

# Kashmir Convener



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## Pahalgam Terror Attack Fallout

# OPERATION SINDOOR

● India destroy 9 terror camps in POJK, Pakistan

### KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** In a decisive and calculated response to the deadly Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 civilian lives on April 22, the Indian Armed Forces launched 'Operation Sindoor' in the early hours of Wednesday, targeting nine key terrorist camps located in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK).

Addressing the media in New Delhi this morning, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Operation Sindoor was launched to bring the perpetrators and planners of the Pahalgam terror attack to justice. Despite a fortnight having passed, there has been no demonstrable step from Pakistan against terrorists' infrastructure in its area."

The 'Operation Sindoor', which commenced around 1:44 AM, was meticulously executed based on precise intelligence inputs, and successfully neutralized all identified terror camps without causing any civilian casualties or targeting military installations.

The terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), through its proxy The Resistance Front (TRF), had claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack, where gunmen indiscriminately opened fire on tourists in front of their families. It was the deadliest attack on civilians



in India since the 26/11 Mumbai carnage.

Misri said that the assault was designed to derail peace and tourism in Jammu and Kashmir, which has seen over 2.5 crore visitors in the past few years, and to incite communal discord.

"Pakistan continues to be a breeding ground for terrorism, sheltering and supporting terror outfits like LeT and Jaish-e-Mohammed under various aliases," Misri asserted.

The strikes were termed as a "non-escalatory, precise, and responsible" step.

Military officials including Colonel Sofiya Quresh and Wing Commander Yomika Singh, who briefed the media alongside Misri, emphasized that Operation Sindoor was a mission for justice. "All nine targets were destroyed. Our forces exercised utmost restraint and precision to avoid civilian harm," they noted.

India has provided detailed inputs on TRF, LeT, and JeM to the UN monitoring team, highlighting their operations through new proxy fronts. The UN Security Council (UNSC) has already issued a statement condemning the Pahalgam attack and

calling for the perpetrators to be held accountable.

While India has chosen to respond proportionately, government sources warned of intelligence inputs indicating possible future terror attempts by Pakistan-based groups. "India has shown patience, but our armed forces remain fully prepared to defend our people and respond as needed," Misri said.

According to the details accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the terror camps that were targeted during "Operation Sindoor" are as follows:

MARKAZ SUBHAN ALLAH, JAISH-E-MOHAMMAD Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan, located at NH-5 (Karachi-Torkham Highway) on the outskirts

According to the officials this is main centre of JeM for training and indoctrination of youth which is spread over a 15-acre area.

This Markaz serves as the operational headquarter of JeM and associated with terrorist plannings including Pulwama attack on Feb 14, 2019. Perpetrators of Pulwama attack were trained at this camp.

The Markaz also consists of residences of JeM Chief Maulana Masood Azhar, de-facto Chief of JeM Mufti Abdul Rauf Asghar, Maulana Ammar and other family members.

Maulana Masood Azhar remains to be the de-jure chief of JeM and under the protective custody of Pak authorities at an undisclosed location in Islamabad/Rawalpindi while the actual operations of JeM are carried out by Mufti. JeM conducts regular arms, physical and religious training for its cadres at Markaz Subhan Allah.

Senior JeM functionaries such as Mufti Abdul Rauf Asghar (de-facto head, JeM) and other brothers of Maulana Masood Azhar, chief of JeM and his brother-in-law, Yusuf Azhar @ Ustad Ghouri, head of JeM's (armed) wing reside in this premises.

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## Avenged Pahalgam terror attack with "Operation Sindoor": LG Sinha Attends High-Level Security Meeting Of HM

### KC News Network

**SRINAGAR:** The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the High-Level meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit



Shah through virtual mode to prevailing security situation.

The Lieutenant Governor affirmed that the instructions of the Union Home Minister will be implemented in letter and spirit. After the meeting, the Lieutenant Governor gave instructions to the officials to take necessary steps as per guidelines of Union Home Minister and to neutralise any potential threat in time.

He also praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his strong leadership and vowed zero tolerance against terrorism. The

meeting was held hours after Armed Forces' 'OPERATION SINDOOR', which targeted terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir from where terrorist

attacks against India have been planned and directed.

The Lieutenant Governor is closely monitoring the situation in the Jammu Kashmir Union Territory and undertaking regular reviews of security scenario and leading the team for necessary actions in border villages and other areas.

The Lieutenant Governor lauded India's tri-services 24 precision missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. He said the 'OPERATION

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

"Through 'OPERATION SINDOOR', India has also given the message that no matter where terrorists are hiding, our brave armed forces will find them and they will be punished for their heinous crimes. The training camps of terrorist groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, which were shedding the blood of innocent people in India for decades, have been completely destroyed by focused and measured action by our armed forces," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also took stock of the situation in border districts of Jammu Kashmir Union Territory with all the senior administrative, police and district officials including Deputy Commissioners of all the border districts, earlier this morning. He reiterated that the government is fully prepared to deal with

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## Pak Army Pounds Villages Along LoC



### KC News Network

**JAMMU/SRINAGAR:** Pakistan Army carried out one of the most intense artillery and mortar shelling in years targeting forward villages along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir after the Indian missile strikes

against terror infrastructure in the neighbouring country and PoK, officials said on Wednesday.

Hundreds of residents were forced to take refuge in underground bunkers or shift to safer places as the indiscriminate shelling by Pakistan destroyed houses, vehicles and various

buildings, including a Gurdwara, and created panic among the border residents in the worst-hit Poonch district and Rajouri in Jammu region and Baramulla and Kupwara in north Kashmir.

The officials said the Indian Army is responding to the shelling in a befitting manner, resulting in many casualties on the enemy side after several of their posts engaged in firing were destroyed.

This is the first time that such an intense shelling has been witnessed after the ceasefire agreement was renewed between the two countries on February 25, 2021.

The shelling was reported from all along the LoC in Poonch, including Balakote, Mendhar, Mankote, Krishna Chati, Gulpur,

## We will ensure the safety of every citizen: LG Sinha

### KC NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha took stock of the situation in border districts of J&K UT with all the senior administrative, police and district officials including Deputy Commissioners of all the border districts, earlier this morning.

The Lieutenant Governor is closely monitoring the

situation. He reiterated that the government is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality.

"We will ensure the safety of every citizen," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor has also directed the Deputy Commissioners for shifting of villagers from vulnerable areas to safer locations and ensuring boarding, lodging, food, medicare and transportation.

The Lieutenant Governor has posted on X: "Took stock of the situation in border districts of J&K UT with all the senior administrative, police & district officials including DCs of all the

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## Release Contingency Funds to border districts: CM Omar Abdullah

### KC NEWS NETWORK

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

The situation and preparedness to deal with ex-



gencies was reviewed in view of the current developments and escalating tension particularly along the LOC and districts close to the international border.

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

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## India Ready To 'Retaliate Resolutely' If Pak Escalates Tensions: NSA

### KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on Wednesday told his counterparts in various countries that India has no intent to escalate tensions but is prepared to "retaliate resolutely" if Pakistan does so, officials said.

Doval briefed his counterparts in the US, UK, Saudi Arabia and Japan about India's missile strikes against terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.



He also established contact with Russia and France, officials said.

"NSA briefed his counterparts on actions taken and method

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## Indian Armed Forces scripted new history: Rajnath Singh

### KC News Network

**NEW DELHI:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Wednesday that the Indian Armed Forces displayed their valour and bravery in Operation Sindoor, scripting a new history, and took action against terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and PoJK with "precision, alertness and sensitivity".

Speaking at an event for the inauguration of 50 Border Roads Organisation infrastructure projects across six states and two UTs, Rajnath Singh said that the armed forces showed sensitivity in ensuring that the civilian population is not affected during their action.

He also expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his full support to the armed forces.

India's precision strikes on terrorist infrastructure came in response to the

Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people were killed.

"You know that today, under the guidance of PM Narendra Modi, our Indian armed forces have made us all proud... Last night, our Indian armed forces displayed their valour and bravery, and scripted a new history. Indian armed forces took action with precision, alertness and sensitivity. The targets we decided where accurately demolished with precision. Our armed forces also showed sensitivity in ensuring that the civilian population is not affected at all," Rajnath Singh said.

"In a way, we can say that Indian jawans showed precision, alertness and humanity. On behalf of the entire country, I congratulate the jawans and officers," he added.

Earlier in the day, at a joint briefing on Operation Sindoor, in which nine terrorist camps were targeted by the



Indian Armed Forces with precision strikes, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said the terror attack in Pahalgam was marked with extreme barbarity, with the victims mostly killed with head shots at

close range and in front of their family.

"The family members were deliberately traumatised through the manner of killing, accompanied by the exhortation that they should take back the

message. The attack was clearly driven by the objective of undermining normalcy returning to Kashmir," he said.

Misri said that Indian intelligence agencies had been monitoring terrorist activities and raised concerns regarding more terrorist attacks in India.

"Our intelligence indicated that further attacks against India are impending. Thus, compulsion, both to deter and prevent and hence earlier this morning, India exercised its right to respond to deter such more cross-border terrorism... Our actions were measured and non-escalatory, proportionate and responsible. They focused on dismantling terrorists' infrastructure," he said.

Wing Commander Vyomika Singh said that a total of nine terror sites were targeted and successfully destroyed. She asserted that the locations were selected so that there

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# Cong Says Proud Of Indian Armed Forces; Lauds Their Bold, Decisive Action Against Terror Camps

**NEW DELHI:** Top Congress leadership on Wednesday lauded the Indian armed forces for their bold and decisive step against terror camps in Pakistan and PoK under 'Operation Sindoor' and reiterated the party's support to the forces and the government's action on the issue of national security.

The statement came after a meeting of the Congress Working Committee was urgently convened by party chief Mallikarjun Kharge, who said his party extends all its support to the armed forces in ensuring the safety of the country and its unity and integrity.

"We had called a meeting of the Working Committee to discuss the incident and the government's action. We are proud of the Indian Armed Forces, who have given a befitting reply by taking bold and decisive action against the terror camps of Pakistan and PoK under 'Operation Sindoor'. We salute the courage, determination and patriotism of our brave soldiers," Kharge said after the meeting.

He said from the day of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, the Indian National Congress has clearly stood in solidarity with the armed forces and the government and supported every decisive action against cross-border terrorism.

Rahul Gandhi, who was also present at the meeting, said the Congress party extends all its support to the armed forces.

"We held a discussion in the working committee. Our full support to our forces, best wishes to them, much love to them. Complete support from



the Congress party and the Congress Working Committee," he said.

Both Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge would attend the all-party meeting on Thursday that has been convened by the government, the Congress said.

Kharge said India's national policy against all forms of terrorism emanating from Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) is very clear

and firm.

"Unity at all levels is needed the most to protect the national unity and integrity of the great country of India. The Indian National Congress stands shoulder to shoulder with the brave soldiers of the country.

"History is witness that our heroes have always given their martyrdom for the unity and integrity of the country, keeping national interest paramount. The entire world knows this," the Congress chief said. "We will put all our strength behind our soldiers

for protecting the country, maintain unity and our freedom. We extend all our support to them.

"There is no difference on this issue and everyone is united. INDIA alliance partners are also trying to remain united for the unity of the country. This was decided that we reiterate our support to the armed forces on this issue," Kharge also said.

Top Congress leaders met here on Wednesday to discuss the current situation after Operation Sindoor in which security forces launched targeted attacks on terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK).

Senior party leaders including AICC treasurer Ajay Maken, former Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar, general secretaries K C Venugopal,

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Mukul Wasnik, Jairam Ramesh, Randeep Surjewala, former Union minister Anand Sharma and deputy leader of Congress in Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi were present at the emergency meeting at 24 Akbar Road.

The forces struck at the core of Pakistan's terror infrastructure in a series of precision attacks after midnight. Indian jets hit training camps, launch pads and headquarters of the Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba without breaching Pakistan's airspace, officials said.

A large number of terrorists were present at the nine high-value sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir when India attacked in the darkness of the night, they said. (AGENCIES) Jammu travel guide

## NIA Asks People To Share With It Photos, Videos Related To Pahalgam Terror Attack

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

The probe agency has already taken possession of a sizable number of photographs and videos showing various aspects of the



attack and is examining them, officials said.

NIA, which is officially in charge of the investigation into the terror attack, is keen to examine the content in thorough detail to search for any possible clues to the assailants and their modus operandi, they said.

Tourists and others might have, advertently or inadvertently, seen, heard or clicked some relevant detail that could help NIA unravel the conspiracy behind the unprecedented attack on tourists in Kashmir, officials said.

"It has now decided to scale up its efforts even more intensely to ensure that no useful information or evidence is missed out in its investigation into the horrendous crime against humanity," the NIA said in a statement. The NIA has urged all such people to call up the agency on 96-54-958-816 and/or 011- 24368800 and share the information.

## Compensation For Land Acquisition Must Be Guided By Equality, Equity, Justice: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday said the compensation for land acquisition cannot be assessed in a mechanical manner but must be guided by considerations of equality, equity and justice.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan said a fundamental principle in land acquisition jurisprudence was that lands with similar locational and developmental potential must be compensated equitably unless clear, objective distinctions justify otherwise.

The bench said it must caution against an "excessively positivist" approach in matters



of land acquisition.

"It is well understood that the very exercise of assessing compensation is antithetical to rigid formalism. Compensation cannot be assessed in a mechanical or formulaic manner but must be guided

by considerations of equality, equity, and justice," it said.

The apex court's verdict came on a batch of cross-appeals filed by the Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation and several landowners challenging

the quantum of compensation awarded by the Punjab and Haryana High Court for the land situated in Fazalwas and Kukrola villages in Gurugram district.

The bench observed the acquisition proceedings commenced in April 2008 and the public purpose of the acquisition was to build Chaudhary Devi Lal Industrial Model Township.

The determination of compensation for compulsory acquisitions under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, was fundamentally an exercise in equity, it added. The bench said instead of being a "precise

science", the law of compulsory acquisition in India strives to uphold the enduring principles of justice, equality and fairness.

"This ethos is reflected in the procedural framework of the 1894 Act and has been further refined by its successor statute, i.e., the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013," it said.

The bench said the apex court has consistently held that the determination of market value and corresponding compensation must necessarily factor in the escalation of land prices over time.

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, DISTRICT INDUSTRIES CENTRE SRINAGAR

Email: [srinagardic@gmail.com](mailto:srinagardic@gmail.com)/[gmdic-srinagara.jk.gov.in](mailto:gmdic-srinagara.jk.gov.in)

### Public Notice

Mis Hamdan Textile Industries VE Khunmoh Srinagar stands formally registered with this office under No. 01/003/09317/PMT/ MSME dated.31-12-2019 for the activity Spinning of woof as a partnerslup concern of 1. Sheikh Feroz Ahmad Sto Sheikh Ghulam Mohammad Rio Deewan Colony Ishaber Nishat. 2. Sheikh Maroo Feroz S/o Sheikh Feroz Ahmad Rio Deewan Colony Ishaber Nishat.

Now, partners of the unit intend to change the name and style of the unit from Mis Hamdan Textile Industries. 11 Khunmoh. Srinagar to M/s GM Pashmina Co., I/E Khunmoh, Srinagar

Any person having any objection for the proposed changes shall report to the office of General Manager. District Industries Centre. Srinagar within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. failing which no objection shall be entertained.

**Sd-General Manager**  
**District Industries Centre**  
**Srinagar**

DIPK-1212/25

## Operation Sindoor: US mission issues security alert in Pak, advises citizens to leave areas of active conflict



**NEW YORK:** The US Mission in Pakistan on Wednesday issued a security alert advising American citizens to leave areas of active conflict, saying it is "closely monitoring developments" following Operation Sindoor launched by India targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan.

The security alert, titled 'Military Activity and Closed Airspace', said, "We are aware of reports of military strikes by India into Pakistan. This remains an evolving situation, and we are closely monitoring developments.

"US citizens are reminded of the 'Do Not Travel' advisory for areas in the vicinity of the India-Pakistan border and the Line of Control due to terrorism and the potential for armed conflict, and the US Department of State's 'Reconsider Travel' advisory for Pakistan generally," the alert said.

"We are also aware that airspace has been closed, and many flights have been cancelled," it added.

Through the alert, the US Embassy and Consulates in Pakistan advised American citizens to "depart areas of active conflict if they can safely do so, or to shelter in place."

It said that US citizens should exercise caution and "leave the area if you find yourself unexpectedly in the vicinity of military activities, shelter in place if they cannot relocate, review personal security plan, keep a low profile and be aware of surroundings and carry identification and cooperate with authorities."

In March, the US State Department issued a travel advisory to reconsider travel to Pakistan "due to terrorism and the potential for armed conflict".

"Do Not Travel to: Balochistan Province and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Province, which include the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), due to terrorism and to the immediate vicinity of the India-Pakistan border and the Line of Control due to terrorism and the potential for armed conflict," the advisory stated. India launched 'Operation Sindoor' targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in a strong response to the terror attack in Pahalgam. The April 22 attack, carried out by the terror organisation The Resistance Front, killed 26 civilians. "India has credible leads, technical inputs, testimony of the survivors and other evidence pointing towards the clear involvement of Pakistan-based terrorists in this attack," the Indian Embassy in Washington had said in a statement. "India's actions have been focused and precise. They were measured, responsible and designed to be non-escalatory in nature. No Pakistani civilian, economic or military targets have been hit. Only known terror camps were targeted," it had said.

## India Ready To 'Retaliate Resolutely' If Pak Escalates Tensions: NSA To His Counterparts

**NEW DELHI:** National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on Wednesday told his counterparts in various countries that India has no intent to escalate tensions but is prepared to "retaliate resolutely"

if Pakistan does so, officials said.

Doval briefed his counterparts in the US, UK, Saudi Arabia and Japan about India's missile strikes against terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. He also established contact with Russia and France, officials said. Jammu travel guide

"NSA briefed his counterparts on actions taken and method of execution, which was measured, non-escalatory and restrained. He emphasised that India had no intent to escalate but was well prepared to retaliate resolutely should Pakistan decide to escalate," an official said.

## Government Of Ut Jammu And Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PCD(PHQ) J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGAR

INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/10/2025-26 Dated: - 06-05-2025

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost(Rs. In lacs)	Cost of document(In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Repair/renovation of Quarter No.04 block-H at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar including electric works.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"
2	Repair/renovation of Quarter No.04 block-E at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	1.76 lacs	200/-	3520/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"
3	Repair/renovation of Quarter No.23 block-W at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"
4	Repair/renovation of Quarter No.01 block-W at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"
5	Repair/renovation of Quarter No.07 block-W at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"
6	Repair/renovation of Quarter No.20 block-W at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"
7	Repair/renovation of Set No. 22 block-W at Police Housing Colony Qammerwari Srinagar.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	2.00 lacs	200/-	4000/-	60 working days	16-05-2025	"A", "B", "C"&"D"

1. Date of Publishing 08-05-2025 at 1600 hours.
2. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 1630 hours on 08-05-2025.
- i. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 09-05-2025 to 15-05-2025 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 16-05-2025 online.
- ii. The complete bidding process will be online.
- iii. Technical bids of bidders shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 16-05-2025 at 1100 Hrs.
- iv. The lowest bidder i. e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.
- v. In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:- 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).
- vi. Treasury challan/ receipt indicating the name of work and e-NIT No. favouring Executive Engineer PCD PHQ by crediting to M.H. 0055/Revenue issued after the issuance of advertisement e-NIT No. & date and upload the same.
3. Earnest Money:- The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar of the successful bidder (L1) shall be released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful completion of the work to the satisfactory report of Engineer in charge.
- (The date of Treasury challan/ EMD should be between the date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date).
4. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

No:- e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2025-26/3926-33  
Dated: 06-05-2025.

DIPK-1195/25

**Sd/(Er. Neeraj Gupta)**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Police Construction Division**  
**PHQ, J&K, Jmu/Sgr.**







Editorial



BRO at 66

As the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrates its 66th Raising Day, it does so with renewed pride and purpose, having carved an unmatched legacy of engineering excellence, national service, and strategic relevance. The virtual inauguration of 50 infrastructure projects worth ₹1,879 crore by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is not just a ceremonial milestone—it is a resounding endorsement of BRO's crucial role in strengthening India's borders and uplifting some of its most inaccessible regions.

Since its inception in 1960, the BRO has grown from two initial projects—Tusker and Beacon—to becoming a cornerstone of India's border infrastructure strategy. It is no overstatement to say that BRO has transformed the meaning of "connectivity" in the remotest terrains, often under hostile weather and in high-altitude environments that challenge even the most seasoned engineers.

This year's landmark achievement of completing 50 projects across six states and two Union Territories, including critical bridges and roads in Jammu & Kashmir, reflects the organisation's unwavering commitment to national service. These infrastructures are more than brick and mortar—they are lifelines for defence logistics, conduits for socio-economic development, and symbols of the State's presence in vulnerable border areas.

Particularly noteworthy are the six projects completed by Project Sampark in Jammu & Kashmir, including key bridges on strategic routes like the Basohli–Bani–Bhaderwah and Dhar–Udhampur roads. These bridges not only ensure swift military mobility but also offer relief and opportunity to local communities long isolated by inadequate infrastructure.

More than ever, as India pursues a dual strategy of defence preparedness and economic development in border regions, the BRO stands as both sentinel and architect. Its ability to turn inhospitable terrain into strategic advantage is indispensable in today's geopolitically volatile environment. As tensions persist along our northern borders, roads and bridges are as critical as weaponry—and perhaps even more enduring in the message they convey: that India is here to stay.

As the nation celebrates BRO's 66 years of relentless service, we must salute its silent warriors—engineers, labourers, and support staff—who brave avalanches, sub-zero temperatures, and landslides to keep India connected and secure. The roads they build today will pave the way for a more secure, integrated, and prosperous India tomorrow.

Fraud in the name of KCC: Predatory capitalism of private banks and looting of farmers



Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

India is an agricultural country. We have been learning this sentence in schools since the first grade, but the question is, does the heart of India really beat with the farmers? Do governments, banking institutions, and economic policymakers respect this agricultural dominance? Recently, a video from Rajasthan revived this question, where an educated farmer exposes the trick of Axis Bank, which is being done with lakhs of innocent farmers like him—money is deducted from their Kisan Credit Card (KCC) account in the name of insurance and policies without informing them. This incident is not just of one state but is part of an entire economic exploitation system.

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was launched by the government to provide farmers with affordable credit so that they can meet their farming costs without falling into the trap of moneylenders. The soul of this scheme was easy, transparent, and reliable financial assistance. But when the same scheme goes into the hands of private banks, they turn it into a marketable product. Farmers are forcibly given life insurance, accident insurance, and sometimes even mobile SIMs or other services in the name of KCC. The cost of all this is deducted directly from their account—without their consent, without their knowledge.

A video recorded by a farmer in Rajasthan unravels the layers of this entire system. The farmer asks Axis Bank on what authority money was deducted from his account. The bank employees have no clear answer. They talk about the policy but are unable to show any documents of consent. The video clearly shows that this is not a "policy" but meanness. The farmer's language, confidence, and factual preparation show that if the farmers become aware, this system will not last long.

It is not that only Axis Bank is involved in such activities. Many other private banks—ICICI, HDFC, IDFC, and even some cooperative banks—have also been accused by farmers' organizations. Thousands of rupees are deducted from the farmers' accounts every year in the name of insurance. Many times they

do not even know that a policy has been started in their name. When they go to the bank to complain, they are either silenced or are told, "This is the rule," "It is deducted from the system," or "You signed

reality is completely opposite to this. When an educated customer living in cities goes to the bank, he is told everything related to insurance, policy, and transaction. But when the same

the weather, the land, and the market, but is also grappling with the hypocrisy of the banks. The banks that once promised to be his financial backbone are now stabbing him in the back. In such a situation,



the form." Here, signature means a form filled out forcibly, which the farmer is unable to understand. This question is very important: What are the governments doing about this? Do they not have information that farmers are being cheated by banks? If yes, then why has no strict action been taken till now? Whether it is Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi or loan waiver schemes, all these run in the name of farmers. But when their own money is silently deducted, then why do the same governments become silent? Has the government become a silent partner in this 'illegal earning' of private banks?

In recent years, farmers have filed PILs on this issue several times. The High Courts of some states have also paid attention to this, but no concrete policy has emerged at the national level. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued some guidelines, such as adding insurance or any other product only with the explicit permission of the customer, but the ground

bank opens a branch in a village, the books of rules disappear there. Considering the rural customer as 'weak, illiterate, and naive,' the attitude of the banks becomes 'looting and intimidating.' This is what we call economic inequality—where there are no facilities, only 'exploitation' reaches.

The government should organize digital and banking literacy camps at every panchayat level. It is important to explain to the farmer what he is signing and what its effect will be. Also, RBI should create an online portal where the farmer can know the reason for every rupee deducted from his account, and he should get the facility to lodge a complaint without going to the bank. If such complaints come from many branches of a bank, then the services related to farmer loans should be banned at that bank. Farmer awareness committees should be formed at the village level, which monitor banking fraud and boycott the bank if needed.

Today, the Indian farmer is not only fighting

it is important that we are not just surprised by watching the video but adopt the consciousness of the farmer who asks questions, demands answers, and raises his voice for his rights.

The farmer should not be considered just a grain-growing machine. He is also a vigilant citizen. In a country where the budget is prepared in his name, those who empty his pockets cannot be forgiven. "Sanskaar (culture) has taught us to bow down, but not in front of anyone's arrogance"—do not limit this sentence to just a picture. This is the real story of the farmers' struggle. Now the time has come that every farmer, every citizen, every journalist, and every policy maker should understand this—if the farmer's voice is not heard, then tomorrow the field will go silent and so will the plate.

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Balancing Legacy and Innovation: Russia, US and India's Defence Procurement Policies

ROHITH NARAYAN STAMBAMKADI

While Russia continues to play a role in sustaining India's operational readiness through MRO of legacy platforms, its declining reliability and closer alignment with China complicate the partnership. In contrast, India's defence cooperation with the US is growing.

Given the expanding threats in various domains and challenges across different geographical fronts, the Indian armed forces need to maintain a delicate balance between upgrading legacy systems for operational readiness and progressively integrating high-tech capabilities. This requires India to navigate a complex defence landscape, balancing its legacy dependence on Russian equipment with a strategic pivot towards high-tech defence systems, primarily from the United States (US), all the while fostering self-reliance through 'Make in India'.

Russia's industrial limitations, exacerbated by its war in Ukraine and deepening ties with China, undermines its reliability as India's primary defence supplier. As India advances its 'Make in India' policy through technology transfers and co-production agreements, it must pivot towards the US for both strategic and commercial reasons. To ensure long-term security and build a resilient defence industrial base (DIB), India must leverage friendship with the US to access advanced technologies and sustain its defence modernisation by navigating existing challenges in the partnership.

**India's Balancing Partnerships: Recent Dynamics**

At the February 2025 India-US summit, President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasised on several promising initiatives in Defence and Technology.[i] Both leaders announced new co-production projects, including Anduril-Mahindra's autonomous drone and anti-drone systems,[ii] and L3 Harris-Bharat Electronics' towed array sonars.[iii] Advancing defence industrial cooperation and accelerating technology partnerships. Similarly, the visit of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Russia in December 2024 highlighted the prospect of signing a US\$ 4 billion deal for the Voronezh radar system, with Russian reports claiming the deal includes

a provision for at least 60 per cent of the radar system to be manufactured in India.[iv] These developments reflect India's balancing partnerships and advancing co-production defence ties with both Russia and the US, despite strained US-Russia relations. Nevertheless, a closer look at India's



defence partnerships with both the countries in recent years reflect a changing paradigm. There is a strategic shift from dependence on Russia and a drift towards the US.[v]

India's Legacy Dependence on Russia

The Indian Armed Forces operate a wide range of Russian-origin weapon systems, including over 2,400 T-72 and 100 T-90 tanks, BMP-2 infantry vehicles, BM-21 and BM-30 rocket systems and various air defence systems.[vi] The Navy uses MiG-29 fighters, IL-38 aircraft, Ka-28 helicopters and a Jyoti-class replenishment tanker, among several others.[vii] Lastly, the Air Force operates MiG-21s, MiG-29s, 260 Su-30s, IL-78 aerial tankers, IL-76 and An-32 transports, Mi-24 attack helicopters and over 200 Mi-17s.[viii]

These inventories also feature joint production ventures including BrahMos cruise missiles, Su-30MKI fighters, various ships for the Indian navy and the production of AK-203 assault rifles. [ix] Nevertheless, the large number of Russian systems in India's inventory attests to a long-standing security co-operation between India and Russia prior to India's 'Make in India', and the war in Ukraine. Further, a major chunk of current partnership with Russia owes to Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) of existing legacy systems.[x]

Through 'Make in India', Indian defence industry has seen several changes to boost defence sector growth.[xi] This includes new acquisitions to be produced domestically whenever feasible,

and creating import ban lists which require the forces to purchase certain systems from domestic suppliers.[xii] As a result, India now sees more than 60 per cent of its defence equipment manufactured in India, with production hitting a record high of US\$ 15.34 billion in FY24, up by 16.7 per cent last year.[xiii]

India has also seen a boost in defence exports to US\$ 2.63 billion up by 32.5 per cent compared to last year in 2023.[xiv] These developments contributed to reduced reliance on foreign equipment and systems, including Russia. Although Russia remains the primary arms supplier to India accounting to 36 per cent of India's current defence imports, this is the first period since the 1960s when deliveries from Russia made up less than half of India's arms imports.[xv] Russia's share of Indian arms imports has shrunk from 58 per cent in 2014-18 to 36 per cent in 2019-23.[xvi]

Further, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has contributed to declining imports with the Indian government cancelling several key agreements to acquire new or upgraded weapon systems due to Russia's inability to meet its contractual obligations. These include the Indian Air Force's cancellation of Su-30MKI upgrades due to logistical problems arising from the war.[xvii] and suspension of negotiations to acquire Ka-31 airborne early warning systems for the Navy.[xviii]

India has faced challenges in securing payments for these systems amid ongoing sanctions on Russia.[xix] Similarly, the IAF's negotiations to acquire MiG-29s and SU-30s also did not see any fruition.[xx] Further, Russia's United Shipbuilding Corporation has announced a six-month delay of two frigates currently being constructed for the Indian Navy due to difficulties in procuring components amid sanctions.[xxi] Russia's Rubin

Design Bureau, a submarine production company, withdrew a proposal to construct submarines owing to several reasons including inability to meet time-frame required under the contract.[xxii] These developments attribute India's declining defence trade with Russia.

Further, Russia's closer strategic alignment with China—cemented by their 2022 "no limits" partnership—poses complications for India.[xxiii] Potential use of Chinese-made components in Russian systems raises concerns over security risks and interoperability, adding another layer of uncertainty for India, as it weighs the reliability and strategic consequences of continued defence engagements with Moscow amid its deteriorating ties with Beijing.

As per SIPRI's 2024 report, Russia is India's major supplier.[xxiv] India's existing Russian inventory requires ongoing cooperation for maintenance, spare parts and upgrades. Despite the decline in Russia's share in India's defence imports in the recent years, a complete transition will occur at a slow pace, requiring continued partnership between both the countries for operational readiness of the Indian Military.

India's Strategic Pivot to the US

India-US defence ties are part of one of the most transformational bilateral relationships of the 21st century. Strategic convergence marked by shared interests in the Indo-Pacific, India's 'Make in India' synergy through joint ventures, technology transfers and domestic manufacturing, a pivot from Russian dependence on arms, highlight some of the key factors of India's enduring defence ties with the US.[xxv] This promising relationship is also marked by India's growing relevance in the Indo-Pacific for the US, as it seeks to secure a reliant defence industrial partner in the region to advance its interests through allies and partners, amid evolving geopolitical challenges.[xxvi]

The US recognition of India as a 'Major Defence Partner' in 2016 followed up by key agreements like Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA), Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) and Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geospatial Intelligence (BECA) between 2016 and 2023 mark the increasing ties and synergy between both the players.[xxvii] Despite lagging developments observed under previous initiatives like Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI), initia-

tives like industrial security annex and Strategic Trade Authorisation (STA) status authorised by the US to India gave increasing boost to the ties. Recent initiatives like iCET and India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X), with involvement of private sector, academia and a range of organisations, mark a significant development that aim to cultivate a rich defence innovation ecosystem and opportunities for co-development and co-production.[xxviii]

Since its commencement in June 2023, INDUS-X has been swift to initiate meaningful progress in key areas of defence between both the countries, translating several initiatives into commercial defence linkages. Some immediate developments include General Atomics announcement of three partnerships—with 114ai for AI and ISR, with Bharat Forge for manufacture and assembling of MQ-9 components in India, and with 3rdiTech for semiconductors. Other partnerships include Boeing's Liquid Robotic with several key Indian defence players for manufacture of USVs, Skydio's partnership with Aeroarc, and much recent Ultra maritime partnership with Bharat dynamics.[xxix]

A projection of India's growing partnership with the US reflects several promises through various acceleration programmes, investor confidence and bi-partisan support from the US. For example, in 2021, the Biden administration notified Congress of potential arms sales to India totalling just over US\$ 2.5 billion.[xxx] By 2023, security cooperation between the US and India had deepened, marked by high-profile visits from both nations' officials.

In 2024 alone, the US notified Congress of over US\$ 5 billion in potential arms sales to India,[xxxi] and the recent US-India summit in February 2025 has seen several breakthroughs in defence and technology including initiatives such as US-India COMPACT (Catalysing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st century and US-India TRUST (Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology).[xxxii] Both the countries also announced the establishment of Autonomous Systems Industry Alliance (ASIA), emphasising on AI-enabled systems to scale private industry partnerships and production in the Indo-Pacific, and US sale of its fifth generation F-35 fighter aircraft to India.[xxxiii]

To Be Continued...

PART I



# DLSA Budgam organizes awareness programme at Central Jail Srinagar

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

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

On the occasion, Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel of DLSA Budgam, Lateef Ahmad Khan and Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsels, Javid Ahmad Mir and Nazir Ahmad Wagay were deputed as resource persons on behalf of DLSA Budgam to Central Jail Srinagar.

The resource persons spoke on the subject and apprised the



under trial prisoners, convicts, jail inmates etc, about ways and

means of obtaining free and competent legal aid from legal services institutions to defend their cases at various levels free of cost.

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

The inmates were also informed about the services and schemes of DLSA meant for UTPs, and also imparted awareness regarding the legal provisions etc.

Programme witnessed active participation of Shahbaz Hussain, Incharge Superintendent Central Jail Srinagar, officials of Prison Legal Aid Clinic and PLVs existing at Central jail Srinagar, police personnel, jail inmates, PLVs of DLSA Budgam etc.

## Minister Javed Rana Grieved Over Civilian Deaths; Urges Immediate Relief

**Poonch:** Minister Javed Ahmed Rana has expressed profound grief over the loss of innocent civilian lives in cross-border shelling from across the Line of Control (LoC) in the Poonch sector. Terming the incident a tragic and deeply distressing episode, the Minister conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and urged citizens to remain united and support one another in this time of adversity.

Rana called on the Deputy Commissioners of Poonch and Rajouri to immediately evacuate residents from vulnerable areas and establish shelter camps in safer zones equipped with essential amenities. Emphasizing the need for swift humanitarian response, he said all possible measures must be taken to ensure the safety and well-being of civilians affected by the shelling.

Appealing to the youth, the Minister urged them to take an active role in promoting community solidarity and offering aid and moral support to the victims. "These are testing times. Our youth must come forward to show compassion and resilience, and play a vital role in supporting the affected communities," he said.

The Minister reiterated his commitment to ensuring every necessary step is taken to protect civilian lives and maintain peace and security in the region.

## Poonch Administration spurs up designated Public shelter camps with adequate amenities

**POONCH:** With arrangements already in place for relocating people to safer locations amid prevailing situation, the District Administration Poonch conducted a detailed review of preparedness at various designated shelter camps.

A team of senior officers, including Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), CPO, and Tahsildar Haveli, visited the proposed camp sites to assess the readiness of facilities and ensure all logistic and support systems are operational.

The locations designated as

shelter camps for those willing to relocate are Caramel School, Chandak, Dingla University Campus, Ishatul Uloom Chandak, Higher Secondary School (HSS), Chandak, GHSS Lassana, Government High School (GHS) Sanai, Government Middle School (GMS) Sanai, GHSS Seri Khawaja, Polytechnic College, Sathra. The administration assures the public that essential services including accommodation, food, and medical assistance are available at all these shelter sites.

People are being encouraged to make use of these facilities if they wish to relocate.

## District Police Jammu issue advisory for social media users

**JAMMU:** The District Police Jammu today issued a public advisory for social media users and other public platforms. "All citizens of District Jammu are strictly advised not to share, upload, or circulate any content related to security deployments, operational movements, or sensitive locations on social media or any other public platforms" the advisory stated.

"Such actions pose a serious threat to public safety and national security, and will attract strict legal action under relevant laws.

District Police Jammu urges everyone to act responsibly and refrain from activities that may compromise the effectiveness of security operations or endanger lives.

Your cooperation is crucial at this juncture for maintaining peace and public order," It added further.

# Shah asks CMs to maintain strict vigil against anti-national propaganda on social media

**New Delhi:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday asked the states having borders with Pakistan and Nepal to maintain a strict vigil on anti-national propaganda initiated by unwanted elements on social and other media platforms.

At a meeting with the chief ministers, DGPs and chief secretaries of such states, Shah said prompt action should be taken against violators, while arrangements should be made to ensure smooth operation of hospitals and the fire brigade and an uninterrupted supply of essential goods.

Asking the states to stop the spread of unnecessary fear among the public and take steps to spread awareness among people against rumours, the home ministers said coordination between the local administration, army and paramilitary forces should be further enhanced.

The home minister said

strict vigil should be kept on anti-national propaganda by



unwanted elements on social and other media platforms and prompt action should be taken against them in coordination with state governments and central agencies, according to a home ministry statement.

He asked the states to keep the SDRF, civil defence, home guards, and NCC, among others, on alert to deal with any situation and make their preparations according to the guidelines issued for the mock drill.

Shah said efforts should be made to ensure public participation through citizens and non-governmental organisations.

## ECI crosses milestone of training over 2,300 field-level election functionaries at IIDEM

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

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

weeks. This 2-day training programme is in line with the expansive training programme to train election functionaries at all levels



including over 1 lakh BLOs in the country in next few years.

The BLO supervisors are being trained through interactive sessions, role plays, to ensure accurate filling of various forms

including Form 6, 7 & 8. The module includes practical training in the use of IT solutions. These BLO supervisors are being equipped as Assembly Level Master Trainers to train other BLOs.

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

It may be recalled that no appeals were filed from Tamil Nadu and Puducherry after the completion of the Special Summary Revision (SSR) exercise as of 6th-10th of January 2025.

### ...RAMP Programme

## Team of JKTPO & JKEDI Officers review ongoing ESDP Training at Reasi

**REASI:** As part of the ongoing initiative to foster entrepreneurship and skill development across Jammu and

The programme started with a welcome address by the Principal Er. Rajesh Kumar Banotra. Also present on the



Kashmir under the World Bank-funded Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme, Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, J&K Government, and Director JKEDI, Khalid Jahangir, along with Managing Director, JKTPO, Sudershan Kumar, visited Government ITI Reasi today to review the ongoing Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP).

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

occasion were DNO Abhilash Kumar Braroo, Trainer Waseem Hussain Mir, Virpartap Singh (Reviewer of the Reasi ESDP) and In-charge CNC.

During the visit, MD JKTPO Sudershan Kumar appreciated the enthusiasm of the participants and reaffirmed JKTPO's commitment to fostering grassroots entrepreneurship. He emphasized that under the RAMP initiative, the government is making structured efforts to build entrepreneurial capacity and create job providers across the UT.

Khalid Jahangir provided an overview of the ESDP initiative and its long-term objectives, noting that the programme plays a vital role in enabling local youth,

particularly women, to become self-reliant through enterprise development.

The ESDP is a key component of the RAMP initiative in Jammu and Kashmir, with an overall budget allocation of 1.5 crore for 108 training programmes targeting 3,240 beneficiaries across all districts. The 20-day curriculum includes business management, marketing, simulations, field exposure, and enterprise planning.

The Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme is a World Bank-assisted national programme aimed at enhancing the productivity, market access, and resilience of the MSME sector. In J&K, it is being implemented under the leadership of JKTPO and supervision of the Industries & Commerce Department.

The programme focuses on institutional strengthening, market development, digitalization, and financial access to support micro, small, and medium enterprises.

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

## Inter-School Zonal Level Tournament kick-starts at Zone Bhalla Doda

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

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

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

Principal of the host school Ananjeel Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and commended the students for their dedication and passion for sports.

He encouraged the young athletes to continue pursuing excellence both on and off the field. I/C ZPEO Bhalla, Subash Chander served as the Nodal Officer for the event and played a key role in ensuring its smooth execution.

## Distt admin Srinagar organizes awareness camp on New Criminal Laws



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

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

During the camp, speakers elaborated on the key features of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. They highlighted the citizen-centric reforms, simplified procedures, and measures to strengthen the criminal justice system under the new legal framework.

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

## Appeals invited for Electoral Rolls in respect of 27-Budgam and 77-Nagrota ACs

**JAMMU:** After house to house field survey by 323 Booth Level Officers (BLOs), draft Electoral Rolls were published on 8th April 2025 by the respective Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) in the two Assembly Constituencies viz; 27-Budgam and 77-Nagrota, for inviting claims and objections.

All Political Parties together appointed 279 number of Booth Level Agents (BLAs) for verifying the draft electoral rolls in these two constituencies.

After addressing all claims and objections, the final electoral rolls were published by the respective Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) on 5th May 2025 and a copy was handed to all political parties.

As per Section 24 (a) of the Representation of People Act 1950, anyone can now file an appeal against the decision of the concerned ERO to the respective District Magistrate.

In case anyone is not satisfied with the decision of the District Magistrate, an appeal can still be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer, UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Srinagar Police Intensifies Crackdown on Terrorist Associates in UAPA Investigations

**Srinagar :** As part of its continued crackdown on the terrorist ecosystem, the Srinagar Police has intensified searches at multiple locations in the city, targeting individuals allegedly associated with proscribed terrorist outfits. The operations are being carried out in connection with ongoing investigations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), with the goal of dismantling terror-support infrastructure in the district.

According to officials, the Srinagar Police has so far conducted searches at the residences of over 100 terrorist associates. The latest round of searches covered the homes of several individuals across various parts of the city, all of whom are involved in registered FIRs under UAPA and related provisions.

Searches were conducted at the residence of Sahil Nisar Ganie, son of Nisar Ahmad Ganie of Shankarpura, who is involved in FIR No. 127/2020 under Sections 302, 392 IPC, 7/27 Arms Act, and 13, 16, 18, 20 UAPA at Police Station Nowgam. The house of Mehraj-ud-Din Rather, son of Gh Mohammad Rather of Boatman Colony, was also searched, along with that of Gh Jeelani Bhat, son of late Gh Mohammad Bhat of Khodpora Saidakadal Rainawari, booked under FIR No. 48/2024 under Sections 109 BNS and 13, 16, 19, 20, 39 UAPA at Police Station Khanyar.

The residences of Danish Altaf Malik of Arampora Nawakadal, Qazi Usmaan of Haka Bazar Nowhatta, and Altaf Ahmad Dar of Malikpora Barthana were also searched in connection with multiple UAPA cases under investigation at Safakadal, Nowhatta, and Parimpora police stations. Similarly, Mohammad Asif Nath of Barthana, Amir Ahmad Gojri of Summerbugh (currently in NIA custody), and Muzaffer Ahmad Mir and Rameez Ahmad Mir of Makdom Colony Maloora were also on the list.

Further searches were conducted at the residences of Babar Suhail of Lawaypora, Adil Mohammad Lone of Bazar Mohalla Lawaypora, and Zahid Ahmad Illahi of Aliabad, all booked under various terror-related cases including murder, conspiracy, and arms recovery.

In Sozeith and adjoining areas, police searched the residences of Bashir Ahmad Bhat, Mohammad Ayoub Parray, Ghulam Rasool Parray, Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, Abdul Ahad Bhat, and Sonaullah Bhat, among others. Additional raids took place in Goripora Sozeith, where several suspects including Tawheed Ahmad Bhat, Mohammad Ashraf Wani, Abdul Rehman Wani, Mohammad Ali Wani, Gulzar Ahmad Wani, and Ashraf Ahmad Wani were investigated.

In Panzinara, the houses of Mohammad Ashiq Malik, Abdul Rashid Malik, Shabir Ahmad Malik, Farooq Ahmad Parray, and Bilal Ahmad Malik were searched. Police also carried out a search at the residence of Nisar Ahmad Wani of Mumkhan Mohalla Rainawari, who is involved in a UAPA case under FIR No. 48/2024 of Police Station Khanyar.

All searches were conducted in compliance with legal procedures, in the presence of Executive Magistrates and independent witnesses, and under the supervision of senior J&K Police officers. The objective was to recover arms, documents, digital devices, and other evidence that could support ongoing investigations or help detect potential terrorist conspiracies.

The Srinagar Police stated that the crackdown is part of a broader strategy to dismantle the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir. "We are committed to identifying and legally pursuing individuals involved in anti-national and unlawful activities. Any person found promoting violence or disrupting public order will face stringent legal consequences," a senior police officer said. Police emphasized that these actions are essential to maintaining peace and security in Srinagar and the wider region. (KNS)

## Misconception of no action after Pahalgam attack now erased: Jai Ram Thakur on Op Sindoor

**Shimla:** Following India's targeted attacks on terror camps in Pakistan, Himachal Pradesh Assembly Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur on Wednesday said all "misconceptions" over India's inaction following the Pahalgam terror attack had been obliterated.

Congratulating Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Indian armed forces for carrying out 'Operation Sindoor,' Thakur addressed the media and shared details about the strike.

"Nine specific terrorist training camps and launch pads, including one in Bahawalpur, 100 km inside Pakistan, were targeted and destroyed successfully by the Indian Army on Tuesday night and I congratulate the Indian Army and the Prime Minister for the action," the former Himachal Pradesh CM said.

Explaining why the strike was termed 'Operation Sindoor,' Thakur said terrorists gunned down innocent men right before their wives and "wiped their

sindoor (vermilion)," hence the moniker was deemed appropriate.

Thakur further asserted that the misconceptions of those insisting that no action was being

He also informed that a meeting would be held to discuss necessary arrangements, ensuring commodities and security for citizens and spreading awareness about possible war-



taken after the Pahalgam terror attack had now been erased.

Those who have been demanding proof can watch Pakistan media channels for evidence of the attack, he added.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said terrorists would be punished in a manner they could not imagine, and the attack on Tuesday made it clear that his words carry weight," Thakur stated.

like situations.

BJP's state unit chief Rajiv Bindal also congratulated the Indian armed forces for exacting revenge for Pahalgam attack.

"There was anger among the people of the country after the Pahalgam incident, but on Tuesday night, the Indian forces destroyed the terrorist base in Pakistan and we congratulate the forces for taking the revenge," he said.



MYSTIC THOUGHTS

Scripting New Life through Nikah nama



DR MAROOF SHAH

Amongst various tools for mitigating injustice against women, choosing proper Niikah nama and implementing it is most important and easiest. All it needs is awareness amongst women and stakeholders. Even the State can take various measures to register marriages where evidence of abiding by the standard nikah nama is there. Seeing some success in arriving at the standard format of the nikah nama elsewhere (such as in Pakistan) and incorporation of most points in the document of Indian Fiqh Academy, it is encouraging to work with key stakeholders for evolving consensus on the same. The following pages discuss certain issues regarding standard nikah nama recognized by the Muslim State that Ulama should have no difficulty in further refining to meet requirements of diverse contexts and exigencies that women encounter. And it may well be possible to agree on keeping open certain areas that need more discussions or debate between contracting parties. It appears that it is Community that has to play key role in helping the State and other individual in implementing many laws already formulated, monitor or review existing structures such as local Imams solemnizing nikah or delay in justice or difficulty of sustaining oneself after divorce – and community can mobilize its huge resources of infaq, zakat and sadaqah for vulnerable women – see to it awareness increases especially for more vulnerable sections regarding their issues.

Very few Muslim women are conscious about safeguarding their rights through the instrument of nikah nama which lists the rights and obligations and legitimate reasonable conditions agreed upon by both parties (the bride and the groom) which confirms the consent of both the husband and the wife. The nikah-nama is the detailed legal marriage contract that legitimises a marriage. As such consciousness of nikah nama and choosing wisely and extensively discussing it before finalizing the draft is what is needed.

Important points in the nikah nama that may be included or elaborated to provide framework for any progressive interpretation and intervention for achieving the objective of justice in marital relationship are listed below. Solemnization by religious figures and registration of marriages by the State or family courts should be linked to commitment to different proposals listed in following pages.

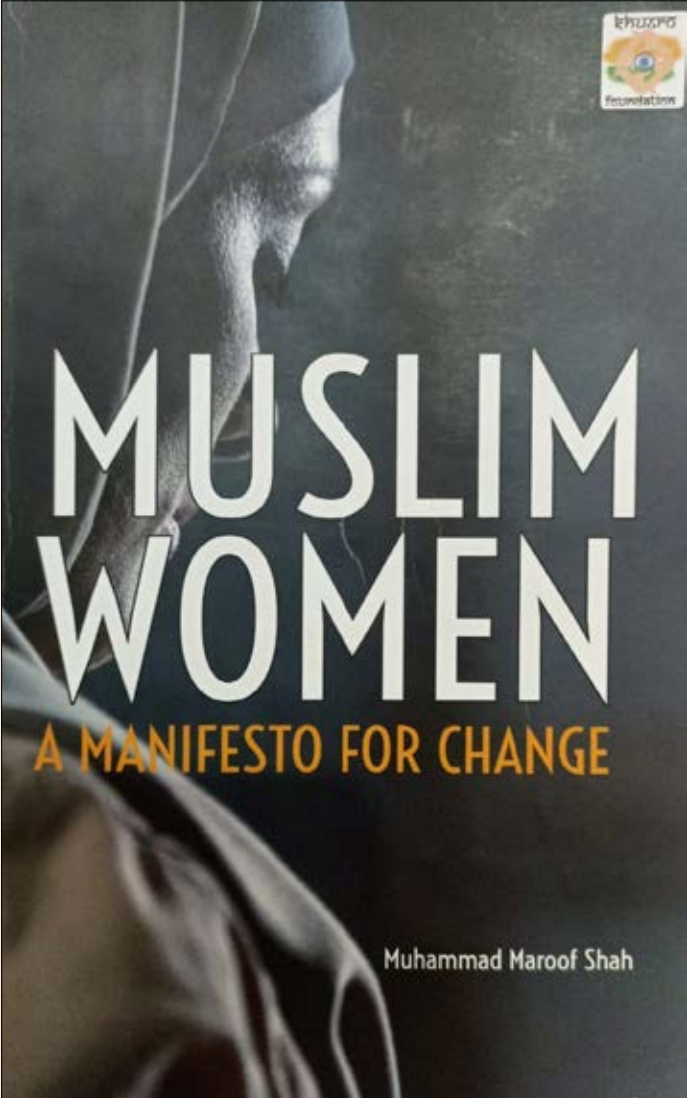
Before coming to concrete legal and other interventions we might propose more basic counseling and training in life's development skills so that people are able to take more rational and critical decisions with regard to their lived issues. Before counseling for marriages people need to have counseling for life and its key challenges. As such a successful programme for women empowerment must precede by equipping them with key life skills and ability to take informed decisions. After giving intensive sessions on basic life skills and how to go for such important decisions as marriage, life partner, career and family, we can begin to discuss with prospective spouses such things as proposed in the following pages.

- It needs to be known by every prospective spouse that key conflicts that may arise later can be resolved through nikah nama and they can further fortify its legal standing by affidavits and involving number of trusted relatives and guardians in witnessing and pledging to uphold the solemn agreement. There must be created moral and legal pressure from family and extended network of friends and local Mohalla community to ensure that the agreement is upheld in letter and spirit. Heavy penalty should be agreed as well in case of any backtracking and necessary safeguards to implement the same obtained as well. One can add such clauses as "This agreement shall be published in newspapers and social media sites and a copy sent to everyone present in nikah mehfil and those who witnessed this agreement to name and shame the culprit in case of any breach or backtracking by the bereaved." Given it is left to free choice or discretion of contracting parties to agree to marriage proposal and there is silence or no mention of conditions or subjective and objective criteria they take into consideration before choosing to give consent to marry, we may imagine number of conditions that spouses could list to decide if they enter into matrimony. They may share with each other their list of essential qualifications or documents before choosing to come for prenuptial talks and in these necessary safeguards can be kept and frankly discussed to avoid later conflicts. Conditions that may not appear proper if attached to nikah nama can be brought to table before nikah nama can be brought to table. One may draft on following lines a few propositions to settle all possible future conflicts between spouses or their families or chart further course of action in case of dispute. Qualified jurists who have firm grasp of contemporary realities should be part of advisory for formulating/reviewing nikah nama.
- We understand that it is always better to cooperate and resolve differences amicably and appoint the following people for dispute resolution in mehr/additional gifts treasure fixation, different arrangements for marriage and post marriage. We choose to adopt the model document for easy marriage and stick in letter and spirit to models adopted by professional councils in the best interests of community. We shall not invite wrath of God by defying model code of conduct in the canon that has been designed to lead to blessings and ease burdens.

- Two Neutral Marriage Counseling Professionals
- Two Reputed Local Senior Teachers, one from each side
- Two Qualified Religious Scholars/Spiritual Figures
- One qualified lawyer and one professional with a background in sociology and economics co-opted online or offline.

We may now proceed with listing certain points distilled from various sources for which there is in principle no objection from shariah experts or for which there is support from some qualified Ulama on whose opinion one can rely in absence of

clear consensus to the contrary. In a situation where we have divergent opinions of equally qualified jurists we can choose on the basis of tafleeq and other principles of fiqh easier ones. Detailed discussion on choosing legal opinion has been done in the chapter on FAQs of Muslim Women. A very important problem is forcing girls into marriages with husbands they don't wish to marry. Family pressure or cultural expectations force her into silence and later many cases of extramarital affairs are attributable to this denial of freedom to choose partner. This can be avoided by counseling of guardians and taking declaration from



guardians and bride that she has not been overtly or covertly forced into marriage. We can phrase the oath declaration in a way that none could ordinarily afford to take lightly. One may choose the following formulation.

We declare, as Muslims who are to render account of every statement including the oath that will affect lives of others, that, to best of our knowledge, there has not been any coercion, overtly or covertly, for effecting the present union of spouses. We invoke curse of God and all the prophets and saints and our elders against ourselves if we utter any lie. We pray all may witness very soon God's wrath and our destruction if we fail to stand by truth today and in future. We understand there will be no barakah in the union for us if we have, in any way, created obstruction in exercising their freedom of choice or conscience.

Affidavit and oath to be taken by families especially husband before the assembly of worshippers preferably in the Friday congregation that they shall not indulge in any extravagant spending or any activity in event management that is hazardous to environment or snatch God given rights of spouse and this shall be mandatory before nikah can be solemnized. To put moral and religious pressure on all stakeholders both oath and affidavit duly signed by his four relatives/neighbours above age of sixty may be taken in which he affirms commitment to community ethic for affordable eco-friendly marriage. We may now list some points that have been proposed /could be proposed as safeguards with nikah mama document, objections of some jurists on some of them, addressed by other jurists.

- The nikah-nama allows**

various clauses to be added to it with specifics like rights to custody if the couple separates, monetary decisions ranging from the right to have a career, to having kids and raising them a particular way as well as to where the couple chooses to reside, among other things. Women are often kept under the dark about these clauses and the rights the nikah nama allows them, even by their own families (Mansoor, 2017).

Any opinion to the contrary regarding illegitimacy of this clause can be reviewed on a case to case basis.

- Section 18 of the nikah nama currently implementable in the Pakistani law allows the wife to divorce husband if she wishes through what is called talaq i tafweez.

The stipulated mehr should not be deferred but be prompt or paid within a clearly stipulated time and it should be paid in terms of gold or in a way that inflation wouldn't decrease its value and ideally as a share certificate in a venture that would help reasonably assured income. With some effort we could convert dower and additional gifts received at the time of marriage into a seed capital for life long sustenance of the bride and issues later in on maintenance before or after divorce would hardly arise. A silent income of say Rs three to five k in our conditions would ensure her pocket expenses or even personal basic needs of food, clothing etc. are met and this much income can be assured by investing only Rs 2.5lacs of mehr and additional gifts through angel investment or credit cooperative portals. What is unfortunately the case is her newly acquired assets get either locked in nonproductive things such as small plot of land or gold is not made liquid and fails to grow through investment in business. Spending heavily on marriage function or clothes (which is the norm for most elite and middle class families) is suicidal for

future securing of livelihood for the couple in general and bride in particular. Pre-nuptial meetings followed by nikah nama could be used for avoiding these expenses. Important set of conditions agreed before signing nikah nama in pre-nuptial meetings must include four Nos – no extravagant spending, no plastics, nothing hazardous to environment, no credit taken on burdensome condition on either side. There must be set certain standards or sticking to certain minimum standards set by the community and its marriage bureau. Besides strictly implementing ban on expenses exceeding the allocated budget fixed by local community to discourage display of anything that is offensive to average taste, all expenses on marriage beyond certain minimum that is affordable for even the poor should be taxable in double digits to compel people to avoid extravaganza. The State can enforce model code of conduct on its employees and registered business people and private institutions so that extravagant spending is avoided. Reducing only Rs fifty k on one million marriages in a year in India would be saving Rs 50000000000 that is enough to sponsor thousands of marriages of the poor along with seed capital for carving permanent basis for livelihoods of significant percentage.

- The husband shall provide the wife and her children residence – not necessarily costly house but modest or rented room or two only would also fulfill obligation on his part – during the subsistence of marriage according to his standard of living. Number of Shia clerics and Iraq's supreme spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani approved the provision that if a husband divorces his wife he must maintain her till she re-marries or finds a source of livelihood. Although some other Shia and Sunni authorities have not accepted this extension, the underlying issue and aspiration to help the vulnerable women is shared. Until universal income for all including adult women proposal get ratified by respective countries as would be in the spirit of Islamic doctrine of the Duties of the State/Community, Community is obligated to provide for basic necessities of every citizen. Combined with some special scheme crafted on the pattern of MGNREGA for women which would give them employment for at least 150 days in a year or three days in a week, the problem of maintenance of divorcees or other more vulnerable women would be better addressed.
- The husband has no right to prevent the wife from taking up gainful employment or any personal creative/academic pursuit if she so desires
- According to some scholars one can get fixed one's pocket money or reasonable maintenance charges or some mutually agreed percentage of husband's income or resources. Disagreement of scholars on conditions on nikah nama notwithstanding, it can be safely stated that any condition that doesn't contravene the Canon or rationality and helps avoid future conflicts or injustice should be brought to table for mutual discussion. Qualified religious scholars could be taken on board to give opinion on any clause. It needs to be reiterated that love makes all things possible and if we could focus on establishing a strong foundation of love and ethic of care between couples, there would be no need for so many clauses to be added to nikah nama.
- In case of a dispute, "the spouses will go through a process of counseling/mediation/ arbitration to resolve their differences with the help of two counselors or arbitrators – one from each side, appointed for this purpose."
- Given there are ample protections under law and shariah law that fail to be implemented in given cases in concrete situations, massive awareness drive by religious and women centric organizations need to be sponsored from sadaqah of women or other funding sources.
- There should be comprehensive review (online/off-line) through agencies offering nikah related services, of nikah nama. Trusts and even companies offering such products as Nikah Services for Healthy Relationships should come up to help new marriages get all necessary safeguards. Or we could have this review through a tribunal appointed at town level by the Conglomeration of Women and Imams whose review should be considered important for cognizance by Courts. Let no nikah nama be accepted unless vetted by this tribunal. Let nikah be done on specified days only before this tribunal as the current practice of doing it at homes or mosques before local Imam miserably fails to realize the objective of justice and bring to consciousness of contracting parties important associated points in the contract.
- Make khula time bound process and penalize harassment and delay on its account. Every day beyond the period reasonably fixed for executing khula should be counted in determining. Such anxieties as "the clause that delegates power of divorce to brides will increase the number of divorce cases in Muslim society" can't be taken seriously in view of ignored costs of existing arrangements that have made life a hell for so many women and no easy solution to get rid from husbands who intend to torture women by neither keeping nor divorcing them. Khula should have been a time bound process but given the discretion of husbands it fails to be granted without excruciating emotional trauma that destroys lives. If khula would have been actualized in a decent way, there would be no need for delegated talaq.
- As in AISPLB's version of nikah nama, one should make it binding on the groom to declare his financial status or state if he is already married and provide for separate living arrangements for the wife if she is harassed by her in-laws.
- The clause discussing whether the bride has been given any property as dowry and if so, the value of the property and the specification that both parties have mutually agreed on, needs

to be taken very seriously and it must be made a point that the girl receives her share of property or better her whole or part of share in joint property to be managed professionally by her or her attorney at the time of marriage from her parents/family so that later disputes are avoided and the cases of depriving her from her share of property don't occur.

- The right to divorce is one of the most important clauses in the nikah nama, which guarantees the bride a right to divorce. Unfortunately, in many cases in Pakistan these sections are cut off at the time of the nikah without consultation from the bride. In India this isn't usually mentioned at all. Clause 18 in nikah nama in Pakistan asks "whether the husband has granted his wife the right to divorce and if so, what are the terms decided for it? While clause 19 asks if the husband's right to divorce has been curtailed in any way."
- The Clause 20 of nikah nama in Pakistan asks the parties if there is any agreement among them related to the monthly allowance and guarantees while they are together as a married couple. If they do, they can state the particularities of it." Though it is generally interpreted to be about the wife's monthly allowance from her husband, but experts say that this section can include the division of responsibilities and chores among the couple, guarantee the wife the right to pursue her professional career or education. This section is important in sense that it can help set tone for the marriage and can be helpful in avoiding any conflict that arises later in context of roles and responsibilities of the husband and wife.
- Although it holds contractual weight, there is felt call for more robust legal provisions as the efficacy of the "nikah nama" in a court of law remains nuanced. For this it is suggested that the State can facilitate through various legislations speedy cognizance of their issues.
- For the children the proposal mooted by Uzma Naheed that they "should be kept under the care of their mother though the responsibility for meeting their expenses should be of their father" may be implemented and provision for this should be kept in niikah nama. Another proposal for the second marriage that it should be made compulsory for a man in this nikah nama "to obtain the permission of his first wife or at least to inform her so that the first wife could rightfully demand suitable maintenance allowance, accommodation etc for her as well as expenses for bringing up children, their education etc because justice and fair play demands this" (Naheed, 2005).
- Clause 21 and 22 of Pakistani Nikah nama ask "whether the groom is already married or has another wife. If so, has he taken the permission of his first wife to enter another marriage and submitted the proofs of permission for second marriage." It needs to be noted that though "second marriage is not annulled if husband has not obtained his first wife's permission for the marriage but under the law it is a criminal offense."
- Facilitating khula Without implying any laxity in maintaining relationship where there is a scope for it, we need to consider needless hassles and intended torture by husband's who keep women hung, Uzma Naheed has summed up well the case for women requesting separation on well established: If a man treats his wife very cruelly, beats her or is a drunkard and does not pay attention to her daily and essential requirements and if all attempts at improving the man through others' intervention fail, she may be given the right to pronounce divorce on herself. Alternatively, the Muslim Personal Law Board can assign the Imams of big mosques belonging to different sects in the country to settle Khula cases with the help of prominent women of the locality every week so that women whose request for Khula' is justified should be helped by nullifying their marriage (Naheed, 2005).
- In her submission on model nikah nama to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India Agnes had included that the rights of the women under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; the Dowry Prohibition Act; the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939; the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights upon Divorce) Act, 1986 as well as rights under other statutes are not extinguished through this nikah nama. Agnes rightly maintains that "the issue is not if talaq is pronounced in one sitting or over a period of 90 days, but whether there are effective mechanisms for helping poor, marginalised and vulnerable women to access courts for protection of their rights" (Naheed, 2005). One would add that access to other spaces such as local mohalla committees is also so limited or they fail to help them.
- A Suneetha has aptly summed up the significance of socio-legal instruments of nikah nama for bridging the divide between secular and religious factions in Muslims. To quote her: It has helped in the consolidation of conservative Muslim opinion against the state, resumed the (contested) conversation among "religious" and "secular" domains on marriage practices, and even enabled a continuation of a discussion on "secular" feminists' concerns such as dowry and destitution of married women due to desertion. Islamic and secular idioms got inextricably mixed up, whereby dowry got re-framed as un-Islamic (rather than illegal) and mehr as the "right" of Muslim women! The real significance of the nikahnama debate, as such, lies elsewhere: in the space that Muslim women have carved for themselves through this initiative and its role in resuming the traffic between "religious" and "secular" spaces on issues of gender after Shah Bano. By initiating the nikahnama debate on the grounds of sharia, Muslim women have been able to enter the male-dominant terrain of the "religious community" and disrupt the stereotype of Muslim women as victims of community patriarchy. In pushing the "Islamic" tradition for reform and succeeding to an extent, they have disrupted the prevailing secular narrative of the unchanging and regressive Islamic tradition. Nikahnama has the possibility for extensive reach not only to popularise correct practices and strictures against bad practices but also to draw the community (especially elders in the form of arbitrators, the darul qaza) into such an exercise (Suneetha, 2012).

**Debating Muslim Law after**

**This article is an excerpt from a chapter in the book "Muslim Women: A Manifesto for Change". The author can be reached at Maroof123@gmail.com**



# Continued From P1...

## ‘Operation Sindoor’

Besides the residences of these important JeM functionaries, the complex also houses more than 600 cadres.

Maulana Rafiqullah, former religious trainer at Markaz Usman-o-Ali is chief instructor at this Markaz since mid-2022.

The Markaz Subhan Allah was built with the help of both the provincial and federal governments of Pakistan, apart from funds raised by JeM from some Gulf and African countries including the UK. It is operational since 2015.

In March 2018, a gymnasium was established inside the Markaz. It also has a swimming pool since July 2018 for imparting rigorous swimming and deep-water diving courses for JeM cadres. The JeM also imparts 6 days archery training to its cadres and Shura members at the Markaz.

In 2019, a new ‘Al Hijama’ Centre (Treatment by use of Pressure Cupping) was established inside the Markaz. Horse stables and Riding Ground were built in May 2022.

Recently, On Nov.30, 2024, Maulana Masood Azhar addressed JeM cadres at Markaz Subhan Allah after a gap of two years. Anti-India rhetoric, including taking revenge for Babri Masjid demolition reiterated during the address, were raised by him. The event was attended by Maulana Talha Saif (younger brother of MMA), Mohammad Abdullah Bin Masood (s/o MMA) and other JeM operatives.

Before this, MMA last reported appearance at Khatm-e-Bukhari at Markaz Subhan Allah on on February 13, 2022. During July 2023, MMA performed ‘Eid-ul-Azha’ proceedings along with his family, brothers and senior JeM functionaries.

It is located at an aerial distance of 100.4 km (approx.) from IB opposite of Khajuwala, Bikaner, Rajasthan.

The JeM commanders associated with their Afghan operations also visit this Markaz for terrorist plannings and meetings with senior JeM functionaries.

Mufti Abdul Rauf Asghar (MARA) arranges for the consignments of weapons, including recently acquired M4 Rifles left by NATO forces in Afghanistan, through KPK based smugglers at this facility.

The most important fidayeen terrorists including close relatives of JeM Chief Maulana Masood Azhar such as his nephews Talha Rasheed, Usman, Umar and Mohammad Ismail @ Lambu were indoctrinated for fidayeen attack at this facility and sent to Balakot for arms training.

The JeM has been proscribed as a terrorist organization under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) in Oct 2001.

The organization has also been designated as a terrorist organization by various countries. Among others, these include the USA (October, 2001), UK (October, 2001), Australia (August, 2015), Canada (November, 2002) and UAE (November, 2014). JeM was listed as a terrorist organization by the UN in October, 2001.

The chief of the organization, Maulana Masood Azhar was also designated under UNSCR 1267 in May, 2019.

The organization was ostensibly banned by Pakistan in January, 2002 under international pressure after the group carried out a terror attack on the Indian Parliament in December, 2001.

The JeM continues to carry out its terror activities from its headquarters in Markaz Subhan Allah, Bahawalpur which is serves as a hub from terror indoctrination and training.

MARKAZ TAIBA, LASHKAR-E-TAIBA Muridke, Punjab

The officials said that this facility was established in the year 2000, Markaz Taiba is the ‘alma mater’ and the most important training centre of LeT located in Nangal Sahdan, Muridke, Sheikhpura, Punjab, Pakistan.

The complex spread across 82 acres, comprises of madrasa, market, residential area for terror entities, sports facility, a fish farm and agricultural tracts.

The complex holds arms and physical trainings facility, as well as for dawa'h and radicalisation/ indoctrination for terror entities both from within Pakistan and abroad.

There is a Sufa Academy, located in the Markaz catering to religious indoctrination for male cadres and a separate Sufa education centre for women.

This markaz serves as mushrooming ground for radicalisation of students to motivate them to pick up arms. It can be compared to a terror factory.

This markaz enrolls around 1000 students in different courses annually there by highlighting the role of this markaz in churning out terror entities for LeT annually. LeT/JuD also conducts periodical training for its entire leadership in this facility.

Osama Bin Laden had financed Rs 10 million for construction of mosque & guest house within the Markaz Taiba complex in the year 2000.

At the behest of Pakistan's ISI, all the perpetrators of 26/11 Mumbai attack including Ajmal Kasab were imparted 'Daura-e-Ribbat' (intelligence training) at this facility. David Coleman Headly & Tahawwur Hussain Rana, the prime conspirators of 26/11 Mumbai attacks, had visited Muridke along with Abdul Rehman Sayed @ Pasha, Haroon and Khurram (co-conspirators) on instructions of Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi.

LeT ideologues Amir Hamza, Abdul Rehman Abid and Zafar Iqbal reside in the premises of this Markaz.

LeT commanders Khubaib, Isa and Qasim frequently visit this Markaz.

Other than these ideologues, Hafiz Saeed and other terror entities of LeT, including Zaki Ur Rehman Lakhvi, have houses in this facility. They regularly visit to supervise the radicalisation activities being conducted from this Markaz.

Pertinently, this Markaz is considered fountainhead for LeT terrorism, as Dawa'h from other sects of Islam to Ahle Hadith (being followed by LeT) is being conducted here only. This markaz provides the strategy to LeT, and also religious justification for Ghazwat-ul-Hind.

LeT is designated as a terrorist organisation by many countries including UK (2001), USA (2001), India (2002), Australia (2003). Further after the Mumbai

attack (2008) LeT was placed on the consolidated list established by UNSC Resolution 1267.

Despite the global ban on LeT, Pakistan has allowed the organisation and its leaders to go about their terrorist activities and organisation to flourish.

SARJAL / TEHRA KALAN FACILITY Jaish-e-Mohammad, Shakargarh, District Narowal, Punjab, Pakistan

This facility, the officials said, is the main launching site of JeM for infiltration of terrorists into J&K. It is located in the Shakargarh Tehsil of Narowal District in Punjab, Pakistan. This facility is located inside the premises of a Primary Health Center in Tehra Kalan Village of Sarjal area so as to conceal its real purpose.

The terror backers, Pak ISI have facilitated setting up of such launch facilities along IB & LoC in Govt buildings to hide/conceal terror infrastructure. In-fact, a number of other facilities of JeM and HM in Punjab, Pakistan operate from basic health units/ primary health centre, which has been facilitated by ISI.

This JeM facility holds special prominence due to its close proximity of around 06 km from IB in Samba Sector of Jammu, J&K.

It serves as the base for the digging of cross-border tunnels for infiltration of terrorists.

Pak ISI and JeM have developed a network of underground tunnels in Shakargarh area which is used for infiltration of JeM cadres into India.

All the tunnels which have been dug across the IB in Armia-Jammu Sector are handiwork of the handlers from this facility.

The Sarjal facility also serves as the launching base for drones by which arms/ammunition/narcotics and warlike stores are dropped into Indian territory. The JeM has also been planning use of drones for infiltrating JeM terrorist into India aerially using drones.

This facility therefore serves as an important terror base. It has a control room also, in which the HF radio receivers and other communication facilities being used by the terrorists of JeM and Hizbul-Mujahideen are located. Instructions to terrorists operating in J&K are communicated through encrypted mode from the facility.

The complex consists of single storey buildings wherein 6/7 rooms near first entrance are used by doctors and staff members of PHC for health check-up of patient/public.

The two quarters near the parking and a hall are being used by JeM for their operational commanders and cadres. 20 – 25 JeM terrorists usually remain stationed at this JeM facility to supervise infiltration attempts and terrorist activities of infiltrated terrorists in India.

Despite international pressure and purported ban by Pakistan government, JeM continues to carry out its terror activities from its facilities including Sarjal facility.

MEHMOONA JOYA FACILITY, SIALKOT

Mehmoona Joya facility of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) is located near Kotli Bhutta Govt Hospital in Head Marala area of Sialkot District of Punjab, Pakistan, officials said.

The terror backers, Pak ISI have facilitated setting up of such launch facilities along IB & LoC in Govt buildings to hide/conceal terror infrastructure.

In-fact, a number of other facilities of JeM and HM in Punjab, Pakistan operates from Basic Health Units/ Primary Health Centre, which has been facilitated by ISI.

This facility is used for infiltration of HM cadres into Jammu region of J&K. HM cadres are also given training for terrorist operations and handling of weapons by the senior commanders at this facility. Mohammad Irfan Khan @ Irfan Tanda is commander of this facility.

Tanda has been involved in carrying out several attacks in Jammu region, especially in capital city of Jammu, particularly series of blasts carried out by Tanda on 26 Jan 1995 in Maulana Azad Stadium of Jammu leaving 8 persons dead and 50 injured. The then J&K Governor K.V.Krishna Rao narrowly escaped the attack.

Irfan Tanda has led several infiltration bids from this HM facility into J&K and handles transportation / smuggling of weapons for valley based terrorists from this facility.

Other important HM commanders who operate from this facility are Atta Al Rehman Alfezey @ Abu Lala and Maaz Bhai, who are both actively leading infiltration of HM terrorists into J&K from this facility. HM terrorist Irfan Ghuman also operates from this facility and has been involved in orchestrating BAT action against Indian security forces in Jammu – Samba sector.

The facility consists of single-story concrete building having three rooms, one kitchen and one bathroom respectively. Quarters of the near-by hospital in the vicinity of facility is used to accommodate HM cadres. This facility can accommodate approximately 50 cadres at a time and around 20 – 25 terrorists are usually present at this facility at any point of time overseeing infiltration bids and terrorist operations in India.

Despite ban the organisation is continuing to openly use its facilities like the Mehmoona facility to carry out terrorist training/ activities in Pak/PoJK and in order to execute terrorist operations in India. MARKAZ AHLE HADITH BARNALA

Lashkar-e-Taiba Bhimber District, PoJK

According to the officials this is one of the important Markaz of LeT in PoJK and is used for infiltration of LeT terrorists and arms/ammunition into Poonch – Rajauri – Reasi sector.

The Markaz is situated at outskirts of Barnala town on Kote Jamel road and is at a distance of 500 metres from Barnala town and 200 metre from Kote Jamel road. Markaz Ahle Hadith, Barnala can accommodate 100 -150 cadres and around 40 – 50 cadres are usually present at this Markaz, supervising terror activities being organised from this Markaz.

This Markaz is also utilized as staging centre for LeT terrorists before infiltrating into Indian territory. LeT terror operatives Qasim Gujjar @ Mahrore, Qasim Khanda, Anas Jarar operate from this Markaz and reside in its vicinity. Khubaib @ Mohammad

Amin Butt also visits this Markaz regularly. Qasim Gujjar and Khubaib have been designated under UA (P) Act by Indian Government. Saifullah Sajid Jutt and Abu Qatal Sindhi (killed in March 2025) planned and executed attacks targeting civilians including attack (Jan 01, 2023) in Dhangri, Rajouri killing 7 civilians and attack (June 09, 2024) on bus carrying pilgrims in Reasi, killing 9 civilians from this facility of LeT.

MARKAZ ABBAS KOTLI, Jaish-e-Mohammad This JeM terror facility, the officials said, is located in Mohalla Roli Dhara Bypass Road, Kotli, PoJK. This Markaz is located approx. 2 km south-east of Kotli Military Camp. This building can accommodate around 100 – 125 JeM cadres and 40 – 50 JeM cadres are always present within premises of this Markaz at any point of time.

Residence of Qari Zarrar Markaz Abbas, Hafiz Abdul Shakoor @ Qari Zarrar, is head of this Markaz. Qari Zarrar is a Shura member of JeM Council. Qari Zarrar is one of the founding members of JeM and part of the Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HuM) terrorists who had left HuM and founded JeM along with Maulana Masood Azhar. Qari Zarrar lives in the three-storey building located adjacent to Markaz Abbas. Qari Zarrar is directly involved in planning and execution of terrorist attacks in J&K.

Qari Zarrar is wanted accused by NIA for attack on Indian Army Camp near Baleeni Bridge, Nagrota, Jammu on Nov

29, 2016. He is also involved in fund raising for JeM through his contacts in Afghanistan.

Other JeM terrorists based at Markaz Abbas include Qari Maaz (son of Qari Zarrar), Mohammad Maviya Khan, Tahir Nazir and Abu Bakr.

After Pathankot attack, arms & ammunition stores of JeM, earlier stored in Daska Markaz in Sialkot, were transferred to Markaz Abbas in Kotli, PoJK.

Qari Zarrar himself carries arms and ammunition to Sialkot in his vehicle(s), whenever required.

Muaz @ Qari Maaz, son of Qari Zazar, formerly associated with JeM's Afghanistan chapter, is person in-charge of a launching detachment in North Kashmir. Muaz returned from Afghanistan during October 2018.

MASKAR RAHEEL SHAHID -- KOTLI, POJK

Hizbul-Mujahideen

Located at approximately 2.5 kms from Mahuli Puli (a bridge on Mahuli Nalla on Mirpur-Kotli road) in Kotli District, PoJK, Maskar Rahil Shahid is one of the oldest facilities of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM), the officials said.

It is a secluded facility and accessible only via a kuchcha track. The camp is located in hilly area and comprises of barracks, four rooms being used for keeping arms & ammunition, office and for residential purpose for terrorists.

A new facility for accommodation of cadres and instructors has been constructed in this campus.

A special designated electricity line is provided to this camp in this otherwise secluded area. This camp is located in heavy forest cover.

It can accommodate around 150 – 200 HM terrorists. Around 25 – 30 HM terrorists are usually present at this facility supervising terrorist activities being organised at this camp.

Pertinently, HM terrorists visit this facility particularly for taking arms firing training and specialized physical training. In addition to providing conventional arms / physical training, this camp specializes in training cadres for BAT/ sniping actions. Terrorist cadres are taken to nearby hilly area for training regarding fighting in hilly area. Survival training is also imparted at this camp.

Fresh construction activities have been noticed in this camp with an aim to accommodate more cadres. Large amount of propaganda material including posters, photos and videos of slain HM terrorists are kept at this camp and used to radicalize and motivate HM cadres to carry out violent 'Jihad' against India.

Despite USA declaring (June 2017) HM Chief & Chairman of United Jihad Council (UJC), Syed Salahuddin a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) and the proscribing of HM outfit by USA (August 2017) and European Union (Nov 2005), the organisation is continuing to openly use its facilities like the Mehmoona facility to carry out terrorist training/ activities in Pak/PoJK and in order to execute terrorist operations in India.

## Avenged Pahalgam

any eventuality. “We will ensure the safety of every citizen,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor has also directed the Deputy Commissioners for shifting of villagers from vulnerable areas to safer locations and ensuring boarding, lodging, food, medicare and transportation. He is continuously in touch with the concerned officers on the ground.

“The entire administration, Police, CAPFs and Armed Forces are working together. We are alert, equipped and fully prepared to respond to any situation,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor was joined by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Nalin Prabhat, DGP J&K; Mahesh Dixit, Special Director, Intelligence Bureau (IB); Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary, Home Department J&K and Pankaj Thakur, Joint Director IB at Raj Bhavan, Srinagar.

## Pak Army Pounds

Kerni and even Poonch district headquarters, resulting in damage to dozens of houses and vehicles, they said.

The shelling from across the border was intense till noon and later continued intermittently, mostly restricting to the Poonch sector for the next few hours. Locals faced a tough time evacuating the victims to hospital due to the heavy shelling, which also hit Poonch bus stand, damaging several buses, the officials said.

In a post on X, Shiromani Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Singh Badal said, “Strongly condemn the inhuman attack by Pakistani forces on the sacred Central Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha Sahib in Poonch, in which three innocent Gursikhs, including Bhai Amrik Singh Ji (a raagi Singh), Bhai Amarjeet Singh and Bhai Ranjit Singh lost their lives.”

Ten persons, including five children, were also injured in cross-border shelling in Uri sector of Baramulla district, while three others were injured in Rajouri district, the officials said, adding several

houses also caught fire due to shelling in Karnah sector of Kupwara district.

This was the 13th consecutive night of unprovoked firing along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir, amid heightened tensions following the Pahalgam attack.

Earlier, a defence spokesman said during the intervening night of May 6 and 7, the Pakistan Army resorted to arbitrary firing, including artillery shelling, from posts across the

LoC and International Border opposite Jammu and Kashmir.

He said the Indian Army is responding in a “proportionate manner”.

Army sources said Indian troops caused many casualties to the enemy forces after destroying several of their posts in the retaliatory action.

Authorities had shut all educational institutions in the five border districts of the Jammu region on Wednesday.

The ceasefire violations have been very rare after India and Pakistan renewed the ceasefire agreement on February 25, 2021.

In a gesture of solidarity and compassion, Congress MLA from Rajouri Iftikhar Ahmed donated blood along with his supporters after visiting the injured undergoing treatment at the GMC hospital in Rajouri.

Ahmed appealed to the public to come forward and donate blood, emphasising the urgent need to support the medical efforts during this critical time.

“We are ready to sacrifice everything for the integrity and sovereignty of the nation. The nation comes first, and we should stand united to face any challenges that come our way,” he said.

Principal GMC Rajouri Amarjeet Singh Bhatia said the hospital is fully geared up to deal with the situation in the wake of border skirmishes and mounting tension.

“All necessary arrangements are in place to ensure the best treatment for the patients,” he said.

Authorities in Poonch district said they have designated nine public shelter camps with adequate amenities for the people desirous to relocate from the forward villages hit by Pakistani shelling.

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

Ali said the village had suffered immensely and had even been burned to the ground in the past by Pakistani shelling.

The intense shelling from across the border started shortly after Indian armed forces carried out missile attacks on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir to avenge the April 22 terror attack in south Kashmir's Pahalgam that had left 26 civilians dead.

## Release Contingency

Samba, Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora districts.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister gave directions to immediately release Contingency Funds of Rs 5 crore to each border district and Rs 2 crore each to other districts so that Deputy Commissioners are equipped to deal with the exigencies arising and requiring availability of adequate resources. CM directed that frontier districts be accorded special priority in the disbursement of these funds.

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

The Chief Minister expressed grief on loss of lives and injuries to several civilians living along the LOC and asked Deputy Commissioners to provide all assistance to the affected families. He gave directions to the administration to immediately fill up vacant posts of Tehsildars and other officers in the districts so that Government machinery is fully functional and responds to the situation swiftly.

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

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

## We will ensure

border districts. I'm closely monitoring the situation & govt is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality. I've also directed the DCs for shifting of villagers from vulnerable areas to safer locations and ensuring boarding, lodging, food, medicare and transportation. We will ensure safety of every citizen. Jai Hind!”

## Indian Armed

was no damage to civilians and their infrastructures.

“Operation Sindoor was launched by the Indian Armed Forces to deliver justice to the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack and their families. Nine terrorist camps were targeted and successfully destroyed... The locations were so selected to avoid damage to civilian infrastructures and loss of any civilian lives, she said.

Col Sofiya Qureshi showed some videos of the strikes destroying terror camps.

The Indian Armed Forces conducted ‘Operation Sindoor’ early Wednesday.

Twenty-six people were killed in the Pahalgam terror attack. The government had said that the perpetrators will face severe punishment.

## India Ready To

of execution, which was measured, non-escalatory and restrained. He emphasised that India had no intent to escalate but was well prepared to retaliate resolutely should Pakistan decide to escalate,” an official said.

The conversations took place soon after India carried out Operation Sindoor at nine sites.

He spoke to US NSA and Secretary of State Marco Rubio, UK's Jonathan Powell, Saudi Arabia's Musaid Al Aiban, UAE's H.H. Sheikh Tahnoun, and Japan's Masataka Okano.

“Contact was also established with Russian NSA Sergei Shoigu, Member of Political Bureau of CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of PRC Wang Yi and Diplomatic Adviser to French President Emmanuel Bonne,” the official said.

Doval will be in further touch with his counterparts in the days ahead. (Agencies)

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**F/O Zain-ul-Abideen  
Shah and Hayia Jan.  
R/O Quilmuqam Tehsil Aloosa  
District Bandipora Jammu and  
kashmir.**

# NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020005555, which is Registered in the name of Ab Rahman Dar, S/O Sonaulah Dar. Now i want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Asha Begum. W/O Abdul Rehman Dar, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Kaloosa Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Asha Begum.  
W/O Abdul Rehman Dar.  
R/O Nathpora Bandipora.**

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This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020005172, which is Registered in the name of Ali Mohd khan, S/O Ab Ghani khan. Now i want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Mohd Azad Khan, S/O Ali Mohd khan, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Kaloosa Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Mohd Azad Khan.  
S/O Ali Mohd khan.  
R/O Panzigam Bandipora.**

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This is an information for general public that i want to apply for Cocolation of Registration of my vehicle (Vegnor) Bearing No: JK15- 9272, Because of full damage of my same vehicle, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Regional Transport Office Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

**Abdul Rashid Lone.  
S/O Mohd Sedeeq Lone.  
R/O Wanpora Gurez, District  
Bandipora. Jammu and Kashmir, Pin  
code: 193502.**



# 'Operation Sindoor': Tendulkar, others sports stars laud India's action in Pak

"Fearless in unity. Boundless in strength," said cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar as he led India's sporting fraternity in lauding 'Operation Sindoor' to destroy terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan.

The Indian armed forces, in the early hours of Wednesday, launched precision missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, including the strongholds of Jaish-e-Mohammed in Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba in Muridke.

The strikes were in retaliation to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were gunned down.

"Fearless in unity. Boundless in strength. India's shield is her people. There's no room for terrorism in this world. We're ONE TEAM! Jai Hind," Tendulkar posted on 'X'.

Former cricketers Virender Sehwag, Irfan Pathan, Suresh Raina and Shikhar Dhawan also took to the social media platform in hailing India's strong response to the barbaric attack.

"Agar koi aap par patthar phenke toh uspar Phool Phenko, Lekin Gamle ke saath (If someone throws stones at you then respond with flowers but not without the pots they are planted in). Jai Hind," Sehwag wrote.

Dhawan added: "India takes a stand against terrorism."

Pathan and badminton ace Saina Nehwal tweeted: "Jai Hind."

Olympic bronze medal-winning boxer Vijender Singh and wrestler Yogeshwar Dutt too praised the retaliatory strikes.

"Bharat Mata ki Jai," wrote Vijender.

Yogeshwar added: "India's zero tolerance to-



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wards terrorism!! Jai Hind- Jai Jawan #sindoor."

Chess ace Vidith Gujrathi said brutal terrorist attacks like the one in Pahalgam should always be punished.

"I am glad India responded firmly with Operation Sindoor after the horrific Pahalgam attack. Terrorism must never go unanswered. And what a beautiful name for the operation. Bharat Mata ki Jai!," Gujrathi wrote.

"Agar koi aap par patthar phenke toh uspar Phool Phenko, Lekin Gamle ke saath (If someone throws stones at you then respond with flowers but not without the pots they are planted in). Jai Hind," Sehwag wrote.

## Nehra fined, handed demerit point; Hardik fined for slow over-rate again

Hardik Pandya and his team-mates (first XI plus the impact sub Karn Sharma) have all been hit with fines for Mumbai Indians' (MI) slow over-rate in their loss against Gujarat Titans (GT) at home on Tuesday night. For the winners, head coach Ashish Nehra has been penalised for "conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game".

In the stop-start second half of the IPL 2025 game between MI and GT, when rain took the players off and brought them back in a few times, MI had to bring an additional fielder into the 30-yard circle for the final over - the 19th - of the chase as is the in-game penalty norm in the IPL. GT needed 15 runs to get off that Deepak Chahar over and got over the line off the last ball.

Hardik was fined INR 24 lakh, since this was the second time MI had committed the offence under his captaincy this season. His team-mates were each fined either INR 6 lakh or 25% of their respective match fees, whichever is lesser.

Nehra, meanwhile, was at his animated best in the dying minutes of the game, when it looked like he wanted the umpires to restart the game after the latest rain interruption. He was fined 25% of his match fee and also handed one demerit point for breaching Article 2.20 of the IPL code of conduct, though the IPL didn't state what exactly his offence was.

This is the second time a coach has been penalised with a demerit point for a breach of the IPL's code. Munaf Patel, the Delhi Capitals (DC) bowling coach, was similarly penalised after their Super Over win against Rajasthan Royals (RR) in Delhi on April 16.

Hardik has a lot of compatriots for company: Rishabh Pant, Shubman Gill, Axar Patel, Sanju Samson, Rajat Patidar and Riyan Parag.



## Mumbai Indians Erred In Execution, Will Take Every Game As A Playoff Contest Now: Mahela Jayawardene

MUMBAI: Mumbai Indians' head coach Mahela Jayawardene said his side erred in execution and lost the game despite being in control against Gujarat Titans in the IPL, adding that the five-time champions will treat every

a four and a six and also bowled a no-ball as GT romped home.

However, Jayawardene said MI lost control of the game when they were still on top and that was the reason for their defeat and not



remaining match as a "playoff" from hereon.

Gujarat Titans notched up their fourth consecutive win over Mumbai Indians with a narrow three-wicket victory in a rain-marred game. After MI were restricted to 155 for eight, GT had slipped to 126 for six but a second rain interruption saw the target being revised to 15 needed off the final over.

GT got over the line on the final ball to go to the top of the points table, while MI will now need to win both their remaining matches to qualify for the playoffs.

"I think it sums it up. It is margins, but I probably, both teams made quite a few mistakes out there in the middle and we probably made more than them," Jayawardene told the media after the match.

"We were in a situation when we were (having) five games, four losses (and) one win. From that point onwards, we were (in a) must-win (situation in) pretty much every game. We had a really good run. The tournament's tough and one good thing is we're playing teams which is in that bunch, so we probably control our own destiny.

"We were probably 30 runs short on that wicket and the guys bowled really well, created a lot of opportunities, fielded really well (and) fought for everything so that's good signs and we'll treat every game as a playoff game for us now," he added.

In the final over, Deepak Chahar conceded

Chahar's ordinary final over.

"I could have bowled (Will Jacks) Jacksy, Karn Sharma, or whoever (was) left (with) overs, but I think Deepak did that job for us in the first few games as well. He was good, main bowler. (It) could have gone (our way)," he said.

"It's easy for you to ask me that question and for me to say, yeah, maybe Hardik. (But he had) gone for three sixes, (then) you would have asked me why didn't you bowl Deepa so I don't like to go to that."

"It wasn't the decision, it was the execution and that's not where we lost the game. My thinking is (that) we lost the game when we had control of it and that was disappointing," he added.

GT's assistant coach Parthiv Patel, meanwhile, defended his middle and lower-order batters after they struggled to chase a moderate total on a batting-friendly surface, particularly when their top three — B Sai Sudharsan (5), Jos Buttler (30) and Shubman Gill (43) — failed to convert their starts.

"They hardly got a chance to bat. Today was the only day where none of the top three got a fifty. Otherwise, till today, everyone had got those runs. It's just a one-off game. But having said that, we obviously should have taken some of the right decisions," he said.

"We still want to improve. We still want to get better once the business end of the tournament starts," Patel added.

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