

DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

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

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

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

- Severe and continuous headache
- Joint and muscle pain
- Diarrhoea
- Present vomiting
- A sharp rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Bleeding from gums or nose, blood in stool, urine or vomit
- Redness on the face

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 12 | ISSUE NO: 122 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. L-29/JK-497/25-27 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

Academic Sessions Restoration: JKBOSE notifies new academic schedule

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21 (KNO)

The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) Wednesday notified the new academic schedule following the restoration of academic session from March to November.

According to the news agency, JKBOSE further clarified that due to change in academic calendar in winter Zone areas

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Karnah: Army assists in repairing mosque damaged in Pak shelling

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA (KARNAH), MAY 21 (KNO)

In a gesture of goodwill and solidarity, Indian Army extended immediate assistance to residents of Chota Gaon Mohalla at Ibkot village in Karnah sector, after a local mosque suffered damage during unprovoked shelling from across the Line of Control (LoC).

The cross-border shelling, initiated by Pakistani forces, caused structural damage to the mosque. The corrugated galvanised iron

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

IndiGo flight makes emergency landing at Sgr airport after bad weather scare

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21 (KNO)

An IndiGo flight which was travelling from New Delhi to Srinagar faced a mid-air turbulence on Wednesday evening due to bad weather conditions but landed safely at Srinagar International Airport, officials said here.

An official told the news agency that IndiGo flight 6E2142, encountered a hailstorm while en route from Delhi towards Srinagar.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

India rejects Pakistan's allegations over Balochistan bus attack

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 21

New Delhi on Wednesday rejected Pakistan's allegations regarding Indian involvement in the terror attack on a school bus in the restive Balochistan province and said it was intended to divert attention from Islamabad's reputation as the "global epicentre of terrorism".

Responding to media queries, the official spokesperson of

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

'OPERATION SINDOOR'

Every terror camp in Pak within reach of Indian armed forces: LG Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH/NEWSHERA, MAY 21 (KNO)

Stating that Pakistan and the world know that every inch of its territory hosting terror camps is within the reach of the Indian Armed Forces, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said, "Operation Sindoor" has sent a strong message globally – "This is not the old Bharat. This is New Bharat, which will not tolerate terrorism."

Interacting with the soldiers deployed at Poonch and Nowshera sector along the Line of Control (LoC), LG Sinha, according to the news agency hailed the unparalleled courage and professionalism of the Indian soldiers. "Not just India, but the entire world



today acknowledges the bravery of Indian troops," he said. "Operation Sindoor is a living example of India's military and strategic might."

Highlighting India's rising global stature, LG Sinha said,

"We have already emerged as the world's 5th largest economy and are on our way to becoming the 4th. Every Indian aspires for a Viksit Bharat, while our

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

LG Sinha announces Govt jobs for NOKs of Pak shelling victims

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, MAY 21 (KNO)

Asserting that India wants its people to live in peace, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday announced that the government job will be provided to closest kin of victims, who lost their lives in Pakistan shelling earlier this month.

LG Sinha while addressing the grieving family members, who lost their loved ones due to unprovoked shelling by Pakistan, according to the news agency said, "India is not in favour of war, but when innocent people were killed, the government decided that a decisive action will be taken against the terrorists and the ones who nurture them in their backyards."

He said, "By destroying nine terrorist camps inside Pakistan, our armed forces completed their mission. Pakistan was informed in clear terms that neither military infrastructure, nor civilians



are our targets, but they took the attack on terror camps as attack on Pakistan."

LG Sinha said, "Poonch bore the maximum brunt of Pakistan shelling and innocent lives were lost. Our armed forces gave them a befitting reply and within 3-days enemy was on its knees begging the world to save it."

He said that administration and every citizen of the country understands the pain of Pakistan shelling victims and "no amount of money is enough" to compensate the loss of precious lives. "Entire nation is proud of Poonch people who despite all odds stood with soldiers," he added.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Govt committed to end Naxalism: PM Modi

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 21

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday lauded the security forces for eliminating 27 Naxals in an encounter in Chhattisgarh and reaffirmed the government's commitment to eradicate the menace of Naxalism and ensure a life of peace and progress for the people.

Reacting to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's post on X, Modi said, "We are proud of our forces for this momentous success. Our government is committed to eradicating the menace of Maoism and ensuring a life of peace and progress for the people."

Describing the killing of 27 dreaded insurgents in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur as a "historic achievement" in the fight to eliminate Naxalism, Shah



had said the government was determined to eliminate Naxalism before March 31 next year.

At least 27 Naxals were killed and several others injured in an encounter with security forces in four different districts of Chhattisgarh on Wednesday, police said. A soldier was also killed and another injured during the encounter.

No letup in heatwave as Jammu records season's hottest day, Srinagar seethes at 32.0°C

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21 (KNO)

There is no letup in the heat wave conditions in Jammu and Kashmir as multiple areas, including Jammu, the winter capital of the region, recorded the season's hottest day on Wednesday.

According to the details available with the news agency, amidst the forecast of hot and dry weather conditions, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a maximum temperature of 32.0 degrees Celsius.

Jammu city has recorded the hottest day of the season at 41.4 degrees Celsius, while Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, has also recorded the season's highest day temperature



at 33.2 degrees Celsius.

Several other areas also witnessed scorching heat with Pahalgam recording a day temperature of 25.8 degrees Celsius, Kupwara at 30.0 degrees Celsius, Kokernag at

31.5 degrees Celsius and Gulmarg, a famous ski resort, at 23.2 degrees Celsius.

However, in Jammu division, Banihal station recorded a day temperature

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

NC's Working Committee passes 7 resolutions, discusses sufferings of shelling-affected areas

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21 (KNO)

The National Conference (NC) Central Working Committee on Wednesday passed seven resolutions, including the immediate restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

As per details available with the news agency, the meeting was chaired by party president Dr Farooq Abdullah at Nawa-e-Subha.

The meeting also observed a two-minute silence to pay tribute to 26 civilians killed in the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack.

This was the first meeting of the party's highest decision-making body after it came to power in Jammu and Kashmir by winning the 2024 Assembly elections.

Sources privy to the development told KNO that several issues were discussed in the meeting in which nearly 45 members, including Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, his

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, CM's Advisor, Nasir Aslam Wani, legislators and others participated. The meeting discussed threadbare about the shelling hit areas and the necessary compensation to the affected families.

Several legislators present in the meeting also expressed resentment against the dilly-dallying tactics at the administrative level with regard to the public works.

"The legislators raised issues of how the public works are being delayed and how the mission of the National Conference (NC) is being sabotaged," one of the participants said.

NC spokesperson, Imran Nabi Dar, when contacted, said that the dual-power system was discussed threadbare. The participants have expressed resentment in this regard and pitched for the restoration of statehood.

He added that the

Operation Sindoor Diplomacy begins as delegations leave for Japan, UAE

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 21 (KNO)

India has initiated a major diplomatic outreach named Operation Sindoor Diplomacy to convey its position on cross-border terrorism as two parliamentary delegations departed on Wednesday for Japan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), marking the beginning of a multi-nation campaign to highlight India's concerns, particularly related to Pakistan's role in terrorism.

According to the details obtained by the news agency, the first team, led by JD(U) MP Sanjay Jha, will travel to Japan, followed by visits to South Korea (May 24), Singapore (May 27), Indonesia (May 28), and Malaysia (May 31). The delegation comprises MPs from various political parties, including the BJP, TMC, CPI(M), and Congress, alongside former diplomats. Their task is to engage with political leaders, policymakers, think tanks, and media in East Asia to present India's account of

recent events and its broader counter-terrorism position.

The second delegation, under Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde, began its outreach in the UAE on May 21. The group will also visit African countries, including the Democratic Republic of Congo (May 24), Sierra Leone (May 28), and Liberia (May 31). This delegation includes members from the BJP, BJD, IUML, and other parties, as well as former diplomats.

Before the teams departed, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri briefed all members on India's approach, with reference to the April 22 incident in Pahalgam, where 26 civilians were killed.

The brief was about India's recent retaliatory operations across the Line of Control and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on May 7, followed by missile and drone attacks from the Pakistani side.

A ceasefire understanding was reached between the Director Generals of Military Operations (DGMOs) on May

10. The delegations, comprising members from various political parties, are tasked with presenting India's case to international stakeholders. Their engagements will include discussions with foreign ministers, lawmakers, policy analysts, and representatives from multilateral institutions.

Officials involved in the outreach have stated that the delegations will seek to present credible evidence regarding Pakistan's involvement in cross-border terrorism and push for coordinated international action. The broader aim is to diplomatically isolate Pakistan while bolstering global support for India's counter-terrorism efforts.

This outreach is notable for its bipartisan nature. Leaders from both the ruling party and the opposition are participating in a unified diplomatic initiative, reflecting a shared national stance on terrorism.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

BSF foiled infiltration bid of nearly 50 terrorists in Samba during 'Operation Sindoor': DIG Mand

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21 (KNO)

The Border Security Force (BSF) foiled an infiltration bid of nearly 50 terrorists during "Operation Sindoor" on May 8, a top official of the paramilitary force said on Wednesday.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of the BSF, SS Mand, according to the news agency said, "On May 8 a major infiltration attempt involving 45-50 heavily armed terrorists was thwarted by the alert BSF personnel in Samba district."

He said, "The group, attempting to sneak into Indian territory under the cover of ceasefire violations, was met with a fierce counter-offensive. BSF retaliated with heavy mortar fire, neutralizing enemy positions and forcing the infiltrators to retreat."

"We had prior intelligence that a large group was attempting infiltration. Our alert troops identified them early, and within 1.5 hours of engagement, the group was repelled with heavy losses. Our forces responded with precision and intensity, degrading their bunkers and suppressing their firepower," DIG Mand said, according to KNO.

He said that in a decisive and calibrated military operation, the BSF destroyed multiple terrorist hideouts in Pakistan's Sialkot sector along the India-Pakistan International Border during Operation Sindoor, launched in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead.

"Even two weeks after the operation, Pakistani Rangers have reportedly abandoned their posts along the international border, signaling the extent of damage and demoralization inflicted by Indian forces," he added.

DIG Mand praised the high morale and preparedness of BSF troops, emphasizing the leadership of officers on the frontline.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

DLSA Bandipora organizes Legal awareness programme on POSH Act 2013

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MAY 21

In a significant initiative to promote legal awareness, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Bandipora, in coordination with Tehsil Legal Services Committee, Sumbal and in collaboration with JK Educational Society and Social Welfare Trust Sumbal, organized a Legal awareness programme on the 'Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at the Workplace (POSH) Act 2013.'

The programme, held at JK Educational Society and Social Welfare Trust Sumbal, was conducted under the supervision of Khalil Ahmad

Choudhary, Chairman DLSA Bandipora, and the guidance of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary DLSA Bandipora and Rahila Rashid, Munsiff/JMIC (Chairman TLSC) Sumbal.

The programme aimed to educate participants about their rights and responsibilities under the POSH Act, promoting a safe and respectful work environment.

Afroza Bano, Chairperson of JK Educational Society and Social Welfare Trust Sumbal addressed the participants and spoke extensively on the POSH Act, highlighting the role and responsibilities of employers in creating a safe and respectful edu-

cational environment. She emphasized the importance of employers' role in implementing the POSH Act in educational institutions.

Sheikh Aijaz (Panel Lawyer), TLSC Sumbal, imparted awareness on understanding the POSH Act 2013. He said the POSH Act is landmark legislation in India aimed at preventing and addressing sexual harassment at the workplace. He added that the Act defines sexual harassment as any unwelcome act or behavior, such as verbal, non-verbal, or physical, that affects a woman's dignity or creates a hostile work environment.

He elaborated the provisions and implications

of the POSH Act and said the sexual harassment of women at workplace is a form of gender based violence. He made participants aware about sexual harassment at the workplace, role and responsibilities of Local Complaint committees & internal Complaint Committees.

He added that it is essential for all stakeholders to understand their roles and responsibilities in preventing and addressing sexual harassment.

The event saw participation from the officials and students of JK Educational Society and Social Welfare Trust Sumbal, staff members of TLSC Sumbal and PLVs of TLSC Sumbal.

Multiple IEC campaigns organised across Jammu under 'Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan'

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

In continuation of the Union Territory's concerted efforts under the 'Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan', a series of Information, Education and Communication campaigns were held across several Government Higher Secondary Schools in Jammu district to combat the menace of drug abuse and encourage the youth to lead a healthy, drug-free life.

Awareness programmes were held at GHSS Bhalwal, GHSS Muthi, GGHSS Satwari, GHSS Bhour Camp, GHSS Bahu Fort and GGHSS Miran Sahib, under the able guidance of school principals and with the active participation of students, teachers, local administration and officials from the Health, Police, Social Welfare and



Information Departments.

The events commenced with traditional lamp-lighting ceremonies, followed by welcome addresses by school heads, setting the tone for the awareness drives. Experts from the Health Department elaborated on the devastating physical and mental effects of substance abuse, while officers from the Jammu and Kashmir Police and Excise Department highlighted legal consequences and enforcement measures being taken to curb drug

trafficking and use. Officials from the Social Welfare Department shared information on government-run helplines and rehabilitation initiatives for affected individuals and families.

Students across schools engaged the audience with thought-provoking skits, poems, folk songs, speeches and audio-visual presentations that depicted the harsh realities of addiction and urged youth to embrace a drug-free lifestyle. Cultural seg-

ments, pledge-taking ceremonies and interactive sessions formed a key part of these events, reinforcing the message of collective action and social responsibility.

At GHSS Muthi and GGHSS Miran Sahib, powerful student-led performances and speeches emphasized the importance of education and family involvement in shielding youth from drug-related influences. At GHSS Bhour Camp, a signature campaign and detailed awareness sessions discussed the root causes of addiction, symptoms and solutions. All programmes concluded with pledges of commitment to the cause, highlighting the resolve of educational institutions and stakeholders to protect students and society from the harmful impact of drugs.

Panchayat-Level awareness program on Mission YUVA held at Kotedhara

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, MAY 21

To empower youth and promote self-employment, a Panchayat-level awareness program on Mission YUVA initiative was today organized at Panchayat Ghar Kotedhara by the District Employment & Counselling Centre (DE&CC) here under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from unemployed youth and aspiring entrepreneurs of Kotedhara and adjoining Panchayats. The initiative is part of Mission YUVA, a flagship program of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir focused on fostering entrepreneurial culture, skill development, and providing financial



support to the youth for gaining livelihood.

Deputy Director DE&CC Mohammad Nawaz delivered a comprehensive briefing on the salient features of Mission YUVA, including eligibility cri-

teria and the application process. A live demonstration of the Mission YUVA mobile app and online portal was also conducted to facilitate easier understanding of the application function.

The event saw active involvement of local stakeholders including youth, PRI members, and community leaders, reaffirming the community's commitment to youth empowerment. The program also served as a platform to promote inter-departmental coordination for supporting youth-centric schemes.

Representatives from SBDU/BHD, along with officers from Agriculture, RDD, NRLM, and banking institutions, were also present and shared insights on available resources and schemes to support entrepreneurial ventures.

The awareness drive is part of the larger mission to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for the youth and contribute to the district's socio-economic development.

Div Com led committee discusses policy for repair, renovation of structures within 200m periphery of Dal Lake

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

To frame a comprehensive policy to address the issue of repair & renovation of houses & buildings within 200 meters of Dal Lake, a meeting of committee members was held under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri today, here.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar; Vice Chairman, LCMA; Vice Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority; Director, Tourism Kashmir; Member Secretary, PCC; Chief Engineer, UEED; Chief Town Planner, Kashmir and HOD, Department of Environment Sci-



ence University of Kashmir.

The meeting discussed and deliberated on the agenda points which includes to lay down the norms/eligibility conditions for declaring a building to

have been constructed legitimately, prior to imposition of ban by the Hon'ble High court.

It also discussed norms for granting permissions by the BOCA LCMA for carry-

ing out repair/renovation/reconstruction of the legitimately constructed buildings within 200 meters of the Dal/Nigeen Lakes, prior to imposition of ban on 19.07.2002.

The members also discussed prescribing norms to be followed by the buildings granted permission for repair/renovation/reconstruction for ensuring scientific and proper waste disposal.

Further, measures for sustainable construction using alternate technologies in order to make the construction process lake friendly and norms for maintaining aesthetics and heritage patterns were also discussed.

GDC Ramkote observes Anti Terrorism Day



JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, MAY 21

The NSS Unit of Government Degree College Ramkote observed Anti Terrorism Day by organising a Poster Making Competition today on the theme "Say No to Terrorism".

The event was organised under the guidance of the College Principal Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul to raise awareness among students about the devastating impact of terrorism, honour the lives lost due to terrorist acts, and promote peace, harmony and national unity.

National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed across India every year on 21st May to mark the assassination anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was killed by a suicide bomber in 1991 in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.

A total of 15 students of BA Semester-2 namely Nitakshi Devi, Kriti Devi, Sonali Sharma, Tania Sharma, Richu Devi, Raghbir Singh, Yashpaul Singh, Nenshe, Priyanka Devi, Neha Devi, Rita Rani, Kajal Devi, Pooja Devi, Sulactona Devi, and Minakshi Sharma participated in the competition and showcased their creativity through posters depicting solidarity against terrorism.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul highlighted the importance of maintaining a vigilant and prepared society. He mentioned that National Anti-Terrorism Day is not just a day of remembrance but also a call to action. It encourages citizens to reject hate, avoid radicalisation and embrace peace as the cornerstone of a progressive after the competition all faculty members and stu-

dents took Anti Terrorism Pledge with an objective to wean away the youth from terrorism and the cult of violence.

The students who secured first, second and third position in the competition were Kajal Devi, Nenshe and Neha Devi. Prof. Suresh Chander, Convener NSS Advisory Committee also addressed the students and encouraged them to participate in college activities.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Prof. Anu Sharma, NSS PO emphasizing the need to protect India from threats like terrorism and building strong citizens that can serve the nation well. The students and the organising committee were appreciated by the Principal of the college for fostering a sense of patriotism and national pride.

DC Kulgam visits GHSS Qaimoh



JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan Wednesday visited Government Higher Secondary School Qaimoh as part of an outreach programme to engage with students, teachers and take appraisal of new initiatives started by the institution.

During the visit, DC interacted with students, inquired about their academic progress, and discussed various initiatives aimed at improving digital education in the institu-

tion. DC also reviewed the infrastructure and facilities available in the school, inaugurated e-library, e-magazine and Noordin Drug de-addiction trophy.

The visit also aimed to foster collaboration between the district administration and educational institutions, improve education quality, identify areas for improvement and implement initiatives to enhance digital education to keep pace with latest interventions in education sector.

Speaking on the occasion, DC said that Qaimoh

HSS will be pioneering institution in future owing to its new digital initiatives introduced.

Earlier the Principal HSS, Dr Sajad Mir extended gratitude to district administration for the cooperation and support they got in implementing the new initiatives.

It is worth mentioning that HSS Qaimoh has become the first school in district to excel in online learning.

DC was accompanied by ADC Viqar Ahmed Gori, ACR, Tehsildar Qaimoh, ZEO and other Officers.

DC Bandipora inaugurates Youth Club at Kudara

JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MAY 21

In a move to empower the youth of rural areas, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri on Wednesday inaugurated Youth Club at Kudara Bandipora.

The club has been established under the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, a nationwide initiative to create a drug-free India.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Padma Shri awardee Faisal Ali Dar, President of the Bandipora Youth Federation, and other concerned.

Addressing the gathering, DC emphasized the importance of providing opportunities to the youth in the field of sports.

He said, this club will serve as a platform for the youth of this area to showcase their talent and divert their energy towards positive pursuits.

Qadri appreciated the efforts of the Bandipora Youth Federation and Ali's Sports Academy for providing equipment and instructors to the trainees. He also urged the people of the area to take ownership of the club and ensure its success.

DC highlighted the



importance of youth engagement in positive activities, stating, "Channelizing youth energy is our priority."

Padma Shri awardee, Faisal Ali Dar, who is also the brand ambassador of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, hailed the initiative as a significant step towards empowering the youth.

"We hope that more such youth clubs will be established in the district in the future, providing opportunities to the youth to excel in the field of sports," he added.

He said Youth clubs are expected to provide a platform for the youth to engage in sports and other activities, helping to divert them from negative influences and empowering them to become positive contributors to society.

Sports Deptt Hosts District Level Competitions in Various Games

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K commenced the Inter-Zonal District Level Competitions for U/14 boys and girls across multiple sports disciplines. The events are being held at MA Stadium, Green Field Gandhi Nagar, KK Hakku Stadium Dogra Ground Shastri Nagar marking a significant step in fostering sporting talent among the youth of the Jammu district.

At MA Stadium, Green Field Gandhi Nagar competitions in Basketball, Kho-Kho, Volleyball, and Kabaddi are underway, showcasing the agility, teamwork, and competitive spirit of young athletes. Simultaneously, KK Hakku Stadium, Dogra Ground Shastri Nagar is hosting Inter School District Level Competitions for U/14 and U/17 boys



and girls in Handball and Hockey, further broadening the platform for budding sportspersons.

The event is being organized under the guidance of Director General, Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K, Rajinder Singh Tara, whose vision for youth empowerment through sports has

been instrumental in driving such initiatives.

Ensuring seamless execution, Zonal Physical Education Officers (ZPEOs) have been entrusted with key responsibilities. Joginder Sharma (ZPEO Miran Sahib), Ram Murti (ZPEO Gandhi Nagar), Jatinder Kour (ZPEO Satwari), Smt. Harvinder

Kour (ZPEO Jammu), and Harvinder Singh Sodhi have been appointed as overall in-charges, working tirelessly to guarantee the smooth conduct of the competitions.

The opening day witnessed enthusiastic participation from approximately 600 students representing various Government and

private schools across District Jammu, reflecting the growing interest and talent in sports at the grassroots level. The young athletes displayed remarkable skill and sportsmanship, setting the tone for an exciting series of matches ahead.

The competitions are being expertly conducted by a team of seasoned professionals from the Department, including Bandana Sharma, Jasdev Singh, Ravinder Singh, Hardev Singh, Karanjit Singh, Mandeep Singh, Anil Dogra, Gourav Sharma, Vaneet Pangotra, Mosmi Verma, Rajesh Bandral along with other technical officials, ensuring fair play and adherence to sporting standards.

The inaugural day concluded with thrilling finals in Kabaddi and Kho-Kho, where young athletes showcased exceptional talent and determination. In the U/14 Boys Kabad-

di final Zone Miran Sahib emerged victorious against Zone Gandhi Nagar with a dominant score of 39-14, displaying superior strategy and agility. The U/14 Girls Kabaddi final saw Zone Gandhi Nagar triumph over Zone Miran Sahib with a score of 29-18, marking a spirited performance by both teams.

The Kho-Kho competitions were equally intense. In the U-14 Girls category, Zone Miran Sahib secured a hard-fought win against Zone Satwari with a score of 6-3 while in the U-14 Boys final, Zone Miran Sahib continued their winning streak by defeating Zone Gandhi Nagar 5-3 in a closely contested match.

The event will continue over the coming days, with more matches scheduled in Basketball, Volleyball, Handball, and Hockey, promising further displays of skill, endurance, and teamwork.

Wedding dreams turn to ashes as fire engulfs 5 houses in Srinagar's Nawakadal

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21 (KNO)

A family's preparations for an upcoming wedding were reduced to ashes after a massive fire broke out in the congested Nawakadal area of Srinagar on Tuesday late night, damaging at least five residential houses and destroying all belongings, including the trousseau of a bride-to-be. The fire shook the area and has left residents in trauma.

Speaking to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Nazir Ahmad, the girl's uncle, said the fire broke out suddenly late at night. "We were coming out of the masjid when we heard shouts about a fire nearby. Within minutes, the flames had engulfed several houses. The area is densely packed, and we couldn't even get close to douse the flames," he said.

Ahmad said the family was preparing for the wedding of his daughter, who works as a private school teacher. "We had planned her marriage for August. All the preparations, clothes, jewellery, and household items we bought for her wedding

have been gutted in the fire. All our dreams were destroyed in seconds," he said while wiping tears.

The locals from the area said they are thankful the Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES) Department and other authorities arrived on time, otherwise more houses would have been reduced to rubble.

Meanwhile, officials from the Fire Services department told KNO that five residential houses, double and three-storied, were involved in the fire, and the fire was caused by an electrical short circuit.

They said the attic portions, roofing, ceiling, furniture, and household goods of two double-storey houses were severely damaged. Meanwhile, three other houses suffered partial damage to their upper floors and roofing.

They added that two scooters bearing registration numbers JK01T-0210 and BL3SDW-1138 were also damaged in the incident, while there were no reports of any injuries. Authorities have launched an assessment of the losses.

ACD reviews development activities in Block Gundana



J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 21

Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Manoj Kumar today reviewed progress of developmental works and implementation of the rural development schemes in Block Gundana.

Chairing a meeting with the local officials, he assessed the implementation MGNREGA, Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), and other Panchayati Raj schemes. The ACD sought detailed reports from concerned officials and directed them to ensure the timely completion of all ongoing projects while adhering to the prescribed guidelines.

The meeting was attended by field-level workers and Panchayat representatives, who shared ground-

level updates and implementation challenges.

The ACD issued show-cause notices to several officials who were found absent from duty without prior intimation. He warned that such negligence would not be tolerated and that repeated instances of indiscipline would attract strict action. He reiterated the importance of field presence and proactive engagement by all functionaries to drive rural development effectively.

Later, he conducted on the spot inspection of developmental works and expressed satisfaction over the progress and encouraged the team to continue their efforts with the same dedication.

Later, the ACD visited Government Higher Sec-

ondary School Jatheli and Government High School Dhara as the Prabhari Officer under the government's school monitoring initiative.

He interacted with the students and staff of the twin institutions, emphasizing the importance of discipline, punctuality and the need to focus on both academics and co-curricular activities for overall personality development of children.

The ACD also reviewed the functioning of the schools, checked infrastructure, and took note of various needs and concerns raised by the staff. He assured the teaching faculty that genuine issues will be addressed on priority to ensure a better learning environment for the students.

DLSA Srinagar organises awareness programme on LSUM

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar, in collaboration with Vitasta Law College, Srinagar, organized an awareness programme today on the legal provisions relating to mental illness and persons with intellectual disabilities (LSUM).

The event aimed to sensitize future legal professionals and the academic community about the legal challenges and support mechanisms available for vulnerable sections of society.

The programme was held under the chairmanship of Tasleem Arief, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and under the supervision of Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-Judge/Secretary, DLSA Srinagar, besides attended by Rakib Zia, Principal of Vitasta Law College; Fatima Shah and Nosheen Ismail, Assistant Professors; Advocate Suhaila Ali, Panel Lawyer of DLSA



Srinagar & Para Legal Volunteers of the Authority and the Law Students of the Vitasta Law College.

Advocate Laila Khalid, who served as the resource person, conducted an informative session covering crucial legal safeguards and rights of individuals affected by mental illness and intellectual disabilities.

Students namely Shabnam Basheer, Tabiyat Mushtaq, and Midhat from

the 4th and 6th semesters also addressed the gathering.

The session concluded with an engaging interactive Q&A segment, fostering meaningful dialogue between the students, faculty, and the resource person.

DLSA Srinagar reaffirmed its commitment to organizing similar initiatives in the future to build a legally aware and inclusive society.

Preparations to elect management committees of Cooperative Societies start in Kishtwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MAY 21

A meeting regarding to review preparedness for elections to elect the Managing Committees of Cooperative Societies in District Kishtwar was held today in the office of the Assistant Commissioner (Rev) Mohammad Idrees Lone, who is also the Election Authority for Cooperative Elections 2025.

The meeting was attended by the Dy. Registrar Cooperative Societies Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal, all Returning Officers (BDOs of Kishtwar, Paddar, Inderwal, Marwah, and Dachhan), Assistant Registrars Cooperative Societies of all blocks, Election Naib Tehsildar and other officials.

After detailed discus-



sion on arrangements for the smooth conduct of the elections, the Officers were briefed about their role and responsibilities in the election process. Necessary directions were issued to the concerned officers to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections. The ACR emphasized strict adherence to election guidelines and timelines.

Director Horticulture Jammu reviews developmental activities in District Poonch

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, MAY 21

Director Horticulture Jammu Chaman Lal Sharma today undertook a comprehensive tour of District Poonch to assess the implementation of the departmental schemes and review on-ground developmental activities aimed at strengthening the horticulture sector in the region.

He visited multiple farmers' orchards across Poonch, Lassana, Harni and other blocks and interacted with orchardists and took firsthand appraisal of the conditions of orchards of apple and other fruit crops. He encouraged farmers to adopt advanced horticultural practices to improve productivity and enhance income.

The Director also visited the Krishi Vigyan



Kendra (KVK) Poonch, where he reviewed ongoing research and extension services being provided to farmers. He closely monitored the functioning of apple rootstock banks and inspected the layout and management of Revised Modified Orchards and geo tanks, which are instrumental in ensuring water conservation and improved orchard management especially in hilly terrains. Chief Horticulture Sanjeev Kumar, MCC's Anil Chibber, Niaz

Ahmed and other officers of the department accompanied the Director.

Later, the Director convened a meeting of the Horticulture Development Officers, officials & field functionaries of district Poonch. He asked the staff to reach out to farmers to educate them about various departmental schemes, particularly focusing on the promotion of Pecannut, a high value and native crop to the Poonch region with significant commercial

potential.

Earlier, Chief Horticulture Officer appraised the chair about the ongoing works and achievements made so far under different schemes being implemented in the district.

Later, the Director inspected various Govt. fruit plant nurseries across the district and appreciated the functionaries for closely monitoring & implementing the schemes and developmental works in the District.

DC Kulgam reviews progress on Sakharsan- Qaimoh bridge



J1 NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today visited Qaimoh Tehsil and reviewed the progress achieved on developmental work project.

During the visit, the DC inspected the 1x33 span Sakharsan bridge at Kawaki Bazar and assessed the progress of the work being

carried out on the project.

He emphasized the need for its timely completion to benefit the local population.

Local issues impeding the progress of work were also resolved on spot by Deputy Commissioner.

While interacting with engineers and officials on-site, DC instructed them to expedite work on this important project

and ensure its completion within the stipulated timeline.

He stressed the importance of adhering to quality standards to ensure that this vital connectivity gets ready to serve the public at the earliest.

Accompanying the DC were ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri; ACR, Ex. Engineer R&B, Tehsildar and other Officers.

IEC Campaign on Drug Abuse: Awareness sessions & cultural events held at Devsar Kulgam

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 21

As part of the ongoing Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign under the UT-wide flagship initiative 'Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan,' Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) Kulgam, and Cultural Unit Kashmir, in collaboration with District Administration Kulgam, today organized a mega awareness programme at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Devsar.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and officials from various departments.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Every terror...

neighbour, deep in debt and struggling to feed its people, continues to support terrorism.”

Sending a stern warning to Pakistan, the Lieutenant Governor said, “This time, the enemy (Pakistan) has been taught a lesson. If it dares again, its next seven generations will remember the consequences.”

LG Sinha said that the “Operation Sindoor” has drawn a new red line. “In just 23 minutes, India brought the masters of Pakistani terrorists to their knees and the next time if they raise their eyes towards Mother India, not a single area of theirs would remain untouched by punishment,” the Lieutenant Governor added.

Referring to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead, LG Sinha said, “After the attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made it clear that the perpetrators would be taught a lesson. The Indian response was swift, strategic, and precise.”

He said that during the intervening night of May 6 and 7, ‘Operation Sindoor’ was launched with a clear mandate: destroy terror infrastructure without causing harm to civilians or military installations. “More than 100 terrorists were eliminated and nine terror camps were wiped out,” he said.

LG Sinha revealed that Pakistan was informed in advance that only terror camps would be targeted. However, Pakistan responded with unprovoked firing and shelling in the Poonch region. “Our forces not only repelled the attack but inflicted heavy losses on the enemy,” he said, saluting the bravery of the Indian soldiers.

He also paid tributes to the civilians and soldiers who laid down their lives during the confrontation.

“In just three days, the enemy was brought to its knees. Pakistan was left pleading before the international community to intervene,” he added.

LG Sinha emphasized that the objective of “Operation Sindoor” was not war but to dismantle the terror machinery. “Today, Pakistan and the world know that every inch of its territory hosting terror camps is within the reach of the Indian Army.”

“Dharma has won and Adharma has surrendered before your weapons and might. I am proud that in just a few days our brave soldiers broke the back of the enemy and today 140 crore citizens are remembering your valour, courage and sacrifice,” the Lieutenant Governor said. KNO

LG Sinha announces...

ANNOUNCES GOVT JOB FOR NOKS OF PAK SHELLING VICTIMS

The Lieutenant Governor announced Government job to the closest kin of Pakistan shelling victims. He said, ex-gratia and other reliefs have been provided and Government of India is committed for further necessary assistance.

“The proper rehabilitation of affected families is my top priority. The J&K administration, under the leadership of PM Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, is committed to ensuring proper rehabilitation, enhanced border infrastructure, and security for the residents of border areas.

We are significantly expanding our efforts to construct individual and community bunkers across Jammu Kashmir, under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE),” the Lieutenant Governor said.

PAYS OBEISANCE AT GURUDWARA NANGALI SAHIB

During his visit, the Lieutenant Governor paid obeisance at Gurudwara Dera Santpura Nangali Sahib and interacted with the citizens.

He lauded the residents of Poonch, civil society members and all the communities for their display of courage and social harmony. “Pakistan had shown its cowardice by targeting sacred Gurudwara Dera Santpura Nangali Sahib. In its despicable act, the terrorist country Pakistan had also targeted temple and mosque. By firing and heavy shelling on our sacred sites, terror state Pakistan had tried to damage our social fabric.

The Lieutenant Governor also reiterated the resolve of Government of India, J&K Administration and Armed Forces for exemplary action against terrorism and those trying to divide the people on religious and sectarian lines.

Later, the Lieutenant Governor visited the Dungus area affected due to shelling, and also took stock of the situation during a meeting with senior administrative and district officials at Poonch.

The Lieutenant Governor directed for necessary measures to ensure restoration of all essential services and supplies and submit an Action Taken Report (ATR) to the Divisional Commissioner’s Office and the Chief Secretary’s Office.

He further instructed for taking comprehensive assessment for requirements and construction of bunkers, upgradation of medical services at District hospital and strengthening Civil Defence system.

The Lieutenant Governor also appreciated the local administration and security forces for their prompt and responsive measures for the safety and rehabilitation of affected families.

VISITS RAJOURI, NOWHSERA

The Lieutenant Governor also visited Rajouri and met the families affected due to unprovoked heavy firing by Pakistan.

The Lieutenant Governor paid a visit to the Government Medical College Rajouri and enquired about the well-being of those injured in Pakistan’s shelling.

Reviewing the relief and rehabilitation measures, the Lieutenant Governor was briefed by Abhishek Sharma, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, on the present situation in the district, and other important matters pertaining to disbursement of relief, availability of essential commodities, medical & emergency services, damage to property and livestock, and requirement of new bunkers in the district.

The meeting also paid homage to Additional District Development Commissioner, Rajouri, Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, who lost his life due to shelling by the enemy in the civilian area.

Later, the Lieutenant Governor visited Nowshera and took assessment of residential houses damaged by Pakistan’s shelling.

He interacted with the local residents and took stock of their issues and grievances. He reaffirmed that the

Government of India is committed to people’s safety and rehabilitation.

The Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo; IG Jammu, Bhim Sen Tuti; Divisional Commissioner, Ramesh Kumar; Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal and other senior officials. KNO

No letup in heatwave...

of 30.4 degrees Celsius, Batote at 30.1 degrees Celsius, Katra at 36.8 degrees Celsius and Bhaderwah at 31.3 degrees Celsius.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said the rise in maximum temperature by 1 to 2 degrees Celsius is expected with the possibility of a heatwave at scattered places of Kashmir division till May 23.

He said that generally hot & dry weather is expected with the possibility of a brief spell of light rain at isolated places mainly towards late afternoon till May 26.

Ahmad said that from May 27 to 31, the weather would remain generally hot & dry with the possibility of a brief spell of light rain and thundershower at scattered places.

Meanwhile, the MeT in its advisory said that a rise in maximum temperature by 1-2 degrees Celsius is expected with possibility of a heatwave at scattered places of Kashmir division till May 23 and fall by 2 to 3 degrees Celsius thereafter.

Also, it reads that a rise in maximum temperature is expected by 2-3 degrees Celsius with the possibility of a heatwave over Jammu division till 26th May.

“Possibility of thunder, gusty winds at isolated places towards late afternoon can’t be ruled out,” the advisory reads. KNO

NC’s Working Committee...

dual-power system is not in favour of the people and thus the statehood must be restored at the earliest.

Meanwhile, the meeting passed seven resolutions, including condemnation of violence and tribute to martyrs, reaffirmation of commitment to special status, demand for immediate restoration of statehood, appeal for sustained peace and dialogue, commitment to manifesto promises and condemnation of targeted harassment across the country.

The resolutions include:

Condemnation of violence and tribute to martyrs
The Working Committee strongly condemned the horrific Baisaran attack that claimed the lives of 26 innocent individuals, including a young Kashmiri, Syed Adil Hussain Shah. It also denounced the continued cross-border shelling that took the lives of 23 innocent civilians

The Committee expressed deep sorrow and solidarity with the bereaved families. It also paid heartfelt tributes to the Working Committee members and party activists who have passed away since the last meeting, acknowledging their invaluable contributions and unwavering dedication.

Reaffirmation of commitment to special status
The Working Committee unanimously reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir’s special status. The Committee reiterated that this is central to the aspirations and dignity of the people and must be addressed without further delay, and we will continue to fight for its restoration.

Demand for immediate restoration of statehood
The Working Committee also urged the Government of India to restore full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir immediately, as promised on the floor of Parliament and repeatedly echoed in the public domain and also as committed by the constitution bench of the Supreme Court.

Appeal for sustained peace and dialogue
The Committee welcomed the announcement of a ceasefire and called upon both countries to uphold peace and explore long-lasting, peaceful solutions to end violence.

Commitment to manifesto promises
The Working Committee reiterated the party’s unwavering commitment to the promises made in its manifesto. It reaffirmed its resolve to continue the political and constitutional struggle for justice, peace, and the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir through democratic means.

The Working Committee appreciated the spontaneous and overwhelming support of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in unequivocally condemning the Baisaran attack in Pahalgam. It also acknowledged the compassion and hospitality extended to tourists who found themselves stranded in the Valley during challenging circumstances.

The Committee called upon the Government of India to recognise and respect this powerful expression of solidarity and not squander the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity extended by the people of Jammu and Kashmir. It further cautioned that arbitrary arrests, harassment of youth, targeted use of bulldozers, and intimidation of legitimate media voices will only alienate the very people who have stood firmly for peace and against violence.

Condemnation of Targeted Harassment Across the Country: The Working Committee expressed serious concern over the reports of harassment faced by students, traders, and residents from Jammu and Kashmir in various parts of the country. It strongly condemned their selective targeting in the aftermath of recent events.

The Committee called upon all state governments to ensure the safety, dignity, and protection of the lives and property of all people from Jammu and Kashmir living or working in other parts of India. KNO

Operation Sindoor...

The effort has drawn comparisons to the 1994 campaign led by former Prime Minister A B Vajpayee, who represented India at the United Nations Human Rights Commission to counter external pressure on Kashmir.

The first two delegations departed today for Japan and the United Arab Emirates, officially beginning the outreach. Over the coming days, five more teams will travel to a total of 32 countries and the European Union.

Together, they will represent a coordinated effort to communicate India’s security concerns and its policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism on the international stage. KNO

BSF foiled infiltration...

He also highlighted the commendable performance of women soldiers, who operated shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts during the high-stakes confrontation. “We are truly proud of our women troops,” he said.

Following the setbacks during “Operation Sindoor,” Pakistan resorted to drone warfare, attempting to target civilian and military installations in Jammu. However, India’s air defense systems and BSF’s anti-drone units successfully intercepted these drone incursions. On May 9, Pakistan initiated unprovoked firing along the IB and launched drones aimed at BSF camps and border villages, but all such attempts were neutralized. KNO

Academic Sessions...

in 2024, the Annual regular 2025 examination is scheduled to be held in Oct-Nov of 2025 and in summer zone of Jammu division in Feb-March 2026 respectively.

The board further said, “Previous academic calendar is restored from the current year (2025) in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Union Territories.”

“The Academic session in case of Kashmir division and winter Zone areas of Jammu division and U.T of Ladakh shall be 2024-25, entailing conduct of the Annual Regular Examinations of the 10th, 11th and 12th classes in October-November 2025,” it reads.

It also said that the Academic Session in case of summer zone of Jammu division shall be 2025-26, entailing conduct of annual regular examination of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th classes in March-April 2026.

In 2024, the Council of Ministers Decision accorded the sanction to the restoration of the academic calendar from March-April to November-December for classes 1st to 9th.

The government had said that “For the session 2024-25, the restoration of the previous academic calendar (November-December session) shall be done with respect to classes 1st to 9th whose examinations shall be held during the months of November-December, 2024.”

It had further said that for the students of classes 10th to 12th, the restoration of the Academic Session (to November-December session) shall be done from the academic session 2025-26.

Earlier in 2022, the Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education and School Education Department has said that the Uniform Academic Calendar shall be followed from academic year 2022-23. KNO

Karnah: Army assists...

(CG) sheets on the roof were torn apart, a solar panel system was destroyed, and the prayer matting inside the mosque was damaged.

Responding swiftly, the Indian Army helped restore the mosque by repairing the roof, reinstating the solar energy system, and replacing the prayer matting, allowing the place of worship to resume its religious and community functions. The aid was part of the Army’s continued humanitarian outreach in border areas affected by conflict.

Grateful villagers expressed deep appreciation for the Army’s timely support. Local elders commended the Army not just for its protective presence in the volatile border region, but also for its efforts to stand by civilians in times of crisis.

“One of the shells directly hit the mosque,” a resident told the news agency. “The roof was blown off, and everything inside was damaged. The Army provided new tin sheets, a solar panel, and matting. We are thankful.”

He added that several homes were also damaged during the shelling and appealed for the construction of more bunkers in the area to protect civilians from future incidents. KNO

IndiGo flight...

He said the pilot immediately reported the emergency situation to the Srinagar Air Traffic Control (ATC), and despite the weather challenge, the flight landed safely at 6:30 pm.

“All 227 passengers and the aircrew are safe,” the official said adding following the incident, the aircraft was declared “Aircraft on Ground” (AOG) by the airline, indicating it requires inspection or maintenance before its next flight.

Meanwhile, as per a statement, the airport team attended to the customers after arrival of aircraft prioritizing their wellbeing and comfort. The aircraft will be released post necessary inspection and maintenance.”. KNO

India rejects...

India’s Ministry of External Affairs, Randhir Jaiswal, said it has become “second nature for Pakistan to blame India for all its internal issues,” but this attempt to “hoodwink the world is doomed to fail”.

Five people, including three students, were killed and several others injured when terrorists attacked a school bus in Khuzdar district of southwestern Pakistan’s Balochistan province earlier in the day.

Jaiswal said India consoles the loss of lives in all such incidents.

“India rejects the baseless allegations made by Pakistan regarding Indian involvement with the incident in Khuzdar earlier today. India condoles the loss of lives in all such incidents.

“However, in order to divert attention from its reputation as the global epicenter of terrorism and to hide its own gross failings, it has become second nature for Pakistan to blame India for all its internal issues. This attempt to hoodwink the world is doomed to fail,” Jaiswal added.

IGNOU Regional Centre
Jammu organizes program
on One Nation One Election

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 21

The Indira Gandhi National Open University today organized a Program on the theme ‘One Nation, One Election’ (ONOE) with the aim to connect IGNOU’s academic community with the important National agenda. The program was organized in the Convention Centre at the Maidan Garhi campus of the University. The IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu also organized a program on One Nation One Election in its campus auditorium which was attended by the entire management and staff of the Regional Centre and around 50 learners. Apart from the Regional Centre Jammu, the program was also viewed online by all the LSCs under the Regional Centre Jammu.

The Keynote address

at the IGNOU Convention Centre was delivered by the Hon’ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA & FW), Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on the theme “One Nation, One Election: Needs & Advantages”. It was followed by the address by Shri Sunil Bansal, National General Secretary, BJP, in presence of the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor IGNOU, Prof. Uma Kanjilal and an interactive Q&A session afterwards.

“The aim of organizing this programme was to amplify the voices of students and faculty from diverse demographics across the country over the important theme of One Nation One Election and also to demonstrate the University’s technological prowess in uniting the nation for a shared cause”, said Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu.

Community Service Punishment Awarded
by Hon’ble Court to Offenders Found in
Drunken in Pampore

JI NEWS SERVICE

PAMORE, MAY 21

The Hon’ble Court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class (JM1C), Pampore, has awarded community service to three individuals who were apprehended by Awantipora Police for being found in a drunken state in the Ladhoo area of Pampore.

As part of the judgment, the offenders have been directed to perform cleaning duties in the Court Complex as a form of community service. This action by the Hon’ble Court is a step towards promoting accountability and social responsibility through reformative measures.

Police welcomes the decision of the Hon’ble Court, which not only serves as a deterrent but also helps in instilling a sense of civic duty among citizens. The police remain committed to maintaining law and order and ensuring a safe and responsible community environment.

Police destroys huge quantity of
seized contraband substance worth
crores and drugs in presence of
Magistrate in Pulwama

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, MAY 21

District Level Drug Disposal Committee Baramulla destroyed huge quantity of seized drugs and psychotropic substances under section 52A of NDPS Act.

The seized contraband substances of 33 cases of Police Station Uri, Kreeri, Sheeri, Baramulla, Boniyar and Pattan were destroyed. The seized substances include 1.270 Kgs of Heroin, 1.703 kg of Charas, 13 Kgs of Poppy Straw, 20.121 Kgs of Ganja, Alprazolam 0.5 mg 340 tabs, SpasmoProxyvon plus 68 caps, Coorex 54 Bottles, Corn Cob 112 gms, Tuskil-T Codeine 05 bottles, Spasmed 10 Strip 240 Cap worth crores were destroyed at Kashmir Health Care System, IGC Lasripora Pulwama in presence of constituted committee headed by DySP DAR DPL Baramulla, DySP ANTF Kashmir, DySP CID CI Anantnag, Executive 1st Class Magistrate Fatehgarh, Reader to SSP Baramulla, Field Inspector of Pollution Control board, IC Godown and other Police officers of the District.

The people of the area met with the officers during the exercise and thanked them for their hard work, professionalism, and commitment towards making the society drug free.

Police solves theft case
within 12 hours in Awantipora,
03 accused arrested

JI NEWS SERVICE

AWANTIPORA, MAY 21

Police in Awantipora solved a theft case within 12 hours by arresting three accused persons involved in the commission of crime and recovered stolen vehicle from their possession.

Police Post Reshipora received a complaint that on 20th May 2025, some unknown thieves have stolen a vehicle (Auto Rickshaw) which was parked outside the house of the complainant at Ghat Tokina. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 116/2025 under relevant sections of law was registered in PS Awantipora and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, a Police team headed by IC PP Reshipora taking assistance of modern techniques including collection of CCTV footages of various locations learnt about the involvement of three accused persons identified as Aakhir Ahmad Wani son of Fayaz Ahmad Wani resident of Tengpora Tokuna, Setha Ahmad Dar son of Mohd Akbar Dar resident of Renzipora and Adnan Ahmad Bhat son of Mohd Altaf Bhat resident of Renzipora.

Committed to transparency, timely redress of public grievances: Satish Sharma

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Science & Technology, Satish Sharma, today said that the government is committed towards ensuring transparency, accountability and timely redress of public grievances.

The Minister was interacting with scores of deputations who called on him here today.

The delegations who met the Minister included former employees of the Jammu and Kashmir State Road Transport Corporation (SRTC), representatives from the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) and representatives of Ganderbal district.

The delegations projected a series of demands pertaining to employee welfare, public service delivery and administrative support.

The former SRTC employees highlighted issues regarding pension



benefits and compassionate appointments for the families of deceased staff members. They urged upon the government to expedite resolution of their long-pending service-related grievances.

The representatives from the Food and Supplies department highlighted logistical challenges and the need for better infrastructure to ensure timely delivery of essential commodities, especially in remote and rural regions. They called for modernizing supply chain mechanisms

and addressing workforce shortages in critical areas. The Ganderbal deputation focused on local developmental concerns, including the need for improved road connectivity, access to quality healthcare and enhanced support for education and youth employment initiatives.

Satish Sharma, responding to issues raised by the delegations, assured them that all their concerns would be examined by the concerned departments for appropriate action at the earliest.

Distt Admin B'la issues Heat Wave Advisory; urges public and departments to take precautions

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, MAY 21

In view of the rising temperatures and ongoing heat wave conditions, the office of the Chairman DDMA/ Deputy Commissioner Baramulla has issued a detailed advisory aimed at safeguarding public health and ensuring a coordinated response from government departments.

The advisory outlines preventive measures to reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke, dehydration, and the worsening of pre-existing health conditions.

For the general public, the advisory stresses the importance of staying hydrated by drinking sufficient water, wearing light-colored cotton clothing, and using hats, umbrellas, or sunscreen when going outdoors.

“Citizens are advised to remain indoors during peak heat hours (11 AM to

4 PM), keep indoor spaces cool using curtains, fans, or coolers, and check regularly on vulnerable individuals such as the elderly, children, and those with chronic health issues,” read the advisory.

The public was also cautioned against direct exposure to sunlight during midday, leaving children or pets in parked vehicles, engaging in strenuous physical activity during hot hours, and consuming alcohol, caffeine, or heavy meals.

Government departments have been instructed to ensure uninterrupted water supply in vulnerable areas, maintain a regulated power supply to prevent outages, and keep healthcare facilities prepared for any spike in heat-related illnesses. Departments are also advised to conduct public awareness campaigns, provide hydration facilities in public places, and restrict outdoor labor

during high-heat periods.

Furthermore, departments are urged not to delay emergency responses to heat stroke cases, to avoid scheduling outdoor public events during extreme heat, and to ensure swift resolution of public complaints related to water or electricity supply. Timely dissemination of weather alerts has also been emphasized.

Health Department was instructed to establish heat stroke clinics across the district and to ensure the availability of Oral Rehydration Solutions (ORS), essential medicines, and other emergency healthcare resources.

District Administration has appealed to the public to follow the recommended guidelines and cooperate fully with the authorities. Collective efforts and timely precautions are key to minimizing the impact of the heat wave and ensuring public safety.

DC reviews maintenance work on Kishtwar-Paddar Road ahead of Machail Yatra-2025



JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan today conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing maintenance works on the Kishtwar-Paddar Road in preparation for the upcoming Shri Machail Mata Ji Yatra 2025.

During the meeting, the DC was apprised that huge building construction material has been dumped on the Kishtwar-Paddar Road by the public, causing nuisance and blocking smooth vehicular movement. The DC directed the Tehsildar Nagseni and Tehsildar Kishtwar, along with the OC GREF, to ensure clearance of the same at the earliest.

The DC directed CVPPL to undertake immediate repair and corrective measures at the landslide-prone Sinhad Nallah (Pathar Naki) stretch to ensure the safety and uninterrupted movement of pilgrims. He also

instructed the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to closely monitor the work being executed by CVPL to maintain quality standards.

The General Reserve Engineer Force (GREF) was directed to ensure effective and high-quality maintenance of the entire road stretch to facilitate smooth transit during the Yatra period.

The Deputy Commissioner directed JPDCL Kishtwar to install a 50 KVA DG Set at Machail Yatri Bhawan, Gulabgarh, and to complete the internal electrification on the top floor of the Yatri Bhawan, Gulabgarh, besides installing illumination along the Machail Yatra track and at the base camps at Gulabgarh and Chishoti.

The meeting was attended by ADC Pawan Kotwal, ACR Idrees Lone, BDO, AEE JPDCL, representatives from GREF, BRO, Power Projects and CVPPL, Incharge Machail Yatra Cell Kishtwar besides other Concerned.

JKEDI organises 4 week Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Program at Jammu under RAMP scheme

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) on Wednesday inaugurated a four-week Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Program (ESDP) at Jammu, under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme. The initiative is funded by the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, and implemented by the Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

The training program is being conducted at the Government Polytechnic for Women, Jammu, and was formally inaugurated by Om Prakash Bhagat, Director, Skill Development Department, in the presence of Er. Neelanjana Manwati, Principal, Government Polytechnic for Women, Jammu.

A total of 32 aspiring entrepreneurs are participating in this 104-hour intensive training program, which spans four weeks. The ESDP is part of a larger initiative being implemented across all districts of Jammu and Kashmir, aimed at fostering entrepreneurship among youth and equipping them with the necessary tools to launch and manage sustainable business ventures.

The curriculum includes comprehensive modules on enterprise management, marketing



strategies, business simulations, market surveys, and field visits. This practical, hands-on approach is designed to build core entrepreneurial competencies, helping participants become self-reliant job creators in the Union Territory.

The inaugural session witnessed participation from faculty members of the Government Polytechnic for Women and officials from JKEDI, who engaged with the trainees and shared insights on entrepreneurship and innovation.

A Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) under Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) initiative was prepared by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir under the guidance and supervision of the Chief Secretary, J&K Atal Dulloo and the Industries & Commerce Department, led by its Commissioner/Secretary, Vikramjit Singh to help enhance the productivity and competitiveness of MSME sector in Jammu & Kashmir.

The proposal was approved by the Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), GoI. Accordingly, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has started the implementation of the RAMP initiative with the commencement of the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programs (ESDPs) across the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) program is a Central Sector Scheme funded by the Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), GoI and supported by the World Bank.

The Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, convened a review meeting today to assess the operations of the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department.

The meeting was attended by Sub Divisional Magistrates, Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh and Assistant Directors Santosh Kumar and Haroon Rashid Naik.

The meeting focussed on enhancing efficiency and transparency of the food distribution system.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of adhering to standard operating procedures throughout

PMEGP beneficiary establishes Flour Mill at village Batara- Gandoh

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 21

Member Legislative Assembly Bhaderwah Daleep Singh Parihar, in presence of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Harvinder Singh, inaugurated a Flour Mill at Batara village in the Gandoh subdivision established by a local entrepreneur by availing the financial support under flagship Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

The project sponsored by the District Industries Centre (DIC) Doda was established by incurring Rs. 30 lakh provided as loan by J&K Bank Gandoh.

Alongside the inauguration of the Plant, the MLA



and DC asked local youth to set up micro-enterprise to strengthen the local economy through self-employment.

MLA Bhaderwah Daleep Singh Parihar praised the

efforts of the District Administration Doda for effectively implementing employment generation schemes and urged more youth to come forward and benefit from such initiatives.

DC Jammu reviews FCS&CA Department operations



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, convened a review meeting today to assess the operations of the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department.

The meeting was attended by Sub Divisional Magistrates, Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh and Assistant Directors Santosh Kumar and Haroon Rashid Naik.

The meeting focussed on enhancing efficiency and transparency of the food distribution system.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of adhering to standard operating procedures throughout

the supply chain, from godowns to end beneficiaries, and mandated inspections of annual records to ensure compliance.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the necessity for surprise inspections of dealerships by Sub Divisional Magistrates and FCS&CA teams to verify the display of rate lists and to prevent the misuse of domestic LPG cylinders in commercial activities. Other operational areas under review included the status of Direct Benefit Transfers, Aadhaar seeding, eKYC status and other standard activities.

Further, the Deputy Commissioner directed that the quality and delivery of Mid-Day Meals and

food supplies to Anganwadis be closely monitored. SDMs were assigned specific targets to conduct surprise checks and take immediate action against any irregularities. Strict enforcement measures were also outlined concerning weights and measurements, with a clear directive to identify and prosecute violators.

Additionally, the Deputy Commissioner mandated mill-level scrutiny and thorough cross-checking of records related to ration pickup and delivery. Emphasising accountability, the Deputy Commissioner reiterated that all food and ration distribution must be carried out by licensed individuals only.

GDC Vijaypur organises screening of documentary on hazards of Drug Addiction

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, MAY 21

Government Degree College Vijaypur organised screening of documentary on drug addiction under the flagship banner of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan. The event was conducted under the supervision of the College Principal Dr. Ashu Vashisht.

The event commenced with the welcome address by Nodal Officer Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat. He noted that drug abuse has led to a detrimental impact on the society including increase in the crime rate in the country. The documentary aimed at creating awareness among the students and local people about the impact of drugs on emotional, mental and social health.

The documentary screened helped the students to understand that drug addiction can have serious consequences for the individual and soci-

ety as a whole, while on individual level drugs can damage physical health, including organ damage, infectious diseases, and overdose fatalities. Only a collective approach from lawmakers, educators, community leaders, and individuals themselves can combat drug addiction.

The Principal of the college Dr. Ashu Vashisht briefed the students that the aim of organising such events is to aware them about the consequences of drug use.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Anjana Raina (Lecturer, Political Science). The whole programme was coordinated by Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat, Nodal Officer, Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan and co-ordinated by Prof. Mamta Gupta, Prof. Anita Jamwal, Dr. Arti Sharma, Dr. Naseem Chowdhary, Prof. Meetu Sharma, Dr. GunjeetMahiwal, Dr. Anjana Raina and Prof Madhu Bala.

Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan IEC campaign held at GHSS Surinsar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

In continuation to the 'Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan', an Information, Education and Communication Campaign was held today at Government Higher Secondary Surinsar. The School Principal Sarita Sharma



was the chief guest at the event attended by Ex. Sarpanch, Heads of High Schools Aithem, Sagoon, staff members, students and prominent citizens of

the area. The aim of this programme was to enhance awareness regarding the detrimental effects of drug abuse and to promote a drug-free community. The programme concluded with a pledge to protect students and society from the harmful impact of drugs.

Power shutdown

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Lamberi, Bagnoti, Narian, Nowshera, Jaba Deeing Syal, Nonial, Manpur, Chowki-Jangher, Qila Darhal, Rajpora, Laroka and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 22 from 5 am to 12 noon.

EDITORIAL

Challenge of illegal immigration

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has reportedly directed all States and Union Territories to carry out a month-long verification of documents for illegal immigrants, with a specific focus on Rohingya and Bangladeshi nationals. The move has deep legal, humanitarian, and geopolitical ramifications in the restive Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This directive—likely to pave the way for detention and eventual deportation—brings Jammu and Kashmir back into the spotlight as a sensitive hotspot for unauthorized settlement. The presence of approximately 10,000 Rohingya refugees, primarily in areas such as Sunjuwan, Bhatindi, and Narwal, is not new. Many have resided here for over a decade, some marrying locals and integrating into communities, while others have secured official documents like Aadhaar cards, voter IDs, ration cards, and even bank accounts. Such integration, however, belies the fact that their very entry into India was unauthorized—a reality the government is now actively moving to rectify. At the heart of this development lies a conflict between the enforcement of national sovereignty and the humanitarian obligations India holds, particularly as a signatory to various UN conventions on human rights (though not the 1951 Refugee Convention). Rohingyas, fleeing systemic persecution in Myanmar, sought asylum in India as a matter of survival. Many of them are United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) card holders, making them recognized refugees under international frameworks, albeit not under Indian law. While the government is within its rights to regulate immigration and protect national borders, it must ensure that enforcement is carried out within the framework of the Constitution and human dignity. There is, of course, a pressing security dimension. Following recent terror attacks like the one in Pahalgam on April 22, the government has a legitimate concern about the misuse of identity documents by illegal immigrants or their potential exploitation by extremist elements. Intelligence agencies have flagged instances where illegal immigrants have secured shelter through forged documents or been shielded by local networks. This not only threatens demographic balance but also presents real challenges in tracking, monitoring, and maintaining internal security. However, it's important to differentiate between genuine refugees and those who may pose a threat. Blanket criminalization of an entire community—especially one already facing persecution—risks pushing more people into the margins, where they are more susceptible to being exploited by nefarious actors. Implementing the MHA's directive will require robust administrative coordination. Setting up district-level detention centres, conducting thorough verification drives, and initiating deportation procedures will stretch already burdened local administrations. Furthermore, the practical hurdles of deportation remain significant. Myanmar has shown little interest in taking the Rohingyas back, and Bangladesh is already grappling with its own overwhelming share of the refugee burden. This raises a crucial question: What happens to those who cannot be deported? The deportation of Pakistani nationals earlier this year has set a precedent that the MHA seems keen to replicate in the case of Rohingyas and Bangladeshis. However, every case demands its own scrutiny. A refugee fleeing genocide is not equivalent to an illegal economic migrant or a potential security risk. This nuance must reflect in the policy. India must adopt a dual-track strategy: strengthen border controls and verification mechanisms, while also developing a clear, transparent refugee policy that balances national interests with humanitarian responsibilities.

Self-reliance in natural gas: Clearing hurdles in the way

UTTAM GUPTA

Delivering the 75th Independence Day (ID) address on 15th August 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi vowed to achieve self-reliance in energy production by boosting the gas-based economy. He wished the share of natural gas (NG) in the total energy mix to go up from subsisting at around 6 per cent to 15 per cent by 2030. He reiterated this at India Energy Week (IEW) held on February 11-14, 2025. Presently, the share is a mere 6.7 per cent. The only way to reach the target is to build indigenous production capabilities to the desired scale.

Where do we stand?

According to the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MPNG), during the financial year (FY) 2024-25, India's consumption of NG was 72.293 billion metric standard cubic meters (bmscm) – an increase of 7 per cent over the level during FY 2023-24. However, the import of NG (it is imported in a liquefied form commonly known as LNG) during FY 2024-25 was 36.699 bmscm – an increase of 15.4 per cent.

Taken as a proportion of consumption, imports were 50.8 per cent during FY 2024-25 up from 47.1 per cent during FY 2023-24. In contrast, the country's production of NG registered declined by 1 per cent to 36.113 bmscm during FY 2024-25.

The State-owned major Oil and

Natural Gas Corporation or ONGC produced 18.736 bmscm of NG during FY 2024-25, which was 3 per cent less than 19.316 bmscm during FY 2023-24. The share of production in consumption of NG during FY 2024-25 was 49.2 per cent down from 52.9 per cent during FY 2023-24. The upshot is: that even to comply with the 6 per cent share, India had to import more than 50 per cent of its NG requirement.

Increasing the share of NG in the total energy mix to 15 per cent would require its consumption to increase from its current annual of 72.293 bmscm to 161.791 bmscm (72.293x15/6.7). The current consumption includes domestic production of 36.113 bmscm. If domestic production stagnates at the current level (in sync with the trend of the last few years) then, to achieve the 15 per cent target, the import of LNG will have to be 125.678 bmscm (161.791-36.113) which works out to about 77 per cent of the consumption.

The above calculation assumes no increase in total energy consumption. But, it is increasing at a rapid pace. The country's power demand alone is projected to grow at a compound annual rate of 7 per cent during the next five years (according to the Central Electricity Authority). In that scenario, reliance on imports will be even higher.

How can India increase production?

India has 26 sedimentary basins

(SBs) covering an area of 3.4 million sq km that could be searched for hydrocarbon resources. However, only six of the SBs are under commercial exploitation; these too are sub-optimally utilised. Hydrocarbon exploration is a highly capital-intensive and technology-intensive business involving a long gestation period. It is risky, especially when drilling in deep/ultra-deep and high-pressure/high-temperature (D/UD/HP/HT) fields in offshore areas such as the Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin.

Multinational companies (MNCs) such as ExxonMobil, Chevron, Total etc. which have the technology and resources can be enthused to take long-term bets in the Indian hydrocarbon sector provided the Government offers them an opportunity to earn an attractive return on their investment on a 'sustained' basis. This, in turn, requires that their efforts in the discovery and development of NG fields don't face regulatory hurdles and that they can sell the gas 'freely' at a 'remunerative' price.

On the regulatory front, Modi – Government has removed many hurdles. In recent years, its major decisions are: releasing 0.69 million sq km of hitherto 'No go' area (out of a total of 1.73 million sq km SB area lying offshore) for exploration and production (E&P) activity; granting lease rights over the entire economic life of the allotted fields instead of the extant system of short tenure with extensions;

amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act to enable prompt access to forest areas for exploration of hydrocarbon resources; allowing E&P firms to pick up a block of their choice and give the operator a composite license to search for hydrocarbon in whatever form vis NG, 'shale gas', CBM (coal bed methane) etc under the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing.

Policy decisions ease the process

For long, E&P efforts were hamstrung by cumbersome procedures, multiple approvals and bureaucratic red tape. Approvals were needed at every stage. As many as 37 procedures were required to be followed by a firm awarded block under the New Exploration Licensing Policy or NELP (NELP was launched in 1999 and blocks awarded under it till 2016).

Team Modi has substantially liberalised and de-bureaucratized approvals by providing for self-certification of documents and pre-approved clearance of blocks. Under the Oilfields (Regulations and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024 passed by the Parliament on March 12, 2025, the definition of mineral oils has been broadened/expanded to include crude oil, NG, petroleum, condensate, CBM, shale gas and oil, and other varieties (the earlier definition included only petroleum and NG). Besides, the Bill introduces the concept of 'petroleum lease'

to separate oil and gas exploration projects from mining projects. This will prevent the former from getting hamstrung by delays due to land and environmental clearances germane to the latter. The latest amendments in the ORD Act, 2024 also moot an alternative dispute resolution method within or outside India besides decriminalising violations.

The MPNG has also proposed joint development of fields where these are found to be interconnected. This will help avoid disputes like the one seen between ONGC and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) when the former accused latter of stealing gas from fields given in the KG basin area under NELP. It will also ensure better utilisation of assets and cost savings.

What about freedom of pricing?

Of the domestic gas, on around two-thirds of supplies (mostly from so-called 'legacy fields' given on nomination to ONGC and OIL and from fields given under NELP), the Centre has full control over 'to whom' the supplies will be made and at 'what price'.

Although, from April 1, 2023, based on the recommendations of the Kirit Parikh committee, this price expressed on a per million British thermal units (Btu) basis is arrived at by taking 10 per cent of the monthly average of the Indian crude basket in the preceding month and notified every month, the price thus calculated is subject to a ceiling of US\$ 6.50 per Btu.

Indus Waters Treaty: A watershed moment for India-Pakistan relations

ANILANAND

The brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir – claiming the lives of 26 innocent tourists – has not only shocked the nation but reignited a serious conversation about India's ongoing relations with Pakistan, especially in the context of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). The gruesome nature of the attack has prompted a broader reassessment of strategic, diplomatic, and humanitarian ties between the two countries. One major outcome of this reassessment is a renewed scrutiny of the IWT – an agreement that has endured since 1960, but now appears increasingly outdated given Pakistan's repeated provocations.

In a significant development for the first time since the Treaty's inception, Pakistan has expressed a willingness to revisit its terms. This shift comes amid India's stern measures following the attack, including the bold decision to consider suspending elements of the

Treaty. It is a move that has been debated in the past but never seriously acted upon – until now.

The Indus Waters Treaty, brokered by the World Bank in 1960 after nine years of negotiations, governs the distribution of water from six rivers in the Indus basin. It allocates exclusive use of the eastern rivers – Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi – to India, while granting Pakistan control over the western rivers – Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab. India, under the Treaty, is allowed to generate hydroelectric power on the western rivers through "run-of-the-river" projects, but is prohibited from altering the flow through large-scale storage or irrigation.

At the heart of the Treaty lies a spirit of cooperation, goodwill, and mutual trust. The preamble clearly states both countries' intent to achieve the most equitable and satisfactory utilisation of river waters through a cooperative framework. Unfortunately, while India has largely honored this commitment,

Pakistan has repeatedly violated the underlying principles by abetting terrorism and interfering in India's internal affairs. The recent Pahalgam massacre – unprecedented in its direct targeting of tourists – underscores a serious breach not only of bilateral trust but also of the moral framework that underpins the Treaty.

India's response was swift. Recognising the attack as a violation of the basic tenets of peace and diplomacy, the Government of India announced a reassessment of the IWT, signaling that continued goodwill cannot be taken for granted. Unlike in previous instances where debate on the Treaty was limited to academic and diplomatic circles, this time the Government took proactive steps, sending a clear message to Islamabad and the international community.

Pakistan's sudden openness to renegotiation reflects a quiet but clear acknowledgment of its vulnerability. Much of the country depends heavily on the western

rivers, especially Jhelum and Chenab, for agriculture and daily consumption. Any change in India's approach to water flow – whether through infrastructure expansion or short-term flow adjustments – could have significant consequences for Pakistan's water security. This looming reality may have prompted Islamabad to reconsider its rigid stance. It is also worth noting that the IWT includes provisions for revision. Changes can be made, but only through a newly ratified treaty agreed upon by both nations. Given the evolving geopolitical and ecological realities, and especially in light of persistent hostilities, India is well within its rights to propose modifications. The infrastructure required to implement such changes, like increased storage and diversion capacity, would demand long-term planning, but the very possibility is enough to concern Pakistan's leadership.

The Treaty also includes mechanisms for resolving disagreements. These

range from bilateral discussions through the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC), to more structured dispute resolution methods involving a Neutral Expert or even an ad hoc Court of Arbitration. Disagreements have arisen in recent years over India's construction of two hydroelectric power plants – Kishenganga (330 MW) and Ratle (850 MW) – in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan has claimed that aspects of these projects violate Treaty provisions, particularly in terms of design parameters. However, these are "run-of-the-river" projects, and India maintains that they fall within its rights under the IWT. The World Bank is not funding either project, and technical design disputes have remained unresolved despite multiple rounds of talks. India's recent steps to enhance the reservoir capacity of these hydroelectric projects – through desilting and other improvements – are within the permissible framework but carry potential for temporary control over water flow.

Even short-term restrictions, such as temporarily closing dam gates, could have significant repercussions downstream, further highlighting Pakistan's dependence on Indian goodwill.

The Pahalgam attack has exposed the fragility of any agreement rooted in one-sided responsibility. India has abided by the IWT even during the most challenging times, while Pakistan has continued to harbor and support terrorism. The attack has given India the moral and strategic justification to question whether the current form of the Treaty serves its national interest. Pakistan's expressed willingness to engage in renegotiations could mark a turning point – either toward genuine cooperation or further tension. The burden now lies on both sides to either reforge a partnership based on mutual respect or prepare for a prolonged period of uncertainty.

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

Precision, Power, and Innovation: The Science Behind Operation Sindoor

BY VINAY PATHAK AND SANDEEP JOSHI

On a night, while around 1.7 billion people across two countries were asleep, India decided to settle a score for a cowardly act done by terrorists in Pahalgam.

No declarations. No televised warnings. Just precise and impactful action. In a few minutes, retaliation wasn't just delivered – it was redefined and reframed. That night, revenge gave way to a new doctrine: swift, surgical, tech-driven warfare. A clear and loud message was sent by the top leadership to the harbinger of terror.

But that night, instead of just revenge, a new chapter was silently written – neither in speeches nor headlines, but in the precise language of strategic retaliation.

It is a remarkable new lesson in modern warfare and technology-driven military tactics where silence carries the weight of power and revenge. A hard-hitting message – enough is enough, the nation will not sit quietly in the face of such acts – was sent, powerful enough to reflect the intent of bold leadership. It echoed far beyond borders, impossible for global leaders to ignore. The world took notice of it.

Operation Sindoor – from a precision missile strike by India across the border, deep into the heart of Pakistan, targeting the terrorist camps they had nurtured – was not just a military response to the wounds inflicted in Pahalgam, but it was also a message to our adversaries about our technological advancement.

It signified that India is no longer merely a buyer of military equipment;

rather, it has become a proud producer capable of indigenously developing and deploying next-generation war technologies with excellence.

This wasn't a case of luck or last-minute brilliance. It was the result of the hard work of our scientific community, and its years of relentless effort which was highly focused and deeply purposeful. Behind the calm and composure was a nation often underestimated, steadily transforming the way it thinks about, builds, and commands its defence sector.

Operation Sindoor wasn't just a mission; it became a milestone in the journey that began with one bold, simple idea: What if India no longer had to depend on anyone else to defend itself? That question became a vision, that vision became a resolve, and that resolve became a reality.

This transformation is the result of the grand vision of the nation's visionary leadership – a vision patiently nurtured over the last decade years through bold initiatives like NIDHI (National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations), Make in India, the rise of defence-tech startups, and the emergence of a thriving innovation ecosystem. Operation Sindoor is not just a mission; it has become the grand proclamation of this transformation.

This vision became a reality. It stepped out of boardrooms and policy papers and roared onto the global stage. In the labs where startups take birth our young engineers and scientists are fighting a silent war, battling challenges with innovative ideas, crafting technologies that ensure peace through power and strength. Warriors

working in the field of science,

technology and research are fighting a different kind of battle – not with guns and grenades, but with the grit, code and relentless innovative imagination.

These are the warriors working in the startups. Each breakthrough is a victory for them which motivates them to undertake a new challenging task.

There are quite a few remarkable startups that have made us proud by showcasing their capabilities in drone technology and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). Apart from HAL and IIT-Bombay, it is companies like L&T, Paras Defence and Space Technologies, Drone Destination, IdeaForge Technology and Zeus Numerix are doing path-breaking work.

Their innovations tackle real-world problems, from defence tech to climate solutions, proving that

technology is India's strongest shield and startups are its sharpest edge.

Rafale, the magic of engineering from France, soared in perfect synchrony with our very own BrahMos, together executing one of the most precise strikes the modern world has witnessed. This was not mere retaliation; it was a symphony of bold intent and sovereign resolve, where every note was calibrated, every movement deliberated against the attack made by terrorists on the sovereignty of the nation.

India's method of retaliation, language of retaliation, and grammar of retaliation in response to the point-blank killings by asking about the religion of innocents by Pakistani terrorists in Pahalgam have now become a case study for military strategists and defence experts across the globe.

This wasn't just a military manoeuvre – it was a calibrated expression of resolve and bold intent. With the help of fifth-generation fighter jets like Rafale in the skies and the S-400 Sudarshan Chakra air defence system on guard, India showed that the fusion (Sangam) of global firepower and homegrown innovation isn't just possible – it's formidable and too powerful.

At a critical hour, indigenously developed technology spoke louder than words, with precision, clarity, and impact and delivered a message that – one the world won't soon forget. The unwavering contribution of our armed forces – marked by sacrifice, dedication, and deep love for the nation – is truly invaluable and incomparable.

We salute their valour and honour their commitment towards protecting

our country. And how can we forget the contributions of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, the "Father of India's missile programme"? Dr Kalam was instrumental in adding muscle to India's defence capabilities.

Operation Sindoor was not just retaliation – it was India's declaration of a new era in warfare: silent, swift, tech-driven, and sovereign. It marked the rise of indigenous innovation, the boldness of visionary leadership, and the resilience of a nation ready to defend its people with precision and pride. From Pahalgam's pain emerged a powerful message: India will not bow – it will build, strike, and lead. A new doctrine was born, and the world could no longer look away.

(Vinay Pathak is Assistant Professor, IIT-Sonepat, and Sandeep Joshi is a freelance journalist. Views are personal)

Dr. Narinder Singh, Vikram Randhawa holds Public Darbar at BJP headquarters

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 21 MAY

Dr. Narinder Singh, BJP National Secretary and MLA R.S. Pura - Jammu South Assembly constituency, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu Assembly constituency, held a Public Darbar at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

The Public Darbar attracted a significant number of residents and deputations from various localities of Jammu, showcasing the rising public trust in BJP's leadership and its commitment to grassroots governance. Citizens presented a wide array of concerns, ranging from basic civic amenities to specific infrastructural needs and personal health emergencies.

Dr. Narinder Singh and Ch. Vikram Randhawa provided a patient hearing to every deputation. Issues that could be immediately resolved were taken up with the concerned departments through direct communication with officials. For other matters requiring further follow-up, written representations were prepared and forwarded to the respective authorities

for timely action.

Among other issues, a deputation from Jogian Mohalla, Shiv Nagar requested for the removal of garbage trolley. A deputation from Bandhu Rakh, Satwari requested for the development of cremation ground. A deputation from Bandhu Rakh requested for black topping and repair of roads. A deputation from ward 55, Kunjwani requested for installation of a Transformer. A deputation from Sainik Colony requested for the construction of road and drainage of area adjoining sector -F. deputations from Nai Basti, Last Morh, Trikuta Nagar requested for repair of street lights. A deputation from Dagiana ward no 58 requested for the construction of a bathroom at Cremation ground. A serious patient requiring immediate specialized intervention was referred to PGI, Chandigarh. A deputation from Shiva Colony requested for upgradation of water pipelines in ward 68. Deputations from Ext Trikuta Nagar, sector 7 Trikuta Nagar, apprised the senior leaders about the irregular water supply. A deputation from Nanak Nagar requested for the construction of the drain.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Narinder Singh stated that the growing number of deputations attending the Darbar reflected the unshakable faith of the people in the BJP's governance model. He reiterated the party's resolve to provide swift and effective solutions to the public, especially the underprivileged sections. "Public Darbars are a bridge between the citizens and the administration, ensuring that people's voices are heard and acted upon without delay," he said.

Ch. Vikram Randhawa, in his address, highlighted the BJP's philosophy of people-centric governance. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government has maintained a continuous connection with the grassroots level. This Public Darbar is a shining example of our resolve to be accessible and accountable to the people," he remarked.

The proceedings of the event were efficiently coordinated by Er. T.K. Sharma, Co-convenor of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (J&K BJP), ensuring smooth interaction between citizens and party leadership.

Congress observes Balidan Divas in Srinagar, pays floral tributes to Rajiv Gandhi on 34th Martyrdom Day

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) on Wednesday observed Balidaan Divas to mark 34th Martyrdom Day of Bharat Ratna, Former Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Srinagar Congress Party.

MLA Bandipora Nizam U Din Bhat presided over the function. Congress leaders and workers paid floral tributes to Rajiv Gandhi and observed two-minute silence in honour of the former Prime Minister, who sacrificed his life for the Nation.

The leaders paid floral tributes to Former Prime Minister while highlighting his selfless services and great achievements describing these a milestone in the inclusive development of India in all respects, be it the implementation of Panchayat Raj system, voting rights to 18 years of age, IT revolution, strengthening of defense system of India, education policy and various other extraordinary measures which he (Late. Rajiv Gandhi) adopted to bring the Nation at par with powerful countries in the world.

The leader described Rajiv Gandhi as the author of modern India, a towering statesman and visionary leader who is credited with igniting India's march towards modern-



ization and advancement in terms of technology, people's empowerment with hope and opportunity. Rajiv Gandhi's martyrdom stands as an earnest reminder of the price of leadership and the depth of his unwavering commitment to a united, prosperous and progressive Nation, his dreams of a developed, harmonious Nation continue to inspire the generations, Leaders said.

Rajiv Gandhi was a great son of soil, who infused hope among millions of India. His visionary and courageous leadership were instrumental in making India ready for the challenges while spearheading the telecom and IT revolution, implementing a computerization programme, peace accords, launching a universal immunization programme and introducing a new education policy.

The speakers further highlighted the great con-

tributions of Rajiv Gandhi towards Nation Building saying that he (Rajiv Ji) will always be remembered for his unwavering commitment to safeguarding National interest, equitable development of every section, besides ensuring peace and stability. Rajiv Ji was a visionary leader who dealt with every challenge with great courage.

Those who paid floral tributes to Former Prime Minister included Former Legislator Bashir Ahmad Magrey, Abdul Gani Khan, Nissar Ahmad Munday, Mahila President Shameema Raina, GSO Abid Imityaz Bhat, Fayaz Ahmad Mir, Mir Ruvais, Media Coordinator Dr. Audil Farooq Mir Lasjan, DCC Presidents Irfan Naqib, Umer Jaan, Er. Muzaffar Dar, Mir Mustaf Magami, Dr. Waleed Karra & G.A. Reshi, Shameema Sopori, Shameema Mir, Er. Danish Reshi, Seerat Bashir, Saira, Rahila and others.

Drug Peddler Arrested with Intoxicant Tablets in Reasi

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, MAY 21:

In a major breakthrough under the ongoing anti-drug campaign "Ek Yudh Nasha Ke Virudh", Reasi Police apprehended a drug smuggler during a late-night patrol conducted between May 20 and 21, 2025.

According to police sources, the accused - identified as Jamaat Ali alias Biniya, son of Abdul Haq, resident of Padoh Khairi, Katra (Gujjar by caste) - was intercepted by a police team from Police Station Katra while he was walking on foot from Kakryal towards Katra. On conducting a thorough search, the police recovered 270 Tramadol tablets and 2,870 Alprazolam tablets, which were concealed in a plastic sack carried by the accused.

The accused was taken into custody on the spot, and a case under FIR No. 145/2025 U/S 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Katra. The investigation into the matter is currently in progress.

The successful operation was carried out under the leadership of SHO Police Station Katra, Inspector Khyatimaan Khajuria, and was supervised by SDOPO Katra Dr. Bhishm Dubey (JKPS) and SP Katra Sh.

Vipan Chandran (JKPS). Reasi Police is adopting a multi-pronged strategy to combat the menace of drug abuse in the district. Apart from taking stringent legal action against drug peddlers - including booking repeat offenders under the PITNDPS Act - the department is also conducting regular awareness programmes to educate the public, especially the youth, about the harmful effects of drug addiction.

To further strengthen community participation, Reasi Police has launched a dedicated Anti-Drug Helpline (9070907017), where residents can anonymously report drug-related activities. The identity of informants will be kept strictly confidential.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Reasi, Sh. Paramvir Singh (JKPS), while sending a stern warning to those involved in the drug trade, said:

"There is no place for drug peddlers in Reasi. Those indulging in such illegal activities must shun this path immediately, or they will be dealt with a firm and iron hand."

Reasi Police reaffirmed its commitment to eradicating drugs from the district and ensuring a safe, drug-free future for the younger generation.

Tiranga Yatra taken out in Chhan Arriorian Nation stands united in saluting its brave security forces: Jasrotia

JI NEWS SERVICE
JASROTA, MAY 21

In a grand display of patriotism and solidarity, MLA Jasrotia, Rajiv Jasrotia, led an impressive Tiranga Yatra in Chhan Arriorian to celebrate the resounding success of Operation Sindoor and honor the valor of India's brave security forces. The yatra, meticulously organized by Mandal Chhan Arriorian, witnessed an outpouring of enthusiasm and national pride from the local community. MLA Rajiv Jasrotia's presence and leadership infused the event with energy and purpose, reflecting his commitment to the nation's security and progress.

The yatra saw active participation from prominent party leaders and workers, including Mandal President Mukesh Sharma Ronni, District Vice President and Yatra Incharge Anil Singh, District Vice President Vidya Sagar, Saksham District President Sardari Singh, Sarpanch Jogesh Singh, Niteshwar Singh, Nandan Khajuria, Reejay, Gopal. The Tiranga Yatra served as a heartfelt tribute to the bravery and sacrifices of India's security forces,



instilling a sense of pride and gratitude among the participants. The Tiranga Yatra was a resounding celebration of national unity and pride, showcasing the community's unwavering support for the nation's security forces. The event underscored the importance of fostering a sense of patriotism and solidarity among citizens, particularly in the face of challenges to national security. The successful organization of the Tiranga Yatra in Chhan Arriorian is a testament to the dedication and enthusiasm of the local community and party leaders. MLA Rajiv Jasrotia's leadership and the collective efforts of the participants ensured a memorable and impactful event that will resonate with the community for a long time.

The nation stands united in saluting its brave security forces, who tirelessly dedicate themselves to protecting the country and its citizens. Their unwavering commitment and readiness to make the ultimate sacrifice are a testament to their valor and patriotism, said Jasrotia. Security forces play a vital role in safeguarding the nation against external threats, ensuring the safety and well-being of citizens. Their willingness to sacrifice their lives for the greater good is a profound expression of their dedication to the nation. The nation's gratitude and respect for its security forces are boundless, reflecting the deep appreciation for their service and sacrifices, added Jasrotia.

BJP holds crucial meeting on Pakistan shelling in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 21 MAY 2025:

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Jammu & Kashmir held a high-level meeting at its party headquarters to assess the ground situation in districts affected by recent Pakistan shelling.

The meeting was presided over by BJP J&K President Sat Sharma, who was joined by senior party leaders including Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), J&K BJP, Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition, J&K Legislative Assembly, Dr. Narinder Singh, BJP National Secretary and MLA, Dr. Nirmal Singh, and Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Ministers, Sham Lal Sharma, and Shakti Raj Parihar Vice-Presidents and MLAs, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, General Secretary and MLA, Adv. RS Pathania, Spokesperson and Balwant Mankotia, Mohan Lal, and Dr. Rajiv Bhagat MLAs participated in the meeting.

Sat Sharma, while leading the threadbare discussions in the meeting, lauded Indian Forces and said that throughout the Operation Sindoor, India

maintained a professional approach and targeted terror infrastructure. He criticized Pakistan for its attack on the civilian areas of Jammu & Kashmir, thereby causing injuries to people and damage to their properties and livestock.

He further said that in order to ascertain the exact damage extent, to assure people by meeting them and to take concrete relief and rehabilitation steps, BJP sent high-level delegations comprising of senior leadership of party, which continuously toured all the shelling affected areas to meet the affected people, to know their damages, and to inquire about their issues to execute the action for the quick relief and rehabilitation measures.

Ashok Koul shared that BJP delegations visited five districts in Jammu regions namely Kathua, Samba, Jammu, Rajouri and Poonch and two districts in Kashmir region namely Baramulla and Kupwara. He said that to streamline the efforts, a committee has been formulated of five senior leaders led by Sham Lal Sharma, and

comprising of Dr. Nirmal Singh, Kavinder Gupta, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, and Adv. RS Pathania which will make a detailed report based upon the field assessment of the damages due to the Pakistan shelling. The findings will be submitted to the party president and further shared with appropriate governmental platforms to facilitate swift and adequate relief measures.

Sunil Sharma, while focusing on the extent of damage, said that the shelling-affected people in these areas have suffered physical, emotional and economic damages in this conflict. He said that BJP will ensure every possible welfare measure in coordination with the Union government and the UT administration.

Dr. Narinder Singh stressed that the union government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is concerned for the safety and the well-being of its citizens. He also committed on behalf of all BJP MLAs that they will leave no stone unturned to help the affected people.

Tiranga Yatra held in Dansal, Nagrota Constituency, Jammu North

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Portraying the patriotism and solidarity with the Indian Armed forces, a "Bharat Shaurya Tiranga Yatra" was organized by the Citizens for National Security, in Dansal Block, Nagrota Constituency of District

Jammu North. To express solidarity with the Indian armed forces and celebrate the success of Operation Sindoor. The vibrant Tiranga rally, held in the presence of BJP senior leader and Seh Prabhari Jammu North, Vinay Gupta, showcased the central government unwavering commit-

ment to national pride and respect for the tricolor. The event was spearheaded by District President Jammu North, Nand Kishore Sharma, along with BJYM State Vice President Devyani Rana, with numerous of enthusiastic citizens in attendance.

Addressing the public



gathering, Vinay Gupta in his statement elaborates that the "Tiranga Yatra" is a powerful demonstration of unity, patriotism, and gratitude toward the Indian armed forces for their relentless efforts in safeguarding the nation. Participants carried the national flag, chanting slo-

gans in support of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and the armed forces' valor.

Vinay Gupta emphasized the significance of the Bharat Shaurya Tiranga Yatra as a tribute to the armed forces commitment to fostering national pride. Gupta expressed heartfelt

gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership and policies that have strengthened India's global standing and security framework.

Vinay Gupta also took the opportunity to condemn Pakistan's role in sponsoring terrorism, declaring,

Balwant Thakur unveils Melodious Punjabi Song “Jaan Tere Naam” at Natrang Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

In a glittering function held at Natrang Jammu today, Padmashree Balwant Thakur released the highly melodious Punjabi song ‘Jaan Tere Naam’ a soulful new addition to the regional music scene. The event marked a moment of pride for the cultural fraternity as the song, sung by the versatile and renowned singer Sonali Dogra, captivated the audience with its rich melody and heartfelt lyrics.

Directed by Akash Dogra, Jaan Tere Naam features rising stars Ayaan Choudhary and Diya Sharma, bringing a fresh charm and emotional depth to the music video. The lyrics have been beautifully penned by Lucky Biring, with melodious



music composed by Naaz. The project has been ably managed by production managers Karan & Divam, and produced by Neelam Kumari and Varsha Dogra under the banner of Natya Roots Productions.

The music video has premiered on the Natya Roots Productions YouTube channel and is also available on all major audio streaming platforms.

Padmashree Balwant Thakur, who graced the occasion as the chief guest, adored the song for its soulful music, incredible

lyrics and mesmerising video capturing picturesque Jammu locations. Lauding the entire team, he appreciated their outstanding creative excellence and unparalleled dedication aimed at promoting regional music and exceptional local talent.

Expressing her gratitude, singer Sonali Dogra thanked the entire team of Jaan Tere Naam and extended special thanks to Kuwrani Dr. Ritu Singh, Hotel Radisson Blu, and Dr. K D Multispeciality Hospital for providing venues for

the shoot.

Director Akash Dogra, representing Natya Roots Productions, also expressed his heartfelt thanks to Rohini's Makeover and Sugandha Chib for makeup and costume support. He extended appreciation to Chander Shekhar, Amandeep Kour, Nidhi Gupta Abrol, Seema, Rakhi, Mr. & Mrs. Balwant Kataria, Amit Balgotra, Anu Balgotra, Om Parkash Sharma, and many others including Mahira, Nidha, Lokesh, Payal, Rashita, Vanshika, Arushi, Sumit Tandon, and Rohit Gupta, acknowledging their valuable contributions to the project.

Jaan Tere Naam stands as a testament to the collaborative spirit of talented artists and the rising standard of regional music productions.

BJP Ramban unit organizes Tiranga Rallies in Nabul, Halla to honour Indian Forces

J I NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 21

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District Unit of Ramban organized two Tiranga Rallies today in the Nabul of Ramban Mandal and Halla of Karol Kanthi Mandal, under the leadership of former MLA and District President Neelam Langeh. These rallies were held to pay tribute to the valor and sacrifices of the Indian Armed Forces, particularly in light of the successful execution of Operation Sindoor.

The rallies witnessed enthusiastic participation from party workers, local leaders, and residents, who marched with the national flag, chanting patriotic slogans and expressing



solidarity with the armed forces. The events aimed to foster a sense of unity and national pride among the citizens of Ramban district.

Neelam Langeh addressed the gatherings, emphasizing the importance of national unity and the role of the armed forces in safeguarding the country's sovereignty. He urged citizens to remain vigilant against divisive forces and to continue supporting initiatives that

strengthen national integration.

Prominent attendees included District Development Council (DDC) member Rakesh Thakur; Ranjit Singh Parihar, President of Karol Kanthi Mandal; Ramesh Singh, President of Ramban Mandal; Advocate Khajor Singh; Raj Singh, former Sarpanch; Amar Chand; and Mandan Singh, Vice President of the district unit.

CU Jammu organizes Expert Talk on “Know Your Army”, under theme “Nation First: My Role”

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 21 MAY

The Office of Dean Students' Welfare (DSW) and the Department of National Security Studies (NSS) at the Central University of Jammu (CUJ), under the esteemed patronage of Honourable Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain, organised an Expert Talk on the theme “Nation First: My Role” and “Know Your Army”. Two prominent army veterans, Lt. Gen. Jagbir Singh Cheema (Retd.) and Brigadier (Retd.) Harcharan Singh, VSM, graced the occasion. The event commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Neeta Rani, Head of the Department, NSS. She highlighted the relevance of the theme in the backdrop of the current national security landscape. She also introduced the speakers. Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Stu-

dents' Welfare provided a detailed overview of the programme.

In an enlightening discourse, speaker Lt. Gen. J.S. Cheema (Retd.) shed light on the strategic execution and implications of Operation Sindoor, calling it a landmark in India's modern warfare history. Framing it within the broader national security architecture, he explained how India, post-Operation Sindoor, took the unprecedented step of suspending the Indus Water Treaty, thereby asserting a more assertive stance in the face of cross-border terrorism. He emphasized how India has established a “New Normal” in responding to terrorist threats—marked by precision-based, non-escalatory strikes deep into Pakistan's territory. He provided a day-by-day account of the operation,



detailing targets, timelines, and India's calibrated strategic messaging. He also discussed India's weapon system. Drawing comparisons, he questioned the credibility of Pakistan's weapon systems while highlighting India's superior operational readiness and credible deterrence posture. The General also hailed the multi-domain “Network-Centric Approach” adopted during Operation Sindoor as a

benchmark in modern military doctrine, showcasing India's preparedness to thwart offensive moves and strike decisively when required. In his concluding remarks, he discussed the strategic implications of the operation—highlighting India's strategic autonomy, psychological victory and deep-strike capability—while cautioning about information warfare tactics deployed by adversaries to distort

perception and morale.

Brigadier (Retd.) Harcharan Singh, VSM, in his address, shifted the focus towards nation building and environmental consciousness through the lens of the armed forces. Speaking on “Environmental Awareness: Role of Army in Nation Building”, he opened by saluting “Nari Shakti”, emphasizing the critical role of women in national development and defence. He

praised the indigenous success of the Make in India initiative achieved during Operation Sindoor and connected environmental principles in terms of security with Indian culture, national interest and the role of the army. Brigadier Singh offered a wide-ranging geopolitical overview, analyzing India's security dynamics in relation to the USA, Russia, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. He also discussed regional rivalries, hybrid threats, and the broader strategic ecosystem affecting India. Highlighting concerns such as the Two-Nation Theory, psychological warfare, infiltrator and termites nexus and the broader strategic nexus between Pakistan, China and Bangladesh. He underlined the complex security challenges India is facing. In his concluding

remarks, he charted a visionary path forward rooted in the performing fundamental duties under Article 51A of the Constitution, rising above partisan divides, empowering youth, and embracing the “Nation First” approach in all spheres of life.

Dr. Anuradha Choudhary moderated the interactive Q&A session and also delivered a vote of thanks. She expressed gratitude to both the speakers. She also extended her gratitude to Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Prof. Ritu Bakshi, DSW and Dr. Neeta Rani, HOD, NSS, for organising this event. This event reflected CUJ's commitment to fostering strategic awareness, civic responsibility and intellectual engagement on matters of national importance among students and the wider academic community.

IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu organizes program on One Nation One Election

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Indira Gandhi National Open University today organized a Program on the theme 'One Nation, One Election' (ONOE) with the aim to connect IGNOU's academic community with the important National agenda. The program was organized in the Convention Centre at the Maidan Garhi campus of the University. The IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu also organized a program on One Nation One Election in its campus auditorium which was attended by the entire management and staff of the Regional Centre and around 50 learners. Apart from the Regional Centre Jammu, the program was also viewed online by all the LSCs under the Regional Centre Jammu.

The Keynote address at the IGNOU Convention Centre was delivered by the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA & FW), Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on the theme “One Nation, One Election: Needs & Advantages”. It was followed by the address by Shri Sunil Bansal, National General Secretary, BJP, in presence of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor IGNOU, Prof. Uma Kanjilal and an interactive Q&A session afterwards.

“The aim of organizing this programme was to amplify the voices of students and faculty from diverse demographics across the country over the important theme of One Nation One Election and also to demonstrate the University's technological prowess in uniting the nation for a shared cause”, said Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu.

Role of Youth in Nation Building and Avenues open to Join Indian Army

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 21 MAY 2025

Operation Sindoor has exhibited the Indian Resolve, Will power and Military Capabilities to the World. To explain the sequence of events from 07 May onwards, during execution of Operation Sindoor and to provide a detailed analysis on Geo Politics, a lecture was held by Central University Jammu for the Research Scholars. The event was conceptualized by Dr Neeta, Head of Department of National Security Studies.

The sequence of Indian Strike, Pakistani response, the Capabilities of Indian Weapon System and deficiencies in Pak Defence Capabilities were explained by Lt Gen (Dr) JS Cheema, an expert on Defence Studies, through virtual media.

Brig Harcharan Singh, Defence Analyst, covered the factors leading to operation Sindoor, in the backdrop of Indian Civilization, Ethos and Traditions, where we believe in the concepts of coexistence as a Global Family. He covered the Geo Politics of the region, with the fault line of Pakistan, carved out due to Two Nation theory. Fur-



ther, the Interest of China, USA, Russia, Bangladesh and other neighbours was covered, leading to the involvement of Pakistan in Irregular Warfare against India. With menace of Infiltration, the security challenges before India were highlighted.

The students were apprised of the ongoing Covert Operation and involvement of some neighboring countries was also explained. Students were told about Misinformation Campaign being launched

to discredit India and to cover up the dirty game being played by others. Youth were called upon to be careful and also, educate the environment on the resolve of India to fight against Terrorism and Fundamentalistic ideologies.

The audience was apprised about the rich and glorious traditions of Indian Army and its sacrifices/ contribution made towards Nation building. It was brought out by Brig Harcharan Singh, that he

has joined two NGOs to serve Soldiers, to express gratitude towards their sacrifices. War Wounded Foundation, a Noida based NGO, looks after welfare of Disabled Soldiers. The second NGO, National Corruption Control and Human Welfare Organization motivates Citizens to visit houses of Veer Naris in order to express gratitude to the Nation and to guide the children of bravehearts for their next Career.

Various Avenues to join Army in the rank of Officers, JCO and OR were explained and small booklets were distributed on the subject. The questions from the students clearly indicated the Motivational level and environment charged with Nationalism. Youth showed eagerness to serve the Nation and make contributions as good citizens.

Dr Neeta and Dr Anuradha Choudhary managed the stage. They all pledged to create an environment, so as to defeat the Misinformation campaign being run by adversaries. Brig Harcharan Singh was honoured by Prof Ritu Bakshi (Dean Student Welfare) and Dr Neeta. The programme ended with recital of National Anthem.

GHSS Bahu Fort holds ‘Say No to Drugs’, Awareness Campaign under Nasha Mukh Abhiyan

J I NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Today In alignment with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir's flagship mega campaign Nasha Mukh Abhiyan, an impactful awareness programme titled “Say No to Drugs, Yes to Life” was successfully held at Government Higher Secondary School Bahufort. The event aimed to educate and inspire the community to choose a healthy, drug-free life and ensure the message reaches every home and every individual.

With the participation of around 100 people, including social activist Mr. Sumit ,Retd.dysp. Sh.Bishan Das, students, parents, local residents, and volunteers, the programme was a powerful community effort dedicated to spreading awareness and guiding those who may be struggling to find hope and recovery.

Distinguished Educators Present at the Event: Dr. Seema, Medical Officer, Health Department, administered a collective pledge against drug abuse and emphasized the importance of physical and mental health.

Mr. Raspal Singh, Sub Inspector, Police Department, discussed the role of



law enforcement in curbing drug-related issues and encouraged vigilant community action.

Madam Varsha Mangotra, Social Welfare Department, highlighted the emotional and societal impacts of addiction and shared ways to support affected individuals.

Mr. Tanav Rajput, Sub Inspector, Excise Department, spoke about the enforcement of drug laws and encouraged youth to be informed and responsible.

Sh. Subash Chander ,Resource Person for Nasha Mukh Abhiyan, delivered an insightful address on how people can come out of addiction and rebuild their lives with support and willpower.

Smt. Karuna Chettri, SMDC Member, addressed

the importance of community and school collaboration in spreading awareness.

Ms. Mehjabeen, representative from the Education Department and Nodal Officer for Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan in the school, highlighted the role of education in nurturing awareness and prevention.

Cultural and Student-Led Activities:

A moving skit, performed by students and directed by Anita Madam and Aditi Madam, portrayed the journey of an individual battling addiction and finding hope through support and awareness. Students also delivered speeches expressing their understanding and strong stance against drug abuse. The programme was

smoothly conducted and anchored by Mrs. Deepthi Madam, who ensured the event's successful flow. It concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by the respected Principal, Madam Anuradha, who acknowledged the contributions of all departments, guests, and especially the school faculty.

Event Highlights and Objective:

The main objective of the programme was to ensure that the message of drug prevention reaches a large number of people—especially those who may be silently suffering. The event served as a platform to not only spread awareness but also share stories of recovery and resilience, showing that help is available and healing is possible.

The united effort of the entire school faculty played a vital role in making this programme a grand success. The event stood as a symbol of community strength, empathy, and the shared responsibility to fight the menace of drug abuse.

Together, under the banner of Nasha Mukh Abhiyan, the school and community took a firm stand:

Say No to Drugs - Say Yes to Life.

Vi Launches New Campaign; highlights addition of over 1,00,000 Towers in 6 months

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Vi, India's leading telecom operator, today unveiled its latest campaign, celebrating a significant milestone - the addition of over 1,00,000 towers across India in 6 months of FY2425. This achievement highlights Vi's commitment to strengthening its network infrastructure, underlines its scale and speed in network infrastructure expansion. Taking its network narrative forward in a refreshing and engaging format, the campaign debuts Vi's all new Network Avatars - The Netties, - a set of animated characters inspired by mobile towers. Riding on the wave of IPL excitement, these avatars have been brought together as a dynamic team of cricket

players, symbolizing they are the strongest team of the season. This fun and spirited squad embodies the strength, scale, and agility of Vi's evolving network by bringing to life its network credentials in a unique and memorable way.

In recent months, Vi has made rapid progress in its network expansion. It launched 5G services in Mumbai, Chandigarh and Patna and is gearing up to launch in Delhi and Bangalore soon. In parallel, Vi has also strengthened its 4G network, expanding capacity and coverage through the deployment of new towers and upgrades across the 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, and 2300 MHz spectrum bands. These enhancements have resulted in stron-

ger indoor and outdoor coverage, improved data speeds, and a wider service footprint - ensuring a robust 4G experience, which is now reaching a total of 1.07 billion population.

Speaking on the occasion Avneesh Khosla, Chief Marketing Officer, Vi said "Our network expansion is not just about scale, but also smart, strategic deployment. By prioritizing high-traffic areas, leveraging spectrum efficiently, and focusing on delivering a quality indoor experience, we're building a future-proof, high-performance network. The addition of 1 lakh towers in six months and recognition for the best 4G experience underscores Vi's commitment to delivering consistent, quality connectivity while

creating long-term value for our customers."

Rohit Dubey, Sr. ECD, Ogilvy said "When creating for Vi, we believe every piece of communication should spark joy—that's why we chose animation to tell a technical story with heart. The film turns telecom towers into teammates, showing how our strong network, like a great cricket team, never drops the ball—or the signal. One lakh new towers, one rock-solid team. This is our strongest side yet."

The 360-degree campaign conceptualised by Ogilvy India, comprises of two TVCs. The campaign is scheduled to go live from 17th May and will be promoted across platforms like TV, OTT, Radio, Social Media and YouTube.

Samsung Introduces Bespoke AI Top Load Washing Machines with AI Wash for Smarter, More Efficient Laundry for Indian Households

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, has announced the expansion of Bespoke AI to its Top Load Washing Machine category, following the remarkable consumer response to Bespoke AI Front Load Washing Machines. Designed to redefine laundry care with intelligent and efficient solutions, the new range brings advanced AI-powered features for enhanced fabric care, energy efficiency, and seamless convenience. With this expansion, Samsung reinforces its commitment to innovation, offering consumers a smarter and more effortless washing experience. The new Top Load Washing Machines, available in 8KG, 10KG, 12KG, and 14KG capacities, are designed to offer seamless and efficient laundry experience with Bespoke AI. The lineup is available in a range of elegant colours like Black Caviar, Lavender Gray, and the newly introduced Deep Charcoal and Brushed Navy, designed to complement any modern home aesthetic.

Equipped with AI Wash and its 3-step sensing, these machines intelligently detect the fabric type and weight to automati-

cally recommend the optimal settings for each load. Leveraging an advanced AI algorithm, the cycle adjusts key parameters—such as water level, agitation intensity, and wash and rinse duration—delivering up to 25% more fabric care and taking good care of fabrics. Building on this technology, features like Eco bubble, Hygiene Steam (with inbuilt heater), Super Speed, AI Energy Mode, and SmartThings integration, AI VRT+™ (Vibration Reduction Technology) further elevate the laundry experience - enhancing fabric protection, ensuring superior hygiene, optimizing energy efficiency, and providing seamless connectivity for added convenience. "The launch of our Bespoke AI Top Load Washing Machines reflects our commitment to innovation that meets evolving Indian consumer needs. The remarkable success of our Bespoke AI Front Load range reaffirms the growing appetite for AI-powered appliances. We are now driving the technology expansion to top load models. Consumers can now experience fabric care, convenience, and efficiency with our new Top Load Washing Machines. From optimizing wash cycles to saving energy and providing

effortless control through SmartThings, our latest range is designed to make everyday laundry smarter, more intuitive, and seamlessly integrated into modern lifestyles," said Ghufuran Alam, Vice President, Digital Appliances, Samsung India. The new Top Load Washing Machines elevate everyday laundry with intelligent innovations that enhance efficiency and convenience. Ecobubble ensures up to 20% better fabric care reducing wear on clothes by effectively dissolving detergent, delivering a powerful yet gentle wash. For a deeper clean, Hygiene Steam, powered by an in-built heater, eliminates up to 99.9% of bacteria and allergens, ensuring superior hygiene. With Super Speed technology, users can complete a wash cycle in just 29 minutes, saving time without compromising on cleaning efficiency. Stain Wash, on the other hand, gives users the option to use either warm or hot water to remove dirt and stains effectively. It can clean everyday marks like sweat at 40°C. AI Energy Mode, available through the SmartThings App, optimizes energy consumption, reducing usage by up to 20% while maintaining powerful performance. Users can track their daily, weekly, and

monthly power consumption, with the app even estimating monthly energy bills. AI VRT+™ technology ensures quieter operation while adapting to various floor conditions. This advanced version of the VRT+™ system gathers multiple signals from the washer and sends them to an AI server, that analyzes the type of floor the washer is placed on. Using an AI algorithm, the server determines the optimal settings for a stable and quieter operation, ensuring a seamless and peaceful laundry experience for users. Further enriching the experience, SmartThings connectivity allows for seamless control, enabling users to remotely manage cycles, access Bixby voice assistance, and utilize Home Care features for enhanced convenience, making laundry effortless and intuitive. Like the Front-Load Washing Machines, this new range of Top Load washing machines is equipped with Digital Inverter Technology (DIT), ensuring quieter operation, enhanced durability, and improved energy efficiency. Utilizing strong magnets, DIT delivers powerful performance while consuming less energy than conventional motors, making it both efficient and long-lasting.

SCJS organizes Symposium on Healthy Lifestyle for Senior citizens

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Senior Citizens Joy Society (SCJS) organized an enlightening symposium on the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle in old age. The event was held under the esteemed chairmanship of Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and Chairman, SCJS. The proceedings were conducted smoothly by Shri Ashok Khajuria, Secretary, SCJS.

The symposium focused on the significance of beginning the day with mindfulness and care, especially for the elderly. Experts emphasized that how one gets out of bed can directly impact health. The suggested method was:

Upon waking, remain in the lying posture for half a minute.

Then lie on your back for another half minute.

Turn gently to the right side and stay for another half minute before getting up.

Sit on the bed for a



minute, observe which nostril is dominant, and first place the foot of the active nostril side on the ground, followed by the other.

Stand up slowly and perform some light stretching and twisting exercises before heading to the washroom.

This simple routine can help regulate blood circulation and prevent the risk of sudden strokes or heart attacks, especially in the morning hours.

The session further included a detailed lifestyle guide for senior citizens:

Wake up before sunrise, aligning the body clock with nature.

Drink lukewarm water to activate the digestive system and flush out toxins.

Use the Indian toilet posture for better bowel movement and to strengthen lower body muscles.

Engage in light exercises and brisk walking, ideally in fresh morning air.

Consume adequate but not excessive meals - a light breakfast, balanced lunch, and early, simple dinner are ideal.

Dedicate time daily to Pranayama (breathing exercises) and meditation for mental peace and spiritual upliftment.

During the event, several distinguished mem-

bers and guests including Prof. Virender Gupta, H.C. Vaid, C.M. Sharma, Narinder Wadhwa, Ashok Khajuria, Rakesh Misra, B.B. Sharma, and Anju Bansal shared their valuable insights and personal experiences on healthy aging, lifestyle modifications, and staying socially active.

The programme concluded with an interactive session, followed by a vote of thanks and the singing of the National Anthem, upholding the tradition of SCJS gatherings.

This initiative reflects SCJS's continuous efforts to empower senior citizens to lead healthy, purposeful, and joyful lives.

JMC, GCW Parade, organize awareness campaign on SWM under theme "Char Bin Apnao, Prakriti Bachao"

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Jammu Municipal Corporation, under the guidance of the Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav, IAS, in collaboration with Government College for Women, Parade Jammu, organized an awareness campaign on Solid Waste Management under the theme "Char Bin Apnao, Prakriti Bachao." The drive focused on source segregation and the ban on single-use plastics.

The initiative's primary goal was to promote a plastic-free, green campus by



encouraging students and faculty to adopt sustainable waste management practices and help reduce plastic pollution.

The campaign saw active participation from the College Principal, Dr. Ravender Kumar Tickoo, reflecting strong institutional commit-

ment. Dr. Gurpreet Kour, NSS Programme Officer, and Kapleshwar Sharma, IEC Executive at JMC, efficiently coordinated the activities, leading NSS volunteers and staff in executing the awareness drive.

Representatives from Jammu Municipal Corporation, Mr. Sikander and Mr. Ankush Sharma, interacted with professors and students, emphasizing the importance of creating a single-use plastic-free campus.

Faculty members and officials contributed by raising questions and sharing insightful suggestions on the issue. This collaborative initiative, guided by Dr. Devansh Yadav, IAS, marked a significant step toward fostering an environmentally conscious and responsible academic environment on campus.

Kavinder criticizes Congress for politicizing Op Sindoor, urges against compromising national security

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta today strongly criticized the Congress party and its state leadership for their irresponsible and misleading remarks over Operation Sindoor, a decisive counter-terror strike carried out by Indian security forces on Pakistan territory.

Responding to JKPC President Tariq Hameed Karra's statement questioning the government's approach and the External Affairs Minister's comments on pre-emptive diplomatic communications, the BJP stalwart said, "Congress leaders are again indulging in dangerous politics at the cost of national security. Operation Sindoor was a strategic and successful military move against terror infrastructure, and



any attempt to undermine it by questioning its execution only serves the narrative of India's enemies."

Kavinder slammed Karra for suggesting that India had "informed" Pakistan ahead of the strikes. "These statements are not just misleading but deeply irresponsible. India has never

compromised its sovereignty or national interest in dealing with terrorism. By raising doubts over our External Affairs Ministry and questioning the legitimacy of our armed forces' actions, Congress is giving fuel to anti-India propaganda," he added.

Reacting over Karra's criticism of the temporary cessation of hostilities and the Pahalgam attack, Kavinder stated, "Congress is trying to create confusion and fear among the people. The ceasefire and its timing were part of a larger strategic decision-making process, and unlike Congress regimes, the current government does not bow to external pressures. As for the Pahalgam incident, intelligence and security matters are handled with utmost seriousness. Congress should remember it was under their watch that India saw some of the worst lapses in security."

The senior BJP leader asked the Congress leadership to desist from making reckless statements that demoralize the armed forces and create confusion among the public. "At a time when our security forces are successfully neutralizing terror threats, the least Congress can do is stand with the nation. Playing politics over military operations not only weakens India's global position but also emboldens the enemies of peace," he said, asking the opposition to act with maturity and responsibility on issues of national importance.

Reaffirming BJP's commitment to national security and development, Kavinder appealed to the people of Jammu & Kashmir to reject divisive politics and support the strong and decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

IIM Jammu hosts Panel Discussion on 'Nation First' to Inspire National Pride and Civic Responsibility

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

In response to the shifting global landscape and emerging geopolitical challenges, the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu organized a compelling panel discussion on the theme 'Nation First' on 20th May 2025 at the Mandapam Auditorium. The event sought to foster a stronger sense of national identity, cultural pride, and civic duty among the academic community.

The session was graced by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. The event also featured other eminent personalities including Prof. Shyam Narayan Lal, Chairperson, Media and Publication Committee and Anandam, IIM Jammu; Brigadier Neeraj Kumar Soni (Retd.); faculty, IIM Jammu, Dr. Rajesh Sikka, faculty, IIM Jammu, Brigadier Dr. Vijay Sagar Dheman; and Cmdr Kesavan Baskaran, Chief Administrative Officer, IIM Jammu.

The panel drew con-



nections between ancient wisdom and contemporary realities. Drawing from the Ramayana, speakers reflected on the enduring sentiment of "Janani Jannabhoomi Swargadapi Gariyasi"—the mother and motherland are greater than heaven. Insights from the Mahabharata reinforced the idea that protecting one's values and homeland through righteous means is central

to Sanatan Dharma. The discussion reinforced how true patriotism, when grounded in cultural awareness and moral responsibility, becomes a powerful driver of national growth. Speakers emphasized the vital role of academic institutions in cultivating ethical, socially responsible leaders. The evening became patriotic with the patriotic songs by Prof. B. S. Sahay,

Director, IIM Jammu along with the faculty, staff and Ph.D students. The event concluded with a reaffirmation of IIM Jammu's commitment to nation-building through education, civic awareness, and leadership. By championing the spirit of 'Nation First', the Institute continues to nurture future leaders dedicated to the service and progress of the motherland.

Kashmir displayed exemplary unity, brotherhood: Mir

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KHANABAL (ANANTNAG),
MAY 21

A massive Jai Hind rally followed by an impressive Jai Hind Yatra was taken out by the congress party here today on the martyrdom day (Balidaan Divas) of former Prime minister Rajiv Gandhi

Aa part of nationwide call of AICC, a massive Jai Hind Sabha was held at Khanabal Anantnag today, followed by an impressive Jai Hind Yatra in the area, carrying national flag and raising slogans in favour of armed forces and the nation.

Led by J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Shri Tariq Hameed Karra alongwith AICC General Secretary & CLP Leader Shri G A Mir, Former PCC President Peerzada Mohammed Sayeed, Working Presi-

dent Raman Bhalla, Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, Th Balbir Singh, Sdr S S Channi Ex MLA Amin Bhat, Satish Sharma, DCC President Anantnag, DCC President Kulgam, Abdul Rashid Lone and other senior Congress, Mahila congress, youth Congress leaders, the Yatra passed through surrounding areas displaying support and solidarity with the armed forces & message of unity and brotherhood.

Earlier floral tributes were paid to the former Prime minister Rajiv Gandhi recalling his revolutionary achievements in information & computer technology, youth and women empowerment by 73rd & 74 th amendments.

Saluting the armed forces for their bravery valour and discipline, JKPCC Chief Tariq Hameed Karra raised series of ques-

tions on the issue of failures of internal security, foreign policy besides Foreign minister Jaishankar 's admission of giving advance information to Pakistan before start of operation Sindhoo and the third-party announcement by US of cease fire between two countries.

Seeking resignation of Home Minister Amit Shah as well as foreign minister S Jaishankar, Karra said that the nation wants to know certain things after fully standing behind the nation and government and armed forces for stern action against terrorism and perpetrators of Pahalgam carnage as well as Pakistan.

He said total lack of any security at Bisanan amidst large inflow of tourists, despite advance intelligence inputs is serious security lapse and Home Minister Amit Shah should



resign.

He sought resignation of Jaishankar for treason, as per his own admission of providing advance information to Pakistan at the start of operation Sindhoo.

Karra asked how the US president suddenly announced a ceasefire and insulted it by saying he used trade to ensure a ceasefire. The nation wants to know what kind of trade, whose trade was under threat.

He also questioned "Has India accepted third party mediation bypassing the Shimla agreement. All these questions need to be answered in the special parliamentary session.

He compared the martyrdom of Sayed Adil Shah with that of Maqbool Sherwani in 1947, which is still a part of the beautiful history of secularism of Kashmir.

AICC General Secretary and CLP Leader G.A.Mir saluted the bravery of armed forces for conduct-

ing operation Sindhoo but said that entire Kashmir created history by condemning terrorism and standing behind victims and nation in one voice. This has defeated communal and divisive forces trying to divide the vote bank. Unity in diversity is the basis of strength of our nation.

Mir said Modi Govt should come out clear on various questions raised in the country while echoing the same sentiments as Mir Karra.

Mir further said that Congress Party and Gandhi family have sacrificed for the Nation in the hands of terrorism and two former Prime Ministers were assassinated.

Both JKPCC President and G A Mir alongwith other senior leaders welcomed Ex MLA Mohammed Amin Bhat into the party alongwith hundreds

of supporters. Former PCC President Peerzada Mohammed Sayeed MLA too paid rich tributes to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and remembered his contributions.

He also lauded the armed forces and also people especially of Kashmir for rejecting terrorism and helping Pahalgam victims.

He also pointed questions towards the central government on various aspects.

Working President Raman Bhalla also lashed out at the divisive politics of bjp and accused the Modi government of compromising the lives of our jawans by giving advance information to Pakistan.

Urging people to remain united he said that Congress will fight the divisive politics of BJP at all costs.

Mohammed Amin Bhat while joining congress said

it was home coming, but regretted leaving congress & joining DPAP. He thanked the leadership for joining him and assured to work dedicatedly.

Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma paid rich tributes to Rajiv Gandhi and said that IT & more than ten lakh women representatives in PRIs and voting right to youth at 18 is the gift of Rajiv ji.

Prominent those present include Former MLA A R Rather Shaheena Nadaf, Zaffar Farooq Salati DCC President Anantnag, Abdul Rasheed Lone DCC Kulgam, Mohd Iqbal Mir, Amanullah Manto Mohammed Salem Ganai, Khalid Muzafar Dar Tanveer Ahmed Khan Mudasar Khan, Mir Homera Mushtaq Pahalgami, GN Kothsu, Several DDCs BDC Chairperson, district, Blocks Presidents and others.

Sartaj Singh slams Cong for politicizing Op Sindhoo

Advices not to play with National Security

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 21

State media Secretary BJP Minority MORCHA Jammu and Kashmir Sartaj Singh today strongly criticized the Congress party and its state leadership for their irresponsible and misleading remarks over Operation Sindhoo, a decisive counter-terror strike carried out by Indian security forces on Pakistan territory.

Responding to JKPCC President Tariq Hameed Karra's statement questioning the government's approach and the External Affairs Minister's comments on pre-emptive diplomatic communications, Singh said, "Congress leaders are again indulging in dangerous politics at the cost of national security. Operation Sindhoo was a strategic and successful military move against terror infrastructure, and any attempt to undermine it by questioning its execution only serves the narrative of India's enemies."

Singh slammed Karra for suggesting that India had "informed" Pakistan ahead of the strikes.



"These statements are not just misleading but deeply irresponsible. India has never compromised its sovereignty or national interest in dealing with terrorism. By raising doubts over our External Affairs Ministry and questioning the legitimacy of our armed forces' actions, Congress is giving fuel to anti-India propaganda," he added.

Reacting over Karra's criticism of the temporary cessation of hostilities and the Pahalgam attack, Sartaj Singh stated, "Congress is trying to create confusion and fear among the people. The ceasefire and its timing were part of a larger strategic decision-making process, and unlike Congress regimes, the current government does not bow to external pressures. As for

the Pahalgam incident, intelligence and security matters are handled with utmost seriousness. Congress should remember it was under their watch that India saw some of the worst lapses in security."

The Minority leader asked the Congress leadership to desist from making reckless statements that demoralize the armed forces and create confusion among the public. "At a time when our security forces are successfully neutralizing terror threats, the least Congress can do is stand with the nation. Playing politics over military operations not only weakens India's global position but also emboldens the enemies of peace," he said, asking the opposition to act with maturity and responsibility on issues of national importance.

Reaffirming BJP's commitment to national security and development, Singh appealed to the people of Jammu & Kashmir to reject divisive politics and support the strong and decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Indian Army organizes Lecture on Child Health & Drug Abuse Awareness at Parori Gujjaran, Rajouri

J1 NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI: 21 MAY 2025

In a continued effort to promote health awareness and community well-being under the Ayushman Bharat initiative, the Indian Army successfully conducted an informative lecture on Child Health and Drug Abuse prevention at Parori Gujjaran. The session focused on educating the local population about the critical challenges posed by drug abuse and the Government's sustained, coordinated actions to combat this menace. Attendees were briefed on the various Government schemes and initiatives, including the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA), aimed at reducing substance abuse across the country. Further, detailed information



was provided about Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCA) and Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs), highlighting the support and treatment avenues available for those affected by addiction. The event was attended by 35 local residents, comprising 30 males and 5 children, who actively participated and appreciated the efforts of the Indian Army in orga-

nizing this awareness program. The locals expressed their gratitude for the initiative, marking this event as another significant milestone in the Indian Army's ongoing perception management and community engagement activities. Indian Army remains committed to fostering health awareness and supporting government initiatives for the betterment of society.

BSP demands compensation for Land occupied by Army in J&K

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 21

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has strongly demanded that families in Jammu and Kashmir whose land has been occupied by the Indian Army for firing



the land being vacated."

Rana highlighted that this issue has persisted for years and was raised with the Defence Ministry even during the previous state government's tenure. "Despite repeated appeals, the affected families continue to suffer," he said, adding that both Jammu and Kashmir divisions are facing this issue.

He called upon the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to take immediate cognizance of the matter and ensure that justice is served. "The landowners deserve either proper compensation or the return of their property," Rana asserted.

Addressing a press conference at the party office, BSP J&K President Darshan Rana said, "There are numerous families across Jammu and Kashmir whose land has been taken over by the Army for its use, yet the rightful owners are neither receiving compensation nor is

Life of Guru Ravidass has been symbol of equality, brotherhood: Balbir Ram

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 21

Balbir Ram Rattan, National General Secretary of Guru Ravidass Vishwa Mahapeeth, General Secretary of the British Ravidassia Heritage Foundation (Indian Chapter), and member of the Begampura Vishwa Mahasabha, said that the life of great saint, social reformer, and spiritual teacher, Guru Ravidass, has been a symbol of equality, freedom, and brotherhood. He raised his voice against social discrimination, casteism, and the evils of hierarchy, envisioning a society based on equality, where everyone receives equal rights, opportunities, and respect.



Guru Ji dreamed of an ideal society where no one would have to sleep hungry, where there would be no sense of superiority or inferiority, and where every individual would receive the full reward for their hard work.

Referring to Guru Ji's famous hymn "Aisa chahoon raj main, jahan mile saban ko ann..." (I long for such a kingdom where everyone has food...), he said that these lines present a clear vision of a welfare state where no one is poor, neglected, or an outsider. Guru ji's

thoughts remain a source of inspiration even today and motivate us to reflect on whether we have truly built such a society where everyone receives justice, equality, and dignity.

Balbir Ram Rattan emphasized that today, more than ever, there is a need to adopt Guru Ravidass ji's teachings in our lives and eliminate all kinds of discrimination based on caste, religion, and class, to build an India that truly becomes 'Begampura'—a society where there is no place for sorrow, discrimination, or injustice.

JKPYC organizes Blood Donation Camp in Jammu to pay tribute to Rajiv Gandhi and Pahalgam attack victims

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 21

The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Youth Congress (JKPYC) held a blood donation camp at Shaheedi Chowk, Jammu, to commemorate the death anniversary of Former Prime Minister Sh. Rajiv Gandhi Ji and to pay tribute to the martyrs of the Pahalgam terrorist attack. The camp was organised by Anirudh Sawhney, State General Secretary JKPYC, along with Happy Randhawa, General Secretary JKPYC, and Secretaries Akhil Bogia and Dr. Suhaib Manhas. The event witnessed the participation of senior Congress leaders including Ex-Deputy CM Tara Chand Ji, Former Minister Yogesh Sawhney, Ex-MLC Ved Mahajan, and TS Tony, among others.

Anirudh Sawhney, State General Secretary JKPYC, stated that this blood donation camp is a humble tribute to the sacrifices made by our former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Ji and in the memory of the martyrs of the Pahalgam terrorist attack. Under the able IYC leadership, JKPYC continues to work on its commitment to serve society with compassion and courage, he added.



Happy Randhawa, General Secretary JKPYC, emphasized the significance of youth participation, saying, "The youth of Jammu and Kashmir stand united in remembrance of those who laid down their lives. Through such initiatives, we aim to inspire young citizens to contribute meaningfully to society." He also added that the

Akhil Bogia, Secretary JKPYC, said, "Blood donation is a noble cause and today's turnout is a testament to the spirit of service among our youth. We are proud to be part of a movement that promotes peace, and unity."

Dr. Suhaib Manhas, Secretary JKPYC, added, "We dedicate today's camp to the memory of those who lost their lives to terrorism

and to the ideals of Rajiv Gandhi Ji. Their sacrifices will never be forgotten, and we will continue to uphold their legacy through positive action."

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN, RAJOURI

email: icdsrajouri1@gmail.com
Subject: Withdrawal notice for the post of Sahayika (Anganwadi Helper) of Poshan Project Rajouri.

NOTICE

The post of Sahayika (Anganwadi Helper) of AWC Kaller W.No.04 Panchayat Kaller advertised, vide this office Notification No.-01 of 2024, Dated:-29-02-2024 is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect.

Sd/-
(Aditi Singhaal)JKAS
Child Development Project Officer
Poshan Project Rajouri
(Member Secretary Selection Committee)
Dated:-20/05/2025

No:-CDPO/Rajouri/2025-26/165-170
DIP/J-1334/25
Date: 21-5-25

IEC campaign against drug abuse organized at GGHSS, Miran Sahib

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

As part of a five-month-long campaign initiated by the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle, an impactful awareness event was held at Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS), Miran Sahib under the able leadership of the Principal, Ashok Chopra. The programme saw enthusiastic participation from students, parents, teachers, community members, the local administration, the Health Department, Social Welfare Department, and Police Department, reflecting the strength of collective responsibility in tackling the menace of drugs.

The event commenced with the lighting of the

ceremonial Diya, symbolizing the light of awareness dispelling the darkness of addiction. This was followed by the administration of a pledge, wherein all attendees solemnly vowed to abstain from drugs and to work actively towards building a drug-free society. The gathering was then addressed by Respected, SDM R.S. Pura, Ms. Anuradha Thakur, who lauded the initiative and emphasized the committed efforts of her department in eradicating drug abuse. She appreciated the presence of students and their parents, calling it a positive step in the right direction.

The awareness drive was further enriched by Lecturer in Physics, Rajeshwar Sudan, who sensitively spoke about the growing concern of drug usage among youth and the role of education in prevention. Faiz Ahmad



from the Police Department provided a realistic insight into the challenges law enforcement faces in dealing with drug-related cases, while Dr. Kanika Chib, representing the Health Department, highlighted the severe physical and mental health consequences of drug addiction. A poignant skit presented by the students of the school emerged as the highlight of the event. Through a powerful performance, the students depicted how children, often victims of neglect or

peer pressure, can fall into the clutches of drugs. The skit left a lasting emotional impact on all present. Vaishali Jangral, a student of Class 12th, delivered a passionate speech warning her peers about the deceptive allure of drugs and called for conscious efforts by all students to stay vigilant and informed. Senior Lecturer Neelam Kumari spoke about the importance of united action by families, educators, and authorities to uproot the drug problem from society.

The programme concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by the Principal, Ashok Chopra, who expressed gratitude to all departments, guests, and participants. He reassured the parents that the school staff remains ever alert and committed to keeping the school environment safe and drug-free. Before dispersing, all attendees took part in a signature campaign, affirming their commitment to saying "No to Drugs".

The event was elegantly hosted and coordinated by Ms. Ritu Gupta, teacher at GGHSS, Miran Sahib, whose efforts ensured the programme ran smoothly and left a meaningful impression on all. The event marked a significant step forward in the ongoing campaign and served as a strong message against drug abuse in the community.

Civil Defence, Jammu starts 05 days CD Training Program

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

On the directions of Directorate of HG, CD and SDRF J&K, 05 days Civil Defence basic training programme is started at Govt. Girls Hrs. Sec. School, Satwari, Jammu under the supervision Dy. SP. Zia-ul-Haq, Deputy Controller Civil Defence, Jammu. In the training camp 150 Students of School are attending the said training. The primary objective of this initiative is to train students in emergency response, rescue operations, First Aid, Fire Fighting and other basic life saving technique and preventive measures during air attack, natural/manmade disaster.



On the inaugural programme of the training, lectures were delivered by the Civil Defence experts and highlighted the role of Civil Defence and importance of this training. Smt. Vandana Gupta, Principal of School appreciated the programme and emphasized the significance of Civil Defence training in the current era. She stated that disaster preparedness

is not just an institutional responsibility but a social commitment, and such programs empower students with essential life-saving skills. Sh. Paramjit Kumar, Chief warden CD Jammu, Sh. R. Vijay Magotra, Dy. Chief Warden CD, Jammu and other staff of the School was also present on the occasion.

Suri urges revival of Jammu tourism amid post-Pahalgam decline

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

Raman Suri, Executive Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), today addressed the pressing issue of declining tourism in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Jammu division, following the tragic Pahalgam incident. He expressed deep concern over the steep decline in tourist inflow, which has severely impacted the region's economy, including a significant drop in pilgrimages to the revered Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Shrine.

"Tourism is the backbone of Jammu and Kashmir's economy, but the sector is currently grappling with a severe recession due to the situation arising from the Pahalgam massacre," said Suri. "While the Kashmir Valley has been the focus of attention, the Jammu division

and its adjoining areas, which are calmer and safer, are also suffering significant losses.

The decline in pilgrimages to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi ji is particularly alarming, as it is a major spiritual and economic driver for the region." With two major events on the horizon—Mela Mata Shri Kheer Bhawani ji and the Shri Amarnath ji Cave Shrine Yatra, Suri urged the UT Government to act swiftly to restore confidence among tourists and pilgrims.

He acknowledged the government's commitment to formulating an effective action plan by engaging with stakeholders to revive tourism. However, he cautioned that the current efforts appear to be disproportionately focused on the Kashmir Valley, leaving the Jammu division's potential untapped.

"The government's



intentions are not in doubt, but the indications suggest that its efforts are largely limited to the Kashmir Valley," Suri remarked. "The loss suffered by the Jammu division must be taken seriously. In the present circumstances, when Jammu is relatively peaceful and secure, there is immense potential to attract tourists and pilgrims to its scenic and spiritual destinations."

Suri emphasized the untapped tourism potential of Jammu's remote hilly areas and picturesque locations situated 25-30 km from major highways. He highlighted destinations such as Che-

nani, Sudh-Mahadev, Bani, Basohli and Lati, besides other such destinations located near the popular hill stations of Baderwah and Patnitop, as ideal spots for promotion. Additionally, he pointed to the ancient Krimchi Mansar Temple, believed to have been built by the Pandavas, located just before Pancheri, Udhampur. These areas, known for their serene climate and historical significance, are free from terrorism and far from the international border and Line of Control (LoC), making them safe and attractive for visitors.

"These locations in the Jammu division have been overlooked from a tourism perspective," said Raman Suri. "By promoting these safe and serene destinations, the government can not only boost tourism in the region but also ensure that tourists feel secure, free from the

threats of terrorist violence or cross-border shelling by Pakistan."

Raman Suri called on the UT Government to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote Jammu's tourism and religious sites, including targeted marketing campaigns, infrastructure development, and collaboration with local stakeholders. He stressed that such measures would not only revive the region's economy but also provide a safe and welcoming experience for tourists and pilgrims.

"The BJP stands committed to supporting all efforts to restore Jammu and Kashmir tourism sector to its full potential," Raman Suri said. "We urge the government to act swiftly and inclusively, ensuring that the Jammu division's unique offerings are highlighted to bring tourism back on track across the Union Territory."

Congress pays homage to Rajiv Gandhi on his Death Anniversary



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee today paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary at a solemn function held at Shaheed Chowk, Jammu. The program was held under the chairmanship of former Deputy Chief Minister Shri Tara Chand and attended by several senior Congress leaders, party workers, namely Yogesh Sawhney, ved mahajan, Rajnish Sharma, Gurachan Kumari Rana, Th Hari Singh, Chib, Rajesh Dgra, Mrs Zahida Khan and Choudhary Rashid Azam inqlabi also present.

While paying homage,

speakers recalled the immense contributions of Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the nation. They described him as a visionary leader who laid the foundation for a modern and progressive India.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi is remembered for ushering in the Information Technology and telecom revolution in India, which connected remote areas and empowered the youth. His bold steps in reducing the voting age from 21 to 18 gave the youth a stronger voice in democracy. He also played a pivotal role in strengthening Panchayati Raj institutions, thereby empowering grassroots governance.

Under his leadership, India witnessed a new era of science, technology,

and education reforms. He championed secularism, national integration, and peace, both within the country and on the global stage.

Shri Tara Chand, in his address, said, "Rajiv Gandhi's vision of a strong, inclusive, and technologically advanced India continues to inspire us. We must carry forward his mission by upholding democratic values, promoting youth empowerment, and working for communal harmony."

Floral tributes were paid to the late leader, and a two-minute silence was observed in his memory.

The Congress Party reaffirmed its commitment to the ideals and values that Shri Rajiv Gandhi stood for.

DGR Sponsored Training Program On "Solar Panel Installation Technician" inaugurated at IEDUP, Jammu for Armed Forces



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 21 MAY 2025

The Inaugural Ceremony of the Pre-Release Course (PRC) on Solar Panel Installation Technician was held today at the IEDUP Project Office, Jammu. The training program is being conducted under the aegis of the MSME & Export Promotion Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and is sponsored by the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence, Government of India.

The program was formally inaugurated by the Director, Directorate of Resettlement Zone (DRZ) North, in the presence of the Regional Head of IEDUP, the Jammu Project

Office Team, and other key dignitaries.

This skill-based training program is specifically designed to empower Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) and Other Ranks (ORs) of the armed forces with technical knowledge and practical skills in the fast-growing renewable energy sector. The primary aim is to prepare the retiring personnel for self-employment and sustainable livelihood opportunities in the field of solar energy post-retirement.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director of DRZ (North) emphasized the importance of equipping retiring defense personnel with future-ready skills that align with national

goals such as Atmanirbhar Bharat and Skill India. He applauded IEDUP's efforts in executing quality training programs that ensure practical exposure and employment readiness.

The course will cover key aspects of solar panel installation, system maintenance, and entrepreneurship, thereby enabling participants to either seek meaningful employment or set up their own ventures in the green energy sector.

IEDUP remains committed to contributing to the nation's skilling ecosystem and is honored to serve our brave soldiers in their transition to civilian careers.

J&K administration must augment Union govt's efforts to deport illegal immigrants in wake of security threats: Rajni Sethi

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 21 MAY 2025

The Supreme Court of India recently remarked that "India is not a Dharamshala," reinforcing the nation's sovereign right to regulate who resides within its borders. This statement gains added urgency in light of the horrific terrorist attack on April 22, which targeted innocent tourists. The incident has deeply shocked the entire country and raised serious concerns about internal security, especially in sensitive regions like Jammu and Kashmir, said Rajni Sethi.

Rajni Sethi, Spokesperson, J&K BJP, accompanied by Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP, Prerna Nanda, Secretary Mahila Morcha and Suman Raina, Treasurer, Mahila Morcha, J&K BJP, was addressing a Press Conference at J&K BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

She, while addressing the press conference said that the J&K UT Chief Minister led administration must take immediate steps on ground to augment the efforts of Union government in the deportation of illegal Bangladeshi/Rohingyas to secure the

nation from the threats that may arise internally.

In response to this attack, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued a directive to identify and deport all illegal Pakistani nationals residing in India. What is especially alarming is that many of these individuals have been living in India for years and possess Indian identity documents such as Aadhaar cards, voter IDs, and ration cards—fraudulently obtained through illegal means. This not only undermines our national identity systems but also poses a direct threat to our internal security and national integrity.

The issue doesn't end with illegal Pakistanis. Large numbers of Bangladeshi and Rohingya migrants have also entered India illegally and settled in various states and union territories. Their presence—often undocumented and unmonitored—represents a serious challenge to the law-and-order situation. It is well known that some of these individuals have been involved in illegal activities, including human trafficking, smuggling, and radicalization. The demographic impact of their settlement also causes social and political unrest in various regions.

All arrangements in place for Mata Kheer Bhawani yatra: Wattal

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra Welfare Society has extended its heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Chief Secretary, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, and the concerned Deputy Commissioners for their proactive efforts in ensuring a smooth and hassle-free Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra from June 1st, 2025. The society appreciates the administration's meticulous planning, including regular meetings to ensure preparedness and address concerns, effective collaboration with various departments to facilitate the yatra.

In a handout issued here, Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra Welfare Society Convenor Kiran Wattal expressed heartfelt appreciation for LG Manoj Sinha's exceptional leadership and vision over the past three years, particularly highlighting the outstanding facilities provided to yatrins last year under his guidance. Wattal also



commended Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for being the first CM to shine the Kheer Bhawani shrine before the mela, demonstrating his commitment to the community and the yatra's success. The administration's efforts to provide top-notch facilities and ensure a smooth yatra experience reflect their dedication to serving the community and promoting the cultural significance of the Kheer Bhawani yatra.

Wattal said that Mata Kheer Bhawani Yatra Welfare Society plays a vital role in facilitating the annual pilgrimage by

coordinating with Administration and ensuring smooth conduct of the yatra, providing transportation, accommodation, and essential supplies and acting as a bridge between the community and administration. Wattal observed that Kheer Bhawani Yatra holds immense religious significance for Kashmiri Pandits, and the society's efforts ensure a memorable experience for devotees. The society's dedication and the administration's support will contribute to the success of the yatra, said Wattal.

Wattal assured community members, both within the country and abroad, of a smooth and successful yatra, with all necessary arrangements in place. This includes transportation, accommodation and essential supplies, adequate security to ensure devotees' safety with effective coordination and support from the administration. The society invited community members to participate in the yatra, promising a memorable experience.

AMO Udhampur organises PMFME workshop at Lahnu in Tikri Udhampur

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, MAY 21

Area Marketing Office Udhampur, Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing, District Nodal Officer for PMFME scheme of Ministry of Food Processing Government of India organised one day workshop on PMFME scheme for farmers, SHG members and FPOs at Lahnu of block Tikri in Udhampur district.

Assistant Adviser J&K Directorate of Marketing & Inspections Government of India S K Koul was the chief guest.

Apart from a large number of farmers and SHG members, Anuj Verma Area Marketing Officer Udhampur, Dr Munish Sharma Senior Scientist SKUAST-J, Gopal Krishan Chief Manager



PNB Udhampur, Manager J&K Bank Tikri, Shiny Sharma DRP PMFME, Anita Sharma Ex Sarpanch Lahnu Panchayat, Adarsh Kumar HDO Tikri, PMFME beneficiaries from Udhampur Rohit Salaria and Kewal Krishan, Kamal Kishor AGMO Udhampur, Abdul Kabir Wani MI were

present. S K Koul informed the gathering that the Central and the UT governments have launched a number of schemes for farmers, unemployed youth and women SHG members with the subsidy up to ninety percent. He asked farmers and SHG members to take

benefits of Government schemes in full and embark on the path of Prime Minister Sankalp of Viksit Bharat.

Farmers were asked to adopt the latest technologies as well as techniques like crop diversification, Market diversification, grading & packaging, storage & processing so as to get good returns of their produce. Anuj Verma AMO Udhampur and other speakers from different departments

briefed the audience about PMFME scheme, The Government of India scheme being implemented by the J&K Agriculture Production Department in J&K envisages 35% subsidy, easy bank finance, help in Documentation/ DPR and complete hand holding including branding & marketing.

DDC Chairperson reviews performance of RDD in Kishtwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MAY 21

District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Kishtwar Pooja Thakur today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to evaluate the progress of developmental activities being undertaken by the Rural Development Department (RDD) across the district.

The meeting was attended by DDC Members, ADC Pawan Kotwal, ACD Kaiser Bhawani, all Block Development Officers (BDOs) and other concerned officials.

The meeting reviewed the implementation status of the ongoing works and flagship schemes, while also identifying strategies to ensure the timely execution of projects.

The Chairperson raised concern over the non-disbursement of funds under



the SOS Plan of the District Development Council in March due to insufficient allocations.

The DDC Councillors from Marwah and Warwan gave feedback regarding implementation of works under MGNREGA and other schemes during the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25 and suggested further improvisation.

The Chairperson instructed the concerned officials to initiate immediate verification and take corrective action where necessary.

Addressing concerns

regarding the PMAY scheme, the Chairperson emphasized that only eligible and deserving beneficiaries should be selected, and the process must be free from favoritism.

She stressed the importance of transparency, accountability, and community participation in the execution of rural development programs. She urged the officials to focus on people-centric projects, resolve ground-level issues promptly, and ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach every deserving citizen.

11 Vehicles seized for illegal extraction of minor minerals in Handwara

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MAY 21

Acting on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan, Geology & Mining Department, conducted a special raid today at Handwara to curb the illegal extraction of minor minerals.

During the operation, District Mineral Officer (DMO) seized 11 vehicles including tippers, tractors after they were found illegally transporting bajri (gravel), sand, and silt from the nallah at various places of Handwara, Chowgal, Kralgund and Zachaldar. The seized vehicles were subsequently handed over to the concerned police stations for safe custody.

DMO cautioned the offenders against engaging in unlawful mining activities and emphasized that strict legal action would be taken under the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, specifically Section 21, as enforced under the J&K Minor Mineral Concession, Storage, Transportation of Minerals and Prevention of Illegal Mining Rules, 2016 (SRO 105).

The district administration has reiterated its commitment to protecting natural resources and warned of intensified action against illegal mining in the region.

RAMP Awareness programme held at GDC D.H Pora

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 21

District Industries Centre (DIC) Kulgam today conducted an awareness programme under RAMP (Raising and Accelerating of MSME Performance) at Govt Degree College D.H. Pora.

Officers from line departments viz. Lead District Manager Kulgam, besides representatives from KVIB, SICOP, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Handicrafts/ Handloom, CSC centres and Cooperatives Department, Industrial Promotion Officers and other officials of DIC Kulgam were present in the programme.

More than 100 beneficiaries from various departments, viz. Handicrafts/ Handloom, Cooperatives, Agriculture, and industrial unit holders of DIC Kulgam attended the programme.

In the inaugural address, participants and other stakeholders were sensitized about the importance and vibrancy of Udyam Registration for taking their business and industrial establishments to new heights in collaboration with the Government and the flagship schemes run by it.

The process flow and benefits under Udyam Registration was explained to the participants through a detailed powerpoint presentation by the IPOs of DIC, Kulgam.

On the occasion Lead Bank Manager, Kulgam; Principal, Degree College also delivered lectures regarding entrepreneurship and the benefits of registration.

Nasha Mukh Bharat DIPR artists, students present theme based Cultural program at GHSS Gharota

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Cultural Unit of the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), Jammu conducted a Cultural Awareness Programme titled 'Nasha Mukh Bharat' (Say No to Drugs) at Shaheed RFN. Sham Singh Langeh Government Higher Secondary School Gharota Jammu.

The aim of this initiative was to enhance awareness regarding the detrimental effects of drug abuse and to promote a drug-free community. Artists from the Cultural Unit, Jammu captivated the audience with thematic songs, effectively demonstrating the repercussions of drug addiction



on individuals, families, and society at large.

The programme was attended by staff of school and students. The students presented Nukkad Nataks centered around the theme. Principal, Harpreet Kour, expressed her insights on the subject, highlighting its significance to the audience. She commended the Department

of Information and Public Relations for organizing such a meaningful programme designed to enhance awareness.

The programme was conducted under the directions of Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey and under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu Mukesh Kumar Sharma.

DIPR organises awareness program on Nasha Mukh Abhiyan at GHSS Nagam Chadoora

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, MAY 21

A day-long awareness program under the banner of Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan was organized today at Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Nagam by the Cultural Unit Kashmir, Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) J&K, in collaboration with GHSS Nagam.

The event witnessed active participation from students, teachers and artists, all coming together to raise their voices against the alarming rise of drug abuse in society.

Student speakers eloquently addressed the ill effects of substance abuse and stressed the need for immediate and collective action to eradicate the menace.



The highlight of the event was a short play staged by artists from Tulkul Arts, which creatively portrayed the social and psychological consequences of drug abuse and left a lasting impression on the audience.

Principal GHSS Nagam, Tahir-ul-Hamid, thanked the Cultural Unit Kashmir, DIPR for organizing the event and appealed to all societal stakeholders to empathize with and support the emotional and mental well-being of the youth. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to the participating students in recognition of their efforts. The program concluded with a solemn pledge administered by Cultural Officer, Burhan Hussain, reaffirming commitment towards a drug-free society.

JKRERA inspects unauthorised plotted colonies in Udhampur & Katra

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 21

The Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Authority (JKRERA) conducted a comprehensive inspection of unauthorized plotted colonies in Udhampur & Reasi Districts and sought a detailed factual report along with the revenue record from the concerned Tehsildars.

During the inspection, the officers from JKRERA along with the Revenue Department visited illegal colonies at Rakh Kotli, Udhampur By-pass Road, Rathian, Khrooni and Fangyal Road, in district Udhampur.

Similarly, in Reasi District, illegal colony namely Trikuta Enclave and Project Devika, Katra were also inspected by the team.

The Authority has also issued notices to two promoters of Udhampur District namely, Shivani Sharma and Aryan Sharma both residents of Karlai Khalki, Udhampur directing them to register their projects with JKRERA within 15 days.

The inspection was aimed to verify whether the promoters/developers of the plotted colo-



nies had registered their projects with JKRERA, as mandated by Section 3 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act.

The team also checked for any unauthorized constructions or deviations from approved plans and directed the developers to register their projects with RERA.

"Numerous colonies are sprouting up haphazardly without the requisite approvals from the competent authorities. Most of these unauthorized colonies lack basic amenities like roads, electricity and water supply posing a significant threat to planned development. Mushroom growth of such colonies

will inevitably lead to the creation of slums. In order to prevent this and for development of colonies in a planned manner, registration with JKRERA is mandatory", said Chairperson JKRERA.

"We urge developers and promoters to adhere to the regulatory framework and obtain necessary approvals before commencing projects. JKRERA is committed to ensure planned development and protect the interests of homebuyers", he added.

Pertinent to mention that non-registration of the project with JKRERA would invite penalty which may extend up to

ten percent of the estimated cost of the real estate project and if the promoter or builder continues to violate the provisions of the Act and does not register the project with RERA, he would be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to three years or with fine which may extend up to a further ten percent of the estimated cost of the real estate project, or with both.

Esha Chib, Deputy Secretary JKRERA, Tehsildar Udhampur Jai Singh, Tehsildar Katra Jatinder Singh, Naib Tehsildar, JKRERA Gias-ud-Din conducted the inspection.

H&H Deptt Kashmir, NIFT Srinagar host Capacity Building Workshop on Packaging & Branding under RAMP

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 21

As part of its continued efforts to strengthen the MSME ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir, Department of Handicrafts and Handloom (H&H), Kashmir, successfully organized a one-day capacity building programme under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) initiative.

RAMP is an ambitious flagship scheme of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, supported by the World Bank.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat presided over as the chief guest while officials from District Administration, Directorate of Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir and Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) were also present.

Programme witnessed enthusiastic participation of over 100 artisans and craftsmen from district Srinagar, Budgam, and Ganderbal, who benefited from expert sessions

and practical insights into product packaging, branding, and market readiness - essential components for expanding their reach into national and international markets.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner highlighted Srinagar's identity as a historical, cultural, and craft heritage hub and emphasized the need to preserve and promote the region's centuries-old artisanal traditions through modern means of branding, packaging, and market integration. He underlined the importance of grassroots awareness about government schemes and expressed satisfaction over the department's proactive approach in conducting such programmes.

Dr. Bhat also engaged directly with artisans, encouraging open dialogue and collecting valuable feedback to strengthen future initiatives.

He noted, "Srinagar City is a living museum of craft and heritage. Our artisans are the torchbearers of this legacy, and through such programmes, we

can ensure they receive the support, training, and exposure they deserve to thrive in a competitive marketplace."

Subject experts and faculty members from NIFT Srinagar conducted the technical sessions by delivering focused modules on modern branding techniques, design aesthetics, market trends, and sustainable packaging solutions tailored to local crafts.

This event marks a significant step in building institutional capacities, empowering local producers, and creating sustainable livelihoods through the GI/ODOP/DEH framework. The programme also aimed to sensitize stakeholders about the RAMP initiative and create a collaborative environment for MSME development. The department shall be conducting another one-day capacity building programme on 28th May 2025, with several more in the pipeline across the Union Territory, focusing on artisans and producers working on GI/ODOP/DEH products.