

**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 abdominal pain
- Diarrhoea
- Persistent vomiting
- A sharp rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Bleeding from gums or nose, blood in vomit, urine or stool
- Redness on the face

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

# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## Pak violated Indian air space, used 300 to 400 drones to test defence systems at 36 locations; all attempts thwarted: Officials

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 09 (KNO)

Pakistani Army violated Indian air space multiple times on the intervening night of May 7 and 8 and used around 300 to 400 drones to test air defence systems and collect intelligence, officials said on Friday.

Addressing a special joint briefing by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and security forces here, Colonel Sofiya Qureshi and Wing Commander Yomika Singh, according to the news agency said, "On the night of May 7 and 8, the Pakistani army violated Indian airspace several times



over the entire western border with the intention of targeting military infrastructure but all their attempts were thwarted." They said, "Pakistani army also fired heavy caliber weapons along the Line of Control."

"Around 300 to 400 drones were used to attempt infiltration at 36 locations. The Indian armed forces shot down many of these drones using kinetic and non-kinetic means."

**CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Pak propagating blatant lies, India's unity a challenge for it: Foreign Secretary

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 09 (KNO)

Asserting that India has responded to all the actions of Pakistan, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Friday slammed the neighbouring country for indulging in false propaganda that India attacked its own cities

**CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Under PM Modi's leadership India committed to neutralize terrorists: LG



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
URI (BARAMULLA), MAY 09 (KNO)

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership India is committed to neutralize terrorists and the message is clear that no one will be allowed to inflict injuries on

Indian citizens. LG Sinha, according to the news agency visited Uri and while interacting with soldiers stationed near the Line of Control (LoC) said, "The nation under the leadership of PM Modi has vowed to neutralize terrorists and my message is clear—if you **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Will avenge their suffering by defeating enemy: LG Sinha

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 09 (KNO)

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday visited the border villages of Lagama and Gingal in Uri and took assessment of the damage to the civilian area and residential houses caused by unprovoked shelling by Pakistan.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the local residents and directed the district administration to provide immediate relief to **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Indo-Pak Escalation: DGP Nalin Prabhat visits Kupwara

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 09 (KNO)

Amidst the intense cross-border shelling across various sectors near the Line of Control (LoC), Jammu and Kashmir Police Chief Nalin Prabhat Friday visited forward areas in Kupwara.

Director General of Police's (DGP) presence, as per the news agency on **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Illegal transfer of state land: ACB registers case against Tehsildars, others in Nagrota

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday said **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## 'Yellow-Alert': Sgr among other areas receive heavy rainfall

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 09 (KNO)

Amidst the two-day yellow alert, Jammu and Kashmir parts, especially the southern areas and Srinagar, the summer capital of the region received heavy **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Pak trying to escalate tensions, will not benefit them; they should lower their guns: CM Omar

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday accused Pakistan of attempting to escalate tensions along the border, saying it would be in their best interest to lower their guns to improve the situation.

Addressing reporters after meeting families from border districts, Omar Abdullah, as per the news agency, said Pakistan has launched drone attacks targeting civilians in Jammu city—an unprecedented move since the 1971 war.

"I don't believe Jammu has ever been targeted like this before. Credit goes to our defence forces for thwarting these attempts; not a single drone has successfully reached its target. There are reports that an ammunition depot in Anantnag was also targeted but was intercepted," he said.

Abdullah said the current situation was not of India's



making. "It was initiated after the Pahalgam attack, which resulted in innocent lives lost. We responded appropriately. However, Pakistan's ongoing efforts to escalate the situation will not yield any benefits and it will only lead to more losses for them," he asserted.

Omar called on Pakistan to de-escalate tensions instead of focusing on escalation. "The events last night clearly show that Pakistan is trying to escalate the conflict. This will only bring more losses for them. It is better for Pakistan to take measures to reduce tensions

rather than increase them," he added.

The Chief Minister also briefed on the situation in Poonch, where severe damage, casualties and injuries have been reported. He met with those injured in hospitals **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Jammu gripped by panic & chaos amid escalating tensions

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

Jammu is reeling under a wave of panic and uncertainty following recent escalations in the India-Pakistan conflict, triggered by the deadly Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, which claimed 26 lives, and subsequent cross-border hostilities.

Reports of explosions near the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri and Poonch, coupled with a Pakistani attempt to target Jammu airport on May 8-9, have plunged the region into chaos, prompting panic buying, early market closures, evacuations, and severe traffic disruptions on key roads leading to 'safer districts'.

**Panic buying and market closures**

The residents of Jammu have rushed to stock up on essentials, with reports of long queues at grocery stores, pharmacies, and fuel stations.

Social media posts on X describe a frenzied atmosphere, with ATMs running out of cash and shops struggling to keep up with demand. "Panic in #Jammu, people are rushing to stores for grocery, medicine, and essentials," a user posted on May 9.

Local authorities have urged calm, but the fear of further escalation has led to widespread hoarding. Major markets across Jammu have begun closing early as shopkeepers prioritise safety amid reports of sirens and a complete blackout enforced in Jammu and surrounding areas. **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## Overnight shelling by Pak troops causes extensive damage in Poonch, Rajouri

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

Overnight shelling by Pakistani troops along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch and Rajouri districts, as well as other parts of the bordering Jammu region has resulted in significant damage to civilian infrastructure and loss of lives. According to the news

agency, this escalation, occurring during the intervening night of May 8-9, follows a series of aggressive actions by Pakistan in response to India's 'Operation Sindoor', a targeted strike on terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) on May 7.

Reports indicate **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## CM Omar Abdullah reviews relief measures, preparedness with DCs of border districts

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Friday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the ongoing relief measures, evacuation of civilians being undertaken across border districts in the wake of recent cross-border shelling.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Min-



ister, Nasir Aslam Wani and Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma, Divisional Commissioners Kashmir and Jammu, deputy commissioners of Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Poonch, Rajouri, Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora districts, Principal GMC Jammu and other concerned. The Chief Minister spoke with **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## CM Omar Abdullah holds interaction with civil society members in Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

In the wake of the recent drone attacks in Jammu, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah held interaction with civil society members to discuss steps taken for public safety, state of preparedness and the importance of maintaining communal harmony during these critical times.

During the interaction, the Chief Minister urged the public to remain calm and vigilant, appealing to citizens not to panic and to rely solely on verified and official sources of



information. Minister Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Senior Superintendent of Police Jammu, Director Social Welfare Department Jammu,

Director Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Jammu, Regional Transport Officer Jammu, senior police officers and other concerned officers were also present during the interaction. Stressing the importance

of effective communication, he outlined a set of measures aimed at enhancing public awareness and strengthening the emergency response mechanism across the region. The Chief Minister **CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4**

## BSF foils infiltration bid, kills 7 terrorists in Samba sector

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 09 (KNO)

The Border Security Forces (BSF) on Friday said to have foiled an infiltration bid by neutralizing seven terrorists in Samba sector, who were trying to infiltrate last night with the support of Pakistani rangers.

According to the news agency, the BSF said that Pakistani Rangers were helping the terrorists to infiltrate by firing across the border from Dhandhar

post. The BSF informed that a group of terrorists was detected during the intervening night of May 09-10 by the surveillance grid in Samba sector, adding that "the alert troops foiled the infiltration attempt by neutralizing the seven terrorists."

Pertinently, the military bases in Jammu, Pathankot, and Udhampur were specifically targeted, and so were several cities in Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Punjab. But all missiles

and drones sent by Pakistan were neutralised. No loss or casualty was reported.

Pakistani troops then resumed firing at Indian posts and villages near the border and the LOC. Indian troops gave a befitting reply, destroying several Pakistani Army posts.

The civil administrations had enforced a blackout all night in cities near the border, like Jammu, Srinagar, and several places in Punjab and Rajasthan. KNO

# Operation Sindoor: How Pakistani Media is Twisting the Truth

Operation SINDOOR was launched as a response to the attack that took place in Pahalgam, on April 22, killing 26 civilians. During the press briefing on May 7, India clarified its response as focused, measured and non-escalatory. It was specifically mentioned that Pakistani military establishments had not been targeted. It was also reiterated that any attack on military targets in India will invite a suitable response.

Pakistan's mainstream media outlets have systematically twisted facts, misled their audiences, and shielded terror actors behind a façade of patriotic propaganda. What should have been a moment of international reckoning against terror has instead been manipulated into a disinformation war, where truth is the first casualty.

1. Drowning the Truth: Grossly Exaggerated Claims

Nearly every major Pakistani news channel such as Geo News, Dunya News, ARY News, and SAMAA TV have been repeating the same unverifiable, inflated claim: that the Pakistan Air Force has shot down Indian drones. For instance:

- Geo News alleges 25-29 drones were intercepted without providing visual evidence or independent verification.

- Duniya News inflated that number to 32 drones
- ARY News claimed 25 drones were shot down, and also added drama by naming Israeli-made Harop drones allegedly used by India

With no neutral tone and gross misrepresentation of facts, these are coordinated attempts to portray Pakistan as both the victim. There is no

mention that these drones were targeting terrorist launchpads, not civilian zones.

2. Civilian Casualties vs. Terror Targets: Distorting Strike Locations

Pakistani networks repeatedly emphasize "civilian casualties" without offering concrete details or differentiating between civilian zones and terror camps:

- HUM News and SAMAA TV extensively highlight emergency room visuals and civilian interviews from cities like Karachi and Lahore.

- Not a single channel admits that many of the targeted structures were identified Indian-designated terror facilities- the home to Jaish-e-Mohammed elements and Lashkar-e-Taiba remnants.

This narrative creates false equivalence between targeted anti-terror operations and indiscriminate

aggression.

3. Denial of Cross-Border Terror Links

- Dawn News outrightly denied Pakistan launching any attacks or harbored militants involved in terror strikes inside India.

- ARY News and Duniya News call Indian media reports of Pakistani activity in Jammu & Kashmir "fake news" and "propaganda".

None of these channels mention terrorists reported killed during Operation Sindoor. These deaths would validate the strike's strategic importance, yet completely censored in Pakistani coverage.

4. 'Faisal Masjid Attack' and Spread of Misinformation

While SAMAA TV clarified the viral 'Faisal Masjid drone attack' was a hoax, this also reveals another contradiction. The same channel has been warning about misinformation, are

active agents of state propaganda when it comes to denying Pakistan's role in harboring terror groups.

5. Theatrics over Karachi Port: From Strategic Targets to Sensationalism

Express News ran dramatic segments alleging Indian missile strikes on the Karachi Port, claiming Pakistan Navy installations were targeted. Yet, no verified information is provided. Instead, terms like 'shameful attack' and 'inevitable clash' are used by the DG ISPR, Pakistan.

6. International Appeals and Victim Narrative

Geo News echoes Pakistan's diplomatic offensive at the United Nations, demanding condemnation of India. Yet, does not acknowledge India's strikes followed not only the Pahalgam attack, but credible intelligence.

The Pakistani media

is focused not on truth, but on theatrics- turning verified anti-terror strikes into emotional anchors of nationalistic rage.

Instead of holding power to account, Pakistani media has functioned as an uncritical extension of the state and military apparatus. It has:

- Suppressed legitimate military outcomes of Operation Sindoor

- Masked the presence of globally sanctioned terror leaders

- Fabricated or inflated success stories to portray Pakistan as a wounded but heroic victim

- Denied any connection to the Pahalgam massacre
- And fueled regional instability by spreading half-truths and strategic lies

Truth always prevails

In stark contrast to the narratives presented by major Pakistani news outlets, which consistently

deny offensive actions and position Pakistan as a victim of unprovoked Indian aggression, factual developments from the ground reveal a different picture. On the intervening night of May 8 and 9, 2025, the Indian Army officially released a video confirming the shooting down of Pakistani drones along the Western Border, in response to multiple coordinated attacks by Pakistan Armed Forces using drones and other munitions.

The Indian Army's statement clearly outlined the following:

- Pakistan launched a barrage of drone and missile attacks across the western front

- There were numerous ceasefire violations (CFVs) along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir

- Indian forces effectively repulsed the drone

intrusions and delivered a firm response to the CFVs

This official statement from the Indian Army clearly shows that Pakistan took aggressive action by launching drone and missile attacks, which goes against what Pakistani media has been claiming that Pakistan was only defending itself. While Pakistani channels continue to deny any wrongdoing, the Indian Army's response highlights the need to protect the country's borders and challenges these false claims.

The real evidence, including military footage and official updates shows that Pakistan started the attacks, and India responded in a controlled but strong manner. This raises serious questions about the truthfulness and motives behind how Pakistani media has been presenting the situation.

## CU Jammu's MBA (TTM) Students participate in Great Indian Travel Bazaar, Jaipur

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Under the visionary leadership and patronage of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the students of the Department of Tourism and Travel Management, Central University of Jammu, participated in the Great Indian Travel Bazaar (GITB) 2025, held in Jaipur recently. Recognized as one of India's most prominent international tourism event, GITB was jointly organized by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, the Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI). The event acts as a dynamic platform connecting global buyers, tourism professionals, policymakers, and destination experts from across the world. GITB



2025 showcased innovative elements such as the MEET in INDIA Conclave, cutting-edge exhibitions, and B2B networking sessions. A major focus this year was on positioning India as a leading destination for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) tourism.

The event was graced by several distinguished dignitaries, including Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Tourism and Culture, Government of India, Ms. Diya Kumari, Deputy Chief Minister, Rajasthan, Smt. Pravatī Parida, Deputy Chief Minister, Govern-

ment of Odisha, Sh. Suman Berry, Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog, Sh. Rohan Khaunte, Minister for Tourism, Government of Goa, Sh. Suman Billa, Additional Secretary and Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Sh. Arun Srivastava, Joint Direc-

tor General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Dr. Jyotsna Suri, Past President, FICCI & CMD, the Lalit Suri Hospitality Group, and Dr. Senthil Gopinath, CEO, International Congress and Convention Association and several other global tourism business leaders. With participation from over 50 countries, GITB 2025 highlighted India's growing stature as a vibrant and globally competitive tourism destination. Key thematic sessions during the event included: Catalyzing Growth: How tourism policies are shaping MICE opportunities; unlocking India's MICE Potential: Enhancing convention infrastructure for global appeal, strategizing for Success: crafting effective policies and branding India as a MICE hub.

For the MBA (Tourism & Travel Management) students, the GITB experi-

ence proved to be a transformative journey—providing them with real-world insights, direct interaction with industry leaders, and exposure to tourism innovations and global best practices. Their participation in such a high-profile international event marks a significant step in shaping them into future-ready professionals for the fast-evolving tourism industry.

The visit was conducted under the mentorship of Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Raman, Head, Department of Tourism & Travel Management and coordinated by Dr. Mahendra Singh and Dr. Bharti Gupta. With active participation in international events like GITB, Central University of Jammu reaffirms its unwavering commitment to academic excellence, industry alignment, and experiential learning empowering the next generation of tourism leaders.

## Farooq, Omar convey condolences

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU MAY 9

National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah and Chief Minister J&K, Vice President JKNC Mr Omar Abdullah expressed grief over the passing away after prolonged illness of Abdul Hamid Rana District Secretary Poonch who was close associate of Sher-e Kashmir late Sheikh Mohd Abdullah and worked for the down-trodden people during his life and conveyed condolences to the bereaved family.

In their messages, Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mr Omar Abdullah prayed for peace to the departed soul and expressed solidarity with other members of the family.

In the condolence message, General Secretary Haji Ali Mohammed

Sagar, Dr Sheikh Mustafa Kamaal, Ajay Kumar Sadhotra Additional General Secretaries, Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu Province, Sheikh Bashir Ahmad Provincial Secretary Jammu, Ajaz Jan MLA Poonch, Ch. Javid Iqbal MLA Budhal, Ch. Liaquet Ali Central Secretary, Dr. Mumtaz Bukhari Vice President Mir Secretaries Jammu Province, Ch. Rahim Daad former MLC, Ch. Wali Daad, Shafqet Mir Secretaries Jammu Province, Ch. Naseem Liaquet Ali DDC Chairman Rajouri, Th. Yashu Vardhan Singh, Zeeshan Rana Additional Spokespersons Jammu. Bagh Hussain Rathore District President Poonch, Shafayat Ahmad Khan District President Rajouri Urban, Ashok Kumar Sharma District President Rajouri Rural, Ch. Mumtaz Bajjard.

## MLA Marh visits camps housing displaced border residents with CM Omar, Satish Sharma



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
MARH, MAY 9

MLA Marh Surinder Kumar had the privilege of accompanying Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma on a visit to camps housing displaced border residents in the Marh area which provides shelter to families displaced due to the prevailing situation along the border and Line of Control (LOC). They visited the refugee camp to assess the living conditions and needs of the displaced families and interacted with the families, listened to their concerns and assured them of

unwavering support. They reaffirmed their commitment to providing assistance and support to the affected families during this challenging time. This visit demonstrates their dedication to the welfare of those affected by the border situation and our resolve to provide them with necessary support and assistance. After visiting the camp, MLA Marh Surinder Kumar talking to media persons highlighted the assurances provided by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma. They have promised to extend all possible help and facilities to the affect-

ed families until the situation improves. The CM and Cabinet Minister assured that the government will provide all necessary assistance to the displaced families. The government's priority is to ensure the well-being of its citizens and maintain national security. We stand united with the nation and security forces in their fight against terrorism sponsored by Pakistan, upholding the country's integrity and sovereignty. We are committed to supporting our citizens during these challenging times and will work tirelessly to restore normalcy and peace in the region, said MLA.

## Sikh organizations support Govt of India for taking strong action against terrorism: Wazir

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 9

An emergency press conference was held under the Chairmanship of S. Sudershan Singh Wazir Chairman Sikh United Front J&K, while addressing the media along with other Sikh Organization he said that all sikhs located anywhere in India and Abroad stand with the Govt of India in Support of action against Terrorism. Mr. Wazir further said that Sikhs fully support the valour and determination of Indian Defense Forces and commended the action initiated on Pakistan against its Terror activities, which Pakistan has been sponsoring all along in Kashmir and other places and recent Terrorist attack in Pahalgam has now compelled us to give a befitting reply to Pakistan and its terrorist.

Mr. Wazir strongly condemn the attack on Dera Nanagali Sahib Poonch and other religious places like Masjid, Temple etc in Nowshera and other places in Punjab and has warned Pakistan that Sikhs all over the World shall not tolerate any attack on any religious places much less the Sikh-Gurdwaras and he further said that Sikhs have the history of avenging the



desecration of their religious places, therefore Pakistan is warned not to senselessly shell the civilian areas and must follow the ethics of a conflict.

Mr Wazir congratulated the Prime Minister of India Sh. Narendra Modi and the Union Government and all State Governments and also all Political parties irrespective of their ideology standing with Govt of India in this hour of reckoning. When Government of India is taking all measures required to teach a lesson to Pakistan and terrorist.

Mr. Wazir further appealed to everyone belonging to every Caste and creed and religion to remain united and maintain secular tradition of our Country and support the Government and the Armed Forces in their

efforts to save the dignity, honour and human lives of the Country.

Mr. Wazir Appealed to Government of India especially Sh. Narendra Modi Honorable Prime Minister of India to take steps towards liberating POK which is held by Pakistan illegally. He further said that the displaced person from POK and the whole Country shall the rejoice the implementation of the commitment made in the parliament through a unanimous resolution to get POK with Kashmir and India.

The other sikh organizations and leaders who participated in the condolence meeting are S. Darbinder Singh President Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Mohinder Singh Chief Organizer Bhai Kanhiya Nishkam Sewa Society and Ex member

DGPC, S. Rajinder Singh Gen Sect Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, Smt. Kuldeep Kour President Istri Akali Dal J&K, Kulwant Singh Khajuria Joint Secretary Shiromani Akali Dal J&K S. Charan Singh Bali, Convenor, Kashmir Province Shiromani Akali Dal J&K, S. Harpreet Singh Chhotu President Youth Akali Dal J&K, Dheeraj Singh, S. Surjeet Singh Kukoo, Ex-President Sikh Naujawan Sabha, S. Manmohan Singh Chairman Gurdwara Singh Sabha Gole Gujral Jammu, S. Jagmohan Singh, President Gurdwara Sec-14 Nanak Nagar Jammu, S. Surinder Singh Dutt General Secretary Gurdwara Mata Gujar Kour Trikuta Nagar Jammu, S. Kulwant Singh, S. Kultar Singh, S. Paramjeet Singh, S. Tejpal Singh, S. Charanveer Singh (Laad).

## Power Shutdown

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 9

According to the Chief Engineer, JKPTCL, in order to carry out dismantling/ de-stringing of conductor between tower location no. 22 to 26 of 132 KV Bemina-Rawalpora Transmission line and allied necessary works for increasing the ground clearance of 132 KV (D/C) Bemina-Rawalpora Transmission line between Tower Location No. 24 to 26 necessitated due to construction of flyover at Sanat Nagar Chowk Srinagar, shutdown of several 33KV Silk Factory and 33 KV Rawalpura lines shall be carried out due to which all outgoing 33 KV feeders supplying areas: Allochibagh, Rambagh, Solina, Tulsibagh, Cargo, Rawalpura, Sanat Nagar, IE Sanat Nagar, Hyderpora, Majeed Bagh shall remain affected from 05.00 AM to 09.00 AM on 13 & 14 May, 2025.

## Annual Day 2025: Rajdhani College celebrates 61 Years of Academic Excellence

**Prof. Rana Pratap Singh calls for Integration of Bodily, Machine Technology in Education**

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 9

Rajdhani College, University of Delhi, celebrated its 61st annual day in a grandiose ceremony. The college boasts more than sixty-one glorious years of teaching-learning activity. Prof. Rana Pratap Singh, the Vice Chancellor of Gautam Buddha University, Noida and a well-known scientist and research scholar on cancer studies, graced the occasion as the chief

guest. Prof. Balram Pani, the Dean of the College of Delhi University, graced the occasion as the guest of honour; Prof. Amit Kumar Singh, the Chairman of the Governing Body and Professor of the Department of Commerce, University of Delhi, presided over the occasion. Prof. Ravinder Singh, Dean of Cultural Affairs, and Prof. A.K. Singh, Joint Dean of Students' Affairs, were among other dignitaries who graced the occasion. Prof. Darshan Pandey, the principal of Rajdhani College, acted as the patron of the whole event, and Prof. S. K. Dhaka coordinated the whole event. On this occasion, the college awarded and distributed certificates amongst its outstanding and meritorious students and their extracurricular activities.



The non-teaching staff were also felicitated for their contribution to the well-being of the college. Professor Darshan Pandey, the Principal, welcomed the guests present, addressed the gathering, and presented the annual report for the year 2024-25. Prof. Pandey

acknowledged in the very outset that it was an eventful time in India's history and paid tribute to India's brave soldiers who constantly risk their lives to protect our country. Prof. Pandey acknowledged that it would not have been possible for Rajdhani College to reach its height of success without hard

work and dedication. He thanked all the stakeholders for their contributions in their respective fields. Prof. Pandey also summed up a year's academic achievements by the teaching faculty, different departments in the college, and various committees. Prof. Balaram Pani, Dean of Colleges, equally

recognised the hard work of the college stakeholders and expressed his satisfaction with the college's journey to a new height on its 61st foundation year.

Professor Rana Pratap Singh, scholarly as he is, in his insightful and thought-provoking deliberation, invited the audience to focus on the "self," and argued that this focus shall help us to understand the way every cell of our body functions. As he calls it a "technology" of our body, and he linked this technology of the body with machine technology, and stressed that we must focus on both in a rapidly developing world. He argued that these advancements in technology must be included in the syllabus for the betterment of students' future as well as for the future of

our nation. Prof. Ravinder Singh equally praised all the stakeholders for their hard work and dedication. He extended his wholehearted support to the college from the university.

Professor Amit Kumar Singh, the chairman of Rajdhani College, in his address to the students and faculty gathered, stressed the importance of hard work and dedication in achieving any form of success and congratulated the Rajdhani family for the same. As a large number of students gathered to celebrate the occasion in the college auditorium, a joint screen was installed in the staff parking area to make room for an excess number of students. The event was livestreamed on the college's YouTube channel. Several teachers were felicitated on their

completion of 25 years in the college. Students who received various scholarships on a merit basis and students who achieved success in various fields of sports, NCC, and NSS were also awarded. Certificates were provided to all the students who worked with different committees in the college tirelessly.

Prof. Dhaka, the convener of the Annual Day committee, delivered the vote of thanks by thanking all the esteemed guests present and thus formally closing the event. He acknowledged the contribution of all the members - the teaching staff, non-teaching staff, and the student volunteers. The celebration was followed by a community lunch, fostering interactions among students, faculty, and guests.

## Power Shutdown

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 09

According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCCL, in order to carry out several works, shutdown of several 33KV lines shall be carried out which will subsequently affect power supply to various areas across Kashmir.

In order to carry out Pole erection and stringing of ACSR, the shutdown of 33KV Railway/ Kund Tap line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Chowgam and Kund shall remain off while power supply to Kund, Waltengoo, Razloo, Chowgam, Lammer, Sopat and adjoining areas will be affected from 09:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 12 May, 2025.

Similarly to carry out the works of stabilization/ branch cutting and necessary maintenance of the 33 KV Watrehail line, the shutdown of 33KV Watrehail Tap line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Waterhail, Waterwani, Charangam and Filtration plant shall remain off while power supply to Waterhail, Sholipora, Lobertal, Dadina, Prisabad, Waterhail PHE Substation, Charangam, Banet Punchgound, Uttligam and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM on 11 & 13 May, 2025.

Further to carry out the erection of ST Pole and shifting of 33 KV Budgam Kremshore line permanently through UG Cable at village Razwan, the shutdown of 33KV Budgam-Kremshore line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Kremshore, Khansahib, Raithan, Brenwar shall remain off while power supply to Old Kremshore, Arigam, Nunner, Sham-sabad, Dreygam, Aram-

pora, Shinipora, Yaikha, essential, Khansahib, Raithan, Bugroo, Brenwar and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 02:00 PM on 12 May, 2025.

Also in this connection, the shutdown of 33KV Budgam Ichgamline shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Ichgam, Choom, Kanir, Hanjura shall remain off while power supply to Ichgam, Ichkoot, Choom, Bubagh, Razvain, Kanir, Hushur, Wagam, Zuhama, Hanjora, Dadaompura and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 02:00 PM on 12 May, 2025.

Likewise, the shutdown of 33KV Nowbugh Chadoora line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Chadoora, Panzan, Ranger shall remain off while power supply to Sogam, Repora, Dawlatpora, Panzan, Lalgam, Chadoora Town, Chadoora, Hospital, Wathoora, Budgam areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM on 11 May, 2025.

Also in this connection, the shutdown of 33KV Nowbugh Chararisharif line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Char-I, Char-II, Hafroo and Nagam shall remain off while power supply to Kakawring, Yousmarg, Char Town, Rakhe, ITI, Shrine, Tilsera, Alamar Colony, Town, Bandipora, Nagam, Hayatpora, Hafroo, Bizgo and Lulipora areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM on 11 May, 2025.

Moreover to carry out the installation of 33 KV isolators from GIS Tengpora, the shutdown of 33KV GIS Tengpora KP Bagh line, GIS Tengpora Exhibition Line and GIS Tengpora Narakara line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations

at KP Bagh, Jawahar Nagar, Rajbagh, Narkara and Gangbough shall remain off while power supply to KP Bagh, Jawahar Nagar, Rajbagh, Danderkha, Rajbagh, Narkara, Gangbough and adjoining areas will be affected from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM on 12 May, 2025.

However, Receiving Station Exhibition and Bata-maloo will be charged through 33 KV Silk Factory line

Additionally to facilitate branch cutting / pruning of trees lying in their close vicinity, the shutdown of 33KV Cheshmashahi Brein Nishat line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Brein, Nishat shall remain off while power supply to Dalband Tap Line, Brein, Tulip Garden, Pahloo, Taj Vivanta, BSNL X-Change, Nishat, Fore-shore, Pathan Bagh, Filtration Plant areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM on 19 May, 2025.

Also in this connection, the shutdown of 33KV GIS Theed Shalimar line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Shalimar and Harwan shall remain off while power supply to SKUAST, Telibal, Ahrbal, Deewan Colony, Chandpora areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM on 20 May, 2025.

Furthermore to carry out Branch cutting and necessary stabilization works, the shutdown of 33KV Delina Wagoora line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Sangrama, Wagoora, Kreeri, Ichloo, Kalantra shall remain off while power supply to Sangrama, Wagoora, Kreeri, Ichloo, Kalantra and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM on 13, 15, 17 and 20 May, 2025.

## Alumni Interaction held at School of Mechanical Engineering

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

The School of Mechanical Engineering (SOME) hosted an alumni interaction session with two distinguished alumni, Anketa Jandyal (2018 Batch) from Cognizant Technology Solutions and Sonal Bhatia (2018 Batch) from Jindal Stainless Steel Limited. The event was aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry by providing students with valuable insights into career paths, industry trends, and the skill sets needed to succeed in today's competitive job market. Ms. Anketa Jandyal, who is working as a Programmer Analyst at Cognizant, shared her journey from the classroom to the corporate world. She discussed the technical and soft skills essential for thriving in the IT industry, stressing the importance of continuous learning, adaptability, and effective communication. Anketa's session was a powerful reminder of how perseverance and dedication can lead to success in the fast-paced technology sector. Ms. Sonal Bhatia, an Executive in Supply Chain at



Jindal Stainless Steel Limited, also discussed her experiences in the manufacturing and logistics sector. Sonal emphasized the critical role of supply chain management in industrial operations and highlighted the importance of problem-solving, leadership, and organizational skills. Her talk resonated with students interested in pursuing careers in supply chain and operations management, providing a real-world perspective on the industry's demands. The alumni also spoke about the challenges and opportunities that exist outside of academia, offering advice on how students can prepare for the realities of the professional world. They discussed the

evolving industrial scenario, the significance of internships, and the value of networking in securing jobs. Dr. Yatheshth Anand, Head of SOME, Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq, Associate Dean, International and Alumni Affairs thanked the esteemed alumni for sharing the experiences. Prof. Yugal Khajuria, Dean International and Alumni Affairs expressed their gratitude towards the alumni for their valuable contributions. Vice Chancellor Prof. Pragati Kumar extended his best wishes to the alumni and students, emphasizing the importance of such interactions in helping students understand the industry landscape beyond their academic curriculum.

## Indian Army conducts Lecture on Various Welfare Schemes by Govt at Dharamkot, Doda



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA: 09 MAY 2025

Lecture on Various Welfare Schemes by Govt. as a part of an ongoing effort to educate the local population about various government welfare initiatives, a lecture on 'Government Welfare Schemes' is organized at Dharamkot on May 09, 2025. During the session, Mr Sandeep Singh elaborated on key government schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY), financial assistance for skill development programs for minorities. He provided in-depth insights into

these schemes, aiming to empower youth with knowledge and encourage them to pursue productive and progressive careers. The initiative was well-received by the attendees, with a total of 10 youth and locals participating. Expressing their appreciation, participants remarked that such informative sessions play a crucial role in guiding the younger generation towards making informed decisions and becoming responsible citizens. The event successfully contributed to raising awareness and fostering a sense of empowerment among the local people.

## Jammu Police arrest couple with heroin in Pounichak Area

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9:

In a significant breakthrough in its ongoing war against drug trafficking, Jammu Police arrested a couple involved in peddling narcotics in the Pounichak area and seized a substantial quantity of heroin-like substance from their possession.

Acting on specific intelligence received on May 7, 2025, officers from Police Post Pounichak,

under the jurisdiction of Police Station Domana, launched a swift operation in Gujjar Basti, Gole Gujral. The operation was conducted in the presence of a Magistrate.

During the raid, police apprehended a woman, identified as Sheema Bibi, wife of Nazir Ahmed alias Pappu, and her husband Nazir Ahmed, son of Mohd Munshi, both residents of Gujjar Basti, Gole Gujral. A personal search of Nazir Ahmed and a subsequent search

of their Kulla (hutment) led to the recovery of 17.08 grams of heroin (commonly known as Chitta).

Following the seizure, a case under FIR No. 109/2025 has been registered at Police Station Domana under relevant sections 8, 21, 22, and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. Further investigation is underway to trace the origin and network of the drug supply.

## Mula Ram, Hari Singh visit shelter camps in Mishriwala

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Senior Congress leader and former Minister Mula Ram, along with Hari Singh Chib, Vice President of the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) incharge District President Jammu Rural (JKPCC), today visited the shelter camps set-up by the district administration at Government Degree College Paloura Mishriwala, and Sahib Bandagi Ashram Misriwala. The visit was undertaken to assess the condition of residents shifted from villages Gharkal, Pargwal, and adjoining areas due to unprovoked firing from across the border by Pakistan.

During the visit, the Congress leaders interacted with the displaced residents and listened to their concerns amidst escalating tensions along the Indo-Pak border. The people highlighted the lack of basic facilities including shortage of medicines, unhygienic washrooms, and poor sanitation. They also



requested essential supplies such as milk and other necessities for small children.

Mula Ram, Hari Singh assured the people that their concerns would be taken up with the Congress High Command. They reiterated the party's deep concern for the welfare of border residents and affirmed that steps would be initiated to ensure immediate relief.

"The Congress Party is fully aware of the difficulties faced by the people living near the border

and remains committed to standing by them in these testing times," said Mula Ram. Both leaders said that "We are here on the directions of senior Congress leadership - Shri Mallikarjun Kharge ji, Shri Rahul Gandhi ji, Shri K.C. Venugopal ji, Dr. Naseer Khan ji, and Shri Karra Sahib ji - to take stock of the situation and ensure timely support for the affected people."

Hari Singh Chib emphasized unity among the people and called for unwavering support to the Indian Army. He reit-

erated that the Congress Party, under the visionary leadership of Rahul Gandhi and Party President Mallikarjun Kharge and kc venugopal ji, Dr Naseer hussain khan ji and Tariq Hameed Karra sahib remains steadfast in its commitment to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially those living in vulnerable border areas.

He assured the affected individuals that the Congress Party would advocate for immediate steps to address their pressing needs and would work to ensure that all necessary assistance is delivered without delay.

Both the senior Congress leaders also appealed to the government to urgently address the problems being faced by the affected people, so that they can receive timely relief during this difficult period.

Among others present during the visit were Parshotam Singh, Balwan Singh, Surinder Singh, Bittu Rampal, Amit Verma, Tarun Vaid, Kaka Ram, Varinder Mehta, and Sagar Choudhary.

## ADM Reasi bans transportation of bovine animals

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, MAY 9

Additional District Magistrate Reasi, in exercise of powers vested under section 163 Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, has prohibited the transportation of bovine animals without seeking permission from the District Magistrate within the jurisdiction of District Reasi.

The order shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force for a period of two months. However, it shall not apply in case of transportation of bovine animals by the Government departments for departmental purposes.

Any violation of this order shall invite punitive action under section 223 of Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

## Pak violated Indian...

The possible purpose of such large-scale aerial intrusions was to test air defence systems and collect intelligence. Forensic investigation of the wreckage of the drones is being done," they said, adding, "Initial reports suggest that Pakistan used Turkish Asisguard Songar drones."

Colonel Qureshi and Wing Commander Singh, as per KNO, said, "Pakistan's irresponsible behaviour came to the fore again. Not only did they launch drones to intrude into Indian airspace, but also failed to close their domestic airspace, effectively using civilian airlines as shields."

"The Indian Air Force (IAF) demonstrated strategic restraint, ensuring no civilian flight is hit that could endanger civilian lives. India, in contrast to Pakistan, immediately closed its airspace for civilian flights," they added.

"Military installations, including the Bathinda Military Station, were among the intended targets, but quick action by Indian armed forces foiled the attempt. Reports also confirmed that Pakistan employed heavy artillery fire in the Kupwara and Tangdhar sectors of Jammu and Kashmir, violating ceasefire norms yet again," they said. KNO

## Pak propagating...

and religious places.

Addressing a special joint briefing here, Misri, according to the news agency, said, "Pakistan is propagating blatant lies. Their claim that the Indian attacked its own cities is nothing short of a deranged fantasy. This is a country (Pakistan) well-versed in such acts, and they now imagine others would stoop to the same level. Let me state for the record – it was Pakistan that attacked cities in Punjab, it was their drones that violated our airspace, and it was their artillery that killed our civilians."

Misri slammed Pakistan for blatantly denying these attacks, saying, "Telling blatant lies are yet another example of their duplicity and new depths they are planting in their campaign for disinformation."

"What I wish to underline is the brazenness of Pakistan's denial. Their government claims they did not target religious places. However, the facts on the ground are unambiguous. They attacked Gurdwara and Church in Poonch. Two students were killed in the artillery attack," he said, adding, "The disinformation that is coming from Pakistan that India targeted the Nankana Sahib Gurdwara through drone attack, this is a blatant lie, as we saw in the Pahalgam attack, Pakistan is trying desperately to give a communal hue to the situation with an intention to create discord...India's steadfast unity in itself is a challenge to Pakistan."

Misri said, "Over the past 24 hours Pakistan made desperate attempts to target civilian areas, including religious sites and densely populated cities in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir but all their nefarious designs were foiled."

Asked if India would respond to attacks carried out by Pakistan, the Foreign Secretary said, "We have already given them a befitting reply."

He said that in view of the current security situation and direct attacks on religious institutions, the Kartarpur Corridor has been closed until further notice.

Referring to India engaging with the different countries on the diplomatic front, Misri said, "India has responded with strength and restraint. The Ministry of External Affairs has engaged directly with the US Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defence. We have also spoken with the Foreign Minister of Norway. Our partners have expressed solidarity and pledged cooperation in counterterrorism efforts. India will firmly counter any attempt to escalate the situation."

Asked about the missile attack on Bawalpur from where the journalist Daniel Pearl was abducted and then killed, Misri said, "Bawalpur continues to be the headquarters of the proscribed Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) group. Its leader, Masood Azhar, is an internationally designated terrorist. We also recall the gruesome murder of journalist Daniel Pearl – JeM was directly or indirectly complicit. The British-Pakistani jihadi Omar Sheikh, who was arrested in India and then released in 2000, lured Pearl and facilitated his killing. This is the kind of extremist mindset we are confronting."

He reiterated that the Indus Water Treaty is currently in abeyance. "Given the evolving scenario, I have nothing further to add at this point," he added.

"At the IMF meeting scheduled for later today, India will present its position and raise concerns over Pakistan's misuse of international funds and its destabilizing behavior," Misri said. KNO

## Under PM Modi's...

inflict injury on any Indian citizen, we will hunt you down."

"I want to tell the people of Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir that peace is foundation of prosperity and our men in uniform will ensure that Jammu Kashmir and Bharat is peaceful and prosperous," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor asked them: "How is the Josh?" His question met with an energetic "High, Saheb!" from the troops, echoing the mood of soldiers' readiness to destroy the enemy.

The Lieutenant Governor said, "Our soldiers have just one dream and one resolve-- Destroy the enemy and its capability to attack Bharat and to safeguard our citizens and Bharat's sovereignty and territorial integrity. I am seeing determination in your eyes and I want to tell the people across the country that they are in safe hands. Entire nation is drawing inspiration from your valour. May prabhu Shri Ram give you the strength to decimate the enemy."

The Lieutenant Governor said the nation has always been proud of the armed forces and whenever country faced any crisis, our soldiers have boosted the pride of Mother India by making the supreme sacrifice.

"Your history is full of valour and courage. India always advocated for peace. After brutal massacre of our citizens at Pahalgam, the main objective was to destroy the terrorist hideouts. "Operation Sindoor" avenged Pahalgam terror attack by destroying terror factories inside Pakistan. But, the enemy is targeting our military establishment and our citizens. We are giving them a befitting reply," the Lieutenant Governor told the soldiers.

The Lieutenant Governor, as per KNO, said that due

to courage and determination of our soldiers, Jammu Kashmir and the country sleeps peacefully.

"If someone tries to disturb our peace again and again then they will be taught such a lesson that their next 10 generations will remember it. The entire 140 crore Indians are standing strong with our soldiers. I pray to God to give you strength so that you can once again write the saga of India's bravery," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said that attempts were made by Pakistan, but the Indian armed forces have already foiled all their nefarious designs.

"J&K administration is ensuring that people here don't face any inconvenience. I went to villages in the border areas that suffered losses. The injured and the families of those who died have been given ex-gratia," he said.

He added that the loss is being ascertained, and there is a need to construct new bunkers in these areas. "In the coming days, new bunkers will be constructed," he said. KNO

## Will avenge...

the affected families and ensure their safety and security.

During his visit to the safe shelter centre in Baramulla, the Lieutenant Governor met the families affected due to unprovoked firing by Pakistan and assured them that Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is taking all possible measures for their safety and security and necessary actions are being taken to protect every resident of Uri.

He also met the injured residents of Uri at the GMC Baramulla and prayed for their quick recovery. He directed the officials to provide best possible treatment and care to the injured.

"The nation is wholeheartedly behind the affected families in all aspects. We will avenge their suffering by defeating the enemy," the Lieutenant Governor said. KNO

## Pak trying to escalate...

on Friday and said that one critically injured person was transferred to a hospital in Chandigarh for advanced treatment. "I have spoken with the Deputy Chief Minister, who will be visiting Poonch to assess the situation firsthand," he said.

Earlier, Omar travelled to Jammu to visit hospitals and meet those injured due to the Pakistan shelling in Poonch. He visited relief camps and evacuation centres across Jammu and Samba districts, including Mishriwala, Nagbani, Bishnah and Thandi Khui, to review relief and aid arrangements for displaced families.

Accompanied by his Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani; Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma and other officials, the Chief Minister interacted with displaced families and inspected provisions of food, shelter, medical aid and other essentials.

He assured that all possible measures are being taken to support the affected people. "They wish to stay in their homes, but safety concerns have necessitated their relocation. We are doing our best to provide all facilities to those in the camps," Omar said. KNO

## Jammu gripped by...

Evacuations to safer locations

Authorities have ordered evacuations from areas deemed vulnerable, particularly near border districts like Kathua, Jammu, Samba, Rajouri and Poonch.

The government has intensified security measures, with residents in high-risk zones being relocated to safer locations. It has issued helpline numbers to assist those affected, including emergency control rooms in all district headquarters. However, the scale of the evacuation has strained resources, with many residents expressing frustration over limited access to transport and information.

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary chaired a high-level meeting with the district administration and prominent citizens of civil society at Rajouri to discuss public safety and seek suggestions regarding the evacuation and rehabilitation of the affected population.

He said the situation has escalated due to unprovoked provocation by Pakistan, necessitating precautionary measures to safeguard civilian lives. Choudhary assured that both the UT and central governments are fully committed towards ensuring the safety and timely evacuation of residents living in vulnerable areas.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal also conducted a comprehensive visit to District Hospital Poonch to review healthcare arrangements and ensure the facility is fully prepared to meet medical needs in case of any emergency. During the visit, the DC interacted with patients undergoing treatment and enquired about the quality of care, availability of essential medicines, and support services. He conducted a thorough inspection of various hospital wards, emergency units, and other key departments to assess overall readiness and responsiveness.

Traffic jams on Jammu-Doda-Kishtwar roads  
Major roads connecting Jammu to Doda and Kishtwar have been choked with traffic as residents and tourists attempt to flee to safer areas or return to their homes from Jammu after last night's situation on the border. There was severe congestion on the Jammu-Doda and Jammu-Kishtwar roads, with vehicles stranded for hours.

Overcharging and transport woes  
Amid the chaos, reports have emerged of transporters and private operators overcharging passengers desperate to leave Jammu. Tourists and locals alike have faced inflated fares for buses, taxis, and private vehicles, with some alleging price gouging by unscrupulous operators.

Special trains from Jammu to Delhi  
To alleviate the pressure on stranded passengers, the administration has launched special train services from Katra to New Delhi. Four special trains were introduced to accommodate the "extra rush" of passengers, particularly non-locals fleeing the Jammu region.

Sources indicate that additional trains are being planned to ferry residents and visitors from Jammu to Delhi and other major cities, though exact schedules remain fluid due to the ongoing crisis.

Security measures and regional tensions  
The situation in Jammu remains tense, with reports

of drones, missiles, and explosions in the sky contributing to widespread fear. A complete blackout was enforced on May 8, and air raid sirens were activated after Pakistan's failed attempt to target Jammu airport.

The Border Security Force (BSF) foiled a major infiltration bid in Samba district on May 8, and security forces are conducting extensive search operations in Doda and Kishtwar to dismantle terror networks linked to the Pahalgam attack.

Given the situation, the people of Jammu are left grappling with fear, uncertainty, and logistical challenges. Authorities have urged residents to cooperate with security measures and follow guidelines, but with the spectre of further conflict looming, the path to stability remains fraught. KNO

## Overnight shelling...

that Pakistani forces resorted to heavy artillery and mortar shelling, targeting civilian areas in Poonch and Rajouri, with explosions heard near the LoC as early as Friday morning.

The Police Lines in Poonch came under direct attack, though no casualties were reported on the Indian side in that specific incident.

Civilian homes, schools, and religious sites, including a Gurdwara, a mosque, and a Geeta Bhawan, have sustained severe damage. Over the past few days, at least 16 innocent lives have been lost, including women and children, with 59 others injured across the affected regions, including Kupwara, Baramulla, Uri, and Mendhar.

The shelling has caused widespread panic, forcing thousands of residents to evacuate to safer areas.

Markets in Poonch have shut down, and educational institutions in Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Rajouri, and Poonch remain closed.

A complete blackout was enforced in Jammu on Friday morning, adding to the distress of the local population.

Border Security Force (BSF) have responded in a measured and proportionate manner, successfully thwarting infiltration attempts, including one in Samba district on May 8, 2025, and neutralizing multiple Pakistani drones.

Local voices, including residents and analysts, have expressed frustration over the lack of timely evacuation efforts, with some noting that the scale of shelling in Poonch is unprecedented since the 1971 Indo-Pak War. The Indian government has prioritized the safety of civilians, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah directing immediate evacuations along the LoC and International Border. KNO

## CM Omar Abdullah...

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, who briefed him on evacuation efforts and transport arrangements in Kashmir Division. He informed that essential commodities such as food, healthcare service and also recreation activities for children have been arranged in the shelter camps. Nodal Officers have also been deployed for seamless coordination of facilities in these camps.

Deputy Commissioners of various border districts apprised the Chief Minister about the ground situation, including evacuation planning, medical preparedness, public outreach and availability of essential supplies. It was informed that identification of vulnerable villages, number of displaced persons had been assessed and provision of shelter, food, medicines and awareness material is being provided including use of video and audio messaging to inform and alert the public. It was conveyed that Control rooms have been made functional in the affected districts and Standard Operating Procedures are being followed. The details of security arrangements made and deployment for public safety were given in the meeting.

The Chief Minister had a discussion with the Principal Government Medical College Jammu regarding the availability of medical personnel, infrastructure and ambulance services in case of emergencies.

Emphasising the importance of swift and reliable communication with the public, the Chief Minister directed that effective communication be maintained at the grassroots level to ensure timely and accurate dissemination of vital information.

He also emphasised that solar lights in border villages be turned off during blackouts as part of standard security protocols.

He further inquired about the availability and utilisation of contingency funds at the district level and instructed that items required urgently must be procured promptly without delay and for the benefit of the affected population--(KNO)

## CM Omar Abdullah...

informed the participants that safety guidelines and verified updates would be disseminated through the Department of Information using local television, radio channels and an official WhatsApp channel.

He also emphasized the role of the Traffic Department in raising awareness about emergency alert sirens and signals. The deployment of police personnel in sensitive areas was discussed as a means to manage panic and assist with crowd control, while designated relief camps, functional bunkers, and healthcare facilities are being kept in a state of readiness.

The meeting was informed that in order to ensure the uninterrupted supply of essential commodities, the government is maintaining supply chain and regulating prices. Fire services, ambulances, and Civil Defence units have been placed on high alert to ensure a swift and coordinated emergency response.

The Chief Minister reiterated the administration's commitment to maintaining communal harmony and urged community leaders to play a proactive role in fostering peace and unity.

Special attention is also being given to the safety and care of livestock in affected areas. The Health Department has been directed to keep hospitals and primary health centres fully prepared for emergencies and that a dedicated helpline was now active for patients in need of life-saving drugs or dialysis. Blood donation camps are being organized in collaboration with NGOs to meet medical requirements on the ground.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah concluded the session by expressing gratitude to the civil society members

for their participation and support. He reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to protecting the lives and well-being of every citizen during this time of crisis.

The interaction saw participation from a broad spectrum of civil society members, including ex-service-men, former police chiefs of the J&K Police, heads and presidents of industry & commerce, trade and travel associations, former ministers and representatives of various political parties. Educationists, academicians, stakeholders from the tourism sector, heads of religious organizations representing Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, and Christian communities, representatives of Gujjar and Bakarwal groups, lawyers' bodies, fruit and mandi associations, transporters and NGOs were also present.

The participants appreciated the Chief Minister for convening such an interaction at a time of heightened tensions.

They pledged their full support under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and affirmed their commitment to standing united with the government during the ongoing crisis. KNO

## Indo-Pak Escalation: DGP...

the ground is not only aimed at assessing the situation but also at uplifting the spirits of the forces on ground.

DGP Prabhat's continuous visits demonstrate a strong commitment to ensuring the safety of people and morale of the troops.

The visit comes amidst the persistent cross border shelling by the Pakistan army along the line of control, which has left nearly 15 people dead and several others wounded.

The intense shelling along the LoC has also forced the government to shift many of the families in the affected borders areas to the safer places where arrangement have been made by them to ensure adequate facilities to the border dwellers. KNO

## Illegal transfer of...

to have registered a formal case against the then revenue officers of Nagrota and others for facilitating illegal transfer of a big chunk of State land in favour of the land grabbers.

A spokesman in a statement issued to the news agency said that "ACB Jammu registered a formal case FIR No. 07/2025 u/s 5(I)(d) r/w Sec. 5(2), J&K PC Act, Svt. 2006 & Sec. 120-B, 420, 467, 468, 471, RPC at P/S ACB Jammu against (1) Riaz Ahmed, the then Patwari Nagrota, 2) Rajesh Kumar Thakur, the then Tehsildar Nagrota, 3) Nissar Ahmed Shad, then Tehsildar Nagrota, the beneficiaries and others, for facilitating illegal transfer of a big chunk of State land in favour of the land grabbers and the beneficiaries by abusing their official positions."

"During the course of verification, it surfaced that an inheritance mutation No. 624 dated 25.07.2017 of the land measuring 04 kanals under Khasra No. 899 min of village Panjgrain was mutated in favour of Sudarshan Singh & Raghbir Singh sons of late Krishan Singh and Bidhya Devi in equal shares, despite the fact that mutation No. 527 dated 06.11.2008 of the said land was without signatures of Patwari concerned and was attested in favour of said Krishan Singh in violation of the provisions of Govt. Order No. LB-6/C of 1958 and S-432 of 1966 when mutation No. 527 was originally attested by the then Tehsildar Nagrota under Roshni Act on 06-11-2008. The mutation in question does not exist in the revenue record."

As per Jamabandi of 1969-70 of village Panjgrain, the land in question was recorded as State land with kind of soil as Gair Mumkin Jaar, whereas the entries of the beneficiaries have not been found recorded since 1957-58 in the said Jamabandi, which is one of the requisite conditions as per the provisions of Govt. Order No. LB-6/C of 1958 and S-432 of 1966. Moreover, the kind of soil was also Gair Mumkin Jaar, which is not covered under Govt. Order No. S-432 of 1966, the statement reads.

"Another mutation No. 533/1 dated 05-11-2009 of village Panjgrain Tehsil Nagrota of land has been inserted in between mutation No. 533 and mutation No. 534 by the then Patwari Riaz Ahmed with no page number besides the said mutation was attested without any reference of allotment order and also without the signatures of the then Patwari."

It has also been found that a mutation No. 1374 dtd. 29.01.2016 was attested under Sehat Indraj Girdawari by then Tehsildar Nagrota, namely, Nissar Ahmed Shad on the custodian land, which was allotted to one Bidyawanti as per Jamabandi 1959-60, after the removal of the name of allottee without any approval or order from Custodian Department & without proper verification of record and in violation of law/rules occupying the field," reads the statement, adding that further investigation is going on. KNO

## 'Yellow-Alert': Sgr among...

rainfall on Friday afternoon.

Reports of heavy rainfall were received from Shopian, Kulgam, Anantnag in South Kashmir and some parts of northern region and in Srinagar.

Notably, the weatherman here has issued a 'yellow alert' till tomorrow (May 10), predicting brief spells of light rain, thundershower and gusty winds at scattered to fairly widespread places across Jammu and Kashmir.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that partly to generally cloudy with spell of light to moderate rain, thundershower and gusty winds are expected at scattered to fairly widespread places.

The MeT Director has further predicted the possibility of brief spell of light rain and thundershower at isolated places on May 12, adding that there is a forecast of generally dry weather conditions from May 13 to May 17.

Meanwhile, in its advisory, the MeT has advised the people to follow administration and traffic advisory.

The people have been also advised to avoid boating, shikara riding in Dal Lake, Wular Lake & other water bodies during inclement weather and gusty winds.

According to the Advisory, the MeT has forecasted intense showers at few vulnerable places may lead to landslides and mudslides.

The MeT also said that there is a forecast of significant rise in day temperature from 13th onwards mainly in Jammu division. KNO



## EDITORIAL

## Prolonged Airport Closures Deepen Crisis Amid Indo-Pak Tensions

For the third day in a row, the closure of key airports in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, including the Srinagar International Airport, has cast a long shadow over civilian life and religious obligations. As tensions between India and Pakistan intensify, the suspension of flight operations until at least May 14 has caused widespread disruption, most acutely felt by Haj pilgrims and commercial travelers.

The cancellation of Flight SG-5210 scheduled for May 10 has dashed the hopes of another batch of pilgrims preparing for their sacred journey. With four Haj flights already grounded and over 250 commercial flights cancelled since May 7, the chaos reflects the fragility of civilian infrastructure in times of geopolitical strain. The loss of 84 flights on Friday alone—42 arrivals and 42 departures—is a stark indicator of the operational vacuum currently gripping the Valley.

Behind these numbers lie the stories of families separated, medical emergencies deferred, and pilgrims facing spiritual anguish. The Jammu and Kashmir Haj Committee's assurance that they remain in constant coordination with agencies provides some comfort, but the underlying uncertainty continues to stretch patience and plans. As Executive Officer Dr. Shujhat Ahmad Qureshi emphasized, the situation remains fluid, and with no clear timeline for resumption, anxiety mounts daily.

Airlines have acted swiftly, albeit predictably, in response to the escalating situation. IndiGo, SpiceJet, and Akasa Air have suspended operations and issued advisories, pledging full support and refunds to stranded passengers. These efforts, while necessary, cannot fully offset the hardship caused to travelers, especially those for whom air travel was not just a convenience but a lifeline—whether for religious obligation, business, education, or health.

While national security must always remain paramount, it is vital that the communication between civil aviation authorities and the public be timely, transparent, and empathetic. Prolonged silence or vague updates only deepen mistrust and frustration. If these closures are likely to extend beyond May 14, authorities must convey this sooner rather than later and ensure comprehensive support systems are in place for those affected.

The need of the hour is twofold: swift diplomatic efforts to de-escalate regional tensions, and robust administrative planning to safeguard essential civilian services during such crises. The disruption to the Haj pilgrimage in particular should prompt policymakers to develop contingency protocols for future emergencies—ensuring that faith, peace, and dignity do not become collateral damage in geopolitical crossfire.

As Kashmir waits in suspended airspace, both literally and metaphorically, it is a sobering reminder of the civilian cost of conflict. For the many hearts grounded with each cancelled flight, we must hope for a safe sky and a peaceful horizon ahead.

SANTHOSH MATHEW

Joseph S Nye, the visionary political scientist who coined the transformative concept of “soft power”, passed away on May 6, 2025, at 88.

With his passing, the world bids farewell not only to a scholar but to a statesman of ideas whose intellectual legacy remains vital in regions plagued by conflict — especially South Asia. Nye was not merely an academic theorist; he was a pacifist in the truest sense — one who believed that power could heal rather than harm, attract rather than coerce.

At Harvard University, where he taught for decades, Nye co-developed the theory of complex interdependence with Robert Keohane and challenged the traditional obsession with military might.

In *Bound to Lead* (1990) and later in *Soft Power* (2004), he provided a compelling alternative: the notion that a nation's influence could stem from its culture, values, and policies rather than its missiles and markets.

Nowhere is this vision more relevant than in South Asia — a region Nye never studied in granular detail but whose condition so vividly affirms his theories. India and Pakistan, two nuclear-armed neighbours locked in a perpetual dance of distrust, spend billions on defence even as millions within

their borders lack basic needs. It is, as Nye might have observed, one of the most militarised, terror-stricken, under-integrated, and socially fractured regions on Earth — a place crying out not for more hard power, but for the redemptive strength of soft power.

Nye served as Assistant Secretary of Defense in the Clinton administration, yet he was never intoxicated by the logic of force. Instead, he spoke of “smart power”— the synthesis of hard and soft tools wielded with strategic wisdom. But more than that, he believed in moral leadership: that democratic values, international cooperation, and cultural openness were themselves instruments of strength.

Nye's influence on the policy makers especially in the US has been profound. He led the Belfer Center, then called the Center for Science and International Affairs, from 1989 to 1993. In those years, the center was involved in research on the threat posed by lax controls over nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union as it came apart after the Cold War. That work directly shaped US policy in guarding against the dangers from “loose nukes.”

Nye went on to oversee nuclear weapons proliferation policy in the Clinton Administration as chairman of the National Intelligence Council and then assistant secretary of defence for

international security affairs. It was his efforts that better rational decisions could be taken in the cold war era.

Graham Allison, the founding dean of HKS and Nye's lifelong friend, said, “Joe was a pillar of Harvard, of HKS, and of the Belfer Center. His passion was advancing policy-relevant knowledge about the most critical questions of war and peace. He was proudest of having contributed both intellectually (as co-chair of the Avoiding Nuclear War project) and practically (in the Carter and Clinton administrations) to preventing nuclear war. And he was not just a friend, but a functional brother, whom I loved.”

At a time when global politics were defined by unilateral aggression, Nye offered a vision that was deeply ethical and radically humane.

In South Asia, this lesson remains unheeded. Both India and Pakistan have squandered their soft power potential in pursuit of hollow victories. India, despite its global diaspora, cultural richness, and democratic ethos, is increasingly seen through the lens of internal repression and regional rivalry.

Pakistan, endowed with a resilient civil society and rich cultural history, has been eclipsed by its over-militarised national identity. Nye's work is a mirror — one that reflects not just what is, but what could be.

Consider Kashmir: long a symbol of unresolved history and human suffering, and yet, potentially, a site for reconciliation through the soft gestures of dialogue, shared culture, and people-to-people engagement. Nye would argue that sustainable peace cannot be engineered through dominance.

It must be built on legitimacy — the kind earned through consistent values and international credibility, not through ultimatums and armed stand-offs. Joseph Nye was more than a scholar; he was a global moral compass. He reminded the world that power must not only be measured by its ability to compel, but by its capacity to inspire. He believed that even in a dangerous world, influence rooted in respect and attraction could achieve what centuries of warfare had failed to secure: peace through understanding.

As the Indo-Pakistani relationship teeters between fragile ceasefires and aggressive postures, Nye's legacy offers a roadmap out of the darkness. His passing is not merely an academic loss.

It is a diplomatic moment — a pause to ask ourselves what kind of power we wish to pursue: the brittle kind that demands submission, or the enduring kind that earns admiration. To remember Joseph Nye is to remember that ideas are weapons too — but ones that disarm, liberate, and heal.

In South Asia and beyond, he leaves behind a challenge: not to dominate, but to lead wisely; not to conquer, but to connect. In a century already fraying at the edges, the apostle of soft power reminds us that the gentlest forces are often the most enduring.

“Hard power is the ability to use the carrots and sticks of economic and military might to make others follow your will. Soft power is about shaping the preferences of others.” — Joseph Nye. Joseph Nye's legacy resonates far beyond academic circles — it offers a timely and necessary lens through which South Asia can reimagine its fractured future. In a region dominated by militarism and mistrust, Nye's vision of soft power — rooted in values, culture, and legitimacy — presents an alternative path to peace. His work challenges leaders to lead by example, not intimidation.

As India and Pakistan navigate an uncertain geopolitical landscape, remembering Nye is not just about honouring a scholar — it's about heeding a call. His ideas remain a blueprint for a better world: one where power heals, connects, and inspires. That, perhaps, is his greatest gift.

**(The writer is a Professor, Centre for South Asian Studies, Pondicherry Central University. The views are personal)**

## Why only God can truly liberate us

AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

This is a warning that deserves everyone's attention: we are not as free as we think we are. While we may believe we control our lives, the truth is far more sobering. Our freedom is limited — very limited. We like to think we are the architects of our destiny, but a closer examination of life and spiritual truths reveals otherwise.

Let us begin with a fundamental observation: are we not only free to deserve and decide? Beyond that, the outcomes are not in our hands. If they were, why would so many of us be unhappy, dissatisfied, or constantly struggling? If we truly had control, would we not simply arrange our lives to fulfil all our desires? But it does not work that way, and deep down, we all know it. According to the Bhagavad Gita (2.47), we are entitled to perform our duties but not to the fruits of our actions. The results — suc-

cess or failure — are not ours to command. These are governed by a higher principle, a Divine Authority under the supervision of God, who ultimately rewards or punishes us based on our actions. As explained in Gita 9.10, God directs the workings of this material world, keeping the creation going smoothly across millennia. And do we not want the universe to function seamlessly? For that to happen, someone must take responsibility and that is God. Through his enforcement of the karmaphala principle (“as you sow, so shall you reap”), He ensures justice. This principle applies to everyone — except those who surrender to God. His devotees are under special care. As the Gita says in 18.58, God helps His devotees cross the sea of suffering, even when bad karma strikes.

Non-devotees, however, must bear the full consequences of their actions. There is no escape. This truth can be frightening: if we do not voluntarily come under God's control using our

free will, we will be subjected to the control of our karmas, which can be harsh and painful. Let us dig deeper. Every one of us has prarabdha — past karma — waiting to unfold in this life. Why else would we find ourselves in a world described in the Gita (8.15) as a place of misery? On top of that, our nature, influenced by the three modes of material nature — goodness, passion, and ignorance, adds further complications.

If someone is naturally lustful, for instance, they will inevitably act out of lust and suffer the consequences — unless they take shelter in God. God warns and protects those who seek Him. We blame others, circumstances, or even God. But blaming bad luck is, in essence, challenging Divine Justice, which is perfect and necessary for the world to function. Meanwhile, others are often unsympathetic, and some people, in their desperation, turn to self-proclaimed gurus or unhealthy escapes like drugs or alcohol. These only worsen their

condition. We falsely believe that misfortune will skip us, that somehow we are exceptions. But this denial only adds to our suffering. It is no wonder that mental health issues are rising across the globe.

So what is the solution? It lies in understanding the basic structure of creation. There is God, the Supreme Controller, and there are us — countless souls, all subject to change and suffering. The answer is simple: take shelter of the Controller. He is always ready to help, but we must turn to Him willingly. Otherwise, life becomes mechanical. Our actions bear fruit, shaping our nature. We act according to that nature, creating a repetitive cycle of suffering, birth after birth.

I recognised this truth and made a conscious decision: I would not continue suffering when help was within reach. I started practising spirituality in a way that suited me. I hung a large picture of Lord Krishna by my bed. I began chanting

His name — “Krishna, Krishna, Krishna” — rhythmically. Slowly, I began feeling God's mercy in my life. I thanked Him sincerely and regularly. I pray often — for guidance, for help, for everything that concerns me. And God responds. Over time, I found peace, satisfaction, and a deep sense of joy — sukhi. So what is the takeaway from all this? Start taking shelter in God. Begin small. Do spiritual practices that feel natural. Pray regularly for guidance. Remember, we are tiny, ignorant, and helpless in many ways. When we surrender, God takes over as the karta — the doer — in our lives. He begins to micromanage everything, ensuring a high-quality life and guiding us towards ultimate liberation. I speak from experience — it truly works. timate liberation. I speak from experience — it truly works.

(The writer is a spiritual teacher. Views are personal)

## Building strong foundations through Anganwadis

RAJIB KUMAR SEN AND VEDEIKA SHEKHAR

India has the largest and youngest working population, with 164.5 million children aged 0-6 years, constituting about 13.6 per cent of the total population. Our working-age population is estimated to reach around 1.12 billion — the single largest workforce of any country globally.

As these children represent the collective human capital of tomorrow, our quest for Viksit Bharat@2047 rides on the shoulders of these future adults. This is a pivotal moment to harness this demographic dividend and invest in their human and cognitive development to prepare them to participate in the economy in their adulthood. A child's educational, professional and skilled potential is determined by care, development and learning in the first six years of life. Over 80 per cent of brain development occurs before the child is three years old, and 85-90 per cent by six years

of age.

Zero to six years — especially zero to three years, is a critical phase of rapid brain growth, laying the foundation for adult cognitive, psychomotor, educational and intellectual potential. It is thus a critical window of opportunity to shape and build a foundation for their future, particularly in terms of future learning, behaviour and health. Investing in early childhood yields substantial economic returns. Research by Nobel Laureate James Heckman demonstrates that every dollar invested in quality early childhood programmes from birth to age five can generate returns of \$4 to \$16.

These benefits manifest as higher high school graduation rates, increased personal income, and reduced costs related to welfare dependency and incarceration. The World Health Organisation estimates a \$13 return for every dollar spent on early childhood development, while a World Bank study highlights that early investments enhance

school readiness — with an additional year of primary education boosting future productivity by 20 per cent in India.

Conversely, neglecting these years can lead to significant learning gaps. The National Achievement Survey of 2021 revealed a decline in academic performance as children progress to senior classes, with mathematics scores dropping from 57 per cent in Class III to 32 per cent in Class X, underscoring the need for a strong early foundation. Recognising its importance, the Government of India is focusing on this area of cognitive development.

Guided by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the “Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi” initiative, launched in 2022, aims to transform Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) into vibrant learning hubs equipped with quality infrastructure, play equipment and trained Anganwadi Workers (AWWs). To this end, two curriculum frameworks have been developed — “Navchetana” for children under three years, and

“Aadharshila” for three- to six-year-old children. While this is a commendable step in the right direction, there is a need to further strengthen and energise it for transformative impact. Young minds require stimulation through engaging, age-appropriate activities to unlock their potential.

Some states are setting a path forward through pioneering efforts to strengthen Early Childhood Development Care and Education (ECDCE) within the Anganwadi framework by integrating health, nutrition and cognitive development.

Maharashtra's Aarambh programme, now scaled statewide, blends scientific child development principles with culturally relevant tools and strong community participation to empower frontline workers and families to deliver nurturing care for zero to three-year-old children. The programme has yielded significant results in improving health and nutrition outcomes and the development quotient (from mean 107 to 137 — up 30 points) amongst the

beneficiaries. Similarly, Meghalaya's ECD Mission leverages Self-Help Groups to deliver holistic care, while Odisha's “Aami Kuni Pila” emphasises caregiver training, community-based crèches, and awareness campaigns — particularly for tribal communities. These initiatives demonstrate the potential for localised, evidence-based approaches to drive change. Globally, Jamaica's Early Childhood Stimulation Programme for zero to three-year-old children offers lessons.

The programme provisioned weekly one-hour home visits by a community-based worker to improve nutrition and the quality of mother-child interactions to foster cognitive, language and psychosocial skills. The study estimated 25 per cent higher earnings in the treatment group at 22 years, demonstrating that investing in skill formation through home visits and empowering parents at early stages has long-lasting economic returns later in life.

To build on these efforts,

India must adopt a comprehensive strategy for ECDCE within the existing framework. The overall vision is that every zero to six-year-old child attains the highest possible potential of cognitive and psychosocial-motor development through age-appropriate, evidence-based, culturally appropriate and play-based interventions and tools. For this, firstly, a dedicated and comprehensive focus should be placed on the development of zero to three-year-old children.

As this group are at home, with families/caregivers being the primary stakeholders, there is a considerable opportunity to comprehensively engage with the families through planned monthly AWW home visits and age — appropriate caregiver meetings at AWCs to promote responsive parenting and equip families to deliver early learning and stimulation. Skill and activity-based capacity building of AWWs on ECDCE, complemented by incentives, is crucial to deliver quality counselling and tutoring

skills. Further, appropriate technology should be used as a conducting, monitoring, and outreach tool for ECDCE.

Combining these elements, NITI Aayog has initiated a pilot in 10 Aspirational Districts wherein AWWs are trained to conduct ECDCE activities through WhatsApp videos every day and given soft incentives. Frequent assessments of children will enable identification, tracking and referral of those with developmental delays. Strong community participation by bringing diverse stakeholders — critically SHGs — and conducting community-based events like Melas, coupled with Jan Andolan for mass awareness and behaviour change, is crucial for ECDCE to reach every household. Finally, the use of local, age-appropriate and affordable toys and conducting ECDCE activities in the local language cannot be over-emphasised to deliver sustained impact.

So far, India has focused on and achieved significant gains in maternal and child health. However, as

we progress towards Viksit Bharat, shifting from helping children survive to enabling them to thrive by focusing on cognitive skills is essential. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG Target 4.2) and NEP 2020 have already provided a robust global and national framework for ECDCE to ensure children's school readiness.

A whole-of-Government and whole-of-society approach is essential to establish the continuum of care from home (zero to three years) to AWCs (three to six years) and finally when the child reaches school. This will nurture these young minds to realise their intellectual capital, securing India's demographic dividend. By strengthening AWCs today, we build a brighter, more prosperous tomorrow.

**(Rajib Kumar Sen is Indian Economic Service Officer, NITI Aayog, and Vedeika Shekhar — Consultant Grade-II, NITI Aayog. Views are personal)**

## Half of Indian Children May Need Glasses by 2050: The Impact of Screen Time

An emerging threat is looming on the horizon of India's future generations because eye experts have warned that almost half of India's school children may be suffering from myopia by the year 2050 unless drastic changes are made in their lifestyle. The overuse of digital media, such as smartphones, tablets, and computers, has emerged as a primary concern for both parents and medical experts.

### The Impact of Screen Addition on Children's Health

Extended use of screens has already been connected with an epidemic in childhood obesity, which can bring about serious illnesses like heart disease and type 2 diabetes. Experts are now warning of yet another potentially calamitous effect of too much screen time: childhood vision problems. Based on current statistics, more than 2,000 children



were treated for myopia at the Surya Eye Institute in 2024 alone, with the number of cases gradually on the rise since the COVID-19 pandemic compelled children to depend on online learning.

### The Role of Lifestyle Factors in Myopia Development

Ophthalmologists blame the surge in myopia cases on habits, mainly excessive use of electronic devices and inadequate outdoor activities. Today, up to 23% of schoolchildren in India suffer from

myopia, meaning close objects can be viewed sharply, but those far away appear blurred. According to senior eye surgeon Dr. Jay Goyal, most kids do not need surgery for myopia but need a better appreciation of how their habits are modifying their vision.

### Simple Ways to Safeguard Children's Eyesight

Dr. Goyal suggests minor yet meaningful lifestyle changes, including using corrective glasses, going outside for at least an hour a day, and following healthy routines.

These simple measures can safeguard the eyesight of children and avert severe eye issues in the long term.

### The Science Behind Screen Time and Myopia

Evidence indicates that extended near work, e.g., concentrating on screens, can put the eyes under tension and interfere with their normal growing process, resulting in eyeball elongation and fuzzy distance vision. Conversely, natural daylight exposure is thought to have a protective effect against myopia, as sunlight triggers the release of dopamine in the retina, which might help control eye growth.

### Recommendations for Parents

To counter the increasing menace of myopia, parents can adopt several important steps: Restrict the use of digital devices for necessary activities and limit excessive recreational screen time.

## New AIIMS-led study calls for integrating mental health support in cancer care

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

Integrating mental health support in cancer care is important and will boost the health of both survivors and caregivers, according to a new study by oncologists at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi.

The study, published in the Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention, sheds light on the critical yet under-recognised psychological struggles faced by cancer survivors and their caregivers.

More than affecting physical health, a cancer diagnosis raises fear, uncertainty, anxiety, and depression -- all of which can profoundly affect the quality of life not only for patients but also for caregivers.

"We advocate for integrating mental health care into routine oncology services, expanding access to psycho-oncology, and



recognising caregivers' needs," corresponding author Dr. Abhishek Shankar, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, Dr BR Ambedkar Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital at AIIMS, Delhi, told IANS.

The study noted that once the patients undergo treatment, they get introduced to a new set of challenges like managing long-term side effects,

adjusting to new physical limitations. They also struggle to reconstruct a sense of identity following a profoundly life-altering experience, which can take a toll on their mental health.

While the needs of the patient have been the primary focus, caregivers -- who play an essential role in the patient's journey, providing emotional and physical support, coordi-

nating treatment logistics, and managing the daily realities of living with cancer patients are often overlooked.

The study showed they face their unique psychological burdens, dealing with feelings of helplessness and burnout. They also suffer from anxiety, depression, and feelings of isolation.

This underscores the urgent need to address the psychological needs of all individuals impacted by cancer, be they survivors or caregivers, said the researchers.

"While advances in cancer treatment have improved survival, mental health support remains inadequate. There is an utmost need for a holistic approach taking psychological care as a part of the continuum to ensure that both survivors and caregivers are truly supported in their journey beyond cancer," Shankar said.

## New AI breakthrough to revolutionise diagnosis, treatment of genetic diseases

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

Artificial intelligence (AI) could soon play a pivotal role in diagnosing and treating genetic disorders, according to a study.

The study, led by researchers at the Australian National University (ANU) in Australia marks a significant step toward more precise, personalised medicine by harnessing the power of new data tools, Xinhua news agency reported.

Published in Nature Communications, the study combines AI-powered protein models with genome sequencing to better understand how mutations affect human health.

It uncovered why some proteins are more vulnerable to harmful mutations than others, through the use of Google DeepMind AlphaFold's cutting-edge AI to analyse the effects of every possible mutation



across the full range of human proteins.

"Our study reveals that evolution has built resilience into the most essential proteins, shielding them from harmful mutations that disrupt protein stability. Less critical proteins seem not to have evolved this inherent ability to absorb damage," said research lead Dan Andrews, Associate Professor at ANU.

Researchers from ANU's John Curtin School of Med-

ical Research and School of Computing help explain why seemingly less vital genes often play a larger role in genetic conditions.

Andrews said that genetic mutations are like the rain that all genes must endure -- they are constant and unavoidable.

While some genes are very essential and are rarely observed, others "are a little less critical but are still important enough that human diseases occur when they contain muta-

tions." The research helps prioritise treatments by identifying specific genetic pathways affected by mutations.

"It's important to identify which genetic system is dysfunctional in a given person, which helps us potentially choose the most effective treatment," Andrews said.

He noted that the study also applies to complex diseases with multiple mutations as it involves scoring genetic variation for its functional effects -- crucial for identifying potentially broken genes.

Further, the study also shows a potential for clinical translation and the development of AI tools to help improve patient outcomes.

"Our future goals include developing automated systems to flag effective treatment for individuals, based on their genetic and pathology data," Andrews said.

## Hidden virus found common in germs that cause pneumonia: Study

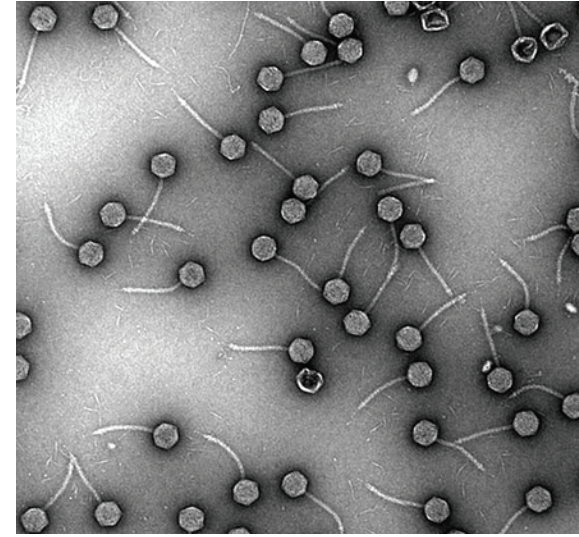
AGENCIES  
SYDNEY

A virus long dismissed as a scientific oddity has been found hiding in plain sight, and it may help fight dangerous bacteria, according to a study.

The study focussed on bacteriophages (phages) -- viruses that infect bacteria and come in many forms. In particular, researchers investigated telomere phages -- a type of phage that until now was considered a 'curiosity'.

These viruses aren't just passive passengers as they may actually help good bacteria wipe out neighbouring bad ones, Xinhua news agency reported.

Previous studies decoded only their unique DNA replication mechanism. The new study, published in Science Advances, discovered that bacteria carrying telomere phages produce toxins that kill off rival bacteria.



Researchers from Monash University, Australia discovered that telomere phage is surprisingly common in Klebsiella. Klebsiella is a type of bacteria that can cause pneumonia and serious drug-resistant infections.

"For more than 20 years of intensive bacterial genomics, telomere phages had remained

hidden in plain sight. We have missed an entire aspect of biology," said Trevor Lithgow, head of Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute Bacterial Cell Biology Lab.

Lithgow stated sequencing a clinical Klebsiella strain led to the finding of a fourth telomere phage.

The analysis revealed that telomere phages

are not rare curiosities. Instead, these are highly prevalent throughout the thousands of lineages of Klebsiella, including strains collected from watery environments, the researcher said.

Further, the discovery of toxins -- 'telocins' (for telomere-phage toxins) -- was found to enable a bacterial management strategy. While the 'good' bacteria carrying telomere phages will kill neighbouring 'bad' Klebsiella, the 'bad' bacteria would be antibiotic-resistant Klebsiella, Lithgow said.

"We now want to understand how the host secretes the toxin and also understand how the toxin wheedles its way into the unsuspecting bacterial neighbors," said Sally Byers from the Lithgow Laboratory.

The team believes these helpful viruses could exist in many other bacteria, too.

## Can PUBG addiction damage your spine, cause paralysis?

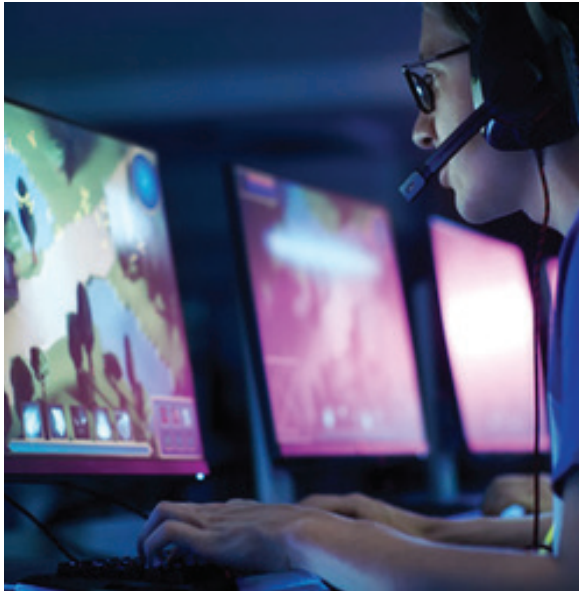
AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

Are you addicted to playing online games like PUBG? Prolonged gaming addiction can lead to spinal deformity and paralysis, said doctors here, who treated a 19-year-old boy suffering from the condition. Best video game consoles

The adolescent boy spent almost a year isolated in his room and engaged in excessive gaming for up to 12 hours a day. He suffered a gradual loss of appetite for physical activity and school and eventual social withdrawal.

The increasing dependence on online gaming finally resulted in an abnormal curvature of the spine and problems in walking and passing urine. "This excessive gaming led to a significant kyphoscoliotic spinal deformity," according to a statement from the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre (ISIC) in New Delhi.

The doctors stated that



the boy developed severe kyphoscoliotic deformity at the D11 and D12 vertebral levels, due to spinal tuberculosis -- an infectious condition that had remained undiagnosed due to the patient's prolonged immobility and social withdrawal.

The disease had led to abscess formation and pus accumulation, exerting pressure on the spinal cord and contributing to

his neurological decline. The boy underwent a successful complex spinal correction surgery, enabling him to regain mobility and bladder control.

"This was a challenging case due to the dual complexity of advanced spinal TB and the psychosocial impact of gaming addiction. The spine had suffered significant deformity, compressed the cord, and threatened perma-

nent disability," Dr. Vikas Tandon, Chief of Spine Services at ISIC.

"Fortunately, we were able to realign the spine, relieve the pressure on the cord, and restore his mobility. The patient responded well -- early signs of neurological recovery were visible within days of the procedure," the doctor said.

Tandon also noted a "disturbing trend of musculoskeletal complications in adolescents".

He blamed prolonged screen exposure and sedentary habits linked to gaming.

"This case is not just about spinal TB -- it reflects a growing public health challenge where physical and mental health are deeply intertwined. Excessive gaming, poor posture, and social isolation can create a perfect storm for delayed diagnoses and serious outcomes. Awareness, parental monitoring, and early intervention are critical to prevent such cases," the expert said.

## Selenium: The Mineral That Protects Your Heart, Fights Cancer, and Supports Brain Health

Selenium is a trace mineral essential to human health. Though only needed in small amounts, it plays a crucial role in various bodily functions and helps maintain overall well-being. Selenium is a naturally occurring mineral found in soil, water, and some foods. It's incorporated into proteins to make selenoproteins, which are important antioxidant enzymes that help prevent cellular damage.

The body does not produce selenium on its own, so it must be obtained through diet or supplements. It is stored in muscle tissue, with the highest concentrations found in the thyroid gland.

### Health Benefits of Selenium

- 1. Powerful Antioxidant**  
Selenium helps protect cells from damage by neutralizing free radicals--unstable molecules that contribute to ageing and chronic diseases like cancer and heart disease.
- 2. Supports Thyroid Function**  
Selenium is essential for



the proper functioning of the thyroid gland. It helps convert the thyroid hormone T4 (thyroxine) into its active form, T3 (triiodothyronine) and regulates hormone production.

### 3. Boosts Immune System

Selenium enhances the immune response and may help reduce the severity and duration of infections, including viral ones.

### 4. May Reduce Risk of Certain Cancers

Some studies suggest that adequate selenium intake is associated with a lower risk of cancers, particularly of the prostate, lungs,

and colon, though more research is needed.

### 5. Supports Heart Health

Selenium may lower inflammation and oxidative stress, both of which are linked to heart disease. It also plays a role in reducing cholesterol levels and improving blood circulation.

### 6. Improves Cognitive Function

There's evidence that selenium levels may influence brain health and reduce the risk of cognitive decline, including conditions like Alzheimer's disease.

### Foods Rich in Selenium

Selenium content in food often depends on the selenium content of the soil where the food was grown or raised. Here are some excellent dietary sources:

#### Animal-Based Sources:

Brazil nuts - The richest known source (just 1-2 nuts meet your daily needs)  
Tuna (especially yellowfin)

- Sardines
- Chicken
- Eggs
- Turkey
- Cottage cheese
- Plant-Based Sources:
- Brown rice
- Sunflower seeds
- Lentils
- Spinach
- Whole wheat bread
- Mushrooms

Recommended Daily Intake as per the National Institutes of Health (NIH):

- Adults: 55 micrograms/day
- Pregnant women: 60 mcg/day
- Breastfeeding women: 70 mcg/day

# J&K BJP holds crucial meeting following escalation of tensions with Pakistan

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, 09 MAY 2025:

In the wake of the recent escalation of tension due to drone and missile attacks launched from across the border by Pakistan, J&K BJP held a crucial meeting at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

The meeting was chaired by Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP and was attended by several senior party leaders to assess the prevailing situation and coordinate the party's response.

Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition, Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), Dr. Nirmal Singh and Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Ministers, Adv. Vibodh Gupta, General Secretary, J&K BJP, Adv. RS Pathania, Spokesperson & MLA,

Baldev Singh Billawaria, former Dy Mayor, Sanjita Dogra, Rakesh Mahajan, Rajeev Charak, Dr. Abhijeet Singh Jasrotia, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu and others were present in the meeting.

The attack, which occurred late Thursday evening, was effectively neutralized by India's robust defense systems, preventing any damage and reasserting India's superior strategic preparedness. The BJP leadership commended the Indian Defense Forces for their swift and decisive action, which not only averted a major crisis but also sent a strong message to adversaries across the border.

Addressing the meeting, Sat Sharma condemned the attack and said that while the act of aggression



by Pakistan was deplorable, the entire nation stands united and proud of the Indian defense forces for their swift and effective response that followed the hostile attempt. He emphasized that the BJP takes serious note of the tension created due to this attack and is committed to supporting efforts to maintain public morale and ensure safety.

Sharma informed that senior party leaders have been tasked with oversee-

ing prominent and sensitive areas across the region to keep a close watch on developments and coordinate party activities in response to any situation that may arise. He urged BJP leaders and activists to take a leading role in building public confidence, dispelling rumors, and reinforcing trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the preparedness of India's armed forces.

Highlighting the need

for preparedness, Sat Sharma also appealed to healthy adult citizens to come forward and register for emergency blood donation. He mentioned that the BJP, in coordination with civil society and allied organizations, would be organizing blood donation camps across various locations, which could prove vital in case of any eventuality.

Sunil Sharma stressed the importance of maintaining close coordination with the civil administration. He instructed senior leaders to mobilize party workers at the grassroots level to extend full cooperation with government agencies, especially in relief and emergency preparedness efforts.

Sunil Sharma appealed to the masses to stand firmly with the nation and

support all efforts aimed at ensuring peace, preparedness, and public safety in the current volatile scenario.

Ashok Koul urged party cadre to engage in awareness campaigns, help people stay informed and alert, and assist in reviewing and strengthening emergency protocols. He advised that such efforts must be carried out responsibly to avoid creating panic among the public.

Koul also emphasized the need for party members to provide assistance to people displaced due to ongoing shelling along the border. He called for special attention to ensuring uninterrupted supplies of food, medicine, and other essential commodities to the affected families living in temporary relief camps.

## Hawan organized at Vaishno Devi Bhawan



JI NEWS SERVICE

KATRA, MAY 9

The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) organized a Hawan through sacred Vedic hymns at the Holy Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji for invoking divine blessings for peace, harmony and well-being of the people of J&K and the entire nation.

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, along with officers and staff participated in the Hawan led by a group of pandits headed by the Mukhya Pujari, who performed the sacred rituals. The event held at the Yagyashala near Atka area aimed to uphold the sanctity and traditional essence of the rituals while ensuring their alignment with established religious practices.

On the occasion, the CEO highlighted that the Shrine Board has been consistently organizing various Hawans, Yagyas and other spiritual activities on significant occasions. He said that a large number of pilgrims are availing the facility of Havan and Nav Chandhi

Path at the new Yagyashala on a routine basis. For convenience, devotees can book Poojan services online through the official website of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB).

In addition, the CEO reviewed the operationalization of the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), along with the sub-control centers on the yatra track focused on enhancing the pilgrim safety and strengthening the security grid.

Notably, a series of modern security and surveillance equipment is being installed in the Shrine area as per the directions of the Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Hon'ble Lt. Governor, J&K), which includes X-ray Baggage scanners, Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs), Hand Held Metal Detectors (HHMDs), Under Vehicle Search Mirrors (UVSMs) and an integrated network of 700 CCTV cameras to be monitored through an Integrated Command & Control Centre (ICCC) at Katra and 7 sub-control centers on the track.

## Sahib Bandagi Ashram provides all comforts, facilities to people forced to leave their homes during Indo-Pak war

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 9

Sahib Bandagi Ashram has provided all the comforts and facilities to those people who were forced to leave their homes on the border during the Indo-Pak war. Whenever any calamity has struck Jammu or India, the Sahib Bandagi sect has sometimes opened its community kitchens and sometimes its ashrams to serve the suffering common people.

Whether it was the Corona period of 2020 or the matter of opening bhandara for the common people during the Amarnath movement for many months or any other disaster, Sahib Bandagi Panth has never backed down from serving the people in times of disaster. Sahib ji says that we serve from the heart and even if we have to feed thousands of people in bhandars for 1



year in a disaster, we will not step back.

Today, the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Omar Abdullah Sahib, visited the homeless people living in Sahib Bandagi Ashram and promised them that soon they will be provided all the facilities

they have lost without any hindrance. Although those people are getting all the comforts and facilities in Sahib Bandagi Ashram, the Chief Minister also promised them help from the government and said that he is with them in this hour of trouble.

## Arvind visits GMC Jammu to assess readiness amid rising security concerns

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 9

In light of the emerging war-like situation and growing regional security concerns, senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu West, Arvind Gupta today visited Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu along with senior BJP leaders. The purpose of the visit was to assess the preparedness of the medical infrastructure and raise public awareness regarding safety measures in the current volatile climate.

The MLA was joined by Ex-State President Sh. Ravinder Raina, MLA Jammu East Sh. Yudhvir Sethi, former Deputy Mayor Smt. Purnima Sharma, Mandal President Kushant Prajapati, and other prominent BJP figures including Atul Bakshi, ex-corporators Surinder Singh Choudhary and Anu Bali, Chaman Lal Bhagat, Karan Sharma, Mohit Vaid, Rekha Sharma, Sonu Manhas, Sudesh Ji, and Rohit Gupta.

Arvind Gupta interacted with the hospital administration, doctors, and support staff to understand the readiness of the institution to handle any potential emergency situations that may arise due to



cross-border tensions. He reviewed available medical facilities, emergency protocols, and stockpiles of essential medicines and supplies.

Speaking to media after the visit, Arvind Gupta said, "The safety and well-being of our citizens is our top priority. We are closely monitoring the situation and ensuring that our institutions are fully prepared to respond to any eventuality. GMC Jammu plays a crucial role in our emergency response system, and I am satisfied with the efforts being made by the medical staff and administration."

The BJP delegation also emphasized the importance of staying alert,

avoiding rumors, and following government advisories. They reassured the people of Jammu and Kashmir that both the state and central governments are fully committed to safeguarding their lives and property. The visit is part of a broader initiative by the BJP leadership to review on-ground preparedness and keep the public informed amidst the evolving situation along the border. Shri Arvind Gupta also expressed gratitude to the healthcare workers for their dedication and service, particularly during challenging times, and assured them of full support from the administration and the party leadership.

## Yudhvir Sethi holds Emergency Meeting with Mandal Presidents of Jammu East amid Border Tensions

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 9

In light of the escalating tension along the border and the deliberate targeting of civilian residential areas by the Pakistan Army, Senior BJP leader and former MLA Jammu East, Yudhvir Sethi, today convened an urgent meeting with the Mandal Presidents of Jammu East—Adarsh Jathiar (Jammu East Mandal), Shiv Kumar Sharma (Bajalata Mandal), and Swati Sharma (Amphalla Mandal).

The meeting was aimed at assessing the ground situation and mobilizing the party cadre to serve the people during this hour of crisis.

Expressing concern over the repeated ceasefire violations, Yudhvir Sethi called upon party workers to remain vigilant, calm, and prepared to assist the people of their respective areas. He emphasized the importance of following air raid sirens, keeping lights switched off in homes and shops during



alerts, and staying in touch with local administration.

"Now is the time to stand firmly with our nation and boost the morale of our people. The BJP workers must become a bridge between the administration and the distressed populace," Sethi said. He urged the Mandal leaders to immediately frame local committees at the ward and booth levels to monitor the situation, ensure communication, and extend timely support to families affected by the shelling.

The MLA further directed the cadre to strengthen

the youth wing and inspire the younger generation to remain resolute, nationalistic, and service-oriented in the face of adversity. "Our youth are the torchbearers of the nation, and even amidst crisis, they must lead with discipline and dedication," he asserted. Yudhvir Sethi reaffirmed BJP's commitment to standing shoulder to shoulder with the people and assured that the party will continue to provide all necessary assistance to ensure safety and security during these challenging times.

## Dr. Rameshwar urges Govt to relocate Border Families to Bani for safety

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANI, MAY 8

In a strong gesture of solidarity and humanitarian concern, Dr. Rameshwar Singh, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) Bani, has appealed to both the Central and State Governments to make arrangements for the safe stay of border residents in Bani until peace prevails and the situation at the border normalizes.

While addressing media persons, Dr. Rameshwar Singh stated that during times of border tension and cross-border firing, the lives of residents living in these areas are severely affected. "It is our duty to ensure their safety and dignity. We have prepared Bani to extend all possible help and shelter to our brothers and sisters from



the border areas," he said.

Dr. Singh assured that the people of Bani are wholeheartedly ready to support and accommodate the affected families and will stand by them in this time of crisis. He highlighted the recurring threat posed by terrorism and the targeting of civilians in the border areas, pointing out that such situations make it impossible for people to lead normal

lives in their own villages.

Taking a firm stance, Dr. Singh called upon the Central Government to take decisive action against terror activities and secure the lives of Indian citizens living near the border. "We must not allow our people to live in fear. We urge the authorities to eliminate the terrorist infrastructure across the border and restore peace," he emphasized.

## BJP leadership visits refugee camp at Bishnah



JI NEWS SERVICE

BISHNAH, 09 MAY 2025:

To assess the ground situation and understand the hardships faced by displaced people due to continued Pakistani shelling along the international border, senior BJP leaders visited the refugee camp set up at Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Bishnah.

Sat Sharma CA, President, J&K BJP, Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition, Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha), Rajiv Bhagat, MLA, Rinku Chaudhary, District President, Ashwani Sharma, former MLA and other BJP leaders met the displaced families from the border affected by Pakistani shelling at Bishnah.

While addressing on the occasion, Sat Sharma said that the visit aimed to take a ground-level review of the conditions in which the displaced people are currently living and to express the party's commitment to their safety and well-being.

Sat Sharma, said that the BJP has taken serious cognizance of the repeated misadventures by the Pakistan. He said that the morale of people and the forces is high. But still in wake of the persistent threat to their lives the people directly in range of the Pakistani shelling had to leave their homes.

Sharma lauded the measures taken by the

administration to provide the basic essentials to the displaced people. He insisted that there should be surplus supply of things available for the people.

Sunil Sharma emphasized the importance of maintaining open and regular coordination with the civil administration to minimize panic among the displaced and to curb the spread of misinformation. "Timely and accurate communication can help ease the psychological burden on the affected families," he noted.

Jugal Kishore Sharma reassured the refugees that the BJP stands firmly with them during this challenging time. "Our party workers are actively coordinating with the administration to ensure that all necessary aid reaches the displaced individuals. We will not leave any stone unturned in providing them the support they deserve," he affirmed.

Rajiv Bhagat also reaffirmed the party's commitment and the efforts of administration to take care of all the needs of the displaced families.

Raj Singh, Narayan Datt, Surjit Singh, Surat Singh Charak, Jaideep Sambyal, Sumit Sadootra, Surjit Kumar, Sonu Pardhan, Pradeep Gupta, Satish Bharati, Rajeev Sharma and others were also present on the occasion.

## Samsung launches Galaxy F56, its Slimmest F Series Smartphone in India

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today announced the launch of Galaxy F56 5G, the slimmest smartphone in the F-Series portfolio. The smartphone is only 7.2mm slim and stands out with several segment-leading features such as flagship grade camera, 6 generations of Android upgrade cycle, Gorilla Glass Victus+ protection on both front and back and advanced AI editing tools. "With the launch of Galaxy F56 5G, Samsung is reaffirming its commitment to bringing meaningful innovation to empower customers' lives through powerful, future-ready technology. Galaxy F56 5G brings a perfect blend of design and functionality to deliver top tier experiences to the young consumers looking for a smartphone that complements their lifestyle," said Akshay S Rao, Director, MX Business, Samsung India. Galaxy F56 5G comes with a flagship-grade 50MP OIS triple camera to shoot high-resolution and shake-free videos and photos. The smartphone also features a stunning 12MP HDR front camera for rich and

vibrant selfies. The cameras on Galaxy F56 5G are designed for vivid photos and videos—even in low light, thanks to its Big Pixel Technology, Low Noise Mode and AI ISP, taking its Nightography to a different level. It also features Portrait 2.0 with 2X zoom on the rear camera which enables crisp and natural bokeh effect. Users will also be able to record 4K 30 FPS videos in 10-bit HDR, capturing a wide range of colours for true-to-life output. Galaxy F56 5G will also feature advanced AI-powered editing tools like Object Eraser, Edit Suggestions that make every shot social-ready. Galaxy F56 5G is only 7.2mm slim and features Corning® Gorilla® Glass Victus® protection on both front and back—making it extremely tough as well as ergonomic. It features a 6.7" Full HD+ Super AMOLED+ display with 1200 nits of High Brightness Mode (HBM) and Vision Booster technology ensuring that users effortlessly enjoy their favourite content even under bright sunlight. The 120Hz refresh rate makes scrolling through social media feed a breeze. A glass back and a metal camera deco on Galaxy F56 5G brings a refreshing and premium

design upgrade to the immensely popular Galaxy F series. The smartphone will come in two vibrant and flaunt worthy colours - Green and Violet. Powered by Exynos 1480 processor with LPDDR5X, Galaxy F56 5G is extremely fast and power-efficient. With the ultimate speed and connectivity of 5G, users can stay fully connected wherever they go, experiencing faster downloads, smoother streaming, and uninterrupted browsing. The processor delivers a swift mobile gaming experience with its flagship level vapor cooling chamber and high-quality audio and visuals. Galaxy F56 5G packs in 5000mAh battery that enables long sessions of browsing, gaming and binge watching. The massive battery allows users to stay, connected, entertained and productive without interruption. Additionally, the 45W super-fast charging support ensures that the device quickly regains power, keeping you connected and productive throughout the day. Galaxy F56 5G is set to rewrite industry benchmarks by offering segment's best 6 generations of Android upgrades and 6 years of security updates, ensur-

ing a future-ready experience. The smartphone will come with One UI 7 out of the box. One UI 7 comes with a simple, impactful and emotive design, bringing streamlined and cohesive experience to Galaxy users. A simplified home screen, redesigned One UI widgets and lock screen allow users to intuitively and seamlessly customize their devices. For added convenience, Now Bar provides real-time updates that matter most right on the lock screen. So, during a morning run, users can easily check their progress and see what song is playing in their Galaxy Buds—all with a simple swipe, without unlocking their phone. Additionally, with deeper Google Gemini integration, controlling the device is as easy as speaking to a friend. Galaxy F56 5G will also feature one of Samsung's most innovative security features: Samsung Knox Vault. The hardware-based security system offers comprehensive protection against both hardware and software attacks. Samsung has also introduced its innovative Tap & Pay feature with Samsung Wallet with Galaxy F56 5G, allowing consumers to make secure payments effortlessly.

## Distt Admin Baramulla establishes 24x7 Joint Control Room at DEOC

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, MAY 9

In view of the prevailing situation and to strengthen public service delivery, the District Administration Baramulla has established a 24x7 Joint Control Room at the District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC), in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla.

The initiative operates under the overall supervision of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Baramulla.

The Joint Control Room will serve as a centralized hub to facilitate inter-departmental coordination, monitor developments, disseminate timely infor-

mation, and provide a platform for public grievance redressal. It aims to ensure efficient resolution of issues arising in real time and provide support during emergencies.

Citizens can reach the Joint Control Room via the following landline and mobile/WhatsApp numbers: Landline Numbers: 01952234210, 01952234343; Mobile/WhatsApp Numbers: 7006493646, 7006504312, 7006090764, 700621972, 7006921302.

District Administration has urged the public to make use of this facility for any emergency support, information, or grievance redressal.

## Kavinder slams Pakistan for cowardly attacks on civilians

Warns of decisive retaliation; urges public to remain vigilant



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta issued a scathing condemnation of Pakistan's deliberate targeting of civilian areas, calling it a desperate and cowardly attempt to provoke full-scale conflict with India.

"While India has clearly communicated that its operations are focused solely on eliminating terrorist infrastructure, without harming Pakistani civilians or military directly, Pakistan has crossed every line of decency by shelling civilian areas in Poonch and launching fresh strikes last night on army installations and residential zones across multiple Indian states," the BJP stalwart said in a statement issued here today.

Terming these actions as "acts of frustration and fear," Kavinder said Pakistan's military establishment is now resorting to cheap tactics to provoke

unrest and panic within India. "This aggression will not go unanswered. Pakistan must immediately stop or be ready to face a powerful and unforgiving response," he warned. At the same time, Kavinder issued a crucial advisory to Indian citizens: "Never share photos or videos of troop movements, air force deployments, or naval operations. Inadvertent leaks can help the enemy. National security starts with awareness and responsibility."

The former deputy Chief Minister called upon the people to maintain unity, stay composed, and support the armed forces in this critical hour. "Stay calm, stay alert, and help others do the same. Together, we are undefeated. Jai Hind!"

## Bhalla visits camps housing displaced border residents, reviews facilities

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Continuing his extensive visit to shelling hit villages of border areas, which are under constant shelling from Pakistan, JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla today interacted with displaced border dwellers at a camp at Radha Swami Satsang Ashram, Thandi Khui in Vijaypur and other camps. Bhalla was accompanied by former Minister Yash Paul Kundal, Congress District President Sanjeev Sharma, Babal Gupta Vinod Kumar Choudhary (Baba). They distributed eatables and other basic necessity items and appeals other to come forward to extend help and support to suffering people. He expressed solidarity with the affected villagers and made a strong plea for making available all the facilities for them at various camps across the constituency and other vulnerable areas. He also sought deployment of mobile medical teams and adequate transport for shifting the people of the most affected areas along International Border at safer places.



gave further impetus to the normalisation of relations, which are needed to be carried forward with a renewed commitment. He said there is no alternative to peace as hostilities have only brought miseries to the people on both sides of border.

Urging people not to get panicky as the Government was seized of the situation, Bhalla hoped that border dwellers will brave this temporary phase with the same spirit they have been demonstrating over the decades. He lauded their valour for being the front line soldiers of the nation and said the people of the entire State and the country were behind them at this hour of crisis. To combat loss to human life, Bhalla suggested setting up of more concrete community bunkers so that people can take shelter in the wake of shelling from across the borders.

Bhalla also reiterated the demand for exploring possibilities of inclusive insurance, covering life and crops in the affected areas. "The Government should explore this on urgent basis", he demanded. Bhalla also pitched for setting up of a Border Development Authority for the holistic and sustained development of the border areas with thrust on basics like road communication, drinking water, irrigation and other utility services. He sought urgent consideration of a special employment package in recruitment to central para military forces and the armed forces for youth living along the borders.

approach in addressing the needs of the displaced population.

Bhalla hoped that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led government will be actively working on enhancing bunker infrastructure, restoring essential supplies and strengthening emergency communication systems to ensure their safety and well-being. He expressed anguish over continued shelling from across the border and loss of life and property in the forward areas of the Jammu region and sought concrete measures to bring an end to border skirmishes. "The fallout of hostilities between New Delhi and Islamabad is being felt in Jammu and Kashmir with people becoming fodder of cannon on the borders", Bhalla said.

Bhalla said peace on borders is imperative for normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan. He said the border dwellers in Jammu and Kashmir had witnessed an era of peace following ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan during the tenure of the then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee. He said the former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh

various areas.

It was further informed that the district has sufficient quantities of food grains available including petroleum products.

It was brought into notice that food grains for the border areas of Baramulla have already been dumped up to July-2025.

## Movement Kalki stands united with Nation Amid India-Pakistan Tensions



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

In view of the rising tensions between India and Pakistan, the Core Committee of Movement Kalki convened an urgent meeting today. The primary agenda was to assess the ongoing situation at the borders and its impact on socio-religious campaigns—especially the movement to declare Gau Mata (Mother Cow) as the National Mother.

After detailed discussions, the committee unanimously decided that while the campaign for Gau Mata's recognition will continue, no activity should interfere with national interest or internal security. It was resolved that day-time protests will continue as scheduled, while night

time demonstrations will be temporarily suspended until the situation at the borders returns to normal.

The committee firmly stated: "The nation is above all. In these challenging times, Movement Kalki stands firmly with the Government of India and our brave Armed Forces. We will not let any part of our movement compromise the unity and security of the country."

Senior members present at the meeting included Shri Sanjeev Dubey, Rajkumar Lalotra, Pawan Sharma, Mohit Sharma, Sapna Hindu, and Antu Kotwal. All members reiterated their dedication to the movement's cause, while emphasizing that every step taken will be aligned with the nation's interest.

## CCI Jammu elections deferred

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

An emergency meeting of the executive committee of Chamber of Commerce & Industry Jammu was called by Sh. Shiv Partap Gupta, Election President to apprise members about verbal directions issued by Divisional Commissioner with regard to conduct of 11th May Election. It was further told that Divisional Commissioner's office has written to the President that it is not advisable to hold election in view of the prevailing situation on the border. Keeping in view yesterday night drone and missiles attack on Jammu by Pakistan and directions from Divisional Commissioner, the Executive Committee decided with majority opinion to defer the holding of election till normalcy is restored.

The election president announced that present team of office bearers shall continue to function till elections

are again decided by the executive committee. The Executive Committee with majority opinion approved the announcement of the Election President.

Prominent among others in the meeting include Sh. Manmohan Singh, Sh. Kulbhushan Gupta, Sh. Vijay Gupta, Sh. Romesh Chander Gupta, Former President, Sh. Prithvi Raj Gupta, Former Secretary General, Sh. Rajendra Motial, Former Secretary General, Sh. Ravinder Sawhney, Sh. Jagdish langer, Sh. Ravinder Goel, Sh. Murari Lal, Sh. Surinder Mahajan, Dr. Gautam Goel, Sh. Ashok Gupta, Sh. Kailash Langer, Sh. Virender Puri, Sh. Kamal Kishor Gupta, Sh. Deepak Gupta, Sh. Sanjay Gupta, Sh. Rajesh Gupta, Sh. Kamal Randhwa and Sh. S.M. Bali, Sh. Dinesh Gupta, Sh. Rajan Gupta, Sh. Rajevee Langer, Contesting Candidates Sh. Rakesh Gupta and his team.

## Ghulam Nabi Azad addresses GGF office bearers and volunteers

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Gandhi Global Family (GGF) President Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad convened a significant online meeting of GGF office bearers and volunteers to address the urgent humanitarian needs of people residing in the border areas along the Line of Control (LOC) in Rajouri, Poonch, Kupwara and Baramulla districts of Jammu & Kashmir.

While addressing from New Delhi, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad emphasized the critical importance of extending timely assistance to these vulnerable communities affected by conflict and hardship.

He urged GGF members to step up efforts by organizing medical camps, blood donation drives and distributing essential relief material to the affected population. He also stressed that these efforts should not be limited to J&K but extended to other parts of the country wherever people are in

distress. Shri Azad appreciated the dedication of GGF volunteers and reaffirmed the organization's commitment to serving humanity with compassion and unity. He called for a coordinated and swift response to alleviate the suffering of affected families and ensure their basic healthcare and survival needs are met. The meeting concluded with a strong resolve to intensify relief efforts and strengthen GGF's grassroots presence in LOC & International Border of Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Dr. S P Varma, Adv Ram Mohan Rai, Shri Spalbar Rigzin, Shri Dinesh Gupta, Shri Robert Robin Gill, Dr. Mehajbeen Nabi, Dr. Alka Sharma, S. Rajinder Singh, Shri Noor-Ul-Malik, Shri Majid Bichoo, Mrs Summi Seth, Dr. Punit Kaur, Mrs Khurram, Shri Sunaualla Tamiri, Shri Dhannavelan, Smt Nivedita Kumari, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Jiji, Shri Surya Bhusal, Dr. Himani Kumari, Shi Amit Varma and others.

## JKPC sets up control room in Srinagar, establishes helpline for support, assistance to shelling affected people

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR MAY 9, 2025

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPC) President Tariq Hameed Karra on Friday setup a control room consisting of senior party functionaries & DCC Presidents, who will remain available to render all possible assistance to shelling affected people.

The members with the helpline numbers are given below:-

S.d.r. S.S.Channi 9419000784  
Shri Nissar Ahmad Mundo 9419006694  
Shri Irfan Naqib

9419000470  
Dr. Audl Farooq Mir Lasjan 9419001064  
Shri Fayaz Ahmad Mir 9596457388  
Shri Iqbal Mir 7006704522  
Shri Umer Jaan 9906712321  
Shri Arshid Ahmad Tantray 9797788558  
Shri Mushtaq Tantray 7006002960  
Dr. Waleed 8713855555  
Shri Bilal Mir  
The control room will work in close coordination with the administration ensuring that people get timely support and assistance.

## Director FCS&CA visits Baramulla

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, MAY 09

In view of the prevailing situation, Director Food Civil Supplies and

Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Kashmir, Abdul Rashid War Friday visited district Baramulla and chaired a meeting to review the stock and supply position of essential commodities and fuel in the district.

During the meeting, the concerned Officer apprised the chair about the stock position/distribution status of

## Cong holds Tiranga Yatra in Bengaluru

AGENCIES  
BENGALURU, MAY 9

The Karnataka Congress on Friday organised a Tiranga Yatra in the state capital to express solidarity with the Indian armed forces, with Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar invoking the leadership of former prime minister Indira Gandhi in handling crises. The rally, which began from KR Circle and culminated at Minsk Square near the Chinnaswamy Cricket Stadium, saw participation from a wide cross-section of society, including students, retired defence personnel, and leaders from various political backgrounds. Addressing the gathering, Shivaku-



mar said, "We invited all sections of the society... We want to salute our armed forces and stand in solidarity with them. I'm pleased that within a short period, all sections of people, including retired armed forces, students, and all political parties, are participating here. India is stronger. Like we managed the

situation under the leadership of Indira Gandhi, the same will happen now, and India will win," he said. Home Minister Dr G Parmeshwara, who also participated in the rally, said, "We would like to send out a message saying that we are all with you (Indian armed forces). Whatever action you

have taken, it's appreciated and praised. This rally has been organised to say that symbolically." Echoing similar sentiments, Minister HK Patil remarked, "This Tiranga Yatra conveys our moral support and appreciation for our armed forces. They have shown the world that India is the strongest and the most intelligent force in the world. We are not in favour of escalating a conflict with Pakistan, but we will not keep quiet if the neighbouring country does it." The event was marked by patriotic fervour, with participants waving the national flag and raising slogans in praise of the armed forces.

## HRTC implements revised bus fares; Volvo travel from Shimla Costlier by Rs 150

AGENCIES  
SHIMLA, MAY 9

The Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) has implemented the revised fare structure for all stage carriage buses in the state, including ordinary, deluxe, and AC/Volvo services, with effect from Friday. The move comes following the state government's notification issued earlier this week, authorising a hike in both short and long-distance bus fares.

As per the instructions of HRTC, all E-tickets machine were being updated today and revision of fare is implemented with effect from Friday as per an order of managing director of HRTC Deva



Sen Negi.

As the new rates came into force, passengers boarding Volvo and AC deluxe buses from Shimla will now have to pay significantly more. The fare for a Volvo bus from Shimla to Delhi has increased by Rs 150, up from Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,150, while the fare for Shimla to Chandigarh has gone up from Rs 425 to Rs 488.

Similarly, the Shimla to

Dharamsala Volvo fare has risen to Rs1071, up from Rs 932.

Fares for ordinary bus services have also been revised. The per km fare in hilly areas has gone up from Rs 1.40 to Rs 1.60, and in plains from Rs 2.19 to Rs 2.50. Deluxe services will now charge Rs 1.95/km in plains and Rs 3.10/km in hilly terrain.

Officials from HRTC said the revision was necessary

to manage the rising operational costs and to support the financial health of the corporation. The last such revision took place in July 2020.

Despite the hike, passengers will continue to receive discounts on Smart, Green, and Samman cards. These include a 10% discount on Smart cards for long-distance travel, and 25% and 30% discounts on Green and Samman cards respectively for travel within a 50-km radius.

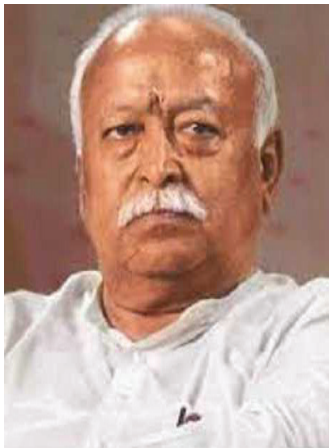
With the implementation now active, commuters are adjusting to the new rates, while many hope that the additional revenue would contribute to improved services and vehicle maintenance.

## RSS hails Operation Sindoor as justice for Pahalgam massacre

AGENCIES  
NAGPUR, MAY 9

Hailing Operation Sindoor as a "decisive step" that has restored the nation's dignity and boosted collective morale following the brutal massacre of Hindu tourists in Pahalgam, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) on Friday lauded the Centre and the armed forces for their swift and strong response against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.

In a statement issued by Sarsanghchalak Dr Mohan Bhagwat and Sarkaryavah Dattatreya Hosabale, the RSS said the action taken by the armed forces had served justice to the aggrieved families and the entire country. "This firm action against Pak-sponsored terrorists and their ecosystem has enhanced self-respect and morale of the entire nation," it said. Expressing full support



Pakistani army on religious places and civilian settlements along the border, expressing heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

The RSS appealed to all citizens to strictly follow the instructions issued by the government and local administration, and to remain vigilant against any attempts by anti-national forces to

disturb social harmony. "While discharging our sacred civic duty, we must ensure no conspiracy succeeds in disrupting social unity," the statement said. Calling for public cooperation in this critical hour, the RSS urged citizens to be prepared to assist the armed forces and civil authorities in every possible manner, and to stand together to uphold national unity and security.

The organisation also condemned what it described as "savage and inhuman" attacks by the

for the ongoing military operations, the RSS noted that striking terrorist infrastructure and support systems in Pakistan was both "necessary and inevitable" for India's security. "In this hour of national crisis, the entire country stands with the government and armed forces in spirit and action," it added.

## Punjab govt cancels IAS, PCS officers' leave

AGENCIES  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 9

Amid escalation at the borders, the Punjab government on Friday announced cancellation of leave of IAS/PCS officers.

An official order by personnel secretary said in view of the prevailing situation and preparedness for the emergency system, it has been decided that no officer shall proceed on any kind of leave or leave their station of posting without explicit approval of the chief secretary.

"All the leaves approved stand cancelled," it said.

The May 9 dated order said these instructions come into force immediately. "Meticulous compliance may be ensured failing which suitable action under relevant rules shall be initiated," the communication to all IAS/PCS officers in Punjab added.

## Security of ships, ports enhanced

AGENCIES  
MUMBAI, MAY 9

In the wake of the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, the Mumbai-headquartered Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has enhanced security arrangements at all ports, terminals, shipyards and ships.

Following the directive, security arrangements of the coastal area in Mumbai was reviewed by the deputy commissioner of police port zone.

Heavy police bandobast was deployed out side JNPT port at Panvel, Sasoan dock, Bhav Ka Dhaka, Indira Dock and Yellow Gate.

The Director General, DGCA has asked all the chief information security officer of all port facilities to review the security of IT and communications systems and take appropriate measures to prevent/mitigate the threats of cyberattacks.

The security system has been enhanced from



MARSEC Level-1 to MARSEC Level-2 with immediate effect.

"This directive is issued in the interest of national maritime security and must be treated with utmost urgency and priority. Strict compliance is expected, and any breach will be viewed very seriously," said Captain Nitin Mukesh, deputy nautical Advisor-cum senior DDG (tech) said in an advisory.

The advisory was posted

by All India Seafarers Union (AISU) in its social media platform.

"In light of recent developments and growing concerns regarding potential threats to the Indian coast, ports, terminals, and vessels will emphasize the necessity of implementing additional protective measures during periods of heightened security risk," the order said.

All ports, terminals, and shipyards have been asked

to implement heightened maritime security measures, including elevation to International Ship and Port Facility Security Code -- ISPS Security Level 2 -- with immediate effect.

All Indian flagged vessel operating in and near the India sub-continent and neighboring countries are required to elevate the security Level to 2 and implement the applicable security measures as per Ship Security Plan (SSP).

## Pak will now be seen struggling for its existence: Yogi

AGENCIES  
LUCKNOW, MAY 9

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday cornered Pakistan on terrorism and said that it has done such a great audacity that now it will be seen struggling for its existence as its terror face has now been exposed to the world.

Participating in a commemorative event marking Maharana Pratap Jayanti, the CM paid heartfelt tribute to valiant warriors, including Maharana Pratap, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Guru Gobind Singh.

Referring to the brutal terrorist attack on Indian tourists in Pahalgam on April 22, he said the incident had stirred the conscience of every Indian and strengthened the resolve for decisive retaliation.

"Under the firm leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Indian armed forces delivered a robust and appropriate response to such provocations. As a result Pakistan now finds itself globally isolated and severely weakened," he said.

Condemning Pakistan's continued patronage of terrorism, Yogi said that the shocking participation of senior Pakistani military officials and politicians at



the funerals of terrorists who were neutralised in Indian counter-terrorism operations.

"This not only proves Pakistan's patronage of terrorists but also shows its deep-rooted complicity. Pakistan is now visibly struggling for survival," he said.

He called on citizens to remain united and firmly stand by the Indian armed forces. He cautioned against the spread of misinformation and rumours on social media, urging people to stay alert and expose anti-national elements.

The CM said, "Every Indian must support our forces and expose anti-national elements. We must move forward with unity under the guidance of our central leadership."

He reiterated that India will emerge victorious in every circumstance and UP stands unwaveringly with the defenders of the nation. Drawing inspiration from history, he said the birth anniversaries of

warriors like Maharana Pratap serve as reminders of India's legacy of resistance and bravery.

Recalling the historic Battle of Haldighati, Yogi highlighted how Maharana Pratap, with the support of Vanvasi and Girivasi warriors, forced Emperor Akbar's massive army to retreat, showcasing the triumph of courage over might.

On the occasion, Legislative Council members Rakesh Singh and Manvendra Singh were congratulated for beautifying a major intersection in the city, which will now be named Maharana Pratap Singh Chowk.

The CM recalled that it was in 1998 that he had first proposed the installation of Maharana Pratap's statue at this location. "Subsequently, similar statues were installed in cities like Lucknow, Gorakhpur and Prayagraj, with support from leaders like Kalyan Singh and Rajnath Singh," he said.

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION, AKHNOOR/NOWSHERA Tele/Fax :01924-253998/E-Mail - ifcjmidadkhnoor@gmail.com NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No.: - MID/AN/02 Dated: -08/05/2025

For and on behalf of The Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (UT), Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division Akhnoor/Nowshera invites e-tenders from Approved contractors/ Registered firms / Workshop owners having experience in Electromechanical Works for following jobs: -

| S.No. | Name of the work  | Quantity | Earnest Money (Rs. in Lacs) | Cost of tender document | Period of Completion | Class of contractor   |
|-------|---|----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 01.   | Repair of 4.5 cusec discharge, 60 mtrs head HC pump, Complete rewinding of motor and repair/strengthening 375 mm, 200 mm dia of NRV of LIS Thandapani | 01 Job   | 02% of the quoted value     | Rs.200                  | 15 Days              | Registered /Reputed firms /Workshop owners having experience in Electromechanical Works |

- The bidding documents can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from **08/05/2025 (05:00PM) to 17/05/2025 (02:00 PM)**. Bidding document contains instruction for bidders, bill of quantities, general terms and condition and other details.
  - The Bids shall be uploaded in electronic format on the website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> from **10/05/2025 (1:00 PM) to 17/05/2025 (02:00 PM)**.
  - The complete bidding process will be through electronic mode.
  - A pre-bid meeting will be held on **09/05/2025 (11:30 AM)** in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division Akhnoor / Nowshera to address any queries from the firms.
  - Cover-I of the bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on **19/05/2025 (1:00PM)** in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division Akhnoor / Nowshera in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
  - Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-Tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidders who is declared as L1 after opening of Financial Bids
  - The cost of the tenders should be collected by introducing e-challan by simply uploading a copy of necessary treasury challan/Receipt.
- Similarly, insisting on actual call deposit receipt, a copy of same duly pledged to the concerned department should be uploaded by the tenderers. However, before allotting the work or issuing the supply order the original CDR should be obtained and kept on record.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding document.
- The guidelines regarding submission of bid in electronic mode can be downloaded from website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>
- The bidders shall go through the tender specific instructions sheet also.
- The bidders for any clarification can contact the department through e-mail [ifcjmidadkhnoor@gmail.com](mailto:ifcjmidadkhnoor@gmail.com).

No: - MID/AN/129-33  
Dated: - 08-05-2025

DIP/J-991/25  
Date: 9-5-25

-Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Irrigation Division  
Akhnoor/Nowshera

## Control room set up by Punjab

**AGENCIES**  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 9 (UND)

In view of the current security situation in the country, a control room has been set up by the Punjab government. According to the information given by the official spokesperson, for the convenience of people, the Finance Commissioner Revenue (FCR) Disaster Management Control Room has unveiled the landline phone numbers 0172-2741803 and 0172-2749901. In case of any emergency, the numbers can be contacted.

## Janardhana Reddy disqualified as MLA

**AGENCIES**  
BENGALURU, MAY 9

BJP MLA from Ganga-vathi, Gali Janardhana Reddy, has been disqualified from the Karnataka Legislative Assembly following his conviction in the Obulapuram Mining Company (OMC) illegal mining case.

On May 6, a special CBI court found Reddy and three others guilty in the decade-long case

involving illegal extraction and export of iron ore. The court sentenced them to seven years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on each.

Acting on the conviction, the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat on Friday issued a notification declaring Reddy disqualified under Article 191(1)(e) of the Constitution of India, read with Section 8 of the Rep-

resentation of the People Act, 1951.

The disqualification takes effect from the date of conviction and will remain in force for an additional six years from the date of release, unless stayed by a competent court.

Reddy, a former minister in the BS Yediyurappa-led BJP government between 2008 and 2011, had returned to the Assembly in 2023 after a

political hiatus, winning from Gangavathi. His disqualification has necessitated a by-election for the constituency.

The OMC case is among the most high-profile illegal mining cases in the country, involving large-scale environmental damage and significant revenue losses to the state exchequer. The case has long been a flashpoint in Karnataka's political discourse.

## Rabindra Jayanti celebrated across Bengal

**AGENCIES**  
KOLKATA, MAY 9

Amid heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, speaking on the 164th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, urged the world to rise above narrow personal interests and remain united.



Taking to her official X handle, the Chief Minister posted a powerful excerpt from one of the Nobel laureate's most iconic poem: "Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high / Where knowledge is free / Where the world has not been broken up into fragments / By narrow domestic walls."

"On the birth anniversary of Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore, we offer our heartfelt respect and salutations to our beloved Thakur. Not just on the 25th of Boishakh, but every day, we remember him. In our direction, in our language, in our hopes - he is present in everything! The entire world is illuminated by the light of his creations," the Chief Minister wrote.

In Santiniketan - the very heart of Tagore's legacy and home to Visva-Bharati University, founded by Gurudev a century ago - Rabindra Jayanti was observed on Wednesday with great enthusiasm.

The day unfolded with a series of vibrant events including dance performances, theatrical presentations, songs, and recitations, all paying tribute to the poet-philosopher.

Celebrations began early in the morning with students participating in Vaitalik (devotional songs) and Prabhat Pheris (morning cultural processions), setting a soulful tone for the day. Brahma worship, Vedic chanting, and various cultural programmes followed, adding depth to the spiritual and artistic observances.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Sanjay Kumar Mallick, along with faculty members, students, and alumni, attended the celebrations. Santiniketan also saw an influx of visitors from across the state - scholars, artists, and admirers - who gathered to honour the timeless legacy of Tagore.

On September 17, 2023 Santiniketan was awarded the World Heritage status. This is the first Rabindra Jayanti that is being celebrated at Santiniketan after bagging the coveted World Heritage status.

Remembering the poet on his birth anniversary, the BJP state president Sukanta Majumdar wrote on his X handle, "Respectful tributes to the composer of the national anthem, world poet, great philosopher and writer, and Nobel laureate Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore on his birth anniversary."

In Kolkata, also cultural organisations hosted art exhibitions and theatrical performances while schools and colleges across the state organised prayer songs and programmes. Many people also visited Tagore's ancestral house in Kolkata's Jorasanko, where cultural programmes were held.

## Rain, thunderstorms lash parts of Himachal

**AGENCIES**  
SHIMLA, MAY 9

Himachal Pradesh experienced widespread rain and thunderstorms over the past 24 hours, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasting continued thunderstorm activity and gusty winds at isolated places till Saturday.

Kukumseri was the coldest at night with a minimum temperature of 6.1°C, while Paonta Sahib recorded the highest daytime temperature at 36°C.

Minimum temperature of Shimla: Min 14.6°C, Max 21.6°C, Sundernagar: 18.2°C and 30.9°C, Dharamshala 17.6°C and 27.0°C, Una: 15.7°C and 35.8°C, Nahan: 17.9°C and 32.4°C Palampur 15.5°C and 28.0°C, Mandi 19.6°C and 31.8°C, Kangra 19.6°C and 33.0°C and Manali 12.3°C and 23.5°.

## Air passengers told to reach airport before three hours

**AGENCIES**  
MUMBAI MAY 9

Amid heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, airlines have asked passengers to report at airports three hours before the scheduled departure of the flight.

sengers across India are advised to arrive at their respective airports at least three hours prior to scheduled departure to ensure smooth check-in and boarding. The check-in closes 75 mins before departure," the Air India posted on X.

hand bag weighing upto 7 kg will be permitted. As per regulatory guidelines, all passengers will be required to undergo secondary security checks prior to boarding."

IndiGo in its message to passengers said: "In these extraordinary times, heightened security measures are taken up across all airports. We request you to allow some extra time for your journey to accommodate security checks and formalities. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation."

Born on May 7, 1861, Tagore made history in 1913 by becoming the first non-European and the first lyricist to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature. This visionary poet, philosopher, and artist passed away on August 7, 1941.

The birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore - an inseparable figure in Bengali culture - was celebrated across West Bengal on Friday with traditional fervour and joy, marked by deep cultural pride and reverence for the revered poet.

Leader of the opposition Suwendu Adhikari wrote on his X handle, "On Rabindra Jayanti, I offer my profound homage to the illustrious Bengali polymath, Nobel laureate Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. World over respectfully referred to as Viswakabi, we commemorate his extraordinary legacy and cherish his unparalleled contributions that continues to enrich and define our cultural heritage."

Significant rainfall was recorded at several locations, with Naina Devi receiving the highest at 38.2 mm, followed by Bharari (30.8 mm), Nahan (29.8 mm), and Jot (18.6 mm). Thunderstorms were reported from Shimla, Palampur, Jubberhatti, Kangra, Sundernagar, and Jot, though no hailstorm or snowfall was reported.

The minimum and maximum temperatures remained largely within the seasonal range, though many places recorded below-normal day temperatures.

A western disturbance prevailing over Iran is currently affecting weather conditions in the western Himalayan region.

The IMD has issued a warning for gusty winds of 40-50 km/h, gusting up to 60 km/h at isolated locations for today and tomorrow.

The carriers also advised passengers to carry out check-in online to save time.

Air India, which posted the travel advisories in social media platforms, said that passengers are advised to come three hours in advance while the check-in will close 75 minutes before departure.

"In view of an order by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security on enhanced measures at airports, passengers across India are advised to arrive at their respective airports at least three hours prior to scheduled departure to ensure smooth check-in and boarding. The check-in closes 75 mins before departure," the Air India posted on X.

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## Missile-like debris found in Hoshiarpur village; IAF called for probe



**AGENCIES**  
HOSHIARPUR, MAY 9

Debris resembling parts of a missile was found in the fields near Kamahi Devi village in Hoshiarpur district on Thursday evening, officials said.

SP Mukesh Kumar said on Friday that the debris appeared to be of missile-type origin. Acting

promptly, the local police informed the Indian Air Force. A team of Air Force officials soon arrived at the site, conducted a preliminary inspection, and took the debris with them for further investigation and disposal, the officer said. Officials have not yet confirmed the origin or type of the object. Further analysis is underway.

## NTPC security up in wake of border tension

**AGENCIES**  
BHAGALPUR, MAY 9

Following instructions of the Union Home Ministry, the security has been beefed up at six power plants of the country's largest power generating company NTPC Ltd, located in Bihar and West Bengal amid escalating Indo-Pak tension and war-like situation between the two countries.

clock patrolling and search operations were being carried out by the troops in all plant premises.

Sources said that suspicious people and objects were being kept under strict surveillance at all sensitive places of power plants. Along with this, the duty of security personnel has been increased at the main workplace, CHP, boiler area, switch yard, turbine area.

plants and sensitive areas through CCTV cameras and also by manually checking the people and vehicles visiting the power plants.

Round-the-clock patrolling was also being done with the help of local police in the sensitive areas of villages around the plants. Private security guards posted in the residential complexes of the plants have been alerted.

## Mumbai Siddhivinayak temple bans coconut, prasad due to security reasons



**AGENCIES**  
MUMBAI MAY 9

Authorities in Mumbai's famous Siddhivinayak temple at Prabhadevi have announced a ban on coconuts and prasad inside the temple premises due to security reasons.

The step was taken as a safety precaution because coconuts can be used to conceal explosives.

Sada Sarvankar, chairman of the temple trust and former MLA, said on Friday that the decision was taken after an advisory from the police and the Maharashtra government.

"Coconuts are a nightmare as far as security is concerned. It is time-consuming to check every coconut. Sweets carry the risk of a poison attack on pilgrims," said Sarvankar, who added that the vendors outside the temples have been told to stop buying fresh stock.

## Kidnapped man rescued, 11 nabbed in Manipur

**AGENCIES**  
IMPHAL, MAY 9

A man allegedly kidnapped by suspected militants was rescued and 11 other militants were apprehended by security forces and Manipur Police in various operations in the last 24 hours.

will come into effect from Sunday.

Sarvankar said there was no specific terror threat, but security measures have been introduced as a precaution. During the ban period, devotees can carry small bundles of durva grass and flowers as offerings to Lord Ganesha. Heavy garlands have also been banned. A notice about the ban is expected to be issued to pilgrims.

Meanwhile, the temple organised special prayers to thank Lord Ganesha for 'Operation Sindoor', the Indian military's successful strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan. Acharya Pawan Tripathi, the temple trust's treasurer, led the prayers. The Lord's altar was decorated with the tricolour.

The state police said on Friday that three members of a militant outfit were nabbed from Lilong Bridge along NH-102 under Lilong-PS, Thoubal District in connection with kidnapping of an individual from RIMS complex, Lamphel for ransom. The person was also rescued.

## Chandrasekhar Reddy takes oath as Telangana chief information commissioner

**AGENCIES**  
HYDERABAD, MAY 9

Dr G Chandrasekhar Reddy, a retired Indian Forest Service officer, was sworn in as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of the Telangana State Right to Information Act Commission on Friday.

The oath of office was administered by Governor Jishnu Dev Sharma during a special ceremony held at Raj Bhavan Darbar Hall.

The event was attended by several dignitaries, including state ministers Jupally Krishna Rao, Leg-

islative Council chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy, deputy chairman Banda Prakash, and State Farmers Commission chairman Kodanda Reddy.

Notable officials present included chief secretary Ramakrishna Rao, DGP Jitender, state election Commission Commissioner Rani Kumidini, Vigilance Commissioner M G Gopal, and Senior IAS officers such as Jayesh Ranjan and Mahesh Dutt Ekka.

Dr Chandrasekhar Reddy's appointment comes at a critical time,

as the Telangana Information Commission was lying defunct for over two years, leading to a backlog of over 16,000 RTI appeals and complaints.

His leadership is expected to address these challenges and restore the commission's functionality. Dr Reddy will serve a tenure of three years or until the age of 65, whichever is earlier. His extensive experience in environmental conservation and public administration positions him well to lead the commission effectively, an official statement said.

## Mumbai's Tata Memorial Hospital receives threat email

**AGENCIES**  
MUMBAI, MAY 9

Tata Memorial Hospital in Parel, Mumbai, which is one of the premier specialist cancer treatment and research centres of the country, on Friday received a threatening mail claiming that an explosive device is planted in hospital premises.

an immediate response from law enforcement agencies.

The hospital, which treats thousands of cancer patients daily, initiated emergency protocols, including a precautionary evacuation of patients to safer areas within the facility.

A large contingent of Mumbai Police, including bomb detection and disposal squads, were deployed at the hospital premises but nothing was found.

Authorities are currently investigating the source of the email and are working to trace the IP address from which it was sent.

In another incident, security forces arrested four members of KCP (MFL) from Lamding Khumanthem Leikai under Thoubal-PS, Thoubal District. In yet another operation security forces arrested one active cadre of an organisation from Sekmai Bazar under Sekmai-PS, Imphal-West District.

A search operation was carried out Taphou Kuki village in Senapati District and two firearms were recovered.

## District Magistrate meets public, affected families in Poonch, assures continuity of essential supplies

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, MAY 9

In light of the cross border shelling, the District Magistrate Poonch Vikas Kundal visited several areas of the district to assess the situation, interact with the public, and ensure uninterrupted delivery of essential services.

A major focus of the visit was on the families affected by the recent tragic events. The DC met with the bereaved families, personally consoled the demise of their loved ones, and stood in solidarity with them in this difficult time. As a mark of immediate support, he disbursed an ex gratia relief of Rs. 6 lakh among the Next of the Kin of those deceased.

During the visit, he also reviewed the availability

of critical supplies such as food grains, LPG, medicines, and drinking water. He assured the public that all essential services are being maintained and that the administration is fully committed to addressing the needs of every resident.

He directed concerned departments to remain on high alert and continue working in close coordination to ensure timely service delivery, especially in remote and vulnerable areas.

The District Magistrate urged citizens to stay calm, avoid rumors, and cooperate with the administration in maintaining peace and order.

Senior officials from the civil and police administration accompanied him during the visit.

## JK Govt makes key appointments in Jal Shakti Department

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 09

In a significant development, the Jammu and Kashmir Government has approved the elevation and appointment of two senior officers in the Jal Shakti Department.

Upon their elevation, I/c Superintending Engineer, Mohammad Taj Chowdhary has been appointed as Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Kashmir on incharge basis, while I/c Superintending Engineer, Tirath Ram, has been appointed as Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control, Kashmir on incharge basis.

These appointments have been made in view of the exceptional circumstances arising from significant vacancies and a shortage of senior officers at the top level in the department.

The Establishment-Selection Committee

had thoroughly discussed and recommended these elevations, underscoring the government's commitment to filling critical positions.

Meanwhile, Jal Shakti Minister, Javed Ahmed Rana, has ordered the elevation of five Executive Engineers to Superintending Engineers, effectively filling up all vacancies at the Superintending Engineer level in the Department.

This move is expected to bolster the implementation of vital water supply projects in Jammu and Kashmir.

Rana's proactive interventions have already begun to transform the human resource landscape in the Jal Shakti Department.

To ensure efficient project delivery, the Minister has directed to ensure regular monitoring and evaluation of top-level officers' performance.

## 2nd National Lok Adalat Deferred

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 9

In accordance with directives from the Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), the 2nd National Lok Adalat,

originally scheduled for May 10, 2025, has been postponed due to the prevailing circumstances. Consequently, the event will not take place on the scheduled date in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

# Dy CM reviews border situation, holds meeting with locals, officials at Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 9

In the wake of prevailing situation along the border areas, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today chaired a high level meeting with the district administration and prominent citizens of civil society at Rajouri to discuss public safety and seek suggestions regarding evacuation and rehabilitation of affected population.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, briefed regarding the steps being taken by the district administration for the safety and security of people affected due to shelling near the Line of Control (LoC).

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy CM stated that the situation has escalated due to



unprovoked provocation by Pakistan, necessitating precautionary measures to safeguard the civilian lives. He assured that both UT and Central Governments are fully committed towards ensuring the safety and timely evacuation of residents living in vulnerable areas.

During the meeting, various issues were raised by the public and civil society, including direct chopper service

from Rajouri to Jammu for critical patients, deputation of officials for follow-up on patients being referred outside the UT, action against misuse of social media platforms, promotion of communal harmony and constitution of peace committees to prevent theft in vacated areas in case of migration, setting up of migrant camps in both government and private educational institutions, improvement



of medical facilities at GMC Rajouri including a special ward for border shelling victims, availability of ambulances and generators at GMC, timely completion of 180-bedded hospital building at GMC and regulation of fare for transportation vehicles during the crisis.

Prominent leaders including MLA Rajouri, Iftikhar Ahmed, MLA Thanamandi, Muzaffar Khan, MLA Kalakote, Randhir Singh and DDC

Vice Chairperson, Shabir Khan along with several civil society members actively participated and shared constructive suggestions.

The Deputy CM directed the authorities to prioritize civilian safety and security and ensure swift rehabilitation and assistance to the affected families. He stressed the importance of maintaining communal harmony and urged coordination between civil society and

administration in these testing times.

Prior to meeting, the Deputy Chief Minister visited the migrant camps set up at Thandkassi and interacted with the displaced families. He also visited GMC Rajouri, where he took stock of medical arrangements and interacted with the patients, particularly those injured or shifted due to border shelling. He issued directions for improving healthcare services and providing best possible treatment to all affected individuals.

The meeting was attended by ACR Mohd Jahangir Khan, ACD Auqil Naveed, Principal GMC Dr A.S. Bhatia, Executive Engineer JPDCL, Mohd Rasheed, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti, Rajiv Khajuria and other senior officers from the district and line departments.

## Satish Sharma visits Pargwal displaced residents at Mishriwala

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 9

Minister for FCS&CA, Transport, Youth Service Sports, Satish Sharma, today visited camp, where several families from Pargwal sector and other catchment areas have taken refuge following intense cross-border shelling.

The shelling has forced many villagers from the border areas of Pargwal to flee their homes for safety, prompting swift action by the administration to relocate and house them at the Mishriwala relief camp.

During his visit, the Minister interacted with the affected residents, listened to their grievances and reviewed the facilities being provided to them. He expressed deep solidarity with the displaced families and assured them that the government stands firmly with them during this difficult period.

"The safety and dignity of every citizen is our utmost priority," said the Minister. "We are fully committed towards ensuring that those affected by the cross-border violence



do not face any further hardship. I have directed the district administration to ensure all necessary facilities, including adequate shelter, food, drinking water, medical aid and sanitation are made available without delay."

The Minister also reviewed the relief operations and took stock of the arrangements made at the camp. He instructed the officials to maintain regular health check ups, proper sanitation and timely distribution of essential commodities. He asked the concerned to give special attention

to children, elderly and women to ensure their specific needs are met.

He appreciated the swift response of the district administration, security forces and civil society volunteers who are working tirelessly to provide relief and maintain peace and order during the crisis.

The Minister stated that the situation along the border is being closely monitored and the government is taking all possible diplomatic and administrative steps to ensure the safety of civilians and prevent further loss.

## Sakeena Itoo, Javed Dar visit shelling affected areas of Baramulla, Uri

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MAY 9

On the directions of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, Cabinet Ministers, Sakeena Itoo and Javed Ahmad Dar, today visited frontier district Baramulla and took stock of ongoing situation due to cross border shelling.

During the visit, the Ministers visited GMC Baramulla and enquired about the well being of citizens injured in the recent shelling incidents. They expressed solidarity with the injured victims and their family members.

The Ministers directed the medical staff of the hospital to provide immediate and effective treatment to the injured citizens. They assured the victims and their family members that the Government stands with them in these difficult times and we are committed to their well being.

Later, the Ministers also visited Uri and took on-spot assessment of various areas affected by ongoing shelling. They met the affected families and directed authorities to prioritize civilian safety and



ensure swift rehabilitation efforts of affected families.

The Ministers also met the grieving family of Nargis, a young woman killed during the ongoing shelling. They offered condolences to the affected family and assured them every possible support and assistance from the government. They also met other affected families in Uri and directed authorities to prioritize civilian safety and swift rehabilitation efforts.

The Ministers, in the meanwhile, visited Sub district Hospital Uri and met the injured civilians. They directed the hospital administration to keep sufficient medical care stock available at the facility to deal with any kind of exi-

gency.

Later, the Ministers also visited GDC Uri and met the victims of cross border shelling rehabilitated in the college building. The Ministers urged the administration to keep all possible facilities available for the victims and ensure basic necessities are available round the clock for their well being. They also directed the administration to keep sufficient doctors and medical staff available for their routine checking.

MLA Uri, Sajjad Shafi; MLA Sopore, Irshad Rasool Kar; senior officers of district administration Baramulla and other concerned officers also accompanied the Ministers during the visit.

## Div Com, IGP Jammu visit Nowshera to review facilities for border area residents shifted to relief camps

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 09

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police Jammu, Bhim Sen Tuti, today visited Nowshera to assess the arrangements made for the residents evacuated from areas near the Line of Control (LoC) due to cross-border shelling.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, and Senior Superintendent of Police Rajouri, Gaurav Sikarwar were present during the visit.

The Divisional Commissioner visited relief camps where the evacuated families have been accommodated and inspected the facilities being provided to them, including shelter,



food, medical care, and other essential services.

The officials at the evacuation centre briefed the Divisional Commissioner about the efforts and arrangements being made to mitigate the hardships faced by the affected population, while ensuring their safety.

The Divisional Commissioner was apprised about civic amenities and other logistics made available for the evacuated popula-

tion.

While interacting with the affected people, the Divisional Commissioner and IGP Jammu listened to their concerns and assured all support and assistance from the Administration.

The Divisional Commissioner directed the district administration to ensure timely assistance, adequate medical facilities, and other supplies to all the camps in the sub division.

The Divisional Commissioner and IGP Jammu directed the administration to evacuate people from all vulnerable areas to safer locations on priority and ensure round-the-clock security arrangements in the affected areas.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Nowshera Pritam Lal Thapa and other district and sectoral officers were also present during the visit.

## Deputy Commissioner visits District Hospital Poonch, reviews healthcare arrangements

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Deputy Commissioner Poonch Vikas Kundal conducted a comprehensive visit to District Hospital Poonch today to review healthcare arrangements and ensure the facility is fully prepared to meet medical needs in the eventuality of emergency.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with patients undergoing treatment and enquired about the quality of care, availability of essential medicines, and support services. He conducted a thorough inspection of various hospital wards, emergency units, and other key departments to assess overall readiness



and responsiveness.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Medical Superintendent and other senior officials from the district administration accompanied him during the visit. They briefed the Deputy Commissioner on the hospital's functioning, recent patient inflow, and ongoing

improvements in medical infrastructure.

Given the prevailing circumstances in the border region, the Deputy Commissioner Poonch emphasized the importance of maintaining a high state of preparedness in the health sector. He directed hospital authorities to remain

vigilant, ensure timely treatment for all, and maintain efficient coordination among staff.

The visit underscored the administration's commitment to safeguarding public health and ensuring uninterrupted medical services, especially during sensitive times.