Devi & Sh. Jagjeet Singh
Mrs. Anju Bala & Sh. Ranjeet Singh
Mrs. Rekha Manhas & Sh. Manjit Chib
Mrs. Shefali Jarmal & Sh. Ravi Chib
Contact Nos.: 9419186599, 94193-84428

**Miss Shakuntla Devi**
(Retired SO SED)
(1-3-1955 to 29-05-2025)**10TH DAY KRIYA (DAHIMDOH)**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Mrs. Veena Kaul** W/o Maj Bansi Lal Kaul (Retd) R/o Check Rajwari Vessu Anantnag at present H.No. 72, Lane No. 7, Vishwa Bharti Colony, Akalpur Road, Jammu.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be held on June 09, 2025 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education at 8:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Maj Bansi Lal Kaul (Retd) - Husband
Sons & Daughter-in-laws
Mr. Inder Kaul & Mrs. Rekha Kaul
Mr. Ravi Kaul & Mrs. Neetu Kaul
Mrs. Rachna Kaul Dhar & Mr. Pankaj Dhar - Daughter & Son-in-law
Mr. Harshikesh Kaul & Mrs. Prana Kaul - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Mob: 9419174963, 9419193284, 8860493829

**Mrs. Veena Kaul****TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved brother **Sh. Jawahar Lal Ganjoo**, S/o Late Damodhar Nath Ganjoo, originally from Hugal, Srigufwara, Anantnag, A/P Jagti Colony, Lane No. 18, Block 94 on 30.05.2025.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 8th June 2025 at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of Education at 8:00 AM.

GRIEF-STRICKEN:

Smt. Bita Ganjoo (Wife)
Smt. Sheetal Ganjoo & Sh. Achal J. Bhata (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Mr. Nalin Ganjoo (Son)
Smt. Mahan Lal Ganjoo (Brother)
Smt. Phooli Ganjoo & Sh. Mot Lal Ganjoo (Bhabhi & Brother)
Sh. Mohan Lal Ganjoo (Brother)
Grandchildren: Ashi Bhata
GRANDSON & GRANDDAUGHTER
MOB: 808239851, 889045453, 8717001987

**Sh. Jawahar Lal Ganjoo****TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Neelam Kumari** (Rtd Section Officer, Legislative Assembly W/o Sh. Kuldeep Singh, R/o Village Ratral, Teh. Bishnah, at present H. No. 16-A, Sector 3, Upper Roop Nagar Jammu on 28/05/2025.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 06/06/2025 (FRIDAY) at our residence at 11 AM.

KRIYA will be performed on 09/06/2025 (MONDAY) at our residence 16-A, Sector 3, Upper Roop Nagar Jammu at 12 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Husband
Sh. Kuldeep Singh (Rtd Deputy Secretary, Legislative Assembly)
Brother-in-law & Sister
Sh. Rattan Singh Manhas & Smt. Rani Devi
Brother & Bhabhi
Sh. Roshni Singh & Smt. Kalash Devi
Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Seema Devi W/o Late Sh. Jagdish Singh
Sh. Kavit Singh & Smt. Lata Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Dr. Kamal Singh & Smt. Nisha Devi - Brother & Bhabhi
Onkar Singh & Shafali Jarmal - Son & Daughter-in-law
Skander Singh & Rishi Jarmal - Son & Daughter-in-law
Rishi Bagal - Grand Daughter
Krishvi Singh Bagal - Grand Son

**Smt. Neelam Kumari**

Nephews & Nieces:
Deepak, Vikram, Rahul, Divisha, Kirti, Karan, Nishi, Kanav, Kamalaya, Vishruti, Anshika
In Grief: BAGAL'S FAMILY
M. No. 8803747383

BARKHI

One year has passed since our beloved mother, **Smt. Chander Lata** W/o Late Dr. Jiwa Nand Sharma, left us in deep agony and irreplaceable sorrow. Her absence has left a void that time can never fill, yet her love, grace, and values continue to illuminate our lives.

Barkhi to commemorate her sacred memory will be performed at our residence, Ward No. 5, College Road, Kathua, on Saturday, 7th June 2025 at 12:00 Noon.

DEEPLY MISSED AND REMEMBERED BY:

Son and Daughter in law
Mr. Ajay & Mrs. Monika Sharma
Mr. Rajinder & Mrs. Swarna Sharma
Daughter and Son in law
Mrs. Renu & Mr. Vivek Magotra
Mrs. Anu & Mr. Sunil Sharma
Mrs. Prakriti (Tannu) & Mr. Anil Gupta
M/s Kathua Medical Store - 9419150827
M/s Prakriti Optical Works - 9419151698

**Smt. Chander Lata****BARKHI**

Barkhi of our beloved **Smt. Tripta Devi** W/o Late Sh. Giridhar Lal Gupta will be performed at Sh. Ravi Dass Mandir Krishna Nagar Opp. Science College on 7-6-2025 at 11 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Jeth & Jethani
Smt. Kanta Gupta W/o Lt. Bharat Bhushan Gupta
Daughters-in-law & Sons
Smt. Anju Gupta & Sh. Sanjeev Gupta (Raju)
Smt. Sania Gupta & Sh. Dharmender Gupta
Smt. Neha Gupta & Sh. Sumit Gupta
Daughter & Son-in-law
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**SMT. TRIPTA DEVI****DISCLAIMER**

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10TH DAY KRIYA (DAHIMDOH)

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Mrs. Veena Kaul** W/o Maj Bansi Lal Kaul (Retd) R/o Check Rajwari Vessu Anantnag at present H.No. 72, Lane No. 7, Vishwa Bharti Colony, Akalpur Road, Jammu.

The **10th Day Kriya** will be held on June 09, 2025 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of Education at 8:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Maj Bansi Lal Kaul (Retd) - Husband

Sons & Daughter-in-laws

Mr. Inder Kaul & Mrs. Rekha Kaul

Mr. Ravi Kaul & Mrs. Neetu Kaul

Mrs. Rachna Kaul Dhar & Mr. Pankaj Dhar - Daughter & Son-in-law
Mr. Harshikesh Kaul & Mrs. Prana Kaul - Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law
Mob: 9419174963, 9419193284, 8860493829

**Mrs. Veena Kaul****CHOUBARSI**

Choubarsi of our beloved **Sh. Des Raj Badyal** will be performed on Saturday 7th June 2025 at 12:30 PM at our residence H.No. 77, Ward No. 8 Ram Nagar Road Udhampur.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Dulari Devi - Wife

Daughter-in-law & Sons

Saroj & Dr. Ravi Badyal

Kamla & Late Sh. Vinod Kumar

Sharda & Arun Badyal

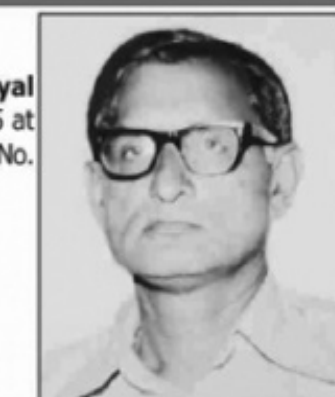
Urmila & Arvind Badyal

Daughter & Son-in-law

Komal & Rajeev Sharma

ALL GRAND CHILDREN & RELATIVES.

MOB: 9419182292

**Sh. Des Raj Badyal****OBITUARY / TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Shri Makhan Lal Raina** S/o Late Shri. Dina Nath Raina resident of Zainapora, Shopian on 31th May, 2025 (Saturday) at his residence.

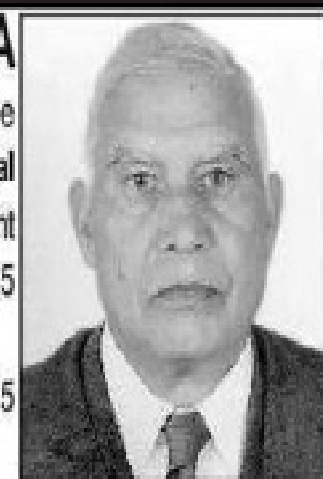
Tenth Day will be performed on 9th June, 2025 (Monday) At Zainapora, Shopian.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Samast Raina Pariwar Mob. No. 88250-95867

Samast Bhat Pariwar Mob. No. 60057-07938

Samast Koul Pariwar Mob. No. 70062-91189

**Shri Makhan Lal Raina****10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt. Rita Rani Kotwal** on 30th May, 2025 W/o Sh. K.K. Kotwal.

10th Day will be performed on Sunday, 8th June, 2025 from 10 AM to 1:00 PM at our residence, 1161, Kotwal Niwas, Ward No. 20, Sangoor, Railway Road, Udhampur.

13th Day will be performed at Holy Devika Ghat, Udhampur on 11th June, 2025 Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. K.K. Kotwal - Husband

Son & Daughter-in-law

Sh. Sanjeev & Smt. Anju Kotwal

Daughters & Sons-in-law

Smt. Seema & Dr. G.S. Rakwal

Smt. Rajni & Sh. Nehal Singh Manhas

Smt. Shivani & Sh. Ashish Thakur

Kumari Monika Kotwal & Smt. Meenakshi Kotwal - Daughters

Aditya Kotwal - Grand Son

Phone No: 9419181799, 9419162208, 9906019504, 9797398014

**SMT. RITA RANI KOTWAL****KRIYA / UTHALA**

With profound grief, we inform you of the sad demise of our beloved **Neena Gupta** W/o Tilak Raj Gupta R/o 249/3, Sec-B, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

The **Kriya** will be performed on 7/6/2025, Saturday at 12:00 Noon at Home.

The **Uthala** will be performed on 7/6/2025, Saturday at 5.00 to 6.00 pm at Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Tilak Raj Gupta - Husband

Rahul Gupta & Sonia Mahajan - Son & Daughter-in-law

Rupali Gupta & Sandeep Pargal - Daughter & Son-in-law

Rashi Gupta & Dr. Gaurav Mahajan - Daughter & Son-in-law

Grand Children: Bhavya, Stavva, Reyansh, Rivaan, Paavani & Shrija.

Ph.: 9419146880, 9419124368, 9796015249, 9479648234

Swastik Traders, Sec-C, Sainik Colony

**Neena Gupta****10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved and affectionate **Rajendar Kumar Bhat** on Thursday, 29th May, at a hospital in Gurgaon.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on Saturday, 7 June 2025, at 9am at Muthi Ghat (Near Education Department), Jammu.

DEEPLY MOURNED BY:

Usha Bhat (Wife)

Neha & Eishan Bhatt (Daughter and Son-in-law)

Shailaish Bhat (Son)

Kundan Koul & Late Phooli Koul (Brother and Sister-in-law)

Veena Kotha & Tej Kumar Kotha (Sister and Brother-in-law)

Nimmi Bhat & Late Vinod Kumar Bhat (Sister-in-law and Brother)

Chowdhary Family (In-laws)

Residential address: 61-A, Small Plots, Gandhi Nagar Ext. Jammu

CONTACT: 9916130222 / 9149418297 / 9742944686

**Rajendar Kumar Bhat**

Dogra Educational Trust, Rotary Club Jammu City holds awareness seminar on ‘Organ and Tissue Donation’

Top News Report

SAMBA, Jun 6: IQAC Cell of Dogra Law College, Dogra Degree College and Dogra College of Education under the aegis of Dogra Educational Trust, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Jammu City, organized an Awareness Seminar on Organ and Tissue Donation on Friday. The seminar aimed to educate college students about the importance of organ and tissue donation.

The seminar was presided over by Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, Chairman Dogra Educational Trust and President of Dogra Sadar Sabha and former Minister who is widely recognized as a philanthropist and committed social worker.

In his Presidential Address, he appreciated the initiative and reiterated the Dogra Educational Trust's long-standing dedication to social welfare, not only through education but also through meaningful community outreach. He emphasized that the Dogra Educational Trust has been established to honour the legacy of brave and valiant heroes, those who have selflessly contributed to the nation and to society at large.



He encouraged students to step forward as responsible citizens and advocates for humanitarian causes like organ donation, which holds the power to give life and hope to others.

He appreciated the Contributions and Efforts of Rotary Club of Jammu City and its members for their active collaboration and consistent commitment to community welfare and assured them full cooperation in such endeavours.

At the outset, Shivangi Gupta, President of Rotary Club, Jammu, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Dogra Educational Trust for hosting the awareness seminar. She also shared her vision of collaborating with the Trust on various noble initiatives aimed at the welfare of society.

The event began with a Welcome Address by Dr. Bela Thakur, Director, Dogra Group of Colleges and Principal, Dogra

Degree College, who emphasized the need to create awareness among students and the larger community. She welcomed all the dignitaries and stressed the importance of promoting the life-saving impact of organ donation.

The seminar featured a keynote presentation by Anshu Sharma, Consultant (IEC Media), SOTTO J&K, who delivered a detailed and insightful talk on the process, significance, and ethical dimensions of organ and tissue donation. Her presentation demystified the process of organ and tissue donation.

With clarity and conviction, she illuminated the ethical, medical, and societal dimensions of the subject, leaving the audience both informed and inspired. Her address motivated the audience to contribute to this humanitarian cause.

Simran, Youth Presi-

dent of Rotary Club, Jammu, shared an overview of the various initiatives undertaken by the youth wing and extended an invitation to the students of Dogra Group of Colleges to join them in their noble endeavors.

The event was honoured by the presence of several distinguished members of the Rotary Club of Jammu City, like Rtn. Sanjeev Vaid (District Rotaract Chair), Rtn. Amit Gupta (Vice Chairman, J&K Branch of Chartered Accountants), Rtn. Sham Kishore Sundan (Retired Executive Engineer), Rtn. Arvind Kotwal (JKAS Retd.), and the Rtn. Nirmal Mahna (former Principal of DPS Kathua), along with, Rtn. K. K. Sharma, Jyoti Gupta, all of whom are known for their contributions in education, public service, and social welfare.

The programme was

further enriched by the presence of Dr. Samardev Singh Charak, Secretary, Dogra Educational Trust. It was also attended by Dr Jay Prakash Srivastava, Principal, Dogra Law College, Dr Vikesh Kumar Sharma, Principal, Dogra College of Education, faculty and students of Dogra Group of Colleges, whose active participation contributed to the success of the event.

The event was seamlessly anchored by Mannat Angral, student of BALLB 2nd Semester, who coordinated the proceedings and introduced the guests with clarity and poise.

The seminar ended with a vote of thanks by Prof. Dharamveer Sharma, Dean, Dogra Group of Colleges who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, organisers, and participants for their active involvement and concluded with a ceremonial memento presentation as a token of gratitude, a group photograph capturing the collective spirit, and the reaffirmation of a shared resolve to not merely be passive spectators in the theatre of life but to act with empathy, awareness, and resolve in service to humanity.

‘The – Sara’ distributes relief aid to shelling victims in Poonch

Top News Report

POONCH, Jun 6: In the wake of last month's cross-border shelling along the LoC, families in the Poonch district have faced severe disruptions to their daily lives. In response, a registered non-governmental organization 'THE – SARA' through Project C.A.R.E (Crisis Aid, Relief & Empowerment) has stepped in to provide critical aid to those affected.

As part of its latest relief initiative, team 'THE – SARA' led by Raminder Jit Singh and Manpreet Kour distributed ration kits containing essential food items at Qazi Mohra Poonch to 120 underprivileged families of Ward No.1, Ward No.3 and village Gundi of Poonch.

In addition, the organization distributed over head water tanks to the shelling hit underprivileged families of



village Gundi and shelling hit places of worship namely Geeta Bhawan, Bagichi Mandir, Gurdwara Singh Sabha and Jamia Anwar-ul-uloom located in Poonch town.

This isn't the first time 'THE – SARA'; has been active in conflict-affected regions. The organization has a history of providing emergency relief in disaster zones across Jammu & Kashmir, including during previous shelling incidents, 2014 J&K Floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the program

Sh. Kamal Singh from SCHH and Ajaz Siddiqui from Saviours Blood JK and their volunteers were also present and provided much needed ground support to the team 'THE – SARA'.

Local residents expressed gratitude for the humane effort of 'THE – SARA'. 'THE – SARA' plans to continue its work in coordination with ground volunteers and local authorities to expand relief outreach in the coming days to other parts of Poonch district.

7th Chhari Yatra from Jammu to Sudhmahadev to start on June 11

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: The 7th Chhari Yatra from Jammu to Sudhmahadev will be held on 11th June 2025 (Wednesday). This was announced by the members of the Sudhmahadev Chhari Yatra Samiti during a press conference at the ancient Panjbakthar Temple (Rupaye Wala Mandir), Jammu.

Present on the occasion were Narinder Sharma, Ram Magothra, Ritu Choudhary, Raj Kumar Sodhi, Rajesh Behal, Radhika Gupta, and Pandit Sahil Sharma.

The Samiti highlighted the religious importance of Sudhmahadev, referencing Padam Puran and Shiv Puran. Mantalai, they noted, is where Lord Shiva had phere with Mata Parvati. The site still holds Lord Shiva's Trishul, used to slay the demon Sudhanshu.



Chhari Puja will be held on 10th June at 11 PM at Panjbakthar Temple, and the Yatra will begin at 7 AM on 11th June, led by Sant 1008 Swami Damodar Dass Ji Maharaj (Vrindavan Wale). The Yatra will proceed via Nagrota's Shiv Temple, Dhok Waziran, Devika Temple, Toldi Nallah, Chenani, Gouri Kund,

and culminate at Sudhmahadev Temple.

The Samiti requested the Jammu and Udhampur administrations, including traffic police, to ensure smooth, jam-free movement. All interested devotees have been asked to register themselves and their vehicles at Panjbakthar Mandir between 6-7 PM daily.

CTTIK extends gratitude to PM for inaugurating Vande Bharat Train on Katra–Srinagar Railway Line

Top News Report

KATRA, Jun 6: The Chamber of Tourism, Trade and Industry Katra (CTTIK) expressed its deep gratitude to the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, for inaugurating and flagging off the historic and long awaited Vande Bharat Express on the Katra–Srinagar railway line today.

This landmark achievement marks a new era in connectivity, economic potential, and spiritual resurgence for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated two engineering wonders of the modern age — the world's highest railway arch bridge over the Chenab River and India's first cable-stayed railway bridge, the Anji Bridge, both located in the Reasi district along the Katra Srinagar route. CTTIK underscored that these iconic structures are not only engineering marvels but will soon emerge as major tourist attractions, drawing both domestic and international admiration.

In an official statement, Raj Kumar Padha, President of CTTIK, said that the train service to Srinagar will significantly boost spiritual and pilgrimage tourism, particularly to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, while simultaneously opening up new horizons for the business community across J&K, especially in Katra town.

He emphasized that the enhanced rail connectivity will enable seamless transport for both passengers and goods, laying the foundation for increased

trade, tourism, and overall economic activity in the region. With better accessibility and reduced travel time, a substantial rise in pilgrim turnout is anticipated, which will bring renewed energy to the hospitality, retail, and services sectors of Katra.

The members of CTTIK also expressed immense pride in the contribution of Indian engineers and technicians, whose expertise and dedication have led to the creation of world-class infrastructure in one of the country's most challenging terrains.

This milestone, according to Padha, reflects a visionary approach towards inclusive development, and the business community is not only hopeful but fully prepared to embrace the new opportunities that this infrastructure will bring.

Regional Manager SBI RBO-5 visits RSETI Ramban, reviews functioning and future planning



Top News Report

RAMBAN, Jun 6: Regional Manager, Regional Business Office-5 (RBO-5) Ravinder Singh visited the SBI RSETI campus in Ramban, where he was warmly welcomed by the RSETI team led by Director S. Harvinder Singh.

During the visit, the Regional Manager conducted a detailed inspection of the campus, with a special focus on damages caused by recent flash floods in Ramban. He assessed the current condition of the infrastructure and reviewed the ongoing restoration efforts.

The status of the land allotted by District

Administration Ramban for the permanent RSETI campus was also examined. After reviewing the progress and pending formalities, the Regional Manager assured the RSETI team that he would personally take up the matter with the concerned authorities to expedite resolution of land-related issues.

He also held a brief discussion on the future roadmap for RSETI Ramban, particularly regarding upcoming skill development training programs aimed at fostering entrepreneurship and self-employment in the district.

At the conclusion of the visit, the Regional Manager extended his best wishes to the

RSETI team, expressing confidence in their potential to achieve high grading in upcoming evaluations. He also instructed the team to actively facilitate loan linkage for trained candidates with nearby SBI branches, enabling them to establish self-sustaining ventures and contributing to financial inclusion and empowerment.

The visit reaffirmed SBI's continued commitment to strengthening RSETI Ramban as a hub for skill development and entrepreneurship in the region.

NSS SMVDU Katra donates notebooks to GHS Sirah



Top News Report

KATRA, Jun 6: NSS SMVDU Katra donated notebooks to Govt. High School (GHS), Sirah students under Panthal block. NSS volunteers donated around 200 notebooks to the students.

These notebooks also include notebooks made by NSS volunteers by collecting blank pages of lab files of university students and then spiral binding was done on these pages.

Around 130 notebooks were prepared by NSS SMVDU volunteers with

a designed cover page on the front. NSS coordinator Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the donation drive. School Headmistress Smt. Rachna and senior teacher Smt. Laxmi Khajuria appreciated university initiative and thanked for the donation. One creative chart was also donated.

NSS volunteers Sadhvi Sharma, Parvalli, Avinash, Mridul and Suhani participated in the said event. Vice Chancellor Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers for the initiative.

Office of the Custodian Evacuee Property Department Jammu

Public Notice

Whereas the Evacuee Property Department Jammu has time to time leased /allotted evacuee properties in favour of different persons besides a number of properties are occupied by various inhabitants in Jammu Division , and

Whereas it has been reported/come under the notice of the department that the interested persons and the allottees/lessee's/occupants of evacuee properties are involved in the sale and purchase of such evacuee properties by illegal means which tantamount its subletting and such act attracts action under the Provisions of Evacuee Property Act 2006, and Rules framed thereunder.

Now therefore through the medium of this notice the general public at large and the allottees/lessees/occupants of Evacuee Properties of Jammu Division are informed not to indulge in sale and purchase of evacuee properties otherwise such allottees/lessees/occupants will be evicted from such properties by invoking provisions of J&K Evacuees' (Administration of Property) Act, Svt 2006, and Rules framed thereunder Viz Section 7 of E.P. Act 2006 and Rule 8, 9 and 14 of E.P Rules Svt, 2008.

No: CEPJ/2025/PS/04-05
Dated: 4-6-2025

DIP/J-1852/25

Deputy Custodian (H.Q.)
Evacuee Property Jammu

EDITORIAL

NEW TRAIN JOURNEY

In a landmark development for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Indian Railways has flagged off a new train journey that is set to transform travel, tourism, and trade across the region. The inauguration of this new rail route between Sangaldan and Reasi marks a major milestone in the ambitious Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, aimed at integrating the Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country through a reliable and efficient railway network.

The newly inaugurated stretch includes the historic Chenab Bridge – the world’s highest railway bridge – which towers 359 meters above the Chenab River. This engineering marvel has already become a symbol of India’s infrastructural prowess and determination to overcome geographical challenges. Built at a cost of over Rs 1,400 crore, the bridge spans 1.3 kilometers and connects two remote mountain regions that were previously accessible only through winding roads or by foot.

The first passenger service on this route was flagged off by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, in the presence of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and other dignitaries. Speaking at the inauguration, the Railway Minister stated, “This train is not just a mode of transport; it is a lifeline for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. It opens new doors of opportunity and progress, and it brings the dream of ‘One India, Strong India’ closer to reality.”

The train journey between Sangaldan and Reasi provides stunning panoramic views of lush valleys, snow-capped peaks, and scenic mountain passes. It offers a unique experience to passengers, blending modern comfort with the natural beauty of the region. The route is equipped with modern amenities, including CCTV surveillance, GPS-enabled tracking, digital display boards, and clean bio-toilets, ensuring a safe and pleasant journey.

This rail connection is expected to greatly benefit local residents, particularly in remote and underserved areas. It will drastically reduce travel time between districts, ease the transportation of goods, and improve access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Farmers and artisans in the region will now have better connectivity to major markets in Jammu, Delhi, and beyond.

Moreover, the new railway link is set to give a major boost to tourism in Jammu and Kashmir. Destinations such as Reasi, which is close to the famous Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, and Sangaldan, known for its serene environment and proximity to the Ramban district, are expected to witness increased tourist footfall. The route also improves connectivity to Patnitop, Bhaderwah, and other unexplored areas that offer tremendous potential for eco-tourism and adventure sports.

The USBRL project, which began in 1997, has been executed in multiple phases. The completion of the 111-km section from Katra to Banihal, which includes 27 bridges and 37 tunnels, is seen as the most challenging and significant part of the project. Tunnel T-49, the longest tunnel on the route, spans nearly 12.8 kilometers and has been constructed using advanced drilling and excavation techniques. The terrain and weather posed significant challenges, but consistent efforts by engineers and workers have made the dream a reality.

Security has also been a major consideration in the execution of this project. Special forces and surveillance systems have been deployed to ensure the safety of infrastructure and passengers. The local administration and security forces have played a key role in facilitating the project despite occasional disruptions.

The launch of this new train journey reflects the government’s commitment to inclusive development and regional integration. The Prime Minister’s vision of “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas” (Together with all, Development for all) is visibly taking shape in Jammu and Kashmir through such connectivity initiatives. By knitting the region more closely into the national framework, the railways are fostering unity, strengthening the economy, and improving lives.

Local residents have expressed immense joy and gratitude for the project. “For years we could only dream of a train here. Today, my children can reach Jammu in a few hours, and we can bring our produce to larger markets,” said a farmer from Reasi. Students and healthcare workers also hailed the development as a game-changer.

As the train gently winds through tunnels and over the towering Chenab Bridge, it carries not just passengers, but also the hopes and aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. This new journey is more than a travel route – it is a journey toward progress, unity, and a brighter future for the region.

Rail Connectivity from Kashmir to Kanayakumari

By: Omkar Dattatray

Finally, the long wait of the people of Kashmir has come to an end with the dedication of the railways from Udhampur to Baramulla Kashmir. Kashmiris feel very proud and are satisfied that their dream of having an all whether railway connectivity with India has come true will the dedication to nation the first train from Udhampur to Baramulla Kashmir.It is really epoch making and historical marvel that train services will be started from Udhampur to Baramulla on Friday .We often hear politicians,leaders and even the common public saying and repeating the slogan that from Kashmir to Kanyakumari India is one.Today on 6th of June 2025,on the pious Friday this theoretical slogan will become true and practical when our popular and charismatic Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the nation the railway line and train from Udhampur to Baramulla Kashmir and it will not only connect the people of Kashmir with rest of India,but will connect the minds and hearts of the people of Kashmir with India.A train to the Kashmir valley through Shivalik and Pir Panjal mountain ranges is more than a century old ambitious plan that was envisaged and proposed by Dogra ruler Maharaja Partap Singh in the 19th century will become true and will become a reality through the hands of our prime minister Narendra Modi on 6th June Friday. In fact, a new era and chapter in all weather connectivity will begin on Friday when train services will proceed from Udhampur to Baramulla and the railway project which will be dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Modi also includes the daily plying of two trains such as Vande Bharat from to and faro form Udhampur to Baramulla. The running of regular railway from Udhampur to Kashmir will not only connect Kashmir with rest of India but it will also usher new era of social,economic,cultural and technological development and will also open new employment opportunities for the local

youth of Kashmir valley.A new chapter of socio-economic development and progress will begin on Friday with the train run to Kashmir.This dream project called USBRL was realised today with the commissioning of the train services from Katra to Baramulla. The railways will take people of Kashmir closer to India and will shorten the distance and travel time significantly.It is noteworthy that people will travel safely in all weathers from Katra to Baramulla in only four hours and is it not less than a miracle.Modi government needs a salute and commendation for this people oriented and growth oriented Railway project commissioning.It will also lead to industrial,economic,cultural development and growth.Investment activity will be boosted and will get momentum .Besides,socio-economic development,there will be cultural exchanges and development because of the railway connectivity.The railways will open flood gates of investment and it will be a big favour for the educated,skilled,semi -skilled and even unskilled youth of Kashmir. The railway will help in the job creation in Kashmir and therefore the railway commissioning to Kashmir has been welcomed and embraced by the Kashmiris. The railways will bridge the psychological and superficial barriers between Kashmir and rest of India.Rail connectivity will bring prosperity and this historic railway line will unlock the potential of Jammu and Kashmir and bring unprecedented economic growth in remote areas.It will also led to all inclusive development of Jammu and Kashmir and the end beneficiaries will be the people of J&K. With the commissioning of the railway from Katra to Baramulla Kashmir will begin a new chapter of the development of Jammu and Kashmir and PM Modi is personally more concerned with the socio-economic and cultural development of Jammu and Kashmir.The Rail Project worth Rs 43,780 crores connecting Kashmir to Kanyakumari is an engineering excellence and marvel and it will modify and the economic and

social destiny of Jammu and Kashmir.The railway line to Kashmir will boost tourist economy and will significantly increase the tourist and pilgrim tourist footfall and all this will enhance the economic development of Jammu and Kashmir. What was once a vision proposed by Dogra ruler Maharaja Pratap Singh in 19th century is now transforming into one of the most significant infrastructure advancements in independent India’s history.Vikramaditya Singh grandson of Maharaja Hari Singh and son of former Sadr-e-Riyasat Dr Karan Singh said he feels proud that the Dogra ruler’s plan conceived over 130 years ago has finally materialised.LG Manoj Sinha has rightly said that PM Modi has created an inclusive and vibrant future for Jammu and Kashmir.He further said that under the leadership of Modi ,Jammu and Kashmir has a new dynamism in every sector and inclusive growth has ensured that no section of society is left behind.The years old wait of people will come to end on Friday when PM Modi will flag off first train to Kashmir and it is historical development indeed and it will create opportunities for employment generation and will ensure mobility of labour.The train will offer a swift,comfortable,reliable and all weather travel option for residents,tourists,pilgrims among others.It is hoped that the train connectivity will besides connecting people of Kashmir to India also usher socio-economic development of Jammu and Kashmir and the whole scenario of development will get boost.It will also result in the increase of the living standards of the people. The railways will bring the people of Kashmir closer to the people of rest of India and it will result in trade ,cultural exchange and educational and technological development in J&K.Railways will boost trade,tourism ,and industrial growth in Jammu and Kashmir. During harsh winters ,when road closures disrupt transport,railways will provide a reliable alternative ,reducing dependence on costly air transport.Moreover,during rains,the Jammu and Kash-

mir highway often remains unfit for vehicles and so railway will provide a safer and quicker means of transport and will benefit people,traders, tourists,travel agents,taxi operators and many others.The railways will fetch a market for the products of Jammu and Kashmir.The railway mode of transport has been around for over two centuries and has served as the fabric of many countries transportation systems.But Kashmir was aloof from rail transport from Jammu to Kashmir but now with the dedicating of the railway to Kashmir from Katra PM Modi has given birth to a transport revolution.The main benefits of Railway transport are as under---A-It is cost effective mode of transport compared to other modes of transport. B---Rail transport is one of the most environmentally friendly form of travel,as trains emit fewer greenhouse gases than land and air transport.C-Trains has a high carrying capacity.It enables more cargo to be carried at one time.D---Rali transport is known for reliability .Trains operate on a fixed schedule to ensure goods or passengers arrive on time.E--- Railways is the safest mode of transport.F-Railways reduce traffic congestion.G---It is a flexible mode of transport.H-Railway is energy -efficient mode of transport.I---Job creation is also a merit of railway transport.Designing and building a train takes an extensive network of industries ,manufacturing,engineering and logistics ,to name a few.J---It ensures a reduced carbon footprint.In short people of Kashmir are fortunate enough that Kashmir has been connected to southernmost Place Kaniyakumari and thus the psychological barriers are being bridged and it will open avenues of employment and socio-economic and cultural as well as technological development of Kashmir.

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

Simulation text, shrinking scope

By: Vijay Garg

Today’s era is the age of information and technology, where access to knowledge has become easier than ever. Yet, ironically, the habit of reading in society is witnessing a steady decrease. Books, which were once the major source of knowledge, motivation and entertainment, are now gradually losing their relevance in front of the digital screen and quick content. According to a survey, only 43% of adults in the US read at least one novel, poetry collection or drama in the last year, which is significantly lower than the 1980s. Even in India, a 2020 study of the National Book Trust indicated that only 24% of young people read non-academic books regularly. This is alarming, as reading is not only important for personal development but also essential for the intellectual and cultural progress of the society. Indeed, smartphones, social media and streaming platforms’ have removed people’s attention from books and turned to quick and visual-based content. An average person spends about two and a half hours a day on social media, as reported in a study by Statista (2023). While taking time to read has become rare. Social media and video forums such as Instagram and YouTube provide short, engaging content, asking for less mental effort than in-depth reading. It is shore up a slow and thoughtful act like reading an age of quick satisfaction. The educational system is also seeing a decrease in encouraging reading. Schools remain focused

on textbooks and literary or creative reading is often neglected. Lifestyle effect Modern lifestyle is also affecting the habit of reading. Fast-paced life, long working hours and growing responsibilities prevent people from taking time to read. In urban areas, where people are busy from morning till evening, reading seems like a luxury. In rural areas, lack of access to education and books is a major obstacle. The first families had a tradition of telling stories to children and reading books, but now television and smartphones have almost finished this tradition. According to a study by the Research Centre (2021), only 26% of parents teach children by reading books regularly, which is half as compared to the 1990s.

Lifestyle effect Modern lifestyle is also affecting the habit of reading. Fast-paced life, long working hours and growing responsibilities prevent people from taking time to read. In urban areas, where people are busy from morning till evening, reading seems like a luxury. In rural areas, lack of access to education and books is a major obstacle. The first families had a tradition of telling stories to children and reading books, but now television and smartphones have almost finished this tradition. According to a study by the Research Centre (2021), only 26% of parents teach children by reading books regularly, which is half as compared to the 1990s. expansion of study The effects of reduction in reading habit are far-reaching on society. Reading not only improves language and communication skills, but it also develops empathy, critical thinking, and

creativity. When people read less, their vocabulary is limited and the ability to express ideas is weak. According to a study, children who read books regularly have a cognitive capacity of 20% higher. Lack of reading is lacking in intellectual depth and cultural understanding in society. People are relying on superficial information available on social media, increasing misinformation and polarization. According to a roup of World Bank (2023), the rate of innovation and economic progress is also affected in societies with low reading habit, as reading promotes the solution and creative thinking of the problem. Also, reading reduces stress and calms the mind, but spending excessive time on the digital screen is increasing anxiety and depression. First of all, improvement in educational system is necessary. Schools should include literary and creative books in the curriculum. Teachers should organize events such as story sessions, book clubs and author meetings to spark enthusiasm for reading in children. In India, where the library facility in 65% of schools is inadequate (ASR2022), the government should invest on the development of libraries and availability of books. Second, families will have to motivate them to get used to reading in children. Parents should take time to read books with children and tell inspirational stories for them. This will not only increase the interest of reading in children, but also strengthen the engagement between the family. Third, libraries, book fair and literary festivals at the community level must be promoted. Remaining text Techniques

can also be used to promote reading habit. E-book and audiobook have made reading more accessible and engaging. Some online platform recorded an increase of 30% in India in 2023, which shows that people are getting attracted towards digital text. Social media can also be used in a positive way by making books review channels and online reader community. Writers and publishers need to provide diverse and interesting content. In India, where there is a shortage of books in regional languages, it is important to promote literature in local languages. A lack of reading habit is a challenge that can only be faced with collective efforts. It is essential not only for personal development but also for intellectual and cultural prosperity of the society. Books connect us to the new world, broaden our attitude and inspire us to be a better person. If we can strengthen the habit of reading, we can build a more conscious, creative and sympathetic society.

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

LFO-BHF, Talla Jewellers distribute over 200 saplings across Jammu & Udhampur on World Environment Day



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Live For Others – Being Helpful Foundation (LFO-BHF), in collaboration with Talla Jewellers, distributed over 200 saplings to residents in Jammu and Udhampur districts as part of the ongoing “Go Green India” campaign.

Instead of planting on roadsides or other areas, where plants often go uncared for, the foundation focused on home-based plantation

by locals. This approach aims to ensure regular watering and long-term plant care, while fostering a deeper sense of environmental responsibility among individuals and families.

Speaking on the initiative, Kashish Gupta, CEO of Talla Jewellers, said, “We are proud to support this green movement. Small actions like planting a tree at home can have a big impact when done collectively by the community.”

Vivek Parihar, Director & CEO of LFO-BHF,

added, “We believe in practical, sustainable solutions. Giving saplings to local families not only increases plant survival but also encourages people to take ownership of our planet’s future.”

This joint effort reflects both organizations’ commitment to climate action, sustainability, and community-driven change.

LFO-BHF extended gratitude to all the volunteers, supporters, and residents who helped make this plantation drive successful.

MD Baan Construction greets people on eve of Eid-ul-Adha

Top News Report

KULGAM, Jun 6: MD Baan Construction Dr. Sartaj has extended his heartfelt greetings to the people of Kulgam on the auspicious occasions of Eid ul Adha

In his message of felicitations, observed that these auspicious occasions provide an opportunity to pray and seek blessings from the almighty.

May the festivity of the holy Eid ul zuha



strengthen the bond of brotherhood amongst all the sections of society and bring sustained peace, progress, and prosperity in J&K.

Reyaz Ahmad Dar greets people on Eid-ul-Adha

Top News Report

KULGAM, Jun 6: National Conference leader and President Auqaf committee Bonigam Reyaz Ah Dar greets to the people on the eve of Eid-ul-Adha.

In his message, Dar said that Eid-ul-Adha teaches us to be kind, Charitable and to work for the greater good of humanity. It is our constant endeavour that the festival should be celebrated in the spirit of



love, peace and brotherhood amongst all faith, he said.

He also prays for happiness and prosperity for people of Jammu and Kashmir.

FWS hails newly launched Kavi Raj Fouji’s patriotic song ‘Mudja Pakistan’



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: The Friends Welfare Society (FWS) hailed the Kaith Music Factory’s newly launched patriotic song ‘Mudja Pakistan’ based on “Operation Sindoor” a retaliation for the Pahalgam attack.

Singer Kavi Raj Fouji has portrayed the

strength of the Indian Armed Forces. The lyrics of the song have a special mention of PM Narendra Modi Ji. It says, “Jede mangde ne sade tun Kashmir ve, aisa maran aude sine which teer ve, mitti which rol deyanage, ya mudja Pakistan, mitti which kol deyanage”.

The poster of the song

features PM Narendra Modi Ji, Colonel Sofiya Qureshi from the Indian Army, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh from the air force and three others.

BJP’s Activist R.L.Kaith said, “This song is a powerful expression of patriotism and the emotion it evokes is truly inspiring.”

GDC Thannamandi conducts week-long activities to celebrate World Environment Day

Top News Report

THANNAMANDI, Jun 6: The Department of Botany of Govt. Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi in collaboration with Department of Social Forestry Thannamandi conducted week-long activities to celebrate World Environment Day as part of Viksit Bharat@47 and mission LIFE here today.

On this occasion week-long environmental conservation activities including massive plantation cum cleanliness drive on the theme “Beat Plastic Pollution.” organized under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Farooq Ahmed, Principal of College. Dr. Ashaq Malik, Head Department of Botany and IQAC Coordinator in College, Co-ordinated the drives.

While speaking on the

occasion, Prof. Farooq Ahmed emphasized upon the need of eco-friendly initiatives and lifestyles for combating menace of plastics pollution and building resilience towards climate change. He said that plastic pollution is a fixable problem, and we can fight it out by our collective and integrated efforts.

The staff members including Dr. Gulshan Rashid Bhat, Head, Department of Geography, Anuj Bali (Librarian), Dr. Mohd Ashraf (Urdu Department), Paramvir Singh, Raees Ahmed, Sugra Jabeen and Shafqat Shabir as well as employees of Social Forestry Department including Ghulam Rasool, Mohd Javaid, Zafar Javaid and Mush-taq Ahmed planted trees in the college campus

and botanical garden.

The Social Forestry Department donated the important plants including apple, Guava, Bottle brush whereas several other important flora were added to the garden by the Department of Botany in College.

The local fund employees Maqsood Ahmed, Mohd Rafiq, Riiaz Ahmed, Asif Iqbal Raina, Ajaz Ahmed and Mohd Arif played pivotal role in digging the pits/holes and planting trees in the garden.

During the week, cleanliness drive was also organized marking celebrations of the World Environment Day while extending commitment towards beating the plastic pollution and reversing the climate change.

GDC Kishtwar observes World Environment Day with theatrical tribute “Mei Dharti”

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jun 6: Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar, in collaboration with the Kiru Hydro Electric Project, CVPPPL, commemorated World Environment Day 2025 with a compelling theatrical performance titled “Mei Dharti”, aimed at raising awareness about environmental degradation and the urgent need for action. Organized by the Department of Environmental Sciences along with NSS and NCC units, the event brought together students, faculty, and dignitaries in a shared commitment to environmental protection.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan. Guests



of Honour included Ramesh Ojha (HOP, Kiru HE Project), Idrees Lone (ACR, Kishtwar), and Prof. Basharat Iqbal (Principal, GDC Kishtwar).

The event also saw the special presence of Prof. Dr. Tariq Tamkeen (GDC Chatroo), Prof. Yaseen Sirwal (GDC Bhaderwah), Radha Rani (Principal, GGHSK Kishtwar), Dr. Nazir Hussain (Medical Officer, Kishtwar), and Satish Kumar Bhagat.

The program was convened by Dr. Sehrish

Gazal (HoD, Environmental Sciences) and Dr. Ravi Sharma (Sr. Manager, Environment, Kiru CVPPPL), with support from co-conveners Dr. Tabassum Saleem and Prof. Ajeet Kumar.

The organizing team included Dr. Yasar Ahmed, Prof. Esar ul Ayub, Dr. Usman Sheikh, and Prof. Ashfaq Wani. A poem presented by Prof. Prithvi Raj added literary depth to the occasion. The central attraction of the day was the student-led performance of “Mei Dharti”, a

moving theatrical tribute that gave voice to Earth and illustrated the harmful effects of human negligence on the environment. The impactful storytelling and performances were met with great appreciation from the audience.

As recognition of their efforts, the student performers were awarded a cash prize of Rs 20,000 and certificates of appreciation. Jute bags were also distributed to all participants, promoting eco-friendly practices.

Dr. Sehrish Gazal opened the program with a thoughtful welcome address, emphasizing the importance of youth in shaping a sustainable future. The event concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks by Dr. Tabassum Saleem, who acknowledged the invaluable contributions of all dignitaries, guests, and student participants.

Students from GHS Girls and Al-Hilal Educational Institute also actively participated, making the event a vibrant and impactful observance of World Environment Day.

Notably, Vivek Pathak, Regional Director, Door-darshan Jammu, and Kuldeep Kumar, District Information Officer, Kishtwar, made special contributions to the success and media outreach of the event, helping amplify its message to a wider audience.

Samsung Announces Exciting Price on Galaxy S25 Ultra in India

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: Samsung, India’s largest consumer electronics brand, today announced an exciting limited-period offer on the flagship Galaxy S25 Ultra. Originally priced starting Rs 1,29,999, Galaxy S25 Ultra will be available at just Rs 1,17,999.

The special price on the Galaxy S25 Ultra includes an instant cash-back of Rs 12000. On the Galaxy S25 Ultra, AI agents with multi-modal capabilities are integrated within the One UI 7 platform to perform complex tasks seamlessly across apps and enable natural user interactions through speech, text, videos and images.

Now Brief provides tailored suggestions to guide through the day and Now Bar offers a new hub for ongoing activities.

From enhanced productivity with Writing Assist to limitless creativity unleashed by Drawing Assist, the expanded capabilities of Galaxy AI continue to empower users in every aspect of their daily lives.

Further sweetening the deal for

consumers, the Galaxy S25 Ultra is also available with a 24-month no-cost EMI.

Consumers seeking enhanced affordability can take advantage of the no-cost EMI starting Rs 3278 per month.

These special offers give customers a fantastic opportunity to experience Samsung’s flagship Galaxy S25 Ultra, that sets a new standard as a true AI companion with Samsung’s most natural and context-aware mobile experiences ever created.

Interactions with the Galaxy S25 Ultra are also more intuitive. With just a single command, Gemini can effortlessly find a user’s favourite sports team’s schedule and add it to Samsung Calendar. Powering the Galaxy S25 Ultra, the Snapdragon® 8 Elite Mobile Platform for Galaxy fuels on-device processing for more responsive AI experiences. Snapdragon® 8 Elite for Galaxy is also equipped with improved Ray Tracing, which makes for smoother and more realistic mobile gaming.

All intense device usage and AI

processing run smoothly thanks to the enhanced heat dissipation structure with 40% larger vapor chamber and a tailored thermal interface material (TIM) that delivers extra improvement in thermal efficiency.

Galaxy S25 Ultra’s 200MP wide-angle camera delivers ultra-detailed shots at every range with high resolution sensors and ProVisual Engine, setting a new standard for mobile photography.

With a 50MP ultrawide camera sensor upgraded from the previous 12MP, Galaxy S25 Ultra delivers epic shots in exceptional clarity, while professional grade controls like Virtual Aperture turn any photo or video into the ultimate visual experience.

Galaxy S25 Ultra features a durable titanium frame and Corning® Gorilla® Armor 2 protection. Combined with seven generations of OS upgrades and seven years of security updates, Galaxy S25 Ultra ensures a reliable and optimized performance over a longer lifespan.

GGM Science College organizes extension lecture on Human Rights

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: The NCC Units of GGM Science College Jammu, in collaboration with All India Council of Human Rights, Liberties and Social Justice organized an Extension Lecture on Human Rights

The event was held under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal, GGM Science College, Jammu. He commended NCC Cadets, Students, faculty members, and Human Rights partner for leading this impactful effort.

The lecture was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Mazammal Hussain (National Joint Secretary) Public Grievances. He motivated the NCC Cadets to aware the common masses about

the Human Rights so that they may not be victimized by any pressure group.

He also emphasized upon the need to enlighten the youth about the human rights, which includes developing educational programmes, promoting inter disciplinary co-operation and providing recognition to those who are working for welfare of humanities and work for the protection of human being from any kind of discrimination and injustice all over the world.

He also said that one should maintain self respect and self responsibilities, which is need of the hour.

The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma, ANO GGM Science College.



NOTICE

I, Gurudain Mahajan, S/o Parveen Kumar, R/o H No 268, Sec 9, near Life Line Chemist Shop, Nanak Nagar, Jammu, 180004, has changed my mother name from Shama Gupta to Shama Mahajan. I do hereby assume from this date the name Shama Mahajan.

Remakes are a new canvas for me, will do them all my life: Aamir Khan

He believes in remakes and will make them all his life, says Aamir Khan, whose last film 'Laal Singh Chaddha' was an official adaptation of 'Forrest Gump' and latest 'Sitaare Zameen Par' has been trolled for being a remake of Spanish movie 'Campeones'.

The star and filmmaker said he has done over 10 remakes and they have all been superhits except for 'Laal Singh Chaddha'.

"Like, 'Ghajini' or if I've to start from the beginning of my career then 'Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak', which is a remake of Romeo and Juliet. So, I have never had a problem till date in remaking because for me, it is a new canvas," Aamir said in a group interview in response to a question.

Why is Shakespeare respected so much even today, Aamir asked about the playwright whose work has been endlessly adapted in cinema, theatre and other art forms.

"He is gone, write your own play. Why are you doing 'Hamlet' again? Why do you want to say,

'To be or not to be'? The chatter about remakes, I don't know where it came from. Now suddenly, some trolls have launched it.

"Some of our biggest hits have been remakes. If a cut and paste is so easy to do, then you do it, it's just a cut and paste. But it's not a cut and paste thing, you've to put your life into it," he added.

Aamir said he's not the only one doing remakes. Many in Hindi cinema, including the great screenwriting duo of Salim Khan and Javed Akhtar, have adapted stories in their career.

What is needed is sensitisation for all.

Spanish audiences liked 'Campeones' ("Champions in its Hollywood version) and understood its message about neurodivergence, which refers to differences in mental or neurological functioning from what is typically considered the norm. And that is something he wants to achieve with 'Sitaare Zameen Par', the film he has produced and acted in.

"We should also be



sensitised. We should also move forward, and that the topic of neurodivergence should become important for us too. In our country too, there should be a public discourse on it — what is neurotypical and how we should behave? This is a very important topic for India. I'm very clear I have done the right thing."

'Sitaare Zameen Par', directed by RS Prasanna, features Aamir as

Gulshan, an assistant coach of major basketball team. After being fired from his job, he is ordered to either go to jail or do 90 days of community service as the coach of a team of specially-abled basketball players. The movie, which releases June 20, comes three years after 'Laal Singh Chaddha' that tanked at the box office when it was released in theatres in August 2022.

However, the actor dismissed the notion that online trolling has an effect on a movie's box office performance.

"There was a lot of trolling in 'Laal Singh Chaddha'. Maybe people think that it didn't work because of trolling. They are absolutely wrong. Imagine if the same trolling was there during '3 Idiots', what do you think would have happened? Then the trolling doesn't work. Why? Because the film is good." "Laal Singh Chaddha" didn't work at the box office because it was not made well, Aamir stressed.

"I know about the troll in a second as they write, 'Boycott, boycott' or 'Go to Pakistan', so I understood it's a troll. That reaction doesn't affect me at all. I want to listen to the real audience, who are neither a troll nor anything, they see your work and they either like it or they don't like it. If they like or dislike it, they say it from their heart. So, I'm bothered by the reactions of the real audience for whom I make films. I don't care about the reaction of the trolls."

Shriya Pilgaonkar: 'Society views female cops differently due to sexist biases'



She has played everything from a girl next door to an ambitious lawyer, but Chhal Kapat sees Shriya Pilgaonkar don the police uniform for the first time. The new murder mystery series on Zee5 has Shriya as a police officer investigating a murder in a small town. Ahead of the show's release, Shriya speaks with agency about her portrayal and the society's general perception of female police

officers.

On the image of female cops on screen

For long, the depiction of women in uniform has been rather masculine in Hindi cinema. This can be best exemplified by the fact that the highest-grossing Hindi film with a female cop in the lead is titled Mardaani (Masculine). Talking about the necessity of making women in uniform masculine on screen, Shriya says, "Society looks at a male cop and a female

cop differently because of their own inherent sexist biases. It is almost a defence mechanism that causes a woman to take up space, and it's because of years of conditioning."

How Chhal Kapat does it differently

However, the actor says that Chhal Kapat, her new show, does not tread this path. "Here, what I like is that we have kept Devika's femininity," she says elaborating. "She doesn't have to be super aggressive while interrogating someone. She is ok to be gentle. But she will be tough, too. I like that there is no aggression for the sake of it. But yes, women in spaces where men have historically taken up more space tend to hold on to that and stay in power much more."

Directed by Ajay Bhuyan, produced by Juggernaut Production, Chhal Kapat - The Deception is set to premiere on ZEE5 on June 6, 2025. The show also stars Kamya Ahlawat, Ragini Dwivedi, Tuhina Das, Yahvha Sharma, Pranay Pachauri, Smaran Sahu, and Anuj Sachdeva.

Shine Tom Chacko's father dies in car accident, actor, his mother injured

Malayalam actor Shine Tom Chacko and his family met with a car accident near Tamil Nadu on Friday morning. His father, Sibi Chacko, 70, died on the spot, while the actor and his mother suffered injuries. At the time of the accident, Shine was travelling along with his mother, brother and father.

Sine and his mother have been admitted to Dharmapuri government medical college where the doctors are attending to their injuries. According to reports, his brother suffered injuries as well. The accident took place at around 7 am when their car rammed into a lorry near Palakottai in Tamil Nadu's Dharmapuri. More details regarding the accident are awaited.

The actor suffered a fracture and is currently



being treated at the hospital. In a visual from the hospital, he can be seen talking to one of the doctors.

Shine Tom Chacko was recently in the news following complaints about his alleged drug use. The actor is currently under police probe following his arrest. Also, his co-actor Vincy Alosious filed a complaint accusing him of using narcotic substances and misbehaving with her on 'Soothravakyam' sets.

The actor started his

career as an assistant director before making his acting debut in 2011 with 'Gaddama'. The actor has been a part of many important films including 'Annayum Rasoolum', 'Kammatipaadam', 'Godha', 'Parava', 'Mayanadhi', 'Operation Java', 'Kuruthi', and several other films.

Apart from Malayalam films, Shina Tom Chacko acted in Tamil and Telugu films. He was last seen in 'Good Bad Ugly' and 'Alappuzha Gymkhana'.

Tom Cruise sets Guinness World Record for most burning parachute jumps in 'Mission: Impossible 8'

Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise has earned a Guinness World Record for performing the most burning parachute jumps by an individual, executing the feat 16 times during the filming of his latest movie, "Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning".

The film, which released in theatres worldwide in June, featured a daring sequence in the final moments where Cruise, a licensed skydiver, leapt from a helicopter while strapped to a parachute soaked in aviation fuel and set ablaze.

He performed the stunt 16 times and after each jump, he cut away the burning parachute and deployed a backup to land safely.

"Tom doesn't just play action heroes — he is an action hero," Craig Glenday, Editor-in-Chief of Guinness World Records, said in a statement posted on the official website.

"A large part of his success can be chalked up to his absolute focus on authenticity and pushing the boundaries of what a leading man can do. It's an



honour to be able to recognise his utter fearlessness with this new Guinness World Records title." In the scene from "The Final Reckoning", Cruise's character, Ethan Hunt, battled the movie's antagonist Gabriel (Esai Morales) for the control of an AI entity aboard 1940s biplanes above South Africa's Drakensberg mountains.

Some takes were filmed with a 50-pound camera rig attached to Cruise for close-up shots during freefall.

The record adds to Cruise's previous accolades, including having the most consecutive USD 100-million-grossing films.

The actor, who debuted as a leading man in "Risky Business" (1983) and has starred in over 30 films since, delivered 11 hits—from "Jack Reacher" (2012) to "Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning" (2025).

"Tom is no stranger to record breaking. Over his impressively long and consistent career, he's proved himself to be the most powerful actor in Holly-

wood and the most bankable star, and he's still the actor with the most consecutive USD 100 million movies on their resume and the most successful leading action hero at the worldwide box office," Craig said.

Cruise, who first portrayed Ethan Hunt in Brian De Palma's "Mission: Impossible" (1996), has consistently delivered high-octane cinematic thrills with each installment of the franchise.

He has redefined the art of stunt work—leaping between buildings in "Mission: Impossible III" (2006), scaling Dubai's Burj Khalifa in "Ghost Protocol" (2011), clinging to the side of a flying plane in "Rogue Nation" (2015), and riding a motorcycle off a cliff in "Dead Reckoning" (2023).

"Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning" had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival. The film also stars Hayley Atwell, Ving Rhames, Simon Pegg, Pom Klementieff, and Angela Bassett.

Dakota Johnson distances herself from Madame Web's flop: 'It wasn't my fault'

With The Materialists gearing up for its release this month, Dakota Johnson is once again dominating headlines — but not just for her onscreen chemistry with Chris Evans and internet heartthrob Pedro Pascal. The buzz surrounding her latest project has reignited a less flattering conversation: Dakota Johnson's track record at the box office. While the upcoming rom-com might finally give her a commercial win, many are still looking back at Spider-Man spinoff Madame Web, one of 2024's most notorious flops — and Johnson has some pointed thoughts about why it failed.

In a recent interview, Johnson addressed the elephant in the room with a laugh, saying bluntly: "It wasn't my fault." That line alone

has sparked a media frenzy, as the actor shifts the blame from herself to the broader industry dynamics that she believes doomed Madame Web from the start.

"There's this thing that happens now where a lot of creative decisions are made by committee," she said. "Or made by people who don't have a creative bone in their body. And it's really hard to make art that way. Or to make something entertaining that way. And I think unfortunately with Madame Web, it started out as something and turned into something else. And I was just sort of along for the ride at that point. But that happens. Bigger-budget movies fail all the time."

About the movie

In Madame Web, Johnson starred as Cassan-



dra Webb, a New York City paramedic who discovers she can see the future and must protect three teenage girls — future Spider-Women — from a villainous Ezekiel Sims. Despite a promising premise and a cast that included breakout names, the film bombed both critically and commercially. It went on to

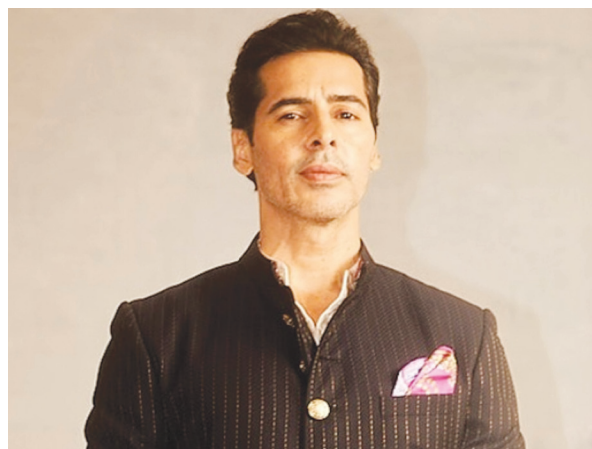
collect a trio of Golden Raspberry (Razzie) Awards in early 2025, including Worst Picture, Worst Screenplay, and Worst Actress for Johnson herself — a trifecta no actor dreams of.

And yet, Johnson seems unfazed as she brushed off the backlash with a shrug: "I don't have a Band-Aid over

it," she said. "There's no part of me that's like, 'Oh, I'll never do that again' to anything. I've done even tiny movies that didn't do well. Who cares?"

That devil-may-care attitude may come off as refreshing honesty — or deflection, depending on who you ask. Critics have noted that Johnson, despite her famous lineage as the daughter of Don Johnson and Melanie Griffith (and granddaughter of Tippi Hedren), has struggled to find her footing post-Fifty Shades. Films like Persuasion (2022) and The Peanut Butter Falcon (2019) earned praise, but commercially, her record is patchy at best. Naturally, now the stakes are high with The Materialists, a glitzy rom-com that might just mark Johnson's rare win in mainstream cinema.

Mithi river case: ED raids actor Dino Morea, others



The Enforcement Directorate on Friday conducted searches at the premises of actor Dino Morea and some others in Maharashtra apart from some locations in Kerala as part of a money laundering investigation linked to the Mithi river desilting "scam", official sources said.

The fraud is alleged to have caused a Rs 65

crore loss to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

The raids are covering more than 15 premises located in Mumbai and Kochi. This includes the premises of Morea, his brother, contractors and some others, the sources said.

The investigation is being conducted under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA),

they said.

The ED case against certain officials of the BMC and some others stems from a Mumbai Police economic offences wing (EOW) FIR filed to probe alleged irregularities in desilting of the Mithi river that is alleged to have caused a Rs 65 crore loss to the civic body.

Morea was questioned by the EOW in this case few days back.

The EOW registered a case against 13 persons, including civic officials and contractors, for their alleged involvement in the scam.

The river flows through the city and drains into the Arabian Sea. It is alleged that tenders for renting specialised dredging equipment were manipulated to favour certain suppliers.

Empowering youth the most powerful thing a nation can do: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Jun 6 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday that several of his government initiatives are rooted in the firm belief that empowering youth is the most powerful thing a nation can do, citing several programmes in the 11 years of his tenure.

He said on X "India's youth have made a mark globally. Our Yuva Shakti is associated with dynamism, innovation and determination. Our youth have driven India's growth with unmatched energy and conviction."

In the last 11 years, he said, India has witnessed remarkable instances of youngsters who



have done the "unthinkable" across various sectors, including startUps, science, sports, community service, culture and more.

He said, "The last 11 years have also seen a decisive shift in policy and programmes

aimed at youth empowerment. Government initiatives like StartUp India, Skill India, Digital India and the National Education Policy 2020 are rooted in the firm belief that empowering youth is the most powerful thing a nation can do."

The prime minister said he is confident that the youth will keep strengthening the efforts to build a 'Viksit Bharat'.

Modi had taken the oath as prime minister for the first time in May 26, 2014 and has since led the ruling BJP-led National Democratic Alliance to power for two more times.

He was sworn in for a third term in June 9 last year.

Centre, state committed to make Uttarakhand national horticulture hub: Chouhan



DEHRADUN, Jun 6 (Agencies): The Centre and the Uttarakhand government are committed to making the state a national hub of horticulture," he said.

During his visit, the minister also planted a sapling as part of the ongoing Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam (a tree in the name of mother) campaign.

Chouhan interacted with litchi, basmati rice, jackfruit and vegetable producers, and talked about issues relating to seeds, irrigation, marketing, and the crop insurance scheme.

"I am from a farmer family, I know the pain of farmers. That is why

today I have come directly to the farm and sat on the cot, so that I can know whether the benefits of the government schemes are reaching the ground or not. Direct communication with the farmers ensures their strong participation," he said at the Chaupal.

Talking to the media, he said the state government is doing excellent work in the field of agriculture under the leadership of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.

The Centre, along with the Uttarakhand government, will ensure that the farmers here not only get the benefit of modern agricultural techniques, but also get markets for their products at the national and international level, he said.

Further, Chouhan said farming will be made more profitable in future by giving special emphasis on natural farming, technological innovation and water conservation.

Delhi govt will install water coolers in all schools: CM Rekha Gupta

NEW DELHI, Jun 6 (Agencies): The Delhi government has decided to set up water vending machines in all its schools across the city, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said on Friday.

She inaugurated a water ATM during a visit to a local government school with Water Minister Parvesh Verma in her Shalimar Bagh constituency.

Addressing a gathering,

Gupta targeted the previous AAP government for "boasting about its education model", and accused it of removing lakhs of weak students from schools. She said that there is not a single school for science studies in Haidarpur area in Shalimar Bagh constituency.

The government will set up 7,000 smart classrooms in its schools this year and also open 100

language labs and 175 digital libraries for the students, Gupta said.

She also announced that government will provide laptops to 1,200 meritorious students of Delhi government schools this year as announced in the Budget 2025-26.

Earlier, the government provided 100 tablets to students sponsored by corporate social responsibility funds of a bank,



she added.

The Chief Minister said that she has also directed officials to complete repair works at schools on priority.

Delhi: Satyendar Jain appears before ACB for questioning in classroom construction case

NEW DELHI, Jun 6 (Agencies): Former Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain on Friday appeared before the Anti-Corruption Branch for questioning in connection with an alleged graft case in the construction of classrooms in Government schools.

Jain was summoned by the Delhi Government's ACB for questioning.

Before leaving for the ACB office, Jain had asserted that the previous AAP Government in the national capital worked towards improving the city's education, while the current BJP Government was only doing politics.

Speaking to agency Videos ahead of his questioning, Jain said the BJP was trying to divert attention from key issues. "First, tell me, where did the word scam come from? They (BJP) do not want to work and are aiding pri-



vate schools in increasing fees," Jain said.

"Manish Sisodia (former education minister) did excellent work in schools. He has been summoned. I have been summoned. These are all tactics to divert attention.

"They (BJP) used to say that dogs are roaming in the streets, but we will clean the roads. Now they should get these things done, but they are only indulging in politics," he charged.

The ACB summoned AAP leaders Sisodia

and Jain over alleged graft in the construction of classrooms in government schools. While Jain was asked to appear on Friday, Sisodia has been summoned on June 9.

The summons come after an FIR was registered by the ACB on April 30 based on allegations of financial irregularities to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore in the construction of over 12,000 classrooms or semi-permanent structures in Delhi Government schools.

Kashmir rail link example of continuity in governance which PM never acknowledges: Congress

NEW DELHI, Jun 6 (Agencies): The Congress on Friday said the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line (USBRL) is a powerful example of continuity in governance which it claimed is "consistently denied" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his "perennial desire for self-glory".

The opposition party's assertion came on a day Prime Minister Modi is set to inaugurate the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL). Stretching 272 km through the rugged Himalayas, the project has been built at a cost of Rs 43,780 crore.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said governance involves great continuity, "a fact consistently denied by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his perennial desire for self-glory".

This is especially



true when it comes to the implementation of extraordinarily challenging developmental projects, he said in a statement.

The 272 km long Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line (USBRL) was initially sanctioned in March 1995 when P V Narsimha Rao was Prime Minister, Ramesh said.

"In March 2002, it was declared as a national project when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was Prime Minister. Subsequently, on April 13, 2005, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh inaugurated the 53 km rail link between

2013, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh inaugurated the 11 km Qazigund to Banihal rail link," he said.

This meant that by June 26, 2013 the 135 km rail link between Baramulla and Qazigund had become operational, Ramesh added.

The inauguration of the 25 km rail link between Udhampur and Katra had to be put off because of the election code of conduct for the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, he pointed out.

It was inaugurated by the new Prime Minister on July 4, 2014, 39 days after he had taken over, Ramesh said.

He further pointed out that since 2014, the 111 km Katra-Banihal stretch, for which major contracts had been awarded much earlier, has been completed.

For instance, contracts for the iconic Chenab Bridge had been awarded by 2005 itself to the Konkan Railway Corporation, Afcons, VSK India, and Ultra Construction and Engineering Ltd of South Korea, Ramesh said.

"The Indian National Congress greets the people of Jammu and Kashmir on this important occasion. It also congratulates the personnel of the Indian Railways, and the public sector and private companies involved in the execution of the USBRL over the past three decades," the AICC general secretary said.

It reflects a collective resolve and success in the face of the gravest of odds, Ramesh added.

Posting his statement on X, the Congress leader said, "As the PM visits J&K today, here is our statement on the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line (USBRL) that, like Brahmos, is a powerful example of continuity in governance which he never acknowledges but cannot run away from."

SC allows NBE to hold NEET-PG 2025 examination on August 3

NEW DELHI, Jun 6 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday allowed the National Board of Examination (NBE) to conduct on August 3, the NEET-PG 2025 exam in one shift in line with the top court's directions.

A bench of Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and Augustine George Masih, which initially questioned the over two-month window sought by the NBE for holding the examination, said the board's plea appeared to be "bonafide".

The top court, however, clarified no further time would be granted to NBE for holding NEET-PG 2025 examination.

The NBE referred to the May 30 order of the top court and said for holding the simultaneous examinations all

over in one shift required about 1,000 examination centres.

The plea said it would hold the examination, scheduled on June 15 between 9 am and 12.30 pm on August 3, which was the earliest possible date given by their technology partner Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS).

It had previously referred to various communications with the TCS and cited various arrangements like identification of examination centres, their availability and security measures to plug any leaks for holding the examination on August 3.

The bench questioned the long duration for holding the examination saying that students, who have prepared very hard for the exam



nation, would face the brunt and even their selection process would be further delayed.

"The order of this court was of May 30, what exercise has been done till now. The examination centres were already identified for holding the test on June 15 and the only thing which needed to be done was to see their availability. Secu-

tion centres, which are to be identified, had to be technology compliant and safe, therefore, requiring elaborate arrangements.

Justice Masih said the court very well knew how TCS works and it has had experience of various examinations and finding such centres would not be a problem.

The NBE's plea,

among other things, has sought the top court's "permission to schedule the NEET PG 2025 on August 3, 2025 which is the earliest possible available date given by its technology partner, i.e., M/s Tata Consultancy Services Ltd. (TCS) in accordance with the directions passed by this vide order dated May 30, 2025".

It has said, "Thousand plus centers shall need to be booked and engaged which will require considerable time."

For a shift of 2,42,679 candidates with buffers would require an infrastructure for 2.70 lakh to be made available across the country and it needed considerable time, the NBE has said.

The plea argued a collaborative effort of the

government authorities and the NBE was needed to enable students to navigate the "uncertain period" with "resilience and support".

The NBE said aside from NEET-PG, it was conducting Indian Railways, several banking exams and regional exams across states in the country.

"Hence we propose to conduct this exam on August 3, in the 1st shift from 9 am to 12.30 pm," the plea said.

On May 30, the top court ordered conducting the post-graduate medical entrance exam scheduled on June 15 in a single shift as two shifts created "arbitrariness" in its opinion.

The authorities were directed to make arrangements for holding NEET-PG 2025

exam in one shift and ensure transparency and identification of the secured centers.

The apex court had passed the order on the pleas challenging a notification for holding the examination for admissions in medical courses in two shifts.

While one of the pleas was filed through advocate Sukriti Bhatnagar, several lawyers, including advocate Tanvi Dubey, appeared in the matter.

The NBE is entrusted with the responsibility of conducting postgraduate and postdoctoral examinations in approved specialties leading to the award of Diplomate of National Board and Fellow of National Board.

Four killed in Kyiv after Russian missile, drone attack across Ukraine, says mayor

Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko said the search and rescue operations were underway at several locations.

KYIV, Jun 6 (Agencies): A Russian missile and drone attack on Kyiv early Friday killed at least four people and injured 20 others, city mayor Vitali Klitschko said, as air raid sirens rang out during a wider combined attack across Ukraine.

Klitschko said search and rescue operations were underway at several locations.

Multiple explosions were heard in the capital, Kyiv, where falling debris sparked fires across several districts as air defence systems attempted to intercept incoming targets, said Tymur Tkachenko, head of the Kyiv City Administration.

"Our air defence crews are doing everything possible. But we must protect one another.



Stay safe," Tkachenko wrote on Telegram.

Authorities reported damage in several districts, and rescue workers were responding at multiple locations. They urged residents to seek shelter.

In Solomyanskyi district, a fire broke out

on the 11th floor of a 16-story residential building.

Emergency services evacuated three people from the apartment, and rescue operations were ongoing.

Another fire broke out in a metal warehouse.

Tkachenko said the

metro tracks between two stations in Kyiv were damaged in the attack, but no fire or injuries occurred.

In northern Chernihiv region, a Shahed drone exploded near an apartment building, shattering windows and doors, according to regional

military administration chief Dmytro Bryzhnyskyi.

He added that explosions from ballistic missiles were also recorded on the outskirts of the city.

The nighttime attack came hours after US President Donald Trump said it might be better to let Ukraine and Russia 'fight for a while' before pulling them apart and pursuing peace, in comments that were a remarkable detour from Trump's often-stated appeals to stop the three-year war.

Trump spoke as he met with Germany's new chancellor, Friedrich Merz, who appealed to him as the 'key person in the world' who could halt the bloodshed by pressuring Russian President Vladimir Putin.

North Korea says it has raised a capsized destroyer upright as it continues repair



SEOUL, Jun 6 (Agencies): North Korea said Friday it had righted a capsized destroyer and moored it at a pier in the northeastern port of Chongjin as it continues to repair the new warship leader Kim Jong Un has described as a significant asset for his nuclear-armed military.

The report by North Korean state media aligned with South Korean military assessments and recent commercial satellite images.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said experts will closely examine the ship's hull before beginning the next phase of restoration, which will take place at a dry dock at the neighboring port of Rajin and is expected to last seven to 10 days.

Satellite images taken Thursday by Planet Labs PBC analyzed by The Associated Press showed the stricken destroyer upright and floating. It wasn't immediately clear from the image just how much damage had been done to the vessel, which had been in the water for days after the failed launch. However, the ship did not appear to be noticeably listing, meaning Pyongyang is likely able to send it onward to the other port to inspect the vessel's electronics.

Jo Chun Ryong, a senior official from the ruling Workers' Party, told the agency that the "perfect restoration of the destroyer will be completed without fail" before a major party congress in late June, a deadline set by Kim.

Outside experts say it remains unclear how severely the 5,000-ton-class destroyer was damaged during a

botched launching ceremony in late May, which triggered a furious response from Kim, who called the failure a "criminal act caused by absolute carelessness, irresponsibility, and unscientific empiricism."

North Korean law enforcement authorities have detained at least four officials over the incident, including the vice director of the Workers' Party's munitions industry department, according to state media. The North's main military committee said those responsible would be held accountable for their "unpardonable criminal act."

Lee Sung Joon, spokesperson for South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters Thursday that the South's military assessments that the North Koreans righted the ship earlier this week and are likely conducting drainage operations while examining the damage.

"The nature and duration of the repair process will vary, depending on internal repairs, additional work or whether the incident affected the keel," Lee said, referring to the ship's structural backbone. "This could also affect how the ship is used going forward."

The damaged warship was North Korea's second known destroyer and seen as a crucial asset toward Kim's goal of modernizing its naval forces. It was in the same class as the country's first destroyer unveiled in April, which experts assessed as the North's largest and most advanced warship to date. Kim lavishly praised that ship, which was launched in the western port of Nampo, saying it advances his

goal of expanding the military's operations range and nuclear strike capabilities.

State media described that ship as designed to handle various weapons systems, including anti-air and anti-ship weapons as well as nuclear-capable ballistic and cruise missiles. Kim also supervised test-firings of missiles from the destroyer afterward, and state media said the ship was expected to enter active duty early next year.

While North Korea's naval forces are widely seen as far inferior to those of its rivals, analysts say a destroyer equipped with modern missile and radar systems could still boost the North's offensive and defensive capabilities.

South Korean officials and experts say the North's destroyer was likely built with Russian assistance as the two countries' military cooperation have intensified amid Russian President Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine. Kim's government has supplied Russia with thousands of troops and large shipments of military equipment, including artillery and ballistic missiles, to support its warfighting. Washington and Seoul have expressed concern that, in return, Kim may seek Russian technology transfers that could enhance the threat posed by his nuclear-armed military.

Kim met with Russian Security Council Secretary Sergei Shoigu in Pyongyang on Wednesday in the latest sign of the countries' deepening ties.

Kim has framed his arms buildup as a response to perceived threats from the United States and South Korea, which have been expanded joint military exercises in reaction to the North's advancing nuclear program. Kim says the acquisition of a nuclear-powered submarine would be his next big step in strengthening the North Korean navy.

Japan's ispace fails again: Resilience lander crashes on moon

TOKYO, Jun 6 (Agencies): Japanese company ispace said its uncrewed moon lander likely crashed onto the lunar surface during its touchdown attempt on Friday, marking another failure two years after an unsuccessful inaugural mission.

Tokyo-based ispace had hoped to join U.S. firms Intuitive Machines and Firefly Aerospace in making successful commercial moon landings amid a global race that includes state-run lunar missions from China and India.

Although the failure means another multi-year pause in Japan's commercial access to the moon, the country remains committed to the U.S.-led Artemis program and a wide range of Japanese companies are studying lunar exploration as a business frontier.

Resilience, ispace's second lunar lander, had problems measuring its distance to the surface and could not slow its descent fast enough, the company said, adding it has not been able to communicate with Resilience after a likely hard landing.

"Truly diverse scenarios were possible, including issues with the propulsion system, software or hardware, especially with sensors," ispace Chief Technology Officer Ryo Ujiie told a

press conference.

A room of more than 500 ispace employees, shareholders, sponsors and government officials abruptly grew silent when flight data was lost less than two minutes before the scheduled touchdown time during a public viewing event at mission partner Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp in the wee hours in Tokyo.

Shares of ispace were untraded, overwhelmed by sell orders, and looked set to close at the daily limit-low, which would mark a 29% fall. As of the close of Thursday, ispace had a market capitalisation of more than 110 billion yen (\$766 million).

"We're not facing any immediate financial deterioration or distress because of the event," CFO Jumpei Nozaki said in the press conference, citing recurring investor support.

In 2023, ispace's first lander crashed into the moon's surface due to inaccurate recognition of its altitude. Software remedies have been implemented, while the hardware design was mostly unchanged in Resilience.

\$16 Million Payload

Resilience was carrying a four-wheeled rover built by ispace's Luxembourg subsidiary and five external payloads worth a total of \$16 million, including scien-

tific instruments from Japanese firms and a Taiwanese university.

The lander had targeted Mare Frigoris, a basaltic plain about 900 km (560 miles) from the moon's north pole. If the landing had been successful, the 2.3-metre-high lander and the rover would have begun 14 days of planned exploration activities, including capturing regolith, the moon's fine-grained surface material, in a contract with U.S. space agency NASA.

In January shared a SpaceX rocket launch with Firefly's Blue Ghost lander, which took a faster trajectory to the moon and touched down successfully in March.

Intuitive Machines, which last year marked the world's first commercial lunar touchdown, also landed its second Athena lander in March, although in a toppled position, just as with its first mission. Japan last year became the world's fifth country to achieve a soft lunar landing after the former Soviet Union, the United States, China and India, when the national Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency achieved the touchdown of its SLIM lander.

The government signed an agreement with NASA to include Japanese astronauts in Artemis

lunar missions last year and has supported private companies' research projects for future lunar development, assuming ispace's transportation capabilities.

"Expectations for ispace have not faded," Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba said in an X post. Although ispace will likely remain Japan's most advanced lunar transportation company, some Japanese firms may start to consider transport options from foreign entities to test their lunar exploration visions, said Ritsumeikan University professor Kazuto Saiki, who was involved in the SLIM mission. For its third mission in 2027, ispace's U.S. unit is building a bigger lander as part of NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services for the Artemis program. The company projects six more missions in the U.S. and Japan through 2029.

"NASA increasingly needs private companies to improve cost efficiency for key missions with limited budgets," ispace CEO Takeshi Hakamada said, referring to U.S. President Donald Trump's proposed budget cuts.

"To meet NASA's expectations, we'll support our U.S. subsidiary to keep up with development and play a role." (\$1 = 143.5600 yen).

Paank slams Balochistan Anti-Terror Bill, cites surge in rights abuses

GENEVA, Jun 6 (Agencies): Paank categorically denounces the Balochistan Assembly's passage of the Anti-Terrorism (Balochistan Amendment) Bill 2025, which exacerbates the region's human rights crisis.

According to Paank's post on X, this legislation runs the risk of legitimising state-sponsored abuses by giving the military, paramilitary, intelligence services, and police broad authority to detain people on suspicion for a maximum of three months, with possible extensions under Article 10 of the Constitution.

It solidifies a fear-based environment in which civilian expression and political criticism are routinely repressed under the guise of counterterrorism.

"Balochistan has long endured severe human rights violations, exem-

plified by enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, and torture. For instance, families have reported loved ones, including activists and students, being abducted by security forces without legal recourse, often leaving them in anguish for years. In 2025 alone, the Paank documented over sixty-six cases of extrajudicial killings of individuals previously in state custody," Paank's post stated on X.

"Peaceful protests, such as those led by the Baloch Yakehti Committee (BYC), have faced violent crackdowns, with security forces firing on demonstrators, as seen in the July 2024 Gwadar gathering where 14 were injured," stated Paank's post on X.

"The Maintenance of Public Order (3MPO) Ordinance has been a key tool in silencing dissent, notably used against BYC leader-

ship. In March 2025, Dr. Mahrang Baloch, a prominent BYC leader and Nobel Peace Prize nominee, along with activists Bebag Baloch, Gulzadi Baloch, Beebow Baloch, and Shahji Sibghatullah, were detained under 3MPO during a non-violent protest in Quetta," the post stated.

"These detentions, lacking legal justification, were challenged in the Balochistan High Court, which reserved its verdict on April 11, 2025, but later dismissed petitions, raising concerns about judicial independence. Reports confirm severe mistreatment in custody, including the forcible removal of Beebow Baloch from Huda Jail by the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) on April 23, 2025, where she was beaten and transferred to an undisclosed location before being moved to Pishin Jail," as per the post.

"Family visits revealed visible signs of physical abuse on detainees, prompting widespread protests and condemnations from human rights groups and legal associations across Balochistan", the post claimed.

Paank is committed to supporting the BYC and the Baloch people, whose nonviolent protests against state violence and enforced disappearances have been suppressed. Human rights advocates, civil society, and the international community should demand that the Anti-Terrorism Bill 2025 be immediately repealed, that activists who have been jailed be released, and that an impartial inquiry into human rights abuses in Balochistan be conducted.

For justice and dignity to be restored, the systematic targeting of activists and civilians must stop.

Japanese court rejects damage claims against utility executives over Fukushima disaster



TOKYO, Jun 6 (Agencies): A Japanese court ruled former executives at the utility managing the tsunami-wrecked Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant were not accountable for the 2011 meltdown crisis and do not need to pay damages to the company.

The Tokyo High Court ruling on Friday reversed a lower court decision in 2022 ordering four former executives of the Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings to pay 13 trillion yen (\$90 billion) to the company, saying they had failed to

take the utmost safety precautions despite knowing the risks of a serious accident in a major tsunami.

A magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami in March 2011 destroyed key cooling systems at the Fukushima Daiichi plant, causing its three reactors to melt down, spreading large amounts of radiation in the area and keeping tens of thousands of residents from returning home due to radioactive contamination and other safety concerns.

The Tokyo District Court ruling three years

ago was the only ruling that held the former TEPCO liable for the Fukushima disaster. It upheld the plaintiffs' argument that the executives had neglected to heed experts' long-term tsunami predictions and failed to take adequate tsunami precaution measures soon enough.

The court said, however, the long-term tsunami prediction was not considered pressing data requiring immediate tsunami measures and it was understandable the executives had no sense of urgency from the data they had at that time, Kyodo News reported.

Friday's ruling is a major disappointment for Fukushima residents and anti-nuclear activists seeking the managements' responsibility in nuclear safety.

Plaintiffs and their lawyers criticized the ruling as "unjust" and said they planned to appeal to the Supreme Court.

Hiroyuki Kawai, a plaintiffs' lawyer, criticized the ruling as "logically flawed," saying it means nobody can be held liable for any safety negligence because tsunami and earthquake predictions are still impossible today.

A group of more than 40 TEPCO shareholders filed the lawsuit in 2012 demanding five former executives pay the company 22 trillion yen (\$153 billion) in damages. The amount of the 2022 ruling against four of the executives was the highest ever ordered in a lawsuit.

Japan's top court in March found two former TEPCO executives not guilty of negligence over the Fukushima meltdown, saying a tsunami of the magnitude that hit the plant was unforeseeable. It was the only criminal trial related to the nuclear accident and the only criminal case related to the nuclear accident.

JKTF holds virtual leadership meet; pays tribute to Late Dr. Sanjay Sharma, raises vital educational concerns

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: The Jammu & Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) held a crucial virtual meeting of its provincial leadership on Friday, under the chairmanship of State President Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh. The high-level gathering brought together senior members from both Jammu and Kashmir provinces to deliberate on pressing issues concerning the teaching fraternity, organizational discipline, and future activities.

The meeting began on a solemn note with rich tributes paid to Dr. Sanjay Sharma, UT Chief Coordinator of JKTF and District President of J&K EJAC, who passed away recently. Members hailed him as a devoted and fearless leader who tirelessly championed the cause of

teachers across the UT. Leaders discussed ways to improve structural coherence and participation at all levels, stressing the need for full attendance in the upcoming General Council meeting. The Forum expressed serious concern over the prolonged delay in releasing GP Fund bills, pending in treasuries for several months. The leadership demanded urgent government intervention to resolve this issue. Reinforcing constitutional discipline, it was unanimously agreed that no state or provincial communication should be issued without approval from the Chairman and State President, in accordance with Forum norms. The UT General Secretary was tasked with enforcing this directive.

It was resolved that press statements must be routed

through the Chief Spokespersons and Press & Publicity Secretaries of respective divisions to maintain message consistency.

The Forum announced a State Executive Council Meeting next week in Srinagar to further discuss teacher-specific concerns that need to be presented before the administration. The Forum also welcomed the newly appointed Administrative Secretary of the School Education Department, expressing hope for positive changes.

Major demands raised included time-bound promotions of Masters, Headmasters, and Lecturers, filling of all vacant teaching posts, implementation of a fast-track file clearance system to minimize bureaucratic delays in service-related matters

Prominent attendees include Gh. Ahmad Mir and Mohammad Maroof Chowdhary – Senior Vice Chairmen, Mehraj-ud-Din Zargar – State Vice President, Rafaquit Hussain Malik – Sr. Vice President, Mir Bashir Ahmad – General Secretary, Tahir Ahmad Sofi – Chief Spokesperson, Joginder Singh– Spokesperson, M. Ashraf Khan – Chief Press & Publicity Secretary, Bilal Majeed–Chief Organiser, M. Ashraf Lone – Finance Secretary, Gh. Mohi-ud-Din Mir – District President Srinagar, Neetan Kalyaan, Mehmood Reyaz Bhat, Jalil Ahmed, Sadiq Poswal.

The JKTF reaffirmed its commitment to educational reform, transparency in governance, and safeguarding the rights and dignity of educators throughout Jammu & Kashmir.

Social Forestry Department organises seminar on Environmental Protection at IIS Peerbagh



Top News Report

BUDGAM, Jun 6: To mark World Environment Day 2025, the Social Forestry Range Budgam, in collaboration with International Islamic School (IIS) Peerbagh, organised a grand seminar and plantation drive focused on the theme “Beat Plastic Pollution.”

The event saw enthusiastic participation from students, educators, government officials, and environmental experts, all united by a shared commitment to sustainability and environmental protection.

The day began with a ceremonial plantation drive on the school campus, sending a strong message of ecological responsibility.

Chief Guest, Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Budgam, Mrs. Afroza Bano (JKAS), was warmly welcomed with a guard of honour by students. In her address, she emphasized that while many regions of India are experiencing record-high temperatures, Kashmir remains blessed with a cooler climate — a gift that must not be taken for granted.

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The day began with a ceremonial plantation drive on the school campus, sending a strong message of ecological responsibility.

Dr. Mumtaz Majeed, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Central Kashmir, called for behavioural change beginning at home. He noted that while policies are made by governments, implementation rests with the people.

He stressed the need to reject single-use plastics, especially at weddings, events, and in daily routines. Dr. Gurmeet Singh, Deputy Chief Medical Officer Budgam, motivated students with real-life analogies, highlighting IIS’s reputation for cleanliness and encouraging them to lead by example in environmental action.

She urged the youth to take real action, not just speak about environmental issues, warning that the region’s natural resources are under increasing threat due to negligence and deforestation.

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The program concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Academic Administrator Dr. Irfan Jameel, who praised the Social Forestry Department and the school’s leadership for organising such an inspiring and impactful event.

Range Officer Budgam, Bilal Ahmad Mattoo, noted the immense potential in today’s youth to protect Kashmir’s forests and ecosystems, provided they receive the right guidance. Abdul Majeed Parray, President of the J&K Trade Union Council, also called for environmental consciousness to become a movement that extends into homes, schools, and workplaces. Dr. Tariq

Range Officer Budgam, Bilal Ahmad Mattoo, noted the immense potential in today’s youth to protect Kashmir’s forests and ecosystems, provided they receive the right guidance. Abdul Majeed Parray, President of the J&K Trade Union Council, also called for environmental consciousness to become a movement that extends into homes, schools, and workplaces. Dr. Tariq

The celebration ended with a collective pledge by students, faculty, and dignitaries to reduce plastic usage and work together to safeguard nature.

The plantation drive, along with motivational addresses, served as a catalyst to inspire the next generation to take meaningful action for the environment.

GGF organises relief camp at Uri, Baramulla



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: Gandhi Global Family (GGF), in collaboration with Care Foundation & Charitable Trust and GGF members, organized a relief camp today at the SDM Office, Uri, for families affected by recent Pakistani shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Uri sector of District Baramulla, Jammu & Kashmir.

Khan, Mohd. Maqbool Bandy and local GGF cadre.

Dr. S.P. Varma, President of Gandhi Global Family J&K, in his message, expressed heartfelt gratitude to Anuradha Lal, President of GGF Women (Andaman & Nicobar Islands) and her team for their generous contribution toward the relief efforts in J&K.

In coordination with the district administration, needy families from villages including Bonpora, Ramgalie, Bandi, Salambad, Nowpora and other areas, identified by the administration, received grocery kits from the GGF Kashmir Team, in the presence of SDPO Tariq Ahmad and staff of the SDM office.

He also extended thanks to Dr. Mehjabeen Nabi, Dr. Ayoub Matto, Dr. Itinder Pal Singh Bali, Omar Shah (Hotel Mirage), Jai Pal Singh, Shabir Ahmad Shah, Ghulam Mohammad Dar (Retired SSP), Khurm Ali, Noor Mohammad Wani and Malik Noor-ul-Amin, whose support played a vital role in providing relief materials to the affected families at Baramulla border on LoC.

The GGF Kashmir team lead by Dr. Mehjabeen Nabi, Vice President GGF, J&K, Malik Noor-ul-Amin General Secretary GGF Kashmir region, Dr. Ayoub Matto and Haji Noor Mohammad Wani, both Executive Members of Gandhi Global Family, J&K including other members of the organisation G.M.Dar, Senior Superintendent of Police (Retd)., Advocate Fasil Zahoor Malik, Pt. Jagdish Bhardwaj, Khurram Ali, Aafaaq

It is pertinent to mention that post Operation Sindoor, GGF J&K continues to conduct relief camps across LoC and IB-affected regions, including Poonch, Rajouri, Jammu and Baramulla.

Dr. S P Varma extended heartfelt thanks to all donors and the GGF Kashmir team for organizing this camp ahead of Eid-ul-Adha, bringing hope and smiles to a few border families in Baramulla.

Bukhari greets people on auspicious occasion of Eid al-Adha



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has extended greetings to the people, especially the Muslim community, on the joyous occasion of Eid al-Adha. He urges everyone to generously share their happiness and blessings with those who are less fortunate and in need. Also, the Apni Party President requested that people pray for J&K’s peace and prosperity on this revered occasion. In his message, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, “I extend my heartfelt greetings to all on this revered occasion of Eid al-Adha, also known as the Festival of Sacrifice, which honors the unwavering devotion of Prophet Ibrahim (Huzrat

Abraham) to Almighty Allah. This day holds profound significance as it also marks the culmination of the sacred Hajj pilgrimage.” He prayed, “May this auspicious day and its celebrations bring peace, harmony, communal brotherhood, and prosperity to our region and its people.”

He appealed to people to pray for the well-being of Jammu and Kashmir and its people, on this auspicious occasion.

He said, “I request people to pray for the peace, harmony, and prosperity of our region, on this auspicious occasion. Also, I humbly request that you extend your support to the underprivileged members of society and share the festive celebrations with them on this auspicious occasion.”

FromPage No: 1

Kashmir Rail Service connected hearts of people: LG Sinha

minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Syama Prasad Mookerjee was also fulfilled.

“You have not only connected the railway network but also connected the hearts of lakhs of Indian citizens today,” Sinha said.

Anticipatory bail must not be given mechanically: Supreme Court

The victim was assaulted in 2023 with an iron rod and sticks during a dispute between neighbours. As a result of the head injury, he succumbed to injuries the same day and an FIR was registered on the basis of the appellant’s statement against seven accused persons.

Omar rakes up Statehood issue, Hopes J&K will again be State

take long to rectify it Jammu and Kashmir will again get the

statehood under your watch only,” Abdullah said.

The erstwhile state was reorganised into the Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh following the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

Abdullah said many people have dreamt of seeing a train chugging into Kashmir. “Even the British had dreamt of connecting Kashmir by train but they did not succeed. Their plan was to bring rail from Uri, along the banks of Jhelum, to connect with the country. What the British could not achieve has happened at your (Modi’s) hands and Kashmir has been connected to the rest of the country,” he added.

Abdullah paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee for declaring the train to Kashmir a project of national importance.

“It will be a grave mistake if I do not thank former PM Vajpayee. This project was undoubtedly started in 1983-84.... but it was completed only after Vajpayee declared it a project of national importance and made provisions in the budget,” he said.

Minister Javed Rana participates in Regional Power Ministers’ Conference

Grid Station at Siot, promoting sustainable energy through small hydro projects & green corridor connectivity with Ladakh for solar energy evacuation.

Underlining the imperative of ensuring a reliable, sustainable and secure power supply, he assured that J&K Government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is committed to collaborating with all stakeholders.

ACB files chargesheet in illegal appointment of 82 persons in Municipal Committee Sumbal

fraudulently appointed without following due process of law, the ACB said.

Finally on the culmination of verification, an FIR was registered at Police Station VOK (Now ACB Baramulla), against officers of MC Sumbal Bandipora & 82 illegal appointees, and investigations were set into motion.

The investigation further found that the recruitment was made without any transparent recruitment process, without the issuance of any advertisements for wider circulation, and the majority of posts against which accused beneficiaries were appointed do

not figure in the schedules given under the Recruitment Rules 2008.

The ACB said investigations conducted also revealed that the majority of the appointments were made on recommendations of the then Speaker J&K Assembly, then MLA Sonawari, as well as Municipal council resolution, which again were not authorized forums as per rules to intervene in the recruitment process.

Accordingly, the sanction for launching prosecution against an service public servant, Rashid Shah, a resident of Papachan, Bandipora, was accorded by the Government. Shah was also prematurely retired from government service; however was reinstated by the High Court order.

On culmination of investigations, the chargesheet against the then President, MC Sumbal; the then I/C Executive Officer, MC Sumbal and 82 illegal appointees was produced in the Court for commission of offences as defined under section 5(1),(d) r/w 5(2) of Jammu & Kashmir Prevention of Corruption Act, Samvat, 2006, and under Section 120-B, 201 RPC was presented before special Judge Anti-corruption court Baramulla for judicial determination.

Fruit growers hail Srinagar-Katra Rail link as ‘Historic

Boost’ to Jammu Kashmir’s Economy

Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union hailing it as a “historic and long-awaited milestone” that will change the course of regional trade, travel, and connectivity.

Representing fruit grower associations across Srinagar, Sopore, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Anantnag, Shopian, Pulwama and other horticultural hubs of the Valley, the Union described the rail link as a “bridge of opportunity” that will dramatically cut travel time, provide all-weather connectivity and offer a safe and economical mode of transportation not only for local commuters but also for tourists and traders.

“The new railway segment is more than infrastructure—it is an artery of commerce and mobility,” said Bashir Ahmad Basheer, Chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union and President of The New Kashmir Fruit Association. “With this link, we see the possibility of Kashmir finally realising its full potential as a horticulture powerhouse. It will become the lifeline of our economy, especially during the off-season months when our produce still needs a fast, reliable route to markets.”

The Srinagar-Katra Vande Bharat Express, flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, now connects the Kashmir Valley with the rest of India’s railway network through

a high-speed route that passes through the Chenab Bridge, the world’s highest railway arch bridge. Services are scheduled to begin on June 7.

The Fruit Growers Union expressed hope that this development will lead to enhanced accessibility for tourists and traders from across India and will help ease congestion on Kashmir’s roads, particularly on the Jammu-Srinagar highway, which remains vulnerable to frequent weather-related disruptions.

The Union also urged the government to take the next step by introducing direct railway connectivity between Delhi and Srinagar and simultaneously launching a dedicated goods train service to the Valley. “This would revolutionise horticulture trade, reduce transport costs, minimise damages to perishable produce and enhance logistics,” the statement said. “It would also open more economic opportunities for the Indian Railways, while boosting employment and trade volumes in Jammu and Kashmir.”

Calling the rail link a symbol of hope and progress, the Union extended congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, stating that the moment marked a turning point not just for infrastructure but for economic empowerment across the Union Territory.

“The vision of connecting Kashmir by rail is no longer a dream, it is a moving train of prosperity,” said Basheer.

Youth Sports Trials conclude in Kathua with enthusiastic participation



Top News Report

KATHUA, Jun 6: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, Kathua, successfully concluded its four-day selection trials in various martial arts disciplines, including Judo, Karate, Taekwondo, Wushu, and Boxing. The trials, which commenced on June 3, witnessed enthusiastic participation from young athletes representing different schools across the district.

The final day, held on June 6, focused on

Wushu and Boxing, attracting a large number of promising sportspersons. The event highlighted the growing interest and talent in combat sports among the youth of Kathua.

The trials were conducted under the supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Sunil Singh Sambyal, who ensured the smooth execution of the entire event. Throughout the trials, participants displayed commendable skills, discipline, and sports-

manship.

The team of officials who played a key role in the trials included Punjab Singh, Pankaj Spolia, Pushap Thakur, Gursharan Kumar, Rakesh Minhas, Hazara Singh, and Romesh Singh.

The entire event was covered by cameraman Mr. Omkar Nath.

The department expressed satisfaction over the successful conduct of the trials and emphasized the importance of such events in nurturing young sporting talent in the region.

FWS hails, congrats Sumit Chanjotra on clinching Silver Medal in J&K UT Kick Boxing C'ship 2025

Top News Report

R S PURA, Jun 6: The Friends Welfare Society (FWS) Members today hailed and congratulated Sumit Chanjotra of Village Phindar for clinching Silver Medal at the J&K UT Kick Boxing Championship 2025.

Sumit Chanjotra proved his mettle standing tall among the best

fighters and reaffirming his status as one of the most promising kick-boxing talents, said the FWS Members.

BJP's Activist and FWS Member R.L Kaith while speaking said, Kickboxing offers numerous physical benefits, including improved cardiovascular health, increased muscle strength and endurance,

enhanced flexibility and balance, and calorie burning for weight loss. It also promotes mental well-being by reducing stress, boosting mood, and increasing self-confidence.

FWS Members wished Sumit Chanjotra continued success in his kick-boxing journey, and also congratulated his father Shamsheer Kumar.

BSP delegation visits families affected by Pakistani shelling, demands martyr status for Dr. Thapa

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: A delegation of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) visited the border districts of Rajouri and Poonch to meet families affected by recent Pakistani shelling, assuring them of the party's full support. The delegation included BSP Vice President Charanjit Chargoitra, General Secretary S. Raja Singh, Dr. Haji Shak Mohd, and other party leaders.

During their two-day visit, the BSP team interacted with the victims of Operation Sindoor, which had resulted in several deaths, serious injuries, and significant damage to civilian homes. The leaders expressed solidarity and grief with the families and promised that the BSP would continue to raise their concerns.

Speaking on the occasion, Chargoitra and Singh said the visit



was undertaken under the directions of BSP J&K President Darshan Rana. They demanded the Central Government provide maximum relief and rehabilitation to the affected families. The delegation also appreciated the government's decision to provide jobs to next of kin but stressed the need for more long-term measures. Importantly, they demanded that senior

administrative officer Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, who lost his life in the shelling, be posthumously declared a martyr, be honored with the highest civilian award, and have a public square named after him in Rajouri.

They remembered Dr. Thapa not only as a dedicated officer but also a selfless social worker who worked tirelessly for the welfare of society.

Army organises green initiative, protecting nation, preserving environment

Top News Report

POONCH, Jun 6: The Indian Army observed World Environment Day with great enthusiasm and commitment to environmental conservation.

The Indian Army undertook various eco-friendly initiatives across its units and forward posts in Poonch and Rajouri districts of a vast area, including forward areas of Poonch, Krishna Ghati, Bimber Gali, Mendhar, Rajouri, and Naushera. A mass plantation drive was organized, where over 12,000 saplings of non-invasive and native species



were planted.

The plantation drives were not only limited to the Indian Army units but also involved local residents and Jammu and Kashmir Police. The tactical plantation

drives conducted by forward posts aimed to enhance camouflage and concealment, while also augmenting the defense potential in the region.

They also launched an aware-

Upjit Singh Talib extends warm wishes to people on eve of Eid ul-Adha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: Social activist and icon of brotherhood Upjit Singh Talib has extended heartfelt greetings to the Muslim community on the occasion of Eid ul-Adha. In his message, Talib urged people to embrace the message of peace, unity, and brotherhood that the festival represents.

Eid ul-Adha, one of the most significant celebrations in the Islamic calendar, commemorates sacrifice, compassion, and faith. Upjit Singh Talib highlighted these core values and encouraged everyone to come together regardless of their backgrounds to promote harmony and understanding in society.

"On this blessed occasion of Eid ul-Adha, I wish peace, happiness, and prosperity to all. Let us use this festival as an



opportunity to strengthen bonds of brotherhood and work towards a more inclusive and compassionate community," said Talib.

As communities across the region prepare to celebrate, Talib's message serves as a timely reminder of the importance of unity and mutual respect in today's world. His call for peace resonates deeply amid ongoing social challenges, inspiring hope and cooperation among diverse groups.

APSCC Chairman extends greetings to Muslim community on Eid-ul-Zuha

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: Chairman of the All Party Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC), Jagmohan Singh Raina, has extended warm greetings to the Muslim community on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Zuha.

In his message, Raina said that Eid-ul-Zuha is a festival of sacrifice, compassion, and devotion, and serves as a reminder of the values of unity and selflessness. He expressed hope that the occasion would strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and communal harmony in Jammu and Kashmir.

He further emphasized the need for mutual respect and understanding among different communities, and wished for peace, prosperity, and well-being for all.

Akhil Bhartiya Rasgotra Brahman Biradari Congregation on June 11

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: A meeting of the Akhil Bhartiya Rasgotra Brahman Biradari was held at the Devsthan of Kuldati Maa Shilawanti in Giani Chapri, Village Sangwal, under the chairmanship of President Tilak Raj Sharma.

It was decided that the Annual Congregation will take place on 11th June 2025 (Wednesday) at the same venue.

The event will begin with a Jagran on 10th June (Tuesday) from 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM, followed by Hawan at 10:00 AM and Bhandara at 1:00 PM on 11th June. All Rasgotra Biradari members are invited to attend and seek blessings of Maa Shilawanti.

Accommodation arrangements have been made for devotees coming from outside the state.

Army organizes plantation drive in Humbal

Top News Report

DODA, Jun 6: On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Indian Army organized a successful tree plantation drive in Humbal Village, Doda district, aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and enhancing the green cover of the region.

The initiative was a collaborative effort, with 90 students, representatives from the Forest Department, Village Defence Guards (VDGs), Special Operations Groups (SOGs), the Ayush Directorate, and local villagers all actively participating in the event.

A wide variety of saplings, including shady trees, fruit-bearing trees, and medicinal plants, were planted during the drive, symbolizing the commitment to ecological balance and a greener future for the region.

The drive not only served as a practical step toward environmental preservation but also aimed to raise awareness about the importance of tree plantation and combating climate change.

ness campaign on "Apashisht Mukht Sainya Abhiyaan", emphasizing the importance of segregation of waste at source in accordance with the Government of India's Solid Waste Management Rules.

This initiative highlights the Indian Army's commitment to reducing its environmental footprint and promoting sustainable practices.

In addition to the plantation drives and awareness campaigns, the environmental competition was also organized at the Bhaderwah Girls Degree Academy.

GDC Nagrota, MAM College sign MoU to foster academic collaboration and excellence



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: In a significant move towards enhancing academic cooperation, MAM College, Jammu, and Government Degree College (GDC), Nagrota, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote collaborative learning, research, and development.

The formal signing ceremony took place at MAM College, in the presence of both the principals, senior faculty members, and students from both institutions. This agreement marks the beginning of a strategic partnership aimed at improving educational quality, encouraging joint research projects, facilitating faculty and student exchange programs, hosting work-

shops, and sharing academic resources.

Prof Archana Kaul, Principal of MAM College, welcomed the partnership and emphasised the importance of collaboration in today's evolving academic landscape. "This MoU will create new opportunities for our students and faculty to engage in meaningful academic activities beyond the confines of a single campus,"

Prof Anjali Mahajan, Principal of GDC Nagrota, expressed optimism about the benefits of the agreement for both institutions. "Our colleges share a common goal: to provide holistic, high-quality education. Through this MoU, we aim to foster a culture of innovation, interdisciplinary learning, and

community engagement."

This partnership is expected to play a crucial role in maximizing the strengths of both colleges to achieve academic and institutional excellence under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 framework.

The MOU was signed by Prof. Archana Kaul principal of Maulana Azad Memorial College and Prof Anjali Mahajan principal of GDC Nagrota. This event was attended by Dr Neeraj Sharma, Dr Neetu Singh IQAC convenor, Prof Ruth K. Masehi, Prof. Shakti Prakash, Dr Vandhana Ghai, Prof Amitpal Kour, Dr Om Raj Katoch , Prof Gagandeep Jangral, Dr. Kailash Sharma and faculty members were present.

Divine Events J&K organises musical competition at Shaurya International School

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: Divine Events J&K, in collaboration with Shaurya International School, organised a vibrant and successful musical competition titled "A Musical Experience with Amritpal Singh" under the impactful theme "Say No to Mobile Phones, Yes to Music."

The event aimed to promote musical engagement among students as a healthier alternative to excessive screen time and foster creativity through vocal and instrumental talent.

The occasion was graced by the BJP MLA Bahu, Vikram Randhawa, as the Chief Guest. The event also saw the esteemed presence of Dr. Hemja Mengi (State Vice President, BJYM J&K UT), Harinder Mahajan (Chairman, Shaurya International School), Sahil Mahajan (Vice-Chairman), and Dr. Rajesh Gandral (Principal), who attended as Guests of Honour. All dignitaries stressed the importance of music in holistic education and encouraged students to continue exploring their artistic passions.

The competition saw enthusiastic participation from students of 10 leading schools across Jammu. Performers competed in various categories, including vocals and instrumental segments like guitar, keyboard, drums, and santoor. In the Instrumental (Guitar) category, Manan Gupta (Jodhamal Public School) won in the 5-10 years category. In the 10-15 years group, the top three positions were bagged by Mehrab Singh, Thatagat (APS, Sunjwaan), and Sanchit Singh (Shaurya International School). For the 15-20 years group, Ojas Gupta and Aarush Sharma (both from Jodhamal Public School) emerged as top performers.



In the Duet segment, Mrinank Verma and Sanchit Singh from Shaurya International School secured 1st place, followed by Harshit and John from British International School. In Instrumental (Keyboard), the winners in the 5-10 years group were Sanmay Gupta (KC International) and Ridhaan Gupta (Jodhamal Public School). In the 10-15 years group, Manveer and Dhairya (Jodhamal Public School), Sanvi Sharma (APS, Sunjwaan), and Mehransh Singh (JK Public School) claimed the top spots. Ashmita Sharma was the winner in the 15-20 years category.

In the Vocal performances, Ridhaan Gupta, Sanmay Gupta, and Khushi Kapoor were the standout performers in the 5-10 years category, while Avni Sharma (Jodhamal Public School), Adil Rahman Lone (APS, Sunjwaan), and Ashvika (Shaurya International School) shone in the 10-15 years group. For the Group Song category, Khuda Baksh Public School secured 1st place, followed by KG Public School in

2nd place. In special recognition categories, Rohitka Sharma won 1st prize in Santoor, and Rohansh Sharma was awarded 1st prize in Drums.

The event featured a special guest performance by Gurshifat Kaur, which was met with great applause. The competition was judged by Rohit Sharma and Dr. Vishakha Bhardwaj, while the event was hosted by anchor Morlin Brighton.

Chief Guest Vikram Randhawa and other dignitaries commended the musical talent of the young participants and encouraged them to embrace music as a positive force in their lives.

They highlighted the need for youth to reduce mobile phone dependence and explore enriching activities like music.

Amritpal Singh, the Chairman of Divine Events and a renowned music mentor, extended heartfelt thanks to all the dignitaries, participating schools, parents, and the management of Shaurya International School for their support in making the event a grand success.

“Winning or losing doesn’t change it, I’m always under pressure”: Gambhir ahead of England Test series

MUMBAI, Jun 6 (Agencies): Indian cricket team head coach Gautam Gambhir has admitted that the pressure of delivering results never leaves him, regardless of victories or defeats. Speaking at the pre-departure press conference ahead of India’s five-match Test series against England, Gambhir was open about the constant expectations that come with the role.

“First of all, I am always under pressure. Regardless of whether I would’ve won the Champions Trophy or not. Because being the coach, you want the results. It does not change with winning or losing,” Gambhir said.

India recently lifted the ICC Champions Trophy, but Gambhir said that the win hasn’t changed how he feels about the responsibility he carries.



He reflected on past series and pointed out that pressure has been a consistent part of his journey as coach.

“I am always under pressure irrespective of whether we got the results or not. If you had asked me this question after New Zealand, I would have said ‘yes, I am under pressure’. After Australia, I would have said ‘yes, I am under pressure,’” he explained.

Even after securing a major ICC title, Gambhir remains grounded, emphasizing that every game matters just as much.

Bengaluru stampede: Police take officials of RCB, event management firm into custody



BENGALURU, Jun 6 (Agencies): Officials of RCB and event management firm DNA entertainment private limited were taken into custody on Friday in connection with the stampede outside the Chinnaswamy stadium that claimed lives of 11 people and injured over 50, police sources said on Friday.

Nikhil Sosale, Head of Marketing and Revenue

of RCB, Sunil Mathew and Kiran Kumar from DNA entertainment private limited are among those being questioned, they said.

On Thursday, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has instructed the DGP and IGP of the state to immediately arrest the representatives of RCB and DNA event managers and Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) in connection with the stampede, as prima facie there was “irresponsibility” and “carelessness” on their part and FIR has also been registered.

“He was little disappointed when I retired”: Rohit Sharma on his father’s love for Test cricket

MUMBAI, Jun 6 (Agencies): India’s cricketing stalwart Rohit Sharma recently offered a heartfelt tribute to his father, Gurunath Sharma, highlighting the deep-rooted influence he had on his journey as a cricketer. Reflecting on his upbringing and his father’s quiet sacrifices, Rohit shed light on the values that shaped his career and the unwavering support he received from the man who shaped his understanding of the game.

Rohit shared that his father, who once worked for a transport company, played a pivotal role in ensuring that the family never lacked anything.

“My father was very much involved in sacrificing things so that we could have a good life,” Rohit recalled in a book launch event by India cricketer Cheteshwar Pujara’s wife, Puja Pujara, who wrote ‘The Diary of a Cricketer’s Wife.’

“He has always been a fan of Test cricket from day one,” he added. “He does not like this new age cricket,” he noted.

That love for the red-



ball game clearly rubbed off on Rohit. Even on the day he set the world alight with his record-breaking 264 in an ODI match against Sri Lanka in Kolkata, his father’s reaction remained stoic.

“I still remember the day I scored 264 in an ODI,” Rohit recounted.

“He was like, ‘Okay, well played, well done.’ There was no such excitement, despite it being a world record,” he said.

In contrast, his father’s enthusiasm for Test cricket was unmissable.

“Even if I get a good 30s or 40s or 50s or 60s in Test cricket, he would talk to me in detail. That’s the kind of love he had for the game,” he noted.

For Rohit, his father’s appreciation of the red-ball format made his recent decision to step

Team India departs for England for their opening series of WTC 2025-27 cycle

MUMBAI, Jun 6 (Agencies): The Indian cricket team left for England from Mumbai Airport on Friday for a five-match Test series, which is part of the 2025-27 ICC World Test Championship cycle.

The series will be held from June to August 2025, with matches scheduled at Headingley in Leeds, Edgbaston in Birmingham, Lord’s and The Oval in London, and Old Trafford in Manchester.

This will be India’s first bilateral Test series since both Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli announced their retirement from Test cricket earlier this month. The team is undergoing a transition, with Shubman Gill taking over as captain and R Ashwin, Rohit Sharma, and Virat Kohli stepping away from the longest format.

India has not won a Test series in England since 2007. To prepare, several Indian players had already arrived earlier to represent India A in warm-up matches against the England Lions. The rest of the touring party is scheduled to arrive in the UK on Friday.

Meanwhile, ahead of the Test series, India ‘A’ are currently playing a three-match unofficial Test series against the England Lions. The first match ended in a draw, while the second unofficial

Test is set to begin on Friday, June 6, at the County Ground in Northampton.

On Thursday, England announced their squad for the opening Test at Headingley. The English side has seen several changes since their 4-1 Test series defeat in India last year. Veteran pacer James Anderson has retired, and players like Jonny Bairstow, Ben Foakes, and Ollie Robinson have been dropped.

India’s Test squad for England series: Shubman Gill (c), Rishabh Pant (vc), Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul, Sai Sudharsan, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Karun Nair, Nitish Reddy, Ravindra Jadeja, Dhruv Jurel, Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Arshdeep Singh, Kuldeep Yadav.

The English squad: Ben Stokes (Durham) - Captain, Shoaib Bashir (Somerset), Jacob Bethell (Warwickshire), Harry Brook (Yorkshire), Brydon Carse (Durham), Sam Cook (Essex), Zak Crawley (Kent), Ben Duckett (Nottinghamshire), Jamie Overton (Surrey), Ollie Pope (Surrey), Joe Root (Yorkshire), Jamie Smith (Surrey), Josh Tongue (Nottinghamshire), Chris Woakes (Warwickshire).

South Africa provide hints to WTC25 Final batting line-up in warm up fixture against Zimbabwe

ARUNDEL, Jun 6 (Agencies): South Africa’s batting line-up for the World Test Championship Final has been hinted at through their warm-up exploits at Arundel, with Wiaan Mulder emerging as the likely No.3 to take on Australia at Lord’s, according to the ICC website.

Mulder batted in the third spot against Zimbabwe in their final hit out ahead of the June 11 final, though only made 26 before falling lbw to Tanaka Chivanga.

After losing Aiden Markram for 13 early in the day, the Proteas batting unit picked up through half-centuries from Ryan Rickelton (62), Temba Bavuma (58), and Tristan Stubbs (58) to eventually post 313/2, retiring several players to give others batting time in the middle.

With head coach Shukri Conrad all but confirming Aiden Markram and Ryan Rickelton to stand at the top of the order, the No.3 spot will fall to Tony de Zorzi, Tristan Stubbs or Mulder, with the three also against David Bedingham for spots further down the order.

De Zorzi made 28 before being retired batting at No.6, though, should they turn out with a similar make-up from the warm-up game, de Zorzi would likely be the unlucky player to miss out.

Mulder could shoulder an increased bowling workload should the pitch be as fast-bowling friendly as predicted, and assuming spinner Keshav Maharaj is picked to help the quicks.

Despite the murmurs, and considering Mulder’s role in the side, batting coach Ashwell

Prince kept his cards close to his chest.

“At the moment, the best way to prepare for us as a squad is to keep all possibilities open,” Ashwell said.

“We don’t know what the surface is going to look like when we get there. Should it be a case where he’s required to do that job, we want to make sure that he’s at least had some sort of preparation, but we don’t know whether he’s going to be required to do that, because we haven’t had a look at the surface.”

“We’ll only be able to tell when we get there,” he added.

Mulder is yet to bowl in Zimbabwe’s innings, with the side led by Craig Ervine resuming on day on 48/1 from 11 overs.

England seamer Mark Wood could potentially return for fourth test against India after recovering from injury

LONDON, Jun 6 (Agencies): England seamer Mark Wood could ‘potentially’ return in Test four or five against India as he continues his recovery from a knee injury he suffered back in March, according to Sky Sports.

His injury occurred during England’s ICC Champions Trophy 2025 group-stage defeat to Afghanistan in Lahore after he “suffered increased stiffness and discomfort.”

Luke Wright, England’s national selector, said Mark Wood has started bowling lightly.

“I think Woody’s now started bowling just lightly, to be honest. He’s just off a few paces, but that’s been a great sign,” Wright added.

“So, he’s on the road to recovery. I think he’s more long-term, if we can get him back, he might have an option for the fourth or fifth Test.

But again, each day it’s ticking off each box and making sure he’s OK.”

“But he’s trucking on well and same with Stoney. So, we are starting to get boys back, but they’re still further away than right now. But it would be nice having those options back as well,” he added.

Jofra Archer also has been out with a thumb injury but is targeting a return for England’s second Test against India, according to a report from Sky Sports.

He has been out with the injury that saw him miss England’s ODI series against the West Indies between May 29 and June 3, which England won 3-0.

Luke Wright also believed Archer could return for England’s second Test against India. “Joff’s trucking on really well, actually. The plans for him are that he’s playing a few second-team games,”



Luke Wright said, as quoted by Sky Sports.

“He’s getting a few loading up in the second team for Sussex, and then the idea for him is to play for Sussex against Durham, I think on the 23rd, just during the first Test. So, he’ll play for Sussex if all things go well, and then if things go well, fingers crossed, he should be available for the second Test,” he added.

Wright said that if Archer gets through that Durham game, then he’s available potentially for selection for that second

“It’s a big opportunity for Indian players”: Indian Rugby player Aakash Balmiki on inaugural edition of RPL

MUMBAI, Jun 6 (Agencies): Mumbai Dreamers player Aakash Balmiki believes that the inaugural edition of the Rugby Premier League (RPL) in India is a significant opportunity for Indian players to elevate the game.

He notes that the game is widely recognised in the country, providing a great platform to encourage players and increase their involvement.

“I think for the Indian players, it’s a big opportunity for us, you know, to take this game to the next level. Everybody knows about this game in the country. And you know, it’s really good platform that every player will get encouraged that they want to be part of it and get involved with it,” Aakash Balmiki told agency.

Indian Rugby Football Union, the RPL is the first franchise-based

league in the world and will have six founding franchises in the opening edition. The League will kick off from June 15 to 29, 2025, at the Andheri Sports Complex in Mumbai.

He reflected on the Mumbai Dreamers environment, how coaches have created a welcoming atmosphere, and how British players share their experience and playing style with them so that all the players can match up.

“It’s like a very comfortable environment coaches and the team have created for us. And it’s like very comfortable, like everybody’s like helping each other, especially the players have come from, you know, the series and the British players like very welcoming. And, you know, they’re sharing their experience with us. They’re trying to, you know, share their playing style with us so that

we can match up.”

He shared his experience playing for the Dallas Harlequins Rugby Football Club and how he will use his expertise from Dallas for Mumbai Dreamers in the Rugby Premier League.

“Dallas, it’s completely different. I was playing 15 aside, not sevens. And it’s like more people in the same field. And so, yeah, it was like a different experience. I played against people who have played in the World Cup, played in the Tongan and someone. So I played against them. So it’s like an experience for me, and I learned a lot. Now I’m trying to, you know, use that experience here with the Mumbai Dreamers. And hopefully, like, you know, we do well.”

He also reflected on his childhood experience with Khelo Rugby, where he played the sport. Now, he coaches

young coaches, aiming to have them return to their communities and share their experiences, mirroring his journey.

I grew up with an organisation called Khelo Rugby. When I was kid, I got introduced with that organisation. And yeah, as a kid, playing, played the rugby in that organisation. Now I’m taking charge. And, you know, I coach coaches, like young coaches. So that the community they come from, they go back to the same community. And, you know, share the same experience that I had when I was a kid,” he added.

RPL will feature six city-based teams, showcasing elite talent from top rugby nations around the globe, along with top-tier players from India. The league will feature some of the best 7s rugby talent internationally as well as from India.

Shiv Sena demands to start DMU service between Jammu-Srinagar Indian Railways is moving away from general class: Sahni

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit has strongly welcomed the dream of running trains from Kashmir to Kanyakumari becoming a reality, along with this, the demand has been raised to speed up the completion of rail network in Jammu division and to start DMU service along with Vande Bharat between Jammu and Srinagar.

In a press conference held today at the party's state center office, state chief Manish Sahni, strongly welcome the fulfillment of the dream of rail expansion in Kashmir. He said that Indian Railways is the most preferred and cheapest mode of travel for the common man. But for the last few years, Vande Bharat trains are being given more impor-



ance. Vande Bharat has also been flagged off between Katra and Kashmir. Jammu has once again been ignored and a deadline of September has been given for starting direct rail service between Jammu and Kashmir. He said that when Vande Bharat can come from Delhi to Jammu Railway Station, then why was Jammu isolated for the journey to Kashmir. Along with this, the work of Rajori-Poonch rail link of Jammu division, the project of taking train to

Kishtwar has not progressed an inch in the last several years. Sahni said that to give impetus to the economy of Jammu division, which has given full support to BJP in the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, expansion of rail network and rail service from Jammu to Srinagar is very important. Sahni has demanded to complete the rail expansion in Jammu division on war footing and start DMU service between Jammu Railway Station and Srinagar with immediate effect.

SBSP leaders extend Eid-ul-Adha greetings, pray for peace, prosperity, and brotherhood

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: On the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Adha, senior leaders of the Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP), including State President Vivek Bali, political Advisor Dilawar Singh, president Migrant Cell Ramesh Wangoo, and Youth Leader Wajahat Raina extended warm greetings to the people across the nation, especially the Muslim community.

In a joint message, the leaders conveyed their heartfelt wishes and emphasized the significance of Eid-ul-Adha as a festival of sacrifice, devotion, and compassion.

They noted that the occasion serves as a powerful reminder of the values of unity, mutual respect, and the impor-

ance of helping those in need. Vivek Bali, SBSP State President expressed hope that the festival would bring joy to every household and foster a spirit of togetherness and communal harmony. "Let this Eid be a source of strength for all of us to work towards a more peaceful and inclusive society," he said. Dilawar Singh highlighted the essence of the festival in promoting generosity and moral responsibility. "Eid-ul-Adha teaches us to care for one another, especially the less fortunate. It is a time to reaffirm our collective commitment to justice, peace, and equality," he stated. Ramesh Wangoo added that occasions like Eid are crucial for strengthening the social fabric of the nation. "This

festival symbolizes brotherhood and unity. Let us come together to build a society rooted in mutual respect and shared prosperity," he remarked. The SBSP leaders also prayed for enduring peace, economic growth, and national unity. They called upon citizens to celebrate the festival in the true spirit of love, sacrifice, and community solidarity.

World Environment Day celebrated with cleanliness and plantation drive at Bhoomika Temple, Katra



Top News Report

KATRA, Jun 6: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Dr. Alka Misra, JKAS, Assistant Director Tourism, Katra, along with officials from the Tourist Office Katra, undertook a sanitation and cleanliness drive at the sacred Bhoomika Temple, Katra. The team also organized a plantation drive in the temple premises to promote environmental sustainability. As part of the

initiative, plastic waste was collected, and a strong message was conveyed to the public: "Say No to Plastic – It is Harmful to Nature and Future Generations." This initiative highlights the commitment of the Tourism Department towards creating a cleaner and greener environment while promoting eco-friendly tourism practices in the region.

Raju Jandyal, devotees participate in Special Abhishek Ceremony at Tirupati Balaji Temple



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: Prominent social activist Raju Jandyal, along with several dignitaries and devotees, paid obeisance at the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu and participated in the special abhishek (ritual bathing) ceremony of Lord Venkateswara. The weekly ritual, held every Friday, drew spiritual devotees who came together to offer prayers for the welfare and prosperity of the nation.

Among those present were Rajeev Sharma, RC Subramaniyam (Superintendent of Balaji Temple Jammu), Sai Krishna (Temple Inspector), Pandit Amit Shukla, and Ramesh Babu. The special abhishek was performed with traditional rituals and devotion, filling the air with a spiritual aura.

Speaking on the occasion, Raju Jandyal expressed his deep joy and pride in the presence of such a grand South Indian temple in the region. "It is truly a matter of honour that the Tirupati Balaji Temple has been established in Jammu. It not only enriches our spiritual environment

but also allows us to experience the vibrant culture of South India. This is a heavenly feeling," he remarked. He further urged the people of Jammu to visit the temple and seek blessings from Lord Venkateswara. "The presence of this divine temple in the lap of the scenic Shivalik forests in Majeen gives devotees an opportunity to connect with the sacredness of Tirupati without having to travel to Andhra Pradesh," he added. He also emphasized that the temple would play a significant role in promoting spiritual tourism in Jammu. Temple Inspector Sai Krishna, during a media interaction, invited the residents of Jammu to participate in the Foundation Day celebrations of the Tirupati Balaji Temple, scheduled for June 15. The event will begin at 9:00 AM and include a special havan and puja ceremony lasting till 12:30 PM, followed by a community langar (free meal) for all devotees. He assured that all necessary arrangements have been made to ensure a smooth and devotional experience for all.

IIT Jammu welcomes Rich Harvest School students for a day of STEM Exploration



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: The Indian Institute of Technology Jammu (IIT Jammu) today hosted 70, 11th and 12th-grade students and their teacher escorts from Rich Harvest School, Bari Brahmana, District Samba, J&K, for an engaging educational visit.

The initiative was organized by the Department of Education & Outreach at IIT Jammu, under the guidance of Direc-

tor Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Dean Prof. Abhay Sharma, and Associate Dean Dr. Nalin Sharma. The visiting students were divided into three groups and given the opportunity to explore several key facilities at the institute, including the Tinkerer's Lab, Central Workshop, Chemistry Lab and Biology Lab. Dedicated lab faculty and staff provided insightful explanations on the operation of various machines and the significance of

the equipment housed within the labs. The students actively participated, posing numerous questions that were patiently addressed by the staff, demonstrating their keen interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. The visit concluded with light refreshments, marking a successful day of hands-on learning and interaction for the young minds from Rich Harvest School.

Youth Congress organizes Sherbat Shabeel on Nirjala Ekadashi

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: Marking the sacred occasion of Nirjala Ekadashi, the Jammu & Kashmir Youth Congress extended a helping hand to the public by organizing a Sherbat Shabeel at Jewel Chowk, one of Jammu City's busiest intersections. The initiative, aimed at providing cold refreshments to beat the summer heat, reflected the organization's commitment to community service and traditional values. The event was spearheaded by JKPYC Vice

President Adv. Ranjoth Singh, with the active presence of Maan Singh Rathore, Secretary Incharge J&K (Indian Youth Congress), Anirudh Sawhney, General Secretary (JKPYC), Happy Randhawa, Akhil Bogia, Anmol Kohli, Mehul Abrol, and several other Youth Congress office bearers and volunteers. Maan Singh Rathore, speaking at the occasion, said, "Nirjala Ekadashi is a day rooted in devotion and sacrifice. Through this Sherbat Shabeel, we aim to embody the spirit of sewa and share a

message of harmony. Offering a simple glass of sherbat is symbolic of the compassion and humanity we must uphold every day." Echoing the sentiment, Anirudh Sawhney added, "Guided by the leadership of Shri Rahul Gandhi, the Youth Congress blends political commitment with social outreach. Today's initiative was about standing with the people — offering relief, building bonds, and celebrating unity in diversity. We remain dedicated to serving society across Jammu & Kashmir with similar initiatives."

Balbir congratulates Veenu Khanna on being nominated President of Jammu Chapter of WWAO

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jun 6: Balbir Ram Rattan, spokesperson of the Jammu & Kashmir BJP and former Vice Chairperson, along with his colleague Sanjay Bakshi, extended heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to BJP State Secretary and prominent social worker Veenu Khanna on her appointment as the President of the Jammu Chapter of the 'World Women Awakening Organisation' (WWAO). This organization is a social body dedicated to the upliftment, empowerment, and welfare of women. On this occasion, Balbir said that Veenu Khanna is a dedicated and diligent political and social activist, who has tirelessly worked for women's rights and their socio-cultural development for many years. He expressed confidence that under her leadership, the Jammu Chapter will reach new heights and successfully connect more and more women to the mainstream. He also hoped that with her experience and social commitment, Veenu Khanna would guide the organization in a new direction and play an inspiring role in the field of women's welfare in Jammu. He also congratulated the other newly appoint-



ed office bearers of the Jammu Chapter – Vice President Veena Handa, Secretary Advocate Deepali Sharma, Treasurer Shashi Kala and Renu Gupta on being nominated to the national team. Veenu Khanna shared that the 'World Women Awakening Organisation' is an institution that works globally for the well-being of women. The organization addresses issues such as violence against women, gender discrimination, lack of education, and economic inequality. With the active presence of this chapter in Jammu, local women will now have a strong platform where they can raise their voices for their rights and connect with the mainstream of development. Expressing gratitude for Balbir's wishes, Veenu Khanna said, "It

is an honour for me to be chosen for this significant responsibility. I will make every effort to carry forward the objectives of the organization for the upliftment of women's power." She also stated that her aim is to make women self-reliant, raise awareness in the fields of education, health, and legal assistance, and ensure their participation at both rural and urban levels. Sanjay Bakshi also congratulated Veenu Khanna on becoming the President of the Jammu Chapter of the 'World Women Awakening Organisation' and said that this appointment is an important step toward women's empowerment. He expressed confidence that Veenu Khanna, with her experience, will take the organization to new heights.

J&K Handicraft Employees Association criticizes J&K Bank's advance EMI deductions, seeks policy review

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jun 6: The Jammu & Kashmir Handicraft Employees Association has voiced strong opposition to J&K Bank's recent move to deduct advance EMIs from the accounts of salaried employees, citing significant financial strain and lack of transparency.

In a statement issued today, Suhaib Munshi, President of the J&K Handicraft Employees Association and the Kashmir Provincial President of the National Movement for Old Pension Scheme (NMOPS), expressed deep concern over the bank's action, which he says has led to "confusion, distress, and overdrafts" in the accounts of unsuspecting employees. "Several government employees were shocked to find their accounts overdrawn due to advance EMI deductions without proper communication," said Munshi. "We understand the importance of maintaining a good credit score, but this arbitrary and sudden deduction has disrupted household budgets and caused unnecessary anxiety." Munshi emphasized that any such



financial move should be preceded by clear communication and consent from account holders. "It is only fair that employees are informed in advance and allowed to choose repayment options that align with their financial capacity." He further urged the bank to adopt a more flexible and humane approach, such as EMI cycle adjustments or structured repayment plans, which would meet institutional goals without compromising the financial stability of customers. The association has called on J&K Bank and relevant authorities to urgently review the current policy and ensure employee welfare remains a central factor in all decisions impacting their livelihoods.



The event was well-received by locals, with many expressing appreciation for the refreshing gesture and the spirit of

solidarity shown by the Youth Congress members. The Shabeel not only served as a relief from

the heat but also as a reminder of the power of collective goodwill in maintaining social harmony.