

DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

Many people with dengue can be cared for at home with adequate rest and hydration. But, if you experience any warning signs, go immediately to the nearest medical center.

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

A drop in body temperature accompanied by any of the following symptoms:

- Severe and continuous headache
- Joint and muscle pain
- Severe stomach pain
- Stiff neck
- Redness in eyes
- Redness on skin
- Redness on gums
- Redness on nose
- Redness on throat
- Redness on tongue
- Redness on lips
- Redness on face
- Redness on neck
- Redness on chest
- Redness on back
- Redness on arms
- Redness on legs
- Redness on feet
- Redness on hands
- Redness on fingers
- Redness on toes
- Redness on nails
- Redness on hair
- Redness on skin
- Redness on face
- Redness on neck
- Redness on chest
- Redness on back
- Redness on arms
- Redness on legs
- Redness on feet
- Redness on hands
- Redness on fingers
- Redness on toes
- Redness on nails
- Redness on hair

If you have any of these symptoms, go to the nearest medical center IMMEDIATELY.

JINDRAH IMAGES

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Beginning of end of terrorism in Kashmir: Omar Abdullah in Assembly on Pahalgam attack

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28 (KNO)

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah told the Legislative Assembly on Monday that Kashmir for the first time since the onset of terrorism has "revolted against terrorism" in the wake of Pahalgam attack.

Addressing a special Assembly session, Omar, as per news agency, said the spontaneous outpouring of grief and condemnation across Kashmir marked "the beginning of the end of terrorism" in the region.

"For the first time in twenty-six years, I saw the people of Jammu and Kashmir stand up and say, 'Not in my name. They came out on their own. No political party organised them. No government order summoned them. They lit candles, carried banners, and walked silently through the streets to tell the

CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4



Nothing achieved, nothing will be achieved by terrorism: Dy CM

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28 (KNO)

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Monday stated that neighbouring country has gained nothing

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PM Modi won't remain silent: Sunil Sharma in J&K Assembly on Pahalgam attack



J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28 (KNO)

Leader of Opposition in Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma Monday said the PM Modi will not remain silent and will give a befitting reply to the deadly Pahalgam attack. He also said that every single word in this special session of the House is being scrutinised as the eyes of the whole country are on us.

Addressing the Assembly, Sharma, as per

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J&K Assembly strongly condemns Pahalgam attack

House endorses Centre's diplomatic measures, Urges State and UT governments to ensure safety of Kashmiri students

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28 (KNO)

Jammu & Kashmir Assembly on Monday passed a strong-worded resolution to condemn the terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 tourists were killed on April 22.

The resolution, which described the attack as heinous, barbaric, inhumane and cowardly act, was unanimously adopted by the House after three-hour long discussion. The



resolution was passed during the special session convened by J&K government to discuss Pahalgam

attack. "This House unequivocally condemns the

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J&K LA holds special session on Pahalgam tourist killings

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, today strongly condemned the brutal killing of 26 tourists including a local pony-walla by the



terrorists at Baisaran in Pahalgam on April 22.

A daylong special session was called where Speaker and members expressed their anguish and shock over the barbaric terrorist attack, in which 26 innocents

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>> Tension continues on J&K borders

Pak Army violates ceasefire for fourth consecutive night, Indian Army hits back

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

Indian Army said on Monday that its forces responded to "unprovoked" firing from Pakistan along the Line of Control (LoC) for the fourth consecutive night, as security forces intensified their search for

CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4



Not Balakote, nation wants beyond, says Dr Farooq

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

National Conference (NC) President, Dr Farooq Abdullah on Monday said that they are never going to accept the two-nation theory and that the nation wants an action beyond Balakot that will end Pahalgam like incidents forever.

Talking to the reporters here, Abdullah, as per the news

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Government bans 16 Pakistani YouTube channels

J I NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APR 28 (UNI)

The government has banned 16 Pakistani YouTube channels for disseminating provocative, false and misleading content against India, government sources said on Monday.

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>> Pahalgam Attack

Passenger traffic at Srinagar airport records sharp decline

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

Passenger traffic at Srinagar International Airport has witnessed a steep decline following the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Anantnag.

According to data accessed by the news agency, the number of passengers travelling through Srinagar Airport fell noticeably over the past few days, beginning April 23, soon after the

Pahalgam attack.

It says, on April 23, a total of 17,653 passengers travelled through the airport across 112 flights with 6,561 arrivals and 11,092 departures.

However, from the very next day, the numbers started dropping. On April 24, the airport handled 15,836 passengers on 118 flights including 4,456 arrivals and 11,380 departures.

The downward trend continued on April 25,

with 14,041 passengers travelling on 100 scheduled flights, in addition to a few additional flights that carried minimal numbers—24 arrivals and 794 departures on four extra flights. Similarly, on April 26, Srinagar Airport witnessed 14,783 passengers travelling through 106 scheduled flights, with an additional three flights carrying 28 arriving and 351 departing passengers.

Airport officials

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Srinagar Police conduct searches at residences of terrorist aides

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

In its continuing persistent action against terrorist associates of proscribed terrorist outfits and in the furtherance of investigation into cases registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), Srinagar Police on Monday continued searches across multiple locations in the city with the aim to dismantle terror-supporting infrastructure in the district.

Srinagar Police has conducted searches

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G A Mir calls for national unity, protection of J&K residents

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

Senior Congress leader Ghulam Ahmad Mir on Monday said they were fully supportive of the central government's anti-terror efforts in the wake of the deadly Pahalgam terror attack that claimed over two dozen lives last week.

Mir, as per the news agency while addressing the special session of the Legislative Assembly called in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, condemned the attack in the strongest words and called for unity across political, regional and religious lines to defeat the divisive agenda of terrorism. Stressing that the

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Pahalgam Carnage Triggers Social Stigmatization of Violence in Kashmir for the First Time: Sajad Lone

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28 (KNO)

Peoples Conference chairman and MLA Handwara Sajad Gani Lone said the Pahalgam terror attack, which killed 25 tourists and a local, had sparked a historic awakening against violence in Kashmir, ending what he called the "social sanctity" that violence once held in the Valley.

"In the past 35 years, we have not witnessed an incident like the one that happened in Pahalgam. According to the news agency correspondent, Lone stated in his speech, "Someone from outside came and martyred them on our land. They were tourists who



came to enjoy the beauty of Kashmir, who stayed in our hotels, and who travelled with our taxi drivers," Lone as per the KNO correspondent said while speaking during the special session of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly here on Monday.

Calling it a watershed moment, Lone said that while Kashmir had witnessed bloodshed for decades, the aftermath

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Terrorists have no religion, Kashmiri Muslims have faced brunt of terrorism: Tarigami

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

Member of Legislative (MLA) Kulgam, Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami Monday said that the ter-



rorism has no religion and Muslims in Kashmir have borne the brunt of terrorism for a long time. He also criticized the government for bulldozing the

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'Kill us here, but don't send us back': Pakistani wives of former terrorists plead to stay in Kashmir

J I NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, APR 28 (KNO)

Zahida Begum and Nowreen, two Pakistani women married to former terrorists rehabilitated in Kashmir, have made an emotional appeal to stay in the region they have called

home for over a decade. Both women, who came to Kashmir under the 2010 rehabilitation policy, according to the news agency now face the threat of being forced to return to Pakistan, a prospect they say would ruin their lives and those of their children.

Zahida Begum, who has lived in Kashmir for 15 years, spoke of her deep distress as authorities allegedly asked her to leave. "I do not want to go back," she said.

"I want to live here with my children. They don't want to go back either. Please forgive

me. I have lived peacefully here, and now they want to take that away," she added.

Begum, who holds a domicile certificate, Aadhar, election card, and ration card documents issued by the government pleaded for

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DSEJ orders change in school timing

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

Directorate of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) Monday ordered change in school timing as 8Am to 2Pm in summer zone areas of the region with effect from May-01.

DSEJ said that the change in school timing is for all classes in summer zones of Jammu division.

According to the news agency, DSEJ in an order said, "All the government as well as private recognized Schools upto Higher Secondary Level falling in Summer zones of Jammu division shall observe school timing as 8:00 Am to 2:00 Pm with effect from May-05-2025 till September-30-2025."

IIM Jammu concludes Immersion Program for BBA Students of Institute of Technology and Science (ITS), Ghaziabad

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu concluded the Valedictory Ceremony of the Immersion Program for ITS Students today at Room No. 268, Dharma, Vedanta-MDP Centre, Jagti Campus. The ceremony commenced with a welcome address, setting an enthusiastic tone for the evening. Present during the valedictory ceremony was Prof. Sunil Kr Pandey, Director, ITS Ghaziabad, Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Member, Executive Education and Consultancy, IIM Jammu. Also present were Program Directors, Dr. Shreya Rastogi, Dr. Garima Maurya and Dr. Sumit Maheswari, IIM Jammu. The program consisted of 30 student participants. Representing I.T.S Ghaziabad were Prof. Vijayanti Anand and Prof.

Shivoham, who extended their support and encouragement to the participating students.

Prof. Sunil Kr Pandey, Director, ITS Ghaziabad, emphasized the importance of doing something different – something that others are not doing. He mentioned that initially, there was some uncertainty about the kind of response the initiative would receive, but the overwhelming participation of students and parents was truly heartening and appreciable. He highlighted that the discussions were always centered around ensuring that this would not be a one-time initiative, but something that would be carried forward in the future. He noted that students gained a fresh perspective across various domains such as monetary policy, international trade, branding, and marketing, experienc-



ing a unique pedagogical approach.

He stated that these 30 students would now stand apart from the other students, creating an environment where every student aspires to excel. He commended the meticulous planning behind the program and remarked that it was a wonderful experience, one of the few he had witnessed even in his

broader academic career. He acknowledged the significant role IIM Jammu is playing in shaping students' career aspirations and making classrooms more dynamic and engaging. He encouraged faculty members to spend time at IIM Jammu and learn from such enriching experiences. Concluding his thoughts, he stressed the importance of continuous

learning, stating that "the sky is the limit."

Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Member, EE & C, spoke about the essence of management science and expressed hope that students would continue to practice it in their careers. He provided an overview of the program at IIM Jammu and gave insights into the broader IIM system. Highlighting the

rigorous academic environment, he emphasized the importance of case study preparation, urging students to read extensively and stay well-acquainted with concepts to succeed.

Dr. Shreya Rastogi, Program Director, IIM Jammu presented the Program Report, highlighting the key takeaways, sessions conducted, and the overall learning outcomes of

the immersion program. The session witnessed heartfelt reflections by the participants, sharing their enriching experience at IIM Jammu.

The event also witnessed the distribution of certificates to the participants, marking the culmination of the program. Dr. Garima Maurya, Program Director, IIM Jammu delivered the vote of thanks,

expressing gratitude to all the stakeholders for making the program a grand success.

The ceremony culminated with the National Anthem, reflecting the spirit of unity and pride among all present. The Immersion Program at IIM Jammu was designed to provide the ITS students with a transformational learning experience, bridging academic learning with real-world applications.

The Immersion Program at IIM Jammu stands as a testament to the institute's unwavering commitment to nurturing talent and strengthening industry-academia partnerships. Through such transformative initiatives, IIM Jammu continues to set new benchmarks in management education and plays a pivotal role in shaping future-ready leaders.

Jammu administration reviews preparedness for NEET conduct

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

In view of the forthcoming NEET Examination scheduled on May 4, 2025, a series of meetings were convened today to review and finalise arrangements for the smooth and fair conduct of the examination across the district.

The first meeting was held under the chairmanship of District Magistrate Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya and attended by Senior Superintendent of Police, Joginder Singh, Additional District Magistrate, Anusya Jamwal, Centre Coordinators and other stakeholders. It was informed that a total of 33 examination centres will be established across Jammu district for the NEET 2025.



During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held regarding logistics, safety and security measures, and the provision of essential facilities at all centres. The District Magistrate issued specific instructions to concerned departments to ensure uninterrupted power supply, robust traffic management and

comprehensive security arrangements on the day of examination. He emphasised the need for close coordination among all departments to facilitate a hassle-free experience for candidates and staff.

Later in the day, an orientation session was chaired by Additional District Magistrate, Anusya

Jamwal, which witnessed the participation of Tehsildars, Centre Supervisors and other officials associated with the conduct of NEET 2025. The ADM briefed the participants about their respective roles and responsibilities, underscoring the importance of strict adherence to prescribed protocols. She highlighted the critical role of Magistrates and Centre Supervisors in maintaining order and ensuring the sanctity of the examination process.

Both the District Magistrate and Additional District Magistrate called upon all stakeholders to work in synergy and extend full cooperation to ensure the successful and transparent conduct of the NEET 2025 examination in Jammu district.

Wildlife Deptt Kashmir warns against sale/purchase/possession of Scheduled birds

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 28

Wildlife Department Kashmir has warned against the sale, purchase, or possession of Scheduled birds, calling it a criminal offense under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

As per an official communication issued from the office of Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division Kashmir, Srinagar it has been informed that any individual or bird vendor found engaging in such activities will be subject to legal action.

As per Section 51 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, any person who contravenes the provisions of this

Act shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with a fine up to Rs. 01 lakh, or both.

If the offense involves a bird specified in Schedule I, the punishment shall be not less than three years and may extend to seven years, along with a fine of at least Rs. 25000.

If the offense involves a bird specified in Schedule II, the punishment shall extend up to three years, along with a fine of at least Rs. 25000.

It has come to the notice of Wildlife authorities that some of the Birds listed under Schedule I & Schedule II are being traded by the

vendors or possessed for bird keeping which is strictly prohibited.

Individuals who are currently in possession of any of the Scheduled birds are urged to surrender them voluntarily at the nearest wildlife facility to avoid legal consequences. The authorities will ensure proper rehabilitation and care of the surrendered species.

For list of all the Scheduled birds and further details refer to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. General public may contact Range Officer Lakes, Wetlands Division, Kashmir Hokersar, Zainakote, Srinagar, 190012 on Mobile No. 990664750, 9906656121.

LCMA demolishes boundary walls, plinths of two structures at Rakhe-e-Arth resettlement colony

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 28

Jammu and Kashmir Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) has initiated the process of demolishing all illegal structures constructed in the Rakhe-e-Arth resettlement colony.

Accordingly, an anti-encroachment drive was conducted today during which boundary walls and plinths of two structures, being constructed at Rakhe-e-Arth resettlement colony were demolished by the enforcement wing and engineers of the LCMA.

It is worth mentioning that the Rakhe-e-Arth resettlement colony has been established by the government for rehabilitation of Dal dwellers only. As on date around 1806 plots have been allotted to such Dal dwellers, who had shifted from the lake and have been paid compensation for acquisition of their structures and land in the lake by the LCMA.

However, it has been brought to the notice of LCMA that some notorious persons have illegally occupied some plots on the basis of fake documents or have occupied the plots without having any authorisation from the LCMA. It has also been observed that some persons, who are actually residents of different districts of Kashmir are also residing in Rakhe-e-Arth resettlement colony, which as per LCMA needs immediate attention.

It is being clarified to all that the Rakhe-e-Arth resettlement colony has been established for Dal dwellers only and nobody other than Dal dwellers has any right to purchase the land there or use any means to stay in the colony.

The LCMA warns all such individuals, who are befooling the general public and selling the plots on the basis of fake promises and fake documents, of dire consequences in future.

Public demands, dev. priorities discussed at District Capex planning meet at Bandipora

JNEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, APRIL 28

In order to discuss the formulation of the District Capex Budget Plan for the financial year 2025-26, a meeting was today jointly chaired by Chairman, District Development Council (DDC) Bandipora, Ab Gani Bhat, and Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri held at the Mini Secretariat Bandipora.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chairperson DDC, Kousar Shafeeq; DDC Members, Chief Planning Officer (CPO), District Officers of various departments, and other concerned.

During the meeting, various proposals and public demands were put forward by the Chairman, Vice Chairperson, and DDC Members for incorporation into the District CAPEX plan including sector-specific developmental needs aimed at enhancing infrastructure and public welfare.

The meeting also



discussed the physical and financial progress achieved under the District Capex Budget for the financial year 2024-25.

Chief Planning Officer presented the status of works completed, ongoing projects, and fund utilization.

Addressing the participants, DDC Chairman highlighted the importance of grassroots participation in the development process. He emphasized to ensure that elected representatives are actively involved at every stage of planning and implementation to ensure transparency and impact-driven development.

Deputy Commissioner took stock of achieve-

ments and shortfalls, and stressed the importance of removing bottlenecks to ensure better implementation of District Capex Plan 2025-26.

Qadri emphasized the need to focus on asset creation, public service delivery, and employment generation in the Capex plan. He stressed prioritizing the completion of spill-over and ongoing projects to ensure effective utilization of resources.

DC also directed all departments to ensure timely completion of works and take strict action, including imposing penalties, against contractors who cause unnecessary delays or hamper project execution.

Sankalp HEW Doda organizes menstrual hygiene awareness Camp for madrasa girls at Parnout Dashman under BBBP initiative

JNEWS SERVICE
DODA, APRIL 28

In a significant step towards promoting menstrual health and eradicating period poverty, Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women (Sankalp HEW), Doda, organized an awareness camp on menstrual hygiene management here at a local Madrasa under the banner of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.

During the session, Gender Specialist Humera Balwan sensitized adolescent girls about the importance of maintaining proper menstrual hygiene, addressing common health issues associated with menstruation, and debunking prevailing myths. She emphasized the crucial role of good nutrition during periods, recommending the intake of iron supplements and a balanced diet to prevent anemia and other menstrual-related health concerns.

As part of the initiative to eliminate period pover-



ty, Sankalp HEW distributed sanitary napkins to the girls, ensuring access to basic hygiene products that many often find difficult to afford. The distribution was coupled with detailed guidance on the correct usage and disposal of sanitary products, fostering a sense of dignity, health, and confidence among young girls.

Sankalp HEW's efforts are instrumental in strengthening the implementation of the BBBP scheme at the grassroots

level. Through targeted awareness campaigns, practical support, and active engagement with communities, the organization is working relentlessly to empower girls, improve their health outcomes, and break the silence and stigma surrounding menstruation.

By directly addressing menstrual health management, Sankalp HEW is not only contributing to improved school attendance among girls but also paving the way

for their holistic development, ensuring that no girl is held back due to lack of access to basic menstrual hygiene facilities.

The camp concluded with an interactive session where girls shared their queries and experiences, creating a supportive environment to discuss menstrual health openly – a strong step towards a future where every girl has the knowledge, resources, and freedom to manage her periods safely and with dignity.

DC Ramban visits flash flood-affected areas, condolences with bereaved families

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, APRIL 28

To express grief and sympathy with the families of three deceased individuals—including an elderly person and two children—and to assess losses and ongoing restoration efforts, Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary today visited the Bagna area and adjoining villages affected by recent flash floods and a cloudburst in the district.

Accompanied by ACR Ramban Showkat Hayat Mattoo, CMO, CHO, CAO, CAHO, DSHO, ACD, XEN PMGSY, XEN JPDCL, XEN Jal Shakti, Tehsildar, BDO, and other senior officers, the DC visited several affected areas, including Teli Majar, Silla, Bagna, Bhatli, Meyan, Thaliwas, Patbass, and nearby localities. He interacted extensively with residents to gather ground feedback on damages and their immediate needs.

Covering nearly 15 km on foot, the DC conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the deceased children, Saqib Ahmed and Aqib Ahmed (sons of Mohd Haneef), and an elderly individual, Mani Ram, assuring them of full support from the District Administration. He emphasized that the administration stands firmly with the affected



families during this difficult time.

The DC observed significant damages to fruit-bearing plants, crops, livestock, and infrastructure, particularly roads. He directed officers of concerned departments to prioritize restoring road connectivity to resume vehicular movement at the earliest. He also instructed officials to ensure safe, temporary arrangements for children to cross affected nullahs to prevent disruption of their education.

To strengthen on-ground monitoring and public service delivery, the DC announced that a Naib Tehsildar has been stationed in the area, along with a District-Level Officer assigned to each affected Panchayat. These officers will stay on-site to continuously assess damages, engage with local residents, and coordinate immediate relief mea-

asures.

Furthermore, the DC instructed all departments to submit assessment reports for compensation related to agricultural, horticultural, livestock, and infrastructure losses. He also directed the Chief Medical Officer to conduct comprehensive health check-ups of all affected families to prevent health risks.

Highlighting a humane and proactive approach, DC Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary reiterated the administration's commitment to providing timely relief and rehabilitation to the victims. He assured that necessary approvals for infrastructure restoration, including road and power repairs, would be expedited. He also informed that he would soon visit the remaining affected areas to personally review the situation and address public grievances.

Chairperson DDC Baramulla convenes meeting

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, APRIL 28

Chairperson District Development Council (DDC) Baramulla, Safina Baig, today chaired a council meeting at Dak Bungalow, Baramulla to review the progress of developmental activities and discuss issues concerning the district's overall growth and welfare.

The meeting witnessed the presence of DDC members, senior district officers and sectoral heads.

A detailed sector-wise review was conducted covering key areas including health, education,

rural development, public works, social welfare, and agriculture. Officers presented updates on ongoing projects, achievements and challenges faced in their respective sectors.

Chairperson Safina Baig emphasized the importance of timely completion of projects and called for enhanced inter-departmental coordination to ensure the effective delivery of services. She stressed the need for prompt redressal of public grievances and urged the officers to adopt a proactive and people-centric approach.

Members of the Council also raised various developmental concerns and suggested measures to address sector-specific gaps. The Chairperson assured that all genuine issues would be taken up for immediate redressal and directed concerned departments to expedite the pace of work wherever delays were observed.

The meeting concluded with a unanimous commitment to work collectively towards the holistic development of Baramulla district and to further strengthen grassroots governance.

Inter-School Wushu, Taekwondo, Yoga Competitions continue across Various Zones in Baramulla



JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, APRIL 28

Youth Services and Sports, Baramulla, continues to organize inter-school Wushu, Taekwondo and Yoga competitions across various zones including Sopore, Dangiwaicha, Singpora Kalan, and Chandoosa to channel energy of students in positive direction and make them capable to represent J&K in national and international championships.

In Zone Sopore, a two-day Wushu and Taekwondo competition for Under-14 and Under-17 boys and girls

commenced at Subhana Stadium Sopore. Today, the competitions for boys were held, witnessing enthusiastic participation of 60 boys showcasing their skills and competitive spirit.

Meanwhile, Zone Dangiwaicha organized inter-school Wushu and Taekwondo competitions for Under-14 and Under-17 girls at the Community Hall Dangiwaicha. Around 30 girls actively participated, and the position holders were felicitated with appreciation certificates, encouraging them to pursue excellence in martial arts.

Zone Singpora Kalan

hosted Yoga competitions for both boys and girls at High School Singpora Kalan, where a remarkable participation of 150 students was recorded. The students demonstrated various Yoga postures and techniques, highlighting the importance of fitness and mindfulness.

Similarly, Zone Chandoosa conducted an inter-zonal Yoga competition for Under-14 and Under-17 boys and girls, in which 97 students participated. The competition served as a platform to promote physical well-being among the young students.

District Administration organises Nasha Mukht Awareness Camp at GBMHSS Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, APRIL 28

As part of the Information Education and Communication Campaign against drug abuse, the District Administration Rajouri, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department today organized a Nasha Mukht awareness camp here at Government Boys Model Higher Secondary School.

Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma presided over the event and emphasized the crucial role of the youth in building a drug-free society. He urged students to set clear goals and stay focused on achieving them, highlighting that the years from Class 9th to 12th are pivotal in shaping their futures.



Stressing the importance of parental involvement, he called upon parents to maintain constant communication with their children. He also underscored the role civil society can play in effectively curbing the menace of drug abuse.

Additional District Development Commissioner Raj Kumar Thapa

also addressed the gathering and spoke about the detrimental effects of drug abuse on health and moral values.

Medical expert Dr. Parvaiz Alam sensitized the students about the tactics used by drug peddlers to lure the youth into addiction and encouraged them to stay vigilant and informed.

Awareness Campaign on New Criminal Laws held at Reasi, Sanjichat

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, APRIL 28

An awareness campaign on the newly introduced criminal laws was organized today here at two venues: Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS), Reasi, and Government High School (GHS), Sanjichat. The initiative was conducted under the able guidance of the Principal, District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Reasi, in collaboration with local police authorities.

The event featured Vishal Singh Jamwal, Deputy Superintendent of Police (SDPO) Headquarters Reasi, and Satyakam Sharma, SDPO Bhawan, as chief guests and resource persons. Both officers provided in-depth insights into the three new criminal laws, engaging with students to enhance their understand-



ing of the legal changes and their implications.

At GBHSS Reasi, the program was graced by Sanjay Dogra, Head of Department, DIET Reasi, and Vineet Sharma, Teacher. The Principal and the entire teaching staff of GBHSS Reasi actively participated in the event, contributing to its success.

Simultaneously, at GHS Sanjichat, the Headmaster and staff members, along with Rahul Singh, Teacher

and coordinator of the event, played a key role in organizing and hosting the session. Rasvir Singh, Senior Lecturer at GBHSS Reasi, also contributed as a coordinator, ensuring smooth coordination between both venues.

The program successfully aimed at educating the younger generation about critical legal reforms, fostering awareness, and promoting responsible citizenship.

20 entrepreneurs complete Management Development Programme orientation training at JKEDI Jammu



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

Twenty existing entrepreneurs successfully completed a one-week Management Development Programme (MDP) orientation training conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Jammu, under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Scheme.

The programme was inaugurated by Sher Singh, Additional District Development Commissioner Jammu.

The MDP aimed to enhance entrepreneurial skills, business management, and sustainable practices. Key sessions covered the RAMP

Scheme, Entrepreneurship Opportunities in J&K, and Government Sponsored Schemes such as Mudra, Start-up India, Stand-Up India, ASPIRE, PMEGP, ZED, LEAN, and SC/ST Hub initiatives.

Participants engaged in activity-based learning on SWOT Analysis, Supply and Demand, Marketing Strategy, and Business Simulation. Expert sessions by CA Shubham Gupta focused on GST, CGTMSE, Book Keeping, Working Capital Management, Break Even Analysis, and Risk Management through Insurance. Compliance and registration procedures were also discussed.

A field visit to industrial units was organized in association with Lalit Mahajan, Chairman,

Bari Brahmana Industries Association (BBIA), offering practical insights into manufacturing operations.

Other modules included Project Report Preparation, Leadership and Decision-Making, Branding, Packaging, Marketing, and Digital Marketing for Business Promotion.

The programme was coordinated by District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Jammu, Rajesh Kotwal with support from the course team comprising Monika Salaria, Rupali Choudhary and Humera Nazir.

The MDP's successful completion highlights JKEDI's commitment to nurturing a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K Hajj Committee notifies schedule for collection of Travel documents for intending Hajj Pilgrims

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 28

As per J&K Haj Committee notice, all the intending Haj Pilgrims of District Srinagar can collect their travel documents from Haj House, Bemina Srinagar as per the details given below, after production of Passport Receipt and Haj Arrangement Dues Slip during office working hours. Selected Haj pilgrims featuring from Cover No. 3 to 1396, can collect travel documents on 1st May 2025 while those falling in between 1398 to 2048 can obtain documents on 2nd May 2025. Meanwhile, pilgrims of other districts shall collect their travel documents from their respective D.C. Offices on 1st & 2nd May, 2025.

ARTO suspends 3 route permits, 11 DLs, blacklists 20 vehicles in Kishtwar

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, APRIL 28

In a continued effort to enhance road safety and minimize traffic violations, the Motor Vehicles Department Kishtwar has taken stringent action against repeated offenders.

Acting under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Rajesh Kumar Shavan and as per the directions of the Transport Commissioner J&K, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, the department has intensified its enforcement drive across the district.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Tasleem Wani today sus-

pending the route permits of three vehicles for a period of three months under Section 86(1) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. Additionally, 11 driving licenses have been suspended under Sections 19(1)(d) and 19(1)(f), while 20 vehicles have been blacklisted for habitual and serious traffic violations.

The vehicles with registration numbers JK17-7454, JK17-1769, and JK17A-1020 have been debarred from operating for the suspension period due to their continued involvement in violations that pose a threat to public safety.

DC inaugurates newly upgraded Model Boys Higher Secondary School Rajouri



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, APRIL 28

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today inaugurated the newly upgraded Government Model Boys Higher Secondary School (HSS), marking a significant step towards enhancing the educational infrastructure in the district.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the facilities of the school, including laboratories, administrative offices, traditional classrooms, and smart classrooms equipped with modern teaching aids. He interacted at length with the staff and students, appreciating their efforts and encouraging them to continue striving for academic excellence.

The School Principal Muslim Wani briefed the Deputy Commissioner about the overall functioning of the institution and highlighted the new initiatives introduced for the benefit of students,

such as the integration of smart technology in classrooms and steps taken to improve the learning environment.

DC Abhishek Sharma emphasized the importance of quality education in shaping the future of the youth and assured full support from the administration in further strengthening the facilities at the school. He also urged the students to make the best use of the resources available and work hard towards achieving their goals.

The event witnessed the presence of Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa; Chief Education Officer (CEO) Iqbal Hussain, District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) Abdul Raheem and prominent members of civil society, who lauded the initiative and expressed optimism about the positive impact it would have on the students' academic journey.

Beginning of end...

perpetrators: whoever you did this for, you did not do it for me," Omar said while seeking to pass the resolution that condemned the terror attack.

The Chief Minister recalled visiting the police control room on the night of the attack, where the bodies of 26 civilians were lying. He said he had no words to offer to the grieving families. "What was the fault of these families?" he asked, pausing briefly. "That they had come here for the first time to find some peace? And life made them pay such a heavy price."

Omar spoke about the heavy cost Kashmir has borne over the past three decades. "We lost people in the attack on this very Assembly complex in October 2001. Camps were attacked. Pandit settlements, Sikh colonies - no one was spared. We thought those days are gone now. But April 22 attack recreated the nightmare."

The Chief Minister added even amid the bloodshed, there was a glimmer of hope. "For the first time, Kashmiris did not rationalise, justify, or stay silent. They condemned loudly and unequivocally. Terrorism will not end because of guns or security forces alone. It will end only when the people walk with us - and now it feels like they have started coming to us," Omar said.

Perhaps the most symbolic moment, Omar noted, came from Srinagar's historic Jamia Masjid. "Before Friday prayers, the mosque - a site that has often been associated with fiery political sermons - fell silent. Worshippers observed 2-minute silence in memory of the victims".

Addressing growing demands for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood - an issue that has dominated political discourse since the revocation of Article 370 - Omar made it clear that he would not exploit the tragedy for political leverage.

"How can I, with what face, use the deaths of 26 innocent people to go to Delhi and demand statehood?" he said. "Am I so cheap? Is the value of those lives so little that I would turn their tragedy into a bargaining chip for political favors? No. Curse upon me even if I think of such a thing."

He assured the House that the struggle for full statehood would continue, but stressed that today was not the day for political demands. "Today, there is no politics. No business rules. No statehood demands. Only one thing: a heartfelt condemnation of the attack and solidarity with the families," he said.

The Chief Minister recounted extraordinary tales of bravery and humanity from the day of the attack. "A young boy refused to abandon a tourist family under fire, telling the father, 'Before anyone reaches your wife and child, they must get past me'. Boatmen in Dal Lake offered free of cost fruits to tourists. Taxi drivers and hotel owners opened their homes to visitors fleeing the violence, refusing any payment. This is the Kashmir I am proud of. This is our hospitality. This is our spirit."

He also acknowledged that some Kashmiris faced harassment in parts of the country in the immediate aftermath of the attack, but praised the state governments and police forces that acted swiftly to prevent escalation. Omar said the government initiated measures to set up dedicated helpline numbers and nodal officers in key cities so that Kashmiris facing threats could seek immediate help.

He also warned those misusing social media to spread false narratives and fake news that could inflame tensions. "Stop your mischief," he said sharply. "When you spread lies, you make real victims suffer even more. We will not tolerate it." KNO

Nothing achieved...

from decades of violence in Jammu and Kashmir and will continue to fall in its designs.

Speaking to reporters in Jammu, Choudhary, as per the news agency, said that Pakistan must realise that it has gained nothing from its decades-long interference in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Words fall short to condemn the terror attack in Pahalgam. We equally share the grief of the families who lost their loved ones. Our guests were killed, and it is a matter of deep sorrow for all of us," he said.

He said that even after more than 35 years of attempts to destabilise Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan has achieved nothing and will continue to fail in the future. KNO

PM Modi won't...

the news agency, Pakistan has been trying to keep its narrative alive through some miscreants, but the people after 35 years have given a strong reply by staying united and sending a message to the world that no ploys can divide them.

Expressing solidarity with the victims of Pahalgam attack, Sharma said, "My heart is pained at the loss of lives in Pahalgam. Jammu and Kashmir is known as heaven on earth, where people want to spend their memorable moments, but such an incident at this place has shaken the entire humanity."

"Entire nation is in shock. People of J&K have raised their voice in unison against terrorism, but we don't have answers for the people who have lost their dear ones in the attack, especially to the lady, who lost her husband in the attack, the young boy, who lost his father," he said.

He also said that not only Jammu & Kashmir, but the entire nation is watching this session. "Every single word is being scrutinised at present. We are the people who didn't eat anything after the attack, but took to streets and sent a message that it may have taken 35 years, but people are united and no play can divide us."

He also said that it is the responsibility of every legislator now to preserve this unity, and there should be no evil eye on the unity.

He added that there is a strong government in the Centre. "The Centre has already taken some measures after the attack. I believe the PM won't remain silent on the issue. We should not be in a hurry and wait to see the response of the government."

He added that Pakistan wanted to keep its narrative alive in Kashmir through some miscreants as it has faced defeat thrice since 1947 in conventional wars. "The country has adopted some miscreants with a plan to keep its narrative alive in the Valley. But, the way people of J&K responded to the miscreants is

appreciable," he said.

Sharma said that the legislators should play their role by donating their salaries to the victims. KNO

J&K Assembly strongly...

heinous, cowardly act that resulted in the loss of innocent lives. Such acts of terror are a direct assault on the ethos of Kashmiriyat, the values enshrined in our Constitution, and the spirit of unity, peace, and harmony that have long characterized Jammu & Kashmir and our nation," reads the resolution, a copy of which is in possession of news agency.

The House also expressed its solidarity with the victims and their families. "We extend our deepest condolences to those who have suffered irreparable loss and affirm our collective resolve to share in their grief and support them in their hour of need," the resolution states.

The resolution also remembered the valiant efforts by Syed Ali Hussain to save tourists during the terror attack.

"This House salutes the supreme sacrifice of Shaheed Syed Adil Hussain Shah, who, while bravely attempting to save tourists, laid down his life. His courage and selflessness embody the true spirit of Kashmir and shall serve as an enduring inspiration for future generations," it reads.

The House also praised the efforts of people in J&K in the aftermath of attack.

"This House commends the people of Jammu & Kashmir for their extraordinary display of unity, compassion, and resilience in the aftermath of the attack. The peaceful demonstrations across towns and villages, and the spontaneous outpouring of moral and material support towards tourists, reaffirm the people's steadfast commitment to peace, communal harmony, and the rule of law," the resolution states.

It also endorsed the diplomatic measures announced by the Union Government after the attack.

"This House endorses the diplomatic measures announced by the Union Government on 23rd April 2025, after the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security," the resolution states.

The House also appealed media Houses not to fall victim to the sinister design of dividing the people.

"This House is mindful of the sinister design behind the selective targeting of the victims of this attack. It appeals to all the sections of the society and in particular the media to not fall victim to this sinister plot by irresponsibly inflaming passions. The need to remain united in the face of this attempted division cannot be overemphasized," the resolution states.

The Assembly also appealed to the Governments of all states and UTs to ensure safety of Kashmiri students.

"This House earnestly appeals to the Governments of all States and Union Territories of India to ensure the safety, dignity, and well-being of Kashmiri students and citizens residing or traveling outside Jammu & Kashmir, and to take all necessary measures to prevent any incidents of harassment, discrimination, or intimidation," the resolution states.

The House appealed political parties, religious and community leaders, youth organizations, civil society groups, and media houses across the nation to maintain calm, reject violence and divisive rhetoric, and work collectively to uphold peace, unity, and constitutional values.

"The Legislative Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir reaffirms its unwavering commitment to foster an environment of peace, development, and inclusive prosperity for all its citizens, and to resolutely defeat the nefarious designs of those who seek to disturb the communal harmony and progress of the nation and of Jammu and Kashmir," the resolution adds.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, deputy chief minister Surinder Choudhary, PC leader Sajad Gani Lone, Congress leader Gulam Ahmad Mir, CPI(M) leader MY Tarigami, PDP leader Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra, BJP leader Sunil Sharma among others participated in the discussion—(KNO)

J&K LA holds special...

persons lost their lives.

Leading the obituary references during a special session of the House, the Speaker from the floor paid glowing tributes to the 26 innocent lives lost in the horrific attack.

The House solemnly remembered and honored the victims, including Vinay Narwal, N. Ramachandran, Dinesh Agarwal, Atul Shrikant Moni, Neeraj Udmani, Samer Guha, Sushil Nathyal, Sanjay Laxman, Sudeep Nopani, Bitain Adikari, Manjunath Rao, Dilip Desale, Prashant Satapati, Munish Ranjan, Syed Adil Hussain Shah, J.S. Chandar Mouli, Madhusudan Rao, Santosh Jaghdai, Kastoba Ganovuta, Hemant Suhas Joshi, Shubham Diwedi, Bharat Bhushan, Sumit Parmar, Yatish Parmar, Tage Halying, and Shailesh Bhai.

The House observed two minutes of silence as token of respect to the victims of this tragic incident.

Expressing profound grief and sorrow, the Speaker called for unity against terrorism. "Let us send a strong message to the world that the entire nation condemns this barbaric act," he said.

Emphasising the need for an unwavering resolve against terror in all its forms, the Speaker termed the killings of innocent tourists, who had come to enjoy Kashmir's natural beauty as an assault on humanity and peace. "The attack on innocent tourists is not just a crime against individuals, but an attack on humanity itself and an attempt to disturb peace and harmony," he stated.

The Speaker extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, expressing deep solidarity and sympathy with their unimaginable pain. He called upon all sections of society to come together to reject violence and uphold the enduring values of peace, brotherhood, and unity.

He said that the purpose of convening this Special Session is to deliver a clear message, that "the whole country stands united in the fight against terrorism."

Reaffirming unwavering support of the House to the victim families, the Speaker mourned that the dreams of tourists to witness natural beauty and make good memories in Kashmir, were brutally shattered by senseless act of violence.

In order to ensure safety of Kashmiri students and business owners outside J&K, the Speaker urged the

Government to take immediate steps to ensure the safety and security of tourists, citizens, businessmen and the students of Jammu and Kashmir, studying in different parts of the Country. He called upon all Members of the House to work together to create a secure environment for all our citizens and visitors.

Lastly, the Speaker urged that tribute be paid to the victims by reaffirming the commitment to peace, tolerance and compassion, ensuring that their sacrifice would not go in vain.

Pak Army violates...

terrorists following the deadly attack on tourists in Pahalgam last week.

The ceasefire violations occurred on the night of April 27-28, with Pakistani Army posts firing small arms in areas opposite Kupwara and Poonch districts. Indian Army troops responded swiftly and effectively, though no immediate casualties or significant damage were reported on the Indian side. The Indian Army said it remains on high alert along the LoC to prevent further escalation.

Amid heightened tensions along the border, farmers in Jammu's Poonch and Rajouri regions have begun harvesting their crops prematurely, according to details obtained by the news agency.

Locals were seen working together to harvest corn, likely in response to the uncertainty caused by the ongoing security situation in the area.

Tourist destinations along Kashmir's border regions, including Keran, Gurez, and Uri, have seen a significant decline in visitor numbers. The ongoing security concerns and heightened tensions along the LoC have deterred many tourists from visiting these once-popular areas.

Furthermore, the crackdown on terrorism continued in UT, with over 15 locations raided by J&K Police. The operations targeted the homes of terrorists from J&K who were reportedly operating from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK). The raids began early Monday morning in the Doda and Kishtwar districts of Jammu as part of the intensified efforts to dismantle terror networks in the region. KNO

Not Balakote...

agency, said that they regret that the neighbour doesn't understand that it has murdered humanity.

"We will never go with Pakistan in 1947. If they think that we will go with them by doing such actions then they have misunderstood. We didn't go with Pakistan by throwing the two-nation theory into the water. We are not going to accept the two-nation theory," he said, adding that the Hindu, Muslim, Sikhs are one and will give them a befitting reply.

Also, he rejected the dialogue with Pakistan, saying that how will we reply to those who lost their family members in the attack.

The NC President further added that not Balakote as the nation this time wants a reply, which will put an end to these attacks. KNO

Passenger traffic...

told KNO that while flight operations have remained largely unaffected in terms of the number of flights, the load factor (passenger occupancy) has fallen. "The fear triggered by the attack has led to a dip in tourist arrivals, affecting the overall air traffic," an official said.

He said that the security situation continues to be monitored closely and that all flights are operating normally, but the immediate aftermath of the attack has definitely impacted air travel demand.

Meanwhile, travel industry stakeholders, especially those associated with tourism, said they are worried about the declining foothold and its potential impact on Kashmir's tourism season.

"April to June is our prime season. Such incidents severely dent the confidence of tourists. The dip in air traffic is already reflecting this," said a travel operator in Srinagar, adding that most of the bookings have been cancelled.

Meanwhile, the authorities have assured enhanced security measures in and around tourist hotspots to ensure the safety of visitors.

Notably, the attack in Pahalgam claimed the lives of 26 people, mostly tourists and was widely condemned. Security has since been heightened across South Kashmir and other tourist areas. KNO

Government bans...

The decision to ban the Pakistani channels was taken after the recommendations of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

The Pakistani channels were disseminating provocative and communally sensitive content, false and misleading narratives and misinformation against India, its Army and security agencies in the backdrop of the tragic Pahalgam terror incident in Jammu and Kashmir, sources said.

Among the banned YouTube channels are Dawn News, Samaa TV, Ary News, Geo News, BOL NEWS, Umar Cheema Exclusive and Uzair Cricket.

It may be mentioned that 26 tourists were killed in a deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam on April 22.

Terrorists have...

houses of people, whose family members have joined the terrorists.

In his speech during the special Assembly session today, the Kulgam legislator, as per the news agency said that they had not even thought to meet again in the House so soon to mourn the loss of innocent lives in Pahalgam.

Terming the killings unfortunate and brutal, the CPI (M) leader said that the terrorists have thrust an agenda of dividing the people with an attack. "Hundreds of people have been killed so far, many massacres have taken place. Let me ask which sect and religion they belonged to. Muslims in large number have been killed. Former speaker Wali Muhammad Yatoo, many political leaders have been killed so far, even my father-in-law was killed. This is the issue of every single home," he said.

He added that the terrorism has no religion, saying that many Muslim clerics including Mirwaiz Farooq,

Qazi Nisar and others have been killed as well. "The sole aim and religion of the terrorists is to spread terror. They have nothing to do with any religion," Tarigami said.

Tarigami also criticized some media houses for giving it a colour of Hindu-Muslim.

"We need to introspect from top to bottom to see the gap somewhere which led to the Pahalgam incident," he said.

Furthermore, the Kulgam legislator said that the real victims are people of Jammu and Kashmir, they should not be alienated. He added that the people need to be taken on board to fight against the terrorism and eliminate it.

He also said that though the session has been called, those who have the security apparatus in their hands should have been also called so that they could have been questioned over the incident.

Tarigami said that the security and safety of students from J&K presently studying outside stands the responsibility of every single individual. However, he said that "if we fail to do so, then the terrorists will succeed in their mission."

Meanwhile, Tarigami reacting to the demolition of the houses in Kashmir, said that the people who have been claiming in the parliament and other places that the ecosystem of terrorism has completely collapsed now, then how has it revived. "The answer needs to be given in this regard."

He said that the right to shelter is everyone's right and if a son is guilty or a father is guilty, the family cannot be blamed for his wrong doings. "Several houses have been bulldozed; their neighbours have also faced damage. What is the fault of their neighbours? The government has been there for a long, but it has now started bulldozing the houses of militants. We need to ensure the rule of law is implemented to fight against terrorism jointly," he said. KNO

G A Mir calls for...

tragedy must not be politicised, Mir said, "Today, there is no election. We have to respond in one voice, beyond any party interest."

The Congress leader lauded the government's initial steps taken after the attack, including the convening of an all-party meeting.

He said that the Congress Party was committed to supporting all efforts aimed at restoring peace and ensuring security for citizens. "The entire country stands united with the government. There is no place for politics in this moment of grief and determination," Mir said.

However, Mir also flagged concerns regarding security lapses.

Mir also criticised the aftermath of the 2019 abrogation of Article 370, questioning the effectiveness of the steps taken post-reorganisation in curbing militancy. "Seven years have passed, but incidents continue," he said.

Mir, in his address, also appealed for the protection of Jammu and Kashmir residents living across the country, stating that innocent Kashmiris should not face discrimination or hostility in the aftermath of the attack.

He urged both the Centre and state governments to ensure the safety of Kashmiris studying, working, and living in different parts of India. "Our people should be seen with the same trust and humanity that the locals in Pahalgam showed during the attack, carrying the injured, providing shelter, and standing tall in the face of adversity," Mir added.

Praising the local people and hoteliers of Pahalgam for their humanity and bravery, Mir noted how they carried injured tourists to safety without any hesitation.

Mir said that the 'terrorists' real agenda was not just physical destruction but to sow communal hatred between Hindus and Muslims.

"We must send a strong message from this house that India will not be divided. Jammu and Kashmir will not bow to terror," he said. He also questioned the security 'lapses', stating that Pahalgam was being considered a highly secure zone, especially during the Amarnath Yatra season. "Where did the terrorists come from? Who supported them? Why were precautionary measures lacking," he asked.

Appealing to the media, Mir, during his address, also cautioned against sensationalism that could vitiate the national atmosphere. "Media must act responsibly. Amplifying the terrorist agenda by giving communal colour to the tragedy will only serve the enemies of peace," he said. KNO

'Kill us here, but...

the right to stay. "This will ruin the lives of my children," she said, as per KNO.

"I have built a life here, a peaceful life. My children don't want to go back either. Please let us live here," she added.

Nowreen, another Pakistani woman in a similar situation, echoed Begum's sentiments.

She said she has lived a stable life with her family in Kashmir, and the idea of returning to Pakistan is unbearable.

"We came here to live a better life, not to face the same turmoil again," she said. Nowreen also displayed her Aadhar and election cards, emphasizing her deep ties to the region.

"I don't want to leave. This is my home. I have raised my children here, and now they want to take us away from everything we've built," she said.

Any Pakistani, who fails to leave India as per the deadlines set by the government, will be arrested, prosecuted and may face a jail term of up to three years or a fine of a maximum Rs 3 lakh or both, as per the Immigration and Foreigners Act 2025.

The Act which came into effect on April 4 outlines punishment for those overstaying their visas, violating visa conditions, or trespassing in restricted areas.

Last week, the Indian government announced that Pakistani nationals will not be permitted to travel to India under the SAARC visa exemption scheme (SVES), and any Pakistani national currently in India under the SVES visa has 48 hours to leave India. KNO

DC Kupwara finalizes arrangements for conduct of NEET Exam

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, APRIL 28

To finalize the arrangements for smooth conduct of NEET-2025 scheduled to be held on 4th May-2025, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Monday convened a meeting of concerned officers at D.C Office, here.

On the occasion, DC took a detailed feedback from the concerned officers regarding various arrangements put in place by the District Administration for conduct of the NEET examination in the district.

The arrangements discussed involved security measures, availability of transport, electricity, ambulances, fire tenders and other facilities for the aspirants. She also directed the concerned to ensure availability of adequate number of wheelchairs at the designated centres



to facilitate the physically challenged candidates appearing in the test.

DC enjoined the officers to work in tandem to ensure a conducive and secure environment for the aspirants for transparent and smooth conduct of the examination in the district. She impressed upon them to ensure that all the guidelines issued by the National Testing Agency (NTA) are strictly followed for proper

conduct of the test.

The meeting was attended by ACR Kupwara, Principals of GDCs, CEO, CMO, Executive Engineers of KPDC Kupwara/Handwara; Dy. SPs of Kupwara/Handwara; ARTO, NEET Coordinator, Centre Superintendents, besides, officers from Traffic, Fire & Emergency and other concerned stakeholders were also present in the meeting.

Border cooperation reviewed to boost agricultural production in frontier areas

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, APRIL 28

In a significant move to enhance agricultural productivity and strengthen border security coordination, Deputy Commissioner Samba, Rajesh Sharma today undertook review of cooperation framework between local farmers and Border Security Force (BSF) personnel during his visit to the border villages and Border Out Posts (BOPs) at Nursery and Tamwar in Tehsil Ramgarh.

The initiative aimed to bring previously unused agricultural land between the border fencing and zero line into productive cultivation, potentially adding hundreds of acres to the district's cultivable area while improving the economic prospects of border communities.

"Our border farmers have shown tremendous



resilience despite facing unique challenges," said DC Sharma during the joint meeting with farmers and BSF officials. "This administration is committed to removing barriers to cultivation in these strategic areas through improved coordination and targeted support measures."

The Deputy Commissioner assured that a dedicated task force would be established to address irrigation needs, provide technical agricultural assistance, and streamline security protocols to minimize disruption to farming activities.

BSF officials expressed their support for the initiative, reaffirming their dual commitment to national security and community welfare. "The presence of regular agricultural activity in these areas strengthens security through increased vigilance while supporting local livelihoods," noted a senior BSF representative.

The meeting was attended by ADC Samba, Jagdish Singh, ACR Samba, Ajay Bharti, Tehsildar Ramgarh, officers from civil administration, BSF officials and community leaders.

DC reviews progress of CAPEX Budget works in Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, APRIL 28



Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kunal chaired a meeting today to assess the physical and financial progress of development works carried out by the PWD (R&B) department under the UT CAPEX Budget.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of adhering to timelines, urging executing agencies to ensure that all projects are completed within the stipulated time frame. He also stressed

the necessity of maintaining high-quality standards in the execution of these works.

During the review of plans for the current financial year, the Deputy Commissioner instructed all concerned officers and executing agencies to prepare project-wise plans in consultation with elected public representatives, while strictly following the issued guidelines.

The meeting was attended by the Superintending Engineer of PWD, the Chief Planning Officer, and Executive Engineers.

Awareness sessions, cultural events under IEC Campaign on Drug Abuse at Shopian

JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, APRIL 28

As part of ongoing Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign under the UT-wide flagship initiative Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Shopian, Cultural Unit and Education Department along with the coordination of District Administration today organised a mega awareness programme.

The programme held at Ranjor Memorial GHSS School, Keegam witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials of health, DLSA, education, social welfare, department of Ayush and school children.

During the event, a panel of experts and resource persons from multiple departments conducted interactive sessions, sensitising attendees about the alarming consequences of drug abuse.

Medical professionals from the health department highlighted the root causes of addiction, including depression, curiosity, family trauma and feelings of inferiority. They stressed the importance of timely intervention, emotional support and rehabilitation in combating the crisis.

Resource persons from



DLSA provided detailed insights into the district's strategic action plan to curb drug addiction.

One of the major highlights of the event was a dramatic and artistic performance sponsored by the Cultural Unit of DIPR, J&K and DIPR Shopian. The creative skit, themed on drug abuse prevention, powerfully portrayed the devastating impact of addiction on families and communities. The performance called upon society to stand united and take collective responsibility to eliminate the menace from its roots.

It was informed that 98

awareness programmes are being scheduled at the Panchayat level under the IEC Campaign, 61 of which have already been conducted. Additionally, 17 programmes planned for municipal areas have been conducted. To extend this initiative to students, 26 programmes have been scheduled in educational institutions.

During the programme, speakers stressed making use of the services available at the Addiction Treatment Facility operating in the district and to encourage affected individuals to seek professional help without stigma.

Speakers at the events reiterated the need for a community-driven approach to effectively tackle the growing challenge of substance abuse. Through discussions, interactive sessions and expert talks, participants were encouraged to act as agents of change within their localities.

The programme was attended by DDC member Raja Waheed, District Nodal Officer (AYUSH), Deputy LADC, representatives of the DLSA, lecturers and teachers from Ranjor Memorial Government Higher Secondary Schools, Keegam, and Narapora.

Inter-School Zone Level competition held at BHSS Reasi



JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, APRIL 28

The Zonal Physical Education Office of Youth Services and Sports, Reasi, organized an Inter-School Zone Level Competition for Under-14 boys in the disciplines of Volleyball, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, and Tug of War at Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS) Reasi.

A total of 360 boys from various schools across Zone Reasi enthusiastically participated in the competition, showcasing their talent and sportsmanship.

On the occasion, Tarsem Singh, District

Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Reasi, graced the event as the Chief Guest, while Deepak Sharma, Principal of BHSS Reasi was the Special Guest.

Deepak Sharma warmly welcomed the Chief Guest and all participating schools, emphasizing the importance of sports in education.

In his address, Chief Guest highlighted that participation in such competitions is the first step towards representing the nation at higher levels. He encouraged students to maintain their dedication, discipline, and enthusiasm to excel in sports and life.

Asha Devi, Zonal Physical Education Officer (ZPEO) Reasi, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Guest, Special Guest, and all the participating schools for their enthusiastic involvement and support, making the event a grand success.

Today's Final Result in Volleyball - GHS Kambal Danga beat MS Arli by 3-2, in KHO - KHO - GHS Nomain beat Heritage Public School Reasi by 12-7, in KABADDI - Triku-ta Siksha Niketan beat HS Panasaa 2-1 and in TUG OF WAR - GHS Kambal Danga beat GHS Nomain.

Social Welfare Department Reasi empower needy girls by providing school bags under BBBP

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, APRIL 28

In a significant step towards promoting girl education and empowerment, SANKALP- Hub for Empowerment of Women, Reasi organised two special distribution drives under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative.

The programmes were organised under the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer Sachin Sharma.

The HEW Team reached to far flung Govt. Middle School Sarh, Block Mahore and distributed school bags among needy girls of marginalised section of society.

The other event was organised at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Laitar where HEW Team installed Sanitary Vending machine



and also distributed school bags among needy girls of different schools of Block Pouni. The girls were also sensitized about menstrual hygiene and encouraged to pursue their studies with enthusiasm.

This distribution drive reflects the ongoing commitment of Social Welfare

Department toward fostering education and empowerment in the region. The Department reaffirmed its dedication to conducting similar initiatives to uplift and support young learners, ensuring that every child gets access to essential learning materials.

GDC Vijaypur, District Police organise interactive workshop on 'Drugs and its Impact on Society'

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, APRIL 28

Government Degree College in collaboration with the District Police Samba organized an Interactive Workshop on the theme 'Drugs and its Impact on Society' under the flagship banner of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan. The event was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Ashu Vashist, the College Principal.

The event commenced with the welcome address by Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat, Nodal Officer Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan. He introduced the resource person of the event Additional Superintendent of Police Garu Ram.

Garu Ram shared that drug abuse is not just a personal problem but a social problem that impacts families, disrupts communities and burdens our healthcare and criminal justice systems. He not only stressed on the dangers of substance abuse but also recognized the importance of prevention, early intervention, and community support.

The college students were encouraged to express their views on the detrimental impact of drug abuse on individuals, families and civil society, also suggesting effective strategies for prevention and control. The workshop provided a platform to young minds to critically reflect on social-psychological and health related consequences of drug addiction.

The programme was co-ordinated by Prof. Mamta Gupta, Prof. Ritu Bhagat, Dr. Arti Sharma, Dr. Manoj Heer, Dr. Naseem Chowdhary, Prof. Mitu Sharma, Dr. Gunjeet Mahiwal, and, Dr. Anjana Raina.

DC Ganderbal reviews NTEP progress; district achieves 98% TB Mukta Panchayat coverage

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, APRIL 28

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) in District Ganderbal.

During the meeting, District Tuberculosis Officer (DTO) delivered a detailed presentation on the current status of NTEP activities across the district. It was highlighted that Ganderbal has achieved TB Mukta Panchayat status in 123 out of 126 Gram Panchayats, registering an impressive 98% coverage.

It was informed that out of 123 Panchayats, 31



Panchayats have been recognized under the Bronze category and 92 Panchayats under the Silver category, reflecting consistent efforts and community engagement.

It was further informed that Panchayats maintaining TB-free status are being symbolically honored with bronze (one year), silver (two year), and gold (three

year) statues of Mahatma Gandhi based on the number of consecutive years they sustain TB-free status.

Appreciating the district's commendable achievements, DC assured full support towards further strengthening TB elimination efforts, emphasizing the importance of early detection, continu-

ous community engagement, and enhanced diagnostic infrastructure.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Ganderbal, District Tuberculosis Officer Ganderbal, Nodal Officer NTEP Ganderbal, and Programme Coordinator NTEP Ganderbal besides others.

EDITORIAL

A serious matter of concern

The recent revelations following the barbaric Pahalgam terror attack have unveiled a troubling dimension to the persistent security challenges in Kashmir. The identification of 15 local Over Ground Workers (OGWs) – whose mobile phones were active in the Baisaran Valley during the gruesome assault on innocent tourists – highlights a dangerous and growing nexus between local elements and terrorist operatives. Electronic surveillance has played a pivotal role in uncovering the extent of local involvement. The data paints a grim picture: these OGWs are suspected of providing critical logistical support to the terrorists, including guidance through the rugged terrain, shelter, and crucial intelligence. Such facilitation not only enabled the terrorists to execute a precise and devastating strike but also allowed them to swiftly vanish into the dense forests, evading immediate capture. This incident marks a serious escalation. It is not just about external threats crossing borders anymore; it is about the deeply entrenched support system within. Local enablers, either by coercion, indoctrination, or willful participation, are becoming vital cogs in the machinery of terror. Their role, often hidden from plain sight, is what allows larger, more visible acts of violence to unfold with such devastating consequences. The immediate crackdown by security forces – with over 200 suspects detained and intensified operations underway – is a necessary and commendable step. However, this reactive approach, while important for immediate containment, must evolve into a sustained, long-term strategy aimed at dismantling the entire ecosystem that breeds and shelters terrorism. The problem cannot be treated superficially; it must be uprooted from its ideological, financial, and logistical foundations. The Pahalgam attack also serves as a grim reminder that terrorist outfits are adapting. No longer relying solely on foreign infiltrators, they are now building deep, resilient networks within. This shift demands a recalibration of counter-terror strategies. Greater emphasis must be placed on community policing, intelligence gathering at the grassroots level, deradicalization programs, and strengthening of local trust in institutions. It is imperative for society to recognize the peril posed by local OGWs – they are not mere passive sympathizers but active collaborators in bloodshed. Their identification and prosecution must be swift, transparent, and exemplary, sending an unambiguous message that treachery against the nation and against humanity itself will be met with uncompromising resolve. The attack in Pahalgam has shocked the conscience of the nation. It must also galvanize a united, relentless effort to dismantle the terror-support structure within our borders. The price of inaction or complacency will not just be economic or reputational; it will be measured in innocent lives lost and dreams shattered. This is a serious matter of concern – one that demands seriousness in action, constancy in commitment, and clarity in purpose.

Future belongs to XR, AR and 3D innovation

SANJEEV DE

The Indian industrial landscape is undergoing a seismic shift. As products grow more complex, markets demand faster turnarounds, and sustainability becomes non-negotiable, businesses face a pressing challenge: how to communicate value effectively while keeping costs low and engagement high. Traditional tools like static brochures, PowerPoint decks, and physical demonstrations are increasingly falling short. Immersive technologies such as 3D product animation, Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), and Extended Reality (XR) are stepping in to redefine how Indian industries market, sell, and train.

The rapid evolution of India's industrial sectors has exposed the limitations of conventional approaches. Companies now need ways to simplify product demonstrations, accelerate sales cycles, cut operational costs, and boost digital engagement. Immersive technologies

address these needs by offering dynamic, interactive ways to showcase offerings – whether it is a heavy-duty machine, a cutting-edge vehicle, or a consumer lifestyle product. A stand-out example of this transformation is XploR, a new immersive tech vertical launched by BizConnect, designed to bring these cutting-edge solutions to Indian businesses. The disruptive solution was born from this very demand, aiming to make industrial marketing smarter, faster, and more sustainable by leveraging 3D and XR tools to deliver powerful product stories. Across various industries, immersive tech adapts to unique demands and transforms operations. In manufacturing and heavy engineering, complex machinery often requires detailed explanations of internal mechanisms and workflows. 3D animations illustrate these intricacies with precision, while XR tools allow companies to replace bulky physical demos with portable, interactive kits. The goal is to empower manufacturers

to showcase entire product portfolios at trade fairs using compact XR-based solutions, eliminating the need for costly shipping and setup. In the automotive and new mobility sector, from passenger cars to electric vehicles (EVs), immersive tech brings products to life. 3D modelling reveals engine functionality or vehicle interiors without dismantling anything, and virtual showrooms enable global presentations and dealer training. These immersive technologies customise presentations for diverse vehicle categories, slashing logistical challenges. For energy, power, and infrastructure companies, visualising equipment like transformers or wind turbines changes the game. XR simulations demonstrate installation, maintenance, and performance remotely.

XploR supports this by enabling energy firms to simulate smart grids or solar plant systems dynamically, streamlining sales, training, and even Government tender processes. In the lifestyle and retail space,

AR-powered virtual try-ons for clothing, accessories, or furniture help shoppers see products in their own homes or on themselves, boosting confidence, cutting return rates, and bridging the gap between physical and digital shopping. Beyond innovation, immersive tech delivers measurable gains. Reducing the need for physical demos and event logistics can slash expenses by up to 70 per cent, eliminating freight, installation, and handling costs. Less reliance on printed materials and product shipping lowers carbon footprints and promotes greener practices.

Globally, immersive tech is already standard practice. In Germany, Japan, and the US, B2B Expos feature 3D displays, OEMs use VR for training, and retailers leverage AR to enhance online shopping. India, with its burgeoning industrial and retail sectors, is ripe for this shift. Indian businesses are now well-positioned to compete on this global stage, offering customised immersive solutions that mod-

ernise marketing and training responsibly. The proof lies in real-world results.

Companies worldwide have slashed costs by replacing machinery shipments with XR demos, engaging buyers faster with interactive displays, and streamlining training with virtual simulations. One industry leader points out, "We used to haul entire units to expos; now, a headset does the job better." Immersive technology is not just a glimpse into the future, it is a tool for the present.

For Indian industries, it is a chance to sell with confidence, train with clarity, and communicate with creativity. With the adoption of immersive technologies, India has the tools to lead, not follow. By harnessing 3D and XR, the industry can now meet its unique challenges and ambitions.

(The writer researcher and expert on immersive technologies and founder of BizConnect. Views are personal)

No Indus water for Pakistan

BHUPESH CHAUDHARY

The recent terrorist ambush in Pahalgam of innocent tourists once again has exposed the rot of cross-border terror and has brought into sharp focus the question of proportionality and response. Each time blood is spilt on Indian soil by forces emanating from across the border, the nation mourns, reacts with diplomatic outrage, tightens security, and moves on. But this cycle must be broken. At some point, restraint becomes complicity.

In the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack, the Government of India has taken a bold and long-overdue step – it has moved to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), one of the most generous and lopsided water-sharing agreements in the world. This is not just a policy shift; it is a recalibration of India's strategic doctrine. Signed in 1960, in an era far removed from today's realities, the Indus Waters Treaty was an act of remarkable generosity by an upper riparian India. It granted Pakistan near-exclusive rights over the waters of the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab – rivers that originate in Indian territory.

For decades, India

honoured the treaty even during full-scale wars and covert proxy conflicts. But the age of automatic magnanimity is over. The suspension of the IWT marks a decisive turn – where cooperation is no longer unconditional, and dialogue is no longer disconnected from deeds. The Jhelum River, whose headwaters lie in India, flows directly through the region where Pakistan – backed militants gunned down Indian soldiers in Pahalgam. That water, nourished by Indian glaciers and mountains, eventually sustains Pakistan's economy and agriculture.

In return, what India receives is infiltration, radicalisation, and relentless bloodshed. The symbolism is stark – and so is the imperative. The Government's decision to suspend the IWT is not an act of retaliation; it is an assertion of sovereign logic.

This move comes after years of diplomatic exhaustion. India has been patient. It has absorbed attacks in Uri, Pulwama, and now Pahalgam, while choosing to respond through global forums, dossiers, and restraint. But when a treaty becomes a strategic liability – when it empowers a belligerent neighbour with economic lifelines while they export

terror – it ceases to be a diplomatic instrument and becomes a moral failure. It is important to understand that this suspension is not an arbitrary breach of international norms.

Under the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, a fundamental change in circumstances – such as the continued use of terror as state policy – provides legal ground for renegotiation or withdrawal. India has exhausted the dispute resolution mechanisms under the IWT. Pakistan's habitual misuse of arbitration panels and neutral experts to stall Indian projects has made the treaty unworkable. The Government's move is legally defensible, diplomatically deliberate, and strategically astute.

What does this suspension mean in operational terms? It means that India will now assert its full entitlement over the eastern rivers, accelerating long-delayed projects like the Shahpur Kandi Dam and Ujh multipurpose project.

It means that hydro-power infrastructure on western rivers will be scaled up rapidly. It means that water flowing unutilised into Pakistan will now be directed to support irrigation, industry, and drinking water needs in Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, and Him-

achal Pradesh. This is not water as a weapon.

This is water as a national right. Critics may raise concerns about international backlash or ecological consequences. But the reality is that global sentiment has shifted. The global community, increasingly aware of Pakistan's double game, is unlikely to be swayed by cries of victimhood. Moreover, India's position can be bolstered by highlighting how the IWT, signed in a pre-climate-change, pre-terrorism era, is now outdated. The treaty does not account for glacial melt, increased water variability, transboundary hydro-politics or asymmetric warfare. A revised framework – rooted in sustainability, reciprocity, accountability and hard realism – is both logical and necessary. If anything, revising the treaty offers an opportunity to integrate climate resilience, data transparency, and regional sustainability into a 21st-century water framework. Domestically, the benefits are immense. Jammu and Kashmir, long denied full utilisation of its riverine potential due to international sensitivities, can now develop large-scale hydropower that generates jobs, stabilises grids, and improves infrastructure. Ladakh, with its

unique water needs and altitude challenges, can benefit from controlled storage and adaptive distribution. Even Punjab and Haryana, battling agrarian distress, can gain from better irrigation planning. This is a national interest in action not at the cost of others, but in fulfilment of what was always rightfully ours.

By suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, India is also rewriting the rules of engagement. The message to Islamabad is clear: treaties require trust. When that trust is systematically eroded by proxy war and cross-border terrorism, the framework of cooperation cannot hold.

If Pakistan wants the privileges of diplomacy, it must first uphold the principles of peace. The days of one-sided patience are over. This is a new water doctrine: principled, powerful, and unapologetically Indian. This decision also sets a precedent for the broader region. It signals that India will no longer allow historical inertia to dictate present vulnerability. Whether it is trade, visas, culture, or water, reciprocity is the new baseline. It also reminds the world that sovereignty is not merely about borders – it is about resources, resilience, and refusal to be taken for

granted.

The terrorists who struck in Pahalgam sought to destabilise the Valley. What they have done instead is awoken a deeper resolve. India has responded not just with weapons and diplomacy, but with the reassertion of control over its natural capital. Rivers, like nations, must flow with dignity. Dignity cannot coexist with duplicity.

As the Indus flows through the mountains of Kashmir and into the plains of Pakistan, let it now carry a message – not of hostility, but of hard realism. India will share what is fair, but it will no longer suffer what is unjust. The Indus Waters Treaty was forged in hope. Today, it flows through hypocrisy.

If Pakistan wishes to continue enjoying the privileges of a water-sharing agreement, it must renounce the politics of bloodshed. Until then, India has every moral, legal, and strategic right to turn the tide. The suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty is not the end of diplomacy; it is the beginning of a new equilibrium, forged in the waters of resolve.

(The author is an IAS officer. Views are personal)

Congress in crisis: Reform or perish

ANILANAND

Why is the Congress reluctant to change its formation in terms of organisational network, and reform the decades – old processes related to the functioning of its highest bodies – Congress Working Committee, AICC and its customary session?

Are the Congress leaders fearful of the change or intense pressure from some invisible forces that have forced them to play safe and be status quo?

These questions confronting the current Congress dispensation (read Sonia Gandhi-Mallikarjun Kharge-Rahul Gandhi powerful troika) are not new. But a refresh button pressed by the recently held non-happening Ahmedabad AICC session has once again made these questions relevant and begging for answers.

The session left all those participating or not (the party leaders rank and file, and the public) unenthused to the level of the lowest ebb, as it failed to throw an alternative vision to fight the might of Mr Narendra Modi – led well-oiled ruling network – and also to ignite the minds of the Congresspersons to make them ready for future political battles – elections or

otherwise.

The abysmal affair that the AICC session turned out to be, with no clear-cut direction emerging out of it as to how the Grand Old Party (GOP) proposes to fight the politico-ideological battle on its way to strengthening its place as the premier opposition party and the unchallenged leader of the fledgling opposition combine – I.N.D.I.A. The session has ended up adding to the confusion and demoralisation rather than emanating any ray of hope.

The Ahmedabad AICC session was not different from the preceding ones held in the last few decades. At a time when the Congress is facing the toughest battle of its survival, with an all-round onslaught launched by the ruling dispensation – both at the political and Government levels – the session was expected to be a path-breaking one, if not revolutionising the party's thinking or strategy. But nothing of the sort happened.

Where does the Congress – particularly Mr Rahul Gandhi, whose remarkable Bharat Jodo Yatra and Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra had rekindled a fresh hope – go from here?

The Ahmedabad AICC session was a valuable opportunity to unveil the

blueprint of what the party intends to do in the coming times. Most of the contentious but significant issues – such as strengthening and overhauling the organisational set-up, changing the style of working, purging the party of non-performers and the deadwood, and those conniving with the arch-political rivals – went missing from the discourse.

Those who had their eyes and ears fixed on the session and waited with bated breath for a new look agenda to unfold were despaired to be content with passing references (on these issues) made by Mr Kharge and Mr Gandhi in their speeches.

The scores of leaders and the delegates who travelled long distances to be in attendance, left without carrying a message to enthuse the workers back home, as there was none. Under the circumstances, getting back to the grassroots and convincing the people to be back in the Congress – fold remains a tall order.

Although Mr Kharge, as the Congress president, has done commendable work despite age-related and physical constraints and has left no opportunity to go inside and outside the Parliament – without fighting back on crucial issues – the challenge

is more daunting for Mr Gandhi.

It remains a fact that Mr Kharge is acting only as a guardian figure, but every policy decision in the party has Mr Gandhi's stamp affixed to it. The party president has no one in doubt about his position and candidly admitted from time to time that Mr Gandhi was the real force. A very tricky situation seems to have arisen in Congress, particularly after the lacklustre AICC session and with the next set of assembly elections approaching fast.

Normally, the onset of any election has been used as a standard excuse by the Congress strategist to ward off or postpone decisions on vital issues – to the great disadvantage of the party – which is there for everyone to see at the AICC and the state/UT levels where confusion prevails supreme. The ploy would not work anymore.

The clock is ticking fast and the indecisiveness is getting entrenched deeper, a situation that demands a fast remedy.

Since Mr Gandhi has led the battle from the front, notwithstanding the personalised campaign against him to tarnish his image, with two pan-India sojourns having a dramatic effect both for the party and at the personal levels, unfortunately, the spirit has

not been carried forward. A weak organisation, dotted by leaders with vested interests and at times working at cross-purposes to BJP's advantage, has been the Congress's bane and a spoke in Mr Gandhi's wheels.

With this backdrop, it has become imperative that Mr Gandhi must press the alarm bell. The image of indecisiveness has to be shed and the mask of the status quo has to be blown to smithereens as fast as possible.

The charity must begin at the AICC with a thorough change in its work culture. In most of the cases, it has become a parking place for those elevated as its office-bearers in charge of key tasks. A big casualty is that they tend to lose touch with the middle-lower rung leaders and workers.

Accordingly, the entire gamut of organising AICC sessions must also drastically change. It should not be merely a customary fulfilment of Election Commission requirements but an exercise that should be deeply interactive and all – encompassing. The Ahmedabad AICC session starkly revealed the Congress party's deep-rooted reluctance to confront its structural inertia and outdated processes.

Despite the hopes ignited by Rahul

Gandhi's Bharat Jodo initiatives, the session failed to offer any meaningful vision or reforms, leaving leaders and workers disillusioned.

The Congress's continued avoidance of internal overhaul – especially in revamping the AICC, energising the grassroots, and purging non-performers – has eroded morale at a time when clarity and decisiveness are critical.

With Mr Kharge serving more as a caretaker and Rahul Gandhi being the de facto decision-maker, the party can no longer afford to hide behind election timelines to defer reforms. The Congress must shed its image of indecisiveness and break free from status quoist tendencies.

Only a bold reimagining of its organisational network and work culture – starting at the top – can revitalise the Grand Old Party and position it as a credible challenger in the evolving political landscape. The clock is ticking.

Every missed opportunity deepens the disconnect with the electorate and empowers the opposition narrative. Time for half-measures is over – action must replace introspection.

(The writer is a political and national affairs analyst. Views are personal)

Enemies of peace committed grave sin by killing Kupwara civilian: Ravinder

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 28 (KNO)

Senior BJP leader Ravinder Raina on Monday condemned the killing of Ghulam Rasool Magray, a civilian shot dead by gunmen in North Kashmir's Kandi Khass area in Kupwara District. Raina, as per the

news agency visited the bereaved family today and expressed solidarity with the mother of the deceased man. "Those terrorists who killed an innocent breadwinner during the night hours will have to face the law and will also be answerable in the hereafter," Raina told reporters.

Calling the act a "grave sin," he said that humanity stands embarrassed by such brutal killings. He blamed "Pakistani terrorists" for the incident, asserting that the perpetrators would not escape justice. The BJP leader urged the Union and Jammu and Kashmir govern-



ments to provide necessary assistance to the victim's family, noting that although no support could bring back the deceased, efforts must be made to help his kin. Asked about reports of harassment of Kashmiri students outside the Valley, Raina declined to comment. However, he

stressed that for the past 35 years, the people of Kashmir have suffered due to the "enemies of peace." He added that every household in Kashmir has felt the pain of violence caused by guns and grenades and emphasized that such bloodshed must end immediately. "When-

ever people in the Valley begin to rebuild their lives peacefully, Pakistan-sponsored terrorism tries to destroy that atmosphere. It must stop," Raina said. Pertinently, gunmen barged into the house of Ghulam Rasool Magray at Kandi Khass village last week and shot him dead. KNO

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Srinagar Police...

at the residences of Javid Ahmad Najar son of Gh Qadir Najar resident of Zaibakadal involved in case FIR No. 210/1999 U/S 7/27 IA Act of PS M.R.Gunj, Srinagar, 86/2006 U/S 147,341 RPC of PS Kothibagh, 07/2007 U/S 13 ULAP of PS Safakadal, 04/2007 U/s 307 RPC, 7/27 IAA of PS Nigeen, 32/2007 U/S 302 RPC, 7/27 IAA of PS Soura, 73/2019 U/S 148,149,152,336,427,307 RPC, 13 ULAP of PS Soura, 35/2023 U/S 353, 332,506 IPC of PS M R Gunj, Adil Ahmad Sofi son of Mohammad Ayoub Sofi resident of Rathpora Eidgah involved in case FIR No. 11/2024 U/S 13, 39 ULAP Act of PS M.R.Gunj, Shabir Ahmad Ganie son of Ghulam Mohiuddin resident of Ganai Mohalla New Theed involved in case FIR No. 24/2019 U/S 18, 20 UA(P) Act of PS Harwan, Sheikh Faisal Rashid son of Abdul Rashid Sheikh resident of Firdous Colony Sadipora involved in case FIR No. 08/2023 U/S 307, 427, IPC 7/27 IA Act, 13, 16 ULAP Act of PS Sangam Srinagar, Momin Javari Gojri son of Javid Ahad Gojri resident of Shalimar Colony Sadipora involved in case FIR No. 08/2023 U/S 307, 427 IPC 7/27 IA Act of PS Sangam, Rayees Ahmad Najar son of Mohd Yousaf Najar resident of Kaldoori Naidkadal and Ehitsham Bilal son of Bilal Ahmad Sofi resident of Sumkishbal Khayar and Amir Sedeeq Najar son of Mohd Sedeeq resident of Kalaldoori Nidekadal both involved in case FIR No. 48/2024 U/S 109 BNS 13, 16,19,20,39 UAPS Act of PS Khanyar, Mubashir Rashid son of Ab Rashid Khosa resident of Jogilankar and Muzamil Khurshid son of Khursid Ahmad resident of Beroni Kathidarwaza and Mehnan Ah Khan S/o Mehrj u din Khan R/o Syedpora Khawajapora both involved in case FIR No. 48/2024 U/S 109 BNS 13, 16, 19, 20, 39 UAPA Act of PS Khanyar, Ashiq Hussain Bhat son of Abdul Rehman resident of Darbagh involved in case FIR No. 95/2021 U/S 307 IPC, 7/21 IA Act, 13,16, 18 UA(P) Act of PS Harwan, Farooq Ahmad Dar resident of Bhagwanpora involved in case FIR No. 11/2024 U/S 13, 39 ULAP Act of PS Safakadal, Burhan Ahmad Shah son of Reyaz Ahmad Shah resident of Zampakadal Srinagar involved in case FIR No. 156/2023 U/S 7/25 Arms Act 13, 23, 39 UAPA Act of PS Safakadal.

The others include Altaf Ahmad Dar son of Mohd Abdullah Dar resident of Malikpora Barthana and Mohd Asif Nath S/o Mohd Younis resident of Malikpora, Barthana both involved in case FIR No. 127/2022 U/S 7/25 Arms Act, 13, 16, 18, 38, 39 ULA(P) Act of PS Parimpora, Umer Hamid Sheikh son of Abdul Hamud Sheikh resident of Asaar Colony Hazratbal involved in case FIR No. 02/2020 U/S 307, 120-B IPC ¼ Exp. Sub Act 16, 18 UAPS Act of PS Nigeen, Tawheed Ahmad (under PSA) resident of Goripora Sozieth and Bashir Ahmad Bhat son of Abdul Aziz Bhat (under PSA) resident of Sozieth both involved in case FIR No. 73/2018 U/S 13, 16 ULAP Act of PS Rajbagh Srinagar, Ilyas Ahmad Sangeen son of Sha-reef Ahmad Shangeen resident of Abu Baker Lane Lalbazar Malalabagh Soura involved in case FIR No. 03/2025 U/S 13 UAPA Act of PS Soura, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Nabi Bhat resident of Hamza Colony 90 feet Road Soura involved in case FIR No. 93/2016 U/S 13 UAP Act, 120-B IPC of PS Soura, Tawous Ahmad Gadda resident of Hamdaniya Colony Bemina involved in case FIR No. 39/2022 U/S 7/25 IA Act 13 UAP Act of PS Bemina, Junaid Ahmad Parry @ Billa son of Farooq Ahmad Parray (under PSA) resident of Baripora, MehrjUd Din Khan @ Sahba S/O Lt. AbAhad Khan resident of Khankhai Sokhta Nawakadal, Musavir Nabi Bhat Son Of Gh Nabi Bhat Resident Of Wanganpora, Arash Koul son of Ashiq Ahmad Koul resident of Dalal Mohalla Nawa bazar Srinagar involved in case FIR No. 35/022 U/S 13 ULAP,505,153A, 153 B IPC, 13,18,20,23,49 ULAP Act of PS M R Gunj, Shakir Farooq Bhat son of Farooq Ahmad Bhat resident of Shah Mohalla Nawabazar involved in case FIR NO. 22/17 US 148,149,336,152, RPC, 09/2018 US 148,149,336 RPC, 82/2020 US 148,336,332 IPC, 03 PPD Act PS MRG and 49/2018 U/S 147,148,149,336,307 RPC of PS Soura, Bashrat Ahmad Bazaz son of Late Ghassan Bazaz resident of Malik Agan Fathakadal Srinagar (under PSA), Furqan Nazir son of Nazir Ahmad resident of Islamyarbal Zainkadal Srinagar, Zulafkar Ahmad Najar @ Sahabatomatar son of Ghulam Mohammad Najar resident of Razaqi kocha Urdu Bazar, sgr involved in case FIR No. 13/2012 US 7/25 A Act of PS Ram Munshibhag. FIR No.28/2009 US 307,7/27 A act of PS Kralkhud. FIR No 52/2009 U/S 302,307,120 B RPC, 7/27 A ACT OF P/S MAISUMA. FIR No.27/2011 US 307 RPC,7/27 IA Act of PS Nowhatta, Momin

Ahmad Shiekh son of Wali8 Mohd Sheikh resident of Batyar Ali kadal Srinagar, Qasir Altaf Hakeem son of Altaf Ahmad Hakeem resident of Syed Hamidpora Nawab Bazar, Manzoor Ahmad Danposh son of Gh Mohidun Danposh resident of Gunz khud Dabtal, Sajad Ahmad Gilkar son of Nazir Ahmad Gilkar resident of Pandan Nowhatta (killed terrorist), Ashiq Hussain Rangrez son of Mubashir Ahmad resident of Iqbal Marked Jamia Masjid, Faizan Nisar Rangraz son of Nisar Ahmad Rangraz resident of Anderwani Naidkadal involved in case FIR No-73/2021 U/S 307 IPC, 7/27 13 ULA (P) Act 16,18,23,39 ULAP Act of PS Khanyar, Aqib Lateef Wani son of Mohd Lateef resident of Mumkhan Mohallah, Farooq Ahmad Wani son of Mohd Yaseen Wani resident of Kathi Darwaza, Syed Ahmad Parimoo son of Late M Abdullah Parimoo resident of Mumkhan Mohalla Badamwari, Syed Asrar Qardi Son of Syed Mohd Amin Resident of Qureshi Mohalla Lalbazar involved in case FIR No. 52/2021 U/S 13 ULAP Act, 153A, 505 IPC of PS Lalbazar, Jasia Nazir daughter of Nazir Ah Bhat resident of Khunmoh involved in case FIR No. 97/2024 U/S 13 UAPA of PS Panthachowk and Bashir sultan Bhat son of Mohammad sultan Bhat resident of Shankar-pora Nowgam involved in case FIR No. 45/22 U/S 307 IPC, 7/27 Arms act, 16,18,19,20,38 UAPA of PS Nowgam.

The searches were conducted in accordance with proper legal procedures in the presence of Executive Magistrates and independent witnesses under the supervision of the officers of J&K Police, the statement reads.

The searches were carried out to seize arms, documents, digital devices etc. with the objective of evidence collection and intelligence gathering to detect and deter any conspiratorial or terrorist activity against the security of the Nation.

This decisive action of J&K Police aims to dismantle the terrorist ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir by identifying and taking legal action against individuals engaged in such anti-national and criminal activities.

Srinagar Police remains committed to maintaining peace and security in the city. Any individual found furthering the agenda of violence, disruption, or unlawful activities will face strict legal consequences under the law, the spokesman said. KNO

Pahalgam Carnage...

of the Pahalgam attack was different. "It was not just a street, not a lane, not a city, not a village where people did not come out in anger and go against this violence. This has never happened in the last 78 years. This happened for the first time," he said.

He hailed the families of the victims for preventing an eruption of hatred. "The fire that could have been lit, they [families of victims] put it out and created an atmosphere of love. In the whole of India, the face of that Kashmiri was seen – the Kashmiri who gave his life to save a tourist," Lone said, recalling accounts of locals carrying injured tourists on their shoulders for over an hour through jungles to get them medical help.

Expressing his deep gratitude, Lone added, "We should be thankful to their relatives. After such a big loss, they demonstrated humanity when others might have turned to anger."

The PC chairman also made a request to the House: "We have not written their names in the resolution. Otherwise, it becomes just a statistic. When the name comes, human lives come. Even after 20 years, when we may not be here, someone will say, 'I have a right; my father or brother sacrificed here.' We must write their names one by one."

Lone added that Kashmir's culture of hospitality, deeply tied to tourism, was under existential threat due to recurring violence. "I am not talking economics; Allah has kept our livelihood in tourism and hospitality. This hardship aims to uproot an entire generation," he said.

However, the PC chairman acknowledged how violence had been normalized in Kashmir society – and how that normalization had now been challenged. "For 35 years, we have seen violence and we should not do politics on this. There was a society of acceptance of this violence. Some people used to accept it as legitimate violence. However, what we saw when people marched was a social stigmatization of violence. People are not willing to accept it anymore."

However, Lone cautioned that this shift was only the beginning: "This is not the end of social sanctity of violence. It is the beginning of the end. We should create such an environment that this mindset does not go

back anywhere."

Furthermore, Lone pointed to a long-standing issue where civilians had often suffered at the hands of security forces. "The biggest challenge for law enforcers has been that they sometimes could not distinguish between an innocent man and a terrorist. Sometimes four innocents were killed while arresting one terrorist," he said. He stressed that societal healing could not come from force. "We do not want to accuse anybody. Whatever happened. But the inhabitants of J&K – unless thousands of Adil Shahs are created – violence will not end."

"The police have a limited role. The army has a limited role. What the inhabitants of this place will do, that nobody can do," Lone

added.


He further called on the media to act responsibly, cautioning that hostile narratives could endanger Kashmiri students studying outside the state. "Some sections of the media have been very good. But some have been against unity, inviting punishment on our innocent students," he said.

Lone proposed a "formal step" – even if not publicized – to ensure solidarity and prevent reactions that would play into the hands of terrorists. "Let us not do what the terrorists want us to do," he said.

The Peoples Conference Chairman also urged for institutional support for the families of those killed. "I am not talking about gratia. Ex gratia trivializes sacrifices. Guard-

ianship of families should be assumed by the Jammu and Kashmir government. If someone's daughter wanted to become a doctor, it is now our job to make her a doctor."

Choking up, Lone spoke about the helplessness felt by families when tragedy strikes: "When a dead body comes, loaded with bullets, the first thing you feel is helplessness. I have cried myself. Whenever someone dies from a bullet, that is when you realize the agony of the last moments. The most dangerous, painful are the last moments. When a person knows he will not survive – those three or four minutes are like doomsday," Lone whose father Abdul Gani Lone was killed by Pakistan backed terrorists on May 21, 2002, said in his address. KNO



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY DIVISION RAMBAN.
FRESH SHORT TENDER NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
E-NIT NO-EE/PMGSY/DR/42 OF 2025-26 DATED: 25/04/2025

Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Ramban on behalf of The Government of Jammu & Kashmir, invites e-tenders for Stage Contracts on %age Above/Excess (+) OR %age Below/ Less (-) basis (i.e. on Percentage-Rate Basis) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt, CPWD, Railways or equivalent and other State Govts up to **5.00 PM on 01-05-2025** for each of the following works.

S.No	Name of Work/ Package No.	Name of the PIU	Cost of documents (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity Period of Contract	Call of tender	Time and date of opening of tenders	Class of contractor
1	Temporary Restoration of roads on emergency basis i.e. (motor paths only) by way of clearance of slips/snow likely to occur during the financial year 2025-2026. 1. Maroag Balihote Adhwa, Package No. JK04-455, Stage-II, Phase-XI, Block and District – Ramban, Length = 19.40Kms. 2. Seri to Sancha, Package No. JK04-456, Stage-II, Phase-XI, Block and District – Ramban, Length = 15.85Kms. Total Length:- 35.25Kms	Ramban	1000.00	10000.00	31-03-2026	3rd	02-05-2025 11.00 AM	Any registered contractor with State PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as per Nit.
2	Temporary Restoration of roads on emergency basis i.e. (motor paths only) by way of clearance of slips/snow likely to occur during the financial year 2025-2026. 1. Barote to Rakh Jarog, Package No. JK04-197, Stage-II, Phase-VIII, Block-Batote, District-Ramban, Length = 3.0Kms. 2. Batote to Chakwa, Package No. JK04-274, Stage-II, Phase-XI, Block-Batote, District-Ramban, Length = 8.15Kms. 3. Champa to Dhaino, Package No. JK04-279, Stage-II, Phase-X, Block-Batote, District-Ramban, Length = 16.00Kms. Total Length:- 27.15 Kms	Ramban	1000.00	10000.00	31-03-2026	3rd	02-05-2025 11.00 AM	Any registered contractor with State PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as per Nit.
3	Temporary Restoration of roads on emergency basis i.e. (motor paths only) by way of clearance of slips/snow likely to occur during the financial year 2025-2026. 1. Maitra to Balwat, Package No. JK04-271, Stage-II, Phase-X, Block and District – Ramban, Length = 10.00Kms. 2. Maitra to Balwat, Package No. JK19-3009, Upgradation, Pmgsy III, Block and District – Ramban, Length = 7.05Kms. Total Length:- 17.05Kms	Ramban	1000.00	10000.00	31-03-2026	3rd	02-05-2025 11.00 AM	Any registered contractor with State PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as per Nit.

- (a) The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in> from **5.00 PM on 25-04-2025 to 01-05-2025 (5.00PM)**
- (b) The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in> from **05.00 PM 26-04-2025 to 01-05-2025 05.00 PM**
- (c) A Pre bid meeting will be held on **26-04-2025 12.00 Noon** . in the Office of The Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Ramban to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in Clause 9 of instruction to bidders of the Bidding documents.

2. The date and time of opening of Financial Bids shall be notified on Web Site <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in>.

3. For further details Kindly visit our website <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in>

Sd/-
Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Ramban
For and on behalf of The Government
of Jammu and Kashmir

No:-EE/PMGSY/DR/490-559
Dated:- 25-04-2025

DIP/J-619/25
Date: 26-4-25

Rohingya and Bangladeshi migrants illegally setting up colonies in Jammu, raising security concerns: BJP leader Rajeev Charak

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

BJP leader Rajeev Charak has expressed serious concern over the presence of Rohingya and Bangladeshi migrants in Jammu. He alleged that the growing number of these illegal settlers is not only disturbing the demographic balance of Jammu but also posing a grave threat to Jammu's internal security.

Rajeev Charak stated, "Neither does Jammu and Kashmir share a border with Bangladesh nor with Myanmar, so how are these individuals reaching here? This indicates a deep-rooted conspiracy and calls for a comprehensive investigation."

According to the BJP leader Kr. Charak Rohingya migrants have illegally Encroachment on Local



Resources and established colonies in areas such as Bahu Fort, Sunjwan, Narwal, Bathindi and other parts of Jammu and Kashmir. They have also set up shops and are operating passenger and load carrier vehicles. Kr. Charak questioned on what basis these individuals were issued business and transport licenses. "If any official or agency is found complicit in this

process, strict legal action must be taken against them," he asserted.

He further claimed that Rohingya and Bangladeshi are Impact on National Security But some contractors have even been engaged in activities like cleaning work at the railway yard. "Employing individuals without valid identification or security verification in sensitive establishments like Indian

Railways is extremely dangerous from a national security standpoint," Charak warned.

He added that Growing Public Concern. The increasing presence of Rohingya and Bangladeshi migrants has also sparked a sense of insecurity among local residents. Several social organizations have raised their voices against this issue and are demanding swift and decisive action from the authorities.

Charak urged the Central Government, particularly the Ministry of Home Affairs, to order a high-level investigation into the matter. He also appealed to the Jammu and Kashmir administration to promptly identify and deport illegal migrants to safeguard the region's demographic and security interests.

Prof RK Uppal conferred India Iconic Award for Outstanding Contributions

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

Professor Dr. Rajinder Kumar Uppal, a distinguished academician and researcher, has been honored with several prestigious awards recognizing his outstanding contributions to the fields of economics, banking, and finance. While there is no specific record of him receiving the "India Iconic Award," his accolades include the 'Golden Book Award-2024' for his seminal work, Encyclopedia of Indian Banking Industry, and the 'Authors of New Era Award-2024'. Additionally, he was conferred the 'Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam International Excellence Award-2023' for his valuable contributions to education and social inclusivity. Dr. Uppal's illustrious career spans over 35 years, during which he has authored over 70



books and published more than 275 research papers in reputed national and international journals. His research has significantly impacted banking reforms, financial inclusion, and the digital transformation of India's financial sector. Currently, he serves as the Principal and Professor at Guru Gobind Singh College of Management and Technology, Gidderbaha, Punjab. Dr. Uppal's dedication to academia and research continues to inspire many in the field of economics and finance.

J&K Police arrest two persons in reported sacrilegious act

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28 (UNI)

Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday arrested two persons in a reported sacrilegious act in Reasi district.

Police said that acting promptly over a reported sacrilegious act in Dharmari area involving alleged beef, police party headed by Station House Officer under the supervision of SDPO Arnas arrested two accused namely Mohd Rafiq and

Mohd Lateef.

A case has been registered against the culprits, said police adding that the meat has been sent to the Forensic Lab Jammu for analysis.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Reasi, Paramvir Singh assured that action under law shall be taken against mischief mongers responsible for this act.

However, he added that the forensic analysis will likely play a crucial role in determining the outcome of the case.

GDC Ramgarh organizes One-Day Workshop on Anti-Drug Abuse awareness

JNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, APRIL 28

The NCORD Cell of Government Degree College (GDC) Ramgarh successfully organized a one-day workshop on Drug Abuse Awareness, highlighting the pressing issue of substance abuse and the role of community in prevention and rehabilitation.

The programme was held under the esteemed guidance of the College Principal Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol, who emphasized the need for educating young minds about the harmful consequences of drug abuse and fostering a drug-free environment within society.

The event commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of ignorance with knowledge and awareness.

Prof. Brahm Dutt (Convener NCORD) delivered the welcome address and highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing the menace of drug addiction. The proceedings were efficiently conducted by Ms. Jagmeet Kaur, a student of Semester VI, who anchored the event with great enthusiasm

and professionalism.

The resource person for the workshop was Gharu Ram Bhardhwaj, Additional SP Samba and Nodal district officer NCORD who delivered an informative and engaging talk. The session included a comprehensive discussion on the causes, consequences, legal implications, and preventive strategies related to drug abuse. He also interacted with the students, addressing their queries and encouraging them to become responsible citizens in the fight against drug addiction.

The programme concluded with the singing of the National Anthem, fostering a spirit of unity and patriotism among the participants. The entire workshop witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and faculty, reaffirming the college's commitment to promoting a healthy, informed, and drug-free society.

The entire event was coordinated by Prof. Brahm Dutt, NCORD Convener with support from faculty members including Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Dr. Snobar, Prof. Sandeep Kumari, Ashok Kumar and Dr. Shivali Panjgotra.

Karra echoes Rahul Gandhi's stand on Pahalgam Carnage, calls for Unity

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

In a powerful statement on X, Jammu and Kashmir Congress President Tariq Hameed Karra amplified the stance of Leader of the Opposition Shri Rahul Gandhi regarding the recent Pahalgam terror attack, emphasizing national unity and unwavering support for the Government of India in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty. The tweet, posted in response to the tragic attack on April 22, 2025, which claimed 26 lives, mostly tourists, underscores the Congress party's commitment to prioritizing India's integrity during this critical juncture.

Quoting Shri Rahul Gandhi, Karra tweeted: "The Indian National Congress stands united with the Government of India at this critical juncture. In matters concerning National interest and sovereignty, we extend our full support to all necessary and appropriate actions. The defence of India's integrity must remain paramount." The statement reflects a call for collective action and solidarity in the face of the brutal attack in Pahalgam's Baisaran meadow, described as one of the deadliest civilian attacks in the Kashmir Valley in recent years.

Karra's post reinforces the Congress party's position, as articulated by Rahul Gandhi, to avoid politicizing the tragedy while standing firmly with the government to ensure justice and security. The J&K Congress chief has previously condemned the attack in the strongest terms, calling it an "attack on humanity" and urging both India and Pakistan to maintain calm and resolve issues diplomatically. At an all-party meeting convened by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on April 24, Karra reiterated the need for unity, stating, "This is a moment of grief, not of politics. The country needs unity, not division."

The J&K Congress, under Karra's leadership, has proposed an all-party delegation to visit the families of the victims and suggested erecting a memorial in Pahalgam to honor the deceased. Karra also called for the posthumous recognition of Shaheed Syed Adil Hussain, who heroically attempted to save tourists during the attack, with the highest bravery award.

'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' is a vision to achieve lasting world peace: Sat Sharma

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28, 2025:

Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP, today stated that the party's initiative 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' is not only a blueprint for national integration but also a profound vision aimed at fostering lasting world peace.

He was addressing a meeting of senior party leaders Baldev Singh Bilawaria, former Dy Mayor & J&K Incharge for "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" Abhiyan along with administrative District Jammu Convener Munish Khajuria, and District President Adv. Rajesh Gupta, State Publicity Secretary Ajay Vaid, and others at party office, Kachi Chawni, Jammu.

Sat Sharma said, "Once



we realize the vision of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat', it will lead us for the global peace which is the need of the hour. The oneness and the emotional integration of the entire countrymen has been recently witnessed in the infamous 'Pahalgam' massacre which not only shocked the entire country but brought emotionally everyone on one platform irrespective of caste, creed and religion, which is the testimony of

the vision of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'. The entire countrymen today stood as a family and the pain of fellow Indians in the South has been felt in the extreme North of the country and vice-versa".

Sharma stressed that presently, the whole world is marred by the deadly infestation by terrorism and unrest, and the concept of 'unity inspite of having differences' is the key to peaceful co-existence.

Addressing the meeting, Sat Sharma said that since the time immemorial Bharat has been long for Vasudev Kutumbakam, as a result of this, it is imperative for India as a nation, to make 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'.

Sharma highlighted that the BJP's efforts to promote unity among India's diverse cultures, languages, and communities are essential steps toward building a stronger, more harmonious global society. "When a country of India's vast diversity stands united, it sends a powerful message of peace and solidarity to the world," Sharma said.

He further emphasized that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India is embracing its role as a global

ambassador of peace, mutual respect, and cooperative development. "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat strengthens our internal bonds, but its spirit extends beyond our borders, encouraging peaceful coexistence and understanding among nations," he added.

District General Secretaries Ravikant and Suneet Raina, Ramesh Gupta, Incharge Jammu North District, Convener organizational District Jammu Kuldeep Kandhari, Arun Sethi, Neelam Nargotra, Asha Gupta, Neelam Nargotra, Brahmjot Satti, Adarsh Jathiar, Kushant Prajapati, Keshav Chopra, Dr. Akshay Sharma, Raman, Vijay Anand Gill, Ravinder Singh, and others attended the meeting.

World Dance Day celebrated at Dance Department IMFA, University of Jammu

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

The Institute of Music and Fine Arts (IMFA), University of Jammu, celebrated World Dance Day with great enthusiasm and artistic fervor. The event was graced by eminent personalities, including Prof. Meena Sharma, Chairperson, Utsaah-The Clubs; Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar, University of Jammu; Prof. Sohaib Malik, Principal, IMFA; and Dr. Naseeb Singh Manhas.

The program began with a heartfelt tribute to Padma Vibhushan Guru Kumudini Lakhia for her matchless contribution to the field of Kathak, who passed away recently at the age of 93. The celebration commenced with a soulful Tarana presented by the students of Saba Majid, a proud alumna of the Dance Department, IMFA. The students' vibrant performances set the tone for the day's festivities.

Pragya, Akshita, and Radhika, second-semester students of the Dance Department, captivated the audience with a unique Dugri-Kathak fusion, beautifully blending regional flavor with classical dance. Following this, the final



year students showcased their prowess with a brilliant Kathak performance on Bandish, which was highly appreciated by everyone present.

The highlight of the event was the presentation of a Tarana by Saba and Ritika, composed and sung by none other than Pt. Birju Maharaj and choreographed by Dr. Priya Dutta, Head of the Dance Department, IMFA. Their performance was a heartfelt tribute to the Kathak legend.

All the esteemed guests praised the meticulous efforts of Dr. Priya Dutta and her dedicated team for organizing such a vibrant and soulful celebration. They lauded the depart-

ment's commitment to nurturing young talents and promoting Indian classical arts.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar, University of Jammu, appreciated the efforts of the department and congratulated all the faculty members for organizing such a wonderful show. Prof. Meena Sharma also commended the department's efforts, while Dr. Naseeb Singh Manhas emphasized that such events connect us deeply with our heritage and traditions, encouraging that similar experiments should be undertaken in the future as well.

The welcome address was delivered by Prof.

Sohaib Malik, Principal, IMFA, who congratulated the Dance Department for the successful organization of the event.

The program was anchored expertly by Rajkumar Behrupia, whose lively anchoring added a special charm to the proceedings.

The entire arrangements were efficiently managed by Vijay Kumar.

Faculty members present on the occasion included Dr. Sumit Madan, Dr. Rishi Shaminotha, Bindu Sharma, Rajesh Kumar, Rajkumar Behrupia, Dr. Sujata Rajput, Prabhat Bali, Shivani Kapoor, Amit Anand, Mohit Kumar, and Chander Dhari Kesar.

Inter-Governmental Agreement inked with France for 26 Rafale-Marine aircraft for Indian Navy



JNEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APR 28

The Governments of India and France have signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for the procurement of 26 Rafale Aircraft (22 Single-Seater and four Twin-Seater) for the Indian Navy. It includes Training, Simulator, Associated Equipment, Weapons and Performance-Based Logistics. It also includes additional equipment for the existing Rafale fleet of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The IGA has been signed by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh and Minister of Armed Forces of France Mr Sebastien Lecornu. The signed copies of the agreement, aircraft package supply protocol and weapons

package supply protocol were exchanged by Indian and French officials in the presence of Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh at Nausena Bhawan, New Delhi on April 28, 2025.

In line with the Government's thrust on Aatmanirbhar Bharat, the agreement includes Transfer of Technology for integration of indigenous weapons in India. It also includes setting up of production facility for Rafale Fuselage as well as Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facilities for aircraft engine, sensors and weapons in India. The deal is expected to generate thousands of jobs and revenue for a large number of MSMEs in setting up, production and running of these facilities.

Manufactured by France's Dassault Aviation, the Rafale-Marine is a carrier-borne combat-ready aircraft with proven operational capabilities in maritime environment. The delivery of these aircraft would be completed by 2030, with the crew undergoing training in France and India.

Rafale-Marine has commonality with the Rafale being operated by IAF. Its procurement will substantially enhance joint operational capability, besides optimising training and logistics for the aircraft for both Indian Navy and IAF. The induction would lead to the addition of a potent force multiplier to the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers, substantially boosting the nation's air power at sea.

Crime Branch filed chargesheets against 18 accused for different frauds involving aggregate amount of Rs. 8.79 Crores

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

Crime Branch (CB) has filed five chargesheets in courts of law against eighteen (18) accused for different frauds involving aggregate amount of Rs 8.79 crores approx.

After allegations were proved, CB has produced challan against Mohd Farid S/o Bashir Ahmed R/o Village Maroli Govindsar, Kathua, against whom FIR was registered on the written complaint of Shokat Ali S/o Bashir Ahmed R/o Bani, District Kathua wherein he alleged that accused Mohd Farid got government job and promotions on fake educational documents and retired as Deputy Inspector in Fisheries Department Kathua.

In another case registered on a written complaint lodged by Yash Pal of Rajouri regarding fraud on the pretext of winning lottery, Crime Branch has been produced challan against four persons namely (1) Santosh Kumar Patel S/o Sunder Lal Patel R/o Maihar, Distt. Satna M.P., (2) Suman Swarshiti D/o Sh. Babu Lal R/o Govindpur, M.P., (3) Suneel Kumar Patel S/o Panna Lal Patel R/o Dharampura, Girwara, M.P. and (4) Malkeet Singh S/o Jagir Singh R/o Ninjaj, West.Bengal.

Challan has also been produced in the case registered on a written complaint of Anwar Ali R/o Bilaspur wherein he alleged that he had been duped of Rs. 2.06 lakhs by fraudsters on the pretext of winning lottery. The accused are (1) Pradeep Kumar Prajapati S/o Rambahal Parjapati R/o Banahara District Jaunpur (U.P) (2) Imran Khan Sarfrazkhan Pathan S/o Sarfrazkhan R/o Rakhial, Distt. Ahmedabad (U.P) (3) Pawan Kumar Singh R/o Jhansi, Allahabad (UP) (4) Aijaz Ahmed S/o Nawab R/o Handiya Sarapataha, Distt. Sultanpur (UP) (5) Mohd. Shadab Khan S/o Naser Khan R/o Janagipur, UP (6) Imran Khan S/o Ayoub Khan R/o Sundrat Nagar Ahmedabad Gujarat (7) Firoj Khan S/o Raees Ujjaya R/o Rasoolabad Musafirkhana, Distt. CSM Nagar.

Crime Branch has also produced challan against accused namely Mohd. Syed Shah S/o Bhaw-ud-Din Shah, R/o Budshami Nagar, Natipora, Srinagar A/P Dangi-wacha Rafiaband, District Baramulla after allegations of duping of huge amount on the pretext of providing government job leveled by complainant Vikas Sharma S/o Kulwant Raj R/o Sungal Tehsil Akhnoor and others were proved against him.

Chargesheet has also been submitted by Crime Branch in case registered on the complaint of Sh. Shivraj Singh Chowdhary (now expired) R/o Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, against accused 1. Renu Chowdhary W/o Sh. Chander Udhay Singh 2. Kunal Choudhary S/o Sh. Chander Udhay Singh Choudhary 3. Chander Udhay Singh Choudhary S/o late Sh. Amarnath Chowdhary all are resident of Trikuta Nagar, Jammu A/P Channi Himmat, Jammu.

Senior Superintendent of Police Crime Jammu Benam Tosh confirmed that challans of cases FIR No. 27/2013, FIR No. 01/2015, FIR No. 18/2018, FIR No. 47/2019 and FIR No. 03/2025 have been produced in the courts of law for judicial determination.

Call them terrorists, not militants: Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28, 2025:

Denouncing the use of term 'militant' for the enemies of humanity, Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia asks J&K administration, politicians, media and other quarters to use the term 'terrorists' for those, who terrorize, kill the innocent, and plot against the state.

Dr Abhijeet Jasrotia, spokesperson J&K BJP accompanied by Aseem Gupta, Vice President and Dr Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge was addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Dr. Jasrotia stated that the recent Pahalgam massacre was a heinous act that should be unequivocally condemned. He urged politicians, the



media, and the J&K administration to refrain from glamorizing such individuals by calling them "militants," insisting that they be rightly termed "terrorists."

Highlighting that the inappropriate terminology hurts the sentiments of victims' families and dishonors the sacrifices of security forces, he called for a formal directive from Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha mandating the use of the term "terrorist" across all media and official commu-

nications. Dr. Jasrotia also criticized the use of "militant" from the Chief Minister's chair during Assembly proceedings and appealed to all political leaders to set an example by avoiding the term. He praised the Modi government for taking up a similar issue with the BBC and demanded consistent action against misuse of terminology by newspapers and news channels operating in Jammu and Kashmir.

IFWPA confers "Simon Bolivar, Hispan American International Award to Ganesh Sharma

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

Ganesh Kumar Sharma Eminent senior contemporary Internationally acclaimed Sculptor of Jammu and Kashmir UT has been Conferred with prestigious "SIMON BOLIVAR, HISPANAMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AWARD" by "United of World Peace" International Federation of writers, poets and artists for world peace.



who form part of this great global cultural platform.

The prestigious International HISPAN AMRICAN AWARD "SIMON BOLIVAR" is instituted by Bolivarian, Republic of Venezuela and the altruistic International Federation of writers, poets and artists for World Peace, to honor the permanence, loyalty, perseverance work and efforts in the expressions of Fine Arts, of the cultivators, writers and artists,

Eminent Sculptor Ganesh Kumar Sharma Honored with this prestigious International Award as outstanding figure in favour of peace and culture through his creativity with message of love, peace, happiness and culture.

The altruistic International Federation for World Peace is a respectable cultural institution



at a global level. Dr Ph D Eduardo Ramon Deldua World Ambassador of this universal Feather of peace, Director International Academy and President of the Academy congratulated and wishes more success in future endeavors.

It is mentioned here that Ganesh Kumar Sharma is working in the field of art and culture

from more than forty five years and recipient of so many International, National and State Awards. He is recognized in World book records. He is the only working Sculptor of Jammu and Kashmir UT has been selected for this prestigious great international award by the International Jury Members appointed by the management.

Pakistan exposing its true intentions with repeated ceasefire violations: Dr. Parneesh

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

Senior BJP leader Dr. Parneesh Mahajan has come down heavily on Pakistan for its continuous ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC), particularly targeting the border sectors of Poonch and Kupwara over the past four nights. Calling the repeated provocations a "deliberate attempt to destabilize the region," Dr. Parneesh said, "Pakistan is once again showing its true face to the world. At a time when global focus is on peace and stability, Islamabad is indulging in mindless aggression to aid and distract from its terror proxies."

The senior BJP leader termed the ceasefire viola-



tions as a cover fire tactic meant to support infiltration and shield the handlers of the recent terror attack in Pahalgam. He warned that any such actions would be met with a strong and resolute reply by the Indian armed forces.

"We have full faith in our forces who are giving a befitting response to every act of provocation. But Pakistan must know that India today is not what it was in the past – we will

not only respond, we will hold them accountable at every level," he asserted.

He lauded the Government of India for taking bold diplomatic steps including the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty and closure of the Attari land route. "These steps are necessary to send a clear message that terror and talks cannot go hand in hand," Dr. he said.

Dr Parneesh further appealed to international forums and the United Nations to take serious note of Pakistan's violations and its continued support to cross-border terrorism. "Peace cannot be achieved unless terror sanctuaries are dismantled, and Pakistan must be held responsible," he added.

Indian Army organizes Dangal Competition for Youth at Kalakote, Rajouri



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI: 28 APRIL 2025

In the series of effort to encourage sporting culture among the people of the hilly area Dangal Competition was conducted by Indian Army at Kalakote. The competition aimed to provide a platform for wrestlers to showcase their skills. The event saw partici-

pation of 70 wrestlers. The audience played a vital role in making the event a resounding success. Their enthusiasm, support and sportsmanship added to the excitement and energy of the competition. The closing ceremony saw the distribution of prizes and medals of the winners. The dignitaries congratulated the winners and

praised the participants for their display of skill and sportsmanship. It is a part of a series of initiatives through which Indian Army is coming forward to positively engage the youth while creating a positive perspective by encouraging the youth to channelise their energies in a constructive manner towards Nation building.

DC reviews implementation of Samagra Shiksha initiative in District Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH APRIL 28

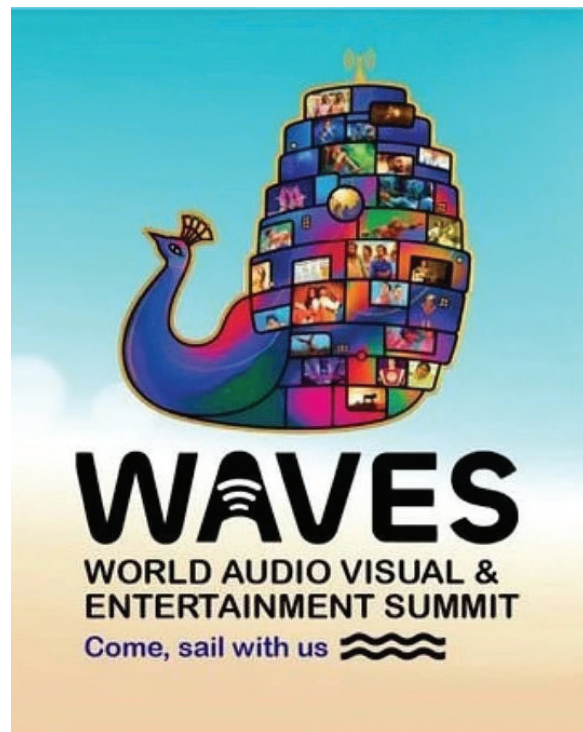
Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kunal today chaired a meeting to assess the physical and financial progress of development works under the Samagra Shiksha program in the district. Chief Education Officer Iftekhar Ali Shah presented a detailed overview of the Samagra Shiksha profile for the district through a PowerPoint presentation. He reported that out of 331 works under the program, 115 have been completed, 86 are currently in progress and 51 are expected to be completed by May end. The meeting aimed to ensure the timely completion of these development works and to monitor the overall progress of the Samagra Shiksha initiative.

WAVES Animation Film-makers' Challenge brings to fore 42 amazing animation films

JI NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, APRIL 28

The 42 finalists of the Animation Film Makers Competition (AFC), held as part of the 'Create in India Challenge Season-1' of World Audio-Visual and Entertainment Summit 2025, were declared in the second week of April. Dancing Atoms Studios, which collaborated with the Union Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, in organizing the national level challenge since its inception, has brought out a comprehensive creative catalogue on the best 42 projects to be showcased in the WAVE Summit to be held in Mumbai from May 1-4, 2025. This unique initiative aims to connect talented creators with like-minded individuals, producers, and distributors, fostering collaborations between creators and the industry that transcend geographical boundaries.

These best 42 projects that came up from after a rigorous nine-month evaluation process of the competition, have shown a focus on original storytelling across the entire spectrum of animation, encompassing traditional animation, VFX, Augmented Reality (AR)/ Virtual Reality (VR), and



virtual production. The creative catalogue features a diverse range of innovative projects, including 12 feature films, 18 short films, TV Series: 9 TV/Limited Series and 3 AR/VR experiences. All 42 short-listed film projects will be showcased to industry stakeholders through this unique initiative.

For the first time, bringing all 42 projects together in one creative catalogue is a testament to the sheer talent we have discovered, stated Saraswathi Buyyala,

Founder and CEO of Dancing Atoms Studios. The Waves Advisory Board, comprising industry veterans and influential figures in media and entertainment, will play a crucial role in evaluating the potential of these projects and guiding them towards production and distribution, she added. Ms. Buyyala also informed, the global revenue generated by these dynamic verticals underscores the immense potential within the animation industry.

In 2024, the global animation market witnessed substantial growth. Short Films contributed an estimated \$20 billion in revenue through various platforms including online streaming, festivals, while educational content is projected to reach \$70 billion USD by 2032. Feature Films, which represents the largest segment, generated approximately \$30 billion USD to \$32.3 billion USD at the global box office and through ancillary markets. Animation TV Series experienced a boom driven by streaming services, accounting for around \$512 billion USD in production and licensing revenue. AR/VR and immersive entertainment market, including AR/VR animation is a burgeoning sector. It reached an estimated USD 22.12 billion and USD 79.36 billion, with significant growth projections. AR/VR technologies are transforming sectors including gaming, healthcare, retail, education, and manufacturing, fuelled by demand for immersive experiences and substantial investment. While North America holds a significant share, the Asia Pacific region is anticipated for the fastest growth, she added.

Nurturing Tomorrow's Leaders: Parent Orientation at Sant Hare Ram Dass Public School

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

With the divine blessings of our esteemed Chairman, Shri Shri 1008 Sant Hare Ram Dass Ji Maharaj, and under the visionary guidance of our revered Principal, Prof. Aekta Gupta, Sant Hare Ram Dass Public School organized a Parent Orientation Programme for the academic session 2025-26.

The event commenced with a warm welcome to parents, acknowledging their vital partnership in their children's educational journey. The program familiarized parents with the school's ethos, vision, academic framework, and holistic development approach.

Principal Prof. Aekta Gupta addressed the gathering, sharing insights on the collaborative role of parents and teachers in creating a nurturing learning environment. She emphasized communication, consistency, and compassion in shaping students' futures.

The session introduced the school's teaching methodologies, co-curricular activities, upcoming initiatives, and support



systems. Coordinators presented curriculum details, evaluation patterns, and classroom practices, ensuring transparency between school and home.

Parents participated enthusiastically, raising questions and sharing aspirations, reflecting the strong school-parent com-

munity bond. The orientation concluded with a message of gratitude, reinforcing Sant Hare Ram Dass Public School's commitment to working with families to nurture tomorrow's leaders.

The event was a grand success, setting a positive tone for the year ahead.

Surinder inspects damaged crops in Marh Assembly constituency, assures timely compensation

JI NEWS SERVICE
MARH, APR 28

In the wake of the recent fire incident in Phalian Mandal area of Marh Assembly Constituency, MLA Surinder Kumar today conducted an inspection of the affected wheat crops. During the inspection, the MLA closely understood the problems faced by the farmers and assured them of prompt and adequate compensation. The inspection was attended by officials including SDM Manu Hansa, Tehsildar Vivek Chander, Patwari and officials from the Agriculture Department, along with a large number of farmers.

The MLA directed the officials to prepare a list of affected farmers and initiate the compensation process at the earliest, ensuring relief to the farmers. Surinder emphasized that protecting the interests of farmers is the topmost priority, and the administration stands with them in this hour of crisis. The MLA assured the farmers that the administration will work towards pro-



viding them with prompt relief and compensation for the losses incurred due to the fire incident. The farmers were assured that their grievances would be addressed in a timely manner. The inspection and assurance by the MLA have brought relief to the affected farmers, who are now hopeful of receiving prompt compensation for their losses. The administration's efforts will ensure that the farmers receive the support they need during this difficult time. Surinder representing the Marh constituency, has reiterated his commitment to addressing all public issues within his constituency. He emphasized that

his doors are open 24x7 for all constituents, ensuring that every genuine demand is projected on the concerned platform for timely and effective mitigation. By prioritizing public issues and projecting demands on concerned platforms, the MLA aims to resolve issues efficiently, improving the overall quality of life for constituents. The MLA's assurance to address public issues and maintain an open-door policy demonstrates his commitment to serving the people of Marh constituency. By prioritizing their needs and concerns, he aims to build trust and ensure effective issue resolution.

Mohan Lal inaugurates Two Kissan Khidmat Ghars in Sungal area

JI NEWS SERVICE
AKHNOOR, APRIL 28

MLA Mohan Lal Sharma today inaugurated two new Kissan Khidmat Ghars in Sungal village of the Akhnoor region. The centres have been established in Sungal Lower C in the name of Rajni Sharma and in Sungal Upper in the name of Raja Sharma.

The aim of setting up these Kissan Khidmat Ghars is to provide farmers with access to government agricultural schemes, technical knowledge, and support services at the grassroots level. Through these centres, farmers will receive seeds, fertilizers, agricultural equipment, and training on the latest farming techniques. The government is providing almost 100% subsidy on all equipment needed for setting up these centres.

Addressing the farmers during the event, MLA Mohan Lal stated that both the central and state governments are continuously striving for the welfare of farmers. "Farmers are the backbone of our nation, and our future is secure because of their hard work," he said. "Through



these Farmer Service Centres, farmers will be able to modernize their agricultural practices, improve crop quality, and increase productivity. Our aim is to ensure that every village is equipped with agricultural facilities, empowering farmers to become self-reliant and to double their income."

Mohan Lal further emphasized that the centres would not only supply farming materials but also promote the adoption of scientific methods with the help of experts. He urged the farmers to make maximum use of these centres and to maintain close coordination with the agriculture department.

On this occasion, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer Vijay Pal Choudhary, Agriculture

Extension Officer Yogesh Mehta, Agriculture Officers Parveen Kumari and Baljeet Singh were present. BJP Sohal-Sungal Mandal President Shamsheer Das, BJP Akhnoor Mandal President Depesh Singh, former Sarpanches Ashwani Sharma, Rampal Sharma, Anju Sharma and Manisha Sharma, along with prominent locals including Rakesh Malhotra, Anil Sharma, Jagdish Singh, Sonia Verma, Subhash, Sanjeev, Vishal, Abhishek, Satveer Kaur, Jhanjar Singh, and Ravi Sharma also attended the event.

During the ceremony, agriculture department officials informed the farmers about various government agricultural schemes and encouraged them to avail themselves of the benefits.

ARSH NGO organizes Distribution Drive for Specially-Abled Children

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28



"Philanthropy should be an integral part of every capable individual's life." With this belief, ARSH NGO – largely operated by Dr. Priya Dutta, Sheetal, and Aruna Patil, along with Diptee, Kavita, Neenu, and Simmi, who contributed physically and financially. All the volunteers treat this service as an act of worship and believe they are fulfilling the will of the Almighty. They strongly believe that everyone should always think of and work for the needy and the underprivileged.

Under the patronage of the Social Welfare Center, students received stationery items including notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers, etc., under the guidance of Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain (State Yoga Commissioner and State Chairman of Indian Yoga Association).

The campaign was organized by Mrs. Shikha Jain, President of ARSH NGO, an energetic and inspiring young woman who is consistently engaged in supporting the visually impaired, cancer

patients, leprosy homes, and facilitating marriages for the underprivileged and weaker sections of society.

This noble cause was actively supported by Dr. Priya Dutta, Sheetal, and Aruna Patil, along with Diptee, Kavita, Neenu, and Simmi, who contributed physically and financially. All the volunteers treat this service as an act of worship and believe they are fulfilling the will of the Almighty. They strongly believe that everyone should always think of and work for the needy and the underprivileged.

Mr. Roshan Lal Bhan, the school Principal, coordinated today's event and played a vital role in its success. He also delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks to the organizers and members of ARSH NGO.

ARSH NGO remains committed to contributing meaningfully to such social causes in the future as well.

Indian Army extends Assistance to Civilians During Recent Landslides in Ramban

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, 28 APRIL 2025

In the wake of a devastating cloudburst and intense rainfall that triggered landslides and flooding along National Highway 44 in Ramban district, the Indian Army has launched rapid and coordinated relief operations to assist stranded civilians. Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) from nearby Army units in Banihal, Maitra, Digdoul, and other strategic locations were immediately mobilized as part of Operation Sadbhavna. These teams have been working round-the-clock to provide critical humanitarian assistance, ensuring the safety and well-being of affected residents and travellers. In severely impacted areas, Army personnel distributed hot meals, drinking water, and essential supplies. Temporary shelters were estab-



lished to provide refuge from the harsh weather conditions. Additionally, Army medical teams set up first-aid and mobile medical units to tend to the injured and sick. Several civilians requiring urgent care were evacuated to safer zones and provided necessary treatment. Despite challenging weather and terrain, the Indian Army continues to work closely with civil administration, Jammu & Kashmir Police, and disaster response teams to restore connectivity

and offer support to local communities. Their quick response has prevented further casualties and brought timely relief to hundreds caught in the crisis. The Indian Army reaffirms its commitment to stand by the people of Jammu & Kashmir in times of need, showcasing its dedication to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. Efforts are ongoing to clear roadblocks, restore normalcy, and ensure all those affected receive adequate aid and support.

Congress divides India, undermines Anti-terror efforts: Bali Bhagat

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

Senior BJP leader and former Minister, Bali Bhagat, today launched a scathing attack on the Congress leadership, strongly condemning Mani Shankar Aiyar and other senior Congress leaders for displaying shameless sympathy towards Pakistan even as the nation grieves the brutal terror attack in Pahalgam.

In a press statement issued here today, Bali Bhagat said it was outrageous that while the funeral pyres of innocent victims have not yet cooled, Congress leaders are busy showing affection towards the sympathisers of the perpetrators. "This is the ultimate height of appeasement politics. Congress should hang its head in shame," he said.

Holding Congress responsible for the historic tragedy of Partition, Bhagat stated, "It was the Congress that divided India into three parts – India, Pakistan, and later Bangladesh – causing the



massacre of two million people and the displacement of twenty million. This painful wound is forever etched in the soul of Bharat."

Launching a sharp attack on Mani Shankar Aiyar, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and their ilk, Bali Bhagat remarked, "Mani Shankar Aiyar, Siddaramaiah, and eight other top Congress leaders should be sent to Pakistan in advance to record the coming destruction of Pakistan, assist their friends and masters there, and most importantly, to ensure they do not raise questions against India's upcoming strike to avenge the Pahalgam terror attack. They had earlier doubted and questioned our brave

forces during the Surgical Strike and the Balakot Air Strike. This time, their disruptive voices must not betray the nation again."

Bali Bhagat also exposed Congress's historical betrayals: "Congress surrendered 38,000 square kilometers of Ladakh's Aksai Chin to China. Under their rule, terrorism was imported into Jammu & Kashmir and across India, and five lakh Kashmiri Hindus were forced to flee their homes."

Recalling the 1971 Indo-Pak war, Bhagat added, "Even after India's military triumph and the surrender of 93,000 Pakistani soldiers, Congress leaders lost their nerve at the negotiation table, returning conquered territory and disrespecting the blood of hundreds of martyred Indian soldiers."

"Today, both Pakistan and Congress have lost their sleep. The people of India will no longer tolerate the Congress's politics of betrayal, appeasement, and national insult," Bali Bhagat asserted.

CCPC KU hosts workshop for civil service aspirants on cracking UPSC -CSE

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 28

To guide and inspire young minds aiming for the country's top civil services, the Centre for Career Planning and Counselling (CCPC), University of Kashmir (KU), organized a workshop titled 'Cracking the Code: A Strategy Talk on How to Crack UPSC' at the varsity today.

The workshop featured Mr. Athar Amir Khan (IAS), Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam J&K, and Mr. Muneeb Bhat (IPS), who recently qualified the UPSC exam 2024 (AIR 131).

Sharing their journeys, they spoke about the challenges, the strategies they followed, and the mindset needed to succeed in one of the toughest examinations in the country. Their experiences served as a real-life roadmap for the aspirants attending the session.

Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, in her message, emphasized the University's commitment to helping students pursue



competitive careers. "Our youth have immense potential. With determination, the right support system and consistent effort, they can achieve any milestone they set their eyes on," she said.

Speaking during the session, Mr. Athar Amir Khan discussed various preparation strategies and encouraged students to stay committed to their goals. "There are no shortcuts to success in civil services exam. It's a test of patience, perseverance and staying focused even when things seem tough," he said, urging students not to lose heart during failures.

Mr. Muneeb Bhat (IPS) stressed on the role of self-discipline, mental strength and learning from mistakes. "Every serious aspirant must

learn to trust their journey. Small steps every day lead to big results," he said, inspiring students to maintain a positive outlook throughout their preparation.

Earlier, Director CCPC KU Prof. Nazir A. Dar, welcomed the guests and participants and said that the purpose of such events is to make young aspirants interact with the real achievers so they can learn firsthand what it takes to crack prestigious exams.

The workshop saw an active participation of civil services aspirants from CCPC, who engaged in meaningful discussions with the speakers. The event ended with an interactive session where students sought advice on preparation techniques, time management, and handling setbacks.

Press Club Akhnoor condemns attack on Journalist Rakesh Sharma, demands action against culprits

JI NEWS SERVICE
AKHNOOR, APRIL 28

The Press Club Akhnoor strongly condemned the cowardly attack on senior journalist Rakesh Sharma in Kathua, terming it a direct assault on the freedom of the press. The Club has demanded strict and immediate action against the perpetrators responsible for this shameful incident.

In an emergency meeting chaired by President Shiv Bairagi, members expressed deep concern over the growing attacks on journalists and emphasized the urgent need to ensure the safety and dignity of media professionals. The



Club urged the administration to swiftly apprehend the culprits and ensure strict punishment to deter such incidents in the future.

Prominent members present in the meeting included Senior Vice President Monu Sharma, General Secretary Sunil Singh Bhat, Secretary Vikrant Bral, Shamsheer Singh, Suresh Sharma,

Bobby Sharma, Kulbhushan Singh, Kuljeet, Ranjan Sharma, Raj Sangotra, Rakesh Kumar, and others.

The Press Club Akhnoor reaffirmed its unwavering support to the journalistic fraternity and reiterated its firm commitment to defending the rights and freedom of media persons.

Indian Army conducts Medical Patrol for Local Youth at Chakpatti, Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, 28 APRIL 2025

In its constant endeavor to understand and touch the basic needs of people in the remote areas of Rajouri especially, the Gujjar and Bakkarwal communities which lack such amenities, Indian Army has initiated the

conduct of Medical Patrols wherein the troops while ensuring safety and security of the local populace are helping them with their basic medical needs. The Indian Army conducted medical patrol in the remote villages of Gunda which has a considerable population of Gujjar and Bakkarwals.

India will not tolerate any misadventure across LoC: Nitish

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

Nitish Mahajan, President Trikuta Nagar Mandal, BJP, Jammu, strongly condemned Pakistan's repeated ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC), terming them a "cowardly provocation" aimed at disturbing peace in the region.

Reacting to the fourth consecutive night of unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops in the Poonch and Kupwara sectors, the senior BJP leader said, "Pakistan's desperation is visible in its continuous violations of the ceasefire agreement. This is nothing but a failed attempt to support and shield the perpetrators of the recent Pahalgam terror attack."

He praised the Indian Army for its swift and effective response, reaffirming the nation's full faith in the armed forces. "Our jawans are standing tall and responding with full strength. India will not tolerate any misadventure across the LoC," Mahajan asserted.

Linking the fresh violations to the broader context of cross-border terrorism, he emphasized that Pakistan's actions have exposed



its hand behind recent terror incidents. "These ceasefire violations are not isolated. They are part of a larger pattern to disrupt peace and provoke instability after India's strong stand on the Pahalgam terror strike," he added.

The senior BJP leader supported the central government's tough diplomatic measures, including the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty and closure of the Attari land border. "India has sent a clear message – terrorism and double standards will no longer be ignored. We stand firmly behind our Prime Minister's resolve to track down every terrorist and their backers," he said.

He also urged the international bodies to take cognizance of Pakistan's continued violations and its role in sheltering terror infrastructure.

Indian Army distributes Sleeping Bags, Mosquito Net for Local Youth at Haribudha, Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, 28 APRIL 2025

In a commendable initiative aimed at enhancing the living conditions of the Bakkarwal community in the remote areas of Sindhra and Haribudha of Poonch district, Indian Army has distributed essential winter gear and health protection items. Recognizing the challenges faced by this nomadic community, especially during the harsh winter months, the Indian Army provided sleeping bags, mosquito nets, and other essential winter gear and health protection items. This initiative aims to provide essential comfort and protection against harsh weather and insect-



borne diseases during their stay in these elevated, remote locations. By addressing their basic needs, the Indian Army seeks to mitigate hardships and foster resilience, while also countering the risk of vulnerable populations being influenced by radical elements. This effort is part of the Indian Army's broader strategy of

holistic engagement and nation-building. The initiative has been well-received by the local communities, who have expressed gratitude for the Indian Army's continued support. Such efforts are instrumental in bridging the gap between the Armed Forces and the local populace, promoting harmony and mutual respect.

15 Days Training for Krishi Udhmies commences at KVK Kishtwar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

Krishi Kendra Kishtwar, SKUAST Jammu today started 15 days certificate course on Integrated Nutrient Management for the krishi udhamies of district Kishtwar. 35 Krishi Udhmies from different Blocks of District Kishtwar enrolled for the certificate course joined the training programme. The programme was conducted under the guidance of Dr B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor SKUAST Jammu and was organized by Dr Narinder Paul Incharge KVK Kishtwar under the supervision of Dr Amrisha Vaid Director Extension SKUAST Jammu. Amjad Hussain Malik, CAO Kishtwar, Khalid Bashir Zargar, DAO (Extension) and Jamshed Dev District SMS were also present during the



inaugural function of the programme.

The Programme started with welcome address by Dr Narinder Paul who also briefed the participants about the content and framework of 15 days programme and importance of the course for the aspiring fertilizer dealers. During the technical session, Dr Narinder Paul briefed the participants about essential plant nutrients, their role and deficiency symptoms and proper nutrient management to increase production and productivity of crops.

Amjad Hussain Malik

threw light on the handling, stocking and transportation of fertilizers. Jamshed Dev SMS DL deliberated upon the current scenario of fertilizer use in district Kishtwar. He laid emphasis on use of balanced nutrient management by using recommended doses of fertilizers for different crops. Komal Sharma briefed the participants about the nutritional content of different manures and fertilizers. Ajaz Hussain, Ajay Singh, Nazma Banoo, Sonali Parihar, Asis Ali Wasit Rehman, Raghuvveer Singh and other attended the programme.

One day Hands on Training on, "JK Tenders e-portal" conducted by NIC at SMVDU



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

National Informatics Centre[NIC], Jammu and Kashmir, conducted a One Day Hands-on Training on the topic, "JK Tenders e-Portal" at SMVDU on 25-04-2025 for all Heads of all Schools along with their dealing assistants, all PIs [having budget allocations], Heads of all Sections/ common facilities, all DRS, ARs & SOs, AAO, ASO, and administrative staff of Engineering wing. The aim was to provide practical training to the Faculty and Staff members on the various aspects associated with the use of JK Tenders e-Portal. Mr. Neeraj Gupta, JKAS, Finance Officer inaugurated the workshop. During the inaugural ceremony, Mr. Neeraj Gupta, Finance

Officer, SMVDU underlined the fact how that as per GFR norms all procurements have to be made either through GeM or through other Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) like JK Tenders e-portal. Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma, JKAS, Registrar SMVDU also graced the valedictory ceremony and accentuated the importance of following GFR 2017 norms and using JK Tenders e-portal for procurements. The resource person Mr. Deepak Bajaj, Senior Software Developer from NIC, gave an in-depth hands-on training session with practical examples to make the Training more participative. He also cleared various doubts of the participants. The Workshop was coordinated by Stores and Purchase wing of the University.

JMC Commissioner conducts field visit to check street light repairs in Jammu City



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Dr Devansh Yadav today conducted an on-ground review of the ongoing repair and maintenance work of street lights being carried out by EESL (Energy Efficiency Services Limited) across Jammu city. During his visit, Dr. Yadav personally inspected various areas and interacted with residents who had filed complaints

through the official online portal regarding faulty street lights. He inquired whether the issues had been resolved and assessed the responsiveness of the repair teams. Taking serious note over the pace of work, Dr. Yadav issued a stern warning to the officials of the JMC's electric wing as well as the EESL personnel. He emphasized the need for ensuring full functionality of street lighting in all areas of the city to prevent any untoward or unlawful activities during nighttime

hours. To address the lighting gaps, the Commissioner directed EESL to expedite the provision of an additional 5,000 street lights. Furthermore, he announced the installation of 850 high-intensity 190-watt street lights to enhance illumination in darker areas of the city. Dr. Yadav reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring that every street in Jammu is well-lit, aiming to improve safety and enhance the quality of life for the residents.

SMVDU-TBIC holds Managing Committee Meeting to Finalize Policies, Funding Guidelines



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

The Managing Committee of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Technology Business Incubator (SMVDU-TBIC) recently held a meeting to discuss the finalization of its policy document and funding guidelines. Apart from the internal committee members, Dr. Ashutosh Pastor, Head Incubation, FITT IIT Delhi, and Mr. Amit Singh Rathore, CEO of IIF DTU, participated as external members. The meeting commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Sanjay Mohan, CEO of SMVDU-TBIC, who welcomed the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and other team members. During the meeting, several key recommendations were made to enhance

the support provided to startups. The committee suggested offering support at the ideation stage and providing the center with more flexibility in managing the incubation process. Various aspects of the incubation phases and corresponding funding procedures were also deliberated upon.

The committee discussed several funding opportunities for TBIC, including avenues for streamlining startup registration. It was recommended to allow temporary workspace agreements with founders, alumni, and private investors to facilitate early-stage development. Another significant point of discussion was the potential for SMVDU-TBIC to hold equity in startups. The committee

explored the legalities and governance framework for such a model. The committee also proposed creating a dedicated policy to protect students from potential exploitation in startup collaborations and establishing a structured process for MVP (Minimum Viable Product) grant disbursement. Additionally, a formal selection and review process before funding allocation was suggested to ensure alignment with the incubator's strategic goals. These recommendations are expected to strengthen SMVDU-TBIC's role in fostering innovation and supporting the growth of startups in the region. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Divye Duheta Mahajan, Manager of SMVDU-TBIC.

JPDCL failed to provide Un-interrupted Power Supply in Digiana Industrial Estate: FOIJ

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 28

An Urgent meeting of the Members of the Small Scale Industries Association Digiana, Jammu was held today under the Chairmanship Sh. Jatinder Aul, President of the Association and other Members at Digiana Industrial Estate in the presence of Sh. Lalit Mahajan Chairman Federation of Industries Jammu to discuss the serious issue regarding the failure of Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd to supply Uninterrupted Power Supply to the Industrial Units working in the Digiana Industrial Estate resulting huge Financial Losses to Industrial Units working in the Estate.

During the course of discussions, Sh. Jatinder Aul President Small Scale Industries Association Digiana informed the Chairman that 150 Micro & Small Scale Units located in Digiana Industrial Estate suffering very badly due to un-scheduled Power failures. At present the Power position is so worsened that the Power Supply remained disturbed during the day time resulting into huge production and financial losses.

Sh. Lalit Mahajan Chairman FOIJ draw the kind attention of Hon'ble Chief Minister Jenab Omar Abdullah also holding the charge of Power Minister that JPDCL committed to supply Uninterrupted 24 Hours Power Supply in the Notified Industrial Estates of Jammu & Kashmir but it is unfortunate to note that the Power Supply remain suspended in day time also in the Digiana Industrial Estate which shows the lack of Coordination between the Departments handling the Power Supply to Industrial Area resulting Industrial Units suffering very badly and

their production always depends upon the mercy of the M&RE and Grid and System and Operation Wing of the Power Development Department who impose frequent Power Cuts without any intimation to the Unit Holders resulting huge production as well as financial losses to the Micro and Small Scale Industrial Units of Digiana who cannot effort the running cost DG Set for on the purchase of Diesel on Set in case of unscheduled Power cuts.

It is pertinent to mention here that Digiana Industrial Estate was the 1st Industrial Estate in Jammu Province which was established in 1962 and the Sheds were allotted to the Sons of the Soil by then Industries Minister, Govt. of India Sh. Manu Bhai Shah to bring the Jammu on the Industrial Map of the Country but by passing of the time, the Estate was always neglected in the term of Power Infrastructure Upgradation resulting huge financial Losses to working Industrial Units of Digiana Industrial Estate as not even a single Lineman is available to rectify the Faults as the same has been transferred to some other place resulting great resentment amongst the Unit Holders.

Federation of Industries Jammu request Jenab Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister also holding the charge of Power Minister and Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Sh. Surinder Kumar Choudhary for their kindly intervention into the matter with the directions to concerned officials to ensure uninterrupted Power Supply in the Digiana Industrial Estate which will provide great relief to Industrial Units working there and also depute Lineman exclusively for the Industrial Estate immediately.

Tony seeks compensation for border farmers facing crop loss due to firing incident



JI NEWS SERVICE
SUCHETGARH, APRIL 28

Senior Congress leader and DDC Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony, has expressed deep concern over the recurring crop damage faced by farmers in several border villages due to low-lying electricity wires.

In a press release issued here today, the senior Congress leader highlighted that farmers in villages including Hansa, Gharani, Badyal Qazian, Abdullian, and Suchetgarh are bearing the brunt of poor infrastructure, as sagging electricity lines continue

to destroy standing crops during cultivation seasons. "The Government must come to the rescue of the border farmers without any delay," he said, adding that these families are already living under challenging circumstances along the International Border, and such negligence further aggravates their hardships. Calling for a comprehensive solution, Tony demanded that the government immediately initiate a corrective plan to remove and realign the low-hanging electric wires in affected villages to prevent further damage.

In addition, Tony put forth a significant proposal to convert the non-cultivating land along the zero line into arable land. "With joint efforts from the BSF, Civil Administration, and prominent locals of border villages, we can make this land cultivable, ensuring better livelihoods and food security for those living on the edge," he said. Tony reiterated his commitment to raising farmers' issues at every platform and urged authorities to act swiftly in providing due compensation to the affected farmers.

Gagan Deep Rana unanimously elected as President of SD Sabha, Doda



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, APRIL 28

In a significant transition of leadership, the Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Doda today unanimously elected **Shri Gagan Deep Rana** as its new President during a well-attended general meeting held at Shri Ram Leela Ground, Doda.

The meeting, which saw participation from prominent community leaders and respected citizens, began with the honorable resignation of outgoing President **Shri Gajay Singh Rana**. Members

expressed deep appreciation for Sh. Rana's dedicated service and invaluable contributions to the Sabha and the wider Hindu community in Doda.

While Addressing the large gathering, the newly elected President **Shri Gagan Deep Rana** committed to serving the community with utmost dedication. "I pledge to work tirelessly for the welfare of our community, preserving our cultural heritage while addressing contemporary challenges through unity and collective effort," stated Sh. Rana. He outlined key

priorities including community development programs, youth engagement, and interfaith harmony initiatives.

The senior citizens as well as general public present their extended support to the new President expressing confidence that under Sh. Rana's guidance, the organization would scale new heights in community service and social upliftment.

The meeting concluded with a resolve to strengthen the Sabha's mission of serving society while upholding the eternal values of Sanatan Dharma.

DC Kishtwar holds Public outreach camp at Warwan

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, APRIL 28

As part of the District Administration's public outreach programme, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rajesh Kumar Shavan conducted a Public outreach camp in the remote Warwan area of Sub-Division Marwah to directly engage with residents and assess local developmental needs.

A large number of locals, including prominent citizens, participated in the interaction and brought various issues to the DC's attention. These included concerns related to infrastructure, healthcare, education, road connectivity, communication and others.

Concerned SDM Dr. Mohammad Ashraf briefed the DC on the ongoing projects, their current status and the overall scenario of the subdivision.

Key demands raised by the public included adequate staff at GHSS Afti Warwan, up-gradation of healthcare services, internet connectivity, and the urgent need for a school bus for girls commuting from Mulwarwan to Sukhnai.

Other demands highlighted included establishment of an IGNOU Sub-Centre, provision of a library, and widening of the Margan Top road.

The DC directed for accelerating the ongoing road and bridge construction projects in the subdivision. He also instructed the concerned authorities to submit Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for new roads only after consultation with the local MLA.

The DC directed the R&B Department to initiate



ate the tendering process for the KGBV building and Girls' Hostel after seeking the technical section.

He also permitted two-way traffic starting today on the National Highway from Kishtwar to Srinagar via Sinthan Top after long winters.

The DC instructed telecom operators, including

Jio and BSNL, to establish 5G Fiber Internet connectivity in both Warwan and Marwah within one month. He also directed all departments to ensure 100% saturation of all centrally sponsored government schemes.

A group of girl students also met with the DC and requested a school bus.

In response, he directed the concerned authorities to provide a bus under the District Capex Plan.

The Deputy Commissioner gave a patient hearing to all other grievances as well and assured the public of the District Administration's full support in addressing genuine demands.

On-the-spot directions were issued to concerned officials for the prompt redressal of several other issues, while some were taken up for further necessary action.

SSP Kishtwar Naresh Singh, SDM Marwah, Dr. Mohd Ashraf, SDPO Warwan Vijay Bhagat, BDO Warwan along with other senior officers were present during the visit.

Rs 29k fine imposed on erring FBOs under FS&SA at Handwara



J1 NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, APRIL 28

Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi who is also Adjudicating officer Handwara today imposed a fine of Rs 29000 on various erring Food Business Opera-

tors (FBOs) for violation of various provisions of Food Safety and Standard Act (FS&SA) 2006.

The fine was imposed on the erring traders (for miss branded and Sub standard food) during the proceeding of cases related to the FS&S Act-2006 which were listed before

the Adjudicating officer. The Adjudicating officer warned them to abide by the legal regulations adding that non-compliance of Food Safety and Standards Act-2006 and rules thereunder by the food business operators will be dealt with more strictness in coming time.

DC Rajouri reviews status of Grievances and JK Samadhan Portal Registrations

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, APRIL 28

Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, today chaired a meeting here in the Video Conference Room of the DC Office Complex to review the status of grievances and registrations on the JK Samadhan portal.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the nature and status of public grievances received and their timely redressal. He directed all concerned officers to ensure prompt and effective resolution of public grievances, emphasizing that citizen issues must be addressed on pri-



ority to build public trust and strengthen service delivery mechanisms.

Highlighting the importance of digital engagement, the Deputy Com-

missioner also laid special emphasis on promoting the "Digitodost" initiative to further enhance public awareness and participation in online grievance redressal

and service platforms.

The Deputy Commissioner called upon all officers to work in a coordinated manner to ensure swift redressal of public issues and to encourage citizens to utilize the JK Samadhan portal for lodging their grievances.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa; Additional Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Chander Prakash; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Sheraz Chouhan; District Social Welfare Officer, Abdul Raheem; along with other district and sectoral officers.

DC reviews arrangements for smooth conduct of NEET UG Examination 2025 in Udhampur

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, APRIL 28

To discuss and review the preparedness for the smooth and fair conduct of the NEET UG Examination 2025, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Amod Ashok Nagpure today chaired a meeting of officers here at Mini Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Udhampur.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Prem Singh, District Information Officer, Rajinder Diga, Chief Education Officer and other concerned officers.

It is pertinent to mention here that the NEET UG Examination is scheduled



to be held on May 4, 2025, from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM with a total of 600 candidates expected to appear at two designated centres in the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner received a detailed briefing on various logistical and security measures being put in place at the designated examination centres.

She emphasized strict adherence to the Standard Operating Procedures to

ensure the transparency, integrity and fairness of the examination process.

The DC stressed the importance of thorough frisking procedures at the centres and highlighted the need for robust inter-departmental coordination.

She called for a collaborative and well-synchronized effort by all departments to create a conducive and secure environment for the appearing candidates.

Power Shutdown

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 28

According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC, in order to carry out installation and repairing the 33 KV Isolators along the line route and other stabilization works, shutdown of 33KV Nehalpora Markundal line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Markundal, Naidkhai, Shahgund, Aglar shall remain off while power supply to Markundal, Naidkhai, Shahgund, Ankul, Gundboon will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 29 April, 2025.

Similarly in order to facilitate shifting of electrical utilities along the road, the shutdown of 33KV Badampora Wangipora Tap line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Batwina, Wangipora, Nowgam shall remain off while power supply to Batwina, Nowgam, Wangipora, Zazna, Ahan, Waskura, Kharbagh, Sumbal, Nesbal and adjoining areas will be affected from 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 30 April, 2025. Also in this connection, the shutdown of 33KV Badampora Army Hakbara line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Hakbara, Hajin, Madwan Army shall remain off while power supply to Hajin, Preng, Madwan, Banyari, Hakbara, Chandergeer and adjoining areas will be affected from 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 30 April, 2025.

Further in order to carry out upgradation of 33 KV Wanpoh SICOP line from 0.1 ACSR to 0.2 ACSR, the shutdown of 33KV Wanpoh SICOP line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Shamsipora, SICOP shall remain off while power supply to Shamsipora, Jablipora, SICOP and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 29 April and 01 May, 2025.

Also in this connection, 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Shamsipora, SICOP, Zirpara, Veeri, Cheniwader shall remain off while power supply to Veer, Srigufwara, Zirpara, Shamsipora, Jablipora, SICOP Bijbehara and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 03 & 05 May, 2025.

JK Trade Promotion Organization organises District-Level RAMP Awareness Workshop at Kishtwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, APRIL 28

The Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), in collaboration with the State Project Implementation Unit (SPIU) under the RAMP Program (Raising and Accelerating MSME Productivity) and District Industries Centre (DIC) Kishtwar, organized a District-Level RAMP Awareness Workshop today at the DC Office, Kishtwar. The program is being conducted under the overall supervision of the Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

The workshop is one of many district-level initiatives being carried out across Jammu and Kashmir under the RAMP scheme. These initiatives are designed to improve awareness of the various support mechanisms available to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The workshops aim to create a supportive environment for MSME growth through targeted interventions, capacity building, and better access to markets and finance.

The session was



chaired by Mr. Pradeep Shan, Assistant Director, Handicrafts & Handloom Department, Kishtwar, and witnessed enthusiastic participation of over 70 officers and stakeholders from various departments. The objective of the workshop was to create widespread awareness among departmental officers and field-level functionaries about various initiatives under the World Bank-supported RAMP Program for MSME sector strengthening in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Key dignitaries at the workshop included officials from JKEDI, Labour & Employment, the Labour Department, the Lead District Manager (LDM) of Kishtwar, managers from J&K Bank's Cluster

Office in Kishtwar, the Deputy General Manager (DGM) of SICOP, representatives from the J&K SC, ST, OBC Development Corporation, representatives from the Skill Development Department (ITI Kishtwar), officials from NABARD, and other officers from the District Industries Centre (DIC) Kishtwar.

During the workshop, the representatives from SPIU, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP, provided a comprehensive overview of the RAMP program, including its key components such as access to credit, skilling, technology upgradation, and marketing support for MSMEs. Emphasis was laid on the importance of coordinated efforts among all stakeholder

departments to facilitate seamless implementation of RAMP interventions at the district level.

Pradeep Shan highlighted the critical role of field-level officers in driving awareness among the MSME units and artisans about government schemes and support mechanisms under the RAMP framework. He urged all departments to work in close synergy to ensure that benefits reach the grassroots level.

The session concluded with an interactive discussion where officers shared valuable suggestions and expressed their commitment to supporting the growth and development of the MSME sector in Kishtwar through active participation in the RAMP initiatives.

Biodiversity Management Committees to be made fully operational: Suresh Kumar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 28

J&K Biodiversity Council (J&KBC) held its 5th Meeting under the Chairmanship of Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Chief Conservator & HoFF who is also Chairman of said Council.

The Council reviewed the action taken on decisions taken in the previous meeting besides the agenda items listed for the meeting were discussed and decisions were taken.

The Chairman expressed satisfaction about progress of updation of People Biodiversity Registers and e-dashboard, and further asked for ensuring the completion of updation during this year. It was also informed that J&K Biodiversity Council has already entered into MoUs with SKUAST Jammu and Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University. Besides, Council is also working on signing of MoUs with other Universities and institutes in J&K.

During the meeting, Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan for J&K also came under discussion and it was informed that in compliance to directions



of Chief Secretary, J&K, the plan is being revisited for making it more practicable and action oriented. Council also took note of opening of bank accounts of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and it was advised to ensure that required bank accounts of all the BMCs are opened and made operational during current year.

Council also discussed progress with respect to mechanism for Access Benefit Sharing (ABS) with BMCs and it was decided that help of Industries department, Pollution Control Committee and AYUSH department shall be taken for getting the information about the industries utilizing bio-resources.

Council also took note of report of Sub-Committee regarding Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHSS) and it was decided that Sub-Committee shall reconvene a meeting to list the

potential sites so that field visits for ground truthing can be arranged. With regard to strengthening of Council, it was mentioned that the same shall be considered by department in its restructuring proposal so that adequate manpower is arranged for effective working of Council.

Members also suggested for institution of awards for BMCs which perform exemplary to encourage them and create sense of competition and appreciation among them.

The meeting of J&K Biodiversity Council was attended by Sarvesh Rai, Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K, J. Frankoi, Director, JKFR/Member Secretary, J&K Biodiversity Council, T. Rabi Kumar, PCCF/CEO, CAMPA, Dr. K. Anandh, CCF, Central, Waseem Raja, Adl. Secretary, Rural Development Department, Vivek Modi, Spl. Secretary (Technical), Forest Department.