

PM Modi holds high-level meeting with DMK Dravidian Model Rajnath, NSA, Chiefs of three services Version 2.0 Loading in 2026 : TN, CM, Stalin



New Delhi, April 29 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday held detailed discussions in a high level meeting with the Defence Minister, National Security Advisor (NSA), Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and the Chiefs of the three services.

According to sources, Defence Minister Rajnath

Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal AP Singh and Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh Tripathi attended the meeting held at the Prime Minister's residence at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg this evening.

This is the third meeting of the Prime Minister with the Defence Minister, since the dastardly terror attack on tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam on April 22, that claimed 26 lives.

In the meeting, the Prime Minister was given detailed information about the current security situation and the preparations of the

forces. This high-level meeting, held ahead of the Union Cabinet's security meeting on Wednesday, is being considered as highly significant.

Earlier, Union Home Secretary also held discussions in a high-level meeting with the Border Security Force, Assam Rifles and other security agencies.

Chennai, April 29 (UNI) : Asserting that Tamil Nadu could neither be ransacked or looted by those trying to mortgage and usurp it, Chief Minister M K Stalin told the State Assembly that DMK's Dravidian Model government Version 2.0 Loading in 2026.

Replying to the debate on the demand for grants to the police and fire services department in the Assembly, he said so far what has been witnessed is Dravidian Model government Part 1.

"Version 2.0 loading in 2026 in which will create more records...Tamil Nadu will create history", he declared, amid loud thumping of desks by the members of the Treasury Benches.

Winding his reply to the debate, Mr Stalin listed out the achievements of his four year long DMK rule and said it will step into its fifth year, which is just a few days away. The state has set records and scaled new heights in all the departments. "With this confidence and with people's confidence, I am

telling that those trying to mortgage and snatch away, cannot ransack Tamil Nadu", he added.

The state has achieved great heights under the party-led government and Tamil Nadu was "No.1" in 2024-25 with 9.69 per cent growth rate, Stalin, the DMK president, said.

Such a growth rate was unprecedented, he said, adding central statistics have also validated this. He listed out achievements including "no dropout" in middle schools, the poverty eradication efforts and strides in higher education.

Further, law and order was being maintained well "although some yearn," it gets affected, the CM said.

He exuded confidence that the TN voters will give thumbs up for the DMK thanks to the implementation of various welfare schemes and projects. Stating that he will be stepping into the fifth year as Chief Minister in May, and he was confident that the DMK would again form the government by retaining power in 2026.



Deputy CM reviews preparations for Waves

Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Tuesday reviewed preparations for the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (Waves), which will be held at the Jio World Centre, Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai from May 1 to 4. He described this conference like 'Davos' for investment in entertainment sector at the global level. He said that this conference is being realised due to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

(See on page 3)

Trump govt has shown contempt for universal



The first hundred days of incumbent US President Donald Trump has been "catastrophic" to racial and gender justice, global health, as also for climate action and multilateralism, Amnesty International warned in its annual report launched on Tuesday. The report highlighted the rise in authoritarian practices and suppression of dissent around the world.

(See on page 5)

Rising star of India Pratika Rawal breaks longstanding ...



India top-order batter Pratika Rawal added another accolade to her growing list of achievements, when she became the fastest player to reach 500 runs in Women's One Day Internationals. In doing so, she has broken the record set by England legend Charlotte Edwards almost three decades back in 1997.

(See on page 7)

Uttarakhand CM meets Union Civil Aviation Minister to



Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami met Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu here on Tuesday and discussed ways to develop the aviation sector in the state.

(See on page 8)

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Over 50 Pakistani nationals staying in Kashmir deported

Srinagar, Apr 29 (UNI) More than 50 Pakistani nationals who were staying in Kashmir were deported on Tuesday, officials said.

The deportation took place in compliance with an order by the Union Home Ministry that directed all Pakistani nationals to leave the country.

Those deported included women from Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Kashmir who married to former Kashmiri militants who returned over a decade ago under a government rehabilitation scheme.

Those deported included men and women from several districts of the valley.

National Conference legislator from Uri, Sajad

Shafi, on Tuesday appealed to Union Home Minister Amit Shah to reconsider the recent directive on the deportation of Pakistani nationals residing in India, citing humanitarian concerns.

“In Jammu and Kashmir, many women who came from Pakistan have been living here for decades. Their families, including children, are settled here, and some of these women have no one left in Pakistan. Where will they go now?” Shafi said.

He added that in his constituency of Uri, several such women have been asked to leave without delay, despite having legally resided in India for years.

Shafi urged the Home

Minister to revisit the policy on compassionate grounds, saying, “Those who are here legally and have built their lives over decades should not be uprooted or separated from their families.”

Meanwhile, J&K Police has denied reports circulating on social media regarding the alleged repatriation of the mother of late Constable Mudasir Ahmad

“The reports are false, baseless, and categorically denied,” a police statement said.Mudasir, who died while fighting militants in 2022, was awarded Shaurya Chakra posthumously in 2023. Home Minister Amit Shah personally visited their home in Uri, weeks after his death.

BNCMC Steam Water shut down on May, 2

(By Rajesh Undi)

Mumbai, April 29 : This is to inform the citizens of Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation that Stem Water Dist. & Infra. Company Pvt. Ltd. Thane will be shut down for 24 hours from Friday 02/05/2025 9.00 am to Saturday 03/05/2025 9.00 am for daily maintenance and repair and installation of flow meter at the chennai. Due to this, the water supply through Stem for Bhiwandi city will be closed and the water supply will be at low pressure and in low quantity for the next one day.

Citizens are requested to take note of this and cooperate with the Municipal Corporation

Will provide all possible help to resolve the problems of State Waqf Board; Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar assures



(By Rajesh Undi)

Mumbai, April 29 : In order to strengthen the Maharashtra State Waqf Board, various building works are underway in the state and these works should be completed in a quality manner by considering the next fifty years, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar instructed the concerned officials today. He also assured that the state government will provide all possible cooperation to resolve the problems facing the Waqf Board.

A meeting was organized under the chairmanship of Deputy

Chief Minister Ajit Pawar in the Deputy Chief Minister's Committee Room in the Ministry to review various issues related to the State Waqf Board. In this meeting, Medical Education Minister Hassan Mushrif, Minority Development and Auqaf Minister Dattatray Bharane, Additional Chief Secretary of Planning Department Dr. Rajagopal Deora, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Saurabh Vijay, Secretary, Minority Development and Auqaf Department, Ruchesh Jayavanshi, Secretary, Medical Education Department,

Dheeraj Kumar, District Collector, Beed, Vivek Johnson (via video conferencing), Chairman of the Waqf Board, Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar, Sameer Kazi, Chief Executive Officer, Junaid Syed and other senior officers of the department were present.

The government is committed to ensuring that the Muslim brothers in the state get quality education, health care and other necessary facilities. Through the Maulana Azad Economic Development Corporation, schemes will be effectively implemented keeping in mind the needs

of the society. Special efforts will be made to ensure that the youth of the society get employment-oriented education and training. He said that all necessary measures will be taken to achieve the overall development of the society.“

Issues related to the asset management, fund distribution, education and building projects of the Waqf Board were discussed in detail in this meeting. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar gave instructions to the concerned departments for action and said that he was positive to resolve the problems of the Waqf Board.

21-yr-old Indian student, daughter of AAP leader, found dead in Ottawa

Ottawa/New Delhi, April 29 (UNI) : A 21-year-old Indian student in Ottawa, Canada, the daughter of an AAP leader from Punjab, has been found dead.

Vanshika Saini, the daughter of AAP leader Davinder Saini, was from Dera Bassi in Punjab. She had gone missing since April 25. Her body was found on the beach near her college.

The Indian High Commission in Ottawa said on X that the matter is under investigation.

“We are deeply saddened to be informed of the death of Ms. Vanshika, student from India in

Ottawa.

“The matter has been taken up with concerned authorities and the cause is under investigation as per local police.

“We are in close contact with the bereaved kin and local community associations to provide all possible assistance.

“A massive search effort had been underway since the student, Vanshika, went missing on April 25.”

Earlier, the HCI posted about her going missing.

“HCI Ottawa is in touch with local partner Indo Canadian community associations and concerned authorities

regarding a missing person alert for an Indian student in Ottawa. If any one has any information, please provide the same to the contacts as given below”, it said with links to its facebook page.

Surjeet Singh Aujla, Congress Lok Sabha MP from Amritsar, condoled the death on X:

“Deeply saddened by the tragic and mysterious death of Vanshika Saini a bright student from Derabassi, Punjab, found dead in Ottawa. My thoughts are with her family, especially her father Mr Devinder Singh ji of @AamAadmiParty.

“Urging @HCI_Ottawa & Canadian authorities for a thorough, transparent investigation.”

Vanshika had been studying in Ottawa for the past two and a half years.

A grieving Davinder Saini, an aide to AAP MLA Kuljit Singh Randhawa, told the media:

"My daughter Vanshika went to Ottawa in 2023... She wanted to win big in life... The last I talked to her was on 25 April when she was on her way to work... On the morning of 26 April, I received a message that she has gone missing... She was preparing for her IELTS exam.”

SP leaders' take on terror attack 'shameful', akin to Pak rhetoric: CM

Deoria (UP), April 29 (UNI) : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday condemned recent remarks by Samajwadi Party (SP) leaders on the Pahalgam terrorist attack, terming them 'shameful' and akin to Pakistani rhetoric.

Addressing a public meeting at Deoria during inauguration of 341 out of 501 development projects worth Rs 676 crore and laying of foundation stone for 160 others, the CM criticised SP leaders for dismissing the killing of Shubham Dwivedi and for divisive statements like labelling it a 'Hindu killing Hindu' incident.He accused SP and Congress of using caste-based politics and appeasement, warning that such tactics jeopardize national security.

He claimed that some leaders of SP and Congress are acting as spokespersons of terrorists in the Pahalgam terror attack.Yogi reflected on the region's grim state before 2017, marked by lawlessness, disease and neglect. He highlighted how peaceful festival celebrations were impossible, youth had to migrate for work and farmers faced extreme distress.

"Marginalised communities like Musahar and Vantangiya endured starvation, while those in power remained indifferent and isolated," he recalled.

On the occasion, he also distributed benefits under various government schemes. These included loan cheques under the Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Yojana, Rs 7.87 crore to members of self-help groups, keys to homes under the CM Rural Housing Scheme, tractors, and land lease papers to 37 beneficiaries under the Patta Yojana. He also handed out cheques for Divyang and destitute pensions.Highlighting the progress made under his government, the CM recalled that before 2017, thousands of children in Deoria died of encephalitis every year.

"Today, that reality has changed. Deoria, like the rest of UP, is progressing rapidly under the leadership of Prime

Minister Narendra Modi," he claimed.

He announced the inauguration of a four-storey government degree college at Deoria, the first of its kind in the region, offering simultaneous Arts, Science and Commerce classes.

"A new degree college will also open at Pathardeva with Commerce courses, while a new auditorium will be constructed at Gauri Bazar to support academic activities," he said.

Yogi said, "Earlier, no one imagined that self-help groups could thrive in rural areas, today, they are a reality. Deoria, once known for riots and disease, is now recognised for highways, railways and world-class expressways. This is the new face of UP," he said.

He said that a four-lane highway is being constructed from Deoria to Gorakhpur, ensuring seamless connectivity to Delhi and other major cities.

"In addition, the Gorakhpur–Ballia route is also being upgraded to four lanes, while roads connecting Deoria to Kasia and Padrauna are being widened to improve regional connectivity. These infrastructure projects will significantly reduce travel time from Deoria to Delhi and Shamli and are progressing swiftly toward completion," he said.The CM said that Deoria is not only witnessing the establishment of medical and nursing colleges but also is seeing rapid expansion in welfare initiatives aimed at the underprivileged.

"Marginalised communities like the Musahar and Vantangiya are being actively linked to various government schemes to ensure their upliftment," he added.

Taking a strong stand against the SP, he criticised its leadership for focusing solely on their own families and engaging in caste-based politics.

"When they were in power, they gave the state nothing but poverty, unemployment and insecurity," he alleged.

Organizing educational street plays through entertainment in Navi Mumbai to create awareness about public services



(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 29 :To provide detailed information about the 'Maharashtra Right to Public Services Act 2015' and to create awareness about the working system implemented by the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation to make public services accessible to citizens in an easy and convenient manner, street plays were organized at various places in the

municipal area on April 28, on the occasion of Right to Services Day.Under the guidance of Navi Mumbai Municipal Commissioner Dr. Kailash Shinde, online system is being effectively used to make public services available to the citizens in an easy manner. In this regard, like the Municipal Corporation's website www.nmmc.gov.in , these public services are also available online on the My

Navi Mumbai - My NMMC app. In this, 68 various public services such as birth, death, marriage registration are being provided online.

In order to create awareness among citizens about these public services, the Municipal Corporation made appropriate use of popular and effective media such as street plays, which educate through entertainment.

On behalf of the Sports

and Cultural Affairs Department, a special street play informative about public services was presented in the municipal area as well as at the headquarters, malls, and station areas. The street play presented by artists Akshay Khambe, Shaunka Pol, Dheeraj Sodiye, Ashish Kadam, Prateek Ghadge, and Shubham Bhobaskar of Aarambh Events received a good response from the citizens everywhere.

Cong acting like Lashkar-e-Pak: BJP's Gaurav Bhatia

New Delhi, April 29 (UNI) : "Sar tan se juda has been the ideology of the Congress," BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia alleged on Tuesday, launching a sharp attack on the opposition party over a controversial social media post that depicted Prime Minister Narendra Modi without a head.

Terming the post "extremely sad and worrisome", Bhatia said, “Even though Congress is an Indian political

party, it constantly reveals its two faces and transforms into Lashkar-e-Pakistan Congress."

The post, captioned "Gayab" (missing), was widely circulated on social media, drawing strong reactions from BJP leaders and supporters.Bhatia said the image surfaced at a time when Prime Minister Modi had given a strong message to Pakistan, and alleged that the Congress tweet sought to undermine the country's position globally.

Father shoots MBBS daughter, injures son-in-law for marrying class XII pass

Mumbai, April 29 (UNI) :The investigation into the murder of a 24-year-old woman allegedly by her father in Jalgaon revealed that as his MBBS daughter had married a class XII pass-out, the accused took the extreme step of killing his daughter and injuring his son-in-law, police said on Tuesday.On April 27, a retired sub-inspector of

police from Central Reserve Police (CRP) allegedly shot at his daughter and son-in-law at Chopda in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra.

In this incident that occurred at 10 pm on Saturday during a family function, the daughter died on the spot, while the son-in-law was seriously injured and is currently undergoing treatment at a

nearby hospital.The accused father, who opened fire during the function, is in serious condition and on a ventilator after being beaten up by attendees.

According to information received, Kiran Mangle, a retired PSI shot his daughter Trupti and her husband Avinash Wagh during the 'haldi' (pre-

wedding) function of one of his relatives which was attended by his daughter, son-in-law and other relatives.Trupti Avinash Wagh (24) and Avinash Ishwar Wagh (28) from Kothrud, Pune, had a love marriage two years ago.The girl's father, Karan Arjan Mangle (48) from Shipur, did not approve of the marriage and was angry about it.

Mangaluru woman doctor booked for allegedly posting anti-national comments

Mangaluru, April 29 (UNI) : A case has been registered against a woman doctor for allegedly posting anti-Hindu and anti-national comments on social media, City Police Commissioner Anupam Agarwal said here on Tuesday.Addressing

reporters, Agarwal said the woman, identified as Dr Ateefa, is employed at Highland Hospital in the city. "Two days ago, a social media post by her went viral in Mangaluru. The content of the post contained remarks that were either anti-Hindu or

anti-national in nature," he stated.

"Following a complaint, we contacted the hospital administration and registered a case against the woman under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)," the Commissioner said.He

further said the doctor has been called in for investigation and that the mobile phone used for posting the comments has been seized. "A forensic examination of the device is underway. Further investigation is in progress," he added.

Campus USA, Judson University to strengthen Indo-U.S. Academic collaboration

Chennai, April 29 (UNI) : Campus USA, a premier Indo-U.S. education facilitator, in association with Judson University, Illinois, USA, on Tuesday announced a major academic collaboration initiative by inking pacts with leading educational institutions in Chennai to create global pathways for Indian students.

Apart from MoU signing with leading institutions in Chennai to foster academic partnerships, research collaboration, and student exchange programs, they would establish Centers of Excellence (COEs) to focus on emerging areas like Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and Robotics, aligning with global industry demands.

It would also launch Dual-Degree Programs, Internship Pathways, and Faculty Exchange Initiatives between India and the U.S under the

agreement, according to a press release.

A Grand "Study in the USA" event will be held here on May three wherein students could interact directly with Judson University officials, explore higher education opportunities, and secure spot admissions with scholarship options.

Dr. Nikki Fennern, Executive Vice President, Judson University, Dr. Dana Onayemi, Director of Graduate Programs in Computer Science, Judson University and Harish Ananthapadmanabhan, Founder and CEO, Campus USA, will be present."This collaboration is a bridge between Chennai's emerging talent and world-class global opportunities," Mr. Harish Ananthapadmanabhan said. "We are excited to open doors for students to achieve international academic and career success."

'Fire robot' deployed to combat major blaze in Mumbai

Mumbai, April 29 (UNI) :In a massive firefighting operation at Croma showroom in Bandra city suburb early Tuesday morning, the Mumbai Fire Brigade (MFB) deployed a high-tech 'fire robot' to combat the massive blaze.

The advanced robotic device was brought in as flames intensified and spread through the multi-storey Link Square Mall.

The fire was first reported at 4:11 am and rapidly gained in severity, leading MFB to declare it a level-IV fire by 6:25 am.

As visibility and access became restricted due to smoke, the fire robot navigated the hazardous environment and delivered targeted water jets without endangering human firefighters. These robots are specially designed to operate in high-temperature, low-visibility zones and are equipped with cameras, sensors, and high-capacity water nozzles.

Over a dozen fire engines, hydraulic platforms, and two robotic firefighting units identified as "Robert-02" were in action to bring the fire under control.

We are modernising education system to meet the needs of 21st century: PM, Modi

New Delhi, Apr 29 (UNI) Stating that the youth hold the key to a nation's future, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday emphasized the crucial role of education in shaping their readiness for the challenges ahead and said that the government is modernising the country's education system to meet the needs of the 21st century.

Addressing the YUGM Innovation Conclave here, the Prime Minister said that the New National Education Policy which has been designed with global education standards in mind had bought significant changes to the Indian education system, an official statement said.

He highlighted the creation of AI-based and scalable digital education infrastructure platform 'One Nation, One Digital Education Infrastructure' under PM e-Vidya and DIKSHA platforms, enabling the preparation of textbooks in over 30 Indian

languages and seven foreign languages. Modi said the National Credit Framework has made it easier for students to study diverse subjects simultaneously, providing modern education and opening new career paths. He emphasised the importance of strengthening India's research ecosystem to achieve national goals, highlighting the doubling of gross expenditure on R&D from Rs 60,000 crore in 2013-14 to over Rs 1.25 lakh crore, the establishment of state-of-the-art research parks, and the creation of Research and Development Cells in nearly 6,000 higher education institutions.

He spoke on the rapid development of an innovation culture in India, citing the increase in patent filings from around 40,000 in 2014 to over 80,000, reflecting the support provided by the intellectual property ecosystem to the youth. The Prime Minister

also highlighted the establishment of Rs 50,000 crore National Research Foundation, designed to strengthen the research culture along with the One Nation, One Subscription initiative, which has made world-class research journals accessible to students in higher education. He also stressed the significance of the Prime Minister's Research Fellowship in enabling talented individuals to pursue their academic and professional goals without barriers. Modi said that today's youth are not only excelling in Research & Development but have also become ready and disruptive, highlighting the transformative contributions of India's young generation to research across various sectors. He cited milestones like the commissioning of the world's longest hyperloop test track, a 422-meter hyperloop developed at IIT Madras in collaboration with Indian

Railways. Stating that "The trinity of Talent, Temperament and Technology will transform India's future", Prime Minister spoke about the initiatives such as Atal Tinkering Labs, with 10,000 labs already operational, and the announcement of 50,000 more in this year's budget to provide early exposure to children.

Underscoring the importance of meeting the goal of a developed India within the next 25 years, Modi said, "It is crucial that the journey from idea to prototype to product is completed in the shortest time possible".

He said that reducing the distance from lab to market will ensure faster delivery of research outcomes to the people, motivate researchers, and provides tangible incentives for their work. This accelerates the cycle of research, innovation, and value addition.

He called for a robust research ecosystem, urging

academic institutions, investors, and industry to support and guide researchers. Emphasising the need to consistently promote AI, quantum computing, advanced analytics, space tech, health tech, and synthetic biology, Modi highlighted India's leading position in AI development and adoption. He mentioned the launch of the India-AI Mission to build world-class infrastructure, high-quality datasets, and research facilities.

The Prime Minister reiterated the commitment to the vision of "Make AI in India" and the goal to "Make AI work for India." He further noted the budgetary decision to expand IIT seat capacities and introduce Meditech courses, combining medical and technology education, in collaboration with IITs and AIIMS. Modi appealed the timely completion of these initiatives, with a focus on positioning India among the "best in the world" in future technologies.



Security personnel with a sniffer dog inspect luggage at a platform at the Bhubaneswar Railway Station. Security has been beefed up at the station in the wake of the recent Pahalgam terror attack.

Situation in country is alarming: INLD state chief Majra attacks BJP

Kaithal, April 29 (UNI) : Haryana State INLD President Rampal Majra today attacked the BJP-led central government and said the situation in the country is alarming.

Speaking at a programme organised on the foundation day of INLD, Majra said after the BJP party formed government it increased the rate of toll plazas, which increased the financial burden on the public; the rate of LPG cylinders was increased, excise duty on petrol diesel was also enhanced.

"The state government has also increased the collectors rate. The law and order in the state has deteriorated. People were looted in the name of family Pehchan Patras. There is a shortage of teachers in schools. People are disgusted with the BJP," Majra said. He said that Chowdhury Devi Lal founded the INLD. On April 29, decades ago, Omprakash Chautala worked to strengthen it with his hard work. Today, INLD workers across the state are celebrating Foundation Day with pomp and repeating the resolution that the party

can be brought into a strong position in future.

Majra, addressing party workers in the office of INLD District President Anil Tanwar at Pehowa Chowk, said on the foundation day of the party, the workers have resolved to take the party to the same level it was when it came to power. A program was organised on the foundation day of INLD and on Lord Parashuram Jayanti where he first paid floral tributes at the portrait of all Lord Parashurama and Chawdhry Devi Lal.

Rampal Majra also placed the party's flag on the car of a party worker.

In the press conference here, State President Rampal Majra said that today on the foundation day of the party, the workers have resolved to take the party to the same level it was when it came to power. Attacking the Congress party, he said party leaders are saying to organise 'Save Constitution Rally'. The Congress should peep in to its past while in power it always trampled on the Constitution. During the Congress rule the farmers were looted and exploited for years. He said that due

to factionalism in the Congress and tendency among its leaders to denigrate each other, it lost public support. He claimed the people wanted to defeat BJP but it could not be possible during elections.

In such a situation, the eyes of the people are towards INLD.

Majra said that today activists besides Lord Parashuram Jayanti are also celebrating the foundation day of INLD across the state. On the question of the workers returning home, Majra said that we have no hatred with anyone. For some reason some of our companions got separated from us, many of our companions have returned and big leaders will return with us in the rally on September 25.

On the crops lifting, Majra said that farmers continue to suffer great difficult as there was delay in purchase of wheat crop and the problems aggravated due to irregularities in weighing and lifting of purchased crop. INLD District President Anil Tanwar Kyodak said that the INLD party was formed by Chaudhary Devi Lal and Chaudhary Omprakash

Chautala strengthened it and today the party is moving to become stronger again. Tanwar said, the INLD is a party of poor and common man. With the blessings of Chaudhary Abhay Singh Chautala and Rampal Majra, he has got the responsibility of District President, though being a general worker.

Anil Tanwar also appealed to all the workers to come and work hard day and night to bring the party back to power.

On this occasion, Rajaram Majra, Rameshwar Pahalan, Indra Pai, Balkar Singh Ballu, Mahavir Patti Afghan, Surjeet Pabnawa, Rohit Kundu, Ranbir Malkhedi, Abhay Ram Bhukkal, Rishi Rajrana, Punam Sultania, Sonu Verma, Sonu Karu Fauji, Sonu Matour, Pawan Sharma, were among those present.

Chithirai festival of Meenakshi Temple begins with flag hoisting ceremony

Madurai (Tamil Nadu), April 29 (UNI) :The annual Chithirai festival, also popularly called as 'Chithirai Brahmotsavam' of the World-renowned Sri Meenakshi-Sundareswarar Temple began with the 'Dwajaroahanam' (Flag hoisting) ceremony here on Tuesday.

The holy flag was hoisted atop the gold-plated 56-foot-high "dwajasthambam" (flag mast) of Lord Sundareswarar, amidst chanting of Vedic hymns by the temple priests and bhattars during the pre-designated "Mithuna Lagnam" between the auspicious hours of 1035 AM and 1059 AM. The priests performed the "deeparadhana" to the flag mast. A large number of devotees, including women and children, congregated at the temple to witness the flag hoisting ceremony.

The idols of Goddess Meenakshi, Priyavidai and Lord Sundareswarar were brought in a silver palanquin to the Kambathadi Mandapam, where special pujas were performed to the deities before the ceremonial flag hoisting ceremony. As part of the Chithirai festival, the "Meenakshi Pattabishekam" (Coronation for the goddess Meenakshi) will take place on May 6 and the famous "Thirukkalyanam" (Celestial wedding) of Goddess Meenakshi and Lord Sundareswarar will be held on May 8.

The Temple car festival was slated for May 9. The festival will culminate on May 12, when 'Lord Sundararaja Perumal' also popularly called as 'Lord Kallazhagar' mounted on a 'golden stallion vahana' descends into the River Vaigai, considered as one of the grandest religious celebrations in Tamil Nadu.


The Hindu Religious and Endowment Department officials in coordination with various government departments have made elaborate arrangements, as lakhs of devotees from various parts of the country and abroad were expected to participate in the Chithirai festival.

DMK Dist Secretary meet on May 3

Chennai, April 29 (UNI) :The ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu has convened a meeting of its District Secretaries on May 3. DMK General Secretary and Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan in a statement here said Chief Minister and Party President M.K. Stalin will preside over the meeting.

The meeting will be held at 1030 hrs at DMK headquarters 'Anna Arivalayam' and all the district secretaries are advised to attend the meeting without fail.

The meeting would focus on reviewing the party's ongoing development activities and discuss the preparations for the upcoming Assembly elections and further strengthening the party at the grassroots level.

<div>भारत सरकार कार्पोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय त्वरित कॉर्पोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी-पेसा), आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंज़िल, प्लॉट P-6, 7, 8, से.-5, आई.एम्.टी. मानेसर, गुडगाँव, हरियाणा - 122050. Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in</div>	<div> सत्यमेव जयते</div> <div>Government of India Ministry of Corporate Affairs Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE) IICA Building, 7th Floor, Plot P-6, 7, 8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050. Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in</div>		
<div>FORM No. STK - 6 PUBLIC NOTICE</div> <div>[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]</div>			
<div>Public Notice:C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2025-26/215 Date: 22/04/2025</div> <div>Reference:</div> <div>In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (2) companies in the state of Puducherry under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:</div>			
S No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AB115692	U80902PY2022PTC008894	Columbus Innovative Solutions Private Limited
2	AB3383285	U74900PY2010PTC002527	Livingart Resort Limited
<div>2. Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.</div> <div>3. Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.</div> <div>4. Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.</div> <div>Irkan Tirkey Assistant Registrar Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit</div> <div>CBC 07123/11/0133/2526</div>			

STANDARD POST

What PM Modi's free hand to armed forces against terror means for cross-border action?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s unambiguous message during a high-level security meeting - ‘India is determined to deliver a crushing blow to terrorism’ - marks more than just a strong statement of resolve.

The Prime Minister’s message portrays a strategic phase where decisive military options are firmly on the table. The option that also includes cross-border strikes, in response to the Pahalgam terror massacre that killed 26 people, most of them tourists.

PM Modi’s assurance of “full operational freedom” to the Indian Armed Forces to choose the “mode, targets, and timing” of India’s response is of deep strategic significance. It indicates a positive phase where political will and military capability are perfectly aligned. This strategy gives India’s defence establishment the freedom to act not only defensively but pre-emptively and offensively, based on ground intelligence and evolving operational realities.

In the strategic calculus, such a directive also removes bureaucratic delays that traditionally constrain swift military retaliation, says the security experts. It empowers commanders on the ground to act when the opportunity arises - be it via precision strikes, covert operations, or cyber disruption of terrorist networks, they add.

This isn’t the first time India has contemplated trans-border action. Following the Uri attack in 2016, India conducted surgical strikes across the Line of Control, targeting terrorist launch pads in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

In 2019, after the Pulwama attack, Indian Air Force jets penetrated deep into Balakot, conducting airstrikes on terror infrastructure, marking the first aerial strike inside Pakistani territory since 1971.

In view of this precedent, the current developments suggest a possible revival or expansion of the surgical strike doctrine, this time potentially in a more sustained and escalated form.

Government sources confirm that troop readiness has increased significantly along the LoC and the international border. Surveillance drones, satellite tracking, and electronic intelligence gathering have intensified, monitoring terror camps and movement across PoK.

The intelligence apparatus appears to be working in tight coordination with the military, pointing to the possibility that actionable intelligence may already be in hand.

Pakistan-based terror groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed are under heightened scrutiny. The Pahalgam attack, due to its targeting of civilians and tourists, is being interpreted as an attempt to disrupt peace in Kashmir and damage India’s global image.

In response, India appears to be preparing for targeted retaliation not only against the foot soldiers but also their financial and logistical enablers.

India has already taken strong diplomatic steps, such as suspending the Indus Waters Treaty and ordering the expulsion of Pakistani nationals with short-term visas. These moves indicate a multi-pronged strategy - military, diplomatic, and economic - to pressure Pakistan and isolate it globally.

Should India proceed with a visible military response, it will likely be accompanied by an international diplomatic outreach, emphasising India’s right to self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter.

While the national mood demands action, the Modi government’s strategy appears measured but resolute. By giving the military full operational autonomy, the Prime Minister has decentralised tactical decision-making.

With the Pahalgam massacre acting as a turning point, India seems poised to redefine the rules of engagement in its fight against cross-border terrorism. The Prime Minister’s message, described as one of the clearest and most assertive in recent years, sets the stage for what could be a landmark counter-terror operation.

Whether it takes the form of another surgical strike, a covert hit, or a multi-dimensional offensive, one thing is certain - India is done absorbing the blows. It’s ready to strike back.

Terror attack in Pahalgam calls for a new strategic response

(By IANS)

The massacre of 26 Hindu tourists and injuring of many others at Pahalgam on April 22, by a group of 4 Pak-directed terrorists - three from Pakistan and a local- who appeared from the adjoining jungle wearing army fatigues and carrying automatic rifles, compel a review of the counter-terror strategy of India to make it a multi-prong response that would create an effective long-term deterrent for Pakistan.

An ex-soldier of Pakistan is said to be the head of the group that carried out the Pahalgam carnage. The publicised environment of improved security in Kashmir in which tourists were encouraged to visit Kashmir on one hand and the palpable rise of tension in Indo-Pak relations on the other- with India reiterating that the only agenda on J&K was to complete the unfinished part of liberating the Pak-occupied Kashmir and integrating it with the Indian state and the Chief of Pak Army Gen. Asim Munir announcing once again that Kashmir was the ‘jugular vein’ for Pakistan that his country would fight for till the end, provide the backdrop to the Pahalgam killings.

In an extremely communal outburst recently, the Pak General raked up the ‘two nation’ theory by declaring that ‘we are not Hindus’ and thus not only voiced his hatred against India but in an unspoken way showed his determination to get the Pak ISI to carry out a covert offensive to demolish the Indian claims of improvement in Kashmir. The crowd of tourists at Pahalgam was an easy target for the terrorists who owned responsibility for the act identifying themselves as members of The Resistance Front (TRF) -an offspring of Pak-based Lashkare Toiba(LeT) that had appeared in the Valley in the period following the abrogation of Art 370 by India.

The planned terror attack directed from Pakistan saw the attackers identifying the Hindu targets by name before shooting them in the head and at least in one case telling the wife that she was being spared to tell the government about why her husband was killed.

The Pahalgam killings are a reminder of how in 1990, the Pak ISI-directed militants forced the ouster of Kashmiri Pandits from the valley as Pakistan wanted to strengthen its claim on the territory on communal grounds. The army once again controls Pakistan and it has tried to position itself differently in a geopolitical sense to deal with the repercussions of its inimical actions against India. Pakistan is now strategically aligned with China- the Pak Army Chief Gen. Asim Munir made a significant visit to Beijing in 2023 to strengthen cooperation in Defence- while Indo-US relations have stalemated with President Trump categorically denouncing ‘Islamic terrorism’ and ordering visa curbs on countries and regions known to be fostering it.

Pakistan would have noted that many top appointees in the Trump administration took pride in their Hindu ancestry including Tulsi Gabbard, Director of National Intelligence, Kash Patel, Chief of CBI and the Second Lady, Usha Vance herself.

On the other hand, Pakistan having played a role in reinstalling the Taliban Emirate at Kabul in 2021, managed to bring about a ‘give and take’ arrangement between Taliban and China whereby China would extend its Belt & Road Initiative(BRI

to Afghanistan for the economic betterment of the latter and Taliban would maintain silence on the issue of treatment of Muslim minorities in China particularly in Xinjiang next door.

Since radical Islam does have a place in the spectrum of faith, Pakistan has been able to harness Islamic radical forces for its covert operations against India.

Way back in 1993, following the success of Afghan Jihad- for which the US-led West gave a lot of credit to Pakistan- the Pak Army-ISI combine made a bid to replicate it in Kashmir and sent in Harkatul Ansar(HUA) which had Taliban as its primary component, to step up a revivalist campaign in the valley.

Islamic radicals carry the historical memory of the 19th century ‘Wahhabi revolt’ against the British who exemplified the Western encroachment on ‘Muslim lands’ and this is the reason why HUA targeted Western tourists visiting Kashmir, took them hostage and killed many of them before a rescue operation could be launched.

The mainstream of militants used for cross-border terrorism against India however, comprised the ISI-harboured groups like Jamaate Islami’s Hizbul Mujahideen (HuM) and Saudi-financed Lashkar-e-Taiba, which had the legacy of being on the right side of the US. This is what produced the strange phenomenon of American policymakers drawing a line between ‘good terrorists’ and ‘bad terrorists’ for some time before wise counsels prevailed.

The US went after the radical forces of Taliban and Al Qaeda during the ‘war on terror’ in Afghanistan and Iraq. This ‘war’ produced a new competitor of Al Qaeda in Iraq- Syria belt called the ISIS that remains a formidable force

even today, long after Osama bin Laden Leader of Al Qaeda, was eliminated in a midnight American SEAL team operation near Abbottabad where he was being sheltered by Pakistan in 2011.

Both Islamic radicals as well as the Jamaatis -the latter considered by the US as a representative of ‘moderate’ Islam -want an Islamic state for Muslims but the radicals want to strictly revive the puritanic Islam of the period of the four Pious Caliphs whereas the Jel line is that an Islamic State could live ‘in competition not conflict’ with the West. It may be recalled that Jel had become the main instrument for late Gen.

Ziaul Haq established, what he called, Nizami Mustafa in Pakistan and it went on to lead the anti-Soviet armed campaign in Afghanistan much to the liking of the US. For India, all streams of Islamic extremism are equally harmful for they create the danger of communal militancy giving way to Islamic terrorism.

Developments in the Middle East must be particularly noted for the indicators they provide of how geopolitical alignments are affecting the Muslim world. Pakistan’s position has become increasingly ambiguous.

The Islamic radical forces of Iran and Hamas, inimical towards the US have joined hands and shifted to the China-Russia camp. All of them consider Israel- an ally of the US- as their first enemy. Leading Arab countries including Saudi Arabia, UAE and Lebanon are with the US and even inclined to favour Abraham Accord with Israel. Syria, Yemen, Iraq and Afghanistan are the territories where Islamic radical forces have their strongholds even today. India has done well to maintain an even bilateral

relationship with the three major players in the Middle East- Saudi Arabia, Israel and Iran- and welcomed peaceful coexistence in the region. It has unequivocally condemned terrorism of all kinds and spoken against it at all international forums.

Biden Administration seemed to ignore the Pak-Afghan region, perhaps out of some comfort distance but fortunately, President Trump makes no bones about his utter disdain for Islamic terror. Both the US and Russian President have condemned the Pahalgam killings and this strengthens India’s hands in taking appropriate action to eliminate terror bases beyond its borders, in one go.

On the domestic front, India needs to put down with heavy hands all forums and leaders that subverted the Indian Constitution by demanding special ‘political’ rights for any religious minority beyond the implementation of ‘one man one vote’ and grant of full freedom to practice faith.

The pro-Pak elements claiming leadership of Muslims need to be curbed in Kashmir and elsewhere as they facilitated the adversary’s work of creating ‘ sleeper cells’ on our territory. While Jel members should be specially screened in this context, Darul Uloom Deoband- established by the protagonists of the failed Wahhabi Jihad, in 1876- deserves a close scrutiny. The institution claimed a nationalist profile on the ground that it had participated in the anti-British campaign but at the root of that fight was the belief that the Muslim rulers of India lost to the British because they had adopted un-Islamic practices and deviated from the path of pristine Islam that had to be restored.

Deobandis are taught a communal doctrine of supremacy of Islam in all spheres- personal, socio-

political and even economic- and this has to be effectively countered. There are groups in the minority community that are not taken in by the ‘religious exclusivism’ promoted by certain leaders and who believe in communal harmony- they should be patronised by the democratic state.

National security has to be protected in these critical times not merely by show of force by uniformed men in the troubled border states- which has its own importance- but by strengthening the security and intelligence set up in a manner that makes it possible to watch the agents of the adversary in lanes, localities and forest inhabitations, even in peace times.

Local Intelligence Units(LIUs) have acquired unprecedented importance. This perhaps is the most important learning from Pahalgam. The country should also move towards granting the Intelligence agencies a certain action-taking capability so that the gap between ‘information’ and ‘action’ was minimised.

It is reported that there was an intelligence warning about suspicious activity in Pahalgam suggesting a possible targeting of tourists flocking there- it would be important to know what action was initiated on it by the Lt Governor who heads the Union Territory with special powers as also by the elected Chief Minister at Srinagar.

Security often fails not due to the absence of information but due to a lack of adequate action on available intelligence. It is a universal principle of Intelligence that whatever little becomes known should be regarded as the proverbial ‘tip of the iceberg’ and acted upon in that light.

(The writer is a former Director Intelligence Bureau)

CPI-ML chief asks Narendra Modi govt to "reveal from where Pahalgam terrorists were being funded'

Patna, April 29 (UNI) : Communist Party of India (ML) General Secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, referring to the Pahalgam terror attack, on Tuesday asked the Narendra Modi government "to reveal from where the terrorists were being funded". Speaking about Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's health, the CPI-ML chief accused the BJP of "hatching a conspiracy", and said that the BJP made Naveen Patnaik's health an issue in Odisha and now was "sidelining Nitish Kumar in Bihar". He also said that the leader of the largest party would be the Chief Minister if the Grand Alliance (GA) gets majority in the assembly elections in Bihar, due in October-November this year.



Dr. Geeta Shroff, Founder Director - Nubella Centre for Women’s Health

(Standard Post Bureau) In the ever-evolving field of reproductive medicine, a new advancement in intrauterine insemination (IUI) has emerged, offering a remarkable success rate of up to 80%, compared to the conventional IUI success rate of approximately 20%. This breakthrough has given renewed hope to countless couples

struggling with infertility. Infertility affects an estimated 15% of couples worldwide, many of whom face significant challenges when trying to conceive. This innovative IUI technique is particularly beneficial for: Couples Experiencing Unexplained Infertility: Often, the cause of infertility is undetermined even after extensive medical evaluations. This advanced IUI method provides an effective option for such cases by optimizing the chances of conception. Women with Tubal Factor Infertility: For women with partial blockages or damage to their fallopian tubes, this technique offers an alternative to more invasive procedures by improving the conditions for sperm and egg interaction. Men with Low Sperm Count or Poor Sperm Motility: The method incorporates advanced

sperm selection techniques to increase the likelihood of successful fertilization, providing new hope for male-factor infertility cases. Couples Seeking Non-Invasive Options Before IVF: Many couples prefer to explore less invasive treatments before considering in vitro fertilization (IVF). This IUI approach serves as an effective intermediary step with significantly improved success rates. The latest and advanced innovative procedure, incorporated at Nubella centre for women health, optimizes several critical factors, including precise ovulation monitoring, advanced sperm preparation, and enhanced uterine receptivity. As a result, patients experience: Higher Success Rates: With up to 80% success on the first attempt, this technique significantly reduces the need for

repeated cycles, saving time and emotional energy. Minimized Emotional and Financial Strain: By increasing efficiency, this method reduces the overall cost and emotional toll associated with fertility treatments. Improved Patient Experience: The approach minimizes discomfort and maximizes results, making the process less daunting for patients. The transformative impact of this technique can be seen in the stories of many who have benefited from it. For instance, couples who had previously faced repeated disappointments with conventional IUI methods have found success after a single cycle of this advanced treatment. These journeys showcase the potential for joy and hope that this method brings to individuals and families. Beyond the medical advancements, this approach to IUI also emphasizes the emotional

and psychological well-being of patients. Comprehensive counseling and support ensure that couples feel confident and informed throughout their journey. This high-efficiency IUI method is set to transform access to infertility treatments, aiming to make effective solutions more affordable and accessible to people from all socio-economic backgrounds. By addressing common barriers, it opens up new possibilities for couples longing to experience the joys of parenthood. This revolutionary IUI technique marks a significant milestone in reproductive health, offering a beacon of hope for individuals and couples struggling with infertility. With its unprecedented success rates, it provides an invaluable opportunity for many to achieve their dream of becoming parents.

Venezuela denounces U.S. "kidnapping" its toddler

Caracus, April 29 (UNI) : The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on Monday denounced the U.S. authorities for "kidnapping" a two-year-old Venezuelan girl, who was separated from her mother when "boarding a repatriation flight to Venezuela."

According to a government statement, the kidnapping of the girl named Maikelys Antonella Espinoza Bernal, committed by the United States, violated "the rights of our migrants and in contravention of international norms, and most especially the Universal Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the Charter of the United Nations."

The statement said that the United States has "once again committed the extremely serious offense of separating families and removing a minor from her emotional environment and, in particular, from her biological mother."

The father of the girl was also kidnapped and sent to a concentration camp in El Salvador without any form of trial or court action, it added."Venezuela will resort to all legal, political and diplomatic mechanisms, as well as all multilateral actions, aimed at ensuring that the sacred integrity of our families is respected and that international laws are upheld, so that the infant Maikellys Antonella Espinoza Bernal is returned safe and sound to her country," the statement said.

Amazon sends first batch of satellites into space

Los Angeles, April 29 (UNI) : Amazon launched the first batch of satellites for its "Project Kuiper" on Monday, marking a key step in the company's efforts to expand global broadband access.

The satellites were launched aboard a United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in the U.S. state of Florida at 7:01 p.m. Eastern Time.

The mission, codenamed "KA-01," plans to deploy 27 satellites at an altitude of 450 kilometers above Earth, according to Amazon.The mission represents the beginning of Amazon's "Project Kuiper" to deploy a constellation of over 3,000 satellites in low Earth orbit, aimed at delivering high-speed, low-latency internet access to customers and communities worldwide.

2 killed, 1 wounded in blast at plant in central Iran

Tehran, April 29 (UNI) : Two people were killed and another injured on Tuesday in an explosion at an industrial facility belonging to a chemical company in the central Iranian province of Isfahan, the official news agency IRNA reported.

The blast occurred at 10:30 a.m. local time (0700 GMT) in a plant in Shahinshahr County, IRNA reported, citing Mansour Shishehforoush, director general of the provincial crisis management department.He said the injured person had severe burns and was transferred by helicopter to a hospital, noting that the cause of the incident would be announced after the investigations are complete.According to IRNA, the company was involved in the production of fireworks.

Iran condemns US strikes on Yemen, including Migrant Detention Cente: FM

Tehran, April 29 (UNI) : Iran categorically condemns US strikes on Yemen, in particular the strike on the African migrant detention centre in the city of Sadah, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said.

On Monday, the civil defence service in northern Yemen said that 68 people were killed and 47 were injured as a result of US airstrikes on a migrant detention centre in northwestern Yemen. The Yemeni Interior Ministry accused the United States of committing a war crime due to the bombing of the migrant centre, where 115 people were being held.

"[Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman] Ismail Baghaei categorically condemned the US strikes carried out last night on various regions of Yemen, in particular the strike on the detention centre for African migrants in the city of Sadah, which resulted in the death and injury of more than a hundred innocent people," the ministry said on Telegram on Monday.

At the same time, the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) has called on all parties to the conflict in Yemen to fully comply with international law."It is imperative that all efforts are made to avoid harm to civilians and to protect those most vulnerable in these challenging circumstances," the organization said.On March 15, US President Donald Trump ordered the military action against the Houthis after they renewed attacks on Israel-linked ships in the Red Sea in response to the blockade of the Gaza Strip. The Houthis' leader, Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, said earlier in April that the US had conducted over 900 airstrikes in Yemen in a month.

Over 20 people killed in NE Nigeria from IED: Reports

Abuja, April 29 (UNI) : More than 20 people were killed in Borno State in northeastern Nigeria as a result of a terrorist attack using an improvised explosive device (IED), the Vanguard news portal reported, citing a source.

"The victims include women and children. But some said over 20 people were killed, with several others injured," the source was quoted as saying by the newspaper on Monday.

The bomb was presumably planted by the Boko Haram terrorist group, the report added.

Iran condemns U.S. lethal airstrikes on Yemen



Tehran, April 29 (UNI) : Iran's Foreign Ministry on Monday strongly condemned the U.S. deadly airstrikes on Yemen's capital of Sanaa and Saada province, including a center where African migrants were kept.

In a statement, Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei denounced Sunday's bombings, which killed at least 78 people, including

68 African migrants held at a detention center in Saada, and wounded dozens of others.

Baghaei described the U.S. military attacks against civilian targets, vital infrastructure and people's houses in different parts of Yemen as "war crimes," "which have killed hundreds of innocent people."

He criticised the United Nations and international

human rights organisations for their "silence and indifference towards this flagrant law-breaking and the frequent violations of Yemen's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Baghaei called on Islamic states to take effective actions to stop the killing of Yemen's Muslim people and stop the continuation of Israel's "genocide" in Gaza and the West Bank.

Measles health alert issued for Australian state of Victoria

Sydney, April 29 (UNI) : Authorities in the southeastern Australian state of Victoria have issued a health alert for measles amid a spike in cases.

The Victorian Department of Health on Monday said that a new measles case has been reported in a returned traveller who visited Pakistan and was infectious on a flight from Dubai to Melbourne on April 24.The department said on Friday that there had been 22 confirmed cases of measles in Victoria in 2025 - more than in 2023 and 2024 combined. It said the majority of cases have been acquired locally in Melbourne and surrounding areas.

Victoria is Australia's second-most populous state with a population of

over seven million.Tarun Weeramanthri, Victoria's Chief Health Officer, said on Monday that there is an "increased risk" of measles in greater Melbourne and the neighboring Mitchell Shire."A growing number of measles cases have acquired their infection locally in Victoria," he said in a statement. "The majority of recent cases have arisen in people who have not had two documented doses of the MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine."

He said that there is also an "ongoing risk" of measles being imported into Victoria by overseas travellers due to rising cases globally.Anyone who spent time in greater Melbourne or the Mitchell Shire from early April has been urged to monitor for

symptoms of measles, including fever, cough and feeling generally unwell followed by a rash that usually starts on the face.Measles can spread through airborne droplets or contact with nose or throat secretions. According to the World Health Organisation, over 107,000 people died from measles globally in 2023 - most of whom were unvaccinated or under-vaccinated children younger than five.

The Victorian Department of Health said that measles vaccination coverage across Australia has fallen below the 95 percent national target since the COVID-19 pandemic. The MMR vaccine is free in Australia for anyone who has not previously received two doses.

Russian Air Defence destroys 91 Ukrainian drones since evening of Apr 28: Ministry

Moscow, April 29 (UNI) : The Russian air defence systems destroyed 40 Ukrainian drones over the past night, while 91 drones were shot down since Monday evening, the Russian Defence Ministry said on Tuesday."During the past night, air defence systems destroyed 40 Ukrainian fixed-wing drones: 11 drones over the Ryazan Region, eight drones over the Nizhny Novgorod Region, seven drones over the Oryol Region, four drones over the Republic of Crimea, four drones over the Black Sea, two drones over the Moscow Region, two drones over the Belgorod Region, one drone over the Kaluga Region and one drone over the Bryansk Region," the ministry said.

The ministry added that in total, from 20:00 Moscow time on April 28 to 06:00 Moscow time on April 29 (from 17:00 GMT to 03:00 GMT), the air defence systems destroyed 91 Ukrainian drones.

Islamabad, April 29 (UNI) : At least one person was killed and over 40 others were injured when an oil tanker exploded in Pakistan's southwest Balochistan province on Monday, police and government officials said.

The incident happened in Noshki district of the province when a fuel tanker parked at a truck

depot caught fire, resulting in an explosion and injuring multiple people standing nearby, Noshki Senior Superintendent of Police Hashim Momand told Xinhua.

He said that among the injured were police personnel and fire fighters, who have arrived at the scene to manage the situation and put out

'21 terrorists killed in western Mali'

Bamako, April 29 (UNI) : The Malian army announced on Monday that it has killed 21 terrorists during an operation in west Mali's Sebabougou area.

Sebabougou is now under control thanks to "airstrikes targeting a terrorist hideout, destroying several of their bases," the army said in a statement.During their retreat, the terrorists left behind 21 bodies, dozens of weapons with ammunition and accessories, vehicles, and communication equipment, the army said."Search operations are continuing to track down the many wounded and fleeing criminals," the army said, adding that five soldiers were injured during the clashes.

3 Kurdish security personnel injured in unknown drone attack in N. Iraq

Baghdad, April 29 (UNI) : An unknown drone attack on Monday wounded three members of the Peshmerga, the military of the Kurdistan Regional Government, in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan Region, a Kurdish security source said.The incident occurred in the afternoon when an unidentified booby-trapped drone struck a Peshmerga position in a village near the town of Amedi in Duhok province, a Peshmerga officer told Xinhua.

The officer said that Peshmerga personnel at the site fired at the drone, but it detonated within their position, wounding three security personnel.No group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack, and the Kurdish security authorities have initiated an investigation into the incident, the officer added.

Trump govt has shown contempt for universal human rights: Amnesty International

London, April 29 (UNI) : The first hundred days of incumbent US President Donald Trump has been "catastrophic" to racial and gender justice, global health, as also for climate action and multilateralism, Amnesty International warned in its annual report launched on Tuesday.

The report highlighted the rise in authoritarian practices and suppression of dissent around the world. "The Trump effect has compounded the damage done by other world leaders throughout 2024, eating away at decades of painstaking work to build up and advance universal human rights for all and accelerating humanity's plunge into a brutal new era characterized by intermingling authoritarian practices and corporate

greed," the human rights watchdog said in its analysis of the situation in 150 countries.

Agnes Callamard, Amnesty International's Secretary General, expressed concern over disregard of multilateral institutions and international law.

She also highlighted the need for government and civil society to work together with urgency to "lead humanity back to safer ground.""One hundred days into his second term, President Trump has shown only utter contempt for universal human rights. His government has swiftly and deliberately targeted vital US and international institutions and initiatives that were designed to make ours a safer and fairer world," she added.

Death toll from Sunday's overnight U.S. airstrikes on Yemen's capital rises to 12

Sanaa, April 29 (UNI) : The death toll from Sunday's overnight U.S. airstrikes on three houses in Yemen's capital Sanaa rose to 12, with 4 others injured, Houthi-controlled health authorities said in a statement late Monday night.

The toll included women and children, the statement said.The Houthi-run al-Masirah TV reported 15 airstrikes throughout Monday, targeting several locations across northern Yemeni provinces, including the capital Sanaa.

Meanwhile, casualties from U.S. dawn strikes on a migrant center in the northern province of Saada have risen to 68, all of them undocumented African migrants, according to the Houthi television.The U.S. military was reportedly investigating the incident.The Houthi group has been controlling much of northern Yemen since a civil war in Yemen broke out in late 2014. Tensions between the Houthis and U.S. forces have escalated sharply since March 15, when Washington resumed airstrikes on Houthi targets in Yemen, a campaign criticised by many regional governments as a threat to wider stability.

Pro-Khalistani Jagmeet Singh and his NDP suffer humiliating defeat in Canadian elections

Toronto, April 29 (UNI) : Pro-Khalistani leader Jagmeet Singh, leader of Canada's New Democratic Party (NDP), was defeated in the just-concluded Canadian federal elections and has resigned.

The elections saw Prime Minister Mark Carney's Liberal Party emerging victorious.

Jagmeet Singh was defeated from the Burnaby Central seat in British Columbia, and his party could get only seven seats in the 343-member new parliament, thus losing its national political party status.

The NDP could get only two percent of the votes.

The New Democratic Party had 24 seats in the previous parliament.

After the results, Jagmeet Singh said, "I am disappointed that we could not win more seats, but I am not disappointed in our movement. I am hopeful for our party."

the fire, adding that the injured have been shifted to nearby hospitals.

According to hospital sources, at least 16 people are in critical condition, with some suffering 70 to 80 percent burns. The severely injured people are being shifted to the provincial capital city of Quetta for better treatment.

The fire was so intense

it engulfed the fire brigade vehicle present at the scene and critically injured fire brigade personnel, Spokesperson for Balochistan Shahid Rind told local media.

"A state of emergency has been declared in all the hospitals in the district ... the incident is unfortunate and investigations are being conducted," Rind added.

proteins caused by gene variants and assess how these changes affect protein stability. This combined method reduces uncertainty around TP53 variants, crucial for high-risk families where the chance of developing cancer by age 60 can be as high as 95 percent, said the research team led by QIMR Berghofer Prof Amanda Spurdle.

Using protein structure predictions enhances the ability to interpret the growing number of unclassified variants, ultimately improving care and informing global clinical guidelines, Spurdle said.

management, such as early screening and preventative treatment, said the study published in the American Journal of Human Genetics.

"Li-Fraumeni Syndrome is rare, but for the people affected it's extremely important to give them certainty," said lead author Nitsan Rotenberg from QIMR Berghofer.Accurately identifying harmful variants allows individuals to receive intensive monitoring and early interventions, Rotenberg said.Their approach includes using tools that predict structural changes in

QIMR Berghofer (formerly the Queensland Institute of Medical Research) on Monday.The study by researchers at QIMR Berghofer, collaborating with Spain's Hospital Clinico San Carlos and US--based Ambray Genetics, shows how integrating new computer-based predictions with existing genetic models enhances the classification of genetic variants, helping distinguish between harmless mutations and those likely to cause cancer.These improved methods can guide more accurate diagnoses and enable targeted clinical

Sydney, April 29 (UNI) : Medical researchers have developed advanced computational tools that significantly improve the accuracy of genetic testing for inherited cancer risk, an Australian government research institute has revealed.

The accuracy of genetic testing has been significantly improved particularly in people with Li-Fraumeni Syndrome, a rare, inherited cancer predisposition syndrome caused by faults in the TP53 gene, which significantly increases the risk of developing multiple types of cancer, according to a news release of the

Irrigation Minister holds BRS govt responsible for Kaleshwaram project collapse

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, April 29 : After the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) in its report confirmed the structural collapse of all three barrages of Kaleshwaram project, Telangana Irrigation & Civil Supplies Minister Capt N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday squarely blamed the previous BRS government for the collapse of the said project, calling it the biggest man-made disaster since independence and the most expensive engineering failure caused by any state government in the country. Releasing the final report of the NDSA at Dr B R Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat here, Uttam said the findings confirmed the structural collapse of all three barrages— Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla— and exposed the inefficiency, negligence, and deliberate mismanagement of the previous regime under former chief minister K Chandrashekhar Rao (KCR). Uttam said the Kaleshwaram project was not based on scientific principles but on a campaign of lies,



propaganda and false publicity. The NDSA report also confirmed that safety protocols were ignored, borehole investigations were inadequate and maintenance records were absent, in violation of legal mandates. The NDSA report recommended urgent stabilisation, repair and rehabilitation of the damaged structures, and the Minister stressed the need for expert-driven technical intervention. He assured that the Congress government would take necessary steps. “All decisions will be

taken after Cabinet discussion. Action will follow as per law. Those who gave the orders that led to this disaster will be held accountable,” he said. “Technical institutions like WALAMTARI, which once trained irrigation engineers, must be urgently strengthened. We are working on a scientific plan, with expert inputs and no political interference,” he said. “This is not politics. This is a rare and gross failure of public infrastructure. A judicial commission has already been constituted and will take note of these facts,” he said. Uttam said Telangana

is currently paying Rs 16,000 crore annually towards interest and installments on high-cost loans borrowed during the BRS regime for this faulty project, placing an enormous burden on the State’s finances and its farmers. He reminded the public that the original plan was the Dr B R Ambedkar Pranahita-Chevella Project at Tummadihatti, for which even the then TRS government had sought national project status. However, KCR abandoned it and instead reengineered and redesigned everything to launch Kaleshwaram, falsely promising that both

projects would be completed, he said. Instead of sustainable planning, the previous regime opted for hurried execution funded by high-interest loans, resulting in massive financial losses he alleged. “All three barrages have structurally collapsed, he said that the barrages were originally designed to regulate just 2 TMC of river water. However, over 10 TMC was stored in each, driven purely by a publicity agenda, causing foundational damage and eventual collapse. “Signs of seepage and damage were noticed as early as 2019, but the BRS

government ignored them. This criminal negligence caused financial losses of thousands of crores to Telangana,” he pointed out. Uttam said “The Kaleshwaram collapse is not a natural tragedy. It is a direct result of the BRS government’s irresponsible decisions. It has dealt a serious blow to Telangana’s finances and to the lives of farmers. Adviser Adityanath Das is currently reviewing the feasibility of reviving the original Tummadihatti-based Pranahita-Chevella project. The Minister said this was a moment of reckoning for Telangana, and the Congress government would ensure that no such betrayal happens again. “This is not politics. This is a rare and gross failure of public infrastructure. A judicial commission has already been constituted and will take note of these facts,” he added. Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Jupally Krishna Rao, Adviser to Telangana Government Mohammed Ali Shabbir, TPCC Working President Jagga Reddy, Lok Sabha MP Balram Naik, and senior officials were also present.

Need to integrate all technologies in food chain: Vemuri

Hyderabad, April 29 (UNI) : Leading agri-scientist Vemuri Chowdary on Tuesday said that under Agriculture 4.0 there is a need to integrate all technologies in the food chain. Chowdary, Group Director – Agri Sciences & Applications, National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, while addressing the inaugural session of Agri Vision 2025, said precision agriculture is predominantly for high-value commercial crops, and it would help in reducing the cost and increasing the yields. The third edition of the conference with the theme “Digital Agriculture for Enhancing Productivity and Sustainability” was organised by CII Telangana here. Chowdary said climate change is impacting agriculture in a big way, and instead of focusing on a policy level approach, the country needs to adopt a farmer focused approach. Monitoring through satellites will help in

understanding the harvest progress and estimate the yield outputs which will reach the markets, he added. In his address, Amit Vastyayan, Parter & Leader- Social & Skills Sector, EY, said technologies should be accessible to marginal farmers and women farmers. In India, productivity is a big challenge as the country was nowhere close to global yields, he said, adding that many startups are working to provide solutions for the problems faced by the farming community. He also said that 4 C’s could play a major role in driving the future of agriculture -- cost, collaborations, competitiveness, and commercially viable products. Agri Vision brought together key stakeholders – industry leaders, policymakers, agri-tech innovators, financial institutions, and progressive farmers – and explored strategies for making agriculture more sustainable, technology-driven, and globally competitive.

ACB caught Shamirpet SI for accepting Rs 22,000 bribe

Hyderabad, April 29 (UNI) : Anti-Corruption Bureau officials caught M.Parushuram, Sub-Inspector (SI) attached to Shamirpet Police station under Cyberabad Commissionerate when he demanded and accepted a bribe of Rs 22,000 from the complainant. The SI demanded the bribe from the complainant for showing official favour – “to exclude the complainant and his worker, from the cheating case registered by the shamirpet police station and to return the complainant’s cell phone”. The accused officer had already accepted Rs 2 lakh as bribe from the complainant, ACB said in a release here on Tuesday. The SI was arrested and produced before the Principal Special Judge for SPE and ACB cases court at Nampally here. The case is under investigation.

GITAM student bags Rs 1.4 crore package from Amazon

Hyderabad, April 29 (UNI) : Karumuru Priyanka Reddy, a Computer Science and Engineering student from GITAM School of Technology, Hyderabad, has secured a prestigious placement at Amazon with an impressive annual package of Rs 1.4 crore during the campus recruitment drive. Reflecting on her journey, Priyanka shared, “I am especially grateful to my faculty members and my capstone project guide, whose guidance was instrumental in my career growth.”

GITAM celebrates achievers’ Day 2025 with grand festivities

Hyderabad, April 29 (UNI) : GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, celebrated Achievers’ Day here on Tuesday with great enthusiasm, acknowledging the remarkable accomplishments of its students in placements and higher education. Organised by the Career Guidance Center (CGC), the event showcased the university’s dedication to academic excellence, career readiness, and holistic student development. This year, GITAM attracted participation from 270+ companies during its recruitment season, and 40+ companies will be visiting GITAM in another two months. Students from a wide range of disciplines secured prestigious job

offers across leading firms, while many others gained admissions to renowned universities in India and abroad. Notably, several students also converted internships at top-tier companies into full-time positions with attractive salary packages. In a significant milestone, PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) selected three students from GITAM for the first time as Fixed Term Engineers (E-II Grade). The majority of eligible students from programmes including B.Tech, M.Tech, BBA, B.Com, MBA, B.Pharmacy, B.Sc., M.Sc., and B.A. have been successfully placed in diverse sectors such as IT services, product development, core engineering, pharmaceuticals, and more.

Placement highlights include- Highest package (Technology): Rs1.4 Crore PA, Management: Rs10 LPA, Science: Rs16.42 LPA, Humanities: Rs 8.5 LPA, Pharmacy: Rs 6 LPA . Average CTC: Rs 6.00 LPA (GITAM School of Technology), Rs 7.5 LPA (School of Business). Top recruiters offering lucrative salary packages included- Amazon – Rs1.4 Crore PA, Atlassian – Rs 60 LPA, Microsoft – Rs 51 LPA, Virtusa International – Rs 47.9 LPA, Silicon Labs – Rs 30.6 LPA, Federal Bank – Rs 16.42 LPA, Thoughtworks, Oracle, Deloitte, HSBC, Deliveroo, among others. Major recruiters in terms of numbers- Accenture – 91 offers, Tech Mahindra – 87, Rinex Technologies – 70, Ernst & Young GDS – 54, TCS – 34, Cognizant - 27 each.

Two nursing students killed as car runs amok in Telangana

Hyderabad, April 29 (IANS) : A car ran amok in Telangana’s Gadwal town on Tuesday, killing two nursing students and injuring some others. The incident occurred on Tuesday evening when students of a nursing college were waiting for a bus at a bus stop to go to their hostel. According to police, the SUV rammed into the students waiting at the Housing Board Turning Bus Stop in the Gadwal district headquarters. Two female students died on the spot, while three others were critically injured. They were shifted to the government hospital, where the condition of two of them is stated to be critical. Two children, who were also waiting at the bus

stop, sustained grievous injuries and were also admitted to a hospital. The deceased have been identified as Maheshwari, a resident of Makthal, and Manisha, who hailed from Wanaparthy. After the accident, the SUV driver escaped from the spot, leaving behind the vehicle. Locals said the driver lost control of the vehicle as he was drunk. Police officials rushed to the spot and shifted the injured to the hospital. The bodies of the two deceased students were also shifted to the mortuary at the government hospital for autopsy. Police registered a case and took up an investigation. A police officer said they were trying

to apprehend the person who was driving the vehicle. The incident sent shock waves among parents of the students of the nursing college. Gadwal MLA Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy, district Collector B. M. Santosh and Superintendent of Police T. Srinivasa Rao visited the government hospital. Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha has expressed shock over the accident. He condoled the death of two nursing students. He spoke to the Gadwal MLA over the phone. The Minister directed officials to ensure the best possible treatment to the injured. He also asked them to provide assistance to the families of the deceased students.

Guinness world records holder unveils Origami masterpiece of Lord Venkateswara Swamy

Hyderabad, April 29 (UNI) : Guinness World Records holder Ravi Kumar Toleti unveiled a breathtaking masterpiece of Lord Venkateswara Swamy, at Kendriya Vidyalaya , Tirumalagiri, here on Tuesday. Measuring 7.5 ft by 12 ft, it is crafted entirely from intricate origami folds. The artwork stands as a testament to Ravi Kumar’s unparalleled craftsmanship and perseverance and has been created using more than 40,500 individual origami folds over four years. Origami, the art of paper folding, has evolved far beyond its traditional roots. This artwork of Lord Sri Venkateswara Swamy is crafted entirely through the intricate technique of origami folding. Each unit, composed of 15 precise folds, is interlocked to bring the divine form to life. These folded units are meticulously mounted onto a paper card, and the entire piece is proposed to be framed elegantly with teak wood and glass. The grand image is divided into nearly 40 sections, with each segment, ranging from 2’ x 2’ to 4’ x 2’, designed separately on grid paper. Every part is vividly coloured using sketch pens to perfectly capture the details of that portion. Speaking on the occasion, Ravi Kumar said “My ultimate dream is to see this artwork adorning the sacred walls of Lord Venkateswara’s holy abode at Tirumala.” Vidyalays Incharge Principal K Lalithkala Saseendran, felicitated Ravi Kumar who is a teacher at Kendriya Vidyalaya.

Police bust inter-state drug peddling racket, arrest 4

Hyderabad, April 29 (UNI) : The city police have busted an inter-state drug raked by arresting four people, including two city-based peddlers, police said here on Tuesday. On credible information, the city police jointly with the HNEW (Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing) team and the Nallakunta police on Monday conducted joint operation and nabbed – inter-state drug supplier Harshvardhan Shrivastava alias Harsh (30) from Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) and inter-state drug peddler Srinivasa Rahul (30) alias Rahul, resident of Chennai, and

local peddler Abhishek (26), a software employee, and sub-peddler Dhawal, an architect (both from Secunderabad). Seized 1,380 grams of hydroponic marijuana, LSD blots (44), six mobile phones, two motorbikes and other material, worth Rs 1.4 crore from their possession, said P Vishwaprasad, Additional Commissioner of Police (Crimes and SIT), Hyderabad City, in a release here. Harshvardan Shrivastava sourced high-quality cannabis from the darknet marketplace “Dread Market” using encrypted platforms like Signal App. He acted as a middleman, buying the drug at Rs

15,000 per ounce and selling it for Rs 25,000 through courier services. Payments were made via cryptocurrency and hawala, funding his lavish lifestyle. Srinivasa Rahul, initially consumed marijuana, but later became a transporter, sourcing it through Snapchat and supplying it to peddlers in Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad. Abhishek, an IIIT-Raipur graduate, procured the drug from Harshavardan via Signal App and sent money through hawala. He supplied drugs to Dawal in Secunderabad and other customers by hand at higher prices to earn easy money.

MP Shiksha Parishad, cornerstone of Gorakhpur University

Gorakhpur, April 29 (UNI) : Deen Dayal Upadhyay University, the first state university of Uttar Pradesh post-independence formerly known as Gorakhpur University, is set to celebrate its 75th anniversary on Wednesday. Established on May 1, 1950, with the foundation stone laid by then-CM Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, the university will mark its platinum jubilee with a grand celebration, attended by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath as the chief guest. The CM’s presence at the event carries both official and personal significance. As the current Mahant of Gorakshpeeth, which played a key role in the university’s founding through the Maharana Pratap Shiksha Parishad, his involvement underscores the deep historical connection between the institution and the Peeth. The Maharana Pratap Shiksha Parishad was founded in 1932 by the then Mahant of

Gorakshpeeth, Mahant Digvijaynath. At a time when the idea of setting up a university in Gorakhpur was still in its infancy, Mahant Digvijaynath had already opened two degree colleges under the banner of the Parishad, one for men and another for women, both named after Maharana Pratap. Principal of Maharana Pratap Degree College Dr Pradeep Kumar Rao said that after India gained independence in 1947, the government began considering establishing a university in UP, with western UP being the initial preference. At this critical moment, Mahant Digvijaynath, along with Bhai Ji Hanuman Prasad Poddar and Sardar Majithia, appealed to the then CM to set up the first state university of independent India in Gorakhpur. One of the major hurdles in setting up the university was the requirement of assets or

funds worth Rs 50 lakh. Mahant Digvijaynath addressed this issue by donating the Maharana Pratap Degree College and the Maharana Pratap Women’s Degree College, both run under the MP Shiksha Parishad, for the university’s foundation. These two colleges were valued at Rs 42 lakh. The remaining Rs 8 lakh was arranged through donations from royal families of the nearby princely states. Pandit Surti Narayan Mani Tripathi, the then District Collector and ex-officio chairman of the university’s establishment committee, played a crucial role in acquiring land for the university. Dr Rao said that the role of MP Shiksha Parishad in the founding of Gorakhpur University is also evident in the composition of the university’s establishment committee. Out of the 18 members of the committee, 11 were from the Maharana Pratap Shiksha Parishad.

Japan triumph in EAP Qualifier to book U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2026 ticket



Sano, April 29 (UNI) : Japan became the 14th nation to seal their place at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2026, with a dominant 115-run victory over Fiji, capping a scintillating, unbeaten week at the East Asia-Pacific Qualifier here.

The home side began the week with impressive wins over PNG (by 106 runs and by 71 runs) and Fiji (6 wickets) and arrived at Monday's fixture knowing a second victory over the latter would see them advance to their second U19 Men's CWC.

Winning the toss and electing to bat first without their usual captain Nikhil Pol, the opening pair of Hugo Tani-Kelly (38 runs) and Nihar Parmar (36) made a solid start, putting on 78 runs before

Parmar fell, bowled by

Liga Manara. The dismissal of Tani-Kelly with the scores at 91 for two prompted a mini-collapse for Japan but critical contributions from Charlie Hara-Hinze (21) and Kazuma Kato-Stafford (25) helped steer them to a competitive 167 all out in 43 overs. Joeli Moala and Manara were the pick of the bowlers for Fiji, recording three for 33 and two for 29 respectively.

With the biggest chase of the competition on the cards, Fiji began with Maika Kamikamica and Peni Mawa aiming to see off the opening bowlers, but it only took until the end of the sixth over for their resistance to be broken, with both openers losing their wickets in successive balls to Kato-Stafford and Tani-Kelly. The wicket of Vakatawa Jone brought

Manav Narayan to the crease, and despite a rearguard innings of 20 from 35 balls, Fiji were undone by the talented Japanese bowling lineup, losing wickets at regular intervals with Hara-Hinze (four for 13) and Parmar (three for no runs and a run out) tearing through their middle and lower order.

Parmar picked up the final wicket with Fiji well short on the scorecards for Japan to seal a 115-run win and a World Cup place in front of jubilant home support, an ICC media release said.

Reacting to their qualification, Japan captain Pol, said: "We are so excited about qualifying for the World Cup. It's the biggest event on the U19 calendar and to follow in the footsteps of the team in 2020 makes us extremely

proud. "I can't wait to represent our country in Africa next year."

The final day of the event on Tuesday saw PNG get their first win, beating Fiji by seven wickets in a rain-affected match, and following the conclusion of the action, the Japanese duo of Hara-Hinze and Parmar were recognised as the standout performers across the week – Parmar taking home the Batter and Bowler of the Tournament awards (121 runs and 13 wickets from his four matches), while Hara-Hinze picked up the Player of the Tournament prize (92 runs and 12 wickets).

Japan had more reason to celebrate soon after, with no fewer than five players included in the Team of the Tournament. Captain Pol was named alongside Parmar, Hara-Hinze, Tani-

Kelly and Skyler Nakayama-Cook, with the remaining spots filled by Narayan, Moala and Manara of Fiji, plus Gaba Frank, Vagi Vani and Anthony David of PNG.

Sixteen teams will be competing at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2026 in Zimbabwe and Namibia. Ten teams automatically qualified for the event as the best-placed Full Member nations from the 2024 edition: Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and West Indies. Full Member hosts of the World Cup in 2026, Zimbabwe have also secured automatic qualification.

The remaining five spots are determined through regional qualification pathways, with only the winning team from each regional Qualifier advancing to the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2026. Tanzania became the first team to qualify through this route last month with victory at the Africa Qualifier, while Afghanistan also booked their World Cup ticket after clinching the recent Asia Qualifier in Nepal. Victory in Sano means Japan are the 14th team to qualify, with Qualifiers in Europe and Americas still to follow in July and August where the final teams will be confirmed.

Rising star of India Pratika Rawal breaks longstanding batting record

Colombo, April 29 (UNI) : India top-order batter Pratika Rawal added another accolade to her growing list of achievements, when she became the fastest player to reach 500 runs in Women's One Day Internationals.

In doing so, she has broken the record set by England legend Charlotte Edwards almost three decades back in 1997.

Rawal achieved the feat in just eight innings, and achieved the feat during her brilliant knock of 78 against South Africa in the ongoing tri-series in Sri Lanka. She overtook Charlotte's record by a single innings.

India posted 276/6

following a strong batting display in the first innings

This also makes Rawal the second-fastest player, across men's and women's cricket, to achieve the 500-run mark in ODI cricket.

South Africa's Janneman Malan has achieved this feat in seven innings in Men's cricket, an ICC report said.

In her nascent ODI career, Pratika Rawal has amassed five half-centuries and a century, taking her total to an impressive 572 runs. She has achieved this at a blistering strike rate of 92.71 and an outstanding average of 81.71.

Rawal has three Player of the Match awards and a

Player of the Series award to her name, not including the ongoing contest against South Africa, and looks well in contention to break the record for fastest to 1000 runs in Women's ODIs.

The current record is held by Australia's Lindsay Reeler, who achieved the feat in 23 innings. Reeler is followed by compatriots Meg Lanning and Nicole Bolton, who are jointly placed at the second place and achieved the landmark in 25 innings. Another Australia legend, Belinda Clark is tied with South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt in fourth place, having reached 1000 ODI runs in 27 innings.

Kalinga Super Cup semi-finals : Last four begin summit climb

Bhubaneswar, April 29 (UNI) : After more than a week of gruelling action, the Kalinga Super Cup 2025 has only four remaining contenders.

The semi-finals will take place on Wednesday, with Mohun Bagan SG taking on FC Goa (16:30) and Mumbai City FC locking horns with Jamshedpur FC (20:00) at the Kalinga Stadium.

After a record-breaking league campaign, winning the ISL Shield and Cup, and already booking a place in next season's AFC Champions League Two, Mohun Bagan SG travelled to Bhubaneswar with a young squad for what coach Bastab Roy labelled as an "exposure trip".

The Mariners left Kerala Blasters FC stunned, beating them 2-1 in the quarter-finals, and are just two wins away from a domestic treble.

FC Goa, who finished second in the ISL, however, will be a tougher ask than the Blasters, according to Roy. The Gaurs were one of the only two sides to beat them during the regular season.

"FC Goa are, without a doubt, a better and a stronger team than Kerala Blasters. So my job is not easy. But my players are focussed and ready.

"It's an exposure trip for the young boys and some seniors as well. It's a semi-final and I've told my boys to enjoy the game," said Roy in the pre-match press conference. Mohun Bagan certainly did enjoy their outing against the Blasters on Saturday, with Salahudheen Adnan K, being the highlight performer. The 21-year-old bagged an assist and picked up the

Kalinga Player of the Match award. But Roy tried to tone down the buzz, stressing that it's important for the youngsters to keep their

focus on the next game and put on consistent performances.

He also stated that game-by-game is the way to go in knockout tournaments.

"We can't judge players with one match. Let's not hype the boys too much because they are very young. Let them play.

"We're not thinking about being champions right now. Winning the first match was good for us because we now get one more chance. Obviously, it's a semi-final and if we win, we will get a chance to play the final, and then we'll think of being the champions," Roy added.

FC Goa head coach Manolo Márquez spoke on similar lines. The Gaurs have reached the semi-finals after two victories, a breezy 3-0 defeat of Gokulam Kerala FC, followed by a nerve-racking 2-1 comeback win over Punjab FC on Saturday. Márquez now stands two wins away from his first silverware with FC Goa. "Everyone knows that you have to win four games to be the champion. Every game is very difficult. Winning a trophy is very important," the Spaniard said. FC Goa are billed as favourites for this clash, owing to their full strength, but Márquez emphasised that the number of foreign players is not an indication of a team's strength, citing examples from the Kalinga Super Cup so far.

"Mohun Bagan are here with half the squad of the main team, and the other half were champions of the Reliance Foundation Development League two weeks ago. I think that the game will be very difficult because they have nothing to lose. This is the reality. They have already won two trophies. They already have the slot for the Asian competition.

Sciver-Brunt replaces Knight as England captain

London, April 29 (UNI) : England have appointed all-rounder Nat Sciver-Brunt as their new captain.

Sciver-Brunt, 32, replaces Heather Knight after nine years in the role and is just the fourth permanent women's captain since 2000.

Knight was sacked in March as a result of a review into the humiliating 16-0 Ashes defeat earlier in the year.

Head coach Jon Lewis was also removed from his position and has been replaced by legendary former captain Charlotte Edwards.

"I'm really proud to take on the role of captain and it's an honour to have been asked by Charlotte, someone I've always looked up to," said Sciver-Brunt. "Ever since I made my England debut back in 2013, all I have wanted to do is help the team in every way that I can. I will try my best to lead this team to success, while empowering them to be the best version of themselves.

"We have a really talented group, and we have a group that's united. It's a team I believe in and a team that can have a lot of success together."

Sciver-Brunt was the most likely candidate to take over, having been Knight's vice-captain, and is one of England's most experienced all-format cricketers, the BBC reported.

During the Ashes, she had stated her desire to fulfil the role when Knight's future remained uncertain,

and has previously led England in 11 T20s and once in one-day internationals, with nine of those being wins.

But Sciver-Brunt's appointment also felt inevitable considering England's lack of other leadership options, having failed to implement a proper succession plan despite the considerable length of Knight's tenure.

Spinners Charlie Dean, 24, and Sophie Ecclestone, 25, were other potential candidates but are lacking in captaincy experience.

England's home summer consists of white-ball series against West Indies and India, starting in May, while Sciver-Brunt's first major assignment will be the 50-over World Cup, which takes place in India in September. While Sciver-Brunt's record when stepping in as captain is positive, two of the three defeats have come in highly pressurised situations, again highlighting England's lack of structure without Knight. England failed to win a medal at the Commonwealth Games in 2022 when Knight missed the tournament with a hip injury, and the team's fielding imploded against West Indies during the T20 World Cup in 2024, where they went out at the group stage. But Sciver-Brunt could benefit from the opportunity to lead in her own style rather than simply stepping into Knight's shoes for a brief time, while the partnership with Edwards is likely to be a significant boost.

Barcelona, Inter to fight through fatigue in Champions League semifinal

Madrid, April 29 (UNI) : FC Barcelona plays Inter Milan on Wednesday night in a Champions League semifinal first leg tie that promises to be a duel between two tired sides.

Barca goes into the game after a dramatic 3-2 win over bitter rival Real Madrid in Saturday's Copa del Rey final, with Jules Kounde scoring an extra-time winner.

The title, and how it was won, will be a huge boost to Barca's morale, but the fact that the players had to endure extra time in a match that didn't finish until 1 a.m. also presents challenges to coach Hansi Flick.

Key players such as Kounde, Lamine Yamal,

Raphinha, Frenkie de Jong and Inigo Martinez all played over 100 minutes on Saturday, with most playing all 120 minutes.

Meanwhile, injuries to Alejandro Balde and Robert Lewandowski rob Barca of two key players and the ability to rotate its starting 11.

Balde should be available for the return leg, but Lewandowski's hamstring injury is likely to keep the top scorer out of both matches.

That means Flick may have to continue with Ferran Torres in attack, or he could consider playing either Gavi or Ferran Lopez as a false nine alongside Raphinha and Yamal.

Gerard Martin will

continue at left-back, although Martinez could move across if Flick wants to freshen up his defense with Ronald Araujo alongside Pau Cubarsi in the back four.

De Jong and Pedri will start in midfield despite Saturday's exertions, with Eric Garcia available to provide cover when tiredness sets in.

Inter's players are also looking tired as they travel to Montjuic, as a late-season drop in form threatens to derail the Nerazzurri's campaign.

Since reaching the Champions League semis in Europe, Simone Inzaghi's side has lost three consecutive games and failed to score a goal.

Food by candlelight and no showers at Madrid Open

Madrid, April 29 (UNI) : Mirra Andreeva had just stepped up to the baseline to serve for a place in the Madrid Open quarter-finals when the power went out.

A sweeping outage left millions in Spain, Portugal and parts of France without power, causing chaos across many regions on Monday. At the Spanish tennis tournament, the electronic line-calling system went down, with players and the chair umpire left to call the lines, while the scoreboards also went dark. On the main court, where Britain's Jacob Fearnley was about to serve to stay in the match against Bulgarian Grigor

Dimitrov, the 'spider cam' that hovers above court stopped right in the players' eyeline, preventing them from serving, the BBC reported. Russia's Andreeva served out victory but admitted afterwards it wasn't easy, saying: "It was 15-40 on my serve and I was like, Oh, Mirra, just please, please do everything in your power to just take this game and finish this match." Across Spain, traffic lights went out and trains stopped running, with Brazilian doubles player Fernando Romboli posting on Instagram that he was stuck in a lift, external at the tournament for 30 minutes. Fearnley

and Dimitrov had to leave court with the match poised at 6-4 5-4 in Dimitrov's favour, while Andreeva, Coco Gauff and Italian Matteo Arnaldi managed to complete their respective victories. "So far, the toughest thing has been not been able to shower after my match," American Gauff said on Monday.

"There's no running water so I just had to take baby wipes and wipe myself, spray some perfume and call it a day." It's just crazy how much we depend on electricity. It's really insane." Photographs on social media showed the players' restaurant lit by candles, with some heading

out to practice before the lack of natural light made it impossible to continue.

"Everyone is using the phones with flashlights," Andreeva said, "but it's also kind of fun because everyone is talking together." The atmosphere is a little bit more friendly."

Gauff agreed, saying: "Most of the time we're trying to prepare for our matches, everyone's zoned in and we all understand that." I was talking to Frances [Tiafoe], talking to Mirra, too, Diana [Shnaider], Maddy [Keys].

"This is the type of situation, it's light-hearted, nobody knows when they're going to go on."

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RNI No.: PONENG/2017/77178

Cell : 9849881368

Email : standardpostpuducherry@gmail.com

CR to extend periodicity of Special trains

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, April 29 : Central Railway will extend the run of special trains to clear the extra rush of the passengers as per details given below:
1. Train No. 01435 from Solapur to Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Weekly Special, earlier notified up to April 29, 2025, and has been extended from 06.05.2025 to 24.06.2025. (8 Trips)
Train no 01436 Lokmanya Tilak Terminus to Solapur Weekly Special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 07.05.2025 to 25.06.2025. (8 Trips)
2. Train no 01461 Solapur to Daund Junction Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025

to 30.06.2025. (61Trips)
Train no 01462 Daund Junction to Solapur Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61 Trips).
3. Train no 01465 Solapur to Kalaburagi Junction Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61 Trips).
Train no 01466 Kalaburagi Junction to Solapur Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61 Trips).
4. Train no 01024 Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur) to Pune, earlier notified to run upto April

30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61 Trips).
Train no 01023 Pune to Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur), earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61 Trips).
5. Train no 01211 Badnera Jn to Nashik Road Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61Trips).
Train no 01212 Nashik Road to Badnera Jn Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61Trips).
6. Train no 01487 Pune to Harangul, earlier notified to run upto April

30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61 Trips).
Train no 01488 Harangul to Pune, earlier notified to run upto April 30, 2025 and has been extended from 01.05.2025 to 30.06.2025. (61Trips).
7. Train no 01091 Khandwa Junction to Sanawad Unreserved special, earlier notified to run upto April 29, 2025 and has been extended from 02.05.2025 to 30.06.2025 (Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday). (44 Trips).
Train no 01092 Sanawad to Khandwa Junction Unreserved special, earlier notified to run upto April 29, 2025 and has been extended from 02.05.2025 to 24.06.2025 (Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday). (44 Trips).
Revised Composition

for Train no. 01023 (Kolhapur – PUNE)w.e.f. 04.06.2025 and 01024 (Pune – Kolhapur) w.e.f.05.06.2025
One AC-3Tier, 07 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class, 1 General Second Class cum Guard’s Brake Van and 1 Generator Van.
There will be no change in timings and halts for above mentioned trains.
Reservation: Bookings for extended trips of Special Trains no 01435, 01436, 01024, 01023, 01487 and 01488 on special charges is open on 30th April 2025 at all computerised reservation centres and on website www.ircfc.co.in
For detailed timings at halts of this special train please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or download NTES App.

Special Traffic and Power Blocks on UP and DN SE line for Removing and Stringing of 3 Phase double Circuit Phase and Earth conductor for 400 KV crossing between Kalyan and Karjat : Central Railway

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, April 29 : Central Railway will operate Special Traffic and Power Blocks on UP and DN SE line for Removing and Stringing of 3 Phase double Circuit Phase and Earth conductor for 400 KV Nagothanae – Padhaga line crossing over UP and DN SE line at KM no 97/8-9 between Bhivpuri Road – Karjat Section between Kalyan Karjat Section.
The blocks are to be operated are under:-
Date of Blocks: - 29/

30.04.2025 (Tuesday – Wednesday Night), 30.04/01.05.2025 (Wednesday- Thrusday Night), 01/02.05.2025 (Thursday-Friday Night),02/03.05.2025 (Friday –Saturday Night) 03/04.05.2025 (Saturday-Sunday Night), 04/05.2025 (Sunday- Monday Night).
Duration of Blocks:- 02:00 hrs to 03:30 hrs (01:30 hrs)
Traffic Block Sections: - UP and DN SE line Bhivpuri Road to Karjat.
Repercussions due to

the Block:
Diversion of Mail/ Express trains:-
The Following trains will divert via Karjat- Panvel-Diva and will arrive destination 20-30” min late.
1) 1 1 0 2 0 (Bhubaneswar – CSMT Express)
2) 1 8 5 1 9 (Visakhapatnam– LTT Express)
3) 12702 (Hyderabad – CSMT Express)
4) 11140 (Hosapete – CSMT Express)
5) 2 2 7 1 8

(Secunderabad – Rajkot) 6) 1 6 6 1 4 (Coimbatore – Rajkot)
7) 20967 (Secunderabad – Porbander)
8) 12755 (Kakinada Forts – Bhavnagar)
Note :-
• Kalyan halting trains will be given halt at Panvel/ Thane for the benefit of Kalyan boarding and deboarding passengers.
• Apart from above, late running mail / express trains/ Holiday specials if

any also be diverted as per operational requirement.
Working of Suburban train during the block period:-
1. Suburban train leaving CSMT at 00.12 hrs for Karjat will be short terminated at Badlapur and this train will cancelled between Badlapur and karjat.
2. Suburban train leaving Karjat at 2:30 hrs for CSMT will be short originated at Badlapur at 03:03 hrs and this train will cancelled between Karjat and Badlapur.

Mohammad Shamsuddin, Congratulates Justice Shameem Akther on Appointment as THRC Chairperson



(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, April 29 : M o h a m m a d Shamsuddin,Academia Sports Village CEO and Multisports Promoter has extended his heartfelt congratulations to Justice Shameem Akther on his recent appointment as

Chairperson of the Telangana Human Rights Commission (THRC).
Justice Akther, a retired judge of the Telangana High Court, has been appointed to lead the commission for a three-year term. Widely respected for his judicial acumen and

integrity, Justice Akther recently chaired a one-man judicial commission formed by the Telangana government to examine and recommend sub-categorisation among Scheduled Castes. His thorough and impactful report paved the way for

the historic SC Sub-Categorisation Bill, passed by the state government in March 2025. The bill aims to ensure a fairer distribution of reservations among SC sub-castes in sectors such as education and public employment.
Mr. Shamsuddin lauded Justice Akther’s lifelong commitment to justice, equality, and human rights, stating, “Justice Shameem Akther’s appointment is a step in the right direction for Telangana. His principled approach and in-depth understanding of social justice will undoubtedly strengthen the THRC’s efforts in protecting the rights of the vulnerable and marginalised.”
Justice Akther’s leadership is expected to bring renewed vigor to the THRC, particularly in addressing pressing human rights issues across the state.

Uttarakhand CM meets Union Civil Aviation Minister to enhance air connectivity

New Delhi, April 29 (UNI) : Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami met Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu here on Tuesday and discussed ways to develop the aviation sector in the state.
Dhami informed the Union Minister that a total

of 524.78 acres of land has been transferred by the Uttarakhand Government to the Airports Authority of India for increasing the runway length of Pantnagar Airport from 1,372 meters to 3,000 meters.
The Master Plan of Pantnagar Airport has been prepared by Airports

Authority of India (AAI). He requested the Union Minister to expedite the work of AAI.
Dhami also urged Naidu to expand the Jolly Grant Airport and extend its operations till midnight. He said the move would enable more passengers to avail of the air services.
Dhami requested Naidu

to start regular air services from Naini Saini Airport (Pithoragarh) to Indira Gandhi International Airport (New Delhi) (RCS UDAN) under the Regional Connectivity Scheme to benefit the local people.
Dhami said Pithoragarh being a remote district, air connectivity will be very useful for the movement of

the locals. Pithoragarh district is also very sensitive from the security point of view due to its border with Tibet (China) and Nepal.He requested the aviation minister to open 'House of Himalayas' stalls at Dehradun, Pithoragarh and Pantnagar airports so that local products can be promoted.

MANUU fraternity condemns Pahalgam terror attack, pays homage to the victims



(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, April 29 : Staff Associations of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) held a candlelight March procession to pay homage to the tourists and locals killed in Pahalgam. The procession observed two minutes silence to pay homage to the victims and conveyed a clear message of solidarity with the victims and their families.
The President MANUU Teachers Association and FEDCUTA V.P, Dr. Shabana Kesar while condemning

the act said that today the whole India stands united against the brutal attack on the innocent tourists in Pahalgam and wants the terrorists to be identified and duly punished.
Secretary MANUU Officers Association Dr. Aslam Parwez vehemently condemned the ruthless act and said that no religion teaches hatred and no terrorist acts can be justified on any ground.
President MANUU Employees Welfare Association Mr. Shaik Naveed, described it as an

attack not only on tourists but on the whole nation and said the government must take all needed steps to stop such attacks in future.
Dr. Jameel Ahamed, Mr. Dharamjeet, Mr.Shanawaz Ali Qureshi and others also addressed the gathering.
The procession started from the Administrative Building and concluded at MANUU main gate.
A large number of faculties, officers, staff members and students participated in the procession.

Special Traffic and Power Blocks for Replacement of exiting steel girder by PSC slab of Bridge no 106/4 between Pen and Kasu : CR

(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, April 29 : Central Railway will operate Special Traffic and Power Blocks for Replacement of exiting steel girder by PSC slab of of bridge no 106/4 at KM 106/8-9 between Pen and Kasu.
The details of blocks to be operated are as under:
Repercussions due to the Block:
Block 1 on 30.04.2025 (Wednesday) from 07:30 hrs to 12:00 hrs (4:30 Hrs)
Block Section :- UP Roha – Pen Line :- Kasu To Pen “ RCF line – Pen to JSWD
Regulation of trains:

50104 Ratnagiri-Diva passenger will be regulated 35 min at Nagothane. “DN trains :- 22119 (CSMT – Madgaon Express), 12618 (Hazrat Nizamuddin – Emakulam), 10105 (Divya – Sawantwadi Road), 10103 (CSMT – Madgaon Express), 10115 (Bandra Terminus – Madgaon express) during the block period will pass with caution order of 20 kmph with stop dead and proceed.
Block 2 on 01.05.2025 (Thrusday) from 06:30 hrs to 11:30 hrs (5:00 Hrs)
Block Section :- RCF line – Pen to JSWD

Repercussions due to the Block:
1 2 4 8 3 (Thiruvananthapuram North – Amritsar Jn), 61016 (Roha Diva Memu) during the block period will pass with caution order of 20 kmph with stop dead and proceed.
Passengers are requested to plan their travel accordingly and bear with the Railway Administration for the inconvenience caused. These blocks are essential for safe execution of infrastructure work aimed at improving railway operation and safety.

J&K closes 48 tourist destinations following Pahalgam attack

Srinagar, April 29 (UNI) : Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir have shut down 48 resorts and tourist destinations across the Valley amid security concerns, officials said on Tuesday.
The decision comes in the wake of a comprehensive security audit conducted across 87 tourist locations in all districts, following last week’s deadly terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed the lives of 25 tourists and a local resident. The audit was aimed at identifying security vulnerabilities and bolstering safety measures at major tourist destinations.
Among the prominent destinations now off-limits to tourists is Gurez, a valley on the Line of Control (LoC) in

Bandipora district that attracted thousands of tourists over the last decade.
The other top destinations closed include Yousmarg and Doodhpathri in Budgam; Aharbal, Kounsarnag, and Verinag in south Kashmir; Kaman Post on LoC in Baramulla; and the picturesque Bangus Valley in Kupwara.
In Srinagar city, the government has decided not to allow the tourists from visiting Jamia Masjid, the grand mosque located in the old city.
The famous resorts like Pahalgam, Gulmarg and Sonamarg would remain open for tourists.
Authorities emphasized that the

tourist spots which remain open have been provided with enhanced security arrangements to ensure safety of visitors.
The Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department has also closed all its trekking routes for tourists. Over the past four years, both locals and non-local visitors had increasingly flocked to Kashmir’s meadows and alpine trails, especially during the summer trekking season.
While the Valley had witnessed a rise in tourist arrivals in recent years, the Pahalgam attack has dealt a severe blow to the tourism industry. Over the last six days, several tourists have left Kashmir while many others have cancelled their coming travel plans to Kashmir.