



Come and Join Holy Yatra in Good Numbers : LG Manoj Sinha to Devotees

Security Arrangements in Place, All set for Amarnath Yatra

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JUNE 11 Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, on Wednesday said that all necessary security and logistical arrangements are in place for the smooth and safe conduct of the annual Amarnath Yatra, which is set to begin on July 3.

After reviewing the preparations at the Baltal base camp, LG Sinha said the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board and the J&K administration have enhanced facilities for pilgrims this year.

According to KNS, the LG urged devotees from across the country to join the Yatra in large numbers and pray for



Lieutenant Governor performs the 'Pratham Puja' at the Holy Cave

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JUNE 11 The Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today performed the Pratham Puja at the Holy Cave, marking the ceremonial beginning of the annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The Lieutenant Governor urged all the devotees of Baba Barfani to visit in large numbers for the Holy Yatra and

Reservation Row ; Report by Cabinet Sub-Committee to be Tabled Soon : CM

Omar Also Takes Dig at Pakistan for Attempting to Destabilize J&K

HT NEWS DESK



ALIGARH, JUNE 11: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said that the report compiled by the Cabinet-Sub-Committee (CSC) on reservation policy will be tabled in the cabinet soon.

Omar while talking to reporters at Aligarh, according to the news agency—, said, "The cabinet meeting is held twice in a month. So far, the meeting has not taken place. The meeting will take place in the next few days and the recommendations by the CSC will be tabled and will be looked into," he said. Omar took a dig at Pakistan for making attempts to destabilize the region and underscored the need for accelerated development of Jammu and Kashmir. "No matter how much development takes place, it is never enough. Given the persistent attempts by our neighbouring country to destabilize the region, it becomes all the more important to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir witnesses maximum progress," he said.

Pertinently, Social Welfare Minister Sakina Masood Itoo who is also head of the CSC, in a post on X had said, "The Cabinet Sub-Committee

Aga Ruhullah Meets Open Merit Reservation Activists, Assures Full Support

HT NEWS DESK/KNT

BUDGAM, JUNE 11, : Member of Parliament and National Conference leader Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi on Tuesday extended his complete support to activists campaigning for the protection of open merit in reservation policies, during a meeting held in Budgam.



Kashmir's Beauty Deserves Global Tourism Spotlight: Sakina Itoo Govt Monitoring Temperature; Summe vacation Decision soon

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Minister for Education Sakina Itoo on Tuesday said the government is monitoring the ongoing rise in temperatures across Jammu and Kashmir and will take a decision on summer vacations in schools soon.

Speaking to reporters, Itoo assured that authorities are



closely observing the situation and will respond in the interest of students and schools. "We are watching the temperature levels carefully and a decision regarding summer vacations will be made shortly," she said.

According to Kashmir News Service (KNS), the Minister also addressed an

NEWS BRIEF

Fire Guts Lobby of J&K Assembly Complex; Historic Photographs, Furniture Destroyed

JAMMU, JUNE 11, : A fire broke out inside the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly complex on Tuesday, damaging valuable property and destroying several heritage items. The blaze erupted in the lobby area of the old Assembly building in Jammu, where photographs of former Governors and Lieutenant Governors of the erstwhile state were on display.

Official sources told Kashmir News Trust that the fire caused extensive damage to the historic lobby

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Modi's 11 Years Usher in New Era of Development in Punjab: Tarun Chugh

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11 : BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Wednesday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 11 years in office, calling it a period marked by public service, economic growth, and national transformation. Speaking at a press conference in Jalandhar as part of the nationwide 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' campaign, Chugh highlighted key achievements under the Modi

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26 bikers from Kerala ride to LoC for peace

SRINAGAR, JUN 11: In a symbolic assertion of peace and resilience, 26 bikers from Kerala (South India) rode into Kashmir's Kupwara district on Wednesday, culminating their 11-day ride at the Line of Control (LoC) in Teetwal with a powerful message — "Bullet bikes over Bullets".

The rally was sparked by the 22 April's deadly attack that took place at tourist destination Pahalgam, leaving 26 innocent people dead and as many as injured.

As per the news agency—the riders, trav

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J&K reports 172 forest fire alerts in 2 weeks, highest in country

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUN 11: With over 1,700 square kilometres already designated as a 'High Risk' zone for forest fires, Jammu and Kashmir over the past two weeks has recorded 172 forest fire alerts — the highest in the country during this period.

This figure, as per the officials,

SEE FULL ONPAGE 02

At 44.4°C, Jammu Figures Among top 'Hot spots' Across Globe

J&K simmers as heatwave intensifies, Qazigund surpasses previous record, Sgr swelters at 33.9°C

HT NEWS DESK/KNO

SRINAGAR, JUNE 10 As the intense heatwave continued across Jammu and Kashmir, the region's winter capital, Jammu, has figured among the top hottest spots across the globe.

As per an Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng, Jammu ranked the 68th hottest spot in the world at 44.4°C, which was the season's hottest day in the region.

Jammu and Kashmir sim-



mered amidst the intense heatwave conditions that continued for the third straight day on Wednesday, with Qazigund,

a gateway of Kashmir, surpassing the previous records and witnessing a maximum tem

SEE FULL ONPAGE 02

Heatwave to persist across J&K for next 3 days

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11 (UNI) The Meteorological Department has warned of a severe heatwave at scattered places across Jammu and Kashmir over the next three days, urging residents to take precautions.

SEE FULL ONPAGE 02

CS assesses efforts made for revival, restoration and conservation of heritage in J&K

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting of the Culture Department to assess the measures taken for the revival, restoration, preservation, and maintenance of J&K's heritage and unique architecture here.

The meeting besides Principal Secretary, Culture Department was attended by Secretary, PWD; Com-



missioner, SMC/JMC; ED, Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex; Director, Libraries; Secretary, Academy of Art, Culture & Languages; Direc-

tor, Archaeology & Archives; Chief Engineers and other concerned officers.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary took com-

prehensive review of the status of the each work undertaken under capex and heritage conservation scheme. He emphasized upon the Department to take keen interest in completing all the works going on for the last year.

Dulloo maintained that all the works for revival and restoration of heritage are significant for protecting our rich past for our future gen

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Dy CM reviews working of R&B Department; launches macadamisation programme

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Deputy Chief, Surinder Choudhary, today convened an extensive review meeting with the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department to evaluate departmental functioning and launch the macadamisation programme for the current year.

Secretary, Public Works Department (PWD), Bhupinder Kumar, provided a comprehensive briefing on the department's activities.

The Chief Engineers of R&B

for Central and South Kashmir outlined the macadamisation programme, stating that approximately 312.87 km of roads in Central Kashmir and 234.88 km in South Kashmir have been proposed for macadamisation this year under various sectors including C&T, NABARD, UT sector and CRIF.

It was informed that a total of 157 projects have been approved for Central Kashmir and 134 for South Kashmir under the C&T sector. Additionally, 17 new schemes in Central

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4 DCs among 24 IAS, JKAS Officers Shifted in Another Reshuffle in Admin By Govt

HT NEWS DESK/GNS

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: The government on Wednesday order another reshuffle in administration within a day's span, ordering transferring and posting of 24 officers with 20 among them IAS.

Among others, four deputy commissioners are among those shifted and include that of Srinagar, Budgam, Ramban and Kishtwar. The order, a copy of which lies with GNS, comes a day after 134 officers were shifted in Jammu and Kashmir.



According to the order, Anil Kumar Singh, IAS (AGMUT:1995), awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Principal Secretary to the Government, Social Welfare Department.

"He shall also hold the charge of Administrative Secretary, Mining Department, in addition to his own duties, relieving Shri Vikramjit Singh, IPS of the additional charge."

Saurabh Bhagat, IAS (AGMUT:2002), Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Science and Technology Department, holding additional charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Information Technology Department, has been transferred and posted as Commissioner/Secre

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Sajad Lone Calls Omar Abdullah "BJP Spokesperson in Disguise", Alleges Political Bipolarity

HT NEWS DESK/KNS

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11 (KNS): In one of his harshest political broadsides yet, People's Conference chief Sajad Lone on Wednesday launched a no-holds-barred attack on Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, accusing him of turning into a "right-wing radical BJP spokesperson" post-elections.

Reacting to recent visuals of CM Omar in conversation with Kap-



il Sibal, Lone accused the Chief Minister of ideological betrayal, servility towards the Centre, and abandoning his pre-election promises of engagement and autonomy.

"Watched some shots of CM sahib with

Kapil Sibal today. Was squirming with embarrassment," Lone began his scathing post on social media, before launching into a trenchant critique of what he described as Omar Abdullah's transformation from a Pakistan-engagement advocate to a Centre-friendly leader toeing the BJP line.

Lone alleged that Omar now sounds "more BJP than BJP" and mocked his

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

LG

the peace and progress of Jammu and Kashmir as well as the nation.

"There is no need to worry. The administration, J&K Police, Army, CRPF, CAPFs, and other agencies have made foolproof arrangements for the peaceful conduct of the Yatra," he said.

PUJA

pray to Mahadev for progress of J&K and the nation. He said, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board and Administration have improved the pilgrims facilities and Jammu Kashmir Police, Army, CRPF, CAPFs have made foolproof security arrangements.

"J&K Administration, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, Army, BRO, CAPFs, J&K Police and all stakeholders are working with complete devotion, dedication, collaboration and clear objectives for hassle-free and safe pilgrimage starting from 3rd July," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor lauded the invaluable contributions of people of J&K, Civil Society groups and all service providers.

"I have full faith that significant improvements to essential facilities and services will ensure this year's pilgrimage is memorable and spiritually fulfilling for all devotees. May Baba Amarnathji keep showering his divine blessings on all of us," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board has been organising Pratham Pujā at the Holy Cave on the auspicious occasion of Jyeshtha Purnima every year.

This year, Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra will commence on 3rd July, simultaneously from both the routes – the Pahalgam track in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district and it will culminate on 9th August, 2025 on Raksha Bandhan.

GoC 15 Corps, Lt Gen Prashant Srivastava; Shri Nalin Prabhat, DGP J&K; Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board Member, Shri KN Rai; Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board CEO and Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Shri Vijay Kumar Bidhuri; IGP Kashmir, Shri VK Birdi and other senior officials were also present at the holy cave.

OMAR

constituted to examine the issue of reservations has drafted its report within the stipulated timeframe of six months. The report will be placed before the Cabinet when it meets."

The panel was formally constituted on December 10, 2024, almost 18 days after the cabinet approved its constitution.

The existing reservation policy, introduced during central rule in Jammu and Kashmir, has become a focal point of political discourse, with candidates from the general category alleging that it disproportionately benefits reserved categories beyond their population share.

The issue also prominently featured in the 2024 Assembly election manifestos of all major political parties. The ruling National Conference (NC), in its electoral agenda, pledged to rationalize the reservation policy to address concerns raised by various sections of society.

On November 22, the Cabinet decided to establish a sub-committee to review grievances, particularly those raised by students regarding the policy.

A month later, NC's MP from Srinagar, Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, staged a protest outside the Chief Minister's residence, demanding a fair review of the reservation policy.

During a meeting with protesting students on the same day, CM Omar Abdullah assured that the cabinet sub-committee would finalize its report within six months.

The issue was widely discussed during the last Assembly session in Jammu, with PC president Sajad Gani strongly advocating for rationalization of existing reservation policy—(KNO)

FIRE

surpasses all previous records, making the region the most affected by forest fire alert incidents across the country.

The official figures accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reveal that the total fire alert incidents include 159 SNPP and 13 MODIS incidents.

Soumi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (SNPP) forest fire refers to the use of the SNPP-VIIRS (Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite) satellite data to detect and monitor forest fires and Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) is a satellite instrument used by NASA for detecting forest fires.

The official figures reveal that the majority of the fire alert incidents have been reported from the Rajouri, Reasi and Kishtwar districts.

Pertinently, KNO last week reported that in Jammu and Kashmir at least 1,747 square kilometres of forest area have been categorized in 'High Risk' zone of forest fire while 62 square kilometres have been categorized

in 'Very High Risk' zone.

The official document in this regard reveal that "62 square kilometres of forest area of Jammu and Kashmir is under High Risk' zone of forest fire and 8,972 square kilometres of forest area lie under moderate risk zone and 10,606 square kilometres of area with low risk of forest fire respectively."

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

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

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

It also said that in Jammu and Kashmir, 79.01 percent of the detections fall under 19.74 percent of the Digitized Boundary Area—(KNO)

ITTOO

alleged incident involving a Class 3 student at Presentation Convent School in Srinagar. "We are aware of the matter. I have spoken to the Director of School Education, and an investigation is underway," she stated, adding that strict action will be taken if any misconduct is found.

Speaking on tourism, Itoo highlighted Kashmir's natural appeal. "Kashmir is more beautiful than many other places. We want tourism to grow here because it directly supports the livelihood of our people," she said. (KNS)

AGA

The activists, who have been vocal against any dilution of open merit seats in recruitment and admissions, met Ruhullah to share their concerns about the recent developments surrounding a possible overhaul of the reservation structure in Jammu and Kashmir.

During the interaction, Aga Ruhullah patiently heard the delegation's viewpoint, acknowledging the anxieties of merit-based aspirants regarding fair competition and equal opportunity. He assured them of his unwavering support and emphasized that meritocracy must not be compromised in the name of populist policymaking.

While extending solidarity, Ruhullah also advised the activists to show restraint until the government tables the report of the sub-cabinet committee, formed earlier to review the reservation framework, in the upcoming cabinet meeting. "Let the report come to light first. We will evaluate it together and respond accordingly," he was quoted as saying.

One of the activists who attended the meeting confirmed that they have decided to withhold any protest or agitation until the contents of the sub-cabinet report are revealed and discussed at the cabinet level. "Let us see what is in the report—whether it is just and meets the expectations of open merit candidates. Things will be clear after the cabinet meeting," the activist told Kashmir News Trust.

The activist further clarified that the movement is apolitical and driven purely by concerns of equity and transparency in public recruitment and educational opportunities. "We are not affiliated with any political party. This is a people's issue, not a partisan agenda," he said. [KNT]

HEATWAVE

perature of 34.6°C. According to the details obtained by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Jammu, the winter capital of the region, has once again recorded the hottest day of the season at 44.4°C.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has recorded a day temperature of 33.9°C.

However, Keng said the mercury in Qazigund settled at 34.6°C, which was the third highest maximum temperature in the month of June since 1962.

Wednesday's temperature also clashes with 34.6°C recorded on 23 June 2023. The 2nd highest temperature in Qazigund is 35.3°C recorded on 27 June 1988, while the all-time highest temperature is 35.7°C recorded on 26 June 1988, Keng said.

Moreover, Pahalgam recorded a day temperature of 28.8°C while Kokernag and Kupwara recorded 32.8°C each. Gulmarg, a famous ski resort, recorded a maximum temperature of 24.0°C.

Jammu division also recorded above normal temperatures. Katra station recorded a day temperature of 40.6°C while Banihal recorded 34.1°C.

In Batote, the mercury settled at 33.3°C while Bhaderwah recorded 34.4°C.

Moreover, Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, predicted gener-

ally hot & dry weather conditions till June 13.

He said that a brief spell of light rain and thundershower is expected at isolated to scattered places, accompanied by thunder and gusty winds from June 14 to 17.

Ahmad said that generally hot & dry weather is expected from June 18 to 20.

In its advisory, the MeT has predicted a severe heatwave at scattered places of J&K during the next three days. "Take sufficient fluid, water & avoid outdoor activities during peak intensity (12 noon to 4 PM)," the advisory reads, adding that the farmers are advised to continue farm operations—(KNO)

3 DAYS

Jammu and Kashmir is reeling under an intense heatwave over the past few days.

The heatwave forecast has prompted health advisories and precautions from authorities.

According to the MeT forecast, J&K will continue to experience generally hot and dry conditions until June 13, with a brief respite expected between June 14 and 17, when isolated to scattered places may witness light rain or thundershowers accompanied by gusty winds.

The weather is expected to revert to hot and dry from June 18 to 20.

The MeT has advised residents to avoid outdoor activities between 12 noon and 4 PM.

Jammu and Kashmir has been facing scorching heat over the last few days, with both maximum and minimum temperatures recording significantly above normal across the Union Territory.

According to the latest data, the daytime temperatures have remained 4–7°C above normal in most parts of Kashmir and 4–6°C above normal in Jammu division.

The night temperatures have also remained 2–5°C above normal in most areas of both divisions. The tourist resort of Pahalgam recorded the lowest minimum temperature in Kashmir at 10.6°C, and Banihal recorded the lowest in Jammu at 15.8°C.

Meanwhile, J&K Education Minister Sakina Itoo on Wednesday said the government is closely monitoring the ongoing weather conditions and will decide on announcing an early summer vacation for schools based on how the situation unfolds.

DYCM

Kashmir and 16 in South Kashmir have been approved under NABARD, further bolstering the region's infrastructure development.

The meeting was apprised that the tendering process for these works has commenced with construction scheduled to begin by June 15, 2025 and the macadamisation projects are expected to be completed within three months.

The Deputy Chief Minister stressed the need for high-quality execution and adherence to timelines, directing the officials to ensure effective coordination. He directed the officers to expedite the progress on all works ensuring their timely completion and maintaining the quality standards.

The Dy CM asked the engineers to follow the deadlines and show remarkable results so that the vital road projects would be completed in a time bound manner. He further directed the concerned engineers to review progress on these projects regularly and blacklist those contractors who are not showing up satisfactory performance.

CS

erations. He made out that every effort should be made to conserve this historical treasure trove in a highly professional manner in order to present the same to heritage lovers in an aesthetic fashion.

The Chief Secretary also enjoined upon them to accord the administrative approval to all the works that are to be taken up here. He stressed on the fact that these works should be taken up without any delay for their completion on time.

On observing the current status of different architecture and heritage conservation projects the Department of Archaeology & Archives was instructed to intensify the restoration efforts, ensuring visible progress on the ground. They were further asked to strike a balance in choosing the projects in each district so that the heritage and architectural monuments widely spread here are protected for posterity.

As far as the cultural revitalization of Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex (MMHC) is concerned the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, was directed to transform MMHC into a culturally vibrant space by organizing cultural evenings in collaboration with the Academy of Art, Culture & Languages.

The Chief Secretary also emphasised upon the adaptive reuse of restored structures at MMHC. The Department of Archaeology was tasked with developing a robust reuse plan for restored structures at MMHC. He also called for putting to use the newly constructed reading room cum cafeteria besides taking steps for creating enough parking space near this heritage complex at an earliest.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the progress made in conserving and modernization of old SPS Museum, Srinagar besides the revised DPR for completion of new Museum building here as per the past directives.

The meeting also included an assessment of major heritage-related projects, including restoration and development of Shergarhi Palace, construction of Tehzeeb Mahal, and installation of a vertical lift between the Cable Car Project (Peerkho) & Mubarak Mandi Complex and creation of exclusive parking for heritage complex by JMC.

In his presentation the Principal Secretary, Culture Department, Brij Mohan Sharms, informed the meeting about the pace and progress of projects being executed here under different phases of Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage besides those taken up under the capex by the Department.

He apprised the meeting that the Department is going to collaborate with IUST and SMVDU for the conservation and protection of our heritage here in the UT. He also divulged that during the ensuing financial year a budgetary allocation of Rs 132 Cr had been made for the Department with a massive share of Rs 120 Cr for heritage conservation included that of the prestigious Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex.

Additionally he made out that funds to the tune of Rs 2 Cr had been projected for upgradation of Tagore Hall, Srinagar, Rs 2.23 Cr for the upgradation of Abhinav Theatre, Jammu, and Rs 1.50 Cr for upgradation of Kala Kendra, Jammu too.

Under the first phase 33 projects had been taken-up at an estimated cost of Rs 64.25 Cr. Under phase 2nd a total of 73 projects had been identified out of which DPRs for 71 projects stands prepared and administrative approval to 61 granted by the Department.

The Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, K.K Sidha informed the meeting about the status of works accomplished to modernize the SPS Museum, Srinagar and the scope of works to be taken up in the newly formulated DPR.

SAJAD LONE

repeated claims of helplessness without the Centre's support. "There is a difference between cordiality and servility," he wrote, questioning whether the pre-election hostility towards Delhi was just a "farce."

Calling it a case of "chronic political bipolarity," Lone contrasted Omar's pre- and post-election positions, especially on Pakistan. "Isn't it the same CM sahib who fought an entire election calling everybody else BJP and fiercely advocating talks with Pakistan? Didn't Khwaja Asif, defence minister of Pakistan, endorse the NC stance during elections saying they were on the same page?"

He went on to accuse Omar of maintaining a covert understanding with Delhi. "Of course, he would have informed Delhi in advance. Jail and PSA are for poorer Kashmiri souls who are punished for liking a simple post on social media... The King's parties, of course, have a licence."

Lone said the CM's governance record lacked vision or creativity. "Never seen an uncreative person as him... Only ideas he seems to have about administrative delivery is power to punish."

He further slammed Omar's refusal to back a special session on the controversial Operation Sindoor, saying: "Donning yet again the role of a loyal BJP spokesperson, CM sahib does not support a special session."

On statehood and public grievances, Lone wrote: "CM sahib spoke about statehood apologetically. Blames dual control for inefficiency. But what about the promises in his hand? Start with free electricity, free gas cylinders, making daily wagers permanent."

Concluding with biting sarcasm, Lone hinted at a hidden alliance: "Looking forward to the day when CM sahib formally allies with the BJP. Why have this virginal pretence when the political marriage was solemnised in the NDA-1 regime, three decades back?" (KNS)

TRANSFAR

tary to the Government, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs.

Zubair Ahmad, IKAS, Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, has been transferred and posted as Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Department of Floriculture, Parks and Gardens, relieving Shailendra Kumar, IAS (AGMUT:1995) of the additional charge.

Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, IAS (AGMUT:2009), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Secretary to the Government, Science and Technology Department.

"He shall also hold the charge of Administrative Secretary, Civil Aviation Department, in addition to his own duties, relieving Mohammad Aijaz, IAS (AGMUT:2012) of the additional charge."

Niraj Kumar, IAS (AGMUT:2010), Administrative Secretary, Transport Department, has been transferred and posted as Administrative Secretary, Public Grievances Department, relieving Mohammad Aijaz, IAS

(AGMUT:2012) of the additional charge.

Dr. Piyush Singla, IAS (AGMUT:2012), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Secretary to the Government, Information Technology Department.

Naveen S L, IAS (AGMUT:2012), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Secretary to the Government, Transport Department.

Nazim Zai Khan, IAS (AGMUT:2013), Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K, has been transferred and posted as Mission Director, ICPS, J&K.

Majid Khalil Ahmad Drabu, IAS (AGMUT:2013), Mission Director, ICPS, J&K has been transferred and posted as Commissioner of Enquires, J&K.

Owais Ahmed, IAS (AGMUT:2014), Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, holding additional charge of the post of CEO, Special Purpose Vehicle for Srinagar City for Implementation of the Smart City Project, has been transferred and posted as Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir. Abdul Rashid War, JKAS, has been asked to report to the General Administration Department for further posting.

Gurpal Singh, IAS (AGMUT:2014), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been posted as Director, Social Welfare, Jammu.

Baseer Ul Haq Chaudhary, IAS (AGMUT:2015), Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, has been transferred and posted as Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K.

Dr. Bilal Mohiud Din Bhat, IAS (AGMUT:2017), Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Budgam.

Akshay Labroo, IAS (TR:2018), Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar. Faz Lul Haseeb, IAS (AGMUT:2018), Managing Director, J&K Tourism Development Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation. "He shall also hold the charge of the post of CEO, Special purpose Vehicle for Srinagar City for Implementation of the Smart City Project, in addition to his own duties, till further orders."

LOBBY

section. Among the items gutted were framed portraits that chronicled the political legacy of J&K's top constitutional office-bearers. The fire also engulfed several pieces of furniture including sofas, chairs, and decor items, with losses estimated in lakhs of rupees.

"Photographs that were part of the old Assembly's archival collection have been lost. These were visual records of past eras, now turned to ash," a senior official at the site said on the condition of anonymity.

Fire and Emergency Services personnel responded swiftly and brought the blaze under control after a strenuous effort. Eyewitnesses said smoke and flames leapt from the building as panic briefly gripped security staff and maintenance workers present in the vicinity.

Fortunately, no injuries or loss of life have been reported. Authorities, however, have expressed concern over the structural integrity of the affected lobby and the loss of memorabilia linked to J&K's political history.

BIKKERS

elling on Royal Enfield motorcycles, covered over 4,000 kilometers across ten Indian states since June 1. Their journey, they said, was a tribute to the lives lost in the attack and a clear stand against terrorism.

"We started this ride in response to the heinous Pahalgam attack. The bullets were meant to silence us, but our Bullet bikes will roar instead – with bravery, unity and resilience," said Ramanand, one of the bikers.

Culminating the campaign near the LoC at Teetwal, a symbolically significant site on India's frontier with Pakistan, the bikers carried messages of peace, communal harmony and the promotion of Kashmir as a secure tourist destination.

MODI

government, both nationally and in Punjab.

"In 2014, India was the world's 11th largest economy with a GDP of \$1.86 trillion. Today, we are the fourth largest and fastest-growing economy at \$4.187 trillion," Chugh stated. He credited Modi's leadership for lifting over 25 crore people out of poverty and adopting the Direct Benefit Transfer system, which has transferred 744 lakh crore directly to beneficiaries, cutting out middlemen.

Chugh highlighted the success of flagship schemes:

Over 52.5 crore loans issued under PM Mudra Yojana, with 68% going to women.

UPI transactions exceeding ₹25.14 lakh crore (as of May 2025).

3.7 crore rural and 1.18 crore urban houses built under PMAY, with another 3 crore announced.

15 crore homes connected with tap water under Jal Jeevan Mission.

12 crore toilets constructed, achieving 100% sanitation coverage.



Sakeena Itoo conducts surprise inspection of GGHS Drugjan Dalgate Takes on-spot assessment of school's functioning, interacts with students, staff

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today conducted the surprise inspection of Government Girls High School (GGHS) Drugjan Dalgate and took on-spot assessment of functioning of the school.

Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; CEO Srinagar, ZEO Nishat and other officers also accompanied the Minister.

During the visit, Minister Sakeena

took detailed round of the school premises, inspected classrooms, computer lab and other infrastructure. She also interacted with the students and took feedback from them about the quality of education being imparted at the institute. She also encouraged students to remain focused on their studies and urged the school authorities to identify and address any gaps in academic performance and infrastructure.

Later, the Minister held a brief interaction with the staff of the school and assessed the overall functioning of the institution, including teaching



methodologies, infrastructure, attendance records and availability of essential resources.

Expressing concern over certain shortcomings, Minister Sakeena emphasized on the need for more robust monitoring mechanism to ensure timely academic delivery and conducive learning environment in the institute.

"Education is the cornerstone of a progressive society. We must ensure our girls receive quality education, adequate support and modern facilities to thrive in every sphere and field of life", Minister Sakeena stated.

She lauded the dedication of the teaching staff and called for renewed efforts to uplift educational outcomes, particularly in government-run educational institutions. Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; CEO Srinagar, ZEO Nishat and other officers also accompanied the Minister.

During the visit, Minister Sakeena took detailed round of the school premises, inspected classrooms, computer lab and other infrastructure. She also interacted with the students and took feedback from them about the quality of education.

CS reviews functioning of J&K RERA: emphasises strengthening of institutional mechanism to safeguard public interests

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11, 2025: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the functioning of the Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (JKRERA) during a detailed presentation made by its Chairman, Satish Chandra.

Present in the meeting were Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Member, RERA; Commissioner, SMC/JMC; Director, ULB, Kashmir/Jammu; MD, Housing Board; Chief Town Planner, Jammu/Kashmir besides others. The meeting focused on regulatory achievements, enforcement actions, public grievance mechanisms and existing challenges being faced in streamlining the real estate sector in the Union Territory.

The Chief Secretary emphasized the critical role of JKRERA in promoting transparency, accountability and consumer protection in the real estate sector. He called for enhanced inter-departmental coordination and timely interventions to



ensure full compliance with the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act.

Dulloo directed the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) and allied departments to extend support to JKRERA in fulfilling its mandate. He stressed on resolving the coordination issues, accelerating infrastructure setup and ensuring that no real estate project operates outside the regulatory ambit.

It was informed by the Chairman, RERA,

that the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 was extended to the UT of Jammu and Kashmir vide notification dated 30th October 2019. Consequently, the UT government established JKRERA on 22nd July 2020 under Section 20 of the Act and framed the J&K Real Estate Development Rules, 2020. The Jammu & Kashmir Special Tribunal had been designated as the Appellate Tribunal. The JK RERA exercises full jurisdiction over all the commer-

cial and residential real estate projects within Jammu and Kashmir, except the projects under 500 square meters, projects with fewer than 8 apartments, projects completed before the Act's commencement and renovation projects not involving new sale or marketing. Regarding the registration and compliance, it was revealed that JKRERA has made the project and agent registration mandatory, both online and offline. Besides, the promoters and real estate agents are being charged registration fees, ensuring due diligence through document verification and status tracking. The Authority has already registered multiple projects and agents, increasing the consumer confidence and market regulation. With respect to the complaint redressal mechanism for the Consumers, promoters and agents, it was appraised that these can file complaints through a defined digital process after depositing a fee of Rs. 1,000. Besides, JKRERA has taken strict enforcement action to ensure compliance while penalties have been imposed on violators.

Muharram-ul-Haram 1446 Hijri DC Srinagar holds consultation with Shia leaders regarding Muharram arrangements, peaceful conduct of processions

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: In connection with upcoming holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Wednesday held a consultative meeting with prominent Shia leaders in order to seek suggestions from the stakeholders for ensuring better facilities to people and smooth conduct of processions.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiaz Ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, SDM East Zubair Ahmad were present on the occasion. While representatives of prominent Shia Associations including Yaadgar-i-Hussaini Committee, Anjuman-e-Sharie Shiayan, Yousuf Abad Budgam, All J&K Shai Association, Anjuman-e-Sharie Shiayan, Darul Mustafa Budgam were also part of the meeting. On the occasion, DC said the purpose of holding interaction is to facilitate the people during the holy month of Muharram by making all basic necessary arrangements by the district administration, besides sought suggestions from the stakeholders for ensuring smooth peaceful processions during the holy month.

Javed Rana meets delegations; assesses public welfare issues

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today met with delegations led by Legislator Javid Beigh and representatives from Tral and Shopian to assess and address various public welfare issues.

The delegation led by Javid Beigh raised concerns regarding the functioning of Sheeri Narawah Irrigation Scheme and Nowpora Water Supply Scheme in Baramulla town under the AMRUT project.

The Minister assured the delegation that their issues would be addressed at the earliest. He directed the concerned field functionaries of the Jal Shakti Department to take immediate action on all the issues concerning them.

Rana also interacted with the delegations from Tral and Shopian, who highlighted several public welfare issues affecting their areas. He assured them that their concerns would be taken up with the concerned departments for prompt resolution.

DLSA Srinagar holds orientation/training session for SAATHI Unit Committee members

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar organized a meeting-orientation and training session for the SAATHI Unit Committee members of District Srinagar at the ADR Centre, District Court Complex Srinagar.

The session was held with the objective of preparing stakeholders for the effective implementation of the SAATHI campaign across the district.

Sajad Ur Rehman, Secretary, DLSA Srinagar (Chairperson of the SAATHI Unit Committee) chaired the meeting, which was attended by officers and officials from the District Administration, District Child Protection office, members of the SAATHI Unit Committee, and other key stakeholders.

Some stakeholders and panel lawyers also joined the session virtually, ensuring broader outreach and participation. The session served as a platform to deliberate on the campaign's goals, streamline coordination mechanisms, and finalize the strategy for its implementation. SAATHI campaign is a focused initiative aimed at identifying, supporting, and rehabilitating destitute and vulnerable children within the district. The campaign underscores the commitment of DLSA Srinagar to ensure such children gain access to education, healthcare, legal aid, and various social welfare schemes.

DC Srinagar reviews preparation for 'International Yoga Day'

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: In order to review preparations for 'International Day of Yoga' being observed on June 21, a meeting of senior Officers was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat here.

At the outset, DC called for inter-departmental coordination, besides ensuring mass participation for the success of the divisional and district level events.

He passed directions to the line departments for making all necessary arrangements well in advance at the sites where mega yoga sessions will be held to commemorate the day.

The meeting was informed that the main divisional lev-



el event for celebrations of 'International Day of Yoga' will be organized at the lawns of SKICC where a large number of people are expected to participate in the event.

DC directed the stakeholder departments to work in a coordinated manner to ensure all the necessary arrangements well in time for successful conduct of the divisional level event.

The meeting was attended

by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed; Chief Planning Officer, SP Security, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Deputy SP Traffic, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, SDM East, Tehsildar South, Tehsildar Khanyar, Chief Sanitation Officer, District YSS Officer, Deputy CEO, other senior Officers, besides Officers from AYUSH, Tourism, Fire & Emergency departments and Army.

SANJY-2025: DC Srinagar visits Yatra transit camp Pantha Chowk

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: In connection with the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat undertook a visit to Yatra Transit Camp at Pantha Chowk here on Wednesday.

The visit focused on ensuring robust arrangements for the smooth and seamless conduct of the annual yatra, set to commence on July 3, 2025, and conclude on August 9, 2025.

DC meticulously reviewed the boarding, lodging, sanitation, medical facilities at the Pantha Chowk Yatra Transit Camp, a halt station for yatries traveling to the Amarnath cave. He also took stock of other amenities to ensure they meet the needs of the yatries.

During the visit, DC issued clear directives to officers to expedite preparations and ensure all arrangements are put in place well ahead of the yatra. Emphasizing pilgrim comfort, he stressed the need for seam-

less coordination among departments to enhance services at the camp. Special attention was given to the setup of Langars (community kitchens) to provide nutritious meals and the availability of clean drinking water and proper sanitation facilities.

DC also inspected the readiness of Yatri facilitation centres, which will handle critical services such as e-KYC verification, RFID card distribution, and on-spot registration to streamline the pilgrimage process.

DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed; Sub Divisional Magistrate East, Zubair Ahmad; ARTO, Muazam Ali and other officers during the visit. DC also inspected the readiness of Yatri facilitation centres, which will handle critical services such as e-KYC verification, RFID card distribution, and on-spot registration to streamline the pilgrimage process.

DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed; Sub Divisional Magistrate East, Zubair Ahmad; ARTO.

Railway Taxi Association meets Satish Sharma; seeks inclusion in transport upgradation initiatives

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: A delegation from the Railway Taxi Association today called on Minister for FCS&CA and Transport, Satish Sharma, to discuss key concerns affecting the taxi service providers operating from railway station to various parts of the valley.

The association presented several issues being faced by the drivers and operators, while strongly advocating for their inclusion in future transport development projects. During the meeting, the delegation emphasized the crucial role that railway taxi services play in providing reliable last-mile connectivity to the passengers arriving at the station. They noted that despite their contribution to the public transport ecosystem, their concerns have often gone unheard in previous planning processes. Among the major issues raised were lack of proper infrastructure and designated parking facilities at railway



stations, absence of a structured system to regulate and support taxi services, integration of taxi operators into future smart transport plans and digital platforms besides

welfare and social security measures for the drivers. The association urged the government to ensure their representation in consultations for upcoming initiatives aimed at upgrading the transport services. They called for a collaborative approach in implementation of transport projects to ensure that traditional taxi operators are not sidelined but instead empowered to contribute to an efficient and modern public transport network. Satish Sharma acknowledged the concerns raised and assured the delegation that their voices would be taken into consideration. He welcomed their suggestions and expressed a commitment towards exploring inclusive and sustainable solutions to strengthen the connectivity across the valley.

The Railway Taxi Association expressed optimism following the meeting and reiterated their willingness to work with the government to further improve the passenger services while safeguarding the livelihood of taxi operators.

Hakeem Yaseen Urges Robust Arrangements for Urs Celebrations of Shams Faqeer (RA) and Syed Soliha(RA) in Khansahib

HT NEWS DESK

Budgam, June 11: President Peoples Democratic Front (PDF) and former Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Hakeem Muhammad Yaseen, has made a fervent appeal to the administration to ensure comprehensive arrangements for the smooth and dignified observance of the annual Urs of Hazrat Shams Faqeer (RA) and Hazrat Syed Soliha (RA), both revered Sufi saints of the region. The Urs of Hazrat Shams Faqeer (RA) will commence from June 17 at his revered shrine Astan-e-Alia located at Bagh-e-Shams, Kalshipura, Khansahib, while the Urs of Hazrat Syed Soliha (RA) is scheduled for June 21 in Khansahib area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. In a statement issued to the press, Hakeem Yaseen underscored the spiritual and cultural significance of these Urs celebrations

which attract thousands of devotees from across Jammu and Kashmir every year. He urged the district and divisional administration to put in place adequate logistical and civic arrangements well in advance to facilitate a hassle-free experience for the pilgrims and local residents. Hakeem specifically demanded round-the-clock electricity and safe drinking water supply for at least three to four days around the Urs period, not just at the shrine sites but also in all adjacent villages that experience increased footfall due to visiting devotees. "The large gatherings during Urs days require uninterrupted basic services to maintain hygiene, health, and convenience for all participants," Yaseen said. Highlighting the essential nature of daily supplies during religious gatherings, the former minister also urged the authorities



to ensure availability of essential commodities, including rice, atta, sugar, kerosene oil, and LPG gas cylinders. He further demanded that an additional

quota of ration be allocated for local residents of Khansahib and surrounding areas to meet the rising demand caused by the influx of pilgrims. Hakeem Yaseen noted that Urs celebrations are not just religious events but also vibrant cultural gatherings that reflect the rich spiritual traditions of Kashmir. "These events foster communal harmony, spiritual introspection, and reinforce the teachings of peace and compassion espoused by our saints. It is the duty of the administration to ensure that these spiritual traditions are observed without any disruption," he stated. The PDF Patron also urged the departments concerned, including Power Development Department (PDD), Jal Shakti, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Health, and Municipal authorities to work in coordination and deploy field teams to

monitor arrangements on the ground. He also called for mobile medical units, sanitation squads, and traffic regulation measures to be implemented during the event days. Moreover, he appealed to the Wakf Board and local shrine management committees to coordinate with district officials to ensure that all rituals and religious gatherings are conducted in an organized and peaceful manner. He reiterated his party's commitment to preserving the Sufi legacy of Kashmir, and called upon people to actively participate in the Urs events while adhering to health, cleanliness, and spiritual discipline. He reiterated his party's commitment to preserving the Sufi legacy of Kashmir, and called upon people to actively participate in the Urs events while adhering to health, cleanliness, and spiritual discipline.

Sakeena Itoo flags off 6th Aryans Shikara Race at Srinagar

Says initiative will promote tourism potential of J&K on national, international arenas

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today flagged off the 6th Aryans Shikara Race, organised by JK students of Aryans Group of Colleges Chandigarh, at Dal Lake here. The race was organised with an aim to promote tourism of Jammu and Kashmir and bring tourists back to valley after Pahalgam incident. Speaking on the occasion, Sakeena Itoo said that this unique initiative will contribute towards the promotion of J&K's tourism potential on National and International arenas. "This race is not just an event, it is celebration of peace, unity and unmatched beauty of our J&K. Promoting such activities helps create new narratives around J&K, drawing positive attention and boosting tourism", Minister Sakeena stated. The Minister also appreciated the students and management of Aryans Group of Colleges. She added that we have seen the positive role of Aryans Group after the Pahalgam incident as they played active role for facilitation of Kashmiri students studying



outside and also took a unique step to conduct special semester exams for JK students. Chairman, Aryans Group, Dr. Anshu Kataria, extended his gratitude to the Minister for gracing the event. He appreciated Kashmir's beauty, stating that it is and will always be a heaven on earth, unaffected by negative incidents. He also commended the Aryans JK students, who, despite studying outside the state, consistently think about the Valley's well-being. Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; Director Colleges, Sheikh Aijaz Bashir; Director General, Aryans Group, Dr. Parveen Kataria;

Deputy Director, Dr. Garima Thakur, senior management of Aryans Group and large number of students were present on the occasion. Chairman, Aryans Group, Dr. Anshu Kataria, extended his gratitude to the Minister for gracing the event. He appreciated Kashmir's beauty, stating that it is and will always be a heaven on earth, unaffected by negative incidents. He also commended the Aryans JK students, who, despite studying outside the state, consistently think about the Valley's well-being. Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; Director Colleges, Sheikh Aijaz Bashir; Director General, Aryans Group, Dr. Parveen Kataria;

Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life: MC Langate Organizes Awareness Programme & Rally

DR. AB QAYOOM



Langate, June 11: Under the banner of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, the Municipal Committee Langate on Tuesday organized a comprehensive awareness programme at the Municipal Town Hall Langate. The event was held under the supervision of Executive Officer Municipal Committee Langate and witnessed enthusiastic participation from various sections of society. The programme was attended by over 110 participants, including students, teachers, doctors, traders, civil society members, transporters, as well as Naib Tehsildar Langate, Police Post Officer Langate Mr. Rayees Ahmad, and all employees of the Municipal Committee Langate. On the occasion, speakers from different fields shed light on the grave issue of drug abuse, its adverse effects on individuals, families, and society, and the urgent need for collective, community-based efforts to root out the menace from the grassroots level. The speakers emphasized that the fight against drug addiction requires active involvement from every section of the society, especially the youth. To mark the commitment towards a drug-free Langate, a symbolic plaque was also received by the committee, reaffirming the resolve of the town to stand united against substance abuse. At the end of the programme, all officials, students, teachers, civil society members, and MC employees participated in a rally from the Municipal Committee Town Hall to Main Chowk Langate, holding placards with powerful messages like "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life." Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Langate, in his concluding remarks, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all the guests, participating students, and resource persons for their active involvement and valuable contributions in making the programme a success.

DLSA Baramulla to hold Special Lok Adalat on 21st June

HT NEWS DESK

BARAMULLA, JUNE 11: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Baramulla in collaboration with Tehsil Legal Services Committees of Baramulla district is going to hold a special Lok Adalat for revenue and consumer cases on 21st of June 2025. The said Lok Adalat will be held at District Court Complex

Baramulla as well as at all the Tehsil Legal Services Committee Headquarters of Baramulla. It is as such notified that all concerned parties /advocates who desire to get their cases of aforementioned nature settled through the said Lok Adalat may approach District Legal Services Authority Baramulla /Tehsil Legal Services Committees of Baramulla by or before 17th May 2025.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER (VICE CHAIRMAN DISTRICT HEALTH SOCIETY), BUDGAM

READVERTISEMENT NOTIFICATION FOR HIRING OF PHARMACISTS UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI BHARTIYA JAN AUSHADHI KENDRAS (PMBJAKs) IN DISTRICT BUDGAM
Applications are invited from the eligible Registered Pharmacists of District Budgam to work on Profit Sharing basis under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJAKs) to be set up at various Health Institutions in District Budgam.

S.No	Category	No. Of Posts	Vacancy	Requisite Qualification	Selection Criteria
01	Pharmacist	01	CHC Kremshore (01)	Registered Pharmacist with certificate of registration from pharmacy Council of UT of J&K.	(i) D.Pharma/B.Pharma = 60 points. (ii) Experience (Retail) = 20 Points Viva Voce = 20 points Note:- Item (i) on prorata basis.

Eligibility Criteria:-
01. The applicant must be a permanent resident of District Budgam (Medically), UT of J&K State. Preference shall be given to candidates hailing from Medical Block Khansahib.
02. The candidates shall be a pharmacist, registered with J&K Pharmacy Council. Preference shall be given to the candidates having Diploma in Pharmacy or higher related qualification from recognized institute.
03. The expression "Block Level" wherever used in this advertisement notification would mean "Medical Block" and not the "C.D. Block".
04. He/She shall have working knowledge of operating computer for billing purpose.
05. He/She shall be unemployed for which he/she has to give an undertaking to the effect on stamp paper duly attested by the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate.
06. NOC from District Industry Centre and District Employment Officer.
Terms & Conditions:-
1. PMJAKs shall run on 24x7 basis under the supervision of concerned Block Medical Officer.
2. Engagement of pharmacists in PMJAK is a temporary arrangement for three years on performance basis and shall not conform any right for his/her permanent absorption/regularization in the department and can be terminated any time without notice
3. Only the medicines supplied by Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPPI) should be sold at PMBJAK.
4. All the billing should be done by using software provided by BPPPI. No medicines can be sold in the PMBJAK without using the software provided by BPPPI.
5. The services of Registered Pharmacists taken up by the department shall be designated as Jan Aushadhi Store Manager having primarily responsibility for day to day operations of Jan Aushadhi Store in accordance with terms and conditions.
6. Registered Pharmacist whose services are taken up by the department through the concerned Block Medical Officer attested by 1st Class Magistrate, that he/she will abide by all the terms and conditions as laid down by the department and shall work under the supervision of the concerned Block Medical Officer and shall not claim any regular appointment/regularization in the department in lieu of this agreement.
7. That, Jan Aushadhi Store Manager shall abide by all the terms and conditions of the agreement to be executed between the Block Medical Officer of the concerned Hospital & BPPPI.
8. The PMJAK operator will not be allowed to sell allied medical products, commonly sold in chemist shops. They are also not allowed to sell any medicines other than meant for Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendra.
9. That, continuation of Jan Aushadhi Store Manager shall be based on his/her performance vouched with by the Committee on the basis of report submitted by the concerned Block Medical Officer.
10. That in case of unsatisfactory performance by the Jan Aushadhi Store Manager, hired to work in the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendra, the committee shall be well within its power to terminate the services of Registered Pharmacists (s) and substituted by selecting another Registered Pharmacist by following the due selection process.
11. The taxes as payable under rules shall be paid by assesses.
12. Application (s) can be rejected by the Recruitment Committee if found not falling in the required criteria.
13. Number of posts may increase or decrease depending upon the sanction/approval from the DHSK, Srinagar or BPPPI, India.
Interested candidates from the District Budgam can only apply by sending their applications on the prescribed format, which can be had from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Budgam. The duly filled in application form along with one recent passport size photograph (attested), should reach in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Budgam by or before 19-06-2025 up to 4:00 P.M. and shall not be responsible for any postal delays and applications received after last date shall not be entertained.
The list of documents (self-attested) to be attached with the application form are mentioned below:-
a) Domicile Certificate.
b) Degree/Diploma and Marks Sheet(s).
c) Pharmacist Registration Certificate.
d) NOC from concerned Block Medical Officer.
e) Experience Certificate.

DIPK-2369/25
Send Date:-11/06/2025
Pub:- 12-06-25

Sd/-
Chief Medical Officer
Budgam

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being informed that By mistake My DOB in my school record is wrongly mentioned as 13/11/1976 The actual DOB as per my aadhar card is 19/02/1979 NOW I want apply for its correction if anyone have queries they may report to concern authority within 7 days Mohd Afzal Lone C/O Abdul Rahman Lone R/O pahalgam Ph 6006813699

اطلاع عام

بجلی کسٹن میں نام کی تبدیلی

میں مسیحی خدیجہ بیگم زوجہ مرحوم غلام احمد کھرو ساکن ہائٹی محلہ برابپورہ ہندواڑہ ہر خاص و عام کو پڑیو اشتہاد کے آگاہ کرتی ہوں کہ مجھے بجلی بل شوہر کے نام پر آتی تھی نام مرحوم غلام احمد کھرو ولد غلام محمد کھرو کے نام پر آتی تھی اب مجھے اپنے نام پر درج کرنی مطلوب ہے نام خدیجہ بیگم زوجہ مرحوم غلام احمد کھرو کے نام پر درج کرنی مطلوب ہے کئیویمر آئی ڈی نمبر 0214010000937 اس ضمن میں اگر کسی بھی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر نوٹیفکیشن بجلی ڈیپارٹمنٹ آفس چھٹی پورہ ہندواڑہ میں پیش کریں میعاد ختم ہونے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشترہ
خدیجہ بیگم زوجہ مرحوم غلام احمد کھرو
ساکن ہائٹی محلہ برابپورہ ہندواڑہ

Office of the Tehsildar Handwara

SUBJECT: PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING APPLICATION OF RBA

By, Aijaz Ahmad Gojree
S/o, Ab Rahim Gojree
Village, Baderher, Tehsil, Handwara, District Kupwara.
Adhar No. 421916778629
Application No. Jk-Rev-Inc/2025/315827
Dated, 11/06, 2025

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the applicant has submitted an application for the issuance of an RBA (Reserved Backward Area) Certificate, which is currently under process in this office. The applicant's family has been continuously residing in this village for the past fifteen years. The applicant family consists of the following members:
Name: Mother, Son, Daughter, Profession.
1, Rubena begum, Mother, House wife
2, Farida Akhter, Daughter, Student
3, Aijaz Ahmad Gojree, Son, Student
There is no other member in the family besides those listed above. The family's total income from all sources has been declared as ₹.16,00,000. Therefore, if any individual or persons have any objection regarding the issuance of this certificate, they are advised to submit their objections to this office within seven days. After the expiry of this period, no objections will be entertained.

TEHSILDAR OFFICE HANDWARA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Qazi Khurshid Ahmad, son of Late Munshi Ali Mohammad, resident of House No. 35, New Colony Nigeen, Hazratbal, Srinagar, hereby declare that I intend to correct the name of my late father as recorded in the death certificate issued on 03/02/2025 by the Office of the Registrar, Births and Deaths, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, bearing Registration No. 37411. The name is currently recorded as "Ali Mohammad Munshi", which is incorrect. The correct name is "Munshi Ali Mohammad", as reflected in his official documents such as the Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, and other records. The correction pertains solely to the proper placement of the title—changing it from a suffix to a prefix. Any person having any objection to the proposed correction may contact me at +91 6006319106 within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being informed that By mistake My DOB in my school record is wrongly mentioned as 13/11/1976 The actual DOB as per my aadhar card is 19/02/1979 NOW I want apply for its correction if anyone have queries they may report to concern authority within 7 days Mohd Afzal Lone C/O Abdul Rahman Lone R/O pahalgam Ph 6006813699

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my dob has been incorrectly mentioned on his Adhar card, 275489020325as DOB 17/06/1965 while his correct DOB is, 01/06/1970, Name, Ab Majeed Dar now I have applied for the correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection concerned authority JUDIAL office within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted. Name: AB MAJEED DAR, DOB, 01/06/1970 S/O MOHD RAMZAN DAR R/O: BATAPORA TEHSIL HANDWARA DIST KUPWARA

J&K BJP organizes Press conferences, exhibitions, professional meets in 12 districts across J&K

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar 11 June 2025: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir senior leaders addressed press conferences, inaugurated exhibitions and addressed professional meets on major achievements of Modi government in the last 11 years in 12 districts across Jammu & Kashmir. The three programmes were organized in 7 organizational districts of party in Jammu, whereas similar programmes were also held in 5 administrative districts in Kashmir region. In Udhampur district, former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta, MLA Balwant Mankotia, and MLA Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj were the main resource persons. In Samba district, BJP senior leader & MLA Chander Parkash Ganga and All Cell Incharge Rakesh Mahajan were the main resource persons. In Jammu North District, BJP spokesperson & MLA Adv. RS Pathania, and MLA Surinder Bhagat were the main resource persons. In Basohli district, MLA Darshan Singh,



former Mayor Baldev Billawaria, and Spokesperson Inderjit Sambyal were the main resource persons. In Nowshera District, MLA Th. Randhir Singh, senior leader Munish Sharma, and spokesperson Vikram Malhotra were the main resource persons. In Kishtwar District, MLA Shagun Parihar, BJP senior leader Rajeev Charak, and spokesperson Dr. Tahir Choudhary were the main resource persons.

In Kashmir Displaced district, BJP Spokesperson & former MLC Girdhari Lal Raina, BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, and BJYM President Arun Jamwal were the main resource persons. In Anantnag District, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board and National Executive Member BJP, Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi was the main resource person in a programme organized at Dak Bunglow, Khanabal, Anantnag. In Bandipora District, BJP J&K

Spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia was the main resource person in a programme organized at Town Hall, Bandipora. In Baramulla District, BJP J&K Spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia was the main resource person in a programme organized at Dak Bunglow, Baramulla. In Shopian District, BJP J&K spokesperson Altaf Thakur was the main resource person in a programme organized at Abdullah Complex, Shirmal Shopian. In Kulgam District, BJP J&K spokesperson Altaf Thakur was the main resource person in a programme organized at Rest House Chawalgam, Kulgam. Kavinder Gupta emphasized the visionary goal of transforming India into a fully developed nation by its 100th year of independence. He underlined the crucial role of flagship initiatives such as Make in India, Startup India, and Vocal for Local in strengthening India's economy and fostering self-reliance. "India's youth and women are increasingly leveraging these initiatives to launch innovative ventures, contributing significantly to the nation's growth and global standing," he said.

India Becoming Viksit Bharat Under Modi Leadership: Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia

HT NEWS DESK



Baramulla || BJP spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia addressed a press conference at Town Hall Baramulla Along With District President Baramulla Ghulam Husain Dar. He highlighted the role of the Modi Government in making India the fourth largest economy in the world. He referred to the recent Operation Sandoor, stating that India used advanced technology and responded effectively to Pakistan. He said that India has now become a powerful nation and is moving towards becoming a Viksit Bharat. He also spoke on the completion of eleven years of the Modi Government under the theme Viksit Bharat, Amrit Kaal, Seva, Sushasan, Garib Kalyan. Dr. Jasrotia reviewed party activities and held discussions with local functionaries. He stressed upon party workers to strengthen the organisation at the grassroots level. He was accompanied by other senior party leaders during the visit. Later he along with party worker's inspected Exhibitions displaying major achievements of the Modi Government over the past eleven years.

Police Attaches Property of Notorious Drug Peddler Under NDPS Act In Handwara

HT NEWS DESK

Handwara June 11: In a significant action against drug trafficking, Police in Handwara has attached property worth lakhs belonging to a notorious drug peddler under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. Acting in compliance with the stipulated legal provisions, Police Station Qalamabad, under the supervision of senior police officials, attached an immovable property which includes a plot of land with raised plinth owned by Fayaz Ahmad Bhat son of Late Ab Ahad Bhat resident of Jandipora Maratgam. The action was taken under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act in connection with case FIR No. 47/2024 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Qalamabad. Preliminary investigation revealed that the said property was acquired through illicit proceeds generated from drug trafficking activities. The accused, Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, is currently lodged in District Jail Kupwara in the same case. This action underscores Police's unwavering resolve to curb the drug menace by striking at the financial roots of drug networks. The department remains committed to taking stringent legal measures, including property attachment, to dismantle the infrastructure enabling drug trafficking. General public is once again appealed to come forward with any information related to drug trafficking and abuse. All information will be kept confidential.

Traffic Violations on Mughal Road: FIR Registered, 04 Persons Booked, Vehicle seized

HT NEWS DESK

Shopian June 11: In a significant move to ensure public safety and uphold traffic regulations, police in Shopian have registered FIR, seized a vehicle and booked four persons for serious traffic violations on the historic Mughal Road. Police Station Heerpora has registered FIR No. 24/2025 under Sections 281 and 125 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) in connection with a reckless driving incident reported on Mughal Road. Preliminary inquiry revealed that a private car bearing registration number JK22B-9503 was being driven in a manner endangering public safety. The vehicle owner and three co-passengers have been booked in the instant case. Investigation has been set into motion, and further legal action will follow as per law. SSP Shopian emphasized that J&K Police is committed to ensuring road safety. Mughal Road, being a high-altitude and sensitive route, demands cautious and responsible driving.

Block Diwas held at Ramnagri Shopian DC focuses on responsive administration for public good

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JUNE 11: With an aim to strengthen grassroots governance and responsive administration, Block Diwas programme was today organized at Ramnagri block of the district. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta presided over the programme in presence of ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone and ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents and officers from various government departments. Block Diwas provided a platform for the local inhabitants to interact with the top district administration officers to project their developmental demands and grievances on spot at their doorstep.



A number of delegations from different panchayats and villages of Reshnagri, Amshipora, Check-i-Saidapora, Sedow, Saidapora Payan and Bala participated in the

programme and put forth their demands, which primarily included improvement in water and power supply, macadamization of roads, establishment of healthcare facilities, sanctioning of additional ration depots and enhancement in infrastructure for schools and public institutions besides construction of lanes and drains etc. DC gave a patient hearing to the issues and grievances raised and assured the public of time-bound redressal. He directed the concerned officers to resolve genuine issues on priority and furnish action-taken reports to the district administration immediately. Gupta emphasized for completing all ongoing developmental works within the stipulated time frame while also stressing for better and more improved public service delivery and ensuring effective implementation of welfare programmes at the grassroots.

DC Kupwara Chairs District Level Zila Sainik Board Meeting

HT NEWS DESK

KUPWARA, JUNE 11: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ms. Ayushi Sudan today chaired the District Level Zila Sainik Board (ZSB) meeting at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex Kupwara to review the welfare measures and schemes for ex-servicemen, war widows, and their dependents in the district. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, GM DIC, Col. (Retd) S.S Raja, District Treasury Officer, CMO, ASP Handwara, Dy SP Hq Kupwara, Tehsildars, Ex-servicemen and other concerned officials. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the functioning of Zila Sainik Welfare Board, Welfare schemes meant for Ex-servicemen, land cases, medical facilities and other issues. She impressed upon the concerned officers for holding IEC camps at panchayat level to provide aware-



ness of various centrally sponsored schemes to the ex-servicemen so that they can be benefitted under these schemes. These schemes pertain to self employment, PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, BADP etc. Earlier, Secretary ZSWB briefed the chair about various issues pertaining to the Ex-servicemen community in the district for which the DC assured for resolving all their genuine issues on priority. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the district administration's commitment to the welfare

of ex-servicemen and their families and directed concerned departments to work in coordination with the ZSWB for effective implementation of welfare schemes. The DC also appreciated the role of ex-servicemen in nation-building and assured that their contributions will always be respected and recognized by the administration. The DC also appreciated the role of ex-servicemen in nation-building and assured that their contributions will always be respected and recognized by the administration.

SANJAY 2025: DC B'pora reviews arrangements; conducts on-site inspection of Transit Camp Shadipora

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 11: In preparation for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri convened a comprehensive review meeting on Wednesday at the office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division Shadipora. On the occasion, DC stressed the importance of proactive planning, timely execution, and collaborative efforts by all departments to provide seamless services and ensure the safety and comfort of the pilgrims. He took a detailed review of the facilities including transportation, health care services, sanitation, drinking water supply, traffic regulation, and security deployment along the Yatra route. DC directed concerned officers to remain in a state of readiness and ensure that all necessary arrangements including manpower, logistics, equipment, and contingency plans are put in place well in advance to avoid any challenges and to ensure the smooth conduct of the Yatra. The meeting was aimed at finalizing necessary arrangements and ensuring inter-departmental coordination for the smooth conduct of the Yatra. Qadri reaffirmed the district administration's commitment to ensuring a



safe, well-managed and spiritually fulfilling yatra experience for all devotees. Later, DC conducted on-site inspection of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board's Shadipora Transit Camp to review the ongoing works at the site and directed concerned officers to ensure timely completion of all infrastructure projects aimed at improving facilities for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra pilgrims. Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl; Commandant 45 BN CRPF, SDM Sumbal, Project Director NH-1 Srinagar, Chief Medical Officer Bandipora, Executive Engineers from PDD, PHE, and R&B, Tehsildar Sumbal, SDPO Sumbal, BDO Sumbal, AD F&ES, EOMC Sumbal, while Deputy CEO Shrine Board (SANJY) attended the meeting virtually.

LSUC Ganderbal conducts legal awareness program for children

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JUNE 11: Legal Services Unit for Children (LSUC) Ganderbal today organized a legal awareness program for children at Govt. Middle School Gangerhama Ganderbal. The program aimed to educate participants about the legal provisions for vulnerable children, including those with disabilities, transgender children, and children at risk of trafficking or abuse. It also elucidated on legal provisions, children's rights, and accessible remedies through legal services for vulnerable children. The initiative was effectively over-

seen by Abdul Nasir, Chairman, DLSA, Ganderbal, along with the guidance of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary DLSA Ganderbal. During the event, Syed Romani, Assistant LADC Ganderbal, outlined the strong legal framework in India to protect and empower vulnerable children, including the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the Transgender Persons Protection of Rights Act, 2019, the POCSO Act, 2012, and the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. Romani emphasized that children have inherent rights, including the right to life and dignity, education, protection from harm, expression, legal aid and rehabilitation. She also highlighted available rem-



edies for children in need, including the Child Welfare Committee, District Child Protection Unit, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), State Commission, and Childline Helpline (1098). Romani stressed that laws are just the beginning, and effective implementation, awareness, and compassion are crucial to protect children. She urged teachers, doctors, lawyers, and judges to play their part in ensuring child-friendly procedures and providing safety and support to vulnerable children. Aqib Ul Ahad, Assistant LADC, Ganderbal, enlightened the participants about vulnerable groups of children

and their rights, emphasizing the importance of protection and support for these groups. He also educated them about constitutional provisions related to children, child rights enshrined in the Constitution, legislative frameworks governing child rights, and the rights and remedies available to children in need through legal services. The program provided a platform for children to learn about their rights and the legal recourse available to them. The event was attended by students, teachers and other stakeholders, who actively participated in the discussions and deliberations.

EDITORIAL

Provide liberal financing to shelling affected people for construction of houses

A couple of days back the Home Ministry of the Government of India sanctioned an amount of 25 crores as additional compensation for more than 2,000 families that suffered damages to their houses due to the shelling from across the border in the first half of the month of May this year. These houses are located in both the Kashmir and Jammu divisions with the maximum burden being borne by the people living in Baramulla, Kupwara, Rajouri and Poonch districts of the union territory.

According to the figures dished out by the concerned department it has been given that an amount of two lakhs would be given to the families whose houses suffered extensive damages while as one lakh would be given to the families whose houses suffered less damage. Given the present inflationary situation in the country the amount is too meagre and it would not suffice to the demands of the affected people. In such a situation the affected people seem to be at the receiving end with no solution in sight.

Both the Government of India as well as the government of Jammu & Kashmir needs to be generous in this regard and they should come to the rescue of the affected people at the earliest. There should not be any holding back in this regard since it concerns one of the basic needs of the common masses. Families tend to pump each and every penny as well as other valuable items like gold in the construction of their house.

When the same house tends to suffer damages it is bound to give sleepless nights to the house dwellers. Shelter is one of the basic components of life and everyone is entitled to the same. Given the situation that hundreds of families in the union territory are without the shelter it is important that all the possible financial assistance is given to such families so that they live their lives as normal residents without any fear or anxiety.

As on date the financial assistance is very less and it would not lead to any solution to the problems being faced by the shelling affected people. It is important that the people at helm listen to the demands of the affected masses and take practical measures so that the shelling affected people make their houses. This should be done at the earliest so that no time is lost and everything goes according to the plan.

The Young Generation Captivated by the Dazzling Life of Mobile Phones



BY Jaswinder Pal Sharma

In an age defined by connectivity and instant access to information, mobile phones have become more than just tools for communication; they are integral to the very fabric of modern youth culture. As young individuals navigate their formative years, mobile phones serve as gateways to social interactions, entertainment, and a boundless world of knowledge. The romance between the younger generation and their mobile devices is deepening, reshaped by technological advancements and societal shifts.

The Allure of Connectivity

For today's youth, mobile phones are synonymous with connectivity. With a few taps on a sleek screen, friends can engage in daily conversations, share moments, and collaborate on projects, regardless of distance. Social media platforms—fuelled by mobile technology—offer an endless stream of content that enforces a sense of belonging and community. Whether through Snapchat stories, TikTok videos, or Instagram reels, young people share their lives in vibrant, engaging formats. This constant connection, however, serves a dual purpose: while it fosters social ties, it also amplifies the pressure to maintain a curated online presence.

A Hub of Entertainment

Entertainment has taken a new shape with the advent of mobile phones. With countless apps available for gaming, streaming, and content creation, the handheld device has transformed into a mini-entertainment center. Services like Netflix, Spotify, and YouTube have made entertainment more accessible than ever. The ability to watch a blockbuster movie or listen to a favorite playlist with the swipe of a finger keeps the younger generation glued to their screens. The rise of mobile gaming has also captured the hearts of many, with multiplayer games enabling friends to engage in friendly competition and adventure from various locations.

Learning on the Go

The educational landscape has also been transformed by mobile technology. Young students now have access to a plethora of educational resources with applications that facilitate learning outside of traditional classrooms. Platforms such as Khan Academy, Duolingo, and others allow users to learn anything from math to foreign languages at their own pace. This practicality prepares them not only for academic success but also for an increasingly digital job market, where technological literacy is crucial.

The Double-Edged Sword

While mobile phones provide numerous benefits, they also present challenges. The constant digital stimulation can lead to issues such as digital addiction, anxiety, and sleep disturbances. The pressure to stay connected and the fear of missing out can detract from face-to-face interactions and vital real-life experiences. Additionally, concerns surrounding privacy and incidents

of cyberbullying highlight the darker aspects of a life lived online, forcing both parents and educators to grapple with how best to guide the younger generation amid these challenges.

Navigating the Future

As mobile technology continues to evolve, so too will the relationship between young people and their devices. The advent of virtual and augmented reality, the growing presence of artificial intelligence, and the expanding capabilities of mobile devices promise to further entrench phones as central elements in daily life. It will be essential for parents, educators, and society as a whole to strike a balance, ensuring that young people harness the power of mobile technology while cultivating healthy habits and meaningful real-world connections.

Conclusion

The dazzling life of mobile phones has undoubtedly captivated the young generation, shaping their social lives, entertainment choices, and educational pursuits. As with all technologies, the key lies in balance. Understanding how to leverage the benefits of mobile connectivity while mitigating its potential drawbacks will empower young individuals to navigate their world confidently and creatively. As they continue to shape the future, their experiences with mobile devices will undoubtedly leave a lasting legacy on society as a whole.

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The real-life consequences of social media use

By Mohammad Faizan Nadaf

Social media, while offering numerous benefits, presents several disadvantages that can significantly impact real life. One major concern is the potential for addiction. The design of social media platforms, with their endless scrolling and notifications, is inherently addictive, leading users to spend excessive amounts of time online. This can result in neglecting real-life responsibilities, such as work, studies, and personal relationships.

Social media's impact on daily exercise habits presents several disadvantages. One major concern is the potential for decreased physical activity due to increased screen time. The

time spent scrolling through social media platforms often replaces time that could be dedicated to exercise, leading to a more sedentary lifestyle. This can contribute to weight gain, a decline in cardiovascular health, and an increased risk of chronic diseases. Social media significantly impacts youngsters, particularly regarding time consumption. The constant connectivity and accessibility of platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat lead to excessive screen time, often at the expense of other essential activities. This can result in a decrease in time spent on studies, hobbies, and face-to-face interactions, hindering their overall development.

Moreover, the addictive nature of social media can lead

to a breakdown in communication and a lack of attention during family interactions. Youngsters may be physically present but mentally elsewhere, constantly checking their phones and missing out on opportunities to connect with their parents. This can lead to feelings of frustration and neglect for both parents and children.

One of the primary concerns is the reduction in physical activity. The sedentary lifestyle promoted by excessive social media use can lead to weight gain, obesity, and related health problems. Youngsters may spend hours scrolling through feeds, watching videos, or engaging in online interactions, neglecting the need for regular exercise and movement. This lack of physical activ-

ity can also weaken muscles and bones, increasing the risk of injuries.

Moreover, excessive screen time can negatively impact sleep patterns. The blue light emitted by smartphones and other devices can interfere with the production of melatonin, a hormone that regulates sleep. This can lead to sleep deprivation, which is linked to various health problems, including fatigue, weakened immune systems, and increased risk of chronic diseases. One of the most common problems is digital eye strain, also known as computer vision syndrome. This condition is characterized by symptoms such as dry eyes, blurred vision, headaches, and eye fatigue. When youngsters focus on screens for

extended periods, they tend to blink less frequently, leading to dryness and irritation. Additionally, the constant adjustment of focus between near and far distances can strain the eye muscles, contributing to discomfort.

To mitigate these negative impacts, parents can play a crucial role by establishing clear boundaries, promoting open communication, and modeling healthy social media habits themselves. Encouraging offline activities, such as family outings and shared hobbies, can help foster stronger bonds and reduce the negative impact of excessive screen time.

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Remember the name Gali Madhavi Latha, the woman behind the construction of the highest bridge over the Chenab Rail Bridge



By MS Nazki

Remember the name Gali Madhavi Latha, the woman behind the construction of the highest bridge over the Chenab, 'Chandra Bhagha' in local parlance!

-Gali Madhavi Latha is an Indian academic and researcher in the field of geotechnical engineering. She is a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering and chair of the Centre for Sustainable Technology at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.

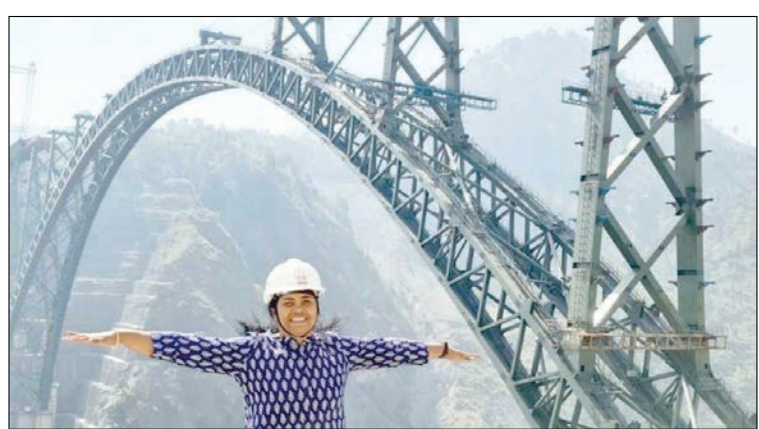
- Her research is focused on various subfields of geotechnical engineering, including soil reinforcement, geosynthetics, and rock mechanics. She contributed to the construction of Chenab Rail Bridge, the highest rail bridge in the world.

-Latha earned her Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) degree in Civil Engineering in 1992 from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Kakinada, graduating with first class and distinction.

- She went on to obtain her Master of Technology (M.Tech) in Geotechnical Engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Warangal, where she received a gold medal for academic excellence. She completed her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at the IIT Madras in 2000.

-Following her doctoral studies, Latha conducted postdoctoral research at the Indian Institute of Science from 2002 to 2003. She subsequently served as an assistant

professor at IIT Guwahati from 2003 to 2004. In 2004, she joined the Indian Institute of Science as a fac-



ulty member in the Department of Civil Engineering.

-At IISc, she served at various academic positions and became a professor. Over the years, she has supervised numerous graduate students and contributed to geotechnical engineering education and research in India.

-Latha's research primarily focuses on the mechanics of soil and ground reinforcement. Her work has included experimental and analytical investigations of soil-reinforcement interaction, especially the frictional behavior at sand-geosynthetic interfaces.

- She has applied image-based techniques to analyze micro-topographical surface changes in geosynthetics under shear and to correlate these changes with stress-displacement behavior.

-She has also worked on geocell-reinforced soils, conducting model tests on foundations, retaining walls, and slopes. Her research covers cyclic load response of geosynthetic-reinforced aggregates used in road construction and the seismic

behavior of various types of retaining structures through shaking table studies.

-In rock engineering, her interests include the numerical modeling of jointed rock masses, the stability of rock slopes, and rock slope reinforcement strategies.

-Latha played an advisory role in the construction of the Chenab Rail Bridge, an infrastructure project located in the Himalayas. Given the region's complex geology, weather extremes, and inaccessibility, her team employed a "design-as-you-go" strategy, adapting to in-situ geological variations such as fractured rock formations and hidden cavities.

-Her contributions included the design and placement of rock anchors to enhance structural stability, enabling safe construction in highly variable rock mass conditions.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Chenab Railway Bridge touted to be the world's highest railway arch bridge, a couple of days ago. The inauguration underscores a landmark moment in India's infrastructure journey. The bridge towering 359 mts tall

above the Chenab river, exceeds the height of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. It connects the Kashmir valley with the rest of the country. The world's highest railway arch bridge is 1,315 mts long. It consists of a 530-mt long approach bridge, 785-mt deck arch bridge.

It would be surprising to know that this iconic bridge built in the northern part of India has a south connection, and with Andhra Pradesh in particular.

Fifty Four-year-old Prof. Madhavi Latha, of the Indian Institute of Science, worked on the project for 17 long years. From 2005, when she joined the IISc to 2022, when she took her family to the place where the bridge was being built, she was completely involved in its construction and other aspects.

She said: "Working on this project has been the experience of a lifetime."

The steel structure can endure extremes of weather conditions like temperatures as low as -20 degree Celsius and wind speeds of 220 km/hr, which is equal to the gusty winds during cyclones. In addition, as the area falls in the Seismic zone-4, the structure was built to withstand earthquakes of magnitude 8 on the Richter Scale. She said that as the structure was built in mountainous terrain, it had the threats of slopes. At one point, she had to invest her time and energy 24*7, sacrificing her rest and sleep. Knowing that Latha, a woman hailing from Andhra Pradesh helmed the huge project, would make every citizen in the state proud.

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Understanding Nature and Staying Healthy in Summer



SAHIL MANZOOR

The phenomenon of day and night is caused by the rotation of the Earth. A full day starts at midnight (12 a.m.) and ends at 11:59 p.m., comprising 24 hours. Interestingly, the Earth not only rotates on its axis but also revolves around the Sun, completing one revolution in 365 days and 6 hours. This is why every fourth year is a leap year, with 366 days.

Due to this revolution, we experience four seasons:
Spring: March 21 – June 21
Summer: June 22 – September 21
Autumn: September 22 – December 21
Winter: December 22 – March 20

Nature's beauty lies in these changing seasons. We experience rain, snow, heat, and cold, each bringing its own charm. The Kashmir Valley, situated in the extreme north, remains cool for most of the year, enhancing its natural beauty. During summer, the valley becomes a hub for local and foreign tourists. The dense forests of the Pir Panjal range help keep tourist spots cool, even during peak summer months.

One remarkable thing about nature is its balance. The Almighty has ensured that natural events remain within our endurance. Nature is both mesmerising and merciful, offering us countless wonders to enjoy and learn from.

Staying Fit and Healthy in Summer Summer in Kashmir is a highly cherished season, not just for tourists but for locals too. However, the intense sunlight and heat call for special care. Here's how to stay fit, hydrated, and refreshed during hot summer days.

1. Stay Hydrated
Our body needs plenty of water to function efficiently. Hydration:

Boosts energy
Aids digestion
Keeps your skin healthy
Prevents heat-related illnesses

2. Eat Hydrating Foods
Include fresh fruits and vegetables in your diet:

Watermelon: 92% water, rich in fiber, vitamin C, vitamin A, potassium, magnesium, and B vitamins. It improves digestion, keeps you full, and is low in calories.

Lemon: Rich in vitamin C, lemon juice helps with digestion, detoxification, weight loss, immunity, and hydration. It's especially beneficial when mixed with lukewarm water in the morning.

How to use lemon water:
Squeeze half a lemon into a glass of water.

If aiming for weight loss, squeeze a whole lemon into lukewarm water and drink it after a 30-minute walk. Repeat for 30 days for best results.

3. Tips to Stay Cool and Fresh
Avoid going out during midday when the sun is at its peak.

Schedule outdoor work in the morning or evening.

Use sunscreen to protect your skin.

Wear cotton clothes that are breathable and light.

Take early morning baths for a refreshing start.

Exercise in the morning or evening, not in peak heat.

Drink fresh juices (dry fruit milk, lemon juice, etc.) for nutrients and hydration.

Stay fit and healthy even during scorching heat wave.

Changing seasons bring joy and variety. Summer, especially in Kashmir, is a time of natural beauty and vibrancy. While we enjoy its blessings, it is important to take proper care of our health. Stay hydrated, eat well, and protect yourself from the heat – and always remain curious and eager to learn more about the natural wonders around us.

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HT TRIBUTE

The Eternal Song of Kashmir: Ghulam Nabi Bulbul - 1949-2025



Nisar Azam

Nestled in the foothills of Booni-baal, just west of Dangi-wacha town, lies the serene hamlet of Batsuma—an unlikely but remarkable cradle of musical heritage in North Kashmir. It was here, in 1949, in the humble home of Abdul Rahman Shah, that a boy was born who would one day become a legend. He was named Ghulam Nabi Shah, though the world would come to know him as Hamli Bulbul—the nightingale of Hamal (Rafiabad). In the tender hush of Kashmir's hills, where melodies float like mist over saffron fields and rivers hum through walnut groves, this boy once sang a song that silenced a crowd and stirred a nation's heart whose voice and dance would define a generation of Kashmiri folk art. It began in the early 1960s, when the state's Prime Minister, Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad, launched the grand cultural initiative Jashn-eKashmir. The idea was simple yet profound—let the valleys sing, dance, and awaken to their own timeless soul. Schools were enlisted across the region, and in a modest government school in Dangi-wacha, Baramulla, a shy boy was asked to sing for the visiting Education Minister, Sham Lal Saraf.

The boy had never sung publicly. But the teachers knew—his late father was an artist, and perhaps something lingered in the child. Ghulam Nabi Shah accepted. He learned a few lines from Kral Koor, a classic poem by renowned poet and academician Fazil Kashmiri, gathered classmates, and when the moment came, he sang. It was more than a performance—it was a revelation. The purity in his voice, the sincerity in his eyes, and the innocence in his delivery stunned the audience. Minister Saraf was moved beyond words. He pulled out 1100 from his own pocket and handed it to the boy in admiration. But Shah did something extraordinary: he gifted the entire amount to the school. The open air amphitheatre erupted in applause. So impressed was the Minister that he

immediately arranged for Shah to perform before Prime Minister Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad in Maidane- Chogal. There too, the young artist's voice held the crowd captive. So persistent were the cheers and encores that even the Prime Minister's suggestion to give other children a chance

Mohammad Shah, and Bulbul had the rare privilege of learning directly from him. Despite his family's reservations, Bulbul surrendered to the call of his art. His early performances were rich in improvisation. One day, inspired by a film in which a dancer balanced a glass of water on her



was gently overruled by the people. It was in Chogal that Bakshi gave him the name that would stay with him for life: Hamali Bulbul—the Nightingale of Hamal. And in a humorous twist of fate, the name of the place, Hamal, would change too. When a villager innocently proclaimed in Kashmiri, "Bakshi has come to Hamal," it phonetically sounded like "Bakshi is pregnant"—to the PM's great embarrassment. Soon after, he renamed the area Rafiabad, in honour of the national leader Rafi Ahmad Kidwai. As Bulbul's star rose, he was soon spotted by the legendary rabab maestro Khazir Mohammad Shah, who took the young singer under his wing. At a prestigious local event, Shah handed him anklets and invited him to perform Bacha Nagma, a traditional dance form of Kashmir. Bulbul had never done it before, but his debut was spellbinding. By the end, the stage was blanketed with currency—offered by an audience entranced by his energy and grace.

Batsuma, known for nurturing great musicians, Bulbul's journey was shaped by solitude and determination. His village had produced giants like Khazir

forehead, Bulbul began practising the act at home. What emerged was a signature move: he could dance vigorously, lowering, rising, tilting, even spinning at ninety degrees—with a glass of water balanced on his head, not spilling a single drop. He became a sensation, dazzling audiences with this feat well into his late sixties. At the Samapa Festival, even maestro Bhajan Sopori stood in admiration. But Bulbul wasn't just a dancer. He was a gifted singer whose voice mirrored the rhythms and anxieties of the Kashmiri soul. He chooses his poetry with profound care—never random, always meaningful. From the early days of Radio Kashmir in 1962, Bulbul became a fixture. He quickly rose to A-Top grade, the highest recognition for an artist, and earned a place on television, stage, and beyond.

A master of instruments, Bulbul plays the harmonium, sarangi, violin, rabab, dholak, and more. But above all, he's revered for his sarangi—delicate, emotional, and precise. Unlike modern performers who rely heavily on electronics, Bulbul is a minimalist. His songs often feature no more than three instruments—sarangi,

harmonium, and rabab—in keeping with the purity of Kashmiri folk tradition. His artistry wasn't confined to the valley. With support from Cultural Academy, Sangeet Natak Akademi, and Doordarshan, Bulbul performed across the country, spreading the fragrance of Kashmir wherever he went. In his long career, Bulbul also mentored many artists, including Gulzar Ahmad Ganai, Manzoor Ahmad Shah, and Abdul Rashid Shah, Khursheed Dilbar ensuring that the tradition would not die with him. His life has not been without pain. During a live Doordarshan performance, a metal shade fell on his leg, tearing flesh. He was advised to rush to the hospital. But he refused. "People are waiting," he said. Bandaged hastily, he stepped onto the stage.

The floor turned red with blood, but he never missed a step. Bulbul has lived as few have: devoted, daring, and deeply in love with the cultural spirit of Kashmir. He has not just performed songs and dances—he has carried forward an entire tradition on his shoulders. From a dusty school stage in Dangi-wacha to the finest auditoriums of India, Ghulam Nabi Bulbul remained a testament to what happens when art and destiny embrace. Today, the valley weeps. Ghulam Nabi Bulbul—our Hamli Bulbul—has passed into eternity. The nightingale who once made the walnut groves of Rafiabad echo with song now sings among the stars.

His departure is not just the loss of a beloved artist, but the silencing of a voice that held within it the echoes of generations, the ache of exile, the innocence of childhood, and the deep, unspoken sorrow of Kashmir. Yet, even in death, he leaves behind a living legacy—a lineage of sound, grace, and memory that will continue to ripple through our music, our culture, and our hearts. Bulbul was more than a performer; he was the breath of Kashmir's folk spirit, wrapped in melody. May his soul rest in eternal peace. And may we, who remain, never let his song fade. Farewell, Bulbul Saeb. The valley shall remember. Always.

Nisar Azam is a writer, poet and translator. His first poetry collection bagged him the Sahitya Akademi Award (Yuva Puraskar) in the year 2011. shahnisar9@gmail.com

Tin Box Library And Book Reading



MUNTASHIR KIFAYAT HUSSAIN

Living in a digital age that whizzes information to our fingertips, with glowing screens and endless entertainment, we have almost forgotten books in this whirlwind of the digital era. I have seriously observed the government schools in my area, Narabal (Budgam), the semi-digitised schools. In some schools, digitalisation is almost zero.

There is an old school treasure that deserves a place in students' backpacks—books. These tools, filled with inky lines, may seem a little bit slow, but hold a unique kind of magic. Let's try to introduce the concept of book reading in government elementary and high schools, to purchase a variety of books from the market and believe that books encompass a variety of genres. The unique perspective of each genre plays a crucial role in personal and skill development.

Believe me, students like book reading just as they like sports. As an academic monitor in my home district, Budgam, I have seen almost all the schools where I visit, with no library or reading room. In some schools, the books are piled up in a tin box called a library.

I agree with some of my fellow educators about the unavailability of rooms for a library. But in schools with sufficient infrastructure and space, there is no such thing as library. Imagine a government school, both elementary and high school, with a library and reading room. Educators and students reading books in leisure time—how beautiful the scene could be.

In my recent visit to one of the government middle schools of my home district, Budgam, I found one and learnt a lesson for life. At around 1:30 pm, I, along with my fellow academic monitors, reached this beautifully located school, nestled in hills with mesmerising greenery. The campus was quiet and calm. On seeing this calmness, we were scared to begin with, but slowly moved ahead.

We found a room almost 12 by 12 feet in area. The educators and students were reading, turning over the pages of books. It looked so beautiful and reminded me of a famous saying: "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one." The beautifully decorated wooden shelves contained a variety of books. These shelves attracted me, and I found the books on them encompassed a variety of genres. The students and teachers were in a poetic frenzy, in a different world altogether.

The head of the institute noticed my presence. I got out of the room and didn't want to disturb them. The HOI followed me, and we sat in the park. I was curious to know about this book reading. I asked him, "When do the students go for a break?"

He said, "1:00 pm. to 1:30 pm., and from 1:30 pm. to 2:00 pm., they have been given a choice for book reading. The number of students involved in book reading is soaring every day."

I asked him about the benefits of book reading in this digital era. He elaborated, "The internet offers a vast ocean of knowledge, but books provide deep dives. Reading a book cultivates deeper knowledge and understanding."

He continued, "Books challenge students to think critically and analytically. Book reading stimulates intellectual curiosity. It reduces stress, promotes relaxation, enhances empathy and emotional intelligence, and builds vocabulary and language skills."

When I asked about the collection of books for the kids up to middle level, his reply was interesting. "It is not about Math, Science, English, SST, Urdu books only, but we have fiction books which enhance creativity and empathy as children immerse themselves in imaginative worlds; non-fiction books which broaden understanding. Fantasy and adventure genres stimulate creativity."

I, as an academic monitor, started thinking: what if every government school—elementary, middle, or high school—inculcates the habit of book reading? The books piled up in a tin box will gather dust. I started imagining a kid of 10 years old holding a storybook in his hand with calm composure. Another holding an adventure genre, sitting alongside the educators in the same room.

The tin box library in our elementary and middle government schools is of no use except to maintain the stock register and cash book. If a room is available in a primary or middle school, setting up a library should not take time. A few shelves and a collection of books are not a big issue if we, as educators, have the right intention about it. Simple plastic storage containers can be utilised.

In this whirlwind of digital awesomeness, this old-school treasure should not be neglected. The School Education Department of J&K should take concrete steps to revive and rejuvenate the book-reading habit amongst students and educators right from the elementary level.

- Edna St. Vincent Millay has rightly said:
- From the dust of ages
- Lift this little book,
- Turn tattered pages,
- Read me, do not let me
- Die! Search the fading letters finding
- Steadfast in the broken binding
- All that once was!

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Kashmir's Environmental Dilemma



BY NAWAZ MANZOOR

As the world celebrates World Environment Day on June 5th, the scenic valley of Kashmir finds itself at a critical juncture. The region's breathtaking landscapes, pristine lakes & lush forests are facing unprecedented threats from human activities, climate change & neglect. On this World Environment Day, it's essential to reflect on Kashmir's environmental challenges & explore ways to mitigate them.

The Environmental Riches of Kashmir Kashmir, often referred to as "Paradise on Earth," is renowned for its stunning natural beauty. The region's diverse geography, ranging from the snow-capped Himalayas to the tranquil Dal Lake, supports a wide range of flora & fauna. Kashmir's forests, which cover over 20% of its land area, are home to several endangered species, including the Hangul (Kashmir stag) and the Snow leopard. The region's rich biodiversity is not only a source of pride but also a vital component of its economy, with tourism and agriculture being significant contributors.

However, Kashmir's environmental riches are facing severe challenges. The region's fragile ecosystem is under threat from human activities such as deforestation, pollution & over-extraction of natural resources.

The construction of hydroelectric projects, mining & quarrying have altered the natural landscape, causing soil erosion, landslides, and loss of biodiversity. The Dal Lake, an iconic symbol of Kashmir's tourism industry, is facing severe pollution due to human activities, including the discharge of untreated sewage and

industrial waste. Climate change is another significant threat to Kashmir's environment. Rising temperatures are altering the region's precipitation patterns, leading to more frequent and intense floods and droughts. The glaciers in the Himalayas, which feed Kashmir's rivers, are



melting at an alarming rate, threatening the region's water security.

The impact of climate change is already being felt, with changes in agricultural patterns, increased risk of natural disasters, and loss. Human activities are a significant contributor to Kashmir's environmental challenges. The region's growing population, coupled with unsustainable consumption patterns, has put immense pressure on its natural resources.

The lack of effective waste management systems, inadequate sewage treatment, and pollution from industrial activities have all taken a toll on the environment. The construction of roads, buildings, and other infrastructure projects has led to deforestation and habitat destruction, further exacerbating the region's environmental woes. The region's environmental policies and laws are often inadequate or poorly enforced, allowing

human activities to go unchecked. The lack of transparency and accountability in decision-making processes has led to corruption and cronyism, further exacerbating environmental degradation. The involvement of local communities in environmental decision-making is essen-



tial to ensure that their needs and concerns are taken into account. Despite the challenges, there are several community-led initiatives in Kashmir that are working towards environmental conservation. These initiatives, often led by local NGOs and community groups, focus on issues such as waste management, reforestation, and sustainable livelihoods.

The involvement of local communities is critical to the success of these initiatives, as they are best placed to understand the region's environmental challenges and develop solutions that are tailored to their needs. As Kashmir reflects on its environmental challenges on World Environment Day, it's essential to identify solutions that are sustainable, equitable, and just.

The region needs a holistic approach to environmental conservation, one that takes into account the interconnectedness of its ecosystems and the needs of its

people. This can be achieved through a combination of policy reforms, community-led initiatives, and individual actions.

Conclusion: Kashmir's environmental challenges are significant, but they are not insurmountable. By working together, we can protect the region's natural beauty and ensure a sustainable future for its people. On this World Environment Day, let's pledge to take action, whether it's reducing our carbon footprint, conserving water, or supporting community-led initiatives. The future of Kashmir's environment depends on our collective efforts, and it's time for us to take responsibility for our actions.

Some additional statistics & facts about pollution in Jammu & Kashmir:

Particulate Matter (PM) Levels The PM2.5 concentration in Rajouri district is forecasted to be 114.7 µg/m3, which is unhealthy.

The annual average of PM10 pollutant at Khrew, Khunmoh & Lasjan was recorded at 132.65 µg/m3, 162.86 µg/m3, and 277.77 µg/m3, respectively, exceeding the national average limit.

Health Implications Breathing the air in Jammu and Kashmir is as harmful as smoking 1.2 cigarettes a day.

Air pollution can cause breathing discomfort, exacerbate respiratory problems & increase the risk of heart attacks, lung cancer & asthma.

Government Initiatives The Department of Floriculture has initiated a project to plant 15,000 perennial trees across Srinagar to mitigate air pollution.

The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) has allocated Rs 33 crore for improving air quality in Srinagar City.

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Divisional Commissioner Jammu visits Sukrala Mata Shrine, reviews civic amenities

HT NEWS DESK

KATHUA, JUNE 11: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar today visited revered Sukrala Mata Shrine in Billawar, where he reviewed the facilities for devotees. Accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Kathua Dr. Rakesh Minhas, ADC Billawar Vinay Khosla and other sectoral officers, he also inspected the progress of development works in the area. The Divisional Commissioner paid obeisance at the Holy Shrine and took stock of the facilities available for the devotees including the provision of drinking water in and around

the shrine. The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti informed that the water supply is being provided to devotees and adjoining areas from a Tube Well. Responding to the demands raised by the locals, the Divisional Commissioner assured that the possibility of extending the parking area near the shrine will be actively explored for the convenience of pilgrims and tourists. He reiterated the administration's commitment to resolve genuine issues in a phased and time-bound manner for hassle free pilgrimage experience at the shrine. Later, the Divisional Commissioner visited the Community Health Centre (CHC) and



reviewed the progress of work on its new building. Observing that certain portions of the building are near completion, the Divisional Commissioner directed the executing agency to immediately hand over the completed portion of the project so that the Health Department can start the operations, especially the gynecology ward without further delay. He also emphasized timely completion of the entire project to enhance healthcare delivery in the region. Accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Kathua Dr. Rakesh Minhas, ADC Billawar Vinay Khosla and other sectoral officers, he also inspected the progress of devel-

opment works in the area. The Divisional Commissioner paid obeisance at the Holy Shrine and took stock of the facilities available for the devotees including the provision of drinking water in and around the shrine. The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti informed that the water supply is being provided to devotees and adjoining areas from a Tube Well. Responding to the demands raised by the locals, the Divisional Commissioner assured that the possibility of extending the parking area near the shrine will be actively explored for the convenience of pilgrims and tourists. He reiterated the administration's commitment.

ADC Jammu emphasises priority sector lending at DLRC meeting

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 11: A meeting of the District Level Review Committee was convened today to assess the performance of banks and financial institutions in the district. The meeting was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner Anusya Jamwal and attended by Lead District Manager Romesh Chander, DDM NABARD Rajesh Dutta, LDO RBI Anil Kumar and Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh besides others. During the session, special emphasis was placed on enhancing priority sector lending, with a focus on agriculture and housing sectors. The need to clear pendency in government sponsored lending cases was stressed upon to ensure support for targeted beneficiaries. The need to clear pendency in government sponsored lending cases was stressed upon to ensure support for targeted beneficiaries.

Yasha Mudgal reviews works under CAPEX 2024-26 of Tourism Department

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 11: Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Yasha Mudgal, today chaired a meeting of senior officers at Civil Secretariat Jammu to review functioning of the Tourism Department. Director, Tourism Jammu, Vikas Gupta; Director, Tourism Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob; Director, Planning Tourism, Yasir Latief; Director, Finance Tourism, Satnam Singh; all CEOs of Development Authorities and other senior officers attended the meeting. Threadbare discussions were held on various issues regarding proposed new works submitted by the line agencies under Capex budget 2025-26. Director, Planning Tourism, briefed the meeting about the ongoing work wise activities being conducted under Capex budget 2025-26. He also gave details about the physical and financial activities of the development projects of the department. Directors, Tour-



ism, Jammu/ Kashmir and CEOs of all Tourist Development Authorities also apprised the meeting of the new proposed works and their implementation under Capex Budget 2025-26. The Commissioner Secretary directed the senior officers to prioritise give the projects having significant impact

in boosting the tourism sector. She asked for proper monitoring of progress on all the ongoing projects of tourism department. She also stressed upon them to create a roadmap for implementing and completing the works of these projects in a time bound manner. She directed the CEOs

of Tourist Development Authorities to keep close coordination with the Directors Tourism Department and fix target to complete maximum projects during 2025-26 under Capex budget. She also directed them to take all necessary steps to repair and upgrade all non-functional toilets at all Tourism Dev Authorities for convenience of the tourists. The Commissioner Secretary directed the senior officers to prioritise give the projects having significant impact in boosting the tourism sector. She asked for proper monitoring of progress on all the ongoing projects of tourism department. She also stressed upon them to create a roadmap for implementing and completing the works of these projects in a time bound manner. She directed the CEOs of Tourist Development Authorities to keep close coordination with the Directors Tourism Department and fix target to complete maximum projects during 2025-26 under Capex budget. She also directed them to take all necessary steps to repair.

DC Poonch reviews implementation of Mission YUVA

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JUNE 11: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) for Mission YUVA. The meeting was convened to review and approve applications submitted through the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU) and to assess the progress of the scheme's implementation in the district. The committee scrutinized the applications received, assessing the eligibility, business viability and socio-economic background of the applicants. Each case was discussed in detail to ensure fair and merit-based consideration in line with the objectives of Mission YUVA. Speaking at the meeting, the Deputy



Commissioner emphasized the importance of promoting self employment avenues for local youth, particularly those from underprivileged and marginalized sections of society. He directed the concerned departments to ensure timely disbursement of financial assistance, continuous handholding and regular monitoring to ensure the long-term sustainability of the approved ventures. The Deputy Commissioner also stressed the need for enhanced outreach and awareness programs to encourage wider participation from eligible youth across the district. The meeting concluded with a resolve to strengthen youth-led entrepreneurship and promote sustainable livelihood through effective implementation of Mission YUVA in the district.

JMC launches crack down on unregistered Pet, Bird Shops across Jammu

HT NEWS DESK



JAMMU, JUNE 11: The Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), under the Directions of Commissioner JMC, Dr. Devansh Yadav, has intensified its drive against unregistered pet and bird sellers operating illegally within the city. Acting under the leadership of Dr. Gaurav Chowdhary, Animal Welfare Officer, JMC team, comprising of Dr Divya and officials of Enforcement Wing of JMC conducted surprise inspections at multiple locations including Gandhinagar, Nanak Nagar, Railway Station and Trikuta Nagar. During the operation, some shopkeepers were found selling fishes & birds without obtaining the mandatory registration or licenses. Despite multiple notices and warnings previously issued by the Corporation, many traders have continued to flout regulations. Dr. Gourav Chowdhary informed that a total of 20 shops have been inspected so far and notices were served to those operating without proper authorization, putting animal welfare and public health at risk. As part of the ongoing enforcement drive, one shop was sealed today in the Gandhinagar area. Dr. Chowdhary emphasized that strict action will continue against unregistered shops unless they comply with the licensing norms. "The facility for registration is available at the office of the Animal Welfare Officer, DC North, JMC and all traders involved in the sale of pet animals are advised to get registered at the earliest to avoid legal action," he added.

DC Rajouri inspects key projects, government institutions in Thanamandi Sub Division

HT NEWS DESK

RAJOURI, JUNE 11: Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma today conducted a comprehensive inspection of the ongoing development works and government institutions in Thanamandi Sub Division. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the ongoing work on the vital Rajouri-Thanamandi-Surankote road stretch, inspecting the progress of work on Rajouri to DKG

segment. The road being constructed by the BRO is of great strategic and developmental importance as it will significantly improve connectivity in the hilly region. The DC directed the concerned authorities to expedite the pace of work while maintaining quality standards and ensuring adherence to timeline. Later, the Deputy Commissioner visited Sub District Hospital Thanamandi, where he assessed the healthcare facilities, manpower, infrastructure and medicine supplies. He interacted with

the hospital staff and patients and stressed the need for improved sanitation, better patient care and round-the-clock availability of medical services. Afterwards, the DC visited several other government institutions in the area to evaluate their functioning and services delivery. He issued necessary directions to the heads of departments to ensure accountability, punctuality and effective implementation of government schemes at the grassroots level.

Geo-tagging of PMEGP Units underway in Doda District

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 11: A meeting to review geotagging of units established under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) was held today at the District Industries Centre (DIC). Chaired by General Manager DIC, S. Paramjeet Singh, the meeting was attended by representatives from different banks and the Geotagging Team from the Department of Posts. The team has been entrusted to geotagging of 524 units, the list of which was provided by the district administration early this month. It was informed that 94 units have been geotagged to date. General Manager S. Paramjeet Singh set a two month deadline for the geotagging exercise and instructed the team to submit the list of non-functional or non-existing units within five days.

First DLIC meeting under Mission YUVA held at Kishtwar

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 11: The first meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) for the Mission YUVA initiative was held today here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan. The meeting was convened to review and approve applications received under the Mission YUVA scheme and assess the progress of cases forwarded by the Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) and Business Help Desks (BHDs). A total of 25 applications, duly verified by the SBDU were presented before the DLIC for consideration. Each case was thoroughly scrutinized assessing the project viability, besides eligibility and socio-economic background of the applicants. The committee unanimously approved all 25 applications for financial assistance



and necessary handholding support under the Mission YUVA. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the crucial role of youth in the economic development and the need to empower them through Mission YUVA. He directed the District Nodal Officer JKEDI and Functional Manager DIC to expedite the formulation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) so that applications received

through SBDUs can be promptly verified and placed before the DLIC for timely approval. He also directed the banks to expedite disbursement of financial assistance for sanctioned projects and maintain close monitoring to ensure the long-term success of the ventures. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner

Kishtwar, Pawan Kotwal, GM DIC Rishi Sharma, AD Employment/FC&CA Kishtwar, Shafiq Ali Keen DSWO Kishtwar, Zubair Ahmed, DDM NABARD, LDM Kishtwar, Manager J&K Bank Cluster Office, Representative District Nodal Officer JKEDI and other concerned officers. The meeting was convened to review and approve applications received under the Mission YUVA scheme and assess the progress of cases forwarded by the Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) and Business Help Desks (BHDs). A total of 25 applications, duly verified by the SBDU were presented before the DLIC for consideration. Each case was thoroughly scrutinized assessing the project viability, besides eligibility and socio-economic background of the applicants. The committee unanimously approved all 25 applications for financial assistance and necessary handholding support under the Mission YUVA.

Thousands throng Sudhmahadev Mela on Day 2

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 11: The historic Sudhmahadev Mela continued to draw large crowds on the second day, as thousands of devotees and visitors gathered to partake in the vibrant festivities and pay obeisance at the revered Shrine. The atmosphere was electric, with scintillating cultural performances captivating the audience and highlighting the rich heritage of the region. The audience was treated to captivating Dogri music and folk dances by local artists including artists of Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan. The performances received thunderous applause and were highly appreciated by one and all. MLA Chenani Balwant Singh Mankotia graced the occasion as the chief guest.

Distt Admin Kulgam braces up to launch intensive IEC campaign from June 15 in tribal villages under DAJGUA

DC reviews arrangements & preparations, directs departments to ensure 100% saturation of govt schemes & welfare programmes

HT NEWS DESK

KULGAM, JUNE 11: With a focus on ensuring last-mile delivery of government services and welfare schemes in tribal areas the district, district administration Kulgam is set to launch an intensive IEC (Information, Education & Communication) campaign under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) from June 15 to June 30, 2025. In this connection, a meeting of officers was held today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, at the DC Office Complex to finalize the arrangements for the upcoming campaign. During the meeting, DC held a detailed review of the action plan and emphasized that the primary



objective of the campaign is to achieve 100% saturation of all government schemes and beneficiary-oriented programmes at the grassroots level in tribal areas. He stressed the importance of intensified outreach efforts and inter-departmental coordination for effective implementation of the campaign. It was informed that the programme is aimed at uplifting tribal communities and ensuring their inclusive socio-economic development. DC directed departments to also organize IEC cum beneficiary saturation camps in tribal villages. The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), Joint Director Planning and other senior officers.

Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan: Mega awareness programme held at Shangus Anantnag

HT NEWS DESK

ANANTNAG, JUNE 11: A grand awareness programme under the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA) was successfully organised today by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Anantnag in collaboration with Agriculture and allied sectors at Shangus, Anantnag. The programme was graced by Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Shangus, Riyaz Khan and Director Extension SKUAST-Kashmir Dr. Raihana Habib. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local farming community and officials from agriculture and allied sectors. In their addresses, dignitaries highlighted the significance of the campaign in transforming the agricultural landscape of the region. They emphasized the importance of adopting modern agricultural technologies and practices to improve productivity and enhance farmers' incomes. The dignitaries lauded the collaborative efforts of various departments and assured that similar programmes will be organised in future to ensure that the benefits of science and innovation reach the grassroots level. Dr. Ishtiyaq Ahmad Khan, Head of KVK



Anantnag, provided a comprehensive overview of the activities carried out under VKSA during the past 12 days across the district. He elaborated on the outreach and training sessions conducted for farmers on various agri-technological interventions. The event also featured addresses by Chief Agriculture Officer Anantnag, Horticulture Development Officer (HDO) Shangus and representatives from other line departments. They spoke about the schemes, subsidies, and support available to farmers, urging them to take full advantage of these initiatives.

DC convenes Block Diwas program at Bagla Bharat- Doda

Listens to public issues, reviews progress of development projects

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 11: To strengthen grassroots governance and ensure citizen-centric service delivery, Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh chaired the Block Diwas Programme at Dak Banglow Bagla Bharat today. The event drew active participation from PRIs, local residents, civil society members, including women. They projected developmental requirements and public grievances before the district administration. The DC was accompanied by District and sectoral officers, who were directed to ensure on-the-spot redressal of genuine public issues. The DC also conducted a field visit to inspect the ongoing developmental works in the area. He reviewed progress on rural development projects, Anganwadi Centres and Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) established under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). He also inspected a nursery developed under HADP and emphasized the need for ensuring quality standards and timely completion of all government projects. The DC specifically reviewed the status of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

schemes, PMGSY roads and healthcare facilities. Public representatives raised numerous demands, seeking blacktopping of roads, augmentation of water supply schemes, construction of boundary walls of schools, provision of a playground for students and early completion of under construction PMGSY roads. They further raised the issue of shortage of teaching and medical staff in schools and health institutions and demanded remedial classes for weaker students. Women participants sought better Anganwadi services, improved maternal healthcare and promotion of self-employment opportunities for rural women. Responding to the demands, DC Harvinder Singh assured redressal of all genuine demands in a phased manner. He instructed line departments to act promptly and furnish action taken report. He urged locals to avail benefits of welfare schemes such as PMAY, PM Kisan, Ayushman Bharat and provision of pension under social security schemes. The DC reiterated the administration's commitment to responsive governance and inclusive development across all blocks.

ISB launches accelerator programme for start ups to power North India's cultural economy

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, June 11: India's journey to a trillion-dollar economy has a powerful, yet often overlooked, ally—culture. Recognising this untapped potential, the Atal Incubation Centre at the Indian School of Business (AIC- ISB), in partnership with the Punjab Cultural Project (PCP) and Network of Indian Cultural Enterprises (NICE org), has launched Culture Catalyst 2025–26, a first-of-its-kind accelerator dedicated to scaling cultural brands and entrepreneurship across the states of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh. The Culture Catalyst 2025–26 programme aims to build a robust ecosystem that empowers cultural entrepreneurs to launch, grow, and scale purpose-driven and profitable brands—turning cultural heritage into sustainable busi-



ness across the region. This is a unique opportunity for artisans and cultural entrepreneurs to scale their enterprises and play a catalytic role in nation-building—by transforming local heritage into global brands.

The Culture Catalyst 2025–26 programme spans 6 months where entrepreneurs will learn through a blend of in-person immersions, virtual master classes, sector deep dives, and custom mentorship to help them build profitable and purpose-driven cultural businesses that can compete globally. The Culture Catalyst programme is now open for applications and invites start-ups and entrepreneurs in the areas of fashion, home décor, food & beverage, experiential tourism, and wellness to apply. Ten selected start-ups will receive hands-on mentoring, access to investors, market networks, and a seed grant of Rs. one lakh. Applications are open until May 31, 2025 for cultural entrepreneurs from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. Cultural start-ups are encouraged to apply and become a catalyst in India's cultural renaissance. For registration and other details, please visit <https://i-venture.org/culture-catalyst/>

Surinder Choudhary inaugurates Hathkargha mela at Kashmir Haat

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today inaugurated the Hathkargha mela at Kashmir Haat. The event is being organized by the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir and sponsored by the Development Commissioner Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. The DyCM, while addressing on the occasion, called upon launching a major marketing and branding campaign for promotion of the Handicrafts & Handloom products of Kashmir, having readymade niche market available at global level. He also emphasized on the need for making an action plan for promotion of these world famous products. The Dy CM, during his inspection of the stalls, interacted with the weavers and artisans and was mesmerized by the Kani shawls and Sozni work done on the pashmina shawls. He stated that artisans and



weavers are the vital pillars of the society and present government will take every necessary step to make their future secure. The Deputy CM directed the Handicrafts and Handloom Department to contemplate the possibility of procurement of some notified crafts such as crewel by the

government. He emphasized the importance of creating sustainable market linkages for handloom Weavers and commended the Directorate for its ongoing efforts in promoting the sector at both national and international platforms. Choudhary appealed the citizens, tourists,

art connoisseurs and media members to visit the expo and experience firsthand the vibrancy and artistry of Kashmir handlooms which will remain open to the public till June 18, 2025. The expo featured over 60 master weavers and skilled artisans, who are showcasing an exquisite collection of handloom products, each telling a unique story of tradition, skill, and identity. The special handloom fair is a significant initiative aimed at celebrating, preserving and promoting India's unparalleled handloom legacy, while offering an empowering platform for the artisan and weaver communities of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Director, Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir, Mussarat Islam, Deputy Director, H&H, Kashmir, Mirza Shahid Ali Beigh, Deputy Director, Administration Hakim Riyaz UL Haq Assistant Director, Weavers Service Centre, Ministry of Textiles and Assistant Director, Handicrafts, Development Commissioner, Handicrafts (GoI) and other senior officers of the Department were present on the occasion.

Passing of Iconic Kashmiri Singer Ghulam Nabi Bulbul – A Profound Cultural Loss

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar :-Idaara Tehqeeq-o-Adab, Jammu & Kashmir mourns the passing of Ghulam Nabi Bulbul, one of the Valley's most revered singers and composers, fondly known as Hamla-e-Bulbul. He breathed his last today at his ancestral village Bota Soom, Dangi wacha, Rafiabad, Baramulla, after a brief illness. Ghulam Nabi Bulbul was a towering figure in the world of Kashmiri music, whose melodious voice and soulful renditions captured the essence of the Valley's cultural heritage. For decades, his art resonated in the hearts of the people, transcending generations and borders. He not only preserved and promoted Kashmiri music with unmatched sincerity but also carried its fragrance across the globe, becoming a symbol of Kashmiri identity and pride. In this moment of immense grief, Idaara Tehqeeq-o-Adab extends its deepest condolences to the bereaved family. The President, General Council, and members of the Idaara stand united in mourning. Those who have expressed their heartfelt sympathies include: Mr. Farooq Shaheen – President & General Council Member

Mr. Mohammad Akram Qureshi – Vice President & General Council Member
Dr. Altaf Hussain Yatu (Areef Jamie) – General Council Member
Mr. Firdous Fazeel – General Council Member
Mr. Shah Khurshid – General Council Member
Miss Rubta Qureshi – Secretary & Head of Female Wing
Mr. Muhammad Mushtaq – Vice President
Dr. Rahbar Hilal, Dr. Shahida Shabnam – Institutional Representatives
Dr. Farooq Lone – Head, Media & Communications
Mr. Qaiser Rehman, Ms. Zarqa Tasneem, Ms. Neelofar Khan, Mr. Shahid Ghulam Nabi Khan, Mr. Farhat Wali, Mr. Roohan Khurshid, Mr. Muhammad Mukhtar Qureshi, Mr. Rais Ahmad Kumar, Mr. Shafiqat Aziz – Members and Contributors
The entire Idaara Tehqeeq-o-Adab prays that Allah Almighty grant the departed soul peace in every fold of Paradise and bless the grieving family with patience and strength. In solemn remembrance, Department of Publication & Outreach Idaara Tehqeeq-o-Adab, Jammu & Kashmir

Ganapora Residents Decry Filthy Roads, Seek Action from Authorities

HT NEWS DESK

Kupwara, June 11, KNT: Residents of Ganapora village in Kralgund area of North Kashmir's Kupwara district have raised serious concerns over the dumping of cow dung and garbage along roadside stretches, saying the mess has created unsanitary and hazardous conditions. Locals alleged that several households are carelessly discarding waste, including cow dung, on public roads, making it difficult for pedestrians and commuters. "The stench and filth have made life miserable. During rains, it spreads everywhere, posing health risks," said Jahangir Ahmad, a resident. Despite repeated complaints to the Rural Development Department and local Tehsil office, no action has been taken, residents said. They have now appealed to the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara to intervene and ensure proper sanitation in the area. [KNT]

Private Schools Flouting Fee Norms; Fee Fixation Committee Warns of Strict Action

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 11, KNT: The Fee Fixation Committee (FFC) has raised serious concerns over increasing complaints from parents and students regarding the illegal collection of admission fees by several private schools across Jammu and Kashmir, in blatant violation of the J&K School Education Act, 2002 (as amended). The Committee revealed that despite repeated directions and clear legal provisions, some private educational institutions continue to charge admission fees—a practice strictly prohibited under Section 20E(1) of the Act. "Private schools shall not charge in any manner, any other fee including admission fee or any amount, by whatever name called than the fee mentioned above," reads the proviso of the said section. The Committee further stated that it has come to light that such fees are often collected without issuing proper receipts and sometimes through unofficial channels, thereby concealing the unlawful nature of the transactions. This, the Committee said, is a "grave violation" of the law and warrants stern legal action. To curb these malpractices and protect students and their families from financial exploitation, the Fee Fixation Committee has urged parents and students to report any such incidents. "In order to check the menace and stop the exploitation, the parents/students are requested to inform this office through official email (chairmanffc@gmail.com) or on official telephone numbers 0194-4034841 / 0191-2956990," the Committee appealed.

India's network of infrastructure is boosting ease of living: PM Modi

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 11

From railways to highways, ports to airports, India's rapidly expanding infra network is boosting 'Ease of Living' and enhancing prosperity," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday, highlighting the infrastructural development being undertaken in the country in the past 11 eleven years.



X, the Prime Minister emphasised India's outstanding strides in infrastructure — spanning railways, highways, ports, and airports — leading to enhanced connectivity, economic expansion, and improved Ease of

Living and enhanced prosperity for citizens.

Responding to separate posts by MyGovIndia on X, Modi wrote: "It's been #11YearsOfInfraRevolution, with outstanding infrastructure being added that has enhanced India's growth trajectory. From railways to highways, ports to airports, India's rapidly expanding infra network is boosting 'Ease of Living' and enhancing prosperity." "India's push for next-gen infrastructure is powered by sustainability and long term vision. It is laying the foundations of a self-reliant India!"

Govt showcases milestones achieved under Modi Govt in last 11 yrs

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 11

The Government on Wednesday showcased an array of developmental milestones achieved in the past eleven years in various sectors across all sections under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



security, expanding road and railway networks, as well as full electrification, reaching even the most remote areas.

Citing employment data from EPFO, he said these reflect greater job creation and heightened awareness of employee benefits. He added that at the same time, the Modi government has spearheaded a series of infrastructure projects, including the Chenab Bridge, Atal Tunnel, and the Statue of Unity — all exemplifying India's engineering excellence.

A core focus of the government has been the empowerment of marginalised communities, including persons with disabilities, transgender individuals, and those from SC/ST

OBC groups. Access to essential amenities, such as clean water, electricity, healthcare, and digital services, has been expanded to millions of households.

India's leadership in green energy was also showcased at the event with the Ministry stating that India continues to set new global benchmarks in sustainability, drawing admiration from international leaders.

As India prepares for its first independent human spaceflight and looks towards the Moon and beyond, the government's investment in space technology underscores the nation's growing prominence on the global stage, said the Minister.

Guided by the principle of Antyodaya, the government has strived for 100% saturation across all welfare schemes. From housing to healthcare and clean cooking fuel, millions of previously underserved families now have access to basic services.

"Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi, India has not only seen an economic transformation but also witnessed the empowerment of millions.

Shah chairs high-level meeting to review flood management preparedness

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 11

Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a high level meeting on Tuesday to review the preparedness of flood management in the country and emphasised on maximum use of space technology by various central agencies for flood control and water management.



Shah also reviewed the long-term measures being taken to mitigate the menace of floods in the country and the steps taken on the decisions made in the meeting held last year, a Home Ministry statement said.

He discussed the new technologies adopted by all agencies for flood management and expansion of their network in the meeting.

Amit Shah said that India's disaster management is moving forward with a 'Zero Casualty Approach'. He directed National

Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to coordinate with the State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) and District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs) for ensuring dissemination of early warning alerts to the grassroots level and further appealed to all the States and Union Territories for timely implementation of the advisories issued by NDMA for flood management.

He asked NDMA and NDRF to work towards efficient flood management in full coordination with the states.

The Home Minister, while

appreciating Central Water Commission (CWC) and India Meteorological Department (IMD) for increasing the time limit regarding issuance of flood forecasting and advisory, emphasised on increasing the accuracy level of forecasts. Shah said that the flood monitoring centers of the CWC should be in accordance with the requirements and of international standards. He advised Jal Shakti Ministry, NDMA and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) to closely monitor the glacial lakes and take timely steps in the event of any type of outburst.

He emphasised that the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) should work with the states to ensure uniform design changes in the state and district highways also, so that highways drainage system becomes integral part of the designs of road construction to deal with inundation of roads, in case of heavy rains. Further, NDMA should also coordinate with the state authorities for coordination between central agencies and states for flood preparedness and mitigation. The Home Minister stressed on increasing the forest area in the Narmada river area and said that if this experiment is successful, similar efforts will be made in the areas of other rivers as well. He said that this will help in reviving the river basin, reduce soil erosion and also tackle the emerging problem of low rainfall in the region.

Cabinet approves Rs 6,405 cr rail projects in Jharkhand, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 11

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved Two projects of Ministry of Railways with total cost of Rs. 6,405 crore. These projects include:

1. Koderma – Barkakana Doubling (133 Kms) – The project section passes through a major coal producing area of Jharkhand. Furthermore, it serves as the shortest and more efficient rail link between Patna and Ranchi.

2. Ballari – Chikjajur Doubling (185 kms.) – The project line traverses through Ballari and Chitradurga districts of Karnataka and Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. The increased line capacity will significantly enhance mobility, resulting in improved operational efficiency and service reliability for Indian Railways. These multi-tracking proposals are poised to streamline operations and alleviate conges-



tion. The projects are in line with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Vision of a New India which will make people of the region "Atmanirbhar" by way of comprehensive development in the area which will enhance their employment/ self-employment opportunities. The projects are result of PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity which have been possible through integrated planning and will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services.

The two projects covering seven Districts across the states of Jharkhand, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 318 Kms.

The approved multi-tracking project will enhance connectivity to approx. 1,408 villages, which are having a population of about 28.19 lakh. These are essential routes for transportation of commodities such as coal, iron ore, finished steel, cement, fertilizers, agriculture commodities, and Petroleum products etc. The capacity augmentation works will result in additional freight traffic of magnitude 49MTPA (Million Tonnes Per Annum). The Railways being environment friendly and energy efficient mode of transportation, will help both in achieving climate goals and minimizing logistics cost of the country, reduce oil import (52 Crore Litres) and lower CO2 emissions (264 Crore Kg) which is equivalent to plantation of 11 Crore trees.

Sri Lankan Army commander in India to boost defence ties

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 11

Commander of the Sri Lanka Army Lieutenant General BKG M Lasantha Rodrigo arrived here on Wednesday on a four-day official visit aimed at enhancing bilateral military cooperation.

This visit is set to enhance bilateral military cooperation and explore new avenues for collaboration, particularly in the areas of training and capability enhancement, a Defence Ministry statement said.

It underscores the continued efforts of both nations to further strengthen and deepen their longstanding defence partnership.

Lt Gen Rodrigo held a series of high-level meetings beginning with an in-depth interaction with Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani, Vice Chief of the Army Staff of the Indian Army. Both the military leaders discussed wide ranging issues including



aspects of bilateral defence cooperation and regional security concerns.

Later, he was briefed on Operation Sindoor and India's security perspective. He was also briefed by other senior officers of the Indian Army on matters of mutual interest.

Lt Gen Rodrigo met with Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, Chief of Air Staff and Rajesh Kumar Singh, Defence Secretary. These meetings provided an opportunity for the

exchange of views on broader defence and security issues, focusing on matters of mutual interests.

He also planted a tree at the Manekshaw Centre, symbolising time-tested relation of Indian and Sri Lanka Army.

On June 12, Lt Gen Rodrigo will visit Jaipur and meet Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South Western Command.

The General Officer will grace the Passing Out Parade at the Indian Mili-

tary Academy (IMA), Dehradun, as the Reviewing Officer on June 14. This visit will mark a poignant return to his alma mater, where he was commissioned in December 1990, with the 87th Course of the IMA — an experience that laid the foundation of his illustrious military career.

His presence at the Academy will rekindle memories of his formative years, now brought full circle as he would review a new generation of officers.

Adding a personal and emotional dimension to the ceremony, Brigadier RMSP Rathnayake of Sri Lanka Army, will also be in attendance to witness his son, Foreign Officer Cadet RMNL Rathnayake, being commissioned with the current course. This confluence of legacy and leadership underscores the enduring spirit of camaraderie and leadership connect between the two Armies.

India's social security coverage at 64%, gets ILO pat

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 11

India's social security coverage has surged from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025, a 45-percentage point increase, the Government said on Wednesday. "This progress has earned official recognition from the International Labour Organization (ILO), which now ranks India second globally in terms of the number of beneficiaries," as per a statement from the Union Labour and Employment Ministry here.

Approximately 94 crore (940 million) citizens are now covered by at least one social protection benefit, according to the statement.

India has also become the first nation to update its 2025 social protection data on the ILOSTAT database, under-



scoring its commitment to transparency and digital governance.

This is expected to strengthen India's position in global negotiations, including social security agreements (SSAs) with developed nations, ensuring Indian professionals can access benefits while working abroad.

In a bilateral discussion with ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo at the 110th International Labour

Conference (ILC) in Geneva, Union Minister of Labour and Employment Mansukh Mandaviya highlighted the government's pro-poor and labour welfare initiatives.

"Our 'Antyodaya' approach, focusing on empowering the last mile, has been central to this success," Mandaviya said. "This achievement is a testament to our commitment to leaving no one behind. This surge is largely attributed to the expansion of central sector and women-centric welfare programs," said the statement.

While the current 64.3% coverage represents Phase I of the data pooling exercise, India's social protection coverage is expected to exceed 100 crore citizens as Phase II progresses, adding data from more schemes across the country.

PM Modi meets members of all-party delegations after global anti-terror outreach

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 10

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met members of the seven multi-party delegations that recently visited over 30 countries to present India's firm stance against terrorism post Operation Sindoor.

The Prime Minister shared the information on X, saying India is "proud of how effectively" they voiced the nation's concerns against terrorism. "Met members of the various delegations who represented India across the world, conveying our unwavering commitment to peace and the urgent need to eliminate terrorism. We are proud of how effectively they

voiced India's concerns," the Prime Minister said on X. The delegations, gathered at the Prime Minister's official residence of 7, Lok Kalyan Marg, shared their experiences and feedback from their global engagements. During their meetings abroad, they had emphasised India's position of zero tolerance for terrorism, particularly drawing attention to Pakistan's continued support and use of terror networks targeting India. Several delegations urged for Pakistan's re-listing on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list. Earlier too, the Centre had praised the efforts of the delegations — comprising over 50 members, mainly



sitting Members of Parliament — for their role in a coordinated diplomatic outreach. These teams also

included former MPs and diplomats, who travelled to 33 global capitals and the European Union headquar-

ters. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar had earlier met the delegates, lauding their work in amplifying India's position on global platforms and highlighting the strategic necessity of counterterrorism cooperation. Each team focused on a specific region — from North America and Europe to the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Alongside discussions on counterterrorism collaboration, the delegations also addressed issues such as misinformation campaigns and India's strategic priorities. In a rare show of cross-party cooperation, the leadership of the delegations was shared between the ruling NDA and opposition parties. Four

delegations were led by members of the ruling alliance — two from the BJP, and one each from JD(U) and Shiv Sena. The remaining three were headed by leaders from the Congress, DMK, and NCP(SP). Prominent delegation leaders included BJP's Ravi Shankar Prasad and Bajajant Panda, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, JD(U)'s Sanjay Jha, Shiv Sena's Shrikant Shinde, DMK's Kanimozhi, and NCP(SP)'s Supriya Sule. The presence of opposition figures such as Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi alongside ruling alliance representatives underscored a unified national front on the issue of terrorism.

INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY JUNE 21, 2025 YOGA FOR HEALTHY GLOW



SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

Have you ever thought about giving your face a workout, just like you do for your body?

While the human face is a thing of beauty, maintaining taut, smooth skin often becomes a source of stress as we age.

Face exercises — which you can easily perform from the comfort of your home — can lift and tone the face, reduce signs of ageing, prevent sagging and wrinkles, and generally improve facial appearance.

It relaxes, tones and gives a natural boost to the skin, while simultaneously resetting your facial muscles.

Face exercises, also known as “face yoga,” are the latest wellness trend to take social media by storm. The face-sculpting workouts involve repetitive movements and massages targeting different muscles of the face. When your facial muscles are put to use with face yoga, they feel toned and give the sensation of a natural face-lift, if practised regularly. The idea is to stretch the 57 face and neck muscles to tone, firm and boost circulation, for a youthful appearance. Puff Your Cheeks ----The chipmunk cheek squeeze is a facial exercise that can help slim the face. To do this exercise, inhale through the mouth to make them larger and rounder by filling them with air, and distend the breath from cheek to cheek, then release. Tilt your head back, push your chin forward, suck in your cheeks, and hold for 8–10 second. Open your mouth wide, keep your teeth covering your lips and lift your cheeks. Hold for 10 seconds, then return to normal. Aim to repeat 50 times.

How does it work?

This simple practice will increase blood circulation to your cheeks, promoting a healthy glow. It will strengthen the cheek muscles. This facial exercise relaxes the muscles around the lips and cheeks and also brightens up the face.

These quick and easy movements will strengthen the cheek muscles and prevent them from looking hollow. Do this face exercise regularly for lifted and plump cheeks.

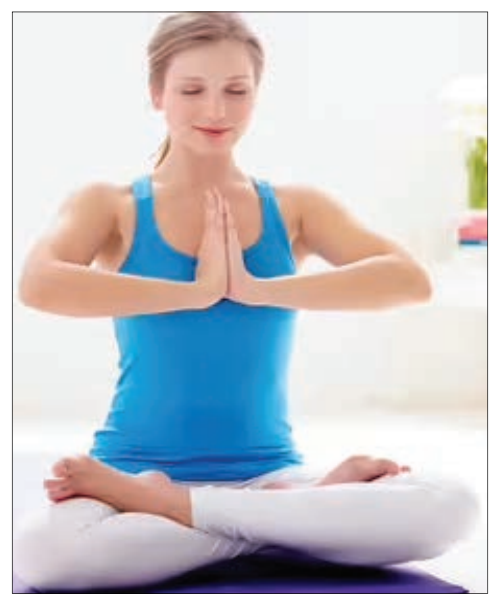
Smiler ---- Pout and then smile as fast as you can. This exercise can enhance blood circulation and strengthen jaw muscles.

Keep up the smile wide, hold it for about 15 seconds and then release it. Continue this process about 10 times at once. Bring the lips together and push them outward as if you are about to kiss and then smile broadly. Practice this regularly 10–15 times in one

sitting. Facial yoga can be extremely beneficial for those who want glowing, youthful skin. Face yoga is a natural, alternative option that uses a variety of massage and exercises to target your face, neck, and shoulders.

This beauty trend has grown in popularity in the past few years with various face yoga methods making an appearance on our social media feeds. Face yoga relaxes, tones and gives a natural boost to the skin, while simultaneously resetting your facial muscle.

Anti-ageing Facial Yoga For Forehead: Place both hands on the forehead facing inwards and spread all of the fingers out between the eyebrows and hairline. Now Gently sweep the fingers outwards across the forehead, applying light pressure to tighten the skin. Relax and repeat 10 times.



When you regularly do facial exercises, the blood circulation increases to that area and that tightens your skin and brings a glow to your face.

When your facial muscles are put to use with face yoga, it stretches the 57 face and neck muscles to tone, firm and boost circulation, for a youthful appearance.

Make A Fish Face----

This pose stretches the neck region and helps tone the jawline and chin.

Fish Face exercise is the easiest and the best way to ensure a firmer looking skin. Fill your mouth up with as much air as possible. Puff up your cheeks to accommodate more air. Now, shift the air from one side to the other with as much speed as possible. Practise this for a couple of minutes every day to achieve glowing skin and fuller cheeks.

Alternatively Softly close your lips and then draw your cheeks inwards as much as possible, making a ‘fish face’ look. Try smiling while holding this posture for about 15 seconds and then withdraw. Repeat this exercise for about next five minutes.

For wrinkle-free facial skin, try this yoga “asana” along with Pranayama. Stand straight and place feet and legs wide apart. Cover face with palms and breathe deeply and quickly for 10 counts. Then while continuing breathing, rub

the face with the fingers, starting from the chin and going to the forehead. Include the area around the eyes. This helps to make the skin smooth, firm and radiant.

Forehead:

Did you know that frowning is an exercise for the forehead? Frown as much as possible, pulling the eyebrows towards one another. Then lift the eyebrows as far as possible. While doing this, open your eyes as much as you can. Relax them and repeat 5 times.

Anti-ageing Facial Yoga For Forehead: Place both hands on the forehead facing inwards and spread all of the fingers out between the eyebrows and hairline. Now Gently sweep the fingers outwards across the forehead, applying light pressure to tighten the skin. Relax and repeat 10 times.

Eyes:

This not only benefits the skin around the eyes, but the eyes itself. They have much relevance nowadays, for people who are glued to computer and television screens for long periods. Keeping your head still, move only the eyes up and down ten times. Then move them from one side to the other ten times. Then, roll the eyes, first clockwise and then anticlockwise, for a total of ten times.

Widen your eyes as big as you can for your best surprised face. Hold this expression as long as you can—even until your eyes start to water! After, relax your face and repeat.

Look upwards and raise your eyebrows at the same time. Then gently close your eyelids, while still looking up.

Since our eyelids have the tendency to droop with age, this stretching exercise can help keep them firm.

Neck:

Sitting straight, tilt the head back and look at the ceiling. Keeping the mouth closed, do a chewing movement, while still looking up. Repeat the chewing movement 15 to 20 times. Then pucker lips and stretch the lips forward, as if you are trying to kiss the ceiling. Do this 10 times. Relax and repeat 5 to 6 times.

Still sitting upright and tilting the head back, with mouth closed, move the lower lip over the upper lip as far as possible. Hold it for a count of 5. Relax and repeat 5 times.

Sit upright and open the mouth wide open, drop the lower jaw and push it forward, holding it for a count of 10. Come back to the starting position and repeat it 5 times.

I will advise you to do facial yoga consistently for 20–30 minutes, seven times a week, changes may start to be noticeable in four to six weeks.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

DC Kathua dedicates two ambulances to people

HT NEWS DESK

KATHUA, JUNE 11: Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas today dedicated two Ambulances to the people at a simple event held here in the DC office Complex. The Ambulances have been donated by Aava-da Foundation under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

While appreciating the contribution, Dr. Rakesh Minhas informed that with the addition of these two ambulances, the district's total ambulance fleet now stands at 41—translating to approximately 6 to 8 ambulances per medical block. “These ambulances will play a crucial role in timely evacuation and transportation of patients during medical emergencies,” the



DC emphasized. He informed that the newly inducted ambulances will be stationed at Kathua and Basohli medical blocks, ensuring better outreach and service delivery.

Highlighting the ongoing efforts to enhance health infrastructure, the DC shared that two floors of the CSC (Community Service Centre) at Billawar are now complete and will soon become operational. He also revealed that a Detailed

Project Report (DPR) for establishing a Trauma Centre at SDH Hiranagar has been finalized.

“This trauma facility will cater to accident victims along the National Highway corridor and provide advanced care to residents of the border subdivision,” he added.

Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vijay Raina and representatives from Aava-da Foundation were present during the event.

Covid cases cross 7K mark, health experts call for targeted vigilance

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA New Delhi, June 11

India is witnessing a renewed rise in Covid-19 cases with the active caseload increasing to 7,121, following the detection of 306 new infections within the past 24 hours, according to data released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Wednesday.

During the same period, six fatalities linked to the virus were also reported, raising concerns over emerging variants and regional outbreaks.

Of the reported deaths, three occurred in Kerala, two in Karnataka, and one in Maharashtra. Health authorities confirmed that one of the deceased was a 43-year-old male with a compromised immune system, while the others were elderly individuals with a history of chronic and respiratory illnesses, underscoring the heightened vulnerability of at-risk populations.

The current increase in cases is being attributed to the circulation of newly emerging variants, notably LF.7, XFG, JN.1, and the

recently identified NB.1.8.1 subvariant. While these variants are still under investigation, early trends suggest increased transmissibility, although hospitalisation rates remain relatively low at this stage.

Among the states, Kerala continues to report the highest number of active Covid-19 cases, with a total of 2,223 patients currently undergoing treatment. The state also recorded the most new infections in the past 24 hours, logging 170 fresh cases. Gujarat followed with 114 new infections, pushing its active tally to 1,223, while Delhi's active cases rose to 757, indicating a wider geographical spread of the virus.

The government authorities as well as health experts have reiterated the importance of maintaining Covid-appropriate behaviour, including wearing masks, frequent hand washing, and avoiding crowded indoor spaces, particularly in areas experiencing a rise in cases.

Furthermore, with seasonal viral fevers also circulating, healthcare professionals stressed the need to differentiate Covid-19 from other infections.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch chairs NCORD meeting Stresses coordinated efforts to curb drug abuse

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JUNE 11: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting of the District level Committee under Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to review drug control measures and assess progress of enforcement departments in curbing the menace in the district.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, Assistant Superintendent of Police, District Social Welfare Officer, Chief Medical Officers, Principals of Degree Colleges, CID officials, Tehsildars and officers from other departments.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review with Tehsildars presenting detailed reports on anti-narcotic activities in their respective tehsils. The Tehsildars briefed that all chemist shops have switched to computerized billing and installed CCTV cameras, ensuring better monitoring.

The Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACP) informed that anti-drug campaigns have already been initiated in Panchayats,



witnessing active public participation. Heads of colleges and schools shared details of awareness programs and preventive activities being conducted in educational institutions, while the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) provided updates on counseling services, medical interventions and sensitization drives being carried out through health institutions.

Emphasizing the need for a permanent rehabilitation facility, the DC directed revenue authorities to expedite identification of suitable land near Chandak for the construction of a Drug De-Addiction Centre.

Chemists Distributors Association Budgam No confidence motion Against District President Budgam

HT NEWS DESK

Budgam: An extraordinary meeting of District Budgam Chemists & Distributors Association was held today on 11th of June 2025 at Restaurant Mirgund Budgam. The meeting was attended by all President's, Gen Secretaries & Treasurers of Tehsils which are affiliate units of District Budgam and are EC Members of District Budgam.

The meeting was called for discussing the organizational matters of District and there was thread bear



discussion on the issues pertaining to the functioning of District body of which elections were held in 2013, for the term 2013-2016, and after that no elections were held due to unrest & covid till today. In between these years the district body was not functioning as per constitution and the people at the helm

were indulged in anti Association activities by looting the money which was collected for the welfare of Members, and further they fraudulently withdrew cash from the Association account and thus created mistrust among members. Now in today's meeting the No Confidence motion is moved against the District body and hence dissolved with immediate effect and adhoc body is framed herewith for looking into the daily affairs of District Association till the next elections are held.

Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan Reasi Admin Reasi designates ace Paralympian Archer Rakesh Kumar as Brand Ambassador

HT NEWS DESK

REASI, JUNE 11: To further strengthen and mobilize public support in its fight against drug abuse, the District Administration Reasi, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik, has designated Paralympian Para Archer and Arjuna Awardee Rakesh Kumar as the district's Brand Ambassador for the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan.

The initiative aims to harness the inspirational journey of son of the soil Rakesh Kumar to mobilize civil society to support the government's fight against the menace. His emissary is expected to encourage youth to pursue sports and healthy lifestyles while staying away from substance abuse. Rakesh Kumar, a para-archer from Katra, Jammu & Kashmir has emerged as a symbol of resilience and excellence. After a spinal injury in 2010 left him wheelchair-bound, he took up archery in 2017 and rapidly rose through the ranks. He won gold at the 2022 Asian Para Games and the 2023 World Para Archery Championships and represented India at



the Tokyo Paralympics. In 2024, he made history by winning a bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics—J&K's first-ever Olympic medal. For his achievements, he was honoured with the Arjuna Award in 2025. Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik emphasized the importance of role models in shaping young minds and stated that Rakesh Kumar's life is a powerful message of resilience, discipline and determination.

She further noted that the District Administration is committed to intensify awareness campaigns, community engagement

and outreach programs as part of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan (Drug-Free India Campaign). The 26-day-long campaign, which began on June 1, 2025 will continue till June 26. Speaking on the occasion, Rakesh Kumar expressed heartfelt gratitude for the honor and vowed his full support to the cause. Sharing a powerful message, he urged the youth to believe in themselves, choose the right path and contribute to building a drug-free, empowered society. He also encouraged youth to route their energy towards sports through which they can



DHS reviews medical facilities to handle heat wave induced ailments

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 11: Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar today reviewed preparedness of health institutions to handle heat wave triggered health conditions here at a meeting.

The meeting was attended virtually by Medical Superintendent Gandhinagar, Medical Superintendent Jagti, all CMOs and Medical Superintendents of Jammu Division.

Controller of Stores Dr. Ritesh Khullar and Nodal Officer National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCCH) Dr. Rashmi Sharma attended the meeting physically.

Taking stock of the overall situation, the DHS laid stress on conducting aggressive IEC campaigns to enhance awareness on prevention and control of heat related illnesses.

The DHS directed the CMOs and MSs to establish ORS corners, maintain stocks of essential medicines, IV fluid and keep heat stroke rooms ready in all health facilities. Availability of Ambulance services and Fire Safety Protocols in the health institutions was also stressed upon. He instructed all stakeholders to keep record of heat related illness cases at PHC/ NTPHC/ UPHC levels and update the same on Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal on daily basis.

HT - TRIBUTE - Special Tribute to The King of Folk Music of Kashmir ; HAMLİ BULBUL Goes Silent For Ever...

Ustad Ghulam Nabi Bulbul ; The Soulful Voice of Kashmir Falls Silent

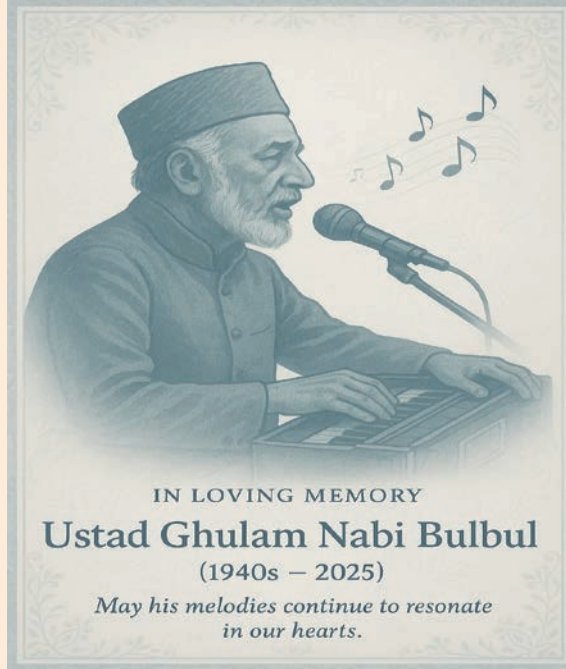
HT. EDITORIAL DESK

Srinagar: June 11: With a heavy heart and profound sorrow, HEADLINES TODAY joins the entire Kashmir valley in mourning the demise of the legendary singer, Ustad Ghulam Nabi Bulbul. His departure leaves an irreplaceable void in the world of Kashmiri music and culture.

For over half a century, Ustad Bulbul's voice captivated audiences with its soulful depth and timeless beauty. He was not merely a vocalist, but a guardian of Kashmir's rich musical traditions — preserving and promoting the art with unparalleled devotion and mastery.

Throughout his illustrious career, he was bestowed with numerous awards, but his true accolade lay in the hearts of the people who revered him. His music transcended barriers, becoming anthems of Kashmiri identity, pride, and emotional expression. Today, Kashmir has lost not just a maestro, but a part of its very soul. His melodies, filled with the fragrance of our land and the emotions of our people, will continue to echo across the valley for generations to come. On behalf of the entire editorial team of HEADLINES TODAY, I extend our deepest condolences to his family, particularly his son Sarwar Bulbul, and to his countless admirers. May Almighty Allah grant Ustad Ghulam Nabi Bulbul the highest ranks in Jannat-ul-Firdous and give patience to his loved ones in this hour of grief.

Aameen...



Condolence Message

Hum Sukhan Cultural & Welfare Organisation, Kashmir

At Hum Sukhan Cultural & Welfare Organisation, Kashmir express our deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences on the passing of Ustaad Ghulam Nabi Bulbul, the legendary Sufi folk singer and master Sarangi player from Dangiwa Rafiabad, Baramulla.

He was also the respected father of renowned Kashmiri poet Sarwar Bulbul. His soulful voice and mastery over the Sarangi enriched the cultural and spiritual landscape of Kashmir. His invaluable contributions to Kashmiri Sufi music are timeless and will remain a guiding light for generations to come. Patron of Hum Sukhan Cultural & Welfare Organisation, Dr Reyaz Rabbani Kashmiri, pays rich tribute to the departed maestro, acknowledging his lifelong dedication to Kashmiri art and culture. He prays that Almighty Allah (SWT) grants Ustaad Ghulam Nabi Bulbul the highest place in Jannat-ul-Firdous, and blesses his family—especially Sarwar Bulbul Sahib—with strength, patience, and comfort during this difficult time.

*Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him we shall return—
Team Hum Sukhan Cultural & Welfare Organisation, Kashmir*



نامور فوک گلوکار غلام نبی بلبل کا انتقال

ادبی مرکز کمر از کا بلبل کے انتقال پر اظہار تعزیت

وادی کے معروف لوک موسیقار غلام نبی بلبل کے انتقال پر ادبی مرکز کمر از جموں و کشمیر کے عہدہ داروں اور مرکز سے منسلک تمام اگائیوں کے حملہ مہران نے گہرے رنج و غم کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ اپنے تعزیتی بیان میں صدر ادبی مرکز کمر از محمد امین بٹ نے کہا کہ غلام نبی بلبل نے ساری عمر موسیقی کے ذریعے کشمیری زبان کی خدمت سے اور اپنے لئے ایک خاص مقام حاصل کیا ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ موسیقی کشمیری موسیقی کے تین اہلی گراں قدر خدمات کو تیار یاد کیا جائے گا۔ ڈکھنی اس گھڑی میں ادبی مرکز کمر از پیمانہ لگان مخصوص سرور بلبل کے ڈکھ میں برابر شریک ہے۔ اور دعا کی کہ خداوند کریم مرحوم کو بخوار رحمت میں جگہ عطا فرمائے

المشتمر میڈیا ونگ ادبی مرکز کمر از جموں و کشمیر

اظہار تعزیت

کردہ بین کلچرل فورم کریم تمام مہران چہرہ جناب غلام نبی بلبل سائیں انتقال سپیدس بیٹھو دکھ لدعیاس تعزیت کران رب کریم مغفرت تہ دو دکھ لدعیاس کرنی صبر جمیل عطا بید شریف قادری

ایگزیکٹیو ممبر تہ خادم کروہین کلچرل فورم کریری

Kruhen Cultural Forum KCF pays glowing tributes to Ustad Gh Nabi BULBUL.

HT NEWS DESK

Muradabad Kreeri, June 11: Condolence meet under the leadership of Kruhen Cultural Forum Patron Syed Sad ud din Saidi was held at head office of the forum at Muradabad Kreeri. Former Gen Secretary of the forum Syed Sharif Hussain Qadri conducted the brief session. During the session glowing tributes were paid to the departed soul and solidarity was expressed with the bereaved family. Bulbul sahib was remembered as a splendid folk/ sufyana singer. The meeting concluded with Special prayer session where-in the all the participants prayed for the departed soul.

Manzur Hashmi Cultural Forum Condoles the sad demise of Renowned Folk Singer (HAMLİ BULBUL)

Condolence meet was held at the head office of Manzur Hashmi Cultural Forum at Watergam Kreeri to condole the sad demise of Ustad Gh Nabi BULBUL popularly known as HAMLİ BULBUL. Gen Secretary of the forum through a press statement remembered Gh Nabi BULBUL as an exemplary Singer who uplifted the folk music of Kashmir. "Bulbul sahib will be remembered for his selfless service to the folk culture of Kashmir.

Bulbul falls silent
Ustad Ghulam Nabi Shah,
popularly known as Hamle
Bulbul, took Kashmiri music to
new heights; colleagues, fans
pay tributes

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 11: The Bulbul of Kashmiri music and art has fallen silent today. Ustad Ghulam Nabi Shah, famously known as Hamle Bulbul, who rendered more than three decades to the Information Department and took Kashmiri music to new heights nationally breathed his last today at his ancestral place Dangiwa Rafiabad in Baramulla. An inborn talent who devoted his life promoting Kashmiri art and culture, Bulbul served the department in various capacities representing Kashmir folk and music on both national and international canvas, earning accolades for himself and the department, setting legacy for others to follow. Bulbul captivated audiences for decades with his soulful voice, masterful command of the sarangi and signature 'glass' dance performances, where he balanced a glass of water on his head while executing intricate dance movements showcasing his exceptional skill and commitment to Kashmiri performing arts. Bulbul was also renowned for his mastery of the traditional Kashmiri folk dance form known as Bacha Nagma. This vibrant and expressive dance involves young boys dressed as women, performing intricate footwork and spinning movements while singing Kashmiri ballads. In 2011, Bulbul was honored with the prestigious Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah Award for his significant contributions to promoting Kashmiri Lok Sangeet (folk music). This accolade recognized his dedication to preserving and revitalizing the rich musical traditions of Kashmir. More than just a performer, he was a deeply respected personality whose humility and grace endeared him to generations. Meanwhile, colleagues, fans and admirers have condoled the demise of Bulbul terming it a huge loss to local music and art. Several of his superiors and colleagues took to social media and described their association with him. In this regard a condolence meeting was also held here under the chairmanship of Joint Director Information Kashmir, Syed Shah Nawaz Bukhari with Deputy Director Information (PR), Ahsanul Haq Chishti, Cultural Officer Kashmir, Burhan Hussain and other officers and officials present.

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