

MUSTREAD

J&K: 2 cops injured in Bandipora gunbattle

Srinagar: Two policemen were injured in an ongoing gunbattle in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Friday. They said the gunbattle that broke out in the early hours is underway in the Ajas forest of the district. Officials said a search operation was launched in the forest area following an input. They said as the security forces headed to a hideout , militants opened fire on the troops, triggering a gunbattle. “In the initial firing two policemen were injured,” they said.

AIMIM wins Hyderabad local authorities MLC polls

Hyderabad: All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) candidate Mirza Riyaz Ul Hassan Effendi won the Hyderabad Local Authorities MLC elections over BJP candidate N Goutham Rao. The AIMIM candidate secured 63 votes while the BJP candidate got 25 votes in the counting of votes held at GHMC Panwar hall here on Friday. The polling for the Hyderabad local authorities MLC constituency held on Wednesday with a total of 112 voters and registered 78 per cent turnout.

Odisha establishes 46 new Civil Judge Courts

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha Government had established 46 new Civil Judge Courts (Junior Division) in the state. These courts were established at various places in Balasore, Sambalpur, Rayagada, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Jagatsinghpur, Sundargarh, Sonepur, Cuttack, Bargarh, Khurda, Jharsuguda, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Bhadrakk, Dhenkanal, Bolangir and Ganjam district. The state government has constituted these courts in consultation with the Odisha High Court.

Doctors successfully save preterm baby with rare congenital condition

Bhubaneswar: In a remarkable feat of neonatal and surgical care, doctors at SUM Ultimate Medicare (SUMUM) in Bhubaneswar, have successfully saved a preterm baby weighing just 1,520 grams, born with complex congenital anomalies. The baby, delivered at 33 weeks of gestation, was diagnosed with Pierre Robin Sequence, a rare condition occurring in approximately 1 in 14,000 live births. The baby was born with a significantly underdeveloped lower jaw, which caused the tongue to be displaced downward, leading to a life-threatening upper airway obstruction. In addition, the baby had a cleft palate, further complicating both breathing and feeding.

HC grants protection to Kunal Kamra against arrest

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court on Friday granted protection from any coercive step, including arrest, to comedian Kunal Kamra currently facing backlash for his controversial comments about Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. The court was hearing a plea moved by Kamara seeking quashing of multiple FIRs against him, following his satirical video and “gaddar” comment purportedly made against Shinde. The division bench of justices Sarang Kotwal and Shri-ram Modak admitted his plea for quashing the FIR and said he will not be arrested in respect of the FIR during the pendency of the plea.

Mizoram Catholics to bid farewell to Pope Francis

Aizawl: Catholic faithful across Mizoram will gather in prayer this Saturday to pay their final respects to Pope Francis, with special requiem masses scheduled in all parishes and a central memorial service to be held at Christ the King Cathedral in Kulikawn, Aizawl. The Diocese of Aizawl announced the observance in solidarity with the global Catholic community as the Vatican prepares for the funeral of Pope Francis, who passed away earlier this week. His funeral will be conducted at St. Peter's Square in Rome at 10 a.m. local time, corresponding to 1:30 p.m. Indian Standard Time on April 26.

Pahalgam incident a grim reminder that Terrorism is a global menace: Dhankar

Udhagamandalam (Tamil Nadu) (UNI)

The terror attack on innocent tourists at Pahalgam in J and K was a grim reminder that “Terrorism is a global menace”, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar observed on Friday. Condemning the Pahalgam terror attack on innocent tourists that claimed 26 lives in strongest terms, Mr Dhankar said this incident in J andK reminds that Terrorism is a global menace.

Speaking as the Chief Guest at the inaugural session of the Conference of Vice-Chancellors of State, Central and Private Universities of Tamil Nadu at the Ooty Raj Bhavan convened by Governor R N Ravi, the Vice-President said that Bharat is the World's most peace-loving Nation and Terrorism is a Global Menace, Needs to be addressed in Unison”. Expressing deep sorrow over the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, Mr



Dhankar said “Today I join the Nation in expressing profound grief and outrage at the heinous terrorist attack in Pahalgam that claimed innocent lives.”

“It is a grim reminder that terrorism is a global menace to be addressed by humanity in unison. Bharat is the world's most peace-

loving nation and our civilisational ethos reflects Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”, he said.

He said the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is in his third term, is our greatest assurance that the nation's rise cannot be handicapped by any situation internal or external.

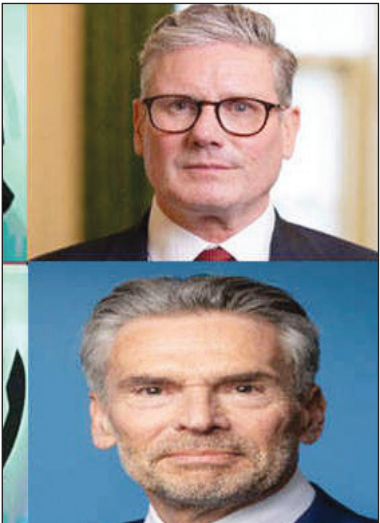
UK PM Starmer, Netherlands PM Schoof call up PM Modi to condemn Pahalgam terror attack

New Delhi (UNI)

More world leaders called up Prime Minister Narendra Modi to strongly condemn the Pahalgam terror attack and express their support for India. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Netherlands PM Dick Schoof spoke to PM Modi today.

PM Modi received phone calls from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, King Abdullah of Jordan, Japanese PM Shigeru Ishiba, French President Emmanuel Macron, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni and Egyptian President Abdel Fatah El-Sisi, conveying their support for India over the Pahalgam terror attack.

“PM @Keir_Starmer of UK called PM @narendramodi and conveyed his sincere condolences on the innocent lives lost in the heinous terror



Hamirpur DC office gets bomb threat



Hamirpur (HP) (UNI)

After Mandi and Shimla, bomb threats to blow away the buildings of Hamirpur and Chamba DC offices were received on Friday.

Reports said an email was received by both Deputy Commissioners as a result of which there was panic all around and in a huff, entire campuses were vacated.

In Hamirpur, police have cordoned off the entire campus and a

dog squad has been pressed into service. So far , the situation is normal and police are on job to ascertain whether any bomb-like device was planted in the campus.

The DC office located in the heart of Hamirpur city has also received a bomb threat.

The office was evacuated as soon as the threatening email was received. The SP Hamirpur office also runs in the same premises.

After receiving the mail, the security agencies have started an investigation with the dog squad.Earlier too, the Deputy Commissioner's office located in Mandi and the Chief Secretary's office in Himachal Secretariat had also received bomb threats.

After this, the police had increased vigilance. After receiving the bomb threat through email, the administration and security agencies became alert.

Bangladesh flag painted on an Agartala rickshaw, 2 detained

Agartala: A late-night commotion broke out in Agartala's Joynagar area on Thursday after locals spotted a rickshaw bearing what appeared to be the national flag of Bangladesh, triggering protests and resulting in the detention of two individuals.

The rickshaw, reportedly owned by Dulal Mia (62), a tea seller from Battala Market, had the flag painted on its rear. Locals confronted the rickshaw puller, who clarified that he had rented the vehicle a week ago and was unaware of the flag until objections were raised. “I had sold my rickshaw to switch to an electric auto-rickshaw. Since that didn't work out due to government restrictions, I rented this one from Dulal Mia. I noticed the flag earlier and even informed him about it,” the rickshaw puller said.

SC refuses to cancel bail of Bikram Singh Majithia

New Delhi (UNI)

The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed a petition filed by the State of Punjab challenging the regular bail granted to Shiromani Akali Dal leader Bikram Singh Majithia in a high-profile drug case.

A Bench comprising Justice J.K. Maheshwari and Justice Aravind Kumar upheld the Punjab and Haryana High Court's August 10, 2022, order granting bail, while also issuing strong directions to prevent public commentary on the ongoing investigation.

The Court, while refusing to interfere with the bail order, made it clear that neither should the Special Investigation Team (SIT) nor Majithia make any public statements related to the investigation or court proceedings.

The Bench directed Majithia to file an affidavit in the Supreme Court



registry within one week, affirming his commitment to refraining from influencing prosecution witnesses or making statements in the media.

The Court also warned that in case of violation, the prosecution would be at liberty to take appropriate legal recourse.

Similarly, prosecution officials must seek prior permission from the

Installation work of 83-ft tall Shivaji statue completed

Kolhapur, Sindhudurg: The installation work of 83-foot tall statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Rajkot in Malvan tehsil of Sindhudurg district has been completed at a place where a similar statue had collapsed on August 26, 2024.

Mahendra Keni, executive engineer of the construction, said the government has taken special precautions while installing the new statue. An Australia company tested the statue against a high-wind speed of 200 km per hour on the Malvan Beech. The work of installing the statue has started, Keni said. The work on the new statue was given to the company of famous painter Ram Sutar, who has taken special precautions. Before starting the work of installing the statue, Sutar studied the geographical conditions of the place.

Every perpetrator and supporter of Pahalgam terror attack must be hunted: LG Sinha to Army Chief



tained manner and neutralise them.

“Every perpetrator and supporter of Pahalgam terror attack, whatever his location or affiliation, must be hunted and they must pay the heavy price for the cowardly and dastardly act against our citizens,” the Lieutenant Governor told the top army officials.

The meeting also reviewed security mechanisms in place, various

“But we all have to bear in mind that national interest is supreme. This was echoed by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar while imparting his final address to the Constituent Assembly. We therefore have to take a resolve to always keep nation first, national interests cannot be intertwined with partisan interest, it has to be uppermost”, Mr Dhankar said.

“This cannot be subservient to any interest political, personal or for a group”, he said.

Touching upon the transformative National Education Policy, the Vice-President said NEP is not a Government Policy; It is a Policy for the Nation.

“After three decades, taking into consideration inputs from the widest spectrum of stakeholders, there was the evolution of the National Education Policy. This policy aligns with our civilization ethos. It encourages multidisciplinary learning.”

Battle of Dharma and adharm

Says RSS chief Bhagwat post Pahalgam

Mumbai (UNI)

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat on Friday condemned the terrorist attack in J&K's Pahalgam, saying the battle is “not between sects or religions, but between Dharma and adharm.”

Speaking at an award ceremony in Vile Parle in Mumbai on the occasion of the 83rd death anniversary of Pandit Dinanath Mangeshkar, the RSS chief said, “Our soldiers or other people will not kill anyone by asking about their religion. Hindus will never do that.”

After the terrorist attack, a wave of anger has swept across the country. “No one saw caste, religion or sect in it. If this happens all the time, no one will dare to look at us with a crooked eye and if anyone does, the eye will burst”, said Bhagwat.

Efforts on to get BSF jawan's release from Pakistani rangers: Sukanta

Kolkata: Union minister Sukanta Majumdar on Thursday assured the family members of a BSF jawan, detained by the Pakistani Ranger after accidentally crossing the border on Wednesday, that every effort was being taken to get his release at the earliest.

The Border Security Force (BSF) jawan, Purnab Kumar Shaw, was detained by Pakistan Rangers on Wednesday after he accidentally crossed the zero line in the Ferozepur sector, officials said on Thursday.

“Today, I spoke directly with his family and assured them that they are not alone. The Government of India stands firmly with them. The Central Government is making every possible effort, both diplomatically and administratively, to bring this courageous soldier back to his homeland,” Majumdar said in his X handle.

We do not fear intimidation from anyone. India stands resolutely beside every brave soldier. No one has the power to weaken our nation.



We are such people who see the good in everyone and accept it. Today we have an army. But there was a time when we did not feel the need for an army. We remained calm because there would be no war and then we learned a lesson in 1962. Since then, we have been increasing the strength of our army.

Major reforms needed in madrasa education: Yogi



Lucknow (UNI)

In a push for reforms in Madrasa Education System in Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday highlighted the need for strict compliance with infrastructural standards before granting official recognition to any madrasa in the state.

Chairing a high-level meeting to

review the current state of madrasa education, the CM underlined the importance of ensuring that madrasas do not remain limited to religious teachings alone. “Students studying in madrasas should have access to the full spectrum of modern education,” he said.

He said that the objective of the government is to bring reforms and to bring madrasa education into the mainstream through innovation and inclusiveness, so that every section of the society can get equal opportunities and quality education.

Emphasising the need to make madrasa education transparent, quality-driven and employment-focused, Yogi said, “the government priorities ensuring that every student has access to a bright and promising future.”

J&K LG summons Legislative Assembly session on Apr 28

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has summoned the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly to convene its session in accordance with Section 18 (1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019.

As per the order issued here on Friday by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, the Legislative Assembly shall meet at Jammu on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 10:30 A.M.

“I, Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under section 18(1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019, do hereby summon the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly to meet at Jammu on Monday.

Abrogation of Art 370 couldn't eliminate terrorism in J&K: Manik

Agartala (UNI)

Demanding exemplary punishment to terrorists, veteran communist leader and former Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar criticised the Central government for the terrorist strike on tourists in Pahalgam and said the abrogation of Article 370 couldn't eliminate terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sarkar said Centre's propaganda is putting innocent lives at risk and said that Syed Adil Hussain Shah, a local pony handler who was reportedly gunned down while trying to confront the attackers and protect tourists, should not be forgotten for his sacrifice.

Drawing parallels with the 2019 Pulwama attack, Sarkar pointed out



that after the death of 40 jawans, the government had promised to end terrorism in Kashmir.

“Yet, attacks continue to occur. If terrorism has truly been eradicated, how are such incidents still taking place?” he asked.

