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No Terror Sanctuary Is Safe, Says Indian Military In Stark Warning To Pak On Op Sindoor Anniversary

JAIPUR, MAY 7: No terror sanctuary across the frontier is safe, and India will continue to dismantle terrorist infrastructure under the "new normal" enunciated following the Pahalgam attacks, the Indian military said on Thursday in a clear warning to Pakistan on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor.

Detailing what is now considered India's most significant combat mission in five decades, the then heads of military operations, at a media briefing here detailed the strategic successes of the massive tri-services campaign and



asserted that the window for military action against cross-border terrorism has not closed. "No sanctuary across the Line of Control is safe. We will hit every-

thing. We will go after everything and that has been made clear in the normal that the prime minister said last year. But the conditions, the timing and the method will be ours," said Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai. In his capacity as the Director General of Military Operations of the Indian Army, Ghai had played a key role along with his counterparts from the Indian Air Force and Navy in execution of Operation Sindoor. "Operation Sindoor was not an end and it was just the beginning," Lt Gen Ghai, currently serving as the Deputy

(Contd on Pg 2)

Operation Sindoor anniversary: India remains firm against terrorism: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, MAY 7: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said Operation Sindoor reflected India's firm response against terrorism and reaffirmed the country's commitment to safeguarding national security. Marking one year of the operation, PM Modi paid tributes to the armed forces for their "unparalleled courage, precision and resolve."



operation salutes our forces for their valour." PM Modi said the operation highlighted the professionalism, preparedness and coordinated strength of the armed forces. He also said it showcased the growing jointness among the services and underlined the benefits of India's push for self-reliance in the defence

(Contd on Pg 2)

Governor Kavinder Gupta calls on Dental Professionals to Serve Nation with Skill, Compassion & Technology



SUNDER NAGAR (HP), MAY 6: The Governor of Himachal Pradesh Kavinder Gupta today called on dental professionals to serve the nation with skill, compassion and technology. He urged the

The Governor made these remarks while addressing the Annual Day and Prize Distribution Function of Himachal Dental College, held here today in the presence of a distinguished gathering of academicians, medical professionals, students and their families. On the occasion, Rakesh Janwal, MHA Sunder Nagar; Sh. Apoorva Devgan, Deputy Commissioner Mandi; Vinod Kumar, Superintendent of Police Mandi; Santosh Gupta, Chairperson, Himachal Dental College; Dr. Anil Singla and Dr. Vikas

(Contd on Pg 2)

Operation Sindoor: Home Minister Salutes Unparalleled Valour Of Country's Arm Forces

NEW DELHI, May 7: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said that Operation Sindoor stands as an "epochal mission" of India that will always remind the country's enemies of the infallible striking power of the armed forces.



In a message X on the first anniversary of the Operation, he said history will remember it as the day of precise striking power of the armed

(Contd on Pg 2)

LG Sinha Pays Tribute To Armed Forces On First Anniversary Of Operation Sindoor

SRINAGAR, MAY 7: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that Operation Sindoor was a declaration that India's brave armed forces will protect the sovereignty and integrity of the country at any cost. The LG paid tributes to the armed forces on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, which was launched to target terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan following the Pahalgam attack on tourists in April last



year. "Operation Sindoor is a declaration etched in resolve that our brave armed forces are committed to protect country's sovereignty & integrity at any cost. It is testament of India's

firm resolve and we are committed to dismantling the terror network and securing a terror-free J&K." Sinha said in a post on X. "As we mark the anniversary of #OperationSindoor, we bow in reverence to the men and women in uniform whose unwavering resolve and extraordinary courage, delivered a fitting response to the enemy who targeted innocent civilians at Pahalgam," he added. In response to the Pahalgam terror attack

(Contd on Pg 2)

BRIEF NEWS

ACB Books KAS Officer In Disproportionate Assets Case

SRINAGAR, MAY 7: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau on Thursday registered a Disproportionate Assets case against a Chief Accounts Officer over allegations of acquiring assets worth crores beyond his known sources of income, officials said. In a statement, a spokesperson said the Jammu & Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has registered a Disproportionate Assets (DA) case against Zafar Iqbal-KAS, Chief Accounts Officer, S/O Mir Hussain R/O Gursai, Mendhar, Poonch, residing at Bathindi, Jammu and presently posted in the

(Contd on Pg 2)

J&K Govt Orders JKPaysSys-Based Salary System For PDD Corporation Employees

JAMMU, MAY 7: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has approved the implementation of an "employees-wise CPIS based" salary system for employees of power corporations under the Power Development Department through the JKPaysSys platform from May 2026. As per a Government order issued by the Finance Department, the new system will cover employees of JKPCIL, KPDCIL and JPDCIL who were appointed before the unbundling of the department in October 2019, and are registered on the

(Contd on Pg 2)

SC Will Deliver Justice If Row Over 'Malpractices' In Bengal Polls Reaches There: Farooq

SRINAGAR, MAY 7: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Thursday expressed hope that the Supreme Court will deliver justice if the controversy surrounding alleged malpractices in the West Bengal polls reaches the apex court of the country. Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the party's provincial committee, Abdullah said everyone is raising questions over the poll results.

(Contd on Pg 2)

CM Omar Abdullah chairs meeting to review status of implementation of Budget announcements & key initiatives

Says regular follow-up shall ensure that timelines are met & for equitable development across J&K



SRINAGAR, MAY 7: Concluding the discussions in the follow-up meeting held to review the Budget announcements for implementation during 2026-27, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired the second round of meet-

Admin Seeks FIR Against Kashmiri Pandit Leader For Facebook Comment On Relief Commissioner

JAMMU, MAY 7: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has written to the police, seeking the registration of an FIR against a Kashmiri displaced persons' leader for making allegations of illegal allotment and accepting bribes against the relief commissioner in a Facebook comment. According to an official communication issued by the Office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants), Jammu, he was allegedly instigating people against the Special Relief Ration Scheme notified by the government and encouraging them to resort to violence and create public disorder. The communication was addressed to the

(Contd on Pg 2)

Consumers Can't Be Required To Pay For Service Which They No Longer Received: SC



NEW DELHI, MAY 7: The Supreme Court on Thursday said consumers cannot be required to pay for a service which they no longer received, and tariff determination is not merely a mathematical exercise but a regulatory balancing act. The apex court set aside a February last year order of the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) which had directed that entire capital cost of Rithala Combined Cycle Power Plant in Delhi be permitted to be recovered through depreciation over a period of 15 years. A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Abhok Anand delivered its judgement on an appeal by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) chal-

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Op Sindoor A Benchmark For Modern Warfare: Rajnath Singh

NEW DELHI, MAY 7: As India marked the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday hailed the mission as a benchmark for modern warfare, citing its unmatched precision and seamless tri-services synergy. The operation stands as a powerful symbol of national resolve and preparedness to deal with national security challenges, he said in a message. In response to the Pahalgam terror attack, India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7 last year

carrying out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir eliminating at least 100 terrorists. "On the anniversary of Operation Sindoor, we salute the valour and sacrifices of our armed forces, whose courage and dedication continue to safeguard the nation," Singh said. "Their actions during the operation reflected unmatched precision, seamless jointness and deep synergy across services, setting a benchmark for modern military

(Contd on Pg 2)

LG Saxena Approves Construction Of 30 Unique Ladakhi Smart Bus Shelters

LEH, MAY 7: The urban public transport infrastructure in Ladakh is all set for a makeover, with the introduction of unique Ladakhi Smart Bus Shelters that would blend the passenger-friendly modern amenities with Ladakh's distinctive cultural architecture. Lieutenant Governor of UT Ladakh, Vinai Kumar Saxena, has approved the construction of 30 Ladakhi Smart Bus Shelters in Leh. These bus shelters are architecturally inspired by Ladakhi Gompas and feature amenities such as GPS-enabled real-time bus information systems, heated seats, Wi-Fi, CCTV surveillance, solar power, and SOS emergency response buttons. The project will be implemented by the



Sindhu Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (SIDCO). At present, the existing bus stops in Leh lack adequate shelter, comfortable seating, protection from extreme weather conditions, and modern passenger amenities. The new smart bus stops will address these gaps by providing safe and

comfortable waiting spaces and enhanced safety mechanisms. The project will feature traditional Ladakhi architectural elements, including Shingtsak woodwork, decorative finishes, traditional Pentask painting, mud plastering, lime whitewashing, prayer

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FROM PAGE ONE

No Terror...

Chief of Army Staff (Strategy) said. In response to the Pahalgam terror attack, India launched Operation Sindoore on May 7 last year carrying out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir eliminating at least 100 terrorists.

The strikes triggered a rapid escalation in tensions with Pakistan launching retaliatory strikes though most of them were thwarted by the Indian military. The hostilities ended with an understanding on halting the military actions on May 10 following talks over the hotline between army officials of the two sides.

Lt Gen Ghai noted that several terror camps have been shifted from the border region to depth areas, but made it clear that distance offers no sanctuary from India's precision capabilities.

The senior Army officer also highlighted how India quickly ended the conflict after achieving Operation Sindoore's strategic objectives.

"In an era of prolonged conflicts around the world, we struck hard, achieved clearly defined objectives and then decided to cease hostilities when the Pakistanis were compelled to negotiate and requested us to stop," he said.

The objectives were achieved through a calibrated shot and sharp shock that altered the enemy's risk appetite and disrupted his command and control without locking India into a long-drawn war or conflict," he added.

Lt Gen Ghai said the Operation Sindoore showcased capabilities of India's indigenous weapon systems and platforms and made a mention of BrahMos and Akash missiles, homegrown surveillance and targeting systems and ammunition.

"Operation Sindoore was not an end. It was just the beginning. India's fight against terror will go on. A year on, we remember not just the operation but also the principle behind it. India will defend its sovereignty, its security, and its people decisively, professionally and with the utmost responsibility," he said.

In his remarks, Air Marshal A K Bharti, who too play a crucial role as Director General of Air Operations in Operation Sindoore, highlighted the "primacy of air power" in achieving desired results.

He said India's military might is being strengthened significantly and that the India Air Force has been constantly monitoring the activities of China and Pakistan.

"We are continuously factoring in whatever they are (up to)," he said.

"We struck and decimated their nine terrorist camps. The proof is there for everybody to see. We struck 11 of their airfields. We destroyed 13 of their aircraft either on the ground or in the air, including one high-value airborne asset at a record distance of more than 300 kilometres," he said.

Air Marshal Bharti, currently serving as Deputy Chief of the IAF, however, did not mention about losses of assets by his force.

"The (Pakistan) have not been able to inflict any major damage on our side; neither any military infrastructure nor much of the civilian structures," he said.

"Whatever they may say, remember narratives and rhetoric do not give you victory. Victory is measured by hard facts," he added.

The senior official said India achieved its objectives by carrying out Operation Sindoore.

"When the Pakistani establishment decided to side with terror and make it their own fight, we had no choice but to respond in kind. It was about self-defence, much beyond a counter-terror operation. When we responded, it was lethal and ruthless," he said.

Director General of Naval Operations Vice Admiral AN Pramod said Operation Sindoore underscored the strategic vision of India's approach in combating terrorism.

He said the forward deployment of the Indian Navy assets compelled Pakistani naval and air units to enter in a defensive posture and it largely confined the Pakistani Navy to harbours.

"Operation Sindoore validated India's ability to respond to asymmetric provocation with deliberate, precise and proportionate force. It demonstrated that terror infrastructure and supporting military enablers can be targeted swiftly and effectively," he said.

"The operation also highlighted the decisive role of indigenous cutting-edge technologies, platforms, systems and equipment, including drones," he noted.

Operation...

added. Pertinently, "Operation Sindoore," was launched on the night of May 7-8 last year to avenge Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead. The operation targeted multiple terrorist training facilities and infrastructure across Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and beyond. The strikes, carried out with coordinated use of missiles, air power, drones and artillery, focused on camps linked to groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed. Officials had described the operation as precise and intelligence-led, aimed at minimising collateral damage while signalling a zero-tolerance approach to cross-border terrorism.

Governor...

Jindal, Directors; and Dr. Baljit Singh, Principal, along with other distinguished guests.

"The mountains of Himachal are beautiful, but they also hide the suffering of lakhs of people who have no access to even basic dental care," the Governor said. "You are not just doctors — you are nation builders. Take your skills beyond the cities and into the villages where you are truly needed."

Sh. Kavinder Gupta stressed that the future of dentistry lies at the intersection of technology and humanity. He urged students to embrace digital dentistry, AI-assisted diagnostics and modern treatment protocols, while never

losing sight of empathy and ethical practice — the bedrock of the medical profession.

Emphasising the role of youth in national development, the Governor said that India's demographic strength is its greatest asset, and it is the responsibility of every educated young professional to contribute meaningfully to the vision of a Viksit Bharat. He called upon the institution to strengthen community dental camps, school oral health programmes and outreach into rural panchayats.

Later, the Governor also inaugurated the college's modern new Dental Van, which will serve as a mobile healthcare unit for rural and far-flung communities of the region.

Earlier, the Director of the College, Dr. Anil Singla welcomed the Governor and all guests, highlighting the Governor's achievements and expressing full confidence in the bright future of Himachal Pradesh under his leadership.

Principal Dr. Baljit Singh then presented the Annual Report, detailing the college's achievements in academic excellence, research, sports and community service. He proudly informed that students of the college have once again topped Atal Medical Research University, upholding the pride of the Mandi region.

The Annual Day witnessed the felicitation of meritorious students across clinical and academic disciplines. Prizes and certificates were awarded to toppers and outstanding performers, drawing enthusiastic applause from the packed auditorium. The event also recognised faculty members for their dedication and service to dental education in the state.

The function concluded with a vibrant cultural programme presented by students, followed by a vote of thanks.

Operation...

terror across the border that dared to cast an evil shadow on citizens at Pahalgam.

"This day will continue to bring the dreadful message to our enemies that no matter where they hide, they cannot escape. They are always within our sight and the fierce wrath of our firepower. On this day, I salute the unparalleled valour of our forces," he said.

In response to the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22 in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed, India launched Operation Sindoore on May 7 last year, carrying out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The action triggered a rapid escalation in tensions with Pakistan launching retaliatory strikes, though most of them were thwarted by the Indian military. The hostilities ended with an understanding on halting the military actions on May 10 following talks over the hotline between army officials of the two sides.

LG Sinha...

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SC Will...

Meanwhile, NC's chief spokesman Tanvir Sadiq said the meeting of the provincial committee of the party takes place every month and discusses party affairs.

"Discussions took place over party affairs, developmental works and the situation in Jammu and Kashmir," Sadiq told reporters.

Asked if the cabinet expansion was discussed in the meeting, he said it was not the proper forum as cabinet expansion is the prerogative of the chief minister.

"The CM will take a call on it when he deems fit. The meeting discussed party affairs, what MLAs think and what the situation is," Sadiq added.

CM Omar...

At the outset, Additional Chief Secretary Finance, Shalendra Kumar, briefed the Chief Minister and presented the status of various Budget announcements across departments under different grants, along with progress reports submitted by the departments.

Administrative Secretaries apprised the Chief Minister of the progress achieved so far and the action taken by their respective departments towards implementation of the Budget proposals.

The departments which presented their progress during the meeting included Revenue, Health & Medical Education, Social Welfare, Tourism, Forest, Labour & Employment, Higher Education, Rural Development, Youth Services & Sports, Transport, Tribal Affairs, DMRRR, Skill Development, Science & Technology and

Cooperatives.

During the deliberations, the Chief Minister issued directions for expediting implementation, strengthening inter-departmental coordination and ensuring strict adherence to timelines.

He said that a similar exercise would be conducted again in the month of June to review the progress achieved on the Budget announcements. The Chief Minister emphasized that all responses and implementation measures must be carried out in a timely manner to ensure that the commitments and promises made to the people are fully realised.

Stressing the importance of translating Budget announcements into tangible outcomes on the ground, the Chief Minister underscored the need for efficiency, transparency and public welfare in implementation.

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Op Sindoore...

operations," he said. The defence minister said the operation stands as a "powerful symbol of national resolve and preparedness, showing that our armed forces are always ready to act decisively when it matters most."

"It also stands testament to India's steady advance towards achieving #Atmanirbharta, enhancing capability while reinforcing resilience," he said.

Singh will carry out a comprehensive review of India's national security challenges and the military's combat readiness at a joint commanders' conference in Jaipur on Thursday.

The conference will provide a pivotal forum to evaluate the challenges in emerging domains of cyber, space and cognitive warfare and chart a roadmap for capability development for resilient and future ready force with a decisive edge, the Defence Ministry said.

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activity and other sources, Bhat was instigating people against the Special Relief Ration Scheme notified by the government and encouraging them to resort to violence and create public disorder.

"As such, I am directed to kindly immediately lodge an FIR against Sh. Sunil Bhat," the letter issued by Assistant Commissioner (Relief) Kaish Devi said. The administration maintained that the allotment of shops at Jagti migrant camp was carried out in a transparent manner on the recommendations of a committee of senior officers.

It also said that the department was open to any inquiry or investigation by any government agency into the allotment process and would cooperate fully. On Wednesday, displaced Kashmiri Pandits protested here against the Jammu and Kashmir administration's move to integrate their relief rations into the National Food Security Act (NFSA). Minor clashes broke out between demonstrators and police as they attempted to march towards the Relief Commissioner's office.

Community leaders described NFSA as a "black law" and a "trap" for Kashmiri Pandits, alleging that its implementation would dilute their distinct identity as displaced persons and affect their rehabilitation rights.

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SKUAST-K organize Mega Technology Demonstration Programme in HATV Hatchmarg

SRINAGAR, MAY 07: SKUAST-Kashmir, through its Division of Vegetable Science in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kupwara, organized a Mega Technology Demonstration-cum-Input Distribution Programme at Hatchmarg, the High-Altitude Tomato Village (HATV) of the District. The programme was held under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)

project titled "Transforming Tribal Agriculture in Kashmir: A Comprehensive Vegetable Development Initiative" sponsored by Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The programme was aimed at empowering tribal farming communities through scientific vegetable cultivation practices, dissemination of improved technologies, and distribution of quality

agricultural inputs. The initiative focused on transforming the tribal vegetable landscape by promoting sustainable and climate-resilient vegetable cultivation practices in high-altitude areas of Kashmir. The event was attended by Prof. Ishtaq Abidi, Head, Division of Vegetable Science; Mohammad Iqbal Choudhary, CEO Seeds, SKUAST-Kashmir;

Dr. Asima Amin, Assistant Professor, Division of Vegetable Science and Principal Investigator of the TSP Project; and Dr. Mohammad Mudasir Lagray, Assistant Professor, Division of Vegetable Science. During the programme, scientists and experts interacted with local farmers and highlighted the importance of advanced vegetable production.

CM Omar Abdullah expresses grief over demise of father of Imtiyaz Hussain

SRINAGAR, MAY 07: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has expressed deep sorrow over the passing away of the father of Police Officer Imtiyaz Hussain Mir. In his condolence message, the Chief Minister conveyed heart-

felt sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul. He also prayed for strength and fortitude for the family to bear this irreparable loss. The Chief Minister said that the demise of a parent

is an immense personal loss that leaves a deep void in the lives of family members and loved ones. He expressed solidarity with the bereaved family during this difficult time of grief. He further prayed that the departed soul attains



Operation Sindoore reflects India's resolve and Armed Forces' bravery: Sat Sharma

BJP commemorates first anniversary of Operation Sindoore, honours valour of Armed Forces

Jammu, May 7: J&K BJP, led by its President and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Sat Sharma, remembered the valour, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment of the Indian Armed Forces during a programme organized at the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoore. Senior party leaders, and activists participated in the event and paid tribute to the brave soldiers who displayed exceptional courage in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty and integrity.



J&K BJP Vice-President Rajiv Charak, former MLA Ashwani Sharma, Mahila Morcha President Neha Mahajan, along with other senior leaders, and Mahila Morcha team, were present on the occasion. Sat Sharma, addressing on the occasion, said that Operation Sindoore stands as a shining symbol of the unmatched bravery, discipline, and patriotism of the Indian Armed Forces. He said that the operation reflected India's firm resolve to protect its borders and national interests against every challenge. He stated that the nation remains eternally indebted to the brave soldiers who risk their lives to ensure the safety and security of every citizen. Sat Sharma said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the morale and capabilities of the Armed Forces have been significantly strengthened, while the country has adopted a

policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism and threats to national security. He emphasized that every citizen must take inspiration from the courage and dedication of the armed personnel and work untidily for the progress and unity of the nation. Rajiv Charak, while speaking on the occasion, said that the sacrifices made by the Indian Armed Forces can never be forgotten. He stated that Operation Sindoore demonstrated the professionalism and determination of India's security forces in protecting the motherland under the most challenging circumstances. He added that the BJP has always stood firmly with the Armed Forces and remains committed to honouring their sacrifices.

Ashwani Sharma said that the anniversary of Operation Sindoore reminds the nation of the supreme sacrifices rendered by the brave soldiers in the line of duty. He said that the courage displayed by the Armed Forces serves as a source of inspiration for future generations and strengthens the spirit of nationalism among the youth. Neha Mahajan said that the brave soldiers of India symbolize courage, dedication, and selfless service to the nation. She said that the women of the country also take immense pride in the valour of the Armed Forces and stand shoulder to shoulder in supporting the cause of national unity and integrity.

Natrang Jammu Appoints Subash Jamwal as Vice President



Jammu is an approved artist of both Doodardshan and All India Radio. Significantly, he holds approval in all three major performing art forms, music, dance, and drama, a rare distinction that reflects his exceptional versatility and dedication to the arts.

Jammu, May 7: In a significant development for the cultural and theatrical landscape of Jammu and Kashmir, the General Council of Natrang, in its meeting held today under the chairmanship of Padma Shri awardee Balwant Thakur, unanimously appointed noted theatre and film artist Subash Jamwal as the Vice President of the organisation for a tenure of five years. A highly respected name in the field of theatre and performing arts, Subash

Jamwal has been closely associated with Natrang since 1992 and has played pivotal roles in several landmark productions of the organisation. His remarkable performances in acclaimed plays such as Bawa Jitto, Mahabhoj, Ghumayee, Gulab Gatha, Loktantra Ka Mantra, Panch Pran, Suroo Gh, Kahani, Sainyan Bhaiye Kotwal and Rangla Jammu have earned him widespread appreciation and recognition. An accomplished and multifaceted artist, Subash

Speaking on the occasion, Balwant Thakur congratulated Subash Jamwal and expressed confidence in his leadership abilities. He stated that positions in an internationally acclaimed organisation like Natrang come with immense responsibility and commitment. He further remarked that Natrang's diverse cultural activities and artistic initiatives require constant engagement, and the inclusion of Subash Jamwal in the leadership team would bring renewed energy, vision, and momentum to the organisation.

NCDC Core Committee Calls for Strict Fireworks Safety After Thissur Tragedy

Jammu, May 7: The Core Committee of the National Child Development Council held a meeting this week to discuss important safety issues stemming from the recent firework accident in Thissur, Kerala. The committee had previously expressed condolences over the tragic event and focused this session on identifying preventive measures and policy recommendations to keep the public safe during celebrations. The committee expressed deep concern about the dangers associated with firework displays, especially given the recent tragedy. This event highlighted the risks of unsafe handling, storage, and use of fireworks. While acknowledging that fireworks are a vital part of cultural and religious celebrations, including Thissur Pooram, members stressed that public safety must be the top priority. During the discussion, several key recommendations emerged: Strict Safety Regulations: All firework displays must follow updated safety standards,

including mandatory licensing, risk assessments, and safe distance norms from spectators. Trained Professionals Only: Fireworks should be handled and launched solely by certified and trained personnel. Safe Storage Measures: Proper storage facilities with safeguards must be in place to prevent accidental ignition. Emergency Preparedness: Event organizers must provide safety equipment, deploy medical teams, and create clear evacuation plans. Regular Inspections: Government authorities should conduct regular inspections and enforce strict penalties for violations. Public Awareness Campaigns: Educational initiatives should be launched to inform both organizers and the public about risks and responsibilities. Promotion of Safer Alternatives: The use of low-risk alternatives to high-intensity fireworks was strongly encouraged. Committee members also pointed out the vulnerability of children, who often face risks due to lack of awareness.

JMC's 'Wall of Shame' Initiative: Transforming Red & Yellow Spots into Clean Public Spaces

Jammu, May 7: Under its innovative "Wall of Shame" initiative, the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has intensified its efforts to transform Garbage Vulnerable Points (GVPs) and identified red and yellow spots across the city into clean, accessible, and dignified public spaces. The initiative is aimed at discouraging open urination, preventing waste dumping, and improving sanitation standards while simultaneously beautifying the urban landscape. As part of this campaign, around 30 public urinals are being established at prominent locations across Jammu city. Alongside the construction of new facilities, JMC is also undertaking extensive renovation and upgradation of existing public toilets to ensure better



hygiene, accessibility, and convenience for citizens. The renovation and development works are presently being carried out at several important locations including Shahidi Chowk, Railway Station, Gumat, Prade Ranbir Higher Secondary School, Dogra Chowk, near the passenger shed at Bus Stand, BC Road near the

Estate Department quarters, Jhullaka Mohalla, near the DC Office, and Jewel Chowk near Ashviny Theatre. To further enhance these spaces, walls around vulnerable points are being decorated with creative wall paintings, awareness messages, and sanitation-themed artwork to discourage misuse and inspire

civic responsibility among the public. Issuing directions to field functionaries and sanitation teams, Dr. Devansh Yadav, Commissioner, JMC, emphasized the need for continuous monitoring and proper maintenance of these facilities. He directed officials to ensure timely completion of works, regular upkeep, cleanliness, and strict vigilance to prevent vandalism or recurrence of red and yellow spots. In his public message, Dr. Yadav appealed to citizens to actively support the initiative by maintaining cleanliness and using public facilities responsibly. "These public amenities are being developed for the convenience and dignity of citizens. Their protection and proper use is a collective responsibility."

A two-day Hands-on Training-cum-Workshop on "Flow Cytometry" organised by JU

Jammu, May 07: The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), University of Jammu, in collaboration with The Botanical Club, Department of Botany, University of Jammu, organised a two-day Hands-on Training-cum-Workshop on "Flow Cytometry." The workshop aims to provide scholars, students, and researchers in life sciences with practical exposure and advanced technical training in flow cytometry. The inaugural session of the programme was presided over by the Chief Guest, Prof. Yash Pal Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences. In his address, he emphasized the importance of learning emerging scientific techniques to enhance research capabilities and skill development in realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He highlighted the



growing need to develop a skill-oriented environment in the field of life sciences and allied disciplines to empower youth with scientific and entrepreneurial capabilities. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Veenu Kaul, President, IIC, elaborated upon the vision and mission of the Institution's Innovation Council in fostering a comprehensive startup and innovation ecosystem within the University. She encouraged the younger generation to actively participate in innova-

tion, creativity, and skill development initiatives, which are essential for achieving the national goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat. She also stressed the significance of corporate-oriented skilling and the preparation of professionally competent youth for future opportunities. Earlier, Prof. Susheel Verma, Head, Department of Botany and Convenor, IIC, welcomed the guests and participants. He spoke at length about the workshop, its

objectives, and the importance of flow cytometry as an advanced analytical tool in biological and biomedical research. He expressed hope that the workshop would provide valuable hands-on experience and technical expertise to the participants. The resource person for the workshop, Dr. Praveen K. Oraon, Senior Scientist, Bionivid Tech Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, highlighted the significance of flow cytometry in modern biological research and discussed its diverse applications in ploidy analysis, genome size determination, cell density, disease diagnostics, and related areas. The proceedings were conducted by Kamana Shandalya and Dr. Romica Verma presented the formal vote of thanks.

Cyber Crime Awareness Workshop Held at ZNS NIST Academy by J&K Police

Jammu, May 7: A one-day Cyber Crime Awareness Workshop was successfully organized at in collaboration with under a special awareness initiative against rising cyber crimes. The awareness program was conducted under the guidance of Rohit Chadgal, (JKPS) DYSP (Cyber) Shri Mohan Sharma, (JKPS) SP (Cyber crime) and under the overall supervision of SSP Jammu. During the workshop, police officers from Jammu and Kashmir Police educated students about the increasing dangers of cyber crimes and the importance of digital safety in today's world. The session focused on financial scams, online



frauds, digital arrest scams, social media threats, and other cyber-related crimes that are rapidly increasing day by day. More than 100 students attended the awareness session and gained valuable knowledge about how to protect themselves from cyber frauds and suspicious online activities. Special emphasis was given to women's cyber safety, as cyber crimes against women are also rising significantly. Students were guided on how to identify scams, stay alert online, and take immediate action in case of any cyber-related issue. The workshop was conducted by Sub Inspector Vikram, who explained every topic in a very informative and practical manner. The interactive session helped students understand the real challenges of cyber crime.

Sainik School Nagrota wins the prestigious Raksha Mantri Trophy-2025

Nagrota, 07 May 26: Sainik School Nagrota has brought immense pride to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir by securing the prestigious Raksha Mantri Trophy-2025 for sending the highest percentage of cadets to the National Defence Academy (NDA) in the NDA 154 Course. The prestigious trophy was presented to the Principal, Captain (IN) Shibu Devasia by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth at the All India Principals' Conference held at Sainik School Kazhakootam, Kerala, on 07 May 26. This achievement marks a historic milestone for the institution, which last received this honour in 2009. Reclaiming it after nearly 17 years reinvigorates Sainik School Nagrota's stature as a premier institution shaping future leaders for the Armed Forces and contributing meaningfully to nation-building from the region of J&K. In NDA 154 course, the school recorded exceptional performance. A total of 35 cadets cleared the UPSC NDA Written Examination, reflecting strong



academic mentoring and focused training. Of these, 11 cadets successfully cleared the SSB interview and secured commendable positions in the All India Ranking (AIR). The top performers of 154th course are Ishita Hassan - AIR 50, Hussainim - AIR 145, Pranav Sharma - AIR 150, Aditya Kumar Singh - AIR 239, Pritivi Raj Sambhal - AIR 268, Divyansh Bhardwaj - AIR 292, Priyush Sharma - AIR 374, Yasir Mukhtar Wani - AIR 432. The cadets have already joined the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, marking a significant contribution to the future officer cadre of the Indian Army.

Dr Darakhshan addresses seminar on Habba Khatoon by Sahitya Akademi as Chief Guest

"Habba Khatoon represents Kashmir's feminine sensibility": Andrabi

Jammu, May 7: Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board Chairperson Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi today addressed a one day seminar on the famous poetess of Kashmir, Habba Khatoon at Government Degree College Pampora as the Chief Guest. The litterateur and poet politician, Andrabi thanked Sahitya Akademi Kashmiri Advisory Board Convenor Prof Shad Ramzan for organising such a fruitful seminar on the Queen-poetess of Kashmir, the daughter of the saffron land Habba Khatoon. Waqf Board Chairperson said



that Kashmir has the distinction of having produced women of eminence throughout the history and women have played a great role in shaping the unique cultural landscape called Kashmir. "Habba

voice of the feminine sensibilities of the valley of Kashmir", said Andrabi. She said that after decades of torture and suppression of women in J&K, we are now in a conducive atmosphere where women are feeling free to express themselves. "Women voices need to be heard for a peaceful world. We have to collectively ensure that women get the shares and appropriate platforms for their expression. Any society which doesn't hear to the women with honour is bound to perish," said Darakhshan. Andrabi supported the resolu-

tion that Pampora Degree College be named after the poetess Habba Khatoon. She appealed to the educated class of the society to broaden the space for women in every social discourse so that we, as a modern society and country, are able to grow in sync with the modern world. Famed writer Mohammad Yousof Teng, Prof Mohammad Zaman Azurdah, President Adbi Markaz, Kamraz Mohammad Amin Bhat & Prof Ghazala Azhar the Principal of the College were also part of the great event.

Vedic Mantras are eternal path to worship one supreme God: Swami Ram Swarup

Emphasizes eternal Guru-Shishya tradition as true Vedic path to worship of God

Kathua: At Ved Mandir, on the 26th day of the ongoing 78-day Yajna Anushtan based on all four Vedas, Swami Ram Swarup Ji enlightened devotees and seekers while explaining the significance of Rigveda Mantra 1/14/2. Swami Ji stated that by observing the vast and systematic creation of the universe, a human being naturally realizes that such a divine creation cannot be made by anyone other than the Supreme God. Through this logical inference, it becomes evident that mankind should offer praise, prayers, and worship only to the One Almighty God through the eternal Vedic mantras revealed by Him. He further advised seekers to approach learned Vedic Acharyas and scholars to properly understand the true meaning of the Vedas.

Explaining the essence of the mantra, Swami Ji said that just as enlightened Vedic scholars dedicate their intellect and devotion towards the worship and glorification of the One Supreme God, sincere seekers should also continue to worship Him in the same manner. Swami Ji further explained that the sentiments expressed in Rigveda Mantra 1/14/2 are in complete harmony with Samaveda Mantra 744. He emphasized that all four Vedas are eternal, beginningless, indestructible, and directly revealed by God. Therefore, the teachings contained in Samaveda



Mantra 744 are also eternal and completely truthful. He described the Vedas as "self-evident authority" and said that true worship of God has always been practiced through the eternal Guru-Shishya (teacher-disciple) tradition established since time immemorial. Referring to Rigveda Mantras 10/181/1 and 10/109/1, Swami Ji explained that at the beginning of creation, by the divine power of

God, the knowledge of the four Vedas manifested in the hearts of four ancient Rishis. Hence, God Himself is regarded as the first Guru of those Rishis, as mentioned in Yoga Shastra Sutra 1/26. He further stated that a great Rishi named Brahma acquired the complete knowledge of the four Vedas by serving those Rishis and later spread Vedic wisdom throughout society by establishing the Guru-Shishya tradition. Swami Ji noted that during Satya Yuga, Treta Yuga, and Dwapar Yuga, neither printed books existed nor were there worldly scholars as known today. Therefore, humanity should continue to seek refuge in the same eternal Vedic tradition initiated by Brahma to attain happiness, prosperity, and spiritual upliftment. Concluding his discourse, Swami Ji said that according to the Vedas, there is no path other than the Vedic way that leads to true happiness and realization of the Supreme Being.

DC Samba Reviews MY Bharat Initiatives; Assures Full Administrative Support

Samba, May 7: A meeting was held today in the office chamber of Ms. Ayushi Sudan, IAS, Deputy Commissioner Samba, with Vivek Kumar, District Youth Officer (DYO), Jammu, MY Bharat, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and Sushil Singh Charak, Resource Person, MY Bharat J&K, to discuss measures for strengthening the implementation and outreach of MY Bharat initiatives in Samba district. During the meeting, Vivek Kumar submitted a formal request seeking the allotment of a rent-free building for the establishment of a dedicated MY Bharat Samba office to ensure the smooth functioning and effective execution of youth-oriented programmes and activities across the district. The District Youth Officer also apprised the Deputy Commissioner about the



various opportunities available to youth under PMIS through the MY Bharat Portal, including youth engagement, volunteerism, leadership development, skill enhancement, and community participation initiatives. He emphasized the need for enhanced awareness and administrative support to facilitate maximum enrolment of youth from Samba district on the PMIS platform. Sushil Singh Charak, Resource Person, MY Bharat J&K, highlighted the importance of awareness programmes being conducted under the Nasha Mukh Abhiyaan and stressed the active role of youth in nation-building and social reform initiatives. He appreciated the support being extended by the district administration towards youth empowerment and constructive community participation. Deputy Commissioner Samba appreciated the initiatives being undertaken by MY Bharat under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and assured full cooperation from the district administration in strengthening youth engagement programmes and expanding the outreach of the initiative throughout the district.

Indian Army conducts Swachhta Abhiyan for Healthy life in Samote

Rajouri: 07 May 2026
The Indian Army organized a Swachhta Abhiyan for Healthy Life at Little Angel's Public School, Samote on 07 May 2026, to promote awareness about cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation as essential components of a healthy life. The initiative aimed to encourage the local community to adopt hygienic practices, maintain clean surroundings and contribute to building a healthier society in Jammu & Kashmir. The campaign saw enthusiastic participation from 32 students (19 boys and 13 girls) and 5 teachers, demonstrating a shared commitment to cleanliness and health



awareness. The activities included cleanliness drives, waste collection and awareness sessions on personal hygiene and sanitation. Participants were educated on proper waste disposal, hand hygiene and the importance of maintaining a clean environment to prevent the spread of diseases. The event was a great success, generating significant awareness among the locals and reinforcing the importance of cleanliness in daily life. The villagers of Samote appreciated the Indian Army's initiative and pledged to contribute towards maintaining cleanliness and adopting healthy practices for a disease-free future.

GDC Nowshera & Border Security Force Mark 1st Anniversary of Operation Sindoor with Anti-Drug Awareness and Sports Drive

Nowshera 07 May 2026
Government Degree College Nowshera, in collaboration with the Border Security Force, organized a series of awareness and sports activities on the eve of the 1st Anniversary of Operation Sindoor under the ongoing 100 Days Campaign against Drug Abuse - Nasha Mukh Jammu & Kashmir. The programme featured a Walkathon for Awareness, a Friendly Volleyball Match, and a Weapon Exhibition aimed at promoting fitness, discipline, patriotism, awareness against drug abuse, and understanding of the role of security forces among the youth. Students, NSS volunteers, NCC cadets, faculty members, BSF personnel, and students from local schools participated enthusiastically in these activities.



The awareness walkathon was organized to educate people about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to inspire youth to adopt healthy and constructive lifestyles. Participants carried placards and raised slogans highlighting the importance of a drug-free society, national unity, and social responsibility. A weapon exhibition was organized by the Border Security Force to familiarize students with the equipment and operational preparedness of the security forces. The exhibition generated great interest among the participants and served as an informative session about national security and the responsibilities of the armed forces. A friendly volleyball match was also conducted between the teams of Government Degree College Nowshera and the Border Security Force to promote sportsmanship, teamwork, and cordial relations between students and security personnel. In an exciting contest, the Government Degree College Nowshera team defeated the BSF team in straight sets with a margin of 2-0.

The event concluded with a collective pledge by all participants to contribute actively towards the vision of a Drug-Free Jammu & Kashmir.

Every Karyakarta driving BJP's saffron surge across India: Rekha Mahajan

Samba, May 7: Rekha Mahajan, Vice President J&K BJP and Prabhari District Samba, chaired a comprehensive organisational meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party in Ghazval Mandal organised by Mandal President Nishant Sharma. She stressed the need for cadre strengthening, disciplined organisational structure, and deeper grassroots outreach to further expand the party's base. The meeting was attended by State Vice President Rashpal Verma, farmer DDC Suresh Kumar Falli, Mandal Prabhari Mohinder Pal, Seh Prabhari Keshav Khajuria, Vikas Sharma, Jasbir Singh, Sourav Sharma, members of the Mandal team, Shakti Kendra Pramukhs, Morcha Presidents, and senior party workers. Addressing the gathering, Rekha Mahajan said the recent election results across the country, especially the BJP's historic performance in West Bengal, reflect the



growing "saffron wave" and the people's faith in the leadership of Narendra Modi. She said the results have proved that politics based on fear, violence, appeasement, and intimidation has been decisively rejected by the people. She credited BJP's massive electoral success to the tireless dedication and hard work of party workers at the booth level, saying Prime Minister Modi himself has repeatedly acknowledged that BJP's real strength lies in its committed

support from people across the country. Speaking on the occasion, Rashpal Verma said the election results have sent a strong message that the people of the country stand firmly with nationalism and development-oriented politics. He said parties indulging in fear-mongering, corruption, violence, and divisive agendas have been rejected by the voters. Referring to West Bengal, he said the people have shown courage against politics of intimidation and are increasingly placing their trust in the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. Other speakers also highlighted the importance of organisational unity, regular public outreach programmes, and strengthening coordination at the Mandal and Shakti Kendra levels to ensure BJP's continued growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu Releases Departmental Brochure

Jammu, May 07: The Department of Commerce, University of Jammu, today released its departmental brochure reflecting its academic and co-curricular activities and future plans aimed at enhancing the quality of commerce education. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University congratulated the Department of Commerce for its continued commitment towards academic excellence and the holistic development of students. He appreciated the Department for organizing meaningful academic activities and fostering a vibrant learning environment that encourages innovation, research and professional growth among students. The Vice-Chancellor also emphasized the infusion of new courses in the curriculum, including technology-based applications of Artificial Intelligence in Accounting and GST, to strengthen the academic reputation of the University and make the curriculum more industry-oriented.



The Vice-Chancellor also emphasized the infusion of new courses in the curriculum, including technology-based applications of Artificial Intelligence in Accounting and GST, to strengthen the academic reputation of the University and make the curriculum more industry-oriented.

Indian Army organizes "Chai pe Charcha" Interaction with ESM & Widows

Reasi, May 7: The Indian Army organized a "Chai Pe Charcha" interaction with Ex-Servicemen (ESM) and Widows at Chassana on 07 May 2026. The event provided an open and informal platform for meaningful interaction, allowing participants to share their experiences, concerns, and suggestions. Indian Army representatives actively engaged with the attendees, addressing various welfare-related issues and reaffirming their commitment to the well-being of veterans and their families. Special emphasis was placed on creating awareness about government



schemes, pension-related matters, healthcare facilities and grievance redressal mechanisms available to ESMs and widows. The initiative also aimed at fostering a sense of belonging and ensuring continued support for those who have served the nation selflessly. The attendees expressed their gratitude towards the Indian Army for organizing such a thoughtful and inclusive event, which not only strengthened mutual trust but also reinforced the spirit of camaraderie. The Indian Army remains dedicated to the welfare of ESMs and their families and will continue to undertake such initiatives to ensure their holistic well-being.

Artists explore snow-covered Sinthan Top during 'Jashan-e-Bahar' workshop visit

Kishtwar, May 7: As part of the ongoing National Art Workshop "Jashan-e-Bahar" organised by the Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust (MSCBMC Trust) in collaboration with 11 Rashtriya Rifles, participating artists today visited the breathtaking Sinthan Top and admired its snow-covered landscapes, serene atmosphere, and immense tourism potential. The renowned artists from different parts of the country, including Shalender Singh, Aditya Shankar Prasad, P. Devaraj, Sharmila Sharma, Govind Vishwas, and Apurba Karati, expressed admiration for the unmatched natural beauty of the region. Fresh snowfall and the scenic surroundings



made the visit memorable and inspired the artists to capture the essence of the landscape through their creative perspectives. The artists described Sinthan Top as one of the most beautiful and unexplored destinations of Jammu and Kashmir and stressed the need

to promote such scenic locations at the national level through art, culture, and tourism initiatives. President of MSCBMC Trust, Anuradha Rishi, said the visit aimed to connect artists with the rich natural heritage of the Chenab Valley and showcase the tourism potential of remote areas like Sinthan Top. She added that such interactions not only inspire creativity but also help bring national attention to the beauty and cultural richness of the region. The role of the Indian Army, especially 11 Rashtriya Rifles, was appreciated for facilitating and supporting the visit as part of the broader outreach and community engagement initiatives in the area.

DC Shopian reviews Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyaan activities in district
Issues strict directions for intensified grassroots outreach

SHOPIAN, MAY 07: Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Shishir Gupta today chaired a comprehensive review meeting regarding the ongoing activities under the 100 Day Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan and issued strict instructions to all concerned departments for intensifying awareness and outreach programmes across the district. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stressed that the menace of drug abuse poses a serious threat to society and called for a coordinated, mission-mode approach involving every stakeholder at the grassroots level and directed all departments to ensure visible and result-oriented interventions in every village, Panchayat and educational institution of the district.



The DC emphasized active participation of youth volunteers in every Mohalla and Panchayat and said awareness activities must reach every household through sustained community-level outreach across the district. He further instructed the concerned departments to ensure active involvement of Mahila Panchayats, civil society members, traders, market associations and community representatives in spreading awareness regarding the harmful effects of substance abuse and strengthening community-level outreach across the district. The Revenue Department was directed to mobilize Lambaras and

Chowkidars for extensive awareness campaigns in villages, while Anganwadi Workers were asked to further enhance their field-level involvement and ensure maximum public participation under the Abhiyaan. Sub Divisional Magistrate Zainpora was directed to involve civil society members, religious leaders and local representatives to strengthen awareness campaigns and community outreach mechanisms at the grassroots level. During the meeting, DSWO Shopian (District Nodal Officer Nasha Mukta Jammu ans Kashmir Abhiyaan) highlighted the importance of proper documentation among the timely uploading of activities on the NMBA portal. Departments including MVD, Municipal Council,

DDAC Bandipora organises Holistic Wellness cum Counselling Session under

BANDIPORA, MAY 07: Continuing its sustained efforts against drug abuse under the ongoing 100 Day Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, the District Drug De-addiction and Rehabilitation Centre (DDAC) Bandipora on Thursday organised a holistic wellness cum counselling session for indoor patients admitted at the Centre in collaboration with the Department of AYUSH Bandipora. The programme was organised under the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer Bandipora, Bashir Ahmad Malik, with the aim of promoting physical wellness, mental stability, emotional healing, and positive lifestyle transformation among the recovering beneficiaries undergoing treatment and



rehabilitation at the Centre. During the session, noted Yoga Expert Irshad Ahmad conducted various yoga and relaxation exercises focusing on stress management, breathing techniques, concentration, flexibility, and inner peace. The participants actively participated in practical yoga demonstrations and mindfulness activities organised within the rehabilitation hall of the Centre.

DC Shopian reviews Eid-ul-Azha preparedness
Directs seamless civic, security arrangements across district

SHOPIAN, MAY 07: In view of the forthcoming auspicious festival of Eid al-Azha, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review and finalize arrangements for smooth celebration of the festival across the district. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took stock of the availability and supply of essential commodities including meat, poultry, vegetables and other daily use items in markets. Directions were issued to ensure uninterrupted availability of quality essentials at notified rates for the convenience of the general public. Threadbare discussions were held on security

arrangements, smooth regulation of traffic, uninterrupted power and drinking water supply, sanitation measures, healthcare facilities, fire and emergency preparedness besides market checking across the district. The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed arrangements regarding establishment of mandis for sale of sacrificial animals and stressed upon proper management and monitoring at all designated locations. To ensure cleanliness and hygiene during the festival days, the concerned departments were directed to identify suitable sites for scientific disposal of qurbani animal waste and maintain proper sanitation in urban as well as rural areas. The meeting further discussed coordination with Auqaf Committees to facilitate smooth conduct of congregational prayers and related arrangements at idgahs and major mosques across the district. Officers were instructed to remain available in the field, work in close coordination and ensure prompt response to public grievances so that people celebrate the festival in a peaceful, smooth and hassle-free manner. Among others the meeting was attended by SSP, Shopian, Mushtaq Ahmed Choudhary, ADCC Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone; ADC Shopian, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, Shakoor Ahmed Dar; SDM Zainpora, Bilal Ahmed and officers from Civil Administration and Police.

DC Srinagar inspects renovation & upgradation works on Vicharnag Temple, Khankah-e-Naqshband Sahib (RA) under Heritage conservation scheme

SRINAGAR, MAY 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo today conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing upgradation and renovation works at Vicharnag Temple and Khankah-e-Naqshband Sahib (RA) being executed under the Heritage Conservation Scheme of the Government to preserve the rich cultural, spiritual and architectural heritage in the District. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiaz Ul Azziz, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, IAS Probationer, Alfred Thomas, Superintendent Engineer, R&B, Circle North, Shabir Ahmad, Executive Engineers of R&B, SMC, PHE, PDD, UEED, Tehsilidar, Eidgah, Officers of Archives & Archaeology and other concerned departments. At the ancient Vicharnag Temple, a site of immense historical and religious significance located in Nowshera area of the District, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed on-site appraisal of the revival, restoration, and conservation works being undertaken under the Government scheme to preserve the heritage character of the monument. On the occasion, the



DC reviewed the different project components at the site and directed the Officers to ensure strict adherence to set timelines and quality of the work as envisioned under the project guidelines. He directed the Officers to further expedite the pace of work and take technically feasible measures for efficient drainage mechanism at the important heritage site. The DC was informed that substantial progress has been achieved on various components of the project, including land filling, construction of gate, boundary wall, toilet block and security quarter. It was further informed that underpinning works of the two main temple structures and restoration of the main springs are nearing completion. In addition, works related to levelling of ground, development of pathways and allied components have been initiated at the site. The DC directed the concerned officers to ensure strict adherence to prescribed timelines and maintenance of high-quality standards as envisioned under the project guidelines. He further directed that the pace of work be expedited and technically feasible measures be adopted for establishing an efficient drainage mechanism at the heritage site.

SMC Commissioner conducts on-site inspection of Regal Chowk Shopping Complex
Orders immediate upgradation, expansion of Public Facilities

SRINAGAR, MAY 07: In a significant outreach aimed at strengthening civic infrastructure and addressing the concerns of the business community, Faz Lul Haseeb, Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), today conducted an extensive visit to the SMC Shopping Complex at Regal Chowk and held a detailed interaction with members of the Traders Association. During the visit, the Commissioner undertook a comprehensive assessment of the civic amenities and infrastructure available within the commercial complex and listened to various issues projected by the traders. Demonstrating a responsive and proactive approach, the Commissioner resolved several genuine grievances on the spot and issued immediate directions to the



concerned officers for their time-bound redressal. A key issue highlighted by the traders was the need for extension and upgradation of the existing lavatory block to cater to the growing footfall of traders and visitors in the busy commercial hub.

Taking swift cognizance of the demand, the Commissioner directed the Joint Commissioner (Works) to initiate immediate measures for the extension of the lavatory block and ensure early execution of the project in the interest of public convenience. Reaffirming SMC's commitment towards improving urban infrastructure, the Commissioner further instructed the concerned engineering and civic wings of the Corporation to prepare and undertake a comprehensive upgradation plan for the SMC Shopping Complex at Regal Chowk. The proposed measures shall focus on enhancing civic amenities, improving sanitation, upgrading public infrastructure, and creating a better environment for traders, shoppers, and visitors alike.

DC Ganderbal reviews progress under PM Surya Ghar scheme
Directs time-bound disposal of pending cases

GANDERBAL, MAY 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the implementation and progress of the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in the district. During the meeting, a detailed review of SRT installation, registration, sanction and disbursement of cases under the PM Surya Ghar scheme was conducted. Officers/Officials of KPDCI informed the chair that a total of 911 SRTs have been installed in the district. It was further



stressed the need for expeditious disposal of all pending applications. He directed all concerned officers to work in close coordination with banks and ensure that the existing gaps are bridged within a fixed timeframe.

Census 2027: Three-day Training Programme for Supervisors, Enumerators concludes in Pulwama

PULWAMA, MAY 07: District Administration Pulwama today concluded the three-day training programme for Supervisors and Enumerators for Census 2027 Phase-I (House Listing and Housing Census). The training programme aimed to equip the field functionaries with the necessary knowledge and skills for smooth, systematic and effective conduct of the forthcoming Census operations. During the training sessions, participants were imparted detailed orientation regarding procedures for House Listing

and Housing Census, data collection methodology, use of digital tools and adherence to census guidelines and protocols. The trainees were also sensitized about their roles and responsibilities in ensuring accuracy and transparency during the census exercise. The programme was conducted in batches for all charges at various centres including Government Degree College Boys Pulwama, Government Degree College, Government Degree College Awantipora, Government Degree School Pampore, High School Arupal, Government Higher Secondary School Kakapora, Government Higher Secondary School Rajpora, Government Higher Secondary School Litter, Town Hall MC Pulwama, Town Hall MC Pampore, Town Hall MC Awantipora, Town Hall MC Khrew and Town Hall MC Tral. During the programme, Master trainers and concerned officers interacted with the participants and addressed their queries to ensure better understanding of the census procedures and field-level implementation.

Director FCS&CA reviews PDS functioning in Baramulla

BARAMULLA, MAY 07: Director Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Kashmir, Nazim Zia Khan, accompanied by Joint Director FCS&CA Kashmir, Shahena Khan, today conducted a comprehensive review of the functioning of the department in Baramulla with focus on strengthening Public Distribution System (PDS) service delivery and ensuring effective implementation of welfare schemes. The meeting was attended by Assistant Director FCS&CA Baramulla Sheikh Tariq, Tehsil Supply Officers and Smart-PDS operators of the department. During the meeting, the



Director was apprised of various achievements and identified initiatives undertaken by the department in the district. Detailed discussions were held regarding distribution of essential commodities under the Public

Distribution System, implementation of departmental schemes, stock position, grievance redressal mechanisms, beneficiary coverage and measures aimed at enhancing transparency, accountability and efficiency in service delivery. The Director was informed about the initiatives being undertaken to further strengthen the Public Distribution System and improve service delivery mechanisms across the district through improved infrastructure. Operational challenges concerning ration distribution and consumer services were also discussed during the meeting. While interacting with officers and officials, the Director stressed the importance of maintaining efficiency, accountability and transparency in the functioning of the department. He directed the concerned officers to ensure timely and hassle-free distribution of food grains and other essential commodities to all eligible beneficiaries. He further instructed the officers to ensure completion of the ongoing three-month "One-Go" ration sale for April to June 2026 well before Eid-ul-Azha so that beneficiaries do not face any inconvenience during the festive occasion. During the meeting, it was informed that against the total allocation of 1,72,128.32 quintals of rice and 6,603.45 quintals of atta for District Baramulla for the three-month period, 1,25,217.80 quintals of rice and 4,761.35 quintals of atta have already been lifted and distributed among beneficiaries, accounting for nearly 72 percent distribution.



North in News

EDITORIAL

Traffic congestion in a smart city indicates a lot needs to be done

Traffic congestion in a smart city indicates a lot needs to be done because the very idea of a smart city rests on seamless mobility, data driven planning, and quality of life. When vehicles are still crawling, it exposes the gap between technology deployment and ground level change. Most Indian cities including Jammu and Srinagar that carry the smart city tag continue to see peak hour speeds below 15 km per hour, with commuters losing 150 to 200 hours a year in jams. That loss translates directly into productivity decline, fuel waste, and air pollution, and the presence of smart traffic signals or CCTV cameras alone does not solve congestion if road geometry is flawed, if lane discipline is absent, if public transport is unreliable, and if land use keeps pushing homes farther from workplaces. The congestion is a symptom that tells planners that sensors can count cars but cannot reduce them, and that dashboards can show red lines on a map but cannot widen streets or build last mile connectivity overnight. Therefore the persistence of jams shows that the hard part of smart city work begins after the pilot projects end, and the first reality that congestion exposes is that mobility is a system problem and not a technology problem. Indian cities add nearly 2,000 new cars daily, and two wheelers multiply even faster, and without disincentives for private vehicle use and strong incentives for buses, metro, and cycling, any smart solution hits a ceiling, and the second reality is that public transport must be the backbone and it still is not. Because frequency, reliability, and comfort decide mode choice more than an app that shows bus location, and if a citizen waits 20 minutes for an overcrowded bus with no air conditioning, the smart display at the stop becomes a source of frustration rather than information. A smart city cannot be smart if zoning laws force a software engineer to live 25 kilometers from the IT park and drive through three bottlenecks, and mixed land use, transit oriented development, and workplace housing are still exceptions, and until master plans are rewritten to reduce trip lengths, traffic algorithms will only optimize delay rather than eliminate it. Smart cameras can issue challans for speeding or signal jumping, yet lane violations, illegal parking, and encroachments continue to choke capacity, and without consistent on street enforcement and political will to clear footpaths and bus bays, the data from cameras does not translate into flow. Traffic congestion will continue to tell us that a lot needs to be done, and the smart city mission will remain a foundation on which the real work of governance, behavior change, and inclusive planning still has to be built, and the sooner cities accept that diagnosis, the faster they can move from dashboards to destinations.

RAJNI SHARMA, EDITOR

Somnath and Bharat's unconquerable spirit!



BY-SHRI NARENDRA MODI

At the start of 2026, I had gone to Somnath for the Somnath Swabhiman Parv, marking a thousand years since the first attack on the Somnath Temple. Now, I will be back in Somnath on 11th May to mark 75 years since the inauguration of the restored Temple by the then President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad. In less than half a year, it is a privilege to be attending two important milestones relating to Somnath and its journey from ruin to renewal or what we describe as from Vidhvans to Srijan.

Somnath gives us a civilisational message. The vast sea before it evokes timelessness. The waves tell us... that no matter how fierce the storms are or how turbulent the tides are, one can always rise again with dignity and strength. The waves return to the shore, as though reminding every generation that the spirit of the people can never be subdued for long.

Our ancient scriptures say: It means, a Pradakshina of the divine Prabhasa (Somnath) is equal to a Pradakshina of the whole earth itself! While people have come here to pray, they have also experienced the remarkable continuity of a civilisation whose flame could never be extinguished. Empires rose and fell, tides changed, history moved through conquest and upheaval, yet Somnath continued to endure in our consciousness.

It is time to remember the countless greats who stood firm in the face of tyranny. There

were Lakulisha and Soma Sarman, who transformed Prabhasa into a great centre of philosophy. Chakravarti Maharaja Dharasena IV of Vallabhi built the Second Temple there centuries ago. Bhima Deva, Jayapala and Anandapala will always be remembered for defending civilisation/honour against invasions. It is said that Raja Bhoja too helped with the reconstruction. Karna Deva and Siddharaja Jayasimha played a vital role in restoring Gujarat's political and cultural strength. Bhava Brihaspati, Kumarapala Solanki and the Pashupata Acharyas rebuilt and sustained the shrine as a great centre of worship and learning. Vishaladeva Vaghela and Tripurantaka protected its intellectual and spiritual traditions. Mahipaladeva and Ra Khangar were instrumental in reviving worship after destruction. Purnyashok Ahilyabai Holkar, whose 300th birth centenary is being marked, ensured the continuity of devotion in the most difficult of times. There were the Gaekwads of Baroda, who safeguarded the rights of pilgrims. And of course, our soil is blessed to have nurtured brave personalities like Veer Hamirji Gohil and Veer Vegdaji Bhil, whose sacrifice and courage have become a part of Somnath's living memory.

In the 1940s, when the spirit of freedom swept across India and the foundations of a new republic were being laid under the leadership of towering figures like Sardar Patel, one thing continued to trouble him deeply...the condition of Somnath. On 13th November 1947, during Diwali time, he stood next to the dilapidated ruins of the temple with seawater in his hands and said, "On this auspicious day of the (Gujarati) New Year, we have decided that Somnath should be reconstructed. You, people of Saurashtra, should do your best. This is a holy task in which all should participate." On one clarion call of Sardar Patel, it was not only the people of Gujarat but also the people of

the whole of India that responded enthusiastically.

Unfortunately, fate did not allow Sardar Patel to witness the fulfilment of the dream he had so passionately championed. Before the restored Somnath Temple could open its doors to devotees, he had departed from this world. Yet, his impact continued to be felt over the sacred shores of Prabhas Patan. His vision was championed by Shri KM Munshi, ably supported by the Jamsaheb of Nawanganar. In 1951, when the Temple was complete, it was decided to call the President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, for the ceremony. Overcoming strong objections from the then Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, Dr. Prasad graced the ceremony, thus making it even more special and historic.

My mind also goes back to October 2001, when I had just taken over as Chief Minister. On 31st October 2001, the Jayanti of Sardar Patel, the Gujarat Government had the honour of organising a programme to mark 50 years since the Somnath Temple opened its doors. It also coincided with the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Sardar Patel. The then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the then Home Minister Shri LK Advani attended the programme.

During his speech on 11th May 1951, Dr. Rajendra Prasad said that the Somnath Temple proclaims to the world that anything with unparalleled faith and love cannot be destroyed. He expressed hope that this Temple will live in the hearts of people. He also said that the restoration of the Temple was a fulfilment of Sardar Patel's dream, but taking that spirit forward, it is important that we restore prosperity to the lives of people. These are important and inspiring messages he gave.

This is the path we have been walking for over a decade. I consider it my good fortune that, inspired by the principle of 'Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi', from Somnath to Kashi, Kamakhya to Kedarnath, Ayodhya to Ujjain,

Trimbakeshwar to Srisaillam, our team has had the opportunity to equip our spiritual centres with the latest facilities while at the same time preserving their traditional character. This, along with efforts to improve connectivity, ensures more people can visit them. It boosts the local economy, secures livelihoods and deepens the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.'

The struggles and sacrifices of those who laid down their lives to protect Somnath and those who rebuilt it time and again will never be forgotten. Countless individuals from different corners of India contributed to restoring its glory. They saw every part of Bharat as sacred, bound together by a sense of oneness that transcended geography. In a world often marked by divisions, this spirit of unity is more relevant than ever. Somnath will continue to stand tall in all its glory because the sense of unity and shared civilisational consciousness lives on in the hearts of every Indian. As a tribute to this, remembering the extraordinary courage of a thousand years, there will be special Pujas at Somnath for the next thousand days. It is gladdening to see several people donating for these Pujas as well.

I urge my fellow Indians to travel to Somnath in this special time. When you stand on the shores of Somnath, let its ancient echoes speak to you. You will not only be overwhelmed by devotion but will also feel the strong pulse of a civilisational spirit that refuses to fade, that is unbroken and unyielding. You will experience Bharat's unconquerable spirit and understand why, despite every effort, our culture remained undefeated and you will have the opportunity to behold the vision of eternal triumph. It will surely be unforgettable.

Jai Somnath.
(Shri Narendra Modi is the Prime Minister of India and is also the Chairman of the Shree Somnath Trust.)

A defining moment for eastern India

BY GOURAV VALLABH

For the first time in more than five decades, eastern India stands at the threshold of political alignment, policy stability, and economic possibility. The 2026 electoral verdict is not merely another change in government: it may well mark the beginning of a structural shift in the destiny of a region that once represented the intellectual, industrial, and commercial heart of India. In a historic milestone for independent India, the BJP now governs all four major eastern states, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, and Assam, becoming the first party since 1974 to simultaneously hold power across the eastern belt while also having government at the Centre. The last time such an alignment existed was during the Congress era, when the political and economic map of India looked entirely different. The significance of this development lies not only in electoral arithmetic, but in the strategic opportunities it creates for one of India's most underutilised regions. The verdict in Assam and West Bengal is particularly noteworthy. In Assam, the BJP crossed the majority mark on its

own strength, increasing its tally from 60 seats in 2021 to 82 seats in 2026, while raising its vote share from 33.21 per cent to nearly 37.8 per cent.

In West Bengal, the party achieved a historic breakthrough by securing a majority on its own for the first time in the state's history and crossing the two-thirds mark in the 294-member Assembly. Its vote share climbed dramatically from 10.16 per cent in 2016 to 37.9 per cent in 2021 and an impressive 45.85 per cent in 2026. This verdict reflects a larger national trend: voters increasingly preferring governance stability, development orientation, and institutional coordination over fragmented regional politics. Across multiple states, there appears to be growing fatigue with politics built primarily around welfare dependency, identity mobilisation, and anti-industry rhetoric. Nowhere is this shift more consequential than in West Bengal.

At the time of independence, Bengal was among the most prosperous and culturally influential regions of India. Calcutta was not merely a city; it was India's gateway to the world, a thriving centre of trade, manu-

facturing, finance, arts, literature, and intellectual excellence. Bengal produced Nobel laureates, industrial pioneers, thinkers, artists, and reformers who shaped modern India. Yet over the decades, the state steadily lost its economic dynamism. Successive governments failed to build an enabling environment for industry, investment, and enterprise. A deeply entrenched anti-business culture, policy unpredictability, labour militancy, and ideological rigidity gradually eroded investor confidence.

The result was prolonged industrial decline, capital flight, and large-scale talent migration. The numbers tell a sobering story. West Bengal's share of India's GDP has fallen from nearly 10.5 per cent in 1960-61 to around 5.6 per cent today. Per capita income, once substantially above the national average, has now fallen below it. More than 6,600 companies are estimated to have either shut down or relocated after 2011, further reinforcing the perception of Bengal as an uncertain destination for investment. What makes this decline particularly tragic is that Bengal never lacked natural or strategic

advantages. It possesses fertile agricultural land, a long coastline, major ports, proximity to Southeast Asia, and perhaps the most strategic geography in eastern India. West Bengal serves as India's gateway to Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Northeast. Few regions in the country enjoy such geographic leverage. Yet geography alone does not create prosperity. Institutions do. For decades, the absence of political alignment between the Centre and eastern states prevented the emergence of a coherent development strategy for the region. Major projects requiring intergovernmental coordination, logistics corridors, port modernisation, industrial zones, trade infrastructure, and border connectivity suffered from fragmented execution and competing political priorities. That barrier may now be removed. A politically aligned eastern corridor creates the possibility of long-term planning on a scale not seen in decades. The East Coast Economic Corridor, development of Tajpur Port, expansion of logistics infrastructure, industrial manufacturing clusters, and deeper integration with the Centre's Act.

Regional Ayurveda Research Institute Jammu Strengthens Nutrition Awareness and TB Prevention Outreach under Poshan Pakhwada

JAMMU, MAY 7: In continuation of the nationwide Poshan Pakhwada campaign, the Regional Ayurveda Research Institute, Jammu, organised a comprehensive awareness programme at the Anganwadi Centre, Patoli Brahmana, Bantialah, under the guidance of the Institute In-charge, Dr. Harbans Singh. The programme focused on promoting maternal and child health, nutritional awareness, and preventive healthcare practices within the community. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Poonam Mohod, Research Officer (RO), delivered an informative lecture emphasising the critical role of balanced nutrition during pregnancy, lactation, and early childhood. She highlighted the



importance of nutritious dietary habits, prevention of malnutrition, and the relevance of Ayurvedic principles in ensuring holistic health and well-being for mothers and children. As part of the programme, an additional

awareness lecture was conducted under the ongoing 100-Day TB Mukht Abhiyan to sensitise the community about tuberculosis (TB). The session focused on early detection, preventive measures, timely treatment, and the

importance of public participation in achieving the vision of a TB-free India. To further enhance community engagement and evaluate awareness levels, a KAP (Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices) study was carried out among beneficiaries, Anganwadi workers, and health seekers attending Ayurveda clinical research facilities. The study aimed to assess existing knowledge and encourage informed health and nutrition practices among the participants. The programme witnessed active and enthusiastic participation from beneficiaries, Anganwadi staff, and members of the local community. IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) materials related to maternal

and child health, nutrition, and preventive care were distributed to strengthen awareness and promote healthy lifestyle practices at the grassroots level. The event was actively supported by Dr. Sanjana Sharma (Senior Research Fellow), Dr. Shreya Saraf (Senior Research Fellow), and Dr. Shubam Singh Pathania (Senior Research Fellow), who assisted in organising the programme and interacting with the participants. The initiative reflects the continued commitment of the Regional Ayurveda Research Institute, Jammu, towards community health promotion through awareness, preventive health-care, and nutrition-focused interventions under the Poshan Pakhwada campaign.

Director Information reviews functioning of DICs across Kashmir Division

Asks to intensify activities under Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyaan



SRINAGAR, MAY 7: Director Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Shreya Singhal, today chaired a review meeting to assess the functioning and performance of District Information Centres

(DICs) across the Kashmir Division. She also reviewed the ongoing activities of the department being conducted under the Nasha Mukht Jammu Kashmir Abhiyaan. Addressing the officers in the meeting, the Director emphasized the need for further strengthening the public outreach mechanism at the grassroots level. "DICs have pivotal role in disseminating the government policies, welfare initiatives and developmental achievements among the masses in an effective and timely manner", she stated.

Shreya Singhal directed the officers to further enhance coordination with the district administrations and ensure prompt coverage of the government programmes and policies. Outlining the importance of the emerging digital platforms, the Director called upon the DIOs to adopt innovative communication strategies and maximize the use of digital and social media platforms for wider public engagement.

While reviewing the activities being carried out by the DIPR under the Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyaan, the Director underscored the importance of sustained awareness campaigns to combat the drug abuse and promote a healthy and informed society. "Intensify the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities in the educational institutions, rural areas and urban centres through seminars, awareness programmes, cultural activities and social media outreach", she instructed the DIOs.

The Director appreciated the efforts being undertaken by the DIPR in generating awareness regarding the harmful effects of substance abuse and called for greater community participation in making the campaign more impactful and result-oriented.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Joint Director Information (Hqs), Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Raina; Joint Director Information Kashmir, Syed Shah Nawaz Bukhari; Deputy Director Information (PR/AV), Javid Ahmad Rather; Deputy Director Information Srinagar, Mohammad Rafiq; Deputy Director (Hq) Srinagar, Zubair Ahmad, Cultural Officer Burhan Hussain and District Information Officers (DIOs) from Kashmir Division.

NOTICE
I Mohd yousaf S/o Abdul Raham R/o Sancha Ramban have applied for correction of my name School record which has been wrongly written as Abdul yousaf and instead of correct name Mohd yousaf objection if any may be conveyed to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

IN THE COURT OF LEARND EMIC BILLAWAR
Shivam Sharma S/o Sh. Bua Ditta R/o Dher Tehsil Billawar Dist Kathua. V/s
1. B.D.O Billawar
2. Chowkidar Concerned
IN THE MATTER OF: Application under section 13(3) Birth and Death Registration Act 1969 with the prayer of directing B.D.O Billawar to register and issue date of birth certificate of applicant namely Shivam Sharma born on 05-06-2007 at my residential house at Dher Tehsil Billawar.
The applicant submits as under:
1. That applicant namely Shivam Sharma born on 05-06-2007 at my residential house at Dher Tehsil Billawar. but her date of birth has not been registered in birth register.
1. That the applicant has required date of birth certificate of his for getting Sum Document of my School and the date of birth of applicant shall be registered with the following particulars:-
Name of Applicant Name of father Name of mother D.O.B
Place of Birth
Shivam Sharma Bua Ditta
Seema Sharma 05-08-2007 Home

NOTICE
PARKASH SINGH S/O LOCHAN SINGH R/O HEWAGANSODMATNA TEHSIL RAMSOO DISTT. RAMBAN, has applied for the registration of "DEE" class contractor card in the Office of Superintending Engineer PWD R&B Udhampur-Ramban Circle HQ Udhampur objection if any may be conveyed to the above said office within 7 days.

IN THE COURT OF LD. MUNSIF, HIRANAGAR.
Anju Bala Sharma W/o Late Ashwani Kumar R/o Jandi Tehsil Hiranagar Distt. Kathua. (Plaintiff)
Versus
1. Avantika Sharma D/o Late Ashwani Kumar R/o Jandi Tehsil Hiranagar Distt. Kathua.
2. Jeetika Sharma D/o Late Ashwani Kumar R/o Jandi Tehsil Hiranagar Distt. Kathua.
3. Rakshit Sharma S/o Late Ashwani Kumar R/o Jandi Tehsil Hiranagar Distt. Kathua. (Defendants)
In the matter of : Suit for declaration to the effect that the Plaintiff is entitled to inherit the ownership rights of :Vehicle Car Maruti Alto bearing Registration No. JK08C-1025 Chassis No. MA3EAA61S01792984 and Engine No. F8DN4558432 makers (Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.) (called as suit property) by virtue of the above said vehicle exclusively after the death of late Ashwani Kumar R/o Jandi Tehsil Hiranagar Distt. Kathua registered owner and suit for permanent injunction restraining the defendants to disputing the right of inheritance of plaintiff over the suit vehicle in any manner.
NOTICE TO GENERAL PUBLIC
Whereas, above titled suit is pending disposal before this court and through the medium of this proclamation, public at large is hereby informed that if anybody of any objection/s with respect to the same, then he/she/they shall file the same before 14.05.2026 on this court from the date of publication of this proclamation, failing which the matter shall be dealt in accordance with law. If the date fixed is declared holiday, the matter shall be taken up on the next working day.
Issued under my hand and seal of this court today on 07-05-2026 at Hiranagar. Sd/- LD. MUNSIF, HIRANAGAR

IN THE COURT OF LD. EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS, BILLAWAR

Abdul Gaffar, S/o Late Sh. Ilam Din & Late Smt. Sardara Begum, R/o. Bhaddu (Dadwara), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua, Jammu, J&K UT.
1. BDO Billawar. 2. Chowkidar Concerned.
Versus
(Applicant)
IN THE MATTER OF:- 08/26 Sir. (Respondent)
Application u/s 13 (3) of Birth and Death Registration Act 1969 for the issuance of direction to BDO Billawar to register the date of birth of applicant namely ABDUL GAFFAR who was born on 27-10-1966 at village Bhaddu (Dadwara), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua.
The applicant most respectfully submits as under:-
1) That the applicant namely ABDUL GAFFAR was born on 27-10-1966 at village Bhaddu (Dadwara), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua but the same could not be registered in concerned chowkidar birth register due to the reason that at the time of birth of said child/applicant, the applicant's parents did not inform the chowkidar due to lack of knowledge.
2) That now the applicant is in need of birth certificate but without registration of birth u/s 13 (3) of Birth and Death Registration Act 1969, it is not possible to get birth certificate. As such the applicant prays for issuance of direction to BDO Billawar to register the date of birth of said applicant in concerned birth register.
3) That the detail particulars of applicant is as under:-
Applicant Name Father Name Mother Name Date Of Birth Sex
ABDUL GAFFAR ILAM DIN SARDARA BEGUM 27-10-1966 MALE
Place of birth is residential house at village Bhaddu (Dadwara), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua.

IN THE COURT OF LD. EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS, BILLAWAR

Varinder Singh, S/o Late Rajinder Singh, R/o. Rampur (Rasool), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua, J&K UT.
Versus
(Applicant)
1. BDO Mandli. 2. Chowkidar Concerned.
In the matter of:- (Respondent)
Application u/s 13 (3) of Birth and Death Registration Act 1969 for the issuance of direction to BDO Mandli to register the date of death of applicant's grandfather namely ANANT SINGH BHADWAL who was died on 16-08-1968 at village Rampur (Rasool), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua, J&K UT. Sir.
The applicant most respectfully submits as under:-
Billed: 1) That the applicant's grandfather namely ANANT SINGH BHADWAL was died on 16-08-1968 at village Rampur (Rasool), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua but the same could not be registered in concerned chowkidar death register due to the reason that at the time of death of applicant's grandfather, the applicant's family did not inform the chowkidar due to lack of knowledge.
12.26 2) That now the applicant is in need of death certificate of his late deceased grandfather but without registration of death u/s 13 (3) of Birth and Death Registration Act 1969, it is not possible to get death certificate. As such the applicant prays for issuance of direction to BDO Mandli to register the date of death of said applicant's grandfather in concerned death register.
D NT.
3) That the detail particulars of applicant's grandfather is as under:-
DECEASED NAME FATHER NAME DATE OF DEATH
SEX ANANT SINGH SOBHA SINGH BHADWAL 16-08-1968 MALE BHADWAL
Place of death is residential house at village Rampur (Rasool), Tehsil Billawar, District Kathua.

NOTICE
I Kanta Devi W/O Sh. Bishan Dass Sharma R/O Dher Tehsil Billawar distt kathua J&K that I have lost Contractor card A class registration No. 5125/A/2020 which is issued by Department of Chief Electrical Inspectorate J&K PDD . Now I am applying for duplicate of it in concerned authority .objection if any may be conveyed to concerned authority within 7 days, from the date of publication of this notice

NOTICE
I Babu Ram S/o Isher dass R/o Chachawah Tehsil Gool Distt Ramban have applied for correction of my name and adhar card which has been wrongly written as Baabu ram instead of correct name Babu Ram in my Adhar card bearing No 6506 4640 2566 objection if any may be conveyed to the concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS BILLAWAR

Bimla D/o Chand Lal & snt saroti w/o Hari ram Dewal Tehsil Billawar V/s
BDO Billawar
IN THE MATTER OF: An application for registration of birth/death certificate u/s 13 (3) Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969.
NOTICE TO GENERAL PUBLIC
Whereas the above titled applicant has filed this application for seeking direction to non-applicant for registration of birth/death particulars of applicant's Self namely Bimla D/o Chand Lal who was born/died on
Whereas through the medium of this publication, the public at large is that in case anyone having any objection in regard to issuance of direction with respect to registration of birth/death particulars of applicant's mentioned above to the non-applicant, then he/she/they shall file the same before the court in person or through counsel or any recognized agent and contest the claim within 07 days from the date of this publication, failing which appropriate orders shall be passed in this publication. If the date fixed turns to be a holiday, then the matter shall be taken up on the next following working day.
Issued today on 6.05.26 under my signature and seal of this court.
Sd
Executive Magistrate
1st Class Billawar

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Short Term)
MHJD/e-NIT 33 of 2026-27 Dated: 06.05.2026 Due : 15.05.2026

On behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders in two cover system on turnkey basis are invited from registered/reputed firms having sufficient relevant experience for the work mentioned below:

S. No	Description of work	Project Authority	Estt	Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of tender: document	Time of completion	Eligibility Criterion of Bidder
1	Complete cleaning/servicing of Air Handling Units (for upcoming Summer Season) installed at various locations of GMCH, Jammu.	Principal GMC & Associated Hospital Jammu	2,142 LACS	Rs 5000.00 in the shape of CWB/FDR/FRB valid for 12 months pledged in the Executive Engineer's Hill Divison Jammu	Rs 200.00 in the shape of Challan through J&K Govt. Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date and also indicating the name of work duly creditad to 0059-PWD (New) and uploading a copy of treasury challan / receipt on e-tendering portal.	10 days	Registered & Reputed firms having sufficient experience as per Annexure "C" similar nature of work.

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

Sd/-
(Er. Vishal Mahajan)
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Boom for Indian fencing on cards as FAI initiates auction based league; invites EOI

New Delhi, May 7: Often referred to as the 'Game of Swords', Fencing is about to witness a major boom in India, with the Fencing Association of India (FAI) launching the country's first-ever auction-based Indian Fencing League. The first-of-its-kind initiative aims to nurture talent, provide elite athletes with a structured competitive platform, and bring the sport into the mainstream sporting landscape. Rallying under the theme "One Sport, One League, One Nation," the FAI has opened an Expression of Interest (EOI) process, inviting individuals, companies, institutions, and foundations to own a franchise and become part of the league's founding story. "The idea behind the league is to give a further push and overall development to the sport across the country," FAI General Secretary Rajeev Mehta told UNI for the launch of the maiden Indian Fencing League.



Mehta said, "The FAI has invited individuals, companies, institutions and foundations to come forward and become a part of the upcoming League." "Through EOI process, interested parties can own a franchise, invest in fencing, build the future of the sport while becoming a part of the premier level cricket event." FAI general secretary, however, made it clear that submission of EOI does not guarantee the allocation of franchise rights, adding, "The FAI reserves the right to accept and reject any application." "The league will fully transform the fencing sport in India and offer structured platform for emerging athletes to showcase their skills and compete at various levels," he said, adding, "moreover, this exposure surely bridges the gap between grassroots talent and international standards." By attracting sponsorship, media attention, and public interest, the league could significantly boost the popularity of fencing, he opined. "Overall, the Indian Fencing League is a crucial step towards developing a strong sporting ecosystem that can eventually improve India's performances at global events and pave the way for a brighter future for fencing in the country," Mehta expressed. Meanwhile, Bharat Thakur, Chairman of the Indian Fencing League Committee, underscored the significance of the initiative and described it as a major step forward for the sport in India. He told UNI, "The FAI general secretary Rajeev Mehta has conceptualised this initiative of the league," adding, "the auction based tournament initially to be conducted in Senior Men's category in all the three events on the FAI rules." "This is a great beginning for promoting fencing in India.

Former India U19 cricketer Amanpreet Singh Gill dies at 36, Virat Kohli and Yuvraj Singh pay tribute

New Delhi, May 7: The cricket world woke up to sad news on Wednesday as former India Under-19 cricketer Amanpreet Singh Gill passed away at the age of 36. His death was confirmed by the Punjab Cricket Association through a post on X. Many former teammates and members of the cricket community later shared messages remembering him and his journey in the game. A young cricketer who shared the field with future stars



Born in Chandigarh, Punjab, on September 16, 1989, Amanpreet Singh Gill was known as a right-arm medium-fast bowler. During his early cricket days, he played alongside names that later became major figures in Indian cricket, including Virat Kohli, Ravindra Jadeja, and Manish Pandey. Amanpreet was part of India's Under-19 team in 2007. One of the important tournaments in his youth career was the tri-nation Under-19 series between India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. The tournament took place in Sri Lanka and gave several young players a chance to prove themselves on the international stage. Strong performance in the 2007 U19 tournament During the 2007 tri-series in Sri Lanka, Amanpreet delivered one of the better bowling performances for India. He picked up nine wickets in five matches. His professional career later included six First-Class matches, where he claimed 11 wickets. Punjab Cricket Association pays tribute The Punjab Cricket Association shared a detailed condolence message after announcing his passing. The association described him as someone who served Punjab cricket with dedication and passion.

YSSC Doda Delegation Meets Commissioner Secretary YSS Ahead of 16th Gufran Memorial T-20 Championship 2026

Srinagar, May 07: Ahead of the upcoming All India 16th Gufran Memorial T-20 Cricket Championship 2026, a delegation of Young Star Cricket Club Doda called on Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports Department J&K, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary (IAS), at the Civil Secretariat Srinagar. The delegation, comprising Mr. Manzoor Ahmed Batt, Mr. Naseer Ahmed Khora, Mr. Moosa Azad and Mr. Faizan A. Tambero, held a detailed interaction with the Commissioner Secretary. During the meeting, the members apprised him



about the significance of the Gufran Memorial T-20 Championship, which has emerged as a prominent national level cricket event of J&K, and discussed various arrangements for its successful conduct. A representation highlighting certain demands and issues related to the organization of the tournament was also submitted. Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary gave a patient hearing to the delegation and appreciated the efforts of the organizers in promoting sports and engaging youth in positive activities. He assured full support and all possible assistance from the department for the smooth and successful conduct of the championship.

Archery World Cup Stage 2: India stun 10-time Olympic champions Korea to enter recurve women's team final

New Delhi, May 7: India's recurve women's team delivered one of the biggest upsets of the season by defeating powerhouse South Korea 5-1 to storm into the final of the Archery World Cup Stage 2 on Thursday. The Indian trio of Deepika Kumari, Anika Bhatkar and teenage sensation Kunkum Mohod produced a composed display to overcome the Korean side featuring Lee Yunji, Oh Yejin and reigning world champion Kang Chaeyoung. India started strongly and edged the opening set to gain early momentum. The Koreans responded in the second set, but both teams finished level on 56, allowing India to maintain a slender 3-1 advantage. The decisive set saw the Indian archers rise to the occasion



once again. After opening with two 9s, they finished with a remarkable sequence of three 10s and an X to seal a memorable semifinal victory and guarantee a medal. India will now face second-seeded China in the gold medal match on Sunday. However, it was a disappointing outing for India in several other team events. The men's recurve team of Dhraj Bommadevara, Tarundeep Rai and Yashdeep Sanjay Bhogre crashed out in the opening round after a 2-6 defeat against Bangladesh. India's recurve mixed team pairing of Anika and Dhraj also suffered heartbreak, losing 5-4 to Brazil's

Ana Luiza Siliachitcas Castano and Marcus D'Almeida in a tightly fought contest. In compound archery, the mixed team of Aditi Gopichand Swami and Ojas Pravin Desale went down 156-157 against Americans Alexis Ruiz and James Lutz in the quarterfinals. The world No. 1 Indian compound men's team comprising Ojas, Sahil Rajesh Jadhav and Yashdeep narrowly lost 234-235 to the USA in the semifinals before missing out on bronze against China in a dramatic shoot-off. China secured the podium finish after edging India with two Xs in the final shoot-off. The women's compound team of Aditi, Pragati and Jyothi Surekha Vennam also bowed out following a 227-233 quarterfinal defeat to Turkey.

'Won't spare anybody': BCCI issues stern warning over IPL rule breaches

New Delhi, May 7: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has warned IPL franchisees and players against breaching anti-corruption and security protocols, with secretary Devajit Saikia stating that strict disciplinary action will follow any future violations. Speaking on Thursday, Saikia revealed that the BCCI and the IPL Governing Council are preparing a fresh advisory after noticing multiple "anomalies and irregularities" during the ongoing Indian Premier League season. According to Saikia,



the Board has observed unauthorised individuals travelling with team members, entering restricted zones, and even accessing players' hotel rooms without approval. Actions he said directly violate anti-corruption protocols. "We have noticed unauthorised persons travelling with team members, including in team buses, and some individuals visiting team hotels and even players' or officials' rooms without authorisation. This is completely against our anti-corruption protocols," Saikia said. The BCCI secretary also expressed concern over team owners and officials entering restricted areas and interacting with players inside designated team zones, calling it a breach of the "sanctity of the dugout".

The warning comes after multiple controversies involving Rajasthan Royals last month. Team manager Romi Bhatnagar was fined Rs 1 lakh and issued a warning for allegedly using a mobile phone in the dugout during Rajasthan Royals' clash against Royal Challengers Bangalore in Guwahati. In another incident, Rajasthan Royals captain Ryan Parag was reportedly seen vaping inside the dressing room during a match against Punjab Kings in New Chandigarh. Saikia stressed that the BCCI is no longer willing to tolerate protocol violations and made it clear that stricter monitoring measures are now being implemented. "If there is any violation hereafter, the BCCI and IPL will take very stringent action. Whoever the violator may be, we will not spare anybody," he said.

Vinesh Phogat set to miss Asian Games trials after WFI introduces fresh eligibility rules

New Delhi, May 7: Vinesh Phogat is set to miss the upcoming Asian Games selection trials after the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) announced fresh eligibility criteria that effectively shut the door on her comeback hopes. Just months before the Continental Games, the WFI stated that only medal winners from select national-level competitions held in 2025 and 2026 will be eligible to participate in the trials. The decision comes as a major setback for the former World Championships medallist, who has not competed in any professional event since her heartbreaking



restric to medal winners from The 2025 Senior National Wrestling Championship in Ahmedabad The 2026 Senior Federation Cup in Ghaziabad The 2026 Under-20 National Wrestling Championship in Bhubaneswar. Since Vinesh did not participate in any of these tournaments, the criteria virtually eliminate her from contention for the trials. The development also appears to validate concerns earlier raised by the wrestler regarding her strained relationship with the federation. Vinesh had previously alleged that the WFI was creating obstacles in her attempt.

Empowering Champion: Rajouri Administration backs Orphan Boxer Yasir

RAJOURI, MAY 07: In a commendable gesture to support local sports talent and as part of the ongoing 100 Day Nasha Mukti Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, the District Administration Rajouri, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, has extended financial assistance to a promising young boxer Yasir, who has recently been selected to represent India at an international boxing event in Uzbekistan. Yasir, an orphan who has faced significant hardships, has emerged as a symbol of determination and resilience. Despite limited resources and challenging living conditions, he has excelled in boxing, bringing pride to the district with his achievements. Currently residing with his family in modest conditions at the ITI building near the Sports Stadium Rajouri, Yasir's journey reflects both his grit and



the need for collective support to nurture such talent. Recognizing his potential and dedication, the district administration, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, initiated efforts to assist the young athlete in pursuing his sporting aspirations. In response to these efforts, the Animal Husbandry Department, under the guidance of Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Dr. Khalid Najeib Khan, extended financial support to the young boxer. The assistance was provided in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, Senior Superintendent of Police Gaurav Sikarwar, District Social Welfare Officer Abdul Rahim and Veterinary Assistant Surgeon Dr. Shah Riaz Ahmed Chowdhary.

T20 Mumbai League 2026: Inaugural women's tournament to be held alongside men's event at Wankhede

New Delhi, May 7: The fourth season of the T20 Mumbai League and the inaugural edition of the T20 Mumbai Women's League will be held from June 1 to 13 at the iconic Wankhede Stadium, the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) announced on Thursday. In a major boost for domestic cricket, the men's and women's competitions will run simultaneously, underlining the MCA's push towards creating a larger and more inclusive platform for emerging talent. The men's tournament will feature several top Indian stars, including Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, Ajinkya Rahane, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shivam Dube,



Sarfraz Khan and Shardul Thakur alongside some of Mumbai's brightest young prospects. Young talents such as Ayush Mhatre, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Musheer Khan, Suryansh Shedge and Abhigyan Kundu are also expected to draw attention during the tournament. The inaugural women's competition will showcase rising stars and established domestic performers, including Savitri Satghare, Saima Thakor, Humaira Kazi and teenage sensation Ira Jadhav, who emerged as the costliest player at the

alongside some of the biggest names in the game. Conducting both the men's and women's tournaments at the Wankhede Stadium reflects the MCA's commitment to creating a larger and more inclusive platform for talent development and taking Mumbai cricket to a wider audience." Rajdeep Gupta, Chairman of the League Governing Council, added that playing at Wankhede Stadium and receiving nationwide broadcast exposure would be a major step in the development of young cricketers. All matches will be telecast live on Star Sports and streamed on JioHotstar.



Cash-filled bag thrown from 9th floor as ED raids IT businessman in Mohali

New Delhi, May 7: In a dramatic turn of events, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday, May 7, conducted a series of raids across Mohali and Chandigarh, targeting several locations, including the residence of an IT professional in Kharar. During the operation at Western Towers Society, an unidentified individual allegedly threw a bag stuffed with currency notes from a ninth-floor apartment to evade the federal agency's scrutiny. The impact of the fall caused the bag to burst open, scattering wads of cash on the ground. An individual, later identified as a driver waiting in a white car below, attempted to flee with the money after retrieving the bag. However, ED officials stationed at the spot gave chase and successfully apprehended him. Preliminary reports suggest that approximately ₹21 lakh in 5000



denominations was recovered from the site. Sources indicate that the businessman, identified as Nitin Kumar Gohil, may have received prior information about the impending raid. Gohil, who reportedly works in the IT sector, had moved into flat number 906 of the society about four months ago. Residents noted that he frequently

received a large volume of couriers, which were typically handled by his driver. Following the commotion, a crowd gathered at the society, prompting the intervention of local law enforcement. On the instructions of Kharar DSP Ishant Singla, a police team led by SHO Amrinder Singh reached the spot to assist and initiate a formal

investigation into the incident. The raid is part of a broader crackdown involving 12 locations in the Mohali-Chandigarh region. The ED's investigation pertains to alleged financial irregularities and fraud related to the Suntech City project. Several firms, including ABS Township, Altus Builders, and Dheer Constructions, are under the scanner for purportedly defrauding the public and misusing Change of Land Use (CLU) licenses obtained from the Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA). While there is ongoing speculation regarding Gohil's potential political connections, officials have yet to issue a formal statement. The investigation remains active as authorities continue to probe the massive financial scam estimated to involve hundreds of crores of rupees.

Pakistan was 'pleading for ceasefire' after heavy losses in Op Sindoor: Lt Gen Ghai

Jaipur, May 7 India on Thursday said Operation Sindoor reverberated New Delhi's cross-border retaliation doctrine and inflicted such severe battlefield losses on Pakistan that Islamabad was eventually "pleading for ceasefire." Simultaneously, the armed forces revealed that the conflict has triggered a major transformation of India's military structures, force posture and warfighting capabilities for future operations. Former Director General Military Operations Lt Gen Ravji Ghai said India's ongoing military transformation is being shaped directly by lessons learned during Operation Sindoor. "Why is the transformation going on? Because we have imbibed some lessons from Operation Sindoor.

Because of those lessons, we felt that we have to make some changes in our structures, in our organizations, in our equipment. So, that preparation is going on," he said. Responding to questions on Pakistan's eventual request for cessation of hostilities, Lt Gen Ghai said the scale of damage inflicted by India forced Islamabad to seek a ceasefire. "You just heard the statistics. If I was to add the damage that we caused on the Line of Control, inadvertently their honours and awards list, which was out in the internet domain, told us that so many of those awards were given posthumously. So, the numbers that they suffered on the Line of Control in the exchanges that followed, they lost more than 100 soldiers. That number is in

excess of 100," he said. He added that India's strikes also eliminated major terrorist infrastructure. "100 terrorists were killed in those nine terrorist camps. So, there was an innumerable amount of damage which compelled them." Taking a swipe at Pakistan's post-conflict narrative warfare, he said: "At the end of the day, if the Pakistanis were to make the same amount of investment in their battle fighting ability as they do in the narrative, I think they would have fared much better. That's advice they could take." Lt Gen Ghai said India's decisive success during Operation Sindoor stemmed from a clear political mandate and military planning. "A clear and precise political mandate was there. And operational freedom was given to us.

Rath murder: Post-mortem videographed, three detained for questioning in Bengal

Kolkata, May 7 The post-mortem of Chandranath Rath, the slain personal assistant of senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Suwendu Adhikari, was videographed on Thursday for future reference, a senior official at the Barasat Government Medical College and Hospital in West Bengal said. Meanwhile, the police have formed a special investigation team (SIT) comprising officers from CID, local police, special task force (STF) and its intelligence wing to probe the incident. Sources said three people have been detained for questioning. Rath was shot dead from point blank range in North 24 Parganas district's Madhyangram, about 22 kilometres from Kolkata. In North Bengal's Siliguri, the police questioned a resident of Matigara whose registration number, make and model matched with a hatchback that was used to block Rath's SUV before he was gunned down. The silver Nissan Micra was left by Rath's assailants at the crime scene. Talking about Rath's post-mortem, the medical superintendent and vice-principal of the hospital Dr Avijit Saha said a detailed video documentation of the inquest was done. "Since this is a sensitive issue, the post mortem was carried out in the presence of a magistrate. The entire proceeding was video recorded," Saha said. The autopsy was conducted by a three-member forensic team headed by the Head of the Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. According to him, the body was taken to the hospital at around 3 am and kept inside the morgue. The autopsy began at 9:30 am. The preliminary post mortem report of Rath has revealed that he had sustained three gunshot wounds, two on the chest and one in the abdomen. The report said he had suffered massive haemorrhage that led to multiple organ failure. On the other hand, driver Buddhadeb Dharma underwent surgery where bullets were removed at a private hospital off EM Bypass. An official at the private hospital said Bera underwent the surgery and his vital parameters were normal till Thursday evening. In Siliguri, the police questioned a resident after the registration number of his vehicle reportedly matched that of the car allegedly used by the assailants. According to a senior police officer of the Barasat Commissionerate, unidentified attackers opened fire at point-blank range on Rath and his driver Bera

while he was returning home on Wednesday. During the investigation, police traced the registration number of the suspected vehicle to a car registered in Siliguri. The director general of police Siddh Nath Gupta told reporters they had seized a car, spent bullet casings and live ammunition from the scene. Acting on the lead, investigators contacted the vehicle owner, identified as William Joseph, and asked him to appear before the commissionerate with the vehicle on Thursday morning. Sources said the vehicle was subjected to detailed forensic and technical examination for several hours. Police reportedly verified the registration documents, chassis number and other technical specifications before allowing Joseph to leave later in the day. Speaking to media persons after questioning, Joseph said he had received a call from Kolkata Police early on Thursday, shortly after the incident. They informed me about the murder and asked about my whereabouts and the location of the vehicle. I told them I was in Siliguri and that the car was parked at my residence," he said. Joseph said that two weeks back he had advertised the vehicle for sale and suspected that the registration details might have been leaked from there. "Perhaps someone obtained the registration number from that source and used a cloned number plate," he said. According to a senior police officer in Kolkata, the hatchback used in the attack had its chassis number tampered and wiped off. Speaking about the attack, the officer said around 10 bullets were fired. "The miscreants used sophisticated Glock pistols. We recovered 9 mm casings and bullets from the spot," the officer said. In Madhyangram, police have also sourced footage from CCTV cameras installed on multi-storied buildings in the area. According to another officer, eyewitnesses reported that Rath's car was shot at from two sides. "After the SUV was blocked by the smaller car the attackers opened fire at the driver as well as the co-driver side. They dumped the car and fled. On Thursday, Suwendu Adhikari said that Rath was killed because he was his aide. "He was killed because he was my aide and I defeated Mamata Banerjee in Bhabanipur," Adhikari said. Police stations along the Jharkhand and the India-Bangladesh border have been put on alert as well.

Bhagwant Mann gets legal notice from Tarun Chugh for linking BJP to bomb blasts

New Delhi, May 7: Bhagwant Mann has been issued a legal notice by advocate Sanket Gupta on behalf of BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, alleging criminal defamation and misinformation over the Punjab Chief Minister's recent statements linking the BJP to recent bomb blasts. The notice has asked the AAP leader to issue an unconditional apology for his remarks. Further, it warns of criminal and civil legal action if not complied with within seven days. The notice states that Mann has "directly or indirectly accused BJP of orchestrating such acts, which constitutes an allegation of the gravest nature made with reckless disregard for truth". It further highlights that the AAP leader's statement stands in "direct contradiction to the official position of



the Director General of Police, Punjab, who has indicated that such incidents appear to be part of a larger proxy war involving foreign hostile elements, including ISI-backed networks, thereby exposing the falsity and motivated nature of your allegations". What Bhagwant Mann said?

Two blasts were reported on Tuesday night, one outside the Border Security Force's Punjab Frontier headquarters in Jalandhar at around 8 pm, while the other near the Army cantonment area in Khass, Amritsar, at around 11 pm. However, Bhagwant Mann on Wednesday termed the twin blasts

in Amritsar and Jalandhar "minor". He even targeted the BJP and claimed that this was how the saffron party was preparing for the upcoming Assembly elections in West Bengal and they (BJP) have said that now it is Punjab's turn, which indicates that these minor blasts are part of their preparation for the Punjab assembly elections. Mann said. Leader of the Opposition in Punjab Legislative Assembly, Partap Singh Bajwa, also slammed Bhagwant Mann and asked him to place the evidence before the people of Punjab if he has information regarding BJP's involvement.

Tamil Nadu Governor seeks majority proof from Vijay amid government formation suspense

New Delhi, May 7: Chennai witnessed another crucial day of political activity on Thursday as TVK chief Vijay met Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar at Lok Bhavan amid continuing uncertainty over government formation in the state. The meeting comes barely a day after the Tamilaga Vetu Kazhagam (TVK) chief formally staked a claim to form the government following the Assembly election results that reshaped the state's political landscape. Even though TVK emerged as the single-largest party with 108 seats in the 234-member Assembly, the party still remains short of the majority mark. The developments have triggered intense political activity across Chennai, with senior TVK leaders gathering both at the party headquarters and later accompanying Vijay to the Governor's residence. Thursday's meeting with Governor Arlekar was Vijay's second inter-



action with the Governor in two days. The TVK chief was accompanied by senior party leaders as speculation continued over whether the Governor would name the actor-turned-politician to form the government. Sources said the Governor sought clarity on the majority numbers required for government formation and asked Vijay to furnish details of MLAs supporting TVK's claim.

According to sources familiar with the discussions, Vijay informed the Governor that he remained confident of proving his majority on the floor of the House after the swearing-in ceremony. Sources further said Vijay was not inclined to seek support from the BJP and later held consultations with senior party leaders and legal advisors at his residence in Nilankarai following the meeting. Governor invites Vijay to form government. Soon after the meeting, Vijay was formally invited to form the government, ending speculation over whether the Governor would delay the process until additional letters of support were produced, reports the sources. Sources familiar with the developments said Vijay apprised Governor Arlekar of the support currently available to him and expressed confidence about proving his majority on the floor of the House after the swearing-in ceremony.

Two dead, 6 missing after boat submerges in Yamuna in UP's Hamirpur; rescue Ops on



New Delhi, May 7: In a tragic incident, two people were killed and six others went missing after a boat carrying nine passengers from Ghatampur submerged in the Yamuna River in Uttar Pradesh's Hamirpur district. One was rescued safely, officials said on Thursday. The incident took place at Kuturpatia under the jurisdiction of Kurara police station, where the boat carrying nine people across the river submerged on Wednesday.

Following the recovery of the body of Brajraj (a woman), the body of 14-year-old Archana has now been recovered. Search operations for the missing persons are currently underway. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams have been carrying out continuous rescue operations since last night. However, heavy rainfall has been hampering search

efforts in the river. Four children, aged between 5 and 15 years, are still missing. Divers from the SDRF, NDRF and Flood PAC are conducting intensive search operations in the area. The District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police are continuously monitoring the relief and rescue operations. Magistrate Abhishek Goyal said that local villagers and police personnel rushed to the spot immediately after receiving information about the incident. "A boat carrying nine people from Ghatampur submerged in the Yamuna River. Three people were rescued immediately, while six remain missing. Rescue teams, including SDRF, NDRF, and flood relief units, have been called in. SDRF teams have already reached the spot, while other teams are on the way.

Five BJP workers injured after bike-borne men hurl bombs at them in Bengal's Panihati

New Delhi, May 7: At least five BJP workers were injured after crude bombs were hurled at them in the Panihati area of West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district, said police on Thursday. This happened hours after the ghastly murder of Chandranath Rath, long-time personal assistant of Suwendu Adhikari. The police said the incident took place after midnight on Durr Road in Ward No. 1 of Panihati Municipality. It is learned that some BJP workers were talking to the common people when several miscreants came to the spot on a bike. Eyewitnesses claimed that four people on the bikes hurled bombs at the BJP workers there. Three bombs were hurled in succession, following which the miscreants fled. Five BJP workers were seriously injured in the bombing.



The incident created a lot of tension in the area. The injured were taken to RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in critical condition. They are reportedly undergoing treatment there. Upon receiving the news, officers of the Khardah police station reached the spot. Central forces also reached there. They brought the situation under control and conducted patrolling in the area. The Khardah police have started investigating the incident. CCTV footage of the area was being examined, and a search has

been started to find the miscreants. While reacting to the Madhyangram incident, Suwendu Adhikari also talked about the bombing in Khardah. In his words, "The politics of revenge has been going on in the state for 15 years. This is the result of 15 years of Maha Jungle Raj. Last night, there was a bombing in Khardah, and BJP workers were shot in Basihat. Those responsible for the violence

will not be spared." The BJP has accused Trinamool Congress of carrying out the bombing in Panihati, which is about 7 kilometres from Madhyangram, where Adhikari's personal assistant was killed by assailants as he was on his way home. It has been alleged that miscreants affiliated with Trinamool carried out the bombing. However, Trinamool Congress has issued no official comment on the incident. Since the West Bengal Assembly elections results were declared on May 4, reports of post-poll violence have been coming from across the state. In some incidents, Trinamool Congress workers were beaten up, their party offices were vandalised, and party posters were destroyed. In some places, BJP workers were targeted, with many sustaining injuries. The police have said that strong action would be initiated against those who would indulge in such activities.

PMEGP Generates 36.33 Lakh Jobs, Helps Set Up Over 4 Lakh Micro-Enterprises: Govt

New Delhi, May 7: The Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), the flagship self-employment scheme of the Ministry of MSME, has generated an estimated 36.33 lakh jobs and helped establish more than 4 lakh micro-enterprises during the 15th Finance Commission period between FY2021-22 and FY2025-26, according to government data released on Wednesday.

Implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, the scheme recorded full utilisation of its approved outlay of 213,554.42 crore during the five-year period, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises said.

The government said PMEGP facilitated the setting up of 4,03,706 micro-enterprises against a target of 4,02,000 units, marginally surpassing the official goal. The scheme provides margin money subsidies on bank loans to



first-generation entrepreneurs for establishing non-farm micro-enterprises in the manufacturing and services sectors.

A significant share of the programme's expansion was concentrated in rural India. Nearly 80 per cent of the enterprises established under PMEGP during the period were located in rural areas, reflect-

ing the government's push towards rural industrialisation and decelerated economic growth.

The data also pointed to higher participation from women and socially disadvantaged groups. Women accounted for nearly 40 per cent of the total enterprises supported under the scheme, while about 45 per cent of the margin

money subsidy disbursed went to women entrepreneurs.

According to the ministry, around 54 per cent of beneficiaries belonged to SC, ST and OBC communities, indicating the scheme's outreach among historically under-represented groups in formal enterprise creation.

The Ministry said the programme continued to contribute to "grassroots entrepreneurship" and self-employment generation by improving access to institutional credit-linked subsidies. Officials indicated that PMEGP would be further expanded in the next cycle with greater emphasis on innovation, scalability and wider outreach.

PMEGP is one of the Centre's key credit-linked subsidy schemes aimed at promoting self-reliance through micro-enterprise creation, particularly among first-generation entrepreneurs in rural and semi-urban areas.

Apple To Invest Rs 100 Crore In India's Renewable Energy Infrastructure

Mumbai, May 7:

US tech giant Apple has announced an investment of Rs 100 crore to support the development of renewable energy infrastructure in India as part of its broader sustainability and carbon neutrality goals. The company said the investment will be made in collaboration with CleanMax, one of India's leading renewable energy developers, to help build more than 150 megawatts of new renewable energy capacity across the country.

According to the iPhone maker, the planned capacity would be enough to power nearly 1.5 lakh Indian households annually and may be expanded further in the coming years. The initiative is aimed at strengthening renewable energy adoption across Apple's supply chain operations in India



and supports the company's target of becoming carbon neutral across its entire footprint by 2030.

"At Apple, our commitment to the environment is also a driving force for innovation across the company and around the world," said Sarah Chandler, Apple's Vice President of Environment and Supply Chain Innovation.

"We are proud to expand our efforts to invest in India's clean energy

economy and protect the country's precious natural resources," she added.

Moreover, the US-headquartered firm had earlier partnered with CleanMax on rooftop solar projects to power its offices and retail stores in India with 100 per cent renewable energy.

Apart from renewable energy investments, it also announced new partnerships in India focused on reducing plastic pollution and promoting green entrepreneurship.

Gold And Silver Surge Up To 1 Per Cent Amid Geopolitical Uncertainty

New Delhi, May 7:

Gold and silver prices traded higher on Thursday, with prices rising by up to 1 per cent amid a rise in crude oil prices and uncertainty surrounding the US-Iran peace deal. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures (June 5) traded at an intraday high of Rs 1,52,887, up 0.49 per cent or Rs 755, as of 10:49 am. The yellow metal touched an intraday low of Rs 1,52,400. Meanwhile, silver futures (July 3) were trading 1.49 per cent or Rs 3,790 higher at Rs 2,57,055 after hitting an intraday high. The white metal began the session at Rs 2,54,998 on the MCX, up 0.68 per cent or Rs 1,733. It touched an intra-



day low of Rs 2,54,722. According to commodity market experts, the near-term outlook for precious metals remains positive amid improving sentiment and continued safe-haven demand driven by geopolitical uncertainties. In the international market as well, precious metals were trading in the green. COMEX gold was up 0.21 per cent at \$4,703 per

ounce, while silver gained 1.12 per cent to trade at \$37.17 per ounce. The rise in gold and silver prices is being attributed to weakness in the dollar index, which is currently trading below the 98 mark. On the other hand, global uncertainty is also supporting gains in precious metals. The US and Iran are continuing talks aimed at ending the ongoing conflict.

Energy Crisis Front And Centre As ASEAN Leaders Start Summit

Cebu, May 7:

Conflicts far beyond Southeast Asia are expected to dominate discussions of leaders of the regional ASEAN bloc meeting in the Philippines, with the Middle East crisis posing significant challenges for its fuel import-dependent economies. The meetings on the island of Cebu on Thursday and Friday will include leaders and foreign and economic ministers of the 11-member grouping, with energy and food supply security top priorities for the region of nearly 700 million people. The Middle East crisis has left many Asian economies scrambling for alternative oil supplies, with ASEAN ministers convening special meetings ahead of the summit, and the Philippines hopeful of ratification of an oil-sharing framework agreement.



"The ongoing crisis in the Middle East and its far-reaching repercussions, including the disruptions to energy flows, trade routes, food supply chains and the welfare of our nationals, remind us that developments beyond our region can have immediate and profound effects on ASEAN," Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Ma. Theresa Lazaro said in opening a

meeting of her counterparts on Thursday. "ASEAN needs to strengthen our crisis coordination and institutional readiness in times of crisis," Lazaro said. **ACTION BEYOND RHETORIC**

The issue, diplomats and analysts say, will test the Philippines' chairmanship, forcing it to coordinate a regional response while preventing ASEAN's own conflicts, including

Myanmar's civil war and last year's deadly and still unresolved border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia, from slipping down the agenda. "Planning to cushion the economic fallout could eventually outweigh other immediate regional issues," said Don McLean Gill, a geopolitical analyst and lecturer at Manila's De La Salle University.

While Myanmar's crisis and troubles in the South China Sea would still be discussed, significant breakthroughs were unlikely, he added. ASEAN, which has a combined gross domestic product of about \$3.8 trillion, has long struggled to coordinate its responses to crises, with meetings typically resulting in agreements to cooperate without a clear strategy or concrete commitments.

Incubators Are Key Pillar Of Successful Startup Ecosystem: NITI Aayog

New Delhi, May 7:

Incubators are one of the key pillars of a successful startup ecosystem, playing a vital role in nurturing and scaling innovative ideas, said Deepak Bagla, Mission Director, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog.

At the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), "we are focused on strengthening this pillar by enabling incubators with better infrastructure, mentorship, funding access, and market linkages," he said at an event in Mohali, that brought together key stakeholders from government, industry, academia, incubators, startups, and the wider innovation ecosystem. The event aimed at strengthening the state-centre collaboration and to build a robust incubator network across the region, while deepening engagement with key innovation



ecosystem stakeholders.

The initiative also focused on fostering inclusive entrepreneurship and accelerating innovation through stronger partnerships between government, industry, academia, and startups.

The regional gathering witnessed participation from representatives

of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Uttarakhand and Delhi, along with startup councils, incubators, industry leaders, CSR partners and ecosystem enablers. S Satnam Singh Sandhu, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, and Chairman of CGC Landran, appre-

ciated Atal Innovation Mission's efforts for spearheading collaborative innovation platforms that leverage regional strengths and contribute towards India's innovation-led growth journey.

He underlined the significance of entrepreneurship and innovation in realising the Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat. He also noted that Punjab and J&K share entrepreneurial energy and academic depth and that this joint chapter would unlock new opportunities for startups, youth and industry across both states.

The 'Sumvadh' featured high-level deliberations on strengthening incubation ecosystems, scaling state-led innovation initiatives and enhancing collaboration between governments, academia, incubators and industry.

Bajaj Auto announces Rs 5,600-crore share buyback

New Delhi, May 7:

Pune-based automobile company Bajaj Auto Ltd officially informed the stock exchange about its second share buyback in two years on Wednesday, adding that it will buy back shares worth Rs 5,633 crore. According to the exchange filing, the price is set at Rs 1,200 per share. The automobile company will buy 46.9 lakh shares representing 1.68 per cent of the total number of equity shares. The company's previous buyback was in February 2024 with the buyback price at Rs 10,000 per share. Bajaj Auto bought 1.41 per cent equity for Rs 4,000 crore. In June 2022, the company bought back shares amounting to



Rs 2,500 crore. The company bought 1.88 per cent equity in this buyback at a price of Rs 4,600 per share.

According to the company's exchange filing, Bajaj Auto's net profit surged 34 per cent to Rs 2,746.13 crore in the fourth quarter of the previous fiscal, as compared to its profit of Rs 2,049.31 crore in the same

quarter of fiscal 2025. The company's standalone revenue increased by 31.8 per cent year-on-year (YoY) for the three months ended March, reaching Rs 16,005.65 crore compared to Rs 12,147.97 crore. Operating income, or earnings before interest and taxes rose 36 per cent to Rs 3,322.68 crore from Rs 2,450.59 crore.

India's steel capacity on track towards National Steel Policy target of 300 MTPA by 2030: Centre

New Delhi, May 7:

India's total steel capacity stood at approximately 220 MTPA in FY 2025-26, on track toward the National Steel Policy target of 300 MTPA by 2030, centre said on Wednesday. India's steel sector sustained its growth trajectory in April 2026, recording year-on-year gains across key production and consumption parameters. The month continued to reflect healthy domestic demand momentum and stable industrial activity across infrastructure and manufacturing. Crude steel production in April 2026 stood at 14.89 million tonnes, up 5.8 per



year-on-year (YoY) over April 2025 (13.31 million tonnes). Hot metal production grew 5.4 per cent YoY, while pig iron output (0.69 million tonnes) posted a decline of 6 per cent YoY. Finished steel production reached 13.05 million tonnes, up 3.4 per cent YoY. Ministry of Steel said,

Finished steel consumption in April 2026 was 12.99 million tonnes, registering growth of 8.1 per cent YoY reflecting continued buoyancy in construction, infrastructure, and manufacturing end-use segments, it added. Major players including SAIL, Tata Steel, JSW Steel.

Sensex, Nifty Open Higher As Falling Crude, Easing Geopolitical Tension Boost Market Sentiment

New Delhi, May 7:

Indian markets continued their green streak at the opening bell on Thursday, aided by falling crude oil prices, improved global risk sentiment, hopes of easing geopolitical tensions, and strong domestic liquidity absorption by Domestic Institutional Investor (DIIs). Domestic benchmarks traded with modest gains during the early session. The SENSEX stood at 78,033.90 points, marking an increase of 75.38 points or 0.10 per cent. Simultaneously, the NSE NIFTY 50 reached 24,383.55 points, climbing 52.60 points or 0.22 per cent. The positive start followed a significant surge in the



previous session, where the market reclaimed higher levels. Rajesh Palviya, Head of Research, Axis Direct, said, "From a technical perspective, yesterday's candle marked a decisive break from recent consolidation, with banks

carrying most of the weight. Wall Street closed at new highs overnight on hopes of a US-Iran framework agreement. The Nifty surged 298 points yesterday to settle at 24,331, reclaiming the 24,300 level in a broad-based rally

driven by softening crude and improving global risk appetite." At the time of filing this report, at the US Markets, tech and broad-market indices led the charge, with the Nasdaq surging by 2.02 per cent and the S&P 500 rising by 1.46 per cent, while Dow Jones Futures remained stable with a modest gain of 0.15 per cent. Asian Markets largely mirrored this optimism, highlighted by a 5.69 per cent jump in the Nikkei 225 and a strong 2.04 per cent performance from the Taiwan Weighted index. Other regional players like the Hang Seng and Jakarta Composite also posted solid gains of 1.53 per cent and 1.00 per cent.

DDC Poonch reviews formulation of action plans under Vibrant Village Programme-II

POONCH, MAY 07: District Development Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting to review the progress made in the formulation of Action Plans under the Vibrant Village Programme-II in the district. Detailed discussions were held regarding the implementation of developmental activities in the identified villages under the Vibrant Village Programme-II. The District Development Commissioner directed all concerned officers to conduct a thorough analysis of gaps in the implementation of different schemes and pro-



grammes and ensure timely preparation and submission of Action Plans at the earliest. The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Superintendent Engineer PWD(R&B), Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Executive Engineers of PMGSY, JPDCL, Jal Shakti Department & Chief Medical Officer, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Education Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Block Development Officers, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, besides other concerned officers. The District Development Commissioner also reviewed the works being executed by different departments under the first phase of the programme and assessed the progress achieved so far. He emphasized the need for coordinated efforts among all departments for effective execution of developmental initiatives in the Vibrant Villages. The concerned officers briefed the chair regarding the developmental activities being carried out in their respective jurisdiction villages under the programme.

DC Udhampur reviews implementation of PM Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana scheme



UDHAMPUR, MAY 07: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the implementation and progress of the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana in the district. The meeting was attended by Additional District Commissioner Jugal Kishore, P.O. Poshan Subash Dogni, Chief

Planning Officer Uttam Singh and other concerned officers. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to expand the scheme's coverage among unorganised sector workers to ensure that maximum eligible beneficiaries are brought under the ambit of social security benefits. He highlighted that the PM-SYM scheme is designed to secure the future of workers who lack access to formal social security mechanisms. The DC issued necessary directions to all concerned line departments to intensify grassroots-level awareness and mobilisation activities to ensure wider outreach in the district. "Departments should identify eligible beneficiaries within their respective jurisdictions and facilitate their enrolment through focused field-level initiatives," he stressed.

Medical cum awareness camp held at Kurmail- Assar

DODA, MAY 07: A free medical camp under the Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) was successfully organized at Village Kurmail in Medical Block Assar, the other day. During the camp, the locals were provided a wide range of healthcare services including general health check-ups, screening for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), dental check-ups and other essential medical services. The medical camp was headed by Dr. Tahir Muneeb Zargar, Senior Dental Surgeon. Dr. Faheem Wani along with



Swami Raj (Pharmacist) about preventive healthcare measures, hygiene and healthy lifestyle practices. Awareness regarding the Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) was also imparted, highlighting the harmful effects of drug abuse and the importance of building a drug-free society.

Rajouri creates National Record in MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026; DC Abhishek Sharma lauded

RAJOURI, MAY 07: District Rajouri has earned national recognition for its outstanding performance in the MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026, securing the highest participation in the country. In a letter of appreciation issued by MY Bharat, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, the efforts of the district administration under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, were lauded for achieving a remarkable milestone of 18,017 quiz



attempts - the highest in the nation. The communication highlighted that this achievement reflects not

only the enthusiasm and active engagement of the youth in Rajouri but also the effective leadership, coordination and proactive outreach initiatives undertaken by the district administration. The large-scale participation was attributed to sustained awareness campaigns and mobilization strategies carried out at the grassroots level. The District Administration Rajouri has expressed gratitude for the recognition and reaffirmed its commitment to continue empowering youth and enhancing their participation in nation-building initiatives through platforms like MY Bharat. The letter further noted that such exemplary performance sets a benchmark for other districts across the country and reinforces the spirit of participatory governance among youth.

Operation Sindoor symbolizes Nation First of BJP: Dr. Shishu

Jammu, 07 May 2026: Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu, State Spokesperson, Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu & Kashmir, paid rich tributes to the valour, sacrifice and unwavering commitment of our Armed Forces and Security Personnel on the solemn occasion anniversary of Op Sindoor. Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu in a press statement said, "Operation Sindoor is a rare happening in the history of India which has sent a clear message across the globe that New India will not tolerate any threat to the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the nation and said that it symbolises the core ideology of present dispensation of NATION First under the visionary leadership of Sh. Narendra Modi. Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu while paying rich tribute to the bravest of those who bow our heads to those, who displayed exemplary courage



during Operation Sindoor and ensured that the nefarious designs of terrorists and their handlers across the border were defeated. Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu further stated that Operation Sindoor marked a turning point in restoring peace in Jammu & Kashmir. It broke the

backbone of terror infrastructure and re-established the faith of common citizens in the Constitution of India. Post Operation Sindoor, the Valley witnessed a new era of development, tourism and grassroots democracy. Dr. Shishu further said that under the decisive leadership of Honble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji and Honble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah Ji, the policy of Zero Tolerance Against Terrorism' has shown results. Operation Sindoor reflects that New India hits back with strength and precision when provoked. Those who continue to shelter terrorism must understand that the cost of such misadventure will be unbearable. India's patience should not be mistaken for weakness. Operation Sindoor is proof of our capability and resolve." Dr. Shishu appealed to the youth of

Jammu & Kashmir to become partners in the journey of peace and progress. "The guns of terrorism only brought death and destruction. The laptops, start-ups, and tourism of New J&K is the dream of viksit Jammu kashmir in the journey of Viksit Bharat. Extension of Railway from Jammu to Kashmir speak of the vision of our PM. Dr. Shishu further said that it is the time to isolate the remaining anti-national elements and strengthen the hands of our forces and national leadership. Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu further informed that BJP is committed for its core ideology of Nation first and operation Sindoor is the testimony of our core ideology. National Security and sovereignty is paramount important for every Indian and anybody trying to disturb, shall be dealt the same way, said Dr. Shishu while concluding his statement.

ADC reviews RDSS implementation, Smart Meter installation in Baderwah

BHADERWAH, MAY 07: Additional Deputy Commissioner Sunil Kumar Bhutyal today chaired a meeting at his office chamber to review the implementation of the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) and the progress of smart meter installation in Baderwah subdivision. Detailed discussions were held regarding the installation of transformers and strengthening of electricity infrastructure in villages of Gutassa, Tipri, Neota and Karyan. The requirement of electricity poles and wires in these areas was also reviewed to ensure better power supply and improved services to the public.



Officials informed the Sub Division Baderwah chair that nearly 62 percent of smart meters have already been installed in

and the remaining work is expected to be completed by July 31, 2026.

Awareness Programme on Lok Adalat held at Doda



DODA, MAY 07: An awareness programme on Lok Adalat was organised today at Doda under the directions of the Chairman and Secretary District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), with the aim of educating the public about the significance and benefits of Lok Adalat and amicable settlement of disputes. The programme was conducted by LADC Advocate Tahir Hussain Dar, Advocate Noman Rafiq and Para Legal Volunteer (PLV) Suniya Begum, who highlighted the vital role of Lok Adalat in ensuring accessible, speedy and cost-effective justice for the common people. During the awareness session, the participants were informed about

the alternative dispute resolution mechanism and the advantages of settling disputes through Lok Adalat without lengthy court procedures. The speakers emphasised that Lok Adalat serves as an effective platform for resolving cases amicably, thereby reducing the burden on courts and promoting harmony in society. The resource persons also encouraged the public to actively utilise legal aid services and participate in Lok Adalats for early resolution of disputes in a fair and transparent manner. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from members of the public, who appreciated the initiative aimed at spreading legal awareness at the grassroots level.

Bhalla sounds warning on escalating public hardship in J&K UT' Seeks urgent relief on pensions, jobs, and basic services

Sawhney calls for accountable, people-centric governance

Jammu May 07 : Intensifying his attack on the prevailing governance scenario in the Union Territory, JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Wednesday painted a grim picture of the ground realities in Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that people across regions are grappling with a "multi-dimensional crisis" ranging from economic distress to administrative neglect. Addressing a large public meeting at Block Bahu, Ward-11, Bhalla said that the common citizen is today burdened with rising costs of living, shrinking employment avenues, and delayed access to essential welfare schemes, making everyday survival increasingly difficult for large sections of society. The meeting, organized by Ward President Suresh Bangotra under the supervision of Block President Bahu (11) Latish Sharma and leadership of I/C Bahu Constituency Satish Sharma, witnessed participation from prominent local leaders and a large number of resi-



dents, especially youth. Among those present were Mulkh Raj, Sahil Shavotra, Kundan Lal, Yash Pal Sangar, Ram Lal, Balram, Tara Ram, Baldev Raj, Babli Madam, Sukhshain, Rahul Salotra, Rahul Manni, Kaka Kalsi, Sanju Kalsi, and Mantu Kalsi. The gathering echoed with concerns over lack of development and growing public dissatisfaction over unresolved civic issues. Bhalla strongly

highlighted the persistent delay in disbursement of pensions to elderly persons, widows, and differently-abled individuals, stating that such negligence reflects a serious lapse in governance. He also pointed out that delays in ration card bifurcation and updating have excluded many deserving families from availing benefits under food security and other welfare schemes. In addition, he flagged

irregularities in implementation of schemes like PMAY and other housing benefits, alleging that many eligible beneficiaries are still awaiting assistance while deserving cases remain pending for years. Expanding on broader public issues, Bhalla said that Jammu and Kashmir is facing an acute unemployment crisis, particularly among educated youth, who are struggling due to lack of recruitment drives, delayed examinations, and slow filling of vacant government posts. He also criticized the rising inflation, especially the increasing prices of LPG cylinders, essential commodities, electricity tariffs, and transportation costs, which have severely impacted middle-class and lower-income families. He added that traders, small business owners, and daily wage earners are equally suffering due to declining economic activity and lack of government support.

MP Assembly's Committee on Govt Assurances calls on Speaker ; stronger inter-state legislative ties emphasised

SRINAGAR, MAY 7: A delegation of the Committee on Government Assurances of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly today visited the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly and called on the Speaker, J&K Legislative Assembly Abdul Rahim Rather. The Committee was comprised of its Chairman Harishankar Khatik and members including Gourav Singh Pardi, Rajan Mandloi, Ramnivas Saha besides other senior officials. The high-level visit focused on a bilateral exchange of knowledge, aiming to deepen the mutual understanding of legisla-



tive work culture and the specific procedural functions of their respective committees. The visit marks a significant step in fostering inter-state cooperation between the legislative bodies. During the interaction, the delegates shared best practices and discussed the evolving mechanisms used to ensure government accountability through the assurance process. Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker, J&K Legislative Assembly, highlighted the important role of the Committee on Government Assurances in ensuring accountability and transparency in governance. He stated that engaging with the committees from other states is essential to understand the diverse legislative landscapes across our country. It is through this collaborative spirit that all assemblies can work together to uphold and strengthen the democratic values of the

nation, he added. The engagement highlighted the shared commitment of both Jammu & Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh to enhance the efficacy of legislative oversight. By studying the work culture and functioning of their counterparts, the committees aim to implement more robust frameworks for tracking and fulfilling the government promises made on the floor of the House. The visiting delegation appreciated the functioning of the J&K Legislative Assembly and expressed satisfaction over exchange of knowledge and best practices during the visit.

Power theft is a crime: JPDCL launches major crackdown

JAMMU, MAY 7: Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCCL) intensified its enforcement campaign against electricity theft by conducting extensive inspection drives at Javed Nagar and Gujjar Basti, besides Upper Chinore and Roop Nagar, falling under Electric Division-II and Electric Division-III, respectively. Special Enforcement Teams (SETs) inspected a total of 61 electricity installations comprising domestic and commercial consumers and detected widespread violations of electricity norms. During inspections at Javed Nagar and Gujjar Basti, nearly 90% of inspected installations were found indulging in illegal consumption of electricity, with 27 commercial establishments using power through unauthorized means and failing to produce electricity bills. The drive also revealed 02 cases of excessive load usage beyond sanctioned limits and 1 case of a

damaged meter indicating possible meter tampering. Similarly, inspections at Upper Chinore and Roop Nagar exposed serious irregularities including 13 cases of smart meter bypassing through illegal hooking, 11 illegal electricity connections, 3 commercial establishments operating on domestic supply and 4 consumers violating sanctioned load norms, all of whom were booked for penal action and load enhancement. JPDCCL stated that unauthorized use of electricity adversely impacts public resources and the overall efficiency of the power distribution system. The Corporation emphasized that all consumers are expected to adhere to prescribed regulations and maintain sanctioned load norms. It was informed that appropriate action, as per the provisions of the Electricity Act and applicable regulations, shall be taken in cases where violations are noticed.

DHJ takes stock of Horticulture development activities in Dansal, adjoining zones

JAMMU, MAY 7: Director Horticulture Jammu (DHJ) Gul Syed on Thursday conducted an extensive visit to Horticulture Zones Dansal, Nagrota and Bajalta. He was accompanied by Assistant Director Horticulture Sumil Gupta and local Horticulture Development Officer Sushma Devi. During the visit, the Director emphasized on effective implementation and promotion of the Horticulture schemes among farmers. The Director reviewed ongoing schemes and also cross-checked the progress achieved on the ground. Special focus was laid on identification of additional areas for new rainy season plantations to benefit the



maximum number of farmers from departmental initiatives. Detailed discussions were also held regarding HADP, ATMA, CSS and other centrally sponsored and UT-level Horticulture schemes. Officers were directed to ensure maximum awareness and outreach so that

State Taxes Enforcement Wing (Central) Jammu achieves record revenue of Rs.3.45 Crore in FY 2025-26

JAMMU, MAY 7: The State Taxes Enforcement Wing (Central) Jammu has achieved a historic milestone, realizing a record penalty of 3.45 crore from 878 established GST violation cases during the 2025-26 financial year, marking an enhancement of 21% increase in revenue realization as compared to the last financial year. The achievement marks the highest revenue collection within the Jammu division, underscoring the department's intensified crackdown on tax evasion. In a massive operational sweep, the enforcement team verified over 3.75 lakh E-Way bills. The inspections targeted critical compliance gaps, including the movement of goods without E-Way bills or e-invoices, misclassification of goods, quantity mismatches and incorrect tax rate declarations. Major commodities involved in these penalties included metal



scrap, marble/granite, cement, electronics, tobacco products and TMT. The successful operations were led by Deputy Commissioner State Taxes, Enforcement (Central), Jammu Sonu Pargal, under the strategic supervision of Namrita Dogra, Additional Commissioner State Taxes (Enforcement & Administration) and P.K. Bhat, Commissioner of

State Taxes, J&K. Building on this momentum, the Central Enforcement team has already realized 730 lakh in penalties in the current financial year. Beyond enforcement, the department has launched extensive awareness drives in remote areas to educate traders, transporters and consumers on the GST Act, 2017. Lauding the outstanding performance of team Enforcement Wing Central Jammu, Ms. Dogra stated "Our goal is to foster a culture of voluntary compliance. While we remain firm in curbing tax evasion through data analytics and continuous monitoring, we also prioritize supporting the business community through education and transparent processes." The enforcement team, including Assistant Commissioner Saima Sharief Khan and State Taxes Officers Ranjeet Kour, Sonia Parihar, Simmi, Ashwani Kumar, Chandar Badan and Amit Jain expressed appreciation for the majority of transporters and drivers who consistently adhere to GST regulations. The State Taxes Department reiterates its commitment to maintaining a balanced approach of rigorous enforcement and proactive stakeholder engagement to ensure a fair and compliant tax regime in Jammu & Kashmir.

DDC Reasi holds Block Diwas at Sungari

REASI, MAY 7: To strengthen grassroots governance and ensure prompt redressal of public grievances, District Development Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek today conducted a Block Diwas at Sungari in Mahore Sub Division. A large number of residents from adjoining panchayats participated in the programme and projected their demands related to basic amenities, including road connectivity, drinking water supply, electricity, healthcare and other developmental issues. Representatives from Bhagodas, Balmankot, Channa and Tulli Banna highlighted demands, seeking adequate staff in PHCs and schools, speedy completion of PWD and PMGSY roads, renewal of ams licences, upgradation of electric transformers and the need for an ambulance facility. Additional demands included the establishment of a Degree



College at Chassana, construction of a protection wall for the sports stadium and survey of BPL families in the area. The District

Development Commissioner gave a patient hearing and assured redressal of genuine issues in a time-bound manner. He directed the concerned officers present on the occasion to take immediate action for on-the-spot redressal of the issues needing urgent attention, while instructing that other matters be taken up on priority and resolved at the earliest. The DDC also urged KKGs to come forward and apply for seed and fertilizer licences to strengthen agricultural activities in the region. A pledge under the Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan was also administered during the Block Diwas, wherein all present officials and public reaffirmed their commitment to making society drug-free. MLA Gulabgarh Er. Khurshid Ahmed; ADDC Krishan Lal' ACD Mukesh Sharma; CPO Narinder Kumar; SDM Mahore and other concerned officers were present.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir reviews Eid-ul-Adha arrangements

SRINAGAR, MAY 7: In preparation for the forthcoming Eid-ul-Adha celebrations, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Thursday convened a high-level meeting to review and finalize arrangements for the smooth and peaceful observance of the festival across the Kashmir Division. During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner directed the KPDCL officers, to ensure uninterrupted power supply to prominent religious shrines including Hazratbal Shrine, Kalashpora, Jenab Sahab Saura, Ziyarat Sharief Kabamarg and Khiram in Anantnag, Ziyarat Sharief Makhama, and Aham-i-Sharief in Bandipora. He further instructed the concerned



departments to maintain adequate and uninterrupted supply of potable drinking water and to address any water-related issues promptly. Emphasizing the importance of ensuring availability of essential commodities during the festive days, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned authorities to maintain sufficient stocks of rice, atta, sugar, and other daily essentials throughout the Valley. To meet the anticipated demand for sacrificial animals, the Director Sheep Husbandry was asked to ensure adequate availability across Kashmir Division ahead of Eid-ul-Adha. Wakf authorities were also directed to properly regulate designated sale locations to prevent traffic congestion and inconvenience to the general public.

Collective efforts need of the hour to keep youth away from drugs: Sanjeev Verma

JAMMU, MAY 7: A massive public awareness march was organized today in the Bhalwal area to strengthen awareness against drug abuse under the "Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan" being conducted under the guidance of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. The event was organized by Shri Kailakh Jyotish Avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, with enthusiastic participation from various sections of society, youth, social organizations, educational institutions and local residents. The awareness march commenced from Bhalwal Chowk and concluded at S.D. Memorial School, Karwanda. Throughout the march, participants spread awareness through motivational slogans such as "Quit Drugs - Embrace Life," "Save Youth - Save



the Future," and "Drug-Free Jammu & Kashmir - Our Resolution." The

youth displayed remarkable enthusiasm during the march collectively pledged to bring positive change in society by standing united against drug abuse. Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu & Kashmir Sanjeev Verma, the Chief Guest, addressed the gathering. Terming drug addiction a serious social and psychological challenge for society, he stated that the youth are the greatest strength of

any nation and if they fall prey to drug addiction, the future of both society and the country is adversely affected. "Such awareness campaigns help develop positive thinking in society and guide the youth in the right direction," he noted. He appealed to all social organizations, parents and teachers to actively contribute towards turning this anti-drug campaign into a mass movement. Addressing the program, President of Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust Mahant Rohit Shastri said that drug addiction affects not only an individual but the entire family and society. "Protecting the youth from drug abuse is one of the biggest social responsibilities of the present time and every section of society must come forward to address this issue," he emphasised.

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