

15TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION HEADLINES TODAY Voice To The Voiceless

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Limited Buys, Trade Curbs Behind J&K Power Shortage

No Rise in Local Power Generation in 5 Years, Winter Imports Rise

HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, JUL 03: Limited procurement of power and financial non-compliance are key reasons for power shortages in Jammu & Kashmir, an official document has revealed. The agenda note of the 79th meeting of Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC) lays bare that the primary reasons for power shortage in J&K were limited procurement of power from market and



trading restrictions on J&K in power exchange due to non-payments. "The reason for shortage in most of the occasions is either due to limited procurement of power from market which may be due to high power demand in the market or barring of J&K from trading in exchange due to payment issues (sic)," reads the

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AMARNATH JI YATRA 2025

12,348 Devotees Offer Prayers at Holy Cave on Day One

Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje Joins Yatra, Calls Atmosphere Pleasant

HT News Desk / KNO

PAHALGAM/JAMMU, JUL 03: Amid unprecedented security arrangements, the annual Amarnath Yatra commenced on Thursday with more than 12000 pilgrims paying obeisance at the holy cave shrine, nestled in Himalayas.

Officials told the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that till 7:15 PM, a total of 12,348 pilgrims paid obeisance. "The devotees included 9,181 males and 2,223 females. The yatra also saw the participation of 99 children, 122 sadhus, and 7 sadhvis, reflecting a wide range of pilgrims undertaking the spiritual journey. Additionally, 8



transgender devotees and 708 personnel from security forces also visited the cave shrine," they said. Earlier this morning the first batch of pilgrims left from twin base camps marking a spiritual start to the 38-day-long pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave in south Kashmir Himalayas.

Hundreds of pilgrims were flagged off by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri and DC Anantnag respectively from Baltal in central Kashmir and Nunwan (Pahalgam) in south Kashmir.

Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Shobha Karandlaje, also undertook the sacred trek to the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnath from the Baltal base

camp in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. She joined thousands of pilgrims participating in the annual spiritual journey through the Himalayas.

Speaking to the media, she said, "Today, we are all going to have the darshan of Bholenath. It feels wonderful. May God bless us all. The atmosphere here is very pleasant, and people are feeling good because development work is also taking place here."

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, while speaking to reporters at one of the camps, said: "This Yatra is not just a religious pilgrimage. From security forces to pitthus, tents to

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J&K braces for heavy rainfall on July 6

Owais Gul

SRINAGAR, JUL 03: With no letup in the heatwave conditions, Jammu and Kashmir is all set to witness a major relief with the weatherman predicting heavy rainfall on July 6.

The local Meteorological department (MeT), Srinagar, the summer capital of the region, has recorded the maximum temperature of 34.0 degrees, witnessing 4.4 degrees above normal temperature.

Kupwara was the second hottest in Kashmir today at 33.4 degrees followed by Qazigund, a

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Shivraj, Omar Review Agri & Rural Development in J&K Centre, J&K Govt join hands to accelerate growth in farm and rural sectors



HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 3: In a significant move to strengthen Jammu & Kashmir's agriculture and rural development landscape, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today co-chaired a high-level review meeting at the Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister of State for A&FW Ram Nath Thakur, Minister for Agriculture Production, RDD & PR Javid Ahmed Dar, and Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Secretary DA&FW, Gol Devesh Chaturvedi, Secretary DARE, Gol Mangi Lal Jat, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Joint Secretary Ministry

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Omar Visits SKIMS to Check on Mehbooba's Ailing Mother

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 3: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today went to SKIMS Hospital Soura on learning about the ill-health of mother of Mehbooba Mufti, PDP President & former chief minister. The Chief Minister enquired about

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CM Flags Off Water Tankers to Boost Kashmir's Drinking Supply

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 3: Chief Minister, along with Minister for Jal Shakti Javed Ahmed Rana today flagged off a fleet of 10 water tankers from the Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

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CS Emphasises Timely Aadhaar Seeding Of DBT Schemes

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 3: In a significant push towards greater transparency and efficiency in public services delivery, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today emphasized upon all the concerned departments to embark on a time-bound ambitious drive to complete Aadhaar seeding for the remaining beneficiaries within the next two months.

This critical initiative aims to ensure that the benefits directly reach the deserving, effectively eliminating the role of middlemen.

The meeting was attended by the Administrative Secretaries of the concerned departments besides officers from the Finance Department.

The Chief Secretary underscored the dual benefits of this accelerated Aadhaar seeding remarking that it isn't just about transparency;

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J&K Will Emerge As Key Growth Engine In India's Journey: Jitendra Singh

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JUL 3: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday said Jammu and Kashmir will emerge as a key growth engine in India's journey.

Highlighting Jammu and Kashmir's continued importance in national priorities, he said the recent milestone projects like the Chenab bridge, the Lithium discovery and the purple revolution of lavender farming is empowering youth entrepreneurs in the region.



"J&K will emerge as a key growth engine in India's journey from the 4th largest to the 1st largest global economy," said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

His remark came during an informal luncheon hosted here for Delhi-based Indian Administrative Service (IAS),

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Strong India will contribute to prosperous world: PM Modi

United News of India

ACCRA, JUL 3: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said a strong India will contribute to a more stable and prosperous world as he pushed for credible and effective reforms in the global governance in the wake of changing circumstances.

In his address to the Parliament in Ghana, Modi also said that progress

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'5 LAKH HOMELESS TO GET PERMANENT SHELTER'

HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, JUL 03: Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Thursday said the central government has identified around five lakh people in Jammu and Kashmir who do not have permanent homes and efforts are being made to provide them housing under a government scheme.

Addressing a press conference in Srinagar, the Minister said the Prime Minister has decided that those who

are still without homes will be given permanent shelter. "A survey has been conducted to identify the beneficiaries, and once verification is completed, housing allotment will begin. Verification is important so that no ineligible names are included," Chouhan said.

He added the work will be initiated to ensure every eligible individual in the region gets a permanent roof. The minister also said under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM),

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Perpetrators of terrorism must be held accountable: EAM

United News of India

SRINAGAR, JUL 03: Stating that perpetrators of terrorism must be held accountable and brought to justice, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday said that "Operation Sindoor" conveyed to the world with great clarity that India will act against terrorism.

"What is important for us in the Quad statement, as also the statement that the Security Council had issued on April 25, is that the perpetrators of terrorism must be held accountable. They must be brought to justice," Jaishankar said during a press conference in Washington.

"And that's important because we then have to

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Grievance Cell for Terror Victims to Open at PCR Kashmir

United News of India

SRINAGAR, JUL 3: A zonal level grievance cell has been established at Police Control Room, Kashmir, for victims of terrorism in the valley, an official on Thursday said.

"Kashmir Zone Police has established a zonal-level Grievance Cell at the Police Control Room (PCR), Kashmir. The cell aims to address the grievances of terrorism-affected families in the valley by providing structured institutional support," said a police spokesman.

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MA Road Closed Tomorrow for 8th Muharram Procession

HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, JUL 03: In anticipation of the 8th Muharram procession scheduled for tomorrow (July 4), Srinagar Traffic Police has announced a comprehensive traffic diversion plan to facilitate smooth movement and ensure public safety.

The religious procession, which will originate from Guru Bazar and proceed to Dalgate, is expected to impact traffic along MA Road and nearby routes from 5:00 AM until the procession concludes.

According to the advisory issued by the Srinagar Traffic Department, a copy of which is available

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

**Amarnath Yatra.....**

service providers – everyone is contributing to its success. The enthusiasm among the devotees is unparalleled. I pray everyone's wishes are fulfilled and peace prevails across Kashmir and the country."

Pilgrims, too, expressed immense satisfaction with the arrangements. A devotee from the Pahalgam base camp said, "We are not afraid of terrorism. The facilities are excellent. We are thankful to the Shrine Board."

A veteran pilgrim from Sangrur, Punjab, said, "This is my 14th Amarnath Yatra. The arrangements are better each time. There's no need to rush – everything is well-managed."

To ensure smooth conduct of the Yatra, a three-tier security grid has been implemented, with thousands of security personnel deployed along the route. In addition to traditional security measures, AI-powered CCTV surveillance systems are monitoring key locations for real-time threat detection.

Meanwhile, the second batch comprising 5,246 pilgrims left Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu early Thursday morning.

The second batch included 4,074 males, 795 females, 19 children, 324 sadhus, 33 sadhvis, and one transgender pilgrim. Of these, 1,993 pilgrims are heading to Baltal, and 3,253 to Pahalgam.

A fleet of 268 vehicles – including 106 buses, 38 medium motor vehicles (MMVs), and 124 light motor vehicles (LMVs) – has been deployed for transportation.

On Wednesday, the first batch of 5,485 Yatriss was flagged off from the Yatra base camp in Jammu's Bhagwati Nagar by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. The pilgrims who reached the Kashmir Valley, received rousing welcome from the Administration and locals alike.

The Yatra, which began Thursday, will conclude on August 9.

Pilgrims from across the country undertake the Amarnath Yatra to pay obeisance at the holy cave shrine that houses a naturally formed ice shivlingam – (KNO)

**Limited.....**

document, a copy of which is in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

The document states that J&K has experienced power shortages in the past year. "It is to be noted that in the past year, there have been power shortages reported in J&K when the states from the rest of the country are able to supply power and not reporting shortages," the agenda note states.

The document points out that J&K's dependency on importing power has increased in recent years as there has been no increase in its internal generation. "There has also not been an increase in internal generation in J&K UT for the last 4-5 years, therefore the increased demand had to be met by importing higher power from the interstate network," it states.

It further reveals that J&K's dependency on import of power increases during winters due to non-availability of internal generation.

"Due to non-availability of internal generation during winter months, J&K imports power from interstate network. From the total imported power, it is seen that the power procurement by J&K from the market is approx. 40-50% during lean season. This over dependence on day ahead/intraday market for purchase of power is indicating that measures for ensuring resource adequacy are required at J&K end," the document states—(KNO)

**J&K braces.....**

gateway of Kashmir, at 32.8 degrees. Kokernag recorded a maximum temperature of 32.4 degrees, the data reveals.

Pahalgam, a famous tourist-resort, recorded a day temperature of 29.0 degrees while Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded 23.5 degrees.

Furthermore, Jammu continued to record below normal temperature with the main City recording a maximum temperature of 34.5 degrees while Banihal saw 30.1 degrees.

Batote, Katra and Bhaderwah recorded a maximum temperature of 27.2 degrees, 30.5 degrees and 32.4 degrees respectively.

Meanwhile, the weatherman here has predicted hot & humid weather with possibility of brief spell of rain and thundershower at scattered places for tomorrow.

Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that hot & humid weather is expected during day time on July 05, with possibility of spell of light to moderate rain and thunder towards late night.

In between July 06 and July 08, Ahmad said that generally cloudy with possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected at many places while few places may receive intense showers with heavy rain at isolated places of Jammu division.

As per Aadiil Maqbool, an Independent Weather Forecaster, Western Disturbance and Monsoon winds would likely bring widespread rain showers across Jammu and Kashmir from 06 July onwards. "Heavy to very heavy rain showers are also possible," he said.

"As per current indications, peak activity is expected on 6 and 7 July with a couple of more spells expected on 8 July," Maqbool said.

In the meantime, the MeT has issued an advisory, stating that flash floods at few vulnerable places with landslides, mudslides & shooting stones are expected during 6-8 July.

Rise in water level in rivers, streams, local Nalas & water logging in few low lying areas is also expected, the advisory added. (KNO)

**Shivraj, Omar.....**

of Rural Development, Additional Secretary DA&FW, along with senior officers from the Government of India and Jammu & Kashmir administration including Administrative Secretaries of Agriculture Production, PWD, RDD, and heads of departments of agriculture, allied sectors and rural development

were present in the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan reaffirmed the Government of India's commitment under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the holistic development of Jammu & Kashmir.

"For Viksit Bharat, a Viksit Jammu & Kashmir is essential. I extend my full support to CM Omar Abdullah and his team and assure you that my office is just a call away whenever needed," the Union Minister said.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan lauded the J&K Government led by CM Omar Abdullah for its achievements in agriculture and allied sectors and appreciated the momentum being built at the grassroots.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, in his welcome address, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Union Minister for his prompt response and visit: "Your presence here today has truly won our hearts. We have always known you to be a positive and responsive leader, but I must admit—I did not expect such a swift and gracious response. A few days ago, during the NITI Aayog meeting, I had requested you to visit, especially after the Pahalgam incident, to reassure the people that the nation stands with us. Today, you are here with your full team, which reflects your deep commitment and solidarity."

He added that face-to-face engagement, as opposed to formal correspondence, helps in quicker resolution of issues. "This meeting itself is a testimony to how much can be achieved through dialogue and collaboration," he said.

Earlier in the meeting, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar, and Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Aijaz Asad, gave comprehensive presentations on the performance and progress of their respective departments.

They highlighted implementation status, physical and financial achievements under various centrally sponsored schemes, Gol-supported and UT-specific schemes, including: PM-Kisan, RKVY, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture; Rural infrastructure initiatives under MGNREGA, PMAY-G, NRLM, and PMAY

Key performance indicators, success stories from field-level beneficiaries, and use of digital governance tools for real-time monitoring were also showcased.

The meeting broadly reviewed sectoral achievements, discussed bottlenecks, and chalked out action plans to accelerate progress in both Agriculture and Rural Development sectors.

On the occasion, in the presence of the Chief Minister and Union Agriculture Minister, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Kudumbashree and JKRLM to establish 20 food service enterprises across all 20 districts of J&K. This initiative aims to empower women, Self-Help Groups (SHG) by creating local employment opportunities and building market-ready ventures.

Additionally, the dignitaries launched 'Har Didi Ek Kahani'—a compendium of success stories of over 100 women SHGs who have become Lakhpati Didis through structured enterprise support, capacity building, and mentorship under the JKRLM framework.

The Union Minister and the Chief Minister jointly made commitment for grassroots empowerment, inclusive growth, and stronger centre-state collaboration to transform the rural and agricultural ecosystem of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Omar Visits.....**

her health and wished her a speedy recovery. CM also met the family members at the hospital. CM was accompanied by Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani.

Director SKIMS Dr. Ashraf Ganai & Medical Superintendent Dr. Farooq Jan briefed the Chief Minister about her health condition and assured the CM that all necessary treatment and health care is being provided to her.

**CM Flags Off.....**

This special initiative has been undertaken to ensure adequate water supply especially during Muharram.

The initiative aims to augment water supply services across Kashmir valley, particularly in water-stressed areas facing temporary disruptions in piped water delivery due to peak summer demand or ongoing infrastructure development.

The event witnessed the presence of Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, several MLAs, senior officials from the Jal Shakti Department, representatives from the Public Health Engineering (PHE) wing, among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring uninterrupted access to safe and clean drinking water for every household in Jammu & Kashmir.

Minister of Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana, in his remarks, highlighted that the tankers will be strategically deployed to areas experiencing acute water shortages and will operate in coordination with local administrative units to ensure timely delivery.

The Chief Minister also appreciated the presence of elected representatives on the occasion, stating that such collective participation underscores the government's inclusive and responsive approach to governance.

**CS Emphasises.....**

it's about empowering our citizens by ensuring that every rupee of assistance reaches those it's intended for, without any dilution or diversion.

Further beyond the direct benefit transfer, the Chief Secretary highlighted Aadhaar seeding as a fundamental prerequisite for widespread adoption of SNA-SPARSH. This innovative "just-in-time" fund release system, soon to be mandatory for all Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) being implemented across the country, promises to revolutionize the financial management and optimize fund utilization.

To facilitate a seamless transition, he directed the departments to nominate the dedicated liaison officers. These officers will undergo specialized training by the financial experts within the Finance department, equipping them to navigate the intricacies of the new SNA-SPARSH framework.

On the occasion, Principal Secretary, Finance, Santosh D. Vaidya, provided a detailed overview of various Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) schemes currently operational across the departments. He offered valuable insights into the current status of Aadhaar seeding for each scheme and laid out a clear roadmap for achieving complete coverage.

Vaidya also elaborated on the strategic plan for a smooth transition to SNA-SPARSH, with active support and collaboration from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). He designated the contact persons for each Department who would lend a helping hand in ironing out all the obstacles faced during the course of action taken by respective departments.

The review highlighted significant strides, with an overall Aadhaar seeding percentage of 55.2% across 76 schemes, encompassing a grand total of 7,883,610 beneficiaries.

The meeting, focusing on "DBT Bharat" and "Apna Adhikar, Apne Dwar" initiatives of the Gol, underscored the government's commitment towards ensuring efficient and transparent delivery of benefits directly to the intended recipients exclusively.

While giving out department-wise progress, it was given out that most of them showcased notable progress in Aadhaar seeding. Social Welfare Department was informed to have achieved an impressive 96% Aadhaar seeding, with 1,392,359 out of 1,445,462 beneficiaries seeded. Key schemes included Ladli Beti (100%), Post Matric Scholarship to OBC (100%), Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (100%) and Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS) (100%).

The Labour and Employment Department was reported to have achieved 100% Aadhaar seeding across all its listed schemes, including Chronic Disease Assistance, Death Assistance, Education Assistance, Funeral Assistance, and Medical Assistance, with a total of 4,543 beneficiaries seeded.

The Education Department demonstrated 59% Aadhaar seeding, with Mid-Day Meal Scheme showing 100% seeding for 985,267 beneficiaries. Other schemes like Meritorious Student and National Scholarship also achieved 100% seeding.

Similarly, the Rural Development Department had achieved 93% Aadhaar seeding for a total of 1,198,381 beneficiaries. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) has 98% Aadhaar seeding, covering 1,081,860 beneficiaries.

Besides, the Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution Department: Reported 100% Aadhaar seeding for the scheme providing subsidized sugar to PHH categories. The Health & Medical Education Department was given out to achieve 60% Aadhaar seeding overall. Schemes like AASHA Incentives, Family Planning Compensation Cases, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Nikshay Poshan Yojana and NIKSHAY-DOT Provider Honorarium all reported 100% Aadhaar seeding.

The Agriculture Department showed an overall 58% Aadhaar seeding.

The meeting also assessed Aadhaar seeding of DBT schemes of other departments including Animal/Sheep Husbandry Department, Horticulture Department, Housing and Urban Development Department, Finance Department, Skill Development Department, Youth Services and Sports Department, Industries and Commerce Department and Tribal Affairs Department.

**J&K Will Emerge.....**

Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Forest Service (IfoS) officers of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre, now merged with Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory cadre (AGMUT).

He also recalled the turbulent times of peak militancy in the 1990s and early 2000s, acknowledging the courage of officers, who served in extremely challenging circumstances.

The minister encouraged officers to break rigid hierarchies, sharing that he maintains personal contact with many officers and often reaches out directly.

"It saves time and gets the job done faster, especially when the outcome affects people's welfare," he said.

The gathering saw officers from diverse batches and services reminiscing about their days of service in Jammu and Kashmir and appreciating the opportunity to reconnect.

Singh, in his address, reflected on the careers of several officers – from their first postings in Jammu and Kashmir to their rise through the ranks into senior leadership roles.

He recalled a pioneering initiative started soon after the Modi government assumed office in 2014 – where senior officers were asked to revisit their first posting districts to assess developmental progress over the years and file reports.

"It brought a sense of continuity and personal connection to public service," said the minister, who is also a Lok Sabha member from Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur constituency.

During the interaction, officers openly shared experiences, feedback and concerns, according to a Personnel Ministry statement.

From the IAS, senior-most officer Navin Kumar Choudhary (1994 batch) was present, followed by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi (1997), Hirdesh Kumar (1999), and Sarita Chauhan (1999). Ajeet Kumar Sahu (2003), Pandurang Kondbarao Pole (2004), Simrandeep Singh (2008), Sushma Chauhan (2009), Shah Faesal (2010) and Sheikh Arshad Ayub (2013) were also present.

Meanwhile, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

Dr. Jitendra Singh today hosted a warm and informal luncheon for Delhi based J&K cadre AGMUT officers from All India Services officers (IAS, IPS, IfoS) belonging to the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir Cadre, now merged into the AGMUT cadre, at his New Delhi official residence.

The gathering saw officers from diverse batches and services reminiscing about their days of service in J&K and appreciating the opportunity to reconnect. The event, infused with nostalgia and professional bonding, carried forward a long-standing tradition initiated by Dr. Jitendra Singh – of hosting such interactions to foster unity and trust among officers beyond the confines of formal duty.

Many officers recalled how such informal interactions were regularly held in Jammu & Kashmir under Dr. Jitendra Singh's initiative, allowing colleagues to bond beyond office spaces. "Knowing each other personally makes it easier to collaborate professionally. Trust is key in governance," remarked one officer present.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, in his address, reflected on the careers of several officers – from their first postings in J&K to their rise through the ranks into senior leadership roles. He recalled a pioneering initiative started soon after the Modi Government assumed office in 2014 – where senior officers were asked to revisit their first posting districts to assess developmental progress over the years and file reports. "It brought a sense of continuity and personal connection to public service," he said.

Highlighting Jammu & Kashmir's continued importance in national priorities, Dr. Singh mentioned recent milestone projects like the Chenab Bridge, the Lithium discovery, and the Purple Revolution of lavender farming that is empowering youth entrepreneurs in the region. "J&K will emerge as a key growth engine in India's journey from the 4th largest to the 1st largest global economy," he affirmed.

He also recalled the turbulent times of peak militancy in the 1990s and early 2000s, acknowledging the courage of officers who served in extremely challenging circumstances as young SPs and DCs.

During the interaction, officers openly shared experiences, feedback, and concerns. Dr. Singh gave a patient hearing, offering insights and guidance, while assuring continued attention to regional issues. "Leadership is most effective when it listens – and when it remains accessible," he stated.

The Minister encouraged officers to break rigid hierarchies, sharing that he maintains personal contact with many officers and often reaches out directly. "It saves time and gets the job done faster – especially when the outcome affects people's welfare," he noted.

Several officers appreciated Dr. Singh's consistent personal engagement, both in the past and now in Delhi, calling it a "humane touch to administration" that motivates them to go the extra mile in delivering citizen-centric governance.

From the IAS, senior-most officer Navin Kumar Choudhary (1994 batch) was present, followed by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi (1997), Hirdesh Kumar (1999), and Sarita Chauhan (1999). Also present were Ajeet Kumar Sahu (2003), Pandurang Kondbarao Pole (2004), Simrandeep Singh (2008), Sushma Chauhan (2009), Shah Faesal (2010), and Sheikh Arshad Ayub (2013). Officers from DANICS/Secretariat Services included Preetpal Singh (2000), Naveen Kumar Shah (2000), and Rushal Garg (2018).

From the IPS, attendees included Pankaj Saxena (1992), Rajesh Kumar (1995), Mukesh Singh (1996), Danesh Rana (1997), Vipul Kumar Choudhary (1997), and Vijay Kumar (1997). Also part of the interaction were Abdul Ghani Mir, Shri S.P. Pani (2000), Keshav Ram Chourasia (2003), Atul Kumar (2004), Amit Kumar (2006), Abdul Jabbar (2008), Ambarkar Shriram (2011), Sandeep Choudhary (2012), and Chandan Kohli (2013). Officers Sandeep Gupta and Sheikh Arshad Ayub also joined the interaction, contributing to the vibrant exchange of ideas and memories.

**Strong India.....**

cannot come without giving voice to the Global South.

"As the world's largest democracy, India is a pillar of strength for the world. A strong India will contribute to a more stable and prosperous world," Prime Minister Modi, who is here on a two-day visit, said.

Noting that India is the fastest-growing emerging economy, Modi said that on the foundations of stable polity and governance, India will soon become the third-largest economy.

Prime Minister Modi underlined that the world order created after World War II is changing fast. "The revolution in technology, the rise of the Global South and the shifting demographics are contributing to its pace and scale," he said, adding that the changing circumstances demand credible and effective reforms in global governance. (Agencies)

**'5 lakh.....**

efforts are underway to eliminate rural poverty, particularly among women. "Through self-help groups, the government is aiming to increase the annual income of women to over Rs 1 lakh under the 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme."

Chouhan said that the scheme is progressing in Jammu and Kashmir and many women have already achieved the Lakhpati status. He also mentioned a new category, "Millennial

Didi," for women whose annual income has reached Rs 10 lakh.

A booklet showcasing the stories of such women was released during the event.

Speaking on employment, Chouhan said rural job schemes like MGNREGA have faced some challenges, but steps are being taken to address those issues.

He said targets have been set for workers under MGNREGA this year and implementation is underway in the region. "The government is also focusing on skilled youth for employment and new educational initiatives will be introduced. Efforts are being made to connect more farmers to the Kisan Credit Card scheme".

He said several problems were discussed during his visit and steps are being taken to improve the implementation of central schemes. "As per the direction of the Prime Minister, we are committed to ensuring the full development of Jammu and Kashmir," he said. (KNO)

**Perpetrators.....**

communicate to the world what we did. On May 7, the objective of Operation Sindoor is that if there are terrorist attacks, we will act against the perpetrators, the supporters, the financiers, and the enablers. So that message, I think, was conveyed with great clarity," he said.

A joint statement issued by Quad Foreign Ministers condemned in the "strongest terms" the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, which left 26 people dead.

"We call for the perpetrators, organisers, and financiers of this reprehensible act to be brought to justice without any delay and urge all U.N. member states, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant UNSCRs (UN Security Council resolutions), to cooperate actively with all relevant authorities in this regard," the joint statement said.

The U.N. Security Council press statement condemned the Pahalgam attack, with members of the Security Council underlining the need to hold perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism accountable and bring them to justice.

The council members stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable.

India had launched Operation Sindoor targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in retaliation for the Pahalgam attack. (KNO)

**Grievance Cell.....**

The grievance cell shall operate six days a week (Monday to Saturday) from 10 am to 6 pm, he added.

The spokesman said the "cell offers the families of victims of terrorism a dedicated channel to share their grievances, which shall be forwarded to the relevant departments for swift redressal".

He said the district police in Srinagar have also established a dedicated grievance cell for this purpose.

"This initiative aims to facilitate the registration and redressal of complaints and concerns from families affected by acts of terrorism, especially within the jurisdiction of district Srinagar," the spokesman added.

The grievance cells was established two days after Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that a special cell and a toll free number would be established in the Jammu and Kashmir secretariat for addressing the concerns of the terror victims' families and to bring the culprits to justice.

"Special Cell to be established in the LG Secretariat to address concerns of families. A similar cell to be set up in the chief secretary's office. Every possible assistance would be provided to terror victims' families and culprits roaming free for many decades will be brought to justice," Sinha said on Tuesday.

"Every possible assistance would be provided to terror victim families and culprits roaming free for many decades will be brought to justice," he added. (AGENCIES)

**MA Road.....**

with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), vehicular movement will be restricted from Karan Nagar to Jehangir Chowk via Shaheed Gunj, and from Jehangir Chowk to Dalgate-Badyari stretch throughout the day.

The diversion plan specifies that vehicles coming from Batmaloo, Secretariat, and Rambagh heading towards the MA Road will be diverted via Hari Singh High Street to Residency Road. Similarly, traffic from Rainawari-Nowpora will be rerouted at Mamta Hotel through Barbarsah, Kralkhud, Habbha Kadal, and Karan Nagar. Movement from Khanyar to Ikhwan Chowk will follow the same diversion route. Motorists from Nishat and Shalimar are advised to use the Boulevard—Gupkar—Radio Kashmir—Abdullah Bridge route.

For those travelling from Pantha Chowk to Sonwar, the route will be diverted at Radio Kashmir via Residency Road.

Parking arrangements for participants have been designated at SP College Ground, Gindun Park (Rajbagh), and Batmaloo Bus Stand.

SSP Traffic Srinagar, Aijaz Ahmad Bhat, said all necessary arrangements are in place and urged the public to cooperate fully. "We request the public to avoid unnecessary travel towards the MA Road and affected areas during the procession hours," he said.

For real-time traffic updates and assistance, citizens can contact the Traffic Police Control Room at helpline number 103.

## Satish Sharma highlights direct selling as catalyst for economic growth, youth empowerment

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 3: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, today emphasized the transformative potential of direct selling industry in empowering youth, fostering ethical entrepreneurship and catalyzing inclusive economic growth in Jammu & Kashmir. He was speaking at a conclave organised by Federation of Indian Direct Selling Industries on Direct Selling and Consumer Markets on the theme "Regulations, Innovations and Growth." The Minister appreciated the Dignitaries, Industry Leaders and the Delegates for their collective commitment towards fostering a robust and ethical direct selling ecosystem in the region and across the nation. "The landscape of consumer markets is constantly evolving and at the heart of this evolution lies the direct selling industry, a sector that has shown remarkable resilience, adaptability and the power to reach grassroots communities across India," maintained the Minister. He underscored the necessity of a clear and comprehensive regulatory framework, calling it not just beneficial but essential. "Trust forms the very foundation of direct selling between the seller and the consumer and within the



business model itself. Well-defined regulations provide this trust, protect consumers from malpractices and create a level playing field for all the stakeholders," he said. Reiterating Jammu & Kashmir Government's commitment, Sharma assured full support for ethical practices, consumer protection and responsible business conduct. "We are resolute in ensuring effective implementation of regulations that eliminate ambiguities and build consumer confidence, thereby unlocking the full potential of direct selling," the Minister stated. Highlighting the sector's role in youth engagement,

the Minister said that the direct selling is a powerful vehicle for generating employment, promoting skill development and enabling meaningful self-employment, especially among women and youth. It offers a low-barrier entry point for entrepreneurship, contributing significantly to local economies, he added. The Minister further affirmed that the government is creating an enabling environment for direct selling companies to invest and expand in Jammu & Kashmir. "We view this sector as a vital component of our economic resurgence," he said, adding that ethical growth.

## House Committee on Environment holds review meeting in Srinagar

Development must not come at cost of environment: Tarigami

### HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 03: The House Committee on Environment of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a review meeting at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar to discuss critical environmental issues and challenges, particularly those related to the Geology and Mining Department. The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami and attended by members including Peerzada Mohammad Syed, Rajiv Jasrotia, Dr. Sajjad Shafi, Peerzada Feroze Ahmad, Zafar Ali Khatana, Khurshid Ahmed, Mushtaq Guroo, Irshad Rasool Kar and Yudhvir Sethi. Referring to the fragile ecological balance of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chairman stated that development must not come at the cost of the environment. "Any development activity must be aligned with protection of the local flora and fauna," he emphasized.



The Chairman called for strict monitoring and vigilance against the illegal mining activities, highlighting the detrimental impact of unregulated mining on water levels, agriculture and the broader ecosystem. He assured the Committee would conduct on-ground inspection of various mining sites to verify compliance with environmental regulations. "Mining of natural resources is directly linked to our environmental health. Illegal mining has led to a decline in groundwater

levels, adversely affecting our agriculture sector," Tarigami observed. He further directed the department to undertake routine inspections of mining sites and ensure no environmental degradation occurs. The Chairman called for strict action against the violators of mining regulations. He also emphasized the need to mitigate impacts on riverbanks and beds, which disrupt irrigation and harm agriculture and horticulture.

## Baramulla Working Journalists Association (BWJA) Holds Executive Body Meeting

### HT NEWS DESK



Baramulla, July 3: The Executive Body of the Baramulla Working Journalists Association (BWJA) convened a pivotal meeting today at Khawaja Bagh, Baramulla. The session was chaired by Haji Karamat Qayoom and attended by President Gulzar Ahmad Zargar, General Secretary Umar Rashid, Vice President Nisar Yattoo, along with several key executive members. The meeting focused on critical issues affecting journalism, with special concern raised over the growing trend of unqualified and self-proclaimed individuals misusing the identity of journalists. Chairman Haji Karamat Qayoom underscored the importance of upholding the sanctity of the profession and announced that BWJA will take stringent action against those lacking proper qualifications, ethical grounding, and professional experience. He also urged members to foster mutual respect and cooperation to ensure the collective growth of the association. Among key priorities discussed were operationalizing the BWJA office, organizing a seminar focused on media ethics and professionalism, and maintaining transparent financial records. The Chairman further announced that official BWJA identity cards will soon be issued to all verified members to distinguish legitimate journalists from imposters. Importantly, he appealed to media houses in Srinagar to hire only qualified and trained journalists, adding that those who ignore this responsibility lose the moral right to complain about the rise in unprofessionalism within the media industry. President Gulzar Ahmad Zargar, in his remarks, assured members that both the BWJA office and the official bank account will be functional soon. He emphasized the need for unity, accountability, and professionalism within the fraternity, noting, "There is no space for individuals whose actions damage the credibility of journalism." General Secretary Umar Rashid echoed these concerns and called on the Information Department to be answerable for encouraging unqualified individuals. Executive member Arshid Farooq highlighted the urgent need to safeguard journalism from those who misuse mics, logos, and press badges to gain undue advantages, thereby damaging the reputation of sincere media professionals. The meeting witnessed active participation from several other executive members including Altaf Baba, Aabid Nabi, Anzer Mohju, Sheikh Dawood, Irshad Bhat, Mudasir Malla, Sajad Peer, Fayaz Bhukari, Manzoor Sheeri, Majeed Sheeri, Yaqoob Lala. All attendees pledged their full support toward protecting the dignity and integrity of journalism in Baramulla and beyond. The meeting concluded with a unanimous resolution to uphold ethical journalism and take decisive steps to curb unprofessional practices that threaten the credibility of the profession.

## NC MLA Salman Sagar Seeks LG's Nod for Extension of 11th Muharram Procession Route in Srinagar

Cites Historical Precedent, Assures Peaceful Conduct & Community Cooperation

### HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 3 (JKNS): National Conference MLA from Hazratbal, Salman Ali Sagar, has written to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, seeking approval for the extension of the 11th Muharram procession route in Srinagar from Sheeshgari Mohalla, Khanyar to Chinkra Mohalla, Habakadal. In his letter, a copy of which lies with news agency JKNS, the legislator said the annual Muharram procession in Sheeshgari Mohalla has been conducted peacefully for years and carries deep religious significance. "The community has now collectively expressed the desire to extend the traditional route to include



Chinkra Mohalla, citing both religious sentiments and historical precedent," Sagar wrote, adding that local residents and religious organizations have assured complete discipline and cooperation. The MLA further mentioned that a formal communication regarding the request has already been sent to the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir under letter No. MLA/HBL/SGR/328 dated July 1, 2025. "I request your kind intervention and approval of the proposed route extension. The community stands ready to work in full coordination with the administration and law enforcement to ensure a smooth and peaceful procession," Sagar added, urging the LG to consider the plea on humanitarian and religious grounds. (JKNS)

## Cold storage units proving boon for cherry, plum growers

Perishable fruits now reach wider markets across India

### HT NEWS DESK/KNO

Srinagar, Jul 03 (KNO): After revolutionizing the apple industry, the cold storage units are now proving to be a game-changer for cherry and plum growers in Kashmir. These highly perishable fruits, which were earlier sold locally within a limited timeframe, are now finding buyers across India with the help of improved storage facilities. Speaking to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), farmers across Kashmir said that traditionally, cherries and plums have a very short shelf life, often resulting in distress sales and substantial post-harvest losses, however, with the growing network of cold storage facilities across the Valley, farmers are now storing their harvests for extended periods and accessing far-flung markets such as Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Kolkata. "Earlier, we had to sell our cherries within a few days, often at very low prices. But this year, with the help of cold storage units, we were able to keep the fruit fresh for a longer time and gradually send them to different markets across the country," said Bashir Ahmad, a

cherry grower from Shopian. "A large part of our produce has already been sold, while a small pending part is still safely stored," he added. Another plum grower, Mohammad Rafiq from Pulwama, shared a similar experience. "This is for the first time I stored my plums in a cold storage unit, and the results are very encouraging. We are getting better prices and less wastage," he said. According to officials from the Horticulture Department, the expansion of cold chain infrastructure is critical for perishable fruits. "Cherries and plums have a very short shelf life—around 2 to 5 days without refrigeration. With cold storage, the life extends significantly, allowing better price realization and less wastage," said a senior officer in the department. Fruit dealers and exporters also say the move is transforming the market dynamics. "Cold storage has allowed us to meet the demand in far-off cities. The quality of cherries from Kashmir is unmatched and now we can ensure that freshness is retained even when they reach distant customers," said Riyaz Dar, a fruit trader based in Srinagar.

## Kashmir Zone Police Establishes Grievance Cell for Terrorism-Affected Families

### HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 3, ANB: In a significant move to support victims of terrorism, the Kashmir Zone Police has set up a dedicated Grievance Cell at the Police Control Room (PCR), Kashmir. The initiative is aimed at offering institutional assistance and timely redressal of issues faced by families affected by terrorism in the Valley. According to news service, Associated news bureau, anb, The cell will function six days a week, from Monday to Saturday, between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM. Affected families can register their complaints or concerns through the following contact numbers: 0194-2506548, 7889373200. All received grievances will be promptly forwarded to the concerned departments for appropriate and swift action. This step underscores the police's commitment to providing continued support and strengthening public trust among terrorism-affected communities. ANB

## Illegal Mining Ravages Tral as Authorities Look the Other Way, Freshly Built Canals, Bunds Crumble Under Unchecked Extraction

### HT NEWS DESK/KNS

Tral, July 3, KNT: Resentment is brewing in Tral area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district, as residents raise the alarm over rampant illegal mining that has intensified both during the day and night across several villages of the region. The uncontrolled extraction of sand and

gravel from local streams, irrigation canals, and even newly constructed bunds has left the public deeply concerned, not just for the damage to infrastructure, but for the long-term ecological harm being inflicted on the area. The affected villages, Chandrigam, Dadasar, Auligund, Bugund, Baragam, Lalgam, and Nowdal, have become epicenters of what locals describe as "industrial-scale looting" of natural resources. Streams are being choked, bunds weakened, and irrigation channels mutilated, all while the responsible government machinery appears to be in a state of deep slumber. The situation, many say, has spiraled out of control in the last one month, coinciding with the appointment of a new District Mineral Officer in Pulwama. Residents, visibly agitated, told

Kashmir News Trust that not a single official from the Mineral Department has visited the affected areas for weeks. "The silence of the Mineral Department is shameful. It's as if they have handed over our streams to contractors," said a farmer from Auligund whose land now stands threatened by the collapse of an adjacent canal. What has further inflamed public sentiment is the alleged attempt by officials to suppress any coverage of the crisis. Several local journalists and media persons who tried to highlight the issue claim their calls were blocked by the Mineral Incharge of Tral and other associated officials. This move, many say, is not just unprofessional but a deliberate effort to prevent the truth from reaching the public and the higher-ups.

# DC reviews Good Governance Index performance in Udhampur

Emphasis laid on gender parity, school infrastructure, health & social welfare initiatives

## HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JULY 3: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, today chaired a meeting with officers from various line departments to review the status of the Good Governance Index in the district.

At the outset, DSEO, Darshan Kumar, presented an overview of the District Good Governance Index through a detailed Power-Point presentation. He outlined the objectives of the index and its role in monitoring district-level performance across key developmental sectors.



The meeting was attended by PO Poshan Subash Dogra, General Manager DIC Kishore Singh Katoch, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan, Chief Planning Officer Mohd Iqbal Zargar and other senior officers of line departments.

During the meeting, Chief Education Officer was instructed to take proactive measures to improve gender parity in the education sector. The Executive Engineer, JPDCL was directed to ensure uninterrupted power supply to all government schools. In this regard,

the DC emphasized checking the availability and functionality of both power and drinking water facilities in schools.

The Social Welfare Department was asked to boost beneficiary enrollment under the Atal Pension Yojana, while the PO Poshan was directed to monitor abandoned buildings for their potential use in accommodating Anganwadi Centres.

Additionally, the Health Department was instructed to take steps to increase the rate of institutional deliveries in the district, as part of efforts to strengthen maternal and child health services.

# Annual Sarthal Devi Ji Yatra commences with religious fervor & enthusiasm at Kishtwar

## HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JULY 03: The revered Annual Yatra of Shri Ashatadash Bhujia Mata Sarthal Devi Ji commenced today in Kishtwar, marking the beginning of a joyous and spiritually significant event.

The yatra began with a grand Hawan ceremony held at Gori Shankar Mandir, Sarkoot, where devotees fervently offered Aahuti and Puran Aahuti (sacred oblations).

Accompanied by an impressive Shoba Yatra, the Chari Mubarak (holy procession) proceeded through Chowgan Ground, Shaheedi Chowk, and the Bus Stand, starting from Gori Shankar Mandir.

Thousands of devotees, including men, women, and children, enthusiastically chanted religious slogans and bhajans, while traditional "Pad-dari Dance" to drum beats resonated along the procession route.

Local communities from various neighborhoods extended a warm welcome to the Holy Chari.

At the Bus Stand, devotees boarded buses and other vehicles to make their way to the historic Shri Sarthal Devi Temple in Kishtwar.

A grand Jagran (night-long devotional singing) is going to be organized today at the Sarthal Devi Mata Bhawan, adding to the spiritual fervor of the yatra.

Tomorrow morning, on 04 July, a



Maha Yajna (grand religious ritual) will be performed at Sarthal Devi Mandir.

The district administration and police have made meticulous arrangements for security, drinking water, power supply, transportation, and other essential facilities at Kishtwar and Sarthal to ensure a smooth and comfortable experience for the devotees.

Sarthal Devi Ji is revered as the "Kul Devi" (patron goddess) of the region.

The historic yatra has been organized every year since the Dogra regime, and each devotee holds a deep and unique faith in this sacred pilgrimage.

The yatra is annually organized by the Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Trust, under the patronage of Dr. Karan Singh, the sole trustee and Vikramaditya Singh, Chairman Trustee of the Trust.

Pooja Thakur, Chairperson of the District Development Council (DDC) Kishtwar; MLA Kishtwar, Shagun Parihar; Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma; prominent socio-religious personalities of Kishtwar; key officers from the civil and police administration; Arvind Parihar, President of Santan Dharma Sabha and Sanjeev Parihar, Vice Chairman of Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Trust, among others were present on the occasion.

# Tabletop Exercise on Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Conducted in District Kulgam

## Farooq Rather

KULGAM JULY 03: The Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction (DMRRR), in joint collaboration with the Union Territory Disaster Management Authority (UT DMA) and District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Kulgam, conducted a Tabletop Exercise on Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) in District Kulgam.

The exercise was held under the supervision of Additional Deputy Commissioner Kulgam Viqar Ahmad Giri (CEO DDMA) and attended by Dr Aamir, Chief Executive Officer, DMRRR, and Sanobar Jameel, Deputy Secretary, DMRRR, Civil Secretariat, J&K UT and Consultant DDMA Kulgam Mohammad Hanan.



Officers from various departments participated, including the Sub-Divisional Magistrate DH Pora, Bashir-ul-Hassan, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Reyaz Ahmad Shah, DYSP Ayoub Rather, Civil Defence and SDRF in-charge, Engineers from all concerned departments, CRPF Officers,

Tehsildars of all Tehsils, along with teams from SDRF, Fire & Emergency Services, Aapda Mitra Volunteers, and other disaster response units.

During the session, Dr Aamir emphasized the importance of preparedness and proposed the execution of mock drills

near Kousarnag Lake, a potential GLOF risk site.

He stressed the need for the deployment of medical teams during drills, the formation of additional volunteer groups, and the active involvement of all stakeholders in strengthening community-level disaster response.

The initiative reflects the administration's proactive approach toward GLOF disaster preparedness and resilience-building in vulnerable areas of South Kashmir.

The exercise simulated multiple disaster scenarios to test the preparedness and response capabilities of all agencies involved.

Detailed deliberations were held on communication strategies, evacuation procedures, and the deployment of critical emergency response units.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that the name of Akash Ahmad Bhat S/O GULAM MOHD BAH, mentioned in my Aadhaar Card having aadhaar card number 87719832174 (DOB: 01/03/2006), is incorrect. The correct name is MOHD AAKASH BHAT, as per my 10th Class Board Certificate issued by The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education (DOB: 09/10/2008), under Roll No. 101052053. I am applying for the correction of my name in official records accordingly. If anyone has any objections, they may contact the undersigned within 7 days of this notice.

Name: Mohd Aakash Bhat  
Father's Name: Gulam Mohammad Bhat  
Address: Kawarigan anantnag

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my Name and dob has been incorrectly mentioned on his Adhar card, as name Henan Sultan DOB 03/11/2004 D/O Mohd Sultan Gazi while his correct name is HENAN SULTAN DOB 03/04/2008 D/O MOHAMMAD SULTAN GAZI R/O Kargama as per school record now I have applied for the correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection concerned authority /UIDAI office within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.

Name: HENAN SULTAN DOB 03/04/2008  
D/O MOHAMMAD SULTAN GAZI  
R/O: KARGAMA TEHSIL HANDWARA DIST KUPWARA

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my daughter, dob certificate applied namely Khushnuma Abas Dob 13/02/2023 D/O Mohammad Abas War R/o Lawoosa Mawar Tehsil Qalamabad district Kupwara, now I have applied for the birth certificate of Municipal Committee Handwara. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection at Municipal committee Handwara within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.

NAMELY: KHUSHNUMA ABAS DOB: 13/02/2023  
Parentage: MOHAMMAD ABAS WAR  
R/O: LAWOOSA MAWAR TEHSIL QALAMABAD DIST Kupwara

## 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: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer WAGOORA ) / chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of ZAID ZAFFER S/O ZAFFER AHMAD MIR R/O KREERI Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 23/12/2020 and event has been shown to be occurred at SDH KREERI for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

# Devotional event held at Chichi Mata for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra

## HT NEWS DESK

SAMBA, JULY 3: In a spiritually uplifting initiative to mark the commencement of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025, the District Administration Samba organized a devotional and cultural evening at the revered Chichi Mata Temple. The proceedings were formally inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Samba, Rajesh Sharma, who paid obeisance at the shrine and invoked divine blessings for the safe, smooth, and successful conduct of the Yatra. His presence underscored the administration's unwavering commitment to facilitating this sacred pilgrimage. The atmosphere was imbued with devotional fervor as local artists rendered soul-stirring bhajans, enthraling the audience and elevating the spiritual ambience. The resonant hymns echoed through the temple premises, creating an aura of serenity and reverence. The event was graced by the presence of Additional District Development Commissioner Champa Devi, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, officers from the civil administration, Shri Amarnath Ji pilgrims and an enthusiastic gathering of local devotees. This initiative served not only as a gesture of warm hospitality to the Yatri but also as a celebration of the region's vibrant spiritual and cultural ethos. The District Administration reaffirmed its resolve to provide a seamless, secure and spiritually enriching experience to all pilgrims.

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

Subject: Application for issuance of OBC certificate in favour of SONAULLAH TELI S/O ABDUL AZIZ TELI R/O DANDMOOHA 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 DANDMOOHA of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the TELI community having annual income 96000/ ( the details of family of the applicant are as follows

- 1... SONAULLAH TELI 52 self Labour
  - 2... NASEEMA BEGAM wife 50 year. Housewife
  - 3... BILAL AHMAD TELI son 21 years student
  - 4... ADIL AHMAD TELI 19 years student
  - 5... MEHNAZA BANO daughter 17 years students
- if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of said certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine

NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

## 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 srinagar within 7 days

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill ) power connection is registered on my Father's name JUMAN ALI BEIGH Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO WR:2/32 wants to be registered on my name JABBAR ALI BEIGH S/O JUMAN ALI BEIGH R/O MASJID ANGAN KACHWA MUQAM .If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice after thano objection will be entertained

Name..JABBAR ALI BEIGH  
S/O ..JUMAN ALI BEIGH  
R/O MASJID ANGAN KACHWA MUQAM  
BLOCK ...WAGOORA

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION Pahalgam.**  
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (Short term)  
eNIT NO 33 OF RnB/Pahalgam/2025-26 DATED 03-07-2025  
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion (Days)	Class of Contractor
01.	STRENGTHENING AND MODERNIZATION OF TROUT FISH FARM AKAD	Adv. Cost= ₹ 19.28 Amount without GST= ₹ 16.34 GST amount= ₹ 2.94	800	38560	90	B&C
02	Strengthening and modernization of Trout Fish Farm Nambal	Adv. Cost= ₹ 16.70 Amount without GST= ₹ 14.81 GST amount= ₹ 1.89	800	33400	90	B&C

PROJECT AUTHORITY:- Directorate of Fisheries, J&K  
Authorization accorded :- Accorded.  
MAJOR HEAD OF ACCOUNT:- UT Capex Budget 2025-26  
The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03-07-2025
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 04-07-2025 (10:00AM)
		To 14-07-2025 (04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 04-07-2025 (10:00AM)
		To 14-07-2025 (04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	From 14-07-2025 (04:00PM)
		To 15-07-2025 (11:00 AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam.

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD in favor of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam (Tender inviting Authority) (NIT No. and Name of Work/Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) ( For single No of work in NIT, Name of work/Item No is not mandatory) ( The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam (Tender receiving Authority). (The Date of EMD {CDR/FDR} should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date.
2. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
3. The 1<sup>st</sup> lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pahalgam (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.
4. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @5% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR and same shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work .The earnest money (EMD) shall be released in favour of unsuccessful bidders only after submission of Treasury Challan.
5. CDR/FDR once utilized as BID security (EMD)/performance Security for any work shall not be accepted or utilized for any other work as Bid security (EMD) or performance Security). Utilization of the same shall render the bidder as non responsive
6. The rates quoted in the BOQ are exclusive of GST. GST @18 Percent shall be added to the contract value by the allotting authority at the time of issuance of allotment.

DIPK-3301/25  
Send Date: Jul 3 2025  
PUB Date: Jul 4 2025

Sd/= Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam

# Div Com flags off first batch of SANJY pilgrims from Domail Baltal

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JULY 03: The Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025 commenced today with great enthusiasm as the first batch of pilgrims was ceremoniously flagged off from the Domail, Baltal in Ganderbal district by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri. Secretary, Science and Technology Department, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary (Nodal Officer for Yatra-2025 for Baltal axis); Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore; SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Poswal; and other senior officers from the District Administration and Police were also present on the occasion. The officers extended warm wishes to the pilgrims, praying for their safe and spiritually



enriching journey. The Baltal base camp echoed with chants of "Bam Bam Bhole" and "Har Har Mahadev", as thousands of ecstatic pilgrims including men, women, elderly devotees, and sadhus, set off on their sacred journey to the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Amarnath Ji.

The pilgrims expressed joy and appreciation for the robust arrangements made by the Jammu and Kashmir UT Administration, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB), and the Police. They lauded the seamless coordination and facilities put in place to ensure a smooth and secure Yatra experience.

To ensure the safety and well-being of the pilgrims, the administration has made comprehensive arrangements, including round-the-clock security, well-equipped medical camps, sanitation facilities, and other essential services along the Yatra route. The commencement of the Yatra marks the beginning of a deeply spiritual and revered pilgrimage, reflecting the unwavering devotion of the yatis and the commitment of the administration to facilitate a smooth and safe pilgrimage. Secretary, Science and Technology Department, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary (Nodal Officer for Yatra-2025 for Baltal axis); Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore; SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Poswal; and other senior officers from the District Administration and Police were also present.

## Dir Agri Kashmir visited Model Floriculture Center Nunar, Ganderbal

First ever consignment of dry Lavender Flower Spikes despatched to Dehradun

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JULY 03: Director Agriculture Kashmir Sartaj Ahmad Shah today Visited Model Floriculture Center Nunar, Ganderbal where he flagged off first ever consignment of dry Lavender Flower Spikes to Dehradun.

While interacting with the Officers, Director highlighted the economic importance of lavender crop and said that it is one of the best cash crops in the world. He said the demand for quality planting material of lavender has increased over the years and efforts are on to attract progressive agriculture entrepreneurs towards this aromatic crop. Sartaj said that the idea behind the promotion



and introduction of lavender crop to more areas on commercial lines is to create employment opportunities for the youth.

He further said that in coming days the uncultivable and barren land throughout valley will be brought under the cultivation of Lavender crop.

Regarding Agri-Tourism, Director said that three

Departmental Farms have already been brought under this crop to boost the agriculture and tourism sectors.

Floriculture Development Officer Waheed Ur Rehman, Floriculturist Ab. Hamid Shah, Farm Manager MFC Nunar besides Staff of Floriculture Development Scheme were present on the occasion.

## SHEW Shopian organises Awareness Camp under BBBP at Sedow

HT NEWS DESK



Shopian, July 03: Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women (SHEW) Mission Shakti, Shopian today organized an impactful awareness programme under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative at Sedow, Shopian. District Mission Coordinator, Sankalp Hub sensitized the gathering about the importance of girl child education and the need to empower girls for a brighter future. Gender Specialist addressed the audience with a compelling talk on gender inequality and urged collective community action for change. The event featured a pledge ceremony, a BBBP awareness rally, and sticker pasting activities across public spaces to spread the campaign's message.

## DC Budgam Flags off Cluster-Based Exposure Visit for 100 Farmers Under HADP

HT NEWS DESK

Budgam, July 03: The Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat today flagged off a group of 100 progressive farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs for a cluster-based exposure visit under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) to different agriculture institutions of J&K. The exposure visit aims to provide farmers with first-hand knowledge and technical insights into modern farming practices, with a focus on innovation, sustainability, and productivity enhancement. During the tour, the participating farmers will visit several

renowned agricultural institutions including the Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Dryland Agricultural Research Station (DARS), Rangreth, Integrated Mushroom Development Centre (IMD), Lal Mandi, Kitchen Gardens, Lal Mandi, Floriculture Hot House, and the Lavender Park in Srinagar.

On the occasion, the DC Budgam underscored the vital role of agriculture in the district's economy and reaffirmed the district administration's commitment to farmer welfare and sustainable agricultural growth. He urged the participating farmers to take full advantage of the exposure visit and incor-

porate the best practices into their farming operations.

DC assured the farming community for district administration's continuous support in upgrading their technical skills and empowering them through innovative and market-oriented initiatives.

He further said, District administration remains steadfast in promoting farmer-centric programmes aimed at increasing productivity, fostering entrepreneurship, and enhancing market linkages for local produce.

Besides, Chief agriculture officer (CAO) Budgam, all SDAOs and officials of concerned were present on the occasion.

## District Treasury Office Shopian held training programme on SNA-SPARSH for DDOs

HT NEWS DESK

Shopian, July 03: The District Treasury Office Shopian today held first orientation session on the Single Nodal Account Samyochit Pronali Akarit Shigr Hastantaran (SNA-SPARSH) for DDOs of the district operating Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The aim of the session was to aware the DDOs on the efficient management of funds under these schemes. The programme was attended by Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) and dealing account assistants associated with the district treasury and its subordinate treasuries,



aimed at familiarizing them with the SNA-SPARSH system for seamless financial operations.

The session was led by District Treasury Officer, Muzaffar Ahmad Rather who highlighted the role of SNA-SPARSH

in strengthening financial governance and gave a demo on bill generation on JKPaysys from DDO maker to Checker login.

Detailed instructions were given to the participants as how the bills/claims can be

uploaded on this portal from their end and then submitted to the treasury for payment. Moreover they were briefed about the fetching of budget for the respective schemes and the procedure for making the bills keeping in view both the UT as well as the centre share by NIC expert at Dist Treasury, Ashiq Hussain.

This reform is part of a broader financial transformation under the Finance Department integrating systems like BEAMS, JKPaysys, TreasuryNet and e-Kuber, aimed at ensuring timely, transparent, and efficient release of funds to beneficiaries.

## Food Safety Team inspects langars at Base Camp Nunwan, Transit Camp Chandanwari, Pahalgam

HT NEWS DESK

PAHALGAM, JULY 3: Aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of pilgrims during the Shri Amarnath Yatra, the Food Safety team Kashmir, under the directions of Commissioner Food and Drugs Administration, Smita Sethi, conducted a comprehensive inspection of Langars operating at the Base Camp Nunwan and Transit Camp Chandanwari, Pahalgam. The inspections were conducted under the supervision of Joint Commissioner Food Safety, Sanjeev Kumar. The team was comprised of Deputy Commissioner Food Safety, Kashmir, State Nodal Officer, Food Safety Officer HQ Kashmir and Food Safety Officers

from Anantnag district.

The inspection aimed to ensure that all Langars adhere to the highest standards of food safety and hygiene, thereby safeguarding the health of pilgrims.

On the occasion, a sensitisation meeting was also convened by the Joint Commissioner, in which Sachin Sharma, Additional Camp Director and representatives of Langars authorized to operate at the Base Camp Nunwan participated.

It was informed that 12 Langars are currently operating at the Base Camp, Nunwan and 08 at the Transit Camp Chandanwari.

During the meeting, State Nodal Officer FDA sensitized the representatives of the Langars on the importance of main-



taining high standards of health hygiene and food safety.

The Langar representatives and food handlers were emphasized for compliance with the Advisory issued by the department, focusing on key areas like sanitary and hygienic requirements, proper storage conditions, regular checking of expiry dates of raw materials, use of potable water for food preparation, disposal of food waste, pest and rodent control measures, prohibition of unpermitted food colors, ensuring health certificates for food handlers, registration of Langars under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

The Joint Commissioner Food Safety said that the Food Safety Department is

firmly committed to monitor and enforce the food safety standards during the Shri Amarnath Yatra. He urged all Food Business Operators (FBOs) to strictly adhere to the guidelines and regulations, ensuring a safe and healthy experience for all the pilgrims. The Langar representatives and food handlers were emphasized for compliance with the Advisory issued by the department, focusing on key areas like sanitary and hygienic requirements, proper storage conditions, regular checking of expiry dates of raw materials, use of potable water for food preparation, disposal of food waste, pest and rodent control measures, prohibition of unpermitted food colors, ensuring health certificates for food handlers.

HT EDITORIAL

People suffer due to shortage of clean drinking water

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), a flagship programme launched by the Government of India some years back was aimed to provide clean drinking water to the people of India. The scheme might have achieved its target of reaching out to the people since tap water connections have been provided to the people living in the far-flung areas of the country, but on the other hand people continue to suffer.

Reports of water shortage come from different parts of the Kashmir valley every now and then. Over the years the Jal Shakti department has failed to upgrade the system and as a result of this there has been no improvement in the overall water supply. It is due to this reason that a slight increase in the day temperature leads to shortage of the drinking water across the length and breadth of the valley. Failure to upgrade the existing system and above all the failure to introduce new water supply schemes has compounded the problems of the people.

The basic problem is that the planners here have a limited vision and they don't look towards the future. They are concerned about the present day and seem to be least bothered about the future. Ideally the people at helm should have a vision and they should formulate a scheme that can run for decades together. Once this happens the coming generations will not suffer on account of clean drinking water. As on date the people are suffering and one does not know when the things will change.

It is important that the Jal Shakti department upgrades the existing infrastructure so that the problems being faced by the people in the ongoing summer season are solved and they heave a sigh of relief. The rusted pipes need to be replaced by fresh ones and that too with a higher diameter. At the same time proper cleaning of the water supply schemes needs to be done so that clean and drinking water is supplied to the people.

The department needs to pull up the socks and make a proper stock of chlorine and other chemicals that are needed to make water free from all the impurities. It has been observed that during rains dirty and filthy water is supplied to the people and as such people fall prey to different water borne diseases. This needs to be looked into by the people at helm so that the masses are entitled to clean drinking water.

War Games & Peace Prizes: Is Trump Gunning for a Nobel?



By Tushi Deb

It has become an all-too-familiar spectacle: when the world teeters on the edge of conflict, Donald Trump, like a self-anointed prophet of peace, emerges with grand proclamations of diplomacy, dangerously close to his political vanity.

Backpacking the blitzkrieg of international anarchy, conflict, and wars with his relaxed but pompous, celebrated "ceasefire" rhetoric, the US president sounds more dominant than the GBU-57 Bunker Buster bombs!

"To subdue an enemy without fighting is the acme of skill," stated Sun Tzu, the famous Chinese general around 500 BC, and this holds good ground even today. Currently, the world is caught up in a whirlpool of extreme violence inundated with flashpoints that is leading us to further violence. With the conflict in the Middle East threatening to engulf the entire region, the belligerents were hell-bent with a Machiavellian desire to obliterate the other.

Is it the US hegemony or simply Trump's tectonics of peace, his shrewdness in being a deal maker, or simply his doctrine of MAGA (Making America Great Again) that is pulling the global peace and power strings?

Be it the India-Pakistan war, the Iran-Israel longstanding anarchy, or other global conflicts, they have undoubtedly pushed us across a vitriolic threshold. And critics with obvious ease are citing the situation as a super prospect for Trump to exploit this to assert a supremacist narrative. Whether a desired regime change in Iran or the supposed destruction of its nuclear capabilities, Trump roared for peace in the shrouds of war, asserted for arm-twisting, and blared the evils of destruction of Iran. Either way, the message he has always tried to convey is crystal clear: it's the American indispensability and the invisible power to reboot peace and trade in



the most fastidious way!

The old order of NATO, which held a stronghold in the 20th century, is believed to have been weakened by an increasingly nationalistic America. Donald Trump's stupendous proactivity in the formulation and execution of foreign policies is hooking nations to a provisional and fragile peace playbook.

But back home, did Trump's ceasefire strategies, his consistent interference with global warmongers, and his blind backing of Netanyahu take a toll on his MAGA base? Trump knew that his MAGA support base was opposed to the US getting involved in West Asia. Since taking up office as president on January 20, 2025, Trump has launched a super chaotic, remarkable, and unpredictable "peace show" that in no way follows the traditional diplomatic playbook. Perhaps it's a string of maneuvers taming the unilateralism of today's global geopolitics. Trump's approach of holding the ubiquitous carrot and stick theory and his attempts to coerce war-farers like Iran, Israel, Ukraine, and Pakistan into negotiations while making almost circadian provocative statements about the war have been the butt of criticism. Trump's attempt to play mediator may undermine the very foundation of his MAGA rhetoric, which thrives on skepticism of foreign wars and a focus on domestic priorities. The resulting division exposes

the paradox at the heart of his strategy: seeking global influence while promising retreat from global entanglements. While some national security conservatives see his interventions as necessary, many core MAGA supporters—represented by figures like Marjorie Taylor Greene and Tucker Carlson—view it as a betrayal of his "America First" and non-interventionist promises. This has led to a visible schism within the movement, with prominent voices warning that foreign policy entanglements could fracture MAGA unity and disrupt its political momentum. This meddling not only undermines his narrative of isolationist strength but also has been permeating risks of dragging America into proxy conflicts—the very thing he claimed to oppose. For the American working-class voter in rust belt states like Ohio or Pennsylvania, Iran and Israel are distant realities. They are more concerned about inflation, border security, and fentanyl than missile strikes over the Golan Heights. Every moment Trump spends on foreign disputes distances him from his core voter base—the forgotten Americans who once saw him as their last political hope. Hence, the Iran-Israel episode is a microcosm of the larger MAGA dilemma.

Now, over a period later, a provocative question lingers in global discourse: Will Donald Trump be

viewed as the apostle of global peace and awarded the much-coveted "Nobel Peace Prize"? In the pantheon of American presidents, the Nobel Peace Prize has adorned the reputations of only a selected few—Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and Barack Obama. Trump's supporters argue he ended the era of endless wars and recalibrated American diplomacy to serve national, not global, interests. The Nobel Peace Prize is as much a political statement as it is a reward for actual achievement. Awarding him the Nobel would be explosive, potentially seen as a validation of a president who many view as corrosive to democratic norms. Donald Trump is an unlikely candidate for peace in the traditional mold. But Nobel laureates have not always fit that mold either. From Henry Kissinger to Yasser Arafat, the prize has honored controversial figures when their actions advanced the cause—even marginally.

If the Nobel Committee dares to separate method from impact and personality from policy, Trump's legacy may one day find its place in Oslo. Whether that would uplift or diminish the Nobel Peace Prize is a question as divisive as Trump himself.

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Chilling Reflections Of Present Embedded in Past, History Repeats Itself



Amir Iqbal Khan

History, when revisited carefully, often presents a chilling reflection of the present. While most people are unaware of such patterns, they exist—etched quietly in the pages of time. One of the key reasons for this ignorance is that human beings are constantly striving for a better tomorrow. In doing so, they tend to overlook the lessons of the past. If we could learn from history, perhaps we would be better prepared to face the challenges that lie ahead.

Human beings are gifted with common sense and the ability to reflect, but these gifts only serve us when used wisely and at the right time. Take the year 1941, for example, it was one of the bloodiest years of the 20th century marked by immense destruction and sorrow. World War II was at its peak, civilians were massacred, cities bombed and genocide ravaged nations. The world paid a heavy price during that time, yet many failed to recognize the signs early on.

Going further back, the year 1918 brought the world to its knees with the outbreak of the Spanish Flu. This global pandemic infected an estimated one-third of the global population and claimed millions of lives. Fast forward to 2019 and history once again knocked on our doors in the form of COVID-19, another devastating global pandemic

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Human beings are gifted with common sense and the ability to reflect, but these gifts only serve us when used wisely and at the right time. Take the year 1941, for example, it was one of the bloodiest years of the 20th century marked by immense destruction and sorrow. World War II was at its peak, civilians were massacred, cities bombed and genocide ravaged nations. The world paid a heavy price during that time, yet many failed to recognize the signs early on.

that resulted in unimaginable loss and disruption across the world.

And now, here we are in 2025. In just the first six months of this year, we have witnessed disasters of a similar scale: the Stampede at Maha Kumbh, deadly California wildfires, the tragic Pahalgam attack, rising tensions in the Indo-Pak region, a catastrophic train derailment and an escalating conflict between Israel and Iran. All these incidents point to a haunting pattern that demands our attention.

What's even more startling is that the 2025 calendar mirrors that of 1941 in terms of dates and days. Similarly, the years 1918 and 2019 also share the same calendar structure. This might seem like a mere coincidence, but when viewed alongside historical events, it raises important questions about whether history is merely repeating itself—or if we are blindly walking into the same cycles again and again.

Elders in our childhood often told us that events in the world repeat every hundred years. While such ideas were passed down as folklore or old wisdom, they are now proving eerily relevant. Despite this, no serious scientific research has been undertaken to explore this phenomenon. Could it really be a coincidence or is it something deeper that we have failed to understand or acknowledge?

With six months still remaining in 2025, we must take a hard look at the past and present. If the first half of this year is any indication, the months ahead may bring even more challenges. It's high time we revisit history not just as a record of the past, but as a guide for the future. The signs are clear—it is now up to us to read them wisely and act accordingly.

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# The Growing Network Of Drug Dealers In The Country



■ Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

The problem of drug addiction in India is no longer a personal evil, but a national disaster. Drug mafia, smuggling, political patronage and social silence—all together are pushing the youth into darkness. Drug addiction has spread from schools to villages. This is not just a crisis of health, but of thinking and civilization. The solution will not come only from law, but from collective consciousness, dialogue, education and social leadership. If we do not wake up today, tomorrow we will mourn a lost generation.

India is fighting a dual battle today—on one hand there is the flight of technology and development, and on the other hand the darkness of drug addiction is spreading within the society. Drug addiction is no longer just an individual evil, but it has taken the form of an organized industry, an international conspiracy and a social epidemic. From villages to cities, from schools to colleges, and from the parties of the rich to the streets of the poor, drug dealers have spread their network.

The most worrying thing is that now this trap is not limited to alcohol or marijuana. Deadly substances like synthetic drugs, chemical intoxicants, heroin, brown sugar, cocaine are now hollowing out the lives of the youth of India. In states like Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, Delhi, Manipur, Goa, this poison has torn the social fabric. On one hand the government talks about "making the youth skilled", on the other hand lakhs of youth are losing their energy, life and future in the grip of drugs.

There is a whole system behind drug addiction—drug mafias trading humanity for money, collusion between police and politics, consignments of drugs coming from abroad, and agents at the local level pushing the youth into this quagmire. All these together are hollowing out the country from within. It



is no coincidence that behind every big drug seizure, the name of some influential person comes to the fore, but the matter is suppressed right there.

There is a class that has started considering drugs as a part of "lifestyle". Drugs have become a fashion in high class parties. No one there considers it a social crime, rather it has been made a symbol of 'coolness'. On the other hand, poor youth—who are victims of unemployment, frustration and broken hopes—see drugs as a temporary relief. Both the situations are leading the society towards destruction.

The way in which drugs have entered schools and colleges is a deep warning for the coming generations. Many reports suggest that even school children are under the influence of drugs. Drugs are being served in the form of small pouches, chocolate-like packets, scented powders. And when children fall into its clutches, the family, teachers and society—all become helpless.

The Constitution of India gave us the dream of a 'healthy nation', but how can the dream of a nation come true when the youth are sick and addicted to drugs? The youth are the backbone of the country—if they bend, break or become hollow, then the country cannot stand.

Addiction not only kills the body but also the soul. It destroys decision making ability, breaks relationships, gives rise to crime and spreads an atmosphere of violence and sadness in the society. A person addicted to drugs becomes a burden for his family. He steals, lies and even commits suicide.

This isn't just a health or law and order problem—it's a moral, social, and cultural crisis.

Talking about police and political protection in the mafia network is not a conspiracy, but it has been clearly revealed many times in the records of the court and investigation agencies. Laws like the NDPS Act (Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act) exist,

but their implementation is very weak and biased. In many cases, drug smugglers caught are released due to technical flaws. On the other hand, poor or small users rot in jail.

Governments often hold symbolic events like "awareness campaigns", "slogan competitions", or "parades" against drugs, but the question is whether this changes anything? What is needed is a strong policy, honest implementation, and most importantly—political will.

Drug smuggling often takes place through border areas—places like the Punjab-Pakistan border, the Manipur-Myanmar border, the Gujarat coast and the Mumbai port. These areas require high alert, but often the security machinery is either lax or corrupt. Despite tons of drugs being seized in the last few years, action against drug lords has been minimal. This further boosts the morale of the criminals.

The role of the media has also been

weak in this. In some selected cases, the media shows "drugs drama" for TRP, but most of the time it ignores this serious issue. And when drugs are discussed in a glittering world like Bollywood, it is also made into 'gossip', not a real social discussion.

The saddest aspect of this entire crisis is that the person involved does not die alone—the whole family dies with him, and slowly a generation withers away. Parents lose their children to drugs, brothers and sisters turn into ashes of relationships, and villages and cities simply drown in silent mourning after losing their youth.

The solution does not lie in drugs or prisons. The solution lies in empowerment, dialogue, education, and collective social effort.

An honest campaign against drug abuse will have to be run in every Panchayat, every school, every locality. Youth groups, women groups and teachers will have to provide leadership on this issue. Society will have to understand that drug abuse is not just a "weakness of a person", but it is a conspiracy—the whole society can fall prey to it.

We have to create such an education system that gives the youth the understanding to live life, not just to pass exams. It gives them the courage to fight the struggles of life, the strength to accept failure and the culture of self-control.

Parents also have to be cautious about the mental state, behaviour and company of their children. No solution is possible without communication and trust. Children hide due to fear or punishment, but open up through communication.

And finally, until society views drug addiction not as a "crime" but as a "disaster"—in which the victim must be helped and the mafia punished—this poison will continue to spread.

Addiction is a slow poison—it kills the mind before the body. Today there is a need to awaken that mind which says—quit addiction, choose life.

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# The Cost of Becoming a Doctor in India has Increased Significantly over the Years



■ Vijay Garg

The cost of becoming a doctor in India has increased significantly over the years. For many, the financial burden begins with years of entrance exam preparation, continues through expensive medical degrees, and often requires loans or family sacrifices. The growing expenses are now shaping who is able to pursue a medical career and who is left behind. As India observes National Doctors' Day on Tuesday, we speak with doctors to know the cost of becoming a doctor in the country, a dream that many have as kids.

How early does the financial burden of medical education begin?

According to doctors, it is not just the MBBS fees as the journey starts much earlier and costs pile up fast.

Vijay Garg explained that most medical aspirants start spending big on NEET coaching as early as Class 9 or 11. That's four to five years of intensive private tuition before even entering medical



school.

Government MBBS colleges: ₹5 to ₹10 lakh

Private medical colleges: ₹20 lakh to ₹1 crore

Postgraduate specialisation: Adds several more lakh

Add to this the coaching, entrance exam costs, living expenses, and a decade-long

commitment, and you're looking at a career that can feel financially out of reach for many.

Do some students abandon their dreams due to cost?

"The financial pressure was overwhelming. I've seen brilliant students abandon medicine just because their parents couldn't pay the fees."

How do families fund a medical degree in India?

According to Vijay Garg, it is only about loans, sacrifices, and hustling.

Many young doctors, like Vijay Garg and her peers, took education loans, often at high interest rates. Some parents sold assets, borrowed heavily, or slashed family expenses to keep one child's dream alive.

Others worked part-time in hospitals while studying to repay loan instalments. The pressure doesn't stop after graduation, it often shapes the rest of their careers.

Are less affluent students being excluded from medical education?

Dr Ankush Garg said that today's medical classrooms are increasingly filled with students from affluent families.

"Earlier, all sections of society were represented. Now, I see many students coming from financially privileged backgrounds," he observed.

He warned that students from low-income families often struggle with both fees and the cost of living in metro cities where most medical colleges are based. "This financial barrier is quietly narrowing who gets to wear the white coat," he said.

Are specialisations now chosen for income over interest?

Sadly, yes. Vijay Garg pointed out that the financial burden pushes young doctors toward high-paying specialisations, not

necessarily their passion.

"Community medicine, rural service, family health, and other such services often get sidelined because they don't pay enough to cover hefty education loans."

Dr Ankush Garg agreed. He noted that many doctors gravitate toward private hospitals in metro cities, especially after pursuing super-specialisations like DM (Doctorate of Medicine) and MCh (Master of Chirurgery), because that's where the money is. Smaller cities and rural areas remain underserved.

Is current financial aid enough to support medical aspirants?

Both doctors said: Not really. While scholarships and education loans exist, they're often hard to access or come with punishing interest rates and rigid repayment timelines.

GarG emphasised that low-interest or interest-free education loans are crucial, especially for students from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Both doctors stressed that without policy reforms, bright students could continue to be priced out of the profession, and India risks losing its next generation of skilled, passionate doctors.

Vijay Garg Retired Principal  
Educational columnist Eminent  
Educationist street kour Chand MHR  
Malouf Punjab

# Poonch Admin reviews Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025 arrangements at Mandi Complex

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JULY 03: In a significant step towards ensuring smooth conduct of the upcoming Shri Buddha Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal, today visited the revered shrine at Mandi and held a comprehensive meeting with the Temple Management Committee, Civil Society Members, Police and various Government Functionaries. The meeting focused on evaluating preparedness and finalizing key arrangements for the annual pilgrimage. DIG Rajouri-Poonch Range, Tejinder Singh, along with SSP Poonch Shafket Hussain Bhat, ASP, DySP and senior officers from BSF and CRPF, participated in the deliberations and assured foolproof security measures throughout the yatra period.



Swami Vishwatmanand Saraswati Ji, head of the Temple Management Committee, projected several essential requirements including: Strengthened security setup, improvement of Poonch-Mandi road, provision of safe drinking water, enhanced sanitation and

lighting, adequate medical aid and efficient traffic management.

While addressing the meeting, DC Poonch Vikas Kundal assured timely redressal of all projected issues and urged all departments to ensure seamless coordination. He laid stress on fulfilling the responsibilities assigned to each stakeholder to guarantee a hassle-free and spiritually fulfilling experience for the devotees. He directed departments to expedite necessary preparations and avoid any inconvenience to the pilgrims. The meeting was attended by ADDC, ADC, PO ICDS, ACR, ACP, DFO, CMO, Executive Engineers from PWD, PMGSY, JPDCL, Jal Shakti, Tehsildar Mandi, DySP Traffic, ARTO, AD FCS & CA, officers from all line departments, members of the Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Mandir Committee and civil society members.

## ADC Bhadarwah convenes a meeting ahead of Kailash Yatra 2025

HT NEWS DESK



BHADARWAH, JULY 03: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal convened a meeting at ADC Office Chamber Bhadarwah to address essential arrangements for the upcoming Kailash Yatra-2025.

The meeting was attended by Tehsildar Bhadarwah/Bhalla, SDPO Bhadarwah, BDO Bhadarwah/Bhalla, BMO Bhadarwah, President Sanatan Dharam, Kailash Sewa Sangh Trust, Kumar Langer Ganthak Ramtund, Chobia Langer, Hayan Rishi Dal and among others.

During the meeting, ADC Bhadarwah emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness and environmental sustainability during the yatra. He urged all stakeholders to keep the Langer sites and yatra destinations free from plastic waste. To ensure this, coordination between Forest Department, BDO, EO MC Bhaderwah, Langer com-

mittees and Sanatan Dharam Sabha Bhaderwah has been initiated for the collection and proper disposal of plastic waste before, during and after the conclusion of the yatra. Several directives were issued, including the repair of water supply schemes at Kailash Kund to Hayan, installation of water taps and water camp at camp sites and the tendering process for firewood at various locations, repair and maintenance work for damaged poles, electric wires and DG sets at Kailash Kund by JPDCL. Repair of infrastructure including sheds and toilets at Kailash Kund and Hayan by BDA Bhaderwah.

## DDC Poonch reviews implementation of Vibrant Village Programme-II

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JULY 03: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Poonch, Vikas Kundal today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review the implementation of the Vibrant Village Programme-II—an ambitious initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs aimed at transforming the lives of people in border areas.

The review meeting, held at the conference hall of the DC Office Complex, focused on strategizing measures for achieving full saturation across key thematic areas identified by the Ministry. The DDC underlined the importance of addressing critical gaps in essential sectors such as network connectivity, road accessibility, television connectivity and household electrification in remote and border villages. Calling for a holistic and inclusive development approach, DDC

directed the concerned departments to carry out detailed gap analyses and prepare Village Action Plans (VAPs) accordingly. He emphasized the need to conduct Gram Sabhas in each village to ensure ground-level assessment and community participation in the planning process. Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said, "This Vibrant Village Programme will become a major scheme for our border district. The administration is committed to ensuring inclusive development and significantly improving the quality of life in border and remote villages under the Vibrant Villages Programme." The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDCC), PO ICDS, Chief Planning Officer (CPO), Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACP), AD FCS&CA, BDOs, Tehsildars and other concerned officers joined the session virtually.

## Additional Registrar reviews cooperative activities in Ramban; inaugurates Jan Aushadhi Kendra & Curd Processing Unit

HT NEWS DESK

RAMBAN, JULY 3: Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Jammu, Bal Krishan today conducted an extensive visit to district Ramban to review the functioning of the Cooperative Department and promote grassroots-level initiatives under the cooperative movement. During the visit, the Additional Registrar inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra established by Thopal MPACS at CHC Batote. The Kendra aims to provide quality generic medicines at



affordable prices to the local population, ensuring improved access to essential healthcare. He also inaugurated a Curd Making Unit set up by Chenab Dairy FPO Cooperative Ltd. with an estimated cost of 9 lakh, supported by a 50% subsidy from the Coop-

erative Department. The unit is equipped with modern dairy-processing machinery including Electric Heat Tank, Homogeniser, Plate Heat Exchanger, Culture Tank, Curd Incubator and Storage Tanks, ensuring hygienic and value-added dairy pro-

duction for local farmers. The Additional Registrar, accompanied by Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies Ramban Priyanka Sharma, BMO Batote Dr. S. Opinder Singh and other officers also inspected the recently inaugurated Cooperative Mini Super Bazar run by MPACS Maitra. He appreciated the efforts made to provide goods at affordable prices with a special focus on organic and locally produced items. As part of the day's engagements, he participated in a plantation drive under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative.

## Three-Day Training for Internal Assessors-cum-Service Providers (IA cum SPT) Commences at Convention Centre, Jammu

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 3: A three-day training programme for Internal Assessors-cum-Service Providers commenced at the Convention Centre, Jammu. The training is being organized by the State Health Society, National Health Mission (NHM), Jammu & Kashmir) under the insightful guidance of Mission Director, NHM J&K, Baseer ul Haq Choudhary. The training was formally inaugurated in the gracious presence of Director General (Planning & Statistics), SHS, NHM, J&K, Director Health Services, Jammu, Deputy Director, Dentistry, Jammu, Financial Advisor/Chief Accounts Officer, SHS, NHM, J&K and Chief Medical Officer, Jammu. DHS, Jammu appreciated the efforts of the districts and NHM in quality implementation in the public health facilities and further emphasized on the importance of

quality of the health care services being provided to the population. The programme aims to build the capacities of healthcare professionals in conducting internal assessments and improving service delivery standards across health institutions in J&K. Participants include Block Medical Officers (BMOs), Medical Officers (MOs) and other representatives from various districts of the Jammu Division. A key component of the training will be a post-evaluation test, and participants who successfully qualify will be awarded a Certificate of Internal Assessor. These certified assessors will play a pivotal role in monitoring and enhancing the quality of healthcare services in their respective districts, thereby contributing to the overarching goal of strengthening the public health system and quality certification of the public health facilities.

## Seminar on Cooperative Empowerment and Sustainable Agriculture held at Jammu

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 03: A one-day seminar on "Cooperative Empowerment and Sustainable Agriculture" was successfully organised today at the Auditorium, Kissan Kendra, Directorate of Agriculture, Talab Tillo, Jammu. The event was jointly hosted by Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL), set up under the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India in collaboration with Unnatu Agri Allied and Marketing Multi-State Cooperative Society. The Department of Agriculture, Jammu actively participated in the programme. The seminar was held as part of the Cooperative Week Celebrations (1st July - 6th July 2025), commemorating the vital role of cooperatives in strengthening India's rural and agricultural economy. The event brought together key stakeholders including cooperative leaders, officials from the Agriculture Department, representatives of Farmer Producer

Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs) and other allied government agencies. The main objective of the programme was to strengthen Agricultural Cooperative Societies/ Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) by identifying natural seeds of indigenous plant varieties, including but not limited to food grains, vegetables, fruits and more. The initiative aims to establish a comprehensive system for the preservation, breeding, conservation, production, distribution and promotion of these seeds. BBSSL plans to incentivize farmers cultivating natural seeds through coordinated support from various agencies and to establish seed banks ensuring availability of such seeds to farmers across regions. Ms. Babila Rakwal, Commissioner Secretary, Department of Cooperatives, was the Chief Guest, while Dr. Arvinder Singh Reen, Director Agriculture Jammu, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. In her address, Ms. Rakwal highlighted the formation and aggrega-

tion of 165 cooperative societies in the Union Territory and emphasised their potential in ensuring the supply of quality seeds and generating rural employment. She underscored the importance of identifying and preserving natural seed varieties found in different agro-climatic zones of J&K, pointing out their long-term sustainability compared to hybrid seeds. Dr. Arvinder Singh Reen, while speaking on the occasion, highlighted the diverse agro-climatic potential of Jammu and Kashmir, which is conducive to seed production of cereals, oilseeds and medicinal and aromatic plants. He emphasized the need for collaborative efforts between the Agriculture and Cooperative Departments to benefit farmers and encouraged exploring allied activities such as beekeeping, mushroom cultivation and exotic vegetable farming. Representatives from BBSSL, J.P. Singh and Paresh Desai, delivered a detailed presentation on the role of BBSSL in promoting the production.

## Art 3 empowers Parliament to create new States without dissolving Assembly: Rattan Lal Gupta

Jammu, July 3: Advocate Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu & Kashmir National Conference, has strongly dismissed speculative media narratives suggesting that fresh Assembly elections would be mandatory following the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement issued here today, the senior NC leader termed these assumptions as "constitutionally unfounded and democratically misleading." He was responding to recent remarks by the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who stated he has no objection to dissolving the current Assembly if statehood is restored. While welcoming Omar Abdullah's statement, he clarified that "dissolution of the Assembly is not a constitutional compulsion, but rather a political choice." Citing the constitutional framework, Rattan Lal Gupta emphasized that the reorganisation of states and Union Territories is governed by Article 3 of the Constitution of India, which empowers Parliament to create new states.

## SANJY-2025: Kathua Glows with Light, Sound & Devotion in grand Laser Show at Scenic Riverfront

### District Information Centre Kathua inspires youth through laser show highlighting faith, future

HT NEWS DESK

KATHUA, JULY 03: In a unique blend of devotion, patriotism and public engagement, the District Information Centre Kathua organised a grand Multi-Themed Laser Show at the iconic Kathua Riverfront to mark the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from citizens of all age groups who gathered in large numbers to enjoy the visual spectacle. The multi-themed show featured a captivating blend of Shiva Tandav, Ganga Aarti, Patriotic Narratives and synchronised Light & Sound Laser displays, drawing repeated rounds of

applause from the audience. Visitors at the Kathua Waterfront restaurants also enjoyed the breathtaking show from the riverside, creating a festive and vibrant ambiance throughout the evening. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner Dr Rakesh Minhas, said that the event aimed to engage citizens positively and promote collective responsibility towards making Kathua cleaner and culturally vibrant. "This is just the beginning. More such cultural and public engagement events will be held in the future to strengthen the bond between people and administration" he said. The DC also reiterated the Administration's



commitment to developing Kathua as a model district, highlighting the Garbage-Free

Kathua slogan as a collective mission. Touching upon youth development, Dr Minhas informed the audience about the upcoming International Standard Indoor Stadium at Kathua. "This project will provide world-class sports infrastructure and motivate local youth to excel and bring laurels to Kathua, Jammu & Kashmir, and the nation," he said. On the occasion, Member Legislative Assembly Kathua Dr Bharat Bhushan lauded the efforts of the District Administration and Information Department for organising such a visually impactful event. "Kathua Waterfront is fast becoming the new identity of

the city. Events like these not only celebrate our faith and traditions but also bring the community together," he remarked. He also added that the upcoming indoor stadium will be a game-changer for youth empowerment and personality development in the district. DDC Vice Chairman Raghunandan Singh, ADC Kathua Vishavjeet Singh, CPO Ranjit Thakur, District and Sectoral officers were also present on the occasion. DDC Vice Chairman Raghunandan Singh, ADC Kathua Vishavjeet Singh, CPO Ranjit Thakur, District and Sectoral officers were also present on the occasion.

## DDC Rajouri chairs DLRC meeting, emphasizes timely disposal of pending cases

HT NEWS DESK

RAJOURI, JULY 3: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma today chaired the District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting at Dak Bungalow Rajouri to review the performance of banks and line departments under various government-sponsored schemes.

During the meeting, the DDC took a detailed review of the branch-wise list of pending cases under schemes such as PMEGP, KVIB, HADP and other self-employment schemes of different departments. The LDM was asked to provide detailed data regarding cases returned under each scheme from all banks to the concerned departments, along with reasons, to ensure transparency and corrective measures.

The DDC issued strict instructions that departments clearing the cases must communicate promptly with the concerned offi-



cers. He emphasized that no applicant should be harassed or made to run unnecessarily for follow-ups. He further directed the Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) to ensure timely disposal of all pending applications. The Handloom Department was

instructed to plan and propose a District Export Plan to boost the district's economic activities and promote local artisans and weavers.

The State Bank of India (SBI) was directed to submit a separate Action Taken Report (ATR) regard-

ing scheme implementation. The DDC also stressed that bank branches should be selected carefully, ensuring that the proposed unit or beneficiary falls within the service area of the concerned branch to avoid operational bottlenecks.

In addition, the DDC directed RSETI to provide quality training under the Mission YUVA initiative, ensuring that the youth are trained in market-relevant skills and are made job-ready or self-employment ready. The banks were asked to ensure timely disbursement of sanctioned cases under various governmental schemes.

The meeting was attended by key officials including the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Deputy Director Employment, Functional Manager DIC, Lead District Manager, DDM NABARD, District Nodal Officer JKEDI, DDM NABARD, district-level officers of line departments and representatives from KVIB, Handloom and other concerned agencies.

## RTI Workshop in Srinagar Highlights Vital Role of Transparency in Jammu Kashmir

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: A two-day capacity-building workshop on the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005, recently concluded in Srinagar, emphasising the critical role of transparency and accountability in democratic governance within Jammu and Kashmir. Organised by the J&K RTI Movement in collaboration with the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Uri Foundation, and Kashmir Law Circle, the event brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including legislators, administrators, legal experts, civil society leaders, journalists, and aspiring law students. Addressing the inaugural session, MLA Kulgam Mohammad Yusuf Tarigami passionately articulated that the constitutional right to life is inextricably linked to the Right to Information. He stressed that RTI empowers citizens to access information crucial to their daily existence, lamenting that the right to live with dignity is under threat due to a reluctance to challenge authority, leading to systemic inefficiencies. Tarigami urged the youth, in particular, to grasp the true spirit of the RTI Act, emphasising that only through active public participation can its benefits

truly reach the grassroots. He also voiced concern over the cumbersome process of filing even a First Information Report (FIR) and criticised the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, suggesting that more effective utilisation of the RTI mechanism could have allowed for its challenge.

MLA Wagoora-Kreeri Irfan Hafeez Lone, a pioneering RTI activist in Jammu and Kashmir, delivered a powerful message of resilience, urging activists not to lose hope despite current challenges. He asserted that the RTI Act is the very soul of democracy, requiring the unwavering support of the people, the government, and all committed to systemic reform. Lone lauded the J&K RTI Movement as a dynamic platform for nurturing youth leadership and fostering active political engagement. He specifically commended Dr Shaikh Ghulam Rasool for his steadfast dedication in guiding the J&K RTI Movement through various adversities, crediting his relentless efforts for keeping the spirit of transparency and accountability alive in the region. Lone's own remarkable journey, including his pivotal role in bringing the J&K RTI Act 2004 to the region alongside the late Balraj Puri, serves as an inspiration for youth leadership and RTI activism.

## SDM Paddar conducts whirlwind tour of Machail to inspect ongoing developmental works

HT NEWS DESK



KISHTWAR, JULY 03: Under the Directions of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma, the Sub Divisional Magistrate Paddar, Dr. Amit Kumar conducted a whirlwind tour of Machail to inspect the ongoing developmental works in the area.

During this tour, he paid particular attention to the laying of tiles from the Helipad towards Bhawan.

The construction of sanitary complexes was initiated and he oversaw the progress of the Parisar Bhawan construction project.

The contractor in charge of the Parisar Bhawan was instructed to complete the slab laying before the 20th of July to ensure the smooth conduct of the annual Shree Machail Mata Yatra 2025.

Additionally, SDM Paddar inspected other developmental works, such as the construction of Yatra Sarai and dormitory by the PWD department.

He directed the RDD department to ensure the proper functioning of the Yatra Sarai and to maintain sanitation in and around the Parisar area.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate emphasized the importance of completing these projects in a timely manner to facilitate the upcoming Shree Machail Mata Yatra and to provide essential facilities for the residents and pilgrims.

The SDM was accompanied by Tehsildar Atholi Vijay Gupta, besides senior officers of the concerned departments.

## DC Doda reviews JJM and JSJB 2.0 progress, stresses timely completion and water sustainability

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JULY 03: A detailed review meeting was convened today at the Mini Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Doda, to assess the implementation status of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Jal Shakti Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) 2.0 initiatives in the district.

The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, who also serves as the Chairman of DJJM Doda, along with Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Doda. Among the attendees were Chief Planning Officer, Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Doda, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti and Irrigation & Flood Control Divisions, Assistant Executive Engineers from Doda and Bhandarwah and members of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) team. The Superintending Engineer,



Hydraulic Circle Doda, delivered a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation highlighting the district's progress under both missions. Key indicators such as the number of Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs), completion of rapid sand filtration plants, bore wells and other critical infrastructure were presented. The performance of three major divisions Jal Shakti PHE Division

Doda, PWD (R&B) Sub-Division Gandoh and Hydraulic Divisions of Kishtwar and Thathri was also reviewed.

During the discussions, the Deputy Commissioner directed all executing agencies to expedite pending works within the stipulated timelines and to conduct regular field inspections to monitor real-time progress. They underscored the importance of inter-departmental coordination, timely resolution of bottlenecks at the field level and quality assurance in the execution of projects. The officers were also instructed to prepare a clear roadmap for addressing gaps in water quality testing and to enhance public awareness about water conservation and judicious usage. In addition, the DC stressed the need for certifying all completed Functional Household Tap Connections promptly and ensuring that every household is covered.

## IDA Kashmir Central Branch Holds Special Interaction with National Head NOHP Dr. L. Swasticharan

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 3: The Indian Dental Association (IDA) Kashmir Central Branch held a special interaction session with Dr. L. Swasticharan, Deputy Director General / Director of Emergency Medical Relief (EMR) and National Head of the National Oral Health Programme (NOHP) at Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.

The meeting was led by Prof. Dr. H.U. Malik, senior

dental academician and prominent member of IDA, along with Dr. Adil Malik, Secretary IDA Kashmir Central Branch, and Dr. Syed Ishtiyaq Geelani, President IDA Kashmir Central Branch. The delegation highlighted the growing concern regarding the rising unemployment among dental surgeons in Jammu & Kashmir.

A brief but constructive discussion was held regarding the inclusion of dental surgeons under the National Health Mission (NHM), similar to the model adopt-

ed in other states. Dr. Swasticharan assured the delegation that the matter will be taken up positively and appropriate steps will be explored to integrate dental professionals within public health frameworks.

On behalf of the branch, Dr. Humaira, Editor of IDA Kashmir Central Branch, submitted a comprehensive memorandum titled "Strengthening Oral Health Services in Jammu & Kashmir", along with a proposal for establishing a Regional Centre of Excellence in Dentistry in the Kashmir

region.

The delegation also emphasized the urgent need to establish dedicated dental units at the primary healthcare levels across J&K, to ensure accessibility of oral healthcare in underserved areas. It was mutually agreed that strong policy interventions, backed by data and collaboration between central and regional stakeholders, are crucial for improving the overall oral health landscape in the Union Territory.

## Govt Orders Transfers of 3 JKAS, One IAS Officer in JK

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: In a fresh administrative reshuffle, the Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered transfers and postings of several officers in the interest of administration, according to an official order. Srinagar tourism As per the order, Sham Lal Abrol, JKAS, presently serving as Collector, ERA, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Vishal Kumar Sadhotra, Junior Scale JKAS, serving as BDO Pancheri, has been transferred and his services placed at the disposal of the Tourism Department for further posting.

Aditi Singhaal, Junior Scale JKAS, currently posted as CDPO Rajouri, has been transferred and posted as Under Secretary to the Government, Tourism Department. Meanwhile, in a separate order issued by the General Administration Department (GAD) on the directions of the Lieutenant Governor, Shri Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, IAS (AGMUT: 2016), who has been transferred to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, has been posted as Managing Director, Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC) with immediate effect. Meanwhile, in a separate order issued by the General Administration Department (GAD) on the directions of the Lieutenant Governor, Shri Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, IAS (AGMUT: 2016), who has been transferred to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, has been posted as Managing Director, Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited.

## Sajad Lone Seeks Scientific Audit Of Reservation Policy's Impact, Files RTI

HT NEWS DESK/KNS

SRINAGAR, July 3: Peoples Conference President Sajad Lone today called for a "scientific and statistical analysis of reservations," asserting that the current policy framework is inflicting disproportionate damage on the Kashmiri-speaking ethnic group.

In a statement, Lone revealed that he has filed an application under the Right to Information (RTI) Act to obtain relevant data that would form the foundation of a "statistically scientific basis" to evaluate the impact of reservations.

"I have filed an application under the RTI to get some data. That would provide a statistically scientific basis to evaluate the damage inflicted upon the



Kashmiri-speaking ethnic group due to reservations," he said. Explaining the method of analysis he intends to undertake, Lone said, "We need data on actual merit in an examination held for recruitment. We need data on the last ten recruitment examinations. Which means that we produce actual marks scored by the candidates and prepare a merit list without applying reservations. Next, we

get the actual selection list. The difference between a merit list without applying reservations and a merit list after applying reservations gives us the exact damage inflicted upon the Kashmiri-speaking ethnic group." According to PC President, the selection data from ten examinations would serve as a sample, which can later be expanded to derive a statistically significant figure in assessing the extent of what he called "damage." "If the government does actually come up with anything, we will apply that new reservation system to the last ten recruitment lists released by the government and see whether it changes anything or makes matters worse for the Kashmiri-speaking ethnic group," he further stated.

## President DCDRC Kupwara Holds Meeting with officers to Ensure Compliance with Consumer Protection Act

HT NEWS DESK



Kupwara, July 03: The President, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DCDRC) Kupwara, Peerzada Qousar Hussain, today convened a meeting with officers of various line departments in his office chamber to discuss matters related to the Consumer Protection Act and ensure effective coordination.

During the meeting, the President apprised the officers about the key provisions of the Consumer Protection Act and emphasized the need for cooperation with the Commission in handling consumer grievances. He directed the concerned officers to respond promptly to notices issued by the Commission and ensure that replies are submitted without delay.

The President also cautioned that any failure to comply with the court directions or delay in response may compel the Commission to take coercive measures, which can be avoided through timely action and coordination.

The meeting aimed to enhance awareness among the line departments and ensure smooth and effective redressal of consumer complaints in the district.

## BMO Gool Dr Ashfaq Hassan Suspended, Inquiry Initiated

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 3 (JKNS): The Jammu & Kashmir Health Department has placed Dr Ashfaq Hassan, In-Charge Block Medical Officer (BMO) Gool, under suspension pending an inquiry into his conduct.

In an official order issued by secretary health, a copy of which lies with news agency JKNS reads, Pending enquiry into his conduct, Dr. Ashfaq Hassan, I/C BMO Gool is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956. During the period of suspension, he shall remain attached at CHC Basholi, Kathua, it reads. Subsequent upon above, Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Malik, DHO Ramban shall look after the charge of BMO Gool, in addition to his own duties, till further orders, reads the order. (JKNS)

## SIA conducts searches in Bijbehara in migrant labourer's killing case

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Jul 03 (KNO): The State Investigation Agency (SIA) Kashmir carried out search operations at the premises of two suspects in the Bijbehara area of Anantnag in a case linked to the killing of a migrant labourer in April last year.

According to a statement, issued to news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), these searches were carried out as part of an ongoing investigation into the brutal killing of Raja Sah on April 17, 2024, in Bijbehara.

# PM addresses Ghana Parliament, describes India as 'mother of democracy'

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Accra/ New Delhi, July 3

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today described India as the "mother of democracy" and said that Indian democracy is not merely a system but a part of its fundamental values. He noted that India would soon be the third largest economy based on the foundations of a stable polity and good governance. In his address at the Ghana Parliament, the PM said that in these times of global uncertainty, India's democratic stability shines as a ray of hope and its rapid progress is a catalyst for global growth. "As the world's largest democracy, India is a pillar of strength for the world. A strong India will contribute to a more stable and prosperous

world. True democracy promotes discussion and debate. It unites people. It supports dignity and promotes human rights. Democratic values may take time to grow. But it is our responsibility to preserve and nurture them," he said. In his address interspersed with Vedic verses, the Prime Minister said that India is the fastest growing emerging economy and on the foundations of a stable polity and good governance, will soon be the third largest economy. He said that from thousands of years ago, India has had centers like Vaishali. He quoted the Rig Veda, one of the world's oldest scriptures, saying (meaning let good thoughts come to us from all directions). This openness to ideas, he said, is the core of



democracy." India has over 2,500 political parties. I repeat, 2,500 political parties, 20 different parties governing different states, 22 official languages, thousands of dialects. This is also the reason that people who came to India have always been welcomed with open hearts. The same spirit helps Indians integrate easily wherever they go. Even in Ghana, they have blended into society, just like

sugar in tea," the Prime Minister said. The Prime Minister said the world order created after the Second World War was changing fast. The revolution in technology, rise of the Global South and shifting demographics are contributing to its pace and scale. However, challenges like climate change, pandemics, terrorism and cybersecurity. Institutions created in the last century were struggling to respond. The changing circumstances demand credible and effective reforms in global governance. He said progress could not be possible without giving voice to the Global South. "We need more

than slogans. We need action. That is why, during India's G20 Presidency, we worked with the vision - One Earth, One Family, One Future." Describing free and fair elections as the soul of any democracy, Prime Minister Modi said it was encouraging to see the Electoral Commissions of the two countries working closely together. He said India had put emphasis on Africa's rightful place at the global high table and Ghana's commitment to democratic ideals and inclusive progress made it a beacon of inspiration for the entire African continent. Prime Minister Modi also paid tributes to Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's founding President, and said his words continue to guide the shared journey of the two countries.

## Trump demands Federal Reserve Chair' resignation

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
New York, July 3



US President Donald Trump has demanded the resignation of Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell. In a post on his "Truth Social" account on Wednesday, Trump put the link to an article about comments from Bill Pulte, head of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, who called on Congress to investigate Powell over his alleged political bias and deception of the Senate. Trump has previously threatened to remove Powell from his position before his term expires next year, repeatedly lambasting the Fed chair for not cutting interest rates.

## Kharge flays Modi govt over China 'pulling officials' from Indian manufacturing sector

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
New Delhi, July 3

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge today targeted the Modi government over news reports that China has recalled its officials from India's manufacturing sector. In a post on X, Kharge accused the government of compromising national interest and economic security in the name of foreign investment and policy schemes. "According to reports, China has pulled back its officials from India's manufacturing sector. Isn't it true that the Modi government, having failed entirely on its 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' promises, laid out the red carpet for Chinese companies and eased visa rules for Chinese nationals—all while forgetting the sacrifices at Doklam and Galwan—to ensure benefits under the PLI scheme?" Kharge asked. The Congress chief further criticised the government for remaining silent as China imposed strict restrictions on the export of rare earth magnets and minerals to India. These materials are vital for key sectors such as automobiles, electric vehicles, defense production, and high-security currency printing. "Isn't it true that the Modi government has taken no concrete steps in response? Chinese officials haven't even granted official appointments



or approvals to delegations from India's automobile industry," Kharge added. Highlighting another serious concern, Kharge alleged that China has stopped exporting speciality fertilizers to India in the past two months, while continuing supply to other countries. India depends on China for 80% of its speciality fertilizer imports, which are crucial for the productivity of fruits, vegetables, and other high-value crops. "Won't this severely affect millions of our farmers, who are already suffering due to a shortage of urea and DAP fertilizers?" he asked. In a sharp remark, Kharge said the Modi government's "Chinese guarantee" appears to have no expiry date. "Five years ago, after the martyrdom of 20 brave soldiers in Galwan, your government gave China a clean chit. Today, China is fully exploiting that—and it seems we are left watching helplessly.

## India in touch with US on proposed Bill to impose 500 pc tariff on countries importing Russian oil

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Washington, July 3

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said India has conveyed to the United States its concerns about a proposal to impose 500 percent tariffs on countries buying oil from Russia, asserting "we will cross the bridge when we come to it". Dr Jaishankar said at a press conference here last night that any development in the US Congress that affects India, is of interest to New Delhi. He was commenting on the US proposal to impose 500 percent tariff on countries buying oil from Russia. Dr Jaishankar said India's concerns had been conveyed to Senator Lindsey Graham. Senator Lindsey Graham is in discussions with President Don-



ald Trump about the proposed Bill on Russia to impose a 500 per cent tariff on imports from any nation that purchases Russian oil, gas, uranium and other products. Some Republican lawmakers have expressed concern about advancing the Bill. "Regarding Senator Lindsey Graham's Bill, any development which is happening in the US Congress is of interest to us if it impacts our interest or could impact our interest. So, we have been in touch with Senator Gra-

ham. Our concerns and our interests in energy, security have been made conversant to him. So, we'll then have to cross that bridge when we come to it, if we come to it," Dr Jaishankar said. The Bill co-sponsored by Lindsey Graham with Democratic Senator Richard Blumenthal, will allow the US to impose 500 per cent tariffs on India and China, among many other countries to stop them from buying Russian oil and gas thereby supporting Russia in the Ukraine war. The Bill, first introduced in March, faced delays because of some opposition. However, Graham has claimed that it is being supported by 84 senators. India and China are the two major buyers of Russian oil and the Bill, if passed, will create problems for both countries. India maintains that its oil trade with Russia is legal.

## Calcutta HC directs closure of all union rooms in colleges and universities till new bodies are elected

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Kolkata, July 3

The Calcutta High Court today directed the West Bengal government's higher education department to issue an official notice with direction to shut all student union rooms in colleges and universities across the state until the student elections are held. The Calcutta high court's double bench comprising Justices Somen Sen and Smita Das passed this judgement to this effect. The judicial directive was passed after one Sayan Banerjee filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking a court order on the issue after a girl student of a law college was allegedly gang raped by a former student and two other students. The accused former student was very influential as he was a student leader. The incident took place on June 25. The student elections were last held in 2017. The court also ordered the state to submit an affidavit within two weeks. The next hearing on this matter is on July 17. The court directed that the student union rooms should be locked and cannot be used for any kind



of recreational activities." If there is any urgent need, a formal application with valid reasons must be submitted in writing to the university registrar," the court explained. The Calcutta high court's double bench comprising Justices Somen Sen and Smita Das passed this judgement to this effect. The judicial directive was passed after one Sayan Banerjee filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking a court order on the issue after a girl student of a law college was allegedly gang raped by a former student and two other students.

## Manipur: Three held in counter-insurgency crackdown; arms seized

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Imphal, July 3

In separate operations in the last 24 hours, security forces in Manipur arrested three suspects involved in underground activities across the state, police said today, adding the arrests took place in Kakching and Bishnupur districts, while a significant cache of arms and explosives

was recovered from a forest in Imphal East. A suspect was apprehended from Sekmaiin Maning Leikai, under the jurisdiction of Hiyanglam police station in Kakching district. Officials said the individual was allegedly involved in extortion activities targeting fuel stations in Kakching and Thoubal districts. A keypad mobile handset was seized from the suspect during the operation.

## India, Ghana elevate ties to Comprehensive Partnership as PM Modi holds talks with President Mahama in Accra

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Accra/New Delhi, July 3

India and Ghana have decided to elevate their bilateral ties to a Comprehensive Partnership, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said today after holding talks with President John Dramani Mahama in Accra. PM Modi said that India is not just a partner in Ghana's journey of nation-building but a co-traveller. Addressing the media in the Jubilee House in Accra, after the bilateral talks, PM Modi said that after a gap of three decades, an Indian Prime Minister is visiting Ghana, and it is a matter of immense pride for him to have been given this opportunity to visit Ghana. He congratulated President Mahama for his victory in the December 2024 general elections, being elected for a second term.



He said the victory reflects the deep trust of the people of Ghana in his leadership and vision. "President Mahama and I have decided to elevate our bilateral partnership to the level of a 'Comprehensive Partnership'. In Ghana's journey of nation-building, India is not just a partner but a co-traveller," he said. PM Modi said that the magnificent Jubilee House, the Foreign Service Institute,

the Komenda Sugar Factory, the India-Ghana Kofi Annan ICT Centre, and the Tema-Pakadan Railway Line are symbols of the bilateral partnership. The bilateral trade has crossed USD 3 billion. Indian companies have invested nearly USD 2 billion across around 900 projects. "Today, we have set a target to double our mutual trade over the next five years," the PM said. He said in the field of FinTech, India is ready to share its UPI digital payment experience with Ghana. Stressing that development partnership is a foundational pillar of the bilateral ties, he assured India's full support for President Mahama's efforts toward economic restructuring. India has decided to double the ITEC and ICCR scholarships for Ghana. "To promote vocational education for youth, we will work to establish a Skill Development Centre."

## Hezbollah refuses to disarm, citing Israeli threat

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
Beirut, July 3

Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem has reaffirmed that the Lebanese group will not give up its weapons, citing a "real and strategic threat" from Israel. Speaking during an Ashura Council event on Wednesday in Beirut's southern suburb, Qassem said, "Our weapons are for confronting Israel, and we will never give up this fight." Qassem's remarks, which were



broadcast by al-Manar TV channel, come amid calls for Lebanon to assert greater state control over all armed groups within its territory. Hezbollah has insisted that its weapons are essential for defending Lebanon against potential Israeli aggression. "Israel is a real and strategic

threat—not only to Palestine and Lebanon, but to the entire region," Qassem said in his speech. "We are a resistance party. Our duty is to resist and confront." Qassem also dismissed any foreign interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, noting, "Issues such as the weapons are internal matters to be addressed among Lebanese. Israel has no right to intervene, supervise, or monitor our national dialogue."

## Health benefits of carrot Contains vitamin-A, commonly good for eye health.



■ **Sahil Manzoor**



Due to the presence of vital components of food in the vegetables. Doctors, dieticians suggest green leafy vegetables to the patients with different disorders. Green leafy vegetables are rich in vitamins, minerals, etc. Vegetables are being used throughout the world on a daily basis. We have different vegetables. Some we import from other countries, or we get them from the other states of the country. Some vegetables are being cultivated here in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Today the department of horticulture used advanced techniques to tackle the shortage of fresh vegetables and made hard efforts to provide seasonal vegetable saplings to the growers promptly. Today in this article I am going to let you know the health benefits of carrots. Carrot is a cylindrical, conical shaped root vegetable. The part covered under the soil is edible. Carrot has very little sugar content so it tastes a bit sweet. Carrots are widely used as salads with other vegetables like cabbage, radish, tomatoes, green chilies, beet root, cucumber etc. Carrots can be eaten raw as well. Due to the presence of a number of beneficial nutrients in it carrots have a great market value in all seasons. The botanical name of carrot is as (*Daucus carota*) and it belongs to the Apiaceae family.

Benefits of carrots: Carrots are rich in vitamin-A. Chemical name of vitamin-A is Retinol. Carrots are being considered as good for eye health. Carrots can improve your bowel movement and respire you from constipation due to the presence of fibers in it. Carrot can improve your immune system as it contains vitamin-C. Carrots are good for heart health as they contain antioxidants. All the antioxidants are good for heart health. It keeps your blood pressure on a normal scale due to the presence of potassium. Carrots can control our blood sugar level as carrots are packed with vitamin-A and beta-carotene which can lower your diabetes risk. As we know antioxidants fights with free radicals in the body and keeps you away from the lethal disease that is cancer. Cancer nowadays is called CA.

Suggestion: it is well said that "health is wealth". We should not compromise with our health. Our future plans, our dreams, our hopes are linked with our health. We do not go for regular medical check-ups, avoid self-medication, and avoid unhealthy junk food items. We should eat raw vegetables with meals and with dinner. The department of horticulture should keep in consideration the demands of the growers and have to cater to each and every possible facility.

Sahil Manzoor  
sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com

## Justice Sanjeev Kumar inaugurates Legal Aid Clinic & Free Medical Camp for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatris at Pahalgam

■ **HT NEWS DESK**

Anantang July 03: In a momentous step towards strengthening access to justice and healthcare, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, inaugurated a Legal Aid Clinic and Free Medical Camp at the Court Complex, Pahalgam, for the benefit of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatris and the local population.

Addressing the gathering, Justice Sanjeev Kumar underlined the dual commitment of the Legal Services Authorities towards legal empowerment and humanitarian service. He interacted with aggrieved persons seeking legal assistance, encouraging them to utilize the free services available through the Legal Services Institutions.

"Legal aid is not charity; it is the constitutional mandate of a welfare state. Every person, regardless of their economic or social status, has the right to access justice. The Legal



Services Authorities have been working tirelessly to bridge the gap between law and the people. This Legal Aid Clinic at Pahalgam is another step in that direction—bringing justice to the very doorstep of the needy, especially during the holy Amarnath Yatra when thousands

converge here," he said.

He stated that Free Medical Camp established here is equally significant, as pilgrims undertake a physically and spiritually intense journey. He added, "It is our duty to ensure that no one is left without basic healthcare. I commend the Health

Department and the Legal Services Authority for this collaborative effort which merges legal aid with health care—two pillars of human dignity."

"It is heartening to see today's program combine awareness with cultural expression. The skit and folk song by students beautifully highlighted the importance of knowing one's rights. And more importantly, today's distribution of mobility aids—scooters, wheelchairs, and hearing aids—reiterates our commitment to empower those who have been historically neglected" Justice Sanjeev Kumar underlined.

"Let us continue to work together—judiciary, civil society, health officials, and the public—to build a more inclusive and accessible justice system. Legal aid is not just about courts—it is about compassion, care, and commitment to the last person in the line."

The program featured a welcome address by Tahir Khurshid Raina, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Anantnag.

## DC Budgam Reviews Progress on New District Hospital, Critical Care Unit in Reshipora

■ **HT NEWS DESK**

Budgam, July 03: The Deputy Commissioner of Budgam, Dr.

medical services to local residents.

Dr. Bhat noted that both projects are on track and, once completed, will significantly



Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat visited the construction site of 125-bedded new District Hospital and a 100-bedded Critical Care Unit in Reshipora.

During the visit, DC highlighted need for accelerating construction efforts to ensure these essential healthcare facilities are completed in a timely manner.

He pointed out that these hospitals will greatly improve the healthcare infrastructure in the district and offer advanced

boost healthcare delivery in the region by providing specialized care and critical medical services.

The District Administration, together with the Roads and Buildings (R&B) department and the health department, is committed to completing these important projects as quickly as possible, aiming to make them available to the public ahead of schedule.

The establishment of the hospital and critical care unit is

expected to be crucial in meeting the healthcare needs of Budgam, particularly in delivering specialized and critical medical care to public.

DC informed that continued monitoring of the projects is being conducted to promptly address any issues through coordinated efforts among multiple departments.

During the visit, he was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Superintendent Engineer R&B circle Budgam, Chief Planning Officer Budgam, Chief Medical Officer of Budgam, Medical Superintendent of District Hospital Budgam, as well as various executive engineers and representatives from the agencies.

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## Dr Itoo meets Professor Khuroo, discusses healthcare issues

■ **HT NEWS DESK**



Srinagar July 03 Noted medico cum columnist Dr. Tasaduk Hussain Itoo met world's noted scientist cum top medico Professor (Dr.) M S Khuroo and talked on various issues related to healthcare.

The two doctors discussed about health education and awareness, health development, career progression, patient care and management with special emphasis on aspects in a doctor-patient relationship.

Dr. Khuroo appraised about various aspects to focus on in a doctor-patient relationship—trust, mutual respect and understanding, confidentiality, communication skills, sympathy and empathy, ethics, encouraging clinical medicine besides adopting necessary labs and modern imaging modalities in establishing diagnosis, including other aspects.

Another issue discussed was that of medical writing and the two doctors agreed in developing many write-ups together on health education and awareness.

"It was indeed an honor to meet and learn, share ideas and gain worth full advices to follow from honourable

## WHO launches '3 by 35' initiative to tackle chronic diseases

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA  
New Delhi, July 3

The World Health Organization (WHO) today unveiled its ambitious "3 by 35" initiative, urging nations to raise taxes on tobacco, alcohol, and sugary drinks by at least 50% by 2035. The initiative comes as a direct response to the rising global burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes, which now account for over 75% of all deaths worldwide. "Health taxes are one of the most efficient tools we have," said Dr. Jeremy Farrar, Assistant Director-General, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and Control, WHO in a statement here. "They cut the consumption of harmful products and create revenue governments can reinvest in health care, education, and social protection. It's time to act." Blatant spike in NCDs have placed an immense strain on global health systems,



already grappling with reduced development aid and growing public debt.

The call for higher taxes on these harmful products is expected to curb consumption, particularly among vulnerable populations, and simultaneously generate much-needed public revenue for health infrastructure and prevention programs, added the statement. Recent studies highlight the potential of such measures, with projections suggesting that a one-time 50% price hike on tobacco, alcohol, and sugary drinks

could prevent as many as 50 million premature deaths over the next five decades. The initiative has an ambitious but achievable goal of raising USD1 trillion over the next 10 years. Between 2012 and 2022, nearly 140 countries raised tobacco taxes, which resulted in an increase of real prices by over 50% on average, showing that large-scale change is possible.

From Colombia to South Africa, governments that have introduced health taxes have seen reduced consumption and increased revenue. Yet many countries continue to provide tax incentives to unhealthy industries, including tobacco, as per the statement. Moreover, long-term investment agreements with industry that restrict tobacco tax increases can further undermine national health goals. "The WHO encourages governments to review and avoid such exemptions to support effective tobacco control and protect public health," said the statement.

## J&K Medical Council issued over 1600 registrations in last two months

■ **HT NEWS DESK**

Srinagar: The Jammu & Kashmir Medical Council is streamlining the issuance of various registration certificates after it

made it mandatory ending last year through a public notice that no allopathic doctor shall be allowed to practice in Jammu & Kashmir without a permanent registration certificate issued by J&K Medical Council. In order to expedite the process of registration, various applicant-friendly measures are taken within the ambit of regulations of national medical council (NMC).

Over last two months, 1,688 registration certificates were issued which include 542 permanent registrations, 863 provisional registrations, 132 additional qualification

registrations, 111 NOCs and 40 good standing certificates. In 2024, 1295 permanent registrations, 1557 provisional registrations, 342 additional qualification registrations, 467 NOCs and 225 good standing certificates were issued.

The registration requires meticulous verification and authentication by various issuing authorities including boards of school education for class 10 and 12 degrees, internship completion certificates by concerned medical colleges, mark sheets and degree certificates by issuing universities.

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# Ranjane, Ferreira hit quick 30s to lift Texas Super Kings to No. 2

United News of India

**LAUDERHILL:** The race for the top-two spots in MLC 2025 took another twist after Texas Super Kings comfortably beat Washington Freedom on Wednesday evening in a rain-curtailed, five-overs-a-side encounter in Lauderhill.

The 43-run win for TSK saw them move up to No. 2 on the points table, while Freedom dropped to third after eight games apiece. They both have 12 points, alongside San Francisco Unicorns, who are first by

virtue of a better net run-rate. It was Freedom who won the toss and opted to field, and when Marcus Stoinis (2) fell cheaply and Daryl Mitchell (6) retired out, it seemed like the right call.

But No. 3 Shubham Ranjane and No. 4 Donovan Ferreira bashed 53 runs in just 12 balls in an unbroken third-wicket partnership to lift TSK to 87 in five overs. Ranjane top-scored with 39 in 14 balls and Ferreira hit a nine-ball 37.

The Freedom top order, stacked with big-hitting internationals, was wrecked

by Nandre Burger early as he dismissed Rachin Ravindra (10) and Glenn Maxwell (0) off the last two balls of the first over.

Akeal Hosein then picked off Mitchell Owen in the second over. Glenn Phillips did contribute with 18 in 11 balls and stayed unbeaten at the end, but Freedom could not find enough boundaries to make the chase a contest.

Overall, Freedom hit three fours and three sixes in comparison to TSK's four fours and eight sixes. All of TSK's boundaries were struck by Ranjane and Ferreira.

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

- From 02-07-2025, 1700 hrs. to 03-07-2025, 1700 hrs., there was slow movement observed on NH-44 due to breakdown of 02 HMVs, single lane traffic at Nashri-Dalwas and between Marog & Kishtwari Pather.
- 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/LMVs 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 & Kishtwari Pather 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) so that their movement can be facilitated smoothly
- 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 halage between Ramban and Banihal especially near landslide/shooting stone area.

### TRAFFIC PLAN & ADVISORY FOR 04-07-2025:- Jammu-Srinagar NHW (NH-44)

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.

SHRI AMAR NATH JI YATRA 2025

Please refer to Yatra Advisory No. 01 dated 27-06-2025

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. No vehicle shall be allowed to move before and after 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, as per advisory issued by DIVCOM Kashmir vide No. Divcom/Dev/120/2025/7055-75 dated 01-07-2025

### 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.

### SSG ROAD

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, (after getting green signal from the BRO) traffic movement shall be allowed on regulated manner on Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumari road. LMVs followed by HMVs shall be allowed from Minamarg towards Srinagar at 0500 hrs. to 1000 hrs. Similarly, LMVs followed by HMVs shall be allowed from Sonamarg towards Kargil at 1130 hrs to 1730 hrs. No vehicle shall be allowed after cut off timing. SFs Convoy, plying from Srinagar to Kargil and vice versa shall plan their movement in such a manner so that Yatra convoys (both UP and DOWN) don't get disturbed.

### 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 (upto ten tyres only) shall be allowed from Shopian towards Poonch. These vehicles shall be allowed from Behramgala (Baffiaz) and Herpora (Shopian) at 0700 hrs. upto 1800 hrs. as per advisory issued by DIVCOM Kashmir vide No. Divcom/Dev/120/2025/7055-75 dated 01-07-2025.

### 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)

DIPK-3299/25

Dt -03-July 2025

## GOVT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR SRINAGAR TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICE

Tel/Fax: 01942455179, email: trafficpolicecitysrinagar@gmail.com

### Traffic Advisory for 8<sup>th</sup> Muharram Procession (04<sup>th</sup> July-2025) from 0500 hrs till culmination of Procession.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Muharram-ul-Harram (04<sup>th</sup> July-2025) procession shall be taken out from Guru Bazar upto Dalgate Srinagar which effects traffic movement on M.A Road and the adjacent areas.

In order to have smooth movement of traffic and for convenience of general public/motorists, the following traffic advisory is issued:

- There will be no movement of traffic from Karan Nagar towards Jehangir Chowk via Shaheed Gunj/Tankipora from 05:00 AM till 08:00 AM.
- There will be no movement of Traffic from Jahangir Chowk-M.A Road upto Dalgate-Badyari stretch from 05:00 AM till the culmination of the procession.
- Traffic coming from Batmaloo, Secretariat and Rambagh towards M.A Road shall be diverted towards Residency Road via Hari Singh High Street from 05:00 AM till the culmination of the procession.
- Traffic coming from Rainawari-Nowpora shall be diverted at Mamta Hotel towards SRTC Bridge, Barbarshah-Kralkhud-HabbaKadal-Karan Nagar.
- Traffic coming from Khanyar-Ikhwan Chowk shall be diverted at SRTC Bridge towards Barbarshah-Kralkhud-Habba Kadal-Karan Nagar.
- Motorists from Nishat Shalimar and adjacent areas shall use Boulevard-Gupkar Road -Radio Kashmir-R.R.Road/Abdullah Bridge from onward journey from 05:00 AM till the culmination of the procession.
- Traffic Coming from Pantha Chowk-Sonwar shall be diverted at Radio Kashmir via Residency Road and Abdullah Bridge for onward journey.
- Tourists and locals from Nehru Park and adjacent areas shall use Nehru Park, Gupkar Road or Nishat - Fore Shore Road.
- General Public is requested to kindly avoid unnecessary movement from Karan Nagar towards Dalgate via M.A. Road on 04.07.2025 during the procession to avoid any inconvenience.
- In case any assistance is required, citizens are requested to contact Traffic Police at the **Traffic Police Control Room No. 103.**

INCONVENIENCE IF ANY IS REGRETTED.

### PARKING FOR THE PARTICIPANTS:

- S.P College ground.
- Gindun Park.
- Batmaloo Bus Stand.

(Ajaz Ahmad Bhat) JIPS  
Sr. Superintendent of Police,  
Traffic City Srinagar

DIT/km/5/25  
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