



## Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra -2025

Join an Extraordinary Pilgrimage to the Sacred

# Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine

Experience the Divine Grace of Lord Shiva

### Do's for the Yatris

- It is mandatory for every registered Yatri to collect their RFID Card from designated locations in Jammu / Srinagar before embarking on the Yatra. Carry your Aadhaar details for collecting RFID Cards
- Wear the RFID card around your neck at all times during Yatra for safety & security.
- Do carry sufficient woolen clothing, umbrella, wind cheater, raincoat and waterproof shoes. Weather remains unpredictable and temperature may abruptly fall to below 5 degree Celsius.
- Walk slowly and steadily — don't rush on steep paths.
- Take regular breaks to avoid fatigue.

### Don'ts for the Yatris

- No registered yatri shall be allowed to embark on Yatra without valid RFID card.
- Don't ignore the symptoms of high altitude illness.
- Don't drink alcohol, caffeinated drinks, or smoke.
- Don't stop at places with warning signs.
- Don't take shortcuts on the route—it's risky.
- Don't pollute or disturb the Yatra environment.
- Don't separate from your group — always stay with your companions.



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DIPK: 3196/25  
Dated: 01-07-2025

**CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....**

**LG Reviews.....**

The Lieutenant Governor took a comprehensive review of the traffic & security management and all the arrangements in place by the stakeholder departments for the smooth, safe and hassle-free holy pilgrimage.

The Lieutenant Governor directed the officials for widespread publicity of Traffic Advisory so that common man is not inconvenienced. District Administrations, SSPs, Traffic Police and Stakeholder departments should work in close coordination to ensure movement of pilgrims in designated convoys and smooth implementation of the traffic plan, he said.

He further directed the Deputy Commissioners to ensure that Lodgement centres and sanitation units are in good condition.

**LG Flags Off.....**

Limited for Hospitals at Qazigund, Banihal, Ramban, Batote, and Gool, under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The deployment of the Ambulances will strengthen emergency healthcare services and ensure timely medical care to the people.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the NHA and M/S Quazigund Expressway Private limited for their noble initiative.

He also asked the Deputy Commissioner Ramban to explore the possibilities for Hospital on Wheels for the remote areas of the district to ensure equitable, and quality healthcare to all.

Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor and CEO Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Shri Mohammad Alyas Khan, Deputy Commissioner Ramban; Shri RS Yadav, NHA Regional Officer, J&K; senior officials of NHA and representatives of M/S Quazigund Expressway Private limited were present on the occasion at Raj Bhawan.

**LG Visits Bhagwati.....**

facilities, help desks, sanitation, transportation and emergency services.

At Yatri Niwas, the Lieutenant Governor interacted with devotees of Baba Barfani and extended his warm wishes to pilgrims for a safe, blessed and spiritually fulfilling experience.

Addressing the media persons on the sidelines of his visit, the Lieutenant Governor said that a large number of devotees from across the country have arrived for the Yatra, which begins from Jammu tomorrow morning.

"Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is a serene, enlightening and lifelong experience. May their pilgrimage be filled with joy, peace, and spiritual bliss.

Improved arrangements have been made for the convenience of the pilgrims. We must carry forward the traditions of J&K and make this yatra a huge success," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The 38-day long Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra will commence on 3rd July from the base camp on both the routes and it will culminate on 9th August 2025. The Yatra will be flagged off by the Lieutenant Governor on July 02 from Yatri Niwas, Bhagwati Nagar.

The Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by DGP Shri Nalin Prabhat; ADG CRPF, Shri Rajesh Kumar; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Shri Ramesh Kumar; IGP Jammu Shri Bhim Sen Tuti; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Shri Sachin Kumar Vaishya and senior officials from civil administration, police and security forces.

**Amarnath Yatra.....**

obeisance at the holy cave, Chaudhary described the Yatra as more than just a religious journey. "This Yatra is a festival that showcases the unity, harmony and shared spiritual heritage of Jammu and Kashmir. Its beauty lies in the fact that the base camp is in Jammu while the sacred shrine is in Kashmir, which is a true reflection of the brotherhood of our region," he said.

The Deputy CM commended the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for its significant contribution in improving the Baltal-to-Holy Cave track. "I personally inspected the route and was pleased with the work done by BRO. Despite the limited working season in Kashmir, the quality and pace of development are commendable," he added.

Chaudhary emphasized the coordinated efforts of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board and the Union Territory administration, stating that departments like PDD, Jal Shakti, and Rural Development are working tirelessly to ensure a smooth and safe Yatra for all devotees. "We pray that this yatra after the Baisaran attack will be a grand success and appeal to the devotees to feel the hospitality of people here and push for the revival of tourism in Kashmir, which witnessed a slump after the Pahalgam attack," he said.

"Jammu and Kashmir is known globally for its warmth and hospitality. These are values passed down from our elders, and it is our collective responsibility to uphold and preserve this legacy," he noted.

He also said that the artisans should be encouraged by providing stalls to them en route to the

In a strong political statement during his visit, Deputy CM Chaudhary reiterated, "Statehood leke rahenge, chheen ke rahenge. Bilkul nahi rukenge." (We will reclaim statehood, even if we have to fight for it. We will not stop.)

Notably, the annual Amarnath Yatra is all set to commence on July 3 and will continue till August 19, with thousands of pilgrims from across India expected to undertake the holy

pilgrimage—(KNO)

**Toll-Free.....**

of Common Kashmiris and currently working in Government Departments. Financial assistance under MUDRA and handholding must be extended to the terror victim family members who want to start their self-employment venture, the Lieutenant Governor told the officials.

The Lieutenant Governor said a Special Cell will be established in LG Secretariat to address concerns of terror victim families. He further asked the Chief Secretary to set up a similar cell in his office. A Toll-free number should also be notified for the assistance of Terror victim families, he said.

"Every possible assistance would be provided to terror victim families and culprits roaming free for many decades will be brought to justice," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Shri Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department Shri Shaleen Kabra; DGP Shri Nalin Prabhat; Special Director General (Coordination), PHQ, Shri S.J.M Gillani; Principal Secretary Home Shri Chandraker Bharti; Principal Secretary, Finance Shri Santosh D Vaidya; ADGP CID Shri Nitish Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor and CEO SASB Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari; IGP Kashmir, Shri VK Birdi; IGP Jammu Shri Bhim Sen Tuti; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Shri Vijay Bidhuri; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Shri Ramesh Kumar; MD & CEO J&K Bank, Shri Amitava Chatterjee; DIGs, Deputy Commissioners, SSPs, and senior officials of Police and Civil Administration.

**CS Reviews.....**

Commissioner, Jammu; SSP Traffic (City); Commissioner, JMC; MD, JPDCL; Director, Information; Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti and PWD besides representatives from various security agencies and other concerned departments.

During his walkthrough of the facility, the Chief Secretary took a detailed assessment of the arrangements ranging from accommodation, sanitation and power supply to security and registration counters. He asked for increasing the number of registration counters to ease the process for the incoming pilgrims and minimize waiting times.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed functioning of the dedicated control room set up to monitor yatra-related activities round-the-clock.

Highlighting the significance of seamless inter-departmental coordination, he later chaired a high-level meeting of officers. He stressed the importance of ensuring a glitch-free and safe experience for the pilgrims during the entire 38-day yatra period. He expressed satisfaction over the meticulous efforts of all the departments. He expressed confidence that the arrangements would offer pilgrims a comfortable and spiritually enriching journey.

Dulloo remarked that every department has worked with utmost dedication to create a conducive environment for the pilgrims. He further observed that our goal is not only to ensure their safety and comfort but also to leave them with a memorable experience that they can carry home with joy.

He also directed the Information Department to run a targeted communication campaign across the social and mass media platforms to provide real-time updates on weather, traffic and yatra advisories. The campaign will also help allay any doubts or apprehensions among the devotees and encourage confident participation in the sacred pilgrimage.

Earlier, Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar briefed the Chief Secretary about the upgraded infrastructure and support services put in place this year. He informed that boarding, lodging, power, water supply, sanitation and fire safety services have been significantly enhanced compared to previous years.

IGP, Jammu, Bhim Sen Tuti, also gave a comprehensive overview of the multi-layered security grid and traffic management plan developed in coordination with other security forces. He assured that all necessary measures have been taken to ensure a safe, peaceful and well-regulated yatra this year as well.

**GST Transformed.....**

tax regime stands out as a landmark reform that has reshaped India's economic landscape.

He said on X, "By reducing the compliance burden, it has greatly improved the ease of doing business, particularly for small and medium enterprises. GST has also served as a powerful engine for economic growth, while fostering true cooperative federalism by making states equal partners in this journey to integrate India's market."

The GST, which was implemented from July 1, 2017, has unified 17 taxes and 13 cesses, creating a seamless national market by simplifying compliance and digitising tax systems. It has also expanded the taxpayer base and strengthened cooperative federalism, the government has said.

The gross GST collections in the first year of operation (nine months) were Rs 7.40 lakh crore. Over the years, it has witnessed exponential growth, it said.

In 2024-25, gross GST collections hit a record Rs 22.08 lakh crore, marking a year-on-year growth of 9.4 per cent. This rise reflects the growing formalisation of the economy and improved tax compliance.

Annual GST revenues nearly tripled, rising from Rs 7 lakh crore in FY 2017-18 to Rs 22 lakh crore in FY 2024-25, the finance ministry has said.

**Sgr records.....**

minimum temperature in June at 18.3°C, slightly above this year's figure," Keng said.

Notably, an overall average temperature of 24.6°C — the same as this year — was also recorded in 1971 and 1973, placing 2025 on par with some of the hottest Junes in history.

Qazigund in June 2025 recorded a mean maximum of 30.3°C and a mean minimum of 16.1°C, taking the overall average temperature to 23.2°C — the highest since 1973.

"Back in 1973, the station had logged its hottest June on record with an average of 23.7°C, with slightly higher values — 30.4°C mean maximum and 16.9°C mean minimum," Keng said, adding that June average in 1978 was also 23.2°C, same as this year, though the mean maximum was slightly lower at 30.2°C and the minimum a bit higher at 16.2°C.

Qazigund's highest average minimum for June remains 17.3°C, recorded in 1971, when the overall mean temperature reached 23.3°C, he added.

Meanwhile, Srinagar was once again hotter than the Jammu region today with the mercury settling at 34.2°C while in Qazigund, a maximum temperature of 32.6°C was recorded today.

Pahalgam witnessed a maximum temperature of 30.0°C while Kupwara, Kokernag and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded 34.7°C, 32.4°C and 24.5°C respectively.

Jammu City, however, recorded below normal temperature at 29.0°C, which was 7.0°C below average temperature.

Banihal recorded a maximum temperature of 29.6°C while Batote, Katra and Baderwah recorded 27.5°C, 26.0°C and 31.8°C respectively.

Furthermore, the weatherman here has predicted hot & humid weather conditions with possibility of brief spell of rain and thunder-shower at scattered places till July 04.

However, Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that from July 5 to July 7, generally cloudy weather is expected with possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places. "Few places may receive intense showers with heavy rain at isolated places of Jammu division," he added.

From July 8 to July 10, he said there is a possibility of brief showers at scattered places.

Moreover, in its advisory, the MeT has said that flash floods are expected at few vulnerable places with landslides and mudslides & shooting stones as well during July 5 to July 7

"Rise in water level in rivers, streams, local Nalas & water logging in few low lying areas is also expected during the period," he added—(KNO)

**Govt committed.....**

address long standing grievances and to discuss the sustainable livelihood solutions for communities dependent on Dal Lake.

The interaction was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Director General Fire & Emergency Services J&K, Commissioner Secretaries of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Tourism, Housing & Urban Development; Director Tourism, Vice Chairpersons of the Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA), Srinagar Development Authority and other senior officials.

Representatives of the Houseboat owners association, Shikara owners union and Dal dwellers' community participated in the meeting and put forth their concerns and issues.

At the outset, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq gave a detailed briefing to the Chief Minister on the issues raised by the visiting deputation.

The president of the Houseboat owners association highlighted key concerns of the community, particularly the delay in the renewal of licences of houseboats. He also raised the matter of rehabilitation for houseboat owners currently located in River Jhelum and Chounti Khul, who are willing to relocate voluntarily to more sustainable locations. He further stressed the need for dedicated space at Srinagar Airport and Srinagar Railway Station to promote and market houseboats as a unique tourism asset and renovation of facilities at Chinar Bagh. The demand for setting up a dedicated fire station near Nigeen Lake, given the vulnerability of houseboats to fire accidents, was also reiterated.

Members of the Dal dwellers' community urged the administration to take up urgent repair and renovation work of the wooden culverts and bridges that are integral for community movement, especially ahead of the Muharram processions. They also flagged the need for improvement in basic amenities for the residents living in the interiors of the lake.

They also brought attention to the lack of a reliable mechanism for the transportation of essential ration to the interiors of the lake, affecting the daily lives of inhabitants.

Similarly, shikara owners demanded restoration and maintenance of ghats and jetties along the Dal Lake shoreline.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the deputation and assured them that all genuine concerns would be examined and addressed on priority.

He emphasized that the government is committed to safeguarding the interests of those whose livelihood depends on the lake, while also ensuring sustainable preservation of this ecological treasure.

**Security forces.....**

Air movement has already been completely banned over the Yatra corridor to avoid any aerial threats.

"Maximum deployment of forces is happening across all sensitive zones. We're leaving no stone unturned," a senior official, aware of the security arrangements said.

He said that key security measures include "Sniffer dog squads (K9), bomb disposal teams, Drones and anti-drone systems, Facial recognition technology, full security cover of the convoy movement along the Jammu-Srinagar highway and the real-time tracking with RFID technology to monitor pilgrims' movement has been put in place for smooth Yatra.

Troops from the Army, CRPF, BSF, ITBP, CISF, and J&K Police have been strategically deployed, especially in sensitive areas like Rajouri, Poonch, and South Kashmir, which have seen terror activities in the past.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah and the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha have directed security forces to be fully alert and ensure the pilgrimage continues without interruption.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has also asked the armed forces to guarantee an incident-free Yatra.

A senior CRPF officer said, "This is the most extensive security plan we've ever

rolled out for Amarnath Yatra. From intelligence inputs to modern technology, everything is being used to ensure safety."

Officials said the administration has adopted a zero-tolerance policy. Anyone found using fake registration cards or attempting to breach protocols will face strict legal action.

"This Yatra is not just a spiritual event — it's about national pride and unity. We will ensure it remains peaceful and sacred," said a senior police officer posted at the Baltal camp. (KINS)

**BJP slams.....**

statehood, just like the Gupkar Alliance," Thakur stated.

He reiterated that Article 370 is a thing of the past, declaring, "It is dead and will not return, come what may."

Thakur said that the party welcomes any political formation within the democratic framework, as long as it upholds national interest, unity, and integrity.

However, he warned that the BJP would firmly oppose any entity that works against these principles.

"We have no problem with alliances formed under democratic norms. But we will not allow anyone to speak against the nation or challenge the unity and integrity of India," he said.

In a major political development, Peoples Conference, Jamaat-e-Islami backed Justice & Development Front and Peoples Democratic Front on Monday joined hands to form an alliance. In their declaration, they have pledged to strive for restoration of Article 370, Article 35A and statehood—(KNO)

**ACB books DDC member, his tout in bribery case**

■ HT News Desk / KNO

**SRINAGAR, JUL 01:** The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) Srinagar has registered a case against District Development Council (DDC) member and his tout for allegedly demanding a bribe of Rs 5 lakh in exchange for arranging official NOCs for a local school.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), ACB spokesman said that its Srinagar wing has registered a case under FIR number 12/2025 under section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended 2018), section 61(2) BNS against a sitting District Development Council (DDC) member Mohammad Shaban Chopan, S/o Ghulam Qadir Chopan, R/o Dara Harwan, and his tout Ghulam Mohammad Khathana, S/o Mukeem Khathana, R/o Dara Harwan, for demanding illegal gratification in lieu of arranging official clearances.

The case was registered on the basis of a written complaint received by this P/S against BDC member Mohammad Shaban Chopan, S/o Ghulam Qadir Chopan, R/o Dara Harwan, and his a tout Ghulam

Mohammad Khathana, S/o Mukeem Khathana, R/o Dara Harwan, demanded a bribe of Rs 5,00,000/- from him for facilitating the issuance of required No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for his Scholars Boarding school established at Dara, the statements reads.

It added that the complainant further alleged that the DDC Member managed an official inspection of his premises as a means to exert pressure and create a false ground for demanding the bribe. An initial instalment of Rs 50,000 along with Blank sign Cheque was demanded as part of the total bribe amount.

The allegations were discreetly verified by ACB, and the verification confirmed the authenticity of the claims made in the complaint. The verification report clearly established demand of bribe by the public representative through his tout, it reads.

Accordingly, the ACB said that a case under FIR number 12/2025 under section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and section 61(2) BNS was registered in Police Station ACB Srinagar, and further investigation is underway. (KNO)

**F&ES Recruitment Scam: ACB says committed to deliver justice**

'SEVERAL ALLEGATIONS TIME CONSUMING'

■ HT News Desk / KNO

**SRINAGAR, JUL 01:** Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday revealed several facts that led to the delay in completion of investigation in the recruitment scam in Fire & Emergency Services.

"This is for the information of general public and in particular for the aggrieved aspirants of Fire and Emergency Services Department J&K. Based on complaint about irregularities in the recruitment process of Fireman and Fireman Drivers in 2020, the Anti Corruption Bureau J&K through P/S Central ACB J&K conducted verification into the matter where certain irregularities were found in the recruitment process and certain candidates were wrongly selected," a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reads.

"Based on the findings of the verification, a formal case FIR No. 01/2025 was registered in P/S Central ACB J&K on 01/01/2025. There are several allegations which need in-depth investigation and is time consuming," the statement added.

Some of the facts which lead to delay in the completion in the investigation include identification of wrongly selected candidate and study of their bank transaction history to identify the money trail so that they can properly be linked in the instant case, identification of touts/middleman through whom the money of the wrongly selected candidates has routed and study of the bank transaction history of such touts to identify the forward money trail, so that the culprits at the highest level can be identified and the recruitment process under question was a huge process where under around 700 candidates have been selected as such large volumes of records are to be scrutinized properly to identify the wrongly selected candidates and the other culprits and the modus-operandi used.

All these processes are tedious and time consuming and are to be meticulously taken, the spokesman said.

"However, the Anti Corruption Bureau J&K is vigorously working on it and are committed to deliver justice by identifying all the irregularities in the said recruitment process and complete the investigation in the instant case at an earliest," the statement added. (KNO)

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**SHRI AMARNATH JI YATRA-2025**

# Traffic Advisory Should be Wisely Formulated and Widely Publicized: LG to Officials

Reviews Final Preparations For Shri Amarnath ji Yatra

HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, JULY 01:** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today chaired a high-level meeting with the senior officers and reviewed the final preparations for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Shri Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department Shri Shaleen Kabra; DGP Shri Nalin Prabhat; Special Director General (Coordination), PHQ, Shri S.J.M Gillani; Principal Secretary Home Shri Chandraker Bharti; Principal Secretary, Finance Shri Santosh D Vaidya; ADGP CID Shri Nitish Kumar; Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor and CEO SASB Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari and senior officials of SASB, Police and Civil Administration.

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## LG Flags Off Ambulances for Ramban, Anantnag Hospitals

HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, JULY 01:** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today flagged off the fleet of Ambulances for the Hospitals in Ramban and Anantnag Districts.

A total 5 Ambulances were donated by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) through M/S Quazigund Expressway Private

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## LG Visits Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas, Reviews Pilgrim Arrangements

HT News Desk

**JAMMU, JULY 01:** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today visited Yatri Niwas at Bhagwati Nagar and reviewed arrangements for the pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The Lieutenant Governor took stock of food and lodging of the pilgrims, security, registration counters, power and water supply, health

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## Amarnath Yatra a festival of brotherhood: Dy CM

HT News Desk / KNO

**SONAMARG, JUL 01:** Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Chaudhary on Tuesday visited the holy Amarnath Cave to offer prayers ahead of the commencement of the annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2025. He also chaired a high-level review meeting in Sonamarg to assess the final preparations for the Yatra, which begins officially on July 3.

Speaking to the media persons after paying

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## TOLL-FREE HELPLINE FOR TERROR VICTIM FAMILIES SOON: LG

HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, JULY 01:** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today chaired a high-level meeting and discussed the issues concerning victim families whose loved ones were brutally killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists.

The Lieutenant Governor directed the Deputy Commissioners and SSPs to reopen

cases which were deliberately buried and file an FIR and ensure jobs are provided to Next of Kins (NoKs) on priority. He further directed them to take immediate measures to free terror victim families' property and land grabbed by terrorists or their sympathisers.

Identify those elements from terror ecosystem who were involved in killing

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## CS REVIEWS FINAL YATRA 2025 PREP AT YATRI NIWAS

HT News Desk

**JAMMU, JULY 01:** Ahead of commencement of the annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra from July 3, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today undertook a comprehensive visit to Yatri Niwas, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu to take stock of the final arrangements being made by various departments for smooth and secure

conduct of the pilgrimage.

Accompanied by the senior civil and police officers, the Chief Secretary inspected all key facilities at the Yatri Niwas, one of the pivotal base camps in Jammu for the devotees.

Those present during the visit included Divisional Commissioner Jammu; IGP, Jammu; IG, Traffic; Deputy

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## GST Transformed India's Economy: PM Modi

United News of India

**NEW DELHI, JUL 01:** Terming rolling out of Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, eight years ago, as a landmark reform, Prime Minister Narendra on Tuesday said that it reshaped India's economic landscape.

PM Modi said that the indirect tax regime reduced the "compliance burden and improved the ease of doing business."

Pertinently, the GST was implemented across the country on July 1, 2017. It unified 17 taxes and 13 cesses, creating a seamless national market by simplifying compliance and digitising tax systems. It also expanded the taxpayer base and strengthened cooperative federalism.

PM Modi wrote on X: "By reducing the compliance burden, it (GST) has greatly improved the ease of doing business, particularly for small and medium enterprises. GST has also served as a powerful engine for economic growth, while fostering true cooperative federalism by making states equal partners in this journey to integrate India's market."

In 2024-25, gross GST collections hit a record Rs 22.08 lakh crore, marking a year-on-year growth of 9.4 per cent. This rise reflects the growing formalisation of the economy and improved tax compliance.

On the eighth anniversary of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) roll out, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the indirect

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## Sgr records hottest June month in 47 years, Qazigund in half a century

No let up in heatwave as Sgr sizzles at 34.2°C

HT News Desk / KNO

**SRINAGAR, JUL 01:** After the record-breaking maximum temperatures, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has recorded the hottest June month in the last 47 years while Qazigund also witnessed the warmest month in half a century.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Srinagar has recorded the hottest

June month since 1978, which was the second hottest as well since 1892.

An Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng while divulging the details, stated that Qazigund, a gate way of Kashmir, has also recorded the warmest June in over 50 years.

"Srinagar just experienced its hottest June since 1978, making it the second hottest on record since observations began in 1892," he said, adding that the average maximum temperature for June 2025



stood at 31.0°C, while the mean minimum settled at 18.2°C, resulting in an overall average temperature of 24.6°C.

The only hotter June on record for the city was in 1978, when the overall average temperature reached 25.0°C, driven by a higher mean maximum of 32.9°C, though the mean minimum that year was lower at 17.1°C, he informed.

"Interestingly, 2008 still holds the record for the highest mean

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## Govt committed for sustainable preservation of Dal Lake: CM Omar

HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, JUL 01:** A deputation comprising Dal dwellers, including representatives of houseboat and shikara owners Tuesday called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to apprise him about various issues confronting them.

The meeting was held to

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## BJP slams new alliance over Article 370 demand

HT News Desk / KNO

**SRINAGAR, JUL 01:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday slammed the newly formed Peoples Alliance for Change (PAC), accusing it of echoing the same

slogans of restoring Article 370 as the "non-existent" Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD).

Addressing a news conference, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), BJP spokesperson Altaf Thakur said that the PAC has chosen to focus on the same demands for Article 370 and statehood as the Gupkar Alliance.

"A new alliance has emerged on the political horizon of Jammu & Kashmir. Everyone was hopeful they would bring something new to the table. But they are simply harping on the same slogans of Article 370 and

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## Security forces on high alert in J&K

HT News Desk / KNIS

**SRINAGAR, JULY 1:** As the annual Amarnath Yatra gets ready to begin on July 3, the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing unprecedented security arrangements to protect the thousands of pilgrims heading to the holy cave in the Himalayas.

The 38-day-long pilgrimage will take place under tight, multi-layered security, combining manpower



and modern surveillance technologies. The UT administration, along with central security agencies, has put the entire Yatra route—from Baltal in Ganderbal to Pahalgam in Anantnag—on high alert.

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## DC Kishtwar reviews implementation of JK E-Sehat App

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JULY 01: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma convened a meeting to review the status of the JK E-Sehat App—a unified digital platform aimed at enhancing healthcare delivery.

The CMO Kishtwar Dr. Rajinder Kumar briefed the DC on the current registration figures in the district.

To accelerate implementation, the DC directed all Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) to ensure immediate registration of their government employees, and instructed the Health Department to deploy dedicated staff for mass registration, including the general public.

SDMs were also tasked with ensuring the rollout at the sub-divisional and tehsil levels.

The JKE-Sehat App provides a wide range of services including tele-consultation, appointment booking,



access to health records, AI-based symptom checking, medication reminders and integration with wearables. It supports both public and private healthcare access and includes features for patients, healthcare professionals and medical students—such as academic resources, e-prescriptions, secure messaging, ambulance services, insurance scheme information and skill development modules

like CPR and BLS training. The DC stressed the importance of ensuring widespread adoption of the app to improve healthcare access, especially in remote and underserved areas.

The meeting was attended by CMO Kishtwar Dr. Rajinder Kumar, MS DH Kishtwar Dr. Yudhvir Singh Kotwal, BMOs, DMEO (NHM) Manoj Sharma besides other concerned staff

## DC Poonch chairs NCORD meeting; reviews anti-drug measures in district

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JULY 01: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting of the District-Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to review the ongoing anti-drug measures and assess the performance of enforcement departments in curbing the drug menace in the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a comprehensive review of the anti-narcotic activities, including the destruction of cannabis and the progress of the Nasha Mukh Panchayat initiative across tehsils.

Tehsildars presented detailed reports on the ongoing efforts and were instructed to regularly monitor computerized billing in chemist shops.

The District Social Welfare Officer informed the meeting that awareness campaigns under the



Nasha Mukh Abhiyan are being held regularly with active public participation. The Deputy Commissioner directed the inclusion of police, Army and CRPF personnel in these awareness drives to ensure a more impactful outreach.

Heads of colleges and schools shared updates on awareness activities and preventive initiatives conducted in educational institutions.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) provided updates on the counseling services, medical support and sensitization efforts being undertaken by the health department.

The DFO and Tehsildars were directed to take immediate action for the destruction of cannabis in identified areas. Additionally, the ACR Poonch was asked to organize a Nasha Mukh awareness camp at

Degree College Mandi.

The Deputy Commissioner underscored the importance of coordinated efforts among departments to achieve the goal of making Poonch a drug-free district.

He called for increased surveillance in hotspot areas, installation of CCTV cameras, enhanced enforcement presence and sustained awareness drives.

The SSP stressed the need for seamless inter-departmental coordination and urged for swift action against any drug-related activity reported in the district.

The meeting was attended by SSP Poonch, ADC Poonch, DFO, ACR, DSWO, CMO, Professors from Degree Colleges, Drugs Inspector, Tehsildars and other concerned officers where SDMs from Surankote and Mendhar joined the meeting virtually.

## Director Agriculture Jammu inaugurates 9th Crop Insurance Week Campaign under PMFBY

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 01: Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen, today inaugurated the 9th Crop Insurance Week Campaign at the Directorate of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

The week-long campaign, being observed from July 1 to July 7, 2025, marks a significant step in promoting awareness about the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for the Kharif 2025 season across Jammu Division.

The inaugural event witnessed the presence of Chief Agriculture Officer Jammu, Manohar Lal Sharma, Agronomist (VIS) Vikas Padha, SMS-DL Rajeev Katoch, SDAO Marh Khalid Hassan Tantri, State Head, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, Sonu Kumar Kashyap



along with sectoral heads, officers and staff of the department.

As part of the launch, the Director flagged off the Crop Insurance Awareness Campaign Van, which will travel across districts of Jammu Region to sensitize and educate farmers on the key features and benefits of the PMFBY scheme.

The Director emphasized the importance of the cam-

aign in ensuring maximum farmer outreach, particularly focusing on non-loan farmers.

He directed field functionaries to organize awareness camps at the block and panchayat levels in collaboration with insurance companies and banking institutions.

The Director directed Chief Agriculture Officers for active participation of

Agriculture Extension Officers (AEOs), Junior Agriculture Extension Officers (JAEOs) and Agriculture Extension Assistants (AEAs) to assist farmers in the enrolment process.

He stressed the need for close coordination with insurance companies and Common Service Centres (CSCs) to ensure smooth and timely registration within the notified cut-off dates.

The Director appealed to the farming community of Jammu Division to enroll under PMFBY for the Kharif 2025 season to safeguard their crops against unforeseen losses. He encouraged farmers to utilize the toll-free helpline 14447/WhatsApp number 7065514447 for any queries related to the scheme and to approach their nearest bank branches or CSCs for registration.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being informed that my name in my passport having passport number N8339111 has been wrongly mentioned as Zooni but my actual name as per my aadhar card is Zoon Begum C/O Abdul Majeed Wani R/O Laripora pahalgam. Now I want to apply for its correction if anyone have queue they me contact to regional passport office srinager within 7 days

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being informed that the name in my electricity bill having consumer number 0207010011166 is only mentioned as Mohd Lateef Wagay but actual name as per my aadhar card is Mohd Laterf Sheergojri s/o Abdul Wahab Sheergojri R/O Ruhoo Anantnag Now I want to update its name if anybody has queries they may contact pdd department we didn't 7 days

### PUBLIC NOTICE

My son's name has been wrongly written as ABU BAKR & ABU ZAR S/O MASHOOQ MALIK while his correct name is ABU BAKR IBN MASHOOQ & ABU ZAR IBN MASHOOQ S/O MASHOOQ MALIK which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may contact with concerned authorities within seven days from the published of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name.....MASHOOQ AHMAD MALIK  
F/O ABU BAKR IBN MASHOOQ  
F/O ABU ZAR IBN MASHOOQ  
R/O DOLIPORA KREERI

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is being notified that my name in my Aadhar Card having Aadhar card number this 316616906398 has been wrongly mentioned as itfaq ahmad Laway but my actual name as per School record is Itfaq Majeed Laway Abdul Majeed Laway R/o Mamal Pahalgam I m going to change my aadhar details of anyone have queries they may contact us within 7 days

### PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my school leaving certificate at somewhere bearing Roll No 316 / Arts stream Now i am applying for its duplicate if anybody having objection in this regard he /she may file his / her objection in the office of GOVT BOYS HSS WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name.....MUSKAAN FAYAZ  
D/O FAYAZ AHMAD MIR  
R/O DARWA Session 2023-2024

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

Subject: Application for issuance of OBC certificate in favour of MUZAMIL AHMAD NAJAR S/O MOHD YOUSUF NAJAR R/O RESHIPORA Tehsil KREERI for the issuance of OBC (Other Backward class in his/her / their favor

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of RESHIPORA AUTHRORA of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the NAJAR community having annual income 360000 // (the details of family of the applicant are as follows

- 1...MOHD YOUSUF NAJAR Father 55 Najar 120000
- 2...FAREEDA BEGAM Mother 53 year Housewife
- 3...MUZAMIL AHMAD NAJAR self 30 years . P.T 180000
- 4...NAAZIMA SHAFI wife 29 years H/W
- 5...RAYEES AHMAD NAJAR Brother 27 years Labour 60000
- 6...BASIT AHMAD NAJAR Brother 22 years student
- 7...MEHIPARA YOUSUF 15 years //

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

NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

## Kathua Administration welcomes first Batch of Amarnath Yatris at Lakanpur

HT NEWS DESK



KATHUA, JULY 01: With chants of "Bam Bam Bhole" and "Jai Baba Barfani" echoing in the air, the District Administration Kathua extended a heartfelt and vibrant welcome to the first batch of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatris at Lakanpur—the traditional gateway to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Lakanpur, transformed into a dynamic and spiritually charged facilitation centre, witnessed an exuberant reception early this morning. The pilgrims were greeted with traditional warmth and devotion by DDC Chairman Col. (Retd) Mahan Singh, Deputy Commissioner Kathua Dr. Rakesh Minhas, SSP Kathua Shobhit Sexena, Vice Chairman DDC Raghunandan Singh, MLA Kathua Dr Bharat Bhushan, ADC Vishavjeet Singh (Yatra Nodal Officer) and senior civil and police officers.

To ensure smooth facilitation, 12 RFID counters were operational on-site for issuing RFID tags after eKYC verification, a mandatory step for registered yatris before continuing their onward journey. The arrangements saw enthusiastic cooperation and timely processing, reflecting the administration's commitment to efficiency and pilgrim-centric services.

Before departing from Lakanpur at 12:30 PM, the yatris were immersed in soul-stirring devotional performances—featuring Shiv Tandav stotras and bhajans—curated by artists from the District Information Centre Kathua. The spiritual ambiance energized the devotees, setting a powerful tone for their sacred journey ahead.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC welcomed the pilgrims with open arms, reaffirming the district's full preparedness to provide a safe, seamless and spiritually uplifting experience. He informed that dedicated helpines, service desks, medical aid points and sanitation facilities have been set up as part of a coordinated multi-agency Yatra support framework.

This year, Kathua District has gone the extra mile to turn the Lakanpur Yatri Facilitation Centre into a symbol of hospitality, devotion, and administrative excellence, ensuring that every pilgrim receives not just logistical support, but also emotional and cultural enrichment.

Later, the Jatha was formally flagged off from Lakanpur amidst chants of devotion and spirited farewells by the district officers, marking the symbolic commencement of this year's pilgrimage. The Jatha of yatris with proper security will now proceed to the Jammu Base Camp, where the formal commencement of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025 is scheduled for July 2. This year, Kathua District has gone the extra mile to turn the Lakanpur Yatri Facilitation Centre into a symbol of hospitality, devotion, and administrative excellence, ensuring that every pilgrim receives not just logistical support, but also emotional and cultural enrichment.

Later, the Jatha was formally flagged off from Lakanpur amidst chants of devotion and spirited farewells by the district officers, marking the symbolic commencement of this year's pilgrimage. The Jatha of yatris with proper security will now proceed to the Jammu Base Camp, where the formal commencement.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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

### GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (JSD) PHE. DIVISION, AWANTIPORA

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER E-NIT No. 07 of 2025-26

For & on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir (UT) e-tenders in Double cover system are invited on overall ITEM RATE basis from transporters/ tankerowners/ any D class contractor or Agency having its own Tanker/ Tractor with a tank capacity of 3000 litres minimum with an additional pipe of at least 200 meters with clean water for providing water supply through a tanker/tractor during YATRA period, for the year 2025-26.  
Programme: under 370-tanker service MH-2055 Police

S. No	Name of work	Cost of TD (in ₹)	EMD @3% (in ₹)
1.	Providing of Tanker Services to various security Bankers Deployed at various station from Kachkoot to Sempora for PHE Sub division Pampore of PHE Division Awantipora Under (under 370-tanker service MH-2055 Police) Max. 04 No. trips daily or less as per requirement for Yatra Period.	200/-	6000/-

(For AAA and TS: Submitted to Superintending Engineer Hydl, Circle Shopian for accord vide this office No: PHA/1009-14 Dated: 30-06-2025)

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ), terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the departmental web site (jktenders.gov.in) as per the dates shown below: Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "download bid submission".

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
		DD	MM	YYYY	
1	Publishing date of NIT	01	07	2025	03:30 PM
2	Download start date	01	07	2025	03:30 PM
3	Bid submission start date	01	07	2025	03:30 PM
4	Bid submission end date	07	07	2025	01:00 PM
5	Bid opening date	08	07	2025	02:00 PM

To participate in bidding process bidders, must get digital signature certificate (DSC) as per information technology-2000 bidders can get digital certificate from approved option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website (https://jktenders.gov.in) to acquaint vendors.

The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital signature. Bids must be accompanied by bid security deposit & cost of tender document as specified in column (4&5) of the above table. Bid security will be in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Awantipora and the cost of tender document shall be deposited in the Treasury under MH 0215 PHE in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Awantipora. (Name of work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)

Bidders must ensure to upload their bids in DOUBLE COVER containing documents as under:  
i) Scanned copies of Treasury Challan/Receipt.  
ii) Earnest Money Deposit CDR/FDR/BG  
iii) Scanned copy of Valid Registration of the vehicle to be deployed by owner.  
iv) Scanned copy of Valid Licence of the driver.  
v) Pan Card of registered owner of the vehicle.  
Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents in terms of soft copies with the technical bid and no documents in terms of hard copies shall be entertained. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

DIPK-3189/25  
Date: Jul 1 2025

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
(JSD) PHE. Div, Awantipora.

## Committee on Public Undertakings holds meeting in Srinagar

### Reviews Audit Paras related to JKPDC, JAKEDA

#### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 1: The Committee on Public Undertakings of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex, Srinagar, to review audit paras pertaining to the Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation (JKPDC) and the Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA). The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman, Ali Mohammad Sagar and attended by members Saifullah Mir, Ali Mohammad Dar, Baldev Raj Sharma, Shakti Raj Parihar, Ranbir Singh Pathania, Bashir Ahmad Veeri, Showkat Hussain Ganai and Tanvir Sadiq. Also present were the Principal Accountant General J&K, Principal Secretary PDD, Managing Director JKPDC, Director General Accounts and Treasuries, Director General



Expenditure, Director General Finance, Managing Director KPDC, CEO JAKEDA and other concerned officers.

The Committee held a comprehensive discussion and reviewed audit paras 7.4, 8.1 and 8.7 from the Comptroller and Auditor General's reports for the years 2018-19 and 2020-21, pertaining to JKPDC and JAKEDA.

The Chairman directed that a joint team comprising Committee members and concerned officers shall conduct spot inspections across vari-

ous areas to assess the progress under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). The inspection team will include members Saifullah Mir, Shakti Raj Parihar, Bashir Ahmad Veeri and Showkat Hussain Ganai. The Committee also reviewed the functioning of various hydroelectric projects and examined the status of all ongoing power projects across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chairman instructed the concerned departments to submit a comprehensive progress report on all ongoing projects within 15 days. He stressed the need to adopt proactive measures to harness the Jammu and Kashmir's power generation potential and improve the performance and efficiency of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). Emphasizing transparency and accountability, the Chairman underlined the importance of rigorous audits and evaluations. He further directed the departments to submit updated status reports of all public undertakings, along with relevant audit documentation, to facilitate informed decision-making and necessary reforms.

During the meeting, the Principal Accountant General elaborated on the audit process and shared recommendations to strengthen the functioning of public sector corporations in Jammu and Kashmir.

## Sakeena Itoo felicitates JEE/NEET achievers from Government Institutions at Srinagar

### Calls them beacon of hope, inspiration for budding students

#### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 01: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today felicitated champion students from various Government Institutions of Kashmir valley who have excelled in the prestigious JEE and NEET examinations this year.

Principal Secretary, School Education department, Ram Niwas Sharma; Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; Secretary JKBOSE, Ghulam Hassan Sheikh; Principals, CEOs, faculty members, NEER/JEE achievers, parents and large number of students were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Sakeena Itoo lauded the hard work and perseverance of the students and acknowledged the crucial role played by government school teachers in nurturing talent from the grassroots. "These young achievers are not only a source of pride for their



families but also a beacon of hope for the entire region. Their success proves that with dedication and access to quality education, anything is possible", Minister Sakeena stated. She emphasized on the need for continued academic mentorship of government school going children, especially from rural and underprivileged backgrounds to ensure equal opportunities for all.

While appreciating the JEE/NEET achievers, the Minister advised them to take this success forward with your near and dear ones as well as fellow classmates so that they can get inspiration from

your success. She also appreciated the teachers and parents of achievers for their contribution in the success of these students. The Minister on the occasion, also called upon the department to conduct regular capacity building programmes for the teachers as per the demand and evolving needs of education system.

Addressing the gathering, Principal Secretary, School Education department congratulated the achievers for their remarkable success in JEE/NEET exams. He advised the students to be the flag bearers of inspiration for the young school going students.

## Rana reviews PMGSY projects in Poonch

#### HT NEWS DESK



SRINAGAR, JULY 01: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today chaired a meeting at the Civil Secretariat Srinagar to review the status of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) projects in Poonch.

The meeting aimed to assess the progress on ongoing road projects and identify areas for improvement.

During the review, the Minister directed the concerned authorities to expedite the progress on works and achieve the set targets within the stipulated timelines. He emphasized that completion of these projects would provide tangible benefits to the common masses, including reliable road access and economic opportunities.

The Minister stressed the importance of adhering to quality standards in the projects to ensure development of durable assets. He instructed the officers to conduct regular monitoring of the work being executed in their respective jurisdictions.

Rana also directed for identification of road stretches in the district requiring repairs, emphasizing the need to fill potholes and make roads safe, beautiful and accessible.

## Houseboat Association, Dal dwellers call on CM Omar Abdullah; flag long-pending issues

#### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 1: A deputation comprising Dal dwellers, including representatives of houseboat and shikara owners, today called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to apprise him about various issues confronting them.

The meeting was held to address long standing grievances and to discuss the sustainable livelihood solutions for communities dependent on Dal Lake.

The interaction was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Zadiyal Tanvir Sadiq, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Director General Fire & Emergency Services J&K, Commissioner Secretaries of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Tourism, Housing & Urban Development; Director Tourism, Vice Chairpersons of the Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA), Srinagar Development Authority and other senior officials.

Representatives of the Houseboat owners association, Shikara owners union and Dal dwellers' community participated in the meeting and put forth their concerns and issues.

At the outset, MLA Zadiyal Tanvir Sadiq gave a detailed briefing to the Chief Minister on the issues raised by the visiting deputation.

## JKEDI trains 117 entrepreneurs, including 93 women under RAMP scheme

### Management Development Programs conclude in 6 districts

#### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 1: The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) has successfully concluded a series of Management Development Programs (MDPs) across six districts under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme. The initiative is funded by the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, and implemented in the Union Territory by the Industries and Commerce Department, J&K.

The training programs, which commenced on June 24, 2025, were held simultaneously in Doda, Jammu, Kulgam, Ramban, Srinagar, and Udhampur. A total of 117 aspiring and existing entrepreneurs, including 93 women, participated in



the six-day, 30-hour comprehensive training. The strong representation of women highlights a positive trend toward gender inclusivity in the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The MDPs focused on enhancing the managerial, financial, and strategic skills of participants, aiming to help them scale operations, boost competitiveness, and build sustainable enterprises. The curricu-

lum, meticulously developed by subject matter experts, featured modules on business planning, marketing strategies, digital tools, financial literacy, legal compliance, innovation, and leadership.

To provide practical exposure, the programs also included field visits to successful business ventures, interactive sessions with sector specialists, and mentorship opportunities.

Experts from District Industries Centres (DICs) and the Labour and Employment Department shared insights with participants, helping them align their ventures with current industry practices.

The MDPs were monitored by designated Range/Reviewing Officers, who regularly engaged with the trainees and gathered feedback to ensure quality and relevance of the training. The successful completion of these programs reflects JKEDI's ongoing commitment to empowering local entrepreneurs through structured learning, capacity building, and direct exposure to market realities. This initiative aligns with the broader objectives of the RAMP scheme to strengthen the MSME ecosystem across the Union Territory.

## Legislators, delegations call on Jal Shakti Minister

#### HT NEWS DESK



SRINAGAR, JULY 01: Several delegations and legislators today met Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment, and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, at the Civil Secretariat, highlighting various issues impacting welfare of the people.

Legislators Ali Mohd Dar, Shakti Raj Parihar and Showket Hussain Ganai raised constituency-specific concerns. The discussions centered around key developmental issues, including improving potable water supply, upgrading road infrastructure and implementing the Forest Rights Act. Additionally, various delegations raised specific issues like construction of a protection wall in Gursai Mendhar, development programs for youth, tribal welfare and service-related concerns. Javed Rana engaged with the delegations, listening to their grievances and assuring prompt redressal of genuine concerns. He emphasized the government's commitment to inclusive development and welfare of the people, encouraging the legislators and delegations to continue highlighting important public issues.

## Deputy CM reviews SANJY-2025 arrangements via Baltal axis

### Calls for coordinated efforts to ensure smooth, safe Yatra

#### HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JULY 01: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today conducted an extensive visit to Baltal to assess the arrangements being put in place for smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2025 via Baltal axis.

The Deputy CM chaired a high-level meeting at JKTDC Sonamarg and was briefed by the district administration and concerned departments regarding the measures being taken to ensure the safety, comfort and smooth movement of the pilgrims.

During the visit, the Deputy Chief Minister held a detailed department-wise review of the Yatra arrangements at the Baltal Base Camp and along the Yatra route. Expressing satisfaction over the ongoing preparations, he commended the district administration and all line departments for their timely efforts in making adequate arrangements well in



advance.

While interacting with the officers, the Deputy CM emphasized the importance of teamwork and inter-departmental coordination.

"The departments are the face of the government on the ground and we must work together to ensure a safe and successful Yatra," he said. He further stated that the successful conduct of Shri

Amarnath Ji Yatra would send a positive message across the country and serve as a milestone in reviving tourism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Highlighting the significance of the Yatra, he said, "This is not just a pilgrimage; it is a major festival for the entire Union Territory. Devotees from all corners of the country will visit and it is our

collective responsibility to welcome and facilitate them in the best possible manner."

The Deputy Chief Minister also commended the BRO for their significant contribution in development and maintenance of the Yatra track from Domail to the Holy Cave, which plays a critical role in ensuring the safety and accessibility for the pilgrims. He

also urged all the departments to remain proactive and ensure that all necessary arrangements are in place, with a special focus on safety, sanitation, healthcare, traffic management and other essential services.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Executive Officer, Sonamarg Development Authority, Bilal Mukhtar; Sub-Divisional Magistrate Kangan; Executive Engineers from various engineering wings and other senior officers from the district administration. Highlighting the significance of the Yatra, he said, "This is not just a pilgrimage; it is a major festival for the entire Union Territory. Devotees from all corners of the country will visit and it is our collective responsibility to welcome and facilitate them in the best possible manner."

The Deputy Chief Minister also commended the BRO for their significant contribution in development and maintenance of the Yatra track from Domail.

HT EDITORIAL

New political alliance raises many eye-brows in Kashmir

Usually it has been observed that in the run up to the parliament or assembly elections different political parties come forward and forge an alliance. However, an unusual development took place on Monday (June 30) when some of the political parties having base in Kashmir came forward and formed a new alliance. Political parties like Peoples Conference, Peoples Democratic Front and some cadres of Jamaat-e-Islami came forward and formed the new alliance in Srinagar.

Seasoned politicians like Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen and Sajad Gani Lone have come forward along with less known faces of Jamaat-e-Islami and joined hands under a single umbrella thus adding a new dimension to the electoral politics of Jammu & Kashmir especially, Kashmir valley. As the elections to the union territory assembly of Jammu & Kashmir are more than four years away one fails to understand the logic behind the forging of alliance between the different political parties at the moment.

The timing of the alliance is somewhat unusual and the answer to the same lies with the people who have forged the same. Over the past few days a lot of talk has been going on with respect to the constitutional provisions related to the restoration of statehood to Jammu & Kashmir. Some of the people are giving feelers that the statehood cannot be restored to Jammu & Kashmir since the place is a union territory at present. These people contend that fresh elections need to be conducted and then only statehood can be restored to Jammu & Kashmir.

There is a lot of confusion in this regard and the air has not been cleared by the concerned people. In case restoration of statehood is dependent on holding of elections then one can easily understand the forging of alliance between the experienced politicians. Otherwise, these people would have to wait until 2029 before the new elections are held for the assembly of Jammu & Kashmir. It remains to be seen how things shape up in the coming days and what turn the political scene takes.

The coming together of veteran politicians like Hakeem Yaseen and Sajad Lone is not a mere aberration and it needs to be viewed in a comprehensive manner. Once the things are viewed in a broader framework then the people can understand the latest development taking place on the political horizon of Kashmir valley. At present one has to adopt a wait and watch policy in this regard and people have to be patient for the time being.

15TH PUBLICATION HEADLINES TODAY Voice To The Voiceless

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Jhelum water level dips sharply as dry spell grips Kashmir



By Tyima Bilal

The Jhelum flows not just through Kashmir's land, but through its soul, a timeless witness to its beauty, battles, and buried prayers. From snow-kissed mountains to the heart of Srinagar, it has whispered lullabies to the chinars and carried the weight of generations. But today, its silence speaks louder than ever before. Grippled by a prolonged and punishing dry spell, its waters have dipped to alarming levels exposing not just riverbeds, but deep-seated vulnerabilities of a land that has forever leaned on its gentle currents for life, livelihood, and identity. Today, as its waters fade, so does a part of Kashmir's spirit splinters.

**A Dying River, A Drenched Hope**  
The current summer has been merciless, weeks without rainfall, cracked skies, and sun-scorched winds. The Jhelum, fed by glaciers and streams, has thinned into a fragile ribbon of what it once was. The once brimming ghats now show naked banks, and boats, once dancing on its waves, now lie grounded like broken dreams. The ongoing dry spell, one of the most severe in recent memory, has turned fertile fields into cracked earth and transformed once-bustling ghats into ghostly shores. Even in summer, when the river usually swells with melted snow, its skeletal flow now mirrors a climate unravelling in silence.

**Fields of Sorrow: The Agricultural Collapse**



The soil once beneath the waters of Jhelum now lies cracked and thirsty, mourning the seeds that will never bloom. Farmers who once smiled at the sight of green now walk their fields in silence, watching their hopes wither under the harsh sun. Paddy fields lie scorched. In rural belts from Baramulla to Pulwama, agriculture, the backbone of the valley's economy, is collapsing under the weight of this silent water crisis. Yields have dropped. Incomes have shrunk. And with every failing harvest, hope fades a little more.

**Drinking Water: Scarcity in a Water Paradise**

In the land often praised as the "Switzerland of the East," people now queue up for drinking water. The falling Jhelum levels have disrupted water supply to entire towns and cities. Pipes remain dry. Wells have sunk deeper. Water tankers, once a rare sight in the lush valley, now roam the streets like lifelines on wheels. In Srinagar and its adjoining areas, groundwater levels are also receding, leaving families and communities vulnerable to an uncertain tomorrow.

**Houseboats and Heartbreak**

The houseboats of Kashmir, once symbols of timeless beauty and soulful hospitality, now sit quietly, stranded in shallow waters that no longer carry their grace. As the Jhelum retreats, so do the dreams of hundreds of families who have built their lives upon it. These floating homes, icons of Kashmiri heritage, now sit crooked and grounded, unable to move in the shallows. For hundreds of families who live and earn through tourism on these boats, the crisis has turned their livelihood into a struggle for survival.

Without water beneath them, many houseboats are developing structural damage. Guests are few. Earnings have vanished. And with the river drying up, so is the ancient charm that once drew travellers to these wooden dreams on water.

**An Ecological Emergency**

The sharp decline in Jhelum's water levels is not just a seasonal crisis, it's a glaring ecological emergency. The river's thinning flow has disrupted aquatic life, silenced migratory birds, and shattered the delicate balance of biodiversity that once thrived along

its banks. This isn't just about a river drying, it's about a living ecosystem slowly dying. The warning signs are here: vanishing fish, drying wetlands, rising temperatures, and dust where there once was dew. If we continue to ignore them, the cost will be far greater than just a lost river, it will be a lost future. What was once a sanctuary is now turning into a warning.

**The Way Forward: A Collective Awakening**

The Jhelum is not just drying, it is calling. Calling upon every Kashmiri heart, every policymaker, every citizen to wake up before silence replaces its song. This is more than a climate crisis, it's a test of our collective conscience. Now is the time to act with urgency and unity. Reforestation in catchment areas, glacier protection, sustainable agriculture, and strict pollution control must become pillars of policy and practice. Urban planning must respect the natural flow of water. Every household must learn to harvest rain, conserve water, and treat it not as a luxury, but as a sacred resource. The government, environmentalists, and citizens must stand together to revive the Jhelum, not just for the present, but for generations who deserve to see it flow freely. This awakening must begin from within not in speeches, but in small, conscious choices made every day. Because if we wait for someone else to act, we'll soon be left with nothing to save.

If you want to understand the health of a land, look at its rivers. Today, Jhelum speaks. Let us not turn a deaf ear.

Tyima Bilal is a medical student, creative writer, and columnist from Srinagar. Passionate about environmental awareness and youth voices, she regularly contributes articles that blend fact with feeling, truth with tenderness.

The Enchanting Tale of Tral: A Hidden Gem of Kashmir



Mohammad Arafat Wani

Nestled in the peaceful south valley of Kashmir, where nature spins dreams of green and gold, is a land of heavenly loveliness and spiritual profundity—Tral, a tehsil in Pulwama district, which is famous not only for its stunning scenery but also for its spiritual heritage that whispers along every stream and every wind. Historically known in the Kashmiri tongue as Trelal, or "three diamonds," Tral was itself a gem surrounded by mountains. However, the fate of Tral changed in a divinely set pattern when the great Sufi saint and Islamic missionary to Kashmir, Amir Kabir Mir Syed Ali Hamadani (RA), bought this place and raised it to the level of a spiritual realm. Tral, from that time on, carried his spiritual inheritance—a land purchased not with money but with barakah, where each rock became a witness to the presence of a saint.

Amir Kabir (RA) was not an ordinary sermonizer. He surpassed sectarianism in favor of a message of Tawheed, unity of Allah. He has left behind for his disciples a spiritual treasure called Awrad Fatiha, a collection of morning prayers uttered even today. In Tral, this spiritual perfume still remains in the khanqahs and mosques, in the recitation of children memorizing the Qur'an, and in the loving togetherness of its people. Even with religious diversity and changing times, Tral has retained the spirit of brotherhood and respect for one another, and thus it is not merely a town but a living expression of Sufi harmony.

The natural grandeur of Tral is a painting handiwork of the Divine Hand itself. Amongst its holiest sites is the Khanqah Faiz Panah, the holy ground on which Amir Kabir (RA)'s shrine rests, shrouded in silence and peace. Here, the soul is at peace, and the heart learns to beat with devotion. Near the shrine is Dili Naag, a spot that is as clear as crystal waters and lush forest cover, a place where the heart feels it has reached paradise.

Several educational centres also bless Tral—madrasas such as Shah Hamdan, Ikhlās, and Noor-ul-Islam, government higher secondary schools, and a degree college, all nestled in the lap of trees and mountains, imparting to students not only academic education but also the eter-

nal memory of studying under nature's shade.

Tral's beauty is shared by its captivating villages, each with a history, each shrouded in folklore and mystery. Arjpal, home of the captivating Arjpal Naag, is eleven kilometers off and attracts admirers from afar and wide. Naristan, heaven on earth of towering cedar trees, gurgling brooks, and soft meadows, sits regally approximately 50 kilometers from Srinagar and has turned into a favorite among home-grown tourists looking to retreat into pristine nature.

Only three kilometers away from Tral is Shikargah, which was the preferred hunting ground of Maharaja Hari Singh, the last of Jammu and Kashmir's maharajas. Now, it sits not with royal hunters but with nature enthusiasts who visit to behold the unspoiled wildlife and landscapes. The surrounding village Quoil Shikargah rings with respect and simplicity, carrying forward its own stories of dignity and peace.

More down south, Panir Jagir provides the serene Panir Dam, nestled deep in the green bosom of forests. It's a destination where time stands still, where the silence of water and the giggles of children merge into a gentle lullaby. Locals claim that the dam is centuries old and still irrigates nearby rice fields of Panir and Mandora, providing water during summer and joy to children who play in its cool clear waters.

And then there is Wasturan, a rugged mountain that houses rare flora and fauna, and Nagbaran, a gem that guides one to the mythical twin lakes of Tarsar and Marsar—heavenly waters that flow into Pahalgam and Dal Lake, respectively. Their reflective surfaces reflect the sky above, as if the heavens themselves gazed lovingly at this earth.

Among the most popular places is Lam Tral, nature's wonder only eight kilometers from the central town. People throng to its legendary waterfall, where the dropping water hymns hymns of happiness, and where individuals from afar and nearby bathe in the cold ecstasy of its flowing waters.

Within this picturesque landscape is situated the writer's own village—Kuchmulla, a mere three kilometers away from Tral. There is situated the revered shrine of Roup Reshi (RA), a saint commemorated annually on the 26th of Safar by followers who travel miles to pay their respects. His name adorns the village school, Roup Reshi Islamia High School, a simple school which for years has kindled the fire of knowledge among kids from around the village. Alongside the school runs a natural spring, whose waters never get tainted and are always tempting. Kids and old people alike take a bath here, not only to cool their bodies but also to enliven their souls. Side by side

with it are two religious schools: the Qurani Darasgah of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) and the Roup Reshi Darasgah, where children and adults learn the Qur'an—children after Asr prayer, adults after Maghrib prayer—amidst the serenity of the central mosque, an Islamic architectural marvel.

Batagund village, next door to Kuchmulla, boasts a gurgling stream running through fields and hearts. During summers, children jump into its chilly waters and forget the scorching sun and daily grind. But Batagund is also famous not just for streams; it's the hub of sports culture in Tral, particularly cricket.

Each year, the Batagund Premier League (BPL) sets the village alight with the flame of competition and the essence of friendship. Played on the legendary Sahjar Cricket Ground, this tournament has grown into one of the largest in the area. It is conceived with zeal by Sheikh Ishfaq, affectionately referred to as "A-Jaan," and Mohammad Iqbal Sufi, otherwise known as "Sahab Beya." Their commitment has made this sporting activity a youth and community celebration. Coloring this cricketing extravaganza are renowned commentators such as Fayaz Ali Wani, Reshi Suhail, Yawar Raj, Shah Asif, and Asif Rasool, as Mir Adil captures everything behind the lens, with Bhat Sameer and Mir Yamin handling scores and statistics. Thousands come to witness the final match, and the village hums with excitement and pride.

There are two sacred shrines in Batagund as well: Sheikh Miskeen Sahib and Dastgir Sahib, found in Waz Mohalla, which is the last residential area of the village. They are not merely sites of worship but pillars of spiritual tranquility, which attract seekers from far and near.

In fact, Tral is not simply a tehsil—it is a living poem. Its charm does not reside merely in its forests, lakes, and springs, but in its people, their hospitality, their steadfast faith, and their silent allegiance to the land they tread. It is a land where the heritage of saints lives in the leaves, where the sound of water carries prayers, and where the wind keeps secrets of love, peace, and survival.

To talk of Tral is to sing a never-ending song. It is a destination that not only provides visual splendor but spiritual enlightenment, cultural pride, and communal peace. Whoever has not yet visited Tral has yet to see one of the most peaceful and soulful corners of Kashmir. Visit once, and depart with your heart forever residing in its valleys.

The author is a passionate writer, social activist, and medical student, hails from Kuchmulla Tral. His email address is waniac6817@gmail.com



# Caste, Class, and Discrimination: The Hidden Scourge of Kashmiri Society



By Barkat Ul Sultan Handoo

Kashmir, a land celebrated for its breathtaking beauty and rich cultural tapestry, remains shackled by an insidious social ill — caste and class discrimination — that continues to plague its communities, despite living in an age of education, government employment and social mobility.

It is a bitter truth that many Kashmiri families, especially among the so-called “higher castes,” continue to practice discrimination rooted in centuries-old Brahmanical social structures. This archaic mindset, far from being a relic of the past, thrives today in the form of silent judgments, social exclusion, and marriage refusals based on lineage, village origin, or economic status.

## The Mask of Modernity Conceals Ancient Prejudice

Though many publicly proclaim equality and reject casteism, privately they cling to it. In polite conversations, they speak of unity and brotherhood, but behind closed doors, they dismiss matches because the prospective bride or groom is from a rural area, “wrong” caste, or “less refined” family. This duplicity exposes a deep hypocrisy: a society unwilling to confront its own prejudices while projecting a false image of progressiveness.

## Caste Discrimination — Not Religion, But Social Poison

Kashmir’s Brahmanical past cannot be ignored; it cast long shadows over the Valley’s social order. The caste system was designed to divide, segregate, and establish social hierarchies based on birth — an ideology that Islam explicitly rejects. Yet, many Muslims in Kash-



mir have absorbed these ideas of superiority, preserving caste divisions under different names and justifications.

This is not an attack on any community. The Kashmiri Pandits and Sikhs, with their own rich traditions, have also faced and sometimes perpetuated caste divisions. The problem is societal, not sectarian. It is a stain on all Kashmiris.

## The New Face of Caste: Classism and Khaslat

In today’s Kashmir, casteism often hides behind economic status. A government job, foreign education, or urban residence is hailed as proof of superiority — overshadowing honesty, character, or faith. This is caste in new clothes: an elitism that divides people into “haves” and “have-nots” based on income and family reputation, not merit or morality. The notion of khaslat — inherited “good qualities” — is a pernicious myth used to exclude those deemed “uncultured” or “lesser.” It is a pseudo-scientific excuse to sustain caste pride and social exclusion.

## Marriage: The Battlefield of Caste and Class

The institution of marriage, sacred in Kashmiri culture, has become a stage for discrimination. Families often prioritize khandaan (family background) and khaslat over love, compatibility, or piety. Girls from rural or economically modest families face rejection despite their education and virtues, while boys without “prestigious” jobs are considered undesirable.

This reduces human relationships to a business deal — one where dignity and individual worth are sacrificed for social status and material gain.

## The Danger of Silence and Denial

What compounds this tragedy is the widespread denial of casteism’s existence. Many condemn caste openly but indulge it privately, perpetuating the cycle. Such silence and hypocrisy are complicity, allowing discrimination to flourish unchecked.

## Islamic Teachings Are Clear — Why Are We Not Listening?

If there is one message that Islam brought to Kashmir, it is this: no human being is above another except by virtue of piety.

“O mankind, We created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. Verily, the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you.”

(Surah Al-Hujurat, 49:13)

The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) stood against tribal pride and caste arrogance. He chose companions from every background. He married across tribes. He freed slaves and gave them honor. He appointed Bilal (RA), a freed African slave, as the first caller to prayer — a role of immense spiritual prestige He never asked,

“Which caste?” — he asked, “Who has taqwa?”

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: “He who has even a mustard seed of pride in his heart will not enter Paradise.”

Yet many proudly protect caste identity, as if it is a badge of honor.

Any person who claims to follow Islam while upholding caste, class, or social arrogance is living in contradiction.

To follow him is to reject every form of inherited superiority — caste, wealth,

surname, or lineage. Anything else is a betrayal of his sunnah. Islam explicitly condemns caste and class arrogance. The Quran reminds us that the most honored before God is the most righteous. The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) shattered all forms of social elitism by elevating people based on their character, not birth. If Kashmiris truly want to embody Islamic values, they must reject caste and class discrimination without exceptions. Anything less is a betrayal of faith.

## Kashmir’s Future Demands a Break From the Past

With many Kashmiris now educated, employed in government, and financially secure, there is no justification for caste or class prejudice. These outdated divisions only hinder social cohesion and progress. It is time to:

Reject caste and class as criteria for marriage and social interaction.

Speak openly against khaslat and the myth of inherited superiority.

Value individuals for their character, education, and piety, not their family name.

Encourage community leaders and scholars to educate the masses about Islam’s true message on equality.

Empower rural and marginalized voices to break social barriers.

**Conclusion:** The Time for Change Is Now Kashmir stands at a crossroads. It can either cling to caste-based divisions that fracture its society or embrace the true spirit of justice and equality taught by its faith and history. Continuing discrimination based on caste, class, or family background is not just outdated — it is a moral failure. It denies human dignity, fractures communities, and weakens the fabric of society.

Let Kashmir lead the way by breaking these chains and creating a future where every person is judged not by their caste or class, but by the content of their character.

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# Voice That Still Echoes: A Tribute to Parvaiz Ahmad Khan (Parvaiz Sir)



Mohammad Aaqib Khan

On the morning of 25th June 2025, as usual, I was at my clinic, busy with my routine work when I received a phone call from my friend Ajaz Ahmad Khan. He informed me that Parvaiz Sir had passed away. Shocked, I immediately replied, ‘Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Raji’un’, ended the call, and rushed towards his home to participate in his funeral prayer. There are some individuals whose contribution to society is so profound that even after their departure, they continue to live on in the hearts and memories of people. Parvaiz Ahmad Khan, a private teacher at the Islamic Educational Institute in Kuzwera Khanpora, was one such remarkable soul. His life, filled with dedication, simplicity, and sincerity, left an unforgettable mark on his students and his community. Parvaiz Sir was an exceptionally intelligent and capable teacher with almost 20 years of teaching experience. He confidently taught all major subjects including Mathematics, Science, Social Science, and English at a school that provided education up to the eighth standard. His extraordinary memory was legendary; he had the textbooks memorized, even the page numbers. Although the salary at this school was not sufficient, Parvaiz Sir never allowed this to affect his sincerity or dedication. He carried out his duties with grace, honesty, and a heartfelt passion for teaching. For him, teaching was not just a profession, it was a lifelong mission and a source of personal satisfaction. Along with his academic brilliance, Parvaiz Sir had sound Islamic knowledge and was a true lover of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW). He participated in Milad-

un-Nabi (SAW) conferences with deep love and firm belief. His presence in these blessed gatherings was not just formal; it reflected his heartfelt devotion and unshakable faith. He fully supported Milad programs and even during his illness as a cancer patient, he continued to financially contribute to these programs. Such was his love and devotion for the Prophet (SAW) that even while battling illness as a cancer patient, where treatment required significant financial resources, he still continued to financially support these Milad programs. May Allah bless him abundantly with the intercession of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW). He also actively participated in social work and served as a committed member of the Baitul Maal. He worked with honesty and dedication, leaving behind a noble example for the community to follow. Parvaiz Sir was also known to be a sincere lover of the Auliya (saints), especially Sheikh Noor-ud- Noorani inspired by their teachings and remembrance. What truly sets Parvaiz Sir apart is the remarkable legacy of his students. Many of his students went on to become doctors, engineers, teachers, paramedics, advocates, police inspectors, and other respected professionals, not only across the region but even within his own village of Kuzwera Khanpora. His untiring efforts and sincere teaching laid the foundation for many successful lives. His students continue to remember him not only for his academic brilliance but also for his kindness, his spiritual warmth, and his dedication to their growth and success. When I was first admitted to the Islamic Education Institute Kuzwera, I was registered under the name Aaqib Ibni Fayaz. It was none other than Parvaiz Sir who thoughtfully changed my name to Mohammad Aaqib Khan. This small but meaningful change was more than just a correction; it was a moment that has remained with me ever since. Through this gesture, he not only gave me an identity that I proudly carry today but also became an inseparable part of my life’s story. Even today, I feel blessed that my name carries the touch of his thoughtfulness and care. This is one of the countless ways he continues to live with-

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This small but meaningful change was more than just a correction; it was a moment that has remained with me ever since. Through this gesture, he not only gave me an identity that I proudly carry today but also became an inseparable part of my life’s story.

in his students’ hearts. Although I was once his student, I feel truly blessed and honoured that I later had the opportunity to work alongside him as a teacher at the same school Islamic Educational Institute (IEI) Kuzwera — where he served as the principal. To share the same workspace with the person who once taught me was not just a professional experience, it was a personal blessing. It was as if life had come full circle — from learning under his guidance to teaching under his leadership. I witnessed his dedication, patience, and sincere leadership not just as a student, but also as a colleague. His gentle manners, his wise decisions, and his ability to manage the school with kindness and efficiency always left me inspired. Working with him deepened my respect and love for him, and this memory will always remain a treasure in my life. When I first came to the school as a teacher, Parvaiz Sir greeted me with his signature smile and said, “I will not interview you because I know you.” Those words were not just kind; they reflected the trust and affection he

had for me as his former student. It was a moment of immense honour that he welcomed me not as a student anymore, but as a fellow teacher. Yet, for me, he always remained my teacher cum guide. Whenever he would visit my class while I was teaching, I would immediately stand up from my chair out of respect. Every time, he would kindly remind me, “You are now a teacher, not a student.” His humility was so profound that even though I held him in the highest regard, he insisted on treating me as an equal colleague. This is the type of respectful, nurturing environment he created — one where love and honour coexisted with professionalism and mutual respect. These moments are precious treasures in my memory, and they continue to inspire me both as a person and as an educator. Parvaiz Sir had a special way of speaking to me. He never called me just “Aaqib.” He always called me by my full name — “Mohammad Aaqib” — with love, respect, and warmth. Even today, I can still hear that voice echoing in my ears, as if he is still calling me. It may seem like a simple thing, but for me, it was meaningful. It made me feel special, recognized, and truly connected to him. Some voices never fade — they continue to live in our hearts forever. We sincerely pray that Allah grants Parvaiz Ahmad Khan Sahib the highest place in Jannatul Firdous, blesses him with the company of the beloved Auliya (saints), and fills his eternal life with the light and joy of their noble presence. May his grave be a garden from the gardens of Paradise. May his soul continue to receive the rewards of the knowledge he imparted, the students he shaped, and the love he left behind. Ameen. Indeed, people like him never die. I present my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family with these lines from Hazrat Naimeh Seab, the Kashmiri Sufi poet. “Zindeh Paan Yues Kare Douer Safer Sui Aneh Marnich Pouz Khaber Yues Moud Wane Tass Kya Marei Hoorai Mya Nuinam Xoori DIL”.

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# DC Kishtwar reviews functioning of Revenue Department; Sets timelines for key deliverables

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JULY 01: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma today convened a meeting to review functioning of the Revenue Department in the district. The agenda points of the meeting included Digitization/Recreation of Missing Mussavis, progress of ground truthing of rectified maps (BISAG-N), progress on Ground Verified Maps 1.0 and 2.0 under the Svamitva scheme, timely disposal of online revenue services (PSG Act), among others. ACR, Idrees Lone apprised the DC of the current progress and functioning of the Revenue Department in the District. During the meeting, the DC directed all concerned Tehsildars to ensure the completion of recreation of Mussavis by 20th July 2025. Tehsildar Bounjwah was



specifically instructed to coordinate with DFO Kishtwar for the recreation of Mussavis in forest areas. Emphasizing progress under the Svamitva Scheme, the DC instructed all Tehsildars to complete Mapping (Map 1.0 and 2.0) by 10th July 2025.

For efficient service delivery, the DC directed all Tehsildars to ensure timely issuance of certificates/services and clear all pending cases within 3 days. He also instructed Tehsildars to ensure timely disposal of revenue court cases as reflected on the RCCMS portal. Strict instructions were issued regarding eviction of encroachments from State/Common/Kahchaha/Roshni land along with the installation of signboards and measures to prevent re-encroachment. The DC directed all Tehsildars to conduct special camps for inheritance mutations in addition to routine mutation work. The meeting was attended by ACR Kishtwar Idrees Lone, SDM Chatroo Nayeem Ur Rahman, SDM Marwah Dr. Mohd Ashraf, SDM Paddar Dr. Amit Kumar, Tehsildars, besides the concerned staff of Revenue Department.

# DHSJ visits village Dhar Sakri, Block Kandi following Gastroenteritis outbreak

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 01: In response to the outbreak of gastroenteritis cases in village Dhar Sakri of Block Kandi, the Director Health Services Jammu, Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar conducted an on-ground visit to the affected area. The Director was accompanied by State Surveillance Officer (SSO) Jammu Dr. Harjeet Rai and Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Rajouri Dr. Manohar Rana. During the visit, the Director met the affected individuals and interacted with members of the local community. He took a review of the present situation and appreciated the swift and effective work being carried out by the health teams under the close supervision and monitoring of CMO Rajouri. Dr. Zargar also assessed the

availability of essential medicines and reviewed the functioning of the health teams during a meeting held with local health functionaries. As part of the public health protocol, samples were collected from the area for further laboratory investigation to determine the source of the outbreak and to prevent further spread. Later, the Director visited Government Medical College & Associated Hospital (GMC & AH) Rajouri, where some patients from Dhar Sakri are currently admitted. He interacted with the patients, inquired about their well-being and assured them that the Health Department remains vigilant and committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of the public and all necessary measures are being taken to control the situation effectively.

# DHSJ celebrates National Doctors Day

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 01: Directorate of Health Services Jammu today celebrated National Doctors Day with this year's theme: "Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?"—a reflection on the mental and emotional challenges faced by healthcare workers. The theme calls on society to recognize not just the doctors' efforts but also their humanity and need for support.

Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar and doctors from Directorate and adjoining offices participated in the event. Some heartfelt quotes by Officials from Directorate about their respective officers were presented during the event. Speaking on the occasion,

the Director said that every day, doctors prioritize the lives of others often neglecting their own well-being. He congratulated all present on the occasion and said that the day is both a celebration and a call for action to build a system where doctors are not just revered as caregivers but also protected, respected and cared for in return. DD Dentistry Dr. Sanjay Sharma congratulated all on this occasion and gave few tips on how to remain fit. Chief Medical Officer Jammu Dr. Harbaksh Singh highlighted the emotional, mental and physical challenges doctors face in their daily life. The event organized by ADHEB Dr. Simmi Verma, Dr. Mridula Singh and team HEB was highly appreciated by all.

# MLA Ramban lays foundation stone of Kilaseri to Dayargali Road via Dugga

HT NEWS DESK

RAMBAN, JULY 01: Taking a major step towards strengthening rural connectivity, the Member Legislative Assembly (MLA) Ramban, Advocate Arjun Singh Raju today laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Kilaseri to Dayargali road via Dugga.

The 5-km road project is being executed by the Public Works Department (PWD) R&B Ramban under the NAMARDRIDF-XXVII scheme. The project, sanctioned for the year 2022-23, carries an estimated cost of 499.50 lakh, with an allotment of 311.92 lakh. The project is expected to benefit a population of over 2,000, providing a

vital boost to connectivity, easing transportation challenges and contributing to the socio-economic upliftment of the region. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring accelerated development and robust infrastructure in Ramban, especially in remote and underserved areas. He said that the road project was a long-pending demand of the locals, which will soon translate into improved accessibility and economic growth for the area. DDC Councillor, Executive Engineer PWD Ramban along with engineers, officers from various departments and prominent citizens attended the foundation stone-laying ceremony.

# Director Horticulture Jammu conducts an extensive tour of Samba

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 01: Director Horticulture Jammu Gul Sayed today conducted an extensive tour of Samba district. During the tour, he visited Government Fruit Plant Nursery, Vijaypur wherein he planted a sapling of Mango plant. He inspected Mother block of Dragon fruit, an exotic fruit plant, established under the component "Production of Designer Plants" of HADP as well as protected cultivation structure having micro-irrigation facilities. The Director took stock of the ongoing developmental activities in the nursery and gave on



spot instructions to the nursery staff regarding the production of quality grafted planting material in the nursery. He also emphasized on introduction of new cultivars of fruit plants and opening of fruit plants sale outlet in the nursery. While inspecting the nursery, he appreciated fruiting in the experimental mother block of Date Palm which was

productivity and also asked to issue advisory on plant protection measures to be taken in the orchards for production of quality fruit. Further, the Director inspected naturally ventilated Poly House structure at Sarore established under HADP by Navneet Sharma, who after rendering 25 years in financial sector has become a Horticulture Entrepreneur. Meanwhile, Director inspected various projects viz: dragon fruit orchard at Ramgarh and mango orchard at Gupwal. The Director also had an interaction with the farmers and urged them to come forward and avail the benefits of various schemes. Further, the Director inspected various projects viz: dragon fruit orchard at Ramgarh and mango orchard at Gupwal. The Director also had an interaction with the farmers and urged them to come forward and avail the benefits of various schemes.

# Udhampur Admin conducts outreach camp under DAJGUA in Panchayat Krimachi

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JULY 01: As part of the ongoing "Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan" campaign, District Administration Udhampur today organised public outreach camp under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai here at Panchayat Krimachi. GM DIC Udhampur Kishore Singh Katoch presided over the camp as chief guest, inspected stalls installed by wide array of departments, including Health, Rural Development, Agriculture, Animal and Sheep Husbandry etc, sensitized locals regarding various flagship govt. schemes for the welfare of tribals, motivated them to reap benefits under the schemes. He also listened to scores of public grievances and assures for prompt redressal of public

grievances and emphasizes that the aim of outreach camp is to ensure last-mile delivery of essential government services and the saturation of welfare schemes across tribal areas through focused & coordinated outreach. To facilitate digital inclusion, a Common service Centre was also set up enabling residents to make enrolments, necessary corrections and updates in Aadhar Cards and other important documents. The camps received overwhelming participation from tribal residents, who appreciated the DAJGUA campaign as a positive step towards inclusive development and easy access. The camps received overwhelming participation from tribal residents, who appreciated the DAJGUA campaign as a positive step towards inclusive development and easy access.

# DC Reasi chairs CLU committee meeting

HT NEWS DESK

REASI, JULY 1: Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Ms. Nidhi Malik, chaired a comprehensive review meeting to examine Change of Land Use (CLU) cases in the district. The meeting aimed to ensure judicious and regulated use of land in alignment with government norms and sustainable development goals.

A total of 10 CLU proposals were taken up for detailed scrutiny during the session. After thorough deliberation with officials from concerned departments, 5 cases were granted approval, 4 were rejected due to non-compliance with guidelines or insufficient documentation, and 1 case was reverted to the applicant with directions to address specific observations raised during the discussion.

DC Malik underscored the importance of maintaining transparency and accountability in the CLU process. She called for a coordinated approach among departments and instructed officials to expedite the issuance of No Objec-



tion Certificates (NOCs) following proper document verification. Emphasizing strict compliance with legal procedures, she also set clear timelines for the processing and disposal of cases. The Deputy Commissioner further reiterated the administration's commitment to fostering efficient and transparent land-use practices, which are crucial for orderly development in the district. The meeting was attended by ACR Mr. Nitin Verma; Divisional Forest

Officer (DFO); Executive Engineer, JPDC and other concerned officers and stakeholders. The Deputy Commissioner further reiterated the administration's commitment to fostering efficient and transparent land-use practices, which are crucial for orderly development in the district. The meeting was attended by ACR Mr. Nitin Verma; Divisional Forest Officer (DFO); Executive Engineer, JPDC and other concerned officers and stakeholders.

# Reasi's Thakrakote climbs 407 places to secure 13th rank in NITI Aayog's Aspirational Blocks; DDC stresses sustained development

HT NEWS DESK

REASI, JULY 1: In a landmark achievement for Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, Aspirational Block Thakrakote has made an extraordinary leap of 407 positions in NITI Aayog's Aspirational Blocks Ranking, climbing from rank 420 in December 2024 to rank 13 in March 2025. This remarkable improvement reflects the block's focused progress across five core development sectors identified by NITI Aayog: Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Allied Activities, Basic Infrastructure and Social Development. The significant improvement is the result of continuous monitoring, field

visits, and collaborative governance. Repeated review meetings, intensified monitoring and on-ground assessments of Thakrakote by the DC Nidhi Malik, have driven focused developmental action and improved grievance redressal mechanisms. Among the notable successes, Thakrakote achieved 100% performance in crucial Health & Nutrition indicators such as ANC registration of pregnant women, provision of supplementary nutrition under the ICDS scheme and regular screening for diabetes and hypertension. The district also ensured that 99% of Self-Help Groups received revolving funds under livelihood promotion initiatives. In the Agriculture sector, all targeted Farmer Producer Orga-



nizations (FPOs) were formed, every eligible farmer received soil health cards and PM-KISAN beneficiary

coverage was fully linked with Aadhaar and land records. Under the basic infrastructure theme, the block

reported a 16% rise in completion of housing units under PMAY-G. To build on this success, DC Reasi Nidhi Malik chaired a high-level review meeting today with district officers to evaluate ongoing works and set a clear roadmap for pushing the block further up the rankings. Emphasis was placed on improving outcomes in Health, ICDS and Education sectors. The CMO was tasked with ensuring full functionality of all health institutions and improving the quality of healthcare services. The CEO was instructed to resolve teaching staff shortages, upgrade infrastructure, and raise the standard of education. The POICDS was directed to ensure timely and adequate supply of nutrition at all Anganwadi

Centres. The Deputy Commissioner also underscored the importance of accurate and real-time data reporting, directing all departments to regularly update progress on the development portal to enable better monitoring and planning. Looking ahead, a structured development framework for the financial year was proposed, focusing on improved service delivery, digital connectivity and efficient resource allocation to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth. The meeting was attended by ADDC Reasi Sukhdev Singh, CPO Narinder Kumar (virtually), CMO, CEO, DIO, CAHO, BDO and others.

# Mission YUVA: DC Bandipora chairs DLIC meeting, approves 51 cases

Says, youth empowerment through entrepreneurship key to sustainable development

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JULY 01: The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) meeting under Mission YUVA was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, at Mini Secretariat Bandipora. During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on the applications received under the scheme. The committee deliberated on the cases submitted through the Skill and Business Development Unit (SBDU) and, after thorough scrutiny and evaluation, approved 51 cases unanimously for financial and institutional support under the Mission YUVA initiative. Speaking



on the occasion, DC highlighted the significance of Mission YUVA in empowering youth through skill development, entrepreneurship promotion, and self-employment opportunities. He stressed the need for robust post-approval support

and follow-up to ensure the sustainable success of the approved units. DC also directed the concerned departments to expedite the process of sanctioning, disbursing benefits, and extending all necessary handholding support to the

beneficiaries in a time-bound manner. On the occasion, Qadri emphasized the importance of strengthening youth-led entrepreneurship and promoting sustainable livelihood opportunities in the district. He further stressed that empowering the youth through structured support systems and skill-based initiatives is key to long-term socio-economic development in the region. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Hussain Shawl, who is also the District Nodal Officer for Mission YUVA; AD Employment, Nodal Officer JKEDI, District Development Manager NABARD, Social Welfare Officer, representatives from J&K Lead Bank; and other concerned officials.

## Benefit Saturation camp held at Panchayat Kachnambal B under DA-JGUA

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JULY 01: As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA), an Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp was successfully organized today at Panchayat Kachnambal B, Block Gund, with the aim of extending doorstep delivery of welfare services to tribal households. The camp witnessed active participation from the Gujjar and Bakarwal community, who availed a range of services provided by line departments including Health, ICDS, Social Welfare, Education, NRLM, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Rural Development. On-the-spot services provided included enrollments under PM-JANMAN and PM-JAY SEHAT, awareness on Mission Shakti, PMAY-G, and tribal scholarships, Free medical check-ups and screenings, livelihood promotion & self-help group linkages. Resource persons highlighted the Government of India's commitment to saturating all tribal villages with welfare schemes and enabling social inclusion, economic upliftment, and empowerment of tribal women and youth. Tribal community expressed gratitude



to the District Administration Ganderbal for ensuring inclusive governance and requested regular camps for continued engagement and support. The camp concluded with a strong message of commitment to 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas,' ensuring that no tribal household is left behind in the journey of development. Resource persons highlighted the Government of India's commitment to saturating all tribal villages with welfare schemes and enabling social inclusion.

## Awareness workshop on PMFME Scheme held at Bandipora

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 30: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, a one-day awareness workshop on the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme was conducted on Monday at the Municipal Council Hall, Bandipora. The event was organized under the guidance of District Sheep Husbandry Officer Bandipora, Dr Peer Irshad, who is also the District Nodal Officer (DNO), PMFME Scheme. The workshop was organized to create awareness among local stakeholders about the scope, procedures, and benefits of the PMFME scheme. This flagship initiative by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Government of India, aims to formalize and support the unorganized micro food processing sector. On the occasion, special focus was placed on empowering rural entrepreneurs, self-help groups (SHGs), and individual beneficiaries, highlighting the financial support, technical assistance, and capacity-building initiatives available under the scheme. Speaking at the event, the District Nodal Officer emphasized the transformative potential of the PMFME scheme and encouraged eligible stakeholders to take full advantage of the scheme to boost rural employment and value addition in food.

## Div Com Kashmir, IGP Kashmir hold meeting with Shia Associations for smooth observance of Muharram ul Haram

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 01: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri and Inspector General of Police, Kashmir Vijay K Birdhi today held a meeting with the representatives of various Shia associations to execute smooth & peaceful observance of Muharram. Besides DIG, Kashmir, Rajiv Pandey, the meeting was attended by DC Srinagar Akshay Labroo, Commissioner SMC Faz Lul Haseeb, SSP Srinagar and other officers from civil administration and police. The representatives of various associations included President, All J&K Shia Association Darul Jawad Qamarwari, President, All J&K Anjuman Sharia Shian Darul Mustafa Budgam, President, All J&K Anjuman Sharia Shian Yusuf Abad Budgam and Yaadgar-i-Hussaini Committee Guru Bazar Srinagar. During the meeting, community leaders were urged to exhibit responsible behavior, adhere to



time schedule strictly for public convenience & traffic management and to augment strength of volunteers to facilitate mourners during the processions. Div Com emphasized for close coordination between administration and leaders of associations to ensure smooth & peaceful observance of Muharram. To protect mourners from heat wave, Div Com instructed Commissioner SMC for deployment of water sprinkler vehicles during processions.

## DLSA Shopian organises awareness camp at Devpora PD&SJ emphasizes role of empowered citizenry in claiming free Legal services

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JULY 01: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Shopian today organised an awareness camp under the banner of NALSA titled 'Protection and Enforcement of Tribal Rights Scheme, 2015' in a tribal dominated village, Devpora. The programme was chaired by Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairman DLSA) Shopian, Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhary, Mudasar Farooq (Secretary, DLSA) Shopian; M Waseem Mirza (Munsif/JMIC); Chaudhary Ab Hamid, (DCC member); Showkat Hussain Ganie, (DIO); Imtiyaz Ahmad, (Dy.SP); SHO, Chief



LADC Shopian, LADCs, advocates, Court Staff, DLSA Staff, PLVs, Civil Society members & general public in large numbers were present at the event. Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhary, Chairman DLSA highlighted the Legal Rights framework in the district including the role of LADCs

and PLVs in defending the rights of downtrodden and poor sections of the society. "Today's inaugural event under Tribal Rights Scheme, 2015 is an endeavour to empower the tribal communities to approach the courts for claiming free legal services," said Chairman to the

locals. He appreciated the local tribal community for attending the camp in large numbers and expressed hope that more and more people shall take the benefits under the scheme for their empowerment and upliftment. Legal experts including LADCs spoke on rights guaranteed to the Scheduled Tribes and forest dwelling communities under the scheme. Mudasar Farooq, Secretary DLSA enumerated the free legal services available for the poor and downtrodden communities including tribal populace and called upon people to be proactive in voicing their needs and fighting for their rights.

## Lead Bank Pulwama launches three-month Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign

HT NEWS DESK

PULWAMA, JULY 01: In a significant step towards strengthening financial inclusion in the district, Lead Bank Pulwama today launched a three-month Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign at Circuit House, Pulwama. The campaign will run from 01 July to 30 September 2025, with the objective of achieving saturation under flagship financial schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY), and Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana

(PMJDY). The event witnessed the presence of Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), Pulwama, Dr. Peerzada Syed Farhat Ahmad; Assistant Labour Commissioner, Pulwama; branch managers of various J&K Bank branches; representatives of other banks operating in the district; officers from various line departments; members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs); and Banking Correspondents. Speaking on the occasion, Lead District Manager (LDM) Pulwama gave a detailed overview on the scope and benefits of these financial schemes. He emphasised the need for proactive outreach by bank branches to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries in the



district are covered. He also shared a comprehensive action plan outlining specific targets and strategies to be implemented in collaboration with stakeholders over the next three months. In his address, ACD Pulwama underlined the critical role of community awareness in ensuring the success of the campaign. He called upon banks and government departments to organise Panchayat-level awareness and registration camps, enabling last-mile delivery of these welfare schemes. He further stressed the importance of inter-departmental coordination, especially with rural development, labour, and social welfare departments, to streamline

efforts and achieve saturation in targets of these schemes. The event also featured an engaging discussion on various operational and logistical aspects related to the implementation of these schemes, including use of digital platforms, mobilisation strategies, and grievance redressal mechanisms. Participants shared insights and challenges faced at the grassroots level and explored collaborative solutions to accelerate enrolments. He further stressed the importance of inter-departmental coordination, especially with rural development, labour, and social welfare departments, to streamline efforts and achieve saturation in targets of these schemes.

## MD JJM for accelerating pace in execution of Water Supply Schemes in Budgam

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JULY 01: Mission Director (MD), Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), J&K Khurshid Ahmad Shah, today embarked on an extensive tour of Budgam district to inspect various Water Supply Schemes (WSS) in the district. MD was accompanied by Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic Circle Budgam, Shazia Majeed and divisional and sub-divisional officials of the district. MD inspected WSS Gadsathoo, Sheikh-ul-Alam, Shamas Faqir, Rayar and Arizal Zempora along with officials from PHE Division Budgam and the District Project Management (DPMU) Budgam team. The visit aimed to review the progress and implementation status of the scheme. Field issues were discussed, and necessary directions were given for smooth functioning and quality assurance of schemes being constructed under JJM. MD sought particulars related to each WSS inspected in terms of the villages covered, Functional Household Connections (FHTCs) provided and sustainability of sources selected.



It was assured that all works related to JJM will be completed in a time bound manner with assured quantity and quality related to water supply from these schemes once commissioned. He also reviewed the functioning of Water Testing Labs and sought the details of reagents and number of tests conducted. It was informed that Water Testing through Field Testing kits (FTKs) is being undertaken in villages and schools under Dharti Aaba Abhiyan. It was further informed that awareness programs regarding safe drinking water are being conducted throughout the district.

## DLIC Budgam discusses 30 cases verified by SBDU under Mission YUVA scheme

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JULY 01: In a major step towards promoting youth entrepreneurship and self-employment in the district, District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) Budgam today discussed the applications of 30 cases under Mission YUVA. On the occasion, all 30 candidates were called for attending the meeting, out of which only 17 appeared. The meeting was held in conference hall DC Office Budgam under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat. The objective was to review and approve applications submitted by young aspiring entrepreneurs under the Mission YUVA initiative, which aims to provide financial assistance and capacity-building support to youth for starting and sustaining their businesses. Officers from the concerned departments presented a detailed review of the applica-



tions. After careful scrutiny and discussions, the Committee approved 17 eligible cases for further financial support and guidance. The approval of these cases is expected to boost entrepreneurial spirit among youth and contribute to the overall economic development of the district. The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, General Manager DIC Budgam, Deputy Director Employment Budgam, District

Nodal Officer JKEDI, District Social Welfare Officer Budgam and Lead District Manager (LDM). The approval of these cases is expected to boost entrepreneurial spirit among youth and contribute to the overall economic development of the district. The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, General Manager DIC Budgam, Deputy Director Employment Budgam, District

# In public life, one has to give up comforts to help people: President

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 Gorakhpur, July 1

President Droupadi Murmu while inaugurating the Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH University here on Tuesday said this is a milestone in the development of medical education and medical services, not only in Uttar Pradesh but also in the entire country. Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH University is an impressive modern center of our rich ancient traditions. She was happy to note that the advanced facilities developed at the University are now available to a large number of people. About 100 AYUSH colleges affiliated with this university are also benefiting from its excellence. In brief impromptu remarks about her own public life, the President said in public life, one has to give up self-comforts to help people. She appreciated Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for his dedication to public welfare. She noted that his tireless efforts had resulted in the development of health, education, and agricultural infrastructure in the region. The President urged administrators, doctors, and nurses



to carry forward the welfare measures initiated by the

people's representatives. She advised everyone to introspect on the promise they have made to oneself when entering any profession. The President urged people to take every step to make themselves healthy. She said that it would be an important step in the direction of making India a developed nation by 2047. She stated that yoga is very beneficial for people who have a sedentary lifestyle. She advised people to practice yoga regularly. The President said that ancient Indian systems like Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, and Siddha describe scientific methods of living a holistic and meaningful life. "In our ancient lifestyle based on Ayurveda, we pay a lot of attention to a balanced diet, lifestyle, and thoughts. Ayurveda is connected to our earth. Our fields and forests are a treasure of medicinal plants and herbs," she said, adding AYUSH systems are India's precious gift to the world community. The President noted that the popularity of medicine based on AYUSH systems is increasing. She said the Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH University could play a major role in increasing the popularity of AYUSH systems further.

## Daughter's education should not stop due to lack of fees: Yogi

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 Gorakhpur, July 1



For Pankhuri Tripathi, a class 7 student from Purdilpur in Gorakhpur's Kotwali area, the first day of the new academic session, July 1, turned into a life-changing moment. Facing the risk of dropping out of school due to her family's financial hardship, Pankhuri's future took a hopeful turn after a heartfelt encounter with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during his Janata Darshan on Tuesday. Moved by her appeal, the CM assured the young girl that her education would not be interrupted. "Don't worry, your studies will not stop. I will either ensure your fees are waived, or make arrangements for it myself," he said. Not only did he promise support, but he also fulfilled Pankhuri's wish to take a photograph with him. Overwhelmed with emotion, Pankhuri later said, "There's no one like Maharaj Ji." During his visit to Gorakhpur, Yogi interacted with citizens at the Mahant Digvijaynath Smriti Bhawan auditorium in the Gorakhnath Temple complex. He patiently heard public grievances and issued on-the-spot directives to officials for swift redressal. Among the attendees was a young girl named Pankhuri, who handed a written plea to the CM and made an emotional appeal. "Maharaj Ji, I want to study. Please help me with the fees," said Pankhuri, her voice filled with hope. CM paused to listen, responding with warmth and compassion. Pankhuri explained that she studies in an English medium school, but is unable to pay her fees due to her family's difficult circumstances. Her father, Rajeev Tripathi, is disabled and her mother, Minakshi, works at a shop to support the household. Her elder brother is in Class 12. On Tuesday, instead of attending school, she came to the Janata Darshan, seeking the CM's help to continue her education.

## TN cracker factory explosion: Six killed, 5 critically injured

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 Chennai, July 1

Six people, including a woman, were charred to death and five others critically injured in a major explosion at a fireworks manufacturing factory at Chinnakamanpatti near Sattur town in Virudhunagar district, about 540-km south of city, today. Police and Revenue officials identified the deceased as R Mahalingam (55), CSellapandiyan, Lakshmi Karupasamy, RRamamurthy (38), KRamajayam (27) and G Vairamani (32). The injured, including a woman, have been admitted to the Sivakasi Government Hospital and the Madurai Rajaji Government Hospital. According to sources, the deceased as well as the injured were engaged in cracker manufacturing works in the morning when the explosion occurred at the private fireworks factory. Four concrete roofed rooms of the factory were heavily damaged,

and smoke engulfed the surrounding area. On receiving information of the incident, Fire and Rescue Service Personnel rushed to the spot and put out the fire and retrieved the bodies of the victims and rescued the injured stuck under the debris. The Sattur Town police have registered a case and have arrested the foreman of the factory for further investigation. Expressing shock and grief over the tragic deaths in the explosion, Chief Minister MK Stalin has offered his condolences to the bereaved. He also announced a solatium of Rs four lakh each to families of the deceased and Rs one lakh each to the injured. The Virudhunagar district, a backward rain-shadow region, in southern Tamil Nadu is a hub of fireworks manufacturing units and frequent mishaps claim a heavy toll on human lives. A majority of the people depend upon employment at these cracker manufacturing units.

## Hope to bring India-US trade deal to a successful conclusion: EAM Jaishankar

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 New York/New Delhi, July 1

India is hopeful of concluding a trade deal with the US very soon, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said. "We are in the middle, hopefully more than the middle, of a very intricate trade negotiation. Obviously, my hope would be that we bring it to a successful conclusion, I cannot guarantee, because there's another party to that discussion, but no question," Jaishankar said in an Exclusive Fireside Chat with Dev Pragad, Newsweek CEO. "I believe it's possible, and I think we'll have to watch this space for the next few days," he said. US President Donald Trump has set a July 9 deadline for imposing reciprocal tariffs. Last week, President Trump announced that he has signed a



trade deal with China and teased a new big deal with India. "We have one coming up maybe with India. A very big one where we're going to open up India," Trump said. White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told a news briefing on Monday that "they are finalising these agreements". The EAM's comments come as a trade delegation led by India's Chief Negotiator, Rajesh Agraw-

al, is in the US for negotiations. Earlier, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has said that India and the US intend to give preferential market access to businesses, even as both countries will continue working bilaterally to resolve issues like tariffs on aluminium and steel. According to reports, an interim deal could be possible before the first tranche of the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA). US Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick has said that a trade deal between India and the US could be finalised soon. "I think we are in a very, very good place, and you should expect a deal between the United States and India in the not-too-distant future because I think we found a place that really works for both countries," Lutnick said last month.

## Union Cabinet approves employment scheme to boost job generation

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 New Delhi, July 1

The Union Cabinet today approved Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme for Rs 1.07 lakh crore with an aim to boost job generation, enhance employability and social security across all sectors, with special focus on the manufacturing sector in the country. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said in a media briefing here after the Cabinet meeting: "Under the Scheme, while the first-time employees will get one month's wage (up to Rs 15,000), the employers will be given incentives for a period of two years for generating additional employment, with extended benefits for another two years for the manufacturing sector." The ELI Scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2024-25 to generate formal employment by offering financial support to both employers and first-time employees. To avail the benefits, employees must enrol in EPFO and meet Aadhaar-bank

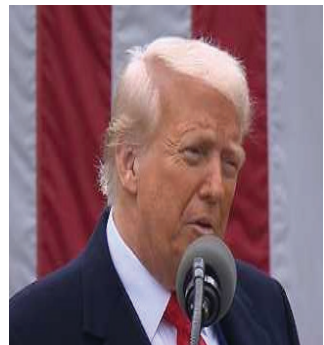


seeding requirements. With an outlay of Rs 99,446 crore, the ELI Scheme aims to incentivize the creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs in the country, over a period of 2 years. Out of these, 1.92 Crore beneficiaries will be first timers, entering the workforce. The benefits of the scheme would be applicable to jobs created between August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2027, later said a statement released here by the Union Cabinet. The scheme, it said, will also promote formalisation of the country's workforce by extending social security coverage for crores of young men and women.

## 'Head back home to South Africa': Trump to Musk

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 Washington, July 1

Following criticism by Tesla chief over sweeping tax-cut and spending bill, US President Donald Trump on Tuesday said that without government subsidies, US entrepreneur Elon Musk would be forced to "close up shop and head back home to South Africa". "Electric cars are fine, but not everyone should be forced to own one. Elon may get more subsidy than any human being in history, by far, and without subsidies, Elon would probably have to close up shop and head back home to South Africa," Trump said on Truth Social. Trump further suggested that ending support for rocket launches, satellites and electric car production would save the United States "a fortune." He further suggested that the US Department of Government



Efficiency (DOGE), previously headed by Musk, "take a good, hard, look at this?" The lower house of the US Congress in May advanced Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill," which cuts federal spending but simultaneously provides serious tax breaks. As a result, according to the Congressional Budget Office, both the budget deficit and the national debt will grow. Despite divisions within the party about its expected \$3.3 trillion hit to the nation's debt

pile, Senators have voted in a marathon session known as a "vote-a-rama." Musk has repeatedly criticized Trump's bill on social media. He said, in particular, that the bill would drive the US's budget deficit up to \$2.5 trillion and push American citizens into debt. "It is obvious with the insane spending of this bill, which increases the debt ceiling by a record FIVE TRILLION DOLLARS that we live in a one-party country - the PORKY PIG PARTY!! Time for a new political party that actually cares about the people," Musk wrote on X. "Anyone who campaigned on the PROMISE of REDUCING SPENDING, but continues to vote on the BIGGEST DEBT ceiling increase in HISTORY will see their face on this poster in the primary next year," Musk posted on X.

## Karnataka CM post under shadow of uncertainty

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 Bengaluru, July 1

The Congress party in Karnataka is once again wrestling with a familiar demon: internal power tussle. What was long whispered in the corridors of Vidhana Soudha has now exploded into public view. The uneasy truce between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy, KPCC chief DK Shivakumar, appears to be cracking. And this time, the high command in Delhi can't look away. The visit of Congress General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala to Bengaluru is no ordinary political inspection. Though framed as an "organisational review," the timing, the intensity, and the format - closed-door, one-on-one meetings with MLAs - tell a different story. This is not just an audit. It's damage control. At the heart of this discord is an alleged power-sharing formula, where Siddaramaiah was to hand over the reins to Shivakumar after 2.5 years. The existence of this deal is both the foundation of Shivakumar's claims and the myth that Siddaramaiah's camp refuses to acknowledge. What's evident, however, is that both leaders are now locked in a battle of interpretation - and ambition. For Shivakumar, who kept the Congress afloat in Karnataka during its lean years, especially post-2019, this moment is a test of reward and recognition.

## 4-lane Paramakudi-Ramanathapuram Highway in TN gets Cabinet nod

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 New Delhi, July 1

The Union Cabinet today approved the construction of 4-lane Paramakudi - Ramanathapuram Section (46.7 km) in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs 1,853 crore. Addressing a press conference after the Cabinet briefing chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said, "The project will be developed on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM)". Currently, connectivity between Madurai, Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram, Mandapam, Rameshwaram, and Dhanushkodi is dependent on the existing 2-lane National Highway 87 (NH-87) and associated state highways, which

experience significant congestion due to high traffic volumes, especially in densely populated stretches and key towns along the corridor, he said. To address these challenges, the project will upgrade approximately 46.7 km of NH-87 from Paramakudi to Ramanathapuram to a 4-lane configuration. This will decongest the existing corridor, improve safety, and cater to the mobility needs of rapidly growing towns such as Paramakudi, Sathirakudi, Achundanvayal and Ramanathapuram. The project alignment integrates with five major National Highways (NH-38, NH-85, NH-36, NH-536, and NH-32) and three state highways (SH-47, SH-29, SH-34).

## Iran waging 'shadow war' in UK through propaganda, misinformation, terror financing

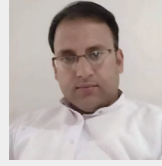
UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
 Tehran/London, July 1

Iran is reportedly conducting a 'shadow war' inside the UK, in an extensive covert campaign that stretches far beyond sanctions breaches, involving propaganda outlets, financial operations and digital disinformation designed to sow division and undermine public trust. The Telegraph reported on Monday, as per Iran International. While the UK Treasury is probing nine suspected Iranian sanctions violations this year, the paper noted that "these sanctions violations are of course concerning, but only constitute a small part of Iran's clandestine political influence and illicit finance operations in Britain." The activities have been described as part of a deeper, long-running strategy by Tehran to under-

mine the UK, in response to its decades of political hostility with London. The UK has long featured in Iranian political messaging as an adversary, and according to The Telegraph, that narrative now underpins efforts to destabilise British institutions and exploit internal fault lines. Iran's state-backed English-language broadcaster Press TV, previously held a broadcast license to operate in the UK. While its licence was revoked in 2012, the publication noted that it continues to publish content online that peddles Iranian state narrative. Other groups operating in the UK, such as the Islamic Human Rights Commission, have drawn scrutiny for their messaging and Quds Day marches in London. Some past rallies showed have also shown its support for Hezbollah, leading to the

group being officially designated as a terrorist organisation in the UK. There are also looming concerns over Iranian financial institutions such as Mell Bank and Bank Saderat, which still operate offices in London, just steps from the Bank of England. Both have previously been linked by international bodies to funding terror groups in the Middle East, and their presence continues to raise questions among MPs. Iran's reach now extends into the digital sphere. The Times reported that OpenAI had uncovered a disinformation network dubbed Storm-2035, likely linked to Tehran. Using AI-generated content in English and Spanish, the network targeted social media platforms like X, pushing divisive narratives on austerity, foreign policy and Scottish independence.

# National Doctors' Day A Light That Lingered: Remembering Dr Nazir Ahmad Khan



Dr Basharat Khan

There are some people whose presence in our lives feels less like an encounter and more like grace. They arrive without announcement, leave without ceremony, and yet, remain; woven gently into the fabric of our memories. On this National Doctors' Day, I find myself returning to the memory of one such soul: Dr Nazir Ahmad Khan; a doctor by profession, but in essence, a rare embodiment of quiet nobility. It was the summer of June 2008 when I first reported at PHC Nagri Malpora, a modest primary health centre tucked amidst the whispering pines of Kupwara. I remember stepping in with the anxious composure of a newcomer, uncertain yet ready to serve. And there he was, in the OPD room, absorbed in patient files and soft conversations. A tall frame, draped in modest clothing, bearing a calm face and a smile that asked for nothing but gave everything. He looked up, acknowledged me with warmth, and in that moment, the unfamiliar became familiar. I felt welcomed; not by formality, but by grace.

In the days that followed, I came to know the rhythm of his presence. Dr Nazir was not merely a medical officer stationed in a remote corner of Kashmir. He was a companion of the ailing, a listener of the unheard, and a healer of the unnoticed wounds. Whether it was an ageing man with breathless lungs or a young patient, he attended to each soul with the same patience and presence; as though healing were not a duty, but a prayer.

In the lanes and orchards of Nagri Malpora and the hamlets that surrounded it, he was known not as a government official but as kin. He didn't command respect; he inspired it. His humility was effortless. His speech was free of authority, his manner unassuming. He had that rare stillness that made others feel safe; wherever he was, he brought with him a sense of quiet order. We worked together for years, and what began as professional camaraderie slowly deepened into a bond I now look back on as a privilege. I would often find him

during breaks, sitting on the PHC veranda, cup of tea in hand, gaze drifting toward the distant hills. "Life moves quickly," he once told me, "but we don't pause enough to let it teach us." His words, always measured and thoughtful, carried the weight of one who had seen life from close quarters and remained gentle through it all.

He often spoke with tender fondness of his wife, Ruqaya Baji, and his children—Minhaj, Zuha, and Zara. His eyes softened when he mentioned them. They were not just his support system;

affection.

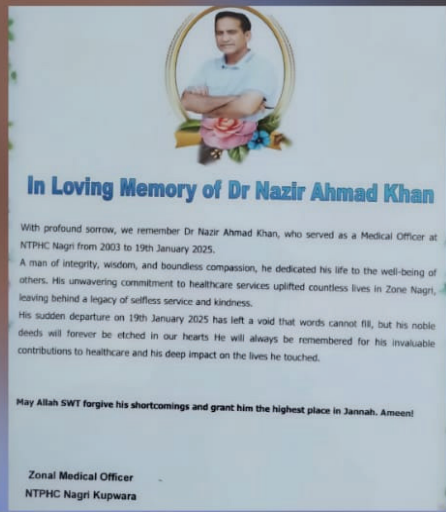
Born on 1st March 1968 in the tranquil town of Trehgam in Kupwara district, Dr Nazir Ahmad Khan, son of Ghulam Mohammad Khan, carried the simplicity of his upbringing throughout his life. He began his early education at Government Boys High School Trehgam, completed his higher secondary at Government Higher Secondary School Trehgam (Hirri), and later pursued his MBBS at the Kuban State Medical Academy in Krasnodar (Europe). His medical journey took him far from home, but his heart never left the soil he came from. Appointed as a contractual medical officer on 10th October 2003 (Govt. Order No. 1083-HME of 2003), and later regularised on 20th January 2012 (Govt. Order No. 50-HME of 2012), he served at PHC Nagri Malpora until the very end. But those dates and designations tell little of the warmth he carried or the lives he touched.

Because the true biography of a doctor like him isn't written in service orders or logbooks; it is etched in the eyes of patients who left his room with softened pain, in the villagers who trusted his word more than any prescription, and in the silence he left behind.

Then came the day I dread remembering; 19th January. I was midway on a journey from Srinagar to Jammu when the call came. Dr Nazir is no more. The air inside my car thickened. I pulled over, dazed. The road blurred. I had lost a colleague, a friend. But beyond that, the valley had lost one of its finest sons. Today, as the nation pauses to honour its doctors; those who carry others' burdens with unshaken resolve; I do not remember Dr Nazir as a name among many. I remember him as a man who lived this day, every day. He wore his white coat not for power, but for purpose. He did not raise his voice, yet his silence carried weight. He didn't claim to be extraordinary, and perhaps that's exactly what made him so. Let us understand that healing is not merely a science; it is a temperament. It is about being present. About standing steady amid human fragility. And in that quiet commitment, Dr Nazir stood taller than most.

Even now, as I write these lines, I can see him walking the corridor of the PHC; sleeves folded, pen in hand, his footsteps unhurried, his face serene. May Allah (SWT) forgive his shortcomings, elevate his soul, and grant Ruqaya Baji, Minhaj, Zuha, and Zara the strength to carry forward his legacy.

**HT - EXCLUSIVE**



## Dr. Tasaduk extended his wishes on National Doctor's Day

Srinagar July 01 :-Kashmiri doctor and columnist Dr Tasaduk Hussain Itoo has paid his tributes and wishes to doctors community across the country on National Doctors Day.



"I would like to express my kind gratitude and acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the doctors towards our society, adding that the celebration of the National Doctor's Day is an attempt to reflect on the role of doctors in our lives and to offer them our respects by commemorating one of their greatest representatives", Dr Tasaduk said in a statement. He said that India has shown remarkable improvements in the medical field and July 1 pays a perfect tribute to all the doctors who have made relentless efforts towards achieving this goal irrespective of facing all the odds and challenges. "I personally being a doctor by profession would say that patients are the most important visitors to us. We are literally dependent on them and I believe it is a mutual benefit between a doctor and a patient. A doctor gets an opportunity to serve humanity, please Almighty Allah and earn his livelihood by amusing his patients. Likewise a patient gets an opportunity to get himself treated and stay healthy and happy on visiting a doctor", he said. He said that positively counselling of a patient by his doctor with immense care, concern and love during the course of treatment forms an important part in the line of management of the patient. He said that better communication skills and effective counselling acts as a strong pillar in developing trust in a doctor-patient relationship, besides improving the quality of life of the patient. Adding, that a patient is a noble teacher in the noble professional life of a medical doctor - to whom a doctor should be much empathic, sympathetic and friendly.

## Rare Medical Feat at District Hospital Pulwama Ingested Denture Safely Removed via Endoscopy, Major Surgery Averted

**MUSHTAQ ULISLAM**

Pulwama, July 1: In a remarkable medical achievement, doctors at District Hospital Pulwama successfully removed a denture containing five teeth from the stomach of a 29-year-old patient through a minimally invasive endoscopic procedure - thereby saving him from undergoing major surgery.

The patient, Riyaz Ahmad, son of Abdul Rashid Dar, a resident of Pahanu village in Shopian, accidentally swallowed the denture while eating. The incident posed a serious health threat due to the size and nature of the foreign body lodged in his stomach.

Thanks to the swift and coordinated efforts of a skilled team of doctors, the situation was brought under control. The procedure was performed under the close supervision of Dr. Tariq Padroo, Consultant Physician, Dr. Asif, Gas-

troenterologist, and Dr. Irfan-ul-Shamas, Consultant ENT Specialist. The entire operation was monitored by the Superintendent of District Hospital Pulwama, Dr. Ab Gani Dar, ensuring seamless execution and safety. Hospital authorities confirmed that the patient was suffering from illness, which further complicated the situation. However, he was managed with utmost care and professionalism, avoiding any major surgical intervention.

The patient is now stable and recovering well under observation. This rare and life-saving intervention highlights the growing capabilities and readiness of healthcare institutions like District Hospital Pulwama to handle complex medical emergencies with precision and expertise.

## District Medical Board Reaches Far-Flung Tangdar Block for First-Ever Special Medical Camp

**HT NEWS DESK**

Kupwara, July 1 - In a landmark initiative aimed at extending healthcare services to remote regions, the District Medical Board Kupwara conducted a two-day special medical camp in the far-flung Tangdar block, bringing much-needed medical care to the doorstep of underserved communities.

The camp was organized under the directions of Chief Medical Officer Kupwara, Dr. Masrat Iqbal Wani, in close collaboration with the District Administration Kupwara. This marks the first time that a District Medical Board team has reached the remote Tangdar



area, a significant milestone in the region's healthcare outreach. On the inaugural day of the camp, a total of 162 beneficiaries were examined and provided medical consultation, with services ranging from

general health check-ups to specialized assessments. The initiative was met with overwhelming appreciation from the local population, who lauded the efforts of the medical team and the district

authorities. "This is a historic moment for us," said one of the local residents. "Never before has a medical board come to our area. We are grateful to CMO Kupwara and DC Kupwara for acknowledging our needs and taking action."

The outreach camp not only aimed to address immediate medical concerns but also sought to raise awareness about health and hygiene practices, especially in areas where access to healthcare remains limited due to geographical challenges. Speaking about the initiative, CMO Kupwara Dr. Masrat Iqbal Wani emphasized the administration's commitment to inclusive healthcare. "It is our

## Food Safety Anantnag bans sale of 04 nutraceuticals/health supplements

**HT NEWS DESK**

ANANTNAG, JULY 01: In significant step aimed at safeguarding the health of consumers, Food Safety Anantnag has put an immediate ban on sale of four nutraceuticals/health supplements including, Lycobax, Zymerio B+, BECOSIP-EZ and Fetzzyme Plus after their samples were found to be

of unsafe quality. In an official handout issued here, it has been informed that the Assistant Commissioner/Designated Officer Food Safety Anantnag has immediately prohibited the sale of the four nutraceuticals/health supplements namely 'Lycobax' (Batch No. FL241206; Manufactured by Indo Rama Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. (Yamunanagar, Haryana) and marketed by Solace Biotech Limited (Ambala, Haryana), ); 'Zymerio B+' (B. No. 3028; Manufactured by M/S: Exotic Healthcare Mohali, (Pb) Marketed by M/S: Riomedica Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. 654 Ambala Cantt. Haryana); 'BECOSIP-EZ' (B. No. PL24115 Manufactured by M/S: Phaerdrus

Life Science Pvt. Ltd., 3012, Phase-IV, G.I.D.C., Vatva, Gujarat (India) and 'Fetzzyme Plus' (B.No. EHL-1928; Mfd by M/S: Exotic Healthcare, Mohali, Punjab and Marketed by M/S: Estocott Pharma Pvt. Ltd., Sirmour-173030 (HP) in the district.

The samples of these health supplements were procured by the Food Safety Officers of the district Anantnag and were found to be of unsafe quality by the National Food Laboratory in Ghaziabad on account of the saccharine levels exceeding the prescribed limits. Meanwhile, consumers are urged to refrain from purchasing the health supplements under question till further orders.

**Dr. Sheikh Mustafa**  
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Former Associate Professor GMC Srinagar  
Fellowship reproductive health & research  
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# Archer Waits as Stokes Prioritizes Team Unity

United News of India

**LONDON:** After missing Monday's training session due to a family emergency, Jofra Archer was at Edgbaston on Tuesday making up for lost time.

A strong session in the nets on the Colts Ground included a stint bowling at Ben Stokes. Unsurprisingly, really. Archer is not the first bowler to be left out of an XI and immediately seek to give his captain a reminder of their talents the day before a Test.

It perhaps spoke to who had the better of that duel that Stokes ended up rushing to his 11.15am press conference after opting for another hit to get some groove back. Not that Stokes needed a reminder of Archer's qualities, or indeed Archer had anything to prove, despite missing the cut for this second Test against India. "I know Jof, obviously, a lot better than you guys sat down here," Stokes said, when assessing the situation around his 30-year-old quick, and the notion Archer would need to be kept interested in a format he has not played for over four years.

"I've been in constant communication with him since the injuries. And I said it a few times - he was so determined to get back and play Test cricket or to make himself available to be selected. So, look, he didn't need any more



reason to find any more desire. He loves playing cricket. He loves playing for England."

The figurative "here" of being Test-ready for a first appearance of the new era - he has previously played one Test under Stokes in 2020 - was as important as the literal.

Having returned for Sussex last week against Durham - his first red-ball appearance since May 2021 - Archer could have dropped back into their match against Warwickshire at Hove to add to the 18 overs of work last week. ECB

regulations state that players released from international duty can be shoehorned back into ongoing County Championship fixtures, provided there are at least two days remaining, which would have been the case on Tuesday.

However, England confirmed on Monday that none of their four unused squad members would be released for their respective county fixtures. While Jacob Bethell was always due to remain as the spare batter, Archer, Sam Cook and Jamie Overton were probably glad to be

saved from what looks to be hard toil with the Kookaburra ball. Having that trio of seam bowlers around the group, particularly Archer, was seen by Stokes and head coach Brendon McCullum as far more beneficial.

"This is something we had to consider around bringing him back into the squad," Stokes told BBC Test Match Special when asked why Archer was not released to play for Sussex. "For me, personally, and Baz as well, we felt if he didn't play it was important to have Jof around the group, around the people, to get him back into the environment again. Having him back in the squad is great but we want him to play a part in the series and going forward with this group."

"There were benefits to both situations, but how me and Baz think about the time we spend as a group is very important as well. He (Archer) has been playing for a long time. He has bowled

a lot of overs. You can't really control how a first-class game will go. Because of how last week went, he [only] got 18 overs in a week."

Of course, Archer has been around England set-ups plenty, even with his elbow and lower-back travails. Since his last Test cap on the India tour in 2021 - not just under a different regime but during the pandemic - Archer has played 41 ODIs and T20Is for England. Nine of them have been with McCullum in charge, since the unification of his red- and white-ball coaching roles at the start of the year.

While Archer is au fait with how McCullum and Stokes work, the squad as a whole has an altogether different feel. One which, despite McCullum and Harry Brook's best efforts, they have yet to replicate across the other codes. As such, keeping "newer" players around, even when they are not in the XI, makes sense.

## Traffic Advisory for General Public for 2nd July 2025

### TRAFFIC POLICE HEADQUARTERS, J&K, JAMMU/SRINAGAR

- From 30-06-2025, 1700 hrs. to 01-07-2025, 1700 hrs., there was slow movement observed on NH-44 due to breakdown of 03 HMVs, single lane traffic at Nashri-Dalwas and between Marog & Kishitwari Pathar.
- Commuters belonging to Reasi, Katra, Udhampur, Patnitop, Doda and Ramban town are requested to keep their photo ID card to prove their identification after cut off timing from Jammu/Udhampur so that their movement can be facilitated smoothly.
- Passengers/LMV operators are advised to undertake journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW during day time due to apprehension of shooting stones between Ramban and Banihal.
- Goods carrier (HMV/LMV) Operators carrying fresh perishable/live stock are advised to load their vehicle as per advisory issued by Traffic Police Headquarters time to time as there is single lane traffic and poor condition of road at Nashri-Dalwas and between Marog & Kishitwari Pathar on Jammu Srinagar NHW.
- Fruit growers/ Load carrier (HMV/LMV) Operators carrying fresh perishable from Valley towards Jammu are advised to load and park their vehicle timely (every morning before 9:00 am at designated place between NAVYUG Tunnel and Levdoora).
- HMVs Operators/Owners are requested to desist from overloading and carry sufficient fuel during journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW. It is further requested that vehicle owners must double check the fitness of their vehicles and carry sufficient fuel before undertaking journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW.
- HMVs with only 06 and 10 tyres shall be allowed to ply through Dhar road.
- Commuters are advised to avoid unnecessary halts between Ramban and Banihal especially near landslide/shooting stone area.

#### TRAFFIC PLAN & ADVISORY FOR 02-07-2025:-

Subject to fair weather and better road conditions SANJY convoy/LMVs Passenger/Private Cars shall be allowed from both sides on Jammu-Srinagar NHW (NH-44) viz from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice-versa. However, HMVs shall be allowed on alternate days. TCU Jammu/Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing this traffic.

#### In view of SHRI AMAR NATH JI YATRA 2025

#### CUT OFF TIMINGS FOR LMVs/PASSENGER/PRIVATE CARS:-

##### To be released from:-

- Nagrota (Jammu) towards Srinagar: from 0600 hrs. to 1200 hrs.
- Jakheni (Udhampur) towards Srinagar: from 0700 hrs to 1300 hrs &
- Qazigund towards Jammu: from 1130 hrs to 1400 hrs.

TCU Jammu and TCU Srinagar will inform all concerned about the traffic advisory and cut off timings.

#### HMVs/Load Carriers:-

Subject to fair weather and better road conditions, HMVs shall be allowed from Jakheni (Udhampur) towards Srinagar after assessing the road and traffic situation on NH-44 and NO HMV shall be allowed after 1900 hrs. TCU Udhampur shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing the HMVs.

Moreover, in view of ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji yatra 2025, to provide hassle free movement of trucks carrying fresh/perishable goods on NH-44. UT administration has decided all tankers of Petrol, Diesel, LPG bulk gas, all trucks carrying empty LPG Cylinders; all empty vehicles of FC; any other vehicle loaded/empty upto 10-tyres shall use only Mughal Road while returning to Jammu.

#### Kishtwar- Sinthan- Anantnag NH-244:-

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, after getting green signal from NHIDCL, LMVs/HPSVs shall be allowed from both sides viz from Anantnag towards Kishtwar and vice-versa on Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road. These vehicles shall be allowed from PP Parana towards Anantnag from 0800 hrs to 1600 hrs and from PP Daksum towards Kishtwar from 0900 hrs. to 1500 hrs. No HMV other than designated HPSVs shall be allowed as per order issued by SDM Chhatroo vide No. SDM/C/2025-26/146-53 dated 16-05-2025 and SDM Kokernag vide No. SDM/KNG/665-71 dated 16-05-2025.

#### Mughal Road:-

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, after getting green signal from Road maintenance agencies (GREF). LMVs Passenger/Private Cars shall be allowed from both sides on Mughal road viz from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice-versa via Poonch. However, HMVs (Local Livestock) upto six tyres only shall be allowed from Poonch towards Shopian. These vehicles shall be allowed from Behramgala (Baffilaz) and Herpora (Shopian) at 0600 hrs. upto 1900 hrs. as per order issued by District Magistrate Poonch vide No. DMP/JC/8517-23 dated 05-06-2025.

#### ADVISORY :-

People are advised to undertake journey only after confirming status of the road from Traffic control units as under:-

- Jammu (0191-2459048, 0191- 2740550, 9419147732, 103)
- Srinagar (0194-2450022, 2485396, 18001807091, 103)
- Ramban (9419993745, 1800-180-7043)
- Udhampur (8491928625)
- PCR Kishtwar (9906154100)
- PCR Kargil (9541902330, 9541902331)

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**KATHUA - SAMBA**

**88990 41447**

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**94193 24490**

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**0191-2459048**

**94191 47732**

**HELP LINE**

**103**

**tcujammu01@gmail.com**

**TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT NHW - RAMBAN**

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