



Government of
Jammu & Kashmir



**Viksit Bharat
Viksit Jammu & Kashmir**



People of Jammu & Kashmir

Heartily Welcome

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

—○ Dedication to the Nation of ○—
Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link

—○ Laying of Foundation Stone of ○—
**Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of
Medical Excellence, Katra**
**Rafiabad-Kupwara-Tangdhar-Chamkot
Road (Package-I)**

Shopian Bypass on NH-444
—○ Inauguration of ○—
MoRTH Projects
Sangrama Chowk Flyover & Bemina Junction Flyover

worth about ₹46,200 cr

Katra | June 06, 2025 | 10:00 AM

**Quality Healthcare | Accessible Medical Education
Enhanced Connectivity | Improved Accessibility**



World Environment Day marked with unified call to “End Plastic Pollution”

Flagship event by DEERS at Islamic University S&T spotlights Mission LiFE, plastic-free forests, youth-led solutions

HT NEWS DESK

AWANTIPORA, JUNE 5: The Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing (DEERS) today joined hands with the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) to mark World Environment Day 2025 with a high-energy programme in the Awantipora campus that echoed the United Nations theme “Ending Plastic Pollution.”

More than four hundred participants including senior forest officials, faculty members, researchers, students, NGOs and representatives of line departments, pledged to translate that slogan into an action agenda for Jammu & Kashmir.

Presiding over the ceremony, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Head of Forest Force, Suresh Kumar Gupta, reminded the gathering that only a decisive change in individual behaviour



can match the scale of the plastic crisis. Citing the Forest Department’s “Plastic-Free J&K” campaign and the wider Mission LiFE movement, he described how inter-departmental clean-up drives are already removing tonnes of single-use plastics from the forest, wildlife and eco-sensitive zones. “Every bag we refuse and every bottle we reuse pushes us closer to a carbon-neutral, litter-free Jammu & Kash-

mir,” he said, urging the young people in particular to become “champions of responsible consumption.” Sarvesh Rai, Chief Wildlife Warden, picked up the biodiversity thread, noting encouraging signs that populations of flagship species are stabilizing inside the protected areas. He appealed to the students, residents and the tourism sector to adopt local water bodies and conduct regular

clean-ups to keep them plastic free.

Echoing those sentiments, Vasu Yadav, Chairman J&K Pollution Control Committee, acknowledged that plastic “has made modern life affordable” and is unlikely to disappear overnight. “The real breakthrough,” he emphasized, “lies in strict source segregation of waste so that plastic can either be recycled or safely co-processed rather than dumped in our rivers.”

Managing Director of the J&K Forest Development Corporation, Suneesh Buxy, offered a success story from Bhopal ranked as one of India’s cleanest cities after sustained community action and called on Srinagar and Jammu to replicate that model. “Youth energy, once channeled through smart policy and civic pride, can transform our urban rankings just as quickly,” he said, emphasising the health risks of micro-plastics entering the food chain.

DC Kulgam visits PHC Frisal, reviews facilities & ongoing works

HT NEWS DESK

KULGAM, JUNE 05: In order to assess the availability of healthcare facilities and staff, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, today visited Primary Health Centre (PHC) Frisal. During the visit, DC inspected various sections of the hospital and reviewed the status of essential services, availability of medical equipment, and overall manpower. He also interacted with healthcare staff and patients to get firsthand feedback on the quality of care being provided.

Emphasizing the need for timely and efficient medical services, DC assured that necessary measures will be taken to address any gaps in infrastructure or service delivery.

He directed the concerned officials to ensure round-the-clock healthcare services and maintain cleanliness and hygiene across the hospital premises.

DC also took stock of the progress on the construction of the new hospital building and directed the concerned executing agency for its early completion to further enhance healthcare infrastructure in the area.

DC was accompanied by ADC, Viqar Ahmad Giri; ACR and other officers.

PDF President Hakeem Yaseen slams government for hollow promises, praises Ladakh’s policy gains

Says ceremonial politics won’t fool people anymore

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 05: People’s Democratic Front (PDF) President and former Minister Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen on Wednesday strongly criticized the present administration, accusing it of failing to deliver on the promises made before elections despite having a clear and popular mandate.



He said that while the government has focused more on optics and hollow assurances, the real needs and aspirations of the people remain undressed on the ground.

In a statement issued here, Hakeem Yaseen said, “It is unfortunate that despite having an elected government in place, no significant progress has been made in addressing public concerns. Instead, the government continues to rely on old tactics of symbolism, ribbon-cutting, and repackaging old projects to claim credit. These superficial measures do not amount to real governance.”

Taking a dig at the government, he remarked that many of the projects being inaugurated today were either conceptualized or implemented under previous governments. “These are languishing projects, and instead of taking forward any new vision, they are simply cutting ribbons for media headlines. In contrast, the leadership in Ladakh has almost won its battle for safeguards and rights without even having an elected assembly,” the senior leader said. Hakeem Yaseen further said that the Jammu and Kashmir government should stop taking undue credit for the possible return of statehood, since it has already been publicly assured by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. “The people are not fooled by ceremonial speeches. They want timelines, results, and accountability,” he asserted. His remarks came in the backdrop of major policy announcements for Ladakh, which was carved out as a separate Union Territory in 2019. On June 3, 2025, the Union Government notified a set of sweeping policy measures aimed at safeguarding the interests of Ladakhi residents following sustained pressure from civil society groups in the region. Hakeem Yaseen said this stark contrast should serve as a wake-up call for both the government and the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

“Our region, with all its historical, political, and emotional significance, continues to remain in limbo while Ladakh moves ahead with concrete guarantees. We must reflect on where we are falling short — both in governance and civil engagement,” he added.

DC reviews Eid-ul-Adha arrangements, Inspects Eidgah Bandipora

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 05: In preparation for the upcoming Eid-ul-Adha festival, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, on Thursday conducted a comprehensive review of arrangements across the district to ensure a safe, smooth, and well-coordinated observance of the festival.

As part of the inspection, DC visited Eidgah Bandipora to assess on-ground preparations and inspect facilities being put in place for Eid prayers. He stressed the importance of maintaining cleanliness in and around the Eidgah, ensuring adequate public facilities, and prioritizing the safety and security of worshippers.

Accompanied by senior officers, DC was



briefed on the arrangements made to facilitate a hassle-free experience for the public. He underscored the need for close coordination among departments par-

ticularly law enforcement, health services and municipal bodies to ensure all aspects of the celebrations are managed efficiently.

DC said that the district administration has made all necessary arrangements, including traffic regulation, sanitation drives and emergency medical services, to safeguard public convenience and well-being during the festivities.

During the visit, Qadri also interacted with members of the local Auqaf Committee and residents, seeking their cooperation in maintaining peace, harmony, and order. He appealed to the public to adhere to the guidelines issued by the administration for a peaceful and joyous celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr.

DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl; Tehsildar Bandipora; Executive Officer MC Bandipora and other concerned officials.

BJP organizes meeting under ‘Sankalp Se Siddhi Tak’ at Baramulla: Launches Plantation Drive

HT NEWS DESK

Baramulla, 05 June 2025: BJP organized ‘Sankalp Se Siddhi Tak’ Meeting at Dak Bungalow, Baramulla to Celebrate 11 Years of PM Modi’s Transformative Governance. BJP organized the meeting as part of the nationwide campaign celebrating 11 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s transformative and visionary governance. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from senior party leaders, office bearers, and district functionaries, reaffirming their commitment to the party’s mission of inclusive development and good governance.

The program was marked by a plantation drive under the theme “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam”, symbolizing respect for motherhood and commitment to environmental sustainability. The drive was jointly launched by BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul and BJP Vice-President & MLA Sham Lal Sharma, who is also the Incharge of North Kashmir.



In his address, Ashok Koul emphasized the importance of booth-level plantation drives and called upon party workers to take a pledge to avoid the use of plastic. He underscored the role of grass-roots engagement in promoting both environmental consciousness and party outreach. Sham Lal Sharma, speaking on the occasion, praised the people of North Kashmir for their continued support and highlighted the transformative impact of various central schemes on the ground. Prominent leaders present at the event included M.M. War, Anwar

Khan, Dr. Fareeda, Arif Raja, G.M. Mir, Mudasir Wani, Sajid Yousuf Shah, Sh. Sahil Bashir Bhat, District Presidents of Baramulla Constituency Gh Hassan Dar, Bandipora Mudasir Farooq Jan, Kupwara Rafiq Shah, former District Presidents, and several senior party leaders Haleema begam, Javid Qureshi, Mush-taq Mir, Raja Waqar, Harjeet Singh Duke, Farooq Ahmad Malik. The meeting served as a platform to review party activities, strengthen booth-level strategies, and prepare for upcoming organizational initiatives across North Kashmir.

World Environment Day celebrations held at Shopian

ADDC calls for collective action to tackle rising pollution levels

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JUNE 05: Rural Development Department Shopian today celebrated World Environment Day on the theme ‘Beat Plastic Pollution’ at Mini-Secretariat Shopian in order to commit towards initiating desirable action for environmental responsibility.

Students from various schools of the district participated in the celebratory events including Quiz, General knowledge and slogan writing contests based on environmental themes. The contests covered topics related to biodiversity, climate change, conservation, and sustainable practices.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone underlined the significance of observing World Environment Day and called for collective responsibility in preserving nature. He urged students to minimize the use of plastics, adopt eco-friendly habits, and actively take part in afforestation and cleanliness drives. ADDC assured continuous support from the administration in promoting environmental awareness and conservation initiatives in the district.

Other Speakers emphasized on keeping the natural resources including soil, water and air clean for future generations. The resources bestowed by nature are a collective legacy of all and must be kept free from degradation, speakers



outlined. Collective action keeping in view the rising pollution levels needed to be taken by all so as to overcome the problem of rising deprivation levels of quality water and air, it was further appealed.

At the culmination of the programme, ADDC distributed prizes and certificates to the winners of the quiz competition, general knowledge and slogan writing contests and other activities. He congratulated the participants for their knowledge, creativity and commitment towards environmental causes.

The event was attended by Principal, GDC, Shopian; ACD, BDO, Shopian, officers from the district administration, teachers and students. At the culmination of the programme, ADDC distributed prizes and certificates to the winners of the quiz competition, general knowledge and slogan writing contests and other activities. He congratulated the participants for their knowledge.

Indiscriminate use of plastic causing extensive damage to environment: Prof. A Ravinder Nath

HT NEWS DESK

Ganderbal, June 5: Emphasizing that the fight against pollution begins with introspection about how we are contributing for protection of environment, Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, Wednesday highlighted the principle of net zero pollution and advocated for a circular economy where products are reused, recycled, and repurposed rather than discarded.

Addressing the participants, during the celebration of the “World Environment Day,” on the theme “Ending Plastic Pollution Globally,” jointly organised by the Schools of Life Sci-

ences and Physical and Chemical Sciences of the university, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, said, “Though plastic is embedded in modern life, its indiscriminate use and disposal is what causes damage to the fragile environment. The focus should be on responsibility and innovation.” “We are all stakeholders in the environment,” he noted.

Prof. A Ravinder Nath connected sustainability with broader developmental goals—planet, people, profit, partnership, and peace—linking them to Sustainable Development Goals, and encouraged academic institutions to be role models in innovation, outreach, and research to model localized projects—particularly tackling plastic pollution in and around



the Ganderbal region. In his keynote address, Prof. Chandrashekhar Jha, former Chief General Manager, National Remote Sensing Center, Indian Space Research Organisations-ISRO, made a detailed

presentation about the theme and traced the evolution of global environmental thought, referencing the Stockholm Conference of 1972 and India’s early commitment to ecological diplomacy.

He warned that plastic pollution knows no bounds, reaching from the Mariana Trench to Mt. Everest, and even entering human tissues in the form of microplastics, thereby threatening physiological processes. Prof. Chandrashekhar Jha shared insights on ISRO’s use of remote sensing technologies to track ecological degradation in the Indian Himalayan region, including Kashmir.

“We need to recalibrate the interaction with nature,” Prof. Jha said and discussed the ecosystem goods and services and the impact of plastic pollution across the length and breadth. Prof. Jha emphasized the urgent need to shift from a throw-away culture to a circular economy, a central goal of the Mission LiFE

(Lifestyle for Environment) initiative. He showcased ISRO’s remote sensing data on Himalayan resources and outlined technologies and strategies for waste management. “Through collective action,” he concluded, “we can secure the planet for future generations.”

Prof. Shahid Rasool, Dean Academic Affairs, lamented the contradiction between our environmental pledges and our polluting habits, and reminded the audience of the beauty of Kashmir which is now under threat from climate change. Prof. Sahid Rasool said, “while celebrating Environment Day, we continue to degrade it.” He said the Kashmir valley is currently witnessing unprecedented weather variations and attributed





June 6th to be the Special, Historic Day for the People of J&K

PM to Inaugurate World's Highest Railway Bridge and First Rail Connecting Kashmir with Rest of the Country

■ HT NEWS DESK / PIB

NEW DELHI, JUNE 5: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will visit Jammu and Kashmir on 6th June. In line with his commitment to boost rail infrastructure and connectivity in the region, Prime Minister will inaugurate the Chenab bridge and visit the bridge deck at around 11 AM. Thereafter, he will visit and inaugurate the Anji bridge. He will flag off Vande Bharat Trains at around 12 noon. Thereafter, he will lay the foundation stone, inaugurate and dedicate to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 46,000 crore at Katra, Chenab and Anji rail



bridges; The architectural marvel Chenab Rail Bridge, situated at a height of 359 meters above the river, is the world's highest railway arch bridge. It is a 1,315-metre-long steel arch bridge engineered to withstand seismic and wind conditions. A key impact of the bridge will be in enhancing connectivity between Jammu and Srinagar. Through Vande Bharat train moving on the bridge, it will take just about 3 hours to travel between Katra and Srinagar, reducing existing travel time by 2-3 hours.

The Anji Bridge is India's first cable-stayed rail bridge that will serve the nation in a challenging terrain. Connectivity projects and other development

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Lieutenant Governor reviews arrangements for Hon'ble Prime Minister's public meeting at Katra

Dedication of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link to the nation by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is a historic leap for J&K UT: LG Sinha

■ HT NEWS DESK

KATRA, JUNE 05: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha inspected arrangements in Katra on Thursday ahead of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's scheduled Public Meeting on 06th June.

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11



Amarnath Yatra 2025:

Army launches "Operation Shiva" to ensure safe, smooth conduct of pilgrimage

■ HT NEWS DESK / KNO

JAMMU, JUN 05: Army has launched "Operation Shiva," a comprehensive security initiative to provide fool proof security to the 38-day Amarnath Yatra, slated to commence from July 3.

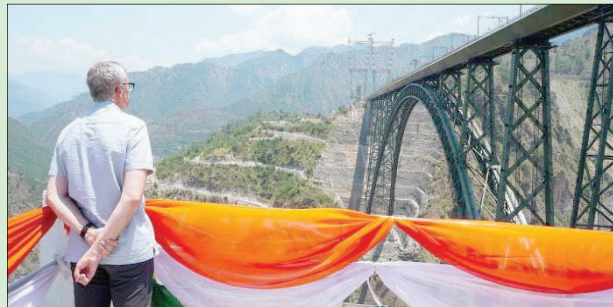
This annual pilgrimage, one of the most revered spiritual journeys, draws thousands of devotees to the sacred Amarnath Cave Shrine in Jammu and Kashmir, located at an altitude of 3,888 meters.

Officials told the news agency—that in light of recent

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Better Late Than Never Omar as PM set to Inaugurate Kashmir Rail Service

Review final arrangements Along with
Dr Jitendra ahead of PM Modi's Katra visit to
flag off train to Srinagar



■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

KATRA/JAMMU, JUN 2 (UNI) Noting that he has been "waiting for this day for a long time", Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said the inauguration of rail service is better late than never as it will be a landmark occasion for the people of the valley.

He also said the start of the rail service will enable people to travel without spending much and put an end to the practice of some air service providers who "rob us" by selling tickets worth Rs 5,000 at Rs 20,000.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the much-awaited Kashmir rail link on Friday. He will also inaugurate the Chenab bridge and India's first cable-stayed Anji bridge.

Abdullah invited pilgrims to come in large numbers for the annual 38-day Amarnath yatra, scheduled to commence in south Kashmir Himalayas on July 3.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Eid-ul-Adha: Kashmir Sees Surge in Sacrificial Animal Supply, Sales Pick up

'Over 100 trucks carrying sheep reached valley every day last week'

■ HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUN 05: With Eid-ul-Adha around the corner, the Kashmir Valley witnessed a major surge in the supply of sacrificial animals last week, as over 100 trucks loaded with sheep arrived to meet the growing demand from consumers preparing for the



annual festival. Speaking to the news agency— Mehraj Ud Din, General Secretary of All Kashmir Wholesale Mutton Dealers Association, said the inflow of animals doubled compared to normal days.

"Usually, around 25 to 30 trucks carrying sheep enter the valley daily. However, last week, the number rose

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

'1,747 Sq KM's declared as High Risk forest fire zone'

■ HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUN 05: In Jammu and Kashmir at least 1,747 square kilometres of forest area have been categorized in 'High Risk' zone of forest fire while 62 square kilometres have been categorized in 'Very High Risk' zone.

The official document available with the news agency—reveal that "62 square kilometres of forest area of Jammu and

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Rana reviews TSP for Holistic Development of Tribal Areas in J&K

■ HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 05: Aimed at promoting holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities in Jammu and Kashmir, Minister for Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today reviewed the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) submitted by the districts from across the Union Territory.

During the review, the Minister emphasized the importance of



inclusive development and directed the concerned to ensure that the TSP is well-structured with effective execution and monitoring mechanisms in place. He stressed that the plan should be

SEE FULL ONPAGE 05

NIA Court frames charges against four accused persons under UAPA in Doda

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

JAMMU, JUNE 5 (UNI) The Additional District and Session Judge (Fast Track) NIA Court on Thursday framed charges against four accused persons under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir. Senior Superintendent of Police, Doda, Sandeep Mehta said that a case was registered under relevant sections at

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Div Com Kashmir Reviews Preparations for the National Integration NCC Camp

■ HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 05: To ensure the successful organization of the National Integration NCC Camp in Srinagar, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, convened a meeting of officials on Thursday to assess the necessary arrangements for the event's effective execution.

The meeting witnessed the par-



ticipation of the Director of Colleges, the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, and representatives from relevant departments viz. School Education, Tourism, Floriculture, LCMA,

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Eid-ul-Adha Shopping Begins in Kashmir, But inflation Dampens Festive Spirit

Shoppers Throng Markets to Buy Essentials, Traders Say Sales Still Low

■ HT NEWS DESK/KNO

Srinagar, Jun 05 With Eid-ul-Adha approaching, the markets across Kashmir are witnessing a gradual increase in the flow of shoppers as the people prepare for the grand festival.

While the shopping frenzy is yet to reach its peak, areas such as Lal Chowk in Srinagar, along with local markets in other districts, are witnessing a steady influx of shoppers.

Shops in Srinagar are witnessing a modest increase in customer footfall as families begin preparations for the festival. While overall sales remain muted, traders are hopeful that business will pick up in the final days. "Sales are still slow, but we hope things improve by tomorrow," Mushtaq Ahmad, a local shop owner, told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

"Alhamdulillah, business is picking up. We pray this trend continues across the



Valley," Yaseen Khan, a trader, said.

Some store owners are facing challenges due to competition from online shopping. "More customers are browsing

in stores, but they eventually prefer to purchase online, where they can find discounts. It's a growing concern for traditional businesses," said a footwear vendor

in Srinagar.

Despite this, local bakeries and confectioneries are seeing steady business as customers stock up on traditional sweets.

The shopping fever, however, is not confined to Srinagar alone. Markets in Baramulla and other northern districts are experiencing a noticeable surge in activity, with shoppers hunting for last-minute essentials.

Street vendors, particularly those selling henna, bangles, and artificial jewellery, are also doing brisk business, with many young girls seen lining up for mehendi designs.

Prices of goods have been a point of contention for many shoppers. The cost of clothing, footwear, and basic commodities has risen significantly in recent weeks, leaving some families struggling to afford their purchases.

"A simple dress that cost Rs 1,500 last

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11

Identity Drug Peddlers, Take Strict Action Against Them: Jammu SSP

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

JAMMU, JUNE 5 (UNI) Asserting that there is a clear policy of Zero Tolerance against drugs and whosoever is involved in drug trafficking should be strictly dealt with, Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, Joginder Singh on Thursday asked his team to identify all the drug peddlers and take strict action against them.

The SSP was chairing a crime and security review here at District Police Lines, which was attended by all the Zonal SSPs, SDPOs, SHOs and In-charge PPs of Jammu District.

During the meeting, in addition to crime review, various security measures were discussed for controlling crime and ensuring peace and stability in the district.

Various aspects of policing including quality investigation of cases, crime disposal, verifications, disposal of NDPS, UAPA cases, inquest proceedings, history-sheets, absconders, missing persons and other issues related to accountable policing were also discussed, said an official.

He said that disposal of cases registered under old as well as new criminal laws of each Police Station and Sub-division was discussed in detail, including disposal within time limit period of 60 and 90 days.

Quality and speedy investigation and timely disposal of NDPS cases including timely, sincere efforts to delay bails of drug peddlers, bail cancellations as well as unearthing of backward and forward linkages in such cases was also stressed in the meeting.

SEE FULL ONPAGE 11



NIT Srinagar hosts World Environment Day seminar on 'Ending Plastic Pollution'

Experts stress innovation and community action to combat plastic pollution

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 05: The National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar on Thursday organized a day-long seminar on World Environment Day 2025, aimed at addressing critical environmental challenges, particularly those caused by plastic pollution. The theme of the workshop was "Ending Plastic Pollution" and it was hosted by the Water Resource Management Centre (WRMC) of NIT Srinagar. Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanauiya, was the Chief Patron of the seminar. While as Dean Research and Consultancy, Prof. Roohie Naaz Mir was the patron of mega event. The event was presided over by Ms

Anoo Malhotra, Director General, Rural Sanitation, J&K, who served as the Chief Guest, and Mr Haji Manzoor Ahmad, Chairman NLCO Srinagar, who graced the occasion as the Guest of Honor. The occasion also witnessed the presence of several esteemed dignitaries, including Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, HoD Civil Engineering Department, Prof. J.A. Bhat, Chairman Water Resources Management Centre (WRMC), Prof. A.Q. Dar, and Dr. Khalid Muzaamil Gani, who served as the Coordinator of the event. Incharge Director, Prof. Roohi Naaz said protecting our environment is essential for the health and well-being of our communities. Sustainable practices, combined with innovative research, are crucial to combat



pollution and preserve natural resources. "This workshop fosters collaboration to develop practical solutions that safeguard our environment for future generations," she added. In her key speech, DG, Rural Sanita-

tion, J&K, Ms Anoo Malhotra emphasized that technological innovation must be harnessed effectively to solve long-standing challenges in rural sanitation, especially in geographically diverse and sensitive regions like Jammu and Kashmir.

"Collaboration between academic institutions and government departments is crucial for creating sustainable sanitation models. Such workshops bridge the gap between research and implementation, enabling the development of field-ready solutions that are both effective and culturally appropriate," she added. Ms Malhotra further said World Environment Day is not just about speeches and slogans. It is about inspiring real change. It's about teaching our children the value of sustainability and leading by example in our communities. Institutes' Registrar, Prof. Atikur Rehman said that the theme of this workshop resonates deeply with one of the most fundamental aspects of human dignity and well-being san-

itation. "Access to clean and safe sanitation is not merely an infrastructure challenge; it is a matter of health, environmental sustainability, and social equity, especially in our rural communities," he added. On the occasion, Chairman NLCO, Haji Manzoor Ahmad Wangnoo, expressed his appreciation for the initiative, stating that it was heartening to see NIT Srinagar take an active interest in issues that directly impact local communities. "We need more such platforms where science meets the soil and academic knowledge translates into practical solutions," he said. Highlighting the mission and ongoing work of NLCO, Wangnoo spoke about the organization's dedicated efforts to restore water bodies,

DC Kishtwar reviews arrangements for Devigol Cultural Fest

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 05: Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan today reviewed the arrangements for the Cultural Festival being held on June 22, 2025 at Devigol Boujwah, here at a meeting. The Deputy Commissioner said that the Devigol has been selected as the venue in view of its Tourist Potential and on the demand of the public. The District Social Wel-

fare Officer (DSWO) shared detailed insights on the proposed activities. He said the festival will feature fun sports like Tug of War, Dandal, Horse Riding, besides Volleyball and Trekking Competition. He said the final list of events will be revealed in due course. Awareness regarding the Central and UT Government sponsored schemes including Mission YUVA, Tejasvini Scheme, Mumkin Scheme, and others will be dis-

seminated through informative stalls to be set up by the stakeholder departments. The DC further reviewed arrangements related to essential services for the celebrations, including water, electricity, transport, sanitation, medical facilities, and food stalls, and issued necessary directions to the concerned officers. The Cultural Fest will also feature performances by local singers from Boujwah and other parts

of Chenab Valley and Jammu and Kashmir. A number of committees have been constituted for making foolproof arrangements for the mega fest. The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma, CEO KDA Kaiser Bhawani, ACR Idrees Lone, DSWO Zubair Ahmed, AD FCS&CA Shafqat Ali Keen, DIO Dr. Kuldeep Kumar, Tehsildar Bunjwah Tejinder Sharma, besides other senior officers and concerned staff.

MLA, DC flag off Holy Mindhal Chandi Mata Yatra from Doda

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 05: The sacred Mindhal Chandi Mata Yatra was flagged off today from Doda town by Member Legislative Assembly (MLA) Shakti Raj Parihar and Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh. A large gathering of devotees from across the district witnessed the auspicious commencement of the annual pilgrimage to the revered shrine of Chandi Mata in Mindhal, Himachal Pradesh. Addressing the pilgrims, MLA Shakti Raj Parihar extended heartfelt wishes and expressed deep reverence for the holy journey. "This yatra is a symbol of our cultural heritage and unwavering devotion.



May Chandi Mata bless all pilgrims with strength, prosperity and protection. I appeal to all yattris to uphold discipline, unity and spiritual decorum during the pilgrimage," he stated. He also commended the district administration for making comprehensive arrangements to support

the devotees. Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh described the yatra as a shining example of communal harmony and spiritual unity. He offered prayers at the departure point and interacted with the pilgrims. "The district administration has ensured all necessary logistical and safety arrangements for the yatis, including transportation, healthcare, drinking water, and security. Let this sacred journey carry forward the message of peace, devotion, and collective faith," he remarked. To facilitate the smooth conduct of the yatra, the administration deployed civil and police officials at the flag-off site, ensuring crowd management and assistance to the pilgrims.

DIPR encourages students' participation in anti-drug campaign Hosts poster making competition, cultural awareness event

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 05: The Cultural Unit, Department of Information & Public Relations Jammu today organised a painting (Poster Making) Competition on the theme of 'Nasha Mukht Bharat' here at Indira Memorial Higher secondary School to raise awareness among students

about the harmful effects of drug abuse and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. The programme was graced by the Principal Bhagwan Dass as the Chief Guest. Esteemed judges for the event were Vishal Sharma, Ravi Sharma and Suresh Kumar, Cultural Assistant who carefully eval-

uated the paintings of the young and aspiring participants. As many as 10 students participated in the poster making competition. The first prize was bagged by Swasti Singh, second by Parul and third by Dhairya, while consolation prizes were given to Ruqayy Akther and Janvi Sharma.

Govt Of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION SRINAGAR, NEAR J&K BANK (ZALDAGAR)

Sub: - Extension in bidding time for Short Term e-NIT No. 04 OF 2025-26, Dated: 23-05-2025 for below mentioned works: - Mechanical repair works to 02 cusec Horizontal Pump (Unit 1st) at LIS Beigh Mohalla Watlar of MISD Ganderbal. Ref: - JK Government official e-Procurement portal Tender ID No.: - 2025_IFC_277581_1

Extension Notice 2

Due to No response to above mentioned e-NIT for the subject works, the critical dates are extended as under: -

Bid submission/ Document download / sale end Date	11/06/2025 at 1400 hrs
Date and time of Bid opening	12/06/2025 at 1230 hrs

Rest of the terms and conditions shall remain un-altered as laid down in the original e-NIT.

DIPK-2238/25

Send Dated:- 05/06/2025
Pub:- 06-06-25

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar

Government of Union of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Machinery Division Kashmir

Mechanical & Hospital Engineering Department, Kashmir

| Fax No: 0194-2497093 | email: xenmds@gmail.com | website: www.medkashmir.org |
Gist of Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-NIT No:	MDSK/TS /2025-26/06
Date	04 /06/2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on percentage (%) basis from Registered/Reputed firms for the below mentioned work:

Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rs.)	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Lacs)	Position of AA	Position of TS
1	2	3	4	5	6
Stage contract for Mechanical / Electrical spare parts of road construction Machinery of Machinery Division Kashmir.	200.00	500000/-	10000	Works programme approved by CE vide order No. M&HED/K/ACctt/35 of 2025-26 Dt.08.05.2025	Accorded by SE vide No. SEMHK/TS-14/05 Dt. 23.05.2025.

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

01	Publish date	05-06-2025(18:00hrs)
02	Period of downloading of bidding document	05-06-2025(18:30 hrs)
03	Bid submission start date	05 -06-2025 (18:55hrs)
04	Bid submission end date	17- 06-2025(18:55 hrs)
06	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	18 -06-2025(14:00 hrs)

DIPK-2237/25
Send Date: Jun 5 2025
PUB Date: Jun 6 2025

Sd/
Executive Engineer,
Machinery Division,
Srinagar

اطلاع عام

مظہر کو اپنی دکان بنام Asiatic Arts and

Crafts Gallery واقع پارپورہ سرینگر کی رجسٹریشن ٹورسٹ

ٹریڈ ایکٹ کے تحت محکمہ بینڈری کرافٹس ڈیپارٹمنٹ جموں و کشمیر کے ساتھ کرنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر ہیڈڈی کرافٹس (کوالٹی کنٹرول) واقع سولہ سرینگر کے ساتھ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر رابطہ قائم کریں۔ بعد از میعاد کوئی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نام: اقبال حسین درزی

ولدیت: مرحوم غلام حسن درزی

ساکنہ: پارپورہ سرینگر متصل مسجد الاذنورین

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the birth certificate bearing number B/2024-1/05297/0093 D.O.B 16-02-2018 issued to Mujtaba showkat D/O Showkat ahamd Naikoo has been canceled Issued by BDO Manzgam. The said birth certificate is hereby declared null and void. Any use of the canceled certificate will be considered invalid. All authorities and individuals are requested to take note of this cancellation. Showkat ahamd Naikoo F/O Mujtaba showkat R/O KBPORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

IT is hereby informed to general public that I UMAR ASHRAF DAR have lost passport in during traveling Jammu to Srinagar under passport number: V1688665. Now I want to apply for its duplicate passport in passport office Srinagar./Baramulla If anybody having any objection shall contact passport office Srinagar/ Baramulla within 07 days .After that no objection shall be entertained UMAR ASHRAF DAR S/O MOHAMMAD ASHRAF DAR M/O MISRA BEGUM R/O MAIDANI CHUGAL TEHSIL HANDWARA DIST KUPWARA PASSPORT NUMBER V1688665

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being informed that By mistake My DOB in my school record is wrongly mentioned as 13/11/1976 The actual DOB as per my aadhar card is 19/02/1979 NOW I want apply for ts correction f anyone have queries they may report to concern authority within 7 days

Mohd Afzal Lone
C/O Abdul Rahman Lone
R/O pahalgam
Ph 6006813699

IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is for general information that the name of my daughter in Schools & Govt records has been registered DANIA, and now I want to Correct it to be changed as DAANIYAH BHAT. In this regard if anybody have any objection may kindly contact the concern offices within 7 day. After completion of time no objection will be entertained.

Javeed Afzal Bhat

F/O: Daaniyah Afzal Bhat

R/o: Bandipora, Near ITI, M: 9858996666

اطلاع عام

ہر خاص عام کو اطلاع دی جاتی ہے کہ مجھے اپنی بیٹی انسہ جان دختر الطاف احمد لون کی تاریخ پیدائش سرنگٹ 24-12-2023 بلاک افس پہلنگام سے کوئی مطلوب ہے کسی کو کوئی عذر ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر بلاک افس پہلنگام کے دفتر میں پیش کرے بعد از معاد کوئی عذر قبول نہیں ہوگا

المستشر

الطاف احمد لون والد انشاء جان ساکن لدرو پہلنگام

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Qazi Khurshied Ahmad, son of Late Munshi Ali Mohammad, resident of House No. 35, New Colony Nigeen, Hazratbal, Srinagar, hereby declare that I intend to correct the name of my late father as recorded in the death certificate issued on 03/02/2025 by the Office of the Registrar, Births and Deaths, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, bearing Registration No. 37411. The name is currently recorded as "Ali Mohammad Munshi", which is incorrect. The correct name is "Munshi Ali Mohammad", as reflected in his official documents such as the Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, and other records. The correction pertains solely to the proper placement of the title - changing it from a suffix to a prefix.

Any person having any objection to the proposed correction may contact me at +91 6006319106 within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Have Lost R/C Of My Vechile Tipper Bearing Registration No -JK03B/4528 from Bemina to Khanyar. Now I have applied for its Duplicate. If anybody having any kind of objection in this regard He/she may object his objection in ARTO Anantnag, within Seven days from the date of issuance of this notice. After that no objection will entertained.



Name: Arshad Ahmad Kawa
S/O Ghulam Mohammad Kawa
R/O Khanyar Srinagar
Cell No:-7006185559,9906499485

PUBLIC NOTICE


It is hereby notified that my dob has been incorrectly mentioned on his Adhar card, 275489020352as DOB 17/06/1965 while his correct DOB IS,01/06/1970, Name, Ab Majeed Dar now I have applied for the correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection concerned authority/JUIDAI office within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.


Name: AB MAJEED DAR. DOB , 01/06/1970
S/O MOHD RAMZAN DAR
R/O: BATAPORA TEHSIL HANDWARA DIST KUPWARA








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by

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

In the august presence of

Nitin Jairam Gadkari

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways

Ashwini Vaishnaw

Union Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, Electronics and Information Technology

Dr. Jitendra Singh

Union Minister of State (IC) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Minister of State for Prime Minister Office, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension, Deptt. of Atomic Energy & Deptt. of Space

V. Somanna

Union Minister of State for Railways & Jal Shakti

Ravneet Singh

Union Minister of State for Railways & Food Processing Industries

Manoj Sinha

Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Jammu & Kashmir

Omar Abdullah

Chief Minister, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

Surinder Kumar Choudhary

Dy. Chief Minister, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

Jugal Kishore

M.P., (Lok Sabha), Jammu

Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi

M.P., (Lok Sabha), Srinagar


Gulam Ali

M.P., Rajya Sabha

Friday, 06th June, 2025

11:00 A.M.





Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Sports Complex Katra (Stadium)



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EDITORIAL

Improve drainage system in Srinagar at the earliest

Srinagar city is one of the smart cities of the country and as such it is expected that all the civic amenities are up to date. Once all the basic facilities are provided to the citizens of the summer capital of the union territory of Jammu & Kashmir then one can say that Srinagar is a smart city. As on date there are many things that need to be improved and the concerned stakeholders need to pull up socks in this regard. After the recent rainfall in Srinagar the inefficient drainage system came to the fore. Most of the important areas of the city centre got submerged due to the rain water. The people were expecting that since a lot of money has been spent on the smart city project the problem of water accumulation after rains would not be there. This seems to be a dream at least for the time being after the recent spell of rainfall as many areas were inundated and people faced a lot of difficulties.

The drainage system of Srinagar has always been in shambles and the successive governments have failed to solve this glaring civic issue. This time around there was a hope that things will be improved as huge funds were spent under the Smart City project. These hopes were dashed as lakes of water were visible on the city roads and due to this reason traffic snarls were witnessed in the city and its outskirts.

It is imperative that a probe is carried out in the utilization of funds under the Smart City project. This would ensure that the real picture comes to the fore and action is taken against the people who have not executed the project in a proper manner. If funds were spent in huge numbers then how come the drainage system of the Srinagar city is not in place? This needs to be taken seriously by the people at helm so that there is an improvement in this all important civic amenity in Srinagar.

It is important that the residents of the Srinagar city are entitled to all the facilities that have been given to the residents of other smart cities of the country. One cannot expect that world class facilities are provided to the Srinagar residents but at least they can be given the facilities being provided to the residents of other important cities of the country. This would give a feeling that Srinagar is a smart city in the real sense.

Eid ul-Adha symbolizes the epitome of devotion and sacrifice where personal desires are set aside for the sake of Allah, the obligatory things to be done on Eid Al Adha



Er Ishfaq Khaliq

Eid ul-Adha commemorates the unwavering faith and submission of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) and his son Isma'il (Ishmael) to God's command. This act symbolizes the epitome of devotion, where personal desires are set aside in obedience to divine will. The festival serves as a reminder for Muslims to embody this level of commitment in their own lives, striving to align their actions with the principles of Islam. Broadly understating with deep sense of knowledge Eid ul-Adha, also known as the Festival of Sacrifice, is deeply rooted in the Islamic understanding of faith, devotion, and moral responsibility. At its core, it commemorates the profound story of Prophet Ibrahim and his willingness to sacrifice his son, Isma'il in obedience to a divine command. This event represents absolute submission to God's will, even when it defies human logic or personal desire. The essence of the festival lies in the concept of sacrifice—Qurbani. Muslims who are able to do so offer an animal as a symbolic act of devotion, remembering Ibrahim's readiness to give up what he loved most. However, the sacrifice is not about the physical act alone. It reflects a deeper spiritual truth: the willingness to let go of one's ego, desires, and worldly attachments for the sake of righteousness. The act becomes meaningful when it leads to inner purification and a closer connection to God. Eid ul-Adha also emphasizes generosity, social responsibility, and community. The meat from the sacrificed animal is divided into portions to be shared with family, friends, and especially those in need. This ensures that the joy of the festival reaches beyond the individual and family to touch the wider community. It is a reminder that worship is not complete without care for others, especially the poor and marginalized. The festival occurs during the Hajj pilgrimage, a time when millions of Muslims from around the world gather in Mecca, all dressed in simple white garments, symbolizing equality, humility, and the stripping away of worldly status. This connection to Hajj reinforces the themes of unity, mortality, and the ultimate return to God. Eid ul-Adha teaches that true piety is not in ritual alone but in sincerity, selflessness, and ethical living. It calls believers to reflect on their relationship with God, their responsibilities to others, and the kind of person they strive to be. Through remembrance, charity, and humility, the festival becomes not just a celebration, but a reaffirmation of faith and a renewal of purpose.

Eid ul-Adha, emphasizing its spiritual, moral, and societal dimensions, "Eid-ul-Azha," delves into the essence of this festival, highlighting its significance beyond the ritualistic practices.

Furthermore, Various scholars emphasized that the act of sacrifice during Eid ul-Adha is not merely a ritualistic slaughter of an animal but a representation of the believer's readiness to relinquish personal interests for the greater good. they underscore the importance of understanding the underlying message of selflessness, piety, and social responsibility that the festival conveys.

In the broader discourse, scholars articulate that Islamic festivals like Eid ul-Adha are designed to reinforce communal bonds and collective consciousness among Muslims. They are occasions that transcend mere celebration, serving as platforms for spiritual reflection, moral rejuvenation, and societal cohesion.

THE MUST DO THINGS TO BE DONE ON EID AL ADHA

During Eid al-Adha, certain acts are considered obligatory (wājib) or highly emphasized (sunnah mu'akkadah) depending on your Islamic school of thought and personal circumstances. Here's a summary of the key obligations and important practices:

■ 1. Eid Prayer (Salāt al-Eid)

Obligatory for: Adult Muslim men (according to anaf school; Sunnah Mu'akkadah in other schools). It is performed in congregation, usually in an open space called Eid Gah or in a large mosque. The prayer consists of two rak'ahs with extra takbīr (saying "All hu Akbar").

■ 2. Sacrifice (Qurbānī / Udhiyah)

Obligatory (wājib) according to the sanaf school for every adult Muslim who is sane and resident (not traveling), And possesses wealth above the Nisab (like the one for Zakāt) on Eid day. According to other schools (Shāfi'i, Mālikī, Hanbalī), it is a highly recommended Sunnah, not obligatory. The sacrifice must be: A healthy animal (goat, sheep, cow, or camel), Done after the Eid prayer and within the days of 10th–12th Dhul-Hijjah (3 days of Tashrīq).



The meat is distributed: one-third for the family, one-third for relatives/friends, and one-third for the poor.

■ 3. Observing the Takbīr

Saying Takbīr (All hu Akbar, All hu Akbar, Lā ilāha illā Allahu, All hu Akbar, All hu Akbar, wa Lā ilāha illā Allahu) after every fardh prayer starting from Fajr on 9th Dhul-Hijjah (Day of Arafah) to on 13th Dhul-Hijjah. Obligatory (wājib) according to anaf school for men, Sunnah in other schools and for women.

■ 4. Avoiding Hair and Nail Cutting Before Sacrifice

For those intending to offer a sacrifice, it is mustaabb (recommended) to avoid cutting their hair and nails from the start of Dhul-Hijjah until after the sacrifice is done. This is based on a hadith of the Prophet

■ 5. General Sunnahs and Etiquettes

While not "obligatory," these acts are strongly encouraged. Ghusl (ritual bath) before going to Eid prayer. Wearing clean and best clothes, ideally new or the best you own. Eating after the Eid prayer (unlike Eid al-Fitr where you eat before). Taking different routes to and from the Eid prayer ground. Greeting others with "Taqabbalallahu minnaw wa minkum" (May Allah accept from us and you).

6. The must do things for the animal to be sacrificed. When performing Qurbani (Udhiyah) on Eid al-

Adha, there are several essential actions and etiquettes that must be observed to ensure the sacrifice is valid and spiritually meaningful.

The process begins with a sincere intention. One must make a clear niyyah that the sacrifice is being done solely for the sake of Allah, following the tradition of Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him). The sacrifice can also be made on behalf of oneself, one's family, or deceased loved ones. It is important that the person offering the sacrifice owns the animal, or has proper permission. The animal cannot be stolen, borrowed, or taken without consent.

The sacrifice must be done only after the Eid prayer on the 10th, 11th, or 12th of Dhul-Hijjah. Performing the slaughter before the Eid prayer invalidates the Qurbani, except in specific cases like rural areas where no Eid congregation is held.

The animal selected for sacrifice must meet certain criteria. It can be a goat, sheep, cow, buffalo, or camel. A sheep or goat is sufficient for one person, while a cow or camel may be shared by up to seven people. The animal must be of the minimum required age: one year for a sheep or goat, two years for a cow, and five years for a camel. It must be in good health, without defects such as blindness, lameness, or severe emaciation. Minor imperfections are overlooked, but any major defect disqualifies the animal for Qurbani.

During the actual slaughter, it is obligatory to mention the name of Allah. Saying "Bismillahi Allahu Akbar" before slaughtering is required. It is also recommended to say a prayer like, "Allhumma dh minka wa laka. Taqabbal minni," which means, "O Allah, this is from You and for You. Accept it from me." The slaughter must be carried out with a sharp knife and in accordance with Islamic law. The windpipe, food pipe, and two blood vessels in the throat should be severed swiftly, ensuring the animal is alive and conscious at the time of the cut. The animal should be treated gently, not harmed unnecessarily, and should be laid facing the Qiblah.

It is Sunnah for the person offering the sacrifice to perform it personally or at least be present. One should avoid letting other animals witness the slaughter, and the knife should not be sharpened in front of the animal. These steps uphold the dignity and respect due to the creature being sacrificed.

After the sacrifice, the meat should ideally be divided into three parts: one-third for the family, one-third for friends and relatives, and one-third for the poor and needy. While it's permissible to keep all the meat or give all of it away, the recommended practice is to share generously, especially with those in need. The meat, skin, or any part of the animal should not be sold. Payment to the butcher should not be in the form of meat; instead, they should be compensated with money or another gift. However, one may gift meat or skin to others freely. Hygiene is also part of the Islamic ethic. Cleanliness must be maintained during and after the sacrifice, with proper disposal of waste and respect for public spaces. Local regulations should be followed, especially in urban areas.

Lastly, while not obligatory, it is highly recommended to avoid cutting one's nails or hair from the beginning of Dhul-Hajjah until the sacrifice is completed, if you intend to offer Qurbani. This act reflects a symbolic connection with those performing Hajj.

The Qurbani is not merely about slaughtering an animal, but a reminder of complete submission to Allah, a test of sincerity, and a moment to express compassion and care for others through sharing and charity. It reflects the legacy of Prophet Ibrahim and encourages a deeper connection with faith, community, it uplifts the spirit of sacrifice. For others before anything though all odds and hurdles.

The Author is the Regular contributor to Headlines Today and can be reached@ishfaqalnoortech@gmail.

The Eternal Light of Great Teachers: Remembering Rahi Sahib's Enduring Legacy



Syed Bukhari
syedbukhari959655@gmail.com

The passing of an extraordinary teacher is never just the loss of an individual—it is the fading of a beacon that once illuminated minds, shaped characters, and kindled hope in countless hearts. The recent demise of Syed Ghulam Mohi Uddin Bukhari, popularly known as Rahi Sahib, has left a void in Kashmir's educational and intellectual landscape. Yet, while he may no longer be with us in person, his legacy remains alive in the generations he taught, the values he instilled, and the wisdom he imparted.

A Scholar Beyond Compare
Hailing from Kundoora in Beerwa, Budgam, Rahi Sahib was not just a teacher but a "living institution". Widely revered as the "Ocean of Knowledge" (Ilm ka Darya), he stood as one of the most distinguished scholars of English literature that

Kashmir has ever produced. His command over language, literature, and philosophy was unparalleled, but what truly set him apart was his ability to "make complex ideas accessible, inspiring, and deeply personal" for his students.

Unlike many educators who merely transmit information, Rahi Sahib transformed classrooms into spaces of intellectual and moral awakening. His lessons were never confined to textbooks; they were discussions on life, ethics, and human nature. Students didn't just learn Shakespeare or Wordsworth from him—they learned "how to think critically, how to appreciate beauty in words, and how to apply literature's lessons to their own lives".

A Teacher Who Shaped Generations
One of the most remarkable aspects of Rahi Sahib's influence was that he "taught multiple generations" within families. The author of this piece was fortunate to be taught by him in Class 12, just as their father had been years before. This intergenerational impact speaks volumes about his enduring relevance. For many students, Rahi Sahib was more than a teacher—he was a "mentor, a guide, and often a father figure".

His door was always open for those seeking advice, whether academic or personal. His humility, despite his vast knowledge, made him approachable, and his generosity of spirit left a lasting impression on everyone who crossed his path.

The Rare Gift of True Education
In today's fast-paced, exam-driven education system, where rote learning often overshadows true understanding, teachers like Rahi Sahib are a "vanishing breed". Modern schooling prioritizes grades over wisdom, competition over compassion, and certificates over character. Rahi Sahib, however, embodied the "classical ideal of education"—one that nurtures not just the mind but the soul.

He understood that "real teaching is not about filling minds with facts but igniting a lifelong love for learning". His students didn't just memorize poems; they felt them. They didn't just analyze characters in novels; they saw reflections of their own struggles and triumphs in them. This is the mark of a "true educator"—one who doesn't just inform but transforms.

A Legacy That Transcends Time
Great teachers never truly die because

➤ *The passing of an extraordinary teacher is never just the loss of an individual—it is the fading of a beacon that once illuminated minds, shaped characters, and kindled hope in countless hearts. The recent demise of Syed Ghulam Mohi Uddin Bukhari, popularly known as Rahi Sahib, has left a void in Kashmir's educational and intellectual landscape. Yet, while he may no longer be with us in person, his legacy remains alive in the generations he taught, the values he instilled, and the wisdom he imparted.*

their lessons live on in their students. Rahi Sahib's wisdom continues to echo in the classrooms where his former pupils now teach, in the books they write, and in the values they pass on to their own children. His life was proof that "education is not a profession but a sacred duty"—one that shapes societies and preserves culture.

His passing also forces us to ask: "Who will carry forward this torch of enlightened teaching?" In an age where artificial intelligence and digital learning are reshaping education, will we still have space for teachers who inspire beyond the syllabus? Rahi Sahib's life reminds us that "no technology can replace the human touch of a mentor who cares deeply for his students' growth".

A Call to Honor His Mission
The best way to honor Rahi Sahib is not just through words but through action. Educators today must strive to emulate his "dedication, his intellectual passion, and his unwavering belief in the transformative power of education". Students, in turn, must recognize the privilege of learning and commit themselves to knowledge not just for career success but for "personal and societal better-

ment".
Conclusion: The Light That Never Fades

Rahi Sahib may have left this world, but his light has not been extinguished. It burns in every student who carries forward his teachings, in every mind he opened to new ideas, and in every heart he touched with his kindness.

As the poet William Wordsworth once wrote, "What we have loved, others will love, and we will teach them how." Rahi Sahib taught us how to love learning, how to seek truth, and how to live with wisdom. And in doing so, he ensured that his light would "never truly fade—only multiply in the hearts of those he inspired".

Rest in peace, Rahi Sahib. Your classroom was the world, and your students, your everlasting legacy.

The Author is the Regular contributor to Headlines Today and can be reached@syedbukhari959655@gmail.com





HT - SPECIAL: WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY.

Special Analysis on World Environment Day... Let us Act and Save our Mother Earth Before it is too Late...

Did you see last year's plants too?"

Every year on 'World Environment Day' we plant trees, get photographs taken, but one question remains unanswered - are the trees planted last year still alive? Tree plantation has now become merely a show-off event, in which responsibility has become secondary and publicity has become primary. There is a need for "tree keeping", in which every plant becomes our responsibility. Going beyond words, if every citizen takes care of a plant throughout the year, then greenery will return not only to posters but also to the ground. Celebrate Environment Day not for photos, but for the future.



Priyanka Saurabh

Today, when we talk about Environment Day, the first scene that comes to mind is - some people standing with a lush green plant, not a spade or a bucket of water in their hands, but a mobile camera. There is less enthusiasm on their faces to save the environment, and more of a smile in the picture. Environment Day has now become a 'selfie day' - not of planting a tree, but of uploading a photo.

But the question is, did you take any news of the plants planted last year? Or did they just become part of a "Facebook post"? Through this article, I want to raise a serious and important question - have we seen tree planting as an opportunity and not as a responsibility? And has greenery remained only in photos?

➤ **Greenery: Increased in figures, decreased on the ground**

Every year, governments claim that lakhs of trees were planted. Big statistics are presented that the forest area increased, trees were planted in so many thousands of hectares. But the question is, how many of those lakhs of trees survived?

The truth is that plants planted without care, without irrigation, without protection do not become part of the forest, but get mixed with the soil. But we consider them greener in statistics.

➤ **Concern for the environment does not go beyond photos**

In modern society, concern for the environment lasts only as long as it can be publicised. As soon as the camera is turned off, our responsibility also ends.

Today, tree plantation has become an event for every public institution, school, office, even for leaders and officials, in which one gets 'likes' and 'shares' but the roots do not grow.

You planted a tree last year, did you name it? Did you visit it once a month?

No, right? Because we captured tree plantation in a photo frame and did not adopt it as a part of life.

➤ **Tree farming is needed, not tree planting**

In our Puranas, in our culture, and even in the cycle of life, the importance of trees has been stated to be supreme.

A human being can be born under a Peepal tree, education is received under the shade of Banyan tree and even the last journey takes place with the help of a wood.

➤ **Yet we neglect trees after use.**

Every year crores of rupees are spent on planting trees, but not on their conservation. We need tree husbandry, not tree plantation. Destruction in the name of development In cities, big trees are cut down in the name of 'development' - roads have to be widened, malls have to be built, power lines have to be laid.



The administration says - "We will plant two trees in place of one."

But do those two plants get enough space?

➤ **Don't nets climb on them?**

Nature has been excluded from the definition of development, and it has now become merely a formality.

➤ **Greenery in schools - limited to competitions only**

On Environment Day, many speech competitions, painting and essay writing are organised in schools. Children recite poems on "Importance of Trees". But did any school ensure that the plant planted by the children was cared for throughout the year? Was it ever written in the children's progress magazine that "Abhijeet took care of the banyan tree"? No, because for us planting trees is a test question, not a part of life.

➤ **Same thing every year - then what is the solution?**

We all know that trees are the basis of rain, climate, oxygen and life cycle.

But we become alert only on '5th June'.

➤ **So what is the solution?**

One person - one plant - care for one year Government, schools and panchayats should make this campaign compulsory.

Give priority to local trees. Trees like Peepal, Neem, Drumstick, Mango, Ber, Banyan tree are more useful and durable.

Each plant should be given an identification number (code) so that it can be monitored. There should be a 'tree-keeping competition' in schools And the progress of the students should be added to their reports. Under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), not only plantation of trees but their survival rate should also be made mandatory. Post the responsibility along with the photo that 'I will water it throughout the year'.

➤ **A mental change is necessary**

Unless we accept trees as the right of nature and consider ourselves its protectors, no government scheme, no campaign will be of any use. Do you remember the plant you planted last year, where is it now?

If you don't know - then before planting it next time, take a pledge that you will also become its protector.

This is necessary now Environment Day is not just a date, it is consciousness.

Trees are not just wood, they are life. Plantation is not just a program, it is an emotional bond.

This year don't just say 'plant a tree',

Rather say - "I will make it a tree."

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Man - The Most Dangerous Animal, Depleting the Environment



Javaid Bhat

On this World Environment Day, as the world reflects on environmental protection and sustainability, one chilling truth echoes louder than ever before: Man is the most dangerous animal on Earth. This may sound like a harsh judgment, but history and present realities continue to reinforce this idea - none more telling than the infamous "Luckhas Zambia" episode.

In this haunting episode, a clever social experiment conducted in the Lusaka Zoo of Zambia replaced a traditional animal exhibit with a mirror. Visitors expecting to see a wild animal were stunned when they found their own reflection instead. Above the mirror, a sign read: "You are looking at the most dangerous animal in the world." The message was simple but pierc-



ing - reminding every viewer that human beings, not lions or snakes, are the greatest threat to the planet. From deforestation to plastic pollution, from carbon emissions to biodiversity loss, human activity has pushed the Earth to its ecological limits. Forests, once lush with life, are now vanishing at alarming rates. Rivers that once flowed with purity now carry industrial waste. Species that roamed freely for millennia now stand at the brink of extinction - all because of mankind's insatiable greed and disregard for balance. The irony is that the very intelligence and ingenuity that distinguishes humans from other creatures has been used to exploit rather than protect. While we pride ourselves on technological advancement, we often ignore its environmental cost. Climate change, melting glaciers, ocean acidification - these are not the works of nature but the consequences of man's unrestrained ambition. The Luckhas Zambia episode is not merely an artistic expression but a wake-up call. It compels us to look into the mirror and confront the uncomfortable truth - that the enemy of nature is not somewhere in the wild; it is within us. Yet, all is not lost. The same species that causes destruction also holds the power to heal. From reforestation efforts to clean energy initiatives, from wildlife conservation to sustainable living, there is hope - if only we choose to act. On this World Environment Day, let the mirror not reflect guilt alone, but also responsibility and resolve. Let us transform from being nature's destroyers to its stewards. Because the future of our planet lies not in technological marvels, but in simple, mindful choices made by each of us. Let us remember: the most dangerous animal can also become the most responsible one. "What we do today shapes the world of tomorrow."

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India's Space Economy Soars: From \$8.4B To \$44B By 2033 - The Forces Fueling This Cosmic Leap



Sumaya Jan & Sameer Hussain Gull

India's space economy is witnessing an era of unprecedented transformation, driven by a combination of scientific expertise, visionary policy frameworks, and vibrant private sector participation. With the global space economy expected to exceed \$1 trillion by 2040, India is steadily positioning itself as a key player in this domain. Valued at \$8.4 billion in 2024, India's space sector is on a high-growth trajectory and is projected to reach \$44 billion by 2033, with an annual growth rate of approximately 18%. This momentum stems from strategic initiatives undertaken across central and state governments, support for entrepreneurship, and consistent technological advancements. India's evolving space ecosystem not only contributes to economic output but also enhances innovation, employment, and regional development while fostering global partnerships and scientific leadership. Economic Contribution and Employment Opportunities India's space sector plays a pivotal role in creating high-value employment. Currently, it supports over 100,000 direct jobs in areas such as aerospace engineering, satellite manufacturing, research, and operations. In addition, it indirectly supports an estimated 5 million jobs across various associated industries, including logistics, IT services, data

analytics, and advanced manufacturing.

These job opportunities are instrumental in nurturing a skilled workforce and encouraging STEM education across the country. Cities like Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, and Thiruvananthapuram have emerged as key hubs for space-related activities, forming innovation clusters that fuel regional economic development and promote knowledge-based industries.

Economically, the sector contributes around Rs 1.3 lakh crore (approximately \$16 billion) to India's GDP, accounting for nearly 0.6% of the total output. With further growth in public and private investments, this figure is projected to increase to more than 1.2% of GDP by the end of the decade.

Technology Transfer and Cross-Sectoral Impact

India's advancements in space technology have led to numerous applications across other critical sectors. The development of lightweight materials, precision instruments, and satellite systems has translated into improved efficiency and innovation in healthcare, agriculture, transportation, and environmental management.

For instance, precision agriculture is benefiting from satellite-enabled crop monitoring, leading to enhanced yields and reduced input costs. Geospatial technology is also being leveraged for smart urban planning, infrastructure monitoring, and natural resource management. These spillover benefits not only optimise productivity but also encourage sustainability and data-driven decision-making.

Enhancing Global Presence and

Export Potential

India's reputation as a cost-effective and reliable launch service provider continues to grow. The successful deployment of over 330 foreign satellites through ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) underscores the country's capability in commercial space operations. These international collaborations have generated more than \$1.2 billion in revenue since 2013.

In addition, satellite data and downstream services are increasingly being exported, contributing approximately \$150 million annually. The emergence of private space companies further strengthens this trend, expanding India's global market share and positioning it as a hub for innovative space solutions.

Improving Sectoral Productivity and Social Infrastructure

Space-based applications are delivering measurable improvements in key economic sectors. In agriculture, satellite-driven insights support early disease detection and water-use efficiency, which have improved yields by 10-12%. In logistics, real-time tracking and navigation technologies have enhanced fleet management and reduced fuel consumption by nearly 5%. During natural disasters, satellite imagery facilitates timely response and recovery. For example, flood mapping capabilities significantly reduced potential damage in Kerala's 2018 floods. Additionally, satellite internet services are improving digital access in remote regions, supporting education and healthcare delivery through telemedicine and e-learning platforms.

Supportive Government Policies and Frameworks

India's space sector has benefited from forward-looking policy frameworks that encourage collaboration, innovation, and private participation. The establishment of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe) in 2020 marked a significant step in streamlining regulatory processes and facilitating private sector involvement.

IN-SPACe has enabled access to ISRO's infrastructure for private players and has authorised numerous missions, while also promoting investments in new technologies and platforms. The Indian Space Policy 2023 further encourages shared infrastructure usage, open data access, and public-private cooperation in satellite constellation development and advanced space applications.

Liberalised FDI policies have contributed to enhanced international partnerships and funding. Currently, up to 100% FDI is allowed in satellite manufacturing, and 74% in launch services under the automatic route. These measures reflect India's openness to global collaboration and technology exchange.

Budgetary support has also increased, with Rs 16,500 crore allocated to the Department of Space in the 2024-25 Union Budget. The proposed Rs 2,000 crore National Space Venture Fund is poised to support early-stage startups and foster innovation.

State-Level Engagement and Regional Development

Several Indian states have launched initiatives to develop local space ecosystems. Tamil Nadu's Space Industrial Policy 2025 aims to attract Rs 10,000 crore in investment and create 5,000 high-tech jobs. It also includes plans for developing "Space

Bays" and infrastructure around the upcoming Kulasekarapattinam spaceport.

Karnataka, known for its aerospace sector, has introduced a draft Space Technology Policy that emphasises skill development, support for MSMEs, and the establishment of a Space Tech Park. It aims to generate thousands of jobs and position the state as a leader in domestic space manufacturing.

Gujarat's SpaceTech Policy includes capital subsidies for satellite production and the establishment of a 500-acre space park in Bhavnagar. With dedicated Centres of Excellence and targeted support for startups and MSMEs, the state envisions attracting substantial investments and contributing meaningfully to the national space mission.

The increasing participation of private companies in space-related ventures is fostering rapid technological advancement. Startups like Skyroot Aerospace, Agnikul Cosmos, and Pixxel are developing innovative launch vehicles, small satellite constellations, and data platforms. These firms are receiving both domestic and international funding, expanding their R&D capabilities, and forming strategic partnerships globally. This surge in private sector activity is enhancing India's competitiveness and stimulating job creation in emerging areas such as reusable launch systems, earth observation technologies, and satellite-based analytics.

India's space sector is increasingly aligning with international best practices. Countries such as the United States, members of the European Union, and China provide models for collaboration, innovation funding,

and strategic missions. India's ability to engage in bilateral and multi-lateral partnerships creates new opportunities for knowledge sharing, cost optimisation, and market access.

With a balanced model of public-private cooperation, shared R&D investment, and strategic policymaking, India is well-equipped to integrate itself into global value chains and contribute meaningfully to international space exploration and commercialisation efforts.

Conclusion

India's space economy is evolving into a powerful driver of technological innovation, economic growth, and global engagement. Supported by visionary policies, robust institutions, and a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem, the sector is well-positioned to capture a growing share of the global space market.

The integration of space technology into sectors like agriculture, healthcare, logistics, and education is enhancing quality of life and bridging development gaps. As India continues to advance in this strategic domain, its space economy promises not only economic value but also societal impact - empowering communities, supporting sustainability, and enabling inclusive progress.

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World Environment Day: Satish Sharma calls for urgent measures to preserve ecological balance

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 5: "Environmental preservation is not merely a choice, but a necessity for survival of humane race. We must act decisively to maintain the ecological balance through all necessary measures," stated Minister for Food, Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma. The Minister, while addressing today during celebration of World Environment Day at the Road Transport Corporation Complex, Jammu, emphasized the critical importance of

balancing conservation and sustainable development. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the senior officers from various departments, environmental enthusiasts and RTC officials. The Minister highlighted the growing environmental challenges faced by the world and stressed emphasized the need for collective responsibility and action to preserve the nature. He called upon the departments under his charge, especially those dealing with transport and youth services, to lead by example in adopting eco-friendly practices. He urged the youth



to become active participants in the green movement, stating, "the younger generation holds the power to shape a sustainable future. It is our duty to equip them with the awareness and tools necessary for environmental stewardship." On the occasion, Managing Director RTC, Rakesh Sarangal, outlined various steps being taken by the Corporation to reduce its carbon footprint. These included introduction of energy-efficient vehicles and digital solutions to minimize paper usage. As part of the celebration, a tree plantation drive was carried out within

the premises, reinforcing the message of sustainability and care for nature. This year's theme of the Environment Day "Our Land. Our Future.", resonates strongly with the initiatives and commitment shown during the event. The event concluded with a pledge by all the attendees to adopt environmentally responsible behaviour in both personal and professional spheres. On the occasion, Managing Director RTC, Rakesh Sarangal, outlined various steps being taken by the Corporation to reduce its carbon footprint. These included introduction of energy-efficient vehicles.

Bhaderwah hosts Cultural Evening featuring blend of local talent, celebrity charm

HT NEWS DESK



BHADERWAH, JUNE 05: The picturesque town of Bhaderwah came alive with music, laughter, and cultural splendour amid a grand Cultural Evening held last evening here in the local Community Hall. The event was organised by the District Administration Doda in collaboration with the Department of Tourism, J&K. Witnessing an overwhelming public response, the venue was jam-packed with enthusiastic attendees. District Development Council (DDC) Chairman Dhananther Singh Kotwal was the Chief Guest, while DDC Vice Chairperson Sangeeta Rani, MLA Bhaderwah Daleep Singh Parihar and Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh attended as Guests of Honour. Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Doda Anil Kumar Thakur and ADC Bhaderwah Sunil Bhutyal, who also serves as CEO of Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA), were also present. The vibrant evening featured mesmerizing live performances by renowned local artists including singers Waqar Khan, Ravi Raghuvanshi, and Moomin Zargar. Stand-up comedian Shazi Khan left the audience in splits with his hilarious act. The event's grandeur was further enhanced by the presence of Bollywood celebrities Sunny Hinduja (popularly known as Sandeep Bhaiya) and Chandan Roy Sanyal (Bhopa Swami),.

Decks being cleared for functioning of KV in Poonch DC asks for identifying makeshift building, land for permanent campus

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JUNE 05: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today chaired a high-level meeting to review and expedite the process to start academic activities of Kendriya Vidyalaya proposed for the bor. The meeting witnessed the participation of key officials, including the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Chief Education Officer, District Education Planning Officer, Divisional Forest Officer, Tehsildar Haveli, Headquarters Tehsildar, and the Prin-



cipal of Kendriya Vidyalaya Rajouri. To ensure that academic activities can commence without delay, the Chief Education Officer was instructed to identify a suit-

able temporary building that can be used until the permanent infrastructure is in place. After thorough deliberations, the Deputy Commissioner directed the revenue

authorities to immediately identify suitable land in Gulpur, ensuring that the site is free from all encumbrances and appropriate for construction of Kendriya Vidyalaya campus. Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal emphasized the need for prompt and coordinated efforts among all departments to facilitate the timely operationalization of the prestigious Educational Institution. He noted that the institution would play a vital role in strengthening the quality education infrastructure and meeting the educational needs of the region.

Govt Polytechnic Jammu organises Seminar on 'Dignity and Human Rights of Manual Scavengers'

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 05: Government Polytechnic Jammu organized a seminar on "Dignity and Human Rights of Persons Involved in Manual Scavenging". The event saw enthusiastic participation from 4th-semester students of Computer/IT and Electrical Engi-

neering departments. Dr. Supreet Singh, MD Dermatology and Assistant Professor at the Department of Dermatology, ASCOMS & Hospital, and Chief Dermatologist at Anusukh Derma Care Centre were the resource persons. The programme began with a floral welcome to Dr. Singh, presented by Principal Er. Talet Mahmood, Er.

Inderjeet Singh (Workshop Superintendent), Er. Sukhdeep Singh (HoD, Civil Engineering) and Er. Sanjay Gupta (HoD, Electrical Engineering). In his enlightening address, Dr. Supreet Singh underlined the critical social and health challenges faced by individuals engaged in manual scavenging. He shed light on the severe health hazards, legal safeguards,

and rehabilitation efforts initiated by the government to eradicate the practice and restore dignity to those affected. He emphasized the vital role of youth in promoting awareness and championing human rights in their communities. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks by Er. Snehjit Kour, Demonstrator, Computer Department.

Mission YUVA: Maiden DLIC meeting held at Doda to review, approve proposed venture projects

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 05: The first meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) on Mission YUVA was held here today. Chaired by District Development Commissioner Harvinder Singh, the meeting was convened to review and approve applications received under the Mission YUVA scheme by Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) and assess the processing of those (Applications) being forwarded by Business Help Desks.



The meeting was attended by ADC, General Manager DIC, DSEO Doda Assistant Director Employment, District Nodal Officer JKEDI, District Development Manager NABARD, and other concerned officers. total of 10 cases, verified

by SBDU, were placed before the committee for consideration and all were approved for financial assistance and handholding support under Mission YUVA. The Committee conducted detailed scrutiny of each application to verify eligibility, assess business viability and the socio-economic background of the applicants. Later, a virtual meeting with BHDs headed by ADC Bhaderwah SDMs Gandoh, Thathri Assar, ACR Doda and all Yuva Doots was conducted. The chairman issued necessary instructions urging the stakeholders to reach out to each deserving.

Market Inspection drive conducted across Ramban District ahead of Eid

HT NEWS DESK

RAMBAN, JUNE 05: In view of the upcoming festival of Eid, market inspection drives were conducted today across various locations in Ramban district to ensure the availability of quality food items and to curb unethical trade practices. In Gool, a team comprising officials from the Tehsil Administration, Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) and the Police Department inspected grocery stores, mutton and chicken shops, milk vendors and sweet shops. The inspection aimed to keep check on overpricing, sale of unhygienic or substandard items, and to ensure compliance with notified price lists. Irregularities were detected at several outlets, resulting in on-the-spot fines totaling 4,100. Shopkeepers were also sensitized on the importance of maintaining hygiene and transparent pricing during the festive season.

Shrine Board Organizes Drawing Competition to Commemorate World Environment Day

HT NEWS DESK

Katra, June 5: To commemorate World Environment Day, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) organized a special drawing and sketching competition at its high-tech nursery in village Kunya, Panthal, near Katra. The event, which saw enthusiastic participation from a large number of students of various age groups, focused on the theme "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally". The competition aimed to raise awareness about the pressing issue of plastic pollution and encourage young minds to think creatively about solutions. Students from classes 1 to 12 from various institutions in the surroundings of Katra area showcased their artistic talents, highlighting the importance of reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices. The



competition was held from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, providing a platform for young artists to express their thoughts and ideas on environmental conservation.

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB expressed delight at the students participation and the quality of artwork displayed, saying it was heartening to see

students of various age groups engaging deeply with critical environmental issues. He also highlighted the Board's commitment to environmental conservation under the directions and guidance of Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT), citing the Annual Green Plan of the Board, under which over 1.7 million plants have been planted so far through manual intervention with a survival rate of over 80%. These plants are meticulously reared in the Board's high-tech nursery, showcasing the organization's dedication to preserving nature and maintaining ecological balance in the region, he added. The CEO further highlighted the Shrine Board's innovative approach to afforestation, citing the successful initiation of drone-based efforts last year, which have shown promising results.

NCC Cadets of Higher Secondary School Bhalra Celebrate "World Environment Day"

Amir Iqbal Khan

Bhaderwah, June 5, 2025: Stepping in to the worldwide awareness campaigns to protect the delicate environment of the planet Earth, the NCC Cadets of PM SHRI Govt. Higher Secondary School Bhalra, Bhaderwah celebrated "World Environment Day" with great enthusiasm and dedicative fervour here today. On this occasion, both NCC cadets and students actively participated in drawing and debate competitions, where they shared their valuable ideas and views on environmental conservation and sustainability. Faculty members including Vipan Kotwal, Nirbheek Singh (Master), Dr. Nitin Singh Kotwal and Sunil Kotwal (Teachers of the Institution) remained present in the initial session. "Under second session of the event, cadets took part in a plantation drive, which included efforts not only to plant new saplings but also to protect and care for the plants previously planted under Mission LiFE 1.0 (Lifestyle for Environment)," informed Dr. Sanjiv Kumar (NCC Officer and Incharge Counciling Cell) adding, "Participants in the event included: Aryaveer Kotwal, Kush Kumar, Rettish Kumar, Tejaswani Kotwal, Suhani Manhas, Varun Kotwal, Sneha, and others". Conclusion of the program was marked by an Environment Day pledge taking ceremony by NCC Cadets and other participants. "They also sang the NCC Song, reaffirming their commitment to environmental protection. Refreshments were served to all participants," Dr Sanjiv added. Speakers on this occasion expressed their views highlighting the importance of World Environment Day urging everyone to adopt sustainable environment friendly practices in daily life activities. The program organiser further informed that the event was organized under the aegis of the Director School Education Jammu and 10 J&K BN NCC Bhaderwah, by Dr. Koul, under the guidance of Irshad Ahmed (Incharge Principal) and overall supervision of Satish Kumar (Principal of the Institution).

50 women complete 1 month training course hosted by Fruit Craft Centre Jammu

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 05: Joint Director Horticulture Jammu, Gul Syed today presented certificates to fifty women trainees at Patta Ploura and B.Ed College Jammu, marking the conclusion of a one-month food processing training programme conducted by the Fruit Craft Centre Jammu. During the training, participants acquired hands-on knowledge in the preparation of various value-added horticultural products such as jams, squashes, nectars, preserves, pickles, chutneys, and candies. In his address, the Joint Director highlighted the economic importance of value addition in horticulture, particularly in minimizing post-harvest losses, enhancing product quality, and extending shelf life. He also elaborated on various government schemes, including the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and other support mechanisms available to youth interested in food processing and product marketing. He emphasized that the certification from the Fruit Craft Centre could empower trainees to launch their own startups in the field of food processing and marketing. Additionally, he encouraged the trainees to enroll in a six-month training programme in food processing offered free of cost by the Horticulture Department.

ST deputation from Gandhari Paddar meets DC Kishtwar

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 05: A delegation of Scheduled Tribe (ST) community members from the remote village of Gandhari (Tun) Paddar today called on the Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan to discuss and deliberate upon the implementation of "Dharti Aabha Janjatiya Gramin Utkarsh Abhiyan." During the interaction, the Deputy Commissioner informed the delegation of the significance of the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan and their vital role in spreading awareness about the initiative among the tribal population. He urged community leaders and influencers to ensure maximum participation and dissemination of information regarding the scheme's benefits, especially among underserved sections. The DC emphasized that the administration is committed to identify and address critical developmental gaps in tribal habitations. .





World Environment Day celebrated at Bandipora Deputy Commissioner leads plantation drive, awareness rally

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 05: Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WUCMA), in collaboration with the Jammu & Kashmir Forest Department, celebrated World Environment Day with great enthusiasm at the Auditorium Hall of High School Kaloosa, Bandipora.

This year's theme focused on environmental awareness, tackling plastic pollution, and youth engagement.

The event was presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Qadri, who emphasized the urgent need to address plastic pollution and lamented the fading use of traditional, eco-friendly practices such as carrying cloth and jute bags.

Urging a collective commitment, he called upon all attendees to take a pledge to eliminate single-use plastics and promote sustainable alternatives.

On the occasion, DC highlighted the ecological significance of Wular Lake, a vital source of livelihood through fisheries and water chestnut harvesting, as well as a symbol of natural beauty. He reiterated the administration's commitment to conserving such eco-sensitive zones.

Measures like the polythene ban, enhanced solid waste management under Swachhta Grameen (RDD), and Bandipora Municipality's progress in source-level segregation were applauded.

He also informed that land has been



earmarked for establishing a scientific solid waste management facility, which will further improve the district's environmental infrastructure.

Project Coordinator at WUCMA inspired the students with a passionate address, urging them to become 'Ambassadors of Change.' He outlined practical steps youth can adopt such as tree plantation, rejecting plastic, creative recycling, conserving

water, respecting water bodies like Wular, and adopting green transport.

Linking environmental responsibility with cultural identity, he emphasized the need to understand and use the regional languages to effectively engage local communities.

The programme featured debates, skits, and an environmental song performed by students, creatively portraying the

environmental challenges and offering inspiring solutions. These performances served as a powerful reminder of the role individuals play in environmental conservation.

Earlier, DC planted a sapling in the school compound as a symbol of hope and collective resolve for a greener future. He also flagged-off a student rally along the banks of Madhumati Nallah, where students raised slogans on cleanliness and environmental awareness with great zeal. The event was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zaffar Hussan Shawl; Tehsildar Bandipora, Range Officers from the Forest Division and WUCMA, civil society representatives, and other dignitaries. Project Coordinator at WUCMA inspired the students with a passionate address, urging them to become 'Ambassadors of Change.' He outlined practical steps youth can adopt such as tree plantation, rejecting plastic, creative recycling, conserving water, respecting water bodies like Wular, and adopting green transport.

Linking environmental responsibility with cultural identity, he emphasized the need to understand and use the regional languages to effectively engage local communities.

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Hathkargha Mela – Special Handloom Expo kick-starts at Kashmir Haat

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 05: Marking a vibrant celebration of India's rich handloom heritage, Hathkargha Mela – special UT level Handloom Expo kick-started today at the Kashmir Haat Exhibition Ground in Srinagar.

The event has been organized by the Directorate of Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir, and is sponsored by the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

This special expo brings together 60 skilled handloom weavers and artisans from across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, providing them with a dedicated platform to showcase and sell their unique, handcrafted products directly to the public.

The exhibition aims to promote and preserve traditional weaving techniques while also supporting the economic upliftment of weaver communities. The expo offers an array of exquisite handloom products including Pashmina shawls, Kani and Sozni embroidered items, cotton and silk sarees, stoles, rugs, home furnishings, and many regionally distinct textile crafts from different parts of UT.

Market checking conducted in Pulwama ahead of Eid-ul-Adha

HT NEWS DESK

PULWAMA, JUNE 05: In view of the forthcoming Eid-ul-Adha festival, a market checking drive was conducted today across Pulwama to ensure the availability of quality goods, curb overpricing, and maintain overall market discipline during the festive season.

The drive was carried out on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom.

During the drive, inspection teams checked various establishments including meat shops, bakeries, vegetable and fruit vendors, grocery stores, and other commercial outlets. The objective of the exercise was to verify proper rate display, ensure hygienic handling of food items, and prevent the sale of adulterated or expired products. Emphasis was laid on ensuring the accuracy of weighing scales and the compliance of traders with legal norms.

Transforming rural agriculture: Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan activities gain momentum in Budgam

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JUNE 05: As part of the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA), Krishi Vigyan Kendra Budgam in coordination with Agriculture and allied departments organized several public outreach programmes aimed at empowering farmers by providing them access to scientific knowledge, government schemes and a voice in shaping future agri-innovations.

Taking the mission forward, KVK team has reached more than 150 villages to take the awareness campaign forward to more than 7700 farmers of the district so far.

During the reach out farmers were urged to adopt modern techniques for better productivity and resilience.

Farmers have been participating in interactive discussions on high yielding varieties of SKUAST-K, PoPsof different crops for ensuing kharif season, soil testing, promotion of natural/organic farming, promotion of HD apple, animal health management.

Participants also learnt about various central and state-sponsored agriculture and allied sector schemes designed for the upliftment of farmers.

Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan continues to gain momentum, reinforcing the nation's commitment in cultivating a resilient, inclusive, and forward-looking agricultural landscape—empowering every village along the way.

Ahead of Eid, Food Safety team Srinagar conducts special market inspections

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 05: As part of the special market checking drives to ensure availability of standard quality food products in the market on the eve of Eid ul Adha, Food Safety Team on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat carried out intensive market inspections across the City. The checking team led by Assistant Commissioner Food Safety inspected various areas of the City including, Zainakote Industrial Area, Shalteng, Lalbazar, Hazratbal, Saderbal, Nowhatta and other adjoining areas to ensure compliance with food safety norms by all the Food Business Operators.

During the inspections, a significant quantity of expired ghee was seized from a manufacturing unit at Zainakote Industrial Area. Approximately 110 kgs of expired ghee was confiscated, and a case has been registered against the Food Business Operator (FBO) under the relevant rules and regulations of the Food Safety and Standards Act.

Meanwhile, DC has asked the Food Safety department Srinagar to continue the regular market inspections in Srinagar City to ensure compliance with food safety norms. He emphasized pro-



tection of public health by ensuring that all food products meet the highest safety standards across all the sectors.

Food Safety department has also urged consumers to be vigilant when purchasing food products and report any suspicious products to the Food Safety department so that action is taken against the FBO found violating food safety norms.

Meanwhile, Food Business Operators, including manufacturers, retailers and wholesalers have been cautioned to refrain from violating any provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act. Failure to comply with the regulations will result in stringent action against defaulters, which can even lead to the closure of their facilities. No compromise with the quality of food items will be tolerated.

SED commemorates World Environment Day with widespread celebrations

Shantmanu flags off mega rally titled "Beat Plastic pollution"

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 5: The School Education Department (SED) today marked the World Environment Day celebration with a series of impactful events held across the Union Territory, emphasizing the environmental awareness and action among the students and educators.

On the occasion, an impactful rally on "World Environment Day" with the pertinent theme "Beat Plastic Pollution" was organized in which over 200 students from various schools participates.

Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department, Shantmanu, flagged off the rally. Being organized in collaboration with the Institute of Engineers (India), J&K Centre, traversed the scenic Boulevard Road from Nehru Park to Zabarwan Park Corridor, drawing public attention to the urgent need to reduce the plastic waste. Earlier, the celebration was officially kick started by Secretary, SED, Ram Niwas Sharma, who engaged in an online interaction with the Eco club members from 200 government and private schools. During this insightful session, the Secretary underscored the critical role of youth in environmental conservation. He was joined by Dr. G.N. Itoo, Director School Education Kashmir (DSEK) and



Syed Shabir Ahmad, Joint Director, Central. In a parallel event, DSEK, in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Amirakadal, Srinagar, hosted a vibrant World Environment Day celebration. Dr. G.N Itoo, graced the occasion as chief guest, accompanied by Syed Shabir Ahmad, Joint Director, Central and Rifat Qadri, CEO, Srinagar.

The students showcased innovative models on environmental themes, demonstrating their creativity and understanding of ecological challenges. A spirited painting competition among the students from cluster schools was also a highlight of the event. Further extending the reach of the celebrations, the Government Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS), Ganderbal, organized an event featuring compelling speeches by the teachers and students, a captivating Heritage Exhibition and thought-provoking skits.

Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyan: Students lead from the front in district-wide outreach efforts in Pulwama

HT NEWS DESK

PULWAMA, JUNE 05: Continuing its intensified Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign under the Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, district administration Pulwama in collaboration with the District Social Welfare Office Pulwama today conducted a series of awareness programmes across various schools of the district. These programmes aimed to sensitise

students about the ill effects of substance abuse, and foster a culture of awareness and responsibility among the youth.

During the sessions, resource persons engaged students through interactive lectures and real-life case discussions, highlighting the psychological, physical and social consequences of drug addiction. Special emphasis was laid on preventive education, developing a positive and resilient mindset, and the critical role schooling students can play as change-makers

within their peer groups and communities.

Medical experts from the Health department explained the early signs of addiction and underscored the importance of timely intervention and support. School counsellors and educators encouraged students to adopt healthy coping mechanisms, stay committed to personal growth, and seek help whenever necessary.

Students actively participated in discussions, and took a collective pledge to lead

a drug-free life and spread the message within their families and neighbourhoods. On the occasion, various schools also organised poster-making and awareness rallies, adding creative and participatory elements to the campaign.

The outreach initiative will continue in the coming days, covering more educational institutions and ensuring that the message of prevention, awareness and support reaches every corner of the district.

Sahitya Akademi commemorate eminent poet, writer, researcher, translator and scholar Prof. Margoob Banhali at his native village Bunkoot, Banihal.

HT NEWS DESK

Banihal . Wednesday, June 4 2025 , Sahitya Akademi organised a day-long symposium to commemorate Prof. Margoob Banhali at Govt. Degree collage Banihal Jammu. The programme started with recitation of some verses of holy quran by Zafar Hayat. Hanzla Hussain presented a kashmiri Naat written by Margoob Banhali.

Inaugural session of the symposium was presided over by eminent kashmiri writer, translator, and ex-chairman of centre for Sheikh-ul-Alam studies, University of Kashmir, Prof. Bashar Basheer. Eminent kashmiri poet, writer and convenor Kashmiri

advisory board Sahitya Akademi, Prof. Shad Ramzan, President Adbi Markaz Kamraz and member Kashmiri advisory board, Mohd. Amin Bhat, Prof. Shafeeq Ahmad Katoch, principal Govt. Degree college Banihal and Tariq Margoob were also in the presidium.

Prof. Shafeeq Ahmad Katoch presented welcome address. In his welcome address he thanked the Sahitya Akademi especially Convenor Kashmiri advisory board, Prof. Shad Ramzan for organising such event in the college. Mohd. Amin Bhat presented a detailed introduction on the literary activities of Prof. Margoob Banhali. Prof. Shad Ramzan presented Inaugral speech and highlighted the role and contribution of Late Margoob



Banhali in Kashmiri literature. Prof. Shad Ramzan, in his address highlighted the services of Sahitya Akademi in promoting all regional languages including Kashmiri. He also praised the college in making the symposium successful. Manshoor

Banhali, General Council member of Sahitya Akademi, presented keynote address and Tariq Margoob presented vote of thanks.

The first and second session of the function was presided over by Manshoor Banhali (General council mem-

ber Sahitya Akademi) and Mushtaq Ahmad Mushtaq (Noted fiction writer) respectively.

Mushtaq Ahmad Mushtaq, Dr. Shafqat Altaf, Shabir Hussain Shabir and Manzoor Ahmad Kamgar throw light on the literary contribution and life history of Prof. Margoob Banhali. The function was attended by a large number of audience including members of some literary organisations, lovers of literature, faculty members and students as well. Four books written by Muneera Margoob on the different aspects of Kashmiri language and literature and Annual Magazine "Gulab" of Kashmir Adbi Markaz Banihal Were released on the occasion.

Prof. Margoob Banhali born in village

Bunkoot Banihal of Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir, was a great poet, critic, researcher, teacher and scholar. He has published more than 4 dozens of books in urdu, Kashmiri and persian language. He has served as Head of the department of Kashmiri, University of Kashmir. Kashur Adbi Markaz Banihal falcitated Prof. Shad Ramzan by "Khilat-e-Margoob" and presented a Memento, a citation and Shawl to him on the occasion. Kashur Markaz also falcitated Prof. Bashar Bashir and Mohd. Amin Bhat by presenting Shawl to them.

The proceedings of the function were ably moderated by Dr. Gulzar Ahmad Rather, member Kashmiri advisory board, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.





Assam flood: Death toll rose to 14, over 6 lakh still affected

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 5

A total of 19 districts in Assam

The government has opened 190 relief camps to house and shelter the flood victims in different flood



are still reeling under flood affecting 6,78,877 people including women and children even as the flood related death toll have rose to 14. Apart from the flood related death, five persons have died due to landslide last month in Assam's capital town Guwahati as incessant rainfall had triggered rainfall in different areas of Guwahati. A flood bulletin issued by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority on Thursday said that a total of 1474 villages in 63 revenue circles have remained affected by the floods.

hit districts and 215 relief distribution centres to ensure that the flood affected people get the required food grains and other basic items. "Two persons died due to flooding in the last 24 hours including one in Nagaon and another in Cachar districts," said an official of the ASDMA adding that 41,000 people have taken shelter in the relief camps. "The district administrations have been put on alert and asked to render all possible help to the flood hit people," he said.

PM plants Sindoor sapling at his residence on World Environment Day

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 5



Prime Minister Narendra Modi planted a Sindoor sapling at his 7 Lok Kalyan Marg residence here on the occasion of World Environment Day on Thursday. The plant was gifted to him recently by the women from Kutch, Gujarat, who had displayed extraordinary courage and patriotism during the 1971 India-Pakistan war, said a government statement here. Recalling his visit to Kutch, the Prime Minister posted on X, "This plant will remain a strong symbol of the valour and inspiration of the women power of our country."

Pakistan is terror perpetrator: Kharge calls for Pak's inclusion in FATF grey list

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, Jun 5:

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday called upon the international community to recognise and support India's position on terrorism emanating from Pakistan, asserting that "victim and perpetrator cannot be equated and should not be hyphenated". "Pakistan is the perpetrator of terror. India is a victim of terror. They cannot be equated. They should not be hyphenated," Kharge said in a post on X. Criticising international financial institutions, Kharge said, "IMF, ADB, and World Bank sanctioning or deciding to sanction loans and bailout packages shall only increase Pakistan's military expenditure, which its rogue Army uses to unleash terror on Indians". Kharge also expressed serious concern over the recent decision to name



Pakistan as the vice-chair of the 15-member United Nations Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee and to chair the Taliban Sanctions Committee in 2025, calling the move as "most unfortunate, ill-informed, and unacceptable". Calling for Pakistan's re-inclusion in the FATF grey list, Kharge said, "The international community must see merit in India's case that Pakistan should be included back in the FATF

grey list for monitoring of its terror financing". "It was first included after India's diplomatic efforts, under PM Dr Manmohan Singh in 2008 and then again in 2012. It has been in the Grey List three times, the last being in 2018," Kharge said. Kharge further added, "Making Pakistan accountable for its sins is a necessity not just for India, but for the interests of the international community. It is perhaps worth to remind that the most wanted terrorist - Osama Bin Laden responsible for 9/11 was found and eliminated in Pakistan. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (KSM), the chief of planner of 9/11 was also a Pakistani". Kharge further stressed that as a responsible Opposition party, the Congress urges the government to take "appropriate and resolute diplomatic actions to de-hyphenate India and Pakistan on the global stage".

Trump administration loses bid to lift bar on big Education dept layoffs

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New York, June 4

The administration of U.S. President Donald Trump lost a suit on Wednesday to lift a federal judge's order temporarily blocking the U.S. Education Department from laying off about half of its more than 4,000 employees.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit denied the administration's request to put on hold an injunction by a lower-court judge. The injunction was sought by several Demo-



cratic-led states, school districts and teachers' unions.

The Department of Justice had pushed for a swift decision from the appeals court, aiming to escalate the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, where a 6-3 conservative majority might rule in its favor. The legal challenge arose after Education Secretary Linda McMahon announced in March plans to terminate over 1,300 employees. Combined with 600 employees who are leaving voluntarily with buyout offers, the number of job cuts reached over 2,100, halving the department's workforce.

US vetoes UNSC draft demanding permanent ceasefire between Israel & Hamas

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Washington/Tel Aviv/

June 5 The United States has vetoed a draft UN Security Council resolution demanding a permanent ceasefire in Gaza between the IDF and Hamas terrorists. It also called for the removal of restrictions on aid deliveries to the enclave.

"The United States has been clear we would not support any measure that fails to condemn Hamas and does not call for Hamas to disarm and leave Gaza," Acting US Ambassador to the UN Dorothy Shea told the council prior to the vote, reports Times of Israel. "This resolution would



undermine diplomatic efforts to reach a ceasefire that reflects the realities on the ground, and embolden Hamas," she said, about the proposal put forward by 10 countries

on the 15-member council. The other 14 members voted in favour of the resolution introduced by 10 non-permanent members. Thanking the US for its decision, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wrote on his X/Twitter, "Thank you, America and Donald Trump, for once again showing our enemies that there is no daylight between us." "That is the only way to destroy the Hamas terrorists who are still holding 58 innocent hostages in the dungeons of Gaza. The civilised world should demand their immediate and unconditional release."

BJP confident despite potential Shiv Sena-MNS alliance in Mumbai polls

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Mumbai June 5

The BJP remains unfazed by the possibility of an alliance between Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT) and Raj Thackeray-led Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) ahead of the upcoming Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections, according to a senior party official citing an internal survey. With civic polls expected later this year in Mumbai, Pune, Thane, and other key cities, the BJP has intensified its preparations. Speculation about a rapprochement between the Thackeray cousins, who parted ways nearly two decades ago, has gained momentum following statements suggesting they might put aside past differences for the sake of Maharashtra's interests. Despite these developments, the BJP's internal assessment points out that such an alliance is unlikely

to undermine its electoral prospects in Mumbai. The party's stronghold is attributed to its loyal voter base, the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and its solid performance in the recent assembly elections. The survey further reveals that even in constituencies with a predominantly Marathi-speaking electorate, BJP's support remains steady. It noted that Uddhav Thackeray's influence in Mumbai has diminished since the Shiv Sena split in 2022, with nearly half of his party's corporators defecting to the Eknath Shinde faction. Meanwhile, Raj Thackeray's sway is considered limited. The BJP aims to contest around 150 of the 227 seats in the BMC elections and is aligning its campaign strategy accordingly.

Russia labels British Council an undesirable organisation, calls it a tool of UK government

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Moscow, June 5

Russia has called the activities of the British Council as undesirable in the country, claiming that the so-called-independent body is a tool of the British government to advance London's interests. Moscow has also termed UK as the "main source of global crises, a provocateur and instigator of wars".

"The Prosecutor General's Office of Russia has decided to recognise the activities of the British Council international organisation as undesirable in Russia. Positioning itself as an independent structure, the council builds all its work in accordance with the priorities of the UK government, it is accountable to the parliament and is financed by the foreign ministry of this country," the office said in a statement, reports Sputnik.

Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) said on Thursday that it has advised all friendly states to likewise put a stop to the work of British Council in their countries.

"Security agencies recommend that partners from friendly countries follow Moscow's example and curtail the council's work on the territory of their states," the FSB said in a statement.

The agency alleged that the UK organisation was working to obtain information about the development of the domestic political and socioeconomic situation in Russia amid



its war with Ukraine through the established network of contacts, the statement read.

"At the same time, the intelligence and subversive work of UK foundation Oxford Russia Fund, whose activities had previously been recognised as undesirable on the territory of the Russian Federation, was exposed," the FSB said.

According to the FSB, "Under the guise of educational and cultural activities and work to organise educational events under the pretext of English-language programs, members of the Council actually promote long-term British interests and values in education, culture and youth policy," reported Russian state-media TASS.

The British Council is also an active proponent of the LGBTQ+ movement, which is outlawed in Russia, and through its programmes is working

to implement projects to steadily discredit Russia's domestic and foreign policies, prosecutors in Moscow said.

They added that the group's aim is to essentially "eradicate Russian identity among the populations of former Soviet republics." As part of a consortium with other undesirable organisations, the British Council implements a programme of so-called "cultural cooperation" designed to unite the anti-Russian Baltic states.

As the British Council actively prioritises its work with the younger generation, Russian authorities alleged that the organisation involves members of its Chevening scholarship and fellowship programme in a mission to build "a global network of agents of British influence", the Russian Prosecutor General's Office stated.

China blasts U.S. veto on UN Security Council draft resolution over Gaza

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
United Nations, June 5

United Nations, June 5 (UNI) A Chinese envoy on Wednesday blasted the United States for its veto on a Security Council draft resolution that would have demanded an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the lifting of restrictions on humanitarian aid. China is deeply disappointed by the result of Wednesday's vote, said Fu Cong, China's permanent representative to the United Nations. The draft resolution reflects the most pressing demands of the people in Gaza and the overwhelming voice of the international community, he added. "The United States has once again abused its veto power, extinguishing the glimmer

of hope for the people in Gaza and ruthlessly continuing to leave over 2 million people in darkness. It must face the questioning from the international community," he said. As the primary body for the maintenance of international peace and security, the Security Council has been striving to achieve a ceasefire in Gaza, and has long reached an overwhelming consensus. Wednesday's vote result once again exposes that the root cause of the council's inability to quell the conflict in Gaza is the repeated obstruction by the United States, said Fu in an explanation of the vote. Washington has vetoed the Security Council's request for a Gaza ceasefire multiple times. And because of its shielding of Israel,



several resolutions adopted by the council on Gaza have yet to be effectively implemented, he noted. The U.S. claim that Security Council action

at the moment would interfere with diplomatic efforts is completely untenable, he said. "As long as diplomatic efforts are genuinely aimed for peace, the council's action will only provide strong support." The international community will never cease its efforts to pursue fairness and justice, uphold the international rule of law, and safeguard the authority of the Security Council. A veto by a single permanent member cannot stop the march toward peace, he said. "We urge the United States to face up to its responsibilities as a permanent member of the Security Council, abandon its political calculations, and adopt a just and responsible attitude in supporting the council to take all necessary actions." Since the outbreak of the conflict, the world

has witnessed the weaponization of humanitarian aid, the targeting of civilian infrastructure, and the ruthless killing of journalists and humanitarian workers. Israel's actions have crossed every red line of international humanitarian law and seriously violated Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, as well as the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice, said Fu. Yet due to the shielding by one certain country, these violations have not been stopped or held accountable, he noted. Observing international humanitarian law is an obligation. Any double standards or selective application will only erode the foundation of the international rule of law and must be firmly rejected, he warned.





World Environment Day celebrations held across Kulgam

Forest Department, JK Pollution Control Committee, Colleges, Schools, other Institutions lead Green Initiatives

HT NEWS DESK

KULGAM, JUNE 05: World Environment Day 2025 was celebrated with great enthusiasm across District Kulgam, with Forest department, Pollution Control Committee Kulgam, educational institutions, and other organizations coming together to promote environmental awareness and action under this year theme, Ending Plastic Pollution Globally under the slogan One Nation, One Mission: End Plastic Pollution.

On the occasion, a series of impactful events and initiatives aimed at fostering sustainable practices and protecting the environment were held.

Special Forest Division Kulgam led a wide array of awareness and action-oriented programmes throughout the district. These events witnessed

the active participation of students, local communities, forest officials, environmental volunteers, and representatives from various departments and institutions.

Similarly a mega event was held at D.H Pora presided over by Sub-divisional Magistrate D.H.Pora. Other officers including Principal GDC D.H.Pora, Tehsildar and other officers participated in the event.

Key highlights of the celebrations included plantation drives conducted at multiple locations across the district to restore green cover and enhance ecological balance, anti-plastic drives carried out in public areas, markets and forest fringes to collect and dispose-off plastic waste while discouraging single-use plastics, and painting competitions among school students to promote creative expression of environmental themes.



Awareness programmes on plastic pollution, ecosystem restoration, and responsible consumer behavior

were held in collaboration with educational institutions and NGOs. Participants also took Swachhta pledges,

committing themselves to environmental cleanliness, responsible waste management, and reducing plastic usage.

During these events, participants were sensitized about the harmful impacts of plastic pollution on biodiversity, water bodies, soil health, and overall ecological well-being.

Speakers emphasized the urgent need for collective action, including the adoption of eco-friendly alternatives, proper waste segregation, and reducing dependence on plastics.

At Govt. Degree College Kulgam, a grand function was held to commemorate World Environment Day campaign-2025.

Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Abass Shah emphasized on the importance of carrying out such activities to save humanity from the deleterious effects of aggravated plastic pollution.

Prof. (Dr.) Javed Iqbal Ahmad Bhat, Professor and Head, Division of Basic Sciences & Humanities, Faculty of Horticulture, SKUAST-K in his lead talk gave a detailed presentation on the theme decorating a picture depicting the infinite consequences of plastic pollution. He also highlighted various strategies to end plastic and microplastic pollution.

The program was attended by the students and the staff of the college particularly Dr. Shaista Masarat, Prof. Shamim Ahmad Hakim, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Wachkoo and Dr. Ahsan Ul Haq Ahrar. The event concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Aadil Hamid, one of the organizing secretaries of the program.

Also, Govt. Degree College Frisal organized a Seminar on 'Safe and Clean Environment for Everyone' on the Eve of celebration of World Environment Day.

CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

PM

initiatives: Prime Minister will also dedicate Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project to and Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday reviewed the final arrangements ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Katra to flag off the Katra-Srinagar train.

"Last minute touches at the site of the inauguration of the world's highest railway bridge, the Chenab Bridge, by PM @narendramodi tomorrow," Dr Singh posted on X.

He further posted, "#Katra Railway Station all decked up for flagging off #VandeBharat to #Kashmir by PM Modi."

Meanwhile, Abdullah posted, "Visited the tallest railway bridge in the world, The Chenab Bridge, to review arrangements for the visit of the PM @narendramodi ji tomorrow."

"Tomorrow is a landmark day for J&K when, finally, the valley will be connected to the rest of the country by a railway link to be inaugurated at the hands of the Honorable Prime Minister," the Chief Minister posted.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Chenab bridge and visit the bridge deck, and will also lay the foundation stone, inaugurate, and dedicate to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 46,000 crore tomorrow (Friday) at Katra in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir.

PM Modi will visit Jammu and Kashmir on June 6, and in line with his commitment to boost rail infrastructure and connectivity in the region, he will visit and inaugurate the Anji bridge and flag off the Vande Bharat Trains.

The Prime Minister will also dedicate the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project to the nation, it read.

The release said that the 272 km long USBRL project, constructed worth around Rs 43,780 crore, includes 36 tunnels (spanning 119 km) and 943 bridges.

The project establishes all-weather, seamless rail connectivity between the Kashmir Valley and the rest of the country, aiming to transform regional mobility and drive socio-economic integration.

The Prime Minister will also flag off two Vande Bharat Express trains from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra to Srinagar and back, read the PIB release, adding that in a major boost to last-mile connectivity, especially in border areas, the Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone and inaugurate various road projects.

SSP JAMMU

he said.

He added that progress on CCTNS front, e-Sakshya, SID's, e-summons was also taken up during the meeting along with progress on mandatory utilisation of FSL services and MedLeaPR.

The SSP directed officers to identify all the hardcore criminal elements including drug peddlers and take firm action against these elements.

He also stressed for preventive detention of hardcore criminals and drug peddlers to ensure safety, security of general public.

Singh however, advised the police officers posted in the district in various capacities to provide good policing to the general public and give a tough time to anti-national and anti-social elements.

He emphasized upon the participating officers to ensure quantitative and qualitative disposal of under-investigation cases of various nature as a priority and to take stringent action against those who are involved in various social crimes.

He also directed that there is zero tolerance to corruption, burking of crime and indiscipline at any level and said that the efficiency of police can be gauged from the time it takes to respond to day-to-day situations.

He asserted that along with quickness in response, polite behaviour and sympathy at

heart are required while dealing with the problems of general public.

At the conclusion of the meeting, SSP Jammu directed all officers to maintain proper surveillance on all anti-social and anti-national elements and ensure foolproof security during the forthcoming VVIP visit.

PM

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Prime Minister will also flag off two Vande Bharat Express trains from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra to Srinagar and back. They will offer a swift, comfortable, and reliable travel option for residents, tourists, pilgrims among others.

In a major boost to last mile connectivity especially in border areas, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone and inaugurate various road projects. He will lay the foundation stone of road widening project from Rafiabad to Kupwara on National Highway-701 and the construction of Shopian bypass road on NH-444 worth over Rs 1,952 crore. He will also inaugurate two flyover projects at Sangrama Junction on National Highway-1 in Srinagar and at Bemina Junction on National Highway-44. These projects will ease traffic congestion and enhance traffic flow for the commuters.

Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence in Katra worth over Rs 350 crore. It will be the first medical college in Reasi district contributing substantially to the healthcare infrastructure in the region.

NIA

Police Station Dessa in Doda on April 16, 2024 and investigation was entrusted to Ajay Anand, Dy SP Headquarters Doda.

The investigation was conducted in a very professional manner, and it was found that the accused persons, namely Muneer Hussain of Malwas, Dabra Pranoo, Tanveer Ahmed of Nilsoo Kulhand, Noor Alam of Baggar, Tehsil Assar, and Kunj Lal of Herani, Tehsil Assar, were involved in the commission of the crime.

Accordingly, a challan was produced in the Additional District and Session Judge (Fast Track) NIA Court Doda for judicial determination.

During the trial, the Court found enough evidence to proceed further with the trial, and accordingly, the SSP said that on Thursday, the court framed charges against them, and they presently are in judicial custody.

DIV COM

the event. He directed the Floriculture department to facilitate the entry of Cadets into Mughal Gardens during their visit to explore the renowned parks.

Archives, Archaeology & Museums department was tasked with assisting visitors at the SPS Museum during their visit and providing information about the available artifacts.

Participants of the National Integration NCC camp will also take part in a large yoga event at SKICC, Srinagar on June 21st.

Div Com also issued necessary instructions to ensure the smooth movement of vehicles during their excursions to various tourist destinations, including Gulmarg and Sonmarg.

FIRE ZONE

Kashmir is under High Risk' zone of forest fire and 8,972 square kilometres of forest area lie under moderate risk zone and 10,606 square kilometres of area with low risk of forest fire respectively."

The documents however state that 62 square kilometres of forest areas have been categorized in 'Very High Risk' zone in terms of catching forest fire while 33,237 square kilometres of forest areas of Jammu and Kashmir have been categorized as 'No Risk' zone.

It states that certain regions across India are more susceptible to forest fires due to factors like type of fuel load, local human activities, topographical features, forest type, and climatic conditions.

"In order to have a better and robust system for controlling and managing forest fires in a region, an effective fire risk zonation helps to delineate different risk areas for prioritizing management interventions in an effective manner," it reads.

The documents said that a pilot study has been carried out for the West Himalayan State, UT comprising Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh to identify Fire Risk Zones and categorize them into different risk classes using suitable variables.

"In Jammu and Kashmir, 79.01 % of the detections fall under 19.74 % of the Digitized Boundary Area," it reads.

The document of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change further states that frequency of detected forest fires in an area over a period of time indicates proneness of the area to forest fires. "Maps showing forest area in different classes of fire proneness can be an effective management tool for controlling forest fires.

"Such maps can be used for optimally utilizing scarce resources available for controlling forest fires in the fire season. Increased vigil in highly fire prone forest areas may prevent forest fires effectively. Considering the usefulness of mapping fire prone forest areas, analysis of the detected forest fire points in GIS framework along with a grid coverage of 5 Km X 5 Km and latest forest cover has been carried out for the whole country," it reads—(KNO)

ANIMALS

sharply to around 70 to 100 trucks," he said.

He added, "Each truck carries approximately 150 to 160 sheep from various states outside Jammu and Kashmir. This increased arrival is because of the growing demand from the public ahead of Eid."

The General Secretary said the traders ensured the timely transportation and supply of animals well before Eid to allow people to make their purchases in advance.

The market activity in various livestock mandis in Srinagar, including Eidgah, and in other districts, picked up pace, with families flocking to select animals for the Qurbani ritual.

Eid-ul-Adha, also known as the festival of sacrifice, will be celebrated across Kashmir on Saturday—

SHOPPERS

year is now being sold for Rs 2,500. It's getting harder to manage, especially with the rising prices," said Mumtaz Ahmad, a shopper in Srinagar. Traders attribute the price hikes to inflation and increased transportation costs.

While the festive shopping is underway, many government employees are facing unexpected financial strain due to issues with salary deductions.

Employees said duplicate EMI deductions from their accounts by J&K Bank left them with little or no balance. "I checked my salary account to buy essentials for Eid, but I found a balance of just Rs 76. Two EMI deductions were made for the same loan. It's a huge blow," said a teacher from Baramulla.

Many employees have expressed their concern over the situation, with some borrowing money to manage their expenses.

"How are we supposed to celebrate Eid when we can't even pay for basic needs?" said another government employee.

The Eid shopping rush has also contributed to heavy traffic congestion in Srinagar, with authorities deploying additional personnel to manage the situation. Despite efforts, traffic remains slow-moving, especially near busy shopping areas.

In south Kashmir districts, a significant decline in customer turnout and festive enthusiasm was witnessed across the markets on the eve of Eid-ul-Fitr, with the famous Chori Bazar in Pulwama, as well as key markets in Anantnag, Shopian, and Kulgam, recording dismal sales.

In Pulwama, the once-bustling Chori Bazar wore a deserted look. "Sales remained at an all-time low this year," said Basharat Ahmad, a local shopkeeper. "Even during COVID-19, people used to buy something. Now they check prices and leave without buying."

In Anantnag town, shopkeepers at Reshi Bazaar and Lal Chowk voiced similar concerns. "I used to hire extra staff to manage the rush in previous years, but this time, two people are enough," said Mudassir Dar, who sells readymade garments. "People are simply not spending due to high prices and stagnant incomes."

In Shopian, Bashir Ahmad, a garment trader at Gole Chowk, said, "There is no festive atmosphere this time. We're barely getting enough customers to cover electricity bills."

In Kulgam, traders in the Main Market blamed a mix of inflation and financial strain. "Families are cutting back on non-essential spending. Eid shopping is now a luxury for many," said Shabir Lone, a footwear shop owner. The muted mood has not only impacted retail but also hawkers and roadside vendors. "We used to earn a decent amount during Eid, but this year we're going home with empty pockets," said Riyaz Ahmad, a street vendor in Bijbehara.

Meanwhile, an official from the administration said all necessary arrangements have been put in place to ensure smooth celebrations of Eid-ul-Adha across the valley.

He said market inspections are underway and strict action is being taken against traders found overcharging customers or hoarding essential goods. "We are closely monitoring prices and will not tolerate any exploitation of consumers during the festive season," the official said—

ARMY

security challenges, including the terror attack in Pahalgal on April 22, which claimed 26 lives, the Indian Army, in coordination with Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), Jammu and Kashmir Police, and the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB), has deployed robust measures to ensure the safety of pilgrims.

"Operation Shiva involves over 42,000 security personnel, including units from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), stationed across strategic locations along the two primary routes—Pahalgal (48 km) and Baltal (14 km).

The operation incorporates advanced security protocols, including high-altitude route clearance, drone surveillance, CCTV monitoring, and the deployment of bulletproof vehicles as part of a three-tier security setup," the officials said.

Additionally, they said that anti-sabotage operations and rigorous checks along the pilgrimage routes are being conducted to thwart any potential threats.

"Army's efforts are complemented by enhanced medical facilities, improved transport services, and upgraded accommodation arrangements starting from Lakhampur, the entry point to the Union Territory," they added.

Pertinently, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, during a high-level review meeting in Jammu on May 29 had emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring a seamless and secure pilgrimage. "The government led by PM Modi, in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir administration, is dedicated to making the Shri Amarnathji Yatra safe, smooth, and accessible for all devotees. We have instructed security forces to maintain utmost vigilance to ensure the sacred journey is completed without any disruptions," he had said.

The SASB has also introduced mandatory Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) cards for pilgrims to enhance safety and tracking.

Registration for the yatra, which began on April 14 is available online through the SASB website and offline at over 540 designated bank branches across the country.

Pilgrims are required to submit a Compulsory Health Certificate (CHC) to ensure their fitness for the high-altitude trek—

RANA

conceived, formulated and implemented in a manner that promotes inclusive growth in each area of social and economic indicators, thereby bridging the gap between the tribal and non-tribal communities.

The Minister directed the departments to strictly adhere to the guidelines laid down by NITI Aayog for funds allocation under the TSP. He emphasized that the funds allocated should be utilized effectively for the welfare of tribals, with a focus on promoting schemes that generate employment opportunities for tribal youth.

LG

The Lieutenant Governor reviewed the preparations to ensure the smooth conduct of the event and directed the officials for strict security, safety measures and seamless coordination among all departments. Hon'ble Prime Minister will dedicate the iconic Chenab Bridge, the tallest railway bridge in the world, Country's first cable-stayed Anji rail bridge and Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project to the nation.

"Dedication of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link to the nation by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is a historic leap for Jammu Kashmir Union Territory.

J&K UT is stronger, prosperous than ever and witnessed unprecedented growth under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Inauguration and foundation stone laying of key infrastructure projects are examples of his commitment to J&K to ensure speedy and inclusive development," the Lieutenant Governor said.

NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old Name) **Shugufta Jan** to (New Name) **Shugufta Nabi** W/o Salah ud din khan R/o Magarmal Bagh, Sringar 190001 in DOB Certificate. In Future I will be known as (New Name) **Shugufta Nabi** W/o Salah ud din khan R/o Magarmal Bagh, Sringar 190001. If anybody is having any objection, he/she may contact Concerned Department, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.



YSS Celebrates World Environment Day with Walkathons, Marathons, Plantation Drives

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 05: In a significant step towards environmental conservation and clean environment, the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), J&K, in collaboration with the 14th Battalion of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) G Qay, organized a plantation drive at Wazir Bagh here. The event was held in connection with World Environment Day (WED) 2025, emphasizing the urgent need for ecological preservation and sustainable practices. The event was graced by Rajinder Singh Tara, Director

General of YSS J&K along with Mohammad Rashid Kohli, Joint Director YSS Kashmir and Rajiv Tiwari Assistant Commandant of SSB 14 G Qay Battalion. Senior officials, including the Accounts Officer of YSS, section heads, field staff, and SSB personnel, actively participated in the drive, reinforcing the message of collective responsibility towards nature. Speaking on the occasion, DG YSS highlighted the importance of environmental stewardship, stating "World Environment Day is not just a symbolic observance but a call to action. Our Department is committed to fostering a cul-



ture of sustainability among the youth. Today's plantation drive is a step towards a green-

er future, and we urge every citizen, especially our young students, to take ownership of

their environment. Small actions, like planting a tree or reducing plastic use, can create

a monumental impact." Echoing similar sentiments, Assistant Commandant SSB 14 G Qay remarked, "The SSB is proud to collaborate with the Department of YSS in this noble initiative. Protecting our environment is a shared responsibility, and such drives strengthen community participation. We must continue to work together to ensure a cleaner, healthier planet for future generations." Similar drives were carried out across the UT at Zonal and District levels by the Department of YSS J&K. In line with the global theme for WED 2025, Ending Plastic Pollution Globally, the Director-

ate of YSS had earlier issued directives to all District and Zonal Youth Services & Sports Officers to organize Walkathons, Cyclothon, Jog-runs, Clean-up drives, marathons, plantation drives and awareness campaigns across J&K. The response has been overwhelming, with thousands of students, field officials, and local communities participating in various eco-friendly activities. The event at Wazir Bagh concluded with a pledge to continue such initiatives throughout the year, reinforcing the vision of a plastic-free, green J&K.

Dy CM meets 3 times National Wushu Champion 'Geenakshi'; lauds her remarkable achievements

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 5: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today met a young budding Wushu champion, Geenakshi Mehra, who brought laurels to J&K by winning gold medal in the National Wushu Championship held between 26th to 31 May, 2025. Pertinently, 10 years old Geenakshi had already won the gold medals in Khelo India Women League Nationals 2024 held in Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat and National Wushu Championship held in Tarantaran, (Punjab). The Deputy Chief Minister applauded Geenakshi for her remarkable achievements and encouraged her to strive hard for excellence. He also congratulated her parents for their support to the girl. He assured his unwavering support to her saying that the government is committed to elevate the culture of sports in



junior and sub-junior female athletes. He asserted that the female athletes should receive the best possible support to achieve global excellence. Choudhary also reaffirmed the gov-

ernment's commitment in promoting sports with modern infrastructure and opportunities for the sportspersons in J&K.

Bengaluru stampede: RCB announces Rs 10 lakh aid to family of each deceased

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Bengaluru, June 5

Bengaluru, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) on Thursday announced financial support of Rs 10 lakh each to the families of the eleven deceased in the tragic stampede that occurred during the team's celebratory gathering in the city. In an official statement, the franchise said the unfortunate incident has caused "a lot of anguish and pain to the RCB family." Expressing solidarity with the grieving families and those injured, RCB said: "As a mark of respect and a gesture of solidarity, RCB has announced a financial support of Rs 10 lakh to each of the eleven families of the deceased." The statement also announced the establishment of a special relief initiative called 'RCB Cares' which aims to support fans injured in the tragedy.



"Our fans will always remain at the heart of everything that we do. We remain united in grief," the franchise said. The tragic incident occurred on Wednesday (rpt) Wednesday during a massive public turnout to celebrate RCB's recent IPL triumph, resulting

in a deadly stampede that claimed 11 lives and left several others injured. RCB's gesture follows widespread calls for accountability and support from across the cricketing and political spectrum. Further investigation into the circumstances leading to the stampede is on.

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FREE CHECKUP

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