

CM Omar visits family of martyred officer Raj Kumar Thapa, visits several areas in Jammu struck by shelling



**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 10**

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today visited the residence of Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa (JKAS), Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Rajouri, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty due to cross-border shelling near his residence Rajouri. Expressing profound

grief over the loss, the Chief Minister extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, acknowledging the officer's outstanding dedication and supreme sacrifice. "His service and sacrifice will never be forgotten."

The Government stands firmly with his family in this hour of grief," CM Omar Abdullah said during the visit.

Dr. Thapa was stationed

in Rajouri town when he was fatally struck by Pakistani shelling. His untimely demise has sent shockwaves through the administrative and civil community, marking a sad and solemn moment for the entire Jammu and Kashmir.

"We have lost a dedicated officer of the J&K Administrative Services. Just yesterday, he was accompanying the Deputy Chief

Minister around the district and attended the on-line meeting I chaired," the Chief Minister said. "I've no words to express my shock and sadness at this terrible loss of life. May his soul rest in peace."

Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister also visited the affected areas of Rehari and Roopnagar in Jammu to assess the damage caused by the cross-border shelling, which continued

for the second night in a row. "The pain and disruption faced by residents is deeply concerning. We stand with every affected family and will ensure all necessary support is provided without delay," he stated.

The Chief Minister reiterated his government's unwavering commitment to safeguarding the lives and well-being of its citizens amidst ongoing hostilities.

No Need to Panic; J&K has adequate supply of essential commodities: Satish

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In view of the prevailing situation, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs; Transport; Science and Technology; Information Technology; Youth Services; Sports and ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, has appealed to the public to remain calm and avoid panic.

He assured that there is no shortage of essential commodities, including food grains, petroleum products and LPG across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister informed that sufficient stocks are available at all distribution points and necessary arrangements are in place to maintain regular sup-

plies. "There is absolutely no need to panic. We have adequate reserves, and my team of dedicated officers is constantly monitoring the situation and taking timely decisions to ensure uninterrupted supply," the Minister stated.

He also expressed gratitude to Trader Associations and Federations for their cooperation in ensuring that the supply chain remains unaffected. "Their support has been crucial in maintaining normalcy in availability of various commodities," he added.

On the transport front, the Minister informed that the Managing Director of RTC along with RTOs and ARTOs are working tirelessly to provide transportation to those who need to travel. He emphasized that fare regulations are being

strictly enforced and action is being taken against operators found overcharging passengers.

Satish Sharma further urged the public to stay vigilant and not believe in rumors. "Vehicles are plying across the UT in accordance with advisories issued by the authorities. I request everyone to avoid panic besides urging the members of the business community not to indulge in hoarding or overpricing," asserted the Minister.

The Minister extended his best wishes for the safety and well-being of all citizens and reiterated the importance of adhering to official guidelines.

"Let us stand together, remain calm and follow all advisories to ensure the safety and stability of our society," he appealed.

Sakeena Itoo condoles sad demise of ADDC Rajouri

SRINAGAR, MAY 10: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo has condoled the sad demise of Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Rajouri, Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, who was tragically killed today morning by cross border shelling.

Remembering the late officer's unwavering dedication to public service, Sakeena Itoo recalled his exceptional efforts during the Budhal tragedy, high-

lighting that his swift and compassionate response brought solace to many affected families.

The Minister said that Late Dr. Thapa used to update about the situation even during the night hours and was active on the ground for the relief of common masses. "He was a symbol of sincerity and responsibility, particularly during times of crisis. His humane approach during the Budhal tragedy left an indelible mark on the hearts

of the people", Sakeena said.

Describing the late ADDC as a committed and upright officer, Sakeena said that the loss is not only a blow to the administration but also to the countless lives he touched through his selfless service.

Sakeena Itoo also extended her heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the family in this hour of grief.

Distt admin convenes Civil Defence meeting in Kishtwar

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 10**

The district administration today convened a meeting on Civil Defence and maintenance of proper law and order in Kishtwar.

The meeting, which was attended by representatives from various religious and community organisations, aimed to promote communal harmony and assess preparedness in the district.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Aijaz Asad, Secretary, Rural Development Department who is also Mentor for District Kishtwar.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan, was present in the meeting.

During the session, the district administration noted the suggestions of the participating organisations and assured all possible administrative support during the prevailing circumstances. The officials from



key departments including Food, Transport and Health briefed the participants about the availability of adequate stock of essential commodities such as ration, LPG, fuel and medicines.

Speaking on the occasion, Aijaz Asad lauded Kishtwar's legacy of peace and brotherhood. He reaffirmed the administration's com-

mitment to maintaining communal harmony and encouraged citizens to volunteer for community welfare efforts. He further assured that sufficient stock of all essential items is being maintained and will continue to be replenished as needed.

DC Kishtwar emphasized that there is no need to

panic or fall prey to rumors. He informed that mock drills and preparedness activities will continue across the district.

He urged the public to cooperate and adhere to all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). He also appreciated the ongoing community services, particularly those led by the

youth and stressed the importance of continuing these initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner further highlighted that control rooms at the district and sub-divisional levels, along with the Police Control Room, are fully operational to provide assistance to the public.

The SSP Kishtwar also advised and urged everyone to remain prepared for any situation.

The participants from various organizations, including Majlis-e-Shoura, Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Beopar Mandal, Chamber of Commerce and other prominent citizens, expressed their gratitude to the district administration for organising the meeting and fostering a spirit of cooperation and unity.

The meeting was also attended by SSP Kishtwar Naresh Singh; ADC Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal; CPO Shahnawaz Bali; ACR Idrees Lone and other senior officers.

Jamia Millia Islamia reschedules exams for J&K students

SRINAGAR, MAY 10: On the request of Jammu and Kashmir Government and in view of the prevailing situation, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) has announced rescheduling the Admission Tests for the students of Jammu and Kashmir being held on May 10-11, 2025.

Minister for Education J&K Government, Ms. Sakina Itoo informed about the development through a tweet on social networking site 'X,' "Considering the ongoing situation Jamia Millia Islamia will reschedule the admission test for students from Jammu and Kashmir at the request of the J&K Government. I thank the university administration for understanding the current challenges faced by the students of J&K".

The admission tests of Jamia Millia Islamia for the session 2025-26 commenced on 26th April, 2025 and are scheduled to be completed by 31st May, 2025.

The admission tests of a few programs are scheduled on 10th and 11th May, 2025.

However, for the remaining students, the admission tests will be held on given dates and time (May 10-11, 2025).

Bukhari welcomes ceasefire announcement

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 10**

Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has welcomed the ceasefire and congratulated the country's leadership for their strong will and resolve shown against terrorism and its handlers following the Pahalgam terror attack.

Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari wrote on his X handle: "I welcome the ceasefire announcement and congratulate the entire nation, the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Home Minister, Hon'ble Defence Minister, National Security Advisor (NSA) and other dignitaries of the

country for the resolve they have shown during these challenging times. The tough decisions and decisive actions taken against terrorism and terrorist activities on Indian soil are commendable."

He further said, "A strong message has been successfully delivered to the perpetrators and handlers of the heinous massacre at Pahalgam's Baisaran meadow on 22 April, which claimed the lives of 26 tourists and a local pony ride operator, and left 16 others injured."

"This horrific act of violence has shaken us to the core and left a deep scar on our collective consciousness. May those who lost their lives in this barbaric tragedy rest in eternal peace," the post further reads.

DC asks NHPC to replicate best model

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 10**

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan convened an important meeting today to review and strategize the implementation of Skill Development Program under the Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) Plan of the Kiru, Kwar, Pakal Dul, and Rattle Hydroelectric Power Projects in District Kishtwar.

The meeting featured a detailed, point-wise discussion on the minutes issued by the Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction (DMRRR) Department, with a particular focus on preparing a roadmap and strategies the implementation of the skill development program in the dis-



trict. The DC issued key directives to the members of the Project Management Unit (PMU), outlining a structured roadmap for the effective and timely execution of the skill development initiatives.

He directed the General Manager, NHPC to explore the implementation models used by NHPC in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam for possible replication of the Same

Model in Kishtwar.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Kishtwar Rishi Kumar Sharma, CPO Kishtwar Shahnawaz Bali, AD FCS&CA Kishtwar Shafqat Ali Keen, AD Handicraft Pardeep Shan, CMO Kishtwar Dr. Rajinder Kumar, Dy. CEO Kishtwar besides other senior officers, representatives from Power Projects and other concerned staff.

Dy CM condoles demise of Dr Raj Kumar Thapa



**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 10**

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today visited the bereaved family of Dr Raj Kumar Thapa, ADDC Rajouri, at Roopnagar.

The Dy CM expressed heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr Raj Kumar Thapa, who lost his life due to shelling by Pakistan in Rajouri district.

Surinder Choudhary said that Dr. Thapa was known for his dedication, compe-

tence, unwavering professional and people friendly approach.

He asserted that the government stands firmly with his family in this hour of grief and prayed the God to give them strength to bear this irreparable loss.

J&K SED establishes Helpdesk for students

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 10**

In view of the prevailing situation and for the benefit of the students, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, School Education Department (SED) Civil Secretariat Srinagar/ Jammu today issued an order for establishment of the helpdesk for students in Srinagar and Jammu divisions.

Minister of Education, Sakina Itoo in a tweet on 'X' informed of establishing dedicated helpline by the Govt of J&K to assist students.

"Students from J&K studying outside who need to return home are advised to contact officials from the School Education and Transport Departments of the Jammu Division.

Similarly, students from outside the UT who are currently studying in J&K may get in touch with officials of SED and Transport Department of the Kashmir Division for help with transport, lodging, or any related assistance," she posted.

Further in her tweet, the Minister assured that the government is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all students.

The needy students can contact the helpdesk officers/ officials for any assistance including lodging and transport.

The Helpdesk at School Education Department (Jammu Divi-

sion) shall comprise of M Mushtaq, Joint Director (94691-48784); M Rameez Khan, CAO SAMAGRA (95969-76648); Dr. Kishore Sharma, Nodal Officer Teacher Bhawan, Gandhi Nagar Jammu (94191-02340); B.D. Sharma, DEPO Jammu (94191-78382); Ajay Sharma, Lecturer - Computer Science (DSEJ) (90868-84497); Nitish, MTS (Teacher Bhawan, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu) (94191-85367).

Similarly Helpdesk established in the Transport Department (Jammu Division) shall comprise of Habibullah Reshi, General Manager JKRTC (7780885279); Mudassir Iqbal, ARTO BOI Jammu (9419172089).

The Helpdesk established at School Education Department (Kashmir Division) shall involve the services of Syed Shabir Ahmad, Joint Director, Central/South, School Education, Kashmir Division (94190-74220); Mohammad Sultan, Principal (Teacher Bhawan, Bemina, Srinagar) (88250-38022); Bilal Ahmad, Teacher (DSEK) (94195-17218).

Also at the Helpdesk established in the Transport Department (Jammu Division) Showkat Ahmad, General Manager JKRTC (9419075671) and Dr. Sayyar, Accounts Officer RTO Kashmir (9622894007) shall assist the students.