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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Senior govt official, toddler among 5 killed in Pakistani shelling across Jammu region

**JAMMU:** Five persons, including a senior Jammu and Kashmir government official and a two-year-old girl, were killed as intense mortar shelling and drone strikes by Pakistan hit Jammu region early Saturday, officials said. Residents of Jammu city and other major towns of the division woke up to air raid sirens and deafening sounds of explosions around 5 am, while the border residents spent a sleepless night in the wake of intense shelling from across the border. According to defence officials, Pakistan's blatant escalation with drone strikes and other munitions continued along the western borders on Saturday. "Pakistan's blatant attempt to violate India's sovereignty and endanger civilians is unacceptable. Indian Army will thwart all enemy designs," they said. Raj Kumar Thapa, Additional District Development Commissioner, Rajouri, and his two staff members were seriously injured when an artillery shell hit his official residence in Rajouri town, the officials said.

### India-Bangladesh border being monitored, no unnatural activity: Assam CM

**GUWAHATI:** The India-Bangladesh border in Assam was being actively monitored, and there has been no unnatural activity in the last 10 days, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Friday. Addressing a press conference, Sarma said patrolling has been intensified along the border. "We have not seen any activity along the border during the last 10 days, though patrolling has been intensified," he said.

### Meghalaya students evacuated from Northern India, says CM

**SHILLONG:** Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma on Saturday said students from the state studying in northern India were evacuated and brought to Delhi amid the military conflict between India and Pakistan. "In view of the prevailing situation between our nation and Pakistan, as of this morning, about 70 students from Meghalaya who are pursuing their studies in Punjab and Haryana have been accommodated in Meghalaya House, Delhi," the chief minister posted on X. He said, "We are expecting some more students who are still on their way."

### Police ban use of firecrackers in Mumbai for a month

**MUMBAI:** The police on Saturday banned the use of firecrackers in Mumbai from May 11 till June 9, an official said. According to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Operations), the preventive order has been issued under the Maharashtra Police Act. No person shall burst any firecrackers, including rockets, within the limits of the metropolis from Sunday till June 11, the official added.

AGENCY  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

India and Pakistan have agreed to a ceasefire ending their four-day-long conflict that threatened to go out of control. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said the ceasefire came into effect at 1700 hours on Saturday.

Misri said Pakistan Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) initiated the call this afternoon at 1535 hours with the Indian DGMO, after which discussions took place and an understanding reached.

The DGMOs would call up again on May 12 and discuss it further, Misri said.

Sources in India said the stoppage of firing and military action between India and Pakistan was worked out directly between the two countries.

Sources in India also contradicted the US Secretary of State Marco Rubio saying "There is no decision to hold talks on any other issue at any other place."

"I am pleased to announce the Governments of India and Pakistan have agreed to an immediate ceasefire and to start talks on a broad set of issues at a neutral site," Rubio posted on X. Earlier, US President Donald Trump posted on X that India and Pakistan have agreed to ceasefire.

Trump said, "After a long night of talks mediated by the United States, I am pleased to announce that India and Pakistan have agreed to a 'full and immediate ceasefire'. "Congratulations to both countries on using common sense and great Intelligence. Thank you for your attention to this matter," said Trump. Giving an overview, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio posted on X, "Over the past 48 hours Vice President JD Vance and I have engaged with senior Indian and Pakistani officials, including Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Shehbaz Sharif, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Pakistan Chief of Army Staff Asim Munir, and National Security Advisors Ajit Doval and Asim Malik, respectively. We commend Prime Ministers Modi and Sharif on their wisdom, prudence."



## 5 top Pakistani terrorists killed in Operation Sindoor: GoI sources

**SRINAGAR:** The first leg of 'Operation Sindoor' eliminated five high-value terrorists, including two brothers-in-law of Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar, top Government of India sources said on Saturday after confirmations.

Among terrorists neutralised in Indian response after the April 22 Pahalgam attack is Mudassar Khadian Khas @ Mudassar @ Abu Jundal, affiliated to the Lashkar-e-Toiba and in-charge of Markaz Taiba, Muridke, which was destroyed in the Indian strikes.

Mumbai terror attack terrorists Ajmal Kasab and mastermind David Headley were trained at Muridke Markaz.

Khas received a guard of honour at his funeral by the Pakistan Army. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Pakistan Army Chief and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz. His funeral prayer was held in a government school, led by JuD's Hafiz Abdul Rauf, a designated global terrorist. A serving Lt General of the Pakistani Army and the IG of Punjab Police attended the prayer ceremony.

The second slain terrorist in the Indian strike is Hafiz Muhammed Jameel, affiliated to the Jaish-e-Mohammed. He is the eldest brother-in-law of Maulana Masood Azhar, JeM chief, one of India's



most-wanted terrorists, and is accused of orchestrating multiple deadly attacks, including the 2019 Pulwama bombing that killed 40 CRPF personnel. Jameel was in-charge of Markaz Subhan Allah, Bahawalpur, which Indian strikes hit. He was actively involved in

radical indoctrination of youth and fundraising for the Jaish-e-Mohammed. Mohammad Yusuf Azhar @ Ustad Ji @ Mohd Salim @ Ghosi Sahab of the JeM, also a brother-in-law of Maulana

Masood Azhar, was the third wanted terrorist killed in Operation Sindoor. He handled weapons training for the JeM. He was involved in multiple terrorist attacks in Jammu & Kashmir and was wanted in the IC-814 hijacking case. The fourth high-value terrorist to be killed is Khalid @ Abu Akasha, affiliated to the Lashkar-e-Toiba and involved in multiple terrorist attacks in Jammu & Kashmir. He was engaged in weapons smuggling from Afghanistan. His funeral was held in Faisalabad, attended by senior Pakistani Army officials and the Deputy Commissioner of Faisalabad. The fifth wanted terrorist to be neutralised was Mohammad Hassan Khan, affiliated to the Jaish-e-Mohammed. He was the son of Mufti Asghar Khan Kashmiri, operational commander of JeM in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

## Several attempts were made by Pakistan to spread misinformation: Indian military



**NEW DELHI :** The Indian military on Saturday said several attempts were made by Pakistan to spread mis-information.

Addressing a press conference here, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh said Pakistan's claims of destroying our S-400 missile base were completely false.

Pakistan's claims of destroying the BrahMos installation were false, she said.

Destruction of airfields in Srinagar, Jammu, Pathankot and Bhuj were false claims by Pakistan, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh said, adding that Pakistan has suffered losses in both land and air.

Commodore Raghu Nair said, "While we will be adhering to the understanding reached today, we remain fully prepared to defend the sovereignty of India."

## Any future terror attack will be treated as an act of war, India warns Pakistan

AGENCY  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

In response to ongoing escalation from Pakistan, India has hardened its stance, declaring that any future terrorist attack on its soil will be treated and responded to as an act of war. This marks a significant shift in India's stance on Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, which Pakistan has long attributed to non-state actors. The decision was made during a high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at 7 Lok Kalyan Marg. Attendees included Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, NSA Ajit Doval, CDS General Anil Chauhan, the armed forces chiefs, and other senior officials.

By declaring terrorism an act of war, India aims to send a strong message to Pakistan and its proxies, which have long pursued a

policy of "bleeding India with a thousand cuts". Since the 1971 war that led to Bangladesh's creation, Pakistan has pursued proxy wars against India, showing no restraint. Neither diplomatic efforts by the UPA government nor military actions following incidents like



the 2016 Uri attack and the 2019 Pulwama attack have deterred Pakistan.

A government source emphasised that the situation will be handled differently going forward, noting that terrorism will be considered a breach of sovereignty and addressed accordingly.

## Punjab first to face fire, last to get relief — CM Mann pushes for tax haven status & central support for Punjab in all Party meet

BUREAU  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 10-

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Saturday vehemently pleaded the case of state for special package and tax haven as it always faced the brunt of war from across the border.

Putting forth his view in the all party meeting called on by Punjab governor Gurbang Singh Kataria, the Chief Minister said that whether it is war or any other exigency Punjab and Punjabis are always on the forefront. He said that Punjab always face the first brunt during every war and escalations adding that state needs special treatment for its enormous contribution. Bhagwant Singh Mann called upon all the parties to make concerted efforts for this noble cause so that Punjab can be a front-runner state in the country adding that state government will raise this issue with GoI.

The Chief Minister said that besides being food bowl of the country, Punjab has always been its sword arm but its contribution has been hitherto ignored. He said that it is the high time when all the political parties should sink their differences and seek special package for the state by rising above the party lines. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that this is imperative to



further give much needed push to the development and prosperity of the state.

The Chief Minister further said that all the political parties should unite for the cause of the state and its people so that interests of Punjab can be safeguarded. Bhagwant Singh Mann welcomed the leaders of the political parties for coming on short notice during this hour of need. He called upon them to show united stand during the hour of crisis for betterment of state and its people.

The Chief Minister said that the package should be given on lines of one given to Jammu-Kashmir and others. He said that the state government will also Raise the demand of Border area allowance for Doctors, Teachers, Anganwadi and other workers posted in Border Districts with the Government of India. Bhagwant Singh

Mann said that it is the need of hour for giving major fillip to development and progress of state.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister announced that starting from Sunday he will be visiting the border areas of the state to assess the ground level situation. He said that Punjab, especially the border regions, has suffered a lot due to the mounting tension between both the countries. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that those brave hearts who had suffered huge losses during the bombardment and others will be duly compensated by the state government. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister said that being a border state Punjab will continue to prepare for meeting any sort of such untoward incidents. He said that the Punjab Police is already acting as second line of defence to safeguard the unity



NEWS BRIEF

Car crashes after coming in front of dogs, passengers narrowly escape



**AVINASH CHAUHAN**  
**AMB:** On Saturday morning, in Amb's Gram Panchayat Poliya Purohit, when two dogs were fighting on the road, a car coming from the front fell into a 30 feet deep ditch while saving the dogs from an accident. As per the information, four people in the car were going from Kangra's Dehra Chanor to Kamakhya Devi Temple Poliya Purohit to pay obeisance. There was a man, two women and a two and half year old child in the car. If there had been a parapet on the side of the road, the car would not have fallen into the ditch. All the passengers are safe. DSP Amb Vasudha Sood said, police has reached the spot and is taking action.

Waterlogging on damaged road in Basanti Colony causes daily hardship for locals



**MAINPAL KASHYAP**  
**INDRI:** Residents of Basanti Colony in Kunjpura have been struggling for years with a severely damaged road and persistent waterlogging due to poor drainage. The road, which connects Kunjpura to Baragaon and houses all key administrative offices of the Kunjpura sub-division, remains in a dilapidated state despite frequent use by officials and villagers alike. Locals including Mohit Parashar, Narendra Kainwal, Mukesh Khokhar, Joginder, Satpal, Joginder Pal, Surender Sharma, Dharm Singh, and Yuditshir Sharma shared that despite repeated complaints to the administration, no concrete action has been taken in the past six to seven years.

DC Ludhiana honored children with special needs who secured first place in state level competitions



**GOGI KMAALPURIYA**  
**RAIKOT:** Every year, the state government organizes various competitions for children with special needs from the center level to the state level, in which children with various disabilities participate enthusiastically. Similarly, in the state level cultural program held in Patiala, Rinku Kumar of Block Mangat-1 from the special needs children of Ludhiana district won the first place in drawing and Santanu Chadha of Block Raikot in slogan, under which today the children were specially honored by giving certificates by the Honorable Deputy Commissioner Himanshu Jain and Honorable Additional Deputy Commissioner General Rohit Kumar. In this regard, he congratulated District Deputy Education Officer Manoj Kumar and District Incharge of IED Component Pradeep Kaur and the teachers and parents of the children and said that it is a matter of great pride for Ludhiana district that these children have brought glory to Ludhiana at the state level. He further said that the hard work being done by the teachers to help children with special needs and enhance their personality traits is commendable.

Mother's Day celebrated at Maharaja Agrasen Senior Public School under Shri Vaishya Aggarwal Panchayat

**HANS RAJ**  
**KURUKSHETRA, MAY 10**

A special program was organized on the occasion of Mother's Day at Maharaja Agrasen Senior Public School, Dabkhedi, under the aegis of Shri Vaishya Aggarwal Panchayat. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, who expressed their love, respect, and gratitude towards their mothers through a series of cultural performances.

The celebration began with a Saraswati Vandana, followed by heartfelt songs, poetry recitations, dances, and a drawing competition dedicated to mothers. Young children also prepared handmade cards and gifts,

Over 4 lakh devotees in Char Dham in 9 days: Uttarakhand CM Dharami

**AGENCY**  
**DEHRADUN, MAY 10**

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dharami on Saturday acknowledged and welcomed the large number of devotees visiting the four Dhams and reassured the public on safety measures ensured by the government.

According to CM Dharami, more than 4 lakh devotees visited the all four sites of Char Dham in past 9 days.

"Every year a large number of devotees visit Devbhoomi, Uttarakhand for the Char Dham Yatra," the chief minister said, adding, "Our government is continuously working to make the journey smooth, safe and well organised."

The Char Dham Yatra 2025 officially began on April 30 with the opening of the Gangotri and Yamunotri Dham on Akshaya



Tritiya amid Vedic chants and rituals. The doors of Kedarnath Dham were opened on May 2, and those of Badrinath on May 4.

Earlier on Tuesday, a 24-hour ban was enforced on the usage of horses and mules in the Kedarnath Yatra, an official said on Monday.

The administration took the following reported deaths of some horses and mules here.

"Yesterday, eight horses and mules died, while today, six of them died. We wanted to ascertain the reason behind it. Tomorrow, a team from the Centre will also

Appeal to citizens to follow army and administration guidelines: Paramjit Singh Gill

**VERMA**  
**GURDASPUR:** Paramjit Singh Gill, National Vice President of the Himalaya Parivar Organization and a senior leader from the Gurdaspur Lok Sabha constituency, has appealed to all citizens of the country to follow the directives issued by the army and local administration. He stated that in this time of crisis, the entire nation is united and stands firmly with the government and the security forces.



He emphasized the importance of strictly following the instructions provided by the army and administration to ensure national and personal safety and to prove oneself as a responsible citizen. He pointed out that the enemy nation is engaging in irresponsible activities by shelling residential areas in India and creating an atmosphere of fear and terror. Additionally, the enemy is spreading false information and fueling rumors in an attempt to create chaos and unrest within the country.

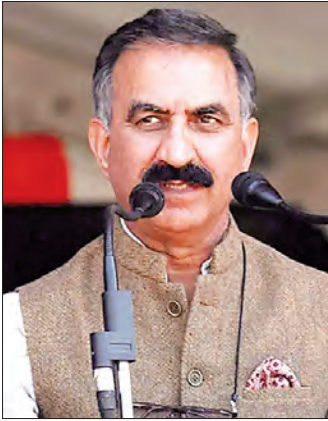
Himachal CM reviews situation, issues necessary directives

**DINESH AGARWAL**  
**SHIMLA, MAY 10**

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu arrived at the Secretariat today around 1 PM and held a meeting with senior officers to review the prevailing situation keeping in view the tension between India and Pakistan. He issued necessary directives and assured that the State Government is closely monitoring the situation.

Speaking to the media, the Chief Minister said that the State government is fully prepared to handle any challenges at all levels. He confirmed that debris of drones and missiles has been found in some areas in the state, but urged the public not to panic.

He further informed that protocols being followed in border districts are in line with those of neighboring states. The



Chief Minister also emphasized that all instructions from the Union Government are being duly followed.

Sh. Sukhu said "Keeping the situation in view, the State Government is taking all necessary measures". He also urged the people of the state to remain alert and vigilant.

Jaspal Singh Chechi becomes the new Chairman of Market Committee Hoshiarpur

**DALJEET AJNOHA**  
**HOSHIAHPUR, MAY 10**

Jaspal Singh Chechi assume charge as the Chairman of Market Committee Hoshiarpur in a simple ceremony today at Dana Mandi. On this occasion, he first of all saluted the brave soldiers guarding the country's borders and paid respect to them. Chechi said that today when the country is struggling with attacks from Pakistan, it is the duty of every citizen to unite and work in the interest of the country and society.

He appealed to the people to fully follow the instructions issued from time to time by the district administration and perform the duty of a responsible citizen. Jaspal Singh Chechi expressed special gratitude to Punjab Chief Minister



Bhagwant Singh Mann for this important responsibility and assured that he will work with full honesty and integrity while maintaining the dignity of this post. He said that the progress of the state and the interests of the farmers are paramount for him and he will protect the interests of farmers, commission agents and traders at every level.

The chairman talked about paying special attention to the arrangements of the

mandis in view of the wheat procurement season. He assured that every farmer coming to the mandi will be given full facilities and support so that they do not have to face any kind of problem. On this occasion, his mother Bhajan Kaur, brother Ajaypal Singh Chechi, sisters Neelam Rani and Promila Rani, wife Sonia Rani, Bhabhi Asha Rani, Namberdar Channyani Khurd Husan Lal Chechi, Pawan Kumar and other dignitaries were present.

Little Millennium School celebrates Mother's Day with enthusiasm



**DALBIR MALIK**  
**KURUKSHETRA:** Mother's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Little Millennium School. The event commenced with the lighting of the lamp and Saraswati Vandana, which filled the atmosphere with devotion. The chief guests for the event included District Employment Officer of Kurukshetra, Seema Saini, Suchi Sumita Sharma (Curator, Gulzari Lal Nanda Memorial, Kurukshetra), and Rajwant Kaur (President, Non-Teaching Staff Union, Kurukshetra University). The children presented a captivating Bhanga performance, highlighting the significance of the word "Mother," which left everyone in awe. Additionally, the students performed a satirical short play based on the theme of old age homes, raising social awareness among the audience. Special entertainment activities for the mothers included a Ramp Walk, Musical Chair, Tongue Twister, Balloon Bursting, and Ball-in-Basket games. The mothers actively participated with great enthusiasm and enjoyed the activities thoroughly. The school's manager, Parminder Singh Baath, expressed, "A mother's love, sacrifice, and dedication are incomparable."

Ahilyabai Holkar remembered as a symbol of courage and compassion at Jathlana School event



**NIRMAL SAINI**  
**RADAUR:** A special event was held at PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Jathlana to commemorate the 300th birth anniversary of Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar. The programme was organised by the Trishati Janmjayanti Celebration Committee, with Man Singh Arya, the committee's patron, as the keynote speaker. The event began with a floral tribute before Ahilyabai Holkar's portrait. The session was presided over by the school principal, Sangeeta Rani, and anchored by Dr. Prashant Sharma. Speaking on the occasion, Man Singh Arya described Ahilyabai Holkar as one of India's most courageous and fearless women. "She was not only a pioneer in the social sector but also left an indelible mark in the religious and administrative domains. Born to a humble farming family, she dedicated her entire life to public service, aiding the poor and championing the cause of widows," he said.

Seminar on 'Role and responsibilities of parents towards children' held at New Happy Public School

**RAHUL KOHLI**  
**YAMUNANAGAR, MAY 10**

New Happy Public School organized an insightful seminar for parents on the topic "Role and Responsibilities of Parents Towards Children." The session was held in response to growing concerns regarding children's excessive mobile phone usage and underage two-wheeler driving—issues increasingly affecting the well-being and safety of students today. The seminar was graced by Sh. Suresh Pal, President of Panchanad Research Institute, as the keynote speaker. He was joined by Ward 16 Councillor Sh. Sandeep Dhiman, Block Education Officer Sh. Teerth Saini, and Dixit from Ward 15. In his powerful address, Sh. Suresh Pal emphasized that the habits, mindset, and



behavior of children are significantly shaped by their home environment and the guidance they receive from their parents. He highlighted the pressing issues of mobile addiction, unsupervised access to social media, and underage driving, urging parents to take an active role in mentoring and monitoring their children.

He advised parents to improve communication with their children, stay involved in their digital lives, and

create a disciplined yet trusting home atmosphere.

Chairman Sh. G.S. Sharma also addressed the gathering, stating, "Education is important, but equally essential are a child's conduct and sense of responsibility. It is only through joint efforts between parents and the school that we can shape responsible citizens of tomorrow. Such seminars are instrumental in making parents reflect on their duties and responsibilities."

Nationalism cornerstone of unity and integrity in our nation: Dr. Sachdeva

**DALBIR MALIK**  
**KURUKSHETRA, MAY 10**

A heartfelt tribute was paid to the Indian brave men, women and brave martyrs of Haryana and freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives in the 1857 revolution at the 1857 Revolution Museum located on Kurukshetra University campus on Saturday. On this occasion, the Chief Guest, Dr. Mamta Sachdeva, First Lady of Kurukshetra University, said that the spirit of nationalism is the cornerstone of unity and integrity of our country. The revolution of 1857 taught us that if we are united in national interest, no power can suppress us. The museum of the 1857 revolution in the university is a powerful medium to connect the new generation with its history.

Dr. Mamta Sachdeva said



that this museum is a source of inspiration for all of us. Paying tribute to the sacrifice of the brave martyrs, she said that this journey of freedom has been possible only due to the sacrifice of millions of brave soldiers, which can never be forgotten. On this occasion, the Registrar of the University, Dr. Virender Pal said that it is our duty to not only remember the sacrifice of our martyrs, but also to

imbibe their ideals in our lives. Organizing such programmes by the university further strengthens the feeling of patriotism among the youth. The curator of the museum, Dr. Kuldeep Singh Arya, said that this revolution, which started on 10 May 1857, was a decisive turning point in Indian history, in which the heroes of Haryana also fought courageously against the British.

'Just one order from Amit Shah, and we're ready': Viresh Shandilya's unwavering patriotic resolve

**SHIV KUMAR SHARMA**  
**KARNAL, MAY 10**

National President of Anti-Terrorist Front India, Viresh Shandilya, has firmly responded to criticism on social media, asserting that patriotism is not something to be performed for attention but is ingrained in his very being. Shandilya declared that if Union Home Minister Amit Shah gives the command, members of his organisation will stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Indian Army at every front. "Patriotism cannot be taught—it runs in my veins," Shandilya said. "To those who challenge my patriotism online, know this—I don't just post, I act. Wherever the nation calls, I will be present." He recalled his longstanding stance against Pakistan and mentioned leading India's first anti-terror chariot march—an initiative that drew threats from terror outfit Hizbul Mujahideen. "We didn't back down. We only grew stronger," he said. Highlighting his commitment to the armed forces, Shandilya stated that he has personally carried the mortal remains of



thousands of martyred soldiers and has remained undeterred in his campaign against terrorism despite repeated attempts to demoralize him. "This is not just a statement—it's a challenge to those who want to restrict patriotism to social media slogans," he added. "Whether it's the border or the streets, I will be there—for the country, for the soldiers, and for the tricolour." Making an open appeal to Home Minister Amit Shah, Shandilya concluded, "The patriots are ready. All we need now is one order from the government."

Baba Siddhnath International Public School celebrates Mother's Day with enthusiasm



**HANS RAJ**  
**KURUKSHETRA:** Mother's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Baba Siddhnath International Public School. Various activities were organized for students from classes 1 to 12, where everyone actively participated. The mothers were warmly welcomed with tilak and presented with special Mother's Day cards as a token of respect. On this auspicious occasion, students expressed their emotions through vibrant performances. The tiny tots from the Bal Vatik left everyone charmed with their innocent acts, while students from classes 1 to 3 mesmerized the audience with a dance performance on the theme 'Meri Maa Pyari Maa'. These performances showcased the children's love and respect for their mothers, bringing tears to the eyes of many. Additionally, students expressed their affection for their mothers through poetry recitations, handmade Mother's Day cards, and beautiful gifts. They also shared their feelings through posters and paintings.



NEWS BRIEFS

Tiranga Yatra' to be organised in Panchkula in honour of the Armed Forces

CHANDIGARH: A 'Tiranga Yatra' will be organised in Panchkula on Sunday in honour of the Armed Forces and to spread the message of national pride. Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini will lead the Yatra. Thousands of people will participate in the yatra. To ensure smooth organisation of the event, the Director General, Information, Public Relations, Languages, and Culture Department, Sh. K. Makrand Pandurang, held a meeting at the Panchkula District Secretariat on Saturday. Officers from various departments and representatives from voluntary organisations attended the meeting, where necessary guidelines for successful yatra were shared.

### Commissioner Rajiv Rattan orders strict enforcement of HSRP and removal of black films from vehicles

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL: Karnal Division Commissioner Rajiv Rattan has directed the effective implementation of High-Security Registration Plates (HSRP) and the removal of black films from vehicle windows in a mission mode. Issuing official orders, he emphasized that the wide-spread adoption and proper enforcement of HSRP is crucial for enhancing vehicle security, curbing vehicle-related crimes, and ensuring better traffic management.

He stated that HSRPs improve vehicle identification, contribute to public safety, and make tracking of vehicles easier, which is vital in crime prevention. Alongside, he raised serious concerns about the use of black-tinted films on vehicle windows, highlighting that they pose a significant security risk by obstructing visibility and hindering law enforcement efforts.

"These films create a conducive environment for unlawful activities and make it difficult to identify passengers inside vehicles," he said, adding that clear visibility is essential for detecting suspicious individuals or items and for effective surveillance.

Rattan emphasized that removing the visual cover provided by black films would reduce the potential misuse of vehicles for illegal purposes.



## Statewide civil defence exercise- Chief Minister chairs high-level meeting, reviews preparedness

BUREAU CHANDIGARH, MAY 10

Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, in a high-level review meeting held via video conferencing with the Deputy Commissioners, Commissioners of Police, Superintendents of Police and Administrative Secretaries held on Saturday has issued directions to ensure robust emergency management systems and prevent panic during critical situations. He emphasized proactive coordination, swift responses, and public reassurance as key priorities.

The Chief Minister reiterated that the government is fully committed to public safety. He assured the people of the state that there is no need to panic, as all essential commodities including food, medicine, fuel, and daily necessities are available in sufficient quantities across the state. He emphasized that the government is closely monitoring every situation and has taken all necessary steps to ensure uninterrupted availability.

The Chief Minister urged citizens to stay calm, avoid hoarding, and rely only on verified information, adding that necessary action will be taken against those spreading rumors or creating artificial shortages. He stressed that misinformation often leads to panic-buying and inflated prices of essential food items. Authorities must ensure a calm atmosphere and take strict action against rumor-mongering.

Meanwhile, reflecting the vision of mobilizing the collective strength of the people, the Chief Minister directed officers concerned to develop a dedicated portal that will enable citizens to voluntarily offer their services to the government in this crucial time. He said that through this platform, individuals can come forward to contribute in various roles such as drivers, doctors, or any other capacity based on their skills and expertise.

**Strict Vigil on Social Media and Misinformation**



### Nuvoco Duraguard Cement's 'Sabse Khaas Pehelwaan' Concludes

CHANDIGARH / HISAR- Nuvoco Vistas Corp Ltd., concluded the grand finale of Nuvoco Duraguard Cement presents 'Sabse Khaas Pehelwaan'. This prestigious wrestling championship was designed to discover and celebrate emerging talent across Haryana. It reflects Nuvoco Duraguard Cement's unwavering commitment to strength, resilience, and excellence-values that align seamlessly with both Nuvoco's premium products and the timeless sport of wrestling, an integral part of Haryana's cultural identity.

The campaign witnessed participation from over 1500+ aspiring wrestlers across all 22 districts of Haryana. From the local akhadas to the grand mat of the finale, the journey saw intense district-level qualifiers, with top contenders advancing to the final rounds held in New Delhi. The championship featured freestyle wrestling across various weight categories for both men and women, offering a professional platform to showcase talent and determination.

Chirag Shah, Head of Marketing, Innovation and Sales Excellence at Nuvoco Vistas Corp. Ltd. stated, "The grand finale of 'Sabse Khaas Pehelwaan' marked the culmination of a campaign that beautifully brought together culture, community, and brand purpose."



### GoDaddy Agency: A new way to help digital consultants grow

CHANDIGARH : GoDaddy has announced the launch of GoDaddy Agency, a new partner program connecting digital agencies with small and mid-sized business leads and access to comprehensive tools, services and support to grow their client offerings.

With millions of entrepreneurs already using GoDaddy's tools, GoDaddy Agency is positioned as a strategic referral partner for digital agencies looking to scale their business efficiently through a steady stream of qualified leads. Freelance, web developer, web design and digital marketing consulting agencies in India can all take advantage of GoDaddy Agency to grow their client base and revenue—once part of the exclusive GoDaddy Agency program, they will be matched with small and mid-sized business customers interested in receiving professional support.

GoDaddy Agency also helps such agency partners succeed by providing the tools, support, and insights they need to more efficiently and cost effectively build websites, manage digital marketing campaigns, launch online stores, and run client projects—empowering agencies to win more work and deliver better results.

"This program is all about creating meaningful connections between small businesses and the agency experts who can help turn their ideas into reality," said Apurva Palnitkar, Senior Director of Marketing at GoDaddy India. "By empowering both entrepreneurs and creative professionals, we're enabling long-term partnerships that drive shared success and sustainable growth."

## At 49, Dr. V.S. Birk completes 65 half marathons and 4 full marathons in just over two years

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 10:

Defying age, expectations, and a busy medical career, Dr. V.S. Birk, a renowned orthopedic specialist from Karnal, has emerged as a beacon of inspiration—not only for doctors but for the general public. In just two and a half years, Dr. Birk has completed 65 half marathons (21 km each) and 4 full marathons (42 km each)—a remarkable feat for anyone, let alone a 49-year-old with a packed professional schedule.

Dr. Birk, who hails from a rural background and whose father is a well-known farmer, completed his medical studies (MBBS and post-graduation) from PGIMS Rohtak. Over the years, he established a leading multi-specialty private hospital in Karnal and became one of the city's busiest doctors.



His journey into long-distance running began modestly. Initially visiting Karn Stadium just for a walk, he was inspired by other runners training on the track. With support from his friend Pravesh Gaba, he began running short distances, which gradually evolved into participation in professional marathons. Today, he is possibly the first Indian doctor to achieve such a milestone within this time frame.

Beyond national events, Dr. Birk has also participated in international marathons in the Netherlands and New Zealand, along with prestigious races in Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai, Goa, Kolkata, and Hyderabad. For his outstanding achievements, he was recently honored with a medal at an event in Bangalore.

Running has not only brought him accolades but transformed his personal health. Dr. Birk shared that he has shed 20 kilograms, and running helped him overcome issues like high blood pressure and indigestion. He now follows a disciplined lifestyle, consuming wheat-based chapatis only once a week and avoiding any foods that negatively impact his health.

Dr. Birk is also an avid tennis player and actively trains at Karn Stadium every morning with his dedicated team, which includes Pravesh Gaba, Amit Gupta, Garun, Sumit Maan, and Shivendra Singla. The group continues to grow, with many being inspired by his story.

Dr. Birk emphasizes the need for outdoor activity across all age groups, advocating for a shift away from sedentary indoor routines. His life serves as a powerful reminder that age is just a number when it comes to pursuing fitness, health, and passion.

## If Pakistan will increase the conflict, its name and trace will be wiped out: Dr Arvind Sharma

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KHARKHODA, MAY 10

Cooperative, Prison, Election, Heritage and Tourism Minister Dr Arvind Sharma said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, our army is giving a befitting reply to the evil acts of Pakistan. Now if Pakistan promotes this conflict, our army will wipe out its name and trace. He said that today the country is angry, but we have to unite and work in the interest of the country with full enthusiasm.

Cooperative Minister Dr Arvind Sharma, who reached as the chief guest in the Maha Yagya and Blood Donation Camp for the safety of Indian Army at Bhagwan Parshuram Park near Kharkhoda Bus Stand on Saturday, said that we are all aware of the current situation of the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is constantly ensuring that the country is made strong. On his belief and faith, the Indian Army has given a befitting reply to the enemy Pakistan on every front. Cooperation Minister Dr Arvind Sharma said that the day before yesterday, 400 drone attacks of Pakistan and 550 drone attacks last night were foiled. Not only this, a befitting reply has been given to Pakistan by destroying its air defense system and many air force strips. He said that if Pakistan escalates this conflict, it will not take long for



the Indian Army to wipe out its name and trace. He said that after the Pahalgam terrorist attack, the country is angry and our army is taking steps forward in accordance with the sentiments of the country.

Cabinet Minister Dr Arvind Sharma said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made it clear that he will destroy terrorism and terrorists. Today the time has come to teach a lesson to the enemy. He appealed to the general public to be aware, be alert, because the enemy country wants to make the atmosphere tense by spreading misleading propaganda. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's army is strongly protecting the country's border and we have to jointly respond to the propaganda happening at the local level. He said that the common people, especially the youth, should fulfill their responsibilities towards the country with seriousness.

Cabinet Minister Dr. Arvind Sharma offered sacrifice in the Yagya conducted for the safety of the Indian Army and prayed for the good health and long life of the soldiers. He also encouraged the youth in the blood donation camp organized in view of the emergency situation. On this occasion, local MLA Pawan Kharkhoda, Wazirpur, Delhi MLA Poonam Bhardwaj, former MLA Sukhbir Parmana, Brahmin Sabha Pradhan Amit Parashar, Jasbir Dodwa, Ashwani Kausik, Babita Dahiya, Gulshan Thekedar, Lalit Sharma, Dharmveer Saini, Jai Bhagwan Sharma etc. were present.

### Operation Sindoor gives a befitting reply to Pakistan: Mukesh Chaudhary

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL: Youth Congress President Mukesh Chaudhary said that the country is currently going through a sensitive and challenging phase. Our Indian Army deployed on the border is engaged in protecting the nation with its bravery and dedication. At such a time, it is the duty of every citizen of the country to maintain commitment towards unity with the army. And at every level, one should contribute to keeping the morale of the Indian Army high.

Mukesh Chaudhary said that Congress fully supports every step taken by the government. The Indian Army raised the morale of every Indian by carrying out air strikes on terrorist hideouts in Pakistan. It is the duty of every Indian to be proud of the valor, courage and sacrifice of the Indian Army. Mukesh Chaudhary said that at this time there is a need to stay away from rumors, rumors give rise to negative thoughts. In such a situation, we all have to reject the politics of hatred and division. In this hour of crisis, every Indian citizen is with the army. Every person should have faith in the country's army and government.



### Pre-monsoon cleaning of drains and ponds begins in Barara

JAIBEER RANA THAMBER BARARA : To tackle the recurring problem of waterlogging during the monsoon, the Municipal Council of Barara has launched an early cleaning drive of ponds and drains. The initiative was inaugurated by Municipal Council Chairman Rajat Malik in Ward No. 1 at the village of Maujgarh, where he personally supervised the commencement of water removal from the local pond.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajat Malik stated that in previous years, the overflow of ponds and drains during the rains would cause water to accumulate in streets and alleys, leading to severe inconvenience for residents. Often, municipal action came only after the situation worsened. However, this year, proactive measures are being taken well in advance.

He further informed that the cleaning of ponds and drains will be carried out in a time-bound manner in every ward to ensure uninterrupted water drainage and to prevent waterlogging in residential areas. While tenders for large-scale drain cleaning are being processed, sanitation workers have already been assigned the task of cleaning drains manually in each ward.

Malik added that if the plan proceeds systematically, this initiative could significantly help in protecting Barara from waterlogging during the upcoming monsoon season. Councillor Pawan Kumar was also present during the inauguration of the cleaning drive.





Editorial

Pakistan must heed global pleas, and end all hostilities now

Pakistan, which tried to attack Indian military facilities in at least 24 cities in the northern and western parts of the country, was repulsed. India's integrated air defence system, with the S-400 missile shield sourced from Russia, played the star role staying off around 500 drones, standing up far better than the Chinese air defence shields that Pakistan deploys. India's retaliation as revenge for Pakistan's flagrant support for terrorism and its military misadventures under a zealot of a general who used to helm the ISI have been of a different dimension than it had been in previous surgical strikes. The hostilities in 2025 have been far more intense than in previous encounters as drone warfare has been raging.

Pakistan has made no attempt to cover its brazen attack on civilians in their homes with cross-border shelling, which too constitutes an act of war, even if it could claim that India's cross-border strikes on terror infra was one too. India's focused Operation Sindoor, crossing the border while aiming only at terrorists taking down at least nine Pakistan terror exporting 'factories' in Pakistan and PoK, was a calibrated response to the Pahalgam terror attack on tourists carried out by Pakistan.

That India had to step up and unleash its offensive capabilities against Pakistani cities is owed entirely to Pakistan escalating the conflict with its missiles and drones aimed at military facilities and civilian areas in India. The retribution has been overwhelming according to the Indian defence forces. Both countries may have lost some aircraft but, beyond that, it is Pakistan that has come off worse for the exchanges with its main cities taking blows from Indian drones whose payload munitions have hit the ground as opposed to the failure of the Pakistan war machine to make a dent.

There is little world powers can do save advise restraint followed by dialogue and diplomacy. India is, however, determined that it will not tolerate any more of Pakistan's minutely-recorded support for terror in Jammu & Kashmir. Pakistan's honouring of militants lost to India's strikes with Army brass present and coffins draped with their national flags will not have gone unnoticed either. It is intriguing that a country, which is on the brink of economic collapse and needing bailouts from global agencies like the IMF and the World Bank, would exhibit the bravado of military operations aimed at a neighbouring country, and can still go around asking for more funds that would presumably bolster its military spending. India's diplomatic offensive is aimed at stopping this enrichment of bailout bowls with dollops of funding even as the beneficiary flexes its military muscle in responding to the misplaced optimism of military action.

# Leo XIV, 1st American Pope, Picks Francis' 'Peace' Baton

The challenge before the Conclave of Cardinals was to choose the man who could hold the Roman Catholic Church together in a meaningful way, and share a moral vision to move forward. It seems the conclave did not have to struggle much to find a successor to Pope Francis, who passed away last month. The legacy of Pope Francis was quite clear -- to be at the side of the oppressed and to reach out to other faiths in an inter-religious world. The newly-elected Pope Leo XIV seems closer to Pope Francis in his idea of being with the oppressed. There is the vow of poverty in the Order of St. Augustine, to which he belongs.

There is an undeniable pomp and power associated with the head of the 1.4 billion Roman Catholic Church, whose adherents span the entire planet. There is also the historical baggage that the Popes have played a key role in the past, in the contentious and strife-torn politics of Europe for centuries during the medieval and early modern periods. So, the present-day Popes are forced to consciously choose the role of the spiritual mentor to Roman Catholics and that of moral mentor to the rest of Europe and beyond.

Given Robert Francis Prevost's background with the mixed lineage of Italian, French and Spanish ancestry, and given his social upbringing in Pennsylvania and Chicago in the 1970s and early 1980s -- the conservative upswing in America had grown considerably -- he had a less contentious political background than that of his predecessor in the stormy politics of Argentina. The other conspicuous feature is that Bishop Prevost, as an American, knew what it is like to be a minority as the Roman Catholics were a conspicuous minority in Protestant America. And it is not surprising that his pastoral (clerical) life was spent in Roman Catholic-majority Peru in South America. The other factor that stands out in the election of



Prevost is that he is the second Pope from the Western Hemisphere, from the New World of the Americas, after Pope Francis. But like Francis, Pope Leo XIV has strong European roots.

The other unsurprising fact about this election is that the majority of cardinals who chose Pope Leo XIV were created cardinals by Pope Francis. The transition then is quite smooth. Unlike Pope Francis, who was a Jesuit, an order which has a clear strategy for upholding the Roman Catholic Church, his successor, Pope Leo XIV, seems to belong to the quieter Augustinian order, which is inward-looking but which had been pressed into evangelisation in the early centuries after the order was established in the 13th century by Pope Innocent IV. The quiet and self-effacing Prevost, by

choosing the papal name of Leo XIV, is believed to have made clear his politico-moral credo following that of Pope Leo XIII, who had issued a papal statement called "Rerum Novarum" (Of New Things) in 1891, where he made clear his opposition to capitalism and its alternative, state-controlled socialism. So, Pope Leo XIV has in a quiet manner thrown down the gauntlet as it were as to where his papacy would stand. It can be argued that unlike in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when the ideological divisions were much clearer than they are now, it was relatively easier for Pope Leo XIII to have rejected the dominant ideologies of the day. Pope Leo XIV has to find his way through a post-ideological haze, where the market economies are roiling, and in place of socialist states, the dangers of fascism and dia-

bolical nationalism are looming on the horizon in Europe and in many other places. The only certainty is the plight of the poor and the oppressed across national borders and continents. And that should be the guiding light for the new Pope.

There is the nagging question of what Leo XIV would do about the creeping moral decay in parts of the Roman Catholic Church's edifice. Will he boldly bring them to light because it is the moral courage that will help the church to emerge stronger? Or would he adopt a more tactical position that Pope Francis had adopted? Pope Leo XIV will face criticism on both counts, for going too far in one case, and for not going far enough in another case. What should help him dealing with the problem is his quiet demeanour, which should help him take the difficult decision.

What is surprising is the size of the crowds, not just in Italy, but in different parts of the Catholic world, who mourned the death of Pope Francis, and who wholeheartedly welcomed the election of Pope Leo XIV. The popular sentiment rooted in a vague longing for religious solace remains a puzzle to social scientists and public intellectuals, especially in Europe and America. For the intellectuals, it is a post-Christian world as much as it is a post-ideological world. But ordinary people from Peru to the Philippines look up to the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope. The Roman Catholic clergy and its vast bureaucratic edifice seems to derive legitimacy in the simple faith of millions of ordinary faithful. So, when individuals like Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV appear at the window of the papal palace at St. Peter's Square in Rome, and the crowds begin to cheer, the popularity of the political stars and the icons of the glamour world seems to pale. It is extremely reassuring that the head of the Roman Catholic Church speaks the language of peace and understanding.

## Literature & Health

### Heart rhythm disorder traces to bacterium lurking in gums: Study

New research shows that the gum disease bacterium *P. gingivalis* can slip into the bloodstream and infiltrate the heart. There, it quietly drives scar tissue buildup -- distorting the heart's architecture, disrupting electrical signals, and raising the risk of atrial fibrillation (AFib).

Clinicians have long noticed that people with periodontitis, a common form of gum disease, seem more prone to cardiovascular problems. One recent meta-analysis has linked it to a 30% higher risk of developing AFib, a potentially serious heart rhythm disorder that can lead to stroke, heart failure, and other life-threatening complications.

Globally, AFib cases nearly doubled in under a decade, rising from 33.5 million in 2010 to roughly 60 million by 2019. Now, scientific curiosity is mount-

ing in how gum disease might be contributing to that surge.

Researchers have discovered DNA from harmful oral bacteria in heart muscle, valves, and even fatty arterial plaques.

Among them, *P. gingivalis* has drawn particular scrutiny for its suspected role in a growing list of systemic diseases, including Alzheimer's, diabetes, and certain cancers.

It has previously been detected in the brain, liver, and placenta. But how it manages to take hold in the heart has been unclear.

This study, published in *Circulation*, provides the first clear evidence that *P. gingivalis* in the gums can worm its way into the left atrium in both animal models and humans, pointing to a potential microbial pathway linking periodontitis to AFib.



### Researchers say obesity could be linked with brain-related symptoms of long Covid

Researchers have found a significant link between excess weight, and persistent neurological and mental health conditions in individuals who have recovered from Covid-19 infection. So, obesity or being overweight could be a symptom of long Covid.

In May 2023, the World Health Organisation declared an end to Covid-19 as a public health emergency. However, long Covid -- in which symptoms persist for more than 12 weeks after disease onset -- continues to be studied around the world for diagnosis and treatment. The researchers, including those from the University of Brasilia, Brazil, show that among the nearly 1.4 lakh people involved in the 18 studies, being overweight had a signifi-



cant link with persistent depression, headache, memory problems and sleep disturbances. The findings of the study published in journal *PLOS One* showed that obesity was significantly associated with a persistent headache, problems with smell and taste and vertigo. Researchers said that being overweight has been previously identified as a risk factor for ex-

periencing long Covid, which can be debilitating and severely affect one's quality of life. "We anticipated some level of association between excess weight and post-Covid-19 symptoms based on prior evidence linking obesity with worse Covid-19 long-term outcomes," author Debora Barbosa Ronca, a visiting PhD scholar at Edith Cowan University, Australia, said.

## POEMS

### The War Zones

Do you freeze in fear and ask 'why' ?  
When the sirens wail across the sky.  
We must take cover with clear minds,  
While flames above leave deadly signs.  
Keep the lights off, don't let them rise.

Drones can track with watchful eyes.  
Stay hidden from dangerous drones.  
Follow the guidelines in all war zones.  
Smoke speaks the painful introduction.  
The war brings only death and destruction.

Poor cries, rich empties stores.  
We didn't learn from previous wars.  
Days are dreadful, nights bring pain.  
Missiles are falling like the rain.  
May God bless all, we humbly pray.  
We trust Your Hand to guide the way.

Sohan Singh Barnala

# Is the IMF now a patron of terrorism?

Yesterday, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved a \$2.4 billion loan to Pakistan--an act that, in the eyes of many, exposes the Fund as an enabler of global terrorism. With this decision, the IMF has once again chosen to turn a blind eye to Pakistan's role as a factory of terror, effectively swallowing the proverbial fly it pretends not to see.

In the current climate of escalating tensions and near-war between India and Pakistan, this decision may seem secondary--but in truth, it is a grave error. Far from economic assistance, this loan amounts to aiding and abetting terrorism.

It's common knowledge that Pakistan, under the pretext of hunger and economic instability, goes around the world with a begging bowl. But once the money lands in its coffers, it is chan-



neled not into development, but into the pockets of terrorists, their handlers in the ISI, and the Pakistan Army--sustaining a machinery of global jihad.

This is akin to a pigeon closing its eyes in front of an approaching cat, foolishly believing it won't be eaten.

India has suffered the most

from Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. Thousands of Indian lives have been lost due to cross-border intrusions, massacres, and bombings. Pakistan ethnically cleansed Hindus from the Kashmir Valley in the 1990s, orchestrated the 2008 Mumbai attacks that killed 166 innocents, carried out the 1993 serial blasts, attacked Akshardham, and continues to engineer smaller but deadly assaults. Most recently, in Pahalgam, 26 unarmed Hindu tourists were shot dead in front of their families after being identified by religion--just because they couldn't recite the Kalma. Their executioners told the survivors, "Go and tell Modi what we've done."

One must ask the IMF's decision-makers: would they have issued this loan if the victims were from their families? Would they still be so apathetic?

The world remembers 9/11. The United States--now a vocal critic of terrorism--knows firsthand the horrors of Pakistan's duplicity. Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the Twin Tower attacks, was found not in a cave, but sheltered in Abbottabad, Pakistan. The U.S. had to invade Pakistani territory to eliminate him.

And yet, despite this history, the IMF greenlit a loan for Pakistan on May 9--even as India formally opposed it. America, the IMF's most powerful member, with nearly 17% voting power (akin to a veto), did nothing to block it. With this decision, it has exposed a double standard: saying one thing, doing another.

This is not a mere bailout--it's oxygen to a failing terror state on ventilator support.

The hypocrisy becomes more blatant when, after India vowed

to avenge the Pahalgam massacre, Pakistan moved to secure notorious terrorists like Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar--relocating them to safe hideouts and beefing up their protection. On May 7, when India launched a precision strike deep into Pakistan and POK, eliminating around a hundred terrorists, Pakistani military and intelligence officials attended their funerals. Instead of distancing themselves, they offered prayers--an open endorsement of terror.

It is baffling that the world continues to debate whether Pakistan is a terrorist state. And worse, institutions like the IMF continue to fund it.

Ultimately, the root of this aid lies in Washington. The United States is the IMF's largest funder, and it could have prevented this loan--but chose not to. It has thus proven its duplicity.

There is no doubt this \$2.4 billion will serve to delay, if not derail, India's momentum in its war against terrorism. The money will not feed Pakistan's poor--it will feed its terror networks.

The IMF claims to serve 191 nations in the pursuit of global stability and prosperity. It promotes economic policies that are supposed to foster growth, employment, and well-being.

But one must now question: does the IMF have any audit mechanism? Has it assessed how previous billions given to Pakistan have been used? If not, what is the justification for this fresh loan--and why should it not be seen as material support for terrorism?

The world must ask itself: is it funding peace, or fuelling bloodshed?

By : Rakesh Sharma



NEWS BRIEF

Una admin on alert mode: DC inspects hospitals and take stock of emergency preparations



**AVINASH CHAUHAN**  
**AMB:** Inspected Regional Hospital Una and Community Health Center Amb. During this, he thoroughly evaluated the bed capacity of the hospitals, blood bank facilities and preparedness to deal with emergency situations. During the inspection, the DC directed the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Una to ensure that all hospitals remain operational 24x7 and deployment of adequate medical teams is ensured to effectively deal with any emergency. In this, priority was given to adequate presence of doctors.

**Special event organized at Deoli temple on occasion of Maa Chintapurni Jayanti**



**AVINASH CHAUHAN**  
**AMB:** On the auspicious occasion of Maa Chintapurni Jayanti, a grand event is being organized for the devotees at the Maa Chintapurni temple in Doli. The Mahant of the temple, Baba Avinash Vidrohi, informed that the fourth Bhagwati Jagran will be organized at his residence on May 11. He informed that the program will begin with a bhandaar at 12:00 noon, in which all the devotees will be able to take prasad. After this, the Jagran of Maa Bhagwati will be organized, in which the glory of the goddess will be praised. The main attraction of this Jagran will be Himachal Gaurav Award-winning famous folk singer Karnail Rana, who will present the praise of Mahamai. Devotees are very excited about this event. The Jagran will conclude at 8:00 pm. Mahant Baba Avinash Vidrohi has requested all the devotees to come in large numbers to receive the blessings of Maa Chintapurni and take advantage of this spiritual event.

CM expresses grief over martyrdom of Subedar Major Pawan Kumar

**DINESH AGARWAL**  
**SHIMLA:** Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has expressed grief over the martyrdom of Subedar Major Pawan Kumar of 25 Punjab Regiment in a shelling by Pakistan army in Jammu and Kashmir today morning. He belonged to

Shahpur Nagar Panchayat of Kangra district. In his condolence message, Chief Minister said that Subedar Major Pawan Kumar has made his supreme sacrifice for upholding the unity and sovereignty of the country and will be remembered by the people for ever. He said

that State Government stands in solidarity with the affected family in this hour of grief and will also extend all possible assistance. He prayed to the Almighty to grant peace to the departed soul and strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Blackout to be imposed in Baddi, Nalagarh and Parwanoo

All commercial establishments to be closed by 8 pm

**SHANTI GAUTAM**  
**SOLAN/BADDI, MAY 10**

In view of the current sensitive situation and security on the Indo-Pak border, district magistrate Manmohan Sharma today ordered complete blackout during night hours in the jurisdiction of Baddi , Nalagarh tehsil and Municipal Council Parwanoo of this District. The orders enforced with immediate effect will continue till further orders. The blackout will be enforced from 08.00 pm to 05.00 am. All residents of these areas will have to switch off all the lights of their houses at 08.00 pm every day. All commercial establishments including shops, hotels and restaurants will ensure closer by 08.00 pm everyday in these areas, till further orders.



Manmohan Sharma said that all institutions and work places including government and private buildings, ATMs, sports complexes, hostels, restaurants, religious places, shops and commercial complexes, parks, advertisement boards, liquor shops, washing plants, mining sites will have to be closed at 08.00 pm every day. Bus stands, railway stations,

bridges and street lighting systems under the jurisdiction of local bodies will also remain closed during the blackout period. The orders clarified that with the sound of the emergency siren, all types of internal lighting will have to be switched off immediately so that a complete blackout can be enforced. All industrial units operating in the

above notified areas will ensure suspensions their night shifts with immediate effect. Industrial units producing essential goods will ensure that no light of any kind is visible from their premises. For this, these units will have to completely cover all windows etc. All the Gram Panchayats, Nagar Panchayats, Municipal Councils and Municipal Corporations of the above mentioned areas will strictly implement the measures taken in view of national and public safety and ensure that street lights etc. remain completely switched off during the blackout period.

The orders said that solar powered and self-operated lighting systems which cannot be switched off manually should either be disconnected or completely covered.

India-Pak tension: HP taking proactive steps to ensure public safety

**AGENCY**  
**SHIMLA, MAY 10**

As tensions escalate along the India-Pakistan border, Himachal Pradesh is taking proactive steps to ensure public safety.

Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) Managing Director Dr. Nipun Jindal confirmed a noticeable decline in passenger numbers on the Jammu-Pathankot-Amritsar route.

“The situation is being closely monitored, especially for night operations on the Amritsar-Jammu-Katra and Pathankot routes. Services will be adjusted in public interest,” he said, urging travelers to stay informed and plan accordingly.

Trekking firms, including Trek The Himalayas, have issued advisories for trekkers in Himachal, Uttarakhand, and Jammu & Kashmir. While most treks remain on schedule, batches for Kareri Lake, Sar Pass, and Markha Valley have been



rescheduled as a precautionary measure.

In a significant move, Himachal Pradesh Technical University has postponed the Common Entrance Test (HPCET-2025), originally slated for May 10–11. The exam was to be held at 15 centers in Himachal and one in Chandigarh. The decision was taken in view of the prevailing uncertainty.

The Himachal Pradesh Board of School Education, on the other hand, announced the results of the Class 10 and 12 board examinations on Friday.

AIIMS Bilaspur observes World Lupus Day with awareness drive and community engagement

**AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY**  
**BILASPUR, MAY 10**

In a meaningful effort to spread awareness about lupus, AIIMS Bilaspur observed World Lupus Day with an informative and interactive public programme on May 8. The event was organised by the Department of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology in collaboration with the Departments of Dermatology and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. It was chaired by Prof. Dr. Nidhi Puri, Dean (Examination).

Lupus, an autoimmune disease that can affect vital organs such as the kidneys, heart, lungs, brain, skin, and joints, often goes unrecognized due to lack of awareness. The event aimed to educate the public and debunk myths about the disease. Dr. Manju from



Dermatology elaborated on skin-related symptoms and stressed the importance of sun protection to prevent disease flare-ups. Dr. Yogesh Preet Singh highlighted the significance of early diagnosis and regular treatment in controlling disease progression. Dr. Ravi Kumar Sharma shared insights on the role of diagnostic tests like ANA in awareness. The event aimed to educate the public and debunk myths about the disease. Dr. Manju from

joint function. Dr. Devender Bairwa and Dr. Tarun Kumar Sharma addressed widespread misconceptions, providing scientific clarity on lupus. A quiz competition led by Dr. Ankita and Dr. Nirmal engaged the audience and reinforced key information in a fun and accessible format. The event saw enthusiastic participation from patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals, significantly contributing to public understanding of this chronic autoimmune condition.

State bags prestigious infrastructure Awards, CM congratulates team

**DINESH AGARWAL**  
**SHIMLA, MAY 10**

Secretary Public Works Department and Managing Director Himachal Pradesh Road and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (HPRIDCL) Dr. Abhishek Jain presented two trophies to the Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu here today, in recognition of Himachal Pradesh's outstanding achievements in infrastructure development and road safety.

HPRIDCL has been conferred with Shinning Star in the prestigious 2024 iRAP Gary Liddle Memorial Trophy in Marrakech in Morocco recently. This global recognition is awarded to the World's best performing Road Authority working towards the



elimination of high risk roads. Whereas, Shimla Smart City Limited has been awarded the Smart Cities India Award-2025 under the 'Innovation in urban mobility' category for the construction of Dhalli tunnel and the rotary junction outside the tunnel, that have significantly helped in decongesting traffic in Shimla.

The Chief Minister congratulated the officers

and employees working in both the organizations for their dedicated efforts and expressed hope that they will continue to work with the same commitment in addressing the problems faced by the people of Shimla city. He said that the State Government will extend full cooperation in creating smarter, safer and more sustainable urban and rural mobility infrastructure across the State.

Sukhu said that HPRIDCL's road safety initiative reflects holistic, collaborative efforts working closely with World Bank, Himachal Pradesh Police, Public Works Department, local agencies and community volunteers. It has achieved impressive scale and success in delivering road upgrades using holistic evidence based road safety action plan with live saving impact. A significant reduction in crashes has been achieved especially on critical State Corridors.

Public Works Minister Vikramaditya Singh said that road safety has remained one of the top most priorities of the State Government and it is indeed a matter of pride that we have recorded a significant decline in road accidents and fatalities in recent times.

Unsold liquor vends under hammer again in Himachal

**AGENCY**  
**SHIMLA, MAY 10**

The Himachal Pradesh government has decided to invite fresh bids again to unsold liquor vends on pro-rata basis currently managed temporarily by PSU employees. A notification issued on Friday states that the government has decided to re-invite bids for retail liquor vends that remained unsold in the earlier auction for the 2025–26 fiscal year.

According to State Taxes and Excise Department, these vends, located in districts like Shimla, Mandi, Kullu, and Kangra, are currently being managed by employees of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), state corporations, and urban local bodies (ULBs). "To revive private



interest and streamline retail liquor operations, the government has fixed May 13, 2025, as the date for re-allotment through auction-tender under provision 2.22 of the Excise Policy 2025–26, " the notification states. The minimum reserve price of these vends would be calculated on a pro-rata basis, considering the remaining duration of the financial year. If vends remain unallotted even after the upcoming auction, they would continue to be run by the respective corporations and ULBs. In a

related move, country liquor is to be lifted preferably by these public entities from the Himachal Pradesh General Industries Corporation (HPGIC). Additionally, all hotels operated by the Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (HPTDC) in the four districts have been instructed to procure liquor exclusively from the nearest retail vend operated by a State Corporation or ULB. The move is seen as to curb the monopoly of private liquor vendors and ensuring that unallotted vends do not remain idle. The PSU staff managing these outlets, especially home guard jawans, are not happy with their deployment in market operations until private players come forward.

Missile pieces, drone debris found in various places in Himachal

**AGENCY**  
**SHIMLA/UNA, MAY 10**

Pieces of wracked missiles that were destroyed by the India Army have been found in Una's Vehra and Kangra's Jawali, while drone debris was recovered in Damtal of Kangra district. On the intervening night of May 9–10, at pieces of destroyed missiles fell in the fields in Pirthipur of Gagret sub-division of Una district and Bharwain area under Amb sub-division. According to locals, a loud explosion was heard at 1.30 am in Vehra village of Bhated panchayat, about 12 km from Chintpurni. The sound of the explosion was so loud that the people of the nearby village panicked and rushed out of their homes. Sarbjit, who lives some 25 meters



away from the blast site, said he was sleeping in the courtyard of the house. At 1:30 am, there was a loud explosion in the sky and then it felt as if something had fallen in the fields. Una Deputy Commissioner Jatin Lal said that information about the suspicious metal found in Amb subdivision has been given to the higher authorities. He told people not to panic and inform the police and administration if any such device was found nearby their houses or fields.

At the same time, the Indian Army shot down a Pakistani drone around 5 am in Majra village, adjacent to the Pathankot air base, falling under the police station Damtal located on the Punjab-Himachal border. As soon as the information was received, police station in-charge Damtal Kalyan Singh, Punjab Police and paramilitary forces reached the spot. Army officials were immediately called. The Army took the remains of the drone with them. Pieces of the destroyed missile have been found at three places in Jwali sub-division. However, there has been no damage. SP Nurpur Ashok Ratan said remains of a destroyed missile has been found, and the police have been sent to the spot. Experts have also been called to the spot.

Flights suspended at Himachal airports due to security situation

**AGENCY**  
**SHIMLA:** All flights to and from Shimla, Kullu-Manali, and Kangra airports have been cancelled until May 15, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) said on Friday. The decision comes



after the start of Operation Sindoor, a nationwide security effort that has led to the temporary closure of 24 airports across North, West, and Central India.

Airports in Chandigarh, Amritsar, Jammu, Leh, Srinagar, Ludhiana, and Bhatinda are also closed. These steps were taken to ensure the safety of passengers and airspace during a time of heightened security alert. New rules have also been put in place for passengers flying from other airports. Everyone must now reach the airport three hours before their flight. Check-in counters will close 75 minutes before departure, and a second baggage check will happen just before boarding. These changes may cause delays. AAI has asked passengers not to come to airports where flights are suspended. Instead, they should contact their airlines for updates and rebooking. Many travellers are facing problems because of these sudden changes. However, airport and government officials say these steps are necessary to protect public safety. Authorities are working to restore normal flight services soon. Passengers are advised to stay updated through official websites and airline messages.

Bilaspur Nagar Parishad alleges discrimination, demands govt intervention to resume stalled development projects

**AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY**  
**BILASPUR, MAY 10**

The Bilaspur Nagar Parishad has strongly criticized the state Congress government for what it calls a continued discriminatory approach towards the BJP-supported civic body. Addressing a press conference, Nagar Parishad President Kamal Gautam alleged that ever since the BJP-backed body came to power, its development proposals have been consistently ignored, leaving essential projects in limbo and residents deprived of basic amenities. He said that especially Bilaspur town is a settlement colony of Bhakra Dam oustees and need the development pack which was deprived from 1960. He said



now Union Health Minister and BJP National President Jagat Prakash Nadda who hail from Bilaspur is taking care to get it's dues. Gautam expressed deep concern over the repeated transfer of executive officers, with the latest transfer sending the current officer to Kangra, marking the fifth such change. He emphasized that the absence of a permanent executive officer and SDO is paralyzing development,

particularly affecting the Rs. 1.70 crore worth of works proposed through the efforts of MLA Trilok Jamwal and MP Anurag Thakur. The proposed projects include vital drainage repairs and a major plan to construct a state-of-the-art marriage hall and health club by redeveloping the old prison site in Diara Sector. A junior engineer and architect have been tasked with drafting the DPR for the new facility.

Complete ban on drone flights and firecrackers imposed in Una for public safety

**KISHORI LAL BAINS**

**UNA:** In light of the ongoing tension between India and Pakistan, the Una district administration has imposed a complete ban on flying drones and bursting firecrackers to ensure public safety and maintain law and order. District Magistrate and Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority, Jatin Lal, issued these orders under Sections 33 and 34 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. According to the order, the use of any type of drone, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), remote-controlled aircraft, or drone-based photography and videography is strictly prohibited within the boundaries of Una district with immediate effect. Individuals or institutions seeking exceptions must obtain prior written permission from the Deputy Commissioner. Additionally, given the sensitive security climate, a total ban has been placed on the use, sale, and detonation of firecrackers in the district. The decision aims to prevent panic, misinformation, or misinterpretation of loud noises as potential threats. These orders are effective immediately and will remain in force until further notice. Any violation will attract strict legal action under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and other relevant laws.

AIIMS Bilaspur sets benchmark with successful mass casualty drill in collaboration with WHO

**AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY**  
**BILASPUR, MAY 10**

All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Bilaspur conducted a large-scale Mass Casualty Drill to test and enhance its emergency response systems in the event of disasters or large-scale emergencies.

The meticulously executed drill was conducted under the expert supervision of World Health Organization (WHO) representatives Dr. Nelson and Dr. Herald, in collaboration with AIIMS Bilaspur. The simulation exercise was conceptualized and implemented under the visionary leadership of Executive Director Prof.



D.N. Sharma, who ensured seamless coordination with WHO. The drill marked a major stride in preparedness training, bringing together faculty, security, nursing staff, and emergency teams in a real-time crisis scenario. The operational command was led by Medical Superintendent Dr. Dinesh Verma and Deputy Medical

Superintendent Dr. Tarun Sharma, supported by Dr. Prawal from Trauma and Emergency and Dr. Ajay Dhiman from Surgery. The hospital premises were strategically divided into red and green zones, family holding areas, and media zones, mimicking the dynamics of an actual emergency situation.





HOSHIARPUR (DALJEET AJNOHA): In a special interview, Station House Officer (SHO) Parvinderjit Pal Singh of Hoshiarpur shed light on the ongoing battle against drug abuse and trafficking in the region. He shared that the anti-drug campaign, spearheaded by the state government and local police, has made a significant impact across the area. According to SHO Singh, the police have successfully identified and sent more than 30 young individuals to de-addiction and rehabilitation centres, where they are receiving completely free treatment. This initiative is helping these youth to escape the grip of addiction and guiding them toward a healthier and more productive life.

NEWS BRIEF

Gurleen of RBU  
bags Gold in  
powerlifting



LK BANSAL  
MOHALI: Gurleen, a student of MCA (AI&ML) programme in the Department of Computer Applications, School of Computing, at the Rayat Bahra University, has won a gold medal at the Chandigarh State Powerlifting Championship. Gurinder Singh Bahra, Chancellor of the University, while congratulating Gurleen said her dedication was truly inspiring as she also excels in her demanding MCA (AI&ML) programme. Executive Director Dr. Sahil Verma also congratulated Gurleen on her achievement. Dr. Anita Goyal head department of computer application said that The Department of Computer Applications, School of Computing, is proud of its exceptional student athlete and has wished her continued success.

Punjab's Power Minister  
visits Vedanta Power's  
TSPL Plant



ISHWER GARG  
TALWANDI SABO: In a significant step toward ensuring power readiness for the ongoing summer season, Punjab's Hon'ble Minister for Power and PWD, Sh. Harbhajan Singh ETO, visited Talwandi Sabo Power Limited (TSPL), a Vedanta Group company and North India's largest private thermal power producer, located in Mansa. With an installed capacity of 1980 MW, TSPL currently caters to nearly 30% of Punjab's total electricity demand. The ministerial delegation included MLA Sardulgarh Sh. Gurnpreet Singh Banawali, Principal Secretary, Department of Power & CMD, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd. (PSPCL) Mr. Ajay Kumar Sinha, and senior officials from PSPCL and local administration. The visiting team was received by TSPL Chief Operating Officer Mr. Pankaj Sharma, along with other senior leadership from the company.

Appeal to follow advisories issued  
by district administration from  
time to time

JAITU  
JS GILL: District Magistrate Madam Poonamdeep Kaur, while issuing an advisory regarding blackout protocols to deal with the crisis situation, said that Compliance with the rules



outlined in the event of a crisis should be ensured. He said that whenever the siren sounds, it will be a signal to be alert. The District Magistrate said that Turn off all lights during a blackout. This includes main lights, inverter lights, and any type of light that may be visible from the outside. He said that This is a daily precaution to take. Also cover the cameras with tape or something else. Close the curtains completely. Make sure that no light is visible outside. Always keep your mobile, power bank, torch, radio, etc. charged. He said that inform neighbors and children, help those who are not informed, and ask them to follow these guidelines as well. They said be prepared for a blackout. Keep your essentials like water, torch, shoes, documents, etc. together and ready. If you are in a car on the road during the siren, immediately turn off the headlights, stop the car in place and do not make any movements. He said that Report any sightings of drones or flying objects. Report any unidentified flying object or drone to the control room or officer immediately. He said that the district level control room numbers established by the district administration - 01639-250338, 01639-251000 and 01639-251024., 75270-17100 can be contacted at any time. The District Magistrate said that special care should be taken

'CM's Yogashala' is  
proving beneficial for  
people: DC



JS GILL  
JAITU : Under the CM's Yoga Shala launched by the Punjab government led by Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann, Yoga Shalas are being set up at various places in the district and the residents of the district are getting the benefit of free Yoga classes. This information was given by Deputy Commissioner Madam Poonamdeep Kaur. Giving more information in this regard, the Deputy Commissioner said that expert yoga trainers have been deployed under the CM's Yogashala who make people aware of the importance of yoga and teach them the correct methods of doing yoga. Yoga trainer Hira Lal Swami said that under the CM's Yogashala, people were made to practice yoga at Gurdwara Harindra Nagar, Faridkot, which is proving effective for people to maintain their health.

## Emergency fire machinery worth Rs 47 cr deployed on border-Bhagwant Mann govt switches to action mode to tackle crisis

GAURAV GOEL  
CHANDIGARH, MAY 10

Gearing up to tackle any unforeseen situation amidst ongoing escalation in border, the Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Saturday dedicated fire apparatus worth Rs 47 crore to strengthen emergency response in border areas of the state.

Addressing the gathering Chief Minister said that the state government is fully sensitised about the tension brewing at the borders along with the state.

He said that in order to cater to needs of border region fire apparatus, including small and medium fire tenders and other essential machinery worth ₹47 crore has been dedicated to people of the state. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that this includes Disaster Deployment Kit (DD Kit), Hydraulic Combi Tool Collapse



Structure and Rescue Kit (CSSR Kit), Gas Detectors, Fire Entry Suits, Battery Backup Lighting Tower, Multipurpose Fire Tender, Quick Response Vehicle (Small) and others.

The Chief Minister said that these equipments will be deployed in sensitive regions such as Pathankot, Rajasansi, Ferozepur, and other vulnerable locations. He said that

these will be helpful in tackling any sort of awkward situation arising at the border due to mounting tension between both the countries. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that the state government is duty bound to ensure that all necessary requirements for the safety and security of border residents are fulfilled.

The Chief Minister envisioned that these machines

will be very helpful in relief and rescue operations in time of crisis.

He said that the state government is fully prepared to tackle any sort of challenge in the prevalent harsh times. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that the state government is committed to help the Armed forces in this hour of crisis and no stone is being left unturned for this cause.

## Kharar's new SDM madam dive held meeting with officers immediately after assuming charge



SHASHI PAL JAIN  
KHARAR, MAY 10

Kharar's new SDM Madam Dive IAS has taken charge of her post today. After assuming charge, she immediately met all the officers of Kharar Sub Division. When she as-

sumed charge today, her staff Sanjeev Kumar and other colleagues welcomed her by giving her bouquets.

In her first meeting with all the officers of Kharar Sub Division, she discussed the current situation in detail. Considering the current situ-

ation, if any challenges arise, then how they are faced, was discussed.

The SDM said on this occasion that we should raise force of volunteers to face every challenge so that people can get complete facilities in any situation.

## The Placebo Club of Desh Bhagat University hosts malaria awareness camp to educate local community



AJAY MALHOTRA  
FATEHGARH SAHIB, MAY 10:

The Placebo Club, under the Faculty of Pharmacy at Desh Bhagat University, organized a Malaria Awareness Camp at Village Saunti, aimed at educating the surrounding community on the causes, symptoms, prevention, and treatment of malaria.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, and local residents. The camp was organized under the guidance of Dr. Puja Gulati, Principal, School of Pharmacy, Desh Bhagat University. The camp commenced with an informative session that detailed how malaria is transmitted

through the bite of infected Anopheles mosquitoes. Speakers emphasized the importance of early diagnosis and timely medical intervention to manage the disease effectively.

The camp also offered free health check-ups and counseling sessions, ensuring that participants received immediate medical attention and advice.

To make learning more engaging, the organizers conducted interactive activities, including quizzes and role plays.

The event concluded with a collective pledge by participants to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings and take proactive steps in malaria prevention.

## Celebration of world Health Red Cross Day 2025 at IRCA Gurdaspur -- keeping humanity alive: Romesh Mahajan



VERMA  
GURDASPUR, MAY 10

Today on the eve of World Red Cross Day 2025 the IRCA Gurdaspur has celebrated this day with the inmates getting treatment over here. Mr Romesh Mahajan National Awardee Project Director started this celebration with the impressive lecture on the foundation of this day and to promote the services rendered by this Society towards humanity. He also put emphasis on this year's official theme of the day that is "keeping humanity alive" by giving great speech on it. He said that humanity means to show kindness, care and compassion to others. When we help those in distress driven

by committed adherence towards the spirit of humanity, we reaffirm our pledge to the collective good and uphold the founding principles of Red cross.

Besides him Mr Raghbir Singh Counselor also gave a string lecture on this day by saying that this day also serves as a reminder of the strength of the compassion, selflessness, and solidarity in the face of calamities like natural disasters, war, medical crises and more. Giving more importance to this day the patients who are under treatment in the center also shared their views on this day and make promises to be drug free and to serve the society as the Red Cross is already doing.

## Meting held by Sarv dharm Sadbhavna Committee at Hoshiarpur



DALJEET AJNOHA  
HOSHIARPUR, MAY 10

In the midst of the war situation in the country, a meeting was held by the Sarv dharm-Sadbhavna Committee at Future Ready Institute Vidya-Mandir, Shimla Pahari, Hoshiarpur.

Addressing the gathering, Hoshiarpur MLA Brahmshankar Jhimpa said that members of all religions, sects and all sections of the society stand firmly with the country and the forces fighting on the border in this hour of calamity. He said that all citizens must also take training in civil defence so that in case of disaster, quick action

can be taken to save the lives of the injured. "In such a situation, we should follow all the guidelines of the administration and avoid rumours. A firm and befitting response to the terrorist activities sponsored by Pakistan for the last several years is absolutely necessary in which our armed forces are capable. On this occasion, Mayor Surinder Shinda, Senior Deputy Mayor Praveen Saini, Convenor of the Interfaith Harmony Committee AnuragSood, National Chairman of the Christian National Front Lawrence Chaudhari, Vice-President of GurdwaraShri Guru Singh Sabha Railway Road Hoshiarpur.

## Punjab pradesh retail and wholesale karyana association Pramod Gupta appeals to shopkeepers and general public to avoid rumors

SHASHI PAL JAIN  
KHARAR, MAY 10

In view of the ongoing war between India and Pakistan, Punjab Pradesh Retail and Wholesale Karyana Association President Pramod Gupta has appealed to the grocery traders and common citizens of Punjab to avoid rumors and not to collect more than necessary ration in their homes.

The press note issued by him has said that by doing so, there is going to be shortage of things in the market, due to which inflation reaches extreme levels and as a result traders are blamed. While appealing, he also told the Karyana traders that the government cannot reach everywhere and help them.

Therefore, as a good citizen, it is their duty to help everyone through their own resources. He said that no shopkeeper should charge more than the rate of ration and should not store more than the requirement. He said that there is no shortage of anything in the market. There are ample stocks of food grains in the country. There is no shortage of food items. Do not create an atmosphere of chaos without any reason, be patient and avoid deposit embezzlement. Charging extra rate is called black marketing, it comes under the criminal category. He does not want any criminal case to be registered against any trader. Therefore, all traders are appealed to sell ration at the right rate, at the right time and in the right quality.



## Punjab govt fully prepared to handle any emergency situation: Dr. Balbir Singh

RAKESH JINDAL  
PATIALA, MAY 10

Punjab Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Balbir Singh today assured the public that the state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, is fully prepared to deal with any emergency arising from the current tension between India and Pakistan.

Addressing a high-level meeting with Patiala district administration and representatives of associations dealing in essential commodities, Dr. Balbir Singh urged people to stay calm and avoid unnecessary panic buying. He emphasized that stocks of all essential items-including food, fuel, and medicines are available in surplus. "There is no need to get into panic buying. Hoarding will only create unnecessary pressure on the system. The



government has ensured that supplies remain uninterrupted," said Dr. Balbir Singh. He also appealed to citizens to not approach or touch any suspicious object such as drones, missiles, or bomb-like items, and to report such sightings immediately to the police. "Handling such items is the responsibility of the army, police, and fire brigade," he added.

The Health Minister further directed representatives from sectors including LPG, petrol/diesel, fruits, vegetables, groceries, and medicines to avoid hoarding or black

marketing, and to spread awareness that supplies are stable and under control.

He informed that emergency and ambulance services with life-support systems are fully operational across government hospitals. Additionally, under the Farishtey Scheme, treatment for any war or disaster-related injuries will be provided free of cost in all government hospitals. Dr. Balbir Singh, wearing his doctor's apron at the meeting, stressed the importance of community training in disaster preparedness.

## Ludhiana police detain two for spreading fake videos on social media, issue stern warning against misinformation

SUKH NAHAR  
JAGRAON, MAY 10

In a decisive move to curb the spread of misinformation on social media amid prevailing circumstances, the Ludhiana Commissionerate Police detained two individuals on Saturday for circulating fake videos on various social media platforms.

The videos caused unwarranted panic among the public. During a press conference, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Rupinder Singh revealed that the detained individuals had shared the misleading videos from their personal social media accounts. Acting swiftly, the Ludhiana Police's Social Media cell launched an investigation after



receiving reports of the videos, leading to the detention of the two youths. He noted that the social media cell is conducting an in-depth analysis of the suspects' social media profiles to uncover any additional violations or related activities. DCP Singh issued a strong warning to the public, urging them to refrain from creating, sharing, or promoting fake videos and other forms of misleading content

on social media. He emphasized that such actions not only disrupt public order but also undermine the district administration's efforts to maintain safety and security. "Spreading misinformation is a serious offense, and those found guilty will face stringent legal action as per the Ludhiana Police's zero-tolerance policy toward social media misuse," Singh stated.

## Food & civil supplies department carry out checkings in Ludhiana



SHARMA  
LUDHIANA, MAY 9

Following directives from Deputy Commissioner Himanshu Jain, the Food and Civil Supplies Department has launched extensive inspections across fuel stations, ration shops, and retail establishments selling essential daily-use commodities to curb hoarding and black marketing. Specialized teams, formed at the sub-divisional

level, are conducting rigorous checks to monitor supply chains and prevent unethical practices. These teams are mandated to submit daily reports to ensure continuous oversight.

Deputy Commissioner Jain highlighted that certain traders and stockists have been engaging in unethical stockpiling of critical items, including food, fuel, dairy products, fodder, and other essentials.

## Guru Nanak Sahara Society conducts 202nd pension donation event



SUKH NAHAR  
JAGRAON, MAY 10

Under the leadership of Chairman Gurmali Singh Dhillon (UK) and President Chaitan Naresh Verma, the Guru Nanak Sahara Society, Jagraon, organized its 202nd monthly pension and ration distribution event in memory of the late Sansar Chand Verma. The event was held at the local Tara Devi Jindal School. The chief guest of the event, social worker Ravi Malhotra, distributed monthly pensions to 27 elderly individuals in memory of his

late father Sardarilal Malhotra on his annual death anniversary. On this occasion, Ravi Malhotra, along with Keval Malhotra and Sajjan Malhotra, made excellent arrangements for tea and meals for all the elderly attendees. The senior citizens prayed for Ravi Malhotra's good health and long life. Every year, Ravi Malhotra from Delhi provides pension and ration to elderly people on the death anniversaries of his parents. Special guest Pankaj Aggarwal (President, Chemists Association) distributed ration to all elderly beneficiaries.



Three injured in Ferozepur drone attack receive free treatment under farishtey scheme: Dr Balbir

CHANDIGARH: With the Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann led Punjab Government expanding its flagship Farishtey Scheme to include victims of war and terrorism, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Balbir Singh on Saturday informed that the three people injured in drone attack took place in Ferozepur on Friday night, are being provided free treatment under the scheme.

The decision to include victims of war and terrorism under the Farishtey scheme was taken in a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Friday, to ensure that any person injured should receive immediate and free medical treatment at government and empaneled private hospitals across the state.

"The government bearing the cost of treatment for every war and terror victim. The Aam Aadmi Party government is the first in the country to do so," said Dr Balbir Singh. Pertinently, the Farishtey Scheme, which was originally launched to provide cashless treatment to road accident victims, was aimed at reducing the mortality and morbidity rates resulting from injuries sustained in roadside accidents by providing immediate, hassle-free treatment in government and empaneled private hospitals. Under the scheme, anyone coming forward to help accident victims to save their lives are considered as 'Farishta' and being felicitated with cash rewards, commendation certificates and provided immunity from legal complications and police inquiries.

Bains issues directions, students' safety first

SUMER GARG  
CHANDIGARH: In the wake of the prevailing circumstances, Punjab's higher education minister, Harjot Singh Bains has directed all government & private universities and colleges to prioritise students safety and well-being by ensuring a secure environment. In a press communique issued here today, Mr Bains categorically said that the educational institutes must ensure the safety and



well-being of students, who remain on campus, providing them with food, shelter, care and essential services, without compelling any student to leave campus, if the students unable or unwilling due to safety, transport or personal reasons.

He informed that a letter has been issued to all universities in this regard, stating that students will not be compelled to stay on campus for examinations if they choose not to. Those who opt to return home will be allowed to do so without academic penalty, and examinations may be rescheduled or alternative arrangements can be made.

To ensure seamless support, the minister further directed education institutes to designate nodal officers and establish help-desks to facilitate effective communication with students and promptly address any concerns or issues that may arise.

Mr Bains underscored that student safety is paramount, stressing that institutions are duty-bound to ensure it. He cautioned that any lapse in safety protocols will invite serious consequences, with institutional management being held personally responsible. He directed all universities and colleges to immediately comply with these instructions and take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and well-being of students.

DC, CP reviews security readiness amid emerging situation

J S SODHI  
JALANDHAR: In view of the emerging security situation, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Aggarwal, Commissioner of Police Dhanpreet Kaur, and Municipal Corporation Commissioner Gauram Jain today held a high-level meeting at the Integrated Command and Control Centre to review law and order arrangements across the district. Addressing the officials, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Aggarwal reiterated the firm commitment of the Punjab Government, under the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab, Mr. Bhagwant Singh Mann, to ensure the safety of residents. He emphasized that the district is under close surveillance from the Integrated Command and Control Centre, and that a dedicated control room has been established to address public concerns. Citizens can report any suspicious drone activity or other issues by calling 0181-2224417. The Deputy Commissioner appealed to the public to remain vigilant and strictly adhere to all security protocols, especially blackout guidelines aimed at public safety. He states that people should avoid unnecessary movement and stay inside their homes.

Indian Armed Forces successfully neutralized most threats: Suresh Kashyap

DINESHAGARWAL  
SHIMLA: Former BJP State President and Member of Parliament Suresh Kashyap stated that the Indian Armed Forces have successfully neutralized most threats. The Indian forces have carried out swift and well-planned retaliatory attacks. They targeted key installations, command and control centers, radar sites, and weapon depots. Air-launched precision weapons and fighter jets struck Pakistani military bases in Rafiki, Murid, Chaklala, Rahmyar Khan, Sukkur, and Chuniyaan. The Pasrur radar site and the Sialkot aviation base were also targeted. Kashyap congratulated the Indian services and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, asserting that India is



standing up to Pakistan like a lion. He expressed concern that Pakistan misused international air routes by taking cover behind civilian flights from Lahore. These tactics forced the Indian air

defense system to act with maximum restraint while ensuring civilian safety. Kashyap pointed out that this situation clearly shows that Pakistan is a cowardly country. Kashyap also exposed Pakistan's lies, accusing them of spreading false propaganda. He dismissed Pakistan's claim that an Indian missile targeted Afghanistan, calling it entirely fake and baseless. He further refuted claims that Indian military bases, including Sirsa and Suratgarh airbases, were damaged. The claim that India's S400 base in Adampur was destroyed was also debunked. He clarified that accusations regarding damage to India's critical infrastructure, such as power and cyber systems, were completely false.

Governor presides Interfaith Harmony Meet at Raj Bhavan to reinforce National unity

SHIMLA: An Interfaith Harmony Meeting was convened today at Raj Bhavan under the chairmanship of Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla. The meeting witnessed the participation of representatives from various religious communities. Chief Minister Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu was also present on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, the Governor said that Pakistan has always harboured and promoted terrorism, citing that even the Pakistani Army participates in funerals of terrorists and expresses condolences, while its ministers irresponsibly endorse extremist activities. He condemned the incident of 22nd April as highly



deplorable that forced India to act decisively to dismantle terrorist hideouts in retaliation. He said that Pakistan, instead of restraining itself, committed a grave violation by attacking civilians across the international border,

targeting border villages as well as places of worship including temples and gurudwaras. He said that such actions expose the real face of terrorism and the ideology behind it. In this context, the Governor underlined the significance of the Interfaith Harmony Meeting, and

there was the need to reinforce unity, mutual coexistence and communal harmony. He said that the entire nation stands united against Pakistan's provocation and attempts to disrupt peace along the Line of Control. The Governor urged all religious leaders and communities to collectively condemn divisive propaganda instigated by Pakistan and to remain vigilant against misinformation being spread through social media platforms. He stressed that no force can weaken the unity and integrity of India and that public awareness must be strengthened through collective efforts.

Indus Waters Treaty will continue to be in abeyance: Sources



AGENCY  
NEW DELHI: There is no pre or post-condition to the understanding concerning military action between India and Pakistan reached on Saturday and the Indus Waters Treaty will remain in abeyance, MEA sources said.

The DGMOs of India and Pakistan on Saturday agreed that both sides would stop all firing and military action on land and in the air and sea with effect from 1700 hours Indian Standard Time. The call was initiated by Pakistan.

India had taken a series of steps against Pakistan after Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists were killed.

The steps taken over Pakistan's support to cross-border terrorism included putting the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance.

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960 after nine years of

negotiations between India and Pakistan with the help of the World Bank, which is also a signatory.

The Treaty allocates the Western Rivers (Indus,

Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan and the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India. At the same time, the Treaty allows each country to allocate certain waters of

the rivers to the other. The treaty gives India 20 per cent of the water from the Indus River System and the remaining 80 per cent to Pakistan.

Free Health Camp for Women on the Occasion of Mother's Day

SHARMA  
LUDHIANA Mothers often prioritize taking care of their families over their own health. Amidst household responsibilities, professional commitments, and caring for loved ones, they tend to neglect their own well-being. With this in mind, Massh-Prolife Hospital, Ludhiana, organized a free health camp exclusively for women on the occasion of Mother's Day. The health camp, held on Saturday, benefited approximately 150 women who availed various healthcare services. The camp ran from 10 AM to 2 PM and provided free consultations with gynecologists, along with complimentary services such as blood pressure checks, sugar tests, ECGs, and ultrasound screenings. Additionally, services like X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and Pap smear tests were offered at discounted rates. On this occasion, Dr. Manisha Badhan, Gynecologist at Massh-Prolife Hospital, remarked, "We often observe that women, especially mothers, tend to overlook their own health. This camp is an effort to remind them that their health is just as important as their family's. Our aim is to encourage them to undergo timely checkups and to show themselves the same love and care they extend to others."

Finance Min. Cheema and MP Arora Visit Pakistani Drone Attack Victims at DMCH

SHARMA  
LUDHIANA: Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjeev Arora visited Dayanand Medical College and Hospital (DMCH), Ludhiana on Saturday to inquire about the condition of two victims injured in a drone attack by Pakistan in Khai PHEME Ki village, Ferozepur, on Friday night. MP Arora, who also serves as Vice President of the DMCH Managing Society, informed that the injured—Lakhwinder Singh and his wife Sukhwinder Kaur—have been admitted to DMCH, while their son is receiving treatment at a hospital in Ferozepur. Lakhwinder has suffered 70% burn injuries, and Sukhwinder has sustained 100% burns. Both are in critical condition. Their son, who has sustained 40% burns, is reportedly stable but under observation. MP Arora also met with the relatives of the victims and made necessary arrangements for their accommodation in Ludhiana. He

said both patients have been shifted to the Burn Ward of DMCH and expressed hope for their speedy recovery. He added that the Punjab government is taking all possible steps to support the victims and their families during this tragic time. Minister Cheema assured that the Punjab government is fully committed to supporting the victims



and their families during this challenging time. He announced that the state government would cover all medical expenses, ensuring free treatment for the injured at DMCH. "The Punjab government stands firmly with the victims, and we will ensure they receive the best possible care," Cheema stated.

People should avoid going to places where drones/missiles fall to avoid loss of life: Dhaliwal



RAJASANSI/AJNALA: The NRI Affairs Minister Punjab Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal and Cabinet Minister Mohinder Bhagat today personally reached the spot to take stock of the latest situation arising out of the drones fired by Pakistan last night, which fell in the fields of village Ranewali-Mughlanikot near town Rajasansi and in village Wadala Bhitewadh near Sri Ram Tirath. On this occasion, police and civil administration officials were also present with them.

Addressing the people gathered at the scene, Cabinet

Minister Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal said that the drones/missiles were neutralised in the air by the Indian Army which were fired by Pakistan at night to harm our citizens. He added that villagers should not go to see the fallen debris, as it cannot be ruled out that some of the debris of the drones/missiles being explosive. He said that there may be risk of loss of life of people present at the scene due to the explosion of debris of missiles. He urged the people to inform the police or army in case of a drone/missile falls anywhere.

During the interaction, Cabinet Minister Mohinder Bhagat said that Pakistan is violating the international laws and attacking civilians by drones and missiles is highly condemnable and unfortunate. He said that despite Pakistan having suffered badly by waging wars with India since 1947, Pak still not giving up its nefarious anti-India activities. He said that Indian forces are giving a befitting reply to Pakistan. He reiterated that the state government stands shoulder to shoulder with the people of Punjab and the Indian Army like a rock.

Anti-tobacco awareness program held at D.A.V. College, Pehowa; Students pledge to stay away from tobacco



YAGYADATTSASHASTRI  
PEHOWA: An awareness program highlighting the harmful effects of tobacco was organized at D.A.V. College, Pehowa, under the joint aegis of the Department of Political Science and the Association of Political Science. The session aimed to educate students on the physical, mental, and social damage caused by tobacco use and to motivate them to steer clear of such addictions.

The keynote address was delivered by Assistant Professor Sukhbir from the History Department, who elaborated on the health hazards of tobacco. He emphasized that tobacco not

only deteriorates health but also disrupts economic stability and weakens family structures. Using statistical data, he highlighted that millions of premature deaths occur globally each year due to tobacco-related illnesses.

Assistant Professor Abhishek Sharma from the English Department engaged students in a direct and heartfelt discussion, urging them to distance themselves from tobacco. "This addiction diminishes one's personality and undermines the positive outlook on life. Quitting is essential for a healthy and purposeful existence," he said, also sharing practical

tips for embracing a healthier lifestyle.

Students were not only informed but also actively involved in the initiative by taking a pledge to avoid tobacco. Hundreds of students signed a commitment form, affirming their resolve to remain tobacco-free.

Dr. Sudip Kumar, Head of the Department of Political Science and coordinator of the event, stated that this initiative is a step towards fostering social awareness among youth. "Our aim is not limited to academic instruction—we also strive to instill a sense of social responsibility in our students," he said.

Mother's Day and Buddha Purnima celebrated with enthusiasm at Jayaram Public and Jayaram Sainik Schools



HANS RAJ  
KURUKSHETRA: Mother's Day and Buddha Purnima were celebrated with great enthusiasm at Smt. Kesari Devi Lohia Jayaram Public School and New Jayaram Sainik School, inspired by Brahmaswarup Brahmachari, the revered head of Jayaram institutions across the country and Chairman of Shri Jayaram Educational Trust.

Students presented a variety of performances dedicated to mothers. The primary wing captivated the audience with a group dance on the theme "Teri Mamta Se Jo Gehraa Hai, Waisa To Sagar Koi Nahi." Class 10 student Pari shared her heartfelt thoughts on Mother's Day, while Class 9 student Muskan spoke eloquently on the significance of Buddha Purnima.

To mark the occasion, the schools held competitions in card making, poster making, poetry singing, and essay writing on the theme of motherhood.

Principal Anju Aggarwal extended warm wishes for both occasions and emphasized the irreplaceable role of mothers in our lives. "No one can take a mother's place in the world. We must recognize her value and always uphold her dignity," she said.

The event was organized by Durga Sadan and saw active participation from teachers Anu, Ujjwala, Rama, Ekta, Ranjana, Mridula Rawat, Jyoti, Sonia, Pooja Gupta, Kawalpreet, and others.

One arrested along with 1 kg of doda powder poppy



ARVIND PATHAK,  
SULTANPUR LODHI: Senior Superintendent of Police Kapurthala As per the directions of Gaurav Tura, as per the instructions of DSP Sultanpur Lodhi Gurmeet Singh, the police of Sultanpur Lodhi police station achieved great success under the special campaign launched against drug dealing and bad elements. It has been informed that under the leadership of Hargurdev Singh Police Station Chief Sultanpur Lodhi, ASI Puran Chand Chowhki Incharge Mothawal (Police Station Sultanpur Lodhi) along with the police party arrested Amarpreet Singh alias Amar, son of Lakhvir Singh, resident of Latiyawal, Police Station Sultanpur Lodhi, District Kapurthala and recovered 01 kg of Doda powder poppy from him. A case has been registered under Sections 15-61-85 of the NDPS Act 111 BNS and further investigation is being conducted.

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1. M/s. Gaba Fashions Through its Proprietor (Mr. Jatinder Gaba) VP-0, AUR, Opp. PNB Bank Tenshi Nawanshahr Distt. S.B.S Nagar, Punjab-144417		24-Feb-2025	23-Feb-2025
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		07-May-2025	
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Dated: 11.05.2025, Place: Nawanshahr		Sd/-, Authorized Officer, Axis Bank Ltd.	

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## Janhvi Kapoor reminds that India is not an aggressive country amidst conflict with Pakistan

Just like all of us, actress Janhvi Kapoor is also devastated and extremely concerned about the growing tension between India and Pakistan. Taking to her Instagram stories, Janhvi penned an emotional note that read, “The visuals that unfolded on news channels and social media last night felt like they were something out of a movie, something I never fathomed I’d see in this lifetime happening on Indian soil. It was a kind of anxiety I had never experienced before. And it made me think of all the times we’d remark on foreign conflicts from a safe distance and call for an end to any and all kinds of confrontation between countries. But this time it’s at our door step.” The diva stated that, as history is proof, India is not an aggressive country. “We by nature, by history are never the aggressors. We don’t invade, we don’t enforce ourselves into places and onto people that don’t welcome us.” “Yesterday after decades of being at the receiving end of cowardly attacks we chose to hit back. We finally said enough. The might, power and strength of our armed forces was never any secret. But yesterday, despite the terror and uncertainty of what may unfold, there was a sense of security,” she added.

Thanking our Indian Armed Forces, Janhvi added, “Our Air Forces, our Navy, our Army, their bravery and their prowess will prevail and they won’t let a single Indian come in the way of harm.” Showing her gratitude for our PM, she went on saying, “Thank you Shri Narendra Modi for showing us that sometimes being an Indian also means to take a stand and to put an end to injustice inflicted upon us.” “The only scenario in which the perpetrators get what they want is if we let them divide us from within. I implore you to rise above that instinct, India’s long overdue response to terrorism is not extremism, it is an act of survival.” Janhvi concluded. After Operation Sindoor, tension has escalated along the India-Pakistan border.

### Shreya Ghoshal postpones her Mumbai concert amidst India-Pak conflict

Renowned singer Shreya Ghoshal has decided to postpone her Mumbai concert scheduled for May 10 as part of her All Hearts Tour due to the ongoing conflict between Indian and Pakistan. Informing the netizens about the same, Shreya wrote on her Instagram, “My dearest fans, with a heavy heart, I want to share that my homecoming concert in Mumbai, part of the All Hearts Tour and scheduled for 10th May 2025 at Jio World Garden, BKC, will be postponed due to the current events unfolding in our beloved country.” “This concert means the world to me, and I was looking forward to sharing a powerful evening with all of you. But as an artist and a citizen, I feel a deep responsibility to stand in solidarity with the nation during this time”, the singer added.

Assuring that the concert has not been canceled, but just postponed, the post read, “I promise that this is not a cancellation, just a postponement. We will reunite soon, stronger and more united than ever.” Shreya also shared that those who have purchased the ticket need not worry, as the tickets will be valid for the rescheduled concert as well. “A new date will be announced very soon, and all tickets purchased will remain valid for the rescheduled concert. Our exclusive ticketing partner, BookMyShow, will be reaching out to all ticket holders with further instructions and updates. Thank you to each and everyone for your understanding and support in advance.

### “We are not backing down...”: Sanjay Dutt hails Indian Armed Forces amid India-Pak tensions

Sanjay Dutt has lauded the bravery of the Indian Armed Forces amid rising India-Pakistan tensions and has called for unity and strength in the face of terrorism. On Saturday, the actor took to his Instagram Stories full support for the Indian Army following the recent rise in cross-border tensions between the two countries. In his statement, Dutt made it clear that India will not tolerate continued attacks and will respond with firm determination. He also urged the nation to remain united and not be shaken by acts of terror. “The attacks on our people will no longer be tolerated. We will respond, not with hesitation, but with full force and unshakable resolve. The world must understand that our battle is not against a people or a nation, but against the terrorists who thrive on fear, chaos, and destruction. Let there be no doubt, we are backing down this time,” read a part of his post. Dutt also went on to hail the strength and resilience of Indian people and military. “These terrorists are nothing but cowards g behind the veil of violence. They strike from the shadows, but they will learn that we are a nation that does not bow. We rise stronger every time they try to break us. Our unity, our spirit, and our will to fight back are far greater than their hate.” Calling the Indian Armed Forces the “true heroes,” Dutt added, “I am proud of our armed forces. They stand tall at the frontlines, fearless and focused, answering every act of terror with courage and fire. They are not just defending borders; they are defending every child’s dream, every family’s peace, and the soul of this nation. They are the true heroes, and I salute each one of them.” Take a look India and Pakistan have been at loggerheads with each other after terrorist camps were destroyed at nine locations in the neighbouring country under Operation Sindoor, which was launched in response to the ghastly Pahalgam terrorist attack. The operation was a retaliatory response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which resulted in the deaths of 26 civilians, including one Nepali national. Meanwhile, India has decided that any future act of terror will be considered an “act of war” against India and will be responded to accordingly, the top government sources said.

### Vaani Kapoor salutes the Indian Forces for defending the nation with resolve & integrity

Actress Vaani Kapoor appreciated the Indian Armed Forces for defending the nation with resolve and integrity. She took to the stories section of her Instagram handle, and penned, “What we witnessed wasn’t just a successful defense, but a powerful, robu display of strength, strategy, and unwavering commitment by the Indian Armed Forces, doing what they do best, defending the nation with resolve and integrity.” “I salute the Indian Army for ensuring our nation’s safety, for standing guard while we sleep in peace, and for carrying out their duty with unmatched courage, precision, and humility.” the ‘Bell bottom’ actress wrote. On the work front, Vaani’s upcoming project with Pakistani actor Fawad Khan, “Abir Gulaal” was indefinitely postponed in India amidst the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan. awad was scheduled to make his Bollywood comeback after 9 years with

“Abir Gulaal”. Previously, the Pakistani actor has been a part of Bollywood movies such as “Khoobsurat,” and “Kapoor & Sons”, “Ae Dil Hai Mushkil”. After his last release, “Ae Dil Hai Mushkil”, Pakistani actors were banned in the country following the Pulwama attack. Additionally, Fawad also faced a lot of backlash after calling Operation Sindoor by the Indian forces in response to the Pahalgam attack, “Shameful”. The ‘Zindagi Gulzar Hai’ actor penned on Twitter, “My deepest condolences to the families of those injured and killed in this shameful attack. I pray for the souls of the deceased and strength for their loved ones in the days to come. A respectful request to all: stop stoking the flames with rabble-raising words. It is not worth the lives of innocent people. May better sense prevail. InshaAllah. Pakistan Zindabad!” During Operation Sindoor, the Indian Defence Forces attacked nine





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