



# J&K Gets Rs 37,277 Crore In Union Budget 2024



HT News Network

JAMMU, FEB 1: The Centre on Thursday allocated Rs 37,277.74 crore to Jammu & Kashmir in the interim budget for 2024-25. The

budget was unveiled by Finance Minister Dr Nirmala Sitharaman in the Lok Sabha today.

Of the allocated amount, Rs 35,619.30 have been kept as

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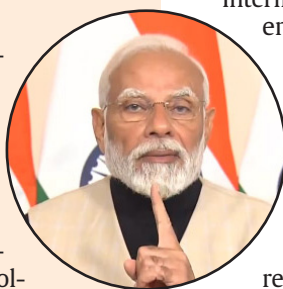
## Budget Guarantee Of Strengthening Foundation Of Developed India: PM Modi

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, FEB 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the interim Budget presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman offers the "guarantee" of strengthening the foundation of a developed India and carries the "confidence of continuity". In a televised address following the budget, he said it will empower the four pillars of developed India — the young, poor, women and farmers.

"This is a budget of creating India's future."

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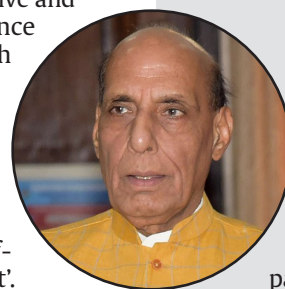


## Budget Positive And Encouraging: Rajnath Singh

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, FEB 1: Terming the Interim Budget as positive and encouraging, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday said that the budget outlines the vision for a confident, strong and self-reliant 'Viksit Bharat'. Taking to social media platform X, the Defence Minister congratulated Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for presenting a positive and an encouraging Interim Budget.

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## Govt Allocates Rs 6.21 Lakh Cr To Defence; Earmarks Rs 6,500 Cr For Border Infra

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, FEB 1: The Ministry of Defence has been allocated Rs 6.21 lakh crore in the interim Union Budget, which is 4.72% more than FY 2023-24. Of this, a major share of 27.67% goes to capital, 14.82% for revenue expenditure on sustenance and operational preparedness, 30.68% for pay and allowances, 22.72% for defence pensions and 4.11% for civil organisations under Ministry of Defence.

In the light of the continued threat perception faced at the Indo-China border, there continues

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## NEWS BRIEF

### LD Hospital witnesses 6 pc rise in patients in 2023

SRINAGAR, FEB 01: Srinagar's Lal Ded Hospital, the lone tertiary care maternity hospital in the Kashmir Valley, experienced a six percent rise in patient numbers in 2023, official data reveals.

According to data obtained by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the hospital's Outpatient Department (OPD) treated 194,583 expecting mothers in 2022, while in 2023, the number increased to 206,025. This indicates a six percent growth in OPD patient flow.

However, the statistics revealed that the count of patients treated in

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### Over 100 vehicles challaned for overloading

SRINAGAR, FEB 01: Day after 10 persons lost their lives and several others injured in a tragic road accident, the officials of Traffic Department on Thursday acted tough against overloading and seized over 100 vehicles in south Kashmir areas.

A special drive was conducted by Traffic Rural Kashmir in which commercial vehicles violating rules set by the government regarding boarding passengers were seized.

SSP Traffic Rural Kashmir Ravinder Pal Singh along with DSP Traffic Pulwama, Shopian Dr Mudassir Trambo, issued challans to more than 100

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### Property of drug peddler attached in Handwara: Police

HANDWARA, FEB 1: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Thursday as confiscated a mini shopping complex comprising four shops belonging to the notorious drug peddler in Handwara area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

An official said that this action against the drug peddler identified as Farooq Ahmad Dar, son of Mohd Sultan Dar, resident of Lachipora Handwara was taken under section 68-F of the NDPS Act 1985.

"Dar is implicated in the NDPS cases including Case FIR No. 316/2017 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act of PS Handwara, Case FIR No. 86/2020 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act of PS Handwara, Case FIR NO. 242/2021 U/S 8/20

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## Srinagar, Other Major Towns Receive Season's First Snowfall



HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 1: Kashmir's plains, including Srinagar, experienced the season's first snowfall on Thursday, ending a long dry spell much to the delight of the people.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, and its adjoining areas on Thursday morning were decked with a layer of light snowfall that brought cheer to the people and the tourists staying in the iconic Dal

Lake and other places of the city centre.

Reports of light to moderate snowfall were also received from all major towns in the Kashmir valley, including the tourist hot spots of Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Pahalgam, Doodpathri, and Kokernag.

The meteorological center in Srinagar said 10 to 15 inches of snowfall were experienced over the middle and higher reaches of Kupwara.

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### Kashmir Valley Cut Off By Surface Transport From Rest Of Country Due To Snowfall

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 1: Kashmir valley is cut off by surface transport

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### Avalanche Warning Issued For 8 Districts Of J&K

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEB 1: Authorities on Thursday issued an avalanche

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### Vaishno Devi Hills Receive Season's First Snowfall

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JAMMU, FEB 1: The Vaishno Devi Hills have received the first snowfall

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## Budget Reflects Emphasis On Innovation, StartUps To Achieve 'Viksit Bharat': Dr Jitendra

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, FEB 1: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh today said the Interim Budget 2024-25 reflects the emphasis on Innovation and StartUps to achieve the goal of "Viksit Bharat @2047".

The Minister referred to the Interim Budget proposing a corpus of Rs One Lakh Crore to boost innovation and private investment in sunrise technologies. As the Union Finance Minister said, "This will mark a golden era for our tech-savvy youth," he said, adding, "it will encourage programmes that combine the powers of our



youth and technology."

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, was

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## Army Going Through Transformational Change To Further Strengthen Operational Preparedness: Gen Pande

HT News Network

PUNE, FEB 1: Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande on Thursday said the Indian Army is going through a transformational change and has laid out a broad outline of the road map for it to further strengthen the operational preparedness.

He was addressing a gathering at the parade of Reunion and Commemoration of Bombay Sappers War Memorial Centenary in Maharashtra's



Pune city.

He also said the absorption and integration of Agniveers into the Army regiments and other units is an important issue which is being given special attention.

The history of Bombay Sappers is full of valour, sacrifice and courage and it has earned a name in battlefield, during peacetime, sports and in several other areas through their work efficiency.

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## CS Reviews IT Reforms Taken By J&K In Collaboration With BISAG

Asked For Launching Single Centralised Helpline For All Public Purposes

HT News Network

JAMMU, FEB 01: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today took review of certain collaborative initiatives taken up by the UT administration regarding certain reforms in the IT sector for the ease of citizens here.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, APD; Commissioner Secretary, IT;



Commissioner Secretary, Tourism; Secretary, PWD; Sec-

tary, Skill Development; Secretary, Grievances; CEO,

JaKeGA; SIO, NIC, team

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## No Change In Tax Rates In Mini Budget

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, FEB 1: Presenting the mini Budget ahead of general elections, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the report card of Modi government in the last 10 years and refrained from making any major announcements while keeping the tax rates unchanged.

The interim Budget continued government

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J&K Gets....

central assistance to bridge the resource gap of the UT.

According to budget documents accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Rs 279 crore have been allocated to the Union Territory Disaster Response Fund. The UT Disaster Response Fund would be utilized to meet the expenditure on account of mitigation of disasters caused due to natural calamities.

Rs 130 crore and Rs 476.44 crore and Rs 171.23 crore grants have been respectively allocated to equity contribution for 624 MW Kiru, 800 MW Ratle and 540 Kwar hydroelectric power projects.

In the budget, Rs 500 crore have been earmarked for Jhelum-Jawi Flood Recovery Project, whose deadline for completion was recently extended by the World Bank by one more year.

According to documents, Rs 101.77 crore have been allocated to meet resource gap funding for infrastructure projects.

This was the last budget of the BJP-led government ahead of the Lok Sabha elections scheduled to be held in April-May this year.

Budget Guarantee....

Modi said, adding that it reflects the young aspirations of a young India.

While keeping the fiscal deficit under control, the prime minister noted that total expenditure has seen a historic increase to Rs 11,11,111 crore in this budget.

"In economists' parlance, this is a kind of sweet spot," Modi said.

He said it will create millions of new employment opportunities for India's youth along with the creation of modern infrastructure of the 21st century.

Asserting that the budget carries the "confidence of continuity", he described it as "not merely an interim budget but an inclusive and innovative budget".

Citing the announcement of a Rs 1 lakh crore fund for research and innovation, the prime minister noted that the "historic" budget has also offered rebates for start-ups. It has provisions for a huge capital expenditure of Rs 11.11 lakh crore while keeping the fiscal deficit under control, he said.

The budget empowers the poor and middle class and will create countless employment opportunities for the youth, Modi said.

Modi said the government sets a big goal, achieves it, and then sets an even bigger target for itself.

Highlighting the government's efforts for the welfare of the poor and the middle class, he referred to the construction of over four crore houses in villages and cities and increasing the target to build two crore more houses.

Underlining the emphasis on empowerment of women, the prime minister said, "Our goal was to make two crore 'lakhpati' among women. Now, this goal has been increased to make three crore 'lakhptis'."

He also praised the government's flagship Ayushman Bharat scheme for its significant assistance to the poor, extending its benefits to Anganwadi and ASHA workers.

Modi highlighted the government's emphasis on empowering the poor and the middle class by creating new opportunities for them in the budget.

He spoke of the rooftop solar campaign where one crore families will avail free electricity while also earning an income of Rs 15,000 to Rs 18,000 per year by selling excess electricity to the government.

The income tax remission scheme announced in the budget, he said, will provide relief to about one crore citizens belonging to the middle class.

Discussing the major decisions taken for farmers' welfare in the budget, Modi mentioned the Nano DAP (fertiliser), a new scheme for animals, expansion of the PM Matsya Sampada Yojana and the 'Atmanirbhar' oil seed campaign that will increase the income of farmers and reduce expenses. (Agencies)

Budget Positive.....

"Inspired by PM Shri Narendra Modi's vision of making India a developed nation by 2047, this Budget gives the glimpse of India's rapid economic transformation," he said.

Stating that there is something in this Budget for every section of the society, the Defence Minister said, "There is big push for infrastructure, construction, manufacturing, housing and technology development in this Budget".

During the COVID pandemic when the world was faltering, India emerged as the beacon of hope. This Budget is perfectly aligned with PM's 'Panchamrit Goals' and it also paves the way for the next five years of unprecedented growth, Singh said.

The Defence Minister said, "This Budget has increased the capital expenditure outlay to 11.1% from FY 24 to 11.11 Lakh Crore for FY 25. This massive capex push will provide a big boost to making India a five trillion dollar economy by 2027". (UNI)

Govt Allocates.....

a jump in the Capital Budget allocation to the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

The allocation for BE 2024-25 is Rs 6,500 crore, which is 30% higher than the allocation for FY 23-24 and 160% higher over the allocation of FY 2021-22.

The financial provision made during the budget this year, will, apart from promoting strategic infrastructural development in the border areas, also boost socio-economic development in that region along with promoting tourism.

Projects such as development of Nyoma Air field in Ladakh at an altitude of 13,700 feet, permanent bridge connectivity to southernmost Panchayat of India in Andaman and Nicobar Island, 4.1 km strategically important Shinku La tunnel in Himachal Pradesh, Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh and many other projects will be funded out of this allocation.

Allocation to the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) for this FY 2024-25 is Rs 7,651.80 crore which is 6.31% higher over the allocation of FY 2023-24. Of this, Rs 3,500 crore is to be incurred only on capital expenditure, adding teeth to the arsenal of the ICG to address the emerging challenges posed in water and provide humanitarian assistance to other nations. The allocation will facilitate the acquisition of fast moving patrolling vehicles/ interceptors, advanced electronic surveillance systems and weapons.

The budgetary allocation to Defence Research

and Development Organisation (DRDO) has been increased to Rs 23,855 crore in FY 2024-25 from Rs 23,263.89 crore in FY 2023-24.

Of this allocation, a major share of Rs 13,208 crore is allocated for capital expenditure. This will financially strengthen the DRDO in developing new technology with special focus on fundamental research and hand-holding the private parties through Development-cum-production partner.

Allocation to Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme stands out to be Rs 60 crore which is especially designed for new start-ups, MSMEs and academia attracting the young bright minds interested in innovation and developing niche technology in the field of defence in collaboration with the DRDO.

The announcement regarding a Rs one lakh crore corpus for Deep Tech for long term loan to tech-savvy youth/companies and the tax advantage to the start-ups will give further impetus to innovation in the defence sector.

The Budgetary allocation for capital expenditure in Defence for FY 24-25 is Rs 1.72 lakh crore which is 20.33% higher than the actual expenditure of FY 22-23 and 9.40% more than the Revised Allocation of FY 23-24.

The allocation is in line with the Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP) of the three Services aimed to fill the critical capability gaps through modernisation of the Armed Forces by materialising some big ticket acquisitions in FY 2024-25. The enhanced budgetary allocation will facilitate in equipping the Armed Forces with state-of-the-art, niche technology lethal weapons, fighter aircraft, ships, platforms, unmanned aerial vehicles, drones, specialist vehicles etc.

Meanwhile, planned modernisation of existing Su-30 fleet along with additional procurement of aircraft, acquisition of advanced engines for existing MiG-29, acquisition of transport aircraft C-295 and missile systems will be funded out of the budget being allocated.

Apart from this, to take the initiative of 'Make in India' further the LCA MK-1 IOC/FOC configuration will be additionally funded to ensure state-of-the-art technology in domestic production.

The Indian Navy projects such as acquisition of deck-based fighter aircraft, submarines, next generation survey vessels etc will all materialise through this allocation. The sizeable allocation under capital is centered around promoting 'Atmanirbharta' in Defence.

Large portion of the allocation will be utilised for procurement through domestic sources to provide domestically manufactured next generation weapon system to the country which will have a multiplier effect on the GDP, create employment, ensure capital formation and provide a stimulus to the domestic economy.

This year onwards, the Government has taken a conscious call to foster jointness among the services by consolidating the demand of the three services into similar items of expenditure such as land, aircraft and aeroengines, heavy and medium vehicles. This will bring flexibility in financial management by enabling the MoD to reappropriate the fund among the three services keeping in view the inter services priority.

Allocation to the Armed Forces for revenue expenditure (Other than Salary) meant for sustenance and operational commitment for FY 24-25 continues to be high at Rs 92,088 crore, which is 48% higher than the budgetary allocation of FY 2022-23.

Total Budgetary allocation on account of Defence pensions is Rs 1,41,205 crore which is 2.17% higher than the allocation made during 2023-24. It will be incurred on monthly pension to approx. 32 lakh pensioners through SPARSH and through other pension disbursing authorities.

The total allocation to Ex-Servicemen Welfare Scheme for FY 2024-25 is 28% higher than the allocation for FY 23-24 (From Rs 5,431.56 crore to Rs 6,968 crore). (UNI)

Srinagar.....

Bandipora, Ganderbal, Baramulla, Budgam, Anantnag, Kulgam, and Shopian.

It said 6-8 inches of snow over the lower reaches and plains of north, northwestern, and south Kashmir, while 2-4 inches fell over the plains of central Kashmir.

Light-to-moderate Rain with thunder over Jammu Division, with light snow over a few middle and higher reaches.

Currently, the weather is generally cloudy with light snow in isolated places, the Met office said.

It said the weather will remain generally cloudy with light snow at a few places till the afternoon and gradual improvement thereafter on Thursday, and the weather will generally remain dry with the possibility of very light snow at isolated higher reaches on February 2.

From February 3-4, there is a possibility of light to moderate snow or rain (Jammu) at many places in J&K, while the weather will generally remain dry from February 5 to 12, it said.

The Met office has also issued an advisory stating that due to intermittent moderate to heavy snow since the past 3 days over higher reaches, which has led to the temporary closure of roads in higher reaches and important passes, travelers are advised to plan accordingly and follow the administration/traffic police advisory.

The Met said that Srinagar received 13.4mm of rainfall and 2.4cm of snowfall during the past 24 hours until 0830 hours on Thursday.

Qazigund on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway received 36.2mm of rainfall and 22.0cm of snowfall; Pahalgam in Srough Kashmir received 19.4mm of rainfall and 23.0cm of snowfall; Kupwara received 21.9mm of rainfall and 10.0cm of snowfall; Kokernag received 35.2mm of rainfall and 30.0cm of snowfall; and skiresort of Gulmarg received 35.2mm of rainfall and 35.0cm of snowfall during the past 24 hours, the Met office said.

The night temperature rose and stayed above normal in Kashmir Valley on Thursday.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a low of 0.2°C, and it was 0.9°C above normal during this period of the season.

The day temperature was 0.2°C above the normal of 8.9°C, against the 9.1°C recorded the previous day in Srinagar.

Qazigund on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway recorded a low of -0.4°C, and Kokernag in south Kashmir had a low of -1.4°C.

Pahalgam had a low of -4.1°C, and it was 2.0°C above normal for the tourist hot spot of south Kashmir.

Kupwara settled at -0.7°C, and it was 1.6°C above normal for the frontier Kashmir district during this period of the season.

Gulmarg recorded a low of -7.6°C, and it was normal during this period of the season for the famous ski resort of north Kashmir, the Met office said. (UNI)

Kashmir Valley.....

from the rest of the country on Thursday due to the closure of Srinagar-Jammu National Highway amid snowfall and shooting stones at several places on Thursday.

"Jammu-Srinagar National highway is blocked due to shooting stones at T2 due to heavy rainfall along the highway and snowfall between Ramssoo and Banihal," a traffic police official said.

It has also issued an advisory to the people to avoid journey on the highway till the road is cleared.

The historical Mughal road connecting south Kashmir's Shopian district with the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu division and the strategic Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri (SSG) road connecting Ladakh also remained closed due to snowfall.

It was still snowing at various places on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway, reports said.

Reports of closure of several roads connecting far flung areas in north Kashmir due to snowfall were also received. (UNI)

Avalanche Warning.....

warning in the higher reaches of eight districts of Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours, officials said.

Jammu and Kashmir Disaster Management Authority (JKDMA) said a "medium danger" level avalanche is likely to occur at 2400 metres above sea level in the higher reaches of Bandipora, Baramulla, Ganderbal and Kupwara districts of Kashmir valley in the next 24 hours.

Similar warnings have been issued in Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch and Ramban districts of Jammu division during the next 24 hours, they said.

People living in these areas have been advised to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas till further orders.

Upper reaches of these districts received light to moderate snowfall during the past several days.

The authorities have also asked the people living in these districts to dial 112 for help in view of any emergency. (UNI)

Vaishno Devi.....

of the season, an official here said on Thursday.

He said that the rains lashed the plains of Jammu while the Vaishno Devi Bhawan, nestled in the Trikuta Hills of Katra town in Reasi district, received the season's first snowfall.

The official said that the pilgrims, amid the chants of 'Jai Mata Di', trekked to the Bhawan despite rain and snowfall.

About 2 to 3 inches of fresh snowfall were recorded.

However, the helicopter service to the Bhawan also remained affected due to harsh weather conditions, they said.

Notably, on January 30, 12,000 pilgrims and around 11,000 pilgrims on January 31 paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine.

The Met has predicted light rain or snowfall on February 3-4. (UNI)

Div Com Reviews.....

At the outset, the Div Com took strong note of the Boniyar accident that resulted in loss of precious lives and injuries to others. He directed DCs to take stringent action against overloading and get potholes filled to prevent accidents.

He also made it clear that no such accident should happen in future.

The Div Com also took stock of essential supplies, services, power and water supply scenarios, especially in far-off places including Sonmarg, Gurez, Tangdhar and Karnah and Passes besides medicare facilities in hospitals.

All the District heads informed the chair that all the major roads have been cleared of snow while inner links shall be cleared by Thursday evening.

It was informed that except for a few issues, power supply is smooth and in case of outages the same shall be restored by Thursday evening.

The District heads also assured that all the services, water supply are smooth besides there is no dearth of essential supplies.

Meanwhile, the Div Com also convened a meeting, to review progress on Transit Accommodation for PM Package Employees.

The meeting was attended by Sajad Naqeeb, C.E PWD(R&B) central Kashmir; Narindra Kumar, S.E PWD(R&B); besides Ex. Engineers and AEEs of PWD (R&B) in person, while all Deputy Commissioners of all districts and Commissioner (M) Relief and Rehabilitation J&K, Chief Engineers of PWD (R&B) North and South Kashmir joined the meeting through V.C.

At the outset, C.E PWD(R&B) central Kashmir briefed the chair about the status of transit accommodations for PM package employees at Zewan, Srinagar; Baba Daryadeen, Ganderbal; Wandehama, Ganderbal; Kakan Marg, Budgam and Sheikhpora, Budgam.

Similarly, the C.E PWD(R&B) North briefed the meeting regarding the status of transit accommodation for PM package employees at Kulangam, Handwara; Natnosa, Handwara; Odina, Sumbal and Fatehpora, Baramulla.

Also, the C.E PWD(R&B) South briefed the meeting regarding the status of transit accommodation for PM package employees at Allowpora, Shopian; Lethpora, Pulwama; Machbhawan, Anantnag; Shangus, Anantnag; Ranbirpora, Anantnag; Mirhama, Kulgam; Chowgam, Kulgam and Vessu, Kulgam.

The Div Com took accommodation wise details of blocks which included number of blocks completed and handed-over, number of blocks to be handed over by March, June and September respectively. He directed the C.Es to ensure timely completion of all the blocks as per schedule.

He also took stock of electricity and water supply of the flats/ blocks to be handed-over by March, 2024 and directed concerned to make them fully functional in time so that allottees do not have to face any difficulty.

Bidhuri also directed the Department of Disaster Management, Relief and Rehabilitation (DMRR) to go for parallel allotment of the completed blocks/flats to be handed over by March, 2024.

The meeting also discussed the construction of boundary walls of these accommodations; it was informed that some of the accommodations are without boundary walling raising security concerns.

The Div Com directed the concerned to erect temporary walling of accommodations wherever funds are not available yet, and construct boundary walls where funds have been allocated.

Reviewing the progress of other projects undertaken by the PWD(R&B) department, the Div Com was informed that some of the projects are nearing comple-

tion and are under finishing phase while work is going on in other projects. Besides, work on some of the projects has been stalled due to lack of funds.

The Div Com directed the concerned to complete the projects that are nearing completion by March, 2024 and also complete the balance work on other projects within timelines.

Budget Reflects.....

speaking with the media soon after the presentation of the Interim Budget in the Parliament.

"A corpus of Rs 1 lakh crore announced in the Interim Union Budget to promote Innovation and StartUps coupled with a new scheme for Deep Tech StartUps in Defence and an exclusive Biomanufacturing scheme to supplement Bio-StartUps and bio-economy ... all point to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's clarity and conviction to optimally utilise Science & Technology for achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, Atmanirbharta in Science & Technology will also get a fillip with the proposed new scheme to be launched for strengthening Deep-Tech technologies for Defence Sector.

Lauding the acclaimed success of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of S&T, in developing a series of vaccines, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Interim Budget proposes the vaccination against cervical cancer of girls in the age group of 9-14 years for the prevention of the disease.

Dr Jitendra Singh had announced India's first indigenously developed vaccine, "CERVAVAC" for the prevention of cervical cancer, developed by DBT and the Serum Institute of India, Pune, in September, 2022.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the Interim Budget also proposes a new scheme of bio-manufacturing and bio-foundry which will provide environment friendly alternatives such as biodegradable polymers, bioplastics, bio-pharmaceuticals and bio-agri-inputs.

"DBT will again play a key role in this scheme that promotes green growth and will help transform today's consumptive manufacturing paradigm to the one based on regenerative principles," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Finance Minister also referred to a strategy to achieve 'atmanirbharta' in oil seeds by developing high-yielding varieties. Besides, said the Union S&T Minister, the Interim Budget also promotes climate resilient activities for achieving a Blue Economy.

"In the years to come, "Blue Economy" will be a major contributor to India's overall economy and the Deep Ocean Mission announced by Prime Minister Modi will be the core component of it," he said.

As a part of the Samudrayaan Mission, undertaken by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences, India aims to send three persons in a submersible called MATSYA to a depth of 6000 meters for exploration of deep-sea resources like minerals. This mission, he said, is expected to be realized in the next 2-3 years.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Interim Budget promotes indigenous Solar Energy manufacturers in a big way by laying out a Sustainable and Eco-Friendly approach to Power Subsidy by linking it to Roof Top Solar Development that sells back power to the Distribution Grids.

"As India moves towards its goal of Net Zero by the year 2070, as committed by PM Modi, the budget speech also stresses on expansion of the EV ecosystem," he said.

All these initiatives, said Dr Jitendra Singh, will give a further boost when the full-fledged budget will be presented in July.

"The interventions would provide impetus to technology led development for realization of a five trillion dollar economy and meeting the Sankalp of Viksit Bharat during Amritkaal," he said.

Army Going.....

determination, hard work and training, General Pande said.

"The role of Bombay Sappers is important in nation building activities and I am sure that it will continue to do excellent work in all the fields and will keep the Indian Army's name atop," he said.

"The Indian Army is going through a transformational change and last year, it laid out a broad outline of the transformation road map. The purpose of this change is to further strengthen the operational preparedness and increase our functional and administrative efficiency and we have made good progress in the direction of change," he said.

Under this change, the Indian Army is emphasising on modernisation and technology infusion in the Corps of Engineers, General Pande said.

"I am sure that in the years to come, these efforts will enhance the professionalism and operational preparedness and we will be able to face the war challenges very well," he said.

General Pande also said the Agnipath scheme is an important step in the field of human resource management.

"The absorption and integration of Agniveers into our regiments and other units is an important issue which is being given special attention. Their selection is being done through a fair, transparent and reliable automated system," he said.

General Pande said to make the Indian Army modern, agile, adaptable, technology-enabled and future ready, they will continue on the path of progress and make it stronger, more capable and efficient.

The Bombay Sappers War Memorial is a hallowed structure standing tall in the memory of soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice, a release earlier said. (Agencies)

CS Reviews.....

members of BISAG-N besides other concerned officers.

At the outset of this meeting the Chief Secretary had an overview of the newly made interventions made by the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) in making the government services more meaningful, accessible and result-oriented for people.

Dullool told the BISAG team to assist the J&K administration in making the necessary interventions in using the latest technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) for making government more accessible and responsive to public. He applauded them for the work done so far and asked them to make the blueprint fully applicable on ground.

The Chief Secretary also implored upon the team to help them in capacity building of the JaKeGA staff for future operation and maintenance of such reforms here.

He enjoined upon them to assist UT in developing a robust centralised helpline for meeting all public purposes. He asked them to make it a one stop solution for all their grievances, requirements and information purposes.

He told them to assist the administration in developing a flood forecasting system, IoT based water supply information mechanism, panchayat profiling for developmental purposes besides developing and synchronising the facial recognition system into our law enforcement machinery for

streamlining of traffic and stopping other criminal activities here.

The Chief Secretary was then informed by the Commissioner Secretary, IT, Prerna Puria about the status of different reformative measure taken in collaboration with the BISAG-N. She gave out that these initiatives had been taken in light of the directions passed on by the Chief Secretary earlier.

In their presentations the team BISAG-N threw light on the progress they had achieved in formulation of Grievance redressal mechanism-Samadhan. It was said that the refurbished mechanism is a multi-lingual forum which would be based on AI.

It was also given out that the mechanism would be more responsive, real-time updates, prompt acknowledgement and chatbot integration. It would be having features of IVRS and video chat facilities for the public to reach to the higher-ups.

The Chief Secretary was also demonstrated the renewed mechanism of farmer empowerment mechanism by virtue of Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) ecosystem. The said system would be having innate characteristics of farmer registration, sale of agricultural inputs, scheme on boarding mechanism, advisories, skilling, expert consultation, digital marketing, decision support and developing of smart phone applications.

It also discussed about the development and creation of Digital DPRs and Skill Management in the UT. The said mechanism is going to take help of AI and others for career counselling, job opportunities in Pvt and public sector, self employment besides imparting skills and incubation to aspiring entrepreneurs.

No Change.....

focus on capital expenditure (capex) to boost economic growth and create jobs.

Sitharaman appeared confident of winning the next Lok Sabha polls stating that based on its 'stupendous' work, people will bless the government again with a resounding mandate.

"In the full budget in July, our government will present a detailed roadmap for our pursuit of Viksit Bharat," she said.

Apart from raising capex for 2024-25 by 11.1% to Rs 11.11 lakh crore, she kept Budget focus on four major 'castes' namely 'Garib' (Poor), 'Mahilayen' (Women), 'Yuva' (Youth) and 'Annadata' (Farmer).

Sitharaman raised the target for Lakhpati Didi (women earning over Rs 1 lakh per year) from 2 crore to 3 crore. She also announced a rooftop solarization scheme to enable one crore households to get upto 300 units of free electricity every month.

The Minister also proposed to create a corpus of Rs 1 lakh crore to boost private investment in sunrise technologies.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi described the Budget as inclusive and innovative, stating that it will empower all four pillars of 'Viksit Bharat' -- youth, the poor, women, and farmers.

"This Budget carries the guarantee of strengthening the foundation of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. ... This Budget reflects Bharat's young aspirations. Two important decisions have been taken in the Budget. A fund of Rs 1 lakh crore has been announced for research and innovation. There has also been an announcement in the Budget to expand the tax exemption for start-ups," he further said.

Opposition parties, however, termed the pre-election Budget as disappointing and slammed the government over unemployment, price rise and other issues facing the common man.

"The FM (Finance Minister) Sitharaman spoke about youth. She did not speak about unemployment. ... The FM did not acknowledge the rampant unemployment and did not utter a word on how the government intended to address the problem. By deliberate neglect over the last 10 years, the government has destroyed the demographic dividend story and dashed the hopes of millions of youth and their families," said senior Congress leader and former Finance Minister P Chidambaram.

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) issued a statement saying that despite the tall claims made by the Finance Minister about the state of India's economy, the interim Union Budget for 2024-25 revealed the grim economic situation confronting India's working people. (UNI)

LD Hospital.....

the Inpatient Department (IPD) of the hospital remained unchanged, with 36,751 patients in 2022 and 36,753 in 2023.

The data also highlighted that the average daily patient flow in the OPD rose from 540 in 2022 to 572 in 2023, while the average flow of patients in the IPD remained constant at 102 per day.

An official at the hospital told KNO that approximately 600 patients receive treatment in the OPD daily. He said around 100 births are managed at the hospital each day.

"Around 35 percent of deliveries are normal, while 65 percent involve caesarean sections," he said.

According to doctors, the hospital manages both the huge flow of expecting mothers across Kashmir and the patients being referred from different hospitals across the valley.

Medical Superintendent, LD Hospital, Dr Muzaffar Jan said the hospital is committed to providing quality and comprehensive maternal care.

"As the primary maternal healthcare institute in the valley, the hospital strives to meet high expectations and enhance facilities to deliver quality treatment," Dr Jan said, adding, "There is an average of around 100 new births and a bed occupancy rate ranging from 60 to 70 percent at the hospital."

Over 100 vehicles.....

vehicles who were found involved in violating norms.</



# CS Takes Holistic Review For Promotion & Development Of Tourism In Jmu

**JAMMU, FEB 01:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today took holistic review of the measures being taken in and around Jammu for large scale development and promotion of tourism and culture here.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Culture; Commissioner Secretary, Tourism; PCCF, CAMPA; Secretary, PWD; Ex Dir, Mubarak Mandi Heritage Society; DC, Reasi; Director Tourism, Jammu besides other concerned officers.

While speaking in the meeting the Chief Secretary laid emphasis upon the all-round development of the tourist destinations with provisioning of all the amenities like Roads, power, water and sanitation of all sites.

He called for having a plan for each site after taking into

consideration the strengths of each site. He made out that the tourism is a leisurely activity so each destination should provide what the visitors expect of it. He asked for roping in different tourism promotion players across the country and taking them on FAM tours here for increasing the footfall at each location.

For Gharana wetland the Chief Secretary asked for reaching out to the bird watching associations across the country besides taking measures for improving the amenities and facilities there. He also stressed on connecting the nearby famous destination of Suchetgarh by road for creating a tourism circuit there. He asked them to look for the international and national best practices followed in this branch of tourism.



Dulloo also asked for requesting the BSF for adding frequency of parade at Suchetgarh border. He made out that in addition to that the facilities should also be upgraded for catering to the enhanced rush of tourists to this spot.

For Jajjar Kotli near Katra the Chief Secretary impressed upon the Tourism Department to restore its earlier fame. He called for making the hutments and other infrastructure functional by outsourcing it at an earliest. He told them to add other activities to the list for diverse group of visitors especially school children.

Regarding the promotion and publicity of Ranjit Sagar Dam the Chief Secretary asked them to initiate multiple water sports and adventure activities there. He called for full utilisation of its potential besides taking all the precautions for the safety of visitors there.

He also took note of the measures being taken to make Mantalai a spiritual hub of yoga. He stressed on making the facilities and world-class infrastructure raised there available to the potential tourists as its occupancy should get the most priority now.

The Chief Secretary also took note of the current footfall and availability of facilities at Surinsar, Mansar and at other locations here. He told them to make micro plan of all these places for making them attractive to public.

As far as the pilgrim tourism is concerned the Chief Secretary asked them to develop the sites

of Ambharan, Kameshwar Temple, Purmandal, Uttar Behni and Shiv Khori religious sites. He asked for taking steps for making the visit of pilgrims and tourists comfortable there.

He also took note of the development of the Mubarak Mandi heritage complex and development of trail up to Raghunath Bazaar here. He asked them to act swiftly now as everything is on paper and needs implementation on ground.

The Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Yasha Mudgal gave inputs about the status of facilities there and the footfall of tourists at each location. She also highlighted the future plans for each location and the timeline by which these plans are going to be implemented here across all these tourist destinations.

## Grand Mufti J&K Nasir-ul-Islam Farooqi Bereaved, Mother Passes Away

**SRINAGAR, FEB 1:** Mother of incumbent Grand Mufti Jammu and Kashmir, Nasir-ul-Islam Farooqi, passed away at a hospital in Jammu on Thursday evening. She was 80.

A close relative of the deceased told GNS that the mother of Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam was unwell for a considerable time now. "She was some ten days back taken to Batra Hospital Jammu, where she eventually breathed her last this evening", the relative said.

The funeral prayers to the departed soul are yet to be decided as the mortal remains are yet to be ferried back to residence in Soura (Shah Faisal Colony Opp Safa Marwa Hospital) Srinagar. The family has shared two numbers viz. 7006399591/9906613094 for public convenience to know about the scheduled timing and venue for funeral prayers.

Notably, the deceased was the wife of former Grand Mufti J&K, Mufti Bashir-ud-Din.

## Puthian Cultural Games Of India Appoints Fresh Natinoal Executive Body At Chandigarh

**CHANDIGARH:** Pythian Council Of India (PCI) dissolved the national executive board in this meeting held at Chandigarh and reconstituted the national body which took over immediately after its being selected by Founder Shri Bijendra Goel. He announced this in a press briefung that Mr. BH ANILKUMAR, IAS, and Mr. Rajesh Jopgal, IAS, have been renomi-



nated as President and Secretary General of the Pythian Council of India resoelectively with immediate effect.

Mr. Jatin Lal, IAS (organization), Ms. Anuradha Pal, IAS (Arts, culture, and sports), and Mr. TP Singh (Admin) are the new Additional Secretary Generals. Mr. Shiva will be the treasurer & Dr. Rafeeq Masoodi, IBS, will be Chairman National Media Coordination Committee.

Mr. Rajiv Gupta, IAS, is the chairman of the organizing committee of the national games in Chandigarh, and Mr. R K Srivastava, IAS, will be the chairman of the advisory board. A detailed list will follow soon.

## DC Srinagar reviews implementation of schemes under PHE sector

Asks Officers to avoid delays in implementation of WSS; ensure time bound completion of all ongoing projects

**SRINAGAR, FEB 01:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of Officers and Field functionaries of the Jal Shakti (PHE) Department here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to assess the implementation of various schemes in the District.

At the outset of the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner was given a detailed appraisal about physical and financial progress of various water supply schemes in the District through a Power-Point presentation.

During the meeting, the DC was also apprised about the status of different water supply schemes presently supplying drinking water facilities in the City. He was also informed about the status of centrally sponsored schemes, status of Amrut 2.0, water testing labs and works carried out under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the District.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioners asked the senior functionaries of PHE Department to work in coordinated manners with other line Departments so that all water supply schemes are completed in a time bound manner for the larger benefit of the general public.

The DC enjoined the Officers to avoid unnecessary delay in implementation and execution of water supply schemes and resolve issues, if any at the earliest to ensure water supply schemes are completed under set timelines to provide uninterrupted drinking water supply to people.

While reviewing the status of water testing laboratories functioning in the District, the DC asked them to maintain a proper database of the testing reports in order to analyse the data on a periodical basis. He also laid emphasis on proper monitoring



and maintenance of water resources.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on identifying the inadequate or infrequent supply areas and addressing the shortage points so that people do not face any difficulty for want of drinking water especially during summer season.

He also laid thrust on effective monitoring of all works and effective utilization of the funds while implementing the PHE schemes with visible impact on ground.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Mir and Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, the meeting was attended by Superintending Engineers of PHE, Mechanical North & Ground Water, Executive Engineers of Water Works, Master Plan, Rural Srinagar, Irrigation & Flood Control, Flood Spell and other concerned Officers and Engineers.

## E-transport eases travel, creates livelihood opportunities for many

**SRINAGAR, FEB 01:** The introduction of E-Vehicles in Srinagar and elsewhere has eased the travel adversities across Srinagar where commuters believe that this mode of transport has eased the travel.

As per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), three e-buses were introduced under the Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) Project whereas e-rickshaws were introduced independently.

SSCL has over 130 projects. One of the major ongoing projects is the introduction of e-buses on the roads of Srinagar and adjoining areas. The fleet of 100 buses was launched in November, 2023. Out of these, 75 will be operational within Srinagar district and 25 will connect the city with rest of the districts. The buses are currently plying on 14 routes in Srinagar. Two of the routes connect the city with district Budgam and expansion to Ganderbal district is also expected soon.

Hureen Mattoo, a college student, chooses e-rickshaw for her travel because she feels it is a comfortable mode of travel. "It does not consume much time and I feel comfortable, so I prefer e-rickshaws," she said.

E-Rickshaws are mainly available for fixed routes of the city such as Jehangir Chowk-Dalgate and Maisuma-Bohri Kadal, etc. People have found it easy, less time consuming and cheap as compared to motor buses or rickshaws. These hit roads in the year 2022. The move received a warm welcome from

commuters and was seen as a successful introduction.

"E-Rickshaws are smaller in size and they pass through traffic jams, helping me to reach faster to my destination," said Aksha, who goes to office in e-rickshaws every day. "Besides, these run slowly as compared to other vehicles, so I feel safe."

Besides, less time and convenience, the bus service has a mobile application, 'Chalo' app. The application has tracks, time table and locations of all the live buses. The commuters can use the application to check the timing of their location and board the bus accordingly. The buses have CCTV installed to avoid any untoward incidents.

Toiba Sadiq, a girl who goes to college and office in e-bus finds it easy due to the mobile application. "These e-buses are comfortable unlike the motor local buses," said Toiba. "These buses are fast and do not take frequent and long halts."

These electric vehicles not only proved to be beneficial for passengers, but also created livelihood for hundreds of unemployed men in the valley. The drivers and conductors for the e-buses are selected through official procedure. However, for e-rickshaws many people buy the vehicle and start earning. One of the notable advantage of these vehicles is that they do not burn any fuel, making them zero-emission and eco-friendly.

Umar Mir, 28, has been driving an e-rickshaw for a month now. Sharing his experience, he said, "It helps me

earn way better than my previous job." He used to drive a school van earlier. The price of an e-rickshaw goes in lakhs. "There are loans available in banks which help to get an e-rickshaw on EMI with down payment of as less as Rs 10,000," said Umar.

The e-buses of SSCL have been launched by Bharat Vikas Group (BVG). The official work has been going on since six months as per a worker in the office. "I work in shifts here and it is a better work opportunity," said Nadeem Manzoor, 26, who works as an e-bus guide. He previously worked as an accountant in a private company. Due to the shift system of work, he gets free by 2:00 pm and works part time from home. "In my previous job, I had to pay for fare and it hardly saved me a penny, however now my travel is free of cost and my savings are good too."

Nadeem said, "There are around 336 conductors and 200 drivers currently working with SSCL e-bus service." The man force is higher than the number of buses to keep them ready in case of any emergency such as a driver falling ill. According to him, there are 30-40 people employed in the official sector of e-buses. The drivers and conductors are working on a daily wage basis and the other employees are paid on a shift basis.

Fayaz Ahmed, a driver, working with SSCL expressed his gratitude over the work. He previously worked with SRTC bus service. He applied for this job as he finds it to be a "good opportunity."

## Not a single flight cancelled at Sgr airport during Chillai Kalan: Director

**SRINAGAR, FEB 01:** Notwithstanding the biting cold and adverse weather conditions, the Srinagar International Airport managed to operate smoothly without a single flight cancellation from December 21 to January 30 – the period that marks the Chillai Kalan, the harsh winter phase in Kashmir.

According to data accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Srinagar airport handled a total of 2344 flights, including arrivals and departures.

"The airport facilitated 1172 flights and ensured uninterrupted connectivity for the region, with an equal number of take-offs. There was a seamless transportation of people and goods. Despite the winter chill, passengers consistently arrived," the data reveals.

The total passenger count during this period reached 401,244, with 198,793 arrivals and 202,451 departures from Srinagar airport.

Among the scheduled 2617 flights, only 273 were cancelled, and all cancellations occurred outside Jammu and Kashmir.

Srinagar Airport's Director, Javed Anjum, told KNO that the overall flight operations remained smooth during Chillai Kalan. "The minimal cancellations were limited to flights departing from Delhi, Jammu and Chandigarh airports due to unfavourable weather conditions," he said.

Anjum said only flights outside the J&K were affected, and those too were restricted from departing from certain airports.

"From the airport's perspective, operations remained open without any flight cancellations during this winter period," the Director added.



# Labour Commissioner holds video conference with workers across J&K

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 01- Labour Commissioner, J&K Charandeep Singh Thursday interacted with a large gathering of workers who joined through video conferencing from all twenty districts of J&K. The interaction provided a platform to the workers for directly engaging and raising issues concerning them with the Labour Commissioner.

Acknowledging their crucial role as nation builders, the Labour Commissioner reiterated the commitment of the Government in protecting and

safeguarding their interests and ensuring that the benefits of welfare schemes reaches each and every worker including their family members. "The Labour Department is meant to serve and empower you" he said.

During the interaction, Labour Commissioner enquired about problems, if any, being faced by them including in availing benefits of welfare schemes like educational assistance for their children, healthcare etc. "Not just the schemes of the Labour Department, if you face any issues in availing benefits of schemes in other departments of the Government, our offices in the districts will help you in



getting them", he told workers.

The Labour Commissioner emphasized upon the Labourers, the significance of being aware of their rights and entitlements guaranteed under Labour Laws. He also invited attention of workers towards registering on the e-shram Portal which will facilitate the Government to seamlessly deliver benefits under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, PM Suraksha Bima Yojana, PM Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Pension Scheme and other UT and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the workers.

Workers were also informed about the 2- Day camps being

organized on 2nd and 3rd February, 2024 at every Tehsil Supply Office of the Food Department in the UT for providing Ration Cards to the left-out unorganized workers in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard.

While expressing gratitude for the interaction, the workers appreciated the role of the Labour Department for their welfare and providing of services through online mode which has made it easy for the stakeholders to avail various services. The Labour Commissioner expressed optimism and assured workers that such interactions aimed at fostering.

## DC Pulwama's extensive Tour ensures essential services stand strong Post-Snowfall

■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, FEBRUARY 01: In the aftermath of snowfall, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today undertook a comprehensive tour across the district to take stock of services and address critical issues. Beginning with an evaluation at the KPDC work-shop, the DC focused on fortifying the power supply network to ensure resilience in adverse weather conditions. Simultaneously, Dr Basharat also conducted an in-depth inspection of healthcare facilities at District Hospital Pulwama and CHC Rajpora. The goal was to ensure the seamless availability of essential medical services, emphasizing the administration's commitment to prioritizing the health and well-being of the residents.

The DC then traversed remote villages, including Inderwali/ Sangerwani, Abahama, Bagh, Khaigam, Ichgoose and Shadimarg, overseeing snow clearance operations and evaluating the delivery of essential services. Notably, in the challenging terrain of Achgoza, Sangerwani, efficient snow clearance efforts.

## Police observes Thana Diwas in Ganderbal

■ HT News Network

Ganderbal February 01: As a part of public outreach programme and an initiative of Government of J&K, police in Ganderbal have observed Thana Diwas in the jurisdiction of Police Station Kangan.

The event was chaired by SSP Ganderbal Shri Sandeep Gupta-IPS accompanied by SDPO Kangan Shri Muzaffar Jan-JKPS besides, SHO PS Kangan & other senior Police officers were also present on the occasion.

During the event, SSP Ganderbal listened various grievances of public and he assured them that their genuine grievances pertaining to Police will be resolved on priority & that of Civil Administration will be taken up with the concerned departments for their early redressal. While speaking on the occasion, SSP Ganderbal stated that policing at the grassroot level in the district would be revamped to enhance proficiencies of the cops and to develop confidence among the people. The chairing officer said that Thana Diwas is an initiative to bridge the gap between Police and Public, to hear & redress the grievances of common masses & further added that Community policing is mandatory to boost public confidence which would help in fighting against crime and social evils. Referring to the criminal activities in the area, it was stressed upon the officers to brace up with a missionary spirit to fight against drug abuse and eradicate other social evils from the society and to take pledge to serve the society.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to general public that I have applied for a Fresh pesticides license in Agricultural Department if anybody have any objection in this regard he/she may file any objection before the PPO Lal Mandi Srinagar within a period of 7 days after expiry of said period no objection may be entertained .

UMER AHAD BHAT

S/O AB AHAD BHAT R/O KALANTRA TEHSIL KREERI DISTT

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my Son namely MU-SAIB BILAL NAJAR S/O BILAL AHMAD NAJAR had born on 20-12-2013 at SDH Kreeri already registered in Police Station Kreeri Vide Registration Number 25/15A/ PSK/2013 Dated:-16/01/2014 but was not issued till date i.e 29-01-2024. Now I am applying for issuance of his birth certificate. If anybody have any objection in this regard He/she may file his /her objection in the BDO office Wagoora / Tehsildar Kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Rukhsana Begum

M/O:-Musaib Bilal Najar

R/O:- Kalantra Payeen

Tehsil Kreeri District Baramulla

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that husband namely HAJI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL MIRH/O RAJA BEGEM R/O KREERI has died on 31/10/2023... Now I am applying for his death certificate. If anybody have any objection in this regard He/she may file his /her objection in the BDO office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name....RAJA BEGEM

W/O....LATE MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL MIR

R/O.....KREERI Block...WAGOORA Distt....BARAMULLA

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my Son's Date of birth (DOB) is 05/01/2010.... Now I am applying for his date of birth certificate (DOB) if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO ) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name...GHULAM HASSAN PALLA

F/O.... SAMEER HASSAN PALLA

R/O.....JAHANGIRPORA SHARAKWARA SHIRPORAGARGARUN

Block.... WAGOORA

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Registration of Non-Institutional Birth Event

This is for information to the general public that I want to register the Birth Event of my Child namely KHULAIFA RAOUF S/O AB Raouf Malik at R/O BATKOTE District Anantnag with date of birth as 1-2-2022 at Block Development Office Pahalgam (Registrar Birth & Death). The said Birth event has occurred at my home and not in any Hospital. Anybody having any objection in this regard, can file his/her objection in the office of BDO Pahalgam within 07 days from the publication of this notice.

NAME: AB, RAOUF MALIK

S/O: MOHD. RAMZAN MELIH

R/O BATAKOTE

CONTACT NO:- 94692 07894

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of HUMAIRA RAFIQ D/O MOHAMMAD RAFIQ GANAIE R/O KOHLINA Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 09/06/2014 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection.

If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of HUMAIRA RAFIQ D/O MOHAMMAD RAFIQ R/O KOHLINA Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 20/09/2017 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection.

If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I informed to general public that my Daughter's Date of birth (DOB) is 13/12/2013... Now I am applying for his date of birth certificate (DOB) if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file His /her objection in the (BDO ) office WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name.....MUSHTAQ AHMAD SIRAJ

S/O....ABDUL GANI SIRAJ

F/O.... MEHFOOZA MUSHTAQ

R/O.....WATERGAM Block.... WAGOORA

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of SIDRA JAN D/O NASEER AHMAD HAJAM R/O PUTUKHAH Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 16/07/2022 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection.

If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of MOHAMMAD HAMZA TANTARY S/O JAVID AHMAD TANTARY R/O SHARKWARA Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 10/10/2020 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection.

If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of HIDAYAT NAZIR D/O NAZIR AHMAD SHEIKH R/O TELGAM Tehsil Kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth, as 20/05/2018 and event has been shown to be occurred at S.D.H Kreeri for issuance of delay order. In this connection.

If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS KREERI

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DRUGS CONTROLLER GANDERBAL / BANDIPORA ROOM NO. 401, 3RD FLOOR MINI SECRETARIAT DUDERHAMA GANDERBAL

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Retail Sale Drug Licenses under the provisions of Drugs And Cosmetics Act 1940, and Rules there under stands in favour of below mentioned firms:-

S. No	Name of the firm	Licence No.	Validity
1.	Jin Pharmacy Harran Ganderbal QP/Prop: Shah Nawaz Akhtar	GR /121 -122	02.03.2013
2.	Mir Pharmacy Shuhama Alastang QP/Prop: Aijaz Ah Mir	GR/133-134	16.07.2013
3.	Ech Bee Medicate Rangli QP/Prop: Hilal Ahmad Bhat	GR/ 171- 72	01.04.2014
4.	Wani Medicate Tullamulla QP/Prop: Mushtaq Ahmad Wani	GR/ 201- 202	14.10.2014
5.	Wani Medicate Nunner Ganderbal QP/Prop: Noorul Hassan Wani	GR/ 259-260	02.01.2016
6.	Mediclub Beehama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Naseer Ah Shah	GR/261-262	05.01.2016
7.	Qadri Medicate Qadri Complex Ganderbal QP/Prop: Sheikh Ishtiaq Hussain	GR/312-313	15.02.2012
8.	Al-Shafa Medical Hall Kurhama Lar QP/Prop: Fayaz Ahmad Wani	GR/ 334-335	18.07.2012
9.	Al Noor Medicate Beehama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Fozia Bashir	GR/374-375	04.08.2013
10.	Sultaina Medicate Hadoora Ganderbal QP/Prop: Mohd Sultan	GR/394-395	16/02/2019
11.	New City Medicate Duderhama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Javed Ah Hajam	GR/410-411	05/7/2020
12.	Salfia Medicate Duderhama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Aasif iqbal	GR/492-493	17.05.2022
13.	Al-falah medicate 01, first floor, Beehama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Naveed Ahmad	20-111441 21-111442	08/02/2026
14.	Irshad medicos Kurhama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Irshad Ahmad Bhat	GR/486-487	28/09/2027
15.	Zeeshan Health Pharmacy Beehama Ganderbal QP/Prop: Suhail Ahmad War	20-100530 21-100531	10/12/2023
16.	Amaar Medicate Chemists & Druggists, Hyder Colony Tullamulla Near Darul Salam Masjid Sharief, Tullamulla, District-Ganderbal, J&K QP/Prop: Shahida Khaliq	RLF20JK2022 001168 RLF21JK2022 001149	19/07/2027
17.	N A Chemists & Druggists Barsoo, Lar, District- Ganderbal, QP/Prop: Abid Amin Bhat	RLF20JK20220 00897 RLF21JK20220 00885	15/06/2027

Whereas, Concerned Drug Control Officer of Ganderbal have reported the above mentioned firms have been found violating the norms and conditions of licenses as mandated under the relevant provisions of Drugs And Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder; Whereas, the concerned Drug Control Officer have reported that the firms were found Non- operational/ Non-existent since long. Whereas, concerned authorities have recommended cancellation of the above mentioned firms because of non-existence / non-operational in nature. Now, therefore, I Negeena Akther Licensing Authority for Retail Drug Sale Establishments for District Ganderbal, hereby serve upon the Show Cause Notices under the Provisions of Drug and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules thereunder and offer a final opportunity to the above mentioned firms to explain their position in writing as to why their licenses issued in the form 20 & 21 may not be cancelled for violating the conditions of Licenses/Prescribed norms. Reply of the firms in light of above shall reach this office within seven days positively failing which an ex-parte action under law shall follow.

DIPK-15870/23  
DATED:- 01.02.2024

SD/-  
LICENSING AUTHORITY)  
ASSISTANT DRUGS CONTROLLER  
DRUGS AND FOOD CONTROL ORGANIZATION  
GANDERBAL/ BANDIPORA.



# DDC Chairman reviews progress of dev projects in Thathri Sub-Division

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 01: Chairman Dhananther Singh Kotwal chaired a meeting to take a thorough review of the ongoing projects in Thathri Sub Division.

The meeting was attended by Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Tehsildar, Public Works Department (PWD) officials, Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) from PMGSY and officials from other departments. The primary focus was on assessing the progress of different initiatives in the region.

Expressing satisfaction over the review, the Chairman commended SDM Thathri for facilitating a smooth and productive discussion. He highlighted the significance of such gatherings in promoting transparency, accountability, and collaboration



among government departments. The Chairman reiterated the commitment to deliver quality services to the people of Thathri and surrounding areas.

Earlier, the SDM Thathri emphasized the importance of timely completion of assignments and issued instructions to all departments accordingly. This directive aimed to

ensure that projects move forward efficiently and meet their deadlines.

The meeting provided a platform for officials to discuss challenges, share updates, and coordinate efforts for effective implementation.

Later, Chairman Kotwal took the opportunity to engage with the political representatives and addressed their concerns.

# DC inspects snow clearance operation in Kishtwar town

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 01: Following an overnight snowfall in the district, the Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav toured different areas of Kishtwar town to inspect the ongoing snow-clearance operation and assess the arrangements put in place to address challenges arising from the prevailing weather conditions.

Accompanied by Tehsildar Kishtwar, Muneeb Umar and officers from relevant departments, the DC was briefed about the action plans to ensure swift handling of potential challenges. During the inspection, the DC visited crucial



essential services installations of mechanical engineering, power, water besides medical care institutions and inspected the preparedness to handle any emergency situation in the backdrop of inclement weather conditions.

DC was informed that

restoration where necessary. All departments assured the DC that they are prepared to meet any challenge, ensuring the quickest response with minimal disruption to essential services.

Interacting with the field staff, the DC emphasized the importance of their presence on the ground until the end of inclement weather. He directed officers to thoroughly implement action plans to ensure timely and coordinated resolution of problems.

Interacting with the locals, the DC informed the public that they can report their concerns at the helpline numbers: Control Room Kishtwar: 01995-259555.

## Adhere to timelines for Jammu Airport expansion: Secretary CAD

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 01: Secretary, Civil Aviation Department (CAD), Mohammad Aijaz Asad, convened a meeting to review progress on Jammu Airport expansion project.

The officers of Airport Authorities informed the Secretary about the present status of works being executed on expansion of Jammu Airport. They informed about the work done so far besides apprising that there is pendency of structure removals, land possession and other issues. The Secretary asked the concerned officers to remove the bottlenecks and expedite the pace of work on this prestigious project for timely completion. He directed the Animal Husbandry Department to shift cattle from Belicharana to a new farm at Chattha while the poultry was directed to be shifted within a fixed period of time to prevent undue delays. Aijaz Asad directed the concerned authorities to remove all illegal structures within 100 meters of the Airport Boundary and disburse compensation against residential buildings affected by the expansion. The Secretary also urged upon all the stakeholders to report all bottlenecks and hurdles to his office for resolution. The Project Head briefed the Secretary about mobilisation, soil testing survey, engineering drawings prepared, so far. He added that the project is being executed in two separate segments, in parallel, to ensure that it is completed before deadlines. The meeting was attended by Director AAI Jammu Airport SK Garg, DGM AAI Ganesh Sharma, Executive Engineer PWD, Ashwani Kumar, SP Jammu South, Ajay Sharma, Additional Secretary, Civil Aviation Vidushi Kapoor, Joint Director.

## Cabinet approves extension of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the continuation of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) to be implemented under Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) with an outlay of Rs.29,610.25 crore for another three years up to 2025-26. The scheme will incentivize investments for Dairy processing and product diversification, Meat processing and product diversification, Animal Feed Plant, Breed multiplication farm, Animal Waste to Wealth Management (Agri-waste management) and Veterinary vaccine and drug production facilities.

Government of India will provide 3% interest subvention for 8 years including two years of moratorium

for loan up to 90% from the scheduled bank and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), NABARD and NDDB. The eligible entities are individuals, Private Companies, FPO, MSME, Section 8 companies. Now the Dairy Cooperatives will also avail benefits for modernization, strengthening of the dairy plants.

Government of India will also provide credit guarantee to the MSME and Dairy Cooperatives up to the 25% of the credit borrowed from the Credit Guarantee Fund of Rs.750 crore.

The AHIDF has so far created an impact by adding 141.04 LLPD (Lakh Ltr. Per Day) of milk processing capacity, 79.24 lakh metric ton of feed processing capacity and 9.06 Lakh metric ton of meat processing capacity by adding to the supply chain since the inception of the scheme.

The scheme has been able to increase processing capacity by 2-4% in dairy, meat and animal feed sector.

Animal Husbandry sector presents an opportunity for the investors to invest in the Livestock sector making this sector a lucrative one ranging from value addition, cold chain and integrated units of Dairy, Meat, Animal Feed units to technologically assisted Livestock and Poultry farms, Animal Waste to wealth Management and Setting up of Veterinary Drugs/ Vaccine units.

After inclusion of new activities like technologically assisted breed multiplication farms, strengthening of veterinary drugs and vaccine units, Animal waste to wealth management, the scheme will exhibit a huge potential for the upgradation of infrastructure in Livestock sector.

The scheme will be a channel towards employment generation directly and indirectly to 35 lakh people through entrepreneurship development and aims for wealth creation in the livestock sector. So far, the AHIDF has benefitted directly/indirectly approximately to 15 lakh farmers. AHIDF is emerging a path towards achieving the Prime Minister's goal of doubling farmers' income, tapping the livestock sector by bringing the private sector investment, bringing in the latest technologies for processing and value addition, and last but not the least contributing to the Nation's economy by promoting the export of Livestock products. Such investments in processing and value addition infrastructure by eligible beneficiaries would also promote export of these processed and value-added commodities.

## NH144A Widening Project: DDC inspects South Point of 700-meter tunnel at Nowshera

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, JANUARY 31: The District Development Commissioner Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat today visited the South Point of the 700-hundred-meter tunnel being constructed at Nowshera under Package V of the NH144A.

The widening project of NH144A is a major step towards the development of the district and will provide a much-needed boost to the local economy by improving connectivity. The tunnel will bring many benefits to the people of Rajouri, including reduced travel time, improved safety, and a more efficient transportation system.

The DDC also interacted with the locals during his visit and assured that the Government is committed to ensure speedy completion of the project and providing necessary benefits to the general public in terms of connectivity and best possible measures are being taken in this regard.

He also asked the concerned officers to work to maintain interdepartmental coordination to complete the project in set timelines so that necessary benefits are provided to the general public. The DDC also directed to maintain quality of work and warned against any laxity in this regard.

Officers who accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during his visit were ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh; AC Defence, Saleem Quershii; Tehsildar Nowshera and concerned officers from BRO. Officers who accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during his visit were ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh; AC Defence, Saleem Quershii; Tehsildar Nowshera and concerned officers from BRO.

## Rs 15 lakh fine recovered for illegal mining

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 01: Geology and Mining Department has recovered over Rs. 15 lakh fine after seizing heavy machinery involved in illegal mining near stone crushers in Ravi River, here today. A team of officials of department led by District Mineral Officer (DMO) Rajinder Singh through approach road raided digging site in Ravi River at midnight and seized whole machinery which include three dumpers and one heavy chain machine. Immediately after seizing the machinery, the deep large pits and diggings were also measured and found that 5500 MT of River Bed Material has been excavated from the piece of land in the premises of two stone crushers.

Earlier, a complaint was also lodged by local inhabitant of Taraf Tajwal regarding illegal movement of dumpers and chain machines in Ravi River for digging and lifting material for crushing through stone crusher.

The DMO informed that 12 chain machines and hundred of vehicles involved in illegal mining in Ravi River have been seized besides recovering heavy penalties from them for the environmental and mineral loss.

District Mineral Officer further informed that the action has been taken as per the MM (DR) Act of 1957 and SRO-105 of 2016 wherein powers have been delegated to officers for controlling illegal transportation of mineral and illegal mining activities.

## ACD inspects development works in Ghat Block

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 01: Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Doda, Phulail Singh conducted a thorough inspection of development works in Ghat block, here today. During the visit, he inspected work sites from P/ Path Gattu Mohalla to Shiv Mandir in Panchayat Lower Arnora. He asked for installing Community Information Boards (CIB) at each work site promptly. Additionally, he instructed the concerned officers to prioritize adherence to quality standards for all projects. The ACD was accompanied by Executive Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineers (AEE) and Junior Engineers (JE) from Rural Engineering Wing (REW). Their presence underscored the collaborative effort to ensure effective monitoring,

## DC Kathua inaugurates 2-Day Pashu Mandi at Lakhanpur

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 01: The Pashu Mandi an exhibition of livestock and animal products was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner Kathua Dr Rakesh Minhas at the Rinderpest Check Post here at Lakhanpur today.

The livestock Manid is aimed at promoting the trade of livestock and animal products in the



region. Speaking on the occasion, the DC emphasized the importance of the livestock sector for the rural economy and

expressed his hope that the event would facilitate the farming community to get quality livestock at one stop

platform within Jammu and Kashmir. He said the event will also promote the dairy sector besides generating employment opportunities for the local people. "The Pashu Mandi is an excellent initiative that provides a platform to farmers and traders to come together and promote the livestock sector. Through this event we hope to create awareness about modern animal husbandry.

## Ramban: Students flagged off for exposure visit to IIT Kanpur

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 01: Chief Education Officer Ramban, Dev Anand today flagged off a group of 20 Senior Secondary students for an enlightening exposure visit to IIT Kanpur. The exposure visit has been organized by the Education Department under the aegis of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary. Interacting with the students, the CEO conveyed his best wishes for their 5-day exploration at IIT Kanpur. The educational venture aims to immerse students in cutting-edge technologies such as robotics, the IT arena, and Artificial Intelligence,

providing them firsthand exposure to the ongoing research at IIT Kanpur. The CEO said that the exposure visit is not merely a trip but a golden opportunity for the students to delve into the realms of Engineering and Technology, exploring potential career paths. The collaboration between Samagra Shiksha, J&K, and IIT Kanpur, facilitated under the aegis of the School Education Department, is solidified through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The CEO informed students that the IIT Kanpur, an epitome of academic excellence, stands as a premier institution fostering innovation, research, and technological advancement.

## DDC Chairman reviews developmental scenario in District Rajouri

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, FEBRUARY 01: District Development Council Chairman Rajouri, Advocate Naseem Liyaqat on Thursday chaired a crucial meeting to review the developmental scenario of the district here at a joint meeting with DDC Members and officers hled in the Conference Hall of the PWD Dak bungalow.

Vice Chairperson District Development Council Shabir Khan and Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat were also present in the meeting.

The CEO District Development Council Pawan Kumar highlighted accomplishments under the District Capex Budget, SSSY, APDP, ABDP, TSP, and UT Capex. The Chairman directed the BDOs to meet set deadlines for physical and financial targets. It was informed that a substantial progress has been achieved under PMAY-G and Awas Plus with the completion of 36,648 houses out of the target of 62,343.

Turning attention to the Health Sector, the DDC Chairman reviewed the status of 42 works, directing executing agencies to expedite progress. The meeting was further



told that 400 works out of 434 works have been completed by Ground Water and Drilling division .

During the deliberations, the DDC Members also raised crucial issues of their respective areas and sought repair of roads, augmentation of water supply in areas facing scarcity, amplification of healthcare infrastructure, construction of new roads, provision of electricity poles, repair of handpumps, speedy implementation of JJM schemes

and RDSS, completion of work on Badala Mang Bridge and circular road, augmentation of power infrastructure, strengthening of receiving stations etc. The Chairman passed necessary directions to the concerned officers for the early redressal of the issues.

Speaking at the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat emphasized the importance of a cohesive partnership between administration and elected public representatives. He encouraged DDC members to work side by side with the administration, leveraging their collective expertise and local insights to contribute significantly to the overall progress and well-being of the district. Additionally, DC Om Prakash Bhagat directed officers to expedite the pace of progress and adhere to the set timelines for ongoing projects so that necessary benefits are provided to the general public with the completion of the projects. The DDC Chairman directed the officers to enhance efforts in implementing government schemes on the ground and ensure maximum benefits for the public. Emphasizing coordination between officers and public representatives, he aimed for better results in developmental works and infrastructure creation.



EDITORIAL

Charity-The Noble  
Essence of Spending

In the tapestry of human existence, the act of spending in the cause of Allah represents a profound testament to one's faith and compassion. Rooted in Islamic teachings, the concept underscores the essence of charity, kindness, and selflessness. It encapsulates the idea of giving without expectation, nurturing a spirit of empathy and solidarity within communities.

To spend in the cause of Allah transcends mere material offerings, it embodies a holistic ethos of altruism and social responsibility. It encompasses charitable efforts, and wherever it sustenance to the educational endeavor becomes a change, echoing the sense of justice.

Charity, in its myriad forms, serves as a cornerstone of understanding of where the well-being is intertwined with our own fulfillment. More profound words of peace be upon him, the believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity.'

In a world beset by myriad challenges, the imperative to give charity and be helpful emerges as a beacon of hope and compassion. It beckons us to transcend individual interests and embrace a collective ethos of solidarity and generosity.

By extending a helping hand to the marginalized, uplifting the downtrodden, and championing justice, we embody the timeless virtues espoused by Islam and exemplify the transformative power of selfless giving.

Let us, therefore, heed the call to spend in the cause of Allah, for in doing so, we illuminate the path towards a more compassionate and equitable world.

HT FRIDAY COMPASS

Kashmir Welcomes  
the First Snowfall of 2024!

"It marks not just a seasonal shift but a reaffirmation of the enduring beauty and resilience of Kashmir"



■ Er Aausyf Ibn Farooq

In Kashmir Valley, a collective sigh of relief echoes through the snow-capped peaks and valleys as the first snowfall of 2024 blankets the landscape. This arrival comes after a notably warm Chillai Kalan, the traditional and severe winter period that precedes the first snow, leaving residents and nature enthusiasts eagerly awaiting the transformative touch of winter.

As the first snowflakes descend from the

heavens, an ethereal hush befalls the region. The familiar sights of emerald-green meadows and russet-hued landscapes are replaced by a pristine white canvas, a testament to nature's artistry. The snow-clad mountains stand tall, their peaks glistening like jewels in the soft glow of the winter sun.

This year the warmth that characterized Chillai Kalan, in contrast to its usual biting cold, had left many wondering about the fate of the iconic Kashmir winter. However, nature, in its timeless rhythm, has graced the valley with a spectacle that has captivated hearts for generations. The transformative power of the first snowfall brings not only visual delight but also a renewed sense of hope for a season of abundance.

The arrival of snow in Kashmir is not merely a climatic event; it's a symphony of nature, culture, and anticipation. Locals, accustomed to the ebb and flow of the seasons, find joy in the crunch of fresh snow beneath their boots and the rhythmic drip of icicles from rooftops. The landscape, once muted in earthy tones, now reverberates with the

crisp and invigorating sound of winter.

The first snowfall is more than just a picturesque scene; it's a lifeline for agriculture and the environment. The delicate balance of nature in Kashmir relies on the slow release of moisture from melting snow, nurturing the soil and sustaining the region's lush greenery. For farmers, the snow is a promise of a bountiful harvest, a relief after the uncertainties of a warmer Chillai Kalan.

As the snowflakes continue to weave their magic, there is a collective sense of gratitude and anticipation in the air. The first snowfall of 2024 marks not just a seasonal shift but a reaffirmation of the enduring beauty and resilience of Kashmir. As the valley embraces its winter attire, it beckons residents and visitors alike to savor the moments of quiet enchantment, reminding them that each snowfall is a gift from nature, a reminder of the cyclical harmony that defines life in this timeless land.

Engineer | Educator | Volunteer  
aasifhussain14@gmail.com



DAWAH ASSURES A MUSLIM ABOUT  
"PROPER TIME MANAGEMENT" IN LIFE



■ Dr Sheikh Arshid

Dawah has been emphasized many times in the Quran: "Who is better in speech than one who calls to Allah, does righteous deeds and says indeed I am among the Muslims."

We are the best nation raised for mankind to enjoin people towards righteousness, forbid corruption, engage in five activities at the masjid (Taleem, First Gushta, Second Gushta, Mashwara and Kharooj), engage in Zikr and Azkar, believe in Allah, and practice proper time management in life. This will provide a proper channel for living a life without wasting much time in unproductive activities. If every Muslim is effective in time management, it will help them achieve success and spiritual growth in Islam.

By setting priorities on the five activities at the masjid and at home, breaking down goals into manageable tasks, using an Islamic planner and avoiding procrastination and wasting time on sports activities. This time management emphasizes obedience and mutual respect, cooperation, equal opportunities, commitment to dawah

work, and full utilization of capacity. Apart from these, other key models of Islamic time management are amalī- soleh (righteous deeds), sabr (patience), adl (justice), ikhlas (good intention), amanah (trustworthiness), and ihsan (helping others).

The time management consultant is the Quran and the sayings of Prophet Mohammad (SAW). This should be the first priority to concentrate on your daily activities. Apart from these imperatives from the Quran and hadith, there are some practices of our pious predecessors that we should follow to manage our time. In this article, my attempt will highlight some unique practices to manage time.

Before we begin, it's worth reminding ourselves why dawah is necessary before the time management imperative. Allah says: The fleeting nature of time and the importance of utilizing it for righteous deeds is necessary. Involvement in Dawah work enjoins Muslims to focus on the context of life, time utility and utilizing energy as a priority. Dawah is the priority for all Muslims in the context of righteousness. The first priority in time management is to divide the whole day according to the Dawah schedule, especially during morning and evening. This will considerably reduce time wasted on other activities during the day. This can save your energy levels to execute tasks of Dawah in a proper plan.

If we are in a profession or business, we should follow normal means of achieving our daily goals without wasting time on personal activities. Our main focus should be on the obligations of the office or business. Sticking to ibaadah can be helpful in

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transforming energy into more righteous deeds. However, there are other modes of worship, such as dhikr, salat, and reciting the Quran, which have no worldly connection but can also be helpful in developing spiri-

tuality into stronger means. For much of the year, we should never miss the five daily prayers. On the other hand, there are plenty of opportunities to engage in indirect worship: raising a family, earning a halal living and serving the community by helping the poor, needy and destitute persons.

A brief glance at the practice of Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) and his Companions (Allah be pleased with them) shows that their daily activity was to remove people from darkness to light and they sacrificed everything for it. This can also guide us to follow the teachings of Prophet Mohammad (SAW) and his companions. In this age of immorality and adversity, we should strive to move in the path of Almighty Allah. In response to this, an attitude develops into how one can maximize health and energy levels in bringing people into deen more and more.

More importantly, it's about focusing on and enjoying the benefits of Khurooj. It's about increasing our relationship with the Quran. It's about going to the masjid and enjoying the annual opportunity to pray Ishraq, Chast, Awabeen and Tahajud in congregation, listening to the advice of great Islamic scholars. And if that means less worldly glory, so be it! There is absolutely no need to feel ashamed or embarrassed in having a quiet word with one's boss and explaining that, due to the sacredness of Islam, we will have to take on less. Be proactive. Take some holiday time in advance, delegate some work to subordinates or rearrange your schedule to fit in more work on weekends and do daily mashwara and monthly mashwara for

forthcoming activities.

Once we understand that dawah is our priority, all norms of worship will automatically accomplish, and everything else will fall into place. We should also be committed to the family; we should take part in household chores and motherhood. We should cut out time-wasting.

Nevertheless, there are certain strategies that can enhance and maximize our use of time even after we have the right attitude. Despite the plethora of time management systems, methods, organizers and techniques, the best is often the simplest. Being able to schedule dawah activities in schools, colleges, universities, businesses and countless other institutions help us to get things done. The problem is that we simply lack self-discipline in our personal lives. Allah, through the guidance of the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) and his inheritors, has created a way based on righteousness that automatically promotes discipline and productivity.

To be on the righteous path for at least 24 hours a day, use your time under the proper guidance of Islam. If you ever get stuck, approach trustworthy Islamic scholars for further details, clarification, and specific knowledge of the most praiseworthy acts of worship to be performed.

The Prophet (PBUH) specifically refers to time and advises Muslims to take advantage of it by performing good deeds promptly and by not taking for granted the times of ease that Allah gives us.

Writer/ Columnist/ Counselor,  
Kuchmullah Tral



# Bhaderwah Paradise On Earth In The Arm Of Himalayan Region



■ By Mool Raj

Beyond the Kanthi Dhar a natural wonder which lies in Changa block in Doda are Ganthak Meadows. It is more than just a pretty place as it has rich history. People from Bhalessa used this route to reach Bhaderwah for their every-day needs. Now, the meadows, with their lush green beauty, are treasures waiting to be discovered for tourism.

These meadows hold stories of old times when folks from Bhalessa took on the rocky journey to Bhaderwah by foot. It wasn't just a walk; it was a journey for survival, livelihood, a connection to their roots, and a nod to the strength of the locals. Grazing animals and working in agricultural fields is practised and for survival the people used this route to reach Bhaderwah or Doda to manage food for themselves owing to the scarcity of the means of transportation.

Today, the meadow is like a painting with its lush green surroundings. It is a serene and beautiful place, perfect for tourists. But the real potential of this area is yet to be fully explored and tapped.

Even though Meadows has all the makings of a tourist spot, it's still a bit of a secret. The mix of history and nature here is like a dream for those wanting a taste of both. To unlock this dream, we need to make it easy for people to get here and make sure their visit is unforgettable.

The journey to Bhaderwah was more than a commute; it was a way for cultures to meet. The stories left behind by the locals tell us tales of days gone by. Keeping



these stories alive could make the tourism experience here truly special.

For these Meadows to become a tourist spot, we need to make it accessible. Good inner approach roads and facilities will help.

The place emerges as a hub, drawing frequent visits from travelers eager to traverse its scenic landscapes. Positioned strategically as a pedestrian route, it acts as a vital connection between Bhalessa in Doda and the town of Bhaderwah.

The significance of this valley of Bhalessa extends beyond its physical dimensions, embodying a journey that resembles with the footsteps of both locals and wanderers. The beauty lies not only in the destination but in the path itself, inviting those who seek to explore the



cultural and natural wonders along the historic route of this place. This place, with its well-trodden trails and historical importance redefine a close connection between cultures and the experiences waiting to discover for every traveler who ventures along its pedestrian thoroughfare.

The meadow predominantly attracts visitors from the Pahari ethnic Kashmiri community residing in nearby villages such as Changa, Bisran, Gorekhra, Kilhotran, Gandoh. The attraction of these locals speaks to the cultural and geographical ties that bind them to this enchanting destination. The proximity of these villages not only facilitates frequent visits but also fosters a sense of belonging, as the Pahari ethnic Kash-

miri people find solace and connection amidst the natural beauty and historical ethos that the place offers. It becomes a cherished space where traditions are shared, stories told, and the bonds of community strengthen against the backdrop of this picturesque valley.

The meadows present a breathtaking view adorned with awe-inspiring mountains and lush coniferous forests. Nature's creation takes center stage in this landscape, where meadows seamlessly blend with the towering majesty of the mountains. The air is filled with the scent of coniferous trees, creating a serene and congenial atmosphere. Its series of meadows, cradled between the peaks and thick forests, provide an opportunity for those seeking solace in the embrace of

untouched natural beauty. The awe-inspiring mountains and the tranquility of forests paint a picture of these meadows as a haven for nature lovers and a canvas where the elements of earth converge in harmonious splendour.

To make the Meadows a success, the people living around it need to be part of the journey. They know the place better than anyone and can help keep things real. Getting them involved means everyone wins.

There's so much to do at Meadows. For those who love trekking, the historical route is a must. Nature lovers will be in heaven with the greenery and wildlife. And why not have cultural events to showcase the uniqueness of Bhalessa?

This place is where history meets potential. It could be the poster child for sustainable tourism, keeping the past alive while inviting nature lovers to explore. As we unlock the door to its tourism potential, let's promise to keep the beauty and stories of Meadows safe. It's not just a spot on the map; it's a journey back in time, inviting all who come here to be a part of something special.

The Tourism Department holds the key to unlocking the full potential and there's a pressing need for them to officially recognize and identify this place. Developing well-maintained internal approach roads is crucial to make it accessible to a wider audience.

Moreover, envisioning and organizing a Ganthak Festival could showcase the place, attract visitors and spotlight the cultural and natural richness of the area. This strategic move not only promotes tourism but also puts place on the map as a vibrant destination worth exploring. The combination of improved infrastructure and a dedicated Tourism festival could bring Ganthak into the spotlight, ensuring that its potential is appreciated by a broader audience across Jammu and Kashmir.

The author is a columnist and freelance writer

## Syed Nisar Hussein Shah, The renowned Spiritual Personality!



■ By M S Nazki

Some look great, some try to be great and some say things that are the greatest of all!

Knock, And He'll open the door and vanish, and he will make you shine like the sun fall, and He'll raise you to the heavens! Become nothing, And He'll turn you into everything! Syed Nisar Hussein Shah, the renowned spiritual personality of Pir Panjal speaks a lot on this!

The religion of Islam continues and will continue until the Day of Judgment. A work that Allah gives grace to the Auliya by which they give strength to helplessness, infirmity and cures the diseases of men and women spiritually. This perfect guardian and the chosen and righteous people of Allah are still powerful on His mentioned Laws of behavior. If such words are spoken by a great man whose name if have man he obviously is a pious soul!

Mehru (my sister but from the religion Islam had an interesting story to tell me! And that went something like this! I was a kid then and it was raining heavily! I could not have reached home because I knew I had to cross a stream where wave after wave of water was coming down the slope! The streamlet was over and water was spilling all over the place three men arrived but it was you my brother who spotted me! The other two were uncle Suraj and Uncle Rajesh! You looked like us but the other two were different (both gurus from Darjeeling) But I knew that my brother was the one who held my hand first! 'You told me to drop the bag out of your hand', I responded by saying that there

are rations for the family which I bought from Surankote! 'And you said 'Rations ko Jaane Doh, I will get them for you but it's time to get you out of this water created madness!' I loved those lines and you all carried me to safety with me on Uncle Suraj's back and you navigating where to step or not and Uncle Rajesh was behind us all! It took two hours to get to the hillock where my home was! But I still remember we reached late but rations had reached! Frankly speaking I had no reply to give to my parents and little brothers! "We were scared since you had not arrived with rations, more than what was listed for you to get and assured that Sahib is getting your Mehru! You did not come to our house that day but I will not forget the incident throughout my life! 'Her Eid gifts to me value the most! Money as Edil do not accept from her family but yes books I do! Mehru's husband is a scholar and the couple has two children now settled in Bengaluru!

In this technological mobile and digitized world, who has time to write letters but I get her hand written dispatch every Sunday!

As a scripture that inspired some of the greatest minds in history, the Qur'an deserves a rich and evocative translation that strives to convey the profound wisdom embodied in its original language. Even on a superficial level, its creative use of words is artistic and ingenious! Mehru has taught me this lesson!

It is also a fact that the land of India is said to be the place of Auliya, Dervishes, Sadhus and saints. Similarly, an eminent spiritual figure exists in Fazalabad village of Surankote tehsil of border district Poonch, can be said to be a twin district but known to the people of Jammu and Kashmir as Nisar Hussain Shah.

This spiritual stream goes through several stages to him, to make an access. His grandfather used to run it and give Quranic treatment of poor people. When the said grandfather departed from this world, this spiritual power was carried on by his respected father who is still alive. When his father gave his greeting to the devotees they got the wellbeing of all kinds



of evil spirits successfully. Now this spiritual power is being carried forward today by the said person, namely Syed Nisar Hussain Shah.

It was through Allah's mercy that you [Muhammad] have been able to deal with them so gently. If you had been stern and

hard-hearted, they would surely have dispersed from around you. And be patient in adversity: for, verily, God is with those who are patient in adversity! Mehru had told me this! But I never knew that I would be doing a write up on her words later in life about a great man!

Syed Nasir Hussain Shah is well qualified in both educations Islamic as well as worldly education. Also said to be B Tech engineering degree from the province of Kashmir.

Among the number of believers in Jammu and Kashmir of the said, the devotees are so wide in the region. He treats all people spiritually.

He also treats them with his own developed knowledge from his ancestry completely and surely. He also helps ghost victims to get rid of those evil spirits and hallucinations.

He starts treating a patient by viewing the test version medically. He says that if such a patient needs medical treatment, he finds out to show a patient to the doctor immediately. In other words, very sincere in diagnosing a patient via spiritual means!

He also visualizes that there is some kind of evil hovering around such a patient, then they start getting treated in a spiritual way and the patient gets cured and goes home happily.

The service of the said person is very good because he provides free of cost treatment to his devotees. His devotees are spread all over the Pir Panjal and even in Jammu and Kashmir. Even some of his devotees come to his Astana from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and other rest parts of the country and get a satisfactory treatment by the said Syed Nisar Hussain Shah Sahib.

On his Astana, the non-stop Langer is running continuously where thousands of visitors attend it and have a Tabrook respectively.

The meeting days are divided by Syed Nisar Hussain Shah for his devotees and disciples. He is undoubtedly doing quite well for the wellbeing of Poor and needy persons.

Say: The evil and the good are not alike even though plenty of the evil attract thee. So be mindful of your duty to GOD, O men of understanding, that ye may succeed. And give full measure whenever you measure, and weigh with a balance that is true: this will be [for your own] good, and best in the end! Mehru always writes this in her letters to me!



## 1500 Gujjar-Bakarwal Out of School Students Enrolled in Govt Schools in Kishtwar under "Back 2 School" initiative

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 01: Once grappling with a significant number of Out-of-School Children (OoSC), the success of the first phase of the Back to School initiative has played a pivotal role in elevating the literacy rate among the Scheduled Tribe community in the district Kishtwar.

In 2021, a survey conducted by SAMAGRA Shiksha Jammu and Kashmir identified thousands of OoSC across J&K UT, including 2,469 in district Kishtwar, marking the highest number in the Jammu Division. As the problem demanded urgent attention, the district administration Kishtwar took proactive steps to bring back all the OoSC to school.

It is pertinent to mention that the term "Out of School Children" is a collective term encompassing drop-outs, students who have left their education midway, and those who have never been enrolled and not at all experienced formal education.

In December 2022, verification of 2469 Out-of-School Children (OoSC) revealed that approximately 1600 students in the age group of 6-14 years were not attending school. The Gujjar and Bakarwal population were more susceptible to low enrollment due to relatively poor socio-economic conditions, migratory nature, dependence on livestock, and less emphasis on



higher education because of early marriage etc.

To enroll these students, the Back to School initiative was launched. The first step involved convincing parents and galvanizing public opinion through Gram Sabhas presided over by senior officers, including the Deputy Commissioner, ADDC, ADC, SDMs, and Tehsildars.

A 3-month Bridge Course, initiated with the help of DIET Kishtwar in January 2023, prepared these students to join schools. Following the completion of the Bridge Course, admissions for 1376 Out-of-School Students were done in various Government Schools, with 95 percent belonging to the ST Gujjar and Bakarwal population.

Sustainability is crucial in such initiatives, and for this, commu-

nity support was mobilized. A Tribal Samaj Sudhar Committee, comprising Gujjar and Bakarwal volunteers, encouraged parents to re-enroll their kids in schools and monitored already enrolled students.

Additionally, School Management Committees were restructured in collaboration with the India Education Collective NGO. For the restructured committees, parents took on the role of Chairmen and became active partners with the Education Department for School Improvement.

A visible result of these activated School Management Committees was the "My School My Pride" campaign, a bottom-up initiative culminating on January 26, Republic Day 2024. Parents in 50 percent of

schools donated their money for Building as Learning Aid (BaLA) paintings, minor repairs, and kitchen gardens in respective schools. Well-performing SMCs were awarded during the Republic Day Ceremony 2024.

The School Education Department, led by CEO Prahlad Bhagat, played a proactive role and launched commendable incentives for Out-of-School students, including additional Dhok seasonal centers, winter ST centers, stipends, and zonal level libraries in schools.

Overall, due to the Back to School initiative, major indicators in Kishtwar district have improved. The Gross Enrollment Ratio has jumped from 89% to 97.49%, while the drop-out rate has decreased from 11% to 2.5 percent.

The total number of Out-of-School Students has been reduced from 1600 to only 57 in the district, with an improved transition rate of 98%. Since Gujjar and Bakarwal are nomadic groups, the number of seasonal units increased from 79 to 121 in 2023. Additionally, 80 new winter ST centers were opened, and a stipend of Rs 500 is provided to each ST student as an incentive.

In Back to School 2.0, additional 200 OoSC have been identified for enrollment in schools in January 2024 for 100 percent Saturation.

The Back to School initiative is a success story that can be replicated in all backward and remote areas. It requires active participation.

## Delhi Allocated ₹1,168 Crore In Interim Budget, Same As 2023-24

■ HT News Network

New Delhi: The Union Territory of Delhi was allocated ₹1,168 crore in the 2024-25 interim budget on Thursday, the same as in 2023-24, with the AAP government accusing the Centre of giving it "step-motherly" treatment.

The transfer to Delhi from the Union home ministry included ₹1,168 crore under the revenue head and ₹0.01 crore under the capital head.

In the 2022-23 budget, Delhi was allocated ₹960 crore. It was increased to ₹1,168.01 crore in 2023-24 and remains the same for 2024-25. There were no grants in lieu of share in central taxes and duties for Delhi. It was ₹325 crore in the 2022-23 budget.

The grants in return of Delhi's share in the pool of central taxes and duties were clubbed in the "central assistance to Union Territories" in the budget estimates of 2023-24 and has remained so this year, the budget document said.

The allocation under central assistance to Delhi in the budget 2024-25 estimates was ₹951 crore like the previous budget for 2023-24. It is provided for



financing the schemes of the Delhi government.

Delhi Finance Minister and AAP leader Atishi alleged that this budget has once again proved that the BJP-led central government is actually a government of hollow promises and "step-motherly" treatment has been meted out to Delhi. "Delhi has a share of ₹15,000 crore in central taxes but it has only been allocated ₹1,100 crore by the Centre. Like every time, we have been given step-motherly treatment. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has not been given a single penny," she said while talking to PTI-Video. "The government has provided central assistance of ₹15,000 crore to 16,000 crore to urban local bodies but no allocations has been made for the MCD.

They do not have money for the Delhi government or the MCD," Atishi said.

On Sitharaman's announcement that the government has decided to enhance the target for creating 'Lakshpati Didis' from two crore to three crore, the AAP leader said that at a time, when "women are worried about atta, dal and buying LPG cylinders, this is a huge joke that women will be made 'lakshpaties'". "Where are jobs and business opportunities for women?" she asked. The 'Lakshpati Didi' scheme is aimed at training women in self-help groups (SHGs) so that they can earn a sustainable income of at least ₹1 lakh per annum.

Targeting the central government, Atishi said, "I want to tell the Centre and the BJP to stop 'jumblebaazi'.

## NDA's approach to economy, governance is pro rich: Chidambaram

■ HT News Network

New Delhi, Feb 1 (UNI) Terming the NDA Government as the "government of the rich, by the rich and for the rich", senior Congress leader P Chidambaram on Thursday said that the fundamental flaw in the NDA's approach to the economy and governance is that it is biased in favour of the rich. Addressing a press conference here, Chidambaram said, "The government is either ignorant or callous to the fact that the top 10% owns 60% of the nation's wealth and earns 57% of the national income and that income inequality has widened significantly in the last 10 years. This outcome is because of the lower growth rate during the 10 year period (2014 - 2024) as against the UPA period (2004 - 2014)," he said. "In the last year of UPA,



2013-14, we left a GDP growth rate of 6.4% and an average growth rate of 7.5%. In the NDA period the average growth rate has been less than 6%, the former Finance Minister said.

He said that the numbers given in the Finance Ministry's mini Economic Survey and the Finance Minister's speech have been challenged by economists and domain experts.

Quoting PLFS and the State of Working India Report, 2023, the Congress

leader said that the unemployment rate among youth between the age of 15-29 years is 10%. Adding that the unemployment rate among the graduates under 25 years, the rate is 42.3%.

On farmers, Chidambaram said that farmers are unhappy doing farming. "The FM spoke about farmers but she did not reveal the number of suicides among farmers," he added.

He said, "The FM spoke about GDP, but she did not speak about the per capita

income. She spoke about free grain to 80 crore persons, but she did not speak about India's rank in the Global Hunger Index or to widespread malnutrition among children leading to a high proportion of stunting and wasting". The Rajya Sabha MP said that the government boasts about establishing numerous educational institutions and AIIMS-like hospitals must be pitted against the facts that thousands of teaching posts are vacant in Central Universities and central government established institutions, especially posts reserved for SC, ST and OBC. Targeting the government's minimum governance initiative, Chidambaram said that the 'minimum' government policy, in reality, has undermined federalism, starved state governments of funds and virtually reduced.

## Congress MP from Karnataka makes controversial comment, party distances itself

■ HT News Network

New Delhi, Feb 1 (UNI) Congress MP from Karnataka D K Suresh on Thursday stoked a controversy by saying that the Narendra Modi government was denying the rightful share of funds to southern Indian states, and "if this injustice is not corrected, we may have to demand a separate nation". Suresh, who is the brother of Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, made the comment while reacting to the Interim Budget placed by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman earlier in the day.

"We are only demanding our rightful funds. The Centre is not properly giving the right share of GST and direct taxes to South Indian states. The Centre is giving the tax money accruing from southern states to North India. We (South India) are facing financial problems. If this injustice is not corrected, we may have to demand a separate nation," he told reporters



here. "If we see how the money is distributed to various states in the country, it is clear that our states' funds are being diverted to northern states. This is an injustice to us. The centre is getting over ₹4 lakh crore from us and what we are getting in return is negligible. We have to question this. If this is not rectified, all south states have to raise our voices demanding separate nation," the Congress MP said.

Suresh alleged that Hindi is being imposed on southern states. "This is an injustice to us, Hindi is being

imposed on us. Time may come when people of South India may ask for a separate country," he added.

The Congress distanced itself from the comments made by Suresh.

Congress Working Committee member and former Union Minister P Chidambaram, who was addressing a media conference at the Congress headquarters here on the Budget, asserted that it was not the policy or position of his party to ask for a separate country. "I cannot comment on that statement, you have to ask him. But it is not the policy of the Congress party, or the position of the Congress party to ask for a separate country. That I can deny. For the rest, you have to ask Mr. Suresh," he said. Shivakumar also distanced himself from his brother's controversial statement by saying that India is a single entity.

The feeling of the people of South India is that they should get what North India gets, he argued.

## Arvind Kejriwal Likely To Skip Probe Agency Summons For 5th Time: Report

■ Syed Nazakat Khaleefa k

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal is unlikely to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday for questioning in a money laundering case linked to the Delhi excise policy, sources in the party said.

The ED on Wednesday issued a fresh and the fifth summons to Arvind Kejriwal after he skipped four earlier summonses issued by the federal agency over the last four months.

Though the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) remained tight-lipped about whether the Delhi CM will appear before the probe agency, sources in the party said that he is likely to skip the summons this time too. The AAP has maintained that its legal team is studying the summons issued to Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the excise policy linked money laundering case.

Arvind Kejriwal is scheduled to participate in a protest along with his Punjab



counterpart Bhagwant Mann outside the BJP headquarters on Friday against the alleged cheating in Chandigarh mayoral polls. On Tuesday, in a setback to the Congress and the AAP -- both INDIA bloc members -- the BJP swept the Chandigarh mayoral polls. The AAP-Congress combine alleged that the presiding officer had tampered with the ballot papers.

Arvind Kejriwal skipped ED summonses for November 2 and December 21 in 2023 and January 3 and January 18 this year.

He had called these notic-

es "illegal". It is alleged that the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22 to grant licences to liquor traders allowed cartelisation and favoured certain dealers who had allegedly paid bribes for it, a charge repeatedly refuted by the AAP.

The policy was subsequently scrapped and Delhi Lt Governor VK Saxena recommended a Central Bureau of Investigation probe, following which the ED registered a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal is unlikely to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday for questioning in a money laundering case linked to the Delhi excise policy, sources in the party said. The ED on Wednesday issued a fresh and the fifth summons to Arvind Kejriwal after he skipped four earlier summonses issued by the federal agency over the last four months. Though the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) remained tight-lipped about whether the Delhi CM will appear before the probe agency, sources in the party said that he is likely to skip the summons this time too. The AAP has maintained that its legal team is studying the summons issued to Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the excise policy linked money laundering case. Arvind Kejriwal is scheduled to participate in a protest along with his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann outside the BJP headquarters on Friday against the alleged cheating in Chandigarh mayoral polls.

## SC reserves judgement on grant of Minority Status to Aligarh Muslim University

■ HT News Network

New Delhi, Feb 1 (UNI) The Supreme Court after the 8 days of hearing, reserved its judgement on Thursday on the issue of minority status to Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

A Seven-judge Constitution Bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice Surya Kant, Justice JB Pardiwala, Justice Dipankar Datta, Justice Manoj Misra and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma after hearing the arguments from all the parties concluded the hearing and reserved its judgement.

The bench has to resolve the issue of whether an educational institution has Minority Status under Article 30 of the Constitution and whether a centrally-funded university established by parliamentary statute can be designated



as a minority institution. The bench was hearing a reference arising out of the 2006 verdict of the Allahabad High Court which held that AMU was not a minority institution.

In 2019, a 3-judge bench of the Supreme Court referred the issue to a 7-judge bench. One of the issues which arise in the case is whether a University, established and governed by a statute (AMU Act 1920), can claim minority status. The correctness of the 1967 judgment of the Supreme Court in S. Azeez

Basha vs. Union of India (5-judge bench) which rejected the minority status of AMU and the 1981 amendment to the AMU Act, which accorded minority status to the University.

Senior Advocates Dr Rajeev Dhavan, and Mr Kapil Sibal representing AMU and the AMU Old Boys' Association, presented their arguments. Senior Advocate Mr Salman Khurshid, Mr Shadan Farasat who appeared on behalf of intervenors. The Union of India was represented by the Attorney General Mr R Ven-

kataramani as well as the Solicitor General Mr Tushar Mehta.

Several other senior advocates including Mr Neeraj Kishan Kaul, Mr Guru Krishna Kumar, Mr Vinay Navare, Mr Yatinder Singh, Mr Vikramjit Banerjee (ASG) and Mr KM Nataraj ((ASG) also appeared to advance arguments on behalf of respondents and intervenors. Throughout the 8-day long hearings, several key aspects of deliberation were put before the bench ranging from the interpretation of Article 30 of the Indian Constitution, its interplay with Entry 63 of List 1, the legislative history of AMU, and analysis of the various Amendment Acts from 1951 up to 1981 undertaken to the original 1920 AMU Act. Questions like AMU continued as an Institution of National importance, why Minority status is important? not merely an enabling.



## Cooperative Department Kishtwar provides Hardware Kits to PACSs (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies)

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 01: In a significant step towards modernizing agricultural infrastructure, the Cooperative Department provided 10 hardware kits to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) of the district Kishtwar.

The hardware kits, comprising desktop computers, monitors, webcams, biometric machines, inverters, VPN routers, smart tablets, thermal printers, and passbook printers, have been procured to cater to the operational needs of the PACS.

This initiative marks a pivotal step towards digital empowerment and inclusive development across the District under the guidance of Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Ganie Nisaki Ul Farooq.

The distribution ceremony was held at a simple but impressive function held in the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex. Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav graced the event as chief guest.

This initiative aims to streamline data management and enhance efficiency within cooperative societies.



The initiative underscores the department's commitment to harnessing technology for inclusive development and empowering grassroots institutions.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner highlighted the transformative potential of the distributed hardware kits, stating, "This initiative marks a significant milestone in our journey towards digital empowerment and rural development. DC directed the department to install their setups in government offices and buildings.

By equipping PACS with essential hardware infrastructure, we are paving the way

for enhanced efficiency, transparency and financial inclusion in the sector, observed DC Kishtwar. The distribution of hardware kits to PACS is poised to yield tangible benefits, including streamlined administrative processes, improved financial management and greater accessibility to digital services for rural communities and also these PACS should function as CSC Centres.

Pertinently, this initiative aligns with the broader vision of the Cooperative Department to bridge the digital divide and foster sustainable development across Kishtwar. DC also urged the Department

to start Jam Manufacturing in the district. He also stressed upon the joining of the Milk Unit Nagseni established by Animal Husbandry Department at an approximate cost Rs. 40 lakh going to functional soon with the Cooperative Department.

DC emphasized the audit of the department to be done in the future soon.

The department remains committed to monitoring and evaluating the impact of the distributed hardware kits, ensuring optimal utilization and addressing any challenges encountered during the implementation phase. Through collaborative efforts and innovative initiatives, Kishtwar is poised to emerge as a beacon of digital transformation and rural empowerment in the region. Assistant Registrar Cooperative Kishtwar Rajat Sudan, Assistant Registrar Cooperative Marwah Sanjay Singh, Inspector Cooperative Ravinder Raina, Inspector Cooperative Akhter Hussain Qazi, Auditor Lovemeet Kotwal, Auditor Powan Matoo, JCC Bank Manager Neeraj Sharma, representatives from NRLM, CSC Coordinator Kishtwar, CSC Operators along with Chairmen and secretaries of Societies were present on the occasion.

## Group of students of district Kulgam flagged off for Bharat Darshan Tour-2024

■ Farooq Rather

Kulgam: February 01, As a part of Civic Action Program (CAP) of J&K Police, today students of district Kulgam were flagged off for week long Bharat Darshan Tour-2024. The tour is organized by J&K Police and all boarding & lodging facilities, to & fro air tickets including all other logistic facilities are being provided to touring students.

An impressive flag-off ceremony was organized at DPL Kulgam in which Addl. SP Kulgam \*Shri. Tanveer Ahmad Dar-JKPS\* accompanied by DySP HQRS Kulgam \*Shri Arif Hussain-JKPS\* & DySP DAR DPL Kulgam \*Shri Rajinder Singh-JKPS\* flagged off the group of students.

While interacting with touring students who belong to different parts of Kulgam District, officers said that Bharat Darshan



tour is primarily aimed at providing opportunity to the youth to understand the togetherness of India in spite of immense diversity. Speaking on the occasion, Addl. SP Kulgam advised the students to avail the opportunity to enrich their knowledge by visiting historical places and marvels of the country. He advised the touring students to imbibe the greatness of the country and to take full advantage of the opportunity and collect memories for life during the tour, besides wished them a fun-

filled, safe and life changing tour. During the tour, the students shall visit the cities of New Delhi and Mumbai. The students will have a city tour including visits to different historical sites, monuments and parks. AC Hotels and AC coaches will be provided to the touring students for accommodation and sightseeing. The group will be assisted by a guide who would be highlighting the significance of the historical spots and their importance to make the trip educational and informative as well.

## Bandipora MVD cracks whip on overloaded vehicles, warns of stricter action

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 01: In a major enforcement drive aimed at improving road safety and curbing traffic violations, the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Bandipora seized 13 driving licenses (DLs) and 3 registration certificates (RCs) on Thursday. Additionally, fines totaling Rs. 13,000 were collected from offenders.

The drive, conducted across various parts of Bandipora district, targeted traffic violations such as; driving without a license, overloading of vehicles, reckless driving and speeding etc. Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Bandipora, Bilal Ahmad Mir appealed to the public to abide by traffic rules and regulations for their own safety and the safety of others.



The ARTO specifically cautioned against the dangers of overloading vehicles. He highlighted the dangers of overloading vehicles, emphasizing its potential to cause accidents and fatalities. He said that the department will adopt a 'zero tolerance' approach against overloading and will strictly deal with the offenders as per law.

ARTO assured the public

that the enforcement wing of MVD Bandipora will remain vigilant, conducting regular drives and taking strict action against traffic violators.

He appealed for public cooperation, urging individuals to report overloaded vehicles by contacting the department on the designated helpline: 9596051716.

## Amid heavy snowfall, Life of pregnant woman saved by Indian Army's 30RR in Monabal Langate

■ DR.AB QAYOOM

Langate, Feb. 01: Army's 30RR on Thursday rescued a pregnant woman amidst heavy snowfall in Monabal Langate area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Official sources told HEADLINES TODAY that "At 11:30 AM, Indian Army received a distress call from the manzoor Ahmad Khan husband of pregnant lady, Locals requesting for urgent rescue and medical evacuation of a pregnant lady who was in critical condition," Reports said "Due to heavy snowfall, Monabal road was completely



blocked and very slippery....Realising the criticality of the situation, rescue team and medics from

Haril Camp immediately responded to distress call, risking their own safety," sources said, adding, "In

spite of heavy snow and sleet formation on the road, the rescue team reached the location on time and the patient was carefully and safely evacuated to SDH Langate."

According to our Correspondent the medical staff and Qalamabad police were already on standby at haril to receive the patient and attended to her immediately. "The family and doctors expressed their gratitude to the Army's 30RR and Qalamabad police for their swift action and timely assistance as it saved the lives of mother and child," (HT)

## Interim Budget focuses on growth, welfarism, fiscal restraint: CEO NSE

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 1: MD & CEO, NSE Ashishkumar Chauhan gives interim budget 10/10 which he says focuses on growth, welfarism and fiscal restraint, while ensuring continuity on policies and taxation. He added, "The focus on capacity building through higher spending on hard as well as soft infrastructure and consequently facilitating job creation has continued." At the same time, the budget provides enough for poor, farmers, women, and youth, which in turn bodes well for the overall economic growth, thereby keeping us in a good stead in an otherwise uncertain world, he also said. At 5.8%, the revised fiscal deficit for FY23-24 is an improvement from the budget estimate by 10bps. Fiscal consolidation continues to be the front and centre, with the fiscal deficit for FY24-25 brought down to 5.1%, bettering expectations and a commitment of a sub-4.5% target by FY25-26. CEO NSE further said that the capex outlay has increased by 16.9% to a record high of Rs 11.11 lakh crore, implying 3.4% of GDP—the highest in 26 years, with strong focus on roads, transport.

## LD Hospital witnesses 6 pc rise in patients in 2023 Data reveals 600 patients treated in OPDs daily; 100 births each da

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 01 (KNO): Srinagar's Lal Ded Hospital, the lone tertiary care maternity hospital in the Kashmir Valley, experienced a six percent rise in patient numbers in 2023, official data reveals.

According to data obtained by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the hospital's Outpatient Department (OPD) treated 194,583 expecting mothers in 2022, while in 2023, the number increased to 206,025. This indicates a six percent growth in OPD patient flow.

However, the statistics revealed that the count of patients treated in the Inpatient Department (IPD) of the hospital remained unchanged, with 36,751 patients in 2022 and 36,753 in 2023.

The data also highlighted that the average daily patient



flow in the OPD rose from 540 in 2022 to 572 in 2023, while the average flow of patients in the IPD remained constant at 102 per day. An official at the hospital told

KNO that approximately 600 patients receive treatment in the OPD daily. He said around 100 births are managed at the hospital each day. "Around 35 percent of deliveries are normal, while 65 percent involve caesarean sections," he said. According to doctors, the hospital manages both the huge flow of expecting mothers across Kashmir and the patients being referred from different hospitals across the valley. Medical Superintendent, LD Hospital, Dr Muzafar Jan said the hospital is committed to providing quality and comprehensive maternal care.

"As the primary maternal healthcare institute in the valley, the hospital strives to meet high expectations and enhance facilities to deliver quality treatment," Dr Jan said, adding, "There is an average of around 100 new births and a bed occupancy rate ranging from 60 to 70 percent at the hospital."—(KNO)

## Police held meeting with families of Police Martyrs in Sopore

■ HT News Network

Sopore February 01: Police in Sopore held meeting with the NOKs of Police Martyrs at DPL Sopore. The meeting was chaired by SP Sopore Smt. Divya D-IPS along with DySP DAR Sopore Dr. Hilal Ahmad Hilal-JKPS.

The meeting was organised to take stock of the welfare of the families of Police Martyrs who laid their precious lives in safeguarding the sovereignty and integrity of the nation. SP Sopore while addressing the NOKs of Police Martyrs assured them of every possible help and lauded the role played by their loved ones in sacrificing their lives for the sake of the nation. She further said that J&K Police will always remain indebted to their services by creating an atmosphere of peace & stability. Further, the chairing officer emphasised the NOKs of Police Martyrs to consider the Police department as their own family and share their problems at any time.

During the interaction, various genuine grievances were raised by the Martyr families and they were assured that their grievances would be taken up with concerned quarters at an appropriate level for timely redressal. Later, NOKs of Police Martyrs expressed their satisfaction and hoped to further strengthen the bond between them and J&K Police Department.

## Hospitals in Gurez face staff shortage, people suffer

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 01 (KNO): Patients in Gurez Medical Block of Bandipora district are suffering due to shortage of staff at several hospitals.

The hospitals, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that face staff shortage include CHC Dawar Gurez, PHC Sheikhpora Tulial, PHC Badugam, NTPHC Bagtoor, NTPHC Barnal, NTPHC Gujran and MAC Badwan Gurez.

The information was obtained through the Right to Information (RTI) file by MM Shuja.

As per details available with the KNO the posts lying vacant at CHC Dawar include two head pharmacists, one head X-ray technician, one senior x-ray technician, one junior x-ray technician, one head lab technician, one supervisory lab technician, one senior lab technician, one junior lab technician, one head dental technician, one senior ophthalmic technician, one junior ophthalmic technician, one junior physiotherapist, one junior theatre technician, seven junior grade nurses, one sanitary inspector and one chauffeur.

At PHC Sheikhpora, post of supervisory pharmacist and junior assistant are lying vacant while at PHC Badugam posts of community health officer, supervisory pharmacist, health educator and junior assistant are lying vacant and at NPHCs of Bagtoor, Barnal, Gujran and MAC Badwan posts of senior pharmacists are lying vacant. In addition, one post of consultant gynaecologist, consultant physician and consultant pediatrician are lying vacant while one post of dental surgeon at PHC Sheikhpora and PHC Badugam are lying vacant. Besides one post of medical officer is lying vacant at NTPHC Bagtoor, NTPHC Gujran, NTPHC Kilshey, NTPHC Wanpora and NTPHC Kamzalwan.

Locals express concern that the absence of basic healthcare facilities and the shortage of specialist doctors in remote areas are contributing to a significant healthcare crisis—(KNO)

## Prominent social activist Syed Ali Mousvi joins PC

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 01 (KNO): Syed Ali Mousvi, former officer and prominent social activist from Budgam, joined the Peoples Conference (PC) on Thursday.

The joining ceremony was graced by the presence of PC President Sajad Gani Lone, who warmly welcomed Mousvi into the party, the party spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO). While welcoming Mousvi into the fold, Lone lauded his commendable history of public service and his unwavering dedication to serving the people in various capacities. "We are delighted to have Syed Ali Mousvi join us. His track record of dedication and service to the community speaks volumes. I am fully hopeful that his joining will significantly strengthen our party's foundation in Budgam district," stated Lone. The ceremony was also attended by senior leaders and party officials, including Abid Hussain Ansari, Provincial President Khurshid Alam, Spokesperson Adnan Ashraf Mir and Youth President Mudassir Karim, all of whom expressed their enthusiasm over Mousvi's decision to join PC.

## Altaf Bukhari extends condolences over the passing away of Raja Farhat Khan

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, February 1: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Thursday, expressed grief and sorrow over the passing of Raja Farhat Khan, a prominent businessman, who succumbed to a sudden cardiac arrest at his residence in Baghat Barzulla, Srinagar, on Tuesday night. In a message of condolence, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari expressed profound sorrow over the untimely demise of Raja Farhat Khan. He said, "I am deeply sorrowed to hear about the sudden death of Raja Farhat Khan. I extend my heartfelt condolences to Raja Nayeem Khan, the brother of the deceased, and other members of the bereaved family. May Almighty rest the departed soul in Janat ul Firdous."



## DDC Ganderbal discusses Action plan for SANJY-2024

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 01: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Ganderbal, Shyambir Thursday presided over a crucial meeting at the Conference Hall of Mini Secretariat, here to discuss the comprehensive action plan for the upcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2024 (SANJY). The meeting commenced with a thorough review and discussion of action plans submitted by various departments. Focus areas



included the upgradation of facilities such as health services, sanitation, flood protection measures, lighting, parking areas, mobile connectivity, transport services, contingency plans,

and other related infrastructure to ensure a seamless and foolproof execution of SANJY-2024. HODs of all concerned departments provided updates on their preparations and the progress

of works related to the Yatra. The DC emphasized the need for the early execution of all development works to guarantee the smooth conduct of Yatra 2024. Officers also shared their experiences from the previous year's arrangements for SANJY, offering valuable suggestions to enhance essential services for the successful conduct of the Yatra. Addressing the issue of mobile connectivity, the DC directed telecom companies to submit a plan well in advance, specifically focusing

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 01: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ur Rehman Wednesday visited the Transit Accommodation in Odina village, Sumbal Sub Division, to inspect the facilities and interact with the migrant employees residing there. During his visit, the DC assessed the living conditions, amenities, and overall infrastructure of the camp. He also interacted with the migrant employees, inquiring about their concerns and suggestions for improvement. During



ing the visit, the DC inspected the residential units, common areas, kitchen facilities, and other amenities available at the camp. Based on the interaction and

is committed to provide residents with adequate facilities and addressing their concerns effectively. During the visit, DC Shakeel Ur Rehman was accompanied by ADC Umar Shafi Pandit, Tehsildar Sumbal, and other concerned officials from R&B and other departments. During the visit, the DC inspected the residential units, common areas, kitchen facilities, and other amenities available at the camp. Based on the interaction and observations, the DC emphasized addressing all identified issues and ensuring the well-being of the migrant employees. The DC said that the administration

## DC conducts extensive tour of several areas of Kulgam

Takes stock of Snow clearance measures, restoration of services; visits healthcare facilities at PHC Nihama

■ Farooq Rather

BEKULGAM, FEBRUARY 01: To take first hand appraisal of the situation arising due to snowfall and restoration of essential services, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today conducted extensive tour of Nihama, Bathipora and other areas in the district and took stock of snow clearance operations and restoration of services. During the tour, DC visited the sub-divisional control room of MED at Bathipora where the officers from MED and R&B briefed him about snow clearance in all Priority 01 roads and also informed that 95 percent of roads under priority 02 were also cleared. Later, he also visited Farooq Ahmad Bhat Memorial (PHC Nihama) and took stock of patient care



services at the hospital. During the visit, DC also interacted with the staff and patients there. He directed the officers to ensure round the clock availability of medical personnel at the hospital and to provide best possible patient care to the people. He also inspected several wards and also took stock of the availability of medicines. Concerned officer from the hospital briefed the DC about the services being provided to the patients at the hospital. The DC was accompanied by ADC, Viqar Ahmad Giri; ACR, Mir Imtiyaz-ul-Aziz; ACD, Mohammad Imran and officers from R&B and MED. He also inspected several wards and also took stock of the availability of medicines. Concerned officer from the hospital briefed the DC about the services being provided to the patients at the hospital.

## VC-DDC Kupwara flags-off imported Snow Cutter Machine for Lolab

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 01: Vice Chairman, District Development Council (VC-DDC) Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir today flagged-off an imported Snow Cutter machine which was recently imported and deployed by Mechanical division Kupwara for snow clearance of roads of Lolab sub division.

Local residents, besides concerned officials, were present during the flag-off ceremony at Khurhama today.

Addressing the people, the Vice Chairman, congratulated Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan and officers of Mechanical Division for dedicating the imported snow cutter machine for Lolab sub division, which will fasten the opening of important roads during winters.

## Distt Admin B'la bids affectionate farewell to SE R&B on his Superannuation

■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA, FEBRUARY 01: The District Administration Baramulla Wednesday bade a warm farewell to Superintending Engineer R&B, Reyaz Ahmad Parry, who retired on superannuation.

An impressive function was organized at Dakbanglow Baramulla wherein Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa; Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Raina; Chief Planning Officer, Javid Ahmad; Engineers from different departments, and department officials participated in the function.

Speaking on the occasion, DC hailed Reyaz Ahmad Parry's contributions as Superintending Engineer and congratulated him on his retirement. He extended his best wishes for his post-retirement life, emphasizing the potential for contributing to society even after retirement.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. Zahoor Ahmad and Engineers praised Reyaz Ahmad Parry for his dedicated service career and congratulated him on his superannuation. Chief Planning Officer Baramulla also highlighted Reyaz Ahmad's invaluable contributions and commendable dedication to the department.

The event concluded with officers affirming that Reyaz Ahmad's presence would be dearly missed, and they wished him a happy and fulfilling post-retirement life.

## DC Bandipora conducts marathon tour of Bandipora Town, Ajas, Athwatoo areas; assesses post snowfall situation

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 01: In the wake of overnight snowfall in Bandipora district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Shakeel Ur Rehman today undertook an extensive tour of various areas to inspect snow clearance operations and to take spot assessment of overall post-snowfall situation in the district.

Accompanied by a team of officers, including ACR Bandipora Shabir Ahmad, Executive Engineer R&B Asadullah Najar, EO MC and others concerned field officials, the DC visited main towns, Gulshan Chowk, Nusoo, Papchan, Nadihal, Gamroo, Ajas, Bothoo, Athwatoo besides other several villages of the district to ensure swift snow removal. While touring several areas affected by the snowfall, the DC personally inspected the progress of snow clearance efforts. He expressed satisfaction with the pace of operations and commended the tireless work of sanitation crews in ensuring road accessibility.

He also emphasized the need to prioritize clearing snow from critical routes and public spaces to minimize inconvenience to the public. He also directed the officials to ensure that essential services are restored/ensured in a time-bound manner to ensure minimal possible inconvenience to the general public.

Furthermore, the DC visited the Ajar electricity receiving station and the Putushai electricity grid station to have firsthand understanding of the power supply scenario. He interacted with officials and reviewed the restoration efforts underway. He directed them to expedite restoration work and prioritize restoring power to essential facilities and vulnerable areas.

## DC Doda flags off 20 students on Educational Tour to IIT Kanpur

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 01: A group of students drawn from different parts of Doda district left for a 6 day educational tour to the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur. The initiative, under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, aims to enrich the educational experience of students by exposing them to renowned academic institutions. The group of 20 enthusiastic students was flagged off for the enlightening journey by Deputy Commissioner Harvender Singh. During their visit to IIT Kanpur, the students will have the opportunity to interact with faculty members, attend lectures, and explore the campus facilities. This immersive experience is expected to inspire and motivate the students, fostering their interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. DC emphasized the significance of such educational tours in shaping the future of students. He highlighted the importance of providing exposure beyond textbooks and classroom learning, enabling students to envision a broader spectrum of opportunities. The DC expressed hope that this initiative will ignite a passion for learning and encourage students to strive for academic excellence. The educational tour to IIT Kanpur underscores the commitment of the administration to enhance the quality of education and empower students with practical knowledge and skills.

## DC Baramulla chairs District Road Safety Committee meeting

Directs officers to take strict action against violators of traffic rules

■ HT News Network

BARAMULLA, FEBRUARY 01: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today chaired the District Road Safety Committee meeting in his office chamber to strategize and implement effective measures aimed at inculcating responsible road behavior and averting road mishaps.

During the meeting, thorough discussions were held among the officers to identify and incorporate measures necessary to prevent accidents and stern directions were passed by the DC to inculcate these preventive measures.

The DC directed the officers to form 10 teams across the district which would comprise of a Magistrate, Traffic Police Personnel and a Police officer



and these teams would be responsible to conduct district-wide drives against the traffic violators and enforcement of the law.

With an aim to ensure stricter enforcement of traffic regulations, Minga Sherpa directed the officers to issue court challans against traffic rule violators and suspend the license of any driver found violating the traffic rules.

Additionally, the DC instructed the officers to identify hungry routes and prioritize the deployment

of more State Road Transport Corporation (SRTC) buses along these routes to mitigate vehicle overloading.

Meanwhile, Minga Sherpa issued stern directives to the ARTO to streamline and regulate the operations of both the Bus Stands and Taxi Stands across the district, ensuring strict accountability measures are in place to promote responsible transportation practices.

Furthermore, the EOs of the municipalities

were tasked with installing CCTV cameras at entry and exit points of their jurisdictions to effectively monitor vehicles for instances of rash driving while the R&B department was instructed to promptly address any issues of potholes on roads to mitigate the risk of accidents.

With an aim to educate responsible road behavior, the DC assigned the CEO the responsibility of conducting district-wide road safety awareness campaigns at the school level.

## Javaid Rahi's book on Gandhiji released in Gujarat

■ HT News Network

Ahmedabad, 1st February 2024 – Mahatma Gandhi's fourth-generation daughter, Ms. Sonal Parikh released Dr. Javaid Rahi's book, 'Mahatma Gandhi Gi Kahani - Tasweraan Gi Zabani', a Gojri rendition of Sarla Manjundar's original Gujarati book, 'Chitarkatha' at the Kanoria Art Centre, Ahmedabad here today.

Organized by the Gandhiji Chitarkatha Privar- Gujarat, the event witnessed a gathering of prominent personalities, including Gujarati writers, artists, and intellectuals. The presidium featured esteemed figures including Prof. Pankaj Joshi, renowned artists Anil Relia, Pranav Deesai, Tarak Oza, and Bhushan Oza. During his address, Dr. Javaid Rahi expressed his profound gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to a book series already available in 18 languages across India. He highlighted the spiritual journey he underwent while translating the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. Rahi, said as head of Gojri Language at the J&K Academy of Art, Culture,



and Languages, he supervised the translation of Mahatma Gandhi's autobiography into Gojri by Ch. Hassan Parwaz in 2010. Ms. Sonal Parikh, in her presidential address, commended Dr. Javaid Rahi for his efforts in translating Gandhi Ji's teachings for the Gujarati tribe, spanning across 12 states in India. She also shared insights into the writings and paintings of Sarla Manjundar (1911-2001), who resided at the Sabarmati Ashram for an extended period, penning her experiences with the life and teachings.



KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 01: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan on Thursday conducted an extensive tour of various areas of Lolab to take firsthand appraisal of snow clearance operations, restoration of essential services besides taking stock of the availability of essential commodities. The DC visited Sogam, Lalpora, Khumryal besides other areas and enquired people about the availability of essentials. Ayushi also reviewed the progress made so far vis-à-vis restoring essential services.

She instructed the officers to ensure restoration of essential services at an earliest so that people do not suffer at any cost.

The DC also interacted with people at several places and listened to them and assured of early redressal of their issues.

While interacting with Media persons at Khumryal, DC said that, snow clearance on

majority of the roads has been completed while work on the remaining is in progress. She said that a snow clearance operation is underway on the roads leading to high altitude areas. Beacon has pressed men and machinery to open these roads.

The DC said that maintenance of PDD infrastructure is being done, hotlines which were damaged due to snowfall have been made through, and work is under way for restoration of electricity. Hopefully within 24 hours electricity will be restored, she said.



# Obesity and Alcohol May Be Behind Rise in Colorectal Cancer in Younger Adults

A study finds that higher rates of colorectal cancer may be linked to obesity and alcohol consumption in the UK.

According to the National Cancer Institute Trusted Source, alcohol consumption could potentially increase the risk of colorectal cancer by as much as 50%.

Chronic inflammation associated with obesity, as well as certain hormones can create conditions that increase the risk of different cancers.

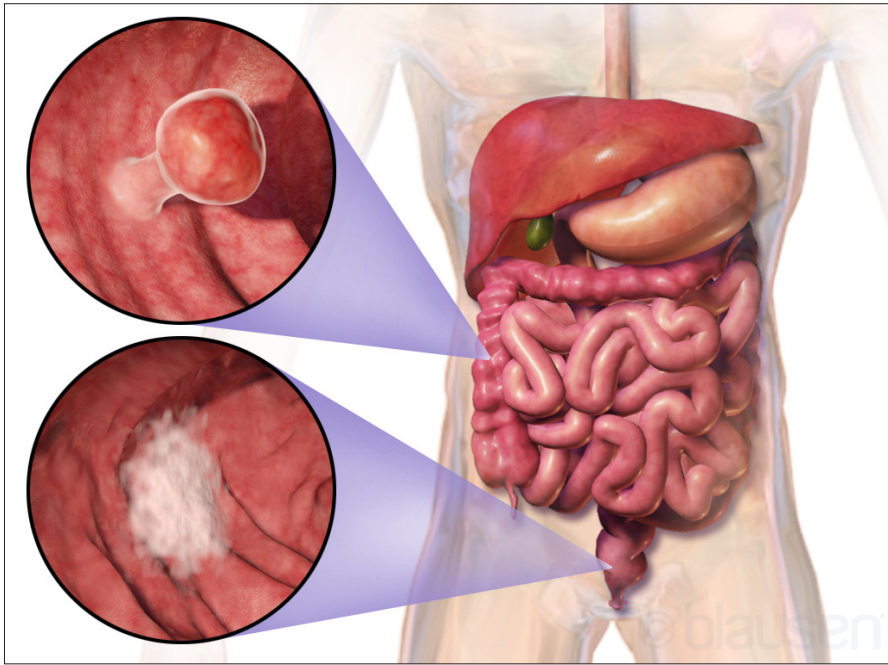
The authors of a new study suggest that higher rates of death from colorectal cancer in younger adults may be linked to obesity and alcohol consumption.

The study, published this week in the journal *Annals of Oncology*, notes that while death rates from this type of cancer are down overall, it is the first time that they have risen in young adults.

The authors of the study write that the largest increase in colorectal cancer death rates among young adults will be in the UK: up 26% in men and nearly 39% in women in 2024, compared with the same populations in 2018.

Rates are also expected to rise in Italy (up 1.5% in men and 2.6% in women), among Spanish and Polish men (up 5.5% and 5.9% respectively), and among German women (up 7.2%).

"Key factors that contribute to the rise in bowel cancer rates among young people include overweight, obesity and related health conditions, such as high blood sugar levels and diabetes," Dr. Carlo La Vecchia, a study author and professor of medical statistics and epidemiology at the University of Milan told Healthline. "Additional reasons are increases in heavier alcohol drinking over time in central and northern Europe and the UK, and reductions in physical activity. Alcohol consumption has been linked to early onset bowel cancer, and countries where there has been a reduction in alcohol consumption, such as France and Italy, have not experienced



such marked rises in death rates from this cancer."

La Vecchia noted that people diagnosed with early-onset bowel cancer may face a more aggressive disease that has lower survival rates.

How does drinking alcohol affect the risk of colorectal cancer?

According to the National Cancer Institute Trusted Source, alcohol consumption could potentially increase the risk of colorectal cancer by as much as 50% and contribute to multiple forms of other cancers, including head and neck cancer, esophageal cancer, breast cancer, and liver cancer.

Dr. Anton Bilchik, MD, PhD, surgical oncologist, chief of medicine and Director of the Gastrointestinal and Hepatobiliary Program at Saint John's Cancer Institute in Santa Monica, CA, told Healthline that the study's findings mirror what is happening in the U.S.

Bilchik was not involved in the study.

"We are seeing the same trend in the U.S.," Bilchik said. "Alcohol consumption appears like the UK and some northern countries in Europe. Interestingly, this study shows that in France and Italy, where there is a decline in alcohol consumption, there is less of an increase in colon cancer in young adults."

Dr. Babak Firoozi, board certified gastroenterologist at MemorialCare Orange Coast Medical Center in Fountain Valley, CA, told Healthline that this form of cancer is the deadliest for young American men.

Firoozi was not involved in the study.

"Per the American Cancer Society, colon cancer is now the leading cause of cancer death in men under age 50, and the second leading cause of cancer death in women under age 50 behind breast cancer," Firoozi said. "Many of the fastest rising rates of cancer are linked to obesity and alcohol consumption, including esophageal cancer, pancreatic cancer, liver cancer, and colorectal cancer."

How obesity may be linked to colorectal cancer

According to the National Cancer Institute Trusted Source, people with obesity often have higher levels of insulin and insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) in their blood, accelerating the development of type 2 diabetes. These factors can contribute to colon, kidney, prostate, and endometrial cancer. Chronic inflammation associated with obesity, as well as hormones in fat cells called adipokines, can create conditions that increase the risk of different cancers.

Firoozi noted that aside from the pandemic years, in which alcohol consumption rose globally, the rate of alcohol consumption in both the U.S. and Europe has decreased. However, obesity remains a significant health problem in the U.S.

"The rates of obesity have reached epidemic proportions in the U.S.," Firoozi said. "There has been an alarming increase in the prevalence of obese Americans in the last 40 years. There are some states, mostly in the south, where more than 30% of the population is obese."

Bilchik said that these decreases in alcohol use suggest how much obesity and diet and exercise habits are a factor in colorectal cancer, which is decreasing in older adults. This is likely because of better screening techniques and the removal of precancerous polyps.

"Gallup polls demonstrate that alcohol rates are decreasing among younger adults while remaining steady or increasing in older adults. This supports the fact that other factors such as obesity, lifestyle and the environment are all related to the increased incidence of colon cancer in young adults," Bilchik said. "Obesity rates are increasing exponentially among young adults, particularly in underserved and rural communities. There are many reasons for this – genetics, physical inactivity, an excess of processed food and the expense and access to healthy fruit and vegetables."

## NEWS

### 5 Simple Ways to Reduce Your Risk of Heart Disease



New research has found that more than half of US adults don't know heart disease is the leading cause of death.

51% of respondents in a 2023 Harris Poll survey conducted on behalf of the American Heart Association did not identify heart disease as the leading cause of death in the US.

#### Know your risk

Knowing your risk can be an important first step in reducing it. Dr. Norman Lepor, cardiologist and director of the National Heart Institute, says physicians will look at several factors to determine your heart disease risk – and you might like to consider these, too.

#### Eat a healthy diet

It probably won't come as much of a surprise that eating well can reduce your risk of heart disease.

"A heart-healthy diet consists of whole and unprocessed foods such as whole grains, fruits, and vegetables," says Dr. Rohit Vuppuluri, a double-board certified interventional cardiologist.

"Also vitally important is limiting saturated and trans fats, found in processed and deep fried foods"

#### Maintain a healthy weight

Obesity is a strong risk factor for heart disease as it increases other heart health risk factors.

"High blood pressure and high bad cholesterol (LDL) go hand-in-hand and are both commonly seen in obese patients," explains Vuppuluri. "Type 2 diabetes is also seen in obese patients due to increased insulin resistance."

#### Exercise regularly

Physical activity is vital for maintaining and improving cardiovascular health.

In fact, in a 2023 study, regular physical exercise was significantly linked with reduced risks of all-cause mortality and recurrent vascular events in patients with heart disease.

Vuppuluri says this is because regular moderate-intensity exercise lowers blood pressure and "bad" LDL cholesterol levels. It also regulates blood sugar and helps with healthy weight management.

#### Quit smoking

Smoking cigarettes may not only damage your lungs, it's detrimental to your heart health, too.

A 2020 review Trusted Source notes that smoking increases mortality from all causes and has a crucial role in atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease.

"Cigarettes are extremely bad for the heart because they damage the blood vessels and increase the risk of plaque buildup," Vuppuluri explains.

## Think Twice Before Going On A Diet: Study Explains Why

A new qualitative study focuses on the negative interpersonal and psychological repercussions of 'yo-yo dieting,' or weight cycling. The work emphasises the dangers of yo-yo dieting and how difficult it is for people to escape the pattern. "Yo-yo dieting - unintentionally gaining weight and dieting to lose weight only to gain it back and restart the cycle - is a prevalent part of American culture, with fast diets and lose-weight-quick plans or drugs normalized as people pursue beauty ideals," says Lynsey Romo,

corresponding author of a paper on the study and an associate professor of communication at North Carolina State University.

"Based on what we learned through this study, as well as the existing research, we recommend that most people avoid dieting unless it is medically necessary. Our study also offers insights into how people can combat insidious aspects of weight cycling and challenge the cycle." For the study, researchers conducted in-depth interviews with 36 adults - 13 men and 23 women - who had experienced



weight cycling where they lost and regained more than 11 pounds. The goal was to learn more about why and how people

entered the yo-yo dieting cycle and how, if at all, they were able to get out of it. All the study participants reported wanting to lose weight due to social stigma related to their weight, and/or because they were comparing their weight to that of celebrities or peers. "Overwhelmingly, participants did not start dieting for health reasons, but because they felt social pressure to lose weight," Romo says. The study participants also reported engaging in a variety of weight-loss strategies, which resulted in initial weight loss, but eventual regain.

Regaining weight led people to feel shame and further internalize the stigma associated with weight - leaving study participants feeling worse about themselves than they did before they began dieting. This, in turn, often leads people to engage in increasingly extreme behaviours to try to lose weight again. "For instance, many participants engaged in disordered weight management behaviours, such as binge or emotional eating, restricting food and calories, memorizing calorie counts, being stressed about what they were eating."

## Thyroid-friendly Diet: Nutritional Tips And Ways To Stay Healthy In Winter

Winter brings its own set of challenges for individuals with thyroid concerns. Crafting a thyroid-friendly diet becomes pivotal during this season, ensuring both well-being and



vitality. Embracing nutrient-rich foods like seaweed, nuts, and lean proteins aids in maintaining thyroid function. The inclusion of seasonal fruits and vegetables not only fortifies the immune system but also provides essential vitamins. Moreover, staying hydrated with herbal teas and maintaining a balanced iodine intake is crucial.

According to Dr Aditya G Hegde, Consultant - Diabetes and Endocrinology, Manipal Hospital, Old Airport Road, Bengaluru, "Most people diagnosed with thyroid problems who are on medication as prescribed by

their doctors may not be required to make drastic changes in their diet. However, there are a few considerations and precautions to ensure that you eat a nutritionally balanced diet that supports your thyroid health,

Common Everyday Tips For People With Thyroid Disorders

In addition to the dietary modifications, some other practices Dr Aditya recommends that can help you maintain your thyroid health and overall well-being during the winter, including:

- Be active and indulge in regular physical activities.
- Get your thyroid hormone levels checked and medicine dosage adjusted accordingly, as the cold temperatures during winter may affect body metabolism and thyroid functioning.

- Go out in the sun during the early hours of the day to boost your vitamin D levels and mental health, which is beneficial for proper thyroid functioning.
- Do not give in to winter cravings. Keep a check on sweets intake. You should consult your doctor for a thorough re-evaluation and a customized diet and exercise plan if you experience discomfort or notice no improvement in your symptoms despite regular medication, exercises, and dietary changes.

fish or beans, and healthy oils, such as olive oil. - Include spices, herbs, and aromatics such as turmeric, ginger, dried herbs, onion, etc that are rich in non-inflammatory properties.

- Include dietary fibres in the diet to boost digestion. - Steer clear of sugar-rich meals and drinks.

Avoid processed and high salt-content foods.

Common Everyday Tips For People With Thyroid Disorders

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## Brain Stroke: Symptoms, Prevention And Why You Should Rush To Hospital Immediately

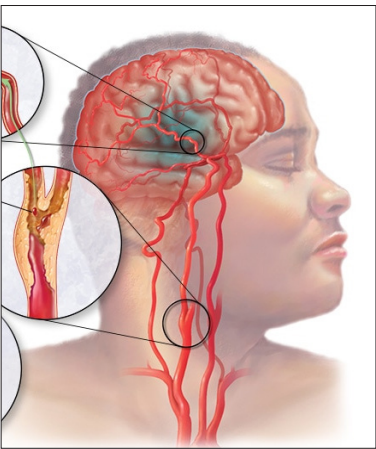
A stroke or brain attack is a condition in which the brain cells suddenly die leading to a sudden focal neurological deficit in the form of weakness of the arm or leg, facial deviation, speech problem, giddiness with vomiting, or unconsciousness because of a lack of oxygen due to blockage of blood flow in a certain area of the brain or the rupture of an artery that feeds the brain, says Dr Puneet Agarwal, principal director, Neurology, Max Superspeciality Hospital, Saket.

Within a few minutes of having a stroke, brain cells begin to die manifesting as focal neurological deficits, says Dr Puneet Agarwal. It is important to recognise symptoms early, as prompt treatment is crucial for recovery. Dr Agarwal lists common symptoms which include:

- Weakness or numbness, usually on one side of the body
- Facial asymmetry on smiling
- Speech problems
- Loss of balance and coordination
- Visual disturbances – blurring, field defect or double vision
- Severe headache, dizziness, or loss of consciousness

Smaller strokes (or silent strokes),

however, may not cause any symptoms, but can still damage brain tissue,



sue, says Dr Agarwal. The World Health Organization (WHO) is using the following simplified pneumonic to diagnose stroke (brain attack).

- F - Facial Weakness
- A - Arm or Leg weakness
- S - Speech problem
- T - Time (act fast to save your brain therefore it is called

Difference Between Stroke And Transient Ischemic Attack

It's a warning entity of stroke due to temporary interruption in blood flow to part of the brain. Symptoms of TIA are like stroke but last for a shorter period usually less than one

hour and do not leave noticeable permanent damage. In TIA, a brain MRI with a diffusion sequence will be normal, unlike a stroke in which a brain MRI will show clots in the brain, Dr Agarwal points out.

Dr Agarwal says that every passing minute after a stroke causes the death of neurons in the brain and it's important to remember, that "time is the brain". "If a patient reaches the hospital within six hours of the onset of symptoms, then an injection named TPA (recombinant tissue plasminogen activator) can be given intravenously or intraarterially catheter at the site of blockage to dissolve the clot. It has been seen that patients who receive TPA show greater recovery over the next 3 months' time than those who have not received it. There is a small risk of haemorrhage (around 3-6 per cent) with this treatment. As time passes, the risk of bleeding increases and the benefit of TPA decreases, that is why it is not recommended beyond 6 hours. That is why it is very important to recognise symptoms early and reach the hospital as soon as possible," the doctor adds.

How Can Stroke Be Prevented?

A healthy diet, regular exercise, and regular medical checkups (especially after 40 years of age) for early detection and treatment of stroke risk factors are pillars of stroke prevention. Much of stroke prevention is based on living a healthy lifestyle. This includes:





# Sri Lanka name uncapped

## Gunasekara, Rathnayake and Udara for Afghanistan Test

**U**ncapped right-arm seamers Chamika Gunasekara and Milan Rathnayake have been named in Sri Lanka's squad for the one-off Test against Afghanistan, starting on Friday. Also in the mix are opener Lahiru Udara, and batting allrounder Kamindu Mendis. Omitted, meanwhile, is Pathum Nissanka, who was part of Sri Lanka's last Test squad, though he has not played a Test since the middle of 2022. Dilshan Madushanka, who is currently in the UAE playing in the ILT20, is not in this squad either. The same goes for Kusal Perera. This is the first Test squad named by Sri

Lanka's new selection committee, headed by Upul Tharanga. The match, which starts on Friday, will also be Dhananjaya de Silva's first as captain. Elsewhere, there are no major surprises. Dimuth Karunaratne and Nishan Madushka are likely to open the batting, as they did against Pakistan last year, with Kusal Mendis likely at No. 3, and Angelo Mathews, Dinesh Chandimal, and de Silva coming in lower down. Sadeera Samarawickrama may take the gloves again. On the bowling front, Sri Lanka are likely to go with Ramesh Mendis and Prabath Jayasuriya as their primary spin options, with the likes of Vishwa Fernando, Kasun

Rajitha and Asitha Fernando to choose from on the seam-bowling front. Left-arm spinner Praveen Jayawickrama, who had taken 11 wickets on debut in 2021 but has had less impressive outings since then, has not been named in the squad. Gunasekara has been selected partly on the back of good form in the ongoing National Super League (NSL) four-day competition. In two matches over the last two weeks, Gunasekara has taken eight wickets at an average of 16.5. Rathnayake, meanwhile, has been chosen based on a larger body of work - he has in the past been impressive in the Sri Lanka A side. This is the second Test squad Rathnayake has been

### Sri Lanka squad for Test against Afghanistan

Dhananjaya de Silva (capt), Kusal Mendis, Dimuth Karunaratne, Nishan Madushka, Angelo Mathews, Dinesh Chandimal, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Ramesh Mendis, Asitha Fernando, Vishwa Fernando, Kasun Rajitha, Kamindu Mendis, Prabath Jayasuriya, Lahiru Udara, Chamika Gunasekara, Milan Rathnayake

selected in, though he is yet to represent Sri Lanka. Udara, who has also not played a Test, gets into the squad having also impressed at the NSL recently. He had hit 100 and 72 against a Galle attack featuring Ramesh Mendis and Rathnayake, in the last fortnight. Afghanistan are without Rashid Khan for this Test. This is the first time these teams will play a Test against each other.

## Pant: 'I am fortunate to have a second life'

**NEWDELHI:** The first thought that came to Rishabh Pant immediately after his life-threatening car crash on December 30, 2022 was that his "time in this world was over." Having been "fortunate to have a second life", Pant, who is expected to play in IPL 2024, said the biggest lesson he has learned from this experience is to always have self-belief. That was the theme of his revealing conversation with Star Sports, titled Believe: To Death and Back. Pant talked about the accident, his state of mind, the joy of watching the 2023 Ashes, and whether he will drive a car again. "First time in my life I had that feeling of letting it go. I felt my time in this world was over," Pant said in the interview, which was conducted in Bengaluru on August 24, 2023, roughly eight months after the accident occurred when Pant was driving from Delhi to Roorkee to meet his family and crashed his car into the median divider on the road. "It was the first time I had such a feeling in life. At the time of the accident, I was aware of the wounds, but I was lucky as it could have been even more serious." After undergoing initial treatment at a hospital in Dehradun, Pant was airlifted to Mumbai where he was under the care of the BCCI's specialist consultant. After undergoing surgeries to reconstruct all three ligaments in his right knee, Pant did his rehab at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru.

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- Bindery
- Finishing
- Promotions

- Our Printing Services
- Flyers
  - Posters
  - Business Cards
  - Envelopes
  - Brochures
  - Booklets
  - Catalogues
  - Post Cards
  - Presentation folders
  - Letterheads
  - Magazines
  - Newsletters
  - Raised printing
  - Wedding Cards
  - Invoices
  - Note pad
  - Forms
  - Labels
  - Scratch coupon
  - Signs/Banners
  - Pen/Caps
  - T-Shirts
  - Calendars
  - Embroidery
  - Door Hangers

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**HELP POOR VOLUNTARY TRUST**

**WALK-IN INTERVIEW**

**FOR MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLORS & MULTI-TASK PROJECT CLERK**

**JOIN OUR MISSION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLORS : FIVE (5)**

**Eligibility Criteria:**  
M.Phil/ MA/ M.Sc in Psychology/Clinical Psychology with at least 1 year experience as a Mental Health Counsellor.  
\* Candidates with experience of working with substance abuse patients will be given preference.

**MULTI-TASK PROJECT CLERK : ONE (1)**

**Eligibility Criteria:**  
Graduation with Computer Skills.  
\* Preference will be given to candidates with experience in International Healthcare related Projects.

**CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO BRING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**  
• Updated Resume with Photograph  
• Original Academic Credentials  
• Work Experience

*We look forward to meet passionate candidates who want to contribute to the mental well being of the community.*

**HPVT will be conducting walk-in interviews at below mentioned address:**

**Day & Date: Tuesday, Feb 6, 2024 | Time: 11:00 AM**

**HELP POOR VOLUNTARY TRUST**  
Haft-Chinar Baran-Pather, Opp. Iqbal Park, Srinagar

Ph.No.: 0194-2312056  
Email id: hpvtrust@gmail.com

**VACANCY**