



Distt admin Srinagar organizes awareness workshop on Cyber security

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DC reviews progress of work on NH144-A, other road projects in Poonch

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NEWS BRIEF

Lieutenant Governor's Greetings on the occasion of Guru Ravidas Jayanti

HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the occasion of Guru Ravidas Ji Jayanti, which will be celebrated tomorrow. In a message, the Lieutenant Governor said, "On the auspicious occasion of Sant Guru Ravidas Ji Jayanti, I extend my hearty greetings and best wishes to all. The life and teachings of Guru Ravidas Ji is an abiding source of inspiration for all of us. Let us reaffirm our commitment to his noble values and ideals and serve the humanity with dedication and devotion".

Higher reaches receive fresh snowfall, light rains lash plains

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: For the second straight day, the higher reaches in north and central Kashmir areas received fresh snowfall while the plains witnessed light rainfall on Tuesday. According to the news agency—the fresh snowfall occurred at multiple places today including Sonamarg and other areas. The light rains lashed the plains including Srinagar and other areas of the Valley today. Meanwhile, Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that generally dry weather is expected from tomorrow till February 14 while there is a possibility of light rain and snow at isolated places on February 15 & 16. Director MeT also said that on February 17, the weather would remain generally dry while generally cloudy

50 MVUs made operational in J&K till Jan 31, 2025: Centre

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: The Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh have witnessed a modest expansion of Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs) under the Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries (ESVHD-MVU) scheme, the data presented in the Lok Sabha reveals. According to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Jammu & Kashmir was sanctioned 6 MVUs, but the government has operationalized 50 units, indicating an increased effort beyond the initial allocation. However, in Ladakh, only 9 MVUs were sanctioned and made operational, reflecting

We are Committed to Eradicate Terror Ecosystem from J&K under the leadership of PM Modi : Amit Shah

Chairs security review meeting with BSF, CRPF top brass

HT News Network/KNO

New Delhi, Feb 11: Reiterating that dismantling entire terror ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir is the priority of PM Modi led government Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday directed the paramilitary forces to take strong steps for 'zero terror plan' and "zero infiltration" in the Union Territory. In continuation of the high level meetings with Indian Army and J&K Police held on February 4 and 5, the Union Home Minister today chaired



Director Generals of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Border Security Force (BSF) and other senior officers. While addressing the meeting Shah said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Central Government is committed to "Terror free Jammu & Kashmir". He emphasized the role of paramilitary to achieve the target of terror free J&K. Shah directed all security agencies to remain alert and continue work in a synergies mode to eliminate terrorism

another security review meeting vis-à-vis J&K. The meeting, according to the news agency—, was attended by the Union Home Secretary, Director (IB),

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

CM Omar Abdullah visits Sonamarg, assesses fire damage

Expresses solidarity with affected shopkeepers, sanctions assistance under CMRF



SONAMARG (GANDERBAL), FEBRUARY 11: In the wake of the devastating fire incident that struck the old market Sonamarg recently, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah visited the affected site to take stock of the damage and express solidarity with the affected shopkeepers. The Chief Minister was accompanied by Advisor to CM Nasir Aslam Wani, Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Kangan Mian Mehar Ali and Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal Jatun Kishore. During his

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TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Zero cybercrime cases MHA's goal: Amit Shah

HT News Network/KNO

New Delhi, Feb 11: Asserting that the Ministry of Home Affairs' goal is to ensure zero cyber-crime cases, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday spelled out a multipronged strategy to

tackle the fraudsters. Chairing a meeting of Parliamentary Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Home Affairs on the topic of 'Cyber Security and Cyber Crime' here Shah, according to the news agency—said, "To tackle cybercrime, we have adopted four types

of strategies, which include convergence, coordination, communication, and capacity. All of these are being implemented with clear objectives and a strategic approach." Shah said that in recent years, there has been an expansion of digital infra-

structure in India, which has naturally led to an increase in the number of cyber attacks. He said that when we look at cyberspace from a different perspective, it forms a complex network of 'software,' 'services,' and 'users.'

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

USBRL: PM Modi to flag-off

Vande Bharat train on Feb 17 'Arrangements being finalized'

HT News Network/KNO



Srinagar, Feb 11: Marking a significant milestone in the completion of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to inaugurate a train to Kashmir on February 17. Sources told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the Prime Minister will flag

off the specially designed Vande Bharat Express from the Jammu division while the arrangements are being made for the historic inauguration event. "After years of hard work, dedication, and engineering marvels, the dream of Kashmir's rail connectivity has finally come true with the Vande Bharat Express set to run on this route," they said. Railway officials have been directed to make necessary preparations for the grand launch of the rail service on February 17. Authorities have decided that no leave will be sanctioned for the employees in the coming week to

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Army Captain among 2 soldiers killed in IED blast near LoC

HT News Network/KNO



Jammu, Feb 11: An Army Captain was among two soldiers killed in an IED blast near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Akhnoor sector here on Tuesday, officials said. "Suspected Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast reported in #Laleali in Akhnoor Sector during a fence patrol, resulting in two fatalities. Own troops are dominating the area and search operations are underway," the White Knight Corps, according to the news agency—wrote on X. "The White Knight Corps salutes and pays tribute to the supreme sacrifice of two gallant soldiers," it said. "Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar Army Commander Northern Command and all ranks of Dhruva Command solemnly salute the supreme sacrifice of brave hearts Capt Karamjit Singh Bakshi and Naik Mukesh in a suspected IED blast in Akhnoor," said an Army official. "Dhruva Command stands firm with the bereaved family in this hour of grief." Pertinently, the General Officer Commanding of the Jammu-based White Knight Corps unit of the Army, Lieutenant General

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

J&K records 33 crimes against SCs, STs in 3 years; Ladakh reports none

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 33 cases of crimes against Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) during the past three years. According to data

presented in the Lok Sabha, J&K reported 7 cases of crimes against SCs in 2020, which increased to 13 in 2021 before slightly declining to 11 in 2022. Crimes against STs, according to the news agency, were

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Chief Secretary chairs 7th State Broadband Committee meet

Emphasises intensifying saturation in implementation of NBM

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 11: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired the 7th State Broadband Committee (SBC) meeting for smooth implementation of National Broadband Mission (NBM) across Jammu & Kashmir at Civil Secretariat here today. The meeting was



attended by Committee members including Commissioner Secretary Forest, Ecology & Environment; Commissioner Secretary Information Technology Department; Commissioner

Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department; Secretary Public Works (R&B) Department; Member Convenor, Addl. DGT, J&K LSA, DoT, Jammu; CGM, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd., J&K, representatives of the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) and Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA).

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Pre-budget consultations continue as traders, hoteliers meet CM Omar in Srinagar

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: Ahead of the maiden Budget session of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday met traders, tour operators, hoteliers and people associated with education sector to seek their suggestions. According to details available with news agency—, representatives of different bodies, including the KCCI, FCIK, KTMF, Travel Agents Association, Education, Hoteliers and others put forth their suggestions for the upcoming budget.

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Er Rashid attends Lok Sabha for first time, raises J&K civilian deaths in maiden speech

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: Member of Parliament from Baramulla, Engineer Rashid on Tuesday attended the Lok Sabha proceedings for the first time after his election last year. He was brought from Tihar Jail under custody parole granted by the Delhi High Court to participate in the ongoing Budget session. Er Rashid, who has been in custody since 2019 in connection with a case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, was granted a two-day custody parole. In his maiden speech in the Lok Sabha, Er Rashid as per the news agency—raised concerns over recent civilian deaths in J&K, asserting that the "blood of Kashmiris is not cheap." He demanded an impartial probe into the

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

No Chances of Forming Govt with NC: LoP Sunil Sharma

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: Leader of the opposition in the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly, Sunil Kumar Sharma, on Tuesday said there are no chances of the BJP allying with the National Conference (NC) to form a government in J&K. Sharma emphasized that the party would seek answers from the government over issues faced by the common masses in the Union Territory. In an exclusive chat with the news agency—Sharma asserted that there is no question of forming a government with the NC. "We are in opposition, and we will play a role of constructive opposition and seek answers from the Omar Abdullah-led government over issues faced by the general public."

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Economic Survey lists J&K among 10 regions with SDG coordination centres

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: The Economic Survey of India 2024-25 has listed Jammu and Kashmir among ten States and Union Territories in the country where Sustainable Development Goal Coordination Centres (SDGCCs) are operational. A copy of the Economic Survey accessed by the news agency—states these SDGCCs play a key role in aligning local policies with global sustainability targets. "These centres are instrumental in driving SDG localisation efforts through integrated policymaking and fostering inter-linkages across the government departments," the survey reveals. "J&K's SDGCCs along with

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Worm infections a hidden threat to children's health, say doctors

Warn of malnutrition, anaemia, impaired development if left untreated

HT News Network/KNO

Children with worm infections often feel tired due to malnutrition and anaemia, which can impair their physical and cognitive development, doc-



tors have warned. Speaking to the news agency—medical experts said that while worm infections are common, they are easily treatable. They said parents should closely monitor their children's growth, behaviour, and health to detect early signs of

infection. Untreated worm infections hinder healthy growth, cause poor nutrition and reduce a child's ability to concentrate and learn. However, the treatment is simple, safe and highly effective, they said, adding that a single dose

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

HM

in J&K. He assured that all the resources will be made available in this endeavor.

The Home Minister directed the BSF to ensure zero infiltration from the international borders by adopting strong vigil, strengthening the border grid and use of advanced technologies for surveillance and border guarding.

He directed CRPF to continue with the synergy with Indian Army and J&K Police. He reviewed the winter action plan of CRPF and directed to ensure there are no gaps in area domination.

Shah also instructed the paramilitary forces to focus on the Jammu region and dominate the heights.

The Home Minister also reviewed the intelligence apparatus working in Jammu and Kashmir and directed them to increase coverage and penetration to generate quality intelligence.

He reiterated the importance of technology in intelligence generation. "Monitoring of terror-financing, tightening grip over narco-terror cases is a must," he added.

The Home Minister also directed to focus on countering the negative propaganda by the anti-national elements so as to place the correct picture in public domain.

He directed to continue with the synergy amongst the agencies and guided for adopting technology and increasing intelligence.

Pertinently, last week the Union Home Minister had chaired two J&K security review meetings in New Delhi.

Shah had discussed the J&K security situation with the Chief of the Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, the Home Secretary and other senior officers of MHA and Army.

The Home Minister had also discussed the security scenario with J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Secretary Atal Duloo and the Director General of J&K Police Nalin Prabhat. "Due to the sustained and coordinated efforts of the PM Modi led government, the terrorism ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir has been significantly weakened," Shah had said—

CM

visit, the Chief Minister interacted with members of the Sonamarg Market Association, extending his sympathies and assuring them of the government's full support.

He reiterated his government's commitment to assisting the affected traders and ensuring swift measures to prevent such incidents in the future. The CM later chaired a high-level meeting with the Sonamarg Market Association, attended by senior officials, including the DC, SSP, SDM Kangan, CEO Sonamarg Development Authority (SDA) and other district officers.

The meeting focused on addressing the concerns of the traders, who put forth key demands such as immediate financial assistance, permission for building reconstruction and the establishment of a fire service station in Sonamarg.

Responding to these concerns, the Chief Minister emphasized that the reconstruction of shops must follow a well-planned design, developed in consultation with all stakeholders, including the Tourism Department, District Administration, and SDA.

He assured that this approach would enhance safety and prevent such incidents in future. Highlighting the growing tourism influx in Sonamarg, especially after the opening of the tunnel, the CM underscored the urgent need for a permanent fire service station in the area.

He assured the traders that a permanent fire station would be established, with its location to be finalized in consultation with relevant stakeholders to ensure quick emergency response.

Furthermore, the Chief Minister announced that financial assistance under Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for the affected shops has been approved that would provide some succor to the affected persons during this difficult time.

PRE BUDGET

The KCCI delegation led by senior vice president Ashiq Hussain Shangloo, secretary general Faiz Bakshi and Mushtaq Ahmad Wani presented a detailed document, mentioning the challenges and priorities for different sectors.

According to the KCCI, it put forth suggestions regarding alarming rise in unemployment and sought budgetary provisions in sectors with potential to create jobs, promote private sector, encourage entrepreneurship and start-ups and lay stress on skill development.

Also, the delegation sought incentives on exports for handicraft products, enhancement in incentives for GI products and also the establishment of an international exhibition mart.

The traders also demanded promotion of adventure tourism, preservation of houseboats as heritages and also promotion of Downtown (Shehr-e-Khas) as a heritage tourism destination.

The delegation also put forth their sugges-

tions for sectors like Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, Industry, Health and general trade.

Rouf Trambo, who participated in the meeting, told KNO that they put forth their demands regarding enhancement of budget for tourism development authorities.

"We have raised the issue of increasing carrying capacity at popular tourist places like Gulmarg, Pahalgam and others. Flow of tourists is increasing and thus there is a need to increase the capacity and also come up with tourism related facilities at these places," Trambo said, adding that they also raised the issue of promotion of Kashmir as a tourism destination at apt places.

In the meeting, the hoteliers also raised the issue of hindrances they face with regard to upgrading their infrastructure. Demand for separate skill development university was also raised in the meeting.

The representatives said that the Chief Minister gave them a patient hearing and they are hopeful that suggestions put forth by them will be incorporated in the upcoming budget.

Earlier, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah held three back-to-back pre-budget consultation meetings with the stakeholders to get suggestions from people associated with different sectors—

PM

ensure the smooth execution of the event. As part of the USBRL project, Indian Railways conducted multiple successful trial runs, traversing some of the nation's most iconic bridges.

The Anji Khad Bridge, with its 331-meter-high pylon, stands as a remarkable feat of engineering, while the Chenab Bridge, at 359 meters, holds the distinction of being the world's highest railway bridge—surpassing even the Eiffel Tower. These bridges not only enhance regional connectivity but also showcase India's technological and infrastructural prowess.

"The train has been specially designed to operate efficiently in Jammu and Kashmir's harsh winter conditions on the Katra-Srinagar rail route," an official said, adding, "It features advanced climate-resistant technologies, including heating systems that prevent water and bio-toilet tanks from freezing."

He said that the air-brake system is optimized for smooth operations even in sub-zero temperatures. "The Vande Bharat Express also includes embedded heating elements in the windshield to automatically defrost the driver's front lookout glass, ensuring clear visibility in extreme winter conditions," the official said. "Apart from these specialized adaptations, the train offers all standard Vande Bharat amenities, such as fully air-conditioned coaches, automatic plug doors, mobile charging sockets, and more."

The Railways has completed the Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, spanning 272 kilometers. The project, which began in 2005-06, was completed in phases. The 118-km Qazigund-Baramulla stretch in Kashmir was inaugurated in October 2009, followed by the 18-km Banihal-Qazigund and 25-km Udampur-Katra sections, which were completed in 2013 and 2014, respectively—(KNO)

CRIME

He emphasized that until we consider controlling cyber fraud through 'software,' 'services,' and 'users,' it will be impossible to resolve the issues of cyberspace.

Shah mentioned that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ministry of Home Affairs has taken several significant steps towards making India a cyber-safe nation.

The Union Home Minister said that cyber-crime has erased all geographical boundaries. He stated that it is a 'borderless' and 'formless' crime, as it has no limits or fixed form.

He mentioned that India has witnessed a 'digital revolution' in the last decade. Without understanding the size and scale of the 'digital revolution,' we cannot face the challenges in the cyber domain.

14C PORTAL REGISTERS 1 LAKH 43000 FIRS

The Union Home Minister said that 1 lakh 43000 FIRs have been registered on the 14C portal (Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre) and over 19 crore people have used it to register their complaints.

Pertinently, the 14C portal established by the Ministry of Home Affairs caters to complaints pertaining to cyber crimes only with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children.

"For national security reasons, 805 apps and 3,266 website links have been blocked based on I4C's recommendations."

He said, "Additionally, 399 banks and financial intermediaries have come on board. Over 6 lakh suspicious data points have been shared, more than 19 lakh mule accounts have been caught, and suspicious transactions worth Rs 2,038 crore have been prevented."

The Union Home Minister said, "Cyber Crime Forensic training labs have been established in 33 States and Union Territories."

He said that on the 'CyTrain' platform, a 'Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)' platform, 101,561 police officers have registered,

and over 78,000 certificates have been issued. EXCHANGE OF INFO HELPING TACKLE CYBERCRIME CASES

Shah mentioned that inter-ministerial and inter-departmental coordination within the Ministry of Home Affairs has been strengthened, ensuring seamless communication and smooth flow of information.

The Union Home Minister said that a healthy tradition of exchange of information between the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Electronics and IT, CERT-IN, I4C, and departments like telecom and banking has led to successfully tackling many cybercrime cases.

He emphasized the importance of raising awareness among the public to prevent cyber-crime and requested all the members of the committee to promote the I4C helpline number 1930.

He stated that in light of cyber financial fraud, the '1930' helpline provides a one-point solution offering various services, such as blocking cards.

Shah said that efforts are underway to use Artificial Intelligence for identifying mule accounts, in coordination with the Reserve Bank and all banks, to establish a system for their detection.

"We will ensure the closure of mule accounts before they are even operational," he added.

95% VILLAGES DIGITALLY CONNECTED

Shah stated that the government has also ensured that people are made aware of Prime Minister Modi's mantra 'Stop -Think-Take action' in order to make them more vigilant against cybercrimes.

"Today, 95 per cent villages in the country are digitally connected, and one lakh gram panchayats are equipped with Wi-Fi hotspots. In the past ten years, the number of internet users has increased by 4.5 times," Shah said.

He said that in 2024, a total of 246 trillion transactions worth Rs 17,221 lakh crore were made through UPI. "In 2024, 48 per cent of the global digital transactions took place in India."

He also said that in terms of the startup ecosystem, India has become the third-largest country in the world. In 2023, the contribution of the digital economy to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was around Rs 32 lakh crore, which is 12 per cent, and nearly 15 million jobs were created.

INDIA THIRD-LARGEST COUNTRY IN TERMS OF DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

Shah said that today India has become the third-largest country in terms of digital landscape in the world. The digital economy contributes 20% to the total economy of India.

The committee members gave their suggestions on issues related to 'Cyber Security and Cyber Crime' and appreciated the important steps taken by the government for enhancing cyber security.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, members of the Committee, the Union Home Secretary, and senior officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs—

J&K

significantly lower, with only one case each reported in 2021 and 2022, while there were no such cases in 2020.

The data further revealed that crimes specifically targeting SC women were minimal, with one case reported in 2020 and another in 2022, while no such cases were registered in 2021.

Similarly, no cases of crimes against ST women were reported in J&K between 2020 and 2022.

In Ladakh, the figures remained at zero across all categories, indicating no registered cases of crimes against SCs, STs, or women from these communities over the three-year period—

CS

Principal Secretary Power Development Department; Secretary Rural Development & Panchayat Raj; DCs of Jammu, Samba, Udampur, Srinagar, Shopian, and Baramulla districts also attended the meeting.

The meeting deliberated at length on action points of 6th SBC meeting decisions; 4G Saturation Project being executed by BSNL; RoW; 5G implementation Plan; Call Before U Dig (CBuD); BharatNet/Amended BharatNet Project and other issues.

While addressing the meeting, the Chief Secretary called for intensifying the saturation of implementation of National Broadband Mission in Jammu and Kashmir. He maintained that seminal progress has been achieved and enjoined upon officers for greater coordination among departments and agencies to resolve impediments at the earliest to achieve the target.

The Chief Secretary directed DCs for conducting DLTC meeting for CBuD and resolution of site allotment issues for erection of towers at district level.

While reviewing the provision of electricity connections to Mobile Towers, Chief Secretary instructed concerned to reflect actual position on ground and update the entire data.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary reviewed sta-

tus of RoW applications like received, approved, rejected, withdrawn, in-process and pending cases. Future, he directed for integration of CBuD with GatiShakti portal for management of overall progress and fast-tracking applications.

ARMY

Navin Sachdeva, had reviewed "hostile activities" along the LoC in Rajouri district on Monday—

WARM INFACTIONS

of deworming medicine significantly reduces the number of worms in a child.

Dr Parvaiz, a paediatric specialist, said worm infestations can lead to anaemia, abdominal distension (swelling), severe abdominal pain and diarrhoea. "Deworming is crucial as it improves nutrient absorption, boosts growth and development, strengthens immunity, prevents digestive issues, enhances concentration, reduces the risk of anaemia and helps prevent further infections," he said.

Worm infections can also cause loss of appetite, malnourishment, impaired mental and physical development, and, in severe cases, tissue damage that may require corrective surgery, he added.

Dr. Shabeena, another medical expert, cited the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendation for deworming every six months in areas where worm infections are prevalent.

"Regular deworming improves a child's immunity, protecting them from chronic illnesses caused by worms. It also enhances school performance by improving concentration and attendance, boosts nutrient uptake, and reduces the risk of anaemia and other infections," she said.

She said that helminthic infections—caused by parasitic worms—are a leading cause of anaemia in children, adding that these infections lead to nutrient competition, impaired iron absorption, blood loss, and inflammation, contributing to high anaemia rates.

Dr Shabeena also debunked the misconception that deworming should not be done in winter. "Deworming can and should be done in any season at regular intervals. Many children are not given deworming treatment, which leads to increasing anaemia cases."

"Deworming is a simple and effective way to ensure children's health and well-being. When combined with good hygiene and nutrition, it prevents infections and supports better growth and development," she added.

According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 73% of children aged 6-59 months in India are anaemic. This includes 25% with mild anaemia, 44% with moderate anaemia and 4% with severe anaemia.

Anaemia among children in India has surged from 43% in NFHS-4 to 73% in NFHS-5. The prevalence is almost equal among boys and girls at 71% each.

In Jammu & Kashmir, 74% of children are anaemic, even among those whose mothers have completed 12 or more years of schooling, the report states—

CENTRE

implementing agencies are actively working to strengthen monitoring mechanisms and promote a convergence-based approach. The government is focusing on engaging multiple stakeholders, including local governance bodies, civil society organisations, and private sector partners, to ensure comprehensive development strategies," it states.

With the transition to SDG Coordination and Acceleration Centres (SDGACCs), NITI Aayog, according to the survey report, aims to enhance J&K's efforts by fostering innovative solutions and expanding engagement beyond government departments.

Meanwhile, J&K's inclusion in the SDGCC initiative is expected to accelerate progress in areas such as poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability, and rural development—

ENG RASHID

deaths of Waseem Ahmed Mir, who was killed in alleged Army firing during a naka checking in Baramulla and Makhan Din, who died by suicide after he was questioned by Police in Kathua.

"Do our forces need Waseem Mir's blood every day?" Rashid asked, calling for accountability and a fair investigation into both incidents. "Kashmiris have the right to live with dignity and the government should do justice with them," he added.

Additionally, Baramulla MP highlighted the hardships faced by residents of remote areas like Karnah, Keran, and Machil in North Kashmir, which become inaccessible in wintery months.

He appealed for the construction of a tunnel to improve connectivity and ease their struggles.

Pertinently, the Delhi High Court had imposed restrictions on Rashid's parole, barring him from using the internet or speaking to the media during his time in the Parliament—(KNO)

NC

said Sharma, who is considered close to top BJP leadership.

Sharma, who played a key role in the BJP's best-ever performance in the J&K polls in 2024 and campaigned for the party in the Delhi polls, accused Omar Abdullah of being non-serious about governance issues. "The common masses are suffering due to the apathetic attitude of the NC-led government. There is nobody on the ground to listen to the woes and sufferings of common people in Jammu, Doda-Kishtwar, or even in Kashmir. CM Omar Abdullah is always in picnicking mode. Hosting lunches and dinners in five-star hotels of Delhi will not ease the sufferings of common masses of Jammu & Kashmir," he said, adding that corruption has started to take roots in government departments.

Sharma said that the BJP will leave no stone unturned to raise the issues of common masses within and outside the Assembly. "We will hold the government accountable over its electoral promises ranging from free electricity to 12 gas cylinders to free ration. They cannot deceive and hoodwink the gullible masses of J&K. They will have to give answers for each and every promise made by them to the public," he said.

However, he added that they wouldn't allow any anti-constitution or anti-national bill or resolution on the floor of the House. "We will oppose any such move tooth and nail," he said—(KNO)

SNOW

with possibility of light rain and snow is expected at isolated places on February 18 & 19—

50 MUV

a slower pace of veterinary infrastructure development in the cold desert region.

The central government has sanctioned Rs 13.33 crore for Jammu & Kashmir under the scheme, with the Union Territory administration bearing the recurring expenditure for 44 additional MVUs, reads the data, a copy of which lies with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

In contrast, Ladakh received Rs 2.01 crore, a significantly lower allocation, given its smaller livestock population and dispersed settlements.

Despite these efforts, the reach of veterinary services remains a concern. Jammu & Kashmir recorded only 7,148 farmers benefiting from MVU services, while Ladakh had an even lower count of 448 beneficiaries. In comparison, states like Uttar Pradesh (2.19 crore beneficiaries) and Rajasthan (7.47 lakh beneficiaries) have far greater reach under the scheme, raising questions about the effectiveness and accessibility of MVUs in J&K and Ladakh.

Each Union Territory including Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh have been provided with a centralized call center (Helpline No. 1962) to facilitate MVU operations under the Livestock Health Disease Control Programme (LHDCCP).

The central government funds 100% of the non-recurring expenditure and provides recurring expenditure support in a 60:40, 90:10, or 100:0 ratio, depending on the region—a slower pace of veterinary infrastructure development in the cold desert region.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from old name Mohamad AYUB Qadri to new name Syed Mohamad AYUB Qadri in future I will be known as Syed Mohamad AYUB Qadri if any body is having any objection he/she may contact Passport office, Srinagar with in 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Syed Mohamad AYUB Qadri



Distt admin Srinagar organizes awareness workshop on Cyber security

DC reaffirms commitment to strengthen cyber security

HT News Network

SRINAGAR FEBRUARY 11: In connection with observance of Safer Internet Day 2025, District administration Srinagar organized a day long workshop on Cyber-security Awareness here today. Themed around "Together for a Better Internet" the workshop aimed to promote safe and responsible internet usage, particularly among children and young people, while addressing the growing challenges of cyber security. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, while addressing the participants underscored the importance of digital safety and responsible online behaviour & also highlighted the increasing risks posed by cyber threats. He urged officials to maintain cyber hygiene and, to adopt secure digital practices and remain vigilant against cybercrime.



Dr Bilal stressed on the role of government institutions and individuals in fostering a secure online environment. He emphasized on promoting cyber security awareness to ensure safer and more responsible digital future for citizens. While commending NIC Srinagar and

guest speakers for organizing the event to foster digital awareness among citizens, the DC reaffirmed the administration's commitment to strengthening cyber security measures and educating the public on responsible internet usage. He also emphasized the need for regular cyber security awareness initiatives in

the future.

On the occasion, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria highlighted the need for proactive cyber security awareness in today's digital landscape.

Cybercrime experts from the Police Department during the programme provided insights into emerging cyber threats, law enforcement strategies, and best practices for online security. Discussions covered key topics such as data protection, cyber hygiene and fraud prevention.

The workshop included interactive discussions and real-life case studies, helping participants understand the evolving nature of cyber threats and effective ways to mitigate them.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by the District Informatics Officer, NIC Srinagar, Syed Mujaddid who acknowledged the contributions of guest speakers, and participants.

Div Com reviews physical, financial status of works under SMRDA

HT News Network



Srinagar, February 11: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri who is also Additional Chief Executive Officer, Srinagar Metropolitan Regional Development Authority, (SMRDA), convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the physical & financial status of the works under SMRDA. The meeting was attended by Commissioner, SMC; Additional Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar, Kulgam, Budgam & Bandipora; Vice Chairman, SDA, Chief Engineer PW (R&B), senior officers of I&FC, Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority, Town Planning, Soil & Water Conservation, SDM west, Srinagar, Sindh Forest Division, Executive Engineers of R&B. Div Com reviewed the status of developmental works at different sites in Srinagar, Kulgam, Bandipora & Budgam. Addressing the meeting, Div Com directed all the executing agencies to speed up the pace of on going works on projects of public importance including community halls, parks, pathways, besides upgradation of Parimpora Bus Stand & Transport Nagar.

History Sheets of 53 habitual drug peddlers opened in Sgr: Police

'These individuals posing persistent threat to public safety'

HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 11: In a significant step towards curbing illegal drug trafficking, Srinagar Police on Tuesday said to have formally opened 53 History Sheets against habitual drug peddlers across various police stations in the district.

This action, sanctioned by the District Police Headquarters, Srinagar, marks an important move to monitor and dismantle organized drug networks operating in the region, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

He said the individuals identified in these History Sheets have a well-documented criminal history, with repeated involvement in drug-related offenses, particularly under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. "Their activities have primarily revolved around the illicit trade and distribution of narcotics, with a concerning impact on the youth of Srinagar."



Despite multiple arrests and legal actions, these offenders have continued their illegal operations, posing a persistent threat to public safety and order, the statement reads. "Many of them who are still behind bars are also implicated in a range of other criminal activities, including fraud, assault, and organized drug trafficking, underscoring their status as repeat offenders," it added. This initiative is part of intensified anti-drug operations by Srinagar Police, aimed at eliminating the drug

menace from society, the statement added.

"Jammu and Kashmir Police remains committed to its mission of ensuring a drug-free environment and urges the public to support these efforts by reporting any suspicious activities related to drug trafficking," the police spokesman said.

For any information related to drug dealers/peddlers in Srinagar, citizens are encouraged to contact the police through official helpline number 9596770550.

Together, we can build a safer and healthier Srinagar, the statement added—"Jammu and Kashmir Police remains committed to its mission of ensuring a drug-free environment and urges the public to support these efforts by reporting any suspicious activities related to drug trafficking," the police spokesman said.

For any information related to drug dealers/peddlers in Srinagar, citizens are encouraged to contact the police through official helpline number 9596770550.

BJP Leaders in Srinagar Hail Union Budget 2025 as a Visionary Step for Economic Growth

HT News Network

Srinagar, February 11, 2025 – A crucial meeting of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders was held today at Church Lane, Srinagar, to discuss the recently presented Union Budget 2025. The leaders unanimously praised the budget, calling it a progressive and inclusive financial roadmap that will strengthen India's economy, boost employment, and enhance social welfare.

Senior BJP leader and Party Chief Spokesperson Advocate Sunil Sethi in Srinagar highlighted that the budget reflects the Modi government's commitment to economic empowerment, youth development, and infrastructure growth, ensuring long-term prosperity for Jammu and Kashmir and the nation as a whole.

Speaking at the meeting, he said "This budget is a landmark in India's growth story. It focuses on economic reforms, tax relief, and welfare initiatives, which will immensely benefit the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The government's commitment to improving infrastructure,



education, and healthcare will have a positive impact on the region."

The leaders further applauded the provisions for:

Infrastructure Development – Increased budget allocation for roads, highways, and connectivity projects in J&K.

Employment and Skill Development – Special schemes to empower the youth and create job opportunities.

Agriculture and Farmer Welfare – Enhanced support for farmers to boost rural economy.

Women Empowerment – Initiatives for financial inclusion and welfare of

women.

The BJP leadership reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring the effective implementation of the budget's provisions in Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing that the region will witness a new era of development, investment, and growth under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The meeting concluded with a strong endorsement of the budget's vision, with leaders vowing to take its benefits to the grassroots level and ensure that every citizen of J&K reaps the rewards of a New India's growth story.

Statehood Demand Need To Be Pursued Through Engagement With New Delhi: Altaf Bukhari

HT News Network

New Delhi, Feb 11: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has said, "One must maintain close ties with New Delhi to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir's problems are resolved." He also stated that regaining statehood for J&K could be a time-consuming process and that achieving this goal requires persistent engagement with the central government. He made these remarks during a detailed interview with a news gathering agency KNS.

The Apni Party president criticized those who claim that statehood will be restored automatically just because the Home Minister has made a commitment in this regard on the floor of Parliament. He said, "How does it matter what was said in Parliament? Don't you remember that in 1947, Jawaharlal Nehru, as Prime Minister, made a commitment about self-determination on the floor of Parliament, stating that the right of self-determination would be granted to the people of Jammu and Kashmir? Did we get it? Has anybody given us this right, even after a Prime



Minister made a commitment about it? Similarly, it doesn't matter what has been committed regarding statehood. We have to demand it from New Delhi by reaching out and convincing the Centre that it is in the nation's best interest. By the way, statehood is no longer a matter of restoration; rather, it has to be its re-creation now." When asked about the Apni Party's close ties with the BJP government at the Centre, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "There is nothing wrong with having close ties with the Centre. I have never denied it, nor am I embarrassed about being close to the Centre, where the BJP is in power. One has to maintain close relations with New Delhi

if the issues are to be resolved. The solution to J&K's issues will come from New Delhi, which is why J&K's ruling party, after receiving a huge public mandate, is now making every effort to strengthen its ties with the Centre. It's simple—our problems will be solved by the Centre." On the deteriorating law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir, Altaf Bukhari said, "I think the situation is better if we compare it with the past. However, the recent incidents of killings suggest that the turmoil has not ended yet. We saw unfortunate incidents occurring in recent days. An ex-Army man was killed in Kulgam, a truck driver was killed in Sopore, and a man was forced to commit suicide in Kathua's Billawar. These are heartbreaking incidents, and such incidents have the potential to have an adverse impact on peace in the region." He added, "There was no need to target the truck driver in Baramulla. When an ex-serviceman was killed in Kulgam, it was a clear incident of terrorism—terrorists killed him. But what do we call those who killed the truck driver? Security forces were involved in the killing of the driver and in the Kathua.

Friday reserved for labelling of artisan products at PTQCC

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 11: In a facilitative welfare move, the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir has exclusively reserved every Friday of the week for labelling of famed Kashmir Handicraft products belonging to the artisan and weaver community in its Pashmina Testing & Quality Certification Centre (PTQCC), here. PTQCC is one-stop centre in Craft Development Institute (CDI) for branding and QR coding of 06 world-famous GI registered crafts of Kashmir Pashmina, Kani and Sozni embroidery, Khatamband Ceiling, Walnut Wood Carving and Papier Mache. Giving details, a spokesperson of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, advised the artisans and weavers to approach PTQCC on Fridays to get their products certified and QR coded in a time-bound manner. "Friday has been specifically chosen as reserve day to facilitate the artisans and weavers who usually take their weekly off that day," he added.

HG, CD & SDRF rebuts news regarding Mal-treatment to its employees

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 11: Rebutting a report published in a local Urdu daily regarding the step motherly treatment with its employees, the Home Guards, Civil Defence and SDRF, J&K, has issued a clarification regarding the voluntary nature of Home Guards.

According to the rebuttal issued here today in this regard, the Jammu and Kashmir Home Guards is a voluntary force constituted under the Jammu and Kashmir Home Guards Act, Svt. 2006, and governed by the Jammu and Kashmir Home Guards Rules, 1962. As per these regulations, individuals enroll as volunteers to serve the community during emergencies and assist in maintaining public order. The voluntary nature of this service implies that members are not regular government employees but are civilians who offer their services during exigencies.

Given the voluntary status of the Home Guards, members receive an honorarium or duty allowance for the days they are actively engaged. This is a fixed per-day payment and is not equivalent to a regular monthly salary. It's important to note that this honorarium is not intended to serve as a primary source of income but as a token of appreciation for the voluntary services rendered.

The Home Guards play a crucial role in supporting the regular police force and aiding the community during emergencies. Their contribution is invaluable and deeply appreciated. However, it's essential to recognise the foundational principles of the Home Guards as a voluntary force with a structure and remuneration system distinct from regular government services.

The department said that, in view of above explained facts, the concerns raised in the article stem from a misunderstanding of this unique framework. The Home Guards play a crucial role in supporting the regular police force and aiding the community during emergencies. Their contribution is invaluable and deeply appreciated. However, it's essential to recognise the foundational principles of the Home Guards as a voluntary force with a structure and remuneration system distinct from regular government services.

The department said that, in view of above explained facts, the concerns raised in the article stem from a misunderstanding of this unique framework.

EDITORIAL

Be honest about
return of Kashmiri
Pandits to the valley

For the past one week or so a lot of talk has been going on about the return of Kashmiri Pandits to the valley. Leaders from both the mainstream and separatist camps have issued statements in this regard and the common link in such statements is that all the people want the Kashmiri Pandits to come back to the valley. This is heartening and these politicians have said that Kashmir valley is incomplete without the Kashmiri Pandits.

A war of words has broken out between National Conference (NC) and Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) over this issue with the latter blaming the earlier for the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits in 1990. On its part the NC shot back saying that it is crystal clear who forced the Kashmiri Pandits to leave the valley. Over the years it has been observed that political parties have indulged in blame games vis-a-vis the exodus of the Kashmiri Pandits from the valley.

It is an established fact that the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the valley is a humanitarian issue and the same needs to be viewed from that prism alone. It is highly unfortunate that the people, especially the politicians have played politics over the issue and there is no end to the same. As far as the plight of the Kashmiri Pandits is concerned very few people across the political spectrum are worried about the same. Their sole aim is to do politics in order to garner support from the community members especially at the time of elections.

There are many people among the Kashmiri Pandit community who are exploiting the sentiments and emotions of their own community members for their own benefits. It was this group that has been pitching for the creation of a separate homeland for the Kashmiri Pandits in the Kashmir valley. The government has already set up some safe clusters for the Kashmiri Pandits in the different districts of the Kashmir valley. However, this step has failed to enthrone the Kashmiri Pandits as a whole to come back to the valley.

The creation of safe clusters for Kashmiri Pandits would not serve any purpose and it is imperative that a free environment is provided to the community members if they wish to come back to the valley. Putting them in safe clusters would make them vulnerable to the forces that are inimical to their return. Once they reside in habited areas their neighbours would come to their rescue in case any untoward incident happens.

The Non-Repatriation of Sunita Williams: A lesson in human limits and nature's wisdom

SYED MUDASIR MUSHTAQ
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The failure to bring back astronaut Sunita Williams from space is not just a technological setback—it is a profound lesson for humanity. While some dream of buying land on the Moon and settling on other planets, this incident serves as a stark reminder that life beyond Earth is neither practical nor intended by nature. The Earth, with its abundant resources and perfect conditions, is the only place meant for human existence. Trying to conquer celestial bodies is not just an impossible feat but also an attempt to challenge the wisdom of nature and the divine order of creation.

Earth: A Perfectly Designed Home for Humanity

For centuries, humans have marveled at the vastness of the universe, imagining a future where we might colonize the Moon, Mars, and beyond. However, we often overlook the fact that Earth is the only planet equipped with everything we need to survive. Water, oxygen, food, gravity, and a stable climate—these are blessings that no other known planet can offer.

The universe is vast, yet life



is found only on Earth. This is not a coincidence but a sign of nature's intelligence. If life were meant to exist elsewhere, the conditions would have been provided. Instead, every celestial body beyond our planet is barren, lifeless, and hostile to human survival. The Sunita Williams episode highlights the struggles of even the most advanced astronauts—so how can ordinary people dream of settling on the Moon? Despite this, companies continue to sell "land" on the Moon, capitalizing on people's fantasies. However, this is nothing more than a deception.

According to international space laws, no individual or country can claim ownership of celestial bodies. More importantly, even if someone "owns" land on the Moon, what good

is it if they cannot live there? Unlike Earth, the Moon lacks water, air, and food sources. Even supplying a single astronaut requires millions of dollars. How can a human colony sustain itself without nature's provisions? Space travel is still highly dangerous. If bringing back a trained astronaut like Sunita Williams is a challenge, how can we expect to transport thousands of settlers safely? Instead of wasting resources on unrealistic space fantasies, humanity should focus on solving issues here on Earth—poverty, environmental degradation, and resource management. The greed to "own" land in space is meaningless when we have not fully utilized the blessings given to us on Earth.

Nature has provided Earth with everything necessary for a

comfortable life. Yet, instead of appreciating and preserving it, humans often look elsewhere, driven by greed and ambition. This is not just impractical but also a violation of the natural order. If settling on another planet were part of nature's design, it would have been made possible. The fact that space remains inhospitable proves that our place is here on Earth. Instead of chasing unattainable dreams, we should focus on living harmoniously with nature, utilizing its resources wisely, and ensuring a better future for generations to come.

The existence of aliens (extraterrestrial life) remains unproven. While scientists have discovered thousands of exoplanets that could potentially support life, no direct evidence of intelligent extraterrestrial beings has

been found. However, the vastness of the universe suggests that life may exist elsewhere. Researchers use telescopes, space probes, and projects like SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) to detect possible signals or microbial life. Some unexplained UFO sightings fuel speculation, but they do not confirm the presence of aliens. In short, while the possibility of extraterrestrial life is scientifically plausible, no concrete proof exists yet.

A Wake-Up Call for Humanity

The non-repatriation of Sunita Williams is more than just a space mission failure—it is a reminder that human ambitions have limits. The Earth is our only true home, and no amount of technology can replace the perfect balance it provides. Instead of trying to capture land beyond our reach, we should cherish and protect what we have been given. Nature has already determined where we belong. Let us respect that wisdom, live with gratitude, and focus on making Earth a better place, rather than chasing illusions of ownership in the vast emptiness of space. A man may travel to space for exploration, but his home remains on Earth, the only planet given to us by God for living.

The Status And Love Of Parents

MUNEESH SHAFI SHAH
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Parents are the most invaluable gift that Allah has bestowed upon us. They bring us into this world, nurture us, and teach us the essence of life. Without their presence, a person feels incomplete. Their prayers and unconditional love are what provide us with stability, peace, and success in life. From the very first breath we take, their sacrifices begin. Every moment of our childhood is adorned with their efforts and care. They set aside their happiness and desires to ensure a bright and secure future for their children. Their love knows no conditions, and their actions speak of selflessness.

It is said that a parent's prayer can change destiny. Their blessings work as a shield that protects us from the hardships of life. Yet, we often fail to real-

ize their worth when they are with us. Allah and His Messenger (PBUH) have repeatedly emphasized the significance of serving and respecting parents. Their status is so high that it is directly linked to attaining Allah's pleasure.

Many of us, in the pursuit of worldly success, fail to acknowledge the sacrifices made by our parents. In our busy lives, we often forget that their scolding or advice is not a burden but a reflection of their deep care for us. Their love is unmatched; even when we fall, they are the ones who pick us up and motivate us to keep moving forward. Without their support, no success feels complete, and no happiness feels lasting.

The Responsibility to Serve Parents

No matter how successful we become or how independent we feel, the need for our parents remains constant. They



are the foundation of our lives, the reason for our existence. Staying close to them and listening to their advice is not just a duty but a privilege. Distance, whether physical or emotional, creates a void in their hearts and ours. It is our responsibility to ensure that they never feel neglected or unimportant. Research highlights the profound impact parents have on a person's mental and emotional well-being. According to experts like

Dr. Nicholson Davis and Prof. Milton CAM, parents are the cornerstone of a happy and fulfilling life. Their absence leaves a void that no amount of success or wealth can fill. When they are no longer with us, their love, prayers, and guidance are deeply missed.

Parents' advice and even their rebukes are blessings in disguise. They teach us to navigate life, correct our mistakes, and become better individuals. However, in today's

fast-paced world, many forget to prioritize their parents. They chase their dreams, focus on careers, and get caught up in the hustle of life, often overlooking the most important people who made it all possible. When such individuals finally look back, it's often too late to express gratitude.

The love and prayers of parents are like a light that guides us through the darkest phases of life. If you are stressed, anxious, or overwhelmed, spending time with your parents and seeking their blessings can bring unmatched peace and clarity. Their mere presence can ease the burdens of life.

Cherishing Their Love Forever

Imagine the pain of those who no longer have their parents in this world. Their hearts ache for the moments we often take for granted—conversations, laughter, and

even arguments. It is a reminder for us to cherish our parents while they are with us. Visit them often, sit with them, and make them feel valued.

Parents are not just individuals; they are a blessing that brings countless rewards in life. Serving them is not a burden; it is an honor. Their prayers are the source of prosperity and success. Allah has linked His blessings to the respect and care of parents. Those who neglect or mistreat their parents lose the light in their lives.

In conclusion, parents are the foundation of a person's life. Their love, sacrifices, and prayers shape who we are. Never let the busyness of life take you away from the people who gave you everything. Value them, serve them, and ensure their happiness. They are the reason for our existence, and their love is what sustains us through life's trials and challenges.

The Future of Education in Jammu and Kashmir: A Sector in Crisis?

DR AADIL PARAY

Education is the backbone of any progressive society, a sector that should be prioritized above all else to ensure sustainable development. However, in Jammu and Kashmir, it remains one of the most neglected domains. While other states are making strides toward enhancing their educational standards, UT's higher education system is struggling with outdated policies, lack of proper infrastructure, a blatant disregard for the teaching community, continuous decline in college enrolments, lack of outcome-based curriculum in new colleges, and above all leadership in slumber to tackle the situation.

A System That Treats Teachers Like Seasonal Laborers

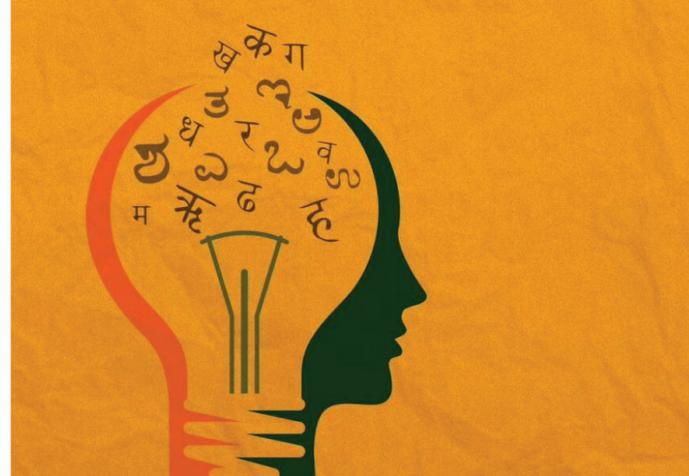
One of the most alarming issues in Jammu and Kashmir's education sector is the treatment of highly qualified youth. Despite possessing M.Phil., Ph.D., and NET/SET qualifications, these scholars are employed as contractual lecturers—paid meager salaries that do not even match those of unskilled laborers. They are hired for a few months and then left jobless, creating a cycle of financial instability and professional frustration. Can a system that treats its educators as disposable entities ever hope to provide quality education?

Other states have recognized the importance of retaining skilled educators and have implemented policies to ensure job security and fair compensation. Yet, in Jammu and Kashmir, the government appears indifferent. How

can these teachers, who are uncertain about their own future, inspire students to excel in a highly competitive world?

Government Priorities: Luxury Over Learning?

A government's budget allocations reflect its priorities. While education should be at the forefront, it seems to be an afterthought in Jammu and Kashmir. Recently, when a new government took charge, one of its first actions was to purchase high-end vehicles for its ministers and MLAs, ensuring their comfort and luxury. However, when it comes to discussing and implementing UGC's new regulations—which were recently debated by 16 progressive states on the 6th of this month—none of the UT's ministers found time to participate.



This raises a fundamental question: Is the future of education in Jammu and Kashmir of any concern to the authorities? If other states can proactively work toward improving

educational standards, why is Jammu and Kashmir lagging behind?

Colleges and Universities: Can They Compete Nationally? Jammu and Kashmir's

higher education institutions lack the necessary resources, research facilities, and policies that align with national and international standards. Universities across the country are

making remarkable progress in research, innovation, and industry collaborations, while those in J&K struggle with bureaucracy and mismanagement.

If the government truly aims to ensure quality education, it must:

Ensure Fair Pay & Job Security for Educators: Teachers must be given permanent positions with salaries that reflect their qualifications and contributions.

Participate in National-Level Policy Discussions: The state must actively engage with UGC and other educational bodies to stay updated on reforms.

Improve Infrastructure & Research Facilities: Colleges and universities need modern libraries, laboratories, and funding for research projects.

Align Higher Education with Employment Oppor-

tunities: The curriculum should be updated to equip students with skills relevant to today's job market.

A Call for Immediate Action

If education continues to be treated as a low-priority sector, the future of Jammu and Kashmir's youth will be at stake. The government must recognize that real progress lies not in luxury purchases for politicians but in investing in education—the foundation of a thriving society.

Will the leaders of Jammu and Kashmir rise to the occasion and take meaningful steps, or will they continue to ignore the cries of educators and students alike? Only time will tell.

The writer is a contractual lecturer

Online Gambling: A New Menace In Kashmir



Online gambling is emerging as a growing concern in Kashmir's society, bringing with it a host of social, economic, and psychological challenges. The rise of digital platforms and easy access to smartphones and the internet have contributed to this phenomenon, which is particularly affecting the youth. Here's an analysis of the issue:

Key Concerns: Many individuals, particularly young people, are lured by the promise of quick money. However, most end up losing their savings or even borrowing money, leading to financial distress and debt.

Online gambling platforms are designed to be highly engaging, fostering addiction. This leads to a cycle of continuous gambling in the hope of recovering losses, worsening the situation. Financial problems and addiction often strain family relationships. Instances of domestic disputes and broken relationships have been reported due to gambling-related issues.

Mental Health Impact: Anxiety, depression, and a sense of hopelessness are common among individuals who experience losses. In extreme cases, this has led to self-harm and suicide. "Online gambling is not just an individual

problem but a societal issue that requires a coordinated effort from families, authorities, and the community to address."

Underlying Factors

Unemployment: The high unemployment rate in the Kashmir makes the promise of easy money through gambling attractive to many young people.

Lack of Awareness: Many are unaware of the legal, financial, and psychological risks associated with online gambling.

Possible Solutions: Awareness Campaigns: Government and non-

"Online gambling is not just an individual problem but a societal issue that requires a coordinated effort from families, authorities, and the community to address."

governmental organizations can educate people about the risks of online gambling.

Support Systems: Establishing helplines and rehabilitation centers for those struggling with gambling addiction! Online gambling is not

just an individual problem but a societal issue that requires a coordinated effort from families, authorities, and the community to address.

(The author a resident of Zurhama Kupwara is a BCA student at IITM Hyderpora Srinagar. The views, opinions and conclusions expressed in this article are those of the author and aren't necessarily in accord with the views of "Kashmir Horizon")

Pir Panjal Winter Festival stands as a shining example of how sports and culture can be leveraged to foster a brighter future for the youth

BY M S NAZKI

The picturesque district of Poonch is set to come alive with the spirit of unity, culture, and sportsmanship as the Pir Panjal Winter Festival kicks off today, orchestrated by the Rashtriya Rifles Battalion under the esteemed leadership of Headquarters Counter Insurgency Force (ROME0). This much-anticipated festival, running from 9th February to 31st March 2025, reflects the Indian Army's unwavering commitment to youth empowerment, cultural preservation, and social reform, particularly in its advocacy against drug abuse.

The festival is designed to empower the youth of Poonch by providing them with avenues for creative expression, sportsmanship, and community engagement. It also aims to offer a platform for young people to showcase their talents while promoting a culture of positivity, discipline, and healthy living.

A Diverse Spectrum of Events: From Sports to Cultural Splendor

The Pir Panjal Winter Festival is an eclectic blend of sports tournaments, cultural performances, and artistic showcases. Among the major attractions of the festival are:

- Under-25 Boys Cricket Tournament: A platform for young cricketers to display their talent, aiming to unearth hidden sporting prodigies in the region.
- Under-25 Boys and Under-

21 Girls Volleyball Tournament: Promoting teamwork, discipline, and the competitive spirit that is essential for youth development.

- Open Kho-Kho Tournament (for girls): A celebration of agility, strategy, and endurance, this tournament highlights the importance of physical fitness and mental strength.
- Gujari and Pahari Folk Dance Performances: With music and dance talent hunts, these performances celebrate the rich artistic heritage of Poonch, showcasing the region's deep cultural roots.

- Solo and Group Singing Competitions: A chance for school and college students to display their vocal talents, expressing emotions and stories through music.
- Science and Arts Exhibitions: These exhibitions encourage youth to showcase their knowledge and creativity through activities like painting, essay writing, and elocution competitions.
- Live Musical Extravaganza: The festival will culminate with a grand finale, featuring a live performance by a famous artist and his ensemble, which will bring the festivities to an electrifying close.

A Catalyst for Change: Youth Empowerment and Drug Abuse Prevention

The Pir Panjal Winter Festival is not just a celebration of talent, but a transformative movement. The festival seeks to serve as a



catalyst for social reform, particularly in advocating for the elimination of substance abuse among the youth of the region. By creating engaging spaces for the youth to channel their energies into constructive pursuits, the festival aims to guide them toward positive development and away from the perils of drugs and anti-social behavior.

In his address at the opening ceremony, Commanding Officer of 16 RR Colonel Davish underscored the importance of the festival as part of a larger initiative to promote social harmony, empowerment, and well-being in the district. He stated, "The Pir Panjal Winter Festival is a testament to our commitment to building a healthier, stronger, and more vibrant community. By focusing on youth and cultural revival, we not only honor the rich heritage of this region

but also provide a platform to empower the next generation to be the leaders of tomorrow."

Community Response: Uniting Forces for the Betterment of Poonch

The overwhelming response to the festival from the local populace of Poonch speaks volumes about the deep respect and camaraderie shared between the community and the Indian Army. The local youth, particularly from remote and marginalized areas, have shown great enthusiasm in participating in the various events, making the festival a resounding success even before it officially began.

The festival represents more than just a series of competitions and performances; it is a symbol of change for Poonch, a region that has faced its own set of challenges. By involving the youth in sports, arts, and

cultural activities, the festival empowers them to move away from negative influences and become positive contributors to society. The focus on sportsmanship, discipline, and cultural preservation not only keeps the youth engaged but also fosters a sense of pride in their heritage and community values.

Looking Ahead: A Legacy of Empowerment

As the Pir Panjal Winter Festival unfolds over the coming weeks, it promises to leave a lasting impact on the youth of Poonch. By blending sports, arts, and culture with a mission of drug abuse prevention, this festival exemplifies the Indian Army's dedication to the holistic development of the region's youth.

The great initiative of General Officer Commanding (GOC) Romeo Force Maj. Gen. Manish Gupta and his team at Romeo Force continue to pave the way for social reformation, and the Pir Panjal Winter Festival stands as a shining example of how sports and culture can be leveraged to foster a brighter future for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

The event has been organized under the overall supervision of Commander 6 Sector Rashtriya Rifles Potha Surnakote Brigadier Rajneesh Giri. Local people from different walks has expressed gratitude toward Indian army and officers who are taking interest in this field.

BJP's Delhi Victory: A Historical Moment in Indian Politics!



MUSAIB RAFIQ SOCIAL POLITICAL ACTIVIST

The recent victory of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Delhi is not just a win; it's a clear mandate from the people reflecting their trust in the party's vision for the future. This success is a celebration of the hard work and dedication of all BJP karyakartas, whose relentless efforts on the ground have made this achievement possible.

Their commitment to the party's ideals and their engagement with the community have played a crucial role in this victory. This Victory of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Delhi is definitely a significant event in Indian politics! A big congratulations to all the BJP karyakartas for their hard work and dedication that led to this success. It's inspiring to see how committed they are to their cause.

A heartfelt congratulations to our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, whose leadership continues to inspire millions. His leadership has played a crucial role in shaping the party's direction and connecting with the electorate. His focus



on development, national security, and social welfare resonates deeply with the citizens. The various initiatives launched under his government, such as the Swachh Bharat Mission and Make in India,

have significantly impacted the lives of many and have contributed to the party's popularity. This victory reflects the trust and support of the people, and it's exciting to see how it can influence the future

of Delhi and beyond. This victory also highlights the importance of unity and collaboration within the party. The BJP's ability to connect with diverse sections of society, including youth, women, and

marginalized communities, showcases its inclusive approach. As a social political activist, I believe this win should be viewed as a call to action for all party members to continue working towards the betterment of society. The journey ahead is filled with challenges, but with the support of dedicated karyakartas and visionary leadership, Bjp can strive for a brighter and more prosperous India. As a social political activist, it's important to acknowledge achievements like this, regardless of affiliation. Celebrating democratic processes and the voices of the people is what it's all about! Let's hope this leads to positive developments for everyone in the community.

The need for youth participation in politics



DR. SATYAWAN SAURABH

Youth participation in politics is not only a goal but also a necessary condition for an inclusive and progressive democracy. However, too few young people continue to participate in politics, and their voices are often suppressed by established power structures. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent proposal to invite one lakh youth with no political experience to enter politics represents a revolutionary turn towards

decentralization, inclusiveness, and youth empowerment. Experienced leaders with a wealth of knowledge have traditionally held a prominent position in Indian politics. They often work within traditional frameworks that may not be equipped to handle contemporary issues, despite the fact that their knowledge is invaluable. Young leaders facilitate dynamic and data-driven policymaking by contributing creative solutions, technical know-how, and contemporary governance models.

To guarantee a sustainable future, young leaders can promote green laws, renewable energy projects, and climate adaptation strategies. Youth-driven governance has the potential to address unemployment and underemploy-

ment by prioritizing entrepreneurship, skill development, and high-quality education. Through youth participation, India can make better use of blockchain, automation, and artificial intelligence to achieve transparent and effective governance. By using social media and other platforms for citizen participation, young people can improve accountability, revive democratic values, and reduce political corruption. Youth who are politically aware and active guarantee that democracy will survive and remain responsive to people's demands.

Indian politics has traditionally been dominated by dynastic families, leaving little room for merit-based and grassroots leadership. Without the backing of family or money, many

young candidates find it difficult to gain political foothold. Youth often lack formal training in political administration, policy analysis, and governance, even if they have a high level of enthusiasm. The lack of mentorship offered by current political parties forces young leaders to fend for themselves. Since running for office requires significant financial investment, it is challenging for first-generation politicians to compete with more experienced leaders. The criminalization of politics as well as money and physical power often deters educated youth from pursuing careers in public service. To provide symbolic representation, many political parties induct young leaders without giving them decision-making power. This superficial induction

does not result in young politicians being given much influence or change in governance structures.

Policies that support equitable economic growth, healthcare, and education should be given top priority by young leaders. Social issues such as unemployment, caste discrimination, and gender equality require progressive policies and grassroots participation. Sustainable agriculture, renewable energy initiatives, and eco-friendly urban planning can all be taken forward by youth leadership. Initiatives such as Green India and Clean India (Swachh Bharat) require more robust youth-driven implementation plans. Programs such as Digital India, Start-up India, and Skill India need to be expanded to provide advanced skills

to the coming generation. India's leadership in the world will depend heavily on its investments in biotechnology, robotics, and artificial intelligence. To prevent the collapse of democracy, youth activism and civic engagement must guarantee open, accountable, and people-centered governance. Democracy can be deepened by participatory governance models and strengthening the Right to Information (RTI) law.

Candidates should be selected by political parties based on their vision, competence, and leadership potential, with merit given priority over favoritism. It is necessary to strengthen internal democracy within parties to enable young leaders to advance based on their performance rather than their family

connections. Formally mentor young politicians in governance, policymaking, and legislative processes by establishing mentorship programs. To give young people a practical understanding of administration and law, universities and other institutions can offer "political leadership and governance" courses. State funding for elections can help level the playing field by enabling young people to run for office without facing financial constraints. It is necessary to enforce strict laws against political criminalization to establish a corruption-free and fair environment. Programs to enhance the capacity of young politicians and educate voters should be actively pursued by civil society organizations. Stories of young people who

have succeeded in governance should be featured in the media to encourage greater participation.

To institutionalize youth participation, political parties and governance structures should implement minimum quotas for youth representation. Leadership opportunities such as consultative councils, youth parliaments, and ministry internships should be enhanced. Decisions taken today will influence India's path in the decades to come as the country stands at a critical juncture in its history. Swami Vivekananda's advice to "arise, awake, and move ahead" remains applicable today.

Dr. Satyawan Saurabh, is a Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, Radio and TV panelist,

Arise Hyundai Handwara Organizes Display Event in Collaboration with SBI

DR. AB QAYOOM

Handwara, Feb. 11: Arise Hyundai's Handwara branch, in collaboration with the State Bank of India (SBI), Main Branch Handwara, organized a grand display event aimed at raising awareness about special offers and discount schemes for rural customers.

The event saw participation from several dignitaries, including Arise Hyundai Handwara's Sales Head, Parvaz Ahmad, the Branch Manager of SBI Handwara along with his team, and General Sec-

retary of the Traders Federation Handwara, Shaikh Shazad. Many prominent business figures from the region also attended the occasion.

Speaking to Headlines Today, Parvaz Ahmad emphasized the significance of the initiative, stating, "Our primary objective is to educate rural communities about Hyundai's exclusive offers. This collaboration with SBI reflects our commitment to strengthening customer relationships and making vehicle ownership more accessible."



He further announced a special discount of 5,000 on every vehicle purchase, specifically designed to benefit rural customers. The event also highlighted exclusive schemes for defense personnel, including members of the J&K Police, BSF, CRPF, and the Indian Army. These individuals can now avail themselves of special Hyundai offers through SBI branches across the country, particularly at SBI Handwara.

Marketing Manager of Arise Hyundai Handwara, Mushtaq Ahmad, along with his team,

introduced attendees to the latest Hyundai models, explaining their features and innovations. The event attracted a large crowd from across Handwara and Langate, including both rural and urban areas, demonstrating strong local interest in Hyundai's offerings.

With such initiatives, Arise Hyundai Handwara and SBI Handwara continue to foster a customer-friendly approach, making vehicle financing and ownership more accessible to the people of the region.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My of name has been wrongly written as MANZOOR AHMAD in my driving License bearing Licence No... JK10- 20060002871 while my correct name is MANZOOR AHMAD WANI as per my Aadhar card which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of ARTO SRINAGAR/ BARAMULLA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name....MANZOOR AHMAD WANI
S/O ABDUL MAJEED WANI
R/O....KANLIBAGH BARAMULLA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given for general information that I, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, intend to apply for correction of my son's name, born on 15-03-2021. The name was wrongly recorded as Mohammad Manzoor instead of Imad Manzoor Bhat in the medical records/Hospital Birth Certificate issued by Block Medical Office Kreeri. I now wish to correct my son's name to Imad Manzoor Bhat. Any person having objections to this correction may file their objections in writing to the Office of the Block Medical Officer, Kreeri, within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Thereafter, no objections will be entertained.

Manzoor Ahmad Bhat (Father)
Muneera Begum (Mother)
Resident of Kalantra Bala,
Tehsil kreeri Distt Baramulla

PUBLIC NOTICE

Correction Notice

It is hereby notified that due to an error, the name Reyhan Javid has been recorded instead of the correct name Rizwaan Javed S/O Javed Ahmed Sofi on Aadhaar Card No. 5945 2171 9579. Therefore, Now it is chahnging, if anybody have any objection he/she may contact concerned authorities within a period of 7 days after that no objection will be accepted.

Name:-Rizwaan Javed
S/O :-Javed Ahmed Sofi
R/O:- Gund Hassi Bhat Lawyepora

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, NAZIR AHMAD BABA, intend to apply for a DEE Class Contractor Registration Certificate/Card. The application will be submitted to the Office of the Superintending Engineering PW (R&B) Circle Office Baramulla. Any person having any objection in this regard he/she may file their objections in writing to the Office of the Superintending Engineering PW (R&B) Circle Office Baramulla, within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. Objections received after this period will not be entertained.

Nazir Ahmad Baba
Son of Ab Rehman Baba
Resident of KALANTRA Payeen, Kreeri, Baramulla.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my passport as PEERZADA FAYAZ AHMAD S/O NIZAM U DIN PIR bearing passport no 8491857999 while my correct name is FAYAZ AHMAD PIR S/O NIZAM U DIN PIR Which needs to be correct if anybody having objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of PASSPORT OFFICE SRINAGAR within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name....FAYAZ AHMAD PIR
S/O NIZAM U DIN PIR
R/O PUTUKHA MUQAM
DISTT. ...BARAMULLA

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

NOTICE

The candidate whose particulars are given below has reported in the university that he has lost his University certificate/s and has applied for issuance of Duplicate Certificates.
Name :Mohd Mushab Khan
S/o:- Gh. Hayder khan
R/o:- Shahdara Uri, Baramulla
Registration No. 2670-SF-73
Certificates lost:- Graduation and LLB marks Cards
Roll No. 606 year 1981-82
Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled.



Dated:-11-02-2025 Assistant Controller of Examination
(PG/UG/Prof.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

My son's name has been wrongly written as MEHRAAN MOHSIN S/O MOHSIN AHMAD PANDITH in Date of Birth (DOB) certificate bearing ID no 101002285788 while his correct name is ABSAR MOHSIN S/O MOHSIN MOHI UD DIN PANDITH which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of BMO office /SDH kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name... MOHSIN MOHI UD DIN PANDITH
F/O ABSAR MOHSIN
R/O NOWPORA JAGEER

PUBLIC NOTICE

My son's name has been wrongly written as MEHRAAN MOHSIN S/O MOHSIN AHMAD PANDITH in Date of Birth (DOB) certificate bearing ID no 101002285788 while his correct name is ABSAR MOHSIN S/O MOHSIN MOHI UD DIN PANDITH which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of BMO office /SDH kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name... MOHSIN MOHI UD DIN PANDITH
F/O ABSAR MOHSIN
R/O NOWPORA JAGEER

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of general public that I GH NABI MIR S/O HABIBULLAH MIR R/O DOULATPORA Tehsil KREERI Distt. BARAMULLA had applied for the name correction in the Aadhar card as per Birth certificate issued by the competent authority. Anyone having any objection in this regard may contact with Aadhar authority India within 7 days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be corrected

Name...GH NABI MIR
S/O ...HABIBULLAH MIR
R/O DOULATPORA 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 hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of YAWER ASHRAF S/O MOHAMMAD ASHRAF GANAIE R/O CHANDKOTE Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 20/12/2011 and event has been shown to be occurred at Home for issuance of delay order. In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of death 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 hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of MOHAMMAD MUSA LONE S/O MOHAMMAD RAFIQ LONE R/O CHOORA Tehsil KHOIE Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 20/01/2021 and event has been shown to be occurred at SDH KREERI for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of death 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 hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of AYESHA BEGUM D/O ALI MOHAMMAD SOFI R/O SHEIKHPORA Tehsil KRRERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 05/03/2023 and event has been shown to be occurred at HOME for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of death certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Executive Magistrate
1st Class KREERI

اطلاع عام

هر خاص عام کو اطلاع دی جاتی ہے کہ سرکاری رکاڈ بٹمول بجلی بل پانی کی بل اور وائر رکس بل اور جے کے بنک اکونٹ میں میری زات حکیم انراج ہوئی ہے جبکہ میری اصلی زات حجام ہے اب اس کی دستگی کرانی مطلوب اس بارے میں اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر پیش کرے بعد ازاں معاد کوئی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا

المستتر

محمد اسرف حجام ساکن ناید
محلہ بچبھاڑہ انتت ناگ کسمیر

اطلاع عام

میری گاڈی زیر نمبر- JK03J 5472 کی نمبر پلیٹ کہیں گم ہو گئی ہے اب اس کی ڈبلکیت نکانی مطلوب ہے اس بارے میں کسی کو کوئی عذر ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر ARTO انتت ناگ کے دفتر میں پیش کرے بعد ازاں معاد کوئی عذر قبول نہیں ہو گا

المستتر

میسر احمد ریسی ولد غلام احمد ریسی
ساکن ہر د طور اوچہ بل

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 hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of FARHANA FAYAZ, ALEEZA FAYAZ MIR TAQWA GULSHAN MIR D/O FAYAZ AHMAD MIR R/O KAKOTHAL Tehsil KRRERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 07/09/2010 ,18/03/2016& 11/11/2017 , and event has been shown to be occurred at HOME for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of death certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Executive Magistrate
1st Class KREERI

Subject: Grant of registration of the proposed travel unit under the name and style " M/s Anjoman Tour & Travel." Situated at Jawharpora Narbal Budgam.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Where I Tabasum Mustafa W/o: Sajad Hussain Bhat R/o: Chayera Magam, Budgam. Intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under Name and style "M/s Anjoman " Tour & Travel." Situated at Sangrama National Highway Sopore. under Tourist trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas I will, submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum of 5 years), Character Certificate (Police Department) Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10,000), Site plan, Affidavit, Rent deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/visiting Card), photographs of the unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two passport size photograph to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourism Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12. before my case is processed for registration by the competent Authority the matter is nearby notified for information of the General public/ Financial Institutions Bank/ Organization, etc for objection. if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration (email id: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this Notice in leading local newspaper of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on the name GH HASSAN SHEIKH S/O ABDUL RAHMAN SHEIKH R/O PARIGAM PAYEEN KULGAM ..Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0210010035838 wants to be registered on the name GHULAM HASSAN MONCHI S/O ABDUL REHMAN MONCHI R/O PARIGAM CHECK BANPORA .if anybody have any objection in this regard He/ She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name...GHULAM HASSAN MONCHI
S/O ...ABDUL RAHMAN MONCHI
R/O PARIGAM CHECK BANPORA DISTT..... KULGAM

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING WING SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
E-NIT No: 59/2024-25 DATED: 11-02-2025
DOUBLE COVER SYSTEM

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT J&K, e-tenders (In double cover system) are invited on PERCENTAGE BASIS from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Block/ Pyl Halqa	Adv. Cost (In Lac)	Tender Fee (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contract or	EMD	Major Head	TYPE OF TENDER
1.	Construction of Community Sanitary Complex (CSC) near Masjid Apparora Balhama B	Khonmoh/ Balhama B	3.00	300/-	30 Days	DEE	2% of Adv. cost	SBM(G) Ph.-11	OPEN

Position of A/A: ACCORDED

Position of T/S: ACCORDED

Position of Funds: BUDGETED

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	11-02-2025
2.	Online Bid submission Start Date	11-02-2025 from 04:00PM
3.	Online Bid Submission End Date	18-02-2025 upto 04:00PM
4.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	19-02-2025 at 11:00 AM or any convenient day In the Office of the Executive Engineer REW Srinagar
5.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed
6.	NOTE: Lowest Qualified bidder shall deposit hard copy of original Tender documents, Fee Receipt, EMD and other documents within 05 Days after the financial bid is opened. Failed to produce the documents shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarment of the contractor be forwarded to higher authorities for the period of 1 year. The bidder must upload one affidavit for each individual work mentioning the name of the work	

Conditions for bidders:

Any Bidder who will go down more than 15% of Advertised Cost shall upload the Additional Security online in shape of CDR/FDR/BG during tendering process as per Unbalance Bid Table mentioned below. (Non-uploading of Additional Security will lead to the rejection of the tender).

S. No	Percentage of Unbalanced Bid viz: Advertised cost on account of low rates	Additional security advertised Value of work as percentage of work advertised
1	Upto and including below 15%	NIL
2	Greater than 15% and upto 20% below	5%
3	Greater than 20% and upto 25% below	10%
4	Greater than 25% and upto 30% below	15%
5	Greater than 30%	20%

All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer REW Division Srinagar. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

All the Bidders have to deposit Earnest Money (2% of Advertised cost) in shape of CDR/FDR/BG at the time of tendering as per the Circular of Finance Department. Successful bidder (L1) has to produce 3% additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ B.G within 5 days after opening of financial bid and total 5% (3%+2%) will be released after completion of defect liability period of the work.

The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) bidder shall submit all the self attested hard copies of uploaded documents within 05 Days before fixation of Contract Failure to produce the documents shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarment of the Contractor be forwarded to higher authorities for the period of 1 year.

The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened on line on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer REW Division Srinagar (tender receiving authority).

The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@ 2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the unsuccessful Bidder shall be released within 07 days after opening the Tender on production of Treasury Challan.

The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reasons thereof.

The bids for the works shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

NO:- XEN/REW/SGR/8133-42

DIPK-11852/24

DATED:- 11-02-2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
REW Srinagar

DC Budgam reviews implementation of AMRUT 2.0 Water Supply projects for towns

■ HT News Network

Budgam, February 11: District Development Commissioner Budgam, (DDC) Akshay Labroo, today conducted review of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 water supply projects in the district.

During the meeting, threadbare discussions were made on the progress of various approved schemes under AMRUT 2.0, highlighting key developments and challenges.

DDC assessed the status of projects across all urban areas of the district and emphasized the need for timely and efficient execution to ensure that every household receives safe and adequate drinking water.

It was noted that tenders



for AMRUT 2.0 water supply projects have been evaluated for the towns of Budgam, Beerwah & Khanshab town. While tender is under technical evaluation for Magam town & DPRs are under preparation for

Chadoora, and Charar-i-Sharief towns.

DC stressed the importance of expediting the implementation process while adhering to the prescribed guidelines. He urged all stakeholders to

resolve any bottlenecks and ensure seamless execution of the projects.

DC also focused on strategies to address challenges faced during the implementation phase, with a focus on enhancing coordination among departments for smooth project completion.

He reaffirmed commitment to providing clean and safe drinking water to all urban households in Budgam district and directed officials to ensure swift execution of the projects under AMRUT 2.0.

The review meeting was attended by the Superintending Engineer Hydraulics Circle Budgam, Executive Engineers of the PHE Department, DESO Budgam and other concerned officials.

ADC Kupwara presides over workshop on Cyber security

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 11: A Cyber security awareness workshop was successfully conducted by District administration Kupwara today to educate individuals on safeguarding themselves in the digital world.

The workshop was presided over by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kupwara, Mohammad Rouf Rehman.

The event was aimed to raise awareness about cyber threats, data protection, and best practices for online safety. The workshop featured expert speakers, including DIO NIC Kupwara, who discussed crucial topics such as phishing attacks, password security, social engineering, and secure browsing habits. Interactive sessions, live demonstrations, and real-world case studies helped attendees understand and implement cybersecurity measures effectively. Speaking at the event, ADC Kup-



wara emphasized the importance of digital hygiene and proactive security measures to prevent cybercrimes.

He said Workshops like these help equip people with the knowledge to protect themselves online and urged upon the participants to take utmost benefit of the workshop to upskill their digital awareness which will help them in better data management.

The workshop concluded with a Q&A session, where participants clarified their doubts and received practical guidance on securing their personal and professional digital assets. Attendees appreciated the initiative and expressed interest in future sessions on advanced cyber security topics.

Kulgam Police Conducts District-Wide Inspection of SIM Vendors to Curb SIM Misuse.

■ Farooq Rather.



Kulgam: February 11* : In a significant move to prevent SIM card misuse and enhance Public safety, Kulgam Police conducted a comprehensive district-wide inspection of SIM card vendors. The initiative aimed to ensure strict compliance with guidelines for SIM card sales and activations while supporting law enforcement efforts. The inspection focused on verifying adherence to Know Your Customer (KYC) norms, proper documentation, and preventing unauthorized issuance of SIM cards. Vendors were monitored to ensure their operations comply with all legal and regulatory requirements.

Kulgam Police underscored the importance of SIM vendors in safeguarding communication systems and advised them to strictly adhere to KYC procedures. Vendors were warned that any non-compliance would attract severe legal action, including penalties, cancellation of licenses, and prosecution.

Training prog for Haj pilgrims of Kupwara District on Feb 12, 13, 19

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 11: According to Additional Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, the training programme regarding Manasik-e-Haj for the Haj pilgrims belonging to the tehsils of Kupwara, Trehgam, Kralpora, Keran, Karnah, Machil, Sogam, Lalpora and Drugmulla will be held at Markazi Jamia Masjid Kupwara on February 12 at 10:00 AM. While, training for the pilgrims belonging to Handwara, Zachaldara, Ramhall, Langate, Kralgund, Vilgam.

DC Kulgam reviews progress on construction of Brazloo Bridge



■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 11: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today conducted an on-site visit of the under construction Brazloo Bridge to review the progress of work on the project. The bridge is a vital component of the NH-444 highway infrastructure project.

During the visit, the DC stressed the importance of completing the bridge within the stipulated timeline while maintaining high-quality standards of work. DC was apprised

that the Kulgam By-pass link measuring 9 kms from Pahloo to Lirow including 378-meter-long bridge at Brazloo is being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 58 crore. Concerned Executive Engineer informed that out of 13 pillars of the bridge 12 have been completed & the work on last one is in full swing. He assured that the work on the bridge shall be completed within the given time line. On the occasion, DC directed the concerned Tehsildars to clear the bottle necks of approach road on both sides of the bridge.

DC Kulgam inaugurates workshop on 'Safer Internet Day'

■ Farooq Rather

Pulwama, Feb 10 : The political scene in South Kashmir's Pulwama district was abuzz with activity as BJP leaders and opposition figures held parallel events, reflecting the region's evolving political landscape. BJP Pulwama district president Mohd Lateef Bhat led celebrations following the party's victory in New Delhi, rallying party workers and supporters in a show of strength. The event was marked by enthusiastic slogans and expressions of confidence in the party's continued growth. Address-



ing the gathering, Bhat described the win as a "testament to the people's trust in the BJP's policies and governance model."

"This victory reaffirms our commitment to development, good gov-

ernance, and empowerment at the grassroots level. We will continue working for the welfare of Pulwama's people and ensure that every section of society benefits from our initiatives," Bhat said. Meanwhile, in Pampore's Kadilbal Clock Tower, a crucial political meeting saw prominent leaders, including Asif Ahmad Ganai, Raj Mohad Wani, Farooq Ahmad, and Zalikfar Ali, deliberate on regional political developments and future strategies. The gathering, attended by senior party functionaries, focused on challenges faced by local leaders, electoral strategies, and the need to strengthen.

DC Shopian reviews arrangements for Maha Shivratri

■ HT News Network

Shopian, February 11: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today convened a meeting to take stock of the arrangements to be put in place for the smooth conduct of the upcoming Maha Shivratri festival.

DC directed for ensuring adequate arrangements of illumination, track maintenance, sanitation, healthcare, water and power supply, availability of Fish, and other arrangements at Kapal Mochan Temple, Nagbal and other religious places across the district.

He also stressed on ensuring foolproof arrangements for secu-



rety & regulation of traffic at the temple. He also directed for market checking on a regular basis to curb the illegal marketing practices by imposing heavy fines against violations. ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, ACR, Shakoor Ahmed Dar, Additional SP, Showkat Hussain, ACP, Manzoor Ahmad, CMO, Dr. Arshid Tak, Tehsildars and other concerned were present in the meeting.

DC Bandipora chairs meeting on Wetland Demarcation Strategy Approves verification plan for 98 sites

■ HT News Network

Bandipora, February 11: Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri who is also Chairman District Wetland Management Units, on Tuesday convened a comprehensive meeting to discuss the strategy for demarcating wetland sites across the district.

On the occasion, the DC stressed on the verification of wetland sites, addressing challenges, and ensuring the effective implementation of the demarcation process.

During the meeting, it was revealed that there are 102 wetlands in the district, out of which four sites have

an area of less than 2.5 hectares and will be removed from the list. The remaining 98 sites, with areas above 2.5 hectares, will proceed with the demarcation process.

During the meeting, it was finalized that demarcation on wetlands under forest land will be managed by the Forest Department under the supervision of the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Bandipora. He will verify these sites, compare them with satellite images, and submit a report.

During the meeting, it was also highlighted that some wetland sites fall under other districts, which requires revision and rectification.

While reviewing the list of wetland sites, the DC directed the Pollution



Control Board to send a list of wetland sites to the concerned Tehsildars, who

will verify the sites based on satellite data.

Further, four teams, including representatives from Irrigation, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Water Conservation departments, will be formed to carry out the demarcation in areas outside the forest and will be led by Tehsildars from Bandipora, Sumbal, Ajas, Hajin, and Gurez.

It was decided that for forest sites, a dedicated forest team will be constituted to manage the demarcation process.

Deputy Commissioner urged all concerned officers to work diligently towards the demarcation of wetland sites and achieve the set targets.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl; Assistant

Commissioner Revenue Bandipora, Shabir Ahmad wani ; SDM Sumbal, Murtaza Ahmad; District Officer Pollution Control Committee Irshad Ahmad; Tehsildar Bandipora Firdous Ahmad Qadri, and other concerned officials from various departments. During the meeting, it was finalized that demarcation on wetlands under forest land will be managed by the Forest Department under the supervision of the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Bandipora. He will verify these sites, compare them with satellite images, and submit a report.

During the meeting, it was also highlighted that some wetland sites fall under other districts, which requires revision and rectification.

DC chairs DCDC meeting, reviews cooperatives projects in Jammu

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya chaired the sixth meeting of the District Level Cooperative Development Committee at the district headquarters to discuss cooperative sector plans.

Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies Jammu, Tasbina Sheikh apprised the meeting that for the International Year of Cooperatives, the committee set out activities for the year. These include awareness camps for Multipurpose PACS (M-PACS) formation, food processing unit launches and cooperative week celebrations with



farmer awareness camps. During the proceedings, the DC emphasised the critical importance of timely implementation of food processing and storage infrastructure projects, including Consumer Marketing Societies and super

bazaars. These initiatives are designed to boost farmer incomes while ensuring the long-term sustainability of cooperative enterprises. The committee reviewed progress on targets from the Margdarshika document. Three PACS are

in registration, with two more in process. Eight dairy and three fishery cooperatives have registered, with mapping and geo-tagging of areas in progress.

In the food processing sector, Multiple Purpose Cooperative Societies (MPCS)- Sohal MPCS Akhnoor, Nandpur MPCS Bishnah and Biaspur MPCS RS Pura - have received loans and subsidies.

DDM NABARD Sonika Rana, Chief Agricultural Officer Vinod Kundal, AD Fisheries Munish Sharma, Lead District Manager Romesh Chander, Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Assistant Registrars, among others concerned was present at the meeting.

DC convenes public outreach camp at Paddar; also flags off Watershed Yatra

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, FEBRUARY 11: To address public grievances and foster development at grassroots, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar Rajesh Kumar Shavan today convened a public outreach at Sub-Division Paddar. He also flagged off the Watershed Yatra and attended Bhumi Pujan and Sheela Nayas for the upcoming Watershed Project at Panchayat Affani.

The yatra, which started from Affani and concluded at Karthie, saw enthusiastic participation from students of different institutions. The DC formally inaugurated the initiative in the presence of DDC Member Paddar Hari Krishan Chowhan; SDM Dr. Amit Kumar and Project Officer IWMP, Phul



lail Singh. At the outset, the project officer provided detailed insights into the status of IWMP Watershed Projects in Block Paddar.

Speaking at the outreach camp, the DC emphasized the promotion of millet cultivation in Paddar as part of sustainable agricultural practices. Additionally, he launched month-long district-wide sports activities under Sansad Khel Spardha, aimed at promoting physical fitness and mental

wellness among youth, while encouraging a drug-free lifestyle under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan.

The DC further highlighted the novel initiative of saturating 80 plus government schemes in 13 Model Panchayat, empowering one panchayat in each block and then replicating the developmental model in rest panchayats along with the effective implementation of Nasha Mukta

Panchayat initiative.

To enhance legal awareness, the DC highlighted the three new criminal laws under BNSS and informed the public about dedicated awareness programs being conducted by resource persons from the Police, Revenue, and Rural Development Departments.

He also encouraged people to project demands for community works under MGNREGA to boost local infrastructure, besides sharing insights on the 24x7 Control Room, already established at the district headquarters, ensuring round-the-clock grievance registration by the public.

Later, the Forest Department conducted a plantation drive as part of the district's environmental initiatives.

Government Unani Medical College G'bal celebrates World Unani Day

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 11: Govt Unani Medical College Ganderbal celebrated World Unani Day with great enthusiasm, highlighting the importance of Unani medicine in integrating ancient healing practices with modern healthcare.

The event brought together esteemed dignitaries, faculty members, students, and healthcare professionals to acknowledge the contributions of Unani medicine in holistic wellness and preventive care.

World Unani Day is celebrated on February 11 every year to honour the birth anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan, a renowned Unani practitioner, scholar, and visionary.



Recognized as the pioneer of Unani medicine in India, Hakim Ajmal Khan played a vital role in the revival and development of this traditional system of medicine.

This day serves as an opportunity to raise awareness about the benefits of Unani medicine and its relevance in contemporary healthcare.

Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Principal Government Medical College, Srinagar who also holds the charge of Unani Medical College Ganderbal, attended the

celebration as Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion she emphasized the relevance of Unani medicine in contemporary healthcare and reiterated that GUMC Ganderbal is committed to advancing research and education in this field, ensuring that traditional wisdom is effectively integrated with scientific advancements.

The celebration featured a series of insightful discussions, interactive sessions, and presentations by experts in the field of Unani medicine.

Comm Secy Tourism reviews wayside amenities along major highways in J&K

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Yasha Mudgal, chaired a high level meeting at Civil Secretariat, Jammu, to review the status of wayside amenities and toilet facilities along major highways and roads across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was aimed to address the growing needs of both local commuters and the increasing number of tourists visiting the Union Territory. Secretary, R&B, senior officers from NHAI, BRO, NHIDCL, R&B and the Tourism Department attended the meeting.

The meeting had detailed discussions on enhancing infrastructure to improve travel experiences and ensure seamless access to essential facilities along major routes.

The Commissioner Secretary asked the officers to expedite work



progress on infrastructure improvements. She directed the Beacon authorities to submit a location plan for wayside amenities within one month besides asking the NHAI to ensure that all non-starter amenities become functional by June 2026. She tasked the NHIDCL with developing a wayside amenity complex between Sonmarg Tunnel and Zojila Tunnel, with a priority project for a toilet complex in Sonmarg. She also asked for making the public conveniences at Qazigund, Marhama

and Jhajar Kotli operational by April 2025. She directed to install new signboards marking toilet facilities and indicating distances along highways to enhance visibility and accessibility. The Commissioner Secretary laid special emphasis on improving amenities in key tourist destinations including Gulmarg, Sonmarg, Pahalgam, Patnitop, Sanasar, Bhaderwah and Doodpathri, where high quality wayside facilities are essential to accommodate increasing tourist footfall. To facilitate this, the Chief

Engineers of R&B have been assigned the responsibility of preparing concept plans for toilet complexes and parking spaces at strategic locations. Additionally, the R&B and Tourism Departments were asked to conduct a gap analysis to identify location specific requirements for new wayside amenities along major highways. This will ensure a well-rounded infrastructure development plan that meets the evolving needs of both residents and visitors. Emphasizing the importance of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir's economy, Yasha Mudgal reaffirmed the government's commitment towards enhancing travel experiences through modern and well-maintained facilities. She asked the CEOs of Tourism Development Agencies to propose amenities only on encumbrance-free land, where all necessary approvals from the Forest Department can be availed.

DC reviews progress of work on NH144-A, other road projects in Poonch

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 10: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today directed the district administration, Poonch, to expedite ongoing developmental works, with focus on projects being executed under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Highlighting that Jal Jeevan Mission is the top priority of Union Government and JK administration, Javed Rana enjoined upon the officers that no lackadaisical approach will be tolerated while



carrying out different works under this prestigious project.

Taking serious notice of delays in execution of certain developmental projects, he instructed them to work in mission mode so that safe and adequate drinking water is made available to people of the district.

He further instructed the Deputy Commissioner Poonch and sectoral heads to ensure timely completion of ongoing projects while maintaining quality standards. He asked the officers of the Jal Shakti to monitor execution of works in their respective divisions to ensure steady progress.

PM Vishwakarma awareness prog organized at Baramulla

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 11: The PM Vishwakarma awareness program was today organized by the Branch MSME DFO Srinagar in collaboration with the District Industries Centre (DIC) Baramulla to create awareness about the Scheme and ensure greater enrolment in fifteen specific trades.

The trades included Pottery, Basket making, Boat making, Toy making, Sculpting and other artisanal crafts that have seen fewer registrations.

The program was inaugurated by General Manager DIC Baramulla, Nighat Alam in presence of Assistant Director Branch MSME DFO Srinagar, Saheel Alaqband and was attended by a wide range of artisans and stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Nighat Alam



urged participants to spread information about the PM Vishwakarma Scheme with other eligible persons.

Alaqband in his address emphasized officials to reach out to beneficiaries of underrepresented trades. He also urged participants to share awareness about the scheme among individuals of specific trades & encourage them to register and avail the benefits.

Director Agriculture Jammu conducts field visit in Marh Sub-Division Inspects Agri ventures established by local farmers by availing HADP

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: Director Agriculture Jammu S. Arvinder Singh Reen today conducted an extensive field visit of Marh Subdivision to assess the impact of the technological interventions.

The Director Agriculture had an in-depth interaction with the extension functionaries involved in the technological dissemination and implementation of various farmers' welfare programmes. He also reviewed the ongoing projects under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

The Director Agriculture visited the fields of Vikrant Kaiser, a farmer from Marh Bagh village, to observe the implementation of vegetable cultivation under the Micro Irrigation Component of the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) initiative. He explained that PDMC is a Government of India scheme aimed at enhancing water-use efficiency in agriculture. By utilizing micro-irrigation systems like drip and sprinkler, farmers are able to conserve water while increasing crop productivity. Director A.S Reen stressed the importance of creating awareness regarding the judicious use of water, tapping perennial sources of irrigation, and intro-



ducing climate-resilient crop varieties.

Later, the Director inspected the newly established Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) under HADP at Marh. The KKG, which operates at the Panchayat level, serves as a one-stop center for farmers, offering a range of agricultural services including expert advice, access to quality farm inputs, and information on government schemes.

The field visit also included an inspection of a Mushroom Controlled Cropping Unit under the HADP, established by beneficiary Bal Krishan of Gurha Singhu village. Director Reen praised the initiative, stressing the importance of mushroom

cultivation under controlled conditions as a sustainable and profitable venture. He emphasized the role of mushroom farming in generating entrepreneurial opportunities and providing employment in the region.

Addressing the field staff during the visit, Director Agriculture emphasized the importance of dedication and sincerity in uplifting the economic conditions of farmers. He urged them to promote the adoption of advanced agricultural technology, modern machinery, and high-quality inputs to improve the productivity and sustainability of farming practices.

Minister for Tribal Affairs reviews formulation of Tribal Sub Plan

Emphasizes efficacious utilization of TSP grants for tribal welfare

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today chaired a high level review meeting regarding formulation of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) by all the departments at Civil Secretariat.

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Administrative Secretaries, Head of Departments and other senior officers participated in the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, the Minister stressed the need for creating a well structured TSP to ensure inclusive development with emphasis on effective monitoring and execution.

Rana asked for ensuring greater coordination among all departments for formulation of an effective plan to be submitted to the executive committee for vetting and approval.

The Minister asked all the departments to prepare a document that clearly depicts what they have done over the past few



years and what are their future plans, so that the same is reflected in the budget proposals. He said that the department should hold consultations with the stakeholders to gauge the deficiencies confronting tribal development so that corrective measures are initiated wherever required.

Pertinently, Tribal Sub Plan is a crucial initiative aimed at promoting socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes through financial assistance for activities

related to education, health and livelihood.

The Minister further emphasized the importance of adhering to the NITI Aayog guidelines saying that the tribal affairs department will serve as the nodal agency to coordinate with all other line departments.

He further highlighted the reasons for underperformance of TSP funds like lack of unified planning, implementation, monitoring mechanism and called upon

the officers to iron out all these issues.

The Minister also impressed upon all the departments to earmark UT CAPEX funds proportionate to tribal population as TSP as per Niti Aayog guidelines. He said that TAD should be consulted for planning to ensure villages with substantial tribal population are covered.

He instructed for submission of a proposal for constitution of Apex Committee and holding of regular meetings of Executive Committee. He said that the Omar Abdullah government is committed towards socio-economic empowerment of tribals and has undertaken many initiatives on this account.

Regarding proper financial management, he said that the grant under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) meant for comprehensive development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be used properly and the schemes be implemented completely. He also asked for adopting a more proactive approach to keep track on monitoring, fund utilization and implementation of schemes.

Ramban: DLIC approves 51 cases across different schemes of Mission Youth

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 11: The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC), chaired by the Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary has approved 51 cases across different schemes of the Mission Youth initiative. After thorough scrutiny, the DLIC approved 36 cases under the Mumkin scheme, 2 under Tejaswini, and 3 under the Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative (SEI). Additionally, the DLIC approved 07 cases under the Tejaswini scheme for interest subvention, supporting young women entrepreneurs by reducing financial burdens. The committee also approved 03 cases in which the business activity was changed. These schemes are designed to empower local youth by offering financial support and resources, enabling them to pursue self-employment and entrepreneurial ventures. The approvals reaffirm the district's commitment to fostering youth-led economic development and self-reliance in the region.

ADM bans use, possession of drones, flying objects in Doda district

■ HT News Network

DODA, FEBRUARY 11: Additional District Magistrate has imposed a ban on sale, storage, possession, use and transport of any drones, flying objects in the jurisdiction of District Doda.

"Those already in possession of drone cameras/flying objects/toys or similar gadgets are directed to deposit the same in the nearest Police Station within a week's time of the issuance of this order against proper receipt" the order issued today stated.

It further stated that the Government Departments using drones for mapping, surveys, surveillance in construction works, agricultural, environmental conservation and disaster mitigation sectors and for creating pictures/movies shall inform the local Police Station Incharge and the Executive Magistrate concerned in writing about possession of such flying objects and shall seek prior permission from the ADC office before using the same.

The police/defense forces using flying objects/drone shall be exempted under this order. They shall, however, intimate the concerned SHO before using the same, it added.

Any violation of this order shall attract punitive action as warranted under relevant sections of law. This order shall remain in force for a period of two months from the date of its issue.

The Senior Superintendent of Police, Doda shall ensure the implementation of this order in letter and spirit.

MVD team conducts enforcement drive in Poonch

■ HT News Network

POONCH, FEBRUARY 11: To enhance the road safety, the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Poonch conducted a comprehensive enforcement drive today, on the directives of Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kunal and Transport Commissioner Vishesh Pal Mahajan.

The drive focused particularly on school buses and vans, ensuring compliance with safety regulations designed to protect young passengers. During the operation, approximately 50 vehicles were inspected for adherence to established safety features.

As a result of the drive, officials issued 10 challans, which collectively amounted to 70,000. The initiative underscores the commitment of the MVD to enforce traffic regulations and prioritize the welfare of school children.

The ARTO appealed to vehicle operators to adopt all recommended safety features. He emphasized the critical role that operators play in ensuring the safety and well-being of children during their daily commutes.

Additionally, he requested school principals to evaluate and potentially increase their transportation fleet in accordance with the strength of their student population. This collaborative approach is essential in fostering a safe environment for children traveling to and from school.

NDMA to conduct Disaster Management Mock Exercise at Jammu Airport in Non Aviation Domain on 18, 19 Febs

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) will be conducting Disaster Management

related Mock Exercise at Jammu Airport in Non Aviation Domain on 18 and 19 February, 2025 based on Earth quake scenario in collaboration with Jammu & Kashmir Disaster Management department- JKDMA and Airport

Authority of India at Jammu Airport. The main objective of the Mock Exercise is to highlight the key roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in various simulated hazard situations and institutionalize adoption of the

Incident Response System (IRS) in the response mechanism and generating public awareness regarding the Disaster Management. The Mock & TTEx's are designed to appraise all key functionaries related to disaster man-

agement of the Jammu Airport of their roles and responsibilities on various simulated/other natural & man made hazards, discern areas for further improvement and set the stage for the conduct of the Mock Exercise.

Doda students participate in Pariksha Pe Charcha-2025

■ HT News Network



DODA, FEBRUARY 11: Students from across Doda district took part in the live streaming of Pariksha Pe Charcha 2025, a significant educational event where Prime Minister Narendra Modi directly engaged with students to address academic challenges.

The live streaming was held in the Conference Hall of the Chief Education Office, with all higher secondary and high schools participating in the event at their own respective schools. The event was organized under the guidance of District Development Commissioner Harvinder Singh and under the supervision of Chief Education Officer Mohammad Hafiz and DEPO Dr. Anis Ahmed.

A total of 52400 students and staff from higher secondary and high schools from across the district participated in the live streaming of the event. Schools were equipped with advanced ICT labs and digital tools, ensuring a smooth and uninterrupted transmission of the Prime Minister's address. Students across the district, including those from the most remote schools such as HSS Kahaljugasar, Chanti, Chilly, Halaran, Malan, Dessa, Topneel, Behota, Goha, Gundana, Shadiwan, and Chiralla, attended the event with full arrangements.

Commissioner Secretary IT inaugurates Safer Internet Day celebration

Underscores importance of cyber security, hygiene practices

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: The Jammu and Kashmir Government today celebrated Safer Internet Day with a comprehensive workshop aimed at promoting cyber security awareness and best practices for a safer digital environment.

The event was inaugurated by Commissioner Secretary Information Technology, Saurabh Bhagat.

The workshop was conducted in hybrid mode, connecting participants from Civil Secretariat Srinagar and Jammu, all districts of the UT, IT department, senior officers from NIC SeMT and other entities.

In his address, the Commissioner Secretary, underscored the importance of cyber security and cyber hygiene practices, particularly in government offices where digital threats are increasingly prevalent. He stressed the necessity of awareness campaigns to educate school and college students, as well as senior citizens, on how to stay vigilant against cyber frauds and online threats.



Following the inaugural session, the participants took a pledge for a safer internet, reinforcing their commitment towards responsible online behavior. Jaskaran Singh Modi, SIO NIC J&K, provided a detailed overview of Safer Internet and highlighted the theme of the workshop "Together for a Better Internet" encouraging adoption of best practices for online security. He reiterated the significance of collaborative efforts to create a safer digital environment.

The workshop featured an insightful presentation by Anil Kumar Sharma, Senior Director, NIC, who elaborated on cyber hygiene practices and common threats faced by government workplaces and citizens at large. He addressed various risks including

phishing, ransomware and data breaches while recommending preventive measures to enhance cyber security.

This was followed by a Digital Well Being Video, which emphasized the importance of maintaining a balanced digital lifestyle and practicing mindful internet usage to prevent cyber threats and digital fatigue.

The event concluded with Jaskaran Singh Modi, SIO NIC J&K, summarizing key cyber hygiene practices, reaffirming the collective responsibility to ensure a safer internet for a better tomorrow. His closing remarks reinforced the need for continued education and implementation of cyber security measures across government offices and public domains.

Restore Statehood to end dual power system in J&K: Rattan Lal Gupta

Says intentionally delaying Statehood, betraying people's mandate

■ HT News Network

Jammu, February 11: Strongly advocating for the immediate restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), accused the Central government of deliberately delaying the process, thereby weakening democratic institutions and hindering development in the J&K.

Addressing a joining programme here today at Sher-



e-Kashmir Bhavan, Jammu, the senior NC leader asserted that in a democracy, an elected government must have absolute authority to function effectively. However, the prevailing dual power structure in Jammu and Kashmir has led to cre-

ating unnecessary hurdles in decision-making. The Central Govt had promised in Parliament and in Honble Supreme Court of India to restore full statehood to J&K, but their continuous delays expose their insincerity. The people of J&K

feel deceived, as they have been denied their fundamental right to a fully empowered government," he said.

The senior NC leader emphasized that the absence of complete statehood has stalled development and eroded administrative accountability. "J&K is suffering due to policy paralysis and bureaucratic high-handedness. The lack of a clear governance structure is failing to address public concerns, leaving the region's progress in limbo," he added.

Comm Secy HUDD reviews Swachhta Survekshan 2025 preparations

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 11: Commissioner Secretary Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, chaired a high level meeting to review the preparations for Swachhta Survekshan 2025 here today. Speaking about the Swachh Survekshan - a cleanliness survey among the Urban Local Bodies across the country, the Commissioner Secretary emphasised the importance of improving sanitation, waste management and citizen participation to achieve better rankings



in the upcoming survey. She directed the concerned to implement innovative solutions for maintaining cleanliness and ensuring active involvement of local communities. Dr. Devansh Yadav highlighted the steps already taken by JMC and other urban bodies to enhance sanitation infrastructure and public awareness. He stressed the

need for coordinated efforts among all stakeholders to achieve cleaner and more sustainable urban environments across Jammu and Kashmir. The Commissioner Secretary also reviewed the activities undertaken by the ULBs during the 'Swachh Antra' a pre-Republic Day Swachhata campaign campaign that

was initiated by the Housing and Urban Development Department (H&UDD). The campaign had galvanized people from all walks of life to work towards cleaner and healthier urban environment. During the campaign, over 1032 different sanitation and cleanliness activities were carried out in which the citizens participated with great enthusiasm and more than 3,50,00 people participated in different sanitation activities undertaken by the ULBs. Besides, more than 2,21,000 citizens took pledge for sustained sanitation & cleanliness.

BJP MP demands Ram, Krishna, Netaji photos back on Constitution copy

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, FEB 11 (UND)

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Radha Mohan Das Agarwal on Tuesday demanded inclusion of 22 illustrations including those of Lord Ram, Lord Krishna, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and King Vikramaditya in the copy of the Constitution.

Raising the issue during zero hour in the Rajya Sabha, the BJP MP claimed that important portions of the Constitution were removed in an unconstitutional manner.

Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in Rajya Sabha and Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge termed the move as an attempt to create unnecessary controversy.

"Today, if an Indian citizen, even a law student, when he goes to buy a copy of the Constitu-



tion as signed on January 26, 1949 by the founding fathers of the Constitution he cannot buy it from the market. Some important parts of the Constitution were removed from the Constitution in an unconstitutional manner for some unknown reasons," the BJP lawmaker said in the Upper House.

Agarwal said at the time of drafting the Constitution

of India, the Samvidhan Sabha had invited famed painter Nandalal Bose and directed him to make some illustrations to reflect the spirit of the Constitution and make them part of the Constitution.

Agarwal said Bose made 22 illustrations which included pictures of Lord Ram returning to Ayodhya, Lord Krishna giving sermon in the battlefield,

King Vikramaditya and Lord Mahavira, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Rani Lakshmi Bai.

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar endorsed the demands made by the BJP MP and remarked, "I have no doubt and I am categorical. The Constitution signed by the founding fathers of the Constitution carrying 22 miniatures is the only authentic one and can include amendments by the Parliament. If there is any change effected by judiciary or any institution it is not acceptable to this House

"I appeal to the Leader of the House that in the country only authentic version of the Indian Constitution is promulgated. Any violation of this should be taken quite seriously by the government and severe action taken," he further said.

SC closes PIL on incidents of mob violence and lynching by 'Cow Vigilantes'

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, FEB 11 (UND)

The Supreme Court on Tuesday closed a public interest litigation (PIL) concerning incidents of mob violence and lynching by "cow vigilantes" under the pretext of protecting cows from smuggling and slaughter.

A Bench comprising Justice B.R. Gawai and Justice K. Vinod Chandran stated that it is 'impractical' for the apex court, sitting in Delhi, to micromanage such incidents as the factors leading to them vary across states.

"Even in the demolition matter (regarding properties demolished as punitive measures), we allowed parties to approach competent authorities. Every State has different circumstances. In some States, beef consumption is a regular practice," Justice Gawai remarked.

The Court reiterated that its detailed directions in the Tehseen Poonawala case for addressing mob lynching incidents are binding on all authorities. It emphasized that individuals can pursue legal remedies if these directives are ignored.

"However, sitting in Delhi, we cannot monitor issues in different parts of the country. Such micromanagement is not feasible. Aggrieved persons should approach the competent court under the law," the Court stated in its order.

The Bench also declined to assess the validity of cow protection laws enacted by various states, holding that such issues must be addressed before the respective High Courts.

"It would be incorrect for this Court to test the validity of 13 different State laws in a generic

plea. The concerned State's High Court must be approached," the Court held.

The PIL was filed by the National Federation of Indian Women, with advocate Nizamuddin Pasha arguing that the Court's earlier directions against mob lynching were being violated, especially following the introduction of stringent cow protection laws in certain States.

"When private individuals are given police powers to seize vehicles and apprehend people for cattle smuggling, it raises concerns. State machinery needs to be scrutinized for its brazen conduct," Pasha submitted.

Justice Gawai questioned whether such individual cases should be brought before the Supreme Court and pointed out that incidents of criminal acts must be handled by State authorities.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta highlighted that the Central government, under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, has introduced provisions criminalizing mob lynching.

"The entire legal landscape has changed," Mehta said.

The Court concluded that uniform criteria for compensation to victims of mob lynching cannot be prescribed as each case differs based on the severity of injuries.

"As to what should be adequate compensation will differ from case to case. Issuing uniform directions would eliminate the discretion available to authorities or courts. A blanket order is not in the interest of victims," the Court reasoned.

The case was subsequently closed, with the Court advising petitioners to pursue remedies through State courts and authorities.

GE Aerospace inks deal with IAF for T700 engine sustainment solution

AGENCIES
BENGALURU, FEB 11 (UND)

GE Aerospace signed a five-year Performance Based Logistics (PBL) contract with the Indian Air Force (IAF) to provide a comprehensive sustainment solution for the T700-GE-701D engines powering the IAF's fleet of AH-64E-1 Apache helicopters.

Under this contract, GE Aerospace will be responsible for the Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) of the T700 engines and flight line parts to ensure engine availability to the IAF, a statement by GE Aerospace said.

The PBL solution is designed to streamline engine sustainment operations, improve turnaround times, and enhance the availability and operational readiness of the Apache fleet.



Youngje Kim, vice president and general manager, Asia Pacific, Defence & Systems for GE Aerospace, said, "We are honoured to continue our partnership with the Indian Air Force through this PBL contract, which underscores our commitment to deliver reliable and innovative sustainment solutions for critical defence platforms. This agreement demonstrates GE Aerospace's focus on supporting the IAF's operational needs

and mission readiness by ensuring the T700 engines are maintained at the highest level of performance."

The T700/CT7 family of turboshaft and turboprop engines powers 15 types of military and civilian helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft with more than 130 customers in over 50 countries. More than 25,000 T700/CT7 engines have been delivered, and approximately 130 million total flight hours have accumulated.

Herbalife, IIT Madras to set up Plant Cell Fermentation Tech lab

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, FEB 11 (UND)

National: Herbalife, a premier health and wellness company, on Tuesday signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Madras to establish the Herbalife-IITM Plant Cell Fermentation Technology Lab at the campus under Herbalife's CSR initiative.

The agreement signing ceremony took place at IIT-Madras in the presence of Mr. Ajay Khanna, Managing Director, Herbalife India, and Prof. Ashwin Mahalingam, Dean, Alumni and Corporate Relations, IIT Madras and others. This initiative aims to bridge the demand-supply gap in plant-based nutraceuticals, phytochemicals, and phytopharmaceuticals while aligning with Herbalife's broader innovation and sustainability goals.

This partnership aligns with the Indian government's Bio-E3 policy,



aimed at establishing India as a global hub for bio-manufacturing and advancing Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

The lab will serve as a catalyst for innovation, capacity building, and industry collaboration in the wellness sector while also fostering entrepreneurship, a Herbalife statement said. The Centre of Excellence - Herbalife Plant Cell Fermentation Technology Lab, is focused on pioneering sustainable solutions for high-quality herbal raw materials and phytochemicals.

The facility will be a center to produce sustainable herbal raw materials using plant cell fermentation technology, ensuring high-quality phytochemicals and drive innovation

in nutraceuticals, cosmetics, and Ayush formulations, contributing directly to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG3 - Good Health and Well-Being).

The collaborative effort will leverage plant cell technology to enable vitro cultivation of medicinal plants under controlled conditions, ensuring year-round availability, purity, and bioactive consistency.

In addition to this, Advanced bioreactor-based scaling will facilitate large-volume production in minimal space, overcoming land constraints and long harvesting cycles associated with traditional farming and the green extraction technologies will drive sustainability in bioactive compound production, the release said.

Hectic negotiations on to appoint new CM

AGENCIES
IMPHAL, FEB 11 (UND)

Manipur BJP MLAs were on Tuesday holding talks to choose the next state Chief Minister after the resignation of N Biren Singh.

N Biren resigned on Sunday, and has been asked to continue as caretaker Chief Minister till a replacement is announced. BJP leader Sambit Patra was holding talks with BJP MLAs on the issue.

Manipur is passing through a political and constitutional crisis as the state Assembly session scheduled from Feb 10 has also been suspended. As per rules, there cannot be a gap of six months between two Assembly sessions, and the last session ended on Aug 12, 2024. All eyes are on the next move of BJP central



leaders to tide over the crises.

The NPP, which has six MLAs, has announced it would again support the BJP-led government in Manipur as N Biren Singh has resigned. The NPP had withdrawn support demanding N. Biren's resignation,

Sources said the BJP MLAs were divided into two different groups, and a consensus was yet to be reached to elect a new leader. The source further said all the BJP MLAs may meet in New Delhi on Wednesday to choose a new leader.

Lifetime VVIPs spreading misinformation on Maha Kumbh: Yogi

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, FEB 11 (UND)

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday criticised the opposition, accusing them of engaging in negative politics and misleading propaganda on the Maha Kumbh.

While paying floral tributes to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, the founding member of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the architect of Antyodaya and Integral Humanism on his death anniversary, the CM while calling them lifelong VVIPs, accused the opposition leaders of spreading false narratives about Maha Kumbh.

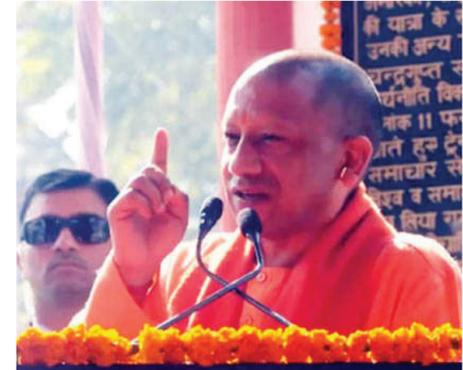
He said that the event is being held with unmatched grandeur and devotion, showcasing India's cultural heritage.

Remembering Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's ideals, Yogi emphasised that he envisioned the welfare and upliftment of the most marginalised sections of society. "Today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Bharatiya Janata Par-

ty's double-engine government is turning that vision into reality," he said.

He emphasised that Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya believed a nation's progress is defined not by the wealth of the privileged but by the well-being of its most disadvantaged. "Inspired by this philosophy, PM Modi introduced the vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas,' ensuring inclusive development for all," he said.

Criticising past governments for their empty slogans on poverty eradication, the CM pointed out that despite grand promises, poverty only increased under their rule. "In contrast, the Modi government, over the last 11 years, has empowered the poor through transformative initiatives such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana, toilet construction, Jal Jeevan Mission and Ayushman Bharat. A total of 4 crore poor families have been provided homes, 12 crore toilets have been built, 10 crore families have received free gas connections, and 80 crore people are receiving



free ration," he said.

He said, "These schemes are a testament to the realisation of Antyodaya, uplifting the last person in society."

Yogi strongly countered the opposition misinformation regarding the Maha Kumbh, emphasising that in just 29 days, a historic 45 crore devotees have taken a holy dip at the Sangam in Prayagraj.

He highlighted that, except for India and China, no other country has a population of 45 crores, making this gathering an unparalleled spiritual event. Dismissing claims

of Maha Kumbh being linked to VIP privileges, he emphasised that it is a grand confluence of faith and harmony, where devotees transcend caste, religion, language, and regional differences to unite in devotion.

He criticised those attempting to spread misinformation, stating that the individuals behind such negativity are the same ones who have enjoyed VVIP privileges throughout their lives and sought to secure benefits for their future generations. "These are the very people who have consistently opposed

India's cultural and spiritual traditions, fuelling negativity and propaganda against Sanatan Dharma," he said.

The CM also aimed at the opposition's negative politics surrounding development projects, accusing them of habitually obstructing progress by finding faults in every new initiative. "When a pipeline is laid, roads may temporarily be dug up, but once the work is completed, people receive lasting benefits," he said.

Taking a dig at opposition leaders, he highlighted their misplaced criticism of housing schemes. "When we provide homes to 4 crore people, they complain that many are still left out. Let me inform them that 3 crore more houses have already been approved," he said.

He further pointed out that those who previously thrived on VIP treatment now question the facilities being extended to the common people.

Yogi also slammed past governments for their hollow promises of poverty eradication, stating

that they only fuelled its rise instead of alleviating it. In contrast, he praised the Modi government for genuinely empowering the poor through effective implementation of welfare schemes, delivering real results instead of mere slogans. They only contributed to its rise instead of reducing poverty.

He described Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya as a guiding light who championed Antyodaya, the upliftment of the most marginalised.

The CM emphasised that Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya placed the welfare of the last person in society at the core of political thought, a vision now becoming a reality. He noted that the world is witnessing the strength of Integral Humanism, a philosophy that champions inclusive development.

Highlighting Upadhyaya's belief in collective progress, he pointed out that mere physical proximity without true unity leads to loneliness and disconnection. "The same applies to society, division hinders progress," he said.

AGENCIES
BENGALURU, FEB 11 (UND)

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Chairman DK Sunil on Sunday said the company's order book is poised to reach Rs 2.2 lakh crore by 2030, driven by strong manufacturing commitments and anticipated contracts.

Addressing a press conference on the sidelines of the Aero India 2025 on Tuesday, Sunil said, "All these orders are manufacturing orders—the 83 LCA, the 97 that we are anticipating, the 156 LCA, and the 240 engines we are manufacturing for the Sukhoi. These are all part of our manufacturing pipeline. The LUH and other key orders will be executed by 2030, and we are working towards producing all these aircraft within this timeframe."

Elaborating on HAL's financial outlook, Sunil stated that the company is expecting to generate Rs 1.2 lakh crore, with an additional Rs 1 lakh crore expected to be added to the order book in the next year. "By 2030, we anticipate having an order book of about Rs 2.2 lakh crore, which we will execute," he said.



On the global expansion front, Sunil highlighted HAL's focus on Southeast Asia, North Africa, and South America.

"In South America, we have made a breakthrough in Guyana, where we have supplied two Dornier aircraft. In North Africa, discussions are still at a preliminary stage, with ongoing talks in Nigeria, Morocco, and Egypt. Their pilots have already flown our various aircraft and helicopters. Similarly, in Southeast Asia, we are looking at opportunities for the Dornier aircraft," he noted.

Regarding the recent ALH accident, Sunil acknowledged that such incidents happen globally and assured that HAL is fully committed to addressing any technical issues. "The unfortunate incident will be thoroughly investigated. We will identify the problems and fix them. We are confident in our technical capabilities and will be able to resolve the issue effectively," he said.

Health Benefits of Pomegranate



SAHIL MANZOOR

Fresh fruits and vegetables are the healthiest food items available on Earth. Fruits are packed with essential nutrients like multivitamins, minerals, fiber, and other basic components that our body needs for proper functioning. While fruits and vegetables are seasonal, nature has blessed us with a variety of fruits available throughout the year. Some are native to our region, while others are imported from neighboring countries. Today, the fruit sector plays a pivotal role in uplifting the economy of the country and providing

employment to thousands of farmers across different age groups. In this article, I will explore the amazing health benefits of one of the tastiest fruits, widely loved across the globe for its potent health benefits—pomegranate.

Pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), a round-shaped fruit resembling an apple, is cultivated mostly in the Middle East and various other regions worldwide. It is considered one of the healthiest fruits, packed with numerous nutrients and bioactive plant compounds.

Health Benefits of Pomegranate

1. May Lower Blood Pressure

High blood pressure (hypertension) is one of the leading causes of heart attacks and strokes. Studies have shown that people with hypertension experienced a significant reduction in blood pressure after regularly consuming pomegranate juice.

Pomegranate contains hundreds of edible seeds called arils, which are rich in fiber, vitamins, minerals, and bioactive plant compounds. However, they also contain some natural sugar.

2. Rich in Nutrients and Bioactive Compounds

Pomegranates contain two unique substances responsible for most of their health benefits: Punicalagins: Extremely potent antioxidants found in pomegranate juice and peel.

3. Beneficial for Arthritis Patients

Arthritis involves inflammation in the joints, and pomegranates have been found to have anti-inflammatory effects. Due to these properties, consuming pomegranates may help in managing arthritis symptoms and reducing joint pain.

4. Lowers the Risk of Heart Disease

Heart disease is the leading cause of premature death worldwide. Pomegranates contain powerful antioxidants, such as punicalagins and puniceic acid, which contribute to their heart-protective properties. These compounds help reduce

cholesterol levels, lower blood pressure, and prevent arterial blockages.

Unique Compounds in Pomegranate

Pomegranates contain two unique substances responsible for most of their health benefits:

Punicalagins: Extremely potent antioxidants found in pomegranate juice and peel.

Puniceic Acid: A beneficial fatty acid present in pomegranate seed oil.

Availability and Consumption

The thick skin of the pomegranate is inedible, but the seeds and their surrounding arils are the edible parts. They can be eaten raw or processed into pomegranate juice. In Kashmir Valley, during winter, pomegranates become expensive and scarce. However, those who appreciate their taste and health benefits make an effort to enjoy them despite the seasonal challenges.

Study shows potassium-enriched salt can reduce recurrent stroke risk

AGENCIES NEW DELHI

Potassium supplements in salt can significantly reduce the risks of stroke recurrence as well as death, according to an international study.

The study comes amidst the new recommendation by the World Health Organization (WHO) to take potassium-enriched salt to combat hypertension and related heart risks.

Stroke is a leading cause of death and disability, and recurrent events remain a major concern. High sodium intake and low potassium intake are considered key risk factors.

"The study suggests that potassium salt substitute significantly reduced the risks of stroke recurrence and death, and is a novel and practical therapeutic option for patients with stroke," said the researchers, including



from China, Australia, and the UK.

The randomised clinical trial involved 15,249 participants from China who had previously reported suffering from a stroke.

The participants were assigned to use either a salt substitute, consisting of 75 per cent sodium chloride and 25 per cent potassium chloride by mass, or regular salt.

The findings, published in JAMA Cardiology, showed that recurrent stroke was reduced by

14 per cent in the potassium substitute group compared with those in the regular salt group.

A total of 2,735 recurrent stroke events occurred, with 691 fatal and 2,044 nonfatal episodes.

Haemorrhagic stroke showed a 30 per cent relative reduction, and stroke-related deaths decreased by 21 per cent. The researchers also found no meaningful difference in hyperkalemia (high potassium levels) between groups.

"Results of this cluster trial demonstrate that salt substitution was safe, along with reduced risks of stroke recurrence and death, which underscores large health gains from scaling up this low-cost intervention among patients with stroke," the researchers said.

The WHO, in its recent guideline, suggests using K-salt or potassium chloride instead of regular table salt, which is rich in sodium. The K-salt may help reduce the risk of hypertension, which can lead to cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) and chronic kidney disease, by lowering blood pressure.

It also lowers the risks of other conditions associated with high sodium intake, such as gastric cancer.

As per the WHO, every year, 80 Lakh people die due to poor diet. Of these, 19 lakh deaths are attributable to high sodium intake.

Common antibiotic shows hope for inflammatory bowel disease

AGENCIES NEW DELHI

An antibiotic used to treat infective diarrhoea may be an effective drug for a type of inflammatory bowel disease, according to a new study.

Researchers from the University of Birmingham, UK, showed that an antibiotic called vancomycin may also be effective in treating people who have a specific type of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), which develops due to an incurable autoimmune liver disease called primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC).

Notably, four in five patients who participated in the study achieved remission after taking the drug as part of a clinical trial published in the Journal of Crohn's and Colitis.

The study is significant, as several participants with this disease had not responded to other IBD



treatments.

Moreover, IBD and PSC are closely correlated, with most individuals who have PSC developing IBD, and up to 14 per cent of patients with IBD also developing PSC.

Together, the condition raised the need for colon

surgery and or developing colon or liver cancer, which would then need a liver transplant. It also raises the overall risk of death.

"Our findings suggest that vancomycin could offer a new therapeutic option for patients with

this challenging combination of IBD and autoimmune liver disease," said Dr. Mohammed Nabil Quraishi from the University of Birmingham.

During the trial, participants were treated with oral antibiotics for four weeks. About 80 per cent of patients achieved clinical remission after the treatment.

They also showed a significant decrease in inflammatory markers, and 100 per cent showed mucosal healing.

However, when the treatment was stopped after 8 weeks, the symptoms returned.

Vancomycin was also shown to induce changes in certain bile acids, which are now being further investigated to develop and refine treatments for IBD-associated PSC.

Although the results are preliminary, they provide a strong foundation for further research, said the team.

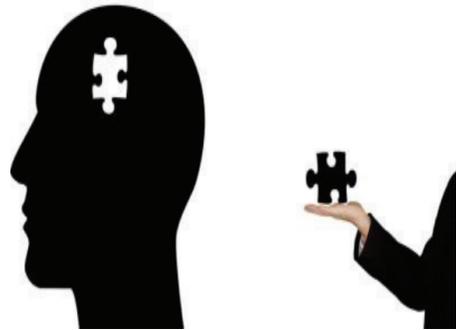
Australian research discovers brain swelling in long Covid, chronic fatigue patients

AGENCIES SYDNEY

Patients with Long Covid and chronic fatigue tend to have swelling in an area of the brain associated with memory and concentration, according to a study published on Tuesday.

Researchers from Griffith University in Australia used an ultra-high-field magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine to analyse how long Covid and myalgic encephalomyelitis -- also known as chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) -- similarly impact brain structure, Xinhua news agency reported.

The research involved 17 long Covid patients, 29 CFS patients, and 15 people with neither condition. The team identified significantly larger hippocampus volume in long Covid and CFS patients



compared to healthy individuals.

The hippocampus is a small but important part of the brain that helps with learning and converting short-term memories into long-term memories, as well as verbal and spatial memory.

The research, published in the scientific journal

PLOS ONE, found that hippocampal volume was similar among long Covid and CFS patients and that hippocampal swelling was linked to symptom severity in both groups.

Kiran Thapaliya, lead author of the new study, said that the findings show that hippocampal impairment in long Covid and

CFS patients "may play a significant role in cognitive difficulties such as memory problems, difficulty concentrating, and delayed responses to questions or conversations."

He said that the larger volume could be caused by neurogenesis -- the process by which new cells are formed in the brain -- or by a virus in the brain.

Further, the study also found the size of the hippocampus was associated with symptom severity in both patient groups.

People with high hippocampus volume had "impaired concentration, unrestorative sleep, pain, and fatigue," Thapaliya said.

The researchers noted that the overlap between CFS and long Covid may pave the way for exploring potential treatments for both conditions.

Apollo Hospitals reports 4 pc drop in Q3 net profit, revenue slips

AGENCIES MUMBAI

Apollo Hospitals has reported a net profit of Rs 379.4 crore in the third quarter this fiscal (Q3 FY25), a decline of 4.12 per cent from Rs 395.7 crore profit in the second quarter (Q2 FY25).

The company's total income in Q3 stood at Rs 5,590.7 crore, slightly lower than Rs 5,627.5 crore reported in the second quarter (Q2).

Its revenue from operations also saw a decline of 1.79 per cent at Rs 5,527 crore in Q3, compared to Rs 5,627.5 crore in the previous quarter.

EBITDA was down 6.6 per cent (on-quarter) to Rs. 762 crore, while EBITDA margin stood at 13.8 per cent (down 81bps QoQ) in Q3, led by contraction in gross margins by 135bps QoQ to 47.5 per cent.

The healthcare major announced an interim



dividend of Rs 9 per share for the financial year ending March 31, 2025.

This represents 180 per cent of the face value of Rs 5 per share.

Apollo Hospitals is also focusing on expansion and plans to add 3,512 beds across 11 locations over the next three to four years, starting from FY26.

The hospital chain is seeing strong demand for healthcare services,

particularly in tier-2 and tier-3 cities.

"From Mumbai to Varanasi and Chennai to Gurugram, we are committed to ensuring that quality healthcare is not a privilege but a fundamental right for all," said Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Chairman, Prathap C Reddy.

He further added that the results reflect our growth story that underlines our purpose of heal-

ing India and touching more than a billion lives.

Additionally, its digital health and pharmacy businesses are contributing to its growth.

Apollo Hospitals' stock closed 0.43 per cent lower at Rs 6,761.25 on the NSE on Monday.

The healthcare company achieved a milestone in cardiac care, completing over 1000 robotic cardiac surgeries across and Chennai.

Govt committed to advance development of Unani medicine: Prataprao Jadhav

AGENCIES NEW DELHI

The government is committed to advance the development of Unani medicine in India, said Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State, (I/C) Ministry of Ayush on Monday, ahead of the Unani Day.

Every year the 11th of February marks Unani Day, celebrating the birth anniversary of eminent Unani physician, educator, and freedom fighter Hakim Ajmal Khan.

On the occasion, the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), a premier research council under the Ministry of Ayush, is hosting the International Conference on "Innovations in Unani Medicine for Integrative Health Solutions - A Way Forward".

The two-day conference to be held from February 11-12, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, will be inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu tomorrow.



"I am proud to witness the growing integration of Unani medicine into the global healthcare framework. By fostering innovation and collaboration, we aim to bring forward comprehensive healthcare solutions that honour our traditional practices while addressing modern health challenges," said Jadhav, highlighting the growth of the Unani system of medicine.

"The Government remains committed to advancing the development of Unani medicine,

ensuring that it contributes meaningfully to public welfare and the overall health of the global community," he added.

Meanwhile, Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, underlined the focus of the government to boost scientific research activity in Ayush systems.

"The establishment of research centres in the Ayush sector, the inclusion of Ayush in mainstream health policies, and integration of traditional systems into the broader

health framework reflect India's commitment to preserving and promoting our cultural heritage. This international conference aims to highlight the latest advances in Unani Medicine and their utility in holistic health systems," Kotecha said.

The International Conference will offer a dynamic platform for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge exchange, aiming to highlight the pivotal role of Unani medicine in the promotion of global health and well-being.

Key objectives of the Conference include fostering innovation; exploring new frontiers in Unani medicine for integrative healthcare solutions; global collaboration; facilitating knowledge-sharing among national and international experts in traditional and integrative medicine; showcasing achievements; highlighting the latest research and advancements in Unani medicine by CCRUM.

Third ODI: Kohli, Shami eager to iron out flaws before CT

AGENCIES

AHMEDABAD, FEB 11 (UNI)

Virat Kohli's indifferent form, KL Rahul's struggles in the middle, and Mohammed Shami's lack of rhythm with the new ball have raised concerns for India as they prepare for the Champions Trophy.

With the final ODI against England in Ahmedabad on Wednesday, the Men in Blue will be eager to iron out their flaws before the marquee tournament.

Two games, two clinical chases. The Men in Blue cruised home in Cuttack to complete the task, and now, as the action shifts to Ahmedabad, can India wrap up their Champions Trophy preparations in commanding fashion?

Skipper Rohit Sharma returned to his best on Sunday, silencing the critics with a vintage display.

"I really enjoyed being out there, scoring some runs for the team. Obviously, it was an important game with the series on



the line as well. But yeah, I really broke it down into pieces, thinking about how I wanted to bat. It was important for a batter who gets set to bat as deep as possible, and that was my focus," Rohit said.

Rohit's timely century is a huge boost for India's Champions Trophy ambitions. However, Kohli's lean patch has been a worrying factor, and the team will hope he rediscovers his golden touch in the final ODI.

India's young stars, Shubman Gill and Shreyas Iyer, have been in sublime form in the opening two ODIs, helping India secure the series victory.

Gill is a very, very classy

player. I've seen him closely over the years, and he doesn't seem to get overwhelmed by the situation. He is just so focused on what he needs to do in the middle," Rohit said.

However, Rahul has not had enough time in the middle, and his recent outings have been far from convincing.

The final ODI could be a crucial opportunity for the batsman to regain his confidence ahead of the Champions Trophy.

India's bowling unit has also faced challenges, particularly in the powerplay. Shami has struggled to hit his stride, and alongside Harshit Rana, he conceded 75 runs against the

England openers in Cuttack. With Jasprit Bumrah still sidelined, will the Men in Blue turn to Arshdeep Singh in Ahmedabad to find early breakthroughs?

"We want to keep getting better as a team. I said it in the last post-match as well—there's nothing specific that we want to work on, just overall as a team. We want to keep improving, both as individuals and as a unit. Everyone has a job to do, and we want to do it perfectly," Rohit said.

So, what lies in store in Ahmedabad? Can India deliver the perfect finish, or will the visitors stage a fightback? It's the final dress rehearsal before the main event—don't miss it!

Ireland gaining momentum following hat-trick of Test victories

AGENCIES

BULAWAYO, FEB 11 (UNI)

Ireland have registered three consecutive Test triumphs and their skipper can see belief growing within the playing group.

Ireland skipper Andy Balbirnie believes his side are gaining confidence with every Test match appearance after they made it three Test triumphs on the trot with an impressive 63-run win over Zimbabwe in Bulawayo on Monday.

Spinner Matthew Humphreys (6/57) did the majority of the damage on the final day, with the left-armer collecting three wickets in quick succession as Zimbabwe were all out for 228 in their pursuit of 292 for victory.

It was Ireland's third



Test win on the trot, with the European side having previously beaten Afghanistan in the UAE in February last year and Zimbabwe in Belfast in July as they continue to make further inroads as a Test-playing nation.

Balbirnie was thrilled with the result and thinks his players are starting to grow in belief following three straight victories, an ICC report said.

"Back to Belfast (against Zimbabwe last July) when we were five down for not a lot chasing 158. Five down again here in the first innings for not a lot when Blessing (Muzarabani) was really troublesome. It shows a lot of character about our group," Balbirnie noted.

"We don't know when our next Test match is going to be so we've got to enjoy it while we can and

make sure that we're smiling," he said.

The two teams now head to Harare for six white-ball contests, with the first match of three ODI games coming at Harare Sports Club on Friday. Balbirnie is looking forward to the white-ball fixtures and is hoping the loyal Irish fans will continue their ongoing support throughout the series.

"Harare is as good an atmosphere that I've played in, outside of playing India," he said.

"It's always nice to have travelling supporters. Cricket is not the biggest sport in our country. It's down the list but we're trying to make it as visible as possible and putting our team out there as well as we can," Balbirnie added.

Warrican & Mooney crowned ICC Players of Month for January

AGENCIES

DUBAI, FEB 11 (UNI)

The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday revealed the ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for January 2025 as the West Indies' Jomel Warrican and Australia's Beth Mooney.

Left-arm spinner Warrican inspired the islanders to their first Test win in Pakistan since 1990, while Mooney was at her scintillating best as Australia convincingly brushed aside England in the Ashes.

Both players were crowned following a vote conducted among global fans registered at icc-cricket.com and a specialist panel comprising ICC Hall of Famers, former international players, and media representatives.

Warrican wins his maiden ICC Men's Player of the Month award from two other standout spinners from January's contests, Pakistan's Noman Ali and India's Varun Chakravarthy. The 32-year-old's exceptional month saw him take 19 wickets in two Test matches at an average of just 9.00.

Despite Pakistan winning the opening encounter, ten wickets fell to the left-armer in spin-friendly



Ashes victory over England, ICC Women's Player of the Month, Beth

Mooney exhibited trademark firepower in statement performances across ODI and T20I encounters.

A subdued start to the series was overturned when the opener dug deep with a battling half-century in the third ODI in Hobart. Stuttering to 59 for four, Mooney resisted a resurgent England with 50 from 64 balls, setting the platform for the home side to post 308 from their 50 overs and secure the ODI sweep.

In the T20I contests that followed, Mooney consolidated her position as the top-ranked batter, striking 213 runs at a blistering strike rate of 146.89.

Scores of 75 and 44 came before a stunning unbeaten 94 in 63 balls in Adelaide - her highest score in over five years in the format to drive home Australia's dominance against their fierce rivals.

Mooney overcomes the West Indies' Karishma Ramharack and U19 Women's T20 World Cup winner Gongadi Trisha to seal the win, and ensures a second successive win for an Australian player after Annabel Sutherland was honoured in December.

conditions in Multan. Figures of three for 69 in the first innings preceded a career-best spell of seven for 32 in the second, where, with the addition of two runouts, Warrican played a part in all but one of Pakistan's wickets to fall.

His brilliance continued in the second Test, not only with the ball but also with bat in hand. Arriving at the crease with scores at 95 for nine in the first innings, Warrican (36 not out) and Kemar Roach foiled the Pakistan onslaught and propelled the tourists to a respectable 163 all out.

Contributions of four for 43 and five for 27 came either side of 18 more valuable runs in the second innings, and the spinner's all-round heroics heralded an historic 120-run victory alongside a richly deserved Player of the Series accolade.

Warrican becomes the

first West Indian to win the award since fellow spinner Gudakesh Motie back in May 2024.

ICC Men's Player of the Month for January, Warrican, said, "It's an honour to win this award. One of my goals for this year was my first five-for in Test cricket, but I did not think that it would be this grand."

"I see this as one small step in my cricketing career, and I look forward to many more. I promised my captain something special in this series, especially when my father, my biggest supporter, predicted a phenomenal performance for me," he said.

"Multan has a special place in my heart: not only because of the historic win for the West Indies, beating Pakistan away from home, but also by earning this prestigious award," Warrican added

As Australia stormed to

with the 29-year-old comfortably holding serve to take the set.

With an equally tight second set level at 4-4, Norrie could not convert five break points in a mammoth eighth game before finally taking the sixth.

He then took the second of two match points on his serve to set up a second-round meeting with French second seed Arthur Rinderknech or Canada's Gabriel Diallo.



AGENCIES

FLORIDA CITY, FEB 11 (UNI)

British number two Cameron Norrie beat American Zachary Svajda in straight sets to reach the Delray Beach Open second round.

Norrie, the 2022 winner, needed 90 minutes to seal a 7-5 6-4 win over the world number 169, according to a BBC report.

The players traded breaks of serve in a tight first set played in hot and

humid conditions in Florida. A powerful forehand

down the line gave Norrie a crucial second break,

Liu & Kasamura claim gold in freeski slopestyle at Asian Winter Games

AGENCIES

HARBIN, FEB 11 (UNI)

China's Liu Mengting and Rai Kasamura of Japan took women's and men's freeski slopestyle title respectively at the Harbin Asian Winter Games on Tuesday.

It was sunny at the Yabuli Ski Resort, where the Games' snow events

are taking place, but the wind still posed a challenge for the skiers.

Liu secured gold with a score of 94.00 in her first run, while her compatriots Yang Ruyi and Han Linshan took silver and bronze respectively.

"I've competed in many international events, and unpredictable winds are a common challenge in

slopestyle," Liu said. "I have plenty of experience in dealing with such conditions, so I wasn't worried about the weather today."

In the men's competition, Kasamura completed a perfect routine on his second run to score 93.25 points. Fellow Japanese Ruka Ito tried to challenge Kasamura

but fell short, finishing

second with 88.50 points. The fight for the men's bronze was thrilling. Although China's Lin Hao improved his score to 78.50

on his third run, Thailand's Paul Henri Vieuxtemps then made a stunning comeback to take the bronze with 85.25 points.

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