

THOUGHT
of the
DAY

You miss
100% of the
shots you
don't take.
—Wayne Gretzky

INBRIEF

Jammu Railway
Station to have
“revised” entry,
exit from Sep 16

JAMMU: Jammu Tawi railway station will have revised passenger entry and exit arrangements from September 16 in view of the ongoing redevelopment work, railway officials said.

Under the new arrangement, passengers will enter the station from the platform number 1 side, while those completing their journey and disembarking trains will exit from the Narwal side, they said.

In case a train arrives at platform number 1, family members and relatives accompanying passengers for drop-off will also be permitted to exit from the platform number 1 side, officials said.

The temporary arrangement has been introduced to ensure smooth ► **P11**

2 killed,
5 hurt as
mini-bus
overturns

REASI: Two people were killed and five others injured after a passenger vehicle overturned in Reasi district on Monday, officials said.

The accident occurred at Battalgala near Bakkal tunnel at around 8:40 am when the vehicle, travelling from Saranghdar towards Reasi, overturned after the driver lost control, the officials said.

According to eyewitnesses, one of the vehicle's tyres burst, causing the driver to lose control, following which the passenger vehicle overturned.

A 48-year-old man was found dead on the ► **P11**

DGP Prabhat reviews ongoing
‘counter-terror’ ops in Poonch

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Monday reviewed the ongoing counter-terrorism operations in the border district of Poonch, with particular focus on the presence and activities of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists.

Accompanied by Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Tejinder Singh, the DGP is on a day-long visit to Poonch to review the overall security situation.

"The DGP, accompanied by IG Jammu Zone, reviewed the ongoing ops (operations) in Poonch district, especially in the

**Terror module
busted, IED
recovered; 3
OGWs held**

RAJOURI: District Police have busted an Over Ground Worker (OGW) network allegedly linked to the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in the Pir Panjal region and arrested three persons in connection with the case, officials said.

The arrested persons have been identified as Zakir Hussain, son of Ghulam Hussain, of Kotcharwal Teryath, Rajouri; Mohd Azam, son of Ali Bahadur, of Kotcharwal Teryath, Rajouri; and Mohd Mushtaq, son of Mohd Iqbal, of Udhan, Rajouri.

The arrests were made during the ► **P11**

**CM Omar reviews progress on
strengthening healthcare infra**

Abdullah directs Health Department to address gaps in manpower, equipment and healthcare infrastructure

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah reviewed progress on strengthening healthcare infrastructure and services across the state and assessed the requirements and priorities to improve the sector further, officials said on Monday.

Abdullah praised the health department for steps taken over the last nearly two years to address manpower shortages and infrastructure and equipment deficiencies. "I appreciate the steps the health department has taken over



the last almost two years, both in addressing infrastructure and equipment deficiencies," he said.

A spokesperson said officials made a detailed presentations on various aspects of the health sector, including healthcare infrastructure, medical ► **P11**

18-yr-old
girl dies
of gunshot

JAMMU: An 18-year-old girl died of a gunshot wound from a licensed gun at her residence in Reasi district, officials said on Monday.

Priyanka Devi, a resident of Panassa village in the Thakrakote area, allegedly fired the licensed firearm at her residence late Sunday night, resulting in her death on the spot, the officials said.

Preliminary investigation suggests that the girl committed suicide, but the motive behind her taking such an extreme step was not known immediately, they said.

Police have ► **P11**

Postal network can be used for Govt
progs, last-mile delivery: Dr Jitendra

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Monday said the postal department's vast nationwide network is a valuable public-service asset that can be utilised more extensively for government programmes, citizen outreach and last-mile delivery.

During a meeting with representatives of all India employee organisations of the Department of Posts, Singh said the transformation of India Post was reflected in the changing role of the postman, who is increasingly taking banking and other essential services directly to citizens.

From traditional letter delivery, the postal network has expanded into a wider platform for delivering financial and citizen services, with its extensive reach providing an im-



portant last-mile connection between government services and people, said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

He said that the vast nationwide network of the Department of

Trailer crash paralyses Jammu-Poonch
highway; Rani Bedhater road ‘choked’

Inqlabi demands immediate widening as alternate route

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Jammu–Poonch highway was thrown into complete chaos on Monday after an overloaded trailer overturned at a crucial curve near Narian at around 6:30 PM, bringing traffic on the vital Jammu–Poonch route to a standstill.

With the main highway blocked, commuters were compelled to use the Rani Bedhater Road, a narrow single-lane PMGSY road. The sudden diversion of a large number of vehicles, including heavy vehicles, resulted in another massive traffic jam on the road. The situation became so serious that even some legislators

and senior police officers were reportedly caught in the congestion.

The incident has once again exposed the lack of a dependable alternative road network in the Nowshera area. The absence of effective traffic-management arrangements at the critical points further compounded the difficulties being faced by commuters, patients, transporters and local residents.

Ch. Rashid Azam Inqlabi, Advocate and former Dy. Commissioner, strongly urged the Deputy Chief Minister to take immediate cognizance of the situation and issue directions for urgent widening, strengthening

and improvement of Rani Bedhater Road. Inqlabi said that the road should not remain merely a village/PMGSY link; it must be developed as a proper emergency alternative route for Rajouri–Nowshera, capable of handling diverted traffic whenever the Jammu–Poonch highway is blocked due to accidents, landslides or other emergencies.

He appealed for time-bound action rather than temporary traffic arrangements after every crisis, stating that today's blockade should serve as a wake-up call for the administration.

"Rani Bedhater Road must be widened before the next emergency, not after it," Inqlabi said.

Consensus on terrorism noteworthy: Jaishankar
extols BRICS' condemnation of Pahalgam attack

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI: The BRICS Summit took place in the backdrop of a “very polarised world” and “we forged a consensus” in the midst of it, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Monday, as he described the mega event hosted under India's chairship a success.

Interacting with media-persons here, he also spoke about what was definitely the “toughest issue of the day”, the West Asia conflict, saying, “We were able to get out a statement to which everybody agreed.”

The BRICS members adopted a joint New Delhi Declaration on Saturday after overcoming sharp divisions



between the UAE and Iran regarding the West Asia conflict while notably omitting direct mention of the US for its attacks on Iran.

The negotiations on the text of the declaration went down to the wire as both Iran and the UAE hardened their positions initially.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the adoption of the declaration at the end of the opening day's de-

liberations in the presence of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and other top leaders of the bloc.

“The BRICS Summit was taking place in a very polarised world – there were two major conflicts, big divides and very strong opinions and interests. Even in

the midst of this polarisation, we actually forged a consensus. If you look at it, the toughest issue of the day was the West Asia conflict. But we were able to get out a statement to which everybody agreed,” Jaishankar said.

“A statement urging peace, security, stability, long-term understanding, smooth flow of global trade, of supply chains, of energy, and protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure,” he added.

Jaishankar said it wasn't just that “we were able to negotiate an understanding in a polarised world”, the entire atmosphere and ethos, and the mood of the summit which ended Sunday was such that there were “very open and comfortable conversations”.

“Leaders met, who perhaps in other circumstances may not have met. So they met in the course of this summit. And it actually ► **P11**

Progress of Hindi ‘hinges’ on promoting,
protecting other Indian languages: Shah

Lauds PM Modi on Vande Mataram rule

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said the progress of Hindi is purposeful only when it moves forward while ensuring the dignity, promotion and protection of other Indian languages.

Congratulating people on the occasion of Hindi Diwas, Shah said India is a land of linguistic diversity and cultural prosperity and asserted that the country's many languages are its strength, rather than a drawback.

“Everyone says that our languages are diverse. That is our weakness. But I believe that our greatest strength is that we have so many languages,” Shah said in a message.

He said every language brings with it a history, folk traditions and a view of life and contributes to shaping the values of the younger generation. “Our linguistic diversity strengthens the sense of unity in diversity in



India,” he said.

Shah said a language is not merely a medium of communication but the “memory” and “self-awareness” of a society.

Hindi, he said, has played an important role in connecting different sections and communities of the country as a language of dialogue, bond and coordination.

“The progress of Hindi is only purposeful when it moves forward while ensuring the dignity, promotion

and protection of other Indian languages,” Shah said.

He added that Hindi should not be viewed as a representation of any one language but as an important link between India's languages and national unity.

Shah said his own mother tongue is Gujarati, but Hindi enables him to connect directly with people in different parts of the country.

Hindi Diwas is celebrated every year on September 14 to mark the adoption of Hindi as an official language by the Constituent Assembly on September 14, 1949.

Shah also urged the youth to learn as much as possible from the world without abandoning their language and appealed to parents to speak to their children in their mother tongue.

“Language is what connects us to our mother, our soil, our history and our culture,” he said. ► **P11**

Appointment of AG: J-K Govt
gets 5-week to respond to PIL

Oppn parties to corner Govt in 10-day
autumn Assembly session from Sep 21

Two field workers of
JKWDC held for graft

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: With the post of advocate general of Jammu and Kashmir lying vacant for nearly two years, the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on Monday gave the government five weeks to respond to a plea seeking the immediate appointment to the key constitutional post.

Jammu and Kashmir Advocate General D C Raina submitted his resignation in October 2024, two days after a National Conference-led government assumed office in the Union Territory.

The post remained vacant bringing to the fore a rift between the Lok Bhavan and the elected government in the absence of business rules.

Hearing the public interest litigation (PIL) virtually, the Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati and Justice Rajnesh Oswal issued the notice to the government through the chief secretary and law secretary, directing them to respond by the next date of hearing on October 21, advocate Harsh Dubey said.

Dubey, who had filed the PIL through his counsel Kannu Karan Prasher earlier this month, said the court, after hearing both sides, observed that the post of advocate general is a constitutional office of considerable importance and the continued vacancy of such a post is not desirable. The court also observed that the ► **P11**

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The 10-day autumn Session of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, beginning here on September 21, is expected to be stormy as opposition parties plan to corner the Omar Abdullah government over issues like job outsourcing, rising unemployment, and the ruling party's failure to fulfil electoral promises.

The BJP, the main opposition party in the J-K Legislative Assembly, said the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led National Conference government has failed on all fronts.

“We will raise the issues about the public in the Assembly. There is an outsourcing scam, corruption is continuing unabated, and the Panchayat and Urban Local Bodies' polls are be-



ing delayed unnecessarily,” BJP spokesperson Altaf Thakur said.

Thakur said his party MLAs will remind the government of its unfulfilled promises made during the 2024 assembly elections. “People were promised 200 units of free electricity. Development works have come to a

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Anti-corruption Bureau (ACB) on Monday arrested two field workers of J&K Women's Development Corporation for demanding and accepting a bribe in return for disbursing a loan.

The ACB received a written complaint alleging that Owais Ahamd Khan, a field supervisor of the corporation, had demanded illegal gratification from the complainant for facilitating the disbursement of a sanctioned loan amount of Rs 3 lakh under the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) Scheme.

As the complainant was unwilling to pay the bribe, she approached the ACB and lodged a written complaint, a spokesperson of the ACB said.

“Upon receipt of the complaint, the allegations were verified, and the verification prima facie established the demand of illegal gratification,” the spokesperson said.

An ACB team laid a trap and Khan was caught red-handed. Hi colleague, ► **P11**