



Agni-1 ballistic missile test-fired

NEW DELHI: India on Friday successfully test-fired short-range ballistic missile 'Agni-1' from the integrated test range at Odisha's Chandipur, the defence ministry said.

The launch validated all operational and technical parameters, it said.

"The test was carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command," the ministry said.

The Agni 1 to 4 missiles have ranges from 700 km to 3,500 km and they have already been deployed.

Defence officials said the missile followed the

India to build Smart Border along Pak, Bangladesh to check infiltration: Shah



NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said the government will launch a tech-enabled "smart border" project by the next year to make the 6,000-km frontiers with Pakistan and Bangladesh impenetrable and ensure that the "conspiracy" to change the demography of the country is defeated.

Delivering the annual Rustamji Memorial lecture hosted by the Border Security Force (BSF) here, the minister also reiterated that the government will find each and every infiltrator and send them out of India.

other side."

"I want to assure BSF troops that we will launch the smart border project within the 60th year of its raising and we will make the Bangladesh and Pakistan borders impenetrable through major technical assistance," Shah said.

The "smart border" will use technology, drones, radars and smart cameras to help create an impenetrable border, he told the gathering.

Calling these two borders "vulnerable" and a "cause of concern" for the country from the security point of view, Shah said these fronts (about 1,289 km with Pakistan and 4,096 km with Bangladesh) cannot be guarded with "traditional" methods.

The concept of border security should not be seen in isolation but as a "territorial responsibility" involving all agencies and state governments, he said.

He said these borders currently face threats like illegal infiltration, smuggling of drugs, weapons

Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai calls on LG Sinha J&K Dashar Kumbh to be observed from 15-24 July

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai on Friday called upon Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here, an official spokesman said.

Lt Gen Ghai, who is the Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Strategy), called on the J-K LG at the Raj Bhavan here, the spokesman said.

Lt Gen Ghai was accompanied by the General Officer Commanding of the Army's Srinagar-based XV Corps, also known as Chinar Corps,



Lt Gen Balbir Singh, the spokesman said, without giving further details. Meanwhile, a delegation

Lecturer held in NEET-UG paper leak

NEW DELHI: The CBI has arrested a Pune-based lecturer for allegedly leaking the physics paper of NEET UG 2026 to a select group of aspirants, officials said on Friday.

The CBI has arrested Manisha Sanjay Havaladar, presently employed with the Seth Hiralal Saraf Prashala in Pune, terming her another "source" for the paper leak.

"The CBI has identified another key accused who was the source for the leak of NEET-UG 2026 physics questions," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN

STOP DRUGS

DAY 42

The EARTH NEWS joins with the campaign launched by Honourable Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Ji to eradicate drug menace from union territory of J&K.

Admin razed assets linked to drug trade

JAMMU: Police and civil administration said they demolished an alleged "illegal" commercial property of a drug peddler in Udhampur district as part of an ongoing crackdown against narcotics trafficking, officials said.

The drive targeted shops allegedly built on government land near Dewal bridge along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in the Samroli area.

Officials said the properties belonged to Trilochan Dutt who has allegedly been involved in multiple drug smuggling cases and has encroached upon state land to construct the commercial structures.

The demolition was carried out jointly by the district

Anti-drug crackdown intensified



KULGAM: In continuation of the sustained campaign against drug abuse and narcotics trafficking under the Nasha Mukht Abhiyaan, Police in

Kulgam, in close coordination with the Civil Administration, carried out a demolition drive against illegally acquired property belonging to the drug peddlers at Srandoo, Kulgam.

The action was conducted in the presence of the Executive Magistrate and senior officials from the Police and Civil Administration as part of the ongoing crackdown on individuals involved in the drug trade and related unlawful activities.

During the drive, property comprising two stories structure (housing cowshed) and storage of Firewal belonging to Bashir Ahmad Dar son of Ghulam Mohiuddin Dar resident of Srandoo and a Shop belonging to drug peddler Waseem son of Abdul Rashid Dar resident of Srandoo were demolished in accordance with

JU's campus hosts awareness skit on substance abuse

BHADERWAH: Baderwah Campus, University of Jammu on Friday organised a highly impactful Nukkak Natak (Skit) on the theme "Nasha Mukht Bharat" at the Lal Ded Auditorium of the Campus with an aim to spread awareness among the youth and society regarding the harmful effects of substance abuse and to promote the vision of a drug-free India.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of Little Angel School and the School of Education, Baderwah



Campus, who through their thought-provoking performances delivered a strong social message against the growing menace of drugs in society. The skits were highly appreciated by the audience for their realistic portrayal and powerful message.

In his message, Rector Baderwah Campus Prof. Rahul Gupta highlighted the alarming rise of drug abuse among the youth and stressed the

'Missing' posters targeting Omar sparks political row

SRINAGAR: A political storm erupted in Jammu and Kashmir after the BJP circulated online 'Omar Abdullah missing' posters in a bid to mock the chief minister.

The BJP's J&K unit shared the 'missing' posters on its social media handles, seeking information about Abdullah and claiming that he has been "missing for the last ten days".

The saffron party's criticism comes amid reports that the chief minister is outside Jammu and Kashmir on a personal visit.

Reacting to the posters,

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah hit back at the BJP, saying that the saffron party has "nothing better" to do.

"They have their own campaigns, they know what they are doing. We don't have to answer them," the senior Abdullah told reporters after offering the congregational prayers at the Hazratbal shrine here.

Farooq also brushed aside rumours of a split in alliance with the Congress in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I think it is our enemies who are saying all this. The alliance is there, nothing will happen," he said.

Centre clears transfer of Ladakh DGP to Manipur



NEW DELHI: The Centre has approved inter-cadre deputation of Ladakh Police chief Mukesh Singh to Manipur, according to an official order.

Singh is a 1996-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, and Union Territories) cadre.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the inter-cadre deputation of Singh to Manipur for a period of three years as a special case in public interest, an order, dated May 21, by the Personnel Ministry said.

He is likely to be appointed as Manipur Police chief, officials said.

The vacancy was necessitated following the appointment of Manipur DGP Rajiv Singh as Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat.

The secretary (security) is the administrative head of the Special Protection Group (SPG) that provides

Shopian gears up for mega Padyatra today

SHOPIAN: District Magistrate Shopian, Shishir Gupta, on Friday interacted with the media regarding the upcoming Mega Padyatra being organised in the district under the ongoing 100 Days Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan.

He said that the Lieutenant Governor launched the 100-day Nasha Mukht Abhiyan across Jammu and Kashmir from April 11, 2026, with the objective of intensifying the fight against drug abuse and taking the mes-

sage of a drug-free society to every household.

He informed that as part of the campaign, Mega Padyatras are being organised in every district of Jammu and Kashmir. In this connection, the Mega Padyatra in Shopian district is scheduled to be held tomorrow, May 23, 2026, in which the Lieutenant Governor, J&K, Manoj Sinha will be the Chief Guest.

"Tomorrow's Mega Padyatra is not merely an event, but a collective pledge of the people of Shopian against drug abuse."

Traders convene meet at Kulgam

KULGAM: As part of the ongoing 100-day campaign under the nationwide Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, a traders' meeting was organised on Friday at Kulgam by the District Administration to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to seek active cooperation from the business community in building a drug-free society. The meeting was chaired by the Additional

Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Viqar Ahmed Giri who interacted with members of the Traders Federation, market representatives, and other stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, the ADC highlighted the growing threat of substance abuse, particularly among the youth, and stressed the collective responsibility of all sections of society in combating the menace. He urged traders and shopkeepers to

Woman critical after setting herself ablaze

JAMMU: A 22-year-old woman allegedly set herself ablaze here after her boyfriend did not respond to her phone calls, police said on Friday.

The incident occurred near the Tawi bridge area on Thursday when the woman allegedly poured an inflammable substance on herself and set herself on fire in a fit of rage, they said.

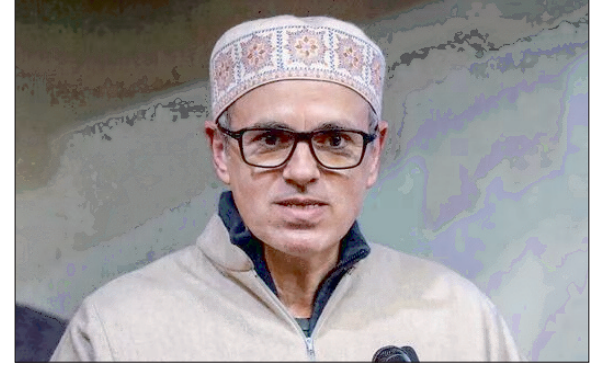
Passers-by immediately rushed to her aid and managed to douse the flames before police personnel admitted her to a hospital for treatment.

The woman suffered around 80 per cent

Omar extends greetings on Urs of Mir Sayyid Ali Hamadani (RA)

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday extended warm greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion of the annual Urs of revered saint Mir Sayyid Ali Hamadani (RA), popularly known as Ameer-e-Kabeer.

In his message, the Chief Minister highlighted the immense spiritual, cultural and social contributions of Hazrat Ameer-e-Kabeer (RA), whose teachings of peace, compassion, brotherhood and righteousness continue to guide humanity and inspire generations across Jammu and Kashmir and beyond.



The Chief Minister said that the revered saint played a pivotal role in spreading the message of Islam, promoting communal harmony and enriching the region's spiritual and cultural heritage through his wisdom, scholarship and exemplary character.

He urged the people to imbibe the noble values preached by the saint and work collectively towards strengthening mutual respect, unity and

Security for Eid, SANJY reviewed

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Police chief VK Birdi on Friday reviewed security and logistical arrangements for the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha and the annual Amarnath yatra, a police spokesperson said.

During a meeting at PCR Kashmir, district SSPs gave detailed presentations on security preparedness, deployment plans, traffic regulation, crowd management measures, and other logistical arrangements for Eid-ul-Azha celebrations and the annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY), the spokesperson said.

Highlighting the significance of the Eid celebrations, Birdi, the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Zone, directed officers to implement robust crowd management

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