

**NEET-UG to go CBT mode from 2027**

**NEW DELHI:** The National Testing Agency on Friday told the Supreme Court that it is all set to conduct the NEET-UG exam in computer-based test (CBT) mode from next year instead of the pen and paper mode after consulting the Centre. The National Testing Agency (NTA), responsible for conducting the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), made the statement before the apex court, which is hearing a batch of petitions related to the paper leak this year that led to the cancellation of the May 3 exam. In an affidavit filed before a bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe, the NTA said a high-level committee of experts (HLCE) has recommended transition of NEET-UG to CBT mode. It said that among the major NTA examinations, only NEET (UG) 2026 was conducted in the pen and paper (PPT) mode, primarily according to the scheme of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Medical Commission. It said all other ▶ P11

**BSF to get 'quadrangular grid'; border security revamp: Shah**

**"Govt mulls to 'expand' BSF's mandate"**



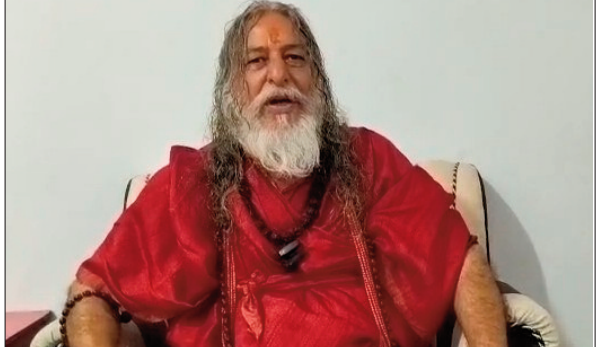
**BHUJ:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said the government was working to completely transform the BSF's concept of border security by introducing a new concept of "territorial security" that entails sharing primary responsibility among the public, civil administration, local police, and the military, along with the BSF personnel. In his interaction with Border Security Force (BSF) personnel during his visit to the border district of Kutch

decision has been taken to completely transform the BSF's concept of border security. In the days to come, we will establish a quadrangular security grid and introduce a new concept of 'territorial security' to replace the traditional approach of mere border security," Shah said. The initiative would entail the primary responsibility shared among the public, civil administration, local police and the military, alongside the BSF personnel, he said. He also talked about the Smart Border Security Project, and said efforts are underway to fortify the security grids along the borders. The endeavor involves an investment running into thousands of crores of rupees, Shah said, and expressed confidence that the deployment of drones, radars, watchtowers, state-of-the-art technology, and security personnel ▶ P11

**Swami Vishwatamanand Ji slams bid to defame Dashnami Akhara, seeks probe**

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**JAMMU:** Shri Shri 1008 Shri Swami Vishwatamanand Saraswati Ji Maharaj on Friday demanded a thorough inquiry into the false allegations levelled against the historic and prestigious Shri Dashnami Akhara in Poonch, asserting that attempts were being made to defame a centuries-old religious institution and hurt the sentiments of the followers of Sanatan Dharma. Addressing the media in Poonch, Shri Swami Vish-



watamanand Saraswati Ji strongly objected to the remarks allegedly made in a social media post wherein false and purported claims were raised regarding the presence

of "drug addicts" within the Shri Dashnami Akhara premises. He said that if anyone had evidences against a particular individual, the person concerned should be specifically identified instead of tarnishing the image of the entire religious institution thereby hurting the sentiments of a particular community. "Nearly, 5 years ago in Delhi, someone had raised question on Sanatan Dharma, following which I addressed media and severely condemned it. Within three days Supreme Court had ▶ P11

**'Op Sheruwali' enters day 7, another anti-terrorist Op launched in Poonch**

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**RAJOURI:** Security forces continued 'Operation Sheruwali' for the seventh consecutive day on Friday to hunt down two to three Pakistani terrorists believed to be hiding in the forests of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, while another anti-terrorist search operation was launched in neighbouring Poonch district, officials said. The forces targeted specific suspected terrorist hideouts with heavy firepower as the ultras continued shifting positions



across the difficult terrain, valleys and gorges in the Dorimal-Gambhir Moghla belt of the Manjakote area, the officials said. Joint teams of police

**Cmdr reviews anti-infiltration grid along LoC**

**SRINAGAR:** Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma on Friday reviewed the operational preparedness of the force and assessed the robustness of the anti-infiltration grid along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Kashmir Valley. "Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, #Army-CdrNC, visited units deployed along the #LineOfControl in Kupwara Sector to assess robustness of anti-infiltration grid and review ▶ P11

**DM unveils book on Op Sindoor; chronicles 'accounts' of officers**



**NEW DELHI:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday released a commemorative volume on Operation Sindoor, which documents the personal testimonies of 100 officers, sailors, and airmen who participated in the decisive military operation last year. Singh described the operation as an unprecedented

success wherein India "compelled Pakistan to seek a ceasefire within four days." "It was different from all other wars that India has fought so far. The commemorative publication goes beyond historical account and captures the personal experiences of brave soldiers. It also offers insight into the human dimension of modern warfare

**Farooq seeks enquiry into NEET-UG case**

**SRINAGAR:** National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Friday demanded a full-fledged investigation into the alleged NEET paper leak and said the five states "where the leak took place" are governed by the BJP. "Had there been no shortcomings, then would this have happened?" Abdullah asked while talking to reporters here. He was responding to a question about the possible shortcomings in the system as Education Minister ▶ P11

**100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN**  
STOP DRUGS  
DAY 49  
The EARTH NEWS joins the campaign launched by Honourable Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Ji to eradicate drug menace from union territory of J&K.

**Anti-drug awareness prog organised at Jammu University**

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** "Healthy Youth, Prosperous Nation" Ek Sankalp - NASHA MUKT BHARAT, an awareness program, was successfully organized by Science Clubs, Ut-saah, jointly with the Department of Zoology in collaboration with, the Jammu and Kashmir Science, Technology and Innovation Council (JKSTIC), Department of Science and Technology (DST), UT of J&K on Friday at University of Jammu. Under the theme of Nasha Mukta Bharat Ab-



hiyaan, which is a flagship campaign to create awareness and reach youth and society for understanding the gravity of substance abuse. The youth and various stake-

holders came to discuss and take part in the activities for a common goal of making India free of substance abuse. Slogans and posters were displayed during the event to spread awareness. The welcome address was delivered by Prof. Seema Langer, Head, Department of Zoology and she shared her views about this critical issue of society with students, scholars, faculty, staff and employees present during the event and urged everyone to spread awareness at their level to make a better tomorrow. Shruti Khanna, Assistant Director, JKSTIC, was the special guest during the program and appreciated the efforts. She applauded the initiative and encouraged more such programs to ▶ P11

**Govt orders posting of two officers**

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Friday ordered the transfer and posting of two officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect. According to Government Order No. 1019-JK(GAD) of 2026 dated May 29, 2026, issued by the General Administration Department (GAD), Pranjal J. Hazarika, IAS (AGMUT:2021), who was serving as Additional Secretary to the Government in the Labour and Employment Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Baramulla against an available vacancy. The order further states that Vishavjeet Singh, ▶ P11

**Swiss Ambassador to India calls on Omar, reviews scope of association**

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** Swiss Ambassador to India Maya Tissafi on Friday called on Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah here and discussed issues of mutual interest and scope for collaboration, an official said. The meeting explored opportunities for the exchange of best practices in sustainable tourism, hospitality, vocational education and training, horticulture, dairying, and eco-friendly food processing, according to a spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir government. During the interaction, the chief minister emphasised the importance of adopting best practices in these sectors to further strengthen Jammu



and Kashmir's socio-economic development and ensure long-term prosperity for its people, he said. Tissafi, who is on a visit to Kashmir, appreciated ▶ P11

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