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## India Has Never, Will Not Allow Third Party Mediation on J&K : PM Modi to Trump on Telephone

HT NEWS DESK / UNI

KANANASKIS (CANADA), JUNE 18 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a telephone talk with US President Donald Trump today and told him in unequivocal terms that India has neither allowed nor will allow third party mediation in resolving the issue of illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir by Pakistan (Pakistan Occupied Kashmir).

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump were scheduled to meet on the sidelines of the G7 Summit. However, President Trump had to return to the U.S. early due to which the meeting could not take place. After this, at the request of President Trump, both leaders spoke over a phone call.

The conversation lasted approximately 35 minutes, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said.

'The Prime Minister firmly stated that India does not and will never accept mediation. There is complete political consensus in India on this matter,' the Foreign Secretary said.

This was the first conversation between the two leaders after President Trump expressed condolences to Prime Minister



FILE-PIC

Modi over a phone call after the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

Prime Minister Modi spoke in detail about Operation Sindoor and told Trump that after April 22,

India had conveyed its determination to take action against terrorism to the whole world. President Trump expressed support with India's fight against terrorism, Misri said adding that Prime Minister Modi also stated India no longer views terrorism as a proxy war but as a war itself and that India's Operation Sindoor is still on.

Prime Minister Modi conveyed to President Trump that on May 6-7 night, India had only targeted

terrorist camps and hideouts in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK). He said India's actions were very 'measured, precise, and non-escalatory.' India had also made it clear that any act of aggression from Pakistan would be met with a stronger response. At no point during this entire sequence of events was there any discussion, at any level, on an India-U.S. Trade Deal or any proposal for a mediation by the U.S. between India and Pakistan.

The Prime Minister said the discussion to cease military action took place directly between India and Pakistan through the existing channels of communication and it was initiated at Pakistan's

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## "Our Responsibility Doesn't End on 10th of Muharram, But Continues For 2 Months and 8 Days"

CM Chairs Meeting to Finalize Muharram Arrangements

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level meeting at the Civil Secretariat to review and finalize arrangements for the upcoming holy month of Muharram.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar

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## India launches Operation Sindhu to evacuate Indians from conflict-hit Iran

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, JUNE 18 (UNI) India today launched Operation Sindhu to evacuate Indian nationals from Iran, amid the deteriorating situation as a result of the ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel.

The Government of India has been taking various steps over the last several days for the safety and security of Indian nationals in Iran.

As a first step, the Indian Embassy has evacuated 110

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## Committed to Fulfill PM Modi's Vision of Disaster Resilient India: MHA

HT NEWS DESK/KNO

New Delhi, Jun 18: The Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday said that it's committed to fulfil Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of disaster resilient India.

APIB statement issued to the news agency—said, "Under the leadership of PM Modi, Government of India is standing shoulder to shoulder with the state governments during natural

calamities and disasters."

It said, "To fulfill Prime Minister Modi's vision of disaster resilient India, Ministry of Home Affairs under the guidance of Home Minister Amit Shah has taken several initiatives to ensure effective management of disasters in the country. A number of steps have been taken to prevent any extensive loss to life and property during disasters by strengthening

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## Police attach properties worth ₹40 lakhs in Anantnag

HT NEWS DESK

ANANTNAG : June 18: In a sustained effort to combat the menace of drug trafficking in the district, Police in Anantnag has taken stringent action under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act by attaching properties worth 40 lakhs belonging to individuals involved in narcotics-related cases.

In connection with FIR No. 175/2022 under Section 8/20 NDPS

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## Javid Dar reviews Muharram arrangements in Pattan

Emphasizes Inter-Departmental Coordination For Event's Success

HT NEWS DESK

BARAMULLA, JUNE 18: Minister for Agricultural Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, today chaired a review meeting at ITI Pattan held to ensure smooth and peaceful observance of the approaching Muharram. The meeting was

attended by the Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani; MLA Patan, Javid Riyaz; MLA Wagoora-Kreeri, Irfan Hafeez Lone; MLA Sopore, Irshad Ahmad Kar; MLA Baramulla, Javid Hassan Beigh; Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa besides concerned district officers and local representatives.

The Minister had a comprehensive review of the arrangements being made by various departments. He emphasized the need for inter-departmental coordination to ensure availability of all basic facilities during Muharram days. He asked the officers to maintain close liaison

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## Dy CM Emphasises Focus on Making JKHHC Profitable

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR JUNE 18: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today reviewed functioning of the Handicraft and Handloom Corporation in Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

The Managing Director JKHHC briefed about functioning of both the Corporations along with physical and financial achievements besides the issues



being faced by both the Corporations. He apprised the meeting regarding performance of show-

rooms, liabilities, financial profits/loss and future plans.

The Deputy Chief Min-

ister appreciated the JKHC for managing the salary and other components from the own revenue generation. He also lauded the Corporation for reviewing the revenue generation of individual showrooms/branches of J&K Handicrafts Sales & Export Corporation all over the country.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed the

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## Sakeena Itoo Reviews Performance, Functioning of DFCO

Asks for proactive approach in monitoring pharmaceutical, food supply chains across J&K

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the functioning and performance of Drug and Food Control Organisation (DFCO) of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; Commissioner Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Smita Sethi;



Director Finance Health and Medical Education department, State Drug Controller and other con-

cerned officers.

The Minister held detailed assessment of the operational efficacy of the organisation in regulating and monitoring the standards of drugs and food products across the UT.

Addressing the officers during the meeting, the Minister directed the organisation to adopt a proactive approach in monitoring the pharmaceutical as well as food supply chains effectively. "Public health is a non-negotiable priority. There must be no compromise

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## In 11 yrs, Face of Governance Witnessed Massive Change Under PM Modi's Leadership: Dr Jitendra Singh

Announces gratuity benefits for employees under 'Unified Pension Scheme'

HT NEWS DESK/PIB

NEW DELHI:- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Today outlined the transformational journey of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Griev-



ances and Pensions over the past 11 years, highlighting a series of reforms aimed at simplifying governance, empowering citizens, and humanizing administration.

On the occasion, the Minister also made the important announcement that Central government employees covered under the Unified Pension Scheme will now be eligible for retire

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## CS scrutinizes strategy for effective implementation of Mission YUVA

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a comprehensive meeting to assess the implementation of Mission YUVA, a flagship initiative aimed at fostering entrepreneurship and employment in Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting, attended by senior government officials, Vice-Chancellors and representatives from leading financial institutions like IIT Jammu, IIM Jammu, NABARD and J&K Bank, focused on accelerating the mission's ambitious goals while Deputy Com-



missioners participated virtually.

The Chief Secretary expressed satisfaction with the progress on online application submissions for Mission YUVA. He asked the Deputy Commis-

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## CS for equitable development of tribal areas under DA-JGUA

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: S: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired the maiden Apex Committee meeting held to review and accelerate implementation of the 'Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram

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## AIP urges Omar Abdullah to regularize services of CIC operators

JEHANGIR MALIK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: The Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) has appealed to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to immediately fulfil the commitment made to community information centre (CIC) operators working in the Rural Development Department (RDD) regarding the regularization of their services.

In a statement issued by AIP Chief Spokesperson Inam un Nabi, the party expressed anguish over the prolonged exploitation of CIC operators, who were appointed through a proper recruitment process in 2004 and have been

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## 13 Houses Gutted, Many Families Rendered Homeless in Noorbagh Blaze

HT NEWS DESK/KNO

SRINAGAR, JUN 18: 13 residential houses were reduced to ashes in a massive blaze that broke out late Tuesday night in Pamposh Colony Noorbagh in Srinagar, rendering several families homeless.

According to the Fire and Emergency Department, the distress call was received at around 10:35 PM and the first unit reached the scene within a minute.

They said the fire engulfed two double-storey, five single-storey and six tin-sheet structures and was finally brought under control hours after a joint effort by teams from six different fire stations.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the fire spread rapidly due to the tin-sheet roofing and congested locality. He said while the Fire and Emergency Department managed to contain fire from spreading to nearby homes, the damage was already extensive. Meanwhile, a local said they watched their home burn to ashes right in front of their eyes.

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

PM

President Trump enquired if Prime Minister Modi could stop over in the U.S. on his way back from Canada. Prime Minister Modi, however, expressed his inability to do so because of prior commitments. Both leaders agreed to make efforts to meet in the near future.

President Trump and Prime Minister Modi also discussed the ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran. Both leaders agreed that for peace in the Russia - Ukraine conflict, direct dialogue between the two parties is essential, and continued efforts should be made to facilitate this.

About the Indo-Pacific region, both leaders shared their perspectives and expressed support towards the significant role of QUAD in the region.

Prime Minister Modi extended an invitation to President Trump to visit India for the next QUAD Summit. President Trump accepted the invitation and said that he is looking forward to visiting India.

CM

Choudhary; Ministers Sakeena Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javed Ahmad Dar, and Satish Sharma; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta; administrative secretaries; the Inspector General of Police Kashmir; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar, Budgam, Baramulla and Jammu; Members of the Legislative Assembly; senior officers from line departments; prominent heads of Shia and religious organizations; and other concerned officials.

Officers from outside stations attended the meeting through video conference.

In his address, the Chief Minister reiterated the government's unwavering commitment to ensure that all arrangements for Muharram are made with utmost efficiency and care.

"We will leave no stone unturned in our efforts, and there should be no shortcoming from our side," the Chief Minister asserted.

Highlighting the significance of the meeting, he remarked: "The very size and composition of this meeting reflects the importance we attach to the sacred month of Muharram."

The Chief Minister emphasized that administrative focus should not be limited to just the first ten days of Muharram.

"The rituals and religious observances of Muharram span two months and eight days. The government must remain responsive even beyond the 10th day of Muharram," he stressed.

Acknowledging that this year Muharram coincides with the Amarnath Yatra, the Chief Minister noted the increased responsibility on the administration to ensure the smooth conduct of both events. In this context, he announced the appointment of a Secretary-level Nodal Officer— independent of the Divisional Commissioner—to coordinate inter-departmental efforts and oversee Muharram arrangements across the Union Territory.

The Chief Minister outlined key focus areas identified during the meeting:

**Water Supply:** CM assured uninterrupted water availability through the deployment of tankers and installation of storage tanks at key locations.

**Electricity and Lighting:** The Power Development Department was directed to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply and install high-mast lights at major congregation points.

**Ration and Firewood:** He instructed the Food Department, in coordination with FCI, to ensure timely availability of ration. Firewood will be provided, particularly in rural areas where demand is higher.

**Sanitation and Health:** Municipal bodies and the Health Department was asked to intensify sanitation drives and ensure the availability of essential healthcare services: Fire and Emergency Services will use high-pressure water canons to clean congregation areas.

The Chief Minister added that the newly appointed Nodal Officer will coordinate efforts across departments and districts, and report regularly to avoid any lapses.

Earlier, the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir gave a presentation on the planned arrangements for Muharram, covering key areas such as power, water, ration supply, sanitation, and infrastructure readiness in Shia-dominated areas.

The meeting also deliberated on issues related to macadamisation, street lighting, road repair, and other civic amenities required during the observance. Legislators and religious leaders present on the occasion provided valuable feedback and suggestions to enhance the effectiveness of the arrangements.

INDIA

Indian students from northern Iran, assisting them in safely crossing over into Armenia on June 17.

The students have travelled by road to the Armenian capital, Yerevan, under the supervision of our Missions in Iran and Armenia. These

students departed Yerevan on a special flight at 1455 hrs on June 18th and will arrive in New Delhi in the early hours of June 19 as part of the initial stages of Operation Sindhu, a statement said.

The Government of India is grateful to the Governments of Iran and Armenia for the smooth facilitation of the evacuation process.

India accords highest priority to the safety and security of Indian nationals abroad. As part of the ongoing operation, the Indian Embassy in Iran has been assisting large numbers of Indian nationals in moving from areas seeing increased hostilities to relatively safer areas within the country and to subsequently evacuate them using the available and feasible options.

Indian nationals in Iran are advised to stay in touch with the Indian Embassy in Tehran through its emergency helpline, and with the 24x7 Control Room established by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi.

Emergency Helpline numbers of Embassy of India in Tehran:

i. For call only : +98 9128109115, +98 9128109109

ii. For WhatsApp: +98 901044557, +98 9015993320, +91 8086871709

iii. Bandar Abbas: +98 9177699036

iv. Zahedan: +98 9396356649

v. Email- cons.tehran@mea.gov.in

Helpline numbers of 24 X 7 Control Room set-up by Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi:

800118797 (Toll free) , +91-11-23012113 , +91-11-23014104, +91-11-23017905

WhatsApp: +91-9968291988 ; Email- situationroom@mea.gov.in

MHA

disaster risk reduction system in India." The statement said, "The Central Government has approved a number of mitigation projects with overall financial outlay of Rs 7253.51 crore, for mitigating the risks of a number of hazards in the areas of Urban Floods (Rs. 3075.65 crore), Landslides (Rs.1000 crore), GLOF (Rs. 150 crore), Forest Fire (Rs. 818.92 crore), Lightning (Rs. 186.78 crore) and Drought (Rs. 2022.16 crore)."

"This additional assistance is over and above the funds released by the Centre to the States in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), already placed at the disposal of the States. During the financial year 2024-25, the Central Government has released Rs. 20,264.40 crore to 28 States under SDRF and Rs. 5,160.76 crore under NDRF to 19 States," it said, adding, "Additionally, Rs. 4984.25 crore from the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) to 19 States and Rs. 719.72 crore from National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF) to 08 States has also been released."—(KNO)

DYCM

concerned officials to submit a comprehensive statement of the loss making showrooms, so that, appropriate steps shall be taken to make them profitable.

Surinder Choudhary asked the MD JKHC to focus on making the Corporations profitable. He asked for considering initiatives like branding of products, awareness among people, hiring of good salesmen and selection of prominent location of showrooms.

During the discussions, the Deputy Chief Minister also took up the issues of pending statutory liabilities of retired employees of the Corporation and promotion of in service employees. He directed the Managing Director to make seniority list of all Cadre wise employees followed by the constitution of DPC (Departmental Promotion Committee) to resolve the long pending issues on priority basis.

Surinder Choudhary also appreciated the proposals suggested by the Commissioner Secretary and Managing Director JKHC regarding opening of new showrooms within the country and abroad. He also suggested to participate in the fourth Coming International Exhibitions to explore more market opportunities.

The Deputy Chief Minister called for development of a complete ecosystem from production to distribution, stressing that this would help in achieving the desirable goal.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Secretary in Industries & Commerce Department, Khalid Jahangir; Managing Director JKHC, Atul Sharma besides other senior officers from both the Corporations.

DAR

with the local representatives and community leaders to address the public needs effectively.

Javid Dar laid special focus on ensuring an uninterrupted supply of drinking water and electricity, timely sanitation drives, deployment of health teams and availability of essential items.

He directed the concerned authorities to take up repair of roads along the procession routes on a priority basis and ensure all street lights are functional in the identified areas.

Advisor to Chief Minister exhorted upon the officers to remain available on the ground,

stressing the importance of community-level coordination. He asked the departments to set up quick-response teams for addressing the emergency issues during the mourning period.

The Members of Legislative Assembly from Baramulla, Sopore, Pattan and Wagoora-Kreeri shared area-specific feedback and put forth demands related to firewood distribution, sanitation support, availability of drinking water and traffic regulation. They called for special attention in high-footfall zones and assured full cooperation from the local volunteers.

The Deputy Commissioner briefed the meeting about the district-level preparedness, informing them that action plans are already under execution. These included sanitation drives, deployment of response team setups, road inspections and firewood arrangements in coordination with the local committees.

The police and civil officers also shared updates on their respective action points and assured readiness for maintaining law and order and regulating the traffic during the processions.

POLICE

Act registered at Police Station Bijbehara, the residential property of Mohd Afzal Bhat son of Sanaullah Bhat resident of Moomin Danji, Bijbehara, has been formally attached. The action was taken as part of legal proceedings to disrupt the illicit gains from drug-related activities.

Additionally, in another significant development, a Hyundai Creta vehicle bearing registration number JK02CX-6665, owned by Sabzar Ahmad Da, son of Nazir Ahmad Das resident of Wagihama Bijbehara, has been seized in connection with FIR No. 102/2025 registered under Sections 8/20, 29, and 27-A of the NDPS Act at the same police station.

The combined estimated market value of the attached residential house and the seized vehicle is approximately 40 lakhs.

Police reiterate its firm commitment to continue the crackdown on drug peddlers and to take all necessary legal actions to dismantle the drug network in the district. The public is once again urged to come forward with any information related to drug peddling and help make the district a drug-free zone.

SAKEENA

when it comes to the quality of medicines and food items reaching our citizens", asserted the Minister.

She stressed upon the officers to conduct frequent checks of unlicensed pharmacist shops and take strict action against the unregistered shops. She asked the Commissioner FDA to submit a report on a monthly basis regarding the action taken on violations as well as activities. She also asked them to coordinate with Social Welfare, Education and other departments regarding conduct of workshops and camps for creating awareness among the people about spurious and sub-standard drugs.

The Minister urged for stronger collaboration between DFCO and law enforcement agencies to effectively tackle the violations. She also asked them to organise capacity-building workshops for the inspectors and field officers to stay updated with regulatory reforms and evolving industry standards.

While reviewing other aspects of DFCO, the Minister called for regular upgradation of laboratories besides checks and balances on Blood banks and storage facilities. She also called for faster integration of digital platforms to ensure transparency, better reporting mechanisms and prompt grievance redress.

During the meeting, Commissioner FDA gave a detailed presentation on achievements and activities of the organization.

DR JATIBDRA

ment and death gratuity benefits, as per the provisions of the Central Civil Service (Payment of Gratuity under National Pension System) Rules, 2021. Responding to this long-pending demand by a large section of government employees, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the move addresses a significant demand of government staff and brings parity in retirement benefits. He said, the new provision reflects the government's commitment to ensure social security for all categories of employees under the National Pension System. Speaking at a commemorative event at National Media Centre here, the Minister categorized the Ministry's work into four major areas that reflected the changing face of governance under the Modi Government. "For the first time since Independence, a government has taken pride in doing away with redundant rules rather than creating new ones," Dr. Jitendra Singh said, citing the repeal of over 1,600 outdated provisions—many of them colonial-era legacies—as a strong message of trust in citizens, particularly India's youth. The decision to make job interviews non-evaluative for certain categories, announced from the Red Fort by the Prime Minister and implemented nationwide by January 2016, was flagged as a key move towards fairness and transparency in recruitment. Dr. Jitendra Singh under-

scored that several of the Ministry's reforms went beyond administrative convenience and carried broader socio-cultural messages. Measures such as the amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act sought to balance accountability with protection for well-performing officials, while changes in how cases of unfair means in examinations are handled have been aimed at protecting students from the fallout of organized cheating rackets. "We are here to punish the racketeers, not the students," the Minister said, emphasizing the government's intent to move from suspicion to support in public policy.

AIP

continuously working in the department for the last 20 years.

"These youth have completed all codal formalities, have served with unmatched dedication and yet remain without job security or recognition. Their continued suffering is unjust and unacceptable," said Inam. He added, "This is not a new issue. Our President & MP Baramulla Er Rashid, has always stood for justice and was among the first to raise this matter on the floor of the House and beyond. And now when he is in jail, AIP MLA and senior leader Sheikh Khurshid is actively pursuing the case. It's painful to see that despite eight months of the current JKNC-led government, no positive development has taken place."

Inam urged the Chief Minister to take immediate and concrete steps to resolve the long-pending issue. "These operators have been waiting with patience and hope. The government must not delay justice any further. It is high time to regularize their services and restore their dignity," he said.

FIRE

"Years of hard work and memories are gone," added Ghulam Rasool Dar, a victim.

Eyewitnesses from the area also told KNO that the congested layout of the colony made it difficult for fire tenders to reach, which allowed the fire to spread rapidly in the initial minutes.

Moreover, the authorities have been ascertaining the cause of the fire and said a detailed investigation is expected in the coming days.

Additionally, appeals have been made by local residents and community leaders for immediate relief and rehabilitation support for the affected families—(KNO)

CS

sioners to intensify awareness campaigns at the district level and establish robust institutional frameworks to assist the applicants. He emphasized the importance of consistent monitoring of applications and timely convening of District Level Implementation Committees (DLICs) for swift case approvals.

Dulloo asked the experts of BISAG-N for developing the dashboard which would give a peek into working of the YUVA portal and its utilization by different stakeholders and the applicants.

Addressing the J&K Bank, Dulloo recommended designating a senior administrator to oversee the Mission YUVA operations. He also instructed their branch managers to conduct weekly visits to Block-level Business Help Desks (BHDs) to guide the applicants in developing effective business proposals for swift loan sanctions.

The Chief Secretary also sought and received assurances from the universities, national institutions, NABARD and NIFT to dedicate their human and material resources towards capacity building for the applicants, transforming them into successful future entrepreneurs.

Secretary, Labour and Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, while highlighting the Mission YUVA's objective, said that it aims to establish J&K as a thriving hub of enterprises and holistic employment. The mission targets creation of 1,37,000+ new enterprises and 4,25,000+ employment opportunities. He explained that the implementation strategy has been built upon four key pillars: Culture, Capital, Capacity Building and Connectivity (4Cs), designed to accelerate employment avenues in J&K. The "Culture" pillar focuses on motivating the individuals and creating an enabling business environment.

Moreover, extensive "Udhyaam Jagriti" awareness campaigns have been conducted across J&K, utilizing social media, mass media, outdoor advertising and panchayat-level outreach. So far, 2,086, out of 4,291 panchayats, have been covered, reaching nearly 98,700 individuals. The goal for this phase is to cover 90% of the panchayats and reach 2 lakh individuals.

A subsequent phase involved sensitization for a baseline survey to ensure better data capture. Recently, the "Jagriti 3.0" campaign launched on May 15, 2025, has already resulted in the reception of 8,189 loan applications.

The "Capital" pillar focuses on providing fixed and working capital support. The government will offer a 5% interest subsidy on bank loans. Micro-loans up to 5 lakh will be collateral-free, supported by CGTMSE credit guarantee and accessible to first-time entrepreneurs aged 18-59 without educa-

tional or income barriers.

For existing MSMEs, the scheme offers loans up to 5 lakh for Micro, 30 lakh for Small and 75 lakh for Medium enterprises. Beneficiaries can avail 80% of the total project cost as a loan, with a 20% self-contribution required.

The "Capacity Building" pillar focuses on equipping the entrepreneurs and employees with the skills to run sustainable businesses. This included institutional support for Detailed Project Report (DPR) framing.

Furthermore, Small Business Development Units (SBDUs), Business Help Desks (BHDs) and YUVA Doots will provide end-to-end support, from motivating potential entrepreneurs to assisting with document uploading and other necessary help. Two business acceleration hubs will be established in Srinagar and Jammu, alongside 20 SBDUs at the district level and 80 BHDs at the block level, supported by approximately 1,000 volunteers.

Finally, a market linkage framework will be extended to these entrepreneurs once their units become operational, improving reach, export and trade opportunities for business growth.

TRIBAL

Utkarsh Abhiyan' (DA-JGUA), marking a significant step towards equitable and holistic development of tribal communities.

The Abhiyan is a flagship initiative of the Government of India aimed at comprehensive human development in tribal areas.

Present in the meeting were Principal Secretary, Power Development Department; Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department; Principal Secretary, School Education Department; Commissioner Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs; Secretary, Tribal Affairs; Secretary, Planning; Secretary, Health & Medical Education; Secretary, Information Technology; Secretary, Rural Development Department besides other concerned senior officers.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to work hard towards ensuring that the benefits of the scheme equally reach all tribal areas of J&K. He laid particular stress on the importance of robust data validation at the grassroots level.

The Chief Secretary asked the Deputy Commissioners to conduct thorough ground truthing, visiting the villages to validate the data and pinpoint gaps across 25 critical parameters. He reiterated that reliable data is essential for impactful interventions, highlighting the need for meticulous verification to ensure data accuracy.

Day 4 of DA-JGUA: Public services delivered at doorsteps in panchayat Ladden in Budgam

BUDGAM, JUNE 18: On day-four of the ongoing Dharti Aabha Abhiyan, all line departments participated in the Gram Sabha held at tribal panchayat Ladden in Block Nagam, to achieve cent percent saturation across 25 sector schemes.

Field functionaries at the tehsil and block levels engaged with the local community, sensitizing them about the diverse government welfare schemes, particularly those designed for the benefit of the tribal population. The initiative was widely welcomed by the residents, who actively participated and interacted with departmental representatives.

The event recorded a significant turnout and witnessed a surge in enrolment for various government schemes. Special health camps were set up to conduct basic diagnostic services and health awareness sessions. Alongside, awareness regarding Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) schemes, use of Water Testing Kits, and procedures for PMAY-G registrations was also imparted to the attendees.

Departments also facilitated registration and verification under key schemes including Jal Jeevan Mission – Functional Household Tap Connection (JJM-FHTC), MGNREGA job cards, and PM Ujjwala Yojana. Eligible beneficiaries were guided and assisted on-the-spot to ensure real-time coverage under the respective schemes.

The outreach under Dharti Aabha Abhiyan continues to bridge the information and access gap between citizens and the governance machinery, especially in rural and tribal-dominated areas. The event recorded a significant turnout and witnessed a surge in enrolment for various government schemes. Special health camps were set up to conduct basic diagnostic services and health awareness sessions. Alongside, awareness regarding Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) schemes, use of Water Testing Kits, and procedures for PMAY-G registrations was also imparted to the attendees. Departments also facilitated registration and verification under key schemes including Jal Jeevan Mission – Functional Household Tap Connection (JJM-FHTC), MGNREGA job cards, and PM Ujjwala Yojana. Eligible beneficiaries were guided and assisted on-the-spot to ensure real-time coverage.



## Committee on Estimates to examine fund utilization in J&K

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: The Committee on Estimates today resolved to conduct a comprehensive review of fund utilization in Jammu and Kashmir.

The decision was taken during an introductory-cum-review meeting conducted by the Committee at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar.

The meeting was presided over by Chairperson of the Committee, Shamim Firdous and attended by members including Ghulam Ahmad Mir, Abdul Majid Bhat (Larimi), Pawan

Kumar Gupta, Chander Prakash Ganga, Pyare Lal Sharma and Arjun Singh Raju.

Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandita welcomed the participants and deliberated regarding functions on the Committee.

Also present were Director General, Accounts and Treasuries, Fayaz ALone, Director General, Budget MS Malik and officers from the concerned departments.

The Chairperson emphasized that the Committee would examine whether the funds allocated for various developmental projects as per budget-



ary provisions have been properly utilized. She stated that the Committee will also recom-

mend effective and alternative policy measures to enhance the administrative efficiency and

economy. Besides, it will formulate a report suggesting improvements in the organi-

zational structure, economics, efficiency and administrative reforms in line with the policy objectives of the Estimates Committee.

The Committee resolved to review the functioning of key departments, scrutinize the budget estimates and analyze the original estimates, revised estimates and actual expenditures incurred on different developmental projects.

During the meeting, the members shared their suggestions and raised issues related to fund utilization. They reasserted their commitment towards working diligently for

public welfare and regional development.

It was decided that a department-wise review would be conducted in the coming sessions to ensure effective fund utilization and timely completion of projects. The Committee resolved to review the functioning of key departments, scrutinize the budget estimates and analyze the original estimates, revised estimates and actual expenditures incurred on different developmental projects.

During the meeting, the members shared their suggestions and raised issues related to fund utilization.

## Committee on Petitions holds first meeting in Srinagar Chairman calls for speedy disposal of genuine public concerns

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: The Committee on Petitions, Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, today held its first meeting at the Assembly complex, Srinagar.

The meeting was presided over by the Committee Chairman, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah which was attended by the members including Mush-taq Guroo, Salman Sagar, Waheed Ur Rehman Para, Mian Mehar Ali, Vijay Kumar and Thakur Randhir Singh also participated in the meeting.

The Chairman outlined the roles and responsibilities of Committee members, expressing confidence in their ability to work collaboratively and



contribute effectively to the Committee's success. He emphasized the importance of coordination and teamwork in achieving the Committee's objectives.

The Chairman assured that the Committee will thoroughly examine every petition, pursuing each to its logical conclusion and ensure prompt

resolution of genuine public concerns. He added that the Committee will also report to the House on specific complaints raised during evidence, recommending suitable remedial measures as necessary.

The Chairman emphasized that the Committee will function strictly within its mandated framework and will

regularly meet to formulate and implement a course of action for prompt resolution of petitions referred to it. He urged upon all the members to discharge their duties diligently and uphold the decorum and responsibilities entrusted to them. He emphasized on the seamless contribution from all members and concerned officers for the vibrant functioning of the Committee.

The Members actively participated in the discussions, sharing their suggestions and feedback on various pertinent issues.

Earlier, Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandita, deliberated on various aspects regarding the functioning of the Committee.

## Secretary reviews implementation, progress on IT projects

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Secretary, Information Technology, Dr. Piyush Singla, today chaired a meeting to review implementation and progress on various projects in the IT Department. Pertinently, the e-Office 2.0 rollout marks a major stride towards paperless governance. It has brought over 480 Administrative Departments, HoDs and DC offices besides state universities such as the University of Jammu, University of Kashmir, SMVDU, BGSBU and SKUAST-Jammu under a unified digital umbrella, with more than 30,000 active users and 4000+ VPN-enabled users.



The Secretary appreciated the successful implementation of e-Office 2.0 across the administrative units in the Union Territory. He emphasized the role of e-Office 2.0 in enhancing transparency, efficiency and accountability in government operations. He appreciated the department's

forward-looking roadmap to scale up this digital transformation to block and tehsil level, with a projected user base exceeding 25,000 new users. He also commended the efforts of the IT Department in building capacity through regular training sessions, infrastructure modernization and handholding support to various departments, making Jammu & Kashmir one of the leading UTs in e-Governance adoption. The review highlighted progress on related initiatives such as the Digital Jammu & Kashmir Mission, Mobile Dost App, Auto-Appeal System and over 1212 e-services integrated under the e-UNNAT unified platform.

## Sh. Vinod Kumar-IPS DIG Armed Range Jammu visited JKAP-8th Battalion Miran Sahib Jammu

### HT NEWS DESK



Jammu: DIG Armed interacted with the Jawans and officers of 15th batch undergoing one month special refresher course, in which some of the officers and officials were recently transferred to this unit from the different units of Kashmir Zone.

During the course importance and significance of the Refresher course was emphasized. Stress was laid upon that every officer and official should undergo such courses in order to enhance their skills and also remain mentally and physically fit so that they can perform their legitimate duties with zeal and dedication. Besides it is an opportunity to learn new criminal laws. He further stated that it is very important for all police personnel to remain physically and mentally fit now days in view of ongoing challenges so that they can tackle any kind of situation. Stress was also laid on enhancing the firing skills of the Jawans by virtue of Range Classification. All the participant were directed not to share any such thing on Social Media which will put bad impact on the department. He further stated that everyone should be aware/familiarize of the day to day technologies as cybercrimes/attacks are on the peak now days. Every official shall practice Cyber hygiene.

Stress was also laid on to discuss case studies fortnightly were every senior officer undergoing the course share his experience about the challenges he has faced during his duties. So that junior colleague will be benefited.

During the course of interaction feedback regarding organizing such courses was also sought from the trainees of the said course, upon which they have informed the chair that such kind of courses are very important for capacity building to tackle new challenges. Besides this to maintain physical fitness such courses are very helpful.

## J&K Govt revolutionises digital governance with High Impact Cyber security Workshop

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Marking a decisive leap towards a more secure and digitally resilient administration, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, through its Department of Information Technology, successfully concluded a high-impact two day "Cyber Crisis Management Plan (CCMP) Workshop and Cyber-security Exercise" at the prestigious Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC).

This landmark initiative was organized in collaboration with the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) and the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India.

Amid an escalating cyber

threat landscape, this capacity-building program was strategically tailored to equip the top government officials, Administrative Secretaries, Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs), Information Security Officers (ISOs) and Nodal Officers with advanced knowledge and hands-on capabilities in cyber risk mitigation and crisis response.

The inaugural session was chaired by Minister for Information Technology, Satish Sharma.

The Minister emphasized the criticality of cybersecurity in delivering seamless and secure citizen services, calling the initiative a "pivotal milestone" in J&K's digital governance journey.

Delivering the welcome address, Dr. Piyush Singla, Secretary, IT Department, stated: "In the present digital age, robust cyber security is

not just a technical need but a pillar of good governance and public trust." He urged the officers to adopt a proactive mindset and build cyber-resilient systems capable of withstanding modern threats.

The workshop featured a keynote address by Saurabh Bhagat, Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA, who highlighted the need for preventive strategies, inter-departmental synergy and continuous learning. He encouraged the officers to become "cyber warriors", championing the cyber security in their respective domains.

Throughout the two day event, the participants engaged in expert-led sessions, policy discussions and simulation exercises designed to strengthen both technical competence and institutional preparedness.

## Commissioner Secretary reviews functioning of FCS&CA department

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Saurabh Bhagat, today reviewed overall functioning of the department in a meeting held here. Director FCS&CA Kashmir, Dr. Owais Ahmed besides senior officers of the department including district officers attended the meeting. The Director FCS&CA, Kashmir, apprised the Commissioner Secretary of the stock and supply position of foodgrains and Petroleum Products in the division. It was also informed that more than 70% distribution of foodgrains for the current month has been completed while lifting for the month of July is also going on subsequently. The Director apprised the Commissioner Secretary of various projects, ongoing schemes and plans of the department like SMART-PDS and Route Optimization Plan along with the present status of the same. The Commissioner Secretary

impressed upon all the officers to be prompt in delivering the services to the consumers. He asked them to ensure that all the assigned tasks be completed within the prescribed timeframe. He was informed that timely execution and quality disposal of the grievances is being ensured at all levels.

The Commissioner Secretary expressed confidence that under the leadership of Dr. Owais Ahmed and efforts of all the officers and officials, the department can achieve several key objectives related to food security and public distribution. These included ensuring food security for the population, particularly vulnerable groups, through efficient procurement and distribution of food grains, maintaining stable food prices and strengthening of the Public Distribution System (PDS). The Commissioner Secretary expressed confidence that under the leadership of Dr. Owais Ahmed and efforts of all the officers and officials, the department can achieve several key objectives related to food security.

## Sakeena Itoo, Satish Sharma visit Imam Baras at Zadibal, Hassanabad to oversee the Muharram arrangements

Holds series of interactions with Shia community, locals, assures seamless arrangements during holy month

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo along with Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Information Technology and Transport, Satish Sharma today visited Imam Bara Zadibal and Imam Bara Hassanabad here to review the preparedness and arrangements being made for the observance of forthcoming Holy Month of Muharram-ul-Haram.

During the visit to Imam Bara at Zadibal, the Ministers interacted with local representatives, community leaders and



members of the Shia community. MLA Zadibal, Tanvir Ali Sadiq; MLA Hazratbal, Salman Ali Sagar; Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Commissioner SMC, Direc-

tor Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Kashmir, Director Health Services Kashmir, Chief Engineer KPDCL, senior officers of other allied departments like

PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control, PWD and other departments were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Sakeena said that Muharram holds deep spiritual and cultural significance for the Muslim community and it is our collective responsibility to provide an environment of dignity, safety and comfort to the mourners.

She directed the officers to deploy adequate manpower of health department along the routes of Muharram processions for the facilitation of mourners. She asked the Director Health to deploy sufficient number of Ambulances as well as blood storage units during the days of procession.

**تقریبات کو مہنگے مہنگے عطریات کے استعمال کریں**

ضروری نہیں کہ مذہبی تقریبات کو ہی مہنگا یا جائے، اور بھی دیگر سماجی اور گھریلو تقریبات بھی خوشگوار ہونی چاہیں، جس کیلئے اگر بیویوں کے علاوہ گلاب عرق اور دیگر عطریات کا استعمال کیا جاسکتا ہے، ساری چیزیں ہمارے ہاں سے حاصل کیا کریں۔

**ATAAR SHAH HABIB-UR-REHMAN**

فارست لین نزد یک گھنٹہ گھر، لال چوک، سری نگر، کشمیر  
Habib-ur-Rehman, Shair Bagh, Anantnag

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MICRO DERMABRATION, MOLE AND SKIN TAG REMOVAL, LIP FILLERS  
LASER HAIR REDUCTION  
CARBON LASER FACIAL  
BLACK DOLL FACIAL  
PHOTO FACIAL, PARTY PEELS  
MELASMA TREATMENT  
TATTOO REMOVAL

**اطلاع عام**

میری آٹھویں جماعت پاس کا ماس کارڈ زیر ایڈیشن نمبر 734 سیشن 2011 گم ہو گیا ہے اب اسکی ڈی پی کیٹ کا کاپی مطلوب ہے۔ اگر کسی کو کاپی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اپنا اعتراض گورنمنٹ گراؤنڈ اسکول بڈگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

مقتدا احمد میر ولد اختر محمد میر ساکن لکھنوی پورہ بڈگام۔  
فون۔ MBC8825062410۔

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Hilal Ahmad Shaksaz, husband of Tahira, resident of Pathan Mohalla, Hazratbal, wish to inform the general public and concerned authorities that my spouse's name has been recorded as Tahira in official records. I now wish to update her name to "Tahira un Nisa" for all of-ficial and legal purposes. If anyone has any objection in this regard, he/she may contact the concerned authorities within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

**Hilal Ahmad Shaksaz/R/O Pathan Mohalla, Hazratba Contact: 5867532869**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I PARVAIZ AHMAD BHAT S/O MOHD RAJAB BHAT R/O ARIGAM KHANSAHIB BUDGAM, am applying for contractor card "DEE" CLASS Contractor Card in the office of the Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Budgam. Anybody having any objection may please contact office of the Superintending Engineer (R&B) circle Budgam within a period of seven days. After that no objection will be entertained.

**PARVAIZ AHMAD BHAT S/O MOHD RAJAB BHAT R/O ARIGAM KHANSAHIB BUDGAM CELL :9149967667** mcb

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI**

Sub: Application of Farzi Begum W/o Late Ab. Ahad War R/o Sheikhpura Tehsil Kreeri for the issuance of Legal Heir certificate.

**NOTICE**

Regarding the subject cited above, in this context, a detailed report was sought from the patwari halqa concerned which reveals that Ab. Ahad War, S/o, D/o, W/o, F/o Ab. Karim War, passed away on 21-05-2025. Moreover, the Death Certificate issued by the Competent Authority also depicts the same. Furthermore, the report of Patwari Concerned points out that the deceased has left behind the following Legal Heirs, tabulated as below:

S. No	Name of Legal Heir	Relation with Deceased	Age	Occupation
1	Farzi Begum	W/o	73	Old Age
2	Mohd Yousuf	S/o	57	Govt. Employee
3	Khursheed Ahmad	S/o	46	Employee
4	Raja Begum	D/o	48	H.H.W.
5	Mysara	D/o	46	H.H. Maker

The applicant has applied for the issuance of a Legal Heir certificate. As such the instant matter is published through the newspaper, if anyone has any kind of objection, He/she may approach this office within 7 days (Seven Days) of the publication of this notice. After passing of stipulated time of 7 days (Seven Days), No objections will be entertained.

**NAIB TEHSILDAR**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

It is for the general information that my daughter's name as per school records is Daaniyah Bhat but on her aadhar card it has been incorrectly written as DANIA. Now i want to change her name on Aadhar card as per school records. Anybody having objection in this regard may kindly contact the concerned offices within 7 days. No Objection shall be entertained afterwards.

**Javeed Afzal Bhat F/o Daaniyah Bhat R/o Near ITI ,Ward No:02, Bandipora( J&k) Mob NO: 9858996666** JEH/AMU

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

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Death of **JANA BEGUM W/O LATE AB KHALIQ RATHER R/O DOULATPORA DOUGDARA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla** having verified the date of Death as 27/02/2022 and event has been shown to be occurred at home for issuance of delay order. In this connection .

if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of death certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

**Executive Magistrate 1st Class ASH/K KREERI**

**NOTICE**

I Have lost My No Plate of my vehicle M/Car bearing Registration No JK17-8438 on way to Nowgam bypass to Lalchowk. Now i have applied for its Duplicate. if anybody having any objection in this regard he / she may file his/her objection in the office of ARTO Kishtwar within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**Name: Gurpreet Kaur R/O House No 1 Greater Kailash Jammu Ph No 7006310919** NWZ-01

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITALS DIVISION SRINAGAR**

e-NIT No: M&HDS/TS/2025-26/20/e-tendering, Dated: 17.06.2025

**(SHORT TERM)**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of 7/Doc (In rupees)	Time of completion (in days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No	Earnest Money	Position of Funds
1. Servicing of 158 CFM Reciprocating Compressor (CP Make PX 30) Installed at Govt. Dental College/Hospital	4.60	200	20	198 GDC of 2025 Dt:- 16.06.2025	M&HDS/TS/12% of the estimated cost Of 06/25	2%	Available with Intending Department

1. Downloading of Bids:- The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 17.06.2025 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 17.06.2025 (18.00 hrs)

2. Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 17.06.2025 (18.00 hrs) to 27.06.2025 (13:00hrs) in two (02) covers.

3. Opening of Bids :- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 27.06.2025 at 15.00(hrs):

Pub Date: 19-06-25  
DIPK-2664/25  
Date: Jun 18 2025

**SD Executive Engineer, M&HD, Srinagar**

**REPORT OF MISSING PERSONS**

**MRS FARHANA MANZOOR D/O Mr. Manzoor Hussain Mir 106, Baroda House, Plot 40 A, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi**

**MISS IZDEHAR ZEHR D/O Syed Mashhood Abbas 106, Baroda House, Plot 40 A, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi**

**MISSING FROM 8/4/2025**

Please call on below given numbers if any information available Contact Mobile: 8447269727 9711887856

**اطلاع عام**

ہر خاص عام کو اطلاع دی جاتی ہے کہ میری نوین جماعت پاس سرٹفیکٹ گم ہو گیا ہے اس کی ڈبل کیٹ کاپی کا کاپی مطلوب ہے۔ کسی کو کاپی عذر ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر پڈما سڑک گورنمنٹ ہائی سکول حمن پور باغ کے دفتر میں پیش کرے۔ بعد از معاہدہ کوئی عذر قبول نہیں ہوگا

**المستہر**  
**سوقی سبینم دختر محمد اسماعیل گناہی ساکن حسن پور باغ تحصیل بجمہاڈہ انت ناگ**

**اردفتر نایب تحصیلدار پھلگام**

درخواست منجانب محمد سلمان بٹ ولد غلام بٹ ساکن لاری پورہ پھلگام بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفیکٹ ستمبر امراد اگائی ہر خاص عام ساکن نے ایک بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفیکٹ دفتر حرا میں پیش کی ہے رپورٹ کے مطابق ساکن لاری پورہ پھلگام کار پائس پڈر ہے اور افراد گمبہ مند زیل افراد پیش ہے

غلام بٹ ولد غلام بٹ عمر 41 سال بڑس آمدنی 120000  
سنگیلہ بانوزو پھلگام 40 گھر کا  
لوہی جان دفتر 19 بڑ تعلیم  
محمد سلمان پسر 17 ==

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد گمبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے اور کل زرگی آمدنی 5000 تک ہے زیر کاروائی سرٹفیکٹ اجراء کرنے میں کسی کو کوئی عذر ہو تو وہ سات یوم اندر اندر دفتر حرا میں پیش کرے

**نایب تحصیلدار پھلگام** AIT/P/02

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL**  
**GOVT DEGREE COLLEGE HADIPORA RAFIABAD BARAMULLA J&K 103301**

No.: - GDCH/2025/\_\_\_\_\_ Date: - \_\_\_\_\_

**Expression of Interest**

Expression of Interest is invited from the Association of Indian Publishers and Booksellers (AIPBS), Goods office Committee (GOC) registered under UT and National level publishers, Distributors Suppliers and to offer Maximum possible discount for the supply of books /periodicals/journals/references for the college central Library.

Sealed offers should reach to the Principal GDC Hadipora office by or before 02/07/2025 (2.00 p.m). The sealed offers shall be opened on 03/07/2025 at 11.a.m in the presence of the parties who may wish to be present. The terms and conditions can be made from the office of the principal during office hours on all working days.

The successful vendor(s) /supplier(s) will accompany CDR worth of Rs. 5000 (Five thousand only) refundable pledged to principal Govt. Degree College Hadipora.

Pub Date: 19-06-25  
DIPK-2660/25  
Date: Jun 18 2025

**Principal Govt. Degree College Hadipora**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I zahoor Ahmad Rather S/o Mohammad Sidiq Rather R/o Rajbagh Srinagar having Consumer No. 0202010005473 and Installation No. 534373R i wants to transfer Electricity connection which was on my father's name [Mohammad Sidiq Rather S/o Mohammad Ramzan Rather R/o Rajbagh Srinagar]. Now I want to transfer it by my own name Zahoor Ahmad Rather R/o Rajbagh Srinagar. If anybody have any objection may file the same to the Sub Division Office Rajbagh within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is being informed that that my name in my driving lesson with listen number JK-03 2012 0021891 is wrongly mentioned as Adil Ahmad Wani but the correct name as per my aadhar card is Aadil Ahmad Wani C/O Ab Hamid Wani R/O Lidroo Pahalg Anantnag. Now i m going to apply for its correction if anyone has queries they may visit RTO ANANTNAG thank you

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT**  
**PROJECT OFFICER ICDS SINGHPORA**

**NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that no objections were received to the communication no- CDPO/ICDS/ Sing/Estt/441 Dated: 22-11-2024 published in newspaper Alsa News, Indian Times, Kashmir Digest within stipulated time period as mentioned in the above communication.

DIPK-2692/25  
Date: Jun 18 2025  
Pub Date: 19-06-25

**Child Dedeet Officer Poshan Singhpora**

# IUST Organizes Open Day; Welcomes Over 3000 Students from Across Kashmir

HT NEWS DESK

Awantipora, June 18: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) hosted a vibrant Open Day today, drawing an enthusiastic participation of more than 3000 students and teachers from various government and private educational institutions across all districts of Kashmir. Organized by the Office of the Dean Academic Affairs, the event aimed to provide prospective students a first-hand experience of the academic environment, state-of-the-art scientific infrastructure, and diverse learning opportunities offered by the university.



The university campus Awantipora and Alandrar Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology Budgam buzzed with activity as students, faculty, staff, and

university officers engaged with visitors, offering insights into academic programs, research, and student life at IUST. Various academic departments set up interactive exhibits curated and presented by their students, showcasing departmental

strengths through drone technology, advanced camera systems, innovative product prototypes, digital displays, student research projects, and more. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. A.H. Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, emphasized the university's mission to broaden access to higher education. "IUST is committed to reaching every student who dreams of a university education. We aim to promote academic excellence, innovation, and inclusive growth through engagement and exposure." A key attraction of the day was a Food Exhibition, where students and alumni of IUST set up culinary stalls celebrating local cuisine and entrepreneurial spirit. The exhibition highlighted the university's focus on practical learning and alumni engagement.

## DDC Pulwama chairs DLRC meeting for 4th Quarter of FY 2024-25

Focus on social security, saturation of Govt schemes financial inclusion of youth and priority sector lending: DDC

HT NEWS DESK



PULWAMA, JUNE 18: To assess the performance of banks and line departments across various financial and developmental parameters, District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, today chaired the District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting for the fourth quarter of the financial year 2024-25 at the circuit house Pulwama.

At the outset, Lead District Manager (LDM), Pulwama presented a detailed PowerPoint presentation, highlighting the district's banking performance. The chair was apprised that Pulwama has recorded a year-on-year growth of 8.04% in deposits, while Advances and CD ratio grew by 8.10% and 0.05% respectively. The district's CD ratio at the end of the 4th quarter stands at 108.50%, ranking among the highest in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

During the review, Dr. Qayoom examined the sector-wise performance of banks against allocated targets and directed all concerned banking institutions to identify existing gaps across sectors and prepare a comprehensive strategy to address them during the current financial year.

Emphasising the importance of financial inclusion, DDC instructed the officers of line departments and banking institutions to ensure saturation of all Government Sponsored Schemes, with a particular focus on extending benefits to the marginalised and underprivileged sections of society. He further directed all the stakeholders to improve priority sector lending in different Government sponsored schemes so that unemployed youth can attain self-sufficiency through various self-employed schemes of central and UT Govt.

## Awareness/Saturation camp under DAJGUA held at Kulgam

HT NEWS DESK

KULGAM, JUNE 18: As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), an awareness-cum-saturation camp was successfully conducted today at Tangmarg in Kulgam. The event aimed to raise awareness and ensure the saturation of government welfare schemes among the tribal population of the area. Programme was presided over by the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Altaf Ahmad Khan, besides other officers and officials from various departments also attended the programme. DDC member Manzgam, Jameela Chowdhary also participated in the programme. Various government departments participated in the camp, providing on-spot services, information, and enrollment assistance to the local tribal communities. The camp witnessed active participation from tribal beneficiaries, who availed services and information regarding flagship programmes.

## DLIC Kupwara approves 26 cases under Mission YUVA

HT NEWS DESK

KUPWARA, JUNE 18: In a concerted effort to promote youth entrepreneurship and self-employment, District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) Kupwara, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today approved 26 cases under the Mission YUVA (Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyan) scheme. The meeting was held at the Mini Meeting Hall of the DC Office, Kupwara, and was convened to evaluate and approve applications received from aspiring entrepreneurs under the Mission YUVA initiative. The scheme is designed to pro-



vide financial assistance and capacity-building support to youth for launching and sustaining their entrepreneurial ventures. During the meeting, concerned officials presented a detailed appraisal of the

applications received. After thorough scrutiny and discussion, 26 eligible cases were approved by the Committee for further financial assistance and handholding support. Speaking on the occasion,

DC highlighted the pivotal role of Mission YUVA in enabling local youth to pursue self-employment opportunities and contribute to the economic development of the district. She emphasized the need for effective implementation and directed the District Employment & Counselling Centre Kupwara to ensure wider dissemination of the scheme among eligible youth and encourage greater participation. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Kupwara, Mufti Fareed ud din; ADC Handwara, Javid Naseem Masoodi; GM DIC, Sameer Jaan; CPO, LDM and other members of the Com-

## Awareness/Saturation camp under DAJGUA held at Kulgam

Farooq Rather



KULGAM, JUNE 18: As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), an awareness-cum-saturation camp was successfully conducted today at Tangmarg in Kulgam. The event aimed to raise awareness and ensure the saturation of government welfare schemes among the tribal population of the area. Programme was presided over by the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Altaf Ahmad Khan, besides other officers and officials from various departments also attended the programme. DDC member Manzgam, Jameela Chowdhary also participated in the programme. Various government departments participated in the camp, providing on-spot services, information, and enrollment assistance to the local tribal communities. The camp witnessed active participation from tribal beneficiaries, who availed services and information regarding flagship programmes.

## Day-4: DA-JGUA camp witnesses massive participation at Margund, Kangan

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JUNE 18: As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA) under the broader umbrella of PMJANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan), the fourth outreach and benefit saturation camp was successfully held today at Panchayat Margund of block Kangan, Ganderbal. The day featured a significant awareness and service delivery camp organized by the IEC team, aimed at empowering tribal communities through on-the-spot delivery of government entitlements and deeper understanding of welfare schemes. A large turnout of local tribal residents reflected strong community interest and ownership of the initiative. The camp offered a comprehensive mix of services, including Aadhaar enrolment and updates, Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY registration, issuance of Scheduled Tribe Certificates, PM-KISAN scheme enrolment, Jan Dhan account opening, Sickle Cell



disease screening and awareness, other mission-linked benefits. In addition to service delivery, IEC team conducted interactive awareness sessions that educated participants on schemes related to health, education, skill development, and livelihood support. These sessions also served as platforms for attendees to voice concerns and seek clarifications regarding their entitlements.

A highlight of the event was the cultural performances that celebrated tribal heritage, promoting unity and pride among participants. Educational pamphlets in local languages were distributed to ensure accessibility and wider reach. Key speakers from among the officials and local leaders stressed the importance of preserving tribal identity while embracing modern opportunities.

## Ist DLIC meeting under Mission YUVA held at Shopian

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JUNE 18: The inaugural meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) under Mission YUVA was held today in Shopian under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta.

The meeting aimed to review and approve applications received under the Mission YUVA initiative, designed to foster youth entrepreneurship and self-employment. A total of 56 applications verified by the SBDU, were presented for consideration. Following a comprehensive evaluation based on eligibility, business viability and the applicant's socio-economic background, all applications were approved for financial assistance and handholding support under the Mission YUVA framework. Addressing the committee, DDC emphasized the vital role of self-employment in empowering youth, instructing all departments to ensure timely fund disbursement, robust monitoring and dedicated mentoring to guarantee the sustainability of the supported ventures. During the meeting, Gupta underscored the importance of expanding outreach activities, organizing awareness camps



and conducting mobile registration drives to ensure the benefits of Mission YUVA reach every eligible youth in the district.

"Mission YUVA is not just a scheme, it is a movement to promote innovation, self-reliance and employment generation," he stated, reaffirming the administration's commitment to continuous support and monitoring.

The meeting concluded with a united resolve among members to turn Mission YUVA into a model of success and a key pillar of district development, advancing youth-led entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihoods across Shopian. The meeting was attended by ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone, General Manager DIC, AD Employment, Lead District Manager, DDM NABARD, Advance Manager Cluster office JKB, District Officer JKEDI, Advance Manager, DDM NABARD, Employment & Counselling officer DECC Shopian.

## DG Rural Sanitation visits Baltal, reviews preparations for Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2025

### QR code-based feedback system put in place at toilet points

HT NEWS DESK

Baltal, June 18: Director General, Rural Sanitation, J&K, Ms Anoo Malhotra (JKAS) today conducted an extensive tour of Baltal base camp to assess the sanitation facilities being put in place along the axis for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY), 2025. Accompanied by district officials of Ganderbal, including the ACP and BDOs, she visited various camps along the route—starting from the Baltal Base Camp through Domail and Rail Pathri, up to the end of the track—to review the sanitation arrangements for the

Yatra. The Director General on the way took stock of arrangements of men and machinery along the axis. She directed the agencies involved in the sanitation and waste management to speed up the process and ensure quality services to the pilgrims. The DG Rural Sanitation emphasized that the department remains fully committed to ensuring best facilities and services for the pilgrims. During her visit, Ms Malhotra reviewed installation and functionality of various sanitation infrastructures including the toilets, washrooms, dustbins, drainage for



grey water disposal, segregation of wet waste site, plastic waste management site and

other sanitation facilities along the Baltal axis. She stressed the importance of maintaining highest standards of cleanliness and called for implementation of a zero-landfill policy along the entire pilgrimage routes. Pertinent to mention here that toilets and baths are to be installed along both the Pahalgam and Baltal axis and on yatra route. She issued specific directions for effective grey water management, including construction of adequate soak pits and drainage systems to prevent water logging and ensure environmentally sustainable waste disposal practices. Directing the officials to adopt a pilgrim-

centric approach and ensure that all necessary arrangements are made promptly for the convenience and well-being of devotees, Ms Malhotra called for immediate redressal of complaints, especially those related to hygiene, through a real-time response system. She further informed that a QR code-based feedback system has been introduced at toilet points to enable pilgrims report cleanliness status, provide feedback and support centralized tracking for improving service delivery. She interacted with the field staff, sanitation workers and ground-level officers.

EDITORIAL

**Despite progress at national level water supply continues to be erratic in Kashmir**

Over the past few decades the country has made tremendous strides in different fields and one such field is the supply of potable and drinking water. Due to the efforts of the Jal Shakti department, formerly Public Health Engineering department, tap water has reached most of the households of the country. As on date the maximum population of India is entitled to clean and drinking water and people across the country are quite elated over the same.

According to the figures dished out by the government more than 15 crore households have been covered by potable and clean piped drinking water since Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office in 2014. The Jal Shakti department has progressed by leaps and bounds over the past one decade or so. It goes to the credit of the department for providing potable and clean drinking water to the people living not only in cities and towns, but also to those who live in far flung areas and even on mountains.

The country has progressed in the field of supply of clean drinking water but the situation is not rosy in the Kashmir valley. Every now and then the people living in the different areas of the Srinagar city, districts and towns come out in protest against the concerned department over the scarcity of the drinking water. The department seems to have no plan of action for the crisis and the officers as well as officials of Jal Shakti department could be seen blaming the masses for the present mess. Over the years very little up-gradation of the system has taken place and this has come up as a major reason for the problems being faced by people on account of clean and drinking water. There are many areas across the valley where the water supply pipes have not been replaced for decades and the water continues to be supplied through the old pipes. There are many other areas where the supply pipes have been rusted and as such there is improper flow of water resulting in blockage at times. It is important that the water supply schemes launched decades ago are upgraded so that more and more areas are covered through the piped water in the Kashmir valley. This would give a new dimension to the water supply scenario in the valley and more and more people would be benefitted. At the end of the day the common masses would get benefitted and they would heave a sigh of relief.

**The Middle East on Fire: Why the Israel-Iran Conflict Demands Global Urgency**



By Abbas Ahmad Rather

The Middle East stands on the brink of a large-scale conflagration, as Israel launched its major preemptive airstrike operation "Operation Rising Lion" on the night of June 12-13, targeting its nuclear sites and military infrastructure deep inside Iran and the killing of key nuclear scientists and IRGC commanders—have spiraled into a dangerous military showdown. Israel's main objectives as it argues is to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons, which it claims Iran could use against Israel and potentially pose a threat to the United States as well. However, another underlying objective appears to be Israel's desire to remove Iran's current Ayatollah-led regime and replace it with a puppet government through sustained military pressure. In fact, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu even stated on Fox News that these attacks might contribute to regime change in Iran.

**Historical Roots and the Unresolved Core:** To understand the present crisis, one must not overlook the past. The Middle East has long been a theater of enduring conflict—shaped by colonial legacies, arbitrary borders, sectarian rifts, and foreign interventions. At the heart of the region's turbulence lies the unresolved Palestinian question. The ongoing Israeli occupation, the brutal assault on Gaza since October 2023, and the continued denial of Palestinian self-determination remain powerful symbols of injustice across the Arab and Muslim world.

While the region has been deeply scarred by foreign interventions, the Palestinian issue persists as the central unresolved conflict—making the Middle East one of the most volatile flashpoints for potential large-scale war.

**Iran, Israel, and the "Axis of Resistance"** Iran's longstanding aspiration to become a regional power—along with its widely perceived role as the main backer of the so-called "Axis of Resistance" and its vocal support for the Palestinian cause—places it in direct confrontation with Israel. Israel considers Iran to be its most significant strategic threat in the region. Adding to this tension is Iran's persistent effort to develop nuclear capabilities. For years, Iran has advanced its uranium enrichment program, raising alarm in both the United States and Israel. They fear that a nuclear-armed Iran could destabilize the region and pose an existential threat to their security. Prior to Israel's June 12 strikes, discussions regarding a potential U.S.-Iran nuclear deal were reportedly underway, with experts suggesting Iran was open to negotiation. However, just as progress seemed possible, Israel launched attacks on Iran's nuclear facilities in Natanz, Arak, Isfahan, and Khondab, likely derailing diplomatic momentum.

Iran has been retaliating by launching

"Operation True Promise III" with a barrage of ballistic missiles at Tel Aviv and the port city of Haifa. Even Israel may not have anticipated such damage, given its advanced defense systems like the Iron Dome and others. There have been reports of Iran downing Israeli F-35 jets. The conflict has since escalated, with both sides now target-



ing civilian areas, oil refineries, and gas fields. Iran's response reflects not expansionist ambition but a strategy of survival. Israel, however, appears prepared for a prolonged conflict, relying on offensive action as a form of deterrence.

**The Question of Justification:** Israel's justification for the attacks cannot go unchallenged. Netanyahu claimed that the offensive was necessary to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. However, this argument is undermined by several facts: Iran is a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), has repeatedly declared its nuclear program to be peaceful, and was actively engaged in talks with the U.S. about a new deal. In contrast, Israel has never signed the NPT and is widely believed to possess between 90 to 300 nuclear weapons—though it has never officially acknowledged them. This undeclared arsenal poses a serious threat to the entire region. Iran, unlike Israel, has not directly attacked any of its neighbors in recent history (though it is believed to support the Axis of Resistance). Israel, on the other hand, has launched repeated military operations in Gaza, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen—and now Iran—many of which have been labeled as violations of international law or even acts of genocide, particularly in Gaza.

Israel's actions are backed by unwavering U.S. support, allowing it to operate with impunity and deflect criticism by framing opposition as antisemitic. The logic is troubling: either all nations should disarm, or all should have equal rights to defend themselves. Double standards cannot be the foundation for lasting global peace.

**The Strait of Hormuz: A Dangerous Option:** The Strait of Hormuz—a vital artery for global oil transport—remains vulnerable. If Iran chooses to block it, the consequences could be severe: a spike in global oil prices, inflation, economic recession, and diplomatic backlash. The U.S. could be drawn into the conflict directly. While Iran

has so far avoided this extreme measure, should it feel completely cornered, such an option cannot be ruled out.

**What Could Be the Outcome?** Thus far, Iran has suffered significantly—losing top military commanders, nuclear scientists, civilian lives, and critical infrastructure, including nuclear and oil facilities.

capitulation is not in its vocabulary. While Israel may have inflicted significant damage on Iran's nuclear infrastructure, such strikes are likely to delay—rather than destroy—Iran's nuclear ambitions. Experts suggest that military aggression could, paradoxically, push Iran to pursue nuclear weapons with greater urgency, as a means of deterrence and survival. Rather than preventing proliferation, this strategy risks accelerating it. If Iran perceives that its sovereignty is under existential threat, it may abandon restraint and cross the nuclear threshold—turning it from a threshold state into a full-fledged nuclear power. In this way, Israel's offensive might ultimately produce the very outcome it seeks to avoid.

**India's Position:** India has adopted a balanced but passive approach. While it enjoys strong military and technological ties with Israel, it also maintains strategic interests with Iran—such as the Chabahar Port and energy cooperation. Traditionally, India supported the Palestinian cause and a two-state solution. However, under the Modi government, there has been a visible tilt toward Israel. India refrained from supporting an SCO resolution condemning Israeli aggression against Iran and abstained from a recent UNGA vote calling for a ceasefire in Gaza—a stance that marks a shift from its earlier pro-Palestinian position. Nevertheless, Iran remains historically and strategically significant for India, especially in terms of connectivity, energy, and regional balance.

**Conclusion: A Call for Diplomacy over Destruction**

In recent years, the failure of international institutions has become glaring. The United Nations was unable to prevent the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza or halt the prolonged war in Ukraine. This growing ineffectiveness has led to disillusionment and declining faith in global governance.

Are we entering an era of international anarchy? Perhaps. But it is precisely in such moments that the world must demand accountability. The international community cannot remain a silent spectator to escalating violence.

Most importantly, the unresolved Palestinian issue remains the core of Middle Eastern instability. The ongoing genocide in Gaza must end immediately. A just, two-state solution ensuring dignity, sovereignty, and security for both Palestinians and Israelis is essential. Justice for Palestinians is not only a regional imperative—it is a global necessity.

The Israel-Iran conflict is more than a regional struggle; it is a test of global diplomacy and international norms. The time for action is now. The world must urgently push for de-escalation, meaningful dialogue, and neutral mediation. Only diplomacy—not domination—can offer a sustainable path to peace.

**About the Author:** Abbas Ahmad Rather is a Ph.D. scholar in International Relations, with a research focus on India's Middle East policy. He can be reached at: [abbasahmad059@gmail.com](mailto:abbasahmad059@gmail.com)

**The Path to True Success: Embracing Salah as a Foundation of Life**



Waris Nissar

**Introduction**  
In the relentless race for worldly achievements, success is often narrowly defined as material wealth, career progress, or social prestige. However, for a Muslim, the true essence of success lies in achieving Allah's pleasure, living a meaningful life, and attaining eternal peace in the Hereafter. At the heart of this divine journey is Salah (Nimaz), the daily prayer prescribed by Allah. Salah is not merely a ritual; it is a profound act of worship, a cornerstone of faith, and a source of unmatched blessings in both this world and the next.

**The Reality of Modern Challenges**  
Everywhere we look, people are grappling with challenges—be it financial struggles, emotional turmoil, or lack of direction. A common complaint is the absence of success or fulfillment. Yet, when we reflect on our collective priorities, one glaring truth emerges: our connection with Allah has weakened.

Mosques often stand empty during regular prayers, except for Fridays or special occasions. This neglect raises an essential question: how can we expect divine help and success when we fail to fulfill the fundamental act of worship that strengthens our relationship with Allah?

**Why Salah is Crucial in Today's Times**

Many of us tirelessly seek worldly success but overlook Salah, the very practice that guarantees success in both worlds. Salah is not just a religious obligation—it is a transformative act that shapes our character, instills discipline, and keeps us grounded in faith.

The Quran explicitly connects Salah with success: "Indeed, the believers have succeeded: Those who are humble in their prayer." (Surah Al-Mu'minun: 1-2)

It is through Salah that we seek Allah's guidance, protection, and sustenance. It serves as a reminder of our purpose in life and a source of strength to face challenges.

**Historical Perspective on Salah**

The practice of Salah traces its roots to the earliest days of Islam. Established as an obligation during the miraculous journey of Isra and Miraj, Salah was initially prescribed as fifty prayers daily. Through Allah's mercy and the intercession of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), it was reduced to five prayers with the reward of fifty.

From the beginning, Salah has been a defining characteristic of a Muslim. The early Muslims, despite immense persecution, never compromised on their prayers. It was their lifeline, their source of strength, and the secret of their success.

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) emphasized its importance:

"The first thing a person will be held accountable for on the Day of Judgment is Salah. If it is sound, then the rest of his deeds will be sound." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi)

**The Five Daily Prayers: Anchors of Faith**

The five daily prayers are divinely timed anchors that

keep us connected to Allah throughout the day:

1. Fajr (Pre-Dawn Prayer): Begins the day with Allah's remembrance, setting the tone for a productive and



blessed day.

2. Dhuhr (Noon Prayer): A pause in the middle of the day to realign with our purpose and recharge spiritually.

3. Asr (Afternoon Prayer): A reminder of the fleeting nature of time, encouraging us to utilize it wisely.

4. Maghrib (Sunset Prayer): Marks the transition from day to night with gratitude for Allah's blessings.

5. Isha (Night Prayer): Ends the day with submission and supplication, ensuring spiritual peace.

**How Salah Brings Success**

1. A Direct Connection with Allah: Salah is a personal conversation with the Creator, seeking His guidance and mercy.

2. Spiritual Cleansing: It purifies the soul of negative traits like arrogance, envy, and despair.

3. Instills Discipline: The fixed times of Salah encourage time management and consistency.

4. Inner Peace: Regular prayer calms the mind and heart, enabling clarity in decision-making.

5. Protection from Sin: Allah promises: "Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing." (Surah Al-Ankabut: 45)

**A Call to Action**

The current times demand introspection. If we truly desire success, the first step is to turn back to Allah. Let us not wait for Fridays or special occasions to pray; let us make Salah the cornerstone of our daily lives.

To my fellow youth struggling with unemployment or lack of direction, remember: success is not in worldly shortcuts but in seeking Allah's help through Salah. He is the ultimate Giver of success, and Salah is our bridge to Him.

**Conclusion**

Success in Islam transcends material achievements; it is a state of spiritual contentment, divine blessings, and preparation for eternal life. Salah is not just an obligation; it is a gift—a pathway to Allah's blessings and eternal success.

Let us revive our mosques, not just physically but spiritually. Let us reconnect with Allah through Salah and realign our lives with the purpose He has set for us. Allah promises:

"And seek help through patience and prayer; indeed, it is difficult except for the humbly submissive [to Allah]." (Surah Al-Baqarah: 45)

May we prioritize Salah, earn Allah's pleasure, and find true success in this life and the Hereafter. Aameen.

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# Credit to coaching, anonymity to school: How long will this injustice with teachers continue?



Dr. Satyawan Saurabh,

Today coaching institutes get all the credit for the success of students, while the teachers who laid the foundation for years remain anonymous. This editorial highlights the pain of that oblivion. Teachers who teach in schools and colleges do not just shape exams, but thinking, language and culture. Coaching is a stop, but the hard work of teachers is the basis of the entire journey. This imbalance of credit in education is socially and morally unjust – and it needs to be corrected urgently. Today, whenever a student gets selected in NEET, JEE, UPSC or any other competitive exam, the media presents his success as the success of the coaching institute. Congratulations, hoardings, advertisements, and social media posts – one name shines on all of them: coaching centre. But in all this noise, the teacher gets lost, who once taught that student to hold a pencil for the first time, who introduced him to letters, who laid the foundation of his calculations and reasoning. These are the same teachers who struggle for years in schools and colleges to instill thinking ability and confidence in children without any special resources.

This article is the voice of this invisible, neglected class. Education was never a market. It was a relationship – of a Guru and a disciple. But since the dominance of coaching institutes in the field of education, this relationship has taken the form of a service and a customer. The student has become a consumer and the teacher – a product seller. The coaching institute is now a brand, which sells success, and the school teacher is just a government employee, who gets neither praise nor a platform.

Why this imbalance in education? Is it fair to give the entire credit of a student's success to only the coaching institute he went to in the last one or two years? And does the role of the school or college where the student spent 10-12 years of his life become null and void?

We have to remember that no student clears UPSC overnight. The process starts somewhere from memorizing a class-3 Hindi poem, when the teacher corrects his pronunciation mistakes. It starts with the first multiplication and division of mathematics, when the teacher converts his finger counting into calculations. These teachers do not teach under any branded board, their classrooms are without air-conditioners, and sometimes even without fans. But it is their sweat that lays the foundation of the future.

When a student says in an interview that "My success is the result of my coaching institute," then on hearing this sentence, a teacher teaching in a government school in some village smiles silently. He knows that he must have done something right, only then this student could reach that place. But pain is hidden in that smile, in that silence are those questions which no one asks - "Did I not have any role?" Coaching institutes can provide a shortcut to success, but the habit of thinking, command over language, social consciousness – all these are



developed in schools only. Schools do not just prepare for exams, they build individuals. In the language of the market, today education has become a 'branded service'. Coaching centres

**When a student says in an interview that "My success is the result of my coaching institute," then on hearing this sentence, a teacher teaching in a government school in some village smiles silently. He knows that he must have done something right, only then this student could reach that place. But pain is hidden in that smile, in that silence are those questions which no one asks - "Did I not have any role?"**

sell themselves with success graphs, and use successful students as advertisements. This is a new form of exploitation, in which someone else does the hard work and someone else gets the benefit. Look at the language of the advertisements – "72

selected from our institute!", "AIR-1 our students!", "Impossible without coaching!" – these claims do not have the name of any school. There is no picture of any Hindi, Maths or Science teacher who prepared the students amidst their limited salary, dilapidated school and administrative pressures. Here is another irony – the student who became successful by going to a coaching centre, himself came from a school. He had once learned while being bored or even having fun in the class. His personality includes school prayers, teacher's scolding, silence of the library and the smell of practical classes. But after success, he branded coaching instead of school.

This trend not only reflects the forgetfulness of society, it also shows the decline of our priorities. The original teachers are confined to the classroom only. There is no scholarship in their name, no credit system. They spend the entire day checking board exam answer sheets, performing election duty, counting eggs for mid-day meals and still take out time to explain to students – "Please add IAS before your name and come to school once!" Some teachers are so simple and dedicated that they feel proud of their students' success but remain silent even if they do not see their name in their social media posts. They consider their role as God's work – without any expectation of credit, only with the spirit of building society. This silence has to be broken now.

We need to start a new social campaign where every selected student names his/her school and teachers on an open platform. The administration should make such rules where the name of the school and college is also recorded along with the success of the students. The media should also give information about the coaching institutes as well as the original educational institute of that student in their reporting. Coaching institutes must also take the moral responsibility to include the entire educational journey of the student in their promotions – not just the last two years.

If we do not do this, a day will come when our schools will become just a name, and education will become just an expensive service. A true teacher is one who burns like a lamp so that the student sitting in front can see the light. But if the lamp is constantly ignored, then darkness can become permanent.

This article is dedicated to those teachers – Who are not brands but play the role of Brahma. Who do not run a coaching centre but build personalities, whose names do not resonate today, but whose impact lasts for generations. Now the time has come for us to delve deeper into education and identify its real architects.

– Dr. Satyawan Saurabh, Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, Radio and TV panelist, 333, Fairy Garden, Kaushalya Bhawan, Barwa (Sivani) Bhiwani, Haryana – 127045, Mobile :9466526148, 01255281381

# Life Doesn't Have to Be Perfect to Be Beautiful

## An Inspirational Article



Jaswinder pal

In a world that often chases perfection—flawless appearances, ideal lifestyles, and mistake-free moments—it's easy to forget one essential truth: **\*\*Life doesn't have to be perfect to be beautiful.\*\*** True beauty lies in imperfection, in the little moments of joy, the strength we find in struggles, and the love we give and receive despite our flaws.

**Embracing Imperfections** Perfection is a myth. No matter how polished someone's life appears from the outside, everyone faces challenges, heartbreaks, and setbacks. What makes life beautiful is not its flawlessness but our ability to keep moving forward with courage and hope. A cracked mug still holds warm tea. A rainy day still nurtures blooming flowers. When we embrace imperfections—our own and others'—we open the door to genuine connection. We learn to be kinder, more compassionate, and more accepting. We realize that it's okay not to have all the answers or to stumble along the way.

The Beauty in Small Moments Beauty often hides in the ordinary:  
\* A child's laughter  
\* A quiet morning sunrise  
\* A comforting hug  
\* The smell of rain on dry soil  
These moments don't require perfection. They just require us to "notice" them. When we stop waiting for everything to be "just right," we begin to see the beauty that was always there—waiting to be appreciated.

**Growth Through Struggle** Life's toughest moments

often shape us into our strongest selves. The challenges we face—the heartbreaks, the failures, the losses—can feel overwhelming. But in those very moments, we discover our resilience, our courage, and our deepest values.

Like a diamond formed under pressure, our character is shaped by our struggles. And that process, though painful, is undeniably beautiful.

**Letting Go of Unrealistic Standards**

Social media, advertisements, and society often paint a picture of what a "perfect" life looks like. But these images are often filtered, edited, and far from reality. Trying to live up to those expectations only leads to disappointment and anxiety.

Instead, let's celebrate our unique journey—with all its twists and turns. Let's honor the messy, unpredictable, and authentic nature of life. When we let go of the pressure to be perfect, we make space for joy, peace, and creativity to flourish.

**In Conclusion** Life is a patchwork of smiles and tears, highs and lows, success and failure. It is not the absence of flaws that makes it beautiful, but our ability to see beyond them. When we begin to appreciate life for what it is—raw, real, and ever-changing—we unlock a deeper sense of gratitude and fulfillment.

So the next time things don't go as planned, remember: **\*\*Life doesn't have to be perfect to be beautiful.\*\*** It already is, just as it is—and so are you.

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# The Pencil That Led to a Boy's Rustication from School

## A Tale of a Mother's Blind Love and Its Ruinous Consequences



By Syed Majid Gilani

In the warmth of my childhood home, wisdom was passed down not through books alone, but through voices, gentle, firm, and seasoned by life's many lessons. In those days, elders were the true custodians of knowledge. Their words carried the weight of experience, and their stories served not just to entertain restless children, but to shape hearts and build character.

Of all the voices, I remember, none echoes louder in my memory than that of my grandmother, the late Syeda Sakina Gilani. She was not a scholar in the worldly sense, but her understanding of human nature, her sharp sense of right and wrong, and her ability to read hearts made her a figure of rare wisdom in our family. Her stories, drawn from life's harshest truths, were meant for us, to correct our faults, warn us of hidden dangers, and remind us of the cost of straying from the path of virtue.

Among those stories, one left an unshakable imprint on my heart, the tragic account of a woman named Nida,

and the son she destroyed with her own hands, not through hatred, but through the misguided excesses of a mother's blind love and unchecked pride.

It happened in a quiet city, where Nida lived with her husband Fazil and their only son, Raashid. Fazil was an upright, hardworking man, the kind of father every child deserves and every home needs. Yet his home was no refuge for him. His wife's bitter tongue and cruel disposition turned their house into a prison. Fazil's life was a long, silent endurance, marked by endless insults and indignities. To the world, he was a provider, a respectable man. To his wife, he was nothing more than a means to earn money.

In this toxic household, Nida poured all her obsessive affection onto her son, Raashid. However, it was not love tempered with wisdom, it was a dangerous indulgence. She turned him against his father, feeding him false notions that Fazil was weak, outdated, and unworthy of respect. She barred Fazil from having any say in the boy's upbringing, raising Raashid entirely on her own twisted standards.

As the boy grew, the consequences of this reckless parenting began to surface. When Raashid stole a pencil from a classmate's bag and confessed it to his mother, any sensible parent would have guided, scolded, and corrected him. However, Nida laughed it off. In that single moment of silence and approval, she planted the first seed of destruction in her son's heart.

What followed was a slow descent into darkness. Raashid grew unruly, defiant, and loud. When he fought with class-



mates, Nida defended him. When he insulted teachers, she justified it. When he took to smoking, she shrugged it away. "He's young," she would say, "better this than gambling or drinking." She emboldened every wrong, excused every mistake, and erased every line between right and wrong for him. Then came the day that sealed his fate. Raashid brutally assaulted his class teacher over a petty disagreement. The teacher was left injured, and the school, unable to tolerate such violence, expelled Raashid on the spot. One would think a mother might be alarmed, humiliated, or at least concerned. But not Nida. She clapped him on the back and praised his bravery. "Good," she said, "never let anyone suppress you." That incident became the turning

point. With no school to attend and no fatherly hand to steer him, Raashid took to theft. Under the cover of night,

he robbed homes in the nearby mohalla's while his defeated father, Fazil, sat helplessly at home, carrying the silent burden of watching his son's ruin. The final tragedy came on a bitter, moonless night. During a burglary gone wrong, Raashid was confronted by a homeowner. In the scuffle, Raashid killed the man. He was arrested, tried, and sentenced to death by hanging. As was custom, the condemned man was granted a final wish. Raashid's request stunned the entire kingdom, he asked that his mother, Nida, be hanged beside him. When the King demanded an explanation, Raashid spoke words that would haunt every parent who heard them. "I was born innocent," Raashid began, tears streaming down his face. "But

from the day I stole a pencil, my mother chose to stay silent. When I beat my teacher, she praised me. When I disobeyed my elders, she encouraged me. She taught me to hate my father, a good, gentle man, calling him weak, old-fashioned, and unworthy. She distanced me from his love, his guidance, and his discipline. She fed me poison in the name of love. And today, I stand at the gallows not because I was born evil, but because my mother raised me without a conscience. If anyone deserves to die with me, it is she."

Nida collapsed upon hearing her son's final words, consumed by a guilt that arrived far too late. The King, bound by custom and Raashid's last wish, granted it. As mother and son stood side by side at the gallows, their fate served as a brutal, unforgettable lesson to all who watched.

My grandmother would always end this harrowing tale with a quiet warning: "Love your children with all your heart, but do not let love blind you. A home without discipline, where wrong is excused and elders disrespected, becomes a breeding ground for ruin. A mother's greatest duty is not only to nourish her child but to teach him to stand upright in a crooked world."

Even today, whenever I hear of parents dismissing their children's faults or mocking the wisdom of their elders, this story rises within me, a tragic reminder of how one mother's indulgence and hatred for her husband destroyed not just her family, but her-

self.

***In this toxic household, Nida poured all her obsessive affection onto her son, Raashid. However, it was not love tempered with wisdom, it was a dangerous indulgence. She turned him against his father, feeding him false notions that Fazil was weak, outdated, and unworthy of respect. She barred Fazil from having any say in the boy's upbringing, raising Raashid entirely on her own twisted standards.***

Syed Majid Gilani is a Government Officer by profession and a storyteller by heart. He writes about human emotions, moral values, family bonds, and the invisible threads that hold communities together. He can be reached at syedmajid6676@gmail.com

## DC Kishtwar distributes sponsorship benefits under Mission Vatsalya

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 18 Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma today distributed 78.03 lakh among 231 eligible beneficiaries as Non-Institutional Care Sponsorship benefits for the financial year 2024-25. The initiative forms part of Mission Vatsalya, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme envisaging the care and protection of children in vulnerable circumstances. The distribution under-



scores the administration's commitment to safeguarding child rights and providing essential support to children in need, enabling them to lead a secure and dignified life. The sponsorship assistance is extended under various eligibility criteria, including

orphans, children with a single deceased parent and those suffering from life-threatening diseases or living with disabilities. The financial support will help address the critical needs of these children, particularly in the areas of education, nutrition and healthcare. The distribution event was held in the presence of Zubair Ahmed Lone, District Child Protection Officer (DSWO Kishtwar) and Chetna Sharma TSWO Kishtwar.

## DC chairs District level implementation committee meeting under Mission YUVA

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 18: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee under Mission YUVA to evaluate and approve financial assistance proposals of aspiring entrepreneurs. The meeting was attended by IAS Probationer Seerat Baji, Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh, General Manager DIC, Kishore



Singh, Assistant Director Employment, Priyanka Gupta and other officers concerned. A total of 33 applications

approved 29 applications for financial assistance under Mission YUVA, aimed at fostering youth-led entrepreneurship in the district. The DC directed the concerned officers to obtain a written undertaking from applicants in cases where the unit cost is above the prescribed scale of finance clearly stating the beneficiary is willing to bear the rest amount on his own to ensure transparency and financial viability of the proposed ventures.

## World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Senior citizens sensitized about Legal Rights by DLSA Kishtwar

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 18: To mark observance of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kishtwar, under the guidance of its Chairman (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Sudhir Kumar Khajuria, organized an awareness programme for senior citizens here in the Conference Hall of District Court Complex. The programme was inaugurated by Slahuddin Ahmed, Sub-Judge and Secretary DLSA in presence of Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC) Naveed Khurshid, Kishtwar. They were also the key resource persons for the event. In his address, Slahuddin Ahmed emphasized the global significance of observing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. He noted that the day serves as a vital platform for fostering awareness and understanding the various forms of abuse and neglect faced by the elderly, influenced by socio-cultural, economic and demographic factors. He also provided an informative overview

of legal provisions and welfare schemes in place for the protection and dignity of senior citizens. Naveed Khurshid delved into the various forms of elder abuse, including neglect, physical and verbal mistreatment, emotional humiliation, financial exploitation, abandonment and isolation. He highlighted that under the Legal Services Authorities Act, senior citizens are entitled to free legal aid and legal representation, reinforcing the judiciary's commitment to ensuring justice and dignity for the elderly. The event witnessed the participation of several prominent senior citizens from the district, including Roshal Lal Parihar, J&K President of the Senior Citizens Council, Kishtwar; Capt. (Retd.) Roshan Lal, Dev Dutt Sharma, Nazir Ahmed Sheikh, Farooq Ahmed Razvi among others. The programme concluded with an interactive session, where attendees shared their concerns and appreciated the efforts of DLSA Kishtwar in safeguarding the rights of senior citizens.

## DC, SSP Doda flag off Shri Chound Mata Charri Yatra from Kastigarh to Galadhar

Review developmental activities in mountainous Tehsil

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 18: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Harvinder Singh and SSP Sandeep Kumar Mehta today flagged off the Shri Chound Mata Charri Yatra from Kastigarh to Galadhar, marking the beginning of the sacred pilgrimage with religious fervor and devotion. A large number of devotees gathered at Kastigarh to participate in the yatra, which holds immense spiritual and cultural significance in the region. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from members of the Shri Chound Mata Mandir Committee, local residents and officials from the district administration. The Deputy Commissioner extended his heartfelt wishes to the pilgrims and highlighted the



yatra's role in strengthening the cultural fabric and communal harmony of the region. He emphasized the importance of maintaining discipline, cleanliness and cooperation throughout the pilgrimage. The District Administration Doda has made comprehensive arrangements to ensure the

smooth and safe conduct of the yatra. The Shri Chound Mata Charri Yatra is a revered annual event that attracts thousands of devotees from Doda and neighboring areas. As the procession makes its way towards Galadhar, the atmosphere reverberates with devotional chants, traditional

rituals and a strong sense of spiritual unity. Later, the Deputy Commissioner took stock of ongoing developmental works and assessed field-level implementation of key government schemes in the mountainous Tehsil. The Deputy Commissioner conducted on-site inspections of the road construction projects, water supply schemes and public utility initiatives. He emphasized the need for time-bound completion of all works while maintaining quality standards and transparency. He interacted with local residents and PRI representatives to understand grassroots-level issues. He assured time bound redress of public concerns and equitable development across all areas of the district, especially remote and hilly regions like Kastigarh.

## DAJGUA awareness camps held at Kahara, Bhallessa to empower Tribal Communities

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JUNE 18: Under the theme "Reaching the Unreached," special outreach camps under the Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan were today conducted at Village Bathri in Kahara Block and Panchayat Dugli in Bhallessa Block of Doda district. The program at Kahara Block was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Din Mohammad Affaqi and local Block Development Officer (BDO) Mool Raj, while the event at Bhallessa Block was organized under the supervision of Block Development Officer (BDO) Sunil Kumar. The officers interacted with local tribal residents, encouraging their active participation in flagship government schemes such as PMAY-G, MGNREGA, NRLM, Ayushman Bharat, Ujjwala Yojana and Skill Development Missions.

## ADC unveils poetry collection of budding writer Prabhleen Kour

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 18: Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Ansuya



Jamwal today unveiled a poetry book "The Sole Burst of Colour in My World of Words", penned by a Class 12th student of Army Public School Miran Sahib Prabhleen Kour. Speaking on the occasion, the ADC appreciated the young talent and lauded Prabhleen's literary expression and creative spirit. She encouraged her to continue writing and further hone her poetic skills, wishing

her success in all future endeavours. The young poet has a keen interest in literature, philosophy and graphic design. She shared that poetry has been a meaningful medium for her to express deep personal reflections and experiences. The book is a reflective collection of poems exploring themes of nostalgia, identity, love and introspection. From verses like "School Yard Nostalgia" to "Crumbling the Shackles of Slavery", the anthology showcases a blend of imagination, emotion and philosophical depth.

## 62 students of SPMR College complete internship at JKEDI

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 18: The first batch of 62 students of Government SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu successfully completed their summer internship at the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI). The students pursuing Bachelors in Business Management (BBA) from the Government Sri Pratap Memorial Rajput College of Commerce (SPMR), Jammu underwent a 10-day (60-hour) internship, which commenced on June 4, 2025, at Bari Brahmana campus of the institute. As per National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 guidelines, the internship program aimed at developing the entrepreneurial and research acumen among students, research aptitude and teamwork skills. During the program, the students were introduced to the role and functioning of the JKEDI. They gained exposure to the program verticals of the institute, all aimed at promoting entrepreneurship as a viable career choice in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. At the valediction ceremony, the Secretary Industries and Commerce Department, Khalid Jahangir who also holds the charge of Director JKEDI, addressed the students. He encouraged the interns to adopt an innovative mindset in embracing entrepreneurship, expressing hope that many would become future entrepreneurs and startup founders. He also invited the students to participate in an upcoming Idea Generation Competition being organized by the institute under J&K Startup Policy 2024-27

## Empowering Tribal at Grassroots: Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan enters 4th Day

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 18: The 15-day-long IEC campaign under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan activities continued on the fourth consecutive day in District Kishtwar. Today an awareness camp was held at Panchayat Chicha, Block Nagseni, to impart awareness and ensure saturation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes among the tribal community. The event saw active participation from the tribal community, reflecting their interest in availing government services delivered at their doorstep. The local BDO Abhilash Sharma delivered an insightful address, highlighting various government welfare schemes tailored for the uplift of the tribal com-



munities. Highlights of the camp also included informative stalls set up by the government departments, including Agriculture, Health, ICDS, Social Welfare, Revenue, Sheep Husbandry, Horticulture, Fisheries and others, showcasing and providing on-the-spot benefits of flagship schemes, especially for tribal. Other activities included awareness about DAJGUA, distribution of IEC pamphlets, issuance of PMJAY and Ayushman Cards as well as the on-the-spot distribution of caste certificates, domicile certificates and more.

# Massive plantation drive held near BSF camp Paloura to promote Clean Jammu, Green Jammu Campaign

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 18: Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) in collaboration with the Urban Forest Division Jammu carried out a major plantation drive under the "Clean Jammu, Green Jammu" campaign near BSF camp Paloura, today. The initiative aimed to promote environmental conservation and foster a culture of green responsibility among citizens. JMC Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav led the drive by planting Gulmohar saplings at a vacant site along the canal bank. The plantation drive witnessed enthusiastic participation

from local residents, cleanliness champions, senior citizens, former councillors and dedicated volunteers of Jammu city, who adopted saplings and took a pledge to care for them. Emphasizing the mission's ambitious target of planting 60,000 saplings before August 15, Dr. Yadav called upon people from all walks of life to actively participate and contribute towards making Jammu a cleaner and greener city. He also announced that each sapling will be tagged with a QR code, providing detailed information about the plant species and the adopter responsible for its care. Highlighting the importance of post-plantation care, especially during



the summer season, the Commissioner stressed that protecting and nurturing these saplings is crucial. "These trees will not only enhance the beauty of Jammu city but also play a significant role in maintaining a healthy and pollution-free environment," he said. Among others, Joint Commissioner (R&E), JMC, Subah Mehta, Secretary JMC Chand Singh, Divisional Forest Officer, Jammu Ashwani Kumar Mittal, Superintendent Engineer, Urban, PHE Sunil Gandotra, Assistant Floriculture Officer (JMC) Rabia Khan, IEC Incharge Dr. Divya Sharma, besides former Councillors Mohinder Kumar and Ashok Singh Manhas and locals

participated in the drive. JMC Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav led the drive by planting Gulmohar saplings at a vacant site along the canal bank. The plantation drive witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, cleanliness champions, senior citizens, former councillors and dedicated volunteers of Jammu city, who adopted saplings and took a pledge to care for them. Emphasizing the mission's ambitious target of planting 60,000 saplings before August 15, Dr. Yadav called upon people from all walks of life to actively participate and contribute towards making Jammu a cleaner and greener city.

## State Coordinator Samagra Shiksha J&K leads intensive monitoring drive in Kishtwar to reinforce educational reforms

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JUNE 18: To evaluate and strengthen the implementation of key educational schemes, State Coordinator Samagra Shiksha Jammu and Kashmir Dr. Archana Parihar conducted a week-long monitoring visit across four of the seven education zones in District Kishtwar.

The visit aimed to assess the on-ground implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), focusing on academic delivery, administrative efficiency and infrastructure readiness.

Taking a comprehensive review, Dr. Parihar closely examined various aspects of school functioning, including classroom engagement, student participation, hygiene standards and integration of digital tools in teaching. She engaged with school heads, teachers and field-level functionaries to understand local challenges and ensure that government initiatives are being implemented in letter and spirit.

Dr. Parihar emphasized strict compliance with procedural norms under Samagra Shiksha, including proper record-keeping and judicious utilization of school



grants, especially with mandatory allocations toward the Swachhata Abhiyan. She highlighted the need for maintaining hygiene in school kitchens under the PM

POSHAN scheme and encouraged the development of kitchen gardens to support both nutrition and learning. Schools were reminded of the importance of sending

daily ARMS SMS reports by 1:00 PM with strict monitoring mechanisms to be enforced by higher authorities.

To reinforce the government's tobacco-free education policy, Dr. Parihar directed all institutions to display appropriate TOFEI banners and ensure full adherence to guidelines. While appreciating the conduct of cultural and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) activities, she expressed concern over inadequate documentation and instructed all Heads of Institutions to maintain updated registers for all events.

Dr. Parihar also underscored the importance of digital compliance, stressing that student attendance must be marked online daily through the VSK Chatbot by 11:00 AM. Any lapses in this regard would invite disciplinary action. She urged all schools to register on the Vidyanjali Portal to encourage volunteer engagement and enhance community participation in the education system. Moreover, she noted with concern the limited usage of the DIKSHA app by teachers and called for its regular integration into teaching practices to boost digital learning outcomes and support professional growth.

## MVD Rajouri seizes 6 vehicles, e challans 16 others for breaching rules

HT NEWS DESK

RAJOURI, JUNE 18: Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Rajouri today conducted an extensive road checking drive in Kalakote town of the district. The drive was carried out on the directions of Transport Commissioner, Vishesh Paul Mahajan and Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma. As many as 90 vehicles were checked, of which 16 were e-challaned for violation of rules. The expected penalty amount from these e-challaned vehicles stands at approximately 36,000 (Thirty-six thousand rupees).

In addition, six Tata Magic vehicles were seized for operating without valid permits, highlighting the administration's zero tolerance towards permitless commercial operations.

The ARTO Rajouri reiterated that such enforcement drives will continue in the coming days to curb traffic violations and promote road discipline across the district. He urged vehicle owners and drivers to adhere to the road safety norms and legal requirements to avoid penalties and ensure the safety of all road users.

## DIG Traffic decorates promoted Officer

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 18: A piping ceremony for the newly promoted Inspector was held today at Range Traffic Headquarters, Jammu.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, RTHQ Jammu Dr. Mohammad Haseeb Mughal decorated the newly promoted officer Inspector Santosh Sharma.

On this occasion, the DIG Traffic Jammu congratulated the officer on his well-deserved promotion and extended his best wishes for his future assignments. DIG Traffic Jammu appreciated the services and the role he played at Range Traffic Hqrs Jammu while handling multi tasks assigned to him from time to time. The DIG Traffic Jammu also stressed upon the officer to continue serving with enthusiasm, integrity and a high sense of responsibility.

Among others present were DySP (S) Ramesh Chander Kataria, Private Secretary to DIG Traffic Jammu, Voonesh Sangotra, Sr. PO, Inspector (S) Ruby Dhar, PA to DIG Traffic Jammu were present on the occasion.

## DHJ takes stock of horticulture activities in Marh zone

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 18: Director Horticulture Jammu (DHJ) Gul Syed conducted a tour of the Horticulture zone Marh- Jammu. He was accompanied by the Chief Horticulture Officer, Horticulture Development Officer and other officials of the Department.

The Director along with SDM Marh, CHO and HDO interacted with numerous local farmers and beneficiaries covered under various schemes by the Horticulture Department.

During the tour, the Director inspected the High Density Plantation at various sites and gave expert advice to farmers for increasing their income. He also briefed the farmers about the schemes of the department and urged them to associate with the Horticulture Department to avail the benefits for high density plantation, protected cultivation, water harvesting tanks, drip irrigation, custom hiring Centres, machinery, nursery establishment etc. for upliftment of their socio- economic status.

Further, the Director impressed upon women entrepreneurs to form Self Help Groups (SHG's) for setting up of small fruit and vegetable processing units with the assistance of the department, henceforth which can play an important role in enhancing the family income.

## Degree College Doda Hosts Fourth Season of 'Poet of the Year 2025' Competition

Amir Iqbal Khan

Bhadarwah, 18:- Continuing its commitment to fostering artistic and literary talents, the Department of English at Government Degree College (GDC) Doda organized the fourth season of the "Poet of the Year 2025" competition today. The annual event is designed to nurture the creative abilities of students and has been a hallmark of the institution since its inception five years ago.

The concept for the competition was developed by Prof. Falak and Dr. Jamsheed Ahmad, who have been instrumental in its execution over the years. This year's event was coordinated by a dedicated team including Prof. Falak, Prof. Naz Zargar, Dr. Jamsheed Ahmad and Prof. Anoj Kumar under the guidance of Principal Dr. (Prof.) Javid Iqbal.

According to a handout, the competition invited self-composed poems from students, with submissions accepted from April 23, 2025, coinciding with English Language Day, until May 19, 2025, which marks the birthday of renowned author Ruskin Bond. "Following a comprehensive review process to ensure originality and adherence to grammatical standards, shortlisted entries were submitted to a panel of three judges, comprising esteemed poets and literary figures from various universities and colleges," handout said.

It further added that a rigorous and blind review process was implemented to evaluate the entries, ensuring fairness in judgment.

## IMCSD Interns interact with Joint Director Information, Jammu

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JUNE 18: As part of the ongoing Summer Media Internship Programme 2025-26, a group of student interns from the Institute of Mass Communication and Skill Development (IMCSD) today visited the Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), J&K Government, at Bahu Plaza, Jammu.

The interns, comprising students from Government MAM College and Government College for Women (GCW), Bhagwati Nagar, engaged in a meaningful interaction with the Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey.

The session aimed at familiarizing the aspiring media professionals with



the functioning of DIPR and its crucial role in disseminating government information to the public in a transparent and responsible manner. The interns were accompanied by the senior journalist and IMCSD executive member Vicky Verma, who coordinated the visit as part of the institute's hands-on field exposure programme. During the interaction, the Joint Director offered valuable insights into the opera-

tional structure of the department, highlighting its multifaceted responsibilities including public outreach, media coordination, press release dissemination, government publicity campaigns and publication of official content. The students were also briefed on how the department uses various platforms including print, electronic and digital to ensure that accurate and verified information reaches.

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## SDRF J&K hosts interactive session with civil society members

HT NEWS DESK/KNS

JAMMU, JUNE 18: An interaction with senior dignitaries, retired Police officers and prominent civil society members was organized today at SDRF 2nd Bn. Jammu under the guidance of Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF J&K (ADGP) Alok Kumar.

At the outset, the senior dignitaries, retired Police officers and prominent civil society members were welcomed by DIG, HG/CD & SDRF Jammu Mohammad Arshad.

The DIG, HG/CD & SDRF Jammu gave a presentation, briefing the guests about steps taken to strengthen the Civil Defence set up, with a focus on recognizing the community as an important stakeholder, encouraging its involvement and reinforcing the bond between the District authorities and the civil society for a more effective role in dealing with any disaster like situations.

The dignitaries extended full support for strengthening Civil Defence and gave valuable suggestions which were incorporated for implementation.



Retd DGP J&K A. K Bhan also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the need to create mass awareness about the importance of readiness during any war like situation.

At the end, Commandant SDRF 2nd Bn. Jammu Zahid Naseem Manhas presented the vote of thanks to all dignitaries and guests.

The key dignitaries present in the interaction were Retd Chief Justice of J&K & Ladakh High Court Justice Tashi Rabastan; Retd. Chief Secretary J&K B.R Sharma; Retd DGP J&K S.P Vaid and Mrs Bharti Vaid; Retd DGP A. K. Bhan; Retd. Member J&K PSC K. B. Jandial; Retd. Dy AG J&K Rameshwar Singh Jamwal, besides the officers of the organization.

## Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan Awareness Camp held at Panchayat Bhingara-Ukhral

HT NEWS DESK

RAMBAN, JUNE 18: On the fourth day of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan, the District Administration Ramban organized an awareness camp at Panchayat Bhingara, Block Ukhral to empower tribal communities by facilitating access to the government schemes and services.

The camp was attended by Tehsildar Nasir Javed, BDO Shahid Saleem and representatives from several departments. Assistant Director FCS&CA, Niamatullah Sheikh, acted as the Key Resource Person, sensitizing the tribal population about welfare schemes. The local Scheduled Tribe (S) community participated actively.

## DDC reviews implementation of DAJGUA in Poonch

Calls for 100% Saturation of Government Schemes in Tribal Villages

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JUNE 18: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting with officers from line departments to review the implementation of the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) in the district.

The meeting focused on conducting a comprehensive gap analysis and ground truthing to identify and resolve shortcomings in the delivery of the government schemes in tribal areas.



The DDC stressed the need for proactive measures to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries are covered in a transparent manner. During the review, the DDC held

detailed deliberations with officers from the line departments, directing them to chalk out a coordinated roadmap for the successful implementation of the Abhiyan. Emphasizing a mission-mode approach, the DC urged officials to work in close coordination and reach every household and individual in tribal villages.

The 15-day DAJGUA campaign, which commenced on June 15, will continue till June 30, aims to raise awareness and ensure 100% saturation of government welfare schemes in all tribal habitations.

## DAJGUA: DC Udhampur pitches for mission mode completion of JJM schemes in tribal villages

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 18: Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai today directed for prioritizing the completion of Jal Jeevan Mission projects in tribal villages in consonance with the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA).

The DC was chairing a meeting with JJM functionaries and contractors to review the progress and address the challenges faced in the execution of water supply schemes in eight tribal villages of the district.

After detailed deliberations on the issues hampering timely completion of the schemes, she sought special focus on identifying bottlenecks in key components viz. electrical and mechanical works etc. Contractors highlighted several ground-level impediments, including



delays in material supply and inter-departmental clearances. The DC assured the contractors of timely resolution of genuine issues particularly those related to pending payments

of JJM works and urged all contractors to adopt a mission mode approach to ensure time-bound and quality completion of the ongoing works. The DC directed the concerned officers

to carry out regular field inspections and closely monitor the pace of work. She also stressed on inter-departmental coordination and proactive grievances redressal mechanism to prevent further delays. After detailed deliberations on the issues hampering timely completion of the schemes, she sought special focus on identifying bottlenecks in key components viz. electrical and mechanical works etc. Contractors highlighted several ground-level impediments, including delays in material supply and inter-departmental clearances.

The DC assured the contractors of timely resolution of genuine issues particularly those related to pending payments of JJM works and urged all contractors to adopt a mission mode approach to ensure time-bound and quality completion of the ongoing works.

## PM Modi meets German Chancellor Merz, thanks him for support to India in fight against terrorism

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Kananaskis (Canada)/New Delhi, June 18

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with new German Chancellor Friedrich Merz on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada, and thanked him for "Germany's strong solidarity and support to India in the fight against terrorism".

In a post on X, the PM said the two sides discussed how to work even more closely in areas like IT, manufacturing, research and innovation. He said the two nations will keep working together in areas like counter terrorism and striking down on terror financing. "Delighted to hold talks with Chancellor Friedrich Merz on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada. "India and Germany are close friends, connected by shared values. This year we mark 25 years of our Strategic Partnership. We discussed how to work even more closely in areas



like IT, manufacturing, semiconductors, sustainability, research and innovation. "Chancellor Merz and I also had discussions on deepening defence and security linkages. We will keep working together in areas like counter terrorism and striking down on terror financing." A readout said: "Prime Minister Narendra Modi today met with the Chancellor of Germany, Friedrich Merz, on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada. This was the first meeting between the two leaders since Chancellor Merz assumed office in May 2025. "Prime Minister congratulated the Chancellor on his victory in the elections and his assumption of office. He also expressed deep appreciation for German Government's condolences on the tragic plane crash in Ahmedabad last week. "The leaders expressed happiness at the sustained momentum in the bilateral relationship and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen cooperation in key areas of trade and investment, defence and security, green and sustainable development partnership, green energy, technology, innovation, education and mobility. "Both sides agreed to further deepen and diversify the India-Germany Strategic Partnership, as it marks the milestone of completion of 25 years. "The two leaders agreed that terrorism constitutes a major threat to peace & stability in the world. In this regard, Prime Minister thanked Chancellor Merz for Germany's strong expression of solidarity with and support to India's actions in the fight against terrorism. "The leaders also exchanged views on important regional and international developments. "Prime Minister Modi conveyed that he looked forward to welcoming Chancellor Merz in India at a mutually convenient time. The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X: "Commemorating steadfast 25 years of Strategic Partnership. "PM@narendramodi met Chancellor Friedrich Merz @FriedrichMerz of Germany on the sidelines of #G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada.

tegic Partnership, as it marks the milestone of completion of 25 years. "The two leaders agreed that terrorism constitutes a major threat to peace & stability in the world. In this regard, Prime Minister thanked Chancellor Merz for Germany's strong expression of solidarity with and support to India's actions in the fight against terrorism. "The leaders also exchanged views on important regional and international developments. "Prime Minister Modi conveyed that he looked forward to welcoming Chancellor Merz in India at a mutually convenient time. The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X: "Commemorating steadfast 25 years of Strategic Partnership. "PM@narendramodi met Chancellor Friedrich Merz @FriedrichMerz of Germany on the sidelines of #G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada.

## PM Modi holds talks with UK PM, French President, Italian PM, Japanese PM on G7 sidelines

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Kananaskis (Canada), June 18

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held conversations with several world leaders on the sidelines of the G7 in Canada, including UK PM Keir Starmer, the President of France Emmanuel Macron, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni and Japanese PM Shigeru Ishiba. He also held conversations with António Costa, President of the European Council, with Ursula Von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, and President Lula da Silva of Brazil, and with Australian PM Anthony Albanese. In posts on X, the PM spoke about his different meetings. On his meeting with the UK PM, he wrote: "An exceptional conversation with Prime Minister Keir Starmer! India and UK ties are getting stronger, reflecting in the ground we've covered in areas like trade and commerce. We will keep working together to add even more momentum to this wonderful friendship."



On his talk with the Japanese PM Ishiba, he wrote: "Insightful deliberations with Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba during the G7 Summit in Canada. India and Japan remain committed to further deepening bilateral ties across various sectors." "Productive conversation with Mr. António Costa, President of the European Council." "Fruitful discussion with President of the @EU\_Council, Ursula von der Leyen." "Outstanding conversations with two dear friends, President Ramaphosa of South Africa and President Lula of Brazil. "We are unwavering in our commitment to speaking about issues that matter to the Global South. We are equally determined to do whatever it takes to build a better tomorrow for the coming generations!" "Good to meet my friend, PM Albanese of Australia during the G7 Summit in Canada!"

## Shah approves Rs 2006 cr Central aid for recovery and reconstruction in Himachal

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
New Delhi, June 18 (UNI)

In a significant step towards rebuilding disaster-affected regions, a high-level committee, chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday approved Rs 2006.40 crore in Central assistance to Himachal Pradesh. The financial aid is earmarked for recovery and reconstruction activities in the wake of the devastating floods, landslides, and cloudbursts that struck the state in 2023, a Home Ministry statement said. The committee, comprising of Finance Minister, Agriculture Minister and Vice Chairman NITI Aayog as members considered the proposal for financial assistance to the



state from recovery and reconstruction funding window under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). The committee has approved the recovery plan of Rs 2006.40 crore to Himachal Pradesh, which will help the state in carrying out recovery and reconstruction activities, arisen due to damage and destruction that

occurred in 2023 monsoon due to floods, cloudbursts and landslides. Out of this, Rs 1,504.80 crore will be the Central share from recovery and reconstruction funding window under NDRF. Earlier, on December 12, 2023, the Ministry of Home Affairs had approved additional financial assistance of Rs 633.73 crore from the NDRF for Himachal Pradesh, which was affected by this disaster. The statement said that the Central government stands shoulder to shoulder with state governments during natural calamities and disasters. To fulfill Prime Minister Modi's vision of disaster-resilient India, the MHA has taken several initiatives to ensure effective management of disasters in the country.

## Israeli Defence Minister Katz says a 'tornado is striking Tehran' amid relentless attacks by Tel Aviv

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Jerusalem/Tehran, June 18

Amid Israel's relentless attacks on Iran, Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said that a "tornado is striking Tehran", referring to the non-stop aerial strikes on Iran. He added that, "symbols of the regime are being blown up and collapsing, from the official state broadcaster and soon other such targets", reports The Jerusalem Post. Katz said that Iranians are quickly fleeing Tehran amid the Israeli strikes and Tel Aviv's warning to residents, asking them to evacuate.



IDF officials stated that at least hundreds had left by midday Tuesday, with foreign reports later saying that thousand had left. According to foreign reports, Israel's

largest specific evacuation order for a distinct area of Tehran is related to an area where around 300,000 residents live. US President Donald Trump had also asked residents to flee Tehran yesterday, after Israel struck the IRIB headquarters. The US is considering direct military involvement in the conflict, specifically to destroy all Iranian nuclear infrastructure. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei earlier said in a post on X: "In the name of the noble Haidar, the battle begins", later adding that Iran must give a swift and harsh response to the Israeli aggression.

## SC grants protection to minor girl forced into marriage, issues notice to Bihar, Delhi police

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
New Delhi, June 18

The Supreme Court on Wednesday stepped in to protect a 16-year-old girl from Bihar who alleged she was forcibly married to a man twice her age and subjected to repeated abuse. The court directed both the Bihar Director General of Police and the Delhi Police Commissioner to ensure her safety, along with that of her friend who helped her escape the marriage and now faces kidnapping charges. A bench comprising Justices Ujjal Bhuyan and Manmohan issued the directions while hearing a petition filed by the girl through her friend. The petition sought annulment of the marriage under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, and protection from any coercive action by the police. The girl, who had just appeared for her Class 10 board examinations, was allegedly married off on December 9, 2024, under pressure from her

family. The man she was married to, a 33-year-old civil contractor, reportedly demanded the marriage as repayment for financial support extended to the family. According to the plea, the girl was sent to live with him immediately after the ceremony and was denied return to her parental home. She alleged that her in-laws pressured her to bear a child and blocked her from continuing her education. The petition further claimed that she was subjected to emotional and physical abuse, especially after she resisted sexual advances. In January 2025, her maternal uncle managed to bring her back to her parents' home temporarily. However, her pleas to terminate the marriage and resume her studies were ignored. On March 31, 2025, the girl fled her home with the help of a friend and has been on the run since, fearing for her life.

## Death toll from Russian attack on Ukrainian capital rises to 23

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Kiev, June 18

The death toll from Russia's missile and drone attack on Kiev on Tuesday has risen to 23, with 134 others injured, the State Emergency Service of Ukraine said on Wednesday. At least 18 people were killed in the city's western Solomianskyi district, where a missile struck a nine-storey residential building, partially destroying the structure. Search and rescue operations continued at the site into Wednesday, the emergency service said in a statement. The United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine described the strike as "likely the deadliest" attack on the Ukrainian capital in nearly a year. Kiev Mayor Vitali Klitschko declared June 18 a day of mourning in the city.

## Trump administration to extend TikTok ban deadline for third time

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
New York, June 18

U.S. President Donald Trump will extend the deadline for ByteDance Ltd. to divest TikTok's U.S. operations for the third time, allowing the app to continue operating in the United States as negotiations continue, the White House said Tuesday. "As he has said many times, President Trump does not want TikTok to go dark," White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement. "This extension will last 90 days, which the administration will spend working to ensure this deal is closed so that the American people can continue to use TikTok with the assurance that their data is safe and secure." This marks the third extension since Trump took office in January. He initially signed an executive order delaying the TikTok ban by 75 days, saying it would permit his administration "an opportunity to determine the appropriate course of action with respect to TikTok." In April, he granted another 75-day extension to avoid disrupting the app's operations. The latest extension expires on June 19. In his first term, Trump signed an executive order effectively seeking to ban the app in the United States unless ByteDance sold its U.S. oper-



ations to an American company, but the order didn't go into effect amid legal challenges. In April 2024, then-President Joe Biden signed a law giving ByteDance 270 days to sell TikTok, citing national security concerns that critics called unfounded. Under the law, failure to comply would require app store operators like Apple and Google to remove TikTok from their platforms starting Jan. 19, 2025. The app went dark for hours and resumed its service on Jan 19, one day before Trump's inauguration for his second term. U.S. President Donald Trump will extend the deadline for ByteDance Ltd. to divest TikTok's U.S. operations for the third time, allowing the app to continue operat-

ing in the United States as negotiations continue, the White House said Tuesday. "As he has said many times, President Trump does not want TikTok to go dark," White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement. "This extension will last 90 days, which the administration will spend working to ensure this deal is closed so that the American people can continue to use TikTok with the assurance that their data is safe and secure." This marks the third extension since Trump took office in January. He initially signed an executive order delaying the TikTok ban by 75 days, saying it would permit his administration "an opportunity to determine the appropriate course of action with respect to TikTok."

## US, NATO may enter Iran conflict: defence expert

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Bengaluru, June 18

Amid heightened tensions in West Asia, defence expert G J Singh has warned that the unfolding Iran-Israel confrontation could draw the United States and NATO into a broader military conflict, even as he underscored India's firm rejection of external mediation on regional disputes, including those involving Pakistan. Speaking to UNI in an interview, Singh said, "Mossad and the CIA both know exactly where Ayatollah Khamenei is hiding. Yet, he remains untouched. This restraint, I believe,

is a deliberate strategy of the United States, which does not want to trigger a massive civil unrest inside Iran by eliminating the top religious leadership." Drawing parallels with the 1992 Gulf War, he explained that the US had refrained from eliminating Saddam Hussein despite clear military advantage. "President George H W Bush understood that Saddam, though a dictator, was not a religious extremist. Replacing him with a radical cleric could have destabilised Iraq further. A similar calculation is now shaping American hesitation in Iran."

He warned that the current escalation may not remain contained. "Given the rising stakes, the US could soon be pulled directly into the conflict, and NATO may also follow with coordinated military action," Singh said, highlighting the possibility of a wider regional war. Turning to South Asia, the defence expert also addressed speculation around India's policy following reports of a phone conversation between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former US President Donald Trump. Referring to Trump's repeated claims

that he played a mediatory role between India and Pakistan, Singh clarified, "It has been India's unwavering policy that we do not accept mediation from any third party. This matter is strictly bilateral." He added, "Our Prime Minister has clearly said that if there is any dialogue with Pakistan, it will only be on the issue of terrorism. We have repeatedly told the world that talks and terror cannot go together. As we say — blood and water cannot flow together." According to Singh, PM Modi "firmly and politely rejected" President Trump's assertions about

mediating or facilitating any trade deal. "He conveyed India's position in a clean, foresighted, and straightforward manner, making it clear that we do not need or seek mediation. This should be seen as a significant diplomatic win for India." As global flashpoints intensify, Singh stressed the importance of strategic clarity and sovereign assertion. "India has maintained its consistency, whether in standing against terrorism or upholding its foreign policy principles. Meanwhile, the West faces difficult choices in a rapidly polarising West Asian theatre,"

he observed. PM Modi, during a recent phone call with former US President Donald Trump, made it clear that the ceasefire between India and Pakistan in May was achieved through direct communication between their respective military channels — without any third-party involvement. Modi firmly reiterated India's long-standing policy that bilateral matters, especially with Pakistan, do not require foreign mediation. This response came in reaction to Trump's earlier claims that he had played a role in brokering the ceasefire.

# Lychee: A Delicious and Healthy Summer Fruit



Sahil Manzoor

**L**ychee is a small, round, juicy fruit with a soft, thorny skin and a sweet, aromatic flavor. Native to China—still the world's largest producer—lychee holds a special place among tropical fruits.

The fruiting season in China runs from mid-May to mid-August. In India, lychee was introduced in the 18th century and has since flourished. Today, India stands as the second-largest producer of lychee in the world. The harvesting season in India typically begins in early May and lasts until the first week of July, offering a variety of flavorful cultivars. Taiwan ranks third in global lychee production.

However, in Kashmir, many people are only familiar with common fruits such as apples, bananas, watermelons, melons, oranges, and grapes. These fruits are widely consumed and economically significant due to their availability and demand. But we must also appreciate and promote the consumption of other fruits like lychee, which are rich in nutrients and offer excellent health benefits.

Unfortunately, due to increasing transportation costs and taxes, seasonal fruits are becoming more expensive and inaccessible to many. Yet, fresh fruits and vegetables are crucial for maintaining good health. They provide essential nutrients our bodies need to stay fit and function properly.

Besides promoting good health, fruits like lychee



also support economic development. They generate employment, provide income to farmers and vendors, and hold medicinal value due to their nutritional content. Today, I want to shed light on the health benefits of lychee and encourage everyone to consume more fresh fruits and vegetables for a healthier lifestyle.

### Health Benefits of Lychee

**Improves Digestion:** Rich in dietary fiber, lychee helps regulate bowel movements and is beneficial for those suffering from constipation. Let us value it before it's too late.

Sahil Manzoor  
sahilmanzoor0401@gmail.com

## Dr Tasaduk launches free online consultation

HT NEWS DESK

Online Doctor Consultation

Take care of your health and happiness with us.



Dr. Tasaduk Hussain Itoo  
Physician, India

SRINAGAR:—Dr Tasaduk Hussain Itoo on Wednesday launched free online health consultation.

In a statement issued today, Dr Tasaduk said that the emerging trends of lifestyle diseases are concerning that needs effective redressal at primary care level by imparting proper guidance, awareness and health education among public.

The doctor shall be available to take calls only on Sundays to listen to queries from patients and guide and educate them to ensure proper prevention and treatment of their conditions.

Pertinently, Dr Itoo is a distinguished medical professional from Kashmir, who holds the title of Fellow of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF Fellow, Belgium). He is further affiliated with prestigious organizations including, American College of Physicians (USA), Royal College of Physicians of London and Edinburgh, and Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI).

# Meghalaya ranks sixth in HIV prevalence in India

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Shillong, June 18

Shillong, June 18 (UNI) Meghalaya is now ranked sixth among the highest HIV prevalence states in India, State Health and Family Welfare Minister, Mazel Ampreen Lyngdoh said.

"There is a 221.1 per cent increase in HIV/AIDS cases in the state during the last 19 years, while Tripura has seen over 330 per cent plus. These are alarming indicators, and this is something only a community can get together to deal with," Lyngdoh said.

On Tuesday, the Health and Family Welfare Minister chaired a high-level meeting with medical experts and officials from various departments to formulate strategies aimed at containing the spread of the virus across the state.

Moreover, she said the state is witnessing close to 982 new HIV cases annually—a figure she described as deeply concerning. "As an immediate step, the government will roll out extensive public education and awareness initiatives focused on prevention, early detection, and responsible health practices," Lyngdoh said. The Health and Family Welfare Minister also informed that around 15 to 17 per cent of the HIV-positive patients have stopped their medication.

"Why they stopped midway into their treatment, we have to look into the causes why," she said. Voicing concern over the alarming increase in HIV infections in the state,

Lyngdoh underscored the necessity for immediate and targeted interventions. Emphasising that community



engagement is essential in tackling the crisis, the Health and Family Welfare Minister urged local village authorities and faith-based leaders to actively support the government's efforts in spreading awareness and encouraging preventive measures.

As an immediate step, she said the government will roll out extensive public education and awareness initiatives focused on prevention, early detection, and responsible health practices. "We would like to see that we reduce these numbers, contain these numbers, and provide necessary medical facilities for such victims. We need to have systems which are trustworthy, and this trust that we need to give all these vulnerable groups is something we need to redesign and work on, and now we are at that stage," Lyngdoh stated.

## STAY HYDRATED THIS SUMMER SEASON



SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

**A**s the scorching summer heat takes its toll, with the constantly rising temperatures, staying hydrated becomes crucial to avoid issues like dehydration.

Keeping yourself hydrated is necessary during seasonal changes, especially when the weather is getting hot.

The skin, composed of nearly 64% water, is a direct reflection of our hydration status.

Dehydrated skin loses its pliability, looks dull, flaky, becomes less supple and more susceptible to wrinkling.

When we're well-hydrated, our skin appears plump, radiant, nourished and displays fewer lines and wrinkles, as the plumpness resulting from the water reduces the appearance of these lines.

Adequate hydration also ensures the skin remains moisturised, preventing dryness and flakiness. When skin cells are well-hydrated, they swell, giving the skin a firm and youthful appearance.

Furthermore, well-hydrated skin supports optimal barrier function, preventing the external environmental factors which can accelerate ageing.

Sick of water? But still want the best hydration? Drink one of these beverages.

In cases of mild dehydration, simple rehydration is recommended by drinking fluids. Many drinks on the market effectively restore body fluids, electrolytes, and salt balance.

Remember that the foods you eat are just as important as the drinks you sip. By incorporating a mix of hydrating foods and beverages rich in natural electrolytes, you are equipping your body with the necessary nutrients to stay cool, nourished, and vibrant throughout the entire summer.

### 1---Coconut water

Coconut water is the translucent, or semi-clear fluid inside a young, green coconut. Typically comes from young coconuts about 6-7 months of age

Coconut water can be a nutrient-rich choice for hydrating due to its high electrolyte content and low calorie count.

Electrolyte content available in coconut water, such as potassium, sodium, and magnesium, are charged minerals that help you

stay hydrated, especially during the summer season, making it a good alternative to sugary sports drinks.

Coconut water contains 94% water and is low in added sugar and calories.

With just 60 calories per 1-cup serving, coconut water is an excellent way to rehydrate without adding a lot of sugar to your diet.

Drinking coconut water is considered low-risk, but if you have health conditions that require limiting potassium, sodium, or calories, it may not be the right beverage for you.

### 2-----Aam Panna

Known for its tangy and refreshing taste, Aam Panna is amongst the popular summer drinks in Southeast Asia, which is made from the pulp of raw green mangoes.

Rich in vitamins A and C, this age-old drink is loved for its cooling properties, which can help reduce body heat and provide relief from heat-related discomfort during the summer months.

The best part of aam panna is that you don't need a specific variety of mangoes to make it. Raw mangoes are great to fight dehydration, which makes them apt to consume in summer.

If you often feel dehydrated and low on energy during summer, this lip-smacking summer coolant drink can be your go-to solution.

Aam Panna has high water content, which helps the body to stay hydrated, especially in tropical areas.

The drink acts as a natural electrolyte solution, preventing fatigue and dizziness. Aam Panna is especially useful for those who spend a lot of time outdoors or are prone to dehydration.

Raw mango, along with mint, spices, helps the body restore the lost salt and essential minerals due to heat. Not only does it prevent dehydration, but it also boosts immunity and aids digestion. No chemically processed drink can replace the goodness of Aam panna completely sugar-free, a boon for diabetics and calorie watchers.

### 3---Buttermilk ( Chaas)

Buttermilk, a fermented dairy beverage, have long been valued in Indian households as an effective cooling agent during the summer season.

Traditional buttermilk is the residue left behind after milk cream is churned into butter. It can also be made by diluting and mixing water with curd. It is commonly known as 'chhaas'.

Pudina chaas is a refreshing Indian drink that acts as the perfect coolant.

It contains a high water content and electrolytes like potassium, which help replenish fluids, and

Maintaining hydration and water balance in the body, that are lost through sweat, makes it effective in preventing dehydration and fatigue.

It brings down the body's core temperature—a crucial function when dealing with extreme summer heat. It reduces internal heat and supports thermoregulation, making it ideal for consumption after outdoor activities.

Buttermilk provides probiotics, which are 'friendly' bacteria that help in warding away diseases and keeping the intestines healthy by introducing microbes, therefore improving immunity. It is lower in fat and calories and higher in water than both milk and yoghurt

A glass of buttermilk can also provide relief to post-menopausal women who experience hot flashes.

### 4---Infused water

Drinking plain water can often feel monotonous. Infused water can be a healthy and vibrant alternative to mix things up, especially if you

struggle to drink enough water throughout the day.

Infusing water with fruits adds flavour without the added sugars, artificial ingredients and calories found in sugary beverages, making it more enticing to drink and thereby promoting hydration.

These fruit-infused water ideas are both delicious and refreshing.

By infusing tasty flavours, many people tend to drink more water. Infusion can thus be a way to make water more appealing.

Lemon-infused water and lime-infused water are some of the most popular choices, but you can also infuse water with herbs like mint, sage, or basil.

Making infused water is incredibly easy. In a large pitcher, place the desired combination of fruit, vegetables and or herbs. Add ice and fill the container with water. Add additional fruit or herbs to garnish, if desired. Chill in the refrigerator for a few hours—or overnight for a stronger flavour.

Some ingredients work better than others. Citrus fruits like lemons and limes hold up well, while berries tend to break down more quickly. For a bolder taste, prepare your infused water the night before and let it steep in the fridge.

The author is an internationally famous beauty expert and is called

## Javid Dar reviews healthcare facilities in GMC Baramulla, Medical Blocks of Rafiabad, Sopore

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 18: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative, and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, today chaired a review meeting to assess the status of health sector in the district, with emphasis on Government Medical College (GMC) Baramulla and healthcare infrastructure in Rafiabad. The meeting, held at the Civil Secretariat Srinagar, was aimed to identify the critical gaps, evaluate service delivery mechanisms and explore strategies to strengthen the healthcare systems in GMC Baramulla and Medical Blocks of Rafiabad constituency.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, MD, NHM J&K, Baseer-ul-Haq Choudhary and other senior functionaries of the Health Department.

The Minister undertook a detailed review of GMC Baramulla, which is the most important tertiary healthcare institution in the district catering to a large patient population.



He emphasised the urgent need for augmenting the infrastructure, equipment, human resources and specialised services at the facility to ensure quality healthcare for the people of Baramulla and adjoining areas.

The review also focused on upgradation of Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Sub-District Hospitals (SDHs) in Rohama, Sopore and other parts of Rafiabad.

The Minister stressed the importance of filling up of the faculty and paramedical staff vacancies, improving diagnostics and ensuring proper functionality of essential

services. "Our priority is apt evaluation of service delivery systems across all levels, from accessibility to quality of care and patient satisfaction," the Minister said, while directing the department to take time-bound steps for filling the critical requirements of the healthcare facilities.

He called for enhanced coordination among the departments to address the existing bottlenecks and promote integrated healthcare delivery models. "Strengthening healthcare institutions such as GMC Baramulla is integral to improving service delivery across the district," the Minister emphasised.

## NMBA: IEC campaigns held across schools, municipal areas in Budgam to combat drug abuse

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JUNE 18: In continuation of the district wide campaign under Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA), a series of IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) events were organised today at various locations in Budgam to raise awareness on the harmful effects of drug abuse and promote community participation in its eradication.

On the occasion, awareness drives were held at Government Middle School Poswal Pora in Negoo, in some areas located in Block Nagam, and extended to various municipal areas of Khansahib.

These events witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teaching staff, youth volunteers, members of civil society, PRIs, and officials from concerned departments.

The sessions were aimed at spreading awareness about the



consequences of substance abuse and the importance of adopting a drug-free lifestyle.

Resource persons from the Health, Education, and Social Welfare departments conducted interactive sessions that focused on early signs of addiction, preventive education, and the role of family and community in tackling the issue. Participants were informed about available counselling services, helplines, and de-addiction

support centres operating in the district.

As part of the campaign, various engaging activities viz. street plays, poster-making, rallies, and group discussions were also conducted, particularly in schools. These activities helped in effectively communicating the anti-drug message in an impactful and accessible manner, especially to the younger generation.

The events also emphasized the importance of inter-departmental coordination and public cooperation in addressing drug abuse as a collective challenge. Officials reiterated that consistent community-based interventions and youth engagement are key to building a resilient society.

District administration Budgam has intensified the outreach under Nasha Mukta Abhiyan and has appealed to all stakeholders, parents, teachers, religious leaders, and community influencers to actively support the mission of a drug-free Budgam.

## Srinagar to Host Trials Soon as India's Tennis Cricket Icons and Rising Stars Gather in Mumbai for E11 Bash Meet-Up

Malik Sumeed

Mumbai, June 18: In a remarkable gathering of legends and emerging talent, several of India's top tennis cricket players visited the E11 Bash office in Mumbai on Saturday. The league also announced that E11 Bash will be coming to Kashmir for player trials from July 27 to 29, as part of its nationwide talent hunt.

The event brought together iconic names like Krishna Satpute, popularly hailed as the God of Tennis Cricket, Sir Gopal Bata, the pride of Konkarn, and rising international prospect Darshan Bandekar, alongside prominent players Babal Naik, Akshay Ghatval, Samir Vengurlekar, Jaydev Keluskar, and Sohail Shaikh.

The E11 Bash team warmly felicitated the athletes, with a large crowd of enthusiastic fans gathering for the opportunity to meet and interact with their heroes. The players expressed appreciation for the E11 Bash initiative and extended their best wishes for the success of the league.

Speaking on the occasion, owners of E11 Bash Neeraj Dhir and Feroze Peerzada described league as an "electrifying tennis ball cricket league that redefines fast-paced action with its unique 11-over format." The league features 10 dynamic men's and women's teams, promising high-octane cricket entertainment from the first ball.

In an effort to discover and nurture tennis cricket talent, the league will conduct nationwide trials starting June 28 in Thane, followed by selections across major Indian cities including Srinagar City Founders Col. N.P. Singh (USA) and Sunil Mathew (Dubai), who are also partners with Conor



McGregor in the World League of Fighters (WLF), joined the event virtually and thanked the players for their visit and encouraging words. Also present from the E11 Bash team were Vice President Piyali Sinharoy, Global Health Advisor Dr. Santosh Pandey, National Coordinator Rajendra Rajam, National Advisor Ganesh Joshi, and Advisors Nagesh Mote, Vijay Pudota, Yashwant, and Namita Churi. The event highlighted the growing prominence of tennis cricket in India and E11 Bash's commitment to building a professional platform for players across the nation. (KNB) The event brought together iconic names like Krishna Satpute, popularly hailed as the God of Tennis Cricket, Sir Gopal Bata, the pride of Konk-

an, and rising international prospect Darshan Bandekar, alongside prominent players Babal Naik, Akshay Ghatval, Samir Vengurlekar, Jaydev Keluskar, and Sohail Shaikh.

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The event highlighted the growing prominence of tennis cricket in India and E11 Bash's commitment to building a professional platform for players across the nation.

## South Africa heroes rewarded for WTC25 Final heroics in latest rankings

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Dubai, June 18

Newly crowned ICC World Test Cham-



pions South Africa are basking in their glory, with multiple members of their stellar cast at the WTC Final rising in the new ICC Men's Test Player Rankings.

Leading the way is their Player of the Match from the final at Lord's, Aiden Markram. The prolific batter has risen seven places to just outside the top-10 in the Men's Test Batting Rankings, with only two points separating the Protea from New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell (725) in 10th.

Markram amassed an impressive 136 runs off 207 balls in a masterful display of Test batting to take South Africa across the line in the WTC Final.

The 30-year-old, who also nabbed a couple of crucial wickets for South Africa, has also been rewarded in the Test All-Rounders Rankings, rising a whopping 44 places.

David Bedingham, who closed the famous win for South Africa, also made a move of note in the Batting Rankings, climbing 17 places to 40 alongside Cameron Green.

Meanwhile, South Africa fast bowler Lungi Ngidi, who produced an inspirational spell with the ball during Australia's second innings, has also

soared in the Bowling Rankings, an ICC report said.

The right-arm quick climbs seven spots

to share the 37th place with fellow quicks Lahiru Kumara and Naseem Shah.

Kagiso Rabada, who was South Africa's pick of the bowlers, maintained his second place among the bowlers, next to India's Jasprit Bumrah. For Australia, seasoned speedster Mitchell Starc and all-rounder Beau Webster benefited from valiant displays through the summit clash.

Starc, who took five wickets through the Test and scored a fighting half-century in the second innings, climbed to 10th spot in the Men's Test Bowling and All-Rounders Rankings.

Webster meanwhile, who was Australia's top scorer in the first innings, ascended 13 places in the Batting Rankings. In the ODI Player Rankings, key performers from the Men's Cricket World Cup League 2 action have boasted impressive climbs.

Netherlands top-order batter Michael Levitt, who was also handy with the ball, has soared 22 places in the Batting Rankings to go with a climb of 21 among the bowlers and another 27 in the all-rounders charts.

Levitt also leapt 11 places in the T20I batting charts to the 30th spot in the tri-series after League 2 play, just below Pakistan's Mohammad Harris.

## YOUTH SERVICES & SPORTS Gears Up for IYD 2025

### Thousands Unite for Health & Harmony Ahead of International Yoga Day 2025

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar June 18: In a spectacular display of unity and wellness, the Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS) J&K has mobilised thousands of school children, youth, and general public across the Union Territory to participate in mass yoga sessions ahead of International Yoga Day (IYD) on 21st June 2025.

From the serene valleys of Kishtwar to the historic landscapes of Anantnag and from the vibrant parks of Reasi to the scenic Eco Park Khadnyar

in Baramulla, yoga has become a movement transforming public spaces into hubs of health, harmony, and anti-drug awareness.

Director General YSS Anuradha Gupta who is monitoring these activities has said that Yoga is not just an exercise; it is a way of life that fosters discipline, mental clarity, and physical resilience. Kishtwar Leads with Community Yoga Drive. Under the guidance of DYSSO Kishtwar, trained instructors conducted sessions at multiple schools, including HSS Nagseni, HSS Chatroo, and HS Sigdi, drawing over 500 participants. Locals turned

up in large numbers, embracing yoga for stress relief, flexibility, and communal unity.

Anantnag practiced Yoga under One Earth, One Health Campaign. In sports Zone Mattan, a historic session at Martand Temple saw participation from dozens of young yoga enthusiasts. Meanwhile in sports Zone Srigufwara, 167 young school children participated in a yoga session. Simultaneously in sports Zone Bijbehara, 72 participants took part in Yoga display at BMHSS Bijbehara. In district Reasi over 400 students and citizens joined sessions in Zanana Park (Reasi).

**Dr. SYED FURQANA BUKHARI** REG. NO.: A-3998  
Dental Surgeon, MIDA Ex Resident Govt. Dental College Srinagar Fellowship in Medical Cosmotology  
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# DENTAL & FACIAL AESTHETICS

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- Lip fillers • Laser hair Reduction
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- Photo facial • Tattoo Removal
- Melasma treatment

**TIMING:**  
MONDAY TO SATURDAY  
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Lunch off 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

**ADDRESS:** Opposite SDH Kreeri, 1st floor Generic Medical Store Building

Cell. 9149442151 | 9419007973

# AZIZ

# AUTO MOBILES

ALL INSURANCE CLAIMS ARE ACCEPTED HERE  
ALSO INSURANCE FACILITY ARE AVAILABLE HERE.

BAJAJ ALLIANZ | RELIANCE | HOFCE EGRD | DIGIT | ICICI LOMBARD | LIBERTY INSURANCE ETC

SERVICE AVAILABLE: DAINTING PAINTING WASHING MECHANICAL WORK

## KREERI

## DYSS Kishtwar hosts District Level Chess & Yoga Tournament for Boys and Girls

HT NEWS DESK



KISHTWAR, JUNE 18: The Department of Youth Services & Sports (YS&S) Kishtwar on Wednesday declared open the Inter-Zonal District Level Tournament for U/14 and U/17 boys and girls in the disciplines of Chess and Yoga here in the Indoor Hall of GHSS Boys. The event was inaugurated amid a vibrant and energetic ceremony that drew enthusiastic participation from student-athletes, sports officials and dignitaries. Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma was the chief guest, who declared the tournament open. In his address, the Deputy Commissioner applauded the Youth Services & Sports Department for nurturing young talent. He emphasized the critical role of sports in promoting discipline, fitness and unity among the youth. He encouraged all participants to perform with dedication, uphold sportsmanship and strive for excellence. The event was attended by the host school Principal, along with the officers from the DYSS&S, Zonal Physical Education Officers, PEMs, PETS, REKs, GMs, NYCs and other stakeholders. The event featured impressive Chess and Yoga demonstrations and the spirited participation of young athletes from across the zones of the district. Earlier, District Youth Services & Sports Officer Jaffer Haider Sheikh highlighted the importance of intellectual and mind sports like Chess.