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Bollywood actor Kareena Kapoor Khan during a session Cinema: The Soft Power at the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025, in Mumbai

Pak troops violate ceasefire for 8th night

Residents near LoC begin readying bunkers

PTI, JAMMU SRINAGAR: Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) in five districts of Jammu and Kashmir, prompting retaliation from the Indian Army, officials said on Friday.

This is the eighth consecutive night of unprovoked firing along the LoC, amid heightened tensions following the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people were killed.

Civilians living along the LoC and IB have begun cleaning their community and individual bunkers to make them habitable in case shelling happens.

During the night of May 1-2, 2025, Pakistani Army posts resorted to unprovoked small arms fire from posts across the LoC opposite Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch, Naushera, and Akhnoor areas of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesperson in Jammu said.

Indian Army troops responded in a calibrated and proportionate manner, the spokesperson added.

Initially beginning with unprovoked small arms firing at several posts along the LoC in Kupwara and Baramulla districts of north Kashmir, Pakistan swiftly expanded its ceasefire violations to the Poonch sector and subsequently to the Akhnoor sector of the

Jammu region. This was followed by small arms firing at several posts along the LoC in the Sunderbani and Naushera sectors of Rajouri district. Subsequently, the firing expanded to the Pargwal sector along the International Border in Jammu district.

The renewed ceasefire violations come despite a recent hotline conversation between the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of India and Pakistan, during which the Indian side is learnt to have cautioned Pakistan.

Since the night of April 24, just hours after India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty following terror attack in Pahalgam, Pakistani troops have been resorting to unprovoked firing at various places along the LoC in J&K, starting from the Kashmir Valley.

Pakistan blocked its airspace for Indian airlines, closed the Wagah border crossing, suspended all trade with India, and warned that any attempt to divert water would be considered an "act of war".

The ceasefire along the borders was reaffirmed in February 2021, when both countries agreed to observe the 2003 agreement in letter and spirit. However, the

21 Pakistani nationals stranded at Attari-Wagah allowed to cross border, several more in queue

PTI, AMRITSAR: About 21 Pakistani nationals stranded at the Attari-Wagah border following the expiry of the Indian government's deadline for them to leave the country crossed over into Pakistan through the land route of the Integrated Check Post on Friday, officials said. In the wake of last week's Pahalgam terror attack, the Indian government cancelled all types of visas granted to Pakistani nationals and ordered them to leave by April 30.

The Attari-Wagah border, located near Amritsar in India and Lahore in Pakistan, was shut on Thursday after being kept open till April 30.

According to reports, about 70 Pakistani nationals were stranded

at the border on Thursday after the deadline for them to leave India expired a day earlier.

The 21 Pakistani nationals who entered Pakistan till 12 pm on Friday had been camping on the roads outside the Integrated Check Post.

About 50 more Pakistani nationals are queuing outside the Integrated Check Post and may be allowed to cross over into Pakistan after due clearance of customs and immigration authorities.

Pakistan on Friday announced it would continue to allow the use of the Wagah border crossing for its citizens stranded in India

Responding to media queries, the spokesperson for Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs ac-

knowledge reports of Pakistani nationals, including children, stranded at the Attari border on the Indian side.

"We are aware of the media reports indicating that some Pakistani nationals are stranded at Attari. We are open to receiving our citizens in case the Indian authorities allow them to cross the border from their side," the spokesperson said.

The Wagah border will remain open for Pakistani nationals seeking to return in the future as well, the spokesperson added.

However, some other foreign nationals who had visa to move in their personal vehicles were yet not permitted to cross the border and were waiting near the Integrated Check Post.

current situation marks a significant departure from the relative calm maintained since then.

India shares a total of 3,323 km of border with Pakistan, divided into three parts: the International Border (IB), approximately 2,400 km from Gujarat to the northern banks of the Chenab River in Akhnoor; Jammu; the Line of Control (LoC),

740 km long, running from parts of Jammu to parts of Leh;

and the Actual Ground Position Line, 110 km long, dividing the Siachen region from NJ 9842 to Indira Col in the north.

Civilians living along the LoC and International Border started getting their community and individual bunkers cleaned to make them habitable in case of an escalation to shelling.

The Union government sanctioned the construction of 14,460

individual and community bunkers in 2017.

Over 8,600 community and individual bunkers have been built in five districts: Samba, Kathua, Jammu, Poonch, and Rajouri, officials said.

While harvesting of crops along R S Pura and Arnia sectors along the IB has been completed, it is still going on in Kathua, Samba, Rajouri, and Poonch districts.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted office assistants with knowledge in office management and Excellent communication skills ,e-mail etiquettes, thorough knowledge of MS Excel & Word for healthcare based firm MARGAO (BCOM/BCA/BBA/COMPUTER SCIENCE) What'sapp CV 9307451955

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Wanted Experienced Bakery Workers to produce Pattice and Breads in Benaulim. And also Service Waiters for a Café. Contact: 9822128906

Wanted Urgently at Porsu Agonda, Canacona Goa Waiter/ Bartender Year around employment stay/ food included. Please call/ Whatsapp on 8261986648

Wanted for a Tyre Shop in Fatorda Tyre shop Manager with driving license and Tyre Technician with experience of atleast 1 yr with or without driving license Call 774899991 after 10.30 a.m.

Looking for a ladies tailor to work for a garment shop Margao commission basis or salary contact 9271544990/ 8788070177

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Wanted Receptionist (f/m) Resident manager, Housekeeping staff, cook (f), housemaid for hotel/ hostel in Margao. Top salary/ incentives/ accommodation provided. Interested WhatsApp cv to 7796645686

Hiring On-Field Sales Executives for sales of frozen foods @ South Goa. Salary 13000 +allowance +commission. Freshers can Apply, Contact: 8380807321.

SITUATIONS VACANT

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A Reputed Resort in Calangute North Goa Requires the Below Mentioned Candidates Front Office Executive Waiters, Utility, Room Boys, Chinese Cook, Pantry Cook, South Indian Cook, Tandoor Cook, Desk Attended. Call on 7774099494 for interviews and further queries, Email ID: humanhr75@gmail.com

Wanted Truck Driver, Tempo Driver, Audio Engineer & Maintenance Tech in Panaji. Interested contact 8806014400

Resort in Anjuna requires a front office boy, housekeeping supervisor and housekeeping boys Good salaries. Contact 9657184949 between 10 am to 6 pm

Salesperson with 2 wheeler. Location: Mapusa / Ponda. Experience preferred. Contact: 9326101119 CV on WhatsApp only.

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Wanted Fresher Smart Female Office Assistant. Knowledge of Computers. Tally & DTP preferred Call /Whatsapp CV BOSS Advertising, Margao. 9822100065

Wanted urgently cooks , kitchen helpers and waiters for a bar and restaurant at calangute Beach Road contact 9822182578

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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Wanted Accounts Executive/Manager for a Pvt Company based in Chicalim. Candidates in & around Vasco with Knowledge of Tally, GST & Company Compliance with 3 to 5 years experience may apply to info@vegiorganic.com or call 8408082277.

Wanted Female Office Assistant, assist with daily tasks, organized, good communication, computer skills/Digitally educated a must. WA Resume on 9823284750

TOURS & TRAVELS

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10 Rent-a-bike for sale, Panjim. Contact 9225903954

VEHICLES WANTED

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Waqf Act violates structure doctrine of Constitution: Sena leader

PTI, JALNA: The contentious Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, violates the landmark Supreme Court judgment on the "basic structure" doctrine of the Constitution, a senior Shiv Sena (UBT) leader has claimed.

Sanjay Lakhe Patil, secretary of the Uddhav Thackeray-led opposition outfit, accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of deliberately trying to dismantle the spirit of communal harmony - what he described as the 'Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb' or unifying composite culture - by creating divisions among communities.

The Sena (UBT) functionary made these remarks while addressing a gathering organised by the All India Muslim Personal Law Board's Jalna unit on Thursday.

He claimed the new amendment in the Waqf Act, passed by Parliament last month, violates the landmark Kesavananda Bharati judgment by the Supreme Court, which laid down the "basic structure" doctrine of the Constitution.

The 1973 Kesavananda Bharati judgement on basic structure doctrine had clipped the vast power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and simultaneously gave the judiciary the authority to review

any amendment. The verdict had held though Parliament had the power to amend the Constitution under Article 368, it did not have the power to emasculate its basic features.

The Sena (UBT) leader alleged the BJP-led central government offered "big packages" to its NDA allies -- Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his Andhra Pradesh counterpart Chandrababu Naidu - in exchange for their support of the Waqf Act in Parliament.

The Act introduces several reforms designed to improve transparency, efficiency, and control in the administration of Waqf properties. Waqf refers to personal property moveable or immovable - that is permanently donated by Muslims for religious or charitable purposes.

"The case (related to challenge to the new law) is currently being heard in the Supreme Court, where the Chief Justice has posed serious questions to Solicitor General Tushar Mehta," Patil noted.

The Sena (UBT) leader said BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's recent comments targeting judiciary and Chief Justice of India (CJI) Justice Sanjiv Khanna were deplorable.

voice of business

Hyundai Creta highest selling model in April



PANJIM: Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) announced that Hyundai Creta has once again emerged as the highest-selling model in the Indian Automobile industry for the second consecutive month. Hyundai Creta recorded 17,016 unit sales in April 2025, with a year-on-year growth of 10.2% (compared to April 2024). Setting new

benchmarks for the SUV segment in the country, the Hyundai Creta also maintained its leadership as India's best-selling SUV from January – April 2025, with a cumulative sale of 69,914 units.

The performance of Creta has helped SUV contribution to HMIL's domestic sales to all time high of 70.9% in April 2025.

CROP CRISIS



A worker prepares to shift sacks of wheat, drenched in rainwater, to a safer place following rain, at a wholesale grain market in Jalandhar

Congress Working Committee discusses Pahalgam attack, caste census

PTI, NEW DELHI: Top Congress leaders on Friday discussed the situation arising out of the Pahalgam terror attack and the caste census announced by the Centre at a crucial meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC).

Party general secretary Jairam Ramesh had told reporters on Thursday that the entire Congress Working Committee (CWC) would sit and discuss the two crucial issues before the country.

Sources said the CWC is likely to pass resolutions seeking concrete action against Pakistan following

the Pahalgam attack and for allocating funds to get the caste census conducted soon as part of the national census exercise.

It is also likely to demand that there should be a constitutional amendment and the 50 per cent cap on reservations be removed. The CWC is also expected to urge the government to implement Article 15(5), which provides for reservations in private educational institutions.

The meeting was chaired by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and was attended among others by former party chiefs Sonia

Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, besides senior leaders including AICC general secretary, organisation, K C Venugopal and party treasurer Ajay Maken.

The meeting comes two days after the Centre announced that caste enumeration will be part of the next decadal census, with the inclusion of caste details for the first time since independence.

Rahul Gandhi had earlier said the perpetrators of the April 22 attack, in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed, must be held accountable and the prime minister should act firmly.

Rs 2000 notes worth Rs 6,266 cr still in circulation

PTI, MUMBAI: The high value Rs 2000 notes worth Rs 6,266 crore are still in circulation after two years of the Reserve Bank withdrawing the currency, according to official data. The Rs 2000 banknotes continue to be legal tender.

On May 19, 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the withdrawal of Rs 2000 denomination banknotes from circulation.

In a statement on Friday, the RBI said the total value of Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation, which was Rs 3.56 lakh crore at the close of business on May 19, 2023, when the withdrawal was announced, declined to Rs 6,266 crore at the close of business on April 30, 2025.

The facility for deposit and/or exchange of such



Thus, 98.24 per cent of the Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation as on May 19, 2023, have since been returned

– central bank

banknotes was available at all bank branches till October 7, 2023. However, this facility is still available at the 19 issue offices of the Reserve Bank.

Since October 9, 2023, RBI issue offices are also accepting Rs 2000 banknotes from individuals and entities for deposit into their bank accounts.