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Anti-Emergency Movement Was Learning Experience For Me: PM Modi



United News of India
Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that the period was a learning experience for him
NEW DELHI, JUN 25: Ahead of the release of a book on Emergency,
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

People Can Overthrow Dictatorial Powers: Amit Shah

United News of India
NEW DELHI, JUN 25: Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Wednesday the Emergency was not a national necessity but a reflection of the anti-democratic mentality of the Congress and "just one person", a reference to then prime minister Indira Gandhi.
Paying tributes to those who suffered after the imposition of Emergency by the Indira Gandhi government on June 25, 1975, Shah said the day reminds everyone that when those in power
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

"Samvidhan Hatya Diwas"

Emergency Most Inhuman Act in Indian Democracy: LG Sinha

Lieutenant Governor inaugurates 1975 Emergency Exhibition at Convention Centre, Jammu

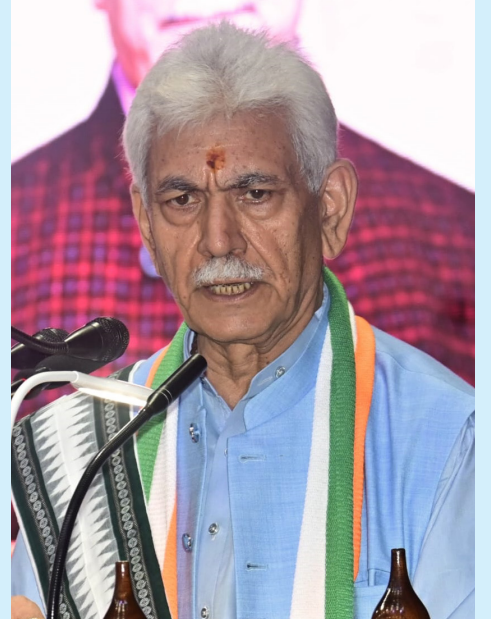
HT News Network

JAMMU, JUNE 25: On the occasion of "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas", the Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today inaugurated the 1975 Emergency Exhibition at Convention Centre, Jammu.

Commemorating the torturous events of the darkest chapter in the history of Independent India, the Lieutenant Governor honoured the victims of Emergency who made numerous sacrifices to safeguard constitutional values.

"I consider Emergency to be the most inhuman act of Indian democratic history and today's observation of 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' is also an opportunity for deep reflection and reaffirmation of commitment to democratic values and constitutional morality," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that
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Kashmir Gets Relief From Heat After Rains

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: Rains lashed parts of Kashmir on Wednesday, bringing much-needed relief from the heat wave, even as some places like Srinagar recorded the warmest June night ever, officials said.

Rains lashed parts of the Valley, including Srinagar, on Wednesday morning, they said.

The rainfall brought down the temperature, leading to a much-needed relief from the intense heat wave over the last few weeks, they said.

Residents of the city welcomed the rain and the cool breeze that blew across the city. Other parts of the Valley
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If statehood needs BJP CM, i'll step aside, But let centre Be honest: Omar Abdullah

HT News Desk / KNS

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: Demanding that the central government should come clean about its intentions, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said he is ready to make way for a BJP chief minister if that is what it takes to restore statehood to the J&K.

Speaking exclusively to Kashmir News Service (KNS), Omar said central government should
TURN ON.....PAGE 02



Police Conducts Yatra Emergency Drills, Urge Public Cooperation: SSP Srinagar

HT News Desk / KNT

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: In a significant preparatory measure ahead of the annual Amarnath Yatra, coordinated mock drills were conducted on Wednesday across eight different zones of Srinagar to test and demonstrate the readiness of security and emergency response agencies.

The mock drills involved Jammu and Kashmir Police, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), simulating various emergency scenarios including road accidents, stampedes, militant attacks, and natural
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Quality Education for All, Beyond Barriers: Sakeena Itoo

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: Minister for Education, Social Welfare and Health, Sakeena Itoo, today chaired a high level meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the performance and functioning of School Education department (SED).

The meeting was attended by Secretary, SED, Ram Niwas Sharma; Director School Education Kashmir/Jammu, Special Secretary, SED, Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Secretary JKBOSE,



Director Finance SED, Director Planning, SED, Chief Education Officers of all districts and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, Sakeena took comprehensive assessment of key per-

formance indicators in learning outcomes, infrastructure readiness, teacher performance, human resource management as well as
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CS Chairs 2nd SEC Meeting of DMRRR

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired the 2nd State Executive Committee ((SEC) meeting of the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR) to review the status of disaster preparedness and assess the allocation and utilization of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary Home, Chandraker Bharti, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Suresh Kumar Gupta and other senior officers.

For strengthening of Civil Defence, SEC approved the release of Rs 1.72 crore under preparedness and capacity building to Commandant General, Civil Defence for procurement of sirens and generators in all the districts.

As an initiative of community based disaster management, the SEC also considered to approve the release of Rs 4 lakh to NCC units of Degree Colleges of Jammu, Reasi, Srinagar and Anantnag districts in
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Parliamentary panel to visit J&K in first week of July

HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, JUN 25: In a significant development, a parliamentary panel is scheduled to undertake a study tour of Kashmir Valley in the first week of July. This is the first such visit following the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 civilian lives, most of them tourists.

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel, headed by BJP MP Anurag Thakur, will tour Srinagar as part of its multi-city itinerary that includes Mumbai and Coorg.

Ahead of the visit of the panel, the Jammu and Kashmir government has appointed S.P. Rukwal, Director of Geology and Mining, as coordinator of the visit.

According to an official order accessed by news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Rukwal will oversee all logistical, administrative, and protocol-related arrangements.

Two other officers from the Mining Department will work in coordination with the Lok Sabha Secretariat to ensure the success of the visit, the order reads.
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Multi-Layered Security for Amarnath Yatra: IGP

United News of India

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: Multi-layered and in-depth security arrangements have been put in place for the upcoming annual Amarnath Yatra to ensure safe and smooth pilgrimage, Kashmir Police chief V K Birdi said on Wednesday.

"The Shri Amarnath Yatra this year is starting next week. Jammu-Kashmir Police and other security forces have made all security arrangements for



the yatra. Compared to last year, this time there are multi-layered and in-depth security arrangements so as to make the yatra safe and smooth," the inspector general of Kashmir Police told reporters in Anantnag.

Birdi visited the Nunwan base camp of the yatra along the Pahalgam axis and reviewed the security arrangements for the pilgrimage which starts July 3.

The IGP said the security
TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Union Cabinet to Honour Emergency Victims' Sacrifices

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JUNE 25: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday observed brief silence as a mark of tribute to the victims of the Emergency and resolved to commemorate and honour their sacrifices.

At a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Union Cabinet observed a two-minute silence as a tribute to those whose
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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Anti-Emergency.....

and reaffirmed the vitality of preserving the democratic framework.

"The Emergency Diaries - Years that Forged a Leader", which highlights Modi's fight for the "the ideals of democracy", is published by BlueKraft. It will be released by Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday evening.

Modi said the book chronicles his journey during the Emergency years. It brought back many memories from that time, he said.

He said on X, "I call upon all those who remember those dark days of the Emergency or those whose families suffered during that time to share their experiences on social media. It will create awareness among the youth of the shameful time from 1975 to 1977."

The prime minister recalled that he was a young RSS pracharak during the period.

He said, "The anti-Emergency movement was a learning experience for me. It reaffirmed the vitality of preserving our democratic framework. At the same time, I got to learn so much from people across the political spectrum."

He added, "I am glad that BlueKraft Digital Foundation has compiled some of those experiences in the form of a book, whose foreword has been penned by Shri HD Deve Gowda Ji, himself a stalwart of the anti-Emergency movement."

The publisher in a post said the book delves into the compelling role Modi played in the fight against the Emergency.

Based on first person anecdotes from associates who worked with Modi in his youth, and using other archival material, the book is a first of its kind that creates new scholarship on the formative years of a young man who would give it his all in the fight against tyranny, it said.

It added, "Emergency Diaries - paints a vivid picture of Narendra Modi fighting for the ideals of democracy and how he has worked all his life to preserve and promote it." This book is a tribute to the grit and resolve of those who refused to be silenced, BlueKraft said, and it offers a rare glimpse into the early trials that forged one of the most transformative leaders of our time.

It has a foreword from former prime minister Gowda.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that no Indian will ever forget the manner in which the spirit of the Constitution was violated during the Emergency, as he affirmed his government's commitment to strengthening constitutional principles.

In a series of posts on X on the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, Modi said it was one of the darkest chapters in India's democratic history.

The values enshrined in the Constitution were set aside, fundamental rights suspended, press freedom extinguished and a large number of political leaders, social workers, students and ordinary citizens jailed, he noted.

The prime minister said, "It was as if the Congress Government in power at that time placed democracy under arrest."

The Modi government had announced last year that the Emergency anniversary will be commemorated as "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas".

The 42nd Amendment, which made extensive changes to the Constitution and was reversed by the Janata Party government, is a prime example of the shenanigans of the Congress government that imposed Emergency, he said.

He added that the poor, marginalised and downtrodden were particularly targeted, including their dignity insulted.

"We also reiterate our commitment to strengthening the principles in our Constitution and working together to realise our vision of a Viksit Bharat. May we scale new heights of progress and fulfil the dreams of the poor and downtrodden," Modi said.

Saluting every person who stood firm in the fight against the Emergency, the prime minister said these were the people from all over India, from all walks of life, from diverse ideologies who worked closely with each other with one aim: to protect India's democratic fabric and to preserve the ideals for which freedom fighters devoted their lives.

"It was their collective struggle that ensured that the then Congress Government had to restore democracy and call for fresh elections, which they badly lost," he said. (Agencies)

People Can.....

become dictatorial, the people have the power to overthrow them.

The home minister said the Emergency was the "Age of Injustice of Congress' hunger for power".

The Modi government observes this day as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' so that the new generation is made aware of the pain and torture that the countrymen faced during the Emergency, he said.

"This day tells us that when power becomes dictatorial, the people have the power to overthrow it," he wrote on X in Hindi.

"The Emergency was not a national necessity, but a reflection of the 'anti-democratic mentality' of the Congress and one person," the minister said.

He said freedom of the press was crushed, the hands of the judiciary were tied and social workers were put in jail.

"The countrymen raised the slogan of 'sinhasan khali karo' (vacate the throne) and uprooted the dictatorial Congress. A heartfelt tribute to all the heroes who sacrificed their lives in

this struggle," he said.

Last year, Shah had announced that the Modi government would observe June 25 as the 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' to commemorate the "massive contributions" of those who endured "inhuman pain" during the period.

He had also said the observance of 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' will help keep the eternal flame of individual freedom and the defence of democracy alive in every Indian, thus preventing "dictatorial forces" like the Congress from "repeating those horrors".

A gazette notification to this effect noted that the Emergency was declared on June 25, 1975, following which there was "gross abuse of power by the government of the day and people of India were subjected to excesses and atrocities".

Emergency.....

the commemoration of imposition of Emergency on 25th June 1975, is not merely a date for historical remembrance, but a call to action to resist any future attempts to undermine India's democratic fabric, and to strengthen our resolve to deepen the foundations of our democracy and work with complete dedication for greater success of our nation.

"We must learn from those incidents and prepare young generations to prevent such atrocities in future. It is also an opportunity to create awareness about constitutional values in every section of the society so that no dictatorial mentality can repeat it in future," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He paid homage to the countless individuals, political leaders, journalists, activists, and citizens, who bravely resisted the authoritarian regime and safeguarded the democratic values.

"In that darkest period in India's democratic history, the soul of the country was crushed, Civil liberties were attacked, Constitutional safeguards were violated and dreams of nation-building were buried.

The suspension of fundamental rights, press censorship, and the widespread arrests of political opponents and citizens was a direct assault on the democratic dreams that fuelled India's independence movement and were enshrined in its Constitution," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, called upon the youth to take the lead in exposing those responsible for the murder of the Constitution and democratic values.

"Dictatorship is a mindset that needs to be understood. The new generation needs to know how India's democracy was held captive for 21 months. The new generation needs to understand how our democratic values were tarnished and how some handful of people ruthlessly bled the very soul of the democratic republic, assaulted our democratic norms, shattered India's ancient democratic form and damaged the four pillars of democracy, for sheer political gain.

The new generation also needs to be told how our great leaders and vigilant citizens displayed great courage and unshakeable loyalty to democratic values," he further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also shared his personal experiences from the Emergency period and emphasized on educating the people about their rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

"Democracy is in the nature of India, democracy is ingrained in our veins since time immemorial, that is why India is called the mother of democracy. I also salute those great personalities who nurtured the rich tradition and heritage of this nation, those who truly enriched democratic values generation after generation.

I have full faith that the saga of sacrifices and resilience of our satyagrahis who valiantly protected the democratic values during the Emergency will continue to inspire us to further strengthen our democracy and build a truly developed India," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Political leaders and citizens who were the victims of Emergency shared the accounts of sufferings they endured during the dark period of Emergency. The Lieutenant Governor assured them that their issues and concerns will be taken up with the concerned authorities.

On the occasion, a Dogri translation of 'Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita', 'Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita' and 'Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam' were also released by the Lieutenant Governor.

Shri Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister of J&K; Shri Arvind Gupta, Member of Legislative Assembly from Jammu West; Shri Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Shri Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; senior officials, political leaders, and prominent citizens from all walks of life were present.

Kashmir Gets.....

like Anantnag, also received rains, they added.

The rainfall came after the city witnessed its warmest night ever in the month of June, the officials said.

Night temperature of Srinagar was recorded at 25 degrees Celsius Tuesday night - the highest ever in the month of June in the recorded history, and 7.9 degrees above the season's normal.

Tourist resort Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district also experienced its warmest June night ever. It recorded a night temperature of 18.8 degrees Celsius, they said.

The local Met department has said the weather will remain generally cloudy with intermittent spells of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places of Kashmir till Friday.

Between Saturday and Monday, there is a possibility of a spell of rain and thundershower at scattered places.

The centre Kashmir's Srinagar district recorded its highest-ever minimum temperature for June at 25.0°C on Tuesday night, marking a historic weather event in Kashmir even as the Jammu region braces for more rain following intense showers across several districts.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), widespread rain over the past 24 hours has impacted several districts.

The highest rainfall was recorded in Katra, which received 108.5 mm, followed by Rajouri ARG with 80 mm, and Udhampur with 71.4 mm. Poonch and Ramban also saw significant rainfall, receiving 48 mm and 47.5 mm respectively.

With more rain expected between 25 and 27 June, the IMD has forecast light to moderate rain or thundershowers at many locations, and heavy rainfall at a few places in Jammu Division.

The advisory warns of a heightened risk of flash floods, particularly in low-lying and vulnerable areas, along with landslides, mudslides, and shooting stones in hilly regions.

The advisory also notes a risk of waterlogging in the plains of the Jammu region and a rise in water levels of rivers and local streams.

Farmers have been advised to suspend irrigation, pesticide spraying, and fertilizer application until the weather stabilizes.

Rain activity is expected to reduce slightly between 28 and 30 June, with rainfall becoming more scattered.

From 1 to 2 July, intermittent rain is still likely at scattered places. On 3 July, the forecast indicates hot and humid weather, with the possibility of brief showers at a few locations.

Meanwhile, Srinagar's overnight temperature of 25.0°C on 25 June is now the highest minimum temperature ever recorded in June for the city.

If statehood.....

state clearly whether statehood will only be granted under a BJP-led government in J&K. "If statehood needs a BJP CM, I'll step aside. At least the people of Jammu and Kashmir will get back their statehood", he added.

Omar said that his government is fully committed to fulfill the promises made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir over its five-year term.

He added that expectations must align with democratic timelines, and that the mandate given to him is not for five weeks or months, but for a full term.

Omar said that electricity supply has improved compared to last year and that key infrastructure projects are being pushed forward. "Only yesterday, we approved a 710,600 crore package for road and tunnel connectivity," he said.

Reacting to a remark made by Muzaffar Hussain Baigh that he should resign if he cannot perform, Omar said, "Why should I resign? Did anyone resign in 2016 when people were dying? At that time, we were hearing about milk and toffees. No apology was ever made," he said.

He said that his government has not betrayed its mandate. "Did you expect that the Assembly would pass a resolution for special status? You didn't. But we did it," he said.

On the reservation issue, Omar said the matter has been referred to the law department for legal clarity. "We want to ensure that no cabinet decision gets stuck in court. That's why we have followed due process," he said.

He said the sub-committee on reservation has worked faster than expected. "Many thought the committee would take six years. But it completed its report and submitted it quickly," he said. "This problem was not created by me. But I am trying to solve it," he added.

Omar also criticised PDP leaders for remaining silent when the reservation quota was being increased. "Where was Mehbooba Mufti's voice then? Where was Sajjad Lone's voice? They were busy looking for government houses and security," he said.

He also said that PDP leaders avoided speaking against the reservation issue to safeguard their vote banks. "They wanted Pahari and Gujjar votes in Rajouri-Poonch. So they told their candidates not to say a word about reservation," he said. "Now, after losing the elections, they are suddenly raising their voices," he added.

Omar said the cabinet will soon take a final call on the reservation issue once the law department completes its review. "We are not touching the part of reservation that comes under Parliament. But we will act on the part that is within our authority," he said.

He said the government will not make any move that could be legally challenged later. "We want to make decisions that are legally sound and beneficial to the people," he added.

Police Conducts.....

disasters. The drills aimed to enhance coordination, improve response time, and instil a sense of security among the public and pilgrims.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the drills, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar, Dr. G.V. Sandeep Chakravarthy, IPS, said the primary objective of these exercises was to assess how law enforcement and emer-

gency personnel can "respond, act, and react" during crisis situations.

"Our goal is to be fully prepared for any emergency that might arise during the Yatra. Today's drills ensured that police, CAPF, and SDRF personnel worked together effectively to handle various types of contingencies," the SSP according to the news agency Kashmir News Trust said.

SSP Srinagar, Dr. G.V. Sandeep Chakravarthy emphasized that a clear message has been sent to the people, that the Amarnath Yatra is safe and secure, and that the administration is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality.

He also appealed to the public for cooperation, particularly in adhering to the cut-off timings, which he described as crucial for safety management along the Yatra route. "The people's cooperation is not only welcomed, it is essential," he said.

Responding to questions on technological readiness, the SSP said the force is continually upgrading surveillance and response tools, and that various gadgets and systems are being monitored and updated in real-time to ensure effective ground response.

"These mock drills are not just exercises; they are confidence-building measures to reassure citizens and pilgrims that we are vigilant and ready," he added.

"With the Amarnath Yatra set to begin soon, these drills reflect the administration's proactive approach to ensure a peaceful and secure pilgrimage season, the SSP said. [KNT]

Quality Education.....

implementation status of major educational schemes like Samagra Shiksha, PM-POSHAN (Mid Day Meal), New India Literacy Programme (NILP), PM-Shri and others.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, the Minister emphasized on the critical importance of accountability, transparency and outcome-oriented strategies in enhancing the quality of education across J&K. She underlined the need for bridging learning gaps and called for robust monitoring mechanisms to ensure timely delivery of educational resources and improved student outcomes in schools.

"We must prioritize the learning outcomes, teacher training, digital access and inclusive education. Every child, regardless of their socio-economic background or geographical location, deserves access to quality education", Minister Sakeena stated.

While reviewing student enrolment trends across UT, especially among the girls and marginalized communities, the Minister called upon the officers to maintain enrolment in schools with proper implementation of schemes in vogue for that. She asked the officers to take immediate steps for maintaining enrolment in high and higher secondary schools. She also directed the officers for effective implementation of Beti Anmol scheme having wider role in maintaining girl enrolment number higher secondary schools.

During the meeting, the Minister also expressed displeasure over persistent problems in education sector, particularly in remote and under-served areas. She directed the officers to install electricity connections and solar panels in all left out schools within six months. She also asked the to establish toilets and other basic facilities in all left out schools within four months.

The Minister issued a clarion call for a culture of responsibility, urging all the educators and administrative personnel to treat their roles with seriousness they deserve. "We cannot allow complacency to derail education of our children. Teachers are not just government employees, they are the torchbearers of our future and their accountability must be fixed for non-performance", she stated.

While reviewing other aspects of the department, the Minister issued strict directions regarding rationalisation of teachers in schools having ample staff presence. She further directed that all Principals should take classes in their respective schools, apart from looking after routine management of schools only.

The Minister also directed that no transfers should happen at the zonal or district levels and respective Directors should be consulted before any transfers. She also asked both the directors to look after the issue of shifting of attendance of teachers from one school to another without any reason and fix responsibility for those doing it without informing their respective Directors.

While reviewing the status of ongoing projects and other infrastructure, the Minister asked the officers to maintain regular coordination with the executing agencies for timely completion of the projects. She asked them to monitor the works on regular basis for timely completion owing to limited working season in Kashmir and some parts of Jammu division.

The Minister further said that the government remains committed towards transforming the education ecosystem

across J&K. "Reforms in education are not just about policy but about ensuring our children are equipped to thrive in a fast-changing world," she stated.

During the meeting, Secretary, SED gave a detailed presentation on different aspects of School Education department.

CS Chairs.....

the first phase for conduct of trainings on disaster preparedness and response.

The SEC also considered the nomination of Director General of Police as member of SEC (ex-officio) to make necessary amendments in the JK disaster management, rules 2007.

The Chief Secretary stressed the importance of utilising the existing resources efficiently which is critical towards saving lives, reducing response times and minimizing overall damage in case of a disaster.

The SEC also highlighted the significance of each agenda item for augmenting the capacity of the UT to be better prepared against the disasters the region is prone to.

The SEC reaffirmed its commitment to transparent and accountable use of SDRF resources. It also resolved to hold periodic reviews to monitor progress and address any emerging gaps in the disaster management framework.

Multi-Layered.....

arrangements for the 38-day pilgrimage have been divided into different levels, including zonal, and security drills were held at every level on Wednesday ahead of the yatra.

"The aim of the drills is to refine our alertness, and preparedness of our actions and responses at the time of any contingency. Such drills were conducted at every place like camps, roads or interior sections along the yatra routes so that all the security forces remain alert and know what specific tasks they have to carry out to fight any contingency," he added.

Asked about the local support to the yatra, Birdi said the yatra cannot be conducted without the support of the local population. "They become successful due to the help and support by the locals. This time also, the people are excited to welcome the yatis and provide them any possible help," the IGP said.

Meanwhile, security forces conducted drills at Pahalgam, Anantnag, and Qazigund? in south Kashmir; Pantha Chowk in Srinagar, and Sumbal in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Union Cabinet.....

constitutionally guaranteed democratic rights were taken away and who were then subjected to unimaginable horrors.

The Union Cabinet resolved to commemorate and honour the sacrifices of countless individuals who valiantly resisted the Emergency and its attempt at subversion of the spirit of the Indian Constitution which began in 1974 with a heavy-handed attempt at crushing the Navnirman Andolan and Sampurna Kranti Abhiyan, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

"The Union Cabinet paid tributes to their exemplary courage and valiant resistance to the Emergency's excesses," Vaishnaw said.

He said the year 2025 marks 50 years of the Samvidhan Hatya Diwas - an unforgettable chapter in the history of India where the Constitution was subverted, the Republic and democratic spirit of India was attacked, federalism was undermined, and fundamental rights, human liberty and dignity were suspended.

"The Union Cabinet reaffirmed that the people of India continue to repose unflinching faith in the Indian Constitution and the resilience of the country's democratic ethos," Vaishnaw said.

"It is as important for the young as it is for the old to draw inspiration from those who resisted dictatorial tendencies and stood firm to defend our Constitution and its democratic fabric," the minister said.

Vaishnaw said India, as the Mother of Democracy, stands as an example of preserving, protecting and safeguarding constitutional values. "Let us, as a nation, renew our resolve to uphold our Constitution and its democratic and federal spirit," Vaishnaw said. (Agencies)

Parliamentary.....

The visit assumes significance as it will be first visit of a parliamentary panel to Kashmir following April 22 Baisaran attack in which 26 civilians were killed by terrorists.

After the terror attack, parliamentary panels had stopped visiting Kashmir. Three such panels- Department-related Standing Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs, Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing & Urban Affairs and Joint Parliamentary Committee on "One Nation, One Election" had cancelled/ abandoned their plans to visit J&K. (KNO)

DAJGUA Day 11: Pulwama admin organises mega outreach camp at Gulistan Tral

MLA Tral stresses on ensuring 100% saturation of all welfare schemes in tribal areas

HT NEWS DESK

PULWAMA, JUNE 25: Continuing its outreach under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), district administration Pulwama today organised a mega awareness and benefit saturation camp at Gulistan Tral to bring essential services and individual entitlements directly to the doorsteps of tribal communities, in line with the campaign's vision of inclusive development.

The camp saw large participation from tribal residents, including men, women, youth and elderly citizens, who were provided on-the-spot services and scheme-related assistance by multiple government departments.

The camp was also attended by the Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Tral, Rafiq Ahmad Naik. On

the occasion, he interacted with the locals, listened to their concerns and assured them of continued support.

Addressing the gathering, he said the government is fully committed to the upliftment of tribal communities and stressed the need for ensuring 100% saturation of all welfare schemes in tribal areas. He also distributed Ayushman Bharat Cards, Birth Certificates and other certificates among the beneficiaries.

Departments including Health, Education, Social Welfare, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Forest, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, and others had set up dedicated stalls at the venue. They provided real-time registration for schemes, Aadhaar updates, awareness sessions, and distribution of brochures and IEC material to help people better understand available services.



A special health camp was also conducted by the Health department

where doctors and paramedics provided basic medical checkups, con-

sultations, and sickle cell screening. The health team also spread awareness about water-borne diseases, personal hygiene, and safe drinking practices.

To promote digital access, a Common Services Centre (CSC) was set up to help with enrolments, document updates, and scholarship registrations.

DAJGUA campaign will continue with similar events planned across the tribal areas of the district to ensure holistic upliftment of tribal communities by saturating govt. schemes and welfare measures. Departments including Health, Education, Social Welfare, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Forest, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, and others had set up dedicated stalls at the venue. They provided real-time registration for schemes, Aadhaar updates, aware-

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A special health camp was also conducted by the Health department where doctors and paramedics provided basic medical checkups, consultations, and sickle cell screening. The health team also spread awareness about water-borne diseases, personal hygiene, and safe drinking practices.

To promote digital access, a Common Services Centre (CSC) was set up to help with enrolments, document updates, and scholarship registrations.

DAJGUA campaign will continue with similar events planned across the tribal areas of the district to ensure holistic upliftment of tribal communities by saturating govt. schemes and welfare measures.

I&FC deptt Kashmir restores irrigation supplies to Shallabugh, adjacent areas

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 25, 2025 - The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K organised a solemn programme in Srinagar to observe Emergency Day, marking the dark chapter in Indian democracy when the Emergency was imposed on June 25, 1975.

The event, organised by the BJP Senior Leader, DDC Srinagar Er. Aijaz Hussain, along with the BJP Lal Chowk Constituency, witnessed the enthusiastic participation of party members, karyakartas, and local leaders. The Chief Guest on the occasion was

BJP J&K Observes Emergency Day Programme in Srinagar.

HT NEWS DESK

the Hon'ble Member of Parliament (MP Rajya Sabha) Shri Ghulam Ali Khatana.

Shri Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (Organisation) J&K, Members of Legislative Assembly J&K (MLA's) Shakti Raj Parihar, MLA RS Pathania, MLA Satish Kumar Sharma, MLA Baldev Sharma, MLA Dilip Parihar, DDC Mendar Tipu Khan, BDC Basant Raj, BJP Spokesperson Altaf Thakur, District President Srinagar Sheikh Salman Were also present on the occasion.

Member of Parliament (MP Rajya Sabha) Ghulam Ali Khatana who addressed the gathering with power-

ful remarks on the importance of safeguarding democratic values and freedoms.

While addressing the gathering, Shri Ghulam Ali Khatana said, "The Emergency period stands as a grim reminder of the excesses and suppression



ment to protect the rights of citizens and to continue the mission of strengthening democracy across all corners of the nation, including Jammu & Kashmir.

"Today we remember those who stood up against injustice during the Emergency. We must ensure that such an undemocratic move is never repeated in the history of our nation, Ashok Koul added.

Chief Guest Shri Ghulam Ali Khatana along with the BJP General Secretary (Org) J&K Shri Ashok Koul inaugurated the Emergency Day Exhibition in Municipality Park Jawahar Nagar

later planted saplings under "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam".

The programme concluded with a pledge by all attendees to uphold the democratic ethos of the country and continue working for the development and unity of Jammu & Kashmir under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The event also included recitations, a brief documentary on the Emergency, and interactions with senior party workers who shared their memories of resistance during that period.

DLSA Sgr organizes trng. prog. on strengthening legal aid mechanisms for rights of women & children

HT NEWS DESK



Srinagar, June 25: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar, under the aegis of the J&K Legal Services Authority, organized a specialized training programme today at District Court Complex, Srinagar.

The programme was intended for Panel Lawyers, Legal Aid Defence Counsels (LADCs), and Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs), with a focused agenda on strengthening legal aid mechanisms concerning the rights of women and children. Training was held under the chairmanship of Tasleem Arief, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and under the close supervision of Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-Judge/Secretary, DLSA Srinagar. This initiative aligns with the recommendations made in Paras 3.48 and 3.49, Chapter III, of the 147th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Committee advocates for improved accessibility to the e-Lok Adalat platform, particularly for individuals in rural areas and those with limited digital resources. It further encourages collaboration with local organizations to establish digital legal access points and the training of PLVs to assist citizens in navigating online justice platforms.

The observations also emphasize the creation of specialized legal aid units focused on women's and children's rights, supported by trained legal professionals and partnerships with NGOs and child welfare agencies.

DC Srinagar & Commissioner SMC review progress under PMAY-Urban 2.0 in Srinagar

HT NEWS DESK

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner & SMC Commissioner took a detailed appraisal about the implementation of the PMAY-Urban scheme in the District and assessed the status of registration of beneficiaries made under the scheme in Srinagar till date. Stakeholder Departments were directed to expedite the process of verification of the cases to ensure that not a single genuine beneficiary is left out from the scheme. Stress was also laid on maintaining utmost transparency and accountability ensuring timely disposal of the cases.

Stressing adherence to the established verification mechanism, the DC & Commissioner SMC urged Departments to act promptly in line with scheme guidelines.

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25:- In order to review the progress on implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY-U 2.0) in the District, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo and Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb today held a joint meeting of Revenue and SMC Officers here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The meeting was among others attended by Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Khurshid, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, all Tehsildars, SMC Ward Officers, and Officers from J&K Housing Board.

DC Srinagar reviews status of works undertaken under District Mineral Fund (PMKKKY Scheme)

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR JUNE 25:- In order to ensure the effective implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) and the efficient utilization of the District Mineral Fund for the development of mining-affected areas, DC Srinagar Akshay Labroo conducted a review of works being undertaken under District Mineral Fund today at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Superintending Engineer R&B, District Programme Officer (ICDS), Chief Medical Officer, District Social Welfare Officer, District Mineral Officer, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats District Youth Services & Sports Officer, Executive Engineers of I&FC, R&B, and other concerned Officers. At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner, who is also the Chairman of the District Mineral Foundation Trust, conducted a comprehensive review of each developmental activity undertaken in the District under PMKKKY using the District Mineral Fund.

Sidha rolls out "MISSION INSPECTION" by Archives, Archaeology & Museums Department, J&K

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: With an aim to gather first-hand account of preservation and conservation works as well as status of State Protected Monuments across UT, the Department of Archives, Archeology and Museums, J&K has launched Mission Inspection from 25th to 30th of June, 2025.

During this period the teams will inspect 150 works and 54 Protected Monuments across the UT.

Director, Archives, Archeology and Museum, J&K, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha has conceived the initiative and has framed six teams which will be conducting inspection of the works of Department being executed under Capex, Phase-I and Phase-II of the Scheme of Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage in Jammu & Kashmir.



The teams will be conducting inspection of each work in the district assigned and also visit the State Protected Monument in the districts to record the status and provide with the recommendations viz a viz beautification and restoration of monuments. The teams will also bring to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner concerned any intervention required for removing encroachments and

monitoring of the works under execution.

The teams through Divisional Administration, Deputy Commissioners and PW (R&B) Department will be accompanied by Nodal Officers in the District and Jurisdictional Executive Engineers.

The aim of the mission is to have effective collaboration with District Administrations and Executing Agencies for efficient execution of works and monitoring. The teams will also have needs assessment of the recommendations for Phase-III Projects and heritage monuments to be recommended for notification as State Protection Monuments. Further, the teams will also visit the sites where the works could not be executed as a result of some dispute or litigation or for want of NOC.

The teams will appraise the District Development Commissioners with the status, issues and the intervention required by the District Administration.

DC Budgam reviews conservation measures at Hokarsar, chairs meeting on Nambale Narkara wetland proposal

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JUNE 25: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat today conducted a comprehensive review of conservation measures at Hokarsar Wetland and also discussed the proposed designation of Nambale Narkara as a protected wetland under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules.

During the review of Hokarsar Wetland, DC assessed the ongoing works aimed at improving water flow and mitigating flood risks.

He stressed the timely resolution of all revenue-related matters associated with Hokarsar Wetland and directed Tehsildar Budgam for overseeing the demarcation of wetland boundaries and its peripheries.

DC directed the con-



cerned departments to expedite this process on a priority basis.

Emphasising the importance of ecological integrity, DC issued clear instructions to enforce a complete ban on all land conversions within wetland zones, urging officials to take prompt legal action against any violations.

He also expressed concern over illegal garbage dumping along the wetland's peripheries, particularly along the Soibugh road.

DC directed immediate

not yet been designated as a wetland, DC emphasized the urgent need to initiate formal procedures for its protection.

ACR Budgam apprised that ground-truthing i.e., the physical verification and mapping of the site both will begin shortly as a first step in the notification process.

DC urged all departments to ensure inter-departmental coordination, adherence to environmental protocols, and community awareness regarding wetland protection. He highlighted that once notified, Nambale Narkara could offer long-term ecological and socio-economic benefits for the region.

He directed timely follow-up actions including field assessments, preparation of technical documentation, and other required submissions to facilitate the notification process.

ADDC Baramulla reviews IEC campaign under DAJGUA Pushes for 100% saturation of welfare entitlements in tribal areas

HT NEWS DESK

BARAMULLA, JUNE 25: To assess the on-ground impact of the ongoing Information, Education & Communication (IEC) campaign under the Dharti Aabha Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Baramulla, Gh Rasool Mir today chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the District Administration Complex here.

The campaign, which spans from June 15 to June 30, 2025, focuses on ensuring 100 percent saturation of government welfare entitlements for the tribal population across the district.

The meeting saw participation from Joint Director Planning, ACD Baramulla and key officers from departments including ICDS, Agriculture, Horticulture, FCS&CA, Health, Education, Social Welfare, Revenue, NRLM, Labour, CSCs, and banking institutions.

These departments play a pivotal role in conducting awareness and



benefit saturation camps, a core component of DAJGUA, aimed at providing tribal households with access to a full range of government schemes and services.

During the meeting, Chaudhary Mudasar Hussain, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Baramulla and Nodal Officer for DAJGUA presented a detailed report on the status of IEC activities. He highlighted the achievements in tribal-dominated blocks, ongoing challenges, and steps being taken to improve service delivery in remote areas.

The briefing included updates on household level surveys, door-to-door awareness drives, community engagement through panchayats, and the role of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in delivering services. In his concluding remarks, ADDC emphasised the need for maximised outreach in far-flung tribal belts, enhanced coordination between departments at block and panchayat levels, timely submission of progress reports, bridging service delivery gaps through focused and community-centric interventions.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Floriculture Officer NMBG Cheshmashahi Srinagar.
 Department of Floriculture Email:-fonmbg@gmail.com
Short term Tender Notice No: 01 of 2025-26 Dated: 25-06-2025

For and on behalf of the Government of J&K Union Territory, sealed tenders affixed with revenue stamp of Rs. 6/- in two envelope system (technical bid and price bid) are invited from Government Registered Manufacturers/Dealers/Suppliers who will fulfill the eligibility prescribed criteria for the supply /installation of QR Code-Based Plant Name plates at Nehru Memorial Botanical Garden (NMBG) as indicated below.

S.NO	Particulars	Specifications	Unit
1	Supply/Installation of QR Code Based Plant Name Plates	UV-resistant metal/Laminated acrylic Plate (5 x 8 inch) QR Code Generation, printing, Data compilation & editing Installation (labour & Tools) complete Job, as per sample lying in the office of Floriculture Officer NMBG Cheshmashahi- Srinagar	No.
2	Supply/Installation of Iron stand for mounting labels mentioned at S. No-01	i. Iron Patri 50.8 mm width, thickness 6 mm with height 3 feet. ii. Iron Plate 14 gauge welded at the top (5 x 8 inch) for fixing of QR Labels. iii. Cross bar of Angle iron (1 1/4 inch) with length 8-inch, welded at the base of the stand including paint (Green Colour).	No.

The sealed tenders addressed to Floriculture Officer, NMBG, Cheshmashahi should reach to the office of the Floriculture Officer, NMBG, Cheshmashahi, Srinagar through Registered post/speed post or in person on 8th July 2025 upto 04 p.m. The tender documents along with terms and conditions can be obtained from the Office of the undersigned against cash payment of Rs.100/- (Non-refundable) as per the schedule given below:-

S.No	Particulars	Time
1	Start date for issue of tender document	25.06.2025
2	Last Date of issue of tender document	08-07-2025 upto 02 PM
3	Tender document submission start date	25.06.2025
4	Last date and timing of tender submission	08-07-2025 upto 04 PM
5	Date and timing of opening of short-term Tender	09-07-2025 at 11 AM

The tenders shall be opened on 9th July 2025 at 11 A.M. in the office of undersigned by the committee constituted for the purpose in front of tenderers who may wish to remain present. In case of any eventuality/ Government Holiday then the tender opening date will be considered on other convenient working day.
 Note: The terms and conditions can be had from office of the floriculture Officer, NMBG Cheshmashahi

SD/-
 Floriculture Officer,
 Department of Floriculture
 NMBG, Cheshmashahi

DIPK-2919/25
 Send Date: Jun 25 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being notified that my name in my Aadhar Card having Aadhar card number this 208376023658 has been wrongly mentioned as Mohd Reza Sheikh but my actual name as per School record is Reza Mohd C/o Mohd Sadiq Sheikh
 R/o Hargam Hara Pora Nar Sanget Anantnag
 I'm going to change my aadhar details of anyone have queries they may contact us within 7 days

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohd Asif Shah, S/o Gull Mohd Shah, R/o kanghall anantnag, have lost the Registration Certificate (RC) of my vehicle Alto 800 bearing registration number JK03L-6167. I am applying for a duplicate RC. If anyone has any objection, they may inform the concerned RTO office within 7 days of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being informed that the name in my electricity bill having consumer number 020701001166 is only mentioned as Mohd Lateef Wagay but actual name as per my aadhar card is Mohd Lateef Sheergojri s/o Abdul Wahab Sheergojri R/O Ruhoo Anantnag Now I want to update its name if anybody has queries they may contact pdd department we didn't 7 days

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sabir Ahmad Mir S/O Ghulam Hassan Mir, R/O Batakote, Pahalgam, hereby inform that I have lost my wallet with Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, ATM Card, and Department ID Card. On 25/06/2025 in way from home to anantnag if anyone finds these documents, kindly contact me at the address given above This notice is being published as a record of the loss.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written as Mohammad Sultan sheikh in my R/C of my Vehicle bearing Registration no JK 01W-2272 (Alto 800) while my corrected name is Sullah Sheikh as per aadhar card which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he / she may file his/her objection in the office of RTO Srinagar within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.
 Name.....Sullah Sheikh
 S/O Mohammad Sheikh
 R/O Wathora Chadoora Srinagar

ازدفتر نایب تحصیلدار پھلگام

درخواست منجانب سید بانو بیوہ متوفی 45 سالہ لاری پور پھلگام بغرض حصول وارث جاہر منقذت

اشتہار بغرض آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
 رپٹ کے سائل کاٹو ہر غلام نبی راتھر 17-07-2021
 کوٹ ہوئے اور وارث جاہر افراد حسب ذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

سید بانو بیوہ متوفی 45 سال
سہاڈنبی پسر متوفی 09
ابرو جان پسر متوفی 19
اریبہ جان دختر 18
خرد سنی بیگم والدہ متوفی 70

اسکے علاوہ اوکوئی افراد وارث من بن ہے زیر کارواہی سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں کسی کو کوئی عذر ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر دفتر منجانب میں کرسے
نایب تحصیلدار پھلگام

GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PCD(PHQ) J&K JAMMU / SRINAGAR
INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE
 e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/28/2025-26 Dated: - 25-06-2025
 Executive Engineer PCD PHQ&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of boundary wall around BPP Dassi Tarbal Gurez Bandipora Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	26.56 lacs	2000/-	53120/-	210 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B"
2	Construction of boundary wall around BPP Satri Naar Bandipora Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	39.59 lacs	2000/-	79180/-	210 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B"
3	Construction 02 No double storey Sentry post at BPP Dassi Tarbal Gurez Bandipora Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	13.48 lacs	1000/-	26960/-	120 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B", "C" & "D"
4	Construction 02 No double storey Sentry post at BPP Jumagund Bandipora Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	13.48 lacs	1000/-	26960/-	120 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B", "C" & "D"
5	Construction 02 No double storey Sentry post at BPP Ring Payeen Kupwara Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	13.92 lacs	1000/-	27840/-	120 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B", "C" & "D"
6	Construction 02 No double storey Sentry post at BPP Budnambal Kupwara Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	13.72 lacs	1000/-	27440/-	120 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B", "C" & "D"
7	Construction 02 No double storey Sentry post at BPP Jumagund Kupwara Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	13.63 lacs	1000/-	27260/-	120 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B", "C" & "D"
8	Construction 02 No double storey Sentry post at BPP Kudiyian Keran Kupwara Under Minor Head Civil & Electrical works in Demand-51 Police.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	13.85 lacs	1000/-	27700/-	120 working days	06-07-2025	"A", "B", "C" & "D"

- Date of Publishing 27-06-2025 at 1600 hours.
- The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 1630 hours on 27-06-2025.
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 28-06-2025 to 05-07-2025 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 06-07-2025 online.
- The complete bidding process will be online.
- Technical bids of bidders shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 06-07-2025 at 1100 Hrs.
- The lowest bidder i. e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.
- In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:- 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).

SD/-
 Executive Engineer
 Police Construction Division
 PHQ, J&K, Jmu/Sgr.

DIPK-2965/25
 Send Date: Jun 25 2025

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION PAHALGAM

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (Short term)
eNIT NO 310F RnB/Pahalgam/2025-26 DATED 24-06-2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K-tenders are invited on percentage basis basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of Completion (Days)	Class of Contractor
01.	Construction of two Raceways at yener Pahalgam	Adv. Cost= ₹ 8.04 Amount without GST= ₹ 6.82 GST amount= ₹ 1.22	600	16080	45	C&D
02	Construction of two Raceways at Trout Fish Farm Pahalgam	Adv. Cost= ₹ 10.87 Amount without GST= ₹ 9.21 GST amount= ₹ 1.66	600	21740	45	B,C&D
03	Construction of 01 Trout Raceways at Trout Fish Farm Nambal	Adv. Cost= ₹ 5.09 Amount without GST= ₹ 4.31 GST amount= ₹ 0.78	300	10180	45	C&D

PROJECT AUTHORITY:- Directorate of Fisheries, J&K
Authorization accorded :- Accorded.
MAJOR HEAD OF ACCOUNT:- UT Capex Budget 2025-26
 The NIT 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 departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in in asper schedule of dates given below:

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	24-06-2025
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 25-06-2025 (10:00AM) To 02-07-2025 (04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 25-06-2025 (10:00AM) To 02-07-2025 (04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 02-07-2025 (04:00PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	03-07-2025 (11:00 AM) In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD in favor of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam (Tender inviting Authority) (NIT No. and Name of Work/Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (For single No of work in NIT, Name of work/Item No is not mandatory) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam (Tender receiving Authority). (The Date of EMD (CDR/FDR) should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date.

- All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.
- The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pahalgam (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days

SD
 Executive Engineer
 PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam

DIPK-2954/25
 Date: Jun 25, 2025

DC Srinagar conducts Tehsil wise review of functioning of Revenue department in the district

Directs Tehsildars to ensure Revenue Services are provided to people within PSGA timeline strictly

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25:- Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Akshay Labroo Wednesday chaired a meeting of senior Revenue Officers here at Conference Hall of the DC Office to conduct Tehsil wise review of the functioning and performance of Revenue Department in the District. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, SDM West Irfan Bahadur, all Tehsildars of the District and other concerned.

The meeting was aimed to review and strengthen the functioning of the District's Revenue Department, focusing on the expediting process of digitization of revenue records and the timely delivery of public services.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the Revenue related matters and services with special focus on progress of Digitization/Authentication



of Jamabandis/Mussavies, Reconstruction of damaged Massavies, geo-referencing of maps. He also reviewed provision of online services, court cases, status of migrant offline/online grievances and pending land alienation cases in the District. On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Officials of Revenue Department to perform their duties with due diligence, ensuring

better services to the people in time bound manner as envisaged under Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA). He set Tehsil wise deadlines for completing the process of Authentication of jamabandies. The DC stressed on further improving and strengthening the functioning of the Revenue setup in the District. He said that the working approach of the Revenue Officials must lead in making a positive contribution to the society. He called for enhanced transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the delivery of public services under the Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA). The DC also asked the Revenue Officers to actively monitor the process of Revenue related activities in respective jurisdictions and activate their field staff to keep proper check and vigil on any kind of encroachments on State land and Kachari land across the District. The DC said that all required measures will be taken by the District Administration to further augment/strengthen revenue infrastructure, enhance public service delivery system, and ensuring the protection of Government land.

Rs.1.19 lac fine imposed on erring FBOs under FS&SA at Handwara

HT NEWS DESK

KUPWARA, JUNE 25: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, who is also Adjudicating officer Handwara today imposed a fine of Rs.1,19,000 on various erring Food Business operators (FBOs) for violations of various provisions of Food Safety and Standard Act (FS&SA) 2006.

The fine was imposed on the erring traders (for miss branded and sub standard food) during the proceeding of cases related to the FSSA 2006 which were listed before the Adjudicating officer.

The Adjudicating officer warned them to abide by the legal regulations adding that non-compliance of Food safety and standards Act-2006 and rules there under by the food business operators will be dealt with more strictness in coming time.

Public outreach: DC Kulgam visits Khull, listens public issues and demands

KULGAM, JUNE 25: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, conducted a public outreach visit to village Khull to take firsthand appraisal of public grievances and assess developmental needs and infrastructure works in the area. During the visit, several delegations and local residents met the DC and raised various demands, including making the existing filtration plants functional, augmentation of teaching staff at the Higher Secondary School, construction of the pending road to Gujar Basti, desilting of the irrigation canal, removal of encroachments, along with several other public issues. DC gave a patient hearing to the concerns raised by the public. Some issues were resolved on the spot, while others were noted for timely redressal by the concerned departments. He directed all officers to ensure prompt and effective grievance redressal, and emphasized improving overall service delivery in the area. As part of the visit, DC also inspected the ongoing construction work of the Additional Classroom (ACR) at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Khull. He reviewed the pace and quality of work and instructed the Executive Engineer to expedite the work and ensure its completion within the stipulated time frame. DC further took stock of works under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) and other developmental works in the area, stressing the importance of timely execution for public benefit.

Dharti Aaba Abhiyan: Mega awareness prog. held at Tribal Village Ringzabal of block Sukhnag in Budgam

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JUNE 27: A mega awareness programme as part of Dharti Aaba Abhiyan was conducted today at Village Ringzabal, a tribal village under Block Sukhnag in district Budgam.

The event witnessed the active participation of various line departments, besides enthusiastic involvement of the local tribal community.

On the occasion, Gram Sabha sessions were held during which representatives from all concerned departments explained the eligibility criteria, benefits, and procedures of their respective schemes to the participants, while also collecting feedback from them to bridge the existing coverage gaps. Gram Sabha witnessed significant public participation, especially from the tribal population, who expressed appreciation for such grassroots-level initiatives that bring governance closer to the people. The sessions facilitated on-spot registrations for major welfare schemes including PMAY-G (housing), Kisan Credit Cards, Swadesh Darshan Guest Homes, HADP (Holistic Agriculture Development Programme), Jal Jeevan Mission (FHCTs), and PMJAY Health Cards.

The event was further enriched by cultural performances such as Gojri folk music, which highlighted the importance of preserving tribal identity, culture, and traditions. These performances added a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere to the awareness drive.

Locals of the area expressed gratitude to district administration, and Rural Development department Budgam, for their proactive role in organizing such a comprehensive awareness campaign in the village.

CM Omar Abdullah Urged to Ensure Uninterrupted Power, Drinking Water, and Basic Facilities During Muharram: Mir Umar

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 25: Prominent social and political activist from central shalteng Constituency, Mir Umar, has appealed to the CM Omar Abdullah to ensure the provision of uninterrupted power supply, safe drinking water, and other essential facilities during the holy month of Muharram. In a press statement, Mir Umar emphasized the importance of maintaining continuous electricity supply across the Kashmir Valley, particularly in Shia-dominated areas such as Gundhassibhat, koshipora, Aliabad and surrounding localities. He also urged the CM Omar Abdullah to ensure the availability of medical services and backup generators at Imam Bargahs throughout the Muharram days.

DAJGUA: Mega awareness/ saturation camp held at Kutamarg in Kulgam

DC presides over the camp; instructs 100% coverage with zero beneficiary to be left out

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, JUNE 25: As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), mega awareness cum saturation camp was held today at Kutamarg witnessing overwhelming participation from the local population. The programme was presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan. He emphasized that the fortnight-long Abhiyan, launched on June 15, is aimed at ensuring saturation of centrally sponsored schemes (CSS) in tribal villages across the district.



Addressing the gathering, DC underlined the goal of inclusive development and directed all departments to ensure 100% coverage of eligible beneficiaries, with a particular focus on ensuring that no beneficiary is left out.

He appealed to the public to actively come forward and enroll under various central government schemes to uplift their socio-economic conditions. Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Riyaz Ahmad Shah and Assistant Com-

missioner Development, Bilal Ahmad Kamgar, also spoke on the occasion and briefed the public about the objectives and benefits of various departmental schemes.

During the camp, multiple departments had installed stalls, showcasing their schemes and enrolling beneficiaries on the spot.

DC inspected these stalls and reviewed the registration process and service delivery mechanisms.

A large number of participants received awareness on welfare and livelihood schemes, and many were registered under flagship schemes.

CUKashmir observes International-Day against drug abuse

Hold awareness session under 'Mission Drug-Free Campus' initiative

HT NEWS DESK

Ganderbal, June 25: To spread awareness among the students, research scholars, faculty members and other functionaries of the Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) about the rampant drug abuse and its fallouts, Dean Students Welfare and Health Centre in collaboration with the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) Kashmir with the support from Sun Pharma (Sirius Division) organised a one-day general psychiatry wellness camp and an awareness cum lecture session on "Mission Drug Free Campus," to observe the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, on Wednesday.

Addressing the participants, Dean School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Prof. Muhammad Yousuf described the rampant drug abuse in the country and particularly in Jammu and Kashmir as alarming and called for immediate and stringent measures to check the same. He said, the objective of organising such a sensitization programme is to aware the stakeholders about the ill-effects of the drug abuse and garner support to combat its spread. "Universities are not just centers of knowledge, but also platforms for molding responsible citizens. Our students must become advocates of a drug-free lifestyle not just for themselves, but for society at large," he further said.



Consultant (IMHANS), Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Suhaff in his detailed presentation "Breaking the Chain: Prevention, Treatment and Recovery for All," gave an overview of the drug abuse problem in the Kashmir valley and the challenges faced by the medics in dealing with the increasing number of such cases. "The (IMHANS) center is presently receiving 200 to 250 cases, cutting across the age and gender, every day and is overwhelmed," Dr. Ajaz said. He talked about the link between mental health vulnerabilities and substance use and emphasized the role of preventive education, early intervention, and peer support systems in countering the spread of narcotic addiction among students. He observed, "Addiction is not a choice; it's a consequence of unaddressed trauma, stress, or neglect. We need to humanize the conversation around drug abuse and provide holistic support to those vulnerable." Dr. Ajaz further said, "Drug abuse is not just a medical issue.

DC Ganderbal Inspects Facilities at Baltal & Manigam for SANJY-2025

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JUNE 25: In view of the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2025, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, today conducted an extensive visit to Baltal Base Camp and Manigam Transit Camp to take stock of the ongoing arrangements being put in place for the smooth conduct of the Yatra.

During the visit to Baltal, the DC inspected key infrastructure including accommodation facilities, sanitation, essential services, and overall preparedness for the arrival of pilgrims. He emphasized the importance of ensuring all basic amenities are fully functional well before the commencement of the Yatra. The DC visited the Joint Police Control Room (JPCR) at Baltal and reviewed its functioning, deployment of staff, and coordination mecha-



nism. He directed all concerned departments to ensure seamless communication and timely sharing of information for effective coordination.

While supervising the pitching of tents within the base camp, the DC urged tent owners to ensure good quality tents equipped with proper bedding and necessary facilities for the pilgrim's comfortable stay. He also instructed Fire and Emergency Services and SDM Kangan to maintain adequate spacing between tents and to ensure the availability of fire extinguishers at each tent to mitigate any fire-

related risk.

Interacting with local shopkeepers at Baltal, the DC urged them to maintain cleanliness in and around their establishments and strictly follow safety protocols while setting up their shops.

Later, the DC visited the Manigam Transit Camp and reviewed the preparedness of the camp. He directed the Nodal Officer, Transit Camp to ensure that all necessary utilities such as tents, shops, toilets, and other essential services are set up well in time so that pilgrims do not face any inconvenience during their halt at the transit point.

DDC Kupwara chairs DLRC meet; emphasizes financial inclusion, timely implementation of flagship schemes

HT NEWS DESK

KUPWARA, JUNE 25: District Development Commissioner (DDC), Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan, today, chaired the meeting of District Level Review Committee (DLRC) here to review the performance of line departments and banks with regard to saturation of different government schemes in the district.

Addressing the meeting, DDC emphasized the officers of line

departments and bankers for financial inclusion and saturation of various centrally sponsored schemes so that the people especially marginalized sections of the community get benefited at large.

She directed all the banks and the sponsoring agencies to work with greater coordination and cohesion to achieve the goals and targets of financial inclusion, besides, generation of employment for unemployed youth of the district.

DDC directed the LDM to ensure



weekly submission of progress

reports for key government initia-

tives PM Surya Ghar, Mission YUVA, PM Vishwakarma, and PMEGP. This step aims to enhance transparency, accelerate implementation, and ensure timely monitoring of these transformative schemes, designed to empower citizens and boost grassroots development.

Highlighting the overall performance under the Annual District Credit Plan (ACP) for the financial year 2024-25, LDM informed the house that the district has recorded total credit disbursement of Rs.2534

Crores till the end of the fourth quarter, achieving 155% of the annual target of Rs.1637 Crores.

Under Priority Sector Lending, the district achieved disbursements to the tune of Rs.1188 Crores against the set target of Rs.1411 Crores, registering an achievement of 84%. In the Non-Priority Sector, disbursements stood at an impressive Rs.1345.52 Crores against the target of Rs.226 Crores, thereby achieving 595% of the annual target.

HT EDITORIAL

Ensure all preparatory schools observe summer vacation, avoid online classes

The Department of School Education last week issued an order according to which all the educational institutions in the Kashmir valley up to the higher secondary level will remain closed on account of summer vacations from June 23 for 15 days. Following the issuance of this order it was expected that all the government and private schools in the valley would remain closed on account of summer vacations, however, that is not to be.

Some of the preparatory schools also known as crèches are operating as usual in Srinagar and other districts of the Kashmir valley. There are no vacations in these preparatory schools and the toddlers are forced to attend the same during the days of intense hot and humid conditions. The children are forced to leave the cozy comforts of their homes and attend the schools according to the schedule drawn up by the authorities of the preparatory schools.

There is no denying the fact that the preparatory schools resort to the play way method while teaching the different skills to the children, but for the same the toddlers have to come out and reach these preparatory schools. The health experts have already issued advisory to the people especially children, expectant mothers and senior citizens to avoid venturing out of their houses during the peak hours so that no harm is caused to their lives. In such a situation making the toddlers to come out and attend the schools is highly dangerous for their lives.

The concerned department needs to take the issue seriously and stern action should be taken against the owners of the preparatory schools that are functioning even during the period of summer vacations. If no action is taken against these preparatory schools then they will continue to flout rules in future as well and the situation will go out of control. In such a scenario the set rules will be trampled over and the department will remain as a mute spectator.

At the same time there are many schools that have ordered for the holding of online classes during the summer vacations. Since the summer vacations in Kashmir are observed for a few days, holding online classes during the same is somewhat mind boggling. The children should be given the freedom to enjoy the summer vacations and no pressure should be put on them. At the same time they should be asked to devote some time to books so that they prepare for the upcoming examinations.

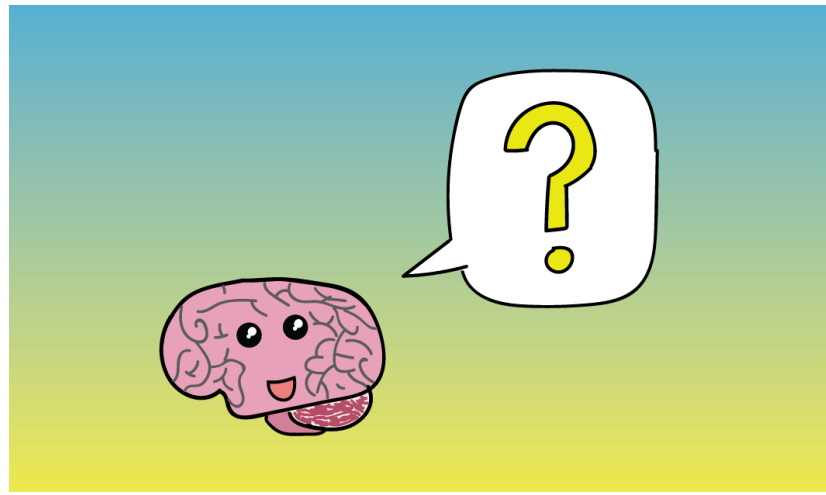
A Mind That Questions



Abid Hussain Rather

Dostoevsky once said that the world will reach a time when intelligent people will be stopped from thinking and questioning so that they do not offend fools. Yes, questioning is dangerous to foolishness because foolishness often relies on blind acceptance rather than thinking deeply or critically. When someone starts questioning, they begin to seek truth, understanding or clarity. Foolishness survives where questions aren't asked.

Analysing deeply, one can find that the entire human civilization stands on questions. Who am I? Who are you? What are clouds? What is the wind? Why does it blow, and why does it stop? Why does the sun always rise in the east? If the Earth is rotating, then what remains still? If all human brains have the same structure, why do some minds work more efficiently while others function less? How do we determine whether the person we consider insane is truly insane? If iron is heavier than water, then why do ships float? How is a civilization born, how does it rise, and how does it perish? How does a thought turn into a belief, and how does the same thought evolve into scientific reasoning? Someone, at some point, must have asked these questions—only then we were able to move from caves to conquering planets and making space our home. Just as silence is the mentor of sounds, a question is the father of an answer. The nature and quality



of a question serve as the DNA that reveals our intellectual lineage. A question is the measure by which our intelligence, foolishness and the depth or shallowness of our thinking can be instantly assessed and the landscape of our mind can be quietly surveyed. An answer may be ordinary, but a question is never trivial.

On the surface, a question like "Why does an apple fall downward instead of rising upward?" may seem simple or even foolish. Yet, this very question unlocked the mystery of gravity and opened an entire world of scientific wonder. When all human blood is the same colour, brain sizes are similar, the Earth belongs to everyone, and death is inevitable for all, then what justifies social hierarchies and class divisions? It was from the womb of this paradox that the philosophy of Karl Marx emerged. Which is the greater force—violence or non-violence? The answer to this question is reflected in the lives of Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., and Nelson Mandela. If humans have been given intellect, then how can they be bound by a single idea or ideology for eternity? How can they be prevented from

thinking in different ways? And when they are restricted, what are the benefits and consequences? This one question gave birth to the concept and movement of enlightenment.

A question is like water—when it flows freely, it nourishes; if it is obstructed, it becomes stagnant. There is no need to look far. Just observe yourself, your surroundings and societies or states that fear questions and the search for truth. Then compare them to those that through their fearless pursuit of answers have transformed themselves and progressed beyond imagination. Observe those who blindly cling to the belief that what they say is the absolute truth, and that they alone possess reality. Now compare them to those who accept they might be wrong—and who would genuinely welcome being proven so. They believe that, despite differences, continuous dialogue can lead us to common ground. The difference between these two mindsets defines the journey of a civilization—whether it remains stagnant or moves forward. The day we begin to eliminate phrases like 'Without a doubt,' 'Certainly,' 'Well said,' 'That's impos-

sible,' 'There is no question about it,' 'I refuse to hear this,' 'I dare not ask,' 'I blindly trust your word,' and 'This is the final verdict' from our vocabulary and instead choose to climb the ladder of inquiry and step into the realm of doubt; our long-stalled journey of intellectual evolution will begin again.

However, if you pose a question without first fully listening to and understanding the other person's perspective, it is likely to lead not to the pursuit of knowledge, but to stubbornness, argument, and unnecessary conflict. A question is more powerful than an atomic bomb and has the power to shatter authority. That is why kings fear it and nations tremble before it. We often observe that in our madrasas, schools, colleges, and universities, a student who dares to ask questions is labelled as disrespectful, misguided, or rebellious. Instead of being encouraged to think critically and find solutions independently, students are forced to memorize like parrots—ensuring a continuous supply of obedient but intellectually stifled and mentally enslaved generations. If we can raise a generation unafraid to ask, to reflect and respond, and to challenge inherited dogmas, we may yet begin to heal the deep political and social wounds we have long ignored. Otherwise, the angel Israfil (AS) waits silently behind the veil, eyeing the clock—for he knows, as we pretend not to, that time is not infinite. Let us raise voices that ask rather than echo, minds that probe rather than conform, and generations that challenge rather than obey. For only when the question lives, does humanity truly live.

The author teaches Geography at GDC Kulgam and can be reached at rather1294@gmail.com

Daughters: Not a legacy, the truth of condolences

Vijay Garg

For centuries in Indian society, it has been the belief that the son runs a lineage, the son will shoulder Arthi, the son will be the successor to the property. This thinking not only pushes daughters to double standards, but also hurts human sensations. But time has repeatedly proved that Vansh is not only of the name, Vansh is the sensation anyone can pursue. How many daughters are there who serve their old parents, support them and play till their last wish. Why is the tears a bite? When there is sorrow in a house, tears do not see any relationship, gender or class. Mother's mother and daughter's caress - both have the same language of pain. Death is a truth that makes everyone stand under an umbrella. At that moment no son is big no daughter small. That moment is only human - devoted, passionate, breaking. The ritual after death in our society is the son's Jimme. The changing social equation today's India is going through a transition period, where daughters are being taught, being self-reliant, but the mindset is still incomplete. The slogan 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' is so, but are we able to give equal status to daughters in every right of life? Are they getting equal positions in property, tradition and decisions? Stories of Experiences: Daughters who changed society from small villages in Rajasthan to metros, thousands of daughters

have become the force for their parents that society used to imagine from sons. An example is from Priyanka, Maharashtra, who performed a duly funeral on her father's death, the village protested, but she remained dutty. Today other girls in the village consider her as their ideal.

Is this love, this dedication is not part of inheritance? What does the law say? After the amendment of the Indian Succession Act, 2005, daughters have got equal right in property. But how many times has this right been accepted at the social level? The courts, even if the daughters are equal, but the society has still not been able to fully assimilate this change mentally. Sometimes daughters are willingly forced to 'leave the right' so that the sons remain part. It's not a 'renunciation', a well-planned social pressure. Why are daughters considered weak? Being sensitive is not weakness. We considered tolerance as infirmity is. Daughters are the peace of the house, the flow of affection and the first companion of sorrow. If the same qualities are in the son, then they are called 'Wise', then why daughters are 'Weak'? Daughters are often the emotional backbone of the family. They endure struggles silently and still smile. Isn't it power? The need for change in the thinking of generations - son is important - this thinking is a social illusion. Vansh moves where there are rituals, and rites are not in the son or daughter, in nurturing

and bonding. The daughter who gives fire to the father's pyre is less than the one who lays a garland on the father's picture? The new generation has to understand that the responsibilities of the family are not only sons. Daughters can also be a mother and father's old age stick, if society gives them that opportunity and authority. Legacy is not just land or name - inheritance is also what is reflected in tears, which flows in sensations, which lives in rites. Daughters are the legacy that leads to love and service, not just blood. The need for a change in media and popular culture—daughters in our television serials and films are shown as either a burden or as a goddess of sacrifice. It has extremes. We need stories that present daughters in real, empowered, and naturally. Our responsibility is to the society not to see the daughters as a choice only, but to consider them to be a complete, competent successor. Daughters' education, safety and respect are not just slogans, the beginning of a deep social revolution. Schools should have the education of equality, the participation of daughters in panchayats, and their decisions in homes get respect - only then this change will be permanent.

Vijay Garg Retired Principal educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

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The Unfulfilled Promise of Pensions:
The Battle For Social Security For India's Elderly



Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

India's pension system is not only inadequate but also fragmented at many levels. While some sections of the organised sector get relief through instruments like the Employees' Provident Fund and the National Pension Scheme, 85% of workers in the unorganised sector are outside its ambit. The number of people above 60 years of age in the country's population is estimated to reach 23 crores by 2036. But even today only 5-6% of the elderly are able to avail the benefits of any organised pension scheme. This failure is visible at all three levels - policy, structural and administrative. India has a deep access gap despite efforts

like the Atal Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana and National Social Assistance Programme. For example, the number of workers covered under the Shram Yogi Yojana is only 14% of the country's total unorganised workforce. The biggest weakness of these schemes is the fixed monthly contribution conditions, which make them unviable for workers with unstable and seasonal earnings. The pension amount in the schemes that are available is so low that it becomes a humiliating consolation rather than a means of livelihood. Whether it is the monthly pension of ₹1,000-5,000 under the Atal Pension Yojana or ₹3,000 per month under the Shram Yogi Yojana - this amount is inadequate for the needs of an elderly person amid rising inflation and the cost of medicines. The direct result of this is that at that stage of life when a person needs rest and respect the most, he is forced to wander from door to door, depend on children or work.

A large population does not know what pension schemes are, how to join them and the benefits are. This problem is espe-

cially acute in rural areas where banking access and digital literacy are also limited. Also, social mindset is a barrier - "The responsibility of the elderly is of the sons and daughters", this thinking has also freed the state from accountability. Schemes like the National Social Assistance Programme under which the central government provides old-age pensions also vary widely from state to state. Some states make monthly payments, while others pay quarterly or half-yearly. Moreover, the process of application, approval and disbursement is so complicated that many elderly people get tired of applying.

Given the depth of the problem, structural changes are now needed instead of partial reforms. An inclusive pension system is possible only if we seriously consider some concrete measures.

It should be the moral responsibility of the state to provide a minimum assured pension to the elderly irrespective of income, occupation or contribution. A uniform rate universal pension system like New Zealand can be implemented in which every citizen gets minimum

support for living after 65 years.

Keeping in mind the unstable income of workers in the unorganised sector, flexible contributions should be allowed in the schemes. The example of Japan's 'Flat Rate Scheme' can be taken, in which even self-employed and small farmers can easily join.

Voluntary contribution schemes should be combined with minimum social pension. For example, Atal Pension Yojana should be made more practical, National Pension Scheme should be made accessible and both should be integrated into the social security system.

It is important to integrate the system linked to pension distribution, Aadhaar, Jan Dhan and mobile. This will not only increase transparency but will also eliminate the role of middlemen and corruption.

On the lines of the 'Mutual Fund Sahi Hai' initiative, a national campaign called "Pension Surakshit Bhavishya" should be launched to explain the information, importance and process of pension in simple language in both rural and urban areas.

There is a need for better coordination

between the state and the centre in pension distribution and policies. Monthly distribution should be made mandatory and states should be motivated to budget for pension.

By adopting an "auto-enrolment and opt-out" policy, as in the UK, workers can be automatically added to schemes. This will also provide coverage to those who have not been able to join so far due to complex processes.

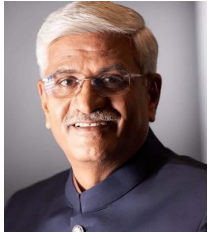
India has to understand that pension is not a mercy but a right. It is not just a question of financial security but of providing a dignified life to the elderly. If we are unable to include the elderly in 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas', then this slogan will prove to be hollow.

A society in which the elderly are considered a burden, slowly makes itself socially disabled. Now is the time for the government, policy makers and society to jointly develop such a pension system that can assure every Indian elderly that the last phase of his life will be full of respect and security.

The author is an Independent columnist and social analyst

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A Decade of Dharma: Cultural Renaissance in the Modi Era



■ **Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**

In January 2024, as the sun rose over the holy city of Ayodhya, a prayer whispered for centuries finally found its voice. The Pran Pratishtha of Shri Ram in his Ram Mandir was not just a religious milestone—it was a moment of civilizational redemption. After centuries of invasion, colonial distortion, and political delay, the temple stood tall—etched in sandstone, echoing with mantras, and pulsing with history. It wasn't just about architecture; it was about the healing of a wounded soul. The return of Shri Ram to his birthplace rekindled the spirit of a nation that had long carried the silence of exile in its heart.

A few months prior, another symbol of India's ancient spirit quietly returned to its rightful place. During the inauguration of the new Parliament, Prime Minister Narendra Modi installed the Sengol—a sacred scepter presented to Jawaharlal Nehru in 1947 by Tamil Adheenams to mark the dharmic transfer of power. For decades, it had been forgotten, mislabeled, and dismissed as a walking stick. Its restoration was not just an act of remembrance—it was a powerful declaration that India would no longer view itself through borrowed eyes. The Sengol represented rule anchored in righteousness, not relics of empire—a decisive embrace of India's own statecraft and spiritual traditions, long overlooked in a post-colonial order.

Together, these moments signaled a deeper cultural resurgence—a civilizational stirring that would unfold across eleven transformative years.

From the outset in 2014, it was clear that under the Modi Government, culture would



no longer be ornamental—it would be foundational. International Yoga Day, first observed in 2015, saw millions across the globe celebrate an ancient Indian practice that fuses body, mind, and spirit. Yoga was not just a wellness routine—it became India's greatest cultural export of the past few years.

Revival of traditional knowledge systems was given institutional force through the Ministry of AYUSH, which elevated Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy to national and global platforms. In parallel, the government launched missions to preserve classical languages like Sanskrit, Tamil, Pali and Prakrit promote the digitization of manuscripts, and support endangered folk arts and crafts under schemes like UST-TAD and Hamari Dharohar.

India's monuments too began to breathe with renewed vitality. The unveiling of the

Statue of Unity in 2018 was not just about scale—it was about reclaiming narrative. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, long overshadowed, was placed at the forefront of national memory. The renaming of Rajpath to Kartavya Path symbolized a decisive shift—from colonial symbolism to native accountability.

Perhaps no diplomatic engagement illustrated this shift better than the 2019 informal summit between PM Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu. Far from the corridors of Delhi, the ancient port city—once a thriving center of the Pallava dynasty and Indo-Chinese maritime links—became the backdrop for a conversation between two civilizations. As the leaders walked amid rock-cut temples and stone chariots, India presented not just geography, but history; not just protocol, but legacy. It was soft

power at its subtlest and strongest.

This cultural ethos flowed into India's global diplomacy in other ways too. PM Modi's state gifts to world leaders—ranging from Pattachitra paintings to lacquered toys for children—carried with them stories of India's artisans and timeless traditions.

The G-20 presidency in 2023 was another cultural milestone. Far from being confined to Delhi's diplomatic halls, the summit became a pan-India celebration of cultural identity. From tribal art displays to classical performances, India showcased not just its policy depth, but its soul. Every delegation was immersed in the colors, cuisine, crafts, and consciousness of Bharat. The message was clear: India is not a civilisation in past tense—it is alive, dynamic, and confidently global. During these years, over 600 stolen artefacts—including idols,

sculptures, and manuscripts—were brought back from foreign museums and collectors. Each return was a restoration not just of art, but of honour. Similarly, Veer Bal Diwas was instituted to remember the martyrdom of Guru Gobind Singh's sons, while Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas brought tribal freedom fighters into national focus.

Even the pandemic did not dim the cultural flame. Through virtual concerts, digital museum tours, and "Mann Ki Baat", the Prime Minister ensured that art, stories, and cultural pride continued to thrive within the solitude of lockdowns.

All of this converged into the campaign slogan: "Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi"—a call that economic growth must walk hand in hand with cultural pride. Under the Modi Government, this slogan wasn't mere rhetoric. It defined a new vision where GDP growth, digital infrastructure, and defense modernization were inseparable from temple restoration, tribal pride, and civilizational storytelling. India today no longer tiptoes around its identity. It strides forward—unapologetically rooted and confidently modern. Cultural nationalism, once dismissed as regressive, has emerged as the binding force of progress. In the BJP's ideological compass, culture is not an accessory—it is the axis.

In these eleven years, the Modi era has not merely overseen a cultural policy—it has awakened a cultural consciousness. What began as restoration became resurgence. And what was once neglected as nostalgia has now become the nucleus of national identity.

The Ram Mandir and the Sengol will remain iconic symbols, but the deeper legacy lies in the collective realization that India's future is brightest when it remembers where it came from. We are not just a country with a long history—we are a living civilization with a long memory. And in that memory, under the watch of dharma, India has found its voice again.

Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of India
Source PIB

Digital Health in the 5G Age: Tackling India's Psychological Wellbeing Issues in a Hyperconnected Future



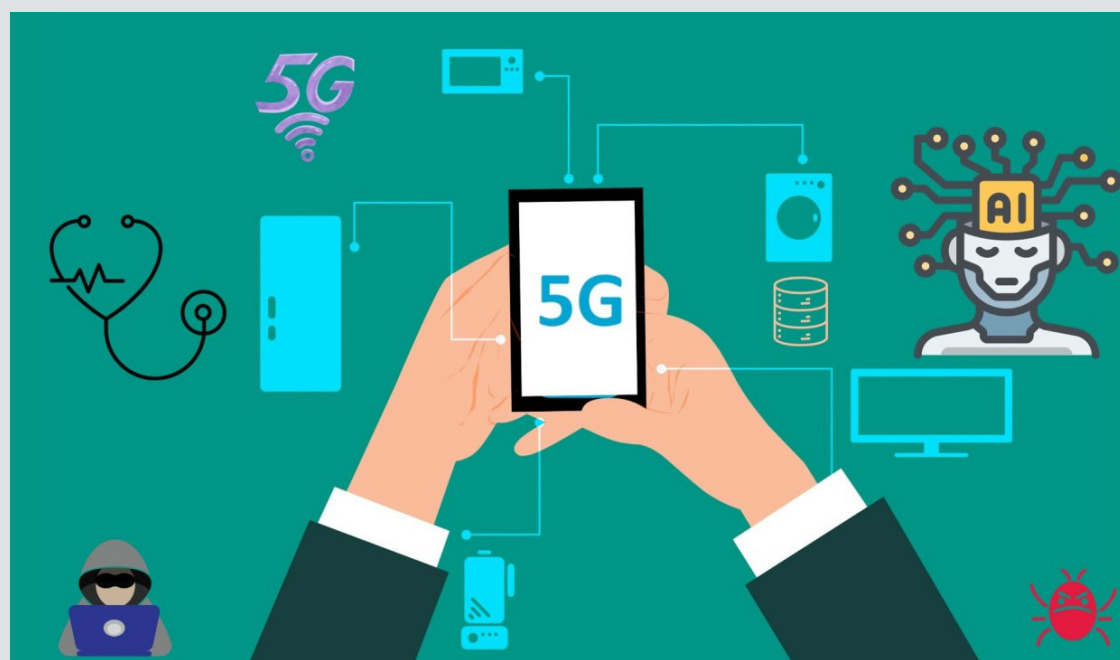
■ **By Dr. Hemanth Kumar Boyina**

The launch of 5G across India has precipitated a new digital health age, with unprecedented speed, connectivity, and innovation. Across tier-1 cities and rural villages, 5G can potentially fill key healthcare gaps, notably in the field of mental health—something that has historically been stigmatized and underfunded in India. As digital technology becomes more mainstream, it's critical that we're also addressing the psychological challenges that come with this shift.

5G in India: A Game-Changer for Access to Mental Healthcare

With more than 1.2 billion mobile subscribers and one of the globe's most rapidly expanding internet user bases, India is particularly well-placed to take advantage of 5G-driven digital health platforms. Telepsychiatry, which took off in the COVID-19 pandemic years, is now gaining large-scale traction. Mobile applications providing therapy on local languages, wearable stress sensors, and AI-driven mental health chatbots are extending psychological counseling even to low-income, rural areas.

Government initiatives such as the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) are utilizing digital infrastructure to incorporate mental health into India's public healthcare system. Incorporating tele-mental health services under the National Tele Mental Health Programme (Tele MANAS) is a step in the right direction.



The Indian Mental Health Paradox in the Digital Age

In spite of these advances, India is confronted by a paradox. While digital technology provides scalable mental health care, it also brings new psychological stressors. Hyperconnectivity has been associated with higher anxiety levels, depression from social media, and addiction to technology—specifically among Indian youth and working professionals in high-stress urban settings.

In rural India, digital illiteracy and cultural shame surrounding mental illness remain despite 5G enhancing access. Users continue to fear judgment, loss of privacy, or suspicion of technology-enabled therapy.

Furthermore, the lack of regulation in India's

mental health app market, with most of them not being clinically tested, is causing concern regarding misinformation and misdiagnosis.

Five-Pronged Strategy for India's Digital Mental Wellness

Culturally Responsive Digital Literacy Campaigns: The state and civil society need to encourage mental health literacy in indigenous languages with a focus on safe use of technology, digital boundaries, and education regarding genuine mental health portals.

Strengthening Tele MANAS and School Programs: Scaling up Tele MANAS helplines statewide and incorporating digital mental health learning into school curricula can mainstream early intervention and emotional support among young people.

Ethical and Localized App Development: Indian app developers must give importance to culturally sensitive design, user anonymity, and expert-checked content. Mechanisms of certification by CDSCO or an ehealth authority can guarantee quality.

Public-Private Partnerships: Government departments, startups, and NGOs coming together can scale up digital mental health interventions, particularly among groups such as migrant workers, students, and homemakers.

Hybrid Care Models: Combining face-to-face counseling and online support can work in India, where a personal touch is often the decisive factor in recovery. Psychologists and community health workers (ASHAs) can be taught to harness digital technology and reach more people.

The Way Forward

India is at a juncture of digital advancement and psychological necessity. 5G has the potential to democratize mental healthcare but only if we embrace it in a thoughtful, inclusive, and ethical manner. For a nation with over 200 million people estimated to be plagued by mental illness, technology is not a luxury but a requirement. But humanized, it must be.

Let us work towards having a digital health ecosystem in which all Indians—irrespective of geography, language, or finance—have access to empathetic, efficient, and secure psychological care.

About the Author:

Dr. Hemanth Kumar Boyina, is a senior educationist and researcher in neuropharmacology, member of prestigious International and National societies The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Digital Health and patient safety platform, Association of Pharmaceutical Teachers of India and Indian Pharmacological Society.

Deputy Commissioner visits flash-flood affected Qazi Mohra area, assures swift restoration measures

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JUNE 25: To assess the ground situation, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal on Wednesday visited flashflood hit Qazi Mohra area (Ward No. 01) to assess the damages and evaluate ongoing flood prevention measures. Accompanied by Additional Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Tehsildar Haveli, Executive Officer (EO) Municipality and other concerned officials, the DC undertook a strenuous uphill journey to inspect the most affected locations and residential areas. The Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive review of the dam-



ages caused to infrastructure and private property and issued directives for immediate action. He instructed the EO Municipality to

thoroughly examine the existing watercourse in the area and implement remedial measures to minimize future flood risks.

The Tehsildar Haveli was directed to carry out a prompt damage assessment to both public and private properties. He was also asked to identify and clear any encroachments that may obstruct natural water flow or emergency restoration efforts. Locals interacted with the Deputy Commissioner and apprised him of the challenges they are facing, including property damage and related concerns. The Deputy Commissioner assured the residents that restoration work will be initiated promptly and their grievances would be addressed on a priority basis.

District Administration Felicitates Yogi On "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas"

HT NEWS DESK

Doda, June 25: Mast Nath Yogi, a Socio-Political leader and State President Janata Dal (S) and Chief Patron of the Senior Citizen Council Bhadarwah, was on Wednesday honored on the occasion of "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas" at Doda. The function which was organised by District Administration Doda in DC office complex was attended by people from different walks of life. Recognizing the sacrifices of persons who were incarcerated under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) during the Emergency period of 1975, Yogi was presented with a shawl. A handout in this regard stated that the program, marking the 50th anniversary

of the Emergency imposed by the Congress government in 1975, aimed to commemorate the suppression of democracy during that time and to honor those who courageously resisted authoritarian rule. Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh IAS, along with ADC Anil Kumar Thakur and other district officers, highlighted the importance of protecting the Constitution. Calling the role of Mast Nath Yogi as a veteran social activist having championed the cause of democracy and in strongest terms opposing the authoritarian Government that had committed Hatya of Constitution at that time, Deputy Commissioner said that the lifelong dedication of Yogi for the country is a lesson for younger generations.

151 Bio-Gas Stoves provided to Tribal Families under Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan

HT NEWS DESK

door-to-door governance and empowerment of tribal communities.



SAMBA, JUNE 25: An awareness programme was organised today under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan at the District Administrative Complex Samba. The event was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, who interacted with members of the tribal community from village Rakh Barotia, Block Vijaypur. He emphasized the core objective of the campaign- envisaging

As part of the clean energy initiative, the Deputy Commissioner distributed 151 bio-gas cooking stoves to tribal families with the support of JAKEDA (J&K Energy Development Agency). A large number of tribal members along with GM DIC, ACR Samba, Chief Planning Officer and other senior officers were present during the programme.

DC Poonch inaugurates blacktopping work at Chandak Bypass on NH 144A

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JUNE 25: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today inaugurated the blacktopping work on the vital road stretch from Kalai Bridge to Drungli Nallah on Chandak Bypass of National Highway 144-A. He was accompanied by Officer Commanding GREF, Tehsildar Haveli and other concerned officials during the visit. After the inauguration, the Deputy Commis-

sioner interacted with the site engineers and representatives of the executing agency. He called for strict adherence to the quality standards and emphasized the need for timely completion of the project. Highlighting the importance of the work, the DC stated that infrastructure upgrades like these play a pivotal role in boosting regional connectivity and ensuring long-term convenience for the public.

Dharti Aaba Abhiyan: DC Kathua presides over Awareness & Benefit Saturation Camp at Panchayat Mahichak

HT NEWS DESK

KATHUA, JUNE 25: As a part of Dharti Aaba Abhiyan 2.0, an Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp was today held at Panchayat Mahichak of Barnoti Block to extend the benefits of government schemes to the tribal population residing in the area. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas presided over the camp. Addressing the gathering, the DC said that the outreach initiative under Dharti Aaba 2.0 is a dedicated step to saturate all components of development, ensuring comprehensive welfare of the tribal communities in the district. He added that the camp showcases schemes and services of more than 17 departments, providing a unified platform for delivering benefits and raising awareness among the tribal population.



The DC highlighted that departmental stalls are disseminating information regarding welfare schemes specially designed for the tribal populace, offering them an excellent opportunity to access tailored government services and entitlements. Heads of the departments briefed the

public about the schemes on offer, while on-the-spot services like Aadhaar registration, generation of Ayushman Bharat Golden Cards, distribution of AYUSH medicines and medicinal plants were provided to the beneficiaries. Other departmental stalls also displayed respective schemes and services for public ben-

efit. Earlier, locals also projected various issues of public importance before the Deputy Commissioner. Responding to the demands, Dr. Minhas assured that all genuine grievances shall be addressed in a time-bound manner and directed concerned officers for prompt redressal. The Dharti Aaba Abhiyan 2.0 is being implemented across 7 tribal-dominated panchayats of 4 blocks—Duggan, Bani, Barnoti, and Marheen—in district Kathua. The campaign commenced on June 15 and will culminate on June 30, 2025, with the objective of ensuring last-mile delivery of government schemes to tribal communities. CPO Kathua Ranjit Thakur, ACD, DPO, CAO, XEN PHE, CMO, DSWO, DAHO, AD FCS&CA, ALC, CDPO Barnoti, BDO Barnoti and other concerned officers and large numbers of locals were also present.

ABRSM delegation meets Joint Director to discuss teachers' issues

HT NEWS DESK

tive implementation of central government education policies aimed at qualitative



Jammu June 25:- A delegation of Akhil Bhartiya Rashtriya Shaishik Mahasangh (ABRSM), under the leadership of State President Sh. Rattan Sharma ji, met the newly posted Joint Director School Education, Sh. Gurdev Kumar ji, to discuss pressing concerns of the teaching fraternity. Key issues raised during the meeting included the undue delay in transfer of teachers, importance of early conduct of DPCs for promotion of Teachers to Masters, and effec-

improvement in the education sector. The delegation comprised of Sh. Rahul Sharma (State Additional Secretary), Sh. Rakesh Sharma (State Executive Member), Sh. Mohan Singh (Seh Pramukh - Mera Vidyalyay Mera Tirth), Sh. Ved Parkash (Jammu District General Secretary), Sh. Tarsem ji (Jammu District Media Prabhari), Sh. Narrotam ji, Sh. Deepak ji, and Sh. Vinod Sharma ji (Zonal General Secretary, Chauki Chaura).

Sunil Sharma slams Congress for trampling Constitution during Emergency

HT NEWS DESK

Jammu, 25 June 2025: BJP District Jammu observed "Black Day" at the party headquarters in Kachi Chawni, Jammu, to mark the 50th anniversary of the Emergency imposed by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975. Sunil Sharma, General Secretary of J&K BJP and Leader of Opposition in the J&K Assembly, was the chief speaker at the event. He was accompanied by BJP Vice-President & MLA Yudhvir Sethi, Secretary & MLA Arvind Gupta, BHO Headquarter Incharge Priya Sethi, and Chief Spokesperson Adv. Sunil Sethi. The event was organized by BJP District Jammu under the leadership of District President Adv. Rajesh Gupta. Prominent leaders including J&K BJP Secretary Anju Dogra, former Mayor Rajinder Sharma, District Prabhari Rajiv Charak, Protocol secretary Sanjay Khanna, Puneet Mahajan, District Team, Mandal team and other senior functionar-



ies were also present. The programme featured the inauguration of an exhibition that highlighted the horrors of the Emergency and the brutal suppression of civil liberties during that period. Senior leaders of the BJP honoured and felicitated those who suffered atrocities during the Emergency, acknowledging their resilience and sacrifices. Speaking on the occasion, Sunil Sharma condemned the Emergency as the darkest chapter in India's democratic history. "Today, we mark Black Day to remember how Congress trampled upon democracy, suspended civil liber-

ties, and pushed the nation into an era of dictatorship. Over 1 lakh political workers were jailed, tortured, and silenced. The same Congress now pretends to uphold the Constitution it once betrayed," Sharma said. He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, emphasizing that today's India is governed with transparency, accountability, and democratic values. Sunil Sharma said, "The programme serves as a stark reminder of the atrocities committed during the 21-month-long Emergency that saw thousands of political activists jailed and press freedoms crushed."

DC Reasi emphasises full readiness for flood, landslide emergency ahead of Monsoon

HT NEWS DESK

REASI, JUNE 25: In view of the approaching monsoon season and the potential risk of floods and landslides, Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik chaired a high-level meeting to review the district's emergency preparedness and response mechanisms. The DC directed all Executive Engineers (XENs) to identify vulnerable spots within their jurisdictions and prepare detailed action plans to address any eventualities. She stressed the need for maintaining additional standby machinery in every subdivision to ensure immedi-

ate clearance of roads blocked due to heavy rains or landslides. To enhance coordination, the Deputy Commissioner instructed Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) to remain in regular contact with the concerned XENs and OC GREF. She underscored the importance of inter-departmental synergy for effective disaster management. Further, emphasis was laid on advance measures to avoid interruption of essential services, particularly power and water supply to save people from undue hardships. The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) was directed to ensure the availability of adequate medical staff, ambulances and medicine stocks to handle emer-



gency health situations efficiently. To strengthen communication and monitoring, a central control room will be established at the District Headquarters. The DC also instructed SDMs to set up and operationalize similar control rooms in their respective subdivisions. Further, the police department was asked to keep its quick response teams (QRTs) on high alert. The Deputy Commissioner proposed refresher training for tehsil-level QRTs, including Aapda Mitras to enhance their preparedness. Tehsildars were directed to prepare and submit timely damage reports to the office of the ADC Reasi for swift relief and rehabilitation actions.

Concluding the meeting, DC Nidhi Malik reiterated the administration's unwavering commitment to public safety and disaster readiness. ADC Reasi Rakesh Kumar, CPO Narinder Kumar, XENs, CMO, DIO, Tehsildars and other concerned officials were present at the meeting. Further, the police department was asked to keep its quick response teams (QRTs) on high alert. The Deputy Commissioner proposed refresher training for tehsil-level QRTs, including Aapda Mitras to enhance their preparedness. Tehsildars were directed to prepare and submit timely damage reports to the office of the ADC Reasi for swift relief and rehabilitation actions.

DC Baramulla reviews status of ongoing land acquisition proceedings for NH Projects

HT NEWS DESK

BARAMULLA, JUNE 25: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today chaired a review meeting to assess the current status of ongoing land acquisition proceedings for major National Highway projects, including the Srinagar-Baramulla-Uri (SBU) and Rafiabab-Kupwara-Chowkibal-Tangdar-Chamkote (RKCTC) highways.

The meeting focused on the progress of acquisition related to missing, left out, and additional land requirement for the smooth execution of works.

DC directed the concerned Tehsildars to expedite the submission of originals and updated revenue papers, particularly for areas such as the Pattan Bypass and Baramulla stretch, and to ensure close coordination with the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for timely award issuance.

Roads & Buildings and Horticulture departments were instructed to complete assessments of affected structures and trees without delay, so that compensation cases can be processed promptly.



While reviewing the Khasra Paimaish of pending land segments, DC asked officers to ensure accuracy and completeness in the documentation. He also emphasized the need to submit all pending title certificates and account details for early processing of compensation payments.

DC directed concerned revenue officials to complete the mutation of acquired land in revenue records on priority, to avoid legal and administrative delays.

Other key issues, including the illegal sale of soil by contractors and delays in

the handover/takeover of acquired land, were also reviewed. DC directed strict monitoring and enforcement action wherever irregularities are reported.

The meeting was attended by ACR Baramulla, SDM Uri, SDM Pattan, SER&B, OC Beacon, concerned Tehsildars, and officers from the Horticulture and other line departments. The meeting focused on the progress of acquisition related to missing, left out, and additional land requirement for the smooth execution of works. DC directed the concerned Tehsil-

dars to expedite the submission of complete and updated revenue papers, particularly for areas such as the Pattan Bypass and Baramulla stretch, and to ensure close coordination with the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for timely award issuance.

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DC Kulgam chairs DLC meet for CLU cases

HT NEWS DESK

KULGAM, JUNE 25: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, who is also chairman of the district level committee on change of land use Wednesday, chaired a meeting of officers of various departments to decide various submitted cases.

The meeting was attended by ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri; ACR, Reyaz Ahmad Shah; D.F.O, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, KPDC, R&B, PMGSY and Irrigation and Flood Control; CAO, CHO, Tehsildars of Kulgam/Devsar/Quimoh/ Yaripora; EO, MC Kulgam, District Officer PCC and other officials.

Rs.90k fine imposed on various FBOs for violations under FS&SA in Kupwara

HT NEWS DESK

KUPWARA, JUNE 25: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad, who is also Adjudicating Officer today imposed a fine of Rs.90,000 on various Food Business Operators (FBOs) for violating different provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FS&SA).

The fine was imposed on the erring traders (for miss branded and sub standard food) during the proceeding of cases related to the Food Safety and Standards Act-2006 which were listed before the Adjudicating Officer. The Adjudicating Officer warned them to abide by the legal regulations adding that non-compliance of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 and rules thereunder by the food business operators will be dealt with more strictly in coming time.

"Samvidhan Hatya Diwas" observed at DC Office Complex Doda

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 25: The District Administration Doda today solemnly observed "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas" at the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, in alignment with the National theme, "Upholding Constitutional Morality and Safeguarding Democratic Institutions." The event was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh and witnessed the participation of Additional Deputy Commissioner Doda Anil Kumar Thakur, Programme Officer ICDS, Chief Planning Officer Doda, ACD, ACP and officers from various line departments. Prominent political leader and social activist Mast Nath Yogi highlighting the significance of observing the day and the collective duty of citizens to protect the sanctity of the Indian Constitution.

Earthquake Mock Drill held at Ghagwal School

HT NEWS DESK

SAMBA, JUNE 25: A joint mock exercise simulating an earthquake and rescue operation was conducted today at Shaheed Major Rohit Kumar Government Model Higher Secondary School, Ghagwal, District Samba. The exercise was jointly organised by Team 13L of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) under the command of Inspector/GD Bachan Lal, along with the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) in coordination with the District Administration Samba. The drill scenario was based on a simulated earthquake of 6.2 magnitude, occurring at 07:00 AM, which caused damage to the second floor of the school building, resulting in six students being trapped under debris. The NDRF and SDRF teams promptly carried out a coordinated rescue operation. Two students suffered minor injuries, two had hand injuries, and two were found unconscious. All were administered first aid and handed over to the medical team for treatment at the Civil Hospital. As part of the awareness initiative, students and staff were also trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) techniques by the rescue personnel. A total of 275 participants took part in the mock drill, including students, teachers, civil administration officials, and local residents.

District Admin observes 50th Samvidhan Hatya Diwas in Udhampur

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 25: To raise awareness about the suspension of democratic rights and constitutional values during the emergency imposed on June 25, 1975, the District Administration Udhampur today organized an impressive programme to observe the 50th Samvidhan Hatya Diwas here at Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Udhampur. Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai was the chief guest on the occasion. The event witnessed the presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh, Chief Planning Officer Mohd Iqbal, General Manager DR Kishore Singh, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan, other district officers, civil society members and students. While addressing the gathering, the DC emphasized the importance of safeguarding democratic institutions and drawing lessons from the past to protect the rights enshrined in the Constitution of India. She stated it is crucial to reflect on this dark chapter of our history and reaffirm our collective commitment to the Constitution.

DC Shopian discusses preparation of Zonal Master Plan for ESZ of Heerpora Wildlife Sanctuary

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JUNE 25: The inaugural meeting for the preparation of the Zonal Master Plan (ZMP) for the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Heerpora Wildlife Sanctuary was today held in Shopian.

The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC), Shishir Gupta, chairman of the Monitoring Committee.

The primary objective of this meeting was to deliberate and discuss the ZMP in coordination with various stakeholders, including departments of Forests, Wildlife, Tourism, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, and Rural Development & others.

It aimed to regulate developmental activities in the ESZ, ensuring environmental and ecological protection viz a viz the socio economic development of the local community residing in the area.

The meeting emphasized the importance of coordination among different departments and stakeholders in final-



izing the ZMP after department wise submission of development proposals in line with the environmental guidelines.

The Eco-Sensitive Zone of the Heerpora Wildlife Sanctuary acts as a 'Shock Absorber' for wildlife protected areas of Heerpora Wildlife Sanctuary of the district, minimizing the negative impact of human activities on fragile ecosystems.

Wildlife Warden, Shopian informed that the Tourism Master Plan has to be part of the ZMP, based on the carrying capacity study of the ESZ, and the plan should regulate activities in the ESZ, prohibiting harmful activities, regulating others, and allowing certain activities.

Muharram-ul-Haram: DC Bandipora inspects facilities at Markazi Imambaras across Sumbal sub-division

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 25: In view of the forthcoming holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri today conducted an extensive tour of various Imambaras across the Sumbal sub-division to assess the arrangements being put in place for the smooth observance of the religious period.

Accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police Bandipora, Harmeet Singh Mehta; Chief Planning Officer Bandipora, Tehsildar Sumbal, SDPO Sumbal and other officers, DC visited prominent locations of the sub-division and took first-hand appraisal of facilities being made available for the conduct of mourning processions and congregational gatherings.

DC interacted with intizamia committees of the respective imambaras and enquired about their requirements and concerns. He directed officers of the concerned departments to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply, especially during the peak hours of mourning gather-



ings. On the occasion, DC directed Municipal Committees to maintain cleanliness and sanitation in and around all major congregation points. Emphasis was laid on the repair of approach roads, lanes, and by-lanes leading to the religious sites to ensure smooth access for devotees. DC directed the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs department to ensure adequate ration supply during the holy days. He also asked the concerned departments to maintain coordination with the local religious bodies to address any emerging needs promptly.

DC and SSP Doda review arrangements for Annual Religious Yatras

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 25: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Harvinder Singh and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Doda, Sandeep Kumar Mehta along with ADC Doda, Anil Kumar Thakur today jointly chaired a comprehensive review meeting to discuss the preparations for the upcoming annual religious yatras across the district.

DC Doda discussed

Annual yatra in the district Shri Chandi Mata Yatra, Kulhand, Chandi Mata Yatra, Yatra Sarva Dharma Shenkhl, Dassa, Annual Chounda Mata Yatra, Chari Yatra, Monthla Nag, Chandi Mata Kenth Dhar Yatra, Yatra from Kansar to Malni Dhar, Bhaderwah, Dandasan Mata Yatra and Shri Chandi Mata Lakabar Yatra.

The meeting witnessed the participation of religious heads, including the



President of Sanatan Dharam Sabha, and representatives from various Mandir Committees. During the meeting, DC Doda reviewed the arrange-

ments related to uninterrupted power and water supply, adequate availability of firewood and essential commodities, sanitation and cleanliness along the yatra routes, smooth traffic movement and transport facilities.

SSP Doda reviewed the security and traffic management plans for the yatras. He stressed the importance of coordinated efforts between the police, civil administration and

local stakeholders to maintain law and order. Deployment of adequate security personnel and traffic regulation measures were also discussed in detail.

DC Doda and SSP Doda emphasized inter-departmental coordination and sought active participation from local religious and civil society representatives to ensure a peaceful and successful yatra season in the district.

JKEDI commences week-long Management Development Programs in 04 districts; 84 entrepreneurs, MSMEs enrolled

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 25: The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) on Wednesday commenced Management Development Programs (MDP) in 04 Districts of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme. The initiative is funded by the Union Ministry of MSME and is being implemented in the Union Territory by the Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Management Development Programmes (MDPs) were inaugurated in district Jammu, Doda, Ramban and Kulgam. A total of 84 candidates including 70 women have been registered for the MDP, who shall undergo a 30-hour training over six days.

The MDPs coordinated by JKEDI District Centres has participation from the local



MSMEs, who will be provided with the real time know-how of running and managing the businesses. The programme will help the MSMEs of the area to enhance their skills and interact with the experts from different line departments.

The program aims to strengthen managerial, financial and strategic skills of entrepreneurs and small business owners,

empowering them to scale up operations, enhance competitiveness and create sustainable enterprises. This flagship initiative is being implemented in alignment with the broader objectives of the Government of India's RAMP program to bolster the MSME ecosystem.

The MDP curriculum has been meticulously designed by subject matter experts

and includes modules on business planning, marketing strategies, digital tools, financial literacy, compliance, innovation and leadership. The program also includes mentorship sessions, case studies and hands-on workshops to provide real-world insights.

Over the next six days, local entrepreneurs, MSME operators and aspiring business leaders will engage with industry professionals, JKEDI faculty and certified trainers in an interactive learning environment. The simultaneous launch of MDP's ensures equitable access to resources and training opportunities, particularly in remote and underdeveloped areas. The MDPs under RAMP initiative in the remaining five districts of Jammu and Kashmir shall begin shortly on June 30, 2025. This initiative is expected to benefit the entrepreneurs directly, while creating a ripple effect of enhanced business practices and job creation across the UT.

No Indian Will Ever Forget How Spirit Of Constitution Was Violated: PM Modi On Emergency

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, Jun 25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that no Indian will ever forget the manner in which the spirit of the Constitution was violated during the Emergency, as he affirmed his government's commitment to strengthening constitutional principles.

In a series of posts on X on the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, Modi said it was one of the darkest chapters in India's democratic history.

The values enshrined in the Constitution were set aside, fundamental rights suspended, press freedom extinguished and a large number of political leaders, social workers, students and ordinary citizens jailed, he noted.

The prime minister said, "It was as if the Congress Government in power at that time placed democracy under arrest."

The Modi government had announced last year that the Emergency anniversary will be commemorated as "Samvidhan Hatya



Diwas". The 42nd Amendment, which made extensive changes to the Constitution and was reversed by the Janata Party government, is a prime example of the shenanigans of the Congress government that imposed Emergency, he said. He added that the poor,

marginalised and downtrodden were particularly targeted, including their dignity insulted.

"We also reiterate our commitment to strengthening the principles in our Constitution and working together to realise our

vision of a Viksit Bharat. May we scale new heights of progress and fulfil the dreams of the poor and downtrodden," Modi said. Saluting every person who stood firm in the fight against the Emergency, the prime minister said these were the people from all over India, from all walks of life, from diverse ideologies who worked closely with each other with one aim: to protect India's democratic fabric and to preserve the ideals for which freedom fighters devoted their lives. "It was their collective struggle that ensured that the then Congress Government had to restore democracy and call for fresh elections, which they badly lost," he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that no Indian will ever forget the manner in which the spirit of the Constitution was violated during the Emergency, as he affirmed his government's commitment to strengthening constitutional principles.

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Cabinet approves Rs 5,940 cr revised Jharia Master Plan

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 25



The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi today approved the revised Jharia Master Plan (JMP) for addressing issues related to fire, land subsidence, and rehabilitation of affected families in the Jharia coalfield. The total financial outlay for the implementation of the revised plan is Rs 5,940.47 crore. The phase wise approach shall ensure that handling of fire and subsidence and rehabilitation of the affected families will be done on priority basis from the most vulnerable sites, an official statement said. The revised JMP lays emphasis on sustainable livelihood generation for families being resettled under the plan. Targeted skill development programmes are to be undertaken and income-generating opportunities will be created to ensure economic self-reliance of the rehabilitated families. Furthermore, a livelihood grant of Rs one lakh and access to credit support of up to Rs three lakh through an institutional credit pipeline will be extended to both Legal Title Holder (LTH) families and Non-Legal Title Holder (Non-LTH) families. In addition, comprehensive infrastructure and essential amenities—such as roads, electricity, water supply, sewerage, schools, hospitals, skill development centres, community halls, and other common facilities—are to be developed at the resettlement sites. These provisions will be implemented as per the recommendations of the committee for implementation of the revised Jharia Master Plan, ensuring a holistic and humane rehabilitation approach. As part of the livelihood support measures, a dedicated Jharia alternative livelihoods rehabilitation fund is to be established to promote livelihood-related activities. Skill development initiatives will also be carried out in collaboration with Multi Skill Development Institutes operating in the region.

Rajnath to spell out India's vision on global security at SCO meet in China

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will be travelling to Qingdao, China, today to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) defence ministers' meeting.

In a post on X, the Defence Minister said he will engage with his counterparts from SCO member-states on a wide range of strategic issues and also present India's vision for global peace and security.

"Today, I shall be leaving for Qingdao, China, to take part in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence



Ministers' Meeting," Rajnath Singh said. "I will have the opportunity to interact with various

defence ministers on a wide range of issues. Looking forward to present India's vision for global peace and security and also, call for joint and consistent efforts to eliminate terrorism."

During the meeting, Rajnath is expected to highlight India's continued commitment to the principles and mandate of the SCO, outline India's vision towards achieving greater international peace and security, call for joint and consistent efforts to eliminate terrorism and extremism in the region, and stress the need for greater trade, economic cooperation and connectivity within SCO.

Trump did not warn European leaders of strikes on Iran's nuclear sites - Reports

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Washington, June 25

US President Donald Trump did not inform European leaders in advance of his decision to strike Iranian nuclear facilities, Politico reported, citing an unnamed European official.

Trump did not warn his European allies before authorizing the B-2 fighter jet strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities on June 22, the official said. At the G7 summit in Canada last week, however, Trump left the leaders feeling that he was leaning towards such an attack, the report said on Tuesday. However, on Sunday, Sky News reported, citing Downing Street sources, that the UK government had been pre-notified of the US strikes on Iran's nuclear sites. The situation in the Middle East escalated on June 13,

when Israel launched a large-scale operation against Iran, accusing it of implementing a secret military nuclear program. Tehran retaliated by launching Operation True Promise III, hitting military targets inside Israel. On June 22, the United States struck three Iranian nuclear sites in Natanz, Fordow, and Isfahan, joining Israel's campaign against Iran. US President Donald Trump said after the attack that Tehran "must now agree to end this war" or face far more serious consequences. On Monday, Iran launched a missile strike on the US's Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar in response to the US attack. The strike resulted in zero casualties, as all the missiles apart from one were intercepted. Trump said late on Monday that Israel and Iran had agreed to a ceasefire.

Operation Sindhu: Another flight arrives bringing 296 Indians, four Nepalese from Iran

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 25

As part of Operation Sindhu, another flight arrived today bringing 296 Indian and four Nepalese nationals evacuated from Iran, taking the total number of Indians evacuated to 3,154.

The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X:

"#OperationSindhu update
"296 Indian and 4 Nepalese nationals were evacuated from Iran on a special flight that arrived in New Delhi from Mashhad at 16:30 hrs on

25th June.
"3154 Indian nationals have now been brought home from Iran as part of #OperationSindhu".
Earlier, one flight arrived today with 224 Indian nationals evacuated from Israel, and another flight arrived bringing 282 Indian nationals from Iran.

Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje received the 224 Indian nationals who returned to India from Israel on an IAF C17 aircraft in the morning. Till date, 818 Indian nationals have returned home from Israel as part of Operation Sindhu.

Iran Parliament votes to suspend cooperation with IAEA, says IAEA credibility 'up for auction'

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Tehran, June 25

Iran has decided to suspend cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) until the Agency (IAEA) guarantees security of its nuclear facilities. Iran which has been a member of the IAEA since 1958, said the Agency's international credibility is 'up for auction.' Reports quoting Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said the IAEA had put its international credibility 'up for auction' by not condemning the US attack on Iran's nuclear facilities.

"The International Atomic Energy Agency, which refused to even marginally condemn the attack on Iran's nuclear facilities, put its international credibility up for auction...the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran will suspend its cooperation with the IAEA until the security of the nuclear facilities is guaranteed," he said. Iran's MEHR News Agency (MNA) said Iranian Parliament had approved the suspension of cooperation with the IAEA after an overwhelming vote. In today's open session of the parliament, during the consideration of the general outline of the plan requiring the government

to suspend cooperation with the IAEA, lawmakers agreed to the general outline of the plan with 221 votes in favor, no votes against, and one abstention out of a total of 223 representatives present in the session. The decision followed U.S. strikes on several Iranian nuclear sites, "in violation of international law, including the United Nations Charter," MNA said. Iran has said it reserves all options to defend its sovereignty, interests, and people, with the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) declaring that the attack violated the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and would not prevent Iran.

Kharge's dig at Tharoor: 'Modi first, country next for some'



UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 25

In a veiled dig at Congress MP Shashi Tharoor for his repeated praise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge today said that while the party prioritises the nation above all, "for some, Modi comes first and the country next".

Responding to a question about Shashi Tharoor's praise for the Prime Minister, the Congress president said, "I may not understand English, but his command over the language is

excellent and that's why we have made him a member of the Congress Working Committee."

"However, I want to emphasise that the entire Opposition stood united in support of the Army. We firmly stood with our armed forces, who were fighting the war," Kharge said. The Rajya Sabha Leader of Opposition said that he was the first to raise this, and had clearly said that the "nation comes above everything else, and we will all work together for it. For us, it's always 'country first, party later.'"

He added, that some people say it's

Emergency a black day in the history of independent India: Nitish

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 24

Describing the imposition of Emergency in the country as a symbol of the dictatorship of the then govern-

ment, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that the day, June 25, 1975, is called a black day in the history of independent India.

Kumar posted on his social media account X that Emergency was imposed by the then Congress government. He said freedom of expression was banned during the Emergency, he said, adding that it was Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan, popular as JP, who stood against the dictatorial decision and began a movement against the Emergency.

Kumar said he, too, participated in the movement along with several of his colleagues and actively opposed the Emergency.

Kumar said he along with others were put in the jail for raising voice against dictatorship. He said the people of the country remained united against the Emergency and showed courage. Describing the people's voice as the core of democracy, Kumar said protecting it in every situation was the major responsibility of the leaders.

Pakistan denounces US, Israel for attacks against Iran N facilities

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 25

Honeymoon with the United States notwithstanding, Pakistan today described the US and Israeli attacks against Iran's nuclear facilities as violations of international law and UN Charter and asserted that Washington and Tel Aviv had escalated tensions even as Tehran had consistently sought negotiations.

Pakistan Defence Minister Muhammad Asif in a scathing attack on "Western pow-

ers" for "double standards" towards Iran, accused the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of hypocrisy and selective approach in dealing with Tehran. Mr Asif told Iranian news agency MEHR in an interview "Unlike Iran, the Westerners have destroyed the opportunity for diplomacy and are the cause of the beginning of the aggressions of the Zionist regime and the United States."

He said Iran had consistently sought negotiations but



US and Israel had escalated tensions. "The Iranians have never left the negotiating table... It is ridiculous that the West always wants Iran to return to the negotiating

table," he said. The minister also denounced the IAEA for biased stance, particularly regarding Israel's nuclear program. "A regime that is not even a member of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), can do anything and has the authorization to carry out any aggression," he said in the interview. Honeymoon with the United States notwithstanding, Pakistan today described the US and Israeli attacks against Iran's nuclear facilities as violations

of international law and UN Charter and asserted that Washington and Tel Aviv had escalated tensions even as Tehran

had consistently sought negotiations.

Pakistan Defence Minister Muhammad Asif in a scathing attack on "Western powers" for "double standards" towards Iran, accused the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of hypocrisy and selective approach in dealing with Tehran.

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF OILY SKIN IN MONSOON



SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

With the monsoon arriving, are you worried about your oily skin? Does the excessive humidity run havoc on your skin? Well, you are not alone.

As the raindrops dance upon the earth, the monsoon season casts a refreshing spell. The monsoon season, though refreshing, can be harsh on the skin, especially for those with oily skin types.

The surge in humidity level triggers increased sebum production. Results? Clogged pores, breakouts & skin dullness.

Excess oil on the skin leads to clogging of pores, attracting dirt and grime on our face. This invites various skin concerns like pimples, dehydrated skin, breakouts, etc.

With expert tips and thoughtful care, you can ensure your skin glows like a summer rain, brimming with health and radiance.

1---Dab the oil away

Mastering the art of blotting is a game-changer for those with oily skin. To manage the excess shine that comes with oily skin, especially during the monsoon season, blotting papers/ tissue papers and

medicated pads can usually help absorb excess oil from the skin's surface and keep your skin feeling fresh. This helps prevent clogged pores and breakouts, common concerns for oily skin during the rainy season.

Keep blotting papers/ tissue papers or oil-absorbing sheets on hand to gently dab away excess oil without disturbing your makeup or skincare.

Blotting papers are inexpensive and available over the counter. They'll allow you to blot excess oil from your face to help minimise shine.

Use the plain white kind that you use to wrap presents. Avoid getting colored tissue paper, since it can bleed on your skin. Applying excessive pressure is unnecessary.

People can gently press blotting papers or pads against the skin for a few seconds. It's best to use a new paper or pad when it becomes filled with oil or debris to maintain a fresh and dry complexion

2-----Cleanse with Neem

Known for its antibacterial, antifungal, and anti-inflammatory properties, Neem is a trusted and age-old remedy for several skin issues.

Neem is rich in Vitamin E, Calcium, and limonoids, and has been used to treat various skin concerns, from acne to dryness and even eczema.

Neem oil regulates sebum, which balances your skin's natural oils. This prevents excess oil that causes acne and keeps your

skin properly moisturised.

Neem fights acne-causing bacteria and helps clear breakouts. It regulates sebum



production, reducing excess shine and preventing new breakouts. Neem also helps reduce acne scars over time.

To cleanse oily skin with neem, you can use a neem-based face wash or make a neem paste with other ingredients like yoghurt or turmeric. A neem face wash can be used daily, while a face mask with neem can be used weekly for deeper cleansing

Neem oil has a particularly strong odour. To disguise it, try mixing neem oil with a carrier oil, such as jojoba, coconut, or almond oil. Carrier oils also help the skin absorb neem oil.

3----Cleanse Your Skin with Lemon

Lemon, a natural cleanser, is extremely helpful if one has oily skin. Lemon juice contains astringent qualities that close up the pores and reduce the amount of oil produced, leading to fresh skin with less shine.

Lemon can be used to cleanse the skin

to remove dirt and unclog pores due to its natural antibacterial and exfoliating properties.

Alpha Hydroxy Acids and Beta Hydroxy Acids present in Lemon remove dead skin cells. It helps in minimising blackheads and acne, and lightens the skin. Vitamin C present in Lemon averts fine lines and wrinkles. A face wash prepared with lemon and honey does the cleansing. Apply the face wash and wash it off after 10 to 15 minutes with lukewarm water for that bright and radiant look.

However, it's crucial to dilute lemon juice and do a patch test with the rich citrus, as it can cause irritation or sensitivity, especially for those with dry or sensitive skin.

Simply take a couple of diluted lemon juice drops and apply them to a small section of your face. The best place to do a patch test is on your jawline, behind your ear, or on a small section of your cheek. Observe the section for 24-48 hours for any sensitivity or irritation. If irritation occurs, it is best to stop using it immediately.

The best way to use lemon on your face would be to dilute one part lemon with two parts water. If you are adding lemon juice to a DIY face mask, make sure you're not adding more than a couple of drops.

4----Keep it minimal

Sometimes less is more, especially during the monsoon. Embrace minimal makeup during the monsoon to lessen the wor-

ries of touch-ups. A tinted lip balm, a bit of concealer, and waterproof mascara can go a long way in keeping your look fresh and simple.

A minimal monsoon makeup look not only feels lighter and more comfortable but also reduces the risk of makeup mishaps. Focus on a few key areas, like a bright lip colour or defined eyes, and keep the rest of your makeup simple and natural. To control unwanted grease and shine, switch out liquid or cream-based foundations and concealers for powder bases. Work in setting powder in light layers and build coverage gradually as you go for a soft, natural glow that will also blur pores and give you a flawless, ready-to-click complexion.

Use a light dusting of translucent powder to set your makeup. Focus on the T-zone and other areas prone to oiliness. Let your skin breathe freely, avoiding heavy makeup that may feel suffocating amidst humidity.

Heavy makeup can clog the skin pores and cause breakouts. Avoid layering makeup products on your face as this can make your makeup feel heavy and increase the chances of it sliding off.

Dramatic eyes and heavy makeup must be kept aside because they may lead to runny makeup in high humidity.

The author is internationally famous beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

NCORD: DC Shopian reviews anti-drug & substance abuse measures

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JUNE 25: District Level Narco Coordination (NCORD) meeting was held today at the mini-secretariat here, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta. On the occasion, department wise action taken reports were assessed, and directions were issued to strengthen the fight against drug abuse. Police action including registration of FIRs and detention of accused persons along with poppy destruction drives and inspections of pharmacies was particularly reviewed. DC emphasized the importance of keeping strict vigil on students and educational institutions across the district being the most vulnerable to the menace. The strict enforcement of COTPA was also stressed

upon and department heads were directed to take more stringent measures against the menace. He also stressed on the importance of keeping close vigil on poppy cultivation areas and taking strict action against the cultivators besides enhancing poppy destruction drives. Other departments were instructed for enhancing counseling services and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities to raise awareness about drug abuse, aiming to formulate a comprehensive action plan to curb drug abuse and ensure effective grassroots-level awareness so that the anti-drug message reaches one and all. ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, ACR, ACP, Tehsildars, district officers and other concerned officers of Police were present in the meeting.

Director Health chairs coordination meetings for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 25: Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Jehangir Bakshi, today chaired important meetings in Srinagar to ensure seamless healthcare arrangements for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025. The first session, held at the TRC Srinagar, was a sensitization meeting with Camp Directors who will be deployed across various base camps along the Pahalgam and Baltal axis. The meeting organized by the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, focused on strengthening coordination and enhancing preparedness of healthcare services at these vital locations. Dr. Bakshi briefed the camp directors on the available medical infrastructure and services established by the Directorate, followed by an interactive session to highlight operational roles and streamline communication protocols



vis a vis effective health care services. In the second meeting, Dr. Bakshi held a comprehensive coordination meeting with key stakeholders involved in providing healthcare services during SANJY 2025.

The meeting saw participation from representatives of Indian Army, BSF, SSB, SDRF, SKIMS Soura, SKIMS MCH Bemina, Associated Hospitals GMC

Srinagar, Police Hospital Srinagar, CMO Anantnag/Ganderbal, COS/Officer Yatra Incharge DHSK, Yatra Unit DHSK and relevant officers from the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir. During the meeting, Director delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation outlining the healthcare action plan prepared for the Yatra. During both the sessions key focus

areas included infrastructure readiness along both Yatra routes, deployment of medical teams and availability of medical supplies, emergency response protocols including medical referrals and evacuation plans, coordination mechanisms with local hospitals, establishment of a real-time communication and information sharing platform for all stakeholders, and regular coordination meetings to monitor implementation and respond to emerging needs.

Dr. Bakshi emphasized the importance of effective coordination and prompt communication among all participating agencies to ensure a fool-proof and responsive healthcare system during the Yatra period.

The discussions covered all aspects of medical preparedness, including logistics, emergency interventions and inter-agency coordination, aiming to provide timely and high-quality medical care to all pilgrims.

Anti-drug rally under Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan flags-off at Bandipora

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 25: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBBA), district administration Bandipora continues its robust public engagement to tackle the menace of drug abuse through a series of awareness activities. Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zaffar Hussain Shawl, today flagged-off awareness vehicles from the Mini Secretariat Bandipora, with the rally passing through Hajin and culminating at Sumbal.

This event followed a series of impactful activities and aligned with the 26-day-long awareness campaign being observed across the district. The flagged-off vehicles, adorned with banners and audio-visual messaging, were part of a mobile awareness initiative targeting rural and urban populations alike. The effort aimed to spread the message of a drug-free society among the general public through direct outreach. Speaking at the flag-off, ADC reiterated the administration's commitment to eradicating drug abuse from the grassroots. "Sustained outreach and community participation are key to creating awareness and changing mindsets. Through these awareness vehicles, we aim to reach every household with the message of hope, prevention, and rehabilitation," he said. District administration reaffirmed its resolve to continue multi-tiered outreach throughout the campaign, reinforcing its mission to build a healthy, drug-free future for all. Speaking at the flag-off, ADC reiterated the administration's commitment to eradicating drug abuse from the grassroots. "Sustained outreach and community participation are key to creating awareness and changing mindsets. Through these awareness vehicles,

NCORD meeting: DC reviews anti-drug & substance abuse measures at Shopian



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The strict enforcement of COTPA was also stressed upon and department heads were directed to take more stringent measures against the menace. He also stressed on the importance of keeping close vigil on poppy cultivation areas and taking strict action against the cultivators besides enhancing poppy destruction drives. Other departments were instructed for enhancing counseling services and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities to raise awareness about drug abuse, formulate a comprehensive action plan to curb drug abuse and ensure effective grassroots-level awareness so that the anti-drug message reaches one and all. ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, ACR, ACP, Tehsildars, district officers and other concerned officers of police were present in the meeting.

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Gambhir Urges Patience as Bumrah Exposes Bowling Gaps

United News of India

NEW DELHI: India's plans to play Jasprit Bumrah in just three Tests remain unaltered despite a classic Bumrah-or-bust Test in Leeds.

In fact, Bumrah's load management went to the other extreme on the final afternoon at Headingley, when he wasn't even called upon for the second new ball, when England needed 22 to win with five wickets in hand. However, head coach Gautam Gambhir trusts the rest of the attack to be able to pick up 20 wickets, but also asked for some patience with an inexperienced unit in a team in transition.

"This bowling attack has one bowler with five Tests under his belt [Nitish Kumar Reddy], one has four [Prasidh Krishna], one has played two [Harshit Rana] and one hasn't yet debuted [Arshdeep Singh]," Gambhir said, with Prasidh coming under particular scrutiny for an economy rate in excess of a-run-a-ball in each innings, even though he used the bounce to good effect in the second innings after struggling to hit his lengths in the first.

"We will have to give them time," Gambhir said. "Earlier, we used to have four fast bowlers in the squad with an experience of more than 40 Tests. It doesn't make such a big impact in one-day or T20 matches, but when you go to Australia, England, or South Africa for Tests, experience matters.

"These are early days. If we start judging our bowlers after every Test, how will we develop a bowling attack? Outside Bumrah and [Mohammad] Siraj, we don't have that much experience, but they [the others] have quality, which is why they are in this dress-

ing room. But we have got to keep backing them because it's not about one tour. It's about building a fast-bowler battery that can serve India for long time in Test cricket."

Gambhir reinforced his trust in the fast bowlers even as doubts gather as to how India will take 20 wickets in the two Tests that Bumrah won't play. "I think for us to manage Bumrah's workload is more important because there's a lot of cricket going forward and we know what he brings to the table as well," Gambhir said. "So before he came on this tour, it was already decided that he's going to play three Test matches, but let's see how his body turns up. But we haven't decided which two other Test matches he's going to play.

"We absolutely have the bowling attack. We believe in them. We trust in them. When we pick the squad, we pick the squad on trust, not on hope. Those are inexperienced bowlers, but they will keep getting better, and we saw in this Test match as well that, for the first four days, we were in a position, and even on day five we were in a position, where we would have won the Test match. So we believe and we trust that we can. These boys will deliver for us."

Specifically with Prasidh and Shardul Thakur - the latter played as a bowling allrounder - Gambhir avoided picking holes in their performances.

"I think Prasidh bowled really well," Gambhir said. "He got us crucial wickets as well. We picked him because we thought that he's got something different. He's got that bounce, and in the first innings, I think he used that bounce really well, [and] even in the second innings. He'll keep getting better with experience."

'I'm going to give my all' Hope Eyes Test Comeback for WI

United News of India

ANTIGUA: Returning to Test cricket was not an overwhelming motivation for Shai Hope, but now that he's back for the first time since 2021, he's ready to commit to a fresh era under new captain Roston Chase.

Hope, who leads West Indies in both white-ball formats, had been approached to be interviewed for the role of Test captain after Kraigg Brathwaite stepped down. But he declined to be included in the process, in part, he said, due to the workload of being a three-format player, which was also in the conversations with head coach Daren Sammy about a return to the



Test side.

To add to the scrutiny of his recall, Hope has been handed the wicket-keeping gloves for the opening match against Australia in Barbados, just the

third time in Tests he's started as the designated keeper, although he's a regular in the role in limited-overs cricket.

"Representing West Indies, they always give me a lot of joy and pride," Hope told ESPNcricinfo in Barbados. "I think that was the main focus, just being able to represent the region and bring my impact on the game and obviously the transfer of that inspiration back into the next generation.

"I'm happy to be back. It's not something I would say I was looking forward to in terms of, 'I have to play Test cricket again'. But if the opportunity came, I would always be willing to take it."

Remembering Dilip Doshi, A Team Man Who Was His Own Man

United News of India

BENGALURU: At a Rolling Stones concert in Bengaluru many years ago, Dilip Doshi then an ex-India cricketer, spotted Rahul Dravid, a current player, and escorted him towards the stage. Mick Jagger, Doshi's good friend, was performing. I was sitting with my family nearby and saw this as entirely natural. Doshi was a team man and saw colleagues as family.

It was the attitude that saw him stand up for Dilip Vengsarkar after a misunderstanding at Sharjah airport in the 1980s that led to Vengsarkar being deported to India. A bunch of Indian stars who were with the team then didn't raise any objections. It



was a commentary on the times in which Doshi played his cricket in India: it was every man for himself and the devil was assisted in his effort to take the hindmost.

Of the left-arm spinners who had the misfortune to play under the huge shadow of Bishan Singh Bedi, Doshi was probably the most gifted and understood his craft better than most. He made his debut at around the same age that Bedi played his last Test (past 30) and still claimed over a hundred wickets, a tribute as much to his competitiveness as his resilience. It helped that he played first-class cricket in England; it kept him fit and saw him bowl to the best batters on the international circuit.

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