28 year of publication KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday 08 May 2025 | Srinagar | Vol: 28 | Issue: 108 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

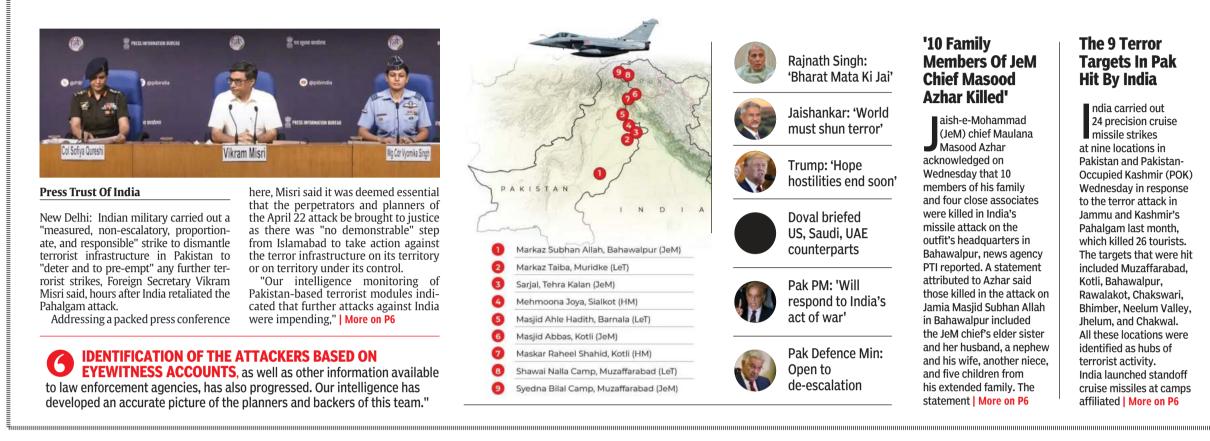
www.kashmirobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmirobserver • facebook.com/kashmirobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016

OPERATION SINDOOR

INDIA AVENGES PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

India's Measured Counter: Aimed To Deter, Not Escalate

25-minute Operation Targeted 9 Terror camps In Pakistan, Ready To Tackle Escalation: Govt



HM's Instructions Will Be Followed In Letter & Spirit: LG

Attends High-Level Security Meeting Chaired By Shah



Observer News Service

Governor gave instructions to the offi ials to take ne

Pak Security Huddle Authorises Retaliatory Action

Press Trust Of India

Islamabad: Pakistan's National Security Council on Wednesday said the country's armed forces have been duly authorised to undertake retaliation "at a time, place, and manner of its choosing" to avenge the loss of innocent Pakistani lives in Indian military strikes.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif presided over the National Security Council (NSC) meeting, which was attended by cabinet ministers, chief ministers, all services



terror targets in Pakistan and respond, in self-defence, "at a Pakistan-occupied Kashmir time, place, and manner

India Used Its 'Right To Respond': DM

Says Targets Destroyed With Precision As Per Plan **Observer News Service**

New Delhi: India's military scripted "history" by acting precaution with "precision, and compassion" in destroying terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir under 'Operation Sindoor', Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on



per plan. "Through Operation Sindoor, India has used its 'right to respond' to the attack on it

New Delhi: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that the instructions of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, given during a high level meeting in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor, will be implemented in letter and spirit Sinha was part of a virtual meeting chaired by Shah.

"The Lieutenant Governor affirmed that the instructions of the Union Home Minister will be implemented in letter and spirit. After the meeting, the Lieutenant

sary steps as per guidelines of the Union Home Minister and to neutralise any potential threat in time," an official spokesperson said. He said Sinha also praised Prime Minister Narendra

Modi for his strong leadership and vowed zero-tolerance against terrorism. The meeting was held

hours Operation after Sindoor, which targeted terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistanoccupied Kashmir from where | More on P6

'Fully Prepared To Deal With Any Eventuality'

ieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said the government is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality arising out of heavy cross-border shelling by Pakistan. Sinha said he is closely monitoring the situation. "Took stock of the situation in border districts of J&K UT with all the senior administrative, police & district officials including DCs of all the border districts. I'm closely monitoring | More on P6

chiefs and senior officers to discuss the situation. Indian armed forces

Wednesday carried early out missile strikes on nine

under Operation Sindoor.

An NSC statement warned that in consonance with Article-51 of the UN Charter, Pakistan reserves the right to choosing" to avenge the loss of innocent Pakistani lives in the Indian strikes.

"The Armed Forces of Pakistan have | More on P6

Wednesday In his first remarks following the strike, Singh said India used its "right to respond" to the Pahalgam attack and that the targets were destroyed as

and the armed forces scripted history by acting with precision, precaution and compassion to destroy the camps used to train | More on P6

J&K Border Residents Shifted To Safer Zones

Agencies

Jammu: Hundreds of residents along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir were evacuated to safer zones on Wednesday as authorities chalked out countermeasures to safeguard civilians from Pakistani shelling. The shelling from across the

border started shortly after Indian armed forces carried out missile attacks on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Öccupied Kashmir to avenge the April 22 terror attack in south Kashmir's Pahalgam.

there was no "Though cross-border firing in our village, we have been told to shift to ITI College in R S Pura where necessary arrangements have been made by the government for our lodgment in view of the prevailing tense situation," Liaqat Ali, a resident of Jorian village near the IB, said.

Ali said the village had suffered immensely and had even been burned to the ground in the past by | More on P6

'Zero Tolerance To Terror' **PM Hails Forces After 'Operation** Sindoor', Briefs President

KO Web Desk

Prime Minister Srinagar: Narendra Modi on Wednesday hailed the Indian armed forces for carrying out targeted strikes at terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir.

The prime minister chaired a meeting of the Union Cabinet, hours after 'Operation Sindoor' was launched to destroy terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir. Soon after Defence Minister



Rajnath Singh informed the thumping of desks. Operation Modi is also learnt to have Sindoor, the entire Cabinet said that his government will hailed the action and the prime have zero tolerance towards minister's leadership with terror. | More on P6

SHORT TAKES

24x7 Control **Rooms Set Up**

s a response to the prevailing situation in The Kashmir Valley, authorities have set up round-the-clock control rooms in Srinagar, Jammu Sopore and Baramulla to ensure effective coordination, real-time monitoring and prompt public assistance. A Joint Control Room has been established at the District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC) within the DC Office Complex in Srinagar, under the overall supervision of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). | More on P6

Rs 5 Cr Contingency Funds For Border Districts: CM

hief Minister Omar Abdullah chaired an emergency meeting with officials to assess the situation in border districts amid intense cross-border shelling. He announced Rs 5 crore contingency funds for each border district, ordered immediate medical and evacuation preparedness, and emphasised safeguarding civilians. Officials were instructed to counter misinformation and ensure essential supplies and personnel are in place. Poonch MLA Ajaz Jan visited District Hospital Poonch to assess medical arrangements for those injured in | More on P6

Red Cross Symbols Painted On Hospital Roofs

s tensions escalate along the Line of Control (LoC), authorities in Jammu and Kashmir are painting the internationally recognised Red Cross symbol on the roofs of hospitals in border districts. This precautionary measure aims to protect healthcare facilities from possible aerial or artillery strikes during cross-border escalations, the health department officials said. They said the initiative aligns with international humanitarian norms under the Geneva | More on P6

Schools Closed, **Exams Postponed**

n view of the prevailing situation the administration Wednesday said that the schools and colleges in several districts of Jammu and Kashmir, Gurez as well as those falling near the Srinagar airport shall continue to remain closed on Thursday. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri said that all educational institutions around Srinagar airport were ordered to remain closed on Wednesday. Bidhuri however further said, "Schools and colleges Baramulla, Kupwara | More on P6

J&K Govt **Suspends Leave For Employees**

ne Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered the Administrative Secretaries and Heads of Departments not to approve any leave, except under exceptional circumstances. This directive comes in light of the ongoing escalating tensions between India and Pakistan. In the office memorandum, Additional Secretary Rohit Sharma, urged strict adherence to the instruction across all government departments, stressing that no leave | More on P6

25 Airports, Including Srinagar, Temporarily Closed

Srinagar: More than 300 flights have been cancelled and at least 25 airports, including Srinagar, have been temporarily shut for operations amid restrictions in the wake of the armed forces launching missile attacks on terror targets in Pakistan on Wednesday morning. Air India, IndiGo, SpiceJet, Air India Express, Akasa Air, and a

about

Cabinet

few foreign airlines have cancelled their services to and from various airports.



Sources said that at least 25 airports in the northern and western parts of the country have been temporarily shut. These airports include Srinagar, Leh, Jammu, Amritsar, Pathankot, Chandigarh, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Shimla, Dharamshala and Jamnagar, they added. According to one of the sourc-

es, more than 300 flights to and from various airports have been cancelled by airlines. IndiGo said | More on P6

he Haj Committee of India (HCoI) has announced the cancellation of all Haj flights scheduled from the Srinagar Embarkation Point until | More on P6



KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 08-05-2025 🖌

fko

'Shingles Vaccine Could Lower Risk Of Heart Disease By 23%'

Press Trust Of India

etting vaccinated against shingles could lower the chances of a cardiovascular event, such as stroke or heart failure, by 23 per cent, according to a study. Protective effects of the vaccine for shingles

-- a viral infection that causes painful rashes -- could last for up to eight years and be stronger among men and people aged under 60

Researchers, led by those from the Kyung Hee University's college of medicine, South Korea, looked at over 12 lakh residents of the country, aged at least 50. Data on shingles vaccination status was collected from 2012 onwards and analysed together with cardiovascular health and lifestyle. Published in the European Heart Journal, the study is "one of the largest and most comprehensive" to provide evidence at a population level, allowing the team to look at the link between vaccination and 18 different types of cardiovascular disease. "There are several reasons why the shingles vaccine may help reduce heart disease. A shingles infection can cause blood vessel damage, inflammation and clot formation that can lead to heart disease," lead researcher Dong Keon Yon from the Kyung Hee University's college of medicine, South Korea, said.

"By preventing shingles, vaccination may lower these risks. Our study found stronger benefits in younger people, probably due to a better immune response, and in men, possibly due to differences in vaccine effectiveness," Yon said.

The evidence adds to that provided by a recently published study in the journal Nature, that looked at over 2,80,000 older adults in Wales in the UK, aged 71-88 years. The participants did not have dementia at the start of the shingles immunisation program in 2013.

The nature study found that shingles vaccination reduced dementia risk by 20 per cent in the following seven years, with



stronger effects seen in women, compared to men.

One's chances of developing the neurodegenerative disorder has been linked with 14 risk factors in a Lancet report published in August 2024 -- high blood pressure and cholesterol are among them. "Shingles causes a painful rash and can lead to serious complications, especially in older adults and those with weak immune systems. Previous research shows that, without vaccination, about 30 per cent of people may develop shingles in their

fko

lifetime," Yon said.

"In addition to the rash, shingles has been linked to a higher risk of heart problems, so we wanted to find out if getting vaccinated could lower this risk," the lead researcher said.

The study found that people receiving the vaccine were at a 23 per cent lower risk of cardiovascular events overall -- with a 26 per cent lower risk of major cardiovascular events, including a stroke, heart attack or death, 26 per cent lower risk of heart failure and 22 per cent lower risk of coronary heart disease.

"In this first comprehensive study, we utilised a large-scale, population based, nationwide cohort database in South Korea to investigate the association between live zoster vaccination and subsequent cardiovascular outcomes," according to the study. The association between live zoster vaccination and lower rates of cardiovascular diseases was observed up to eight years following vaccination, with the most prominent association observed between two and three years," it said.

Study Finds Migraine Drug To Reduce Depressive Symptoms In Patients Having Both

Press Trust Of India

migraine drug has shown significantly reduce symptoms of depression Lin patients -- the first trial to show improvements in both the conditions using a single drug, researchers said.

In the study involving 540 patients, 'fremanezumab' was found to reduce days of migraine in a month and symptoms of depression, compared to a placebo (inactive substance producing no effects). The drug, administered as an injection beneath the skin (subcutaneous), is available in India.

Published in The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Neurology, the study is the first to demonstrate significant improvements in migraine and depressive symptoms -- often seen to co-exist in patients -- with a single drug, the researchers, including those from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, US, said.

Patients of migraine -- a common neurological condition marked by recurring headaches -- have been studied to be two to four times more likely to develop depression. The two conditions are suggested to have common genetic basis and biological processes that control levels of brain chemicals, such as serotonin and glutamine.



The researchers said that patients having migraine and depression are treated with antidepressants -which work by improving serotonin levels. Serotonin helps regulate mood, and low levels can cause sadness, anxiety and irritability.

However, antidepressants are not uniformly effective for migraine. Further, data is limited on the efficacy of migraine therapy in people also experiencing psychiatric conditions. The trial was conducted over a 28week period at 61 centres across 12 countries, including the US, UK, France, and Germany, between July, 2020, and August, 2022.

The participants were randomly assigned to receive a monthly dose of fremanezumab (225 milligrams) or a placebo at the study's start and at

the end of week four and week eight. "Although treatment with fremanezumab and placebo both resulted in clinically meaningful reductions in depressive symptoms, fremanezumab achieved statistical significance vs placebo at week 8," the authors wrote. They suggested that the reduced depressive symptoms could be an indirect effect of the drug actively treating migraine, although further analyses are required to understand this.

The results "suggest that fremanezumab was effective in a difficult-to-treat clinical population with migraine and comorbid major depressive disorders and may also be effective in alleviating psychiatric comorbidities, therefore reducing the cumulative burden on patients.'

ASF ENTERPRISES

Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar [J&K), Ph.0194-24 77949, 9419001176, 9419776235

Sale and Sendee of Laptops. Desktops. Printers, Photocopiers. Faxes, ,CCTV Cameras, Security System and Refilling of all Types of Cartridges. Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice					
Sr.DEE/Tr/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders					
(www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their					
original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.					
Tender No.: 251-J-Elect-T-04-2025-26					
Name of work: Comprehensive Operation and Preventive Maintenance of SCADA					
system at Tunnel Control Centre Banihal & Equipment rooms (South & North Portals)					
for remote operation of 33 KV, 11 KV, Ventilation, E&M system through SCADA					
system for Pir-Panjal Tunnel T-80 for Two Years.					
App. Cost (in ₹): 1,89,40,251.84					
Earnest Money (in ₹): 2,44,700.00					
Completion period: 24 Months					
Opening of tender: 29.05.2025 after 15:00 Hrs					
Website Particulars: www.ireps.gov.in					
No.: 251-J-Elect/T. Notice No.04-Elect/2025-26 Dated: 06.05.2025 1348/2025					
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE					

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan..

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth.. Public Notice..

The registrar birth BDO Khore Sherabad has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Haja D/o Ghulam Ahmad Tantry R/o Sheerpora bangil with verified date of birth 05/08/1970 occurred at home in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained. SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

mcb

fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan..

Sub.. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth.. Public Notice..

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mohammad Aanam Khan S/o Jahangir Ahmad Khan R/o Babagund tehsil pattan with verified date of birth 24/07/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained... SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

NOTICE

I, Razia Muzaffar, had earlier opened a Savings Account at Jammu & Kashmir Bank, Alamgari Bazar, Srinagar branch under the name Razia Raja. Subsequently, the name on the account was changed to Razia Muzaffar as per corrected records. I now intend to restore my previous name, Razia Muzaffar, in the records of the said bank branch.Any person having any objection to this change may approach the concerned bank branch or relevant authority within 7 days from the date of this notice. After this period, no objections will be entertained, and the correction will be deemed final. Media Line

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420180001648 issued in favour of FARMAN ALI DAR Parentage AJAZ HUSSAIN DAR

Whereas an application has been recieved by one FARMAN ALI DAR Parentage AJAZ HUSSAIN DAR wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as FARMAN ALI Which needs to be changed as FARMAN ALI DAR.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shal reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pathan **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

Sub: Order for registration of Date of Birth in the records of Municipal Committee Pathan

Public Notice

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Pathan) has submitted a case file pertaining to the birth of Fatima tuz Zahra D/o Hakiem javid iqbal & Aamina javid D/o Hakiem javid iqbal R/o Plhalan , having verified the date of birth as 23-07-2019 and 15-03-2015 respectively and the event has shown occurred at SDH Pathan.

Dignified Farewell

Transforming Kashmir's Final Rides



DISCLAIMER: KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THATTHE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT

On this connection, if anyone has any objection to the issuance of said order for obtaining birth certificates shall present his/ her claim to this office within seven days. After that no further objection will be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the general public that my name in Pnb Metlife Insurance policy bearing policy no 21937590 is men-

Sd/-Naib Tehsildar Pathan



KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] Srinagar | Thursday | 08-05-2025

Police Intensifies Crackdown Against Terrorist Associates

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In its continued resolute efforts to combat terrorist ecosystem by targeting terrorist associates of proscribed terrorist outfits and in the furtherance of investigation into cases registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), Srinagar Police continues intensified searches across multiple locations in the city with the aim to dismantle terror-supporting infrastructure in the district.

Pertinently, searches of residences of more than 100 terrorist associates have been conducted till now.

The searches were conducted in accordance with proper legal procedures in the presence of Executive Magistrates and independent witnesses under the

supervision of the officers of J&K Police.

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

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

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



Admin Organizes Awareness Camp On New Criminal Laws

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, District Administration Srinagar organized an awareness camp at Harwan Block to sensitize the general public about the three new criminal laws.

The event was attended by Deputy Director Prosecution Srinagar, Block Development Officer (BDO) Harwan, along with other Resource persons, who shared valuable insights with the gathering.

During the camp, speak-ers elaborated on the key features of the Bharativa Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. They highlighted the citizen-centric reforms, simplified procedures, and measures to strengthen the

The programme witnessed active participation from the local residents, who lauded the efforts of the District Administration for taking proactive steps to spread legal awareness

Programme On Rights of Prisoners Held At Central Jail

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam organized an awareness programme on the rights of under trial prisoners (UTPs), jail inmates, convicted persons etc. at Central Jail Srinagar.

The programme was held under the chairmanship of O.P.Bhagat, Chairman DLSA (Pr.Distt. & Sessions Judge) Budgam and supervision of Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary

criminal justice system under the new legal framework.

among the masses.

Aid Defense Counsels, Javaid

Ahmad Mir and Nazir Ah-

mad Wagay were deputed as

resource persons on behalf of

DLSA Budgam to Central Jail

spoke on the subject and ap-

prised the under trial pris-

oners, convicts, jail inmates

etc, about ways and means of

obtaining free and competent

legal aid from legal services in-

stitutions to defend their cases

at various levels free of cost.

resource persons

Srinagar

The

CM Omar Appreciates IGNOU's Achievements In Kashmir

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Omar Abdullah, lauded the achievements of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) Regional Centre Srinagar for the academic year 2024-25, following a meeting with Regional Director, Regional Centre, IGNOU Srinagar, Dr. A.H. Rizvi.

During the meeting, Dr. Rizvi presented a comprehensive report outlining the significant milestones accomplished by IG-NOU in the Kashmir Valley and Ladakh region. The Chief Minister was apprised of the University's extensive outreach across all districts of Kashmir and Ladakh, with a special emphasis on IG-NOU's core mandate of inclusive education, ensuring accessibility to marginalized communities and promoting entrepreneurship among learners.

Dr. Rizvi highlighted that IGNOU Srinagar has recorded an impressive enrolment of over 45,000 students in the 2024 - 25 admission cycles, spanning a wide array of academic programmes. The Chief Minister expressed satisfaction at the University's growing footprint in the region and acknowledged its pivotal role in fostering educational equity and social empowerment. A key point of discussion was the recent establishment of a dedicated Placement Cell at

FKO

In a major step toward academic expansion, the Regional Director also revealed plans to establish a Study Centre at the Central University of Kashmir for M.Sc. Science-based programmes. This initiative aims to support academic integration and provide local students with access to cuttingedge, need-based programmes.

the Regional Centre. This cell is aimed at strengthening industry linkages and providing enhanced employment opportunities for IGNOU learners, particularly within the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. Dr. Rizvi emphasized that the Placement Cell would bridge the gap between academic training and industry requirements, ensuring better livelihood prospects for graduates

Further, Dr. Rizvi announced strategic collaboration with NIELIT Srinagar to implement digital skill initiatives under various government schemes. This partnership will enhance IGNOU's curriculum by introducing advanced digital modules, encouraging research and innovation, and delivering IT and electronics training to underserved populations-contributing to the vision of a digitally empowered society.

In a major step toward academic expansion, the Regional Director also revealed plans to establish a Study Centre at the Central University of Kashmir for M.Sc. Science-based programmes. This initiative aims to support academic integration and provide local students with access to cutting-edge, need-based programmes. Additionally, a Work Centre at the Composite Regional Centre, Srinagar, will offer the PG Diploma in Rehabilitation Psychology, addressing a critical area in health education and inclusive care.

The Chief Minister welcomed these initiatives and commended IGNOU Srinagar's commitment to youth empowerment, capacity building, and digital inclusion. He assured full support from the administration in facilitating IGNOU's educational endeavours and strengthening its role in the region's socio-economic development.

Pathan

:	 TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 				
PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES :					
2479488,2452222,2452155					
	 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 				
	Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200				
AIRPORTS					
SHI	EK UL ALAM AIRPO	RT: 01942303311			
RAILWAYS					
 SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 					
ANAN I NAG: 01932-228245 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029					
BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 DAMPORE: 01932-228243					
 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 					
• QAZIGUND: 01951-296153					
HIGHWAY STATUS					
Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open) Mughal Road - (Open)					
	Srinagar- Leh- (Open)				
\star		PRAYERS			
		FAJR	4:02		
HI	JRI	ZUHR	12:27		
CALENDAR		ASR	5:18		
10 Zil-Qadah		Magrib	7:22		
1446		ISHA	8:54		
14	40				

This Day In History

- 1360 Treaty of Brétigny signed by English & French, ending the first phase of the Hundred Years' War 1541 - Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto discovers
- the Mississippi River - France & Bavaria sign Covenant of 1741 Nymphenburg
- 1846 1st major battle of Mexican War fought at Palo Alto, Texas
- 1871 British-US treaty ends Alabama dispute
- 1895 China cedes Taiwan to Japan under Treaty of Shimonoseki
- 1901 A British appointed commission estimates today that some 1,250,000 Indians have died after a severe drought, lasting since 1899
- 1902 Mount Pelée on the French overseas island of Martinique erupts, wiping out the city of Saint-Pierre, killing 30,000 and leaving only two survivors 1905 - Union of Unions organizes In Russia under the chairmanship of Paul Miliukov and joins liberal groups demanding parliamentary government and universal suffrage
- 1919 1st transatlantic flight take-off by a navy seaplane
- 1919 Edward George Honey first proposes the idea of a moment of silence to commemorate The Armistice of World War I, leads to the creation of Remembrance Dav
- 1925 French colonial army beats Rifkabylen in Morocco
- 1933 Mohandas Gandhi begins a 21-day fast in protest against British oppression in India
- 1945 Canadian troops move into Amsterdam
- 1945 Chinese counter attack at Tsjangte, supports

DLSA Budgam.

On the occasion, Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel of DLSA Budgam, Lateef Ahmad Khan and Deputy Legal

They also interacted with the UTP's and apprised them about the progress of their cases and heard their concerns regarding pending court cases.

by 14th air fleet

1945 - German General Wilhelm Keitel formally surrenders to the Allies represented by the United States, the UK, France and the Soviet Union in Berlin

From KO Archives

Minister Gheroad In Pulwama Town

Villagers Cry For Bijli, Sadak, Pani

Observer News Service

RINAGAR- Hundreds of people protesting against the lack of basic facilities in the Litar area of Pulwama staged a sit-in before the deputy commissioner's office on Monday and held the local MLA and minister of state for works hostage for several hours.

A large number of people from a number of villages adjacent of the Litar area converged on the Pulwama township on Monday morning, and held angry protests before the deputy commissioner's office.

The demonstrators said that the local hospital was seriously short of staff, the ration depots were empty, and there was no sign of electricity for the past one month while the roads were in an extremely bad shape. The slogan-shouting crowd spotted the local MLA and minister of state for R&B, Khalil Muhammad Bandh, in the premises, and instantly gheraoed him, denouncing him in their chants. They accused him of touring the area after being elected to the legislature, and showing no interest in the progress and development of the villages where, according to them, thousands of people were deprived of basic amenities.

When the minister got a chance to speak amid the barrage of accusations, he cited militancy as the reason for not having visited his home turf.

The reply infuriated his accusers who reminded him that every inch of Kashmir was affected by militancy, and asked whether that meant that developmental work was taking place nowhere.

Facing uncomfortable questions from his electorate for long embarrassing moments, the minister was finally rescued by the security personnel present on the scene and his personal guards who somehow managed to extricate him from the crush of the people.

(Kashmir Observer, 08 May, 2007)

OBSESSIVE Kashmer COMPULSIVE DISORDER **8 WEEK FREE GROUP THERAPY** I did wash my hand but Its not just lean it enough Wash it again RECURRENT HANDWASHING AND CHECKING is it clean now UNSEEN PAIN s and Stigma associated with OCD KASHMER Kashmir American Society of Healthcare. Medical Education & Research in collaboration with HPVT Help Poor Voluntary Trust is initiating a <u>free 8 weeks Group therapy</u> for the individuals suffering with OCD by a team of courselling clinical psychologists led by leading consultant clinical psychologist of J& K If you or some one you know is experiencing symptoms of OCD, professional help seeking crucial You do not have to fight your There is no need for referral simply call us for registration. Happy & Healthy minds Office, HPVT Building (First Floor), Daresh Kada Chowk, Srinaga 9070806160

Public Notice The Registrar Births and Deaths (Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Pathan) has submitted a case file pertaining to the birth of Fatima tuz Zahra D/o Hakiem javid iqbal & Aamina javid D/o Hakiem Javid Iqbal R/o Palhalan , having verified the date of birth as 23-07-2019 and 15-03-2015 respectively and the event has shown occurred at SDH Pathan. On this connection, if anyone has any objection to the issuance of said order for obtaining birth certificates shall present his/her claim to this office within seven days. After that no further objection will be entertained. Sd/- Naib Tehsildar

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pathan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Sub: Order for registration of Date of Birth in the records of Municipal Committee Pathan

Government of India Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India 3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi-110003

Invitation of applications for hiring of Senior Expert (Regulatory) in Airports **Economic Regulatory Authority of India**

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) invites applications from eligible candidates as Senior Expert (Regulatory) for attending Tariff related work as per Terms of Reference (TOR). Candidate with requisite qualification and experience as prescribed would be hired in the respective category as per vacancy indicated. Vacancies are liable to be changed without any prior notice and without assigning any reason whatsoever.

The details including eligibility criteria, Terms of Reference (TOR) etc. are 2. available in vacancy notice published on the AERA's website: www.aera.gov.in Last date of receipt of application is 27.05.2025 upto 5.30 P.M. Applications to be submitted as per details/mode mentioned in the vacancy notice. Applications received after due date and time will not be entertained.

> **Deputy Chief** Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India, 3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003

CBC 03112/12/0001/2526

Think Opinion, Analysis, Essays

Send your write ups and feedback at editpage.ko@gmail.com

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 08-05-2025



KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of Kashmir Observer LLP Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex, Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider Managing Editor: Bilal Handoo News Editor: Farzana Nisar Online Editor: Syed Hamid Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen, Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah Business & Sales Head: Namisha Raj Distribution & Advertising: Firdos Ali RNI Registration No: 69503/98 Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16 Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja Switchboard: (0194) 2502327 | +91 1947969705 Editorial: (0194) 2502327 Email: editor@kashmirobserver.net

India's Strategic Strike

he government of India on Wednesday said that India exercised its right to respond, preempt as well as deter more cross-border attacks such as the one in Pahalgam by launching strikes on targets deep inside Pakistan, and asserted that it focussed on dismantling the terror infrastructure and disabling terrorists.

tling the terror infrastructure and disabling terrorists. As articulated by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, the operation—code-named Operation Sindoor—was "measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible." It was a necessary act of self-defence designed to deter and pre-empt further attacks, not to provoke a larger conflict.

At the core of Misri's address is a powerful message: India's actions were "measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible". These words are not mere diplomatic varnish but a clear articulation of India's policy—one that seeks to dismantle the machinery of terror while avoiding unnecessary confrontation. In a volatile region, such clarity of purpose is both commendable and essential.

ity of purpose is both commendable and essential. According to Secretary Misri India's right to self-defence, as recognized under international law, was exercised not for retribution but to "deter and pre-empt" future cross-border attacks. This distinction is vital. Inaction in the face of Pahalgam barbarity would have emboldened terrorist elements and signalled a dangerous permissiveness. Conversely, indiscriminate or disproportionate use of force could have triggered further escalation and regional instability. Instead, India struck a delicate but firm balance—neutralizing immediate threats while sending a clear message to the sponsors of terror.

Foreign Secretary Misri laid bare the brutal details of the Pahalgam massacre. It was the worst civilian terrorist strike since the 2008 Mumbai attacks, marked by cold-blooded executions carried out in front of family members. The attack wasn't just an act of mass murder it was psychological warfare aimed at disrupting peace, tourism, and the growing normalcy in Kashmir.

Misri underscored, even a fortnight after the carnage, "there has been no demonstrable step" by Pakistan to curb the terrorist infrastructure operating within its territory. This silence is not neutrality—it is complicity. In this vacuum of accountability, India had little choice but to act in defence of its citizens and national interests.

The attack also aimed to damage the Union Territory's economy by targeting the tourism sector, which saw a record 23 million visitors last year. More insidiously, it was designed to provoke communal faultlines in India. That such aims were largely thwarted is a testament to the resilience of large segments of Indian society. By acting with restraint and precision, India has shown the world that it will neither be cowed by terror nor provoked into reckless conflict. Misri's statement, supported by senior military officials, articulates a vision of national security that is firm yet judicious, responsive yet restrained.

Kashmir's Other Students

For children with disabilities in Kashmir, education is still a distant hope. The system has laws, but little readiness. Between stigma and silence, they wait.



Mohammad Hanief

Some hope lies in special schools, mostly run by NGOs in cities like Srinagar. These schools offer therapy, tailored instruction, and basic services like physiotherapy and speech support. But their reach is limited. They serve only a fraction of those in need. In the region of rigorous academic adventures, children still leave home each morning with books in hand. They walk miles, through frost and fog, toward something better. But not every child makes this journey. Thousands, born with or scarred by disability, remain behind.

Jammu and Kashmir houses over 361,000 persons with disabilities, per the 2011 Census. Many experts believe this number is outdated and underreported. And while strife has left behind broken limbs, impaired hearing, and trauma, the schools remain unchanged. The Right to Education Act and the Rights of Persons with Disabili-

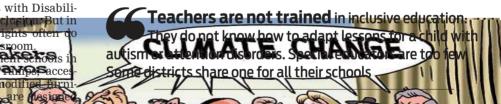
obal

Decades of discord have left invisible wounds as well. Many children show signs of anxiety, dissociation, or behavioral changes. But school systems are not built to see these signs. Most have no mental health professionals. Learning disabilities go undetected. Trauma is left untreated. These children are not counted as disabled, but they struggle just the same.

Special schools, however, exist. In Srinagar and nearby towns, NGOs run a few centers. Here, children with cerebral palsy, autism, or speech delays receive therapy and lessons taiuneven. Many students do not even know they qualify.

Government schemes promise support. Scholarships, transport allowances, and funds for assistive devices are listed in official documents. But these promises are often hard to access. The application process is lengthy and unclear. Staff at schools and district offices are often unaware of how to help.

Still, some families push through. In Anantnag, a father builds a wooden ramp outside a school so his daughter can enter. In Baramulla, a mother learns how to use picture cards to teach



Investor Needs a Mentor

Irshad Mushtaq

nvesting isn't about chasing quick wins. It's about building long-term habits, learning constantly, and knowing what not to do. In a world flooded with market noise, a smart investor focuses on clarity. That's where mentors come in.

Good mentors don't just teach, they sharpen your focus. They've made mistakes so you don't have to. They help cut through jargon, steer you away from blind spots, and bring realworld experience that no textbook or YouTube guru can match.

New investors often try to master everything. But the market rewards depth, not just breadth. Mentors help narrow your path and build expertise in areas that suit your goals, risk appetite and timeline.

There's also mindset. Smart investing needs patience to let compounding work its magic, and courage to stay calm when markets wobble. Mentors help nurture both. They remind you that lasting wealth isn't made by chasing hot tips but by sticking to solid plans, even when others panic.

Of course, mentors aren't the only tool. Read books. Join investor forums. Take courses. But know this: knowledge alone doesn't guarantee success. It's how you apply it, and how consistently you do so, that matters.

Today, many treat investing like entertainment. But your portfolio isn't a game. Don't get swayed by trends. Keep expectations grounded. Real profits often take years, not weeks.

And don't ignore your mindset. Train your brain like you train your money. Reflect often. Stay mindful. And if life's too hectic, work with an advisor who can think clearly for you.

In the end, investing is personal. No two journeys are the same. But walking it with the right mentor by your side? That makes the path a lot smoother and smarter.

Writer is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor.

far-off districts, or who cannot acts of quiet resistan GOAL se Stepse chaken en-r texcouter Carbon Temissionsined in ation is nd could help passing exams. It is about being rechnology rital tools like screen read seen. For children with disabililusive education. They do ers, Braille converters, and ies, it is a way into the world met know how to adapt lessons speech-to-text software are a place at the table. What stands changing lives elsewhere. But devices are expensive. Most for a child with autism or attenin their way is not their disabil tion disorders. Special educa-tors are too few. Some districts share one for all their schools. It is a system too slow to care families cannot buy a tablet or smartphone. Even when they and to rigid to change. TARESH The laws are written. The Many teachers mistake disabilneeds are known. What is misscan, schools do not offer the ing is urgency. Without it, these ity for disobedience or inabiltraining or infrastructure to ity. Students are labeled "slow," support digital learning. children will continue to wait In higher education, the outside the gate, inside the "aggressive," or simply "unfit." This neglect is not only story repeats. Colleges and home, watching others go where universities rarely have ramps physical. It is social. Children they cannot. with disabilities face bullyor elevators. Lecture halls are ing, pity, or silence. In schools The writer can be reached crowded, spread across multiple floors. Exams come with where they are seen as differat m.hanief@gmail.com. Views expressed in this article ent, they grow quiet. They begin no accommodations for time, to believe they do not belong. format, or comprehension. are author's own and don't Some parents withdraw them Though the law requires 5% necessarily reflect KO's before the damage deepens. Othreservation for persons with editorial policy. disabilities, implementation is ers never enroll them at all.



All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, spaceand accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

In Kashmir, Skills Are the New Currency of Success

I a world reshaped by technology and necessity, work is no longer defined by offices or clocked hours. A silent revolution is unfolding in living rooms and bedrooms across the valley and the country. From Sonamarg to Shillong, and from New Delhi to New York, young professionals are clicking their way into global markets. They're earning, growing, and building careers with just a laptop and an internet connection.

This shift isn't just about convenience. It's about access. Freelance platforms have opened doors for writers, designers, marketers, and tutors to work with international clients, earn in dollars, and operate with full autonomy. From video editors building YouTube channels to teachers guiding students abroad, the digital economy is no longer a buzzword. It's a working reality.

What drives this economy isn't pedigree or degrees. It's skill. The people succeeding online aren't always the most educated on paper, they are committed to learning. They study on YouTube. They improve through different platforms. They show up every day and sharpen their craft. That, more than any certificate, is the new currency.

Of course, online work comes with challenges. Scams exist. Deadlines can be tough. But secure platforms, clear terms, and a bit of caution go a long way. It's not a perfect world, but then again, neither is the traditional job market. At least here, effort often equals reward.

Remote work also fits a world in flux. It reduces travel, lowers emissions, and adapts to lockdowns, unrest, or natural disasters. It's cost-effective, flexible, and often liberating. Young people can work on their own terms while contributing to global markets and local economies.

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001

email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

The digital workspace isn't a future to wait for. It's here. It's growing. And it doesn't care where you come from, only what you can do. For young people in Kashmir and beyond, this is a rare opportunity to rise, earn, and lead without leaving home.

Let's not treat it like a trend. Let's treat it like a path, and start walking.

Sincerely Zainul Abi Din Raina Gund Sonamarg Think **Opinion Analysis Essays**

Blame it on Booze

After a brutal crime in Nishat, questions rise over alcohol, safety, and inaction.

Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat

n a grim Sunday evening, in Srinagar's green belt area, a woman from the nomadic Gujjar-Bakerwal tribe took her goats to graze just beyond the treeline. Hours later, she was found tied to a tree, her body bloodied and broken. Locals say they could smell alcohol before they saw the men accused of killing her.

The woman, around 45, had arrived from Rajouri just two weeks ago with her family. Like many Gujjar-Bakerwal families, they'd been camping each summer in Nishat's Gup-kar Mohalla for over two decades. Her husband and sons, returning from work that evening, found her missing. When they searched nearby forests, they found her still alive, barely.

"One of the men was covered in blood," her son was quoted as saying. "We caught him before he could run. My mother was breathing. We rushed her to the hospital, but she didn't survive.'

Police acted swiftly. All four accused — three local men from Nishat and one from Sumbal, Bandipora – were arrested within hours. A police statement confirmed the charges and the investigation is ongoing.

But the horror of the crime is reverberating far beyond the slopes of Zabarwan. Residents across Srinagar are angry. Not only at the brutality, but at what they say is a pattern of neglect, impunity, and rising alcohol abuse.

Locals say the spot where the woman lived – a wooded streamside encampment with no lighting or security – has long attracted alcohol-fueled parties, especially on weekends. "We see people coming here with liquor bottles every evening," said a shopkeeper



And now someone's dead."

The government hospital in Habak Hazratbal, where

the woman was taken, was

nearly empty. It was a Sun-

day. Only a couple of doctors

were present. Residents say it

highlights a bigger problem: the absence of emergency

care in densely populated ar-

eas like Nishat and Shalimar.

"Why do we have no proper

hospital here?" asked a pro-testor. "Isn't this city part of

This is the first time such

a crime involving a tribal

woman has been reported in

Srinagar. But activists say the

risks have been growing for years. Nomadic tribes, already

marginalized, live without ba-

sic protections. In the summer

months, when they migrate

for work, their camps are iso-

"This woman was not just a

victim of four men," said a so-

cial activist. "She was a victim

lated and unregulated.

the capital?'

ONE OF THE MEN WAS COVERED IN BLOOD," HER SON WAS QUOTED AS SAYING. "We caught him before he could run. My mother was breathing. We rushed her to the hospital, but she didn't survive."

of indifference." That indifference, many say, is enabling rising alcohol abuse.

While public consumption was once rare in the Kashmir Valley, residents now report drunken behavior in public parks, graveyards, and forests. Despite this, new liquor shops have continued to open, especially in Srinagar.

In the aftermath of the murder, public calls for an alcohol ban have grown louder. Political leaders from across Jammu and Kashmir — including the BJP, PDP, National Conference, and smaller regional parties – have repeatedly submit-ted private members' bills demanding a ban. None have been passed into law.

"If Gujarat and Bihar can ban alcohol, why not Kash-mir?" asked Fayaz Mir, a PDP leader whose bill proposed prison terms and fines for violators. "This is not just a religious issue. It's about public

safety." The BJP, traditionally hesi-tant to support prohibition, has also voiced support. "Our party never promoted alcohol," said former deputy chief minister Dr. Nirmal Singh. "We'll back any legislation to ban it in J&K."

Despite rare political consensus, a collective action is still missing.

Back in Nishat, the family of the woman is silent. Her sons have stopped speaking to media. The local community – Kashmiri and tribal alike – has held prayer meetings and protests. But the pain is raw. The memory too recent

"People like us don't make headlines," said one elderly Bakerwal man in the area. "We come, we work, we leave. Now they see us because someone's final walk with her goats has become a tragic turning point for all of us.

A Crack In Moral Ground

A brutal assault on a nomadic woman in Kashmir exposes the rot in the moral makeup.



Rayees Ahmad Kumar

he Nishat shocker spread quickly through phones, posts, whispers, and shocked voices.

In every corner of the Valley, people reacted with out-rage. Shopkeepers in Nishat closed their stores. Religious, political and social groups, often divided, stood united in condemnation. Police acted fast and arrested the accused. But what happened cannot be erased. It cannot be softened by statements.

This was not just a crime. It was a crack in the moral ground we stand on.

Kashmir has long taken pride in its values of compassion, dignity, and hospitality. Nomads from Pir Panjal and Chenab Valley have journeyed through our lands for generations. They raise their cattle in our meadows, live in tents on the margins of towns, and leave when autumn arrives. Never before has a tragedy like this been recorded. This killing changes that.

Even in difficult times,

Kashmir has upheld its tradition of helping outsiders. When tourists were stranded by snowstorms in Gagangir last winter, locals opened their homes and mosque hamams. Volunteers worked without asking for credit. We were celebrated for it.

And yet here we are, grappling with a horror that reveals something darker. It didn't come from strangers. It came from among us. We must ask ourselves: what has gone so wrong? Drug addiction is rising.

Alcohol abuse is no longer hidden. Vulgarity and hate flood our phones and screens. Corruption and greed have hollowed out public life. Our spiritual and ethical compass,

once steady, now spins without direction. There's a numbness setting in. We see violence, scroll, and move on. We treat tragedy like content. But this in-

cident has forced us to pause. And it should. We need action. Laws that

protect women must be made stronger, and enforced. Fast-

track courts must ensure that justice is not just promised, but delivered. Police and local authorities must work together to stop the flow of narcotics and tackle the roots of crime. But this cannot be left to the government alone.

Our teachers, preach-ers, writers and elders must speak. Not in slogans, but with clarity and purpose. We need to rebuild what we are losing – dignity, discipline, empathy.

Let us be clear: this was not just a crime against a woman, or a nomad, or the poor. This was a crime against humanity. And every time we look away, we allow space for the next one to happen. The land of saints cannot

stay silent when the most vulnerable among us are violated. If we care about what Kashmir means, or once meant, we must act now.

Justice is needed. But so is reckoning.

Rayees Ahmad Kumar is a columnist from Qazigund, Kashmir.

The Two-Fold Trap

In Kashmir, students emerge from board exams only to be funneled into a narrow, joyless race between two choices - medicine or engineering, prompting many to ask: What if learning meant more?

The Gender We Ignore

When no one listens to the man quietly bearing the weight.



Hibban Showkat

he 10th-grade results are out, and for a brief moment, students across Kashmir breathe easy. But this relief doesn't last long. They're now expected to pick one of two doors – JEE or NEET – the only two seen as worthy by most Kashmiri families.

Behind the celebrations and toppers' photos is a growing pressure to fit into a template that leaves little room for personal curiosity or joy.

For decades, becoming a doctor or engineer has been a mark of pride here, not because every child dreams of it, but because every parent does. It's a path handed down more than chosen. And it begins early.

By eighth grade, students

are already in coaching. Not to explore subjects, but to crack exams. School itself becomes a feeder system for this larger machine – a network of glossy billboards and packed classrooms that promise success. and quietly siphon off ques-tions like "What do you want to be?" or "Why do we even study this?"

Outside schools and coaching centers, photos of toppers beam from hoardings. Their ranks are printed in bold. Their scores are currency. One coaching center shows off its IIT selection list; another claims its student got

into AIIMS. What none of them say out loud is that this is not education – it's audition. It's selling certainty in a world that should encourage wonder.

Ask a high school student what they would do if not medicine or engineering, and many won't know. Not because they lack imagination - but because no one ever asked them.

There's no space to want anything else. Writers, artists, designers, even scientists who don't chase a competitive rank are considered drifters. There's no billboard for a child who simply wants to ask why zero is a number.

But something might be shifting

While writing this, I came across a group of students who had taken the usual path - NIT, GMC, Delhi University – but had chosen to carve out something new. They call themselves Koshur Scientist. It's an ed-tech platform, technically. But that's

not what makes it interesting. What stands out is what they

space to want

don't do: no promises of ranks, no leaderboard obsession. Instead, they host small sessions, open conversations, invite questions - often ones that don't have clear answers. They teach physics, sure. But they also try to teach thinking.

They're not trying to dismantle the system in one blow. They're simply walking off the track and asking if others might want to come along. It's not flashy. But maybe that's how revolutions start - not with noise, but with a quiet return to questions.

After all, education isn't a ladder. It's a field. Wide, wild, and waiting.

The writer can be reached at hibbanshowkat@gmail.com



Bilal Ahmad Khanday

Kashmiri saying captures a telling trag-edy: "The cow's cry is heard across the Nillage, but no one hears the stick striking the ox.

It speaks to the silence of suffering-particularly, the unseen burdens men often carry in a world increasingly wired to amplify only one side of the story. There's no question that feminism has,

over the past few decades, brought longoverdue attention to the rights of women. That shift was necessary and remains im-portant. In many parts of the world, women have been pushed aside, undervalued, and denied opportunities that should never have been up for debate.

But something unsettling is now unfolding alongside this progress.

In many spaces—courtrooms, campuses, courtyards—discussions about gender equality have begun to overlook the other half of the equation.

The truth is, men and women are not enemies locked in a zero-sum contest. They are interdependent, connected by bonds of family, community and shared struggle.

Yet modern discourse too often paints with a broad brush, presuming guilt or privilege based on gender alone. In the name of empowerment, we are building a culture that sometimes forgets fairness.

It's not about denying the oppression many women face. It's about asking: can justice for one group come at the cost of another? Should we uplift one half of society by

quietly pushing the other down?

Across cultures, men are increasingly told to speak less and listen more. That's not a bad impulse, but only if it comes with space for their voices too.

In divorce courts, for example, fathers often lose custody not because they are unfit, but because systems are built on outdated assumptions.

In the workplace, accusations—sometimes without due process—can ruin reputations overnight.

In schools, boys are falling behind academically, while their struggles are dismissed as a side note.

These aren't minor inconveniences. They are cracks in the foundation of a society trying to build equality on lopsided ground. But they are rarely addressed. Why? Because the narrative has no room for the man with no complaint, no protest, no stage-only a silent sacrifice.

We need a better approach. Not a return to patriarchy, but a move forward to mutual respect. Real and healthy feminism must make room for male voices. It should not be about trading places in the hierarchy, but about dismantling it altogether.

To do that, we must see every story, not just the loudest one.

Progress for women should never mean silence for men. Let's not replace one injustice with another. Let's talk about both. Because sometimes, the ox bleeds too.

The writer can be reached at khandaybilal12@gmail.com

Cont. from Page 1

KASHMIR OBSERVER® SRINAGAR | THURSDAY | 08.05.2025

India's Measured Counter:

he said at the briefing, which was also addressed by Col. Sofia Qureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh.

The foreign secretary's comments came hours after India struck nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir with missiles and drones under an operation christened 'Operation Sindoor'

Misri said there was a compulsion both to "deter and to pre-empt".

"Earlier this morning as you would be aware India exercised its right to respond and pre-empt as well as deter more such cross-border attacks," he said.

"These actions were measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible. They focused on dismantling the terrorist infrastructure and disabling terrorists likely to be sent across to India," Misri said.

The foreign secretary said despite a fortnight having passed since the Pahalgam attacks, there has been "no demonstrable step" from Pakistan to take action against the terrorist infrastructure on its territory or on territory under its control.

On the Pahalgam attack, Misri said Pakistani and Pakistan-trained terrorists belonging to the Lashkare-Taiba carried out the savage strike on Indian tourists and murdered 26 people.

It was the largest number of civilian casualties in a terrorist attack in India since the November 26, 2008 Mumbai terror attacks.

"The attack in Pahalgam was marked by extreme barbarity, with the victims mostly killed with headshots from close range and in front of their families," he said.

"Family members were deliberately traumatised through the manner of the killing, accompanied by the exhortation that they should take back the message," Misri said.

The foreign secretary said the Pahalgam attack was "clearly driven by the objective of undermining the normalcy returning" to Jammu and Kashmir.

"In particular, it was designed to impact the mainstay of the economy, tourism, with a record 23 million tourists visiting the valley last year," he said.

"The calculation, presumably, was that harming growth and development in the Union Territory would help keep it backward and create fertile ground for continued cross-border terrorism from Pakistan," he said.

Misri noted that the manner of the attack was also driven by an "objective of provoking communal discord", both in Jammu and Kashmir and the rest of the nation.

"It is to the credit of the government and the people of India that these designs were foiled," he said. Citing cross-border linkages to the attack, he

pointed towards a so called group calling itself "The Resistance Front" (TRF) claimed responsibility for the attack.

"This group is a front for the UN-proscribed Pakistani terrorist group, Lashkar-e-Taiba," he said.

"It is notable that India had given inputs about the TRF in the half-yearly report to the monitoring team of the UN's 1267 Sanctions Committee in May and November 2024, bringing out its role as a cover for Pakistan-based terrorist groups," he added.

Misri said "identification of the attackers based on eyewitness accounts, as well as other information available to law enforcement agencies, has also progressed."

"Our intelligence has developed an accurate picture of the planners and backers of this team," he added

'10 Family Members

further mentioned that the attack also claimed the lives of one of Azhar's close associates and his mother, along with two other close companions.

"This act of brutality has broken all boundaries. There should be no expectation of mercy now," it added.

Bahawalpur became the hub of the IeM after the

and Kashmir were trained and launched from the camp, 6 km (4 miles) inside Pakistan.

ABBAS CAMP This camp, located 13 km (8 miles) from the border, was the "nerve centre" for training LeT suicide bombers, India says.

SYEDNA BELAL CAMP

India says this camp, a staging area for JeM, was used to provide weapons' and explosives' training, and survival techniques for "terrorist activities" in Indian Kashmir.

SAWAI NALA CAMP

Located about 30 km (19 miles) from the de-facto border, the camp was a key training facility for LeT, India says.

BARNALA CAMP

India says this facility was used to train terrorists in weapon handling, improvised explosive device making, and jungle survival techniques. (inputs from Reuters)

HM's Instructions

terrorist attacks were planned and directed against India.

The spokesperson said the LG is closely monitoring the situation in the Union Territory and leading teams for actions in border villages and other areas. Sinha also lauded India's tri-services precision missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

"The Operation Sindoor is an incredible example of the resolve of our brave armed forces and they have avenged the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people were brutally massacred by Pakistani terrorists.

"Through Operation Sindoor, India has also given the message that no matter where terrorists are hiding, our brave armed forces will find them and they will be punished for their heinous crimes," he said

"The training camps of terrorist groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, which were shedding the blood of innocent people in India for decades, have been completely destroyed by focused and measured action by our armed forces," Sinha said.

The LG also took stock of the situation in border districts with members of the administration, police, and district officials, earlier this morning.

Sinha has also directed all deputy commissioners to shift villagers from vulnerable areas to safer locations, and ensure their boarding, lodging, food, medicare and transportation.

"The entire administration, Police, CAPFs and Armed Forces are working together. We are alert, equipped and fully prepared to respond to any situation," he said.

'Fully Prepared

the situation & govt is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality," the LG said on his official handle on X.

Sinha said he has directed the deputy commissioners for shifting of villagers from vulnerable areas to safer locations and ensuring boarding, lodging, food, medicare and transportation.

'We will ensure safety of every citizen. Jai Hind!" he added.

In retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people dead, Indian armed forces carried out missile strikes early Wednesday on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold of Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base Muridke.

In the wake of the missile strikes, Pakistani troops resorted to heavy shelling in several border districts of I&K

Pak Security Huddle

duly been authorised to undertake corresponding actions in this regard," the NSC statement said. Sharif is set to hold a cabinet meeting and share

including Bahawalpur, a stronghold of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terror outfit.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said India decided to carry out the "proportionate" strikes to bring the perpetrators and planners of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack to justice as there was "no demonstrable step" from Pakistan to act against terrorist infrastructure on territories under its control.

Misri said India's actions were in line with the UN Security Council's statement about holding perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of the Pahalgam terror attack accountable.

Under 'Operation Sindoor', the Indian military targeted Markaz Taiba of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in Muridke, Markaz Subhan Allah of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in of Bahawalpur and Hizbul Mujahideen's Mehmoona Joya Facility in Sialkot and LeT's base in Markaz Ahle Hadith in Barnala and its camp in Muzaffarabad's Shawai Nalla, military officials said.

J&K Border Residents

Pakistani shelling.

"We have been told to move out for our safety, and we are following the directions of the government," he said, adding the village has a population of more than 1,000, mostly earning their livelihood by selling milk and milk products.

He said they are afraid of a full-scale war between India and Pakistan following the recent civilian killings by terrorists in Pahalgam.

The residents of Gagrian and adjoining villages, including Pragwal near the LoC in Akhnoor sector, said they have also been informed by the authorities to shift to safer places.

"We have always stood shoulder-to-shoulder with our security forces to secure the borders. A policeman came to the village and asked the people to take shelter either in a government accommodation or at a relative's house for the time being," Munshi Ram said.

He said the local residents are the eyes and ears of the security agencies but the prevailing war-like situation has caused a major concern for the people living on the borders.

"It is safe to move out for the time being till the situation normalises," Ram said.

Officials said the district administration has mobilised all its resources to make necessary arrangements for the convenience of people, especially females, so that they do not face any problem at the temporary shelter homes.

However, the situation was altogether different in the affected areas like Poonch where people were seen moving to safer zones on their own.

"We had a sleepless night... I was waiting for the shelling to stop to shift my family of six to a relative's house," Mohd Arshid, a resident of the worsthit Mankote, said.

"There is nothing like peace, but the Pahalgam terror attack left our government and forces with no option but to launch strikes across the border to dismantle terror camps," Ravinder Singh, a local resident, said.

In Jammu, meanwhile, groups of people took out rallies and chanted slogans in praise of the country and the armed forces for undertaking the precision strikes. "The Pahalgam terror victims have been given justice today," Pawan Gupta, a shopkeeper, said, laudng the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said the government needed to take necessary precautionary measures to ensure the safety of the border population. Political leaders, including Pradesh Congress Committee president Tariq Hameed Karra and former Jammu and Kashmir BJF president Ravinder Raina, condemned the Pakistani shelling on the civilian areas.

"Pakistan's mindlessly targeting civilian areas in Poonch, Mendhar, and Uri sectors is highly condemnable and against international conventions. We earnestly urge the government to ensure secure evacuation and comprehensive rehabilitation for affected families." Karra said on X

are affected can reschedule the booking on the next available flight or opt to cancel their bookings at no additional cost, and a full refund will be processed.

IndiGo operates around 2,200 flights daily. In an update on X, SpiceJet said that due to the

ongoing situation, flights to and from Leh, Srinagar, Jammu, Dharamshala, Kandla and Amritsar are cancelled till 0529 hours of May 10.

The affected passengers can opt for a full refund or an alternate flight as per availability, it added.

Around 140 flights to and from the Delhi airport were cancelled by various airlines including foreign carriers on Wednesday.

As many as 65 arrivals and 66 departures were cancelled. Besides, 2 international departures and 2 international arrivals were cancelled during the day, one of the sources said.

"Due to changing airspace conditions some flights have been impacted. Passengers are advised to contact their respective airlines for the latest updates and alternate travel arrangements.

"We are working closely with airlines and Air Traffic Control (ATC) to minimise any disruptions to flight schedules," DIAL said in a post on X.

Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) operates the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA).

"Due to notification from the airport authorities, flights to and from Amritsar, Gwalior, Jammu, Srinagar and Hindon are cancelled till 05.30 hrs on 10th May 2025," Air India Express said in a post on

Akasa Air, in a post on X, said that due to the prevailing situation in the region, all its flights to and from Srinagar have been cancelled until May 9.

As per data available on flight tracking website Flightradar24.com, United Airlines cancelled its flight from Newark to Delhi while American Airlines cancelled its flight from New York to Delhi.

Regional carrier Star Air said its flights to/from Nanded, Hindon, Adampur, Kishangarh and Bhuj stand cancelled for the day.

Meanwhile, Qatar Airways, in a post on X, said it has temporarily suspended flights to Pakistan due to Pakistani airspace closure.

India on Wednesday closed about 25 flight routes that allow planes to enter Pakistan through the Indian airspace on a day when the armed forces launched missile attacks on terror targets in Pakistan, according to officials.

In retaliation against the Pahalgam terror attack, Indian armed forces, under Operation Sindoor, on early Wednesday, carried out missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold of Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base in Muridke

Haj Flights Suspended

May 9, 2025, owing to the temporary closure of Srinagar Airport.

According to a circular issued by the HCoI, "In view of NOTAM A0976/25 concerning the temporary closure of Srinagar Airport, Haj flights from the Srinagar Embarkation Point have been cancelled until 9th May 2025. The situation is currently being reviewed, and alternate arrangements for the air travel of the concerned pilgrims are under active consideration in close coordination with various stakeholders.

The HCoI reaffirmed its commitment to facilitating a smooth pilgrimage for all Haj pilgrims and urged them to remain in touch with the Jammu & Kashmir State Haj Committee for updates regarding revised travel schedules.

The circular also mentioned that the J&K State Haj Committee has been asked to promptly disseminate this information among the concerned pilgrims and keep them updated on further developments.

Dr. Shujhat Ahmad Qureshi, Executive Officer of the J&K Hajj Committee, earlier informed that the flight scheduled for today has been cancelled due to the closure of Srinagar Airport.

"Due to the prevailing situation one

The authorities have announced the temporary closure of several major temples in Jammu, including the revered Bawe Wali Mata Temple, Raghunath Mandir, and Peer Kho Cave Temple, to the public.

This proactive measure aims to address the concerns of border communities, coordinate emergency responses, and provide timely assistance besides ensure public safety at these sacred sites during the ongoing security situation linked to Operation Sindhoor and recent cross-border developments.

As per officials, the emergency operations centre is fully operational and can be reached through the following helpline numbers: 0191-2571912 and 0191-2571616. Residents are urged to contact these numbers for immediate assistance, to report emergencies, or to seek guidance on safety measures. The control room is staffed round-the-clock to ensure swift coordination with local authorities, security forces, and medical services to manage any crisis effectively.

Moreover, Bawe Wali Mata Temple, located within the historic Bahu Fort and dedicated to Goddess Mahakali, is among the most significant spiritual landmarks in Jammu, attracting thousands of pilgrims daily, especially on Tuesdays and Sundays.

The closure of these temples is a significant step, reflecting the gravity of the prevailing circumstances. The district administration, in coordination with local law enforcement, has sealed the premises of these temples and deployed security personnel to maintain order and prevent unauthorized access. Devotees are urged to refrain from visiting these sites until further notice and to cooperate with the authorities during this period.

The prevailing situation, marked by reports of cross-border shelling and heightened security concerns following the Pahalgam terror attack, has caused significant anxiety among residents of border districts such as Poonch, Rajouri, Samba, Kathua, and Jammu. Many villagers are seeking refuge in underground bunkers, locally known as "Modi bunkers," while

others have prematurely harvested crops or relo-

cated to safer areas due to fears of escalation. The

administration acknowledges the distress caused by

these developments and is committed to ensuring

To address misinformation and prevent panic,

the Jammu and Kashmir Police have urged the pub-

lic to report any rumors or malicious content to the

Police Control Room (PCR) Jammu at 0191-2542001,

2542000, 2560401, 2544581, or helpline numbers

2560244 and 100. The administration has also ap-

pealed to citizens to rely on official sources for up-

dates and avoid spreading unverified information

The Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu

has been placed on high alert, with a dedicated

24x7 control room to manage medical emergencies.

Critical medical supplies, emergency drugs, and life-

saving equipment are being maintained for imme-

diate deployment, ensuring that healthcare services

The Jammu district administration, in collabora-

tion with security forces, is actively monitoring the

situation and has deployed additional personnel

to maintain order and provide support to affected

communities. Border residents are requested to re-

main vigilant, follow safety protocols, and cooperate

the shelling, which he described as unprovoked.

He said the situation remains tense and assured that

he is in regular contact with CM Omar Abdullah. Jan

praised hospital staff and affirmed his continued

presence and support for residents during the crisis.

preparedness at designated shelter camps as part of

Caramel School, GHSS Lassana, and Polytechnic

relocation efforts amid ongoing tensions.

The Poonch District Administration reviewed

Senior officials assessed facilities at sites like

remain robust during this period of uncertainty.

the safety and well-being of all residents.

that could exacerbate the situation.

release of Azhar in exchange for the hijacked passengers of IC-814 in 1999. In May 2019, the United Nations designated Azhar a "global terrorist" after China lifted its hold on a proposal to blacklist the JeM chief, a decade after New Delhi approached the world body for the first time on the issue.

The elusive Azhar, who has not been seen in public since April 2019, is believed to be hiding in a "safe place" in Bahawalpur.

The group has been involved in a series of terror attacks in India, including the Parliament attack in 2001, the strike on the Jammu and Kashmir assemblv in 2000, the attack on the IAF base in Pathankot in 2016 and the Pulwama suicide bombing in 2019.

Meanwhile, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bokhari said that all those injured in the Bahawalpur attack have been shifted to Victoria Hospital and given the best treatment.

The Pakistan military said that 26 people were killed and 46 others injured in the attack. (PTI)

The 9 Terror

with the terror groups Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (LeT).

Below are details of each target, according to defence sources-

MARKAZ TAIBA CAMP

India says the camp, 25 km (16 miles) from the de-facto border, was the headquarters of terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), which has been linked to last month's attack.

Ajmal Kasab, the sole perpetrator of the 2008 attack on Mumbai to be captured alive, was also trained at the facility. More than 160 people were killed in the attack on India's financial capital.

MARKAZ SUBHAN CAMP

The target deepest in Pakistan, about 100 km (62 miles) from the border, this camp was the headquarters of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and was used for recruiting, training, and indoctrination, India

says. MEHMOONA JOYA CAMP

India says attacks planned and executed from this camp, a training facility of terrorist group Hijbul Mujahideen 12 km (7 miles) from the border, include a 2016 attack on an Indian air base that killed seven.

GULPUR CAMP

This camp was a base for LeT located 30 km (19 miles) from the border, India says, adding that a June attack targeting pilgrims in Kashmir's Poonch region, which killed nine, was among those executed by "terrorists" trained at the facility.

Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi, the mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai attack, also frequented the camp for "indoctrination and motivational speeches".

SARJAL CAMP

India says the perpetrators of an attack in March that killed four police personnel in India's Jammu details with the nation through his address in the parliament.

The NSC meeting described the strikes as India's "unprovoked" and unlawful act of war" and said the NSC "unequivocally condemned" what it called as the blatant violations of Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity, "which manifestly constitutes acts of war under international law," the statement said

"The deliberate targeting of civilians, including innocent women and children, by the Indian military constitutes a heinous and shameful crime that is in violation of all norms of human behaviour and the provisions of international law," it said.

The NSC called upon the international community to recognise "the gravity of India's unprovoked illegal actions" and to hold it accountable for its blatant violations of international norms and laws, the statement added.

The NSC statement further claimed that India's strikes also caused grave danger to commercial airlines belonging to Gulf countries, endangering the lives of thousands of on-board passengers.

Besides, the Neelum-Jhelum Hydropower project was also deliberately targeted in violation of international conventions, it claimed.

After the NSC meeting was over, it was announced that Sharif will hold a cabinet meeting at 3:30 pm to further discuss the developments. "Later, he would share the decisions regarding the ongoing tension with the nation through his address in the parliament," officials said.

India Used Its

terrorists in Pakistan and PoK," he said addressing the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Raising Dav celebrations.

The defence minister asserted that the targets were destroyed and no civilian population was harmed as per the plan. "The whole world has witnessed what our armed forces have done today. The action was carried out very thoughtfully and in a measured manner." he said.

"It was limited only to the camps and other infrastructure used for training terrorists, with the aim of breaking their morale," Singh said.

"I congratulate the armed forces on behalf of the whole country. I also congratulate Prime Minister Narendra Modi for providing complete support to the forces," he added.

"We have followed the ideals of Lord Hanuman. Just as he said during the destruction of Ashok Vatika — 'jin mohi maara, tin mohi maare' (I only struck those who attacked me) - we too have targeted only those who killed our innocent people," Singh said In retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack, Indian armed forces early Wednesday carried out missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Pakistan,

He urged the party workers to lead frontline efforts in supporting and aiding the affected communities. Raina also criticised Pakistan for targeting innocent civilians living close to the border and said the BJP-led government at the centre will ensure proper rehabilitation of the people affected by the cross-border shelling.

PM Hails Forces

Modi also met President Droupadi Murmu and briefed her on Indian armed forces' precision strikes at terrorist hideouts in Pakistan and Pakistanoccupied Kashmir (PoK).

"Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi called on President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan and briefed her about Operation Sindoor," the president's office said in a post on X and shared pictures of the meeting.

The prime minister separately met the Defence Minister and NSA Ajit Doval and took stock of the evolving situation, sources said.

Retaliating against the Pahalgam terror attack. Indian armed forces early Wednesday carried out missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold of Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base in Muridke.

The prime minister had earlier given full operational freedom to the armed forces to decide on the targets, manner and timing of the action against terror in the wake of the Pahalgam attack in which 26 civilians were killed.

25 Airports, Including

it has cancelled more than 165 flights from various domestic airports, including Amritsar and Srinagar, till early morning of May 10 due to airspace restrictions.

The sources said that around 140 flights of Air India Group -- Air India and Air India Express -- have been cancelled.

"Air India flights to and from the following stations, Jammu, Srinagar, Leh, Jodhpur, Amritsar, Bhuj, Jamnagar, Chandigarh, and Rajkot, are being cancelled till 0529 hrs IST on 10 May following a notification from aviation authorities on the closure of these airports," the airline said.

In a post on X, the airline also said passengers holding valid tickets for travel during this period will be offered a one-time waiver on rescheduling charges or a full refund for cancellations.

"Due to government notification on airspace restrictions, over 165 IndiGo flights from multiple airports (Amritsar, Bikaner, Chandigarh, Dharamshala, Gwalior, Jammu, Jodhpur, Kishangarh, Leh, Rajkot, and Srinagar) are cancelled until 0529 hrs. IST of 10 May 2025," IndiGo said in a statement.

The airline also said that passengers whose flights

been temporarily suspended. We anticipated a cancellation, and it has now been confirmed," Dr. Qureshi said.

Additionally, the cancelled flights were set to carry pilgrims from Srinagar to Madeena. One flight with 320 passengers was scheduled for departure today. As of now, there is no clear indication of when services are going to resume.

"The closure of the airport and growing security concerns have left us uncertain about future schedules," Dr. Qureshi added.

24x7 Control

"The control room will function 24x7 as a central platform for interdepartmental coordination, monitoring of ongoing developments, and public grievance redressal. Citizens can contact the Joint Control Room using the following helpline numbers: Landline: 0194-2483651, 0194-2457552, 0194-2457543," reads an order copy issued in the public interest. People can contact on 9103998355, 9103998356, 9103998357 and 9103998358 (WhatsApp numbers), a circular reads.

Similarly, in Baramulla, the Deputy Commissioners office also constituted a 24x7 Shadow Control Room at the DC Office with a total of eight officials from various departments having been designated to ensure round-the-clock monitoring and response.

The team comprises: Sajad Ahamd Poto, JA -9797019933, Syed Murtaza Hameed, Assistant Store Keeper – 7006707501, Mehraj ud Din Dar, DRW PHE – 7006493646, Mushtaq Ahmad, Junior Lineman – 9797828115, Firdous Ahmad, F&ES Guard – 7006921302, Ovais Ahmad, SDRF - 7006271972, Igbal Ahmad, MTS - 9596495307 and Mumtaz Ahmad, Helper - 6006259455.

The control room will function under the supervision of Mr. Nazir Ahmad, Section Manager, Disaster Cell Baramulla, reachable at 7780956920.

A similar 24×7 control room has also been set up at the office of the Additional Deputy Commissioner Sopore.

People have been asked to contact the following emergency numbers of the designated officials, including Irfan Nabi - 9858326600, Mukesh Kumar - 9596810295 and Mohd Amin - 7889669352.

Meanwhile, as a precautionary measure amid ongoing border tensions, a Red Cross symbol was seen freshly painted on the roof of a hospital in Srinagar - the symbol serves to mark medical facilities and ensure their identification during any potential emergency.

Moreover, authorities in addition have urged the public to remain calm and reach out to the control rooms for any assistance or information.

The district administration Jammu has established a 24x7 Emergency Operations Centre at the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Jammu.

College, ensuring essential services like food, shelter, and medical aid are available.

Red Cross Symbols

with local authorities.(KNO)

Rs 5 Cr Contingency

Conventions, which protect medical personnel and infrastructure during armed conflicts. "The Red Cross emblem signals that the building is a medical facility and must not be targeted, as per international humanitarian law," an official said.

Hospitals in Kupwara, Baramulla, Srinagar, Anantnag and other areas near the border have implemented the measure. The precaution follows a recent rise in ceasefire violations between India and Pakistan, with sporadic shelling reported.

Tensions further escalated on Wednesday after India conducted attacks at multiple locations in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Authorities said similar protective measures will be extended to more hospitals if the situation worsens

Schools Closed,

and Gurez valley shall also remain closed on Thursday as well."

He further said that the educational institutions in Gurez valley shall also remain closed on Thursday.

In the meantime, the divisional administration in Jammu has also ordered closure of educational institutions in five districts, including Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Rajouri and Poonch.

"In view of the prevailing situation all Schools, Colleges & educational institutions (private as well as Government) in the districts of Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Rajouri and Poonch will remain closed tomorrow also: Div Com Jammu," Jammu admin said.

Meanwhile, University of Kashmir (KU) has also postponed all the exams that were scheduled to be held till Mav-10.

Assistant Controller Conduct of KU in an order said, "It is hereby notified that all examinations of the University of Kashmir scheduled to be held upto and including 10.05.2025 stand postponed."

Cluster University Srinagar also said that the examinations of varsity scheduled on 07-05-2025 are postponed. "Fresh dates for the postponed papers shall be notified separately.

J&K Govt Suspends

requests should be granted unless there are exceptional reasons.

The order has been circulated to all concerned authorities, including the Director General of Police, Chief Electoral Officer, Divisional Commissioners of both Kashmir and Jammu, as well as various heads of departments and other key officials in the state.

Notably, the decision aims to ensure that essential administrative functions are not hindered during this period, stressing the importance of maintaining operational readiness.

STATE

NIA Appeals Tourists, Locals To Share Info On Pahalgam Terror Attack

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has appealed to all tourists, visitors and local people who might have any more information, photographs or videos relating to the Pahalgam terror attack on tourists to immediately contact the agency.

In a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, the agency said that it has already taken possession of a sizable number of photographs and videos showing various aspects of the attack and is examining the same.

"It has now decided to scale up its efforts even more intensely to ensure that no useful information or evidence is missed out in its investigation into the horrendous crime against humanity," the statement reads.

NIA has urged all such people to call up the agency on mobile number 9654958816 and/or on landline number -01124368800 and provide their personal details and also the details of the kind of information or inputs they want to share. "A senior NIA official will

then connect with the caller

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Central Bureau of

Investigation (CBI) on Wednes-

day said to have arrested two

employees of PWD, Surankote

for demanding and accepting

separate bribes of Rs 20,000 and

Rs 5,000 respectively from the

complainant for processing and

releasing the complainant's GPF.

CBI on 05.05.2025 against the

accused Assistant Accounts Of-

ficer and Junior Assistant on al-

legations that both accused de-

manded bribes of Rs 30,000 and

Rs 8,000 respectively from the

complainant for processing and

releasing the complainant's GPF

of Rs 5,04,634. After negotiation,

the accused agreed to accept a

bribe of Rs 20,000 and Rs 5,000

Election Functionaries

"A case was registered by

CBI Arrests 2 PWD Employees From

Surankote For Demanding Bribe

and arrange for the relevant information/photos/videos etc to be shared with the agency," it reads

It added that the NIA is keen to examine all such information, photographs and videos in thorough detail to search for any possible clues to the assailants and their modus operandi. "Tourists and others might have, advertently or inadvertently, seen, heard or clicked some relevant detail that could help NIA to unravel the conspiracy behind the unprecedented targeted at-

tack on tourists in Kashmir". It further reads that several photographs and videos are found to be in circulation on various social media platforms after the terrorist attack that killed 26 tourists and left several injured on 22nd April 2025. "The anti-terror agency plans to minutely go through all these, along with any other information that might be in possession of those who were in the area on or before the fateful day".

It reads that the NIA teams have been camping in Pahalgam to examine the attack site for evidence and have also been questioning the witnesses of the horrendous crime

respectively from the complain-

ant," a statement issued to Kash-

on 06-05-2025 and caught the

both accused red-handed for de-

manding and accepting a bribe of

Rs 20,000 and Rs 5,000 respec-

arrested. They were produced

before the Special Judge for CBI

Cases, Jammu on 07.05.2025 and

were remanded to One day Police

Meanwhile, the searches

were conducted by CBI at the

residential and official prem-

ises of the both accused at

Poonch which led to recovery of

some incriminating evidence,

the statement reads, adding

that investigation is going on.

Custody," the statement added.

"Later, both accused were

tively from the complainant.

It reads that the CBI laid a trap

mir Observer reads.

CM Omar Holds Emergency Meeting To Assess Situation



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chaired an emergency meeting with Deputy Commissioners of all border districts through video conferencing to assess the situation in the wake of intense cross border shelling in these districts.

The situation and preparedness to deal with exigencies was reviewed in view of the current developments and escalating tension particularly along the LOC and districts close to the international border.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu, Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Secretary Health & Medical Education and Deputy Commissioners of Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Samba, Baramulla, Kupwara

and Bandipora districts. During the meeting, the Chief Minister gave directions to immediately release Contingency Funds of Rs 5 crore to each border district and Rs 2 crore each to other districts so that Deputy Commissioners are equipped to deal with the emergencies arising and requiring availability of ad-

equate resources. CM directed that frontier districts be accorded special priority in the disbursement of these funds.

Underscoring the paramount importance of safeguarding civilian lives, CM Omar Abdullah called for strengthening infrastructure with regard to providing shelters and bunkers for the public in border areas, keeping evacuation plans ready, and ensuring sufficient stock of food supplies. In respect of medical assistance, the Chief Minister directed the Health Department to maintain sufficient stock of essential medical supplies, ensuring availability of doctors, paramedics and keeping blood supply ready in case of any depletion in hospitals, especially in vulnerable areas. He also directed to move Ambulances to the border districts witnessing cross border shelling so that in case

of any casualty, the injured are rushed to the hospitals. The Chief Minister expressed grief at the loss of lives and injuries to several civilians living along the LOC and asked Deputy Commissioners to provide all assistance to the affected families. He gave directions to the administration to immediately fill up vacant posts of Tehsildars and other officers in the districts so that Government machinery is ful-

ly functional and responds to the situation swiftly. The officers briefed the

Chief Minister on the preparedness and readiness of their respective districts, assuring that they are ready with all emergency operations and that all supplies have been stocked. Deputy Commissioners informed the CM that they are continuously monitoring the situation and would keep the administration informed about any requirements to deal with the situation.

CM Omar Abdullah also instructed all officers to actively counter misinformation and rumour-mongering, urging the public to rely solely on verified official sources of information in these sensitive times.

Pertinently, Indian forces targeted the headquarters of the banned terror groups Jaishe-Mohammed, Hizbul-Mujahideen and Lashkar-e-Taiba in the missile attacks in Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Jammu & Kashmir in the early hours of Wednesday, officials said.

Moreover, the Chief Minister also chaired the cabinet meeting in which several key issues were discussed.

Later this afternoon, the Chief Minister also attended the meeting chaired by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah via video conferencing with the border states.

THE OFFICERS BRIEFED THE CHIEF MINISTER ON THE PREPAREDNESS AND **READINESS** of their respective districts, assuring that they are ready with all emergency operations and that all supplies have been stocked. Deputy Commissioners informed the CM that they are continuously monitoring the situation and would keep the administration informed about any requirements to deal with the situation.

Heavy Pak Shelling Wreaks Havoc in Poonch

Observer News Service

POONCH: Heavy Pakistani of Poonch in Jammu and Kashmir left behind a trail of destruction on Wednesday. The cross-border artillery and mortar fire followed India's early morning launch of 'Operation Sindoor', which targeted nine terror infrastructure sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. The Pakistani shelling was not only restricted to Poonch, but was also witnessed in the forward areas of nearby Rajouri district in Jammu region, and Uri, Karnah and Tangdhar sectors in Kupwara district. The indiscriminate shelling, described by residents and officials as "barbaric and cowardly", started around 2 am in the entire border belt, leaving dozens of residential houses damaged with their inhabitants running for cover after being woken up by the deafening sound of explosions. The Pakistani response involved the use of heavy artillery and mortars, targeting dozens of forward villages and densely-populated civilian areas in Mankote, Mendhar, Thandi Kassi and Poonch city, a police officer monitoring the situation on the ground said The shelling left a trail of destruction -- damaged houses, broken shops, burnt vehicles, bloodstains, and debris-littered streets. Even heritage sites like the Poonch Fort and ancient temples were not spared. "Targeting unarmed civilians is not bravery. It was is a cowardly act by Pakistan," the officer said.



The projects span several key areas, with 16 located in the Union Territory of Ladakh under Project Himank and Project Vijayak.

The virtual event, held from from the Dhomkhar site.

Day, the ceremony commenced with a patriotic chant of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai", celebrating the launch of Operation Sindoor. Notable Ladakh-based proj-

ects include eight key roads and six bridges, essential for defence logistics and civilian access to remote areas. Among them are the Tangtse-Lukung and Chusul-Demchok roads, and the Kanglaial and Domkhar bridges. Two additional works-

Defence Minister Inaugurates 50 Strategic BRO Projects a specialised ammunition cav-

Observer News Service

LEH: In a landmark move to strengthen border infrastructure in high-altitude regions, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday virtually inaugurated 50 strategic projects worth Rs 947.43 crore, executed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

New Delhi, saw participation from prominent leaders, including Chairman/CEC LAHDC Leh Adv. Tashi Gyalson, Deputy Chairman Tsering Angchuk, Executive Councillors Tashi Namgyal Yakzee and Ghulam Mehdi, Nominated Councillor Ven. Konchok Tsepel, and Councillor Dr. Morup Dorjey, who joined

Marking BRO's 66th Raising

ern at Hanle and surfacing at Chang La and Wari La-enhance regional resilience. Speaking at the occasion, Adv Tashi Gyalson hailed the projects as transformative, align-

ing with the Prime Minister's vision for a developed Ladakh. He expressed gratitude to the central leadership for prioritising border development.

Highlighting the symbolic fusion of progress and tourism, BRO's new Café Himank along the Tangtse-Lukung Road was also inaugurated, offering rest and refreshment in a scenic high-altitude setting.

Defence Minister commended BRO's execution of complex projects under harsh conditions, emphasising their role in national security and local empowerment. Director General BRO Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan elaborated on the strategic value of these initiatives.

Adding to the region's pride, Project Himank was named the Best Project among BRO's 18 nationwide ventures and recently received the Chief of Army Staff Unit Appreciation—the first BRO project to do so.

The people of Ladakh welcomed the initiatives, recognising the BRO's role in transforming daily life and ensuring year-round mobility in one of India's most challenging terrains.

Team Of JKTPO & JKEDI Officers Review ESDP Training At Reasi



Observer News Service

REASI: As part of the ongoing initiative to foster entrepreneurship and skill development across Jammu and Kashmir under the World Bank-funded **Raising and Accelerating MSME** Performance (RAMP) programme, Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, J&K Government, and Director JKE-DI, Khalid Jahangir, along with Managing Director, JKTPO, Sudershan Kumar, visited Government ITI Reasi today to review the ongoing Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Probuild entrepreneurial capacity and create job providers across the UT.

Khalid Jahangir provided an overview of the ESDP initiative and its long-term objectives, noting that the programme plays a vital role in enabling local youth, particularly women, to become self-reliant through enterprise development.

The ESDP is a key component of the RAMP initiative in Jammu and Kashmir, with an overall budget allocation of ₹1.5 crore for 108 training programmes targeting 3,240 beneficiaries across all districts. The 20-day

ECI Crosses Milestone Of Training Over 2,300 field-Level

IAMMU: The Election Commission of India has now taken another unprecedented step of training field-level election functionaries from Tamil Nadu and Puducherry in Tamil language. 293 participants comprising 264 BLO Supervisors, 14 EROs, 2 DEOs and other officials are part of this mixed-batch training programme at IIIDEM, Delhi.

Observer News Service

In his inaugural address Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Shri Gyanesh Kumar said that the BLOs are the first interface of the Election Commission of India with the voters and have a vital role in ensuring correct and updated electoral rolls. With this, nearly 2,300 participants have benefited from intensive training programmes being organised at IIIDEM during the past few weeks. This 2-day training

to train election functionaries at all levels including over 1 lakh BLOs in the country in the next few years.

pansive training programme

programme is in line with the

The BLO supervisors are being trained through interactive sessions, role plays, to ensure accurate filling of various forms including Form 6, 7 & 8. The module includes practical training in the use of IT solutions. These BLO supervisors are being equipped as Assembly Level Master Trainers to train other BLOs.

The participants were also familiarised with the provisions of first and second appeals against the final published electoral rolls with the District Magistrate (DM or an officer of equivalent rank) under section 24(a) of RP Act 1950 and Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of the State/UT under section 24(b) respectively.

IUST Launches University-Level NEP Implementation Seminar



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) formally launched its University-Level NEP Implementation Series with an inaugural lecture delivered by Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST. The series aims to enhance awareness and encourage effective implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 across departments, centres and academic units of the University.

In his address, Prof. Romshoo highlighted various initiatives already undertaken by IUST in line with NEP 2020, including the Design Your Own Degree (DYOD) programme, the introduction of

Skill Education modules, FYUGP, incubation centres, promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship and the establishment of the Kalam Academy of Skill Training. These, he noted, are steps toward creating a flexible, multidisciplinary, and student-centric learning environment. Emphasizing the importance of faculty engagement, Prof. Romshoo urged teachers to actively enrich their understanding of the NEP and integrate its guiding principles into their teaching, curriculum design, and departmental activities. "NEP implementation is a continuous process," he stated, "and teachers, as the primary stakeholders, must take the lead in shaping the academic future envi-

sioned in the policy."

The residents in Poonch city reported a sleepless and terrifying night with shells exploding in close quarters, echoing through the hills.

"It was like a war zone with the injured screaming for help and families forced to look for cover. The damage could be seen everywhere," Mohd Zahid, a local resident, said as he thanked his luck for escaping the shelling. More than 150 residents of Dhaki have shifted to the homes of their relatives after over a dozen residential houses were damaged by the shelling.

"We were not expecting such a situation at the dead of the night. We were lucky to survive the shelling and, therefore, it was better to move to some safer place for the time being," said Khurshid Ahmad, a resident of Dhaki.

Shells also landed near the UN station and forest department buildings in Poonch, causing extensive damage to both the tructures.

Videos circulating on social media showed the horror unfolding in the affected areas. drawing widespread outrage.

Fire service teams have been deployed to control the blazes

SDH Dawar Shifted To Old Hospital Building In Gurez

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Dawar in Gurez Valley has been shifted to its old building premises following official directions and administrative assessment. According to a circular is-

sued by the Office of the Block Medical Officer, Gurez, the SDH was shifted after directions from the MLA Gurez and also in wake of operational considerations such as the availability of a functional operation theatre and a safety bunker at the old hospital premises.

The circular stated that all medical staff have been instructed to ensure timely and coordinated relocation of essential services, medical equipment and records.

The transition is aimed at maintaining continuity of healthcare services during the shift.

gramme (ESDP).

The team of officers interacted with the trainees and reviewed the progress of the four-week programme, which commenced on May 5 in the Government ITI Reasi. The batch consists of 33 participants, including 22 female and 11 male aspiring entrepreneurs. The programme started with

a welcome address by the Principal Er. Rajesh Kumar Banotra. Also present on the occasion were DNO Abhilash Kumar Braroo, Trainer Waseem Hussain Mir, Virpartap Singh (Reviewer of the Reasi ESDP) and In-charge CNEC.

During the visit, MD JKTPO Sudershan Kumar appreciated the enthusiasm of the participants and reaffirmed IKTPO's commitment to fostering grassroots entrepreneurship. He emphasized that under the RAMP initiative, the government is making structured efforts to curriculum includes business management, marketing, simulations, field exposure, and enterprise planning.

The Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme is a World Bank-assisted national programme aimed at enhancing the productivity, market access, and resilience of the MSME sector. In J&K, it is being implemented under the leadership of JKTPO and supervision of the Industries & Commerce Department. The programme focuses on institutional strengthening, market development, digitalization, and financial access to support micro, small, and medium enterprises.

The visit by top officials to Reasi reflects the government's commitment to fostering an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem and ensuring the effective delivery of skill-based programmes at the grassroots level

Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament Commences At Doda

Observer News Service

DODA: An Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament was inaugurated here at Zone Bhalla under the guidance of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Pritam Singh.

The tournament has been organized by the office of I/C Zonal Physical Education Officer (ZPEO) and hosted at Government Higher Secondary School Berreru.

The event featured competitions in multiple disciplines including Volleyball, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Chess, Carrom, and Badminton. A total of 275 U-14 boys from different schools participated in the tournament, showcasing their athletic talents and team spirit. The matches were conducted in a vibrant atmosphere, promoting sportsmanship and camaraderie among the youth.

Principal of the host school Annjeel Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and commended the students for their dedication and passion for sports. He encouraged the young athletes to continue pursuing excellence both on and off the field.

I/C ZPEO Bhalla, Subash Chander served as the Nodal Officer for the event and played a key role in ensuring its smooth execution. The dedicated contributions of all Physical Education Lecturers (PELs), Physical Education Masters (PEMs), Physical Education Teachers (PETs), Rehbar-e-Khel (REKs), and National Youth Corps (NYCs) members were instrumental in the successful conduct of the tournament.

35 years," he said, hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi for keeping his promise of avenging the Pahalgam killings. However, Vaid said that Pakistan once again exposed its be-

haviour by targeting civilians living close to the border.

sparked by the shells. The local

administration is coordinating

the relief efforts, even as the situa-

tion remains tense with intermit-

iaz lan said. "The situation is wor-

risome given the damage caused

by the shelling. Chief Minister

Omar Abdullah is closely moni-

DGP S P Vaid condemned Paki-

stan for targeting the civilian

ist targets like the headquarters

of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)

and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM),

which have targeted security

forces and innocent civilians in

Jammu and Kashmir for the past

The Indian forces hit terror-

Former Jammu and Kashmir

toring the developments.'

population.

National Conference MLA Ai-

tent shells still hitting the area.

The Indian Army is responding "in equal measure" to the ceasefire violations, officials said, reaffirming that civilian safety

remained its top priority.

SPORTS

Rohit Sharma Announces Test Retirement; Will Continue In ODIs

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Rohit Sharma on Wednesday announced his retirement from Test cricket with immediate effect ending all speculations about his future in the longest format and leaving India in the need of a new captain for the upcoming fivematch series against England.

The 38-year-old was India's most prolific Test batter in the second half of his career, scoring 4301 runs in 67 Tests with 12 hundreds and 18 half centuries at an average of 40.57.

Having already retired from T20 Internationals after the World Cup last year, Rohit will



now only be seen leading India absolute honour to represent in the ODI format. "Hello everyone, I would just

like to share that I am retiring from Test cricket. It's been an

my country in whites. 'Thank you for all the love and support over the years. I will continue to represent India

in the ODI format," he posted on of Australia.

instagram with a picture of his Test cap after PTI's newsbreak. Rohit endured a particularly difficult run during the Border-Rohit captained India to the Gavaskar Trophy where he had World Test Championship final to drop himself from the playing XI owing to poor form but he had ruled out retirement at against Australia and had a fairly decent run in the format save the last couple of indifferent that stage. series against New Zealand at There was also widespread speculation about his differhome and the Border-Gavaskar

showdown against Australia ences with Head Coach Gautam Gambhir, who had vowed to India will have a new Test end the "star culture" in Indian captain for the five-Test series cricket after taking charge last in England starting June 20 year in July. with possible candidates be-

Both steadfastly denied the ing Jasprit Bumrah, KL Rahul, chatter but Gambhir has time Shubman Gill and Rishabh Pant. and again made it clear that Bumrah captained the side in a only performance would encouple of Tests during the tour sure selection in the team.

Kashmir Striker Suhail Ahmad Bhat Named In India Senior Squad

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Mohun Bagan Super Giant forward Suhail Ahmad Bhat was on Wednesday named in the 28-member probable squad for the Indian football team's camp in Kolkata. Suhail, who hails from Bemina area of Kashmir, impressed India head coach Manolo Marquez by his performances in the Kalinga Super Cup, scoring two goals in as many matches.

The senior national team is



set to play Thailand in a friendly on June 4. They will next take on Hong Kong in the AFC Asian Cup 2027 qualifiers on June 10. and Bangladesh in Group C. Suhail, a graduate of J&K Sports Council Football Academy

in Srinagar, has played for Indian Arrows FC. He also represented India at the Under-15 level. The J&K Football Association

congratulated Suhail Ahmad Bhat on his selection as striker, where he will rub shoulders alongside legendary Sunil Chhetri

Inter-School Zonal Competitions Continue Across Budgam

Observer News Service

earlier this year.

BUDGAM: Under the directions of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Budgam G.H. Hassan Lone, Inter-School Zonal Level competitions continue actively across the district.

Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Narbal conducted selection trials for boys Under-14 and Under-17 in Taekwondo, Kick-boxing, Karate, Wushu and Judo at Holy Mission High School, Narbal. International martial arts player Abrar-ul-Akbar formally inaugurated the event, joined by MTR. Mur-saleen (Principal, HMHS Narbal), Bashir Ahmad Sheikh (I/C Activities, ZPEO Narbal), and Senior Martial Arts Coach Shabir Ahmad Lone. Se-



lected athletes will now represent Zone Narbal at the district level. Zone Charari Sharief organised an Inter-School Zonal Level Kabaddi tournament for girls Under-14

and 17 at Sports Stadium Charari Sharief. Students from both government and private schools competed, reflecting the increasing enthusiasm of girls in team sports.

YSS Anantnag Organises Sports Events In Various Zones Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Anantnag on Wednesday organised a series of Inter-School tournaments across multiple zones of District Anantnag. In Zone Srigufwara, a Handball Tournament was held at MS Budroo for U-14 and U-17 Boys. The event witnessed participation from 48 students.

Zone Bidder hosted an Inter-School

Kabaddi Tournament for U-17 girls at HSS Develgam, drawing participation from 98 girls. Khushboo Aijaz from HSS Zalangam was adjudged the most promising player.

Zone Achabal also held Handball tournaments for Girls at Thajiwara Stadium for U-14 and U-17 Girls at Sports Stadium Thajiwara, witnessing participation of 200 girls. In the U-14 group, MS Damhall clinched the first position, while in the U-17 category, HSS Damhall emerged victorious.

Short TAKES

Desperate DC Face In-Form PBKS In Must-Win IPL Clash

Delhi Capitals will be desperate to arrest their slump and stay in contention for the playoffs when they take on a high-flying Punjab Kings in a crucial IPL match here on Thursday.

DC have endured three losses and a no result due to rain in their last five games, and are currently placed fifth on the table with 13 points from 11 matches.

The Axar Patel-led side had a disappointing time at home, managing just one win – that too via a Super Over – at the Arun Jaitley Stadium.

Punjab Kings, on the other hand, have been sensational this season, winning seven and losing just three of their 11 matches to sit just outside the top two in the standings.

Skipper Shreyas Iyer has been immaculate with the bat and astute as captain. He has scored 405 runs, including four fifties. That he has struck the second-most sixes (27) this IPL reflects his impact in the middle overs. Match starts at 7:30 PM IST.

With Airport Shut, MI v PBKS Clash **Faces Possible Venue Change**

The IPL match between Mumbai Indians and Punjab Kings to be held on Sunday in Dharamsala is set to be shifted to Mumbai after travel plans of the teams were thrown haywire following the temporary closure of the hill town's airport. Dharamsala's airport has been closed for operations

indefinitely as a precautionary measure after India's missile strikes on Pakistan to dismantle terror infrastructure in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack.

"There is high possibility that the match will be shifted to Mumbai in case the airport remains shut," a BCCI source told PTI.

Dharamsala is due to host the Punjab Kings vs Delhi Capitals clash on Thursday and that game will go ahead as scheduled given that both teams have touched base. The picturesque city is the second home base of Punjab Kings.

Man United Ready To Suffer To **Reach Europa League Final: Amorim**

Manchester United will have to push hard to win the Europa League semi-final against Athletic Bilbao despite their 3-0 win in the first leg, manager Ruben Amorim said on Wednesday.

United have put themselves in the driving seat for a place in the final in Bilbao thanks to three first-half goals in the Spanish city on Thursday.

The Old Trafford club is struggling domestically, however, languishing in 15th place in the Premier League and Amorim said they should take nothing for granted.

"If you look at our team, we cannot say today what is going to happen. There are some teams in any league that can understand the game is going to be like this and could change a little bit," Amorim told reporters.

"We have to face the game as one more game. I feel we have to score to go to the next round. That is how we are going to approach the game. We will have to suffer a little bit to go to the final, and we are ready to suffer."



ZPEO Rainawari Holds Felicitation

Ceremony At GHSS Rainawari

SRINAGAR: The Zonal Physical Education Office Rainawari held a felicitation ceremony at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Rainawari to honour the

competitions held under the banner of "Drug-Free Srinagar." Medals and mementos were

distributed among students who excelled in All Age Group Badminton, Chess, Table Tennis, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and Volleyball competitions. These events were organized by ZPEO Rainawari. The Principal of GHSS Rainawari, alongside ZPEO Rain-

awari Muzamil Ahmad Dar and the dedicated field staff of Zone Rainawari, felicitated the winning students. Speaking on the occasion, the Principal appreciated the efforts of the Youth Services and Sports Department, Zone Rainawari, for conducting such meaningful and spirited events.

28 year of publication

SFRVF YouTube

The methods used to consume news have changed over time from newspapers, to television, to the Internet on our computers to carrying the news around with us 24/7 on smartphones in our pockets.

Kashmir Observer, with 28 years of experience in news gathering is now available 24x7 on all digital platforms like laptops, cell phones or via Bluetooth on your smart TVs across the world. Kashmir Observer is a one stop information bank for you. Watch live debates, talk shows and documentaries on critical issues facing Kashmir on KO youtube channel.

VISIT

https://www.youtube. com/c/kobserver

UNRAVEL KASHMIR

OR SCAN



OUR SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

VOX POP

INKISHAF

THE OTHER SIDE