



A member of the tribal community collects chironji from Rajasthan's Shahabad forest, proposed to be cut for a renewable energy project



A woman performs rituals as they before taking part in a procession of Goddess Maha Mariamman (Sheetla Mata) to mark Mother's Day, in Amritsar



Tailors work as normal activities resume, a day after India and Pakistan reached a bilateral understanding, at Uri in Baramulla district of J&K



Former tennis player Leander Paes speaks after being honoured with PC Chandra Puraskar 2025 for his contribution to Indian sports, in Kolkata

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A woman sits with her child as she along with several other women live alone after the men moved to different states post floods, in Assam's Dhemaji

Couple, daughter killed as truck hits two-wheeler in MP's Damoh district

**DAMOH (MP):** Three persons, including a couple and their daughter, were killed after the two-wheeler they were riding on was hit by a truck in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh district on Sunday, police said. The incident occurred near Ram Kuti under Dehat police station limits in the afternoon, City Superintendent of Police Abhishek Tiwari said. Tiwari said Karodi Patel (45), his wife Yashoda (40) and their daughter Arati Patel (17) were going from Bamuria to Kushunganj village to attend a wedding when a truck crashed into their bike, killing all three. The police official said the driver sped away after hitting the bike, but the vehicle was intercepted near Imlai village.

Police constable allegedly kills himself in Bihar

**JEHANABAD:** A police constable in Bihar's Jehanabad district on Sunday died after allegedly shooting himself with a revolver, a senior official said. Vinod Chaudhary was found in a pool of blood at the Police Lines around 8 am, Superintendent of Police Arvind Pratap Singh said. "Chaudhary, a resident of Gaya district, was posted at the Jehanabad district court. He used to reside in Civil Lines. He was found dead by colleagues who rushed upon hearing the gunshot," said the SP. The deceased was said to have been suffering from depression since the recent death of his wife. The matter is being investigated.

Bengal govt issues strict guidelines on passenger comfort, safety in buses

**KOLKATA:** In a move to enhance passenger safety and comfort, the West Bengal Transport Department has said any stage carriage – bus or minibus – found to have insufficient legroom, congested seating or tampered ergonomic seating arrangements will not be granted a Certificate of Fitness in future, an official said on Sunday. In a notification, the department said a significant number of representations are regularly being received by the Transport Department, the State Transport Authority (STA) and Regional Transport Authorities (RTAs) from the general public regarding issues such as excessive step height, insufficient leg or knee space and congested seating in many buses and minibuses.

History-sheeter held for thefts at Delhi wedding venues, accomplice absconding

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi Police has arrested a 51-year-old man allegedly involved in a series of thefts at wedding functions in outer north Delhi, an official said on Sunday. The accused, Mukesh alias Pappu, a resident of Karampura and a history sheeter, was arrested following two thefts reported at separate wedding venues in Paschim Vihar, he said. An e-FIR was lodged on April 19 regarding the theft of gold jewellery and cash during a wedding at Lavanya Banquet Hall. A second complaint was received on May 1 after Rs 80,000 was stolen from a guest's bag at Foriya Banquet Hall, a senior police officer said.

Elephant kills two women in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district

**RAIGARH:** Two women were trampled to death by a wild elephant in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district, a forest official said on Sunday. The incident took place on Saturday night in Bhadaranpur village under the Dharamjaigarh forest range when the victims were asleep outside their houses because of summer heat, he said. The tusker first attacked Ghasiya Ram Yadav (35) and his wife Sushila (30), killing the woman at the scene, he said. Her husband sustained injuries and was admitted to the local hospital later. The same elephant then crushed to death another woman, identified as Sunita Lohara (45), in the village, he said.

Missing man found dead in drain at Delhi, juvenile held

**NEW DELHI:** The body of a 24-year-old man who went missing on May 5 was recovered from a drain in outer Delhi's Bakkarwala area, police said on Sunday. A juvenile has been apprehended in connection with the case, they said. The deceased, identified as Rahul, an e-rickshaw driver and resident of Ranhola. His family had lodged a missing person's report at Ranhola Police Station on May 7 after he did not return home, they said. A senior police officer said that on the morning of May 9, police received a call about a foul smell coming from a drain near a temple.

# 'No place to hide': India's message to terrorists

**PTI, NEW DELHI:** India has called Pakistan's nuclear bluff with Operation Sindoor and sent a psychological message to state-sponsored terrorists: nobody is untouchable and no place in Pakistan is safe for you, government sources said on Sunday.

India has also set a "new normal" in response to Pakistan-backed cross-border terrorism through the operation and Prime Minister Narendra Modi directed the armed forces that Indian retaliation to any action by the Pakistani military should be "bigger and stronger", they said.

"Wahan se goli chalegi, toh yahan se gola chalega (If they fire bullets, we will respond with cannons)," one of the sources quoted PM Modi as saying following the Pakistani actions.

Operation Sindoor is not concluded yet and the cost of cross-border terrorism will be raised as Pakistan can't contin-



Security personnel check a vehicle as they keep vigil, seen a day after India and Pakistan reached a truce

ue with terrorism while expecting cooperation in areas of its choosing, the sources said.

When asked whether Operation Sindoor managed to fulfil the prime minister's instructions, a senior government source said, "Markaz ko mitti mei mila diya hai; age ka bhi dekhenge".

He was referring to precision strikes on nine terrorist training sites and

headquarters on the early morning of May 7.

Asked how many more terror centres remain in Pakistan, another source posed a counter question: How big is Pakistan, implying the country is a hotbed of terrorism.

The sources also emphasised that the confrontation never reached the stage of a nuclear conflict which has been the greatest fear and

threat used by Pakistan, whose military is vastly smaller than India's.

However, the nuclear deterrence has given it some amount of parity, they said.

"We have called their nuclear deterrence bluff. We take the nuclear threat seriously, but it cannot serve as cover for Pakistan to come and do terrorism in our country," said a senior source.

"The new normal is that the Line of Control will not protect you; the international border will not protect you; the nuclear threat will not protect you," the source said.

"The message that has been sent is that no matter where you are in Pakistan, we will hit you. On this occasion, we have gone after the head of the snake and not foot soldiers," it said.

The sources said Indian action demonstrated its new approach to kill terrorists within Pakistan.

## Don't rush back home, stay at safer places: J&K Police to border village residents

**PTI, SRINAGAR/JAMMU:** The authorities in Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday asked border villages residents, who were evacuated to safer places in view of cross border shelling by Pakistan, not to rush back to homes as they are yet to sanitise and clear these areas of any unexploded shells.

More than two lakh residents of villages close to the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border were evacuated to safer places amid intense Pakistani artillery and mortar shell-

ing from May 7 onwards owing to vulnerability of their habitations in both divisions of Kashmir and Jammu.

"Do not return to front-line villages. Lives are at risk as unexploded munitions remain (scattered) after Pakistani shelling," said an advisory issued by the police in Kashmir Valley.

Bomb disposal squads will be sent to the affected areas to sanitise and clear the villages of any unexploded shells, which can lead to loss of human

lives, it said.

"As many as 41 lives were lost in explosions of leftover shells near the LoC in 2023 alone," the advisory read, highlighting the dangers of civilians rushing back to villages.

In Jammu region, the police vehicles fitted with a public address system were seen making rounds in the worst-hit Poonch district and asking people not to touch any suspicious object lying at their residential houses, compounds or open fields.

"People returning to

their homes are advised to be cautious and immediately inform police or the nearest security camp about any suspicious object, which could be dangerous to human life," the police said.

The Poonch district accounted for the highest 20 of the total 27 fatalities with over 50 others injured since Wednesday, shortly after India carried out Operation Sindoor, striking nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and PoK to avenge the April 22 Pahalgam attack that left 26 people dead.

## Soldier killed in cross-border shelling given tearful adieu in Jammu



BSF personnel carry the mortal remains of BSF Sub-Inspector Mohammad Imliaz, who was martyred in the line of duty, in Jammu

**PTI, JAMMU:** A young soldier, who succumbed to grievous injuries sustained in Pakistani shelling, was given a tearful adieu with hundreds of mourners joining his last rites in his village near the zero line here.

Rifleman Sunil Kumar (25) posted with 4-JAK-LI (Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry regiment) was critically injured in cross-border shelling along the International border in RS Pura sector early Saturday and later breathed his last.

Coming from a military background with his two elder brothers also serving in the armed forces and his father an ex-serviceman, his relatives said that Kumar was inspired from a young age to join the army and serve the nation.

The majority of the inhabitants of his Triva village in the Arnia sector were shifted to safer places as a precautionary measure on May 8, a day after Pakistan started indiscriminately targeting forward villages along the Line of Control and international border in Jammu and Kashmir following Indian armed forces' missile strikes on terror infrastructure in

their country. However, when the tricolour-wrapped coffin carrying the mortal remains of the braveheart was brought in a decorated army vehicle to the village amid chants in praise of his sacrifice and the nation, hundreds of mourners also gathered there to bid a tearful adieu to him.

Emotional scenes were witnessed when his family members, including parents, requested the last glimpse of the martyred soldier.

The body was later taken to Parmandal, where the cremation took place with full military honours.

"The entire village is in mourning as we lost a son of the soil who grew up in this border village and gave up his life in service of the nation," former sarpanch Balbir Kour told PTI.

Kumar was a gentleman and was supposed to get married soon, she said, adding that the entire village now stands with his family at this hour of grief.

However, she feels the nation lost an opportunity to bring Pakistan "to its knees" and safeguard the coming generations from the mischief of the neighbouring country.

## COLOURFUL COLLECTION



Draped in vibrant traditional attire, women stroll past a stall brimming with colorful silk flowers at the bustling weekly market in Srinagar

## SC rejects plea to enforce NEP in TN

**PTI, NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court has dismissed a plea seeking a direction to the Tamil Nadu, Kerala and the West Bengal governments to implement the National Education Policy, including its three-language formula.

A bench of Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice R Mahadevan said the top court could not issue such directions to state governments.

"The Supreme Court, through Article 32 of the Constitution, can issue directives to ensure that the fundamental rights of citizens are protected. It cannot directly compel a state to adopt a policy like the National Education Policy, 2020," the bench said in an order passed on Friday.

"The court may, however, intervene if a state's action

or inaction related to the National Education Policy violates any fundamental rights or any other legal rights. We do not propose to examine this issue in this writ petition filed under Article 32 of the Constitution," it added.

The petitioner has nothing to do with the cause he proposes to espouse, the top court further said.

"Although he may be from the state of Tamil Nadu, yet, on his own admission, he is now residing in New Delhi. The main issue may be examined by this court in an appropriate proceeding but at least not in this particular petition," the bench said.

The apex court was hearing a plea filed by advocate GS Mani seeking directions to implement the National Education Policy, 2020.

# Mother's Day: Meet the women who sort waste, raise families and protect the planet

**PTI, NEW DELHI:** On a day when gifts, cards and wishes mark the celebration of motherhood across the country May 11, four women in the lanes of Delhi's huge urban sprawl began their day not with rest, but with responsibility to their children, to their communities, and to the planet.

Jyoti, Reshma, Anita and Shagufa - while these women are all waste pickers living in different slum clusters of the capital, they are also deeply involved in grassroots environmental work. They tirelessly work

on the ground, seldom seek recognition and rarely appear in headlines.

From sorting and collecting recyclable waste to spreading awareness door to door, and to reaching out to the victims of domestic violence, their contribution to the city's development is as relentless as their role as mothers.

"I wake up at 4 am every day. I prepare food and lunch boxes, take my children to school and only then go to work," Jyoti, who lives in Vivekananda Camp and works with the Chintan en-

vironmental group, told PTI.

However, Jyoti's day does not end with her job as a waste picker. She spends afternoons picking up her children from school and sending them to tuition. Whereas, her evenings are all about finishing household chores.

"From 4 am to 10 pm, I don't stop. Sundays are the only days I take off, to be with my children," she said.

Chintan, an environmental research and action group, engages women like Jyoti in community-based work. Many of them go door

to door in their neighbourhoods, not only spreading awareness on waste management and environmental issues but also helping women facing domestic violence, injustice or medical distress.

Another 41-year-old slum dweller Reshma, who lives in the Bhalswa Dairy slum, said that she balances similar responsibilities, but without a partner's support.

"My husband left me a long time ago. I've raised my five children alone," she told PTI, adding that only two of her children go to school.

She said that she does not take on other waste collection jobs when she is engaged in projects by Chintan. She was also a part of the recent 'Heat Solutions' initiative to reduce indoor temperatures in low-income homes.

"I got roofs painted white and used bamboo and jute sheets to cool homes. I've done this for 70 to 80 houses. I only take a day off if one of my children is sick. Otherwise, I keep working," Reshma told PTI.

Without any gifts, cards or even appreciation on days

like Mother's Day, these women live vastly different lives. What remains with them instead is grit, sacrifice, and quiet resilience.

In another part of the city, Anita, 40, lives in a slum in the Nizamuddin area. She too juggles environmental work, waste picking and the full-time demands of motherhood. "I have six children. Three of them go to school. It's hard to manage everything," Anita said.

Anita's husband left her 15 years ago, and she has raised her family alone since.