



Pahalgam Attack Fallout

CM Omar rejects Pak's statement on 'neutral' probe in Pahalgam attack

Says those communalizing attack should remember sacrifice of Adil, widespread condemnation from locals

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, APR 26: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday rejected Pakistan's statement on a "neutral" probe into the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people, mostly tourists dead.

"Pakistan has not accepted that something has happened in Pahalgam. The country has blamed India for it. It is difficult to say anything in this regard now," said, Omar Abdullah while talking to reporters after assessing the post-flood like situation in Ramban today.

Terming the attack as unfortunate, the Chief Minister, according to the news agency—said that this should not have happened.

Also, the Chief Minister while reacting to the decision on putting Indus Water Treaty in abeyance said that the treaty has already cost J&K a lot. However, he said that if the suspension benefits J&K, he would be the first to call it a good step.

Moreover, the Chief Minister also said that those communalising it should remember the sacrifice of Kashmiri youth (Syed Adil Hussain), and also the widespread condemnation by the locals. He said that the

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Anti-terror operations intensified: Houses of 6 terrorists blown, 175 suspects detained in Anantnag

■ HT News Network/UNI

SRINAGAR, APR 25 (UNI) The homes of the Six more militants were "demolished using explosives" in south Kashmir, officials said on Saturday.

They said three houses belonging to militants in Pulwama, Shopian and Kulgam were

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Pahalgam terror attack: 'My son gave his life for nation,' says Aadil's grieving mother

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 26: The mother of Syed Aadil Hussain Shah, a courageous pony driver who tragically lost his life in the recent Pahalgam terror attack, expressed her deep sorrow and unwavering pride in her son's sacrifice for his country.

Speaking to the news agency—the grieving mother conveyed her emotions as hundreds gathered at their home in the Hapatnarda area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district to pay their respects and offer condolences. Many were seen commending her for raising such a brave son.

"My son gave his life for his nation. He was always eager to serve and protect his people," she said, her voice heavy with grief yet filled with pride. "Now, he has made the ultimate sacrifice. Although my heart is shattered, I take pride in knowing he died as a martyr."

Reflecting on her loss, she added, "Whatever was destined by Almighty Allah has come to pass, but he died while fulfilling his duty, and for that, I am proud of him

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Omar Abdullah reviews relief, restoration efforts during his third visit to Ramban

Directs formulation of special relief package for commercial losses, damaged business establishments



■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, APRIL 26: In his third visit to Ramban in a short span, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today reviewed the situation and progress of relief and restoration efforts in the flood-affected areas of the district.

Touring extensively the severely impacted Dharmkund area and chairing a high-level review meeting in Ramban, the Chief Minister assessed the extent of damages and the ongoing response operations.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister emphasized that his primary purpose was to reassure the people of Ramban that the government stands firmly with them during this challenging

time. He reiterated that despite the tragic incident in Pahalgam, the government continues to prioritize relief and rehabilitation work in Ramban.

"My primary purpose in coming here was to assure the people of Ramban that, although there was a very serious incident in Pahalgam, we have not forgotten Ramban," Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said.

He said that he didn't want the people of Ramban to feel that all our attention is now focused only on Pahalgam, and that Ramban has been neglected. "Therefore, as soon as my work in Srinagar eased, I immediately came to Ramban, met my colleagues, met the administration, and reviewed the

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Maharashtra Deputy CM extends financial aid of Rs 5 lakh to family of Syed Adil Hussain

■ HT News Network

NEW DELHI, APRIL 26, ANB, Maharashtra Deputy CM Eknath Shinde extends financial aid of Rs 5 lakh to family of Syed Adil Hussain. Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has extended financial aid of 5 lakh Rupees to the family of Syed Adil Hussain, who lost his life in the Pahalgam terrorist attack while trying to save the lives of tourists. According to News Service, Associated.

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Pakistan will be brought to its knees, will never think of committing acts like Pahalgam again: Union Minister Puri

■ HT News Network

CHANDIGARH, Apr 26 (UNI) Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri on Saturday said Pakistan will be brought to its knees so that the neighbouring nation will never again think of committing Pahalgam-like despicable terror acts.

Speaking at a Symposium on 'One Nation One Election (ONOE), Reshaping India's Electoral Landscape', organised at Chandigarh University, Minister Puri said: "In 1947, two nations (India and Pakistan) were born from the womb of the same



mother. Here we are the fifth largest economy in the world, and the other country is one which believes in using terrorism as an instrument of state policy. While one country

(India) is succeeding, the other country is witnessing terminal decline. Previous governments used to only condemn the terror attacks like the one on the Indian Parliament and we used to get back to doing business as usual (with Pakistan). But this time it is different, as we have a decisive Prime Minister in PM Narendra Modi."

"PM Modi in his statement has categorically said that Pakistan will face the consequences of the act of terror. It is for the first time that India has decided to make Pakistan pay through the cancellation of the Indus Waters

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In a first, results of 10th, 12th likely on same date

Results to be declared by April-30 or May-01

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 26, : For the first time, the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) is mulling to announce the results of 10th and 12th standard on the same date.

Besides, the board has further clarified that it is planning to announce the results by April-30 or May-01.

The top officials of BOSE informed the news agency—that the board was trying to set a new trend of announcing multiple results on the same day. "As of now, we are expecting

to announce the results of 12th standard on April-30," the official said.

It also said, "80 percent chance of declaring the results of 12th standard is on April-30 but in case there will be any change, the results will be declared on May-01."

"We may declare the results of 10th standard on the same date we have scheduled the 12th class," he said.

The official however further said that in case of 10th standard results, the board has three days from April-30 to May-02.

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Tensions Between India, Pakistan Have Always Existed; They'll Figure It Out: Trump

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 26: US President Donald Trump on Friday acknowledged the longstanding tensions between India and Pakistan, stating that the two nuclear-armed neighbors will eventually resolve their differences "one way or the other."

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One en route to Rome, Trump



remarked, "I am very close to India and I'm very close to Pakistan, as you know.

And they've had that fight for 1,000 years in Kashmir. Kashmir has been going on for 1,000 years, probably longer than that."

The remarks came in response to a query on the recent surge in hostilities following the deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam area, which claimed the lives of 26 civilians, mostly tourists. The Resistance Front

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Gol issues advisory for media channels, social media users

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 26 Government of India has issued an advisory to all the media channels including social media users to refrain from showing live coverage of defence operations and movement of security forces.

As per the news agency—, in the interest of national security, all media platforms, news agencies, and social media users are advised to exercise utmost responsibility and adhere strictly to existing laws and

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Meet Rayees Ahmad, another hero who rescued tourists after Pahalgam firing

'Humanity transcends religion and fear'

■ HT News Network

PAHALGAM, APR 26: In the wake of the tragic terrorist attack on April 22 in Baisaran Valley, Pahalgam, where 26 tourists lost their lives and many were injured, Rayees Ahmad has emerged as a beacon of bravery and humanity. The president of the local Pony



Walas Association, Rayees,

a resident of Pahalgam, is being hailed for his courageous efforts to rescue tourists amidst chaos.

Speaking to the news agency—, Rayees recounted the harrowing moments following the attack. He received a distressing message around 2:35 pm informing him of the inci

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Sakeena Itoo calls on Punjab Governor; raises issues of J&K students, business community in wake of Pahalgam attack

Interacts with scores of J&K students, business community members

■ HT News Network

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 26: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo today called on Governor of Punjab and Administrator of UT of Chandigarh, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria at Raj Bhavan here.

During the interaction, the Minister discussed several issues concerning safety and security of J&K students and business community, in wake of the recent tragic attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister requested the Governor



to take steps for instilling some sense of security among the J&K students and business community.

The Governor assured the Minister of full cooperation and said that the Punjab and Chandigarh Administrations will ensure safety and security of all J&K residents and students.

DGP, Punjab, Gaurav Yadav and DGP, Chandigarh Police, Surendra Singh Yadav were also present on the occasion.

Later, the Minister also met Chief Secretary, Punjab, Shri K A P Sinha to discuss the issues of J&K students, business community

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Weatherman predicts heat wave like conditions in J&K from Today

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 26: The weatherman here has predicted a dry spell from Sunday and has said that there is a possibility of a heat wave at a few places across J&K for the next few days.

According to the news agency— Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that the weather is expected to remain generally dry from tomorrow upto May 01.

He added that there is a possibility of light rain and thundershower at isolated places on May 02 and May 03. The MeT has, however, stated that there is a possibility of generally hot & dry weather over Jammu division with heat wave at isolated places for the next few days.

The MeT has asked people to stay hydrated & drink plenty of water, fluid & stay

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Satish Sharma meets Uttarakhand CM, discusses issues of J&K students, business community following Pahalgam attack

Also Interacts with students, Business community; assures full support of the Government

HT News Network

DEHRADUN, APRIL 26: Minister for Transport and Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma today met Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhami here to discuss the issues of J&K students and business community in the aftermath of Pahalgam attack. During the meeting, safety and security of students from Jammu & Kashmir studying in Uttarakhand and the issues of business community were discussed. During the meeting, Satish Sharma briefed the Chief Minister about the purpose of visit to Uttarakhand. He informed the Chief Minister that J&K Government and people of Jammu and Kashmir

have strongly condemned the recent barbaric attack on tourists. A telephonic conversation was also held between CM of Uttarakhand and CM of J&K during the meeting. The Uttarakhand CM assured that all students from Jammu & Kashmir are completely safe in the state, and the government is fully committed to provide them with all the required support and assistance. The Uttarakhand CM emphasized that the state government is making every effort to ensure a bright future for the students. The Chief Minister and Satish Sharma also discussed strengthening the coordination and cooperation between Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir. Earlier, Minister for Transport and Food, Civil Supplies & Con-



sumer Affairs, Satish Sharma held series of meetings with the Uttarakhand Administration in Dehradun to address the concerns of students from Jammu and Kashmir studying in various universities and professional colleges, as well as businessmen operating in the city, besides individuals from J&K.

The visit was undertaken by Satish Sharma on the directions of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah. During his interactions and deliberations, Sharma raised several issues related to the safety and security of the J&K students and business community, especially in the wake of recent tragic attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the administration to take proactive measures to instil a sense of security among the affected groups. The Dehradun Administration assured the Minister of full cooperation and assured him the safety and well-being of all residents and students from Jammu and Kashmir in Dehra-

dun. As part of his visit, Sharma personally interacted with a cross-section of J&K students and business professionals based in Dehradun and nearby areas. He also connected with several students, businessmen, labourers, travellers etc over the phone to address their concerns, given the prevailing situation. Based on the feedback obtained from by these individuals, Satish Sharma discussed the same with the concerned authorities of the Uttarakhand for immediate redressal. The Minister reassured the students and the community that the Omar Abdullah-led government is fully committed towards welfare and security of its citizens across the country. He encouraged them to use the helpline numbers circu-

lated by the J&K Government for any assistance or emergencies. Later, Satish Sharma also visited DIT university, Maya Devi university, UPES university, the Wildlife Institute of India and several other institutions in Dehradun to discuss security concerns of students with college Administrations. He also interacted with students from J&K in these universities. He requested the University, College and Higher Education authorities to take immediate steps for welfare and security of J&K students in their respective colleges. The Minister reiterated the government's commitment to providing all possible support and assistance to the students and business community as well as all individuals from J&K.

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CM

situation here," he said. The Chief Minister lauded the efforts of the District Administration, particularly Deputy Commissioner Ramban, and Senior Superintendent of Police, for their swift and coordinated response, which led to the restoration of traffic on NH-44 within 24 hours alongside the simultaneous launch of rescue and restoration operations. He noted visible improvements along the National Highway and other affected regions, resulting in smoother vehicular movement and relief to stranded and affected populations. Stressing the importance of long-term rehabilitation, the Chief Minister directed the District Administration to identify land for resettling displaced families and to allot five marlas of land to each affected family. He further stated that disaster management planning for Jammu and Kashmir will be reoriented to address the climatic changes witnessed in recent years.

"I have instructed the administration and the Deputy Commissioner that many people have not only lost their houses but also the land on which their houses stood. I have directed the DC to identify an alternate site, and once that is done, we will provide plots of five-marlas of land to the affected families," the Chief Minister said.

Responding to concerns raised by public representatives, the Chief Minister directed the Deputy Commissioner to submit a proposal for the provision of three months' free ration to residents of affected areas.

He also instructed officials to assess the need for a special relief package for individuals who have suffered commercial losses and damages to shops and business establishments, supplementing the assistance available under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

"Under the SDRF norms, commercial losses are not compensated. Nevertheless, I have asked the DC to prepare a proposal under SDRF provisions, whether for relief to commercial establishments or for providing free ration to those who have suffered the most. We are committed to approving these proposals once submitted," CM Omar Abdullah said.

The Chief Minister informed that funds under the SDRF have already been released and assured liberal financial support for relief, rehabilitation, and restoration activities in Ramban. He emphasized that the government is working through a phased approach focusing on rescue, recovery, restoration, and rebuilding to restore normalcy in the affected areas.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by DDC Chairperson Dr. Shamshad Shan, MLA Banihal Sajad Shaheen, MLA Ramban Arjun Singh Raju, Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Ramban Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, SSP Ramban Kulbir Singh, SSP Traffic NHW Raja Adil Hamid and other senior officials.

During the review meeting, DDC Chairperson, MLAs, and other officials flagged several urgent issues requiring immediate attention.

Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner briefed the Chief Minister on the situation and the measures undertaken. He reported that three human lives were lost, over 1,000 livestock perished, and 11 key locations along the National Highway were severely affected. A total of 93 vehicles were recovered, and 496 structures sustained damage. Of the 27 Jal Shakti Department schemes affected, nine have been partially restored. Approximately 80,498 kanals of agricultural land and 46

schools also suffered damage.

To respond effectively, the District Administration established control rooms and camp offices near affected sites under the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), set up multiple relocation centres equipped with basic amenities, and relocated 45 families from Dharmkund to NHPC Colony and 24 families from Kow Bagh and Pernote to Maitra Community Hall. Teams from NDRF, SDRF, Civil QRT and various NGOs were mobilized for immediate assistance. Twenty-six ambulances were deployed for emergencies, and ration was distributed among stranded truck drivers.

In addition, ration supplies were transported on ponies along the Sencha-Bhagna road to ensure delivery to remote households. Adequate manpower and machinery have been deployed for restoration work across the district.

The Deputy Commissioner further informed that ex-gratia relief of Rs 1 lakh each has been disbursed to the families of all three deceased individuals from Red Cross funds.

PURI

Treaty which governments in the past never considered as a reciprocal action. A country in decline (Pakistan) will be brought to its knees so they never think of such despicable acts again," he said.

On the proposed 'ONOE', Puri said: "Election expense is only one part of the proposal for ONOE but it's absolutely true that it's also very important because the same money can be used for social upliftment and education. ONOE will not benefit the ruling party. This discussion is about democracy; what makes India or Bharat tick. We are more than not just the biggest democracy but we are the mother of democracy, as the oldest democracy."

"According to the IMF, we will be the fourth biggest economy in a very short period of a few months, and the third largest economy by 2027-28. The economic growth requires an enabling environment. The states which provide good enabling environment for entrepreneurs and good law and order are more successful," he added.

Maharashtra Deputy CM

The cheque was handed over to his family members yesterday by Shiv Sena workers who had gone to Pahalgam as volunteers. Shinde also spoke with the bereaved family, lauding Syed Adil Hussain's bravery and describing his act as an extraordinary example of humanity. He emphasised that Syed Adil Hussain's supreme sacrifice would not go in vain. Shinde further assured the family of support in rebuilding their house, which is currently in a dilapidated condition.

ADIL

sacrifice of Adil, who lost his life while fighting off terrorists to save tourists, should be remembered.

Omar said that he can understand the fear among the tourists. "Nobody wants to experience such a situation while holidaying. But I want to tell the people leaving Kashmir that their return would help the enemies succeed in their mission as terrorists wanted tourists to return after this attack," he said.

Furthermore, the Chief Minister stated that he visited Ramban today again after the Pahalgam attack to assess the ground situation.

"I wanted to assure the people that the government stands with them. Besides, there has been a demand from locals to relocate

them somewhere else and the Deputy Commissioner has already been directed in this regard to identify the alternate place for their relocation," he added.

He added that the highway has been opened for one-way traffic while to pace up the speed of the ongoing restoration work, the highway has been closed for the traffic.

The Chief Minister added there have been a few demands from the affected families including a free ration to them. He said that the Deputy Commissioner has been directed to identify such families for necessary measures.

Also, he added that once the Nallahs are cleared, the retaining walls and other necessary measures will be taken. He also added that the land is being identified to relocate the affected families to the safer place—

ANTI

blown up during the night. "In connection with the recent terror attack, three houses belonging to terrorists in South Kashmir during the night were damaged in blast," they said.

During the April 24-25 night, the homes of the two Lashkar-e-Taiba militants suspected to be among the Pahalgam attackers, were "demolished using explosives" in south Kashmir. Following the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, security forces have launched a massive crackdown across Anantnag district, detaining around 175 suspects for questioning, police said.

Over the last four days, joint teams of the Anantnag Police, Army, CRPF, and other agencies have been conducting extensive cordon and search operations across the district, targeting suspected hideouts and support networks.

"As part of these operations, numerous raids were conducted at various locations throughout the district. Day and night search operations are underway with heightened vigilance. So far, around 175 suspected have been detained for questioning to dismantle the support networks aiding terrorist activities," a police statement said.

Earlier this week a deadly terror attack took place on tourists in the picturesque Baisaran meadow near the famous resort of Pahalgam in Anantnag district, which claimed 26 lives. After the attack, security agencies launched a massive operation in several districts and detained suspects for questioning. In Anantnag to further enhance security, additional Mobile Vehicle Check Points (MVCPs) have been established across the district to monitor suspicious movements and ensure public safety.

"Moreover, Cordon and Search Operations (CASOs), ambushes, and intensified patrolling have been launched, particularly in high-density forest areas, to flush out any possible terrorist presence and secure the district," police said.

Security forces have also stepped up vigilance in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir as mountain ranges in the district are connected with Anantnag.

Police said in view of prevailing scenario so as to liquidate the threat perceptions, Ganderbal Police along with Army, elite Para, CRPF and SSB have adapted an aggressive approach and started combing operations especially in those areas where anti-national elements can possibly take refuge or had connection with the Over ground Workers (OGWs) and other supporters.

"This time the security forces have established a sound security matrix and are strategically targeting the areas close to the forest line and close to the snow line. During this course, house to house searches are being

conducted and the suspected persons are being interrogated," Police said.

Results

"We want to set some new precedents and trends of declaring different results on the same day. BOSE will most likely announce the twin results of 10th and 12th classes on the same day," the official said.

He said, "My staff is working round the clock so that we can announce the results of both classes on the same date."

The official said that nearly 3,55,963 students were registered for the annual regular examination of class 10th, 11th and 12th including 1,32,992 candidates of 10th standard, 1,20,673 in 11th standard and 1,02,298 students of 12th standard respectively.

Pertinently, Education Minister Sakina Itoo had directed the BOSE and the concerned authorities to announce the results by April-30—

RAYEES

dent and immediately rushed to the scene. "As I made my way to the location, I saw tourists, locals, and fellow pony-walas running towards Pahalgam amid overwhelming panic and fear," he said.

Recognising the urgency of the situation, Rayees quickly rallied his fellow pony-walas, urging them to join him in helping tourists to safety. "Together, we took dozens of tourists with us, navigating the shortest paths to reach Pahalgam," he recounted.

Upon reaching Baisaran, Rayees was confronted by a scene of devastation. "Lifeless bodies were scattered, and the cries of the injured filled the air. I witnessed a heart-wrenching sight as a few women pleaded for their husbands, but by the time we reached them, they had already succumbed," he said.

Undeterred, Rayees and his companions began the challenging task of rescuing the injured, transporting them on horses and sometimes carrying them on their backs. "We worked tirelessly until every injured tourist was taken to the hospital, while the deceased were respectfully gathered in one place," he said. Rayees said it would take considerable time for the community of Pahalgam to heal from this profound tragedy. Many families remain devastated, having gone days without food since the incident. This sorrow extends beyond individual losses; it strikes at the very heart of humanity, he said. "This is not just a murder of innocent people; it is an assault on the very soul of Kashmir and the spirit of humanity," he added. Rayees said the government must act swiftly to revive tourism in the region. "It is important to send a strong and clear message to the world that neither the tourists nor the local people have been cowed by these heinous acts, and that Kashmir remains resilient in the face of such terror," he said—

GOVT

regulations while reporting on matters concerning defence and other security-related operations.

Specifically: No real-time coverage, dissemination of visuals, or reporting based on "sources-based" information related to defence operations or movement should be undertaken. Premature disclosure of sensitive information may inadvertently assist hostile elements and endanger operational effectiveness and the safety of personnel—

US

(TRF), believed to be a proxy of the banned

Pakistan-based outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), has claimed responsibility for the attack—the worst in the Valley since the Pulwama bombing in 2019.

Describing the incident as "a bad one," Trump emphasized the historical context of Indo-Pak tensions, saying, "There have been tensions on that border for 1,500 years... the same as it's been, but they'll get it figured out. I'm sure. I know both leaders. There is great tension between Pakistan and India. But there always has been." (KNS)

WEATHER

indoors and avoid working in the open during peak hours (12-3 pm).

Moreover, an independent weather forecaster, Aadil Maqbool has stated generally dry or sunny weather is expected at most places of Jammu and Kashmir during the next 5-6 days.

He added that between April 28 and May 01, a heat wave-like condition is predicted at some parts of Jammu and Kashmir. "No rain or any local activity is expected until 01 May," he said.

Significantly rise in day temperatures is expected from tomorrow, he said, adding that the farmers are advised to resume farm or spraying operation from tomorrow onwards—

Sakeena

and other individuals in the aftermath of Pahalgam attack. Additional Chief Secretary, Home Affairs Punjab, Shri Alok Shekhar was also present during the interaction.

During the meeting, the Minister requested the Chief Secretary and ACS to take steps for restoring sense of security among J&K students and the business community currently in Punjab and Chandigarh.

The Chief Secretary and ACS assured full cooperation to J&K Government for welfare and safety of all J&K students and business community currently in Punjab.

Earlier, on the directions of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo arrived in Chandigarh Punjab to instil sense of security among the J&K students and business community, in wake of the recent tragic attack in Pahalgam.

MOTHER

On Saturday, several political leaders, including BJP leaders Ravinder Raina, Ashok Koul and Sunil Sharma, visited Aadil's home to offer their condolences. They praised Aadil's heroism, saying his bravery would be remembered for generations. They said Aadil died as a martyr, sacrificing his life without a second thought to protect others.

The BJP leaders condemned the killing of Adil Shah as a brutal act of terrorism, saying such violence knows no religion and continues to take innocent lives. They paid tribute to his courage, recognising him as a symbol of Kashmiri resilience and determination.

"We stand shoulder to shoulder with Syed Aadil's family in this moment of profound grief," said Ashok Koul, BJP J&K General Secretary (Organisation). "His sacrifice will not be forgotten, and we assure them of our full support. The entire nation mourns with his family."

Leader of Opposition (LoP) Sunil Sharma called for combating terrorism, which seeks to undermine peace and harmony in Jammu & Kashmir. He said, "The killing of innocent, hardworking youths like Adil serves as a stark reminder of the destructive intentions of terrorists, who are enemies of humanity."



Dy CM hails safety measures for J&K residents in meeting with Eknath Shinde

Safety of our people is government's prime concern: Dy CM

HT News Network

MUMBAI, APRIL 26: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary today met Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister, Eknath Shinde in Mumbai and expressed satisfaction over the measures taken by Maharashtra Government for the safety of J&K residents.

The Deputy Chief Minister also interacted with students, businessmen and professionals working in Maharashtra to instil sense of security among them.

During the meeting, Choudhary emphasized the importance of ensuring the safety and security of J&K residents living in Maharashtra. He urged Deputy Chief Minister, Eknath Shinde to take all necessary steps to safeguard their wellbeing in view of recent concerns.

In response, Eknath Shinde assured his full support and reiterated that both the government and people of Maharashtra stand firmly with the people of Jammu and Kashmir to protect and support them. Acting on the instructions of Chief Min-



ister, Omar Abdullah, Deputy Chief Minister Choudhary also held separate meetings with students from various colleges and universities, private sector employees, and businessmen to personally enquire about their wellbeing and any safety concerns. He also met with senior police

officials as well.

He reaffirmed that the safety of J&K residents remains top priority for the government, stating, "We will go the last mile to ensure the safety and welfare of our people." Expressing solidarity, Choudhary empha-

sized that the Omar Abdullah government is deeply concerned about the wellbeing of its people and is committed to ensuring their security at all times.

He assured the community that there is no need for fear or anxiety, emphasizing, "Our government is available 24x7 to assist you." He also advised students and other residents to contact the official helpline numbers circulated by the administration in case of any assistance. The Deputy Chief Minister also interacted with students, businessmen and professionals working in Maharashtra to instil sense of security among them. During the meeting, Choudhary emphasized the importance of ensuring the safety and security of J&K residents living in Maharashtra. He urged Deputy Chief Minister, Eknath Shinde to take all necessary steps to safeguard their wellbeing in view of recent concerns. In response, Eknath Shinde assured his full support and reiterated that both the government and people of Maharashtra stand firmly with the people of Jammu and Kashmir to protect and support them.

Drug Free J&K campaign: Distt admin Srinagar organizes awareness programme at GHS Shalteng

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APRIL 26: As part of the ongoing Drug Free J&K campaign, an awareness programme was organized today at Government High School, Shalteng to combat drug abuse. The programme, held on the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, aimed at sensitizing the local population, especially the youth, about the ill effects of drug abuse and the importance of a healthy and addiction-free lifestyle. The event witnessed the participation of Officers from SMC, Education, Health, Excise, Social Welfare and other departments, besides the staff and students of the School. On the occasion, speakers emphasized community responsibility in tackling substance abuse and encouraged youth to engage in constructive and developmental activities. During the programme, interactive sessions were also held to engage the participants and spread the message effectively on the initiatives pattern. The participants took a pledge to support the drug free J&K campaign to protect the young generations from the ill effects of the drug menace. On the occasion, speakers emphasized community responsibility in tackling substance abuse and encouraged youth to engage in constructive and developmental activities. During the programme, interactive sessions were also held to engage the participants and spread the message effectively on the initiatives pattern. The participants took a pledge to support the drug free J&K.

CEO SSCL reviews Srinagar's ICCC, ITMS progress Unveils future Expansion Plans

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APRIL 26: In a key development in Srinagar's smart city mission, Commissioner SMC and CEO of Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), Dr. Owais Ahmed today conducted a detailed review of the Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC) along with the progress of the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS).

The meeting showcased the achievements, ongoing operations, and strategic initiatives aimed at future enhancement of these urban systems.

Dr. Owais highlighted the ICCC's vital role as the nerve center of Srinagar's urban management, enabling real-time data monitoring, emergency response coordination, and traffic regulation through the ITMS.

"The ICCC and ITMS are fundamental to our digital transformation efforts, streamlining services, improving traffic flow, and enhancing public safety," he stated.

He said that SSCL's commitment to integrating advanced technologies, including predictive analytics and



smart traffic solutions, is to develop more resilient and efficient urban infrastructure.

During the review, Dr. Owais praised the success of these systems in improving inter-departmental communication, reducing response times, and promoting transparency through data sharing. He directed officials to continually evaluate operational metrics and identify further opportunities for improvement.

Dr. Owais also announced ambitious plans to expand the capabilities of the ICCC and ITMS, including the integration of predictive analytics for proactive traffic management, upgraded surveillance infrastructure for urban security, and the development of robust citizen feedback mechanisms. These initiatives aim to create a more interactive, responsive, and intelligent urban environment, reinforcing Srinagar's position as a leading smart city.

Noor-ul-Ain Trust Organizes Fourth Phase of Marriage Assistance Distribution in Kanhama

HT News Network

Kanhama, April 26: Noor-ul-Ain Trust (NGO) organized a special ceremony in Kanhama, where wedding kits were distributed during the fourth phase of their initiative to fifty orphaned and destitute girls belonging to poor families. The event witnessed the participation of various notable personalities and dignitaries from different sections of the community. Speaking at the ceremony, the speakers emphasized that it is the duty of every individual to support the marriage arrangements of orphaned and destitute girls. They praised the tireless efforts of Noor-ul-Ain Trust officials for their dedication and unwavering commitment to serving those in need. The girls who received the wedding kits expressed their



happiness and heartfelt gratitude. During the event, individuals who have made outstanding contributions to society were also honored for their exemplary service. While speaking to the media, Chairman of Noor-ul-Ain Trust, Fayaz Ahmad, said, "Today we organized the fourth phase of marriage assistance kit distribution to 50 girls from poor families. I

am very thankful to those who are supporting us through their donations." He further urged the community to conduct marriages in a simple and modest manner to ease the financial burden on families. The event concluded with a message of hope, solidarity, and encouragement for the collective responsibility of uplifting the underprivileged sections.

Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar organizes Plantation, Cleanliness Drive at Zabarwan Hills

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APRIL 26: Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar, today organized a plantation and cleanliness drive at the Zabarwan Hills under the banner of the national campaign 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam.'

The event, held in collaboration with Woodlands House School, Sonwar witnessed active participation from 200 students, along with staff members from Woodlands House School, with support from Urban Forestry Division staff, in the plantation and cleanliness activities.

On the occasion, a cleanliness drive focusing on the removal of polythene and plastic waste was undertaken across key locations in the Zabarwan Hills. The students also collected around 50-60 kilograms of polythene and plastic waste, which was later responsibly disposed-off at designated sites identified by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation. Besides, 250 (approx) conifer saplings were planted during the event. An awareness session was conducted



ed on the importance of forests, biodiversity conservation, and combating climate change, helping students understand the critical role they can play in environmental protection.

Commanding the efforts, Tawheed Ahmad Deva, Conservator of Forests, Srinagar Circle, lauded the Urban Forestry Division for organizing the plantation-cum-awareness programme in collaboration with Woodlands House School.

He urged all Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs) within the Srinagar Circle to replicate such initiatives in their respective areas to foster a greener, healthier and more sustainable environment.

Javed Dar calls on HP Chief Minister; urges for safety of Kashmiri students, others residing there

HT News Network



SHIMLA, APRIL 26: Minister for Agriculture Production, Javed Ahmad Dar, today called on Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, apprising him of the situation arising out of the recent Pahalgam terror strike.

Their meeting focused on key issues concerning the safety and welfare of J&K residents in Himachal Pradesh.

The meeting was held in pursuance of the directions of Chief Minister of J&K where under all Cabinet Ministers of J&K have been deputed to various parts of the country.

During the interaction, Javed Ahmad Dar urged the Chief Minister to ensure the security and well-being of Kashmiri students, businessmen and workers currently residing in Himachal Pradesh.

The HP Chief Minister emphasised that the people of Himachal Pradesh are peace loving and believe in upholding the values of brotherhood and communal harmony.

Strongly condemning the heinous attack, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu expressed heartfelt solidarity with the victims and their families. He assured that the State Government would take every possible step to guarantee the safety, security and well-being of all residents from Jammu & Kashmir living in Himachal Pradesh.

JK Cabinet Minister Javed Rana arrives in Lucknow To meet J&K students, businessmen and UP authorities

HT News Network

LUCKNOW, APRIL 26: In the backdrop of recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam and with the objective of reassuring and instilling sense of security among students and businessmen from Jammu & Kashmir currently residing in different parts of Uttar Pradesh, J&K Minister Javed Ahmed Rana today arrived in Lucknow.

Rana will be available to interact with students, businessmen and other members of J&K community at VVIP Guest House Saket, Mahatma Gandhi Marg Lucknow.

He will also be meeting senior functionaries of UP Government.

All interested student groups, business leaders or individuals from J&K wishing to meet the Minister may contact Muddasir Latifi Tasir, OSD (9419168268) and Raiyaz Ahmed, APS (9103792688).

Minister Sakeena Itoo arrives in Chandigarh To meet J&K students, business community in wake of Pahalgam attack

HT News Network

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 26: On the directions of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet Minister, Sakeena Itoo has arrived in Chandigarh to meet students and residents of Jammu and Kashmir currently staying in Punjab and Chandigarh and ensure sense of security among them, in the aftermath of Pahalgam attack.

The Minister posted on X, "On the direction of HCM, I am available in Chandigarh and Punjab to meet students, business community and individuals from J&K to ensure a sense of security. Anyone facing any issue can reach out to me through the below mentioned numbers: 94190 04823, 70060 65102". Later, the Minister is also scheduled to meet Governor of Punjab and Administrator of UT of Chandigarh, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria to discuss the issues of J&K students, business community and other individuals in the aftermath of Pahalgam attack.

Satish Sharma in Dehradun; Available to meet J&K students, Business community

JAMMU, APRIL 26: In consonance with the directions of Chief Minister and view a purpose to reassure and instill a sense of security among students, business persons from Jammu and Kashmir currently pursuing studies, carrying out business activities in Dehradun, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Sports has reached Dehradun. During his visit, the Minister will be available to interact with students, business community and other members of J&K community.

EDITORIAL

Stop officers from issuing confusing, chaotic orders

Following the Baisaran-Pahalgam terror incident that left 25 tourists and a local dead, some of the orders issued by officers of different government departments have led to confusion and chaos among the people of the union territory of Jammu & Kashmir. Even though these officers have been attached with their respective directorates still then some damage has been done. The people as a whole are wondering as to why these officers issued such orders without the application of mind.

The Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of Baramulla and Anantnag districts issued orders asking the employees appointed under the Prime Minister’s package to work from home unless and until the situation improves in the valley. The orders came as a surprise for the people especially the teachers who opined that the situation is not so bad that the teachers appointed under the PM’s package have been asked to work from home. They also viewed that such orders send a negative message to the outside world. Both the officers were attached with the Directorate of School Education Kashmir.

On April 25 the Medical Superintendent of Government Medical College Hospital, Jammu issued a circular asking the employees of the hospital to be in ready mode following escalation of cross border tension between India and Pakistan. In the circular it was mentioned that the store officer and store keepers should make essential supplies, emergency medicines and critical equipment in state of readiness to meet any exigency. In the circular it was also written that round the clock control room has been established to meet any eventuality and the hospital staff was advised to restrict unnecessary holidays.

The issuance of this circular sent shock waves among the Jammu residents more so among those living in the border areas of the Jammu division. It was felt by the people, especially the border residents that war between India and Pakistan is round the corner and the masses should be ready for any eventuality. The Health & Medical Education department acted swiftly in this regard and the concerned medical superintendent was attached with the Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir.

One fails to understand the logic behind the issuance of orders by the CEOs and the medical superintendent. Since the orders got revoked and these officers were attached it proves that they issued the same on their own without getting the consent from their higher-ups. In such a scenario it is important that the heads of the different departments come out with a circular making it clear that the subordinate officers cannot take policy decisions.

SKUAST-Kashmir: Unleashing Unlimited Learning Opportunities In Agriculture

DR SHAH ZUBAIR AHMAD AKHOON

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), headquartered at Shalimar near the Mughal garden with multiple campuses spread across the picturesque Kashmir valley, stands as a prominent hub of agricultural innovation and scholarly excellence. The university serves the northwestern Himalayan region. The area’s temperate climate contributes significantly to the university’s conducive learning and research programmes. Established in 1982, SKUAST-K has emerged as one of India’s premier agricultural universities, significantly transforming the agricultural education landscape of Jammu and Kashmir and achieving numerous national Academic/Research milestones.

A distinguished record of achievement:

At the vanguard of scientific progress in agriculture and allied fields, SKUAST-K operates as a multidisciplinary institution comprising seven academic campuses, fourteen Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and eleven research stations. The university is presently ranked among India’s top ten agricultural institutions, reflecting its robust performance in agricultural and allied sector research. SKUAST-K has emerged as a beacon of innovation and sustainability in India’s agricultural sector. With a portfolio of 71 patents and 67 startups at Technology Readiness Levels ranging from 5-8, the university underscores its commitment to fostering entrepreneurship among faculty and students.

Agricultural Innovations Enhancing Regional Livelihoods

SKUAST-K’s contributions have significantly bolstered food security and economic resilience in the region. The development of Shalimar Rice-4 (SR-4), a high-yielding variety producing up to 60 tons per hectare, exemplifies this impact. Efforts to revive traditional rice landraces like Mushkbudji and Zag have not only preserved the area’s rich agrobiodiversity but also led to the introduction of the first aromatic Kashmiri Basmati variety. In horticulture, the university’s promotion of high-density farming techniques has resulted in a sixfold increase in apple production, transforming the industry’s productivity and sustainability.

Pioneering a Bio-Economy in Jammu & Kashmir

SKUAST-K is steering Jammu and Kashmir towards becoming a model bio-economy state. The Holistic Agricultural Development Programme



(HADP), with an investment of 5,013 crores, aims to modernise agriculture, ensure livelihood security, and enhance productivity across the region. To facilitate agricultural exports and provide global market access to farmers, the university has introduced the JK EXIM Policy, offering strategic guidelines and support to stakeholders.

Integrating Advanced Technologies in Agriculture

At the forefront of agricultural innovation, SKUAST-K integrates cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), automation, precision agriculture and CRISPR-Cas gene editing into its research ecosystem. The establishment of the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (CAIML) and the launch of a B.Tech program in AI in Agriculture, in collaboration with IIT Mandi, exemplify the university’s commitment to technological advancement.

Additionally, SKUAST-K emphasises sustainable practices through Integrated Pest and Disease Management and Integrated Nutrient Management programs, focusing on soil health and environmental protection.

Academic Vision and Mission

Guided by the motto “SKUAST-Kashmir for Quality of Life,” the university aspires to be an innovation-led institution driving the bio-economy of a developed Jammu and Kashmir. Its mission encompasses nurturing creativity, leadership, gender equity, and entrepreneurship, while promoting a knowledge-based agri-economy throughout Kashmir and Ladakh. Aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SKUAST-K instils ethical practices and social responsibility in

its students.

Diverse Academic Programs and Admissions

For the 2025-26 academic session, SKUAST-K offers a range of undergraduate programs, including B.V.Sc. & A.H. (Veterinary Sciences), B.F.Sc. (Fisheries Science), B.Sc. (Hons.) in Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Sericulture, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Economics & Data Science, B.Tech. in Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology, Food Technology, Biotechnology, and AI in Agriculture. Admissions are conducted through an entrance exam, typically held in June, with applications submitted via the university’s online portal. The syllabus aligns with the 10+2 curriculum for undergraduate studies and relevant degree syllabi for postgraduate and Ph.D. programs. Reservations are provided as per government norms, with counselling and seat allotment based on performance and preferences.

Faculties at SKUAST-Kashmir

Faculty of Horticulture (Shalimar): Established as an independent entity in 2014, it plays a pivotal role in sustaining the horticulture-based economy of Jammu and Kashmir, offering comprehensive programs and industry-relevant training.

Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry (Shuhama, Ganderbal): Since 1984, this faculty has focused on veterinary sciences and animal husbandry, offering a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, and is renowned for achievements like cloning and vaccine development.

Faculty of Agriculture (Wadura): Situated near Sopore, this faculty provides UG and PG courses in Agriculture and Sericulture, equipped

with modern laboratories, instructional farms, and excellent placement opportunities.

Faculty of Forestry (Benhama, Ganderbal): Evolving from a division established in 1987, it now offers accredited programs in forestry disciplines, preparing students for careers in research, industry, and forestry services.

Faculty of Fisheries (Rangil, Ganderbal): Founded in 2005, this is India’s first Coldwater/Hill Fisheries Institution offering specialised programs and practical training facilities in aquaculture and fisheries.

College of Temperate Sericulture (Mirgund, Pattan): Upgraded to a college in 2018, it focuses on sericulture research and education, providing training for careers in the silk industry and entrepreneurship.

College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology (Shalimar): Established in 1987 and renovated in 2020, this college emphasises agricultural engineering and technology and offers B.Tech., M.Tech., and PhD programmes, including a first-of-its-kind AI in Agriculture course. There are labs, testing facilities, and farm machinery units among the college’s great infrastructure. It highlights practical skills for sustainable agriculture, business interaction, and technology development.

SKUAST-Kashmir stands as a beacon of knowledge, poised to reshape the future of agriculture in India through its commitment to innovation, inclusivity, and academic excellence. At SKUAST-K, education goes beyond traditional learning—it’s a journey of empowerment. With a team of experienced faculty, modern teaching techniques, and an unwavering focus on quality, the university’s pedagogy programmes are designed to mould students into impactful educators for a rapidly evolving world.

As a forward-thinking institution aligned with India’s new education policies, SKUAST-K fosters a vibrant academic environment where your passion for learning can truly thrive. The pedagogy programs are carefully crafted to instil the skills, values, and vision required to lead with both confidence and compassion. With its future-ready curriculum, interactive learning atmosphere, and strong academic support system, the university offers more than just a qualification—it offers a meaningful direction.

Join a tradition of excellence, become a catalyst for change, and let your transformative journey in education begin here.

The writer is the Head, Veterinary Medicine, SKUAST-Kashmir

Dark side of climate research

MOHD YOUNUS BHAT

“CLIMATE activist Bill McKibben once called climate change “the most important question that there ever was,” – highlighting it as one of the greatest challenges ever faced by human civilization.

Since, the climate change is real and climate research is urgent, there is a darker reality that cannot be ignored. The climate crisis has turned into a big-money industry that focuses more on appearances than real results. Leaders across the world frequently declare climate emergencies. Trillions are being pledged every year for adaptation and mitigation. Projects are approved in international summits, glossy reports are released with theatrical flair, and consultants fly from one sustainability conference to another. But the grim metrics continue unabated – carbon emissions rise, ice caps melt, and heatwaves grow more frequent and deadly. The promises grow louder while the planet gets hotter.

What has emerged is not just inefficiency – it is profiteering under the pretext of planetary salvation. Climate change has been commodified, repackaged as a billion-dollar business opportunity. At the heart of this system is an unholy nexus

of bureaucrats, researchers, and policy brokers who monetize the crisis rather than solve it. Research projects that claim to “build resilience” or “develop frameworks for green futures” are routinely funded, with little or no field validation. And in most cases, what exists are verbose documents, animated presentations, and a trail of unspent or misused money.

Consider the Green Climate Fund (GCF), launched to support vulnerable countries in confronting climate change. Despite its noble intention, several funded projects have shown no measurable results on the ground. For example, in Senegal, a multi-million-dollar project aimed at coastal resilience faced criticism from civil society organizations for failing to deliver basic safeguards or infrastructure improvements. In Peru, allegations emerged that a GCF-funded project was benefiting private interests, bypassing local stakeholders it claimed to support.

India, too, is no stranger to such systemic rot. The Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAMPA), created to restore forests cleared for development, has repeatedly been misused. In several states, instead of planting trees or supporting forest communities, CAMPA funds

were spent on administrative expenses like buying smartphones, laptops, and furniture. In Odisha, government auditors found that crores were spent on non-forestry purposes, raising serious questions about transparency and impact. The same pattern played out in Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand, where fund diversion became routine, and actual afforestation was poorly monitored or non-existent.

Jammu & Kashmir, a region highly vulnerable to climate extremes, has witnessed similar failures. A performance audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General revealed that nearly 25% of funds meant for disaster risk reduction were siphoned off to projects with no link to mitigation – ranging from construction of roads to unauthorized purchases. In several cases, documents listed climate training programs and awareness workshops that were either never conducted or grossly inflated in scope. The infamous Roshni land scam, although framed around economic upliftment, also touched the environment sector – land meant for forests and conservation was encroached and sold off to elites under the guise of “development.”

Beyond India, in Uganda, climate funds disbursed through

NGOs were found to be embezzled using fake receipts and ghost employees. A forensic audit found no trace of several activities that had allegedly been completed. In the Philippines, the government’s “Greening Program” claimed to plant over a billion trees. Later audits revealed that nearly 88% of those trees were either dead or never planted to begin with.

What is worse is how this industry shields itself. The climate expert class – consultants, NGOs, international advisors – thrive in ambiguity. They use polished jargons like “resilience plans,” “adaptability,” “coping mechanisms,” “mitigation measures,” Sustainability; “partnerships” to sound important and avoid clear answers. Peer-reviewed publications and conferences validate each other in an endless echo chamber, while the actual beneficiaries – communities living through floods, droughts, and heat – see no change. Paper-based success replaces physical impact. No one verifies whether claimed interventions ever happened. If you ask too many questions, you are labelled anti-science.

The media, unfortunately, has often served as an amplifier for these empty claims. Press releases are printed uncritically. Sensation-

al headlines about breakthrough innovations circulate widely, only to be forgotten when those breakthroughs vanish into bureaucratic black holes. Investigative journalism into climate spending is rare, because access to documents is limited, and criticism is branded as obstructionist. Yet, silence is complicity.

This systemic failure is not just about climate – it reflects how institutions worldwide function today. Governments treat sustainability goals like PR campaigns. Politicians invoke net-zero pledges while approving new coal and oil extraction. Large-scale renewable projects often displace indigenous communities and forests, in the name of clean energy. Global climate talks promise justice, while elite consultants benefit from travel, contracts, and visibility. It is hypocrisy draped in the language of sustainability.

Even the world’s most prestigious scientific body – the IPCC – has not been immune to criticism. Leading researchers have highlighted the misuse of emission scenarios like RCP 8.5 to justify extreme projections, fuelling panic, poor policy prioritization, and misaligned funding. Instead of serving as a neutral advisory plat-

form, climate science has become intertwined with political narrative building.

The truth is, we are facing two crises. One is the ecological emergency that threatens life on Earth. The other is an accountability crisis – an industrial-scale grift exploiting fear, urgency, and public trust. Until we distinguish real climate action from performative metrics, we will keep funding the same problems we claim to solve.

This is a wakeup call – not against science or policy – but against silence. Journalists must dig deeper. Policymakers must mandate audits and demand field verification. Scientists must be willing to challenge flawed data and resist institutional capture. And citizens must demand outcomes, not just narratives.

The climate fight must be real, not rhetorical. The planet does not need another summit. It needs the truth.

Because the environment deserves better than bureaucratic theatre. And journalism, if it must remain relevant, must investigate – not just echo.

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HARIS ASHRAF

In an age where the world is at the pinnacle of scientific brilliance and technological prowess, the shadow of violence and terrorism continues to darken our collective sky. We speak in multiple tongues, celebrate diverse faiths, and pride ourselves on cultural plurality, yet the sound of gunfire often drowns the harmonies of human civilization. It is time we call it what it is—a collective failure of conscience.

The statement "Terrorist has no religion and war has no language" is not a diplomatic aphorism, but an eternal truth. Terrorism is not born from religion; it is born from perversions of it. It does not emerge from ideologies but from the misinterpretations that exploit them. Every bullet that leaves a gun does not ask the name, race, or belief of its target. A bullet is blind, and the gun that launches it is dumb. These instruments of death possess no judgment; they only execute the will of those who have lost their humanity.

God created men, and in a bitter irony, men created weapons to play God—to judge, to destroy, and to control. This is the ultimate blasphemy: the assumption of divine authority by mortal hands through instruments of death. The pursuit of godlike power through violence is a delusion that must be dismantled.

Terrorism, in any form and by any name, is unacceptable. It is not resistance; it is not revolution. It is the ugliest manifestation of cowardice wrapped in the illusion of power. To spread fear in order to gain control is not a tactic—it is terrorism. And no just cause, no sacred book, no national interest, and no personal vengeance can justify it. The world must rise above the politics of fear and the econom-



ics of war.

We must rethink the very idea of borders and boundaries. Why should lines drawn on maps dictate the value of lives, the worth of dreams, or the fate of nations? Let us rename borders into selfie points—symbols of unity, not division. Let people take pictures where soldiers once took positions. Let love walk where boots once marched. Replace hostility with hospitality.

It is time to strip off the monkey-caps of suspicion, the uniforms of hate, and the dangerous makeup of aggression. Let faces reflect hope, not hostility. Let eyes convey compassion, not conquest. The world does not need more soldiers; it needs more peacemakers, more bridge builders, more human beings who see others as reflections of themselves.

The arms race is a race to extinction. Every dollar spent on weapons is a dollar stolen from education, healthcare, and food. Every bullet manufactured is a sentence written against a child's future. Guns do not protect us; they perpetuate the illusion that safety comes from strength. True safety comes from solidarity, not superiority.

It is time to ask ourselves hard questions: Why are we more prepared for war than for peace? Why do we build bunkers and not bridges? Why is the global economy so deeply entangled with the weapons industry? When will humanity realize that the only war worth fighting is the one against ignorance, poverty, and hatred?

Violence is the last language of the failed. Those who cannot inspire, educate, or collaborate

choose to dominate. But domination never brings peace—only submission. And submission breeds resentment, which sows the seeds for future violence. The cycle must be broken.

Let humanity safeguard us, not weapons. Let treaties be signed not on the basis of threat but on the promise of trust. Let diplomacy be driven by empathy, not strategy. Let leaders rise who are statesmen, not warmongers. We need visionaries who see the world not as blocs and axes, but as one interconnected organism, bleeding from every bullet wound, every orphaned child, every shattered home.

History will not remember the names of those who dropped bombs; it will remember the ones who raised voices. It will not glorify the conquerors, but the healers. We must write that history—with

pens, not guns.

The solution is not utopian; it is human. Ban the gun. Not only physically, but culturally. Remove its glorification from cinema, its romanticism from literature, its prestige from politics. Make peace fashionable. Make dialogue desirable. Replace medals of war with medals of wisdom.

Let freedom and humanity reign. Not as slogans, but as principles encoded in law and lived in spirit. Teach children to hug before they learn to salute. Teach nations to listen before they learn to sanction. Let every mosque, temple, church, and gurdwara be a fortress of peace, not prejudice.

We are all humans, like others are. Strip away language, flag, and faith, and what remains is the universal breath, the heartbeat that pulses alike in every chest. That is

what we must protect.

This is a call not for idealism, but for conscious realism. A recognition that the world cannot afford another war, another genocide, another terror act masked as martyrdom. The future must be built on the bones of broken weapons, not broken families.

To the leaders of the world, to the ministries of foreign affairs, to every citizen of Earth—this is not just a plea. It is a proposal. Ban the gun. Bridge the divide. Replace revenge with reconciliation. If we do not act now, history will write our obituary in the very languages we failed to protect.

Let us be remembered not for what we destroyed, but for what we saved.

Let Humanity Reign

I strongly condemn the brutal attack on tourists in Pahalgam. This inhuman act is not just an assault on innocent lives, but an attack on Kashmir's soul, its hospitality, and its peaceful identity. Those who commit such barbarity are nothing but monsters in human form—heartless, senseless, and utterly disconnected from humanity.

My heart aches for the victims and their families. They came to embrace the beauty of our land and were met with cruelty beyond comprehension. Terrorists have no religion, no nation, no language—only hatred.

Such acts of cowardice cannot and will not break the spirit of unity and love. I have full faith in our security forces and their resolve to wipe out this evil from its roots. May justice be swift and uncompromising.

Today, we mourn. Tomorrow, we rise—stronger, united, and unafraid. Kashmir stands for peace, not bloodshed

Terrorism has no religion

ATHAR UL ISLAM
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Every religion advocates love, peace, humanity, and mutual respect. Regardless of the faith, the core aim is to uplift an individual morally and spiritually. Acts of terrorism are usually driven by political motives or extremist ideologies, and such actions have no place in any religion. Linking terrorism with religion misrepresents its true essence and leads people astray. Islam, in particular, strongly denounces the taking of innocent lives. As clearly stated in the Holy Quran, "Whoever kills a person unjustly, it is as though he has killed all of mankind" (Surah Al-Ma'idah, verse 32). This strongly affirms that terrorism contradicts the principles of Islam. It stems from personal greed, ignorance, and misguidance rather than religious teachings.

Islam strictly forbids harming innocent lives. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: "A true Muslim is the one from whose tongue and hands others are safe." Islam gives utmost value to human life—irrespective of a person's religion, race, language, or nationality. It calls for honouring the sanctity and dignity of every human being. Who are these terrorists? Where do they come from? Why is their conscience not alive? Why are they thirsty for blood? Why do they ruin a beautiful life? These terrorists are those people who shed each other's blood to harm, threaten others, and for political gain. They have no religion. In fact, their work is against the teachings of religion.

Those who kill innocent people and take the name of their religion are not only enemies of humans, but also a cause of defamation of their religion. Connecting such people's work to religion is completely wrong and unwise. Terrorism is often not rooted in religion, but rather in factors such as political agendas, lust for power, injus-

tice, poverty, foreign interference, lack of education, and the spread of extremism. These combined elements drive individuals toward radicalisation and violence.

In today's world, the media has a lot of influence on how people think and what they believe. When terrorism happens, the media reports it worldwide. But sometimes, this reporting is unfair. If a Muslim is involved, they are quickly called an "Islamic terrorist," while people from other religions who do the same thing are called "extremists" or "mentally ill." This double standard is wrong.

Such biased reports damage the reputation of Islam and increase hatred towards Muslims. The truth is, terrorism has no religion, and no religion supports killing innocent people. The media should be fair and treat everyone equally. Linking crimes to religion is not only unfair but also harms social peace.

If the media reports the truth responsibly, it can help spread peace, kindness, and fairness instead of hate and division.

Conclusion:

The reality is that no religion supports terrorism. Every religion teaches peace, love, and unity. Those who carry out terrorism in the name of religion are actually betraying their own faith because their aim is to spread fear and fulfil their own desires.

It is our duty to understand and share the true message of our religion, helping others to understand the difference between right and wrong. We must realise that terrorism has no link to any religion. It is a crime against humanity and does not belong to any faith.

We need to stop believing that every terrorist comes from a specific religion. If we all work together to change this wrong idea, real peace will be possible. We must respect each other's religions, cultures, and beliefs and focus on helping humanity. This will create a world filled with love and peace.

Pahalgam Bleeds: The Valley Weeps, Humanity Responds

HAMID RATHER
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On 22nd April in Pahalgam—one of Kashmir's most cherished tourist destinations—extraordinary horror unfolded. Twenty-six innocent tourists, many of them visiting for the first time to experience the famed beauty and hospitality of the Valley, were brutally murdered in a terrorist attack that has left the nation stunned and hearts shattered. Yet, as the blood was still wet on the streets and cries of the injured echoed through pine forests, something equally powerful was taking place—a counter-narrative of hope, humanity, and unparalleled courage.

A Massacre with a Chilling Intent
Eyewitnesses have confirmed what many now fear: the terrorists singled out their victims by asking about their religion. What should have remained a haven of natural beauty and cultural warmth was turned into a theatre of hate. But this wasn't just an attack on people—it was an assault on the very idea of India and Kashmiriyat. It was a calculated attempt to fracture the bonds between Kashmir and the rest of the country, to pit communities against each other, to once again drag the Valley into the abyss of fear and mistrust. That such barbarity can be justified by ideology is an insult to every faith and every human conscience.

What happened in Pahalgam is not just an attack on innocent tourists – it's an attack on the very soul of Kashmir. Those who raise their hands against our guests are not protectors of any cause – they are enemies of Kashmir, enemies of peace, and enemies of humanity. Tourists come here because they love the beauty, the culture, and the warmth that Kashmir has always stood for. Hurting them is like hurting our own identity. Let it be loud and clear: the people who carried out this cowardly act do not represent Kashmir. The real Kashmiriyat is about hospitality, harmony, and respect – not violence.

Where Was the State?

As we grieve the dead and comfort the wounded, we must also ask: Where was the state? How could 26 people be gunned down in a supposedly secure zone teeming with security personnel, with checkpoints at every few kilometres and drones flying overhead? In the name of peace, the government of India has declared "normalcy" in Kashmir prematurely. Tourists are invited, festivals are held, and photo ops are arranged. But beneath the surface, militancy continues to mutate, reorganise, and plan. This attack exposes glaring lapses. How did the attackers breach security without interception? Why were intelligence agencies unable to detect such a coordinated plan? What preventive protocols were ignored in a high-tourist-density region? Accountability cannot be swept under the rug. We owe it to those who died and those who live in fear.

The Bravery of Kashmiri Muslims

Amid this carnage, one voice rose—not in anger, but in defiance. Syed Adil Shah, a young Kashmiri local horse- rider, dared to confront the gunmen as they tried to execute their twisted plan. Witnesses say he shouted, "Why are you killing innocent tourists? What did they do to you?" It was not a cry of politics. It was a scream of conscience – a moment where truth, even when surrounded by barrels of guns, refused to be silenced. Shah, the lone breadwinner in his family, was gunned down, but his courage must be remembered. He stood as the soul of a Kashmir that refuses to be represented by violence. As the attack unfolded, several Kashmiri Muslims—local horsemen, vendors, and villagers—rushed toward the gunfire, not away from it.

Eyewitness accounts tell of how men carried injured tourists on their backs through forests and down ravines, evading bullets and danger just to save a life. Taxi drivers turned their vehicles into ambulances. Elderly women opened their homes, gave tea and water, and comforted children whose parents were gunned down before their eyes.

At nearby hospitals, the doctors worked beyond exhaustion. Muslim nurses sat with Hindu children. Kashmiri Muslims donated blood. No one asked for names. No one asked for religion. Candlelight marches were staged to protest against the barbaric act of terrorism. This is the Kashmir you won't always see on your television screen.

A Divisive & False Narrative

Mainstream media was quick to label this as a "religion-based killing" and presented it in a dangerously divisive frame. The attack was a hate crime, no doubt. But it was also an attempt to inflame passions across India. What the headlines ignored was the resistance by local Kashmiris. The media chose not to amplify stories of Muslim locals who saved Hindu tourists, who wept with them, who carried them, who bled with them. This deliberate omission strengthens the very forces the terrorists serve: division and hatred. Let's be clear. What happened in Pahalgam was an act of terror, not by a religion, not by a people, but by those who have long sought to hijack the Valley's narrative for blood-soaked agendas.

A Message to the Nation

In Pahalgam's darkest hour, a light flickered—not from the state, nor the cameras, but from its people. It came from the valley dwellers who rose not just for their guests, but for the sake of humanity. Let Pahalgam not fade into another tragic footnote. Let it stand as a turning point—a reminder that every land, every faith, holds within it both cruelty and compassion. What we choose to amplify will define us. We must mourn the dead. We must demand accountability. We must rebuild security. But above all, we must protect the truth. We must celebrate the courage of Syed Adil Shah and honour the nameless Kashmiris who carried the wounded, opened their homes, and chose love over fear. In a valley of tears, we witnessed a flood of courage. May it never dry?

Hamid Rather is a lawyer, public policy specialist and an author



R&R Commissioner (M) discusses development plan for Migrant Camps

HT News Network

JAMMU, APRIL 26: The Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M) J&K Dr. Arvind Karwani today chaired a meeting to review the ongoing development works and identify the urgent works for the current financial year. Deputy Commissioner (Relief) Vijay Kumar Sharma; Chief Accounts Officer Shiwani Bhan; Assistant Commissioner (Relief) Kailash Devi; Assistant Commissioner (Relief) Sanjeev Kumar and other senior officers from different line departments attended the meeting. At the outset, Dr. Karwani emphasised the importance of adhering to the directions issued by the General Administration Department, where responsibilities of Transit Migrant Camps at Jammu and Kashmir have been assigned to various Government Departments viz. Public Works (R&B) Department, Jal Shakti Department,

Power Development Department, Housing & Urban Development Department, Department of Youth Services & Sports, Department of Floriculture, Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), Jammu & Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) and Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. It has further been ordered that the concerned departments shall nominate an officer, not below the rank of Executive Engineer for liaising/coordinating the execution/maintenance of works/projects pertaining to their department with the Relief Organization (M), J&K. After detailed deliberations in the meeting, the Jammu Municipal Corporation was asked to examine the demand for additional requirement of manpower to further improve day to day sanitation facility viz. collection, transportation and disposal of



garbage and refuse in the migrant camps at Jagti, Nagrota, Muthi-Buta Nagar and Purkhoo. The Department of Youth Services & Sports was asked to prepare a proposal for the maintenance of open spaces/playgrounds, organize physical education activities and also promote Scouts and Guides activities in the migrant camps. The Department of Floriculture was

asked to develop open spaces and undertake maintenance of existing parks and implement various centrally sponsored schemes. The UEED was asked to examine the requirement of planning, designing and construction of works of sewerage and drainage in the migrant camps and deal with issues of public health, to protect the inhabitants of migrant camps from the adverse

environmental factors. The JAKEDA was asked to explore installation and maintenance of solar lights and promotion/implementation of schemes of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India in the migrant camps. The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj was asked to promote skill development programmes to enhance employability and support rural entrepreneurship. The Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Department, apprised about the progress of works going on in the Migrant Camp Jagti, Migrant Camp Nagrota, Migrant Camp Muthi-Buta Nagar and Migrant Camp Purkhoo. He was directed to expedite the completion of repair and renovation works regarding which approval stands accorded. It was further directed that the work monitoring Committee headed by the concerned camp commandant

and the representatives from public be taken on board to prioritize the repair/renovation works and payment be released to the contractors only after obtaining satisfactory work completion certificate from this Committee. Further, the site engineers were directed to capture pre-execution, during execution and post execution geo-tagged photographs of each work and install signboards on the works. The PW(R&B) authorities were further directed to expedite submission of a detailed project report of the comprehensive repair/renovation works of all migrant camps at Jammu, regarding which estimation stands already completed, so that required projection of funds is made timely to take up these works during the current financial year. The Executive Engineer assured timely completion of ongoing works and close supervision of the quality of works being executed. The Executive

DDC Reasi discusses formulation of Capex budget 2025-26; Reviews status of ongoing works

HT News Network

REASI, APRIL 26: District Development Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik today chaired a meeting to review the progress of District Capex Budget 2024-25 work and discuss the formulation of the District Capex Budget Action Plan for the financial year 2025-26. A detailed discussion was held on department-wise budget proposals aimed at strengthening grassroots-level infrastructure and development. Chief Planning Officer Narinder Gupta presented a comprehensive overview of the proposed Capex Budget through a detailed PowerPoint presentation, highlighting key projects and financial allocations. Speaking at the meeting, DDC Nidhi Malik directed



the line departments to accord top priority to the completion of ongoing works of the previous Capex Plan 2024-25, instructing that all such projects be completed within a week. She emphasized the importance of aligning the upcoming capex plan 2025-26 with actual developmental

needs and instructed departments to submit detailed reports of the proposed works for verification. She directed concerned departments to ensure that all listed works are free of land disputes to avoid execution delays. She instructed all Block Development Officers to consult public representa-

tives of their respective blocks before finalizing the Capex Plan 2025-26. She also issued strict instructions to XENs of all executive agencies to take firm action against contractors who cause unnecessary delays in project completion. ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, ACD Pardeep Kumar, Chief Medical Officer, XEN PWD and Jal Shakti, Chief Education Officer, BDOs and all concerned officers were present. Chief Planning Officer Narinder Gupta presented a comprehensive overview of the proposed Capex Budget through a detailed PowerPoint presentation, highlighting key projects and financial allocations. Speaking at the meeting, DDC Nidhi Malik directed the line departments to accord top priority.

Community unites for successful Basanter River cleanup initiative

HT News Network

SAMBA, APRIL 26: In a remarkable display of environmental stewardship and community collaboration, the District Administration Samba successfully conducted an extensive cleanup drive along the banks of the Basanter River today. The initiative, held opposite the revered Chichi Mata Temple, brought together government officials, civil society members, and local residents in a unified effort to restore the natural beauty of this vital waterway. Under the dynamic leadership of

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, participants worked diligently to remove accumulated waste and debris, significantly improving the ecological health and aesthetic appeal of the riverbanks. "Today's cleanup represents our collective commitment to preserving our natural resources for future generations," said Deputy Commissioner Sharma. "The enthusiastic participation from across our community demonstrates that environmental conservation is truly a shared responsibility."

The event saw active involvement from key district officials, including the Additional Deputy Commissioner Samba, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, and all District Officers, who worked alongside senior citizens and local residents, exemplifying a model partnership between administration and the public. This initiative forms part of the district's broader environmental conservation strategy, aimed at protecting local waterways while fostering civic responsibility and community engagement.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer WAGOORA)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertainingto Birth of AMAAN ZAHID & AQSA ZAHID S/O ZAHID HUSSAIN DEADER R/O BANDI BALA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 10/12/2016 & 23/01/2018 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 Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Executive Magistrate
1st Class KREERI

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Qurat un Nissa D/o Showkat Ah Wani R/o Khrew Pampore, hereby declare that my name is misspelled as "Qurat ul Nisa" in my birth certificate. I intend to correct the spelling to "Qurat un Nissa", which is my actual name. I request all concerned authorities to recognize the correction. My original name "Qurat un Nissa" reflects my true identity.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer WAGOORA)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of AAYAN NAZIR MALIK S/O NAZIR AHMAD MALIK R/O HARNOW KAWACHAK Tehsil TANGMARG Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 24/09/2015 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 Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Executive Magistrate
1st Class KREERI

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being notified that my name on my bank account number 01220401000008734 branch pahalgam has been wrongly mentioned as Mohd Lateef Wagay . my actual name as per Aadhar is Lateef Ahmad Wagay C/o Gulam Mohammad Wagay R/o Seer Hamdan ANANTNAG JAMMU AND KASHMIR if anyone have queries please contact the branch office Or call 6085136097

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer WAGOORA)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of IMAAD RAFI S/O MOHAMMAD RAFI DAR R/O KAREWA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 06/09/2020 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 Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Executive Magistrate
1st Class KREERI

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer WAGOORA)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of FARMAN FIRDOUS S/O FIRDOUS AHMAD BHAT R/O HAIL JAGIR Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 23/12/2020 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 Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

Executive Magistrate
1st Class KREERI

PUCA urges PTU to conduct exam in Hybrid mode

HT News Network

Srinagar, April 26th Amid Pahalgam tragedy, Punjab Unaided Colleges Association (PUCA) have urged Punjab Technical Universities to conduct exam in Hybrid mode for JK students, particularly. It is to be mentioned that the examinations in IKGPTU, Jalandhar are starting from 28th April whereas in MRSP TU, Bathinda the exams are starting from 13th May. Dr. Anshu Kataria, President, PUCA & Chairman, Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh has urged the Vice Chancellors of MRSP TU and IKGPTU to postpone the examinations to mid-May and to conduct exam on hybrid mode (both offline and online) due to the challenging situation.

ازدفترنائب تحصیلدار کھن پٹہ

عنوان درخواست مخائب محمد یوسف راتھر ولد غلام حسن راتھر ساکن مٹی پورہ نسبت ابراہی لیگل تیر (وارث جائز) سرٹیفکیٹ بحق وارثان متوفی

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

ماملہ مندرجہ بالا صدر میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی۔ مطابق رپورٹ پٹواری و ڈیپتھر سرٹیفکیٹ مسماتہ تاجہ بیگم زوجہ محمد یوسف راتھر ساکن مٹی پورہ مورثہ 9 فروری 2025 کو فوت ہو چکی ہے اور متوفی کا پسر محمد مقبول راتھر ولد محمد یوسف راتھر 16 فروری 2025 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے متوفی راجہ بیگم اپنے چچکے مندرجہ ذیل وارثان جائز چھوڑ گئی رشتہ بمراہ متوفی

1...محمد یوسف ولد محمد حسن راتھر 72 سال عمر رسید
2...بشر بیگم بیگم بیگم مقبول راتھر بیوہ 40 سال عمر بیلوگام
3...ارشدہ بانو دختر محمد مقبول راتھر پوتی 17 سال زیر تعلیم
4...عروہ بیگم دختر مقبول پوتی 15 سال
5...محمد حسین ولد مقبول راتھر پسر 13 سال
6...مسماتہ نسیم دختر محمد یوسف راتھر دختر متوفی 38 سال عمر بیلوگام
7...محمد رفیق ولد محمد یوسف راتھر پسر 36 سال مردوری
8...مسماتہ شنفقہ دختر محمد یوسف راتھر دختر 34 سال عمر بیلوگام
9...محمد فضل پسر محمد یوسف راتھر پسر 32 سال مردوری
10...مسماتہ ثریفہ دختر محمد یوسف راتھر دختر 30 سال عمر بیلوگام
11...راجہ علی ولد محمد یوسف راتھر پسر 28 سال مردوری

اس طور کنید (11) افراد پر مشتمل مطابق رپورٹ پٹواری مندرجہ وارثان جائز کے علاوہ اور کوئی وارثان جائز نہیں ہے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ دن کے اندر پیش کرے معاذ گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قبول نہیں ہوگا

نائب تحصیلدار

PUBLIC NOTICE

My daughter's name has been wrongly written as NEDA FAR NOOR in her Adhaar card bearing Adhaar no . 6477 2499 9703 while her correct name is NEDAFAR NOOR D/O PEER ZADA SAJAD HUSSAIN which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned Adhaar authorities of India within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name.....PEER ZADA SAJAD HUSSAIN
F/O ...NEDAFAR NOOR
R/O THINDIMA
DISTT ...BARAMULLA

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that i have lost my 10th Class DOB certificate , Roll No 5217448, Reg No N16480300019 BI-ANNUAL/ 2018, now i have applied for the duplicate certificate. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection at Education BOARD OFFICE BEMINA SRINAGAR within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.

Name: AAMIR ISHAQ LONE , DOB ,01/01/2003
S/O MOHAMMAD ISHAQ LONE
R/O: MAGAM TEHSIL HANDWARA DIST KUPWARA

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
Principal/Dean Govt. Medical College Srinagar

10-Karan Nagar, Srinagar Kashmir, 190010 Phone No. 0194-2504119 Fax No 0194-2503115

Subject:-Engagement of Dr. Rukaya Akhter, Senior Resident on Academic Arrangement Basis, in the Department of Surgery, Government Medical College, Srinagar
Reference:- i. This office Advertisement No. 05 of 2024 Dated. 27-11-2024.
ii. Character and antecedent verification report received from CID, J&K vide Form No. 120097 Dated. 21-04-2025

OFFICE ORDER No:397 -RA of 2025.
DATED: 26 -04-2025.

Pursuant to the Selection list issued vide Notification No. 07-RA of 2024 Dated. 10.12.2024 and on the basis of Satisfactory verification report of Character & antecedents by Criminal Investigation Department (CID), J&K, Dr. Rukaya Akhter, MS, not In-service candidate is provisionally engaged as Senior Resident in the Department of Surgery on Academic Arrangement basis under S.O. 364 of 2020 Dated. 27.11.2020 and Government Order No. 383-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated. 20.06.2024 initially for a period of one year, which is extendable upto maximum period of (02) years and (01) month only, on the basis of good performance to be certified by the concerned HOD, in order to complete remaining portion of Senior Residency, as the doctor has sworn on affidavit, that she has earlier completed (11) months of Senior Residency from SKIMS, Soura, Srinagar. The appointment of the above doctor is further subject to the following terms and conditions: 1. The selected candidate is supposed to submit her joining report alongwith an affidavit(s) in the office of the undersigned duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate to the effect that:- a. she is not In-service candidate, the information if found wrong the selectee shall be punished under Rules which includes confiscation of the Registration of the Doctor. b. she will not participate in any kind of strike during the period of her tenure engagement. In the event she proceeds on strike, her tenure engagement shall be terminated without any notice as this service is covered under ESMA Act. C. she shall remain disciplined during the whole tenure; any kind of misconduct shall make her liable for termination without any prior notice. d. she is not involved in any criminal activity or there is no FIR pending or registered in any criminal department or police station against her. e. she shall not claim any experience certificate in case she leaves Senior Residency before completion at least of six months. f. she will not indulge in any private practice. In case she is found doing private practice; her appointment shall be liable for termination without any notice.

The above doctor shall have to execute an agreement with the institution on the prescribed format (Form A) with regard to the various terms and conditions applicable during academic arrangement same can be downloaded from the official website of Government Medical College, Srinagar. 3. The appointee is required to join within (21) days from the date of Issuance of this order; failing which the order shall be deemed to have been cancelled. 4. The Senior Resident appointed on an Academic Arrangement Basis 5. shall be paid as per S.O. 364 of 2020 Dated. 27-11-2020. The Senior Resident appointed on Academic Arrangement Basis shall be entitled leaves as per the Government Order No. 451-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated. 08.07.2024.

DIPK-858/25
Date: Apr 26, 2025

Principal/Dean
Govt. Medical College Srinagar





DC Ganderbal visits Baltal Base Camp, reviews preparations for SANJY 2025 Directs timely completion of Yatra related works

HT News Network

GANDERBAL, APRIL 26: In a focused drive to ensure smooth conduct of the upcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra (SANJY) 2025 via the Baltal route, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, today undertook an extensive visit to Baltal to take firsthand assessment of the ongoing preparations. During the on-site review, a detailed discussion was held on the progress of works being executed by various departments including Jal Shakti, KPDC, Irrigation & Flood Control, Rural Development Department and

others. DC instructed SDM Kangan to prepare a comprehensive plan marking the locations of all establishments ensuring systematic arrangements and avoiding operational bottlenecks. Detailed discussions were held regarding the setting up of frisking points, parking arrangements, and provision of RFID counters to streamline the movement and registration process for pilgrims. Emphasizing swift action, DC called for expediting critical works including the repair of damaged water pipelines, power cabling, toilet facilities, fencing of the base camp, flood protection measures, and develop-



ment of parking area. Beacon authorities were also directed to ensure timely snow clearance

and maintenance work along the yatra track for the smooth passage of pilgrims.

While interacting with the officers, DC reiterated the district administration's firm commitment to providing a seamless, safe, and well-facilitated pilgrimage experience to all devotees undertaking the holy yatra via the Baltal axis. Kishore urged all departments to work in coordination and complete their assigned tasks within deadlines to ensure successful conduct of SANJY-2025. The DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Syed Fahim Bihaqi, ASP Ganderbal, SDM Kangan, ARTO, ACP, SDPO Kangan, and other district officers. ng systematic arrangements and avoiding operational bottle-

necks. Detailed discussions were held regarding the setting up of frisking points, parking arrangements, and provision of RFID counters to streamline the movement and registration process for pilgrims. Emphasizing swift action, DC called for expediting critical works including the repair of damaged water pipelines, power cabling, toilet facilities, fencing of the base camp, flood protection measures, and development of parking area. Beacon authorities were also directed to ensure timely snow clearance and maintenance work along the yatra track for the smooth passage of pilgrims.

DDC Chairperson Shopian convenes meeting to discuss Annual Action Plan

HT News Network

SHOPIAN, APRIL 26: Chairperson, District Development Council, (DDC) Shopian, Bilqees Jan today chaired a meeting at Mini Secretariat Shopian to discuss the formulation of the Action Plan for the financial year under District Capex Budget 2025-26. The deliberations focused on prioritising developmental works, addressing local needs and ensuring effective utilisation of funds for inclusive growth across the district. The meeting discussed threadbare department-wise action plans proposed under the District Capex Budget. District officers of various departments presented their proposed works, outlining developmental priorities and project requirements. DDC Chairperson stressed the need for tangible asset creation that can have a lasting developmental impact at the grassroots level, and emphasized coordinated approach among departments. She also called for early submission of the finalized Action Plan to be incorporated in the



District Capex Budget 2025-26. Addressing the meeting, Additional District Development Commissioner, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone directed all departments to accord top priority to ongoing works under the Capex plan to ensure their timely completion and continued progress. Among others, the meeting was attended by DDC Vice-Chairperson, Shopian, Irfan Manhas; DDC Members, ACD, CPO, Executive Engineers of R&B, Jal Shakti, District Officers

of various departments and other concerned. District officers of various departments presented their proposed works, outlining developmental priorities and project requirements. DDC Chairperson stressed the need for tangible asset creation that can have a lasting developmental impact at the grassroots level, and emphasized coordinated approach among departments. She also called for early submission of the finalized Action Plan.

DC Kupwara reviews desilting of Khuls ahead of irrigation season

HT News Network

KUPWARA, APRIL 26: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Friday convened a meeting of concerned officers, here to review the measures for desilting of irrigation khuls (canals) in the district in view of the upcoming irrigation season. Ayushi emphasized the importance of timely desilting operations to avoid water logging and to ensure optimal irrigation facilities for the farmers in summer season. She directed the Irrigation & Flood Control Department to submit a comprehensive desilting plan involving composition of labour, length of canals, number of storage tanks and time frame for completion of the desilting work across the district. DC directed the concerned officers to identify and prioritize critical khuls requiring immediate attention for their permanent restoration. The RDD was directed for deployment of labour through MGNREGA in addition



tion to the seasonal labour of I&FC for timely completion of the desilting process with better results. Both the departments shall closely monitor the whole exercise to ensure quality work with timeliness. She enjoined upon the concerned officers to ensure permanent restoration of canals which had got damaged due to flash floods so as to ensure smooth water flow and avoid water logging. She also put emphasis

on special interventions needed for water stressed areas. Earlier, officers briefed the chair about the plans and measures of their respective departments for development of the irrigation system in the district. ACD Kupwara, CPO, Chief Agriculture Officer, Executive Engineers of I&FC Division Kupwara & Handwara, XEN REW and other concerned officers were present in the meeting.

PC&PNDT Act implementation reviewed at Anantnag

HT News Network



ANANTNAG, APRIL 26: To review and strengthen the implementation of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act, 1994, a meeting of the advisory committee was held today under the designated District Appropriate Authority which is the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Anantnag. The meeting, attended by all designated members of the committee, aimed at evaluating current practices and ensuring strict enforcement of the provisions of the PC&PNDT Act across the district. The Act, which is central to curbing the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques and addressing gender imbalance, mandates several preventive and regulatory measures to ensure that diagnostic tools are not used for sex determination. Meeting discussed several matters connected with the effective implementation of the act, including issuance of fresh provisional registration certificates for ultrasound (USG) centers in strict accordance with the guidelines of the Act. The committee stressed upon the need for transparency and accountability among diagnostic centers, directing that all registered USG facilities must mandatorily display their PC&PNDT registration certificates prominently at their premises. The committee also underscored the importance of regular and surprise inspections to monitor compliance with the Act. These inspections are essential in identifying lapses, guiding facilities on proper conduct, and taking timely corrective actions. Timely and accurate uploading of Form F – a critical document required under the Act to track each pre-natal diagnostic procedure conducted was highlighted. It was also given out that any discrepancy or delay in submission could result in serious consequences, as it may indicate non-compliance or misuse. The meeting also focused on enhancing public awareness regarding the objectives of the PC&PNDT Act. In this regard, the committee directed all USG centres to ensure effective display of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, both within the diagnostic sections and at prominent locations in their facilities.

Block Diwas held at Arin Bandipora ADC assures time-bound redressal of public grievances

HT News Network

BANDIPORA, APRIL 26: The District Administration Bandipora on Saturday organized Block Diwas at the Block Office Arin to address public grievances and review developmental initiatives in the area. The event, presided over by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl, witnessed the participation of DDC member Arin, Ghulam Mohiuddin; Chief Planning Officer; district officers of various departments, senior citizens, youth, and former Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members. During the event, locals and representatives raised various developmental issues and demands of public welfare.



Responding to the public issues, ADC assured that all genuine demands will be addressed on priority. He directed the relevant departments to assess feasibility for proposed initiatives, and further instructed the concerned Tehsildar to identify suitable land

for the upgradation of sports infrastructure in the area. Further in order to boost sports and youth engagement, sports kits were distributed among children and rechargeable lanterns were handed over to meritorious students.

Department of Ayush organises Medical camps across Shopian

HT News Network

SHOPIAN, APRIL 26: On the directions of the Director Ayush J&K, Dr. Nuzhat Bashir Shah, a series of impactful medical camps were successfully organized today to cater to the healthcare needs of the community at Shopian. A free medical camp was held at Keller, Shopian during which free consultations and medicines were provided to the beneficiaries, besides health awareness was raised among the residents, focusing on accessible and preventive healthcare. A medical camp cum Anemia screening was held at AHWC Turkwangam, Chitragam under anemia screening initiative. The program aimed at early detection and management of anemia, particularly among women and children, along with necessary treatment and counseling. Besides, a school health check-up camp was conducted at Govt Primary School, Rukpora, Kaprin. The camp included general health assessments for students and awareness on hygiene, nutrition and personal care.

RDD organizes District Level workshop on PMAY-G

HT News Network

BARAMULLA, APRIL 26: Rural Development Department Kashmir, in collaboration with RDD Baramulla, today organized a one-day District Level Workshop-cum-Orientation programme on Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) at Government Degree College Baramulla. The programme was presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa. The workshop aimed to enhance awareness among field officers and stakeholders regarding the effective implementation of PMAY-G, which envisions 'Housing for All' by providing pucca houses to eligible rural households. Speaking on the occasion, DC lauded the efforts of the Rural Development Department and field staff for their dedicated work in implementing PMAY-G across the district. He emphasized the importance of ensuring that no eligible ben-



eficiary is left out and urged officers to maintain transparency, quality, and speed in execution. He appreciated the field teams of Rafiabad, Zaingeer, and Lalpora blocks for achieving remarkable progress and called

for replicating the same success across other areas. Earlier, ACD Baramulla highlighted the objectives and key features of PMAY-G. He stressed the importance of close coordination with Panchayati Raj Institutions, timely fund disburse-

ment, social audits, and technology-driven monitoring for the effective implementation of the scheme. Experts from the Rural Development Department also spoke at length about operational guidelines, beneficiary selection processes, financial assistance mechanisms, quality control measures, and reporting systems. Pertinently, in district Baramulla, Blocks Rafiabad, Zaingeer, and Lalpora have achieved remarkable saturation under PMAY-G. Recognizing this significant achievement, the Rural Development Department Kashmir presented awards to Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Minga Sherpa, Assistant Commissioner Development Baramulla Shabir Ahmad Hakak, and the concerned Block Development Officers during the programme. The event concluded with a technical session, where practical demonstrations were given on MIS reporting, geo-tagging of houses, and grievance redressal mechanisms.





Special Lok-Adalat on consumer cases held at Ganderbal

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, APRIL 26: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal in collaboration with Tehsil Legal Services Committees of Ganderbal & Kangan Saturday conducted Special Lok-Adalat for amicable settlement of consumer cases in the district.

The Lok-Adalat was held under the direction and supervision of Abdul Nasir, Chairman DLSA (Pr. District & Sessions Judge), Ganderbal and under the guidance of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary DLSA, Ganderbal.

To facilitate the smooth settlement of consumer cases, two benches were constituted. Overall 30 number of cases were taken up for settlement out of which 28 cases were amicably settled.

DLSA Srinagar holds Lok Adalat; settles 04 cases, awards Rs.01 lakh as settlement amount

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APRIL 26: For amicable resolution of consumer cases, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar, organized a Lok Adalat for Consumer cases at the District Court Complex, Mominabad, Srinagar. The Lok Adalat was held under the guidance of Shazia Tabassum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and under the Supervision of Tasleem Arief, Chairman DLSA (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Srinagar, and Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-judge/ Secretary DLSA Srinagar. A single bench was constituted for the Lok Adalat, which was presided over by Dr. Farah Deeba, (Officiating President District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission Srinagar) and Shabnum Munshi (Member District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission Srinagar).

Overall 10 Consumer Cases were taken up for settlement out of which 04 cases were settled and Rs. 01lakh was awarded as settlement amount..

Zone Rainawari's zonal level activities at GHSS Nowhatta are in full swing

■ HT News Network



Rainawari April 25:- Day 2 witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 90 talented boys under 17 years from various government and private institutions. Badminton, Chess, and Table Tennis events were held with great spirit. Muzamil Ahmad Dar (ZPEO Rainawari) announced that the selected finalists will proudly represent Zone Rainawari at the Inter-Zone District level Competitions next month.

Tanvir Sadiq tours Zadibal Assembly segment

■ HT News Network

Srinagar Apr 26 (KNS): The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Chief Spokesperson and MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq Saturday said that J&K government will prioritize the development of crucial public infrastructure in Srinagar, aiming to improve the quality of life in urban areas that have been neglected since 2015.

This he said while interacting with the people during his tour of various areas of Zadibal constituency to inspect Water Supply schemes and ensure that drinking water supply is available for the Zadibal constituency before the onset of summer.

He also visited the site of a major project, Construction of a Gallon Overhead Tank at Bagwanpora. The work is progressing swiftly at a cost of around 71 crore. Once completed, it will cater to the water needs of Amda Kadal, Bharar, Bagwanpora, Lal-bazar, Botkadal, Hawal, and surrounding areas. He expressed gratitude to Honorable Jal Shakti Minister Javed Rana for ensuring Srinagar city gets adequate supply of drinking water.

He was accompanied by officials from the PHE dept and party's local unit functionaries on the occasion.

Tanvir, echoing the sentiments of the public, stated that the government led by Omar Abdullah is well aware of the issues faced by the residents of Srinagar. He emphasized that these issues have been neglected by previous administrations since 2015, but under Omar Abdullah's leadership, the government is committed to addressing them. Tanvir highlighted that the government is currently working on streamlining important projects in Srinagar, with a focus on prioritizing those of significant public importance. Tanvir, echoing the sentiments of the public, stated that the government led by Omar Abdullah is well aware of the issues faced by the residents of Srinagar.

Ashok Koul, Sunil Sharma, Ravinder Raina visit Pahalgam Martyr Syed Aadil's family to offer condolences.

■ HT News Network

Anantnag, 26th April 2025: In a heartfelt show of solidarity and grief, senior leaders of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir, today visited the residence of Syed Adil Hussain Shah at HapatNar, Pahalgam. Syed Aadil Hussain Shah, a young pony handler and the lone Kashmiri Muslim, tragically lost his life during the recent cowardly terror attack on tourists at Baisaran Meadow, Pahalgam.

The BJP delegation was led by Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), J&K BJP, along with Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition & General Secretary, J&K BJP, and Ravinder Raina, former President, J&K BJP. Several other senior leaders and local party workers also accompanied them to express their condolences to the bereaved family. Sofi Yousuf, Arif Raja, Altaf Thakur, Mudassar Wani, Ali Mohd Mir, Ashraf Azad, Mohd Rafiq Wani, Sajid Yousuf Shah, Sahil Bashir Bhat, Bilal Parrray, Salinder Singh, Ashok Bhat, GM mir, and other senior lead-



ers of BJP were present on the occasion. The BJP leaders termed the killing of Syed Adil Hussain Shah as a brutal and inhumane act, emphasizing that terrorism knows no religion and continues to claim innocent lives. They paid rich tributes to Syed Adil's

courage and dedication, recognizing him as a symbol of Kashmiri resilience and hardworking spirit. Speaking at the occasion, Ashok Koul said, "We stand shoulder to shoulder with the family of Syed Adil in this moment of profound grief. His sacrifice

will not be forgotten, and we assure full support to his family. The entire nation mourns with them."

Sunil Sharma highlighted the urgent need to defeat the forces of terror that seek to destabilize peace and communal harmony in Jammu & Kashmir.

"The killing of an innocent, hardworking youth like Adil is a stark reminder of the evil designs of terrorists who are enemies of humanity," he stated.

Ravinder Raina also spoke with the family members and the local community, assuring them that BJP is committed to safeguarding the lives and aspirations of every citizen in Jammu & Kashmir.

The BJP leadership has asked the administration to provide immediate financial assistance and a government job to a member of Syed Adil Hussain Shah's family to secure their future. The visit was marked by prayers for the departed soul and an expression of unwavering commitment towards restoring lasting peace in the region.

Week-long training programme on Natural Farming concludes Gurez

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, APRIL 26: A week-long training programme to promote natural farming - a chemical free farming involving livestock and diversified crop system concluded on Saturday at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Gurez.

KVK Gurez conducted the training programme under National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) supported by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. The programme aimed to train the grassroots workers- Krishi Sakhis / Community Resource Persons (CRPs) for further dissemination among farming community, covered all three regions viz Dawar, Bagtore and Tulail comprising of 15 clusters.



Two Krishi Sakhis from each cluster were trained making a total of 30 trainees under the ambit of the programme. The event covered 30 thematic areas discussed and deliberated at length through power point presentations followed with practical demonstrations and field visits. The programme witnessed participation from District Agriculture officer Bandipora, SDAO Bandipora, Block

Development officer Gurez, scientists from SKUAST-Kashmir, officers from Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry who were entrusted as the Resource Persons as well. Speaking at the concluding ceremony, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Gurez, Mukhtar Ahmad, appreciated the efforts of KVK Gurez for inculcating skill, imparting knowledge to the farmers for overall development of Agriculture and

allied sectors in Gurez under harsh climatic conditions. Head KVK Gurez, Dr Hilal Ahmad Malik reiterated directions of the Vice-Chancellor SKUAST-Kashmir, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai to boost the farming sector with focus on niche crops without promoting any chemical or synthetic application and informed that Natural farming was one such programme to achieve the excellence. Chief Agriculture officer, Bandipora during his virtual deliberation with Krishi Sakhis stressed upon more practical knowledge and desired Krishi Sakhis to serve as bridge between Research system and farming community especially women farmers who perform most of the farm operations under hill conditions.

DC Jammu inspects Girdawari registrations in Arnia-Bishnah

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, APRIL 26: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Sachin Kumar Vaishya today conducted inspection of the ongoing Girdawari registration process in Tehsils Arnia and Bishnah.

He was accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner Sher Singh and Chief Executive Officer Jammu & Kashmir e-Governance Agency Rupesh Kumar, who also holds the charge of Director Social Welfare Jammu.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the progress of Girdawari entries and emphasised the importance of accuracy and transparency in the process. In a surprise inspection, CEO JaKeGA, Rupesh Kumar, took cognizance of overcharging by a Common Services Centre (CSC) and immediately suspended its license.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated that strict action would be taken against any irregularities and instructed field functionaries to maintain utmost transparency and accountability in public service delivery. The Deputy Commissioner reiterated that strict action would be taken against any irregularities and instructed field functionaries to maintain utmost transparency and accountability in public service delivery.

MDP trainees visit Baribrahmana Industrial Estate; Engage with BBIA Chairman

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, APRIL 26: An industrial visit was today organized on Day 05 for the trainees of the Management Development Programme (MDP), being conducted as part of the RAMP initiative at JKEDI Jammu, to several manufacturing units located in the Bari Brahmana Industrial area. The objective of the visit was to provide practical exposure and deepen participants' understanding of industrial operations and business processes. The visit was conducted in association with Bari Brahmana Industries Association (BBIA) through its Chairman Lalit Mahajan. It served to complement theoretical learning with on-ground insights into the functioning of manufacturing enterprises. The trainees were accompanied by Rajesh Kotwal, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Jammu, along with course team members Ms. Mon-



ika Salaria and Ms. Rupali Choudhary. An interactive session was also organized with Lalit Mahajan, wherein he shared his valuable perspectives on the regional industrial ecosystem, emerging opportunities, and the challenges faced by entrepreneurs in the area. The industrial visit proved to be a highly enriching experience for the participants, significantly enhancing their awareness of the contemporary industrial landscape and fostering a practical understanding of business operations.

DLSA Shopian organises awareness programme

■ HT News Network

SHOPIAN, APRIL 26: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Shopian in collaboration with Education Department Shopian today organized an awareness programme on NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attack) Scheme, 2016 at GHSS Shopian.

The awareness programme was held under the guidance of Chairman DLSA Shopian, Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhary and the supervision of Secretary DLSA Mudassar Farooq. The program aimed to raise awareness among the participants about the provisions and benefits of the NALSA Scheme, 2016. Addressing the programme, Secretary DLSA emphasized the importance of legal aid services and support to victims of acid attacks. He highlighted the various provisions of

the NALSA scheme, aimed to protect and empower victims.

Chief LADC Shopian, Rafiq Ahmed highlighted the objectives of the program and the importance of awareness about rights of Acid victim to claim compensation from the accused as well as from State through DLSA.

Deputy LADC, Shah Nawaz Raina emphasized the paramount role played by DLSA regarding the compensation of victims & Supreme Court guidelines for prohibition sale of chemical substance.

He also emphasized the importance of free Medical support in the Hospitals to the victims.

Assistant LADC, Meenu Jan also stressed upon the fair and dignified treatment of Acid Attack victims as per the article 21 of constitution.

Sub-Divisional Administration Ghagwal launches "Saturdays for Ghagwal" public initiative

Weekly cleanliness drives every Saturday across important religious, social, government sites in Subdivision

■ HT News Network

SAMBA, APRIL 26: The Sub-Divisional Administration, Ghagwal is proud to announce the launch of a public initiative- "Saturdays for Ghagwal" starting today from Shri Narsingh Dev Ji Mandir. This initiative aims to foster community participation and civic responsibility by organizing weekly cleanliness drives every Saturday across important religious, social, and government sites in Subdivision Ghagwal.

As part of the launch, a successful 3-hour cleaning drive was conducted today in the premises of Shri Narsingh Dev Ji Mandir, marking a promising start to the initiative. The program will bring together admin-



istration and a dedicated group of volun-

teers to ensure the upkeep and beautifica-

tion of key public spaces. By promoting collective action, "Saturdays for Ghagwal" seeks to enhance the cleanliness and sanctity of our cherished locations while strengthening community bonds.

All residents of Ghagwal are invited to join this noble endeavor and contribute towards making our subdivision cleaner and more vibrant. The Sub-Divisional Administration, Ghagwal is proud to announce the launch of a public initiative- "Saturdays for Ghagwal" starting today from Shri Narsingh Dev Ji Mandir. This initiative aims to foster community participation and civic responsibility by organizing weekly cleanliness drives every Saturday across important religious, social, and government sites in Subdivision Ghagwal.





MLA, DC conduct tour of Kishtwar Town

HT News Network

KISHTWAR, APRIL 26: Member Legislative Assembly Shagun Parihar along with Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan today conducted a comprehensive tour of various parts of Kishtwar town to assess key civic issues, including drainage, electricity infrastructure, and market regulation.

During the visit, many public delegations met with the MLA and apprised about the critical issues of the town. The MLA asked for the intervention of the District Administration and early redressal.

The DC issued on-spot directions to the Executive Officer, Municipality for the beautification of Gudhali Chowk under the town Beautification plan.

He also instructed the Public Works Department to undertake widening works at Dak Bungalow Chowk and Harra Pond Chowk within two days to facilitate the installation of clock towers at both locations.

The Deputy Commissioner further directed the EO Municipality to expedite the preparation and submit the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for drainage works



from Hidyul Chowk to Shall Gadi, setting a timeline of one week for submission. Emphasizing the need for synergy, the DC called for close coordination among all the concerned departments to ensure timely and efficient completion of drainage work.

Additionally, the Power Development Department (PDD) was directed to

streamline the town's electricity infrastructure by removing irregular electrification and ensuring a more organized and safe setup.

Public of the area thanked the MLA for her visit and assured to extend full cooperation in the developmental works. Member Legislative Assembly Shagun Parihar along with Deputy Commis-

sioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan today conducted a comprehensive tour of various parts of Kishtwar town to assess key civic issues, including drainage, electricity infrastructure, and market regulation.

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Emphasizing the need for synergy, the DC called for close coordination among all the concerned departments to ensure timely and efficient completion of drainage work.

GDC Ramkote accords farewell to Outgoing batch of students

HT News Network

KATHUA, APRIL 26: A farewell function filled with zeal and splendor was today organised for the outgoing batch of BA Semester 6th of Government Degree College Ramkote. The day was a fiesta devoted to the years spent together with friends and teachers, to remember and recall memories made during college life.

The function commenced with the formal welcome of Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul, Principal of the college, staff and the outgoing batch of students.

In his inspirational speech, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul motivated the students to lead a happy and contented life and wished them good luck for their future endeavours. He also guided the students with the essential tips for scoring better in their upcoming exams and CUET for pursuing further studies. He told the students to uphold the motto of the college "Knowledge is power" with their utmost sincerity.

A group dance by Nitakshi Sharma and Rita Devi of semester 2nd was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Students of the outgoing batch assigned the title "The Trigger of Transformation" to worthy Principal Sir. Various entertainment games and activities like bursting the balloon, ramp walk, singing and dumb charades etc. kept the seniors engaged and entertained throughout the event.

The students who anchored the event were Taniya Sharma, Latasha Sharma and Meenakshi Devi of B.A. semester 4th. Faculty present included Dr. Shakeeb Manzer, Dr. Anu Salaria, Dr. Sudhir Kumar, Poonam Rani, Rouf Bhatt, Preeti Mahajan, Sushil Singh, Krishan Singh and Ankush Kundral.

Seven Motorised Tricycles provided to specially abled Persons at Reasi

HT News Network

REASI, APRIL 26: Department of Social Welfare today distributed seven motorised tricycles among specially abled persons of the AAY/PHH category with a benchmark disability of 40% or more.

The beneficiaries hailed from different parts of the District. The distribution ceremony was held at the DC Office Complex in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik.

In the inaugural session, District Social Welfare Officer Sachin Sharma gave a detailed account of the motorised tricycle scheme for specially abled persons and stated that the Department is committed to providing maximum benefits to enhance the hassle-free mobility of specially abled persons. The Deputy Commissioner appreciated the efforts of the Social Welfare Department and said that this initiative will benefit the needy and deserving specially abled persons of the District Reasi. She added that it will help create an inclusive society where they have equal access, opportunities, and rights in all aspects of life. This initiative will help integrate specially abled persons into mainstream society by making them independent and empowered.

ADD C Reasi, Mr. Sukhdev Singh Samyal; ADC Reasi, Mr. Rakesh Kumar; Deputy DEO, Mr. Rakesh Kumar; ACR Reasi; and DIO were also present.

SDM Ghagwal conducts surprise inspection of Educational Institutions

HT News Network

GHAGWAL, APRIL 26: Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Ghagwal, K. S. Bali conducted inspections of multiple educational institutions across the subdivision today to assess educational quality and infrastructure. The inspection covered Government Girls High School Ghagwal, Degree College Ghagwal, and Government High School Jatwal, where the SDM engaged directly with students and faculty to evaluate teaching methodologies and campus conditions. During the visits, SDM Bali identified several areas requiring immediate attention, including the poor condition of sanitation facilities at Government Girls High School. The SDM also addressed student absenteeism at Degree College Ghagwal, directing the Principal to investigate and implement corrective measures.

Empowering Future Healthcare Leaders: Women Empowerment Workshop concludes at GMC Doda

HT News Network

DODA, APRIL 26: A two-day Women Empowerment Workshop was successfully conducted at Government Medical College, marking a significant initiative towards fostering confidence, independence and physical well-being among female students pursuing MBBS and DNB courses.

The event was organized under the leadership of the Chairperson of the Gender Development Committee and the Students Welfare Committee, with the aim of equipping students with practical self-defense skills, raising awareness about gender-related issues, and encouraging active participation in sports and physical activities to ensure their holistic development. Renowned self-defense expert and gold medalist Komal Dhiman conducted the sessions, offering valuable insights and hands-on training that were met with enthusiastic participation from the students. Faculty members and Committee representatives also actively engaged in the workshop, creating a vibrant and empowering environment. The entire event was meticulously organized and conducted by the women faculty members of the institution, led by Dr. Garima Charak, Head of the Department of Physiology. Their collective efforts ensured the resounding success of the workshop, achieving its objectives of promoting self-awareness, empowerment, and physical fitness among the students. The Gender Development Committee, a unique initiative first created by Dr. Rakesh Bahl in 2022 at GMC Jammu and now at GMC Doda.

DC reviews implementation of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in Poonch

HT News Network

POONCH, APRIL 26: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal chaired a meeting today to evaluate the implementation of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in the district.

At the outset, the Executive Engineer of the Electric Division JPDCL presented a detailed PowerPoint outlining the scheme's objectives and benefits. It was reported that 1003 applications have been received on the portal,



with 639 applications accepted. Additionally, J&K Bank indicated that out of 222 applicants, 82 have



successfully secured loans for the scheme. The DC directed the executing department to expedite the installation of Solar Roof-top Systems (SRTs) for approved applicants.

He emphasized the need for public awareness and participation, instructing the Executive Engineer to engage stakeholders and inform them about the benefits and incentives associated with the solar energy scheme. The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts to maximize outreach and ensure the successful execution of the scheme across Poonch district.

District Level Workshop on AWAAS Plus 2.0 held at Rajouri

HT News Network

RAJOURI, APRIL 26: A one-day District Level Workshop-cum-Awareness Programme on AWAAS Plus 2.0, under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), was organized at the PWD Dak Bungalow by the District Administration Rajouri in collaboration with the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. The workshop aimed to provide comprehensive insights into the key features of the scheme, the registration process and strategies for effective and timely implementation.

The programme was presided over by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, who underlined the significance of the timely and inclusive execution of the PMAY-G scheme to fulfill the vision of "Housing for All."

During the technical sessions, field functionaries were sensitized about various processes involved in the implementation of AWAAS Plus 2.0, with a strong emphasis on enhancing efficiency and accuracy in data collection and beneficiary registration. Speaking on the occasion, Assistant



Commissioner Development (ACD) Vijay Kumar provided an overview of the programme's targets and achievements so far. He called upon all stakeholders to work in close coordination to meet the objectives set under AWAAS Plus 2.0. In a key directive, the Block Development Officers and registered surveyors were instructed to expedite the survey and registration processes, ensuring that no eligible beneficiary is left out of the scheme. The event witnessed active participation from the Block Development Officers and field staff from the Rural Development Department, who engaged in detailed discussions on streamlining field operations to achieve the scheme's goals.

DLSA Kathua organises Legal literacy programme on POCSO, Juvenile Justice Acts

HT News Network

KATHUA, APRIL 26: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kathua, under the guidance of Chairman DLSA (Principal District and Sessions Judge) Jatinder Singh Jamwal, today organized a legal awareness programme here at Government Girls Higher Secondary School.

The programme, held under the aegis of National and J&K Legal Services Authorities, aimed to spread awareness regarding the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The event commenced with Saraswati Vandhana performed by Diksha Balotra (Class 12th). Secretary DLSA/Sub-Judge Mrs. Kamiya Singh Andotra emphasized the importance of the POCSO Act in safeguarding children against sexual offences, highlighting its gender-neutral provisions and child-friendly procedures. She also discussed the importance of prompt FIR registration, medical examinations, and in-camera trials to protect the identity and rights of child victims.

Further, the session covered the Juvenile Justice Act's focus on the rehabilitation and protection of children, stressing that the law recognizes children's emotional and social development needs, beyond just legal accountability. The Principal Magistrate JJB Kathua, Mrs. Cheena Sumbria, stressed on balancing justice with empathy and urged stakeholders to prioritize reform over punishment. CWC Chairperson Shashi Paul elaborated on the Child Welfare Committee's role in ensuring immediate care for children in distress, including foster care and rehabilitation measures. Advocates Naiya Sharma, Puneet Kumari, and Sumit Jasrotia shared valuable insights on balancing justice with compassion under these laws. Students actively participated through poetry, speeches, and a Nukad Natak, making the event engaging and informative.

District-Level RAMP awareness workshop organised by JKTPO at Poonch

HT News Network

POONCH, APRIL 26: Continuing its efforts to promote awareness and outreach for the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme, the Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), in association with the SPIU - Grant Thornton Bharat LLP and the District Industries Centre (DIC) Poonch, successfully organized a district-level awareness workshop at Dak Bungalow, Poonch.

The workshop is part of a larger series of district-level initiatives being conducted across Jammu and Kashmir under the RAMP scheme to enhance

understanding of various support mechanisms available to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). These workshops aim to foster an enabling ecosystem for MSME growth through focused interventions, capacity building, and improved access to markets and finance. The workshop was chaired by ACR Poonch, Mohd Sayeed, who underscored the significant role of MSMEs in the district's economic growth. He encouraged MSME units and stakeholders to utilize the support mechanisms provided by the RAMP scheme to boost productivity, enhance market access, and strengthen institutional linkages. DIC General Manager, Khalid Hussain



Wafa remarked that this workshop is to build awareness and capacity

among MSMEs, stakeholders and implementing agencies under the

RAMP initiative. The workshop saw active participation from MSME entrepreneurs, stakeholders of self-employment schemes, officials from the Industries and Commerce Department, ITI students, representatives from financial institutions, and other notable attendees. The workshop provided an overview of the RAMP scheme's objectives, key components, and various programs being rolled out for the benefit of MSMEs in the Union Territory. Speaking on the occasion, representatives from JKTPO/SPIU emphasized the importance of proactive participation by MSMEs to fully leverage the opportunities provided under the scheme. They also outlined the upcoming

initiatives and encouraged entrepreneurs to connect with DIC and JKTPO for further support and guidance.

The District Industries Centre, Poonch, also facilitated an interactive session where participants raised queries and shared feedback on challenges faced at the grassroots level. These insights will help shape future interventions under the RAMP framework to make them more responsive to local needs. The RAMP scheme, supported by the World Bank and Ministry of MSME, Government of India, aims to strengthen MSME competitiveness, build resilient enterprises, and catalyze sustainable growth across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.





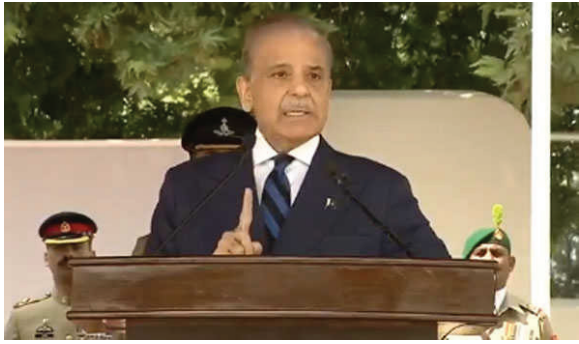
'Pakistan open to neutral and impartial investigation,' says Shehbaz Sharif on Pahalgam terror attack

AGENCIES

ISLAMABAD, APR 26 (UNI)

In light of India's retaliatory steps after the Pahalgam terror strike, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that Islamabad is open to "a neutral and transparent" investigation into the terror attack which India has said has clear links to Pakistan.

Addressing a passing-out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy in Kakul, the Pakistani PM said: "The recent tragedy in Pahalgam is yet another example of this perpetual blame game, which must come to a grinding halt. Continuing with its role as a responsible country, Pakistan is open to participating in any neutral, transparent and credible investigation," Dawn reported.



While Pakistan has continuously denied its role in the April 22 attack by Islamic terrorists, in which 26 tourists were killed, the country's Defence Minister has openly admitted in an interview with Sky News, that Islamabad has been routinely using terrorist entities to carry out the US' "dirty work" in the region for more than three decades.

The statement in itself was both a contradiction

of Islamabad's denial, and an affirmation of its close links and support for terrorist organisations, which it has used for carrying out proxy warfare against India and Afghanistan for decades.

New Delhi's suspension of the Indus Water Treaty has also elicited great panic in Pakistan, with the country saying that any act of stopping or diverting water from the Indus waters will be tantamount

to an act of war.

The Pakistani premier, in his belligerent stance against the move, has warned of full retaliation. He said "Water is a vital national interest of Pakistan, our lifeline (...) Let there be no doubt at all (that) its availability will be safeguarded at all costs and under all circumstances.

"Therefore, any attempt to stop, reduce or divert the flow of water belonging to Pakistan under the Indus Waters Treaty would be responded to with full force and might."

New Delhi has vowed vengeance against the attack, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi stating that the perpetrators and masterminds of this heinous attack will be hunted down and brought to justice.

UNSC strongly condemns Pahalgam terror attack, asks for perpetrators to be brought to justice

AGENCIES

UNITED NATIONS/NEW DELHI, APR 26 (UNI)

The UN Security Council has condemned in the strongest terms the Pahalgam terror attack and underlined the need to hold its perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors accountable and bring them to justice.

In a statement, the UN Security Council reiterated that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation.

The statement read:

"The members of the Security Council condemned in the strongest terms the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April, during which at least 26 people were killed and many more injured.

"The members of



the Security Council expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and to the Government of India and Government of Nepal and wished a speedy and full recovery to those who were injured.

"The members of the Security Council reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats

to international peace and security.

"The members of the Security Council underlined the need to hold perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism accountable and bring them to justice.

"They stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable, and urged all States, in accor-

dance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with all relevant authorities in this regard.

"The members of the Security Council reiterated that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, whenever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"They reaffirmed the need for all States to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts."

Over 400 injured in southern Iran port blast: media reports

AGENCIES

TEHRAN, APR 26 (UNI)

At least 406 people were injured in a large explosion at a port in Iran's southern province of Hormozgan on Saturday, the official news agency IRNA reported, citing Babak Yektaparas, spokesman for the country's Emergency Medical Services Organization.

The wounded have been transferred to nearby medical centers, Yektaparas said, adding that 15 ambulances and four ambulance buses were sent to the scene.

Rahul Gandhi arrives to participate in plenary session at Bharat Summit

AGENCIES

HYDERABAD, APR 26 (UNI)

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi arrived here on Saturday afternoon to participate in the plenary session at the final day of the two-day Bharat Summit at HICC here.

On his arrival at the Shamshabad airport here, Gandhi was given a warm welcome by Chief Minister A Revanthe Reddy and other senior congress leaders.

In the evening, Rahul Gandhi will participate in the summit's plenary session where the 'Hyder-



abad Declaration' will be announced.

Originally scheduled for Friday, the plenary was deferred to Saturday following Rahul Gandhi's sudden visit to Kashmir to meet with survivors of the

Pahalgam terror attack.

His absence also led to Revanthe Reddy skipping the summit's opening day also.

The Bharat Summit commenced on Friday with a thought-provoking

session titled 'Gender Justice and a Feminist Future', aligning with the summit's overarching theme, "Delivering Global Justice." The session featured a dynamic exchange among global leaders, policy experts and advocates working toward gender equity and inclusive governance.

In light of the terror attack at Pahalgam, the Union Home Ministry issued high alerts across states.

Security was tightened at the HICC venue and the Congress government kept the event lowkey on Day 1.

Pakistani diplomat makes throat-slitting gesture at Indian protesters outside Pak High Commission in London

AGENCIES

LONDON/NEW DELHI, APR 26 (UNI)

As hundreds of British-Indians held a protest outside the Pakistan High Commission in London, condemning the Pahalgam terror attack, the protests saw a twisted response from a Pakistani diplomat, who made a throat-slitting gesture at the protesters from the High Commission balcony.

The British-Indian protesters chanted slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai", and "Pakistan Murdabad", venting out their anger over Pakistan's role in the terror attack in Kashmir's Pahalgam, which claimed the lives of 26 tourists.

In response, the Pakistani diplomat, identified as Col. Taimur Rahat, held a placard of Indian Air Force Wing Commander Abhinandan Vardhaman, with the worn-out Pakistani meme "Tea is fantastic", and waved it at the crowd of protesters from the balcony.



However, Col. Rahat followed up this comical gesture with a dark and barbaric turn, as he made a throat-slitting gesture at the protesters.

Tensions between India and Pakistan have reached a boiling point, after India in response to the Pahalgam attack suspended the Indus Waters Treaty, expelled Pakistani nationals in India, declared Pakistani military advisors to their High Commission in New Delhi as persona non grata and expelled them, and recalled its own advisors from the Indian HC in Islamabad, and thinned

its diplomatic staff.

Pakistan in response said that suspension of the waters treaty will be tantamount to an act of war, and suspended the Shimla Agreement.

As the whole world has unanimously condemned the heinous incident, with countries such as the US, Russia, UK, Australia, France, and members of the Gulf States expressing their full support to India, a socially unstable and economically fragile Pakistan is finding itself increasingly isolated in the international arena.

Stalin felicitates UPSC achievers from TN

AGENCIES

CHENNAI, APR 26 (UNI)

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Saturday felicitated the civil services candidates from the State who had cleared the UPSC examinations under the ruling DMK's flagship 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme.

Mr Stalin lauded the students for their accomplishment and reiterated the government's commitment to educational empowerment.

"During the DMK regime, we always had a vision of transforming students lives. Our goal was to ensure that TN students should face any competitive examination with confidence", he said.

Mr Stalin said the "Naan Mudhalvan" initiative was as a significant step in supporting the students follow their dreams. "I am overjoyed that the the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme has been yielding the desired results with more civil services aspirants clearing the UPSC exams.

The felicitation function was held in line with Mr Stalin's announcement in the State Assembly on Thursday that the Tamil Nadu government will organise a felicitation function to honour 57 students who had cleared UPSC exams from the



State and also announced its decision to set up a residential coaching centre in the city for civil services aspirants.

The coaching centre, to be set up at a cost of Rs 40 crore, will have all modern amenities and would accommodate 500 aspirants preparing for civil services exams.

Speaking about the success of his government's flagship scheme 'Naan Mudhalvan' aimed at enhancing the skills of the students, Mr Stalin said under this scheme there was a significant improvement in the success of students from the state and cited the results of the civil services examination, conducted by the Union Public Service Commission.

Pointing out that a large number of students cleared the exams till 2016, he said it had

declined to 27 students in 2021 following which the government introduced several measures in the scheme.

They included selecting 1,000 civil services exam aspirants, preparing them, providing a monthly stipend of Rs 7,500 for 10 months, he said, adding, those who cleared the preliminaries and were preparing for the mains were given a one-time incentive of Rs 25,000.

Through the All India Civil Services Coaching Centre at Anna Institute of Management, training programmes and necessary resources were provided to the students, the Chief Minister said, adding, thanks to these measures, a total of 57 students from the State have been selected for All India Services, of which, 50 candidates have benefited from the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme.

India, Pakistan will get it figured out by themselves one way or the other: President Trump

AGENCIES

WASHINGTON/NEW DELHI, APR 26 (UNI)

US President Donald Trump has said that there always has been great tension between India and Pakistan, but the two countries "will get it figured out by themselves one way or the other".

Asked by reporters on Air Force One while on his way to Rome about the tensions between India and Pakistan over the Pahalgam terror attack, the US President said:

"I'm very close to India, and I'm very close to Pakistan. As you know they've had their fight for a thousand years in Kashmir, it's been going on for a thousand years, probably longer than that...and it was a bad one yesterday, a bad one, over 30 people", he said referring to the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 tourists were killed by Pakistan-linked terrorists.

Asked about the tensions building up on the border and if he was concerned, the US President said:

"Well, there has been



tensions on that border for one thousand five hundred years, so, get it, it's the same as it's been. They'll get it figured out one way or the other, I know both their leaders. There is great tension between Pakistan and India, there always has been."

The US President's comments come after the US State Department said on Friday on the Pahalgam terrorist attack:

"Now on to the terrorist attacks in Pahalgam. As President Trump and Secretary Rubio have made clear, the United States stands with India, strongly condemns all acts of terrorism.

"We pray for the lives of those lost and for the recovery of the injured and call for the perpetrators of this heinous act to be brought to justice," said State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce.

Karnataka govt under fire for not deporting Pakistanis

AGENCIES

BENGALURU, APR 26 (UNI)

The Congress-led Karnataka government on Saturday faced a barrage of criticism after reports emerged that it had not deported 15 Pakistani nationals residing in Uttara Kannada district, despite a central directive issued in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 Indians.

According to officials, the Pakistani nationals—comprising 14 women married to Indian citizens in Bhatkal and one individual residing in Karwar—hold valid long-term visas renewed every two years and have pending citizenship applications.

The Karnataka police clarified that under existing laws, these individuals could not be forcibly

deported unless their visas expired or their applications were explicitly rejected.

Following the Pahalgam attack, the Union Home Ministry had directed states to deport Pakistani nationals within 48 hours, except Hindus on long-term visas. However, Karnataka authorities cited legal constraints, saying that the individuals in question had entered India legally and were awaiting decisions on their citizenship applications, some pending since 2010.

The clarification has triggered outrage across social media platforms, with hashtags such as #DeportPakNationals and #KarnatakaPakistanis trending. Many users accused the Karnataka government of 'sheltering terror sym-

pathisers' and compromising national security for political reasons.

Bhatkal's demographic, with historical links to terror modules, further fueled concerns among citizens and opposition leaders, who alleged that the Congress government was placing "politics above patriotism".

State officials maintained that humanitarian concerns also needed consideration, especially for women married into Indian families, and reiterated that action could only be taken within the ambit of the law.

Meanwhile, the political slugfest intensified with BJP leaders demanding immediate deportation of all Pakistani nationals residing in Karnataka and accusing the Congress of "betraying the nation" at a critical time.

Key enzyme to fight deadly brain cancer identified

AGENCIES
NEW YORK

Targeting an enzyme can help stop the growth of glioblastoma, the most dangerous type of brain tumour, researchers have found.

This enzyme called PGM3 plays a vital role in the hexosamine synthesis pathway, which is involved in the processes of protein and lipid glycosylation that allow tumours to rapidly grow.

Lipid glycosylation is a process where sugar molecules attach to fats (lipids) in the body.

Researchers with The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - Arthur G. James and Richard J. Solove Research Institute believe that targeting PGM3 can reduce tumour growth and eliminate glioblastoma cells.

“This research is important because it has found a new target called PGM3. Blocking the PGM3



enzyme can break the connection between sugar and fat creation in cells, which helps stop tumours from growing,” said lead author Deliang Guo, the founding director of the Center

for Cancer Metabolism, in a study published in the journal Science Advances.

Glioblastoma is a fast-growing brain tumour that develops from glial cells in the brain. An esti-

mated 15,000 people each year are diagnosed with this lethal brain tumour, according to the Glioblastoma Foundation.

The study highlights a promising new approach to fight glioblastoma, giving hope for future advancements in cancer treatment, said Guo.

“Glioblastoma is the most lethal primary brain tumour, with a median survival of only 12-16 months from diagnosis despite extensive treatments,” said Huali Su, the first author of the paper, and a researcher with the Department of Radiation Oncology and Center for Cancer Metabolism at OSUCCC-James.

“New molecular targets for glioblastoma are urgently needed,” Su added in the paper.

The research team included scientists from France, along with the University of California-Los Angeles, University of California-Irvine and University of Louisville.

Fatty liver 'reversible' via adoption of healthy lifestyle: JP Nadda

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister JP Nadda on Monday said that fatty liver is not only preventable but also reversible if people adopt a healthy lifestyle and make better food choices.

Highlighting the importance of liver care, JP Nadda said that the liver is one of the most important organs in our body.

“It helps in digestion, detoxification, and storing energy. If it's not healthy, the entire body suffers,” Nadda said while speaking at the ‘Liver Health Pledge Ceremony’ in the national capital.

The Union Minister also warned that fatty liver increases the risk of serious health problems like heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure and cancer.

Nadda stressed that simple changes in daily habits can go a long way in keeping the liver healthy.



“Prime Minister Narendra Modi had recently urged everyone to cut down on oil usage in cooking by 10 per cent. This small step can help in preventing non-communicable diseases and improving liver health,” he added.

He also called on everyone to take a pledge to care for their liver, go for regular check-ups, and follow a healthy lifestyle.

This year's 'World Liver Day' theme, 'Food is Medicine,' focused on the deep

connection between nutrition and liver health.

The Health Ministry, in collaboration with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), organised a special liver health camp for ministry officials and staff.

FSSAI also set up an exhibition that promoted millets and liver-friendly foods. The stall explained how millets -- rich in fibre, antioxidants, and essen-

tial nutrients -- help in bile production, reduce inflammation, and support better digestion.

These benefits can prevent liver diseases like Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD).

Other healthy foods showcased included cruciferous vegetables like broccoli and cauliflower, leafy greens, fatty fish, nuts, citrus fruits, and healthy fats such as olive oil -- all known for supporting liver health and detoxification.

People taking ‘Tusi’ drug at higher risk of adverse effects: Study

AGENCIES
NEW YORK

A new study estimated that in 2024, 2.7 per cent of electronic dance music-nightclub attending adults in New York City (NYC) used ‘Tusi’ drug in the past year, with higher use among Hispanic people and people who use other drugs.

‘Tusi’, also known as ‘tucibi’ or ‘pink cocaine’, is a drug concoction that emerged in Latin America and Europe within the past decade and is becoming increasingly popular in the US.

According to the study published in the scientific journal Addiction, consumers often don't understand what ‘Tusi’ is when they take it.

Tusi is commonly confused with the 2C family of drugs - psychedelics - because it is a phonetic translation of “2C”. Tusi is also commonly called “tucibi” or “tusibi” (the



phonetic translation of 2C-B, a particular type of psychedelic). And it is also often called “pink cocaine” (“cocaina rosada” in Spanish). All of these names have the potential to confuse people who use, who may believe they are taking a psychedelic drug or largely unadulterated cocaine.

In fact, Tusi is a drug

mixture that rarely contains 2C family of drugs (or psychedelics) and most commonly contains ketamine and MDMA (ecstasy), sometimes in combination with cocaine. And therein lies the potential danger.

The study surveyed a sample of 1,465 adults attending 124 electronic dance music events

hosted by NYC nightclubs from January through November 2024.

Participants took a survey on an electronic tablet before entering the nightclub. The survey results were used to estimate prevalence of Tusi use among all people who attended an electronic dance music event at a NYC nightclub in 2024.

People who use illicit drugs are often at risk of using drugs adulterated or even replaced by other drugs.

“But ‘Tusi’ puts people who use drugs at an even higher risk, partly because it is easily confused with two other types of drugs - 2C series or cocaine - and partly because Tusi is pretty much always a concoction of various drugs. This greatly increases the risk of adverse or unexpected effects,” said lead author Dr Joseph Palamar, of NYU Grossman School of Medicine.

Achieve Glass Skin with These Simple Summer Skincare Steps

The pursuit of glass skin is the holy grail of skincare. Picture yourself with a silky, dewy, and almost mirror-like face that radiates health from within. It might sound like a fabled beauty ideal, but achieving glass skin can be done through a clever and streamlined skincare routine.

Step 1: Cleanse Like You Mean It

Begin your day with a soft gel cleanser that efficiently takes away overnight oiliness without drying out your skin. Double cleanse at night with an oil cleanser and a moisturizing foaming cleanser. This small spa experience will have your skin feeling clean and refreshed.

Step 2: Exfoliate, But Kindly

Exfoliating is essential to help remove dead skin cells and bring out brighter-looking skin. Use a mild chemical exfoliant (PHA or lactic acid) every two weeks to bite away at dead skin cells without irritating your skin.



Step 3: Layering is Key

Picture your face as a small sponge ready to be puffed up. Begin with a watery essence or toner, followed by a hyaluronic acid serum applied to dampened skin. This will seal in every single drop of moisture and leave your skin feeling soft.

Step 4: Moisturize Wisely

In the morning, opt for a lightweight gel moisturizer to avoid a sweaty glow-up. At night, feel free to layer something richer if your skin feels needy. Look for ingredients like

niacinamide for brightness or ceramides for barrier-boosting goodness.

Step 5: SPF is Non-Negotiable

No glass skin without sun protection! Pick a lightweight, dewy-finish SPF that will not leave a white cast. This is an important step in safeguarding your skin against damage and premature aging.

More Summer Skincare Tips

Stay Hydrated: Drink lots of water during the day to keep your skin hydrated from the inside out.

Use a Facial Mist: Keep your skin fresh and reju-

venated with a facial mist, particularly on sweltering summer days.

Avoid Heavy Makeup: Use light, airy makeup products that do not clog pores or accentuate oiliness.

Exfoliate Your Lips: Make sure to exfoliate your lips to maintain softness and smoothness.

Shield Your Skin from Pollution: Apply antioxidant-treated products to shield your skin against environmental pollutants that lead to harm and premature aging.

Final Touch: Facial Mist A facial mist is a summer lifesaver. Store it in the fridge for optimal refreshing effects and reapply it throughout the day to keep your skin alive and hydrated.

By incorporating these easy and effective tips into your routine, you can achieve that all-preferred glass skin appearance and have a radiant, glowing complexion all summer.

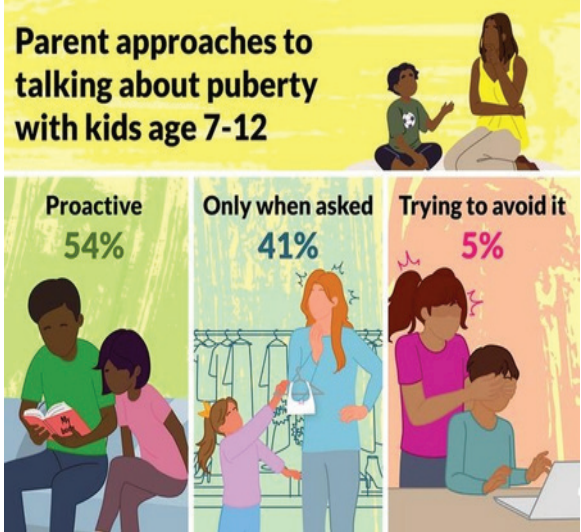
US parents split on right age to talk about body changes with kids: Study

AGENCIES
NEW YORK

Parents are evenly split on right age to start talking about puberty with kids, a US study said on Monday, adding that most parents agree that talking to their kids about puberty is important, but when and how to start the conversation is often less clear.

Among the most common challenges for parents: choosing the right age to start talking about body changes and whether to explain sex, according to the University of Michigan Health C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health.

“It's easy to assume a child is too young for conversations about puberty, but many parents are surprised to find their tween already showing signs of puberty or asking unexpected questions about body changes,” said Mott Poll Co-Director Sarah



Clark.

Starting the conversation early gives parents a chance to shape the message in an age-appropriate way and help kids know what to expect, so they're not confused or anxious.

If parents don't open the door to these talks, kids may get their information elsewhere, like from classmates, social media, or what they see on TV,

Clark added.

Parents polled shared a range of approaches, worries, and gaps in preparing their tweens for this major stage of development.

About half of parents describe their approach to talking with their child about puberty as proactive while two in five say they talk about it only when asked. Another 5 per cent avoid the conversation

altogether.

One in five parents also worried about feeling embarrassed while one in six feared saying the wrong thing when it came to the subject.

Among parents of children 10-12 years, a quarter say their child doesn't want to talk about puberty, and among parents of children 7-9 years, nearly a third believe their child is too young to understand, said the study.

Some of the hesitancy about broaching this subject may stem from parents' own experiences, Clark noted.

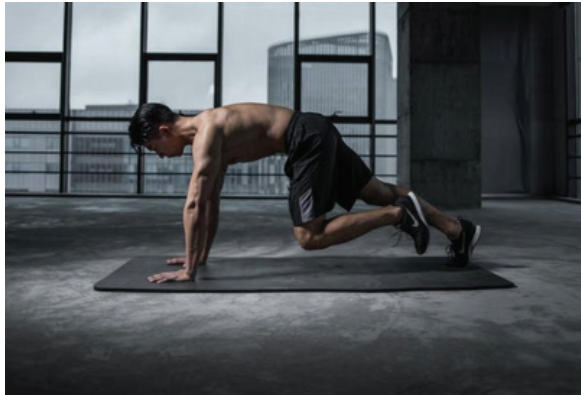
“Whether they realise it or not parents may bring their own experiences into their parenting approach,” Clark said. “Many parents said they had little or no discussion of puberty when they were young. If puberty was treated as an awkward or embarrassing subject growing up, that can make it harder to know how to begin.”

AGENCIES
NEW YORK

Does the source of protein – plant or animal-based – make any difference to muscle gain? The answer is no, said researchers on Monday, adding that being omnivorous and vegan makes no difference to muscle building after weight training.

Also, the team from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the US refuted two more claims about if total daily protein intake is evenly distributed throughout the day and does a moderate but sufficient daily protein intake influence any of these variables. Their findings are reported in the journal Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise.

“The longstanding belief or the current dogma was that animal-based protein sources were better, particularly for the muscle-building response,” said Nicholas



Burd, a professor of health and kinesiology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Previous studies that took muscle biopsies after a single feeding found that an animal-based meal provided more of a stimulus for muscle protein synthesis than a vegan meal.

“But measurements taken after a single meal might not reflect the effects of consuming a balanced vegan diet over time,” Burd argued.

For the new study, the team recruited 40

healthy, physically active 20-40-year-old adults.

The participants underwent a seven-day “habituation diet” to standardize their nutritional status prior to the clinical trial. Then they were randomly assigned to either a vegan or omnivorous diet.

Roughly 70 per cent of the protein for the omnivorous meals was obtained from animal sources: beef, pork, chicken, dairy, eggs. The vegan diet balanced the amino acid content of the meals, ensuring that participants consumed

complete proteins.

All participants engaged in a series of muscle-strengthening activities in the lab every three days.

Burd was initially surprised to see that there were no differences in rates of muscle protein synthesis between those eating vegan or omnivorous diets.

He also was surprised to see that protein distribution across the day had no effect on the rate of muscle building given results from past studies of acute responses to dietary interventions and weight training.

“It was thought that it was better to get a steady-state delivery of nutrients throughout the day,” he said. “I also thought that if you're getting a lower quality protein – in terms of its digestibility and amino acid content – that perhaps distribution would make a difference. And surprisingly, we showed it doesn't matter.”



Kohli's red-hot form fuels RCB hopes for DC clash

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, APR 26 (UND)

With 392 runs to his name and a match-winning 70 against Rajasthan Royals in the last game, Virat Kohli's red-hot form will be central to Royal Challengers Bengaluru's campaign as they face Delhi Capitals in a crucial IPL 2025 fixture at the Arun Jaitley Stadium here on Sunday.

Kohli's consistency at the top has been a pillar of RCB's recent resurgence, helping the team win three of their last four matches. Skipper Rajat Patidar will look to capitalise on this momentum and continue the side's strong record against Delhi, having won five of the last seven



encounters between the two sides.

Delhi, meanwhile, will hope to draw inspiration from their own turnaround, having registered an emphatic 8-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants. Captain Axar Patel

will count on the in-form KL Rahul and Abishek Porel, who both made solid contributions in the previous game.

In the bowling department, Delhi will rely on pace spearhead Mitchell Starc and seamer Mukesh

Kumar, whose 4-wicket haul played a decisive role in their last outing, to neutralise RCB's aggressive batting lineup.

The match, the 46th of the season, will be played on a batting-friendly surface at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, where chasing has often proved to be the better option. Hot weather and clear skies are expected on match day.

While both teams are evenly poised on the points table, bookmakers suggest a slight edge for Delhi Capitals at home. However, the balance and firepower in RCB's ranks, coupled with Kohli's form, could tilt the game their way in what promises to be a closely-fought encounter.

Shastri earmarks IPL youngsters Mhatre, Suryavanshi, Priyansh & Prabhsimran headed for higher honours

AGENCIES

MUMBAI, APR 26 (UND)

Former India coach Ravi Shastri has shared high praise for the new generation of young batters lighting up the Indian Premier League and has earmarked four players set for an international career in the future.

Shastri discussed the new breed of youngsters on show at the ongoing IPL with host Sanjana Ganesan on the latest episode of The ICC Review and the India legend admitted he has been taken aback by the fearless approach by some of the teenage sensations who have taken the tournament by storm.

The former India coach made mention of the audacity and talent he has seen on display from youngsters such as Chen-



nai Super Kings' Ayush Mhatre and Rajasthan Royals' Vaibhav Suryavanshi, as well as Punjab Kings' aggressive opening pair of Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh - and he believes the quartet could well replicate this form at international level in the future.

"The two Punjab openers (Priyansh Arya and

Prabhsimran Singh) as well, they give it a smack," Shastri began.

"It's as if these youngsters who have come in now, they're 14 years, 17 years of age and it's see it, hit it in the first six overs," he said.

Arya has been in sublime form since the start of the tournament, with the 23-year-old smashing 254

runs from eight innings at a monstrous strike rate of 201.58, including a rollicking hundred against CSK.

Mhatre, just 17, was roped in as a replacement for the injured Ruturaj Gaikwad, and struck 32 off just 15 balls, including four boundaries and two maximums, leaving the fans and experts stunned alike with his bold stroke-play against a star-studded Mumbai Indians line-up.

"The shots, the three shots this Ayush Mhatre played against the Mumbai Indians the other night in Mumbai..." Shastri marvelled at.

"The way he took off, unbelievable shots for a 17-year-old, against a star-studded Mumbai Indians line-up to come out and express himself in that fashion caught everyone's eye," he said.

Red-hot MI ready to roar past LSG at Wankhede

AGENCIES

MUMBAI, APR 26 (UND)

As the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 heats up, Mumbai Indians (MI) enter the 45th match against Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) at Wankhede Stadium on Sunday with renewed confidence after a stellar four-match winning streak.

This match could prove crucial Mumbai's quest for a playoff spot, as they have climbed to fourth place in the standings with 10 points from 9 games. In stark contrast, LSG, who have displayed inconsistency this season, find themselves languishing at sixth position with five wins and four losses.

Mumbai's resurgence is largely due to the form of their key players. Despite a slow start to the season, MI has turned their fortunes around in recent matches, with their batting and bowling units beginning to click at the right time.

Rohit Sharma has rediscovered his rhythm, smashing back-to-back half-centuries in recent games. His recent performances have included scores of 70 off 46 balls against SRH, demonstrating his crucial role in stabilising the MI innings.

With his batting prowess, Rohit is expected to play a significant role in Mumbai's continued success. Meanwhile, Suryakumar Yadav has been in



explosive form. With 373 runs in nine matches, averaging 62.16 and a strike rate of 166.51, Suryakumar has become a key figure in Mumbai's middle order. His contributions have been invaluable, particularly his rapid 40* off 19 balls in the last match. His ability to turn the game in the blink of an eye makes him one of the most dangerous players in this IPL.

Hardik Pandya, the all-rounder, has also made his presence felt, not only with the bat but also with the ball. With 12 wickets in the tournament, Pandya has been a reliable option in the death overs, providing much-needed breakthroughs.

The MI bowling attack, led by Trent Boult and Jasprit Bumrah, remains one of the most formidable in the league. Boult, with his ability to swing the ball both ways, was the stand-out performer in the previous match against SRH, finishing with figures of 4-26. Bumrah, known for

his accuracy and ability to deliver under pressure, has added an extra layer of control to Mumbai's attack.

The team's recent momentum and form at home make them the team to beat in this encounter.

In contrast, Lucknow Super Giants have struggled to find consistency, particularly in their bowling attack. Although their top-order batting has been solid at times, their overall performance has been far from convincing.

Mitchell Marsh has been a key performer with the bat, contributing 344 runs in eight matches at a strike rate of 160.74. His four half-centuries this season have been crucial for LSG, but he will need support from the rest of the batting lineup, especially Nicholas Pooran, who has been explosive at times, amassing 377 runs at an astonishing strike rate of 204.89. Pooran's recent form has been patchy, and he will be hoping to regain his rhythm against MI's

strong bowling attack.

Aiden Markram, another key overseas player, has been consistent in his performances, contributing 326 runs in nine innings at a strike rate of 151. However, LSG's middle order has often faltered, with Rishabh Pant and David Miller failing to find their best form this season. Ayush Badoni and Abdul Samad have chipped in when required, but overall, the batting has lacked the firepower needed to set or chase big totals consistently.

On the bowling front, Shardul Thakur, with 12 wickets, has been their top bowler, but his economy rate of 11.20 shows that he has been expensive. Ravi Bishnoi and Avesh Kha have also been disappointing at times, with their economy rates exceeding 9.50. However, Digvesh Rathi, with 9 wickets in as many games and an economy rate of 7.27, has been the most consistent performer in their bowling attack.

Wankhede Stadium, known for its flat pitch, is a paradise for batsmen. The conditions typically favour high-scoring encounters, with teams often aiming for totals in excess of 200 to put pressure on the opposition. The pitch usually offers some assistance to fast bowlers in the initial stages, but once the shine is off the ball, batting becomes easier.

FIH Junior Hockey World Cup qualifications complete following Junior Africa Cup 2024

AGENCIES

LAUSANNE (SWITZERLAND), APR 26 (UND)

The best young teams in Africa competed in the Junior Africa Cup (JAC) 2024 (M/W) from April 18-25, with South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe women, along with South Africa, Namibia and Egypt men finishing in the medal positions and securing the the final three spots at the upcoming edition of the men's and women's FIH Junior Hockey World Cups 2025.

In the women's competition South Africa dominated the pool stage of the competition, winning all five of their matches comfortably, finishing with 15 points and a goal difference of +38! Namibia finished in second place, winning all their matches except for their final pool stage match against South Africa.

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