

**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
- Orchralgia
- Present vomiting
- A sharp rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Severe pain in joints, muscles, or bone
- Redness in eyes

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

# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## Pahalgam terror attack perpetrators will be given exemplary punishment: Shah

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 01 (KNO)

Stating that perpetrators of April 22 Pahalgam terror attack will be given exemplary punishment, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said that this is PM Narendra Modi's India and no one will be spared.

Speaking at an event in Assam, Shah, as per the news agency, said, "Ter-



rorists should not think they have won the war. This fight is not over yet. Chun chun ke badla lenge

(we will take revenge on all terrorists)." He added that if anyone believes that

**CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## NIA Chief visits Baisaran, inspects terror attack site

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01 (KNO)

Chief of National Investigation Agency (NIA), Sadanand Date, on Thursday visited April 22 terror attack site, Baisaran Pahalgam in South Kashmir.

According to the details available with the news agency the NIA Chief inspected the site and held discussions with senior officials of the anti-terror agency investigating the case.

After the dastardly terror attack, which left

26 people, mostly tourists dead, a team of NIA officials led by its Inspector General (IG) rushed to the site to assist the local police.

After the orders of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) the NIA took over the case and intensified search for evidence.

The NIA team is being supervised by an IG, a DIG and a Superintendent of Police from the agency. It has spoken to many eyewitnesses who had seen the horrific

**CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## PM Modi heralds 'Orange Economy' in India, with focus on content, creativity and culture

**AGENCIES**  
MUMBAI, MAY 1

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday heralded the dawn of the "Orange Economy" in India, emphasising the transformative power of content, creativity, and culture as its three pillars that will bring an economical boom in the country.

Inaugurating the WAVES 2025, India's first-of-its-kind World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit at the Jio World Centre here, the Prime Minister said that Indian content creators can showcase the country's capabilities in various economic and technological sectors and celebrities from the Indian film industry can play a pivotal role in this sphere.

Highlighting a significant cultural shift, Modi pointed to the growing international trend of viewers watching Indian films with subtitles – a signal, he said, which signifies deeper engagement with Indian narratives.

Modi also highlighted the explosive growth of India's OTT industry, which he said has grown tenfold in recent years. "While screen sizes may



be shrinking, but the scope of content is infinite, with micro screens delivering mega messages," he said, underlining the digital revolution's impact on storytelling.

Stating that as Indian cuisine was becoming a global favourite, the Prime Minister expressed confidence that "Indian music will soon gain similar worldwide recognition".

Emphasising the immense potential of India's creative economy, Modi said, "In the coming years, its contribution to the country's GDP is set to increase significantly. India is emerging as a global hub for film production, digital content, gaming, fashion, and music".

He noted the promising growth opportunities in the live concert indus-

try and the vast potential in the global animation market, which currently stands at over USD 430 billion and is projected to double in the next decade. Adding that, this presents a significant opportunity for India's animation and graphics industry, he urged stakeholders to leverage this expansion for greater international reach.

Calling upon India's young creators to drive the nation's Orange Economy forward, Modi acknowledged their passion and hard work that were shaping a new wave of creativity. He said that whether they were musicians from Guwahati, pod-casters from Kochi, game designers in Bengaluru, or filmmakers in Punjab, their contributions are fueling India's

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## US Defence Secy dials Rajanath, assures America's full support to India in its fight against terrorism



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01 (KNO)

In the aftermath of April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead America has reiterated its resolve to support India in its fight against terrorism.

According to the details available with the news agency US Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth spoke to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and assured him that the United States stands in solidarity with India and supports its right to defend itself.

"Pakistan has been exposed as a rogue state, fuelling global terrorism, and destabilising the region. The world can no longer turn a blind eye to terrorism," Singh told

Hegseth.

The Defence Ministry on its official X handle wrote: "The US Secretary of Defence @PeteHegseth spoke to Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh earlier today and expressed his deepest sympathies for the tragic loss of innocent civilians in the dastardly terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir."

"Secretary Hegseth said that the U.S. stands in solidarity with India and supports India's right to defend itself. He reiterated the strong support of the U.S. government in India's fight against terrorism," the post read.

"During the conversation, RM told the @SecDef that Pakistan has a history of supporting,

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## Pak a failed state, trying to divert attention through Pahalgam terror attack: Dr Farooq

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01 (KNO)

National Conference (NC) President Dr Farooq Abdullah on Thursday termed Pakistan as a failed state and said that the country wanted to divert attention from its failure through the Pahalgam terror attack.

Talking to the reporters here, Dr Farooq, as per the news agency said that



both the countries (India and Pakistan) are preparing the ground for war.

However, he said that the efforts are being made

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## 'We sleep to the sound of gunfire now'

Fear returns to J&K border villages as Pak shelling continues for 7th night

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01 (KNO)

Fear and uncertainty loom over border villages in Jammu and Kashmir as the Pakistan Army resorted to unprovoked shelling on the seventh consecutive night, targeting forward posts along the Line of Control (LoC). The Indian Army swiftly responded to the shelling.

"During the night of 30 April-01 May 2025, Pakistan Army posts initiated unprovoked small-arms



fire across the Line of Control opposite Kupwara, Uri and Akhnoor in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir," the Indian Army said in a statement issued

to the news agency, adding that these were responded proportionately by the Indian Army.

The Pakistan Army has carried out 17 ceasefire vio-

lations over the past week, including in the Kupwara, Uri, and Akhnoor sectors.

"On the seventh consecutive day, the shelling along the LoC continues, heightening fear among the locals," said Mohammad Suleiman, a resident of Rajouri. "After years of peace, we're now seeking shelter in underground bunkers, fearing we might be caught in the crossfire again."

Kashim Khan, a farmer from Poonch said

**CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Centre issues advisory for media houses in J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01 (KNO)

The Government of India has issued a stern advisory to media houses across Jammu and Kashmir, urging strict adherence to security protocols while reporting on ongoing operations in the region.

The advisory issued by the Ministry of Defence on Thursday, a copy of which also lies with the news agency, states that in a letter from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, media outlets were specifically directed not to broadcast real-time coverage, visuals, or source-based reporting related to counter-insurgency or security operations in the region.

Notably, the advisory

comes amid concerns over the spread of fake and unverified news, which officials say inadvertently aids hostile elements, lowers operational effectiveness, and endangers the safety of personnel on the ground.

"It has been noticed that some fake news is being proliferated by various media houses," the communication notes. "The proliferation of unverified news leads to inadvertent assistance to hostile elements, lowers operational effectiveness and endangers the safety of personnel."

As per the advisory, all media houses have been requested to implement the media advisory issued by the Government

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## ECI introduces 3 new initiatives

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 02 (KNO)

The Election Commission of India has introduced new initiatives aimed at improving the accuracy of electoral rolls, making the voting process more convenient for citizens.

These measures are in line with the initiatives as envisaged by the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India Gyanesh Kumar during the Con-



ference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs), in the presence of Election Commissioners Dr. Sukh-

bir Singh Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi in March this year.

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## Chief Justice administers oath to newly appointed Judges

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 01 (KNO)

Chief Justice High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Arun Palli Thursday administered the oath of office to the two newly appointed Judges; Justice Sanjay Parihar and Justice Shahzad Azeem as Judges of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, in the Chief Jus-



ice's Court Room here. The oath ceremony was attended at Jammu by Jus-

stice Sindhu Sharma, Justice Rajnesh Oswal,

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## Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai declared as Proclaimed Offender in UAPA case

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BUDGAM, MAY 01 (KNO)

In a significant development, Police in Budgam has successfully secured the declaration of Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai as a proclaimed offender through the Hon'ble Special Judge, NIA Court, Budgam.

"Dr. Fai, a resident of Wadwan, Budgam, presently concealing himself in the United States of America, is involved in FIR No. 46 of 2020 registered at Police Station Budgam

under Sections 10, 13, and 39 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

Despite the issuance of warrants, Dr. Fai persistently evaded arrest, obstructing the legal process and avoiding accountability under the law. In light of his continued non-cooperation and deliberate attempts to conceal himself to evade arrest, Budgam Police

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## Punish Pahalgam terrorists, but don't target any community: Navy officer's wife

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01 (KNO)

Himanshi Narwal, wife of Indian Navy officer Vinay Narwal - who was killed in the Pahalgam terror attack - Thursday said that those responsible for the

incident must be punished, but don't target any community.

Speaking at a donation camp in Haryana, Himanshi, as per news agency said that they don't want people going against Muslims or Kashmiris. "We want peace and only peace. Of

course, we want justice. But people of any particular community should not be targeted," she said.

Lieutenant Narwal was among 26 civilians killed in a deadly terror attack in the Baisaran valley of Pahalgam

**CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Drug awareness campaigns organised across Jammu district under Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 01

A series of drug awareness programmes were today organised across various Government Higher Secondary Schools in District Jammu as part of the ongoing Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan. The aim of these programmes was to educate students and the society about the harmful effects of substance abuse and to promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

At Government Higher Secondary School, Channi Himmat, the event was held in the presence of Member Legislative Assembly, Choudhary Vikram Randhawa, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

In his address, the MLA



stressed the importance of raising awareness among youth to curb the menace of drug addiction. Health experts from the Department of Health Services, along with senior officials from the Police and Social Welfare Departments, sensitised the students about the psychological and physical consequences of drug abuse.

Similar awareness events were held at GHSS Bishnah, GHSS Kathar, GHSS Salehar, PM Shri GHSS Sohal and other insti-

tutions, witnessing active participation of students, teachers, SMDC members, parents and local stakeholders. Activities such as Nukkad Natak, poem recitations in Dogri, motivational talks and awareness lectures were organised to engage participants and spread the message effectively.

The programmes concluded with an anti-drug pledge, wherein all attendees resolved to work towards a drug-free society.

## DC Reasi launches weeklong campaign for maintenance, cleaning of water recharge structures

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
REASI, MAY 01

District administration Reasi, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik, on Thursday launched a week-long campaign for maintenance and cleaning of water recharge structures and water storage tanks in the District.

The campaign will continue from May 1 to May 7, 2025 as part of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain 2025, with the special theme "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari - Jan Jagrukta ki Ore."

The weeklong campaign will witness block wise cleanliness and maintenance activities as per the action plan formulated by the concerned BDOs.

The campaign will focus on the cleaning, maintenance and rejuvenation of



water recharge structures, water storage tanks and traditional water bodies across the district.

In this regard, the Deputy Commissioner convened a meeting with all Block Development Offi-

cers (BDOs) and gave them necessary instructions.

The DC emphasised that the primary objective of this campaign, under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain, is to ensure that all water recharge struc-

tures and storage tanks are completed, made functional and well-maintained on the ground. This initiative will also aid in identifying and planning for incomplete or damaged structures under the new financial year's developmental works. A comprehensive review of the campaign's progress and outcomes will be conducted on 8th May, following the completion of the week-long activity.

During the launch of the campaign, the Deputy Commissioner visited various ponds developed under the Amrit Sarovar initiative or Jal Shakti Abhiyan as well as natural reservoirs, to inspect ongoing cleaning and maintenance efforts.

Emphasising the importance of water conservation, the DC highlighted

that preserving and maintaining water bodies must remain a top priority throughout the campaign.

Deputy Commissioner highlighted that the Reasi administration has mobilized various departments including Rural Development, IWMP, Forest, Jal Shakti and community volunteers to actively participate in the campaign, ensuring sustainable management of water resources and promoting a culture of responsible water usage.

The DC also added that through this campaign, we aim to inspire every citizen to become a guardian of our water heritage.

ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, CPO Narinder Kumar, AEE, BDO Reasi, DIO accompanied the Deputy Commissioner.

## District level Committee reviews implementation of Road Safety measures in Kishtwar district

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, MAY 01

A meeting of the District Road Safety Committee was today convened here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan to review the status and progress of road safety measures across the district.

The meeting featured presentations from various departments and committee members on the latest actions taken to improve road safety.

To strengthen vehicle monitoring and enforcement mechanisms, the DC directed the ARTO, DTI and Police authorities to jointly establish a 24x7 control room for real-time GPS-based vehicle tracking and surveillance.

Referring to rising concerns of road safety, the



DC instructed the nodal agencies to intensify document verification, monitor speeding and ensure strict adherence to traffic regulations. The importance of preventive measures and public awareness was highlighted as

a critical component in reducing road mishaps.

The ARTO informed the meeting that the MVD has seized 68 vehicles for overloading, fitness issues and other violations in the last 3 months. Similarly, 12 vehicle permits were

suspended, 104 vehicles blacklisted and 22 driving licenses suspended during the period.

The DC directed ARTO to enhance coordination with stakeholders for joint enforcement drives, public sensitization campaigns and use of modern equipment like speed guns. He also stressed the need for periodic fitness and license checks, holding health check up camps for drivers, establishment of driver training institute, and prompt disbursement of compensation to families of road accident victims. Special emphasis was laid on sensitizing drivers about the dangers of drug abuse and educating the general public about traffic safety and overloading.

Further, the DC conducted a comprehensive review of accident-prone

locations, directing officials to expedite the installation of crash barriers, convex mirrors, and corrective measures. He directed for erection of Crash Barriers by BRO & NHIDCL at an earliest.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among all stakeholders, including the Motor Vehicles Department, Traffic Police, and allied agencies. He also directed ARTO Kishtwar to file an appeal in case of any adverse Order.

The meeting was attended by SSP Naresh Singh, ADC Pawan Kotwal, ACR Idrees lone, ARTO Tasleem Wani, Executive Engineer PMGSY Rajesh Sharma, besides other senior officers and concerned staff.

## International Labour Day celebrated at Doda

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 01

The vibrant town of Doda marked International Labour Day with a spirited celebration, honoring the invaluable contributions of workers across various sectors in the district.

The event took place in the Town Hall bringing together laborers and local residents to recognize the significance of workers' rights and achievements.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh, emphasized the crucial role of laborers in all forms of development, including the construction of buildings, roads, highways, and other essential institutions that contribute to national progress. The DC interacted with laborers, listened to their grievanc-



es, and assured them that every possible step would be taken to address their concerns.

Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) Nehal Pandit also highlighted the importance of the day, underscoring the need to protect and promote workers' rights through effective implementation of labour laws and welfare schemes.

As part of the celebration, a free medical camp was organized by the Health Department, where a large number of laborers availed health check-ups

and consultations. The initiative aimed to ensure the well-being of the working community and raise awareness about occupational health.

The celebration concluded with a call to action, urging community members to support local workers and advocate for policies that protect their rights and dignity.

The event was attended by officials from Municipal Council, Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner and other departments.

## JK Samadhan 2.0: Quality, timely disposal of grievances cornerstone of efficient administration: CS

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 01

In a comprehensive review meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, the functioning of the public grievance redressal system under the JK Samadhan 2.0 portal was evaluated, with a focus on the pace, quality and effectiveness of responses by the government departments and district administrations.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary, Public Grievances Department, along with Administrative Secretaries of various departments while Deputy Commissioners from across the UT participated virtually.

The Chief Secretary emphasized that the success of any grievance redressal mechanism lies not in mere registration of complaints but in their satisfactory and time bound resolution. He underlined that timely redressal of citizens' issues is key towards reinforcing public faith in the governance system and ensuring their continued engagement with administrative platforms.

Dulloo made out that mere acknowledgement of grievances does not inspire



confidence among the citizens. It is only when their concerns are addressed promptly and effectively will people feel encouraged to bring issues to the attention of the administration.

He described public grievances as a valuable diagnostic tool for assessing the health of governance at the grassroots level. An in-depth analysis of grievances, he said, can serve as a map highlighting recurring challenges within departments or particular geographic areas. He urged the departments and district officials to utilize the platform not just for grievance resolution but as a means to strengthen the institutional responsiveness and improve public service delivery on ground.

The Chief Secretary laid special emphasis on the quality of disposal, calling for grievance redressal that leads to the utmost satisfaction of the aggrieved citizen. He directed that no

grievance should remain unresolved beyond 30 days. He also instructed all the departments and Deputy Commissioners to conduct regular reviews of grievance status, ensuring that no case remain pending unnecessarily and that responsibility is fixed in cases of unwarranted delay.

Stressing the need for broader citizen participation, Dulloo tasked the Grievances Department with increasing awareness about the 'JK Samadhan 2.0' portal. He advised that the portal be highlighted in all government outreach programs and public meetings. He called for periodic bulk SMS campaigns targeting the registered citizens to inform and remind them about the availability and utility of this grievance redressal platform.

Meanwhile, the Chief Secretary also participated in a live demonstration of the JK Samadhan 2.0

portal.

During the session, he appreciated the improvements made in the portal and recommended further technological advancements to be taken up in collaboration with BISAG-N to enable more data-driven and insightful handling of grievances.

He suggested integrating features like heat maps based on grievance types and locations, which would allow departments to visually analyse concentration of specific issues and areas of concern. Moreover, he proposed the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other advanced tools to analyse grievances, classify them intelligently, and ensure efficient, targeted and high-quality redressal of each of them.

The Chief Secretary lauded the significant strides made by the department and emphasized the need for focused efforts in districts with lower

coverage to ensure equitable access to grievance redressal mechanisms. He appreciated the data-driven approach and urged for intensified IEC (Information, Education & Communication) campaigns to further boost public participation.

Highlighting the functioning of this Department, Secretary, Public Grievances, Aijaz Asad said that a massive surge in registrations under JK Samadhan has been viewed during the previous few months from January onwards. He revealed that the same had reached a significant milestone of 13,08,759 citizen registrations on the portal till date.

Elucidating further, he made out that mere 12,932 citizen registrations were there on this portal as on January 4, 2025 which increased upto 3,49,826 registrations till February 5, 2025. He added that a staggering 9,46,001 new registrations were made during the past two months only. Registrations had been steadily growing since July 2024, which saw only 1,429 registrations by then, he concluded.

It was further disclosed that as of 30th April 2025, the portal recorded 53,342 grievances from citizens,

reflecting active utilization of the platform to voice public issues. Out of the total, 39,971 grievances (75%) had been successfully resolved and 13,371 grievances are currently under active review of the departments for quality resolution.

Thus JK Samadhan has effectively managed over 1.3 million citizen registrations and resolved three-fourths of the grievances received, showcasing its role as a reliable and responsive public grievance redressal platform for citizens of the UT.

Moreover, it was given out that at least a family member from each household is being targeted for registration over this portal in order to enable them to reach out to administrative machinery for targeted assistance during the hour of need.

It is worth mentioning here that JK Samadhan stands as a beacon of the government's resolve to bring administration closer to the people. With over 13 lakh citizens already registered and active tracking of grievances, the initiative has set a benchmark in digital, accountable and transparent governance across all the districts of the UT.

## Satish Sharma extends greetings on Labour Day; reaffirms commitment to workers' welfare



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Sports, Satish Sharma, has extended heartfelt greetings to the workers across the nation, acknowledging their vital contributions to India's growth and progress.

Speaking at a function organized to celebrate the Labour Day at Jammu, the Minister emphasized the significance of the occasion stating, "Labour Day is a reminder that the strength of our nation lies in the dedication, perseverance, and hard work of its people. Our workers, across all sectors, are the backbone of our economy and the drivers of our progress."

The Minister reaf-

firmed the government's unwavering commitment towards ensuring fair wages, safe and dignified working conditions and greater access to social security for all the workers.

Satish Sharma also highlighted various initiatives undertaken by the government to promote skill development, generate employment opportunities and introduce labour reforms aimed at empowering the youth and protecting the rights of workers.

As we mark this important day, he said, "let us recognize the dignity of labour in every form and renew our pledge to build a future where every worker is respected, supported and given equal opportunity to thrive."

## JKAACL organises Literary Meet to commemorate 35th Death Anniversary of Sarwanand Koul Premi

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 01

To mark the 35th death anniversary of the eminent poet, freedom fighter and cultural icon, Sarwanand Koul Premi, the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organized a literary meet at K.L. Saigal Hall, Jammu.

The event was participated by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary as the chief guest, with Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary, Culture and Professor Ratan Lal Hangloo, former Vice Chancellor of Allahabad University, as the guests of honour.

The program commenced with floral tributes offered by the digni-

ties in honour of Sarwanand Koul Premi, paying homage to his multifaceted contributions to literature and society.

In his keynote address, the Chief Secretary highlighted Premi Ji's unparalleled legacy as a literary luminary and a symbol of social harmony and resistance. Recalling the honours conferred upon him, he mentioned the Sharada Award (2006) and the First Alag Samman (2016), along with the monograph published by Sahitya Akademi in 2008 and the special felicitation by JKAACL in 2018. "He was a voice of resistance and unity, embodying truth, duty, and deep humanism," said the Chief Secretary.

Quoting Dr. Sohan Lal,



he added, "Death is not an end but a transformation, what is true lives on forever."

Principal Secretary, Department of Culture, in his address, underlined the importance of preserving and promoting the ideals Premi Ji stood for, especially in today's context of cultural resurgence.

Professor Ratan Lal Hangloo lauded the commitment of the legendary

poet to inclusive values and intellectual integrity. He stressed the need for young scholars to revisit the works of such towering figures to understand the interplay of literature, activism and cultural identity.

Earlier, Harvinder Kour, Secretary, JKAACL, spoke on the inspirational life of Sarwanand Koul Premi, emphasizing his enduring impact on the cultural

ethos of Jammu and Kashmir.

The literary session featured a detailed paper presentation by Dr. Sohan Lal Koul, Sahitya Akademi Awardee, shedding light on various dimensions of Premi Ji's literary oeuvre.

Avtar Mota also presented a paper, exploring Sarwanand Koul Premi's life as a social activist, poet and visionary thinker.

The event also included a Mushaira, where celebrated poets including Ashok Gowher, Dr. Ramesh Nirash, Satish Koul, Santosh Nadam, B.K. Sanyasi, KusumDhar, Rajni Bahar Dhar, and Maharaj Krishan Bhat recited poems paying tribute to the legacy of Sarwanand Koul Premi.

## Ramban Administration completes 3-day Loss Assessment Drive across 49 Patwar Halqas

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, MAY 01

A comprehensive three-day drive for assessment of losses caused by flash floods, hailstorm, and cloudburst on April 19-20, 2025, concluded today across Ramban district. The drive was launched on April 29 on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, who also heads the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA).

Assessment Supervisory Officers, in coordination with line departments, conducted the drive across all 49 Patwar Halqas to evaluate damages to agriculture, horticulture, livestock, private and commercial properties, public infrastructure, and essential utilities.

Under the direct supervision of the Deputy Commissioner, teams were deployed to conduct on-ground assessments, organize camps, and interact



with affected residents. Senior officers, including Tehsildars and BDOs, actively monitored the operations in their respective areas to ensure transparency and efficiency in data collection.

To ensure accurate and comprehensive reporting, designated officers stayed overnight in their allotted Halqas. The assessment was conducted in

close coordination with local communities and concerned departments to gather reliable data for relief and restoration planning. Detailed reports are now being compiled and will be submitted to the District Administration for further action, including the formulation of appropriate relief measures and restoration plans for the affected areas.

## DC Kupwara reviews thematic areas of skill development under ADP

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
KUPWARA, MAY 01

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Wednesday convened a meeting of concerned officers at D. C. Office, here to discuss various thematic areas of Skill Development under Aspirational District Programme (ADP).

On the occasion, Ayushi enjoined upon the officers to make joint efforts for transformative skill development initiatives that align with the needs of the unemployed youth of the district so that they can earn their livelihood and become self-reliant.

DC directed all concerned departments to identify skill gaps across sectors such as agriculture, handicrafts, IT and others. She further called for collaborative efforts with industry partners and training institutes to design localized skill modules that cater to the



aspirations of the local population.

Underlining the importance of youth engagement, DC urged for greater awareness campaigns to mobilize participation in ongoing and upcoming skilling programs.

After threadbare discussion, various short-term and sector relevant skill courses were identified for implementation which include Basic Masonry, Digital Literacy & Basic Computer Application, Sozni Embroidery and Handicrafts, Electrici-

an & Wiring, Automobile Repair & Maintenance, Tourism, Retail sales & hospitality, food & beverage, retail sales associate and other related vocational courses.

The meeting was attended by Principal GPC Kupwara, CEO, CMO, CAO, CHO, ALC, AD Handicraft/Handloom, Superintendents of ITIs, EOs of Municipalities, besides officers from JKEDI, DIC, NRLM, Social Welfare, NULM and other concerned were present in the meeting.

## One-Month Internship Programme for Central University Students Concludes at DIPR J&K

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 01



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 01

The one-month internship programme organized for students of the Central University concluded today at the Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Jammu and Kashmir.

In a brief meaningful ceremony, Director Information, Nitish Rajora, felicitated the interns and acknowledged their enthusiasm, dedication, and active participation throughout the duration of the programme.

The internship aimed to provide hands-on exposure to media operations, public relations, and the communication framework of the government. The students were engaged in various aspects of media management, content creation, enabling them

to gain valuable practical experience.

Director Information Nitish Rajora, while addressing the interns, encouraged them to continue exploring the dynamic field of media and communication and appreciated their commitment to learning. He highlighted the importance of such initiatives in bridging the gap between academia and practical work environments.

The students expressed gratitude to the Directorate for providing them with this enriching learning opportunity and shared their positive experiences during the internship.

The DIPR reiterated its commitment to promoting youth engagement and skill development through such educational collaborations in the future.

## Shree Machail Mata Ji Yatra 2025

## DC reviews arrangements, progress of infrastructure projects

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
KISHTWAR, MAY 01

To ensure seamless arrangements for the Shree Machail Mata Ji Yatra 2025, Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan chaired a comprehensive review meeting today to assess the progress of developmental works and logistics in the region.

The DC took stock of ongoing infrastructure projects aimed at enhancing facilities for pilgrims. Key focus areas included the completion of Yatri Bhawan by the first week of June, renovation of sanitary complexes, development of the area surrounding the Bhawan, and ensuring uninterrupted power and water supply during the Yatra.

Special emphasis was placed on boarding and lodging arrangements, security preparedness, road and bridge development from Gulabgarh to Machail, and strengthening telecom connectivity. Directions were issued to all concerned officers to expedite the work and maintain quality standards.

The DC also instructed the SDM Paddar to launch an awareness campaign for hotel and paying guest



operators, encouraging them to maintain cleanliness and offer modern amenities to visiting pilgrims.

Anticipating a significant increase in footfall, the DC emphasized that over 10 lakh pilgrims are expected this year, a sharp rise from the 3 lakh pilgrims recorded last year. He emphasized the importance of publicity and coordinated planning in achieving this milestone and highlighted the launch of a comprehensive promotion strategy to boost awareness about the sacred Yatra.

Earlier in the day, the DC directed the OG GREFF to improve road conditions on the Kishtwar-Paddar

stretch to facilitate smooth vehicular movement.

Representatives from Sarv Shakti Sewak Sanstha were also present during the meeting and shared concerns related to the Yatra. The DC gave a patient hearing and assured them of full administrative support.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma, SDM Paddar Dr. Amit Kumar, Tehsildar Paddar, members of Sarv Shakti Sewak Sanstha, Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Head Priest (Baba Ji) of Shri Gauri Shankar Mandir Sarkoot, contractors, and other key officials.

## Workers honoured at Labour Day event at Samba



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, MAY 01

The International Labour Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and recognition at Kandhari Beverages, Samba at a collaborative event organized by the Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner and the leading beverage manufacturer. The celebration honoured the invaluable contribution of workers to the economic growth and development of the district.

Deputy Commissioner Samba Rajesh Sharma and Additional District Development Commissioner, Champa Thakur felicitated employees for their

dedication and service. They emphasized the critical role that labourers play in society's advancement and prosperity.

"The workforce is the backbone of our economy and deserves recognition not just today, but every day," stated the DC. He reaffirmed the administration's unwavering commitment to safeguarding workers' welfare and rights while encouraging the labourers with words of appreciation.

The highlight of the celebration was a free medical camp organised by the Department of AYUSH in collaboration with the Labour Department. Workers received comprehensive health check-ups and expert medical consulta-

tions as part of the administration's holistic approach to workers' welfare.

Assistant Labour Commissioner Himani Jerath delivered the vote of thanks and used the platform to educate workers about the newly implemented labour codes. She emphasized the importance of staying informed about their entitlements and legal protections, encouraging active participation in understanding their rights.

The event exemplifies the district administration's ongoing dedication to worker empowerment and welfare initiatives, receiving enthusiastic participation from the workforce at Kandhari Beverages.

## Power shutdown

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 01

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Satwari, Ashok Nagar, Shatri Nagar, Airforce, M.H. Mil. Cant. and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 03 from 8 am to 12 noon.

Likewise, the power supply to IGC Gagwal, Dhalote and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 04 from 6 am to 12 noon. Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Dadyal, Nanga and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 02 from 7 am to 11 am. Similarly, the power supply to Old Mawa, Rajpura, Lala Chack, BSF-1st, BSF 2nd and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 03 and 04 from 3 pm to 7 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Gurah, Vijaypur and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 02 from 7 am to 11.30 am.

## Javed Dar extends greetings on International Labour Day

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Minister of Agriculture Production Department, Rural Development Department and PR, Javed Ahmed Dar, has extended warm greetings to the working class to mark International Labour Day.

Javed Dar acknowledged the invaluable contributions of workers towards nation building, emphasising the importance of ensuring their social security.

"I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes on International Labour Day to my working brothers and sisters who are the strongest pillars of nation building. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to welfare of the working class.

## Schedule for collection of Travel documents/ materials for Haj pilgrims of Anantnag announced

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
ANANTNAG, MAY 01

Jammu and Kashmir Haj Committee issues schedule regarding collection of Travel Documents for the selected Haj Pilgrims of Anantnag whose embarking is from Srinagar International Airport.

As per the schedule

intending pilgrims featuring from S.No 01 to 161 (Cover No. JKF-47-2-0 to JKF-989-2-0) can collect their travel documents/ material on 01 May, 2025 and those falling in between S.No 162 to 327 (Cover No. JKF-990-3-0 to JKF-2046-1-0) can obtain

their travel documents on 02 May, 2025 at Meeting Hall of Dak Bungalow Khanabal, Anantnag.

The travel documents shall be provided only after depositing Passport Receipt and Haj arrangement dues slips.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
FIRST CORRIGENDUM TO TENDER NO. 251-Elect-T-01-2025-26, Notice No. 251-Elect/T-Notice No. 01-Elect/2025-26  
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G), Northern Railway, Firozpur has invited above tender. The tender Notice published in leading newspapers on 09.04.2025 to be opened on 29.04.2025. The date of opening of tender has now been extended. The new date of opening of tender will be 09.05.2025. Other terms and condition will remain unchanged.  
251-Elect/T-Notice No. 01-Elect/2025-26 Dated: 01.05.2025 1293/2025  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-Auction Notice  
The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India, invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division.

Catalogue No.	Auction Start	Name of work
EAZR-SLR25-65	16.05.2025 at 11:00 Hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 22424/F1, 14604/F1, 12422/F1, 15532/F1, 14028/F1, 19614/F1, 14618/F1, 14616/F1, 14028/R1 & 14028/F2.
EAZR-SLR25-66	19.05.2025 at 11:00 Hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 11058/R1, 12904/R1 & 12926/R1.

For other details and registration, please visit Railway website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
1283/2025  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## Pahalgam terror attack...

carrying out a cowardly act is a sign of victory, they should remember that this is Narendra Modi's India and no one will be spared.

"Today, they (terrorists) should not think they have won by taking the lives of our innocent citizens," Shah said. "This is not the end of the battle. I want to make it clear to those who spread terror, every terrorist involved will be identified and given a befitting reply. The country will not forget, and we will respond to each act with determination."

Pertinently, on April 22, terrorists shot dead 26 people, mostly tourists at Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam in South Kashmir. It marked one of the deadliest terror attacks at civilians in the region in recent years.

Referring to the incident, Shah said, "I pay tributes to those who lost their lives in the Pahalgam terror attack. This is not just the sorrow of their families, but a shared grief felt by the entire nation."

He said India maintains a strict zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and will not allow it to grow in any part of the country. "We will exact retribution for every loss. Terrorism will be uprooted from its roots. The global community stands with India in this battle," Shah said, as per KNO.

Earlier in the day, the Home Minister also addressed a gathering in New Delhi during an event to unveil the statue of Bodofa Upendranath Brahma, a prominent figure from Assam known for his contributions to the Bodo community.

At the event, Shah reiterated the government's position on national security and said that, "Whether it is left-wing extremism or Kashmir, if anyone does anything, no one will be spared."

He said it is the government's resolve to eliminate terrorism from every inch of the country and that this goal will be achieved.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we have responded firmly to every challenge, whether it was in the North East, the strongholds of Left Wing Extremism, or the persistent threat of terrorism in Kashmir," Shah said. KNO

## NIA Chief visits...

attack unfold at the picturesque Baisaran Valley popularly known as "Mini Switzerland."

NIA teams, aided by forensic and other experts, are checking the entire area thoroughly for evidence to expose the terror conspiracy that led to the attack that has shocked the nation.

Separate teams of NIA officials have been visiting across the country to seek details from survivors of the terror attack.

Initial investigations into the massacre indicate that the number of terrorists involved could range from five to seven.

Security agencies have released sketches of three terrorists suspected to be involved in the attack. The trio, all from Pakistan, are said to be Asif Fauji, Suleman Shah and Abu Talha, the officials said.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police announced a reward of Rs 20 lakh each for information leading to the terrorists. KNO

## PM Modi heralds 'Orange...

growing creative sector.

The Prime Minister said that WAVES is not just an acronym, it is a wave of culture, creativity and universal connectivity.

"India with a billion plus population is also a land of billion plus stories and over a billion story tellers, every street, every river, every mountain in India carries a tale. Across more than six lakh villages, each one holds a new story, a fresh perspective truly India has much more to offer," the Prime Minister said.

Highlighting the vastness of India's cultural wealth, Modi said, "In India, even music is a form of spiritual practice. Every note tells a story, every rhythm has a soul. Be it a devotional Bhajan or a modern composition, the sound of India carries a touch of the divine".

He assured that the government stands firmly behind creative professionals, supporting them through initiatives like Skill India, Startup Support, policies for the AVGC Industry, and global platforms like WAVES.

He asserted that every effort is being made to build an environment where innovation and imagination are valued, fostering new dreams and empowering individuals to bring those dreams to life.

Modi expressed his unwavering confidence in India's content creators, highlighting that their free-flowing creativity is redefining the global creative landscape. He emphasised that the youthful spirit of India's creators knows no barriers, boundaries, or hesitation, allowing innovation to thrive.

He remarked that through his personal interactions with young creators, gamers, and digital artists, he has witnessed firsthand the energy and talent emerging from India's creative ecosystem. He acknowledged that India's massive young population is driving new creative dimensions, from reels, podcasts, and games to animation, stand-up, and AR-VR formats.

The Prime Minister asserted that WAVES is a platform designed specifically for this generation—one that enables young minds to reimagine and redefine the creative revolution with their energy and efficiency.

Modi emphasised that WAVES will serve as a major platform where "creativity meets coding, software blends with storytelling, and art merges with augmented reality". He also urged young creators to make the most of this opportunity, dream big, and dedicate their efforts to realising their visions.

Modi praised the resounding success of the first edition of the WAVES Summit, stating that from its very first moment, the event has captured global attention and is "roaring with purpose."

The Prime Minister also extended greetings on the occasion of Maharashtra Day and Gujarat Statehood day.

Participants from 90 countries with more than 10,000 delegates, 1000 creators and over 300 companies are participating in this summit.

## Pak a failed state...

to de-escalate the tensions by the world and nab the

attackers involved in the attack. "God knows how much the world will succeed in it," he added.

The NC patron also said that Pakistan is a failed state and instead of improving the situation within the country, it has been trying to divert the attention from this main issue through the attack and its consequences will be dangerous. "Both the countries have atomic power and if it (atomic power) is used, God knows what will happen," he said.

The ex-chief minister of erstwhile J&K State, further added that the tensions are there, but he doesn't know whether war was the last option. "It is up to the leaders of the two nations to decide on it," he added.

Replying to a query, Dr Farooq said that "I don't think relations between India and Pakistan will ever improve unless the Army goes. People of Pakistan want friendship with India, but not the hierarchy there. The peace between India and Pakistan can only happen when there will be a people's government in Pakistan," he said.

Reacting to the cabinet decision on caste census, Dr Farooq said it was the long pending demand and it is imperative to come up with the number of Muslims, Sikhs, Brahmins, Christians and others living in India. KNO

## 'We sleep to the...

the ceasefire had given their children hope for a better future. Now, with the shelling restarting, we're worried their education will be disrupted, and we may be forced to flee again, he said.

Mushtaq Ahmad from Karnah said, "After four years of peace, the renewed tension over cross-border firing has left us in constant fear. Our lives are uncertain once again. We pray the ceasefire holds. It has brought stability, improved infrastructure, and boosted border tourism. We don't want to go back to the instability of the past."

Shahbaz Ahmad, a resident of Karnah said, "It was the peak tourism season for Gurez and other border areas, but due to the recent tensions, no one is visiting now. Last year, these areas were bustling with tourists, but today they wear a deserted look."

Muzaffar Ahmad, another Karnah resident, said, "We pray for peace along the LoC because war is not an option. The development we've seen in border areas over the past few years came only after the ceasefire between the two nations."

Bordering belt residents, speaking to KNO, pleaded for urgent safety measures and the restoration of calm, saying they have been living under the shadow of escalating violence since the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives.

The residents said they had appealed to the authorities multiple times to build bunkers for their safety, but are still waiting.

A resident added, "Yes, a few community bunkers exist, and are now being cleaned for the safety measures. The situation is tense, but we stand firmly with the Indian Army. We are the last village before the border, and we want to assure the Army that we are always with them, come what may."

Villagers in Kupwara's LoC belt say the constant hovering of helicopters, combined with frequent gunfire, has shattered the fragile peace they had come to depend on after the ceasefire understanding. "We hardly sleep at night. The silence is broken by gunshots. We fear for our lives and our homes," said a Keran resident.

In Uri, residents expressed similar concerns as sporadic cross-border firing intensified. "We live in constant fear. The sound of shells and bullets haunts us. We pray that peace prevails," said villagers from Churinda, a settlement that has witnessed casualties in past skirmishes. "This is not the first time. Our village has seen blood, injuries, and damage to homes".

Meanwhile, an official said that security forces have intensified vigilance along the Line of Control (LoC) in J&K to prevent cross-border infiltration and the shelling.

"Patrols by the Army and Border Security Force (BSF) have been increased in border districts like Poonch, Rajouri and north Kashmir. A multi-layered defence system, including advanced surveillance and intelligence gathering, has been deployed to monitor suspicious activities," he said. KNO

## US Defence Secy...

training and funding terrorist organisations. He further said that it is important for the global community to explicitly and unequivocally condemn and call out such heinous acts of terrorism," the Defence Ministry said, as per KNO.

The phone call came amid heightened tensions with Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack. India has taken diplomatic and strategic measures against Pakistan. India has suspended the Indus Water Treaty, closed the Integrated Check Post at Attari, and curtailed the strength of High Commissions.

Pertinently, the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMO) of India and Pakistan communicated via hotline on Tuesday, during which India raised strong objections to the "unprovoked ceasefire violations by the Pakistan Army" along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border. KNO

## Centre issues...

of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, and follow the security measures while publishing any news pertaining to ongoing operations in J&K.

Notably, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting last week on Saturday issued an advisory directing all media outlets to refrain from broadcasting live coverage of military operations or movements of security forces.

The advisory extends to news agencies, digital platforms, and social media users, emphasising the need for utmost caution and responsibility in reporting matters related to national security. KNO

## ECI introduces 3...

The Commission will now obtain death registration data electronically from the Registrar General of India in line with Rule 9 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 and Section 3(5)(b) of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 (as amended in 2023). This will ensure that the Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) receive timely information about registered deaths. This will also enable Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to re-verify the information through

## Deaf-Mute student Sadiq Sarwar from Bandipora secures Distinction in Class 12 Exams

JI NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 1

In a good example of resilience and determination, Sadiq Sarwar Rather, a deaf and mute student from Chhattibandi village in North Kashmir's Bandipora district, has passed the Class 12 board examinations with distinction—scoring an outstanding 436 out of 500 marks.

Sadiq's achievement is not just academic; it is a story of personal triumph over extraordinary challenges. Orphaned at a young age, he lost his father, Mohammad Sarwar Rather, in a tragic road accident in 2012. In addition to coping with the grief of this loss, Sadiq has undergone five major surgeries in his lifetime—all while dealing with the daily realities of being hearing and speech impaired.

Despite these obstacles, Sadiq pursued education through visual learning, supported by the relentless dedication of his family and teachers. In a region where access to special education is extremely limited, his journey stands as a testament to what can be accomplished with perseverance and community support.

His success has sparked pride and celebration in



his hometown. "Sadiq's journey is nothing short of inspirational. It sends a strong message that with determination and the right support, no limitation is insurmountable," said a neighbor who has known him since childhood.

Sadiq's story highlights the urgent need for inclusive education policies and better support systems for differently-abled students in Jammu and Kashmir. His achievement serves as a beacon of hope for countless others facing similar challenges.

A proud moment for Bandipora, Sadiq Sarwar's resilience is inspiring students across the Valley and beyond. His community, educators and well-wishers have hailed him as a symbol of courage, strength, and the limitless potential of the human spirit.

field visits, without waiting for a formal request under Form 7.

To make Voter Information Slips (VIS) more voter friendly, the Commission has also decided to modify its design. The serial number and part number of the voter will now be displayed more prominently, with increased font size, making it easier for voters to identify their polling station and for polling officials to locate their names in the electoral roll efficiently.

The Commission has also directed that all BLOs, who are appointed by the EROs under Section 13B(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, be issued standard photo identity cards to ensure that citizens can recognise and interact confidently with BLOs during voter verification and registration drives. As the first interface between the voters and the ECI in performing election related duties, it is important that BLOs are easily identifiable to the public while conducting house-to-house visits—(KNO)

## Chief Justice administers...

Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Justice Rahul Bharti, Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Justice Rajesh Sekhri and Justice Mohd. Yousuf Wani while Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul, Justice Sanjay Dhar and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal participated virtually from Srinagar Wing of the High Court.

The proceedings of the ceremony were conducted by M.K. Sharma, Registrar General (Officiating) of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh who read the contents of the notification received from the Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Justice, the Warrants of Appointment issued by the President of India and the Letter of Authorization issued by the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, authorising the Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, to administer the oath of office to the two newly appointed Judges.

The ceremony was also attended by the Former Chief Justices/Former Judges of the High Court, Secretary Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Deputy Solicitor General of India, Jammu as well as Srinagar, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Jammu, Senior Advocates, President Bar Association, Jammu & Members of Bar, Officers from Civil and Police Administration and Officers & Officials of the Registry.

With the elevation of two Officers from Higher Judicial Services as Judges of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, the strength of Judges of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has risen to 15 Judges including Chief Justice. KNO

## Punish Pahalgam...

on April 22.

"We want action against those who did this, but I am not saying people should go against any group. We want peace," she added.

She said that Pahalgam attackers must be punished. "I am waiting for that. But at the same time, I appeal people across the country to not go against any community, including Muslims and Kashmiris," she said. KNO

## Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai...

presented a plea before the Hon'ble Court. Acting on this plea, the court declared Dr. Fai a proclaimed offender on April 30, 2025, police said.

"The court has directed Dr. Fai to surrender before the Jammu and Kashmir Police within 30 days from the date of proclamation. Police reaffirms its commitment to pursue criminal cases against individuals evading justice and arrest, whether within India or abroad, ensuring due legal process and judicial determination through proper trial." KNO

## GDCW Kathua organizes Poster Making Competition to promote use of Audio-Visual Aids



JI NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, MAY 1

In an effort to spread awareness about the importance of audio-visual aids in the teaching-learning process, the Department of Education, Government Degree College for Women (GDCW) Kathua, in collaboration with IQAC, organized a poster making competition on the college campus. Over thirty-five students enthusiastically participated in the event.

The competition was held under the supervision of Dr. Rachna, Head of the Department of Education, and Dr. Tejinder Kour. Dr. Savi Behl, Principal of the college, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In her address, she congratulated the students for their creative efforts and emphasized the significance of such events in developing teaching skills among aspiring educators. She also encouraged the organization of similar activities that allow students to express their ideas through posters and lectures on various educational themes.

Dr. Behl further highlighted that teaching aids play a crucial role in making lectures more engaging and effective, especially for those aiming to pursue teaching as a profession. All participants were awarded certificates of participation. The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Tejinder Kour.

## Maj Gen Lisamma PV assumes appointment of ADG, MNS



JI NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 1

Maj Gen Lisamma PV assumed the appointment of Additional Director General, Military Nursing Service (MNS) in New Delhi on May 01, 2025. She succeeds Maj Gen Sheena PD who superannuated on April 30, 2025 after serving for four decades. Hailing from Kollam district of Kerala, Maj Gen Lisamma PV is an alumna of School of Nursing, Military Hospital, Jalandhar.

After her commissioning into MNS in 1986, the General Officer obtained Bachelor's degree in Arts & Law along with Master's Degree in Hospital Administration. Along-

side her professionally rich nursing career, she has excelled as an administrator handling various appointments such as Principal College of Nursing, Command Hospital Air Force, (Bangalore); Principal Matron, Command Hospital (Eastern Command); Brigadier MNS HQ (Eastern Command); Brigadier MNS (Admin) Integrated HQ of Ministry of Defence, and the recent appointment at Army Hospital (Research & Referral) as Principal Matron.

Maj Gen Lisamma PV's strong resolve for evidence-based best practices through training and research, to stay relevant at all times, has been widely appreciated.

## Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma takes over Command of Indian Army's Northern Command

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma assumed the appointment of General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (GOCin-C), Northern Command today.

A highly decorated officer, Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma is an alumnus of NDA, Khadakwasla, Indian Military Academy, Dehradun and Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. He was commissioned into the MADRAS Regiment in December 1987. He is qualified on Higher Command Course and has also attended course at National Defence College, New Delhi.

The General Officer has a rich operational experience. He commanded an Infantry Battalion, Brigade and Division along the Line

of Control and has Commanded a Strike Corps in the Western Sector.

The General Officer has a varied exposure in staff and instructional appointments including being a staff officer in UN Mission. He has held important appointments at Military Operations Directorate and Military

Secretary Branch in the Army Headquarters. He was also the Director General of Military Operations and Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Strategy), prior to taking over as GOC-in-C, Northern Command.

On assuming the command, the GOC-in-C conveyed his greetings to all ranks and expressed his commitment to take forward the excellent work by his predecessors and all ranks of Northern Command.

## Shantmanu releases Vandana Sharma's Book "Therapeutic Thoughts"

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 01

Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Education, Shantmanu, today released the English translation of "Therapeutic Thoughts", a profound rendering of Vichar Oshdi originally penned by eminent writer Santosh Sangra.

The translation has been skillfully accomplished by Professor Vandana Sharma and Dr. Shachi Sood.

The book release event was organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), drawing a galaxy of writers, intellectuals and academicians from across the region.

Speaking on the occasion, Shantmanu remarked, "a book deepens your roots and broadens your horizon." He appreciated the lucid and meaningful translation work, emphasizing that such books must find a place in every academic institution's library. He also recited a few poems of his own in Hindi. He appreciated the author and the translator for writing and translating a purposeful book.



In her welcome address, Harvinder Kaur, Secretary, JKAACL, noted that the content of the book is both distinct and inspirational. She highlighted its relevance for the younger generation, stating, "The book inspires us to live a balanced life."

Professor Dilip Kumar, Regional Director, IIMC Jammu, praised the translators for their sensitive rendition, stating, "They have translated the book into sense, not just into sentences."

Santosh Sangra, the original author, read the selected excerpts from Vichar Oshdi, reflecting on themes of female empowerment and liberation.

Professor Vandana Sharma, Dean, School of Languages, Central University of Jammu, in her translator's address, described translation as a bridge between cultures. She added that her effort

was not just to translate but to "transcreate," ensuring the spirit of the original resonates with today's readers, especially the youth.

Professor Gitanjali Rana, Principal, GCW Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, presented a thoughtful review of the translated work. Among the audience, Dr. Avinder Amar, Former Additional Secretary, JKAACL, spoke on the pivotal role of women as the foundation of the family.

Dr. Vandana Sharma, Senior Assistant Professor, Department of Hindi, CUJ, reviewed the original work Vichar Oshdi, while Dr. Nancy Mengi, HoD, Social Work, CUJ, offered an insightful overview of the book's representation of women's strength.

Vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Javaid Rahi, Divisional Head, JKAACL Jammu.

## KVK Bandipora-1 organizes Training & Seed Distribution programme under Tribal Sub Plan

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BANDIPORA, MAY 01

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bandipora-1, in collaboration with the TSP-ICAR project 'Outreach of Technology & Distribution of Farming Tools for Economic Upliftment of Scheduled Tribe and Low-Income Farmers' and the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Seed (Crops), NSP, SKUAST-K Shalimar, successfully conducted a comprehensive training and seed distribution programme under the Tribal Sub Plan.

The initiative was designed to empower tribal farmers by equipping them with modern agricultural knowledge and high-quality inputs to boost productivity and ensure sustainable livelihoods.

The programme was presided over by Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-K, who was the chief guest on the occasion besides Prof. Javed Ahmad Mugloo, Professor & Head, KVK Pulwama and Principal Investigator of the TSP Project; Prof. K.M. Malik, Programme Coordinator, KVK



Kupwara; Dr. H.A. Malik Programme Coordinator KVK Gurez, Dr. Gowhar Ali and Dr. Aflaq Hamid, Senior Scientists, NSP, SKUAST-K Shalimar were also present.

In her keynote address, Prof. Raihana highlighted SKUAST-Kashmir's continued efforts toward the upliftment of tribal farming communities. She emphasized the critical role of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in promoting climate-resilient agriculture and improving livelihood security.

"KVKs are playing a pivotal role in transforming the lives of tribal farmers by introducing innovative, sustainable practices and providing timely access to quality agricultural inputs," she added.

Prof. Mugloo reiterated the project's commitment to agricultural development in tribal areas

through training and the distribution of essential farming resources.

Earlier, Programme Coordinator of KVK Bandipora-1, outlined the Kendra's mission to advance sustainable farming and enhance access to technology for marginalized communities.

The training sessions covered various topics, including modern farming practices, importance of quality seeds, and strategies for climate-smart agriculture.

Dr. Gowhar elaborated on research advancements in developing high-yielding and climate-resilient crop varieties aimed at ensuring food security and agricultural sustainability.

A major highlight of the event was the distribution of high-yielding fodder maize, potato, and rice seeds to participating tribal farmers.

## DDC reviews ongoing developmental works under UT Capex, CSS in GMC Udhampur



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, MAY 01

District Development Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, today chaired a review meeting on various ongoing developmental works under UT Capex and Centrally Sponsored Schemes at the Conference Hall of Government Medical College Udhampur.

The meeting was attended by the Director Planning, J&K Health and Medical Education Department; Principal, GMC Udhampur and staff members from both the college and engineering wings.

Principal GMC Udhampur apprised the DDC about the current status of developmental works at Village Bailey and the

Associated Hospital of the Medical College.

The DDC directed all departments to coordinate effectively and expedite the progress to ensure timely completion of all works.

Later, the DDC visited the premises of the Associated Hospital, GMC Udhampur and issued on-spot directions for the judicious use of vacant space for constructing multi-level parking to benefit hospital staff and ease patient access. She also instructed hospital authorities to undertake necessary steps for the facelift of the hospital building, cover the Nallah near the entry point and macadamize the internal roads within the hospital premises.

## Dy CM conducts public outreach camp at Chowkian, Kalsian Panchayats

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, MAY 01

As part of the government's ongoing commitment to grassroots governance and responsive administration, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today conducted a public outreach camp at Panchayat Chowkian and Panchayat Kalsian in Nowshera division.

The outreach programme aimed to foster direct communication with the people and resolve their issues promptly.

During the interactive session, the locals raised several concerns including the need for macadamization of roads, staff shortage in government institutions, inadequate healthcare infrastructure, water scarcity and establishment of a Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Panchayat Chowkian.

Other highlighted issues included the need for additional border bunkers and Anganwadi centres, repair of dilapidated Government Middle School (GMS) Chowkian, low voltage



problem and upgradation of GMS Jhanghar and GMS Sarya.

The Deputy Chief Minister assured the public that their genuine issues would be addressed in a time bound manner. He directed the concerned departments to initiate prompt redressal measures.

While reviewing implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the Dy CM expressed concern over the slow pace of work. He instructed the officers to expedite project completion so that the benefits reach the people at the earliest.

Regarding the electricity issues, he directed the Power Development Department to take necessary corrective steps to ensure uninterrupted power supply.

On the occasion, the Dy CM also distributed labour cards among the eligible beneficiaries, reaffirming the government's commitment to welfare and inclusivity.

ADC Nowshera, PO ICDS, Executive Engineers PDD Rajouri, PWD (R&B) Rajouri, PMGSY Rajouri and REW, ACP, CAHO, ALC, AD FCS&CA were present in the camp.

## DC reviews progress of CAPEX Budget works in Poonch

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, MAY 01

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal chaired a meeting today to evaluate the physical and financial progress of development works funded under the UT CAPEX Budget for the financial year 2024-25. The meeting was held in the conference hall of the DC Office Poonch.

During the session, a comprehensive Power-Point presentation provided insights into both ongoing and completed projects across various sectors. The review included key areas such as Minor Irrigation, Roads and Buildings (R&B), RDD, Elementary and Secondary Education, Health, Urban Development and more.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of expediting work across all departments and reviewed the requirements of all ongoing



projects to ensure that they are completed on a priority basis before commencing any new works and directed executing agencies to prioritize the completion of ongoing projects.

He also directed all concerned officers to upload completed projects for the financial year 2024-25

onto the e-Compendium portal with the good quality geo-tagged photographs.

The meeting was attended by ACP, DSEO, CMO, CEO Education, Executive Engineers of PWD, JPDCL, JSD, REW, I&F, CEO Municipality, BDOs besides other concerned officers.

## Labour Day celebrated in Ramban with awareness event on labour laws



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, MAY 01

Labour Department, under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, today celebrated Labour Day at ALC office with a gathering of 70 participants, including labourers from the construction industry and service providers of SANJY. The event featured an awareness session on key labour laws and benefits.

Speakers elaborated the Payment of Wages

Act, Contract Labour Act, Building and Other Construction Workers (BOC) Act, health and safety measures, and guidance on working during heat waves. Labourers were also informed about BOC schemes and their benefits.

Assistant Labour Commissioner Amit Kumar emphasized the efforts of the labourers and workers in the society and assured that the department of Labour is always available for helping and ensuring the welfare of the workers in the district.

## Distt Admin B'pora bids adieu to GM DIC Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat on superannuation

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BANDIPORA, MAY 01

Industries Department Bandipora today organized a farewell function to bid warm send-off to Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat, General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC) Bandipora, on the occasion of his superannuation.

The farewell function at mini secretariat Bandipora was held to recognize decades of dedicated service and outstanding contributions of superannuating officer to the public sector, particularly in promoting industrial development in the district.

The farewell function was attended by Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri,



who lauded the retiring officer's role in strengthening the industrial ecosystem in the district besides highlighted his role in implementing government schemes.

He termed Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat as an officer who always carried out his responsibilities with sincerity, vision, and integrity. Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Shabir

Ahmad Wani, commended professionalism, people-centric approach of Mushtaq Ahmad in delivering public service.

The officers also extended their best wishes for his post-retirement life.

In his farewell address, Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat expressed his gratitude to the District Administration, his colleagues, and the Industries Department staff for their cooperation and support throughout his service in District Bandipora.

Among others, Chief Planning Officer Mohamud Maqbool Lone, officers and officials of Industries Department and other concerned were present on the occasion.

## Labour Department Kathua observes Int'l Labour Day with awareness programme, felicitation of workers

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, MAY 01

To mark the International Labour Day, the Labour Department Kathua today organised an awareness-cum-felicitation programme in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and the Health Department.

The event was aimed at acknowledging the contribution of the working class and spreading awareness regarding their rights and welfare.

Assistant Labour Commissioner Piyusha Khajuria presided over the programme and threw light on the historical significance and global relevance of Labour Day. She highlighted various initiatives being taken by the Labour



Department for the welfare and empowerment of the workforce.

As part of the programme, workers from different industrial and service sectors were felicitated with Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of their

commendable services and dedication. The initiative was lauded by the attendees as a morale booster for the labour community.

On the occasion, a legal awareness sessions were also conducted by panel lawyers of DLSA wherein

workers were sensitised about important labour laws and legal safeguards available to them. These sessions aimed at empowering the workforce through legal literacy.

In a step towards ensuring the well-being of the workers, a free medical camp was also organised at the venue by the Health Department in association with the Ayush Department. The camp provided basic health check-ups and consultations to the workers present.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from workers across various sectors and reaffirmed the Labour Department's commitment towards ensuring the welfare, safety, and empowerment of the labour force in the district.

## EDITORIAL

## Safeguarding Paradise

The recent terror attack in Pahalgam has shaken not only the serene valleys of Kashmir but also sent ripples of fear across the broader Jammu region. In its aftermath, the swift and strategic response by security forces, particularly the security audit, deserves commendation. However, it also lays bare a long-standing vulnerability: the fragile security infrastructure of some of India's most beloved tourist destinations. The regions of Patnitop, Nathatop, and Sanasar—celebrated for their natural beauty and peaceful isolation—are now under the scanner for an entirely different reason. These lush and tranquil locales, once synonymous with escape and relaxation, must now contend with the dark reality of modern threats. That these areas had little to no security presence prior to the Pahalgam incident is troubling, though not entirely surprising. These are places where security concerns have often taken a backseat to aesthetics and tourism promotion. The police officers' engagement with local stakeholders—including hotel and trekking associations, village heads, and residents—marks a welcome shift toward a more collaborative and proactive security model. Rather than a top-down imposition of force, this is a bottom-up approach grounded in community participation. His assurances of increased safety measures, improved coordination between police and civil administration, and enhanced surveillance systems are a crucial first step. But implementation, as always, is where promises either hold or fall apart. As the tourist season approaches, the stakes are high. The Jammu region, already grappling with the shadow of militancy and cross-border tensions, cannot afford another blow to its reputation. The livelihoods of countless locals depend on a thriving tourism industry. Fear and uncertainty will deter not only tourists but investment and development opportunities that are critical to the area's long-term growth. The government must treat this moment not as a reactive measure but as an inflection point. A robust, visible, and intelligent security presence must be developed—not only to prevent further tragedies but to reassure both visitors and residents alike. Forested terrains and isolated landscapes should no longer be viewed as obstacles to security, but as challenges that modern technology and strategic planning can address. This incident must also ignite a broader conversation on balancing development with security in all of India's hill stations and remote attractions. Tourists seek beauty, yes, but above all, they seek safety. The peace of Sanasar's meadows or Nathatop's snow-kissed vistas cannot be preserved through passivity. In a region known for its natural splendor, let vigilance—not violence—shape the future. The promise of safety is not a luxury for travelers; it is a right. And in places like Jammu, it must now become a priority.

## The Unseen hands that build our world

RK JAIN ARJEET

She wakes not to an alarm but to the first strike of a hammer. There is no day, no night – just an endless chain of work that begins before sunrise and continues after dark. The hands that bear blisters are the ones that strengthen the nation's foundation. The sweat that falls to the ground raises towering buildings. Yet, these hands have been given more space on floors than in the pages of history.

They haven't been counted – they've been brought down, bent low. But May 1 is the day when the worker straightened their back and told the world: No more.

This day is not just a date on the calendar but a symbol of the consciousness that unites voices crushed for centuries. It is the echo of the strength hidden in the sweat of labourers – a strength that can redirect rivers, split mountains, and, most importantly, transform society's mindset.

A worker is not just a person but an idea. An idea that says labour is the foundation of creation. No uniform, no title, no rank – yet these are the most real people in the world. They may not have degrees to show, but every perfectly aligned brick is proof of their skill.

They are the ones who build cities but often get lost on their edges. They are denied entry to malls, yet they are the ones who build them. Labour is

not just working; it is an unwritten poem, composed in lines of blisters, sweat, and unseen exhaustion.

It is a battle – a battle for existence, dignity, and identity that is repeatedly crushed by being called 'unskilled'. But the truth is, the most vital skills belong to those without whom the world would become a stalled machine.

Imagine for a moment: if workers stopped working for a day, what would happen? Cities would halt, streets would empty, and the framework of our so-called modernity would crumble. Yet, how often do we salute their labour?

Today's era is one of technology and innovation. We talk of Digital India, start-ups, and artificial intelligence, but do we forget that the engine of all this still runs on human effort? The delivery boy pedalling through scorching afternoons to bring your package – do we see the exhaustion hidden in his smile?

The welder whose eyes, sparked by more than just metal, forge the future – do we honour their art? Labour is no longer confined to factories; it is the story of every person who lives not for a 'job' but for a passion, even if that passion is to feed their family. It is the story of the rickshaw puller who carries the weight of his family with the strength of his legs.

It is the story of the domestic worker who weaves dreams for her children, even if she



never attended school. These people are the backbone of our society, yet how often do we dismiss them as mere 'workers'?

The workers' fight is not just for wages or working hours but for the respect their labour deserves. They often fight alone – sometimes with their voices, sometimes with tears, and sometimes in silence.

But when they stand together, they change history. That day in 1886, when workers in Chicago demanded an eight-hour workday, was not just an event – it was a spark that ignited labour movements worldwide.

Even today, when workers take to the streets, their voice represents not just themselves but every person who stands against injustice. No law, no Government, and no policy is greater than their collective consciousness. Workers' Day is not just a red mark on the calendar – it

is a warning to systems that believe labourers only follow orders. They also ask questions, and when they do, the world must answer.

We need a society where labour is seen not as a class but as a value. Where honest work is not looked down upon. Where a child who says, "I want to be a worker like my father," is met with respect, not pity. This will only be possible when we view labour not just as a means of survival but as an art – a matter of pride.

We must understand that workers don't just work – they shape dreams. They don't just build structures – they lay the foundation of society. May 1 will truly be a festival when, instead of spending the holiday in malls, we take a step for workers' rights. When we listen to their stories and give their voices a platform.

This day also reminds us that workers are not just

a tale of the past but the architects of the future. As we speak of the environment, sustainable development, and social justice, workers are at the heart of that change. Those who grow crops in fields, operate machines in factories, or clean our streets – they are the axis keeping our planet and society alive. Yet, our policies, priorities, and thinking often push them to the margins.

We must ask: Is our development truly inclusive if workers' contribution is limited to their labour? Is our progress genuine if its fruits don't reach those who water its roots?

No revolution, no development, no construction is complete without the worker's smile at its core. As long as their share is only sweat and not the rewards, our achievements remain incomplete. This day is not an empty slogan – it is the sound that rose from the strike of a hammer and can still shake our souls – if we are willing to listen.

It gives us a chance not only to remember workers' struggles but to ask what we can do for them. Perhaps it's time we see their labour not just as work but as a force that can change the world. Perhaps it's time we make Workers' Day not just a holiday but a day of resolve – a resolve to build a society where every worker stands tall, and their voice is heard. Because until the worker's smile becomes part of our progress, no achievement of ours will ever be complete.

On May 1, we do not just honour workers, we awaken to the truth they represent. Their hands, though blistered and unseen, shape the world we live in. They are the silent force behind our cities, our comforts, and our dreams.

Yet, they remain invisible – underpaid, undervalued, and often unheard. Workers' Day is a call not just to remember their struggles but to reimagine a society where labour is not just a necessity but a value of pride.

True progress lies in dignity for all not just in technology or wealth, but in the recognition of every hand that builds, cleans, grows, and delivers. Until we ensure their voices are heard and their efforts rewarded, our achievements remain hollow.

Let this day be a pledge – not just of gratitude but of action – to build an inclusive, just, and respectful world, where every worker stands tall and every drop of sweat is met with the respect it deserves.

On May 1, we honour not just the worker's toil but their truth. Their sweat shapes our world, yet their worth goes unseen. Let this day remind us: without dignity for labour, progress is hollow. Real development begins when every worker's voice is heard and their efforts valued equally.

(The author is a professor and a columnist. Views are personal)

## Reimagining migration: It's time for an overhaul

AS MITTAL

The Reserve Bank of India's recent bulletin reaffirms India's position as the world's top recipient of remittances, receiving a record \$129.1 billion in 2024, amounting to 3.4 per cent of the national GDP and 14.3 per cent of global inflows. These remittances now rival nearly 30 per cent of India's merchandise exports, positioning India's migrant workforce as a critical economic asset to families back home and the nation's macroeconomic stability. This record inflow is not merely a number, it represents the enduring ambition and resilience of over 35 million Indian diaspora, encompassing Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) living and working abroad, making up the world's largest diaspora. Their contribution is even more significant when seen as a source of foreign exchange, a buffer to the current account deficit, and a stabilising force during global economic shocks, as observed during the pandemic and subsequent economic downturns.

The epicentre of illegal migration, Punjab alone received ₹32,535 crore in remittances in 2024, representing over 56 per cent of its merchandise exports and 4.6 per cent of its GDP – underscoring how significant migrant remittances are to state economies. Similar patterns are seen in Kerala, where remittances have historically funded household consumption, real estate, education, and local infrastructure. According to the World Bank, remittances exceed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in

many developing nations, and India is no exception.

Despite these achievements, India's migration landscape is marked by a stark duality. At the same time, approximately 2.5 million Indians migrate overseas yearly, and remittances continue to grow – so do irregular and unsafe migration, driven by a lack of legal pathways, poor governance, and limited awareness. States such as Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala – traditional migration hubs – are also grappling with the social and human costs of undocumented migration: from human trafficking and exploitation to unsafe "donkey routes" and permanent statelessness.

An Untapped Opportunity

As high-income countries – particularly OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) nations like the US, UK, Germany, France, Japan, and Australia – face a projected workforce shortage of 40-50 million by 2030, rising to 160 million by 2040, India stands uniquely positioned to meet this global demand.

With over 65 per cent of its population under 35, India has the world's largest youth cohort. Sectors like healthcare, logistics, construction, education, and technology are already witnessing acute shortages abroad. If paired with policy foresight, this demographic dividend could transform India into the world's leading exporter of skilled human capital. But to realise this, a shift from sporadic migration to structured, state-supported, legal migration is crucial. The Overseas Mobility (Facilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2024, currently under consideration, promises a



long-overdue update to the Emigration Act of 1983.

It seeks to build a modern, transparent, and welfare-oriented migration system. But legislative reform alone won't suffice. We need a federalised, mission-mode approach involving Central Ministries, State Governments, skilling agencies, and private sector partners. To catalyse this shift, India must embrace a "Talent Export Policy" – similar in ambition to the "Invest India" initiative. Here's a seven-pronged roadmap to do so:

Establish a National Overseas Employment Authority

Set up a dedicated body under the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) that works with State Governments to identify destination country demands, facilitate skill-matching, and negotiate bilateral migration corridors. District-level Migra-

tion Resource Centres and Indian embassy helpdesks should be institutionalised worldwide.

Integrate Global Skill Standards

India must reimagine its skilling architecture to align with global job market standards, including foreign languages, cross-cultural communication, and sector-specific certifications. NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation) can partner with countries for mutual qualification recognition.

Make Migration Affordable

Migration costs to Europe can reach up to ₹10 lakh, deterring legal movement and incentivising illegal channels. Low-interest loans, Government subsidies, and employer-funded training models, inspired by the Philippines' ESA-Pay system, must be adopted to reduce the financial

burden.

Strengthen Migrant Welfare Systems Abroad

Enforce ILO (International Labour Organisation)-compliant employment standards and fund legal aid cells, health insurance, and cultural orientation programmes in collaboration with Indian missions abroad. The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) can be scaled up to provide real-time support.

Negotiate Migration Agreements

India must expand its Bilateral Labour Mobility Agreements (BLMAs) portfolio like those already signed with Japan, the UAE, and Germany, ensuring wages, insurance, housing, and grievance redressal mechanisms are part of the contract.

National Mobility Industry Council

Bringing together ethical recruitment agencies, training institutes, employers, and regulators under a national industry body will professionalise migration practices, reduce fraud, and ensure quality assurance.

Harness the Power of Returning Migrants

Returning migrants bring global exposure, savings, and skills. A repatriate reintegration programme can turn them into local entrepreneurs and job creators, including re-skilling, credit access, and start-up incubators.

The Way Forward

For India, migration is not just an economic tool, it's a geopolitical asset. A well-supported diaspora can influence foreign policy, trade ties, cultural diplomacy, and technology transfer. Countries like the Philippines, Mexico, and Vietnam have already built national strategies around their overseas

workforce. It is time for India to do the same, not out of compulsion but with a vision to lead. With the proper safeguards, strategic investments, and bold policy thinking, India can become the world's largest remittance-receiving nation and the most respected exporter of skilled talent. The global workforce crisis is India's demographic opportunity but only if we act with urgency, coordination, and compassion.

From gaon (village) to global capitals, Indian migrants are already shaping the world. Now it's time for India to shape the future of migration – legally, ethically, strategically and geopolitically. India's migration story is at a critical crossroads – rich in promise yet fraught with challenges. With remittances at record highs and global demand for skilled workers surging, the moment calls for bold, coordinated action.

By embracing a structured, rights-based migration policy, India can not only safeguard its migrants but also elevate them as strategic assets in global diplomacy, trade, and development. Legal, affordable, and skill-aligned migration must become the new norm. If done right, India can transition from being the world's top remittance recipient to a global leader in talent export – transforming migration into a national strength and a tool for inclusive progress.

(The writer is Vice-Chairman (Cabinet Minister rank) of the Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board and Chairman of ASSOCHAM Northern Region Development Council. Views are personal)

## ISRO, SCTIMST sign MoU to collaborate on Space Medicine

AGENCIES  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space (DoS), and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), have signed a Framework Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Space Medicine.

This partnership marks a significant milestone in advancing the field of space medicine and its applications in India.

ISRO's human spaceflight programme, Gaganyaan, is a national endeavour that opens up unique opportunities for collaboration with academic institutions, national agencies, and industries in areas such as human health research, microgravity studies, space biology, and space medicine.



The MoU is expected to catalyse cooperation in this niche area and support innovations in several critical domains, including human physiological and behavioural studies, biomedical support systems, radiation biology, countermeasures for maintaining health and performance in space, telemedicine protocols, and the development of crew medical kits for space missions.

The programme will also create opportunities for cutting-edge research and experiments in space medicine, with potential benefits extending beyond space missions to health-

care on Earth.

Dr V. Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO, Secretary, DoS and Chairman, Space Commission, said the Gaganyaan mission aims to build national capacity in human research under space conditions. He emphasised the importance of maintaining astronaut health and performance in the extreme environment of outer space for the success of long-duration missions.

He noted that a national platform like the Bharatiya Antariksh Station would further enable advanced human research and technology development

aligned with India's priorities.

Dr Kris Gopalakrishnan expressed hope that the initiative would foster strong collaboration between academia and industry in the development of innovative medical devices.

Dr Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary and Head, AI Division, DST, said that research in space medicine will enhance understanding of human physiology and adaptation, and lead to the development of new medical technologies and diagnostic procedures.

Dr Sanjay Behari, Director, SCTIMST, thanked the ISRO leadership and said the institute looks forward to a productive partnership. He noted plans for setting up clean rooms and microgravity labs, joint development of biomedical devices, and translating space-grade technologies for terrestrial healthcare.

## 15 Refreshing Breakfast Ideas for Summer Mornings

Summer has arrived, and it's time to turn your breakfast around! Say goodbye to greasy, heavy breakfasts and hello to something light, cool, and full of energy. Don't worry, we've got you covered with these 15 tasty breakfast recipes that are just right for the summer season.

**Smoothie Bowls: A Refreshing Treat**

Mix your favorite fruits with yogurt and top with seeds, nuts, and granola for a healthy and satisfying breakfast. Ideal for warm summer mornings, smoothie bowls are refreshing, full of vitamins and minerals, and just yummy.

**Overnight Oats: A Convenient Breakfast**

Combine rolled oats with milk, fruits, nuts, and a splash of honey, and refrigerate overnight. In the morning, you'll have a cold, creamy, and filling breakfast waiting for you.

**Chia Seed Pudding: A**



**Healthy Treat**

Blend chia seeds with milk and leave them overnight for a creamy, nutritious breakfast. Rich in omega-3 fatty acids, fiber, and antioxidants, chia seed pudding is the best way to begin your day.

**Muesli: A Crunchy Treat**

Rolled oats, dried fruits, seeds, and nuts unite in this healthy breakfast that is rich in fiber and aids digestion. Eat it crunchy or leave it overnight for a softer texture.

**Idli Sambar: The South Indian Staple**

Light, airy idlis with a side of fiery, zesty sambar - what's there not to like? This tasty twosome is a

carb, protein, and fiber powerhouse, satisfying you for hours.

**Poha: The Quick and Convenient Treat**

Flattened rice, peanuts, and spices unite in this tasty dish that's easy to prepare and easy on the stomach. Throw in some veggies like peas, carrots, and onions for a bit of crunch and a nutritional boost.

**Vegetable Sandwich: Fresh and Easy Option**

Stuff whole grain bread with cucumber, tomato, lettuce, and a light spread such as hummus or hung curd for a crunchy, hydrating breakfast on a warm summer morning.

**Upma: A Savory Favorite**

Semolina, mixed veggies, mustard seeds, and curry leaves come together in this filling dish that's easy to make and rich in iron. Upma keeps your blood sugar steady and provides a steady stream of energy without the heaviness of fried foods.

**Besan Cheela: A Savory Pancake**

Prepared with chickpea flour, these healthy pancakes are a great option for a post-workout meal or a lazy summer breakfast. Mix with some vegetables such as spinach, tomatoes, or onions to enhance the flavor and nutrition.

**Dahi Chura: A Cooling Classic**

This ubiquitous eastern Indian breakfast blends yogurt and flattened rice for a light and refreshing meal. Yogurt contributes probiotics to help support gut health, and the poha offers a good dose of carbs.

## Centre extends financial aid to indigenous indoor air purification solution

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

In a significant step toward advancing indigenous clean air technologies, the government on Thursday extending financial support to Gurugram-based Urban Air Labs for their unique project in this field.

The financial assistance by Technology Development Board (TDB), under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), is given to the company for their project, titled "Development & Commercialization of a Made in India Efficient Wall-Mounted Air-Purification System for Indoor Premises."

This intervention marks a commitment to improve the Air Quality Index (AQI) indoors through innovative, plant-based purification systems that remove both particulate and gaseous contaminants.

TDB's financial assistance to this promising startup underscores its



confidence in the project's potential to deliver sustainable, science-backed air purification solutions.

The support aims to promote innovation in climate-responsive technologies while strengthening India's self-reliance under the 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' missions, said Ministry of Science and Technology.

The core technology harnesses in this product blends natural plant-based filtration with advanced engineering. Based on

the 'Urban Munnar Effect' and a patented innovation called 'Breathing Roots', the system enhances the natural air-purifying capacity of leafy indoor plants.

Air from the room is pulled toward the plant leaves, then directed into the soil-root zone, where the purification process intensifies. The device features a centrifugal fan that creates suction pressure, allowing the purified air—processed through the roots—to be released

in 360 degrees across the indoor space.

Fitted within a specially designed planter box, the 'uBreathe Life' system stands out as a compact, aesthetic, and effective wall-mounted solution tailored for homes, offices, hospitals, and other indoor environments.

It directly addresses the growing public health concern over poor indoor air quality and represents a game-changing innovation in the field of sustainable air purification.

"TDB's support to Urban Air Labs reflects our mission to back indigenous solutions that address pressing environmental challenges. The fusion of biotechnology and engineering in this project offers a scalable, sustainable way to enhance indoor air quality, aligned with the nation's clean technology goals," said Rajesh Kumar Pathak, Secretary, TDB.

## Study decodes how malaria can lead to childhood cancer

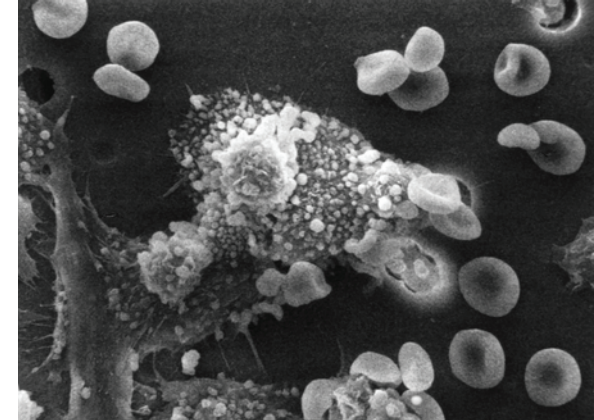
AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

US researchers have uncovered the role of Plasmodium falciparum -- a parasitic protozoan that causes malaria -- in the development of Burkitt lymphoma (BL), the most common childhood cancer.

BL is a cancer that affects B cells -- an important cell of the immune system that produces antibodies. It has been associated with P. falciparum malaria since 1958, but the underlying mechanism of how this leads to cancer has remained a mystery.

While BL is a rare cancer globally, (found more in equatorial Africa and New Guinea) its prevalence is 10 times higher in areas with a consistent presence of P. falciparum malaria.

Five different species of Plasmodium can cause malaria in humans, but only P. falciparum is asso-



ciated with BL.

"Knowing that malaria has a direct role in increasing childhood cancer risk means that measures to reduce the burden of P. falciparum malaria could also reduce the incidence of Burkitt lymphoma," said Dr. Rosemary Rochford, Professor of Immunology and Microbiology at the University of Colorado Anschutz School of Medicine.

The study, published in The Journal of Immunology, found significant

elevated expression of an enzyme called AID (activation-induced cytidine deaminase) in B cells during P. falciparum malarial infection in children.

Further, they found that a hallmark of BL is the translocation of a gene called MYC -- a genetic mutation where DNA breaks off one chromosome and attaches to another.

The enzyme AID is essential for MYC translocation, which is why

its presence in malaria patients indicates P. falciparum malaria's role in BL, said the team.

For the study, they assessed blood from children with uncomplicated malaria for AID levels and compared them to children without malaria.

Uncomplicated malaria is when a patient's symptoms are non-specific, including fever, chills, sweating, headache, nausea, and/or vomiting, without signs of severe organ dysfunction.

AID was significantly elevated in B cells of children with uncomplicated malaria and found to be fully functional. The functionality of the excess AID also supports the role of P. falciparum in causing BL.

"This study adds to the body of literature pointing to a critical role of the enzyme, AID, in the aetiology of Burkitt lymphoma and potentially in other non-Hodgkin's lymphomas," Rochford said.

## Common diabetes drug may help manage knee arthritis, obesity

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

A common diabetes drug can help reduce pain in people with knee osteoarthritis (OA) and obesity, as well as delay the need for knee replacements, revealed a study on Friday.

Researchers from Monash University in Australia showed that metformin -- commonly prescribed to treat type 2 diabetes -- can reduce knee arthritis pain in people without diabetes.

"Metformin is a potentially new and affordable way to improve knee pain in those with knee OA and overweight or obesity," said lead researcher Professor Flavia Cicuttini, who heads Musculoskeletal Unit at the varsity.

The six months-long randomised clinical trial, performed entirely as a community-based study using telehealth, involved 107 participants with pain from knee osteoarthritis



(73 women and 34 men), with a mean age of 60. The participants took up to 2,000 mg of metformin daily for six months. Others took the placebo. None had diabetes.

Knee pain was measured on a 0-100 scale, with 100 being the worst.

In the results, published in JAMA, the metformin group reported a 31.3 point reduction in pain after six months, compared to 18.9 for the placebo group. This was considered a moderate effect on pain.

Knee OA treatments include lifestyle approach-

es such as exercise and weight loss, which patients often find difficult, and medications such as paracetamol, topical anti-inflammatory creams, and oral anti-inflammatory medications which have small benefits and may be unsuitable for some patients for safety reasons.

Professor Cicuttini said effective treatments that improved knee pain in osteoarthritis were limited. She said this led some patients and their doctors to seek alternative treatments including surgery.

This resulted in major problems managing knee

OA, including an increase in the rate of knee replacements performed for earlier stages of OA.

Professor Cicuttini said metformin now provided GPs an alternative they could offer patients in addition to managing weight and increasing activity.

"Metformin works in a number of ways on the knee, including affecting low-grade inflammation and other metabolic pathways that are important in knee OA," she said.

Stating that Metformin is "low-cost and safe medication," the expert noted it "has the potential to delay people having knee replacements before they are absolutely needed. If people on metformin have less knee pain and are able to do more physical activity, then knee replacements can wait."

However, the researchers also called for a larger clinical trial as the study had a small sample size.

## Love eating chicken? Study links regular consumption with gastrointestinal cancers

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

While eating chicken, known to be lean meat, has long been considered healthier than red meat, a new study shows that regularly eating poultry may lead to early death due to gastrointestinal or digestive system cancers.

The study, led by researchers at the National Institute of Gastroenterology, in Italy, is based on an analysis of health-related data for 4,869 adults living in Italy over 20-years.

The findings showed that the risk of digestive system cancers including oesophageal, stomach, colon, pancreatic, and liver, is higher for men than for women.

Poultry meat (mainly chicken) is currently among the most widely consumed meats worldwide. It is reasonably affordable and accessible, explaining the high global consumption rates.



Prior research has suggested chicken as a protein source as it poses less risk of contributing to cardiovascular disease and some gastrointestinal cancers.

The new study, published in the journal Nutrients, showed that people who ate more than 300 grams of poultry per week are likely to experience a higher incidence of gastrointestinal cancer development and also early

deaths.

Moreover, the risk of death after consuming over 300 grams of poultry per week was 27 per cent higher compared to people who ate just 100 grams of poultry per week or less.

"In our opinion, it is important to learn more about the long-term effects of this food category, white meat, that is widely consumed by the world

population who, perhaps mistakenly, consider it healthy in absolute terms," said the researchers.

"We believe it is beneficial to moderate poultry consumption, alternating it with other equally valuable protein sources, such as fish. We also believe it is essential to focus more on cooking methods, avoiding high temperatures and prolonged cooking times," they added.

## Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit assumes appointment of CISC

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 1

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit assumed the appointment of Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (CISC) at Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff in New Delhi on May 01, 2025. He succeeds Lt Gen JP Mathew who superannuated on April 30, 2025. Before taking over, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit laid a wreath at the National War Memorial, New Delhi and paid homage to the bravehearts. He also inspected the Ceremonial Guard of Honour at the South Block Lawns.

In a distinguished career spanning close to four decades, the Air Marshal has held a variety of Command, Staff



& Instructional appointments, and has been conferred with the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Vishisht Seva Medal & Vayu Sena Medal for his services.

Prior to taking over as CISC, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was serving as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command. He focused on enhancing operational readiness and fostering coordination with other services

in Uttar Bharat & Central region.

The Air Marshal was commissioned into the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force on December 06, 1986. He is an alumnus of National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla; Defence Services Staff College (Bangladesh) and National Defence College, New Delhi. He is a Qualified Flying Instructor and Experimental Test Pilot with over 3,300

hours of flying experience on over 20 types of aircraft, including Mirage-2000, MiG-21 & Jaguar.

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit also commanded a premier Fighter Training Base in the Southern Sector where his leadership led to the base being adjudged the best in the Command. As a test pilot and later Commanding Officer of the Flight Test Squadron at Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment, Bangalore, he was involved in several indigenous upgrades and development programmes including the avionics upgrades for Jaguar & MiG-27. As Director of Air Staff Requirements he played a key role in the planning and conduct of the Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft trials.

## DLSA Shopian conducts awareness program on Women's Rights



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SHOPIAN, MAY 01

District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Shopian organized an impactful awareness program today at NRLM Shopian, focusing on the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence, Property Rights, and Workplace Discrimination.

The program was conducted under the directions of Chairman DLSA Shopian Mahmood Ahmad Chowdhury and aimed to educate and empower women about their legal rights and available remedies under Indian law.

The program featured legal experts as key speakers, including Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC), Rafie Ahmad Ganie; Deputy Chief LADC, Shahnawaz Raina and Assistant LADC, Amir Ayoub.

Speakers elaborated on critical issues such as Protection of Women

from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), 2005, Legal safeguards and remedies for survivors, Property Rights of Women ensuring equal inheritance and ownership rights, Workplace Discrimination and addressing gender bias and legal recourse under labor laws.

The session included interactive discussions, case studies and a Q&A segment where participants raised concerns and sought guidance on legal procedures.

Chief LADC emphasized that awareness is the first step towards justice.

DLSA Shopian is committed to ensuring that women know their rights and can access legal aid without hesitation.

The event was conducted in collaboration with the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) Shopian, reinforcing the importance of legal literacy in women's empowerment and social justice.

## DC Poonch reviews Livelihood Generation Activities under NRLM



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, MAY 01

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today reviewed National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) activities in the district, focusing on strategies to enhance rural income through Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

The meeting included a detailed analysis of both physical and financial progress across blocks, emphasizing the formation and strengthening of SHGs, enhancing SHG-Bank linkages, promoting financial inclusion, and advancing various livelihood initiatives.

The District Nodal Officer NRLM informed that currently there are 4,568 SHGs with 33,321 active members in the district, alongside

338 Village Organizations and 29 cluster-level federations, reflecting significant community engagement.

The discussion underscored the need for a robust income generation road-map, particularly through empowering women via SHGs and micro-credit schemes.

The DC urged officials to accelerate the formation of additional SHGs to meet current financial year targets and stressed the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to diversify livelihood activities, fostering overall rural development.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, District Nodal Officer NRLM, Block Programme Managers, and other relevant officials.

## Neocofreak India Pvt Ltd Inaugurates Electric Vehicle Showroom & Workshop in Akhnoor

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
AKHNOOR, MAY 1

Neocofreak India Pvt Ltd, the exclusive Carry and Forwarding (C&F) partner for Om Balaji Automobiles (OBA) electric vehicles in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, proudly inaugurated its new state-of-the-art showroom and workshop in Akhnoor today. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the Hon'ble MLA of Akhnoor, Shri Mohan Lal Bhagat, as the chief guest.

In his address, Mohan Lal Bhagat lauded the initiative, stating, "I am delighted to inaugurate Neocofreak India Pvt Ltd's new electric vehicle showroom and workshop in Akhnoor. This initiative strongly aligns with the government's vision of a pollution-free India powered by clean and green energy. I urge



the residents of Akhnoor to take full advantage of government subsidies on electric vehicles, in addition to various other schemes and bank loan facilities that can foster self-employment in the region."

Also present at the occasion was Shri Vikas Deshwar, Managing Director of Om Balaji Automobiles, who engaged with the chief guest and attendees.

He emphasized OBA's mission to provide eco-friendly transport solutions and reiterated the company's commitment to a greener future.

The newly inaugurated facility will offer a comprehensive range of OBA electric vehicles, including both passenger and commercial (loader) models. With this launch, Neocofreak India Pvt Ltd reinforces its com-

mitment to supporting the government's push for sustainable and environment-friendly mobility.

Neocofreak India Pvt Ltd remains dedicated to advancing clean transportation through its strategic partnership with Om Balaji Automobiles, contributing to the broader goal of a sustainable and self-reliant India.

## May Day observed with reverence at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) today observed International Labour Day with solemnity and resolve at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu, reaffirming the party's unwavering commitment to the welfare of the working class.

The occasion was graced by prominent party leaders including Satish Sharma, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Science & Technology, IT, Youth Services & Sports, ARI & Trainings, Nasir Aslam Wani, Advisor to the Chief Minister; MLA Gurez Nazir Gurezi; Ajay Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary and former Minister; Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President; Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary; and others.

The programme commenced with a two-minute silence in memory of the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack and those who laid down their lives during the historic Haymarket Massacre in Chicago, a defining moment in labour history.

On the occasion, Nar Singh, President JKNC Labour Cell, presented a memorandum to the Minister and Advisor to the Chief Minister, detailing the pressing concerns of

the labour class. He highlighted the urgent need for the government to address issues such as the implementation of minimum wages, regularization of daily wagers, casual and consolidated workers, revival of loss-incurring PSUs, abolition of contract labour in the private sector, creation of employment-generating non-polluting industries, timely DPCs, pension benefits to PSU workers, enhancement of budgetary support to PSUs, and resolution of issues like CPF interest loss and industrial policy implementation.

Minister Satish Sharma, in his remarks, said, "The foremost responsibility of the Omar-led government is to safeguard the rights and respect of labourers."

The Minister informed that a committee has already been constituted to address the grievances of daily wagers and casual workers. He also announced the proposal of two new IT parks under the visionary leadership of CM Omar Abdullah would generate massive employment for local youth and also emphasized the need to strengthen the cooperative sector. He assured full support for the demands raised by the Labour Cell, stating, "We are by the people, of the people, and for the people."

Nasir Aslam Wani, while



addressing the gathering, said that May Day is not just a ritual; it is a day to honour the contribution of our labourers. Our labour force is the backbone of our economy, and it is our responsibility to ensure their dignity, rights, and welfare are safeguarded. The present NC Government under the leadership of Omar Abdullah is fully committed to the upliftment of our skilled local youth and revival of industries to generate employment.

Speaking on the recent Pahalgam terror incident, Nasir Aslam Wani condemned terrorism in the strongest terms and stated, "The National Conference stands firmly with the nation and fully supports the Centre's measures to eradicate terrorism. Our

country will no longer tolerate cross-border terrorism, and Pakistan must face the consequences of its misadventures.

Ajay Sadhotra stressed the necessity of implementing minimum wages, streamlining the provident fund system, and providing pension benefits to labourers. He called for optimal utilization of labour welfare funds for the benefit of workers and their families.

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, in his address, highlighted the party's legacy of advocating for the working class, describing labour welfare as an essential component of the "Naya Jammu and Kashmir" vision. He praised the enduring commitment of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammed

Abdullah to the upliftment of the weaker sections and acknowledged Nar Singh's dedication to the cause of the labour community. He urged the government to appoint a representative from the labour community in the Board of each Govt undertakings to ensure their issues are addressed effectively.

The Provincial President assured that NC would continue raising their concerns at the highest levels.

He reiterated that the Omar Abdullah-led government is committed to industrial revival to provide employment to skilled local youth, citing the historic glory of Kashmir's silk industry as an example of the region's potential.

The event concluded with a renewed call for solidarity and justice for the labour class, reflecting the core values and commitment of the National Conference to build a just and equitable society.

Among those who were

present included: Baldev Raj, Karan Singh, Swarn Singh, Deep Mehra, Vinod Tak, Deepinder Kour former MLC, Bushan Lal Bhat former MLC, Pardeep Bali, Ayub Malik Provincial Secretaries Jammu, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC Cell, S. Tejinder Singh Provincial President Jammu YNC, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Jugal Mahajan Treasurer, Laxmi Datta Senior leader, Raghbir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural A, Nareish Bittu Jammu Rural B, Ashok Kumar Attri Vice President Central Zone, Master Aslam Secretary Central Zone, Sahil Kerni District President Jammu Urban YNC, Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Waris Gill President Christian Cell, Ashwani Charak Block President Jammu East, S. Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Dharminder Block President Jammu North, S. Parvinder Singh Block President Gandhi Nagar, Dr. Vishal Parihar Vice President Jammu Province YNC, Majid Iqbal Naik, Jatinder Singh Lucky, S. Nirmal Singh, Som Raj Taroch, Jatinder Kumar, Jaseem Malik, Devi Dayal Jogi Block Secretary Khour, Manga Sharma, Amit Sharma and others.

## Modi Govt's decision to include Caste Data in Census ensures social justice: Kavinder



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 01

In a bold step towards strengthening the pillars of social justice and inclusive development, Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister has welcomed the decision of the Cabinet Affairs, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to include caste-based enumeration in the forthcoming Census. He said that this landmark decision reflects the BJP's unwavering commitment to uplift all sections of a society without compromising national unity.

In a press release issued here today, the BJP stalwart stated that the Congress party has historically evaded the subject of caste census despite repeated demands from various political parties. "Since independence, Congress governments have conveniently excluded caste enumeration from every Census exercise. Even in 2010, when Late Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Prime Minister, although he assured the Lok Sabha of considering the issue in Cabinet, it

was ultimately reduced to a mere survey, known as the SECC," he said.

The senior BJP leader emphasized that the Congress and its INDI Alliance partners have used the issue of caste census merely as a political tool to polarize society, lacking the will to implement it transparently. "Some states, led by opposition parties, have conducted caste surveys in an opaque and politically motivated manner, creating doubts and divisions within the society," he added.

Kavinder asserted that the inclusion of caste enumeration in the official Census will help build a robust social and economic database, enabling targeted policies for welfare and empowerment of all communities. "Just as our government provided 10% reservation for economically weaker sections without disturbing the existing system, this move too will promote harmony and equity," he said.

The former Deputy Chief Minister asserted that under the visionary leadership of PM Modi, this decision is a testament to the government's dedication to transparency, national interest, and inclusive development.

## NIT Srinagar registers Alumni Association for first time since inception

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 1

The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar has officially registered its alumni association, six decades after the institute was established. The move formalizes alumni engagement for the first time since the Institute's inception as the Regional Engineering College (REC) Srinagar in 1960.

The registration of the Alumni Association was led by Prof. M.A. Shah, Dr. H.S. Pali, Dr. Dinesh, Mr. Mohammad Rafiq, and a dedicated team of alumni including Er. Aamir Ali.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia hailed the registration of the Alumni Association and termed it as a landmark moment in the history of the Institute.

"It reflects our commitment to building lasting connections with our alumni, who are an integral part of our legacy and growth. We look forward to their continued support in driving academic excellence and innovation at the Institute," he said.

Prof. Binod Kumar said that NIT Srinagar has been making their mark across the globe. Now, with a formal structure in place, the long-cherished dream of nurturing and strengthening this bond between NIT Srinagar and alumni has become a reality.

Institute's Registrar Atikur Rahman said that registration of the Alumni Association is a significant achievement for NIT Srinagar. It will serve as a structured platform to engage with our former students and harness their

expertise and experience for the betterment of the institute, he said.

Dean Alumni & International Affairs, Prof. M.A. Shah said that mission is to communicate the Institute's goals and achievements while fostering a spirit of unity, loyalty, and shared purpose. In today's rapidly changing world, it is imperative that we prepare the younger generation to face future challenges with wisdom, vision, courage, and sound knowledge.

"This task cannot be accomplished in isolation—it is a collective responsibility that requires the commitment and support of our extended alumni family. Together, we must ensure our graduates are ready to serve humanity with honesty, integrity, and uprightness," he said.

Prof. Shah said that

Alumni can play an instrumental role by providing opportunities to students within their organizations or by leveraging their networks to create new avenues elsewhere.

"This indispensable involvement will significantly contribute to realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat. Beyond professional opportunities, alumni can make a profound impact through philanthropic contributions—whether by supporting specific initiatives or funding a broad range of academic and developmental activities," he said.

Prof. Shah said strong relationships between generations will not only enrich institutions but also foster healthier, value-based societies where elders feel respected and youth inherit the guiding principles that shape their future.

## Yudhvir Sethi holds Janata Darbar

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 01

Continuing his commitment to public outreach, Yudhvir Sethi, senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu East, held a Janata Darbar (public grievance redressal camp) at Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kacchi Chawni, Jammu.

In the camp, Raman Sharma Mandal Pardhan, Adarsh Jathia, Swati Sharma and Shiv Sharma also accompanied with the MLA Sethi.

The camp witnessed a large turnout of people from different sections of society across Jammu city who gathered to raise their grievances and seek timely redressal.

Various deputations, including individuals, met the MLA and apprised him of issues related to essential services like ration distribution, electricity,



water scarcity, road connectivity, drainage, education, pension schemes, and concerns pertaining to PHE, PDD, and revenue departments. Many also shared personal and community-specific problems needing immediate intervention.

Yudhvir Sethi gave a patient hearing to all the visitors and assured them that their concerns would be taken up with the concerned departments for swift resolution. He emphasized that public

welfare remains the core agenda of the BJP and every effort is being made to bridge the gap between the public and the administration.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi reiterated that the BJP government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is determined to provide transparent, accountable, and responsive governance. He added that such public interaction camps are essential for under-

standing ground realities and bringing governance closer to the people.

"BJP believes in 'Seva Hi Sangathan' and our focus is to serve the people at every level. We are working tirelessly to ensure that no voice goes unheard and no grievance goes unaddressed," he said.

The MLA also directed his party workers and local leaders to remain accessible to the public and assist them in resolving their issues promptly.

## Magazines play an important role in bringing awareness in society: Prof. Jain

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, said that literary Magazines have been playing an important role in bringing awareness in the society. If love, harmony, sensitivity is left in the society today, then it has been possible only through literature. Today, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain said the above expressions during the release of the January-March, 2025 issue of the quarterly wall magazine 'Sharda' published by the Department of Hindi and other Indian languages. The Vice Chancellor congratulated the creators of the works published in Sharda wall magazine and called upon other students of the university to sharpen their pens and enhance the



hidden talent within themselves. The Vice Chancellor asked to make the magazine more beautiful and increase its publicity as much as possible. On this occasion, the Head of the Department, Prof. Bharat Bhushan thanked Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain for all kinds of support.

The editor-in-chief of the magazine, Dr. Shashikant Mishra, congratulated the editors of the magazine, researchers Vaishnavi Tripathi and Vikram Singh for their tireless hard work. All the professors, researchers and students of the department were present in the program.

## Arvind slams NC-Congress for decades of neglect in Jammu Urban

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu West, Arvind Gupta today strongly criticized the successive governments headed by NC-Congress, accusing them of gross neglect and apathy towards the people of Jammu Urban in the name of development.

The MLA was speaking after conducting an extensive tour of the Gole Gujral area, where he interacted with local residents and assessed the on-ground condition of civic infrastructure. He was accompanied by XEN PWD Satwari Division Atul Gupta, XEN RDD Varinder Singh, XEN PHE Rajesh Sharma, BDO Sachin Abrol, ex-Sarpanch Prithpal Singh, and other senior officials from con-



cerned departments. During the visit, residents expressed their anguish over the pitiable state of inner lanes, poor drainage systems, water supply, and sanitation facilities, which they said have remained in neglect for over six decades.

The MLA asserted that it is shameful that for more than sixty years, the people of this area have been made

to suffer due to the hollow promises of previous governments led by the NC-Congress.

The senior BJP leader took stock of the developmental needs of the locality and assured the people that the BJP government, both at the Centre and in the Union Territory, is fully committed to the principle of equitable development. "Under the leadership of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are focused on bringing governance to the grassroots and ensuring that no region is left behind. Jammu Urban, long ignored, will now see a new era of development," he stated.

The MLA further assured the residents that all their genuine demands will be taken up on priority and necessary funds will be sanctioned to initiate developmental works at the earliest. "During my tenure, no area will be sidelined or neglected. Our mission is 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'," he added.

The visit concluded with detailed instructions given to the accompanying officials to immediately prepare reports and proposals for addressing the key issues raised by the locals.

## Karra expresses gratitude to Rahul Gandhi for his relentless efforts, courageous advocacy for Nationwide caste census

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR MAY 1, 2025

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hameed Karra on Thursday expressed heartfelt gratitude to Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for his relentless and courageous advocacy for the Nationwide caste census.

Karra chaired a meeting of Senior Party Leaders and District Presidents at Srinagar Party Office in which the following attached resolution was passed unanimously.

## International Workers' Day celebrated at Bahu Fort

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 01

International Labour Day/Workers' Day/May Day was celebrated by management committee of Rehan Basera, Boria Basti, Gorkha Nagar, Bahu Fort, Jammu. In 1886, the workers across united states organized National strike to demand 8 hours work/day. The protest in Chicago's Haymarket square turned violent resulting in deaths of several workers. To honour their sacrifice the International Socialist Conference declared First MAY as International workers Day, a day to recognize the struggles and achievements of workers worldwide.

Sh. I.D. Soni, Incharge Old Age Home, Ambphala was chief guest on this occasion, he sisted many examples regarding importance of shram I the history of International labour day/workerday/May day. Soni Sahib is always helpful to Shelter home. He has authored a very prominent book titled "How to live peaceful life".

While speaking on this occasion Shamlal Basson, Ex. Councillor said that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was a pivotal figure in shaping India's labour laws and significantly influence the development of social security schemes



for workers. He believed in securing the fair conditions of life and work for all Bombay (Mumbai) Presidency was first to pass maternity Benefit Act in India. Maternity Benefit Bill of 1928 was brought in the Bombay legislative Assembly in 1928 which was written by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, N.M. Joshi and M.K. Dixit. It was passed in 1929. According to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar mother ought to get certain amount of rest during prenatal period. Important provisions advocated by D.r Ambedkar were:- Protection of minimum wage Act, compulsory recognition of Trade Unions, paid holidays and reduced working hours, Right to strike, fair wages, social Justice, Tripartite approach, 8 hour work/day and overtime pay.

Sh. Subash Gupta retd. Judge told the gathering about the bound labour system, stavery and provisions of laws for organized and unorganized labour. Gupta ji always help inmates of Rehan Basera (Shelter home for Urban Homeless).

S.kuldeep Sudan law officer spoke on this occasion from legal points of view He assured to extend help to labourers. Kuldeep Sudan is social activist and always helpful to poors.

Dr Parveen Yog Raj, Retd CMO addressed the gathering and told about the historical facts of International workers day. Dr Parveen always speaks with facts and figure Dr. Parveen Yog Raj is very kind to the inmates of Rehan Basera.

Sh. Shubam Churango attended the func-

tion alongwith his team members. They provided refreshment to inmates of Rehan Basera. He sighted many examples for the welfare of workers.

Labourer/contractors namely Pravansh Kumar, Munish Kumar, Raju and and Roshan were also honoured on this occasion. The dignitaries were also honoured by providing photos of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Madam Veena Bakshi Manger Rehan Basera extended vote of thanks. She thanked all dignitaries on this occasion. She is very kind to inmates of Rehan Basera. Madam veena Bakshi, Shamlal Basson alongwith Sh. Om Prakash, Rita Kumari, Aditya Dutta, Rajni Devi, Veena Devi, Baldev Raj Nargotra, Bahadur Lal organized this function.

## CUJ Organizes Workshop-cum-Exhibition on Art-Integrated Pedagogy

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020's emphasis on holistic and multidisciplinary education, the Central University of Jammu recently organised a Workshop-cum-Exhibition on Art-Integrated Pedagogy. The event was conducted under the able guidance of the Head of the Department, Prof. Asit K. Mantry, who has been instrumental in promoting holistic and multidisciplinary education practices in the institution. The event aimed to explore innovative teaching methodologies that integrate art into various subjects, fostering creativity and deeper understanding among students.

Prof. J N Baliya, convener of the workshop, briefed the participants that the Workshop-cum-Exhibition on Art-Integrated Pedagogy at Central University of Jammu was a resounding success, leaving participants inspired to explore new dimensions in teaching and learning. The event not only highlighted the creative potential of students and educators but also reinforced the university's commitment to



implementing the progressive vision of NEP 2020. The workshop's featured sessions led by experts in education and the arts, and the significance of incorporating artistic elements into traditional curricula. Prof. Baliya also discussed that the event marks a significant step in the Central University of Jammu's efforts to transform education through the integration of arts, aligning with national objectives to create more engaging and effective learning experiences.

The event was also adorned by Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dr. Aman, Dr. Kiran, Dr. Ravi Vanguri, Dr. Yadram, Dr. Mohan Galgotra, Dr. Rawail, Dr. Nidhi, and other faculty members of the various departments, along with

scholars and students from various disciplines. Participants (B.A. B.Ed. 8th Semester students) engaged in hands-on activities demonstrating how art can be used as a tool to enhance learning in subjects like science, Hindi, mathematics, social studies, and English. Complementing the workshop, the exhibition showcased a variety of student-created artworks that exemplified the principles of art-integrated learning. Themes ranged from various content of the teaching learning material, reflecting the students' ability to connect academic concepts with creative expression.

The entries were evaluated by a distinguished panel of judges comprising experts from the fields of education,

fine arts, and pedagogy. The panel included Dr. Yadram, Faculty of the School of Education, Mr. Arvinder Kumar, TGT (Art Education), and Ms. Parinka Sharma, Research Scholar, CUJ. The judges assessed the projects based on relevance to the content, originality of idea, quality of presentation, and pedagogical relevance. Their insightful feedback added immense value to the learning experience of all participants. At last, awards were also presented to participants who demonstrated exceptional creativity and innovation in their projects. The winners of the art-integrated exhibition included Ketika Manhas (1st Prize), Ayush Anand (2nd Prize), and Jyoti Singh Jatt & Tejaswini Sinha (3rd Prize). There were also group activities for which the winners were Ashwini Kumar, Saurabh Saket, Nisha Kumari, and Ayush Anand (Winners), and Mili Rani, Kumar Sourav, Saurabh Diwakar, and Sakshi Devi (Runners-up).

With such initiatives, CU Jammu continues to pave the way for holistic and experiential education in India.

## Central University of Jammu Students selected for prestigious Summer Research Fellowship 2025

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Under the esteemed guidance and visionary leadership of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, two students of M.Sc. Biotechnology program Mr. Nikunj and Mr. Pranjal, at the Centre for Molecular Biology, Central University of Jammu, have been selected for the prestigious Summer Research Fellowship 2025, jointly offered by the Indian Academy of Sciences (IASC), Indian National Science Academies (INSA), and the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) (IASC-INSA-NASI). The summer research fellowship offered by IASC-INSA-NASI is very competitive and allows selected candidates to



carry out research training in the institute and universities of national repute during the summer. The duration of the fellowship is eight weeks, with financial support of Rs.12,500/- per month towards boarding, lodging, and local transport expenses. The candidates were selected from the nationwide pool of applicants based on project proposal and endorsement. The faculty members

of the Centre and Director, Dr. Narendra K Bairwa, nurture and mentor the students for the best of the opportunities available to them and support them in their aspirations and career growth. Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, congratulated the students and faculty members of CMB for their achievement and encouraged them to continue the good work.

## LSAC honours Rohit Bains with Lagan Kala Samman

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Lagan Society for Art and Culture (Regd.) honoured renowned choreographer and actor Rohit Bains with the prestigious Lagan Kala Samman on the eve of International Dance Day for his exceptional contributions to the field of folk dances and culture.

The felicitation ceremony was organized by the Lagan Society for Art and Culture (LSAC), J&K, at a special event that brought together leading figures in the cultural and artistic community.

The event was graced by Adv. Sandeep Gupta (Patron LSAC), who served as the Chief Guest.

In his address, Adv. Sandeep Gupta expressed his pride and admiration for Rohit Bains noting the importance of honoring such a towering personality in the region's cultural landscape. He also emphasized his hope that Bains will continue to make remarkable contributions to Dogri Art in the future.

The felicitation pro-



gram began with a paper reading on the life, works and achievements of Rohit Bains presented by Rajesh Kumar Verma (President, LSAC). He applauded his invaluable work in Dogri folk dances and Theatre and highlighted his prolific career.

He is a celebrated choreographer and actor known for his significant contributions to Dogri Folk dances and has dedicated his life and career to promoting the cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

Rohit Bains was honoured with a Dogra Pagri, a citation, a souvenir and a shawl, as a mark of respect for his dedication to preserving and promoting the region's cultural heritage.

In his acceptance speech, Bains, expressed his gratitude to the Lagan Society for honoring his contributions. He congratulated the team for their efforts in celebrating the art and artists of Dogri culture and thanked them for recognizing his work.

Others who were present at the ceremony included Adv. Sandeep Gupta (Patron, LSAC), Sonia Dogra (Treasurer, LSAC), Shubham Manmar (IT Incharge, LSAC), Rohit Bains (Joint Secretary, LSAC), Akram Khan (Sr. Theatre Director), Dr. Abhishek Bharti (Renowned Theatre Director), Aditya Bharti, Rakesh Dogra. At the end, the President, LSAC, presented a vote of thanks.

## Caste Census by the Modi govt to end decades of injustice with OBCs, others communities: Sunil Prajapati

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, OIST MAY 2025.

Accusing the Congress of ignoring the recommendations of multiple Commissions for the welfare of the OBC community during the previous Congress governments, Sunil Prajapati, said that the Congress governments opposed caste census since Independence. Congress severely harmed the interests of OBCs and other communities. This caste Census will go a long way in ending the injustice done with the needy population of these communities.

This was stated by Sunil Prajapati, President, OBC Morcha, J&K BJP, while addressing a Press Conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Suresh Salgotra, Vice President, OBC Morcha, Anil Balgotra, Secretary, OBC Morcha and Ashok Salgotra, District President OBC Morcha Jammu were also present in the press

conference. Sunil Prajapati, while addressing the media persons, accused the Congress governments of opposing caste census for decades. He said that the Caste was not included in all the census operations conducted since independence.

In 2010, then Prime Minister Late Dr Manmohan Singh ji had assured the Lok Sabha that the matter of caste census would be considered in the Cabinet. A Group of Ministers was formed to consider this subject. Most of the political parties had recommended caste census. Despite this, the Congress government decided to conduct only a survey instead of a caste census, which was known as SECC.

Sunil Prajapati rued that Congress and its INDI alliance partners have used Caste Census only as a political tool to misguide the Indian population.

Some states have conducted surveys to enumer-

ate castes. Some states have done this well, while some others have conducted such surveys purely from a political angle in a non-transparent way, which have created doubts in society.

Sunil Prajapati also stated that OBCs of Jammu Kashmir were even not granted the reservation under OBC category and provided mere 2% reservation under Social Caste (OSC) Category, while 20% OBC reservation quota was inadvertently provided to the people of certain specific unconstitutional categories under National Conference rule.

Considering all these facts, and to ensure that our social fabric is not disturbed by politics, caste enumeration should be transparently included in the Census instead of surveys. This will strengthen the social and economic structure of our society while the nation continues to progress.

## IGNOU induction programme held for MA Psychology learners at University of Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Induction programme for freshly enrolled learners of MA (Psychology) programme was organized at the Programme Study Centre of IGNOU 12105P, Department of Psychology, University of Jammu today in face to face mode which saw the participation of around sixty learners. One hundred and Twenty learners of MA (Psychology) programme are associated with this Centre for the recently concluded January 2025 admission session for support services. It is pertinent to mention here that this is the only Learner Support Centre in Jammu region for PG Programme in Psychology. Dr. Sarita Sood, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Jammu, who is also the Programme Incharge of the Centre, was present on the occasion. Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, Regional Centre Jammu and Assistant Regional Directors, Dr. Asha Upadhyay and Dr. Zeba were the



resources from Regional Centre Jammu.

Dr. Sandeep Gupta briefed the learners about various academic activities to be carried out during the entire course of this two-year Master Degree programme. Several queries and issues of learners were discussed and resolved in an interactive session with the Programme Incharge and the resource persons. The learners were in high spirits and expressed satisfaction for having participated in the Induction meeting which is the founding block of the learner support services.

On the sidelines of the Induction Programme, Regional Director Dr. Sandeep Gupta made two important announcements pertaining to the forthcoming June 2025

Term End Examinations for dissemination among the learners of the region. First is that the University has extended the last date for submission of assignments, Field Works, Project Reports, Practical Files, Internship Reports for June 2025 Term End Examination till May 31, 2025. Second is that the online portal for submission of examination forms with Late Fee of Rs.1100/- will be closed down on May 4, 2025 and the University has notified that there will be no further extension in the last date by any means. The Regional Director informed that this time around there would be no option to submit the examination forms in offline mode at the Regional Centre since the University has shifted its operations to SAMARTH.

## Girl Cadets visit, Nagrota Military Station as part of NCC Annual Training Camp



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
NAGROTA: 01 MAY 2025

As part of the Annual Training Camp (ATC) being conducted from 17 to 26 April 2025, 150 girl cadets from the 1 J&K NCC Girls Battalion, Srinagar visited the Army Aviation Squadron at Nagrota on 24th April. The visit aimed to inspire and empower the young cadets by providing first-hand exposure to the operational capabilities and life in Army Aviation. During the visit, the cadets witnessed an impressive helicopter demonstration and interacted with Army pilots and technical staff, who shared their experiences

and insights into aviation operations, teamwork, and the critical role of Army Aviation in national defence. The event played a significant role in motivating these young girls to pursue careers in the Armed Forces and other national services. It also reinforced values of discipline, leadership, and national integration cornerstones of the NCC's mission. The visit left a lasting impression on the cadets, igniting their spirit of adventure and dedication to the nation. Such initiatives continue to serve as vital platforms in shaping the future of India's youth into responsible citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

## Bharat Tibet Sahyog Manch will celebrate its 26th foundation day from May 3rd to 9th throughout JKUT

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 1

A meeting of BTSM was held under the leadership of State President Dr. Vivek Sharma, where he announced plans to celebrate the 26th foundation

day with great enthusiasm and fervour. He mentioned that, as decided by the national team of BTSM, the main foundation day celebration will take place on May 5th, with events happening across the country. To accommodate more

activities, the celebrations will run from May 3rd to May 9th.

During this week, all BTSM units—including the Main Unit, Women's Wing, Youth Wing, and Intellectual Cell—will organise various programs. The aim is

to spread our mission and ideas to as many people as possible.

Further, he said that a day will surely come when Tibet and Kailash Mansarovar will be liberated by the efforts of the Bharat Tibet Sahyog Manch, as well as

India will be secured from a security point of view.

Pertinently, the platform is working very well all over the country under the guidance of Hon'ble Indresh Kumar ji, Senior RSS Parachar and Margdarshak of BTSM.



### DIRECTORATE OF FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES, J&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR.


Tel- 0191-2457821, 2453013

E-mail: info.fesjk@jk.gov.in

#### Advisory on Fire Prevention during Summer season, heatwave and rising temperatures.

In view the increasing temperatures and heat wave in the UT especially Jammu province the following advisory (Do's and Don'ts), are issued in the public interest for preventive measures to be taken from Fire Safety point of view to minimize the losses due to fires:-

- Remove flammable materials such as piles of dust, leaves, sticks and cardboard from your living area they may ignite under strong direct sunlight.
- Keep your cables tidy and do not overload sockets; Give the electric panels/ gadgets rest and cooling breaks after intervals.
- Trip off the electricity of the houses when out of the premises.
- Avoid placing electric cables under furniture, carpets etc. and near plastic sheets or flammable objects.
- Store matches and lighters out of children's sight and reach to avoid any mischief by children.
- Avoid cooking during peak hours. Open doors and windows to ventilate cooking area adequately.
- Douse the cigarette butts with water and place them in a fire-proof container to safely dispose of after you're sure they've gone out. Don't toss them on the ground.
- Extinguish fire pits and campfires when done
- Pay attention to local ordinances for trash burning.
- Use caution when using flammable liquids.
- Don't throw lit cigarettes carelessly out of your moving car.
- Don't leave the trash/stubble in burning condition. Farmers shall avoid burning of trash/stubble. In case of urgency it shall be completely burnt in their presence and ensure that there is no chance of its re-ignition of fire.

  
Accounts Officer, 28/04  
For Director,  
Fire & Emergency Services, J&K,  
Jammu.

DIP/J-779/25

Date: 1-5-25

NO: DF&ES/FR/2024/CC-136278

Dated:- 28.04.2025.

## Indian Army organizes Screening of Documentary of 1947 War at Gando Doda

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA: 01 MAY 2025

In a stirring initiative to foster a deeper sense of patriotism, pride and connection with the nation, Indian Army organised a special screening of a documentary on the 1947 Indo-Pak war at Mother Dream Valley School, Gando on 30 Apr 2025. The event was aimed at highlighting the unmatched bravery and selfless sacrifices of the Indian Armed Forces while also motivating the youth of the region to consider a noble and dignified career in the Indian Army. The documentary brought to life the historic battles fought during the 1947 war particularly in the Jammu and Kashmir region. It paid homage to the courage of soldiers who laid down their lives defend-



ing the sovereignty of the nation. The representative of Indian Army highlighted the significance of remembering the sacrifices of our soldiers and learning from the past. This initiative is not just about showing history, it is about connecting our youth to the spirit of the nation and inspiring them to contribute to its security and progress. The event also included an interactive session where Officers and Jawans shared personal stories of military life, the values of discipline and

service, and the diverse opportunities available in the Indian Army. The enthusiastic participation of school children reflected a growing sense of national pride and a keen interest in serving the country. This screening is part of the Indian Army's ongoing outreach efforts under Operation Sadbhavana to strengthen the bond with the local population, promote awareness about the Armed Forces, and encourage unity and integration in remote and border regions. The event

concluded with a standing ovation for the heroes of 1947, a rendition of the national anthem, and the distribution of motivational pamphlets on how to join Indian Army. Such initiatives reaffirm the Indian Army's commitment not only to national security but also to nation-building by nurturing a strong and patriotic youth. Such an event also reinforces the commitment of Indian Army to stand with the youths. A total of 82 youths attended the same.

## Jasrota pays tribute to Martyred Army Jawan Sepoy Harish Singh

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, MAY 1

MLA Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrota today paid rich tributes to Sepoy Harish Singh of 18 Dogra Rifles, who lost his life in an avalanche in Ladakh's Kargil sector. The brave soldier was cremated with full military honors in his native village, Jandore, in Kathua. The MLA expressed solidarity with the bereaved family and conveyed his deepest condolences. He prayed for the peace of the departed soul and said that the nation will always be indebted to Sepoy Harish Singh for his supreme sacrifice. Rajiv Jasrota emphasized that Sepoy Harish Singh's sacrifice will never be forgotten, and his bravery will continue to inspire future generations. The nation stands united in grief and pays homage to the brave soldier who laid down his life in the line of duty. The MLA assured the family of the martyr that they will always have the support of the government and the people of Kathua. He prayed for the strength and courage of the bereaved family to cope with the loss of their loved one.



Jasrota said that nation salutes Sepoy Harish Singh for his bravery and sacrifice. His legacy will live on, and his memory will continue to inspire the nation. The people of Kathua and the government stand united in paying tribute to this brave soldier. The supreme sacrifice of Sepoy Harish Singh will undoubtedly inspire and motivate the youth in the area to serve the nation. His bravery and dedication to the country will set an example for young people to follow, encouraging them to remain ready to serve the nation and honor Mother India. Sepoy Harish Singh's sacrifice will instill a sense of patriotism in the youth, motivating them to contribute to the nation's growth and security. His bravery and selflessness will serve as a role model for young people, inspir-

ing them to emulate his values and ideals, added Jaasrota. Jasrota observed that youth will be encouraged to consider serving the nation in various capacities, including the armed forces, to protect the country's sovereignty and integrity. Sepoy Harish Singh's sacrifice will continue to inspire future generations to serve the nation with dedication and bravery. He will be remembered as a symbol of courage and patriotism, motivating others to follow in his footsteps. Sepoy Harish Singh's sacrifice will have a lasting impact on the youth, inspiring them to serve the nation and honor Mother India. His legacy will continue to motivate young people to contribute to the country's growth and security, said Jasrota.

## Engineer Stores Depot, Kankinara Achieves ISO 9001:2015 Certification

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 1

The Engineer Stores Depot (ESD) at Kankinara has achieved a significant milestone by upgrading its quality management certification from ISO 9001:2000 to ISO 9001:2015. The latest certification, issued by the Indian Register Quality Systems, is a testament to ESD's commitment to excellence in the procurement, provisioning, and warehousing of engineer-specific stores such as spares for earthmoving equipment, bridging systems, and other field engineering requirements.

As a crucial logistics node, ESD Kankinara plays a pivotal role in supporting field units and formations, Field Workshops, and Army Base Workshops. The depot ensures a seamless supply chain for mission-critical stores, which demands efficient warehousing and robust quality assurance processes. The ISO 9001:2015 certification affirms that the depot adheres to globally recognized standards in quality management systems.

This certification assures that ESD Kankinara has effectively embraced and implemented key principles such as strong leadership, active engagement of personnel, a systematic process-based approach, and a culture of continuous improvement. It also reflects the depot's adherence to evidence-based decision making and relationship management, while aligning its operations with other international standards.

Additional benefits resulting from this certification include enhanced decision-making capabilities, improved risk management thinking, better warehousing operations, and a more efficient internal distribution system. These improvements directly contribute to the satisfaction of end-user units and bring ESD operations on par with contemporary industry benchmarks.

By upgrading to ISO 9001:2015, the Engineer Stores Depot, Kankinara reinforces its role as a reliable and forward-looking logistics support entity within the defence supply chain, committed to delivering quality and operational excellence in every facet of its functioning.

## AIBCU celebrates Birthday of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 1

In continuation of the celebration of Birth day of Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar, AIBCU organized a function by local Team of panchyat Saed Ghar headed by C.L Gandhi BDO rtd and President of Bishnah to celebrate Birthday of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar in Community Hall at Village Chack Bhagwana in which a large number of locals participated besides UT leadership of AIBCU also joined the program.

On this occasion, Babu Rampaul former Minister and Veteran Senior Leader of ruling J&K National Conference (JKNC) Party was the Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Babu Rampaul paid his rich tributes to the father of Indian Constitution whose Birthday is not only celebrated in India but throughout the world. His whole life was full of struggles and sacrifices. He resigned from Union Govt as Law Minister when he found that the Govt of that time was not implementing the Constitution in its letters and spirits. His contribution to empower women population which forms 50% of India's population, will be remembered for ever. Besides he provided some rights to those depressed and oppressed sections of India, Babu Rampaul added.

Referring to the role of the ruling National Conference that how Sher-e-Kashmir Jb Shiekh Mohd Abdulah implemented, the land reforms Act i.e. "Land to Tiller" in the light of Indian Constitution framed by Baba Sahib. Such revolutionary reforms have not



been implemented by any political party of India so far, Rampaul said.

He assured that the present Govt headed by Jb Omar Abdullah is responding to the demands of other speakers about implementation of Mandal Commission, reservation in promotion the Govt jobs. In this regard a high level Cabinet Sub Committee has been constituted to look into this issue.

State Vice President Ashiq Hussain Hajam termed the Indian Constitution as most wonderful and best Constitution in the world which is based on equality, fraternity and Justice.

Advocate Rajinder Kumar appreciated the steps taken by Omar Govt in which cabinet ministers were deputed to Himachal Pradesh, Uttra Khand, Chandigarh punjab and UP state to maintain harmony in the country in view of the Pahalgam massacre.

All the speakers appealed the public to keep public harmony.

State Chairman also threw light on Amedkar's life and appealed the Audience to remain united to save the Constitution which is so pious book for

all. He thanked the Chief Guest for Showing his keen interest about our problems. M R Bangotra Chief Advisor share his experience when he used to see Shiekh Sahib in special Jail In Canal Road in the Company of Babu Milkhi Ram Advocate, Sardar Bachan Singh Panchhi, Balraj Puri renowned Journalist Ved Bhasin Editor -in- Chief Kashmir Times GM Baderwahi, Mast Faridi, Moulana Atta Ullah Sohrawardi and others who were men of words and highly Standard. Mr Bangotra also said, " we are here due to Ambedkar Sacrifice.

Prof Kali Dass drew whole picture in length about Mandal Commission and reservation in promotion and some particular problems of SCs STsand OBCs. All the speakers lambasted over the report submitted by the dedicated backward classes commission termed the report as fraudulent.

In the welcome address, Mr C L Gandhi BDO rtd welcomed the Chief Guest and highlighted some local and others problems.

Others who spoke at the occasion were Thoru Ram Mandi, Banarsi Lal and Gulshan Verma organisor.

## Grand Techne Competition 2025 concludes at Govt. Polytechnic Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 1

The prestigious Grand Techne Competition (GTC) 2025 concluded successfully today at Government Polytechnic College Jammu, drawing enthusiastic participation from around 200 diploma engineering students across various disciplines. The event, organized in collaboration with Baba Farid Group of Institutions, Bathinda – a leading institution committed to promoting technical innovation – provided a dynamic platform for students to showcase their practical skills and creativity.

The competition was inaugurated by Er. Talat Mahmood, Principal of Govt. Boys Polytechnic College Jammu, who emphasized the importance of technical exposure and hands-on learning for the holistic development of future engineers. Throughout the day, students actively engaged in a diverse range of events including AutoCAD designing, dismantling and assembly of I.C. engines, circuit designing, and a high-energy hackathon. Additionally, a workshop on robotics was



conducted, offering participants an interactive learning experience focused on real-world applications of automation and design.

The entire event was efficiently coordinated by Amandeep Singh (Dean, BFGI), Gaurav Kumar (Deputy Dean, BFGI), Atul Sudan, Rumit Gupta, and Mayank, whose collective efforts ensured the smooth execution of the program.

The prize distribution ceremony for winners of all four events, along with meritorious students from

all branches, will be held on Friday. The occasion will also feature a special motivational and technical session by Dr. M.P. Poonia, Campus Director of Baba Farid Group of Institutions and former Vice Chairman of AICTE. Dr. Poonia will address the students on the topic "Youth Empowerment Through Affordable, Quality Education and Employment", aiming to enlighten and inspire the next generation of technocrats.

## Congress condemns Pakistan for unprovoked firing, asks people to remain alert

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SUNDERBANI, MAY 1

JKPCC has strongly condemned the Pakistan for unprovoked firing in several border areas including in Sunderbani Nowshera sectors and asked people to remain alert.

Interacting with people in border areas of Sunderbani - Nowshera, JKPCC Chief Spokesperson & Ex-MLC Mr Ravinder Sharma said that Pakistan is out do mischief and misadventures, so cau-

tioned people to remain alert in entire border belt.

He asked party cadres and public spirited persons in the society to remain in touch with the local administration for all sorts of cooperation to the administration and the army & security forces to defeat Pakistan's nefarious designs. He asked all people to rise above all shades & considerations to give terrorism and Pakistan a united and befitting response, and extend full cooperation to the administration & our forces

to deal with any situation.

He blamed Pakistan of resorting to unprovoked firing in several areas along LOC including Nowshera and Sunderbani creating sense of insecurity amongst border residents and to prevent the farmers from carrying out harvesting of crops at Peak season. Our brave forces and border residents are ready for any kind of Pakistani mischief and misadventure, for which Pakistan will have to face serious consequences, he added.

## JKPCC lauds Rahul Gandhi for forcing Central govt to conduct caste census

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 1

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee has hailed the congress leadership especially Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Shri Rahul Gandhi for the success of the struggle and consistent stand on the issue of caste census on the country as a result of which the BJP Govt. has to accept the congress demand and announced caste census in the country.

In a joint statement JKPCC leaders congratulated party high command Shri Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Shri Rahul Gandhi for the acceptance of congress demand for caste census in the country by the BJP Govt. They said that this demand of caste census was first made by Congress Party and forcefully pursued by the party leader Shri Rahul Gandhi on all platforms and all occasions in the past few years forcing the Modi Govt to finally announced the caste census yesterday.

The congress president Shri Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition Shri Rahul Gandhi raised this issue time and again in both houses of Parliament along with other opposition parties I INDIA Block, besides on all public platforms making it a strong campaign in the country.

Congress President Shri Mallikarjun Kharge wrote a letter to Prime Minister on behalf of Party in this regard besides the congress party's Election Manifesto had declared that it will ensure caste census in the country by applying all sorts of pressures in a democratic manner. Congress has declared "JITNI JIS KI AVADI UTNI US KI HISEDARI". They said that it is the out come of consistent struggle of congress party especially our leader Shri Rahul Gandhi that the demand for holding caste census was accepted by the Centre Govt. They said that they thanked Congress leadership Shri Rahul Gandhi for the continuation of this struggle in the country. They said that if the exercise is completed within a time frame, it will lead to transformation and justice to all in the time to come.

The signatories to the statement include President JKPCC Shri Tariq Hameed Karra, Working Presidents Shri Tara Chand ( former Dy. C.M.), Shri Raman Bhalla, Former M.P. Ch. Lal Singh, Thakur Balwan Singh, Ravinder Sharma (Chief Spokesperson), Former Minister Yogesh Sawhney, Ved Mahajan (I/C HQ), Rajnish Sharma (Treasurer), Former Ministers Suman Bhagat, Dr. Manohar Lal Sharma, Yash Pal Kundal, Gurbachan kumari Rana, MLA Iftkhar Ahmed, Th. Balbir Singh, Naresh Gupta, Sheikh Haider, Kanta Bhan, T.S. Tony, Narinder Sharma, Namrata Sharma, Satish Sharma, Suresh Dogra, Zahida Khan, DCC Presidents Jammu Urban & Rural Th. Manmohan Singh & Th. Hari Singh Chib.

## GMC Srinagar bids farewell to Principal AMT College, 03 staff members

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01

Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar Wednesday organized a warm farewell ceremony to honor Principal AMT College Razia Mahmood and three distinguished staff members—Haleema Bano (Assistant Matron), Mubeena Bano (Assistant Matron), and Rasheeda Showkat (Nursing Supervisor)—as they retired from their dedicated service.

The event witnessed the presence of Principal/Dean, Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan Shah; Administrator, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak; Deputy Registrar, Prof. Dr. M Saleem Itoo; Heads of Departments, Medical Superintendent of SMHS/SSH, Deputy Medical Superintendent, Nursing and Administrative staff, as well as students.



Principal GMC commended the retirees for their commitment and decades of service, stating,

“Today we bid farewell to individuals whose unwavering dedication has significantly enriched our institution. Their tireless efforts will always be remembered with deep respect and admiration. We wish them a joyful and fulfilling retirement.”

Administrator also expressed his gratitude, highlighting the professionalism and compassion each retiree brought to their roles.

As a token of appreciation, the retirees were presented with mementos, shawls, and certificates, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the institution.

The ceremony served as a heartfelt tribute to the retirees, celebrating their years of service and the lasting impact they leave behind at GMC Srinagar.

## District-Level Awareness Workshop on RAMP (MSME) Program held at Ramban

JINNEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, MAY 01

Jammu & Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) under the aegis of the Department of Industries & Commerce J&K and in collaboration with the Small Scale Industries Development Corporation Limited (SICOP) on Thursday organized a District-Level Awareness Workshop on the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) initiative here at the Conference Hall, Ramban.

The event was held under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary.

Chief Planning Officer Dr. Shakeeb Ahmed Rather presided over the event, and the program was coordinated by General Manager DIC Ravinder Anand. Consultants



Narinder Abrol and Shabir Ahmed from TPO Office Jammu were the resource persons.

Speaking on the occasion, the CPO encouraged the participants, especially the trainees from Polytechnic and ITI to actively engage with the opportunities presented under the RAMP initiative. He emphasized that the event served as a vital platform to inform and involve local MSME stakeholders, pro-

mote new registrations, and enhance awareness about various government-supported MSME reforms and schemes.

Participants were briefed by resource persons on the range of support offered under RAMP, including financial assistance, digital enablement, market linkages, and capacity-building measures to strengthen MSMEs in the district.

## Road Safety Committee meeting held at Kupwara

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, MAY 01

In order to review the implementation of road safety measures and traffic regulation in the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today chaired the meeting of District Road Safety Committee (DRSC), here.

Addressing the meeting, DC stressed that road safety is a major issue concerning the safety of lives of the people. She urged all the stakeholders to cooperate in making the roads safer by following traffic rules and regulations religiously.

She emphasized the officers to intensify the enforcement of traffic regulations on the ground and tighten the noose on offenders to avert the possibility of road accidents in the district which result in losing precious lives.

The SE R&B and BEACON were directed to ensure pothole free roads by repairing and macadamizing all major roads of the district to ensure smooth movement of traffic and the people. They were also directed to ensure curve improvement on major roads of the district especially hilly roads to remove the black spots which are prone to accidents.

The meeting was attended by SE R&B Kupwara, CMO, CEO, ARTO, Executive Engineers, besides, officers from Police, Traffic, and other concerned officers were also present during the meeting.

## Drug Free J&K initiative

## Distt admin Srinagar hosts Comprehensive Drug De-Addiction awareness programmes in various Panchayats

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 01

To sensitize communities about the dangers of drug addiction and highlight Government schemes and benefits available to those affected, District Administration Srinagar hosted a comprehensive drug de-addiction awareness program across all Panchayats in Srinagar Block of the District, targeting the local population.

The series of awareness programmes were held on the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat under ongoing Drug Free Jammu and Kashmir initiative.

The programmes saw



active participation from multiple departments, including Health, Police, Education, Social Welfare, Excise and Rural Development Department.

Experts from these departments delivered informative sessions, shedding light on the issues surrounding drug addiction and the support systems in place to help

individuals and families.

The Education Department played a crucial role in the program, raising awareness among students about the risks and consequences of drug addiction. Additionally, counseling sessions were conducted to support students and provide guidance on overcoming addiction.

During the programmes, awareness sessions on the risks and consequences of drug addiction were held and information regarding Government schemes and benefits for those struggling with addiction were highlighted in detail.

Additionally, Interactive Q&A sessions with experts from participating departments and special focus on student awareness and counseling through the Education Department also were part of the awareness programmes.

These awareness programmes underscored the commitment of local authorities to address the critical issue of drug addiction and promote community well-being. By engaging with the public and providing valuable information, the programmes also aimed to empower individuals and families to make informed decisions and seek support when needed.

## Red Cross Day preparations reviewed at Doda

JINNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 01

A preparatory meeting for the upcoming World Red Cross Day celebrations scheduled on May 8, 2025, was held here in the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex today. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, who is also the President of the District Red Cross Society (DRCS). The meeting aimed to finalize the arrangements for the observance of Red Cross Day and to ensure coordinated efforts among different departments for the smooth conduct of the event.

Key agendas discussed included the organization of blood donation and medical camps in coordination with the

Health Department. It was informed that blood donors will be from security and paramilitary forces.

Activities like symposiums, painting competitions, rallies, and cultural programs involving students and volunteers were also planned in collaboration with the education and youth departments. The Red Cross Day-2025 theme, “On the Side of Humanity,” was emphasized for awareness among participants.

Logistical arrangements such as tents, chairs, PA systems, banners, and refreshments were delegated to respective departments. It was decided that Red Cross funds would be utilized to cover the cost of refreshments and materials such as certificates

and stationery, following proper verification and submission of certified bills. Certificates would be awarded to students excelling in various competitions,

The Deputy Commissioner urged all departments to work in coordination for the successful conduct of Red Cross Day, emphasizing its importance in public welfare. He also directed the concerned officers to initiate awareness and painting competitions in all government schools well before the event. In addition, the distribution of sports kits to the youth of sensitive areas was approved to encourage sports participation and discourage drug abuse. The rally route for the celebration was also finalized during the meeting.

## Sakeena inaugurates Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Memorial SDH building at D.H. Pora, NTPHC at Ahmadabad Kulgam



JINNEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, MAY 01

In a boost to rural healthcare infrastructure, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today inaugurated the Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Memorial Sub-District Hospital (SDH) building at D.H. Pora and the newly constructed New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) building at Ahmadabad Kulgam.

Fulfilling a long pending demand of the local population, these health-

care facilities are poised to enhance the medical care services in this rural belt of the district.

The Sub-District Hospital, a project of Rs 11 crore, has been constructed by the Police Housing Corporation and is expected to cater to a large population, thereby improving access to quality healthcare.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, Sakeena reaffirmed the government's commitment towards strengthening the rural healthcare facilities. She underscored the importance of such proj-



ects in ensuring equitable health services for all.

She stated that the Omar Abdullah led government remains dedicated to public welfare and numerous initiatives have been undertaken in recent months to uplift the lives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. She also instructed the authorities to accommodate 30 bed Ayush facility in the hospital.

Locals expressed their appreciation for the government's proactive steps in addressing crucial healthcare needs of the area.

Later in the day, the Minister visited the Martyr Sabzar Ahmad Shah Memorial Girls High School at Ahmadabad, Kulgam.

Interacting with students and staff on the occasion, Sakeena highlighted the government's focus on providing quality education in every corner of Jammu and Kashmir.

Director School Education, Kashmir Director Health, Director Coordination New GMCs, Director ICDS and other senior officers were also present on the occasion.

## Labour Day Celebrated in Jammu with ‘Run for Health and Safety of Workers’; Industrial Outreach

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 01

The Labour Department Jammu today organized a ‘Run for Health and Safety of Workers’ to mark International Labour Day (May Day). The run was flagged off at 6:00 AM by Labour Commissioner J&K, Charandeep Singh here from Shram Bhawan, Railway Road.

The run followed a designated route via War Memorial, Railway Station, opposite Ladakh House, J&K Bank Zonal Office link lane, Divisional Commissioner Office Jammu, and culminated at the Office of the Labour Commissioner J&K. The event aimed to promote awareness about the importance of health, safety, and dignity of workers across sectors.

A large number of participants, including officials of the Labour Department from Jammu District, employees of J&K Employees State Insurance Society (JKESIS), Provident Fund Organisation, labourers and individuals from various walks of life joined the run in solidarity with the labour class.

Notable officers who



participated in the event included Deputy Labour Commissioner, Jammu Veenkashi Koul; Chief Accounts Officer, JKESIS Nimisha Anand; Assistant Labour Commissioner, Central Roopali Gandotra and Assistant Labour Commissioner Rupali Jasrotia, among other functionaries and staff.

The civil administration, J&K Police, Health Department, Municipal Corporation, Security personnel, and Traffic Police extended full cooperation, ensuring the run was conducted smoothly and successfully. The Labour Commissioner expressed gratitude to all departments for their unwavering support in making the event a success.

All participants were given certificates for their enthusiastic participation. In a special gesture, several labourers were presented with Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of their invaluable contribution to nation-building.

Adding to the spirit of the event, a ‘Wall of Gratitude’ was installed at Shram Bhawan, where participants penned down messages and signed in solidarity with the labour force, reaffirming their commitment to upholding the rights and welfare of workers.

Later in the day, a programme was also held at Industrial Estates, Gangyal, where Labour Day was celebrated in the presence

of various stakeholders. The Association of Industries, Gangyal, actively participated in the event, with its President Varinder Jain and his team joining the celebrations. The focus remained on worker welfare, safety awareness, and collaborative efforts for improving industrial labour conditions. Officers of the Labour Department and representatives from industrial units engaged with workers, highlighting ongoing government schemes and initiatives for their benefit.

This meaningful initiative reinforced the message that the health, safety, and dignity of workers must remain a shared priority for all stakeholders in society.