

THOUGHT of the DAY

"Perfection is not attainable. But if we chase perfection we can catch excellence."

—Vince Lombardi

India denies cash, crypto payments for Hormuz pass

NEW DELHI: India on Wednesday denied making any payments - either in cash or cryptocurrency - to Iran to secure safe passage for its vessels through the Strait of Hormuz amid heightened tensions in the region.

The clarification came after two Indian vessels had to turn back from the Strait of Hormuz after Iranian forces fired upon them as they attempted to cross the crucial waterway on April 18.

Before turning back, the captain of Indian tanker Sammar Herald, in an audio recording that has surfaced, is heard pleading with Iranian forces to stop firing despite prior clearance to pass the Strait of Hormuz. ▶P11

Prez Murmu, Modi, Shah honour Pahalgam victims

LG, CM, leaders pay homage

NEW DELHI: As India observed the first anniversary of the Pahalgam terror attack on Wednesday, President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, union ministers along with leaders of various parties paid homage to the victims, asserting that the country will never bow to any form of terrorism.

Any attempt to harm people or disrupt unity will be met with strength and clarity, the government said, stressing that India will continue its zero-tolerance policy against terrorism and those who harbour it. The dastardly attack by Pak-



istan-based Laskar-e-Taiba at Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead and triggered a four-day military conflict with Pakistan after Indian armed forces retaliated with Operation Sindoor targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan-controlled territories.

The Indian Army reaffirmed its steely resolve to fight against ▶P11

SP Smart School proves its mettle in JKBOSE 12th Results

Manik secures 1st Position in Commerce from Jammu Div with 99.4%, Tanshivi gets 1st Position in Science from district with 99.2%; 34 students bag positions

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Riding strong on the back of its robust education model, extensive focus on research and meticulously structured holistic development of the students, SP Smart School has yet again proved its mettle, bagging the first position across Jammu and Kashmir in the Class 12th results for the year 2026 declared by the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education on Wednesday.

SP Higher Secondary School's Manik Dogra topped the merit list in Commerce stream, scoring 99.4% marks and securing Rank 1 across all schools in Jammu Division of the Union Territory, while a total of 34 students grabbed positions across Sciences, Humanities and Commerce streams, making SP Smart School the institution with highest number of positions in



Jammu and Kashmir.

The toppers also included Tanshivi Sharma, who secured 99.2 marks (1st Position) in Science stream among all schools in Jammu district. In Humanities, SP Smart School scored 7 of the top 10 positions.

Adding to its impressive tally, as many as 63 students have scored 97% or above marks and 147 students crossed 95% or above mark, while 394 students scored 90% or above marks.

In total, 826 students of SP Smart School scored 75% (Distinction) or above marks, proving once again why it has remained the choicest educational institution for the students of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir for decades altogether.

"The exceptional results attained by SP Smart School in the Class 12th examination are a testament to the unwavering dedication and commitment of the students, as well as the hard work put in by the teachers," CEO, SP Smart School, Shivang Satya Gupta said.

The students who secured top positions have not only brought laurels to themselves but have also brought immense pride to SP Smart School and the union territory of Jammu and ▶P11

Eveready sets up Samba plant; LG flags post 2021 investment surge

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday inaugurated a Rs 200 crore industrial unit of Eveready Industries India in Samba district and said that Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a sharp surge in investments and startup growth since the launch of the New Industrial Policy in 2021.

He said that the inauguration sends a strong message globally that while the neighbouring country continues to foster terrorism, India is building engines of progress and success.

On the occasion, the Lt Govern-



nor also paid homage to all the civilians who were martyred in the Pahalgam terrorist attack on April 22 last year and said, "We have not forgotten those who had dared to cast a covetous eye on our mothers' and sisters' Sindoor.

"I also recall the brave soldiers of Operation Sindoor, who had avenged every single tear. Today, the inauguration of this new industrial unit in J&K is a clear ▶P11

NIA: Naming chiefs can't absolve Malik

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that naming of senior politicians and bureaucrats does not absolve separatist leader Yasin Malik or negate his links with militants like Hafiz Saeed.

The NIA filed a rejoinder to Malik's reply to its plea for enhancing his life sentence in a terror-funding case to death penalty and asserted that the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief was "well connected with multiple terrorist organizations and with supporters of the terrorist organization LeT" and that he dropped names of senior politicians, media personnel, foreign delegates and bureaucrats to gain popularity and ▶P11

LG, Omar inquire about health of Udhampur accident victims

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU/ UDHAMPUR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday visited Government Medical College in Jammu to inquire about the health of citizens who were critically injured in an unfortunate road accident in Ramnagar, Udhampur on April 20.

The team of doctors briefed the Lieutenant Governor on the health condition of the injured and the specialized treatment protocols being followed.

Hospital authorities informed the Lieutenant Governor that Hans Raj and Lakhwinder Singh are under the constant supervision of senior healthcare professionals and receiving the highest standard of clinical attention.

The Lieutenant Governor directed the Hospital Administration to ensure the best possible medical care for their speedy recovery.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today visited Government Medical College Udhampur to enquire about the health of those injured in the tragic road accident that occurred earlier this week. He interacted with the injured and their families, directing officials to ensure the best possible medical care with round-the-clock monitoring.

The Chief Minister, accompanied by Minister for Health & Medical Education Sakina Itoo and Minister for Transport Satish Sharma, conducted a detailed inspection of the hospital ▶P11

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
LEADERSHIP, Personality Development & Motivational Programme
by Globally Renowned Spiritualist
Shri Swami Paul Ji

1004 students celebrating GRAND SUCCESS

Hardwork Of Students, Parents & Staff Has Been Blessed By The Almighty

www.spsmartschools.com

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR 2026-27

8TH, 9TH, 10TH, 11th & 12th

NEET IT-JEE CUET

FOUNDATION FOR CIVILS
CLAT & CA-CPT

+ SPORTS

THE LEADER IN 'INNOVATIVE SCHOOLING'

JMD SP SMART SCHOOLING SYSTEM

Exchange Road Jammu | NH Sarore, Tawi Vihar Sidhra | Talab Tillo & Rajouri

*All who desire to seek admission may not be admitted due to limited seats.

Ed-Tech Products & Services by: ESPA Learn Pvt Ltd.

SCIENCE TOPPER FROM JAMMU DISTT. | COMMERCE TOPPER OF JAMMU Div. CLASS 12TH 2025-26 | MORE THAN 78% STUDENTS SCORED DISTINCTIONS

Positions: 34 | 97% & Abv: 63 | 95% & Abv: 147 | 90% & Abv: 349 | 75% & Abv: 826

1ST	 Manik Dogra (COMMERCE) JAMMU DIV	 Tanshivi (SCIENCE) JAMMU DISTT. Overall 2nd Pos.	2ND	 Angel Slathia Position (ARTS)	5TH	 Khitish Verma Position (COM)	5TH	 Lucky Rukwal Position (ARTS)	5TH	 Vaishnavi Charak Position (ARTS)	
7TH	 Azhar Hussain Position (COM)	7TH	 Aastha Sharma Position (ARTS)	7TH	 Abhya Sambyal Position (ARTS)	7TH	 Aksa Position (ARTS)	8TH	 Kakun Mahajan Position (SCIENCE)	8TH	 Kashish Nayyar Position (SCIENCE)
8TH	 Anjali Kumari Position (SCIENCE)	8TH	 Diksha Angral Position (SCIENCE)	8TH	 KHUSHI Position (ARTS)	8TH	 Apeksha Position (ARTS)	8TH	 Partiva Meenia Position (ARTS)	8TH	 Manat Attri Position (ARTS)
9TH	 Anmol Verma Position (COM)	9TH	 Ridhima Sharma Position (COM)	9TH	 Adarsh Thakur Position (ARTS)	9TH	 Amir Hussain Position (ARTS)	9TH	 Mehak Dursal Position (ARTS)	9TH	 Hari Priya Position (ARTS)
9TH	 Varul Shrma Position (SCIENCE)	10TH	 Nidhi Dalotra Position (SCIENCE)	10TH	 Adiya Manhas Position (SCIENCE)	10TH	 Siya Sharma Position (ARTS)	10TH	 Harmandeep Kour Position (ARTS)		

SP H BRID
SMART COMPETITIVE SCHOOLING
NO NEED FOR TUITION & COACHING