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PAKISTAN AIMS DERAILMENT OF J&K'S DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY: LG SINHA

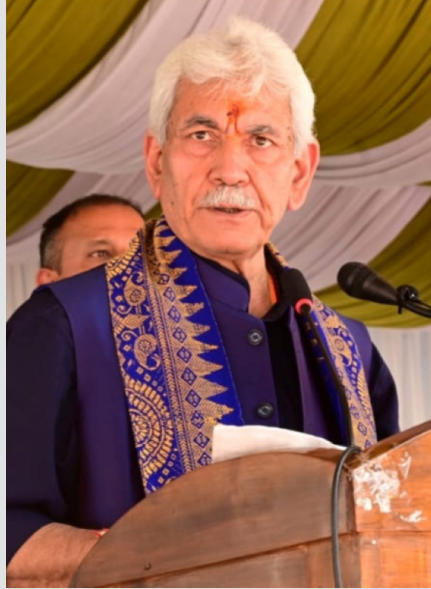
LG Sinha Attends Harbah Utsav, Visits Mata Sidh Lakshmi Temple

HT News Desk

ANANTNAG, JULY 07: Describing Pakistan as a "terrorist country," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday accused it of attempting to derail Jammu and Kashmir's development journey and sow discord among communities.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion of 'Harbah Utsav' at Larkipora Aishmuqam, LG Sinha said, "Pakistan, a terrorist country, is determined to undo the hard-earned progress made in the last five years in Jammu and Kashmir. It wants to break our unity. We must not allow it to succeed in its nefarious designs."

"My appeal to the people is to identify and isolate those who, on behalf of the terrorist nation Pakistan, are trying to create a divide on communal lines. They are the enemies of peace and development,



and we must stand united against such elements," he added.

On the auspicious occasion of 'Harbah Utsav', the Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha paid obeisance at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Temple at Teerathraj Lok Bhawan, Anantnag.

He participated in the Mahayagya organised by the Teerathraj Sidh Lakshmi Peeth Trust, and prayed for well-being of all and peace and prosperity of Jammu Kashmir

The Lieutenant Governor also interacted with the devotees and extended his hearty greetings on the auspicious occasion.

"Teerathraj Lok Bhawan has remained the centre of our devotion and faith since ancient times. It is an occasion to spread awareness about spiritual heritage

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Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025

Lieutenant Governor visits Nunwan base camp at Pahalgam



HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 07: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today visited Nunwan Base camp at Pahalgam and reviewed the arrangements in place for the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the pilgrims, service providers, langar sevadars, sanitation workers, and took stock of the facilities

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Amarnath Yatra Sees Record 23,857 Pilgrims on Day 5

HT News Desk / KNO

PAHALGAM, JUL 07: With the Amarnath Yatra 2025 gaining momentum, the pilgrimage witnessed its busiest day on Monday as 23,857 devotees paid obeisance at the Holy Cave.

This record-breaking single-day figure pushed the overall count of pilgrims to 93,336 since the Yatra commenced.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), pilgrims who paid obeisance today included 17,257 males, 5,297 females, 341 children, 296 sadhus, 9 transgender devotees, and 625 personnel from

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Heavy Rain In Kashmir Ends Prolonged Heatwave

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUL 7: A major relief from the ongoing heatwave was observed in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday as several regions across the Union



Territory, including the summer capital Srinagar, experienced heavy rainfall in the late afternoon. Meteorologists predict more rain and thunderstorms over the next 24 hours across the region.

According to the news agency, the hot and humid weather conditions continued till afternoon hours, following which a heavy downpour was experienced in Srinagar areas and other parts of northern Kashmir, bringing the mercury

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Kashmir Tourism on the Rise Again: Union Minister

HT News Desk / KNS

PAHALGAM JULY 7: Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Monday expressed optimism about the resurgence of tourism in Kashmir, stating that the Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a strong comeback after a period of disruption due to Pahalgam terror attack.

Talking to media here in Srinagar as per Kashmir News



Service (KNS) correspondent Shekhawat said, "After the incident in Pahalgam, tourism had

almost come to a standstill. But the way it has bounced back now, it feels like life itself has returned to the Valley."

He said that the coordinated efforts of the central and Jammu & Kashmir governments for this turnaround, highlighting steps such as ministerial visits, inter-ministerial coordination, and confidence-building initiatives. "These steps are strengthening

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Closed destinations reopening in phased manner: Mudgal

HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, JUL 07: Commissioner Secretary Tourism department, Yasha Mudgal on Monday said that the tourism sector is reviving gradually and the footfall of visitors will rise again within the next few

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Schools in Kashmir to Reopen Today with Revised Timings

Students to Resume Offline, Online Classes

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUL 7: Ending speculation over a possible extension of the summer vacation, Jammu and Kashmir's Education Minister Sakina Itoo on Monday confirmed that all government and private educational institutions across the Kashmir Valley will reopen on Tuesday, July 8 as scheduled.

The minister clarified that no extension has been granted to the ongoing summer break. "The schools will reopen on Tuesday. All teaching and learning activities will resume as per the new time schedule," she said.

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Online Classes Spark Backlash; Parents Fear Phone Addiction

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUL 7: The latest decision by Jammu and Kashmir's Education Minister, Sakina Itoo, to make 2-hour online classes

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Op Sindoor Boosted Demand for Indigenous Arms: Rajnath Singh

United News of India

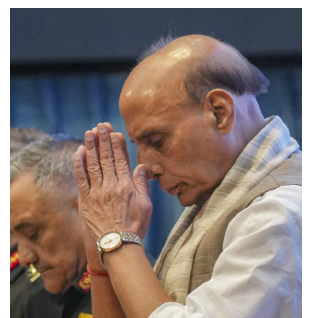
NEW DELHI, JULY 7: The demands for Indian defence equipment have increased following Operation Sindoor, said Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday, noting that the world military expenditure has increased to over USD 2.7 trillion in 2024, and a big market is awaiting India.

Speaking at the Controllers Conference organised by DRDO, the Union Defence Minister said, "The world is looking towards our Defence sector. The valour that our soldiers have shown during Operation Sindoor, as well as the way we showcased the capabilities of our domestic equipment, has led to an increase in demand for our indigenous defence products. World military expenditure has increased to over \$2.7 trillion in 2024 – such a big market is awaiting us."

Singh further mentioned that India's Defence budget is bigger than the GDP of various countries in the world, highlighting the need to utilise the resources in the right way.

"...If you look at our Defence budget, it's bigger than the GDP of some countries in the world. When a significant portion of people's hard-earned income is allocated to the Defence

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PM's Advisor Reviews J&K Projects, Governance Reforms

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 7: In a high-level meeting convened today, Advisor to Prime Minister, Tarun Kapoor, undertook a comprehensive review of development trajectory of Jammu and Kashmir, spanning energy, health, infrastructure, urban renewal, connectivity and governance reforms.

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, along with other senior officers were present



in the meeting.

The meeting brought together Administrative Secretaries of the UT government and senior officials from various Central agencies implementing mega projects across the region.

The Advisor was briefed on the significance, current status and projected completion timelines of each major project. The session began with a review of major hydroelectric projects (HEPs),

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Pahalgam Terror Attack:

NIA Gets Custody Of Two Accused For 10 More Days

United News of India

JAMMU, JUL 7: A special court in Jammu on Monday granted the National Investigation Agency (NIA) 10 more days' remand of the two accused arrested for allegedly harbouring Pakistani terrorists involved in the deadly Pahalgam terror attack in April, officials said.

After the expiry of the earlier 10-day remand, Parvaiz



Ahmad Jothar and Bashir Ahmad Jothar were produced before the Special NIA Court, which extended their remand to enable the NIA to carry out

its investigation in the case, the officials said.

The two were arrested on June 22 and were presented in a local court in Jammu the next day. The court initially granted the NIA five days' remand before the case was shifted to the special court.

According to the NIA, the accused disclosed the identities of the three armed terrorists

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BIOTECH START-UPS SURGED FROM 50 TO 11,000 IN ONE DECADE: JITENDRA SINGH

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JUL 6: Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh Monday called for a wider public understanding and inclusive participation in India's biotechnology mission, stating that every Indian is a stakeholder in the country's bioeconomy.

Speaking here during the nationwide celebration of World Bioproduct Day – The BioE3 Way, Singh reiterated the govern-

ment's commitment to realising a USD 300 billion bioeconomy by 2030.

The minister said that India's biotechnology ecosystem has grown from just around 50 start-ups a decade ago to nearly 11,000, a leap made possible by policy backing and institutional partnerships.

Singh said the BioE3 Policy lays the groundwork for India to lead in sustainable bio-manufacturing by aligning bioeconomy goals with environmental sustainabil-

ity, economic growth, and equity.

"Bioproducts aren't limited to laboratories anymore. They're about livelihoods, from biodegradable packaging to eco-friendly personal care, from rural employment to green jobs," he said.

He said that the future industrial revolution will be driven by bioeconomy, and India has taken the lead.

Singh also drew attention to the

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Pak Aims to.....

which emphasises on tolerance and acceptance of other religious traditions, viewing them as different paths leading towards the same ultimate truth," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised on unity in diversity and urged everyone to strengthen the bond of brotherhood and values of selfless service.

"We must spread the message of compassion, selflessness, and the inherent divinity of all beings. We should encourage young people to treat everyone with respect and dedicate themselves to build a just and humane society," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also appealed to the people to identify and isolate those who, on behalf of the Terrorist nation Pakistan are trying to create a divide on communal lines. They are the enemies of peace and development and we must stand united against such elements, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the Deputy Commissioner Anantnag and his entire team for making dedicated efforts to improve facilities for the pilgrims at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Lok Bhawan. He also extended his best wishes to the devotees for the forthcoming Mahakala pilgrimage.

Speaking to the media persons on the sidelines of his visit, the Lieutenant Governor said: "There is an atmosphere of joy across J&K as devotees arrive for the holy Shri Amarnathji Yatra. Muharram processions were taken out peacefully, and today we have gathered here at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Temple. It's heartening to see communities celebrating together in unity and mutual respect. This is the true spirit of Jammu Kashmir."

Shri Vidhi Kumar Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Shri Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid, Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag; senior officials of Police and Civil Administration, members of Teerathraj Sidh Lakshmi Peeth Trust, prominent citizens and devotees in large numbers were present.

Lieutenant.....

for the devotees. He commended the significant contribution of all stakeholders in the smooth and successful conduct of the holy pilgrimage.

During his visit, the Lieutenant Governor chaired a meeting with the administrative and security officials and discussed measures taken for the safe and hassle-free journey of the devotees of Baba Barfani. He also reviewed the queue management at the camp.

The Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by Dr Mandep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor and CEO, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Shri VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Shri Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag and other senior officers of District Administration, SASB, Police and Security Forces.

Amarnath Yatra.....

security forces. The surge in numbers, according to the officials, was aided by favourable weather, efficient arrangements, and enhanced logistical support from UT administration, and security agencies.

On Monday – the highest single-day turnout so far.

The pilgrimage began with 12,348 yatris paying obeisance on the first day (Thursday), followed by 14,515 on Friday, 21,109 on Saturday, 21,512 on Sunday, and with 23,857 pilgrims today.

Officials told KNO that the Yatra continues to run smoothly along both the Baltal and Pahalgam routes, under a multi-tier security cover with all essential services, including medical assistance.

Meanwhile, the sixth batch of 8,605 pilgrims departed from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu early Monday morning. The convoy, the largest of the season so far, was escorted under tight security and headed to the twin base camps at Baltal (Ganderbal) and Pahalgam (Anantnag).

The group included 6,486 male pilgrims, 1,826 females, 42 children, 216 sadhus, and 35 sadhvis. Route-wise, 3,486 pilgrims chose Baltal while 5,119 took the Pahalgam route.

A total of 372 vehicles were pressed into service for the batch – 179 buses, 81 medium motor vehicles (MMVs), and 112 light motor vehicles (LMVs). Baltal received 73 buses, 27 MMVs, and 66 LMVs, whereas the Pahalgam route had 106 buses, 54 MMVs, and 46 LMVs – marking the most extensive convoy deployment of the Yatra so far.

If the weather remains favorable, the number of pilgrims paying obeisance at the holy cave is all set to cross one lakh on Tuesday.

According to the officials there is a huge rush at the counters for on-the-spot registration, with authorities increasing the number of counters as well as the daily quota to ease the rush. Over 3,000 devotees arrived in Jammu from various parts of the country to get themselves registered.

Pertinently, more than 3.5 lakh people have registered online for the pilgrimage so far. Thirty-four accommodation centres have been set up across Jammu, and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags are being issued to the pilgrims. Twelve counters have been set up for on-the-spot registration.

Arrangements have been put in place to provide boarding and lodging facilities for more than 50,000 people at various lodgement cen-

tres across the Jammu region, from Lakhapur to Banihal, officials said.

A total of 180 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), which is 30 more than previous years, have been deployed for the security of the annual Amarnath Yatra in Jammu division this year, a senior police officer said.

The 38-day pilgrimage, which commenced on July 3 will conclude on August 9 – (KNO)

Heavy Rain.....

down by above 10 degrees abruptly. The maximum temperature plummeted from 34.3 degrees at 3:30 PM to 20 degrees by 7:37 PM.

The heavy rainfall lashed Srinagar after strong gusty winds, leading to the uprooting of trees at multiple places, including at Khanyar and near Batwara locality.

The road stretch between Batwara and Pandrethan was blocked after strong winds uprooted a tree and crashed onto an e-rickshaw bearing registration number JK01AV-1587.

Furthermore, reports reaching here said that a Chinar tree also fell in Khanyar amidst the heavy rainfall today.

As the torrential downpour continued for a couple of hours, the roads, streets and residential localities got submerged in many Srinagar areas, causing immense hardships to the people.

The muddy water has also entered the shops at the Khanqah-e-Moula area today.

According to the forecast, the southern parts of Kashmir are also expected to receive rain till midnight.

Earlier in the day, an Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng, said that cloud clusters have developed over several parts of Jammu and Kashmir during the past two hours. "There is a possibility of thunderstorms in many parts of Jammu and Kashmir during the next six hours. Brief heavy showers are also possible. Flash floods can't be ruled out in a few spots," he had said.

Last Saturday, Srinagar recorded the hottest July temperature at 37.4 degrees, which was the highest maximum temperature in the last 72 years. Some other stations across the Valley also surpassed the previous records.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, said that till July 8, the weather would be generally cloudy, with the possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places, while a few places may receive intense showers with heavy rain at isolated spots in Jammu division.

The MeT has also issued an advisory, stating that flash floods at a few vulnerable places, along with landslides, mudslides, and shooting stones, are expected during July 6-8.

A rise in water levels in rivers, streams, local nallas, and waterlogging in some low-lying areas is also expected, the advisory added.

Kashmir Tourism.....

the revival process, and I'm confident that tourism in Kashmir will once again reach its earlier peak," he said.

He also said that during his own visit to Kashmir in June, during which he traveled extensively and encouraged people to move forward. "We should leave behind what happened and focus on taking Kashmir's tourism even further. In the past three years, we've already seen promising growth," he said.

The conference, which brings together tourism secretaries from all Indian states and union territories, aims to foster collaboration and innovation in tourism planning. "This meetings has two key goals, first, we want state tourism heads to take this positive message back to their regions and support domestic tourism, second, in line with Prime Minister Modi's vision, we want each state to develop at least one iconic tourist destination of global standards. The national goal is to have 50 such destinations across the country, Union Minister said.

As part of the conference agenda, delegates have been divided into five groups to brainstorm ideas, share success stories, and work on practical action plans. "We are focusing on the tourist's complete journey from arrival to experience to ensure high standards at every step, he added.

Closed destinations.....

months. Mudgal said it is for the first time that the Tourism Secretaries Conference was held in Jammu and Kashmir, which usually takes place in New Delhi and is attended by the tourism secretaries from all the states and union territories.

"In the two-day conference, different sessions are taking place where discussion on different ideas, new policies, budget and other things is being held threadbare. Some good practices in other states are being discussed. Overall, it is a brainstorming session," she said.

On the directions of Union Tourism Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Mudgal said the event was held in Srinagar, which was earlier planned in Pahalgam, but couldn't take place there in wake of the ongoing Amarnath Yatra. "A lot of destinations were being considered for the event and later it was held in Srinagar only on Union Minister's directions," she said.

Terming the two-day secretaries confer-

ence as the best event for MICE tourism, the Commissioner Secretary said that J&K is a favourite destination and the tourism sector is reviving gradually, with back-to-back events taking place with tourists visiting the valley once again.

"The government at the same time has put efforts for the revival of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also recently launched a train here to give a boom to the tourism sector. I am confident that the tourism sector will bounce back at par with the previous figures," she said.

Mudgal added that the list of the destinations has been sought, that are presently closed post-Pahalgam attack. "Some of the destinations have already reopened while the others will reopen in phased manner," she said. (KNO)

Schools in....

According to the minister, schools falling within municipal limits of all districts, from primary level to class 12th, will function from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM, in view of the prevailing summer heat.

Meanwhile, institutions located in rural or non-municipal areas will observe slightly delayed timings, operating from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

The minister also announced that students will be expected to attend two hours of online classes after returning home. "Students will take a one-hour break after reaching home and then connect for online lessons to strengthen the day's learning," she explained.

Online Classes.....

mandatory for school students in Kashmir, after attending physical classes in the morning, has sparked a wave of outrage among parents, medical professionals, and education experts alike.

The minister today announced a revised school schedule in view of the prevailing heatwave, introducing a blended model that includes two hours of online classes after a one-hour break at home. While the move is framed as an academic necessity, the fallout has been immediate and intense.

A number of parents called the news agency Kashmir News Trust throughout the day, voicing strong opposition to what many described as an "illogical" and "damaging" decision. "On the one hand, we are told to keep our children away from mobile phones, and on the other, we are now forced to hand them the very devices we are trying to protect them from," said Shazia Yousuf, a parent from the uptown area of Srinagar.

Another concerned father from Pulwama noted, "We just got our child to stop spending excessive time on the phone after COVID-19 lockdowns. This decision will revive their addiction, and it is being imposed in the name of education."

Medical professionals also weighed in. Pediatricians and mental health experts have long cautioned about the harmful impact of prolonged screen exposure on children's eyesight, mental development, and sleep patterns. "We are already seeing the long-term consequences of post-COVID screen addiction in children. Pushing them back into phones, just because it's hot, is shortsighted and harmful," said a senior pediatrician at a Srinagar hospital, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Critics argue that the minister's move essentially shifts the burden to parents, who are now under pressure to provide Android phones to their children, regardless of financial capability or personal reservations. "How can a labourer or a low-income family manage a smartphone and data plan for every child in the household?" asked Fayaz Ahmad, a teacher from Budgam.

The COVID pandemic, which normalized online learning, had already caused serious concern among parents as children became hooked to devices for both classes and recreation. Many families spent the last two years trying to reverse that trend, only to see it potentially resurface due to this fresh directive.

Ironically, the same government officials and education experts who once launched campaigns to curb screen time for children are now mandating it under a new format. There appears to be little consideration of the psychological, physiological, and economic toll this might take on families.

Calls are mounting for the Education Department to rethink the decision and consider alternative ways of ensuring learning continuity without pushing students further into digital dependency.

Social media is abuzz asking the Education Department to revisit this controversial decision.

Op Sindoor.....

Ministry, our responsibility increases exponentially – we need effective growth. Our Defence expenditure should be such that not only does the budget increase, but also we should utilise it in the right way – by proper deployment at the right time for the right objective," said Union Minister Singh.

The Union Minister lauded the decision of the Defence Acquisition Council to grant permission for capital procurement from the GeM portal.

He said, "Defence Acquisition Council for

the first time has permitted the capital procurement from the GeM portal, it's a commendable step... I have also been informed that the department is working on the Comprehensive Pay System and centralised database management for defence personnel..."

The Union Minister further said, "... You have organised a controllers conference, but I think your mind should be open and receptive, so that you can discuss and share about the changes occurring in the defence ecosystem with all stakeholders. Such events give us a chance to do introspection and self-analysis. We can think about the reforms that are needed to bring... This department's responsibility is not just to manage accounts on paper, but also an important part of our security system. When you honestly, its impact even reaches the soldiers guarding our borders. They feel that they have a system behind them that will be with them in all circumstances..."

The Defence Accounts Department (DAD) is hosting the Controllers' Conference 2025 from July 7-9 at the Dr SK Kothari Auditorium, DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi.

The conference was inaugurated today by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the presence of top military and civilian leadership including Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, the three service chiefs, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Financial Adviser (Defence Services) SG Dastidar, and Contoller General of Defence Accounts Mayank Sharma, marking it as a key platform for shaping the future of India's defence financial architecture.

A flagship forum for policy dialogue, strategic review, and institutional innovation, the Controllers' Conference brings together top leadership from DAD, civil services, academia, think tanks, and stakeholders across the defence and finance sectors.

It serves as a vital platform for evaluating challenges, initiating reform, and advancing the role of financial governance in defence preparedness.

The theme of this year's conference, 'Transforming Financial Advice, Payment, Audit and Accounting through Defence Finance and Economics,' reflects a paradigm shift within the department, repositioning DAD from a finance & accounts body to a future-ready institution focused on Defence Finance and Economics.

This transformation, guided by the strategic vision articulated by the Defence Minister on October 1, 2024, is internally driven, inclusive, and aligned with emerging national security imperatives. The transition is anchored in DAD's new Mission Statement and Motto 'Alert, Agile, Adaptive' which will be formally released during the event.

The conference features eight high-level business sessions (Manan Satras), covering areas such as budget and accounts reform, internal audit restructuring, collaborative research, pricing innovation, and capacity building.

These sessions will explore the evolving role of Integrated Financial Advisors (IFAs) in balancing fiscal prudence with strategic support for a competitive and self-reliant defence industry.

Managing a defence budget of Rs 6.8 lakh crore, including Rs 1.7 lakh crore dedicated to pensions, DAD plays a pivotal role in payroll, pension disbursement, audit, procurement pricing, and strategic financial advice. Over the past year, the department has made significant strides in digital transformation, with flagship reforms like: SAMPURNA: An AI-driven, end-to-end automation system for defence procurement and payments, enhancing transparency and agility

SPARSH: Now serving over 32 lakh pensioners, this digital platform has redefined pension delivery with transparency and accessibility

SPARSH VAN: A mobile outreach innovation launched in Tamil Nadu, delivering pension services directly to veterans' doorsteps

e-Raksha Awaas: Automated recovery of over Rs 500 crore in rent, generating Rs 2,700+ crore in rent bills

Defence Travel System (DTS) and AI-based procurement tools: Building a smarter, data-centric financial network for defence. (Agencies)

PM's Advisor.....

which form the backbone of J&K's energy strategy. Projects like Pakal Dul (1000 MW), being developed at a cost of Rs 12,757 crore and scheduled for completion by December 2026, were prominently discussed. Besides, updates were also shared on Kiru (624 MW) with 60% physical progress, Kwar (540 MW) at 22% progress and Ratle (850 MW) currently at 23% physical progress. Other strategic projects like Sawalkote, Uri Phase-II, Kirthai-II, Bursar and Tulbul Storage also came under focus.

Stressing the strategic significance of

these projects at the national level, the Advisor called for robust organizational structures and efficient decision-making processes to ensure their timely execution.

The Advisor took stock of key railway projects including the landmark Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL), and new corridors like Qazigund-Budgam double line, Baramulla-Uri, Sopore-Kupwara, Anantnag-Pahalgam and Jammu-Katra double line. These projects aim to drastically cut the travel time, boost commercial transport and improve the market access for J&K's horticultural produce.

Road infrastructure, being implemented by NHAI, NHIDCL and BRO, was also reviewed. The Advisor discussed challenges such as construction material availability and the issuance of short-term permits to address the supply gaps.

A detailed review was conducted on the AIIMS campuses at Jammu and Srinagar. While the Jammu AIIMS is already functional, the Kashmir AIIMS is on track for completion by November this year. The Advisor also assessed progress on faculty recruitment and procurement of high-end medical equipment to ensure world-class healthcare delivery in these prestigious institutions.

With a vision for a greener future, the Advisor took stock of solar initiatives under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. He asked for focused action on installing grid-connected rooftop solar panels for domestic consumers and government buildings, spearheaded by the government agencies of PDD and J&K Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA).

The health of Dal Lake was also in spotlight, with a review of the existing and proposed Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) to improve water quality and preserve the lake's ecological balance.

Kapoor emphasized sustainable lake management to protect the valley's iconic natural heritage.

He also assessed the Urban infrastructure projects in Jammu and Srinagar. These included PM eBus Sewa, Intelligent Traffic Management Systems (ITMS), modern parking infrastructure, IMS Katra, water transport and Smart City/AMRUT schemes. These initiatives are poised to significantly improve the urban mobility, environmental sustainability and citizen-centric service delivery.

The Advisor appreciated the UT's Mission YUVA, aimed at creating sustainable livelihood avenues for the youth. He emphasised on identifying viable, local sectors and providing both financial and institutional support to promote nano enterprises, MSMEs and startups in sunrise sectors through a comprehensive umbrella scheme.

He also had a detailed review of the telecom connectivity and digital empowerment. It was informed that with the BharatNet initiative, efforts are underway to extend high-speed internet to every corner of the UT, including its most remote of villages.

Simultaneously, IT reforms being executed in collaboration with BISAG-N were reviewed, with a thrust on making administration more transparent, accountable and accessible through digital platforms and integrated governance tools.

Summing up the review, the Advisor expressed satisfaction with the scale of progress while underlining the need for timely execution, inter-agency coordination and people-centric outcomes. He reaffirmed the Centiveg utmost priority to Jammu and Kashmir, transforming the region into a model of inclusive development and digital governance.

NIA Gets.....

involved in the attack and confirmed that they were Pakistani nationals affiliated with the banned terrorist outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

The federal agency alleged that Parvaiz and Bashir had knowingly harboured the terrorists at a seasonal 'dhok' (hut) in Hill Park in Pahalgam before the April 22 attack that left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead and 16 others injured.

The two provided food, shelter and logistical support to the terrorists, who, on the fateful afternoon, selectively targeted and killed tourists based on their religious identity, making it one of the most gruesome terrorist attacks in recent memory, the NIA said, as it continues its probe into the terror network behind the massacre in Kashmir's tourism hub.

Biotech Start.....

disparity in India's past policy priorities, especially in agriculture, which he said was historically informed by Western models.

Stressing the untapped potential of India's natural resources and traditional knowledge systems, he said, "Foreign researchers come to India for what they don't have – our resources and diversity. We should learn to value them first." (Agencies)

PAC holds meet at Srinagar, discusses Audit Paras of HUDD

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 07: The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) today convened a meeting to discuss various audit paras of the Housing and Urban Development department (HUDD) at the Assembly Complex here. The meeting was presided over by Committee Chairman Sham Lal Sharma and attended by members Mubarak Gul, Nazir Ahmad Khan, Qaysar Jamshaid Lone, Javid Hassan Baig, Sajad Shaheen, Muzaffar Iqbal Khan and Altaf Ahmad Wani.

Principal Accountant General J&K, Commissioner Secretary HUDD, Director General Accounts and Treasuries, VC LCMA, VCs of JDA/SDA, MD J&K Housing Board, Chief Town Planner, Chief Architect J&K, senior officers of SMC/JMC and other concerned officers attended the meeting. During the meeting, the PAC undertook a detailed review of audit paras pertaining to



the Housing and Urban Development Department.

Addressing the officers, the Chairman underscored the importance of ensuring efficiency and transparency in spending public money. He highlighted that the mandate of PAC is to scrutinize the government spending, identify lapses, fix accountability and recommend corrective actions.

The Chairman also asked the department that officers, who cause loss to exchequer, need to be made accountable and procedural delays should be

completely avoided for smooth execution of works. Highlighting on the mandate of PAC, the Chairman said that the main motto of this committee is to keep a regular check on the spending of public money. He added that the legislators have been given a mandate by the people to look after the system and take measures for its correction wherever necessary.

While taking strong notice of some of the unsatisfactory replies to audit paras, the Chairman and other members of PAC called upon the HUDD

to submit a comprehensive report, in this regard, within two months.

The Chairman and the members also asked the department to frame a policy for revenue generation of various assets of the department. Principal Accountant General J&K, Commissioner Secretary HUDD, Director General Accounts and Treasuries, VC LCMA, VCs of JDA/SDA, MD J&K Housing Board, Chief Town Planner, Chief Architect J&K, senior officers of SMC/JMC and other concerned officers attended the meeting. During the meeting, the PAC undertook a detailed review of audit paras pertaining to the Housing and Urban Development Department.

Addressing the officers, the Chairman underscored the importance of ensuring efficiency and transparency in spending public money. He highlighted that the mandate of PAC is to scrutinize the government spending, identify lapses.

DC Budgam participates in 11th Muharram Procession at Magam

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JULY 07: In observance of the 11th of Muharram, a solemn and peaceful procession was held today at Magam in Budgam district.

The event witnessed the participation of a large number of mourners from various parts of the Kashmir Valley, who gathered to pay homage and express their religious devotion.

The 11th Muharram procession commenced from Yagipora Imambara and proceeded through the main market of Magam, with the revered Zuljana Sharief being carried by mourners. The procession culminated late in the evening at Astanpora, maintaining the traditional route.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat along with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Budgam, Nikhil Borkar participated in the procession and interacted with the participants.

On the occasion, DC and SSP personally distributed refreshments among the mourners,



acknowledging their devotion, discipline, and participation in the religious observance.

To ensure the smooth conduct of the procession, district administration had made elaborate arrangements well in advance. Civic amenities, including uninterrupted power and water supply, sanitation, medical facilities, and other essential services, were made available along the procession route. Adequate security measures were also put in place through coordinated efforts of civil and police administration, thereby facilitating a safe and peaceful environment for the mourners. DC appreciated the cooperation

extended by the local community, religious leaders, and various departments involved in managing the arrangements. He reiterated the district administration's commitment to upholding the sanctity of religious events and ensuring public convenience during such occasions. DC stated that the culmination of the 11th Muharram procession at Magam stands as a testament to the district's communal harmony, discipline, and the dedication of all stakeholders involved. DC was accompanied by ADC, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Beerwah; SDPO Magam, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Budgam, Tehsildar Magam and Executive

PDF President Hakeem Yaseen urges reopening of Budgam tourist destinations

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 7: People's Democratic Front (PDF) President and former Minister Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen has urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to intervene and facilitate the immediate reopening of tourist destinations in Budgam district, including Yousmarg, Tosa Maidan, and Doodhpathri.

In a letter addressed to the Union Tourism Minister, Yaseen said the situation has significantly improved since the tragic Pahalgam attack, and several other tourist locations across Jammu and Kashmir have already been reopened. He emphasized that the popular tourist spots in Budgam are located close to Srinagar Airport and are among the areas with the lowest security threat.

"Doodhpathri, Yousmarg, and Tosa Maidan are not only breathtakingly beautiful but also economically vital for thousands of locals who depend on tourism for their livelihood. The prolonged ban is pushing youth and families into deep financial distress," Yaseen said.

DC Srinagar participates in devotional celebration of 127th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Gopinath Ji at Habbakadal

HT NEWS DESK



SRINAGAR, JULY 07: To commemorate the 127th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Gopinath Ji, a revered saint, traditional celebrations steep in devotion commenced on the evening of July 6, 2025.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo today paid a visit to Gopinathji Ashram Kharyar in Habba Kadal area of the district and participated in the program. The event witnessed the presence of hundreds of devotees from various parts of the country, who thronged the Ashram to seek blessings.

On the occasion, Ashram was beautifully adorned and the serene atmosphere of Kharyar was filled with the timeless teachings of Bhagwan Gopinath Ji, centered on inner purity, universal love, and divine realization.

Govt to establish MRI, Cath Lab worth Rs 37.50 cr in GMC Baramulla this year: Sakeena Itoo

Hints at AI based X-ray machines, other facilities in hospitals, healthcare centres of Baramulla

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 07: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat to review the healthcare infrastructure and other facilities across Baramulla district.

MLA Baramulla, Javid Hassan Beigh; MD NHM; Director Health Services Kashmir; Director Finance, Health and Medical Education Department; Director Coordination New GMCs; Principal GMC Baramulla; CMO and BMO Baramulla

besides other concerned officers attended the meeting. The Minister emphasized on the critical importance of strengthening the healthcare delivery system at grassroots level. She highlighted that health sector is an important sector for societal development and wellbeing, therefore there is no room for any compromise. Highlighting that the government under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is ensuring prime focus on development of health sector, Sakeena Itoo said that an MRI (3 Tesla) worth Rs. 25 crore and Cath Lab



worth Rs. 12.50 crore will be established in GMC Baramulla during current financial year. She added that these facilities will revolutionize the healthcare outreach in the North Kashmir district and its adjoining areas. She said that around 50 kanal of land has been transferred to GMC for establishment of separate OPD block and

Diagnostic Block, mortuary, which will improve the quality of healthcare at this prestigious health facility of North Kashmir.

The Minister added that Dialysis facilities at SDHs and CHCs besides AI based X-Ray machines and other facilities will also be established in various hospitals and centres of Baramulla.

During the meeting,

Minister Sakeena also directed the officers to establish digital X-Ray facility at the GMC Baramulla. She also asked them to provide 104 Ambulance vehicle to the institute.

Expressing concern over certain gaps, Salina Itoo called for immediate redressal of issues that hamper effective health service delivery. "Health is a fundamental right and remains top priority of present government. There is no scope for complacency or compromise in this vital sector," she stated.

The Minister urged the officers to expedite pending

upgrades, ensure proper staffing and maintain transparency in resource utilization. While reviewing other aspects related to healthcare sector, the Minister directed the Principal GMC and other officers that Hospital Development fund should also be used for upgrading basic amenities in the hospitals. She also directed the hospital administration and other district officers of health department that any issue related to non-functioning of medical equipments in health facilities should be raised with the concerned quarters immediately.

Transport Commissioner visits Budgam; inspects ARTO office, transport infrastructure

HT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JULY 7: Transport Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan, today visited Budgam to undertake a comprehensive inspection of the ARTO office Budgam besides reviewing the status of transport infrastructure in the district.

He was accompanied by Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir, Qazi Irfan.

Earlier, the Transport Commissioner held an interaction with the transporters and stakeholders at the RTO Office, Bemina, where he listened to their concerns, suggestions and feedback regarding the transport operations, permit issues and public ser-



vice delivery. He assured them that all their genuine concerns would be addressed in a time-bound manner. He reiterated that the recent directive, permitting only the applicants to visit RTO and ARTO offices in order to further strengthen transparency,

shall be implemented in letter and spirit. During his visit to Budgam, Mahajan assessed the functioning of the ARTO office and interacted with the staff. He emphasized the need for enhanced service delivery, transparency and citizen convenience.

The Transport Commissioner also inspected the proposed site for the Driving Trial Track at Ompura, aimed at streamlining the driving license testing process and ensuring compliance with the safety and technical standards. He had a discussion with the Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, regarding transfer of the proposed site at Ompura for use by the Transport department. He stressed the importance of expediting the handover process and initiating the driving tests at the site once the required infrastructure is in place. He also reviewed other infrastructural requirements and issued directions for prioritizing the key works.

Special Lok-Adalat on MACT, Matrimonial & Bank Cases on July-26 in Srinagar

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 07: As per the calendar of activities issued by the J&K Legal Services Authority, a Special Lok Adalat is scheduled to be held on 26th July, 2025 at the District Court Complex, Srinagar.

Primary focus of the special Lok Adalat will be on the amicable settlement of Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) cases and Matrimonial cases. In addition to these, Bank-related cases shall also be taken up for settlement on the same day.

All concerned who wish to resolve their MACT, Matrimonial, or Bank-related cases through this Special Lok Adalat are hereby notified to approach the respective courts immediately. This will enable the listing of their cases before the appropriate bench for early and amicable resolution through the Lok Adalat mechanism. This initiative is part of a broader effort to promote speedy justice and reduce the burden of pending litigation through mutual compromise and settlement. All stakeholders are requested to take full advantage of this opportunity for a swift, cost-effective, and cordial resolution of their disputes.

Macadamization work begins on Tujjar Sharief to Zainger road, Baramulla

HT NEWS DESK

BARAMULLA, JULY 7: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, today kick started the macadamization work on the Tujjar Sharief to Zainger road via Larkipora, Baramulla, connected to the Kupwara National Highway. This project has addressed the long-standing demand of the local residents. Javid Dar emphasized



the government's commitment towards providing basic facilities to the public,

highlighting the importance of infrastructure development in enhancing the quality of life for the residents. The Omar Abdullah Government's aim to improve road connectivity, a crucial aspect of rural development, facilitating easier access to markets, healthcare and other essential services, he added. The Minister said the execution of works has been initiated and all the pending roads will be macadamized in a phased manner. There will be no

compromise with the quality of works while ensuring time bound completion of all the vital projects. The locals apprised the Minister of lack of other basic facilities, seeking his intervention in redress of the same. The Minister assured the people that all their genuine demands would be fulfilled at the earliest. Senior officers from different department and larger number of local residents were present on the occasion.

J&K Students Association Announces Second List of Office Bearers; Expands National and Regional Representation

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 07: The Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) on Monday announced the second list of newly elected office bearers, following the conclusion of its ongoing electoral and consultative process. This move is part of the Association's broader strategy to strengthen its grassroots presence and institutional effectiveness by empowering dynamic student leaders across a wider spectrum of Indian states, union territories, and university campuses. The newly elected leaders are expected to play a pivotal role in furthering JKSA's mission both within India and abroad.

Among the notable elections, Rahool Banka has been elected as the Chief Spokesperson of the Association. Shahid Peer has been elected as the State Secretary for Jammu and Kashmir, while Aamir Hassan will serve as the Incharge for Central Kashmir and also as the Unit President of Islamia College. Furqan Janwari has been elected as the Coordinator for North Kashmir.

Strengthening its healthcare and

student representation, Shahid Mir has been elected President of the J&K Nursing Wing, with Tawseef Ayoub as its Vice President. Musa Yousuf has been elected President of the Paramedical Students Association Wing. The Government Medical College (GMC) units also see new leadership with Owais Ashraf elected as Unit President of GMC Srinagar and Varun Jagotra as Vice President. Idrees Ahmad will head GMC Jammu as its Unit President.

The Association continues to grow its presence outside Jammu and Kashmir as well, with Dr. Anamul Haq elected as the State Vice President for Uttar Pradesh and Irfan Sarwar as Vice President for Chandigarh Union Territory.

In the media and communications division, Sumaya Sultana has been elected as Media Coordinator for Jammu and Kashmir, alongside Syed Adnan Hashmi and Gowhar Manzoor, who will also serve as Media Coordinators in the region. Muzamil Reshi joins the communications team as Additional Spokesperson.

Further strengthening its social outreach and inclusion efforts, Riz-

wan Ahmad has been elected President of the Gujjar-Bakerwal Wing. Ahmed Nayar will lead as the Unit President of SP Higher Secondary School. Shafat Hassan has been elected as General Secretary of the Nursing Wing, while Peerzada Mehboobul-Haq joins the Advisory Board as a new member.

Expanding its academic engagement, Umer Bashir has been elected as the Coordinator at the National Institute of Technology (NIT). Mubashir Ahmed will serve as the Coordinator for Ramban, Udhampur, and Reasi districts, ensuring outreach in these regions as well.

The Central Working Committee of the Association congratulated the newly elected office bearers, expressing confidence in their dedication and enthusiasm to ensure the welfare and betterment of Jammu and Kashmir's student community. Newly elected National Chairperson Mushtaq Habeeb emphasized the importance of working together to make the JKSA a stronger and more effective platform for students. He expressed eagerness to expand the association's reach and impact.

Ramban Administration Commemorates 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee

HT NEWS DESK

Ramban, July 7: The District Administration Ramban organized a commemorative programme at Government Model Higher Secondary School, Ramban to mark the 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee — a revolutionary leader and visionary politician from the era of India's independence movement.

The event is part of a two-year nationwide celebration being observed across India from July 6, 2025, to July 6, 2027, to showcase Dr. Mookerjee's contributions in engaging youth and citizens through seminars and public events. The celebrations aim to highlight his role in Constitutional debates and his contributions to education, indus-



try, and regional development, while inspiring pride in his vision of inclusive and culturally rooted national progress.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, and distinguished speakers, who

highlighted the life, ideology, and enduring contributions of Dr. Mookerjee to the nation. Speakers reflected on his pivotal role in shaping India's political discourse and his unflinching commitment to the cause of national integration.

Among the speakers, students from Government Model Higher Secondary School, Ramban and Government Girls High School, Ramban, especially emphasized Dr. Mookerjee's unwavering dedication to the unity and integrity of the nation. They encouraged their peers to draw inspiration from his ideals and exemplary service.

The programme held under the supervision of CEO Ramban and Principal GMHSS was attended by the staff and students from participating schools, officials from the district administration, and members of the local community. The event aimed to instill a sense of patriotism and historical awareness among the youth regarding the legacy of one of India's foremost nationalist leaders.

"Heat Doesn't Justify Halting Education, It Demands Sensible Solutions And Bold Decisions: Says PSAJK President

"Online Education Is No Substitute For Real Schooling": G.N. Var

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, 06 July 2025: In response to the ongoing debate surrounding the extension of summer vacations due to heat waves in Kashmir division, the Private Schools' Association Jammu Kashmir (PSAJK) has issued a strong, research-backed statement urging the J&K government to adopt academic and logic-based solutions. The Association advocates for early morning school timings as a practical, globally practiced measure to ensure both student well-being and academic continuity.

In a statement issued to the press, PSAJK State President G.N. Var said, "This isn't merely about the heat, it's about how we respond to challenges without compromising the academic and mental health of our children's. Heat is a global issue, not a reason to paralyze the education system. Smarter decisions, not shutdowns, is the way forward." The Association's suggestion to start schools as early as 6:00 Am or 7:00 Am is not arbitrary but is based on input from leading education experts, parents and teachers. It aligns with models already practiced in several hotter Indian states and across the world.

Var also expressed concern that decisions on school closures are often driven by media narratives or administrative perceptions, rather than careful educational planning and meaningful dialogue with key stakeholders. "The PSAJK President further said, "Research shows that even a single day of school absence can double the learning loss. We've already lost valuable academic time due to prolonged winter breaks and frequent summer vacation extensions in recent years. Children's from poor families are the worst affected they don't have access to fans, coolers or safe alternatives at home." The Association rejected online education as a practical alternative, particularly for little children's and warned about the long-term negative effects of too much screen time. "Online schooling leads to screen addiction, emotional underdevelopment and social disconnect. It cannot replace real schooling".

Var also questioned the selective logic applied in Kashmir, stating, "Children's in Madrasas wake up much earlier. In other parts of India and the world, students attend school despite similar or worse heat conditions. Why does heat become a school issue only in Kashmir? The same children tolerate the heat while traveling,

PHC Chogal Handwara Gets Digital X-Ray Facility

HT NEWS DESK

Kupwara, July 7: In a welcome move for the residents of Chogal and nearby villages, the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Chogal was equipped on Monday with a 300mA digital X-ray machine—bringing much-needed diagnostic relief to the doorstep of this rural pocket. The modest yet meaningful inauguration ceremony was led by MLA Langate Khurshid Ahmad, who was joined by Chief Medical Officer Kupwara Dr Masrat Iqbal Wani and Block Medical Officer Handwara Dr Ishrat Chowdhury. Health workers, local residents, and former Sarpanch Riyaz Ahmad were also present at the occasion. The installation of the new X-ray facility is being seen as a turning point in the rural healthcare scenario, offering quicker and more accurate diagnostic services without forcing patients to travel to distant hospitals. Addressing the gathering, MLA Khurshid Ahmad remarked, "Today marks the fulfilment of a long-standing demand of the people. This facility will go a long way in ensuring timely diagnosis and treatment, particularly during medical emergencies. Local voices echoed his sentiments, expressing gratitude for the attention given to their repeated appeals. "For years we've struggled with referrals and travel costs. This machine is a blessing," said one resident. The digital X-ray unit is expected to ease pressure on higher referral centres and enhance the PHC's ability to manage injuries, chest ailments, and other conditions requiring radiological investigations.

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER (HANDICRAFTS)
 Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

Kashmiri Handicrafts Exhibition cum Sale

Venue:- MFC Restaurant National Highway main Bazar Khawja Bagh Baramulla

Sale For:-
 Kashmiri handicrafts items, Semi Pashmina shawls, stools, jamawar, Pashmina Shawls, Cushion Cover, Ladies Top, Bed Covers, Sarees & all kind of handicraft items are available on Discount rates

Sponsored by:-
 O/o the Development Commissioner Handicrafts Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

Sanction order No:-
 C-12011/25(PC)2024-25-(NR)/F-EXB/GEN-3 Dated:- 09-05-2025

Under:-
 NATIONAL HANDICRAFTS PROGRAMME (NHDP) Scheme DEVELOPMENT

Organized By:-
 M/s REHMAN HANDICRAFTS PRODUCER COMPANY LIMITED BIJHAMA

We, from:- 08-07-2025 TO 17-07-2025

Notorious Clay Smuggler Apprehended in Pulwama, JCB Seized, Rs 15 Lakh Penalty Imposed

HT NEWS DESK

Pulwama, Jul 6, KNT: In a major crackdown on illegal mining, the Geology and Mining Department in South Kashmir's Pulwama district apprehended a notorious clay smuggler in the Chakoor area during a late-night raid on Sunday. The operation was led by District Mineral Offi-

cer (DMO) Dr Khurshid who confirmed the action through an official post on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), alongside GPS-tagged images from the site. According to the DMO, the offender, identified as Showkat Ahmad alias Show Chakoor, has been a habitual violator, long involved in illegal

clay extraction activities, and has devastated the entire Karewa catchment in the region. "He had managed to evade seizure for years by creating escape routes," Dr Khurshid said. "But this time, we caught him red-handed."

A JCB machine used in the illegal extraction was seized, and a pen-

alty of Rs 15 lakh was imposed on the offender under the relevant provisions of the law.

Despite his team being engaged in night raids at other locations, the DMO said he managed this particular operation single-handedly, with valuable support from DSP Lassipora, Muhammad Yousuf. [KNT]



Mr. Bashir Ahmad Shah Assumes Charge as New CEO Baramulla, Receives Warm Welcome from Principal BHSS Sopore

ازدفترا نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

درخواست منجانب فیاض احمد قریبی ولد شیر احمد قریبی ساکن موضع ویلاگام الغرض بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ

اشتہار بغرض آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

سائل نے ایک بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ دفتر حرا میں پیشگی ہے

رپوٹ کے مطابق سائل لاری پورا پھلگام کار بائیں پزیر ہے اور افراد کتبہ

مندرجہ ذیل افراد پر تامل ہے

غلام نبی ولد سلام بٹ عمر 41 سال بڑس آمدنی 120000

سکلیہ بانو زویر غلام نبی 40 گھر گرام

لویر بانو دختر 19 زیر تعلیم

محمد سلمان پسر 17

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کتبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے اور گل زرعی آمدنی 5000 تک ہے زیر کاروانی سرٹفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں کسی کو کوئی عور ہو تو وہ سات یوم اندر اندر دفتر حرا میں پیش کرے

نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

ازدفترا نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

درخواست منجانب فیاض احمد قریبی ولد شیر احمد قریبی ساکن موضع ویلاگام الغرض بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ

اشتہار بغرض آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

سائل نے ایک درخواست بحصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ دفتر حرا میں پیش کی ہے

رپوٹ کے مطابق سائل کا والد محمد یاسین نبی

کو فوت ہوا ہے وارث باقی افراد

سکلیہ زویر غلام نبی

فیاض احمد پسر متوفی

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی وارث کتبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے زیر کاروانی سرٹفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں کسی کو کوئی عور ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر دفتر حرا میں پیش کرے

نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

ازدفترا نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

درخواست منجانب سلمان رشید و خلیو جان و وقیر جان اولاد ان عبدالرشید راضر ساکن لاری پورا پھلگام

اشتہار بغرض آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

اعلان نے ایک درخواست بحصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ دفتر حرا میں پیشگی ہے

افراد کتبہ مندر ذیل ہیں

عبدالرشید ولد عتیقی 40 سال مردوری آمدنی 9000

فہمید اختر زویر عبدالرشید 38 == گھر گرام

سلمان رشید پسر 14 == زہر تعلیم

خلیو جان دختر 20 ==

وقیر جان دختر 18 ==

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کتبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے اور کتبہ کی گل آمدنی 9000 ہے زیر کاروانی سرٹفکٹ اجراء میں کسی کو کوئی عور ہو تو وہ سات یوم کے اندر اندر دفتر حرا میں پیش کرے

نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 REHANA AKBAR D/O MOHAMMAD AKBAR KUMAR R/O KREERI Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 16/02/2023 and event has been shown to be occurred at home for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

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

I, Ghulam Nabi Tali, S/o [Father's Name], R/o C/O: Ghulam Mohammad Tresi, Khalhar, Bonibagh, Kokarnag, DIST: Anantnag, Jammu and Kashmir - 192202, do hereby declare that I am applying for the correction of my ghum Nabi Tali name in official records.

My correct name is Gulam Nabi Tali, but it has been recorded incorrectly or is being changed for official purposes. I am initiating the process to update the name in my Aadhaar Card (No: 8865 1968 6849) through proper Gazette Notification.

Hence, I request all authorities concerned and the general public to note this correction. If anyone has any objection, kindly inform the undersigned or the relevant authorities within 7 days of this notice.

NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

ازدفترا نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

درخواست منجانب محمد سلمان بٹ ولد غلام نبی بٹ ساکن لاری پورا پھلگام

بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ

سجلہ بانو مراد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

سائل نے ایک بغرض حصول بیک واڈ سرٹفکٹ دفتر حرا میں پیشگی ہے

رپوٹ کے مطابق سائل لاری پورا پھلگام کار بائیں پزیر ہے اور افراد کتبہ

مندرجہ ذیل افراد پر تامل ہے

غلام نبی ولد سلام بٹ عمر 41 سال بڑس آمدنی 120000

سکلیہ بانو زویر غلام نبی 40 گھر گرام

لویر بانو دختر 19 زیر تعلیم

محمد سلمان پسر 17

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کتبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے اور گل زرعی آمدنی 5000 تک ہے زیر کاروانی سرٹفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں کسی کو کوئی عور ہو تو وہ سات یوم اندر اندر دفتر حرا میں پیش کرے

نیاب تحصیلدار پھلگام

ازدالت ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ

درج اول ویلاگام

درخواست: فیاض احمد قریبی ولد شیر احمد قریبی ساکن موضع ویلاگام الغرض

تاریخ پیدائش باپت 12-06-2014 - 14-04-2010

اشتہار بغرض آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں سائل نے ذمہ داری میں ایک درخواست بشمول

بیان حقی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفیکٹ مطابق رکاڈ کاغذ یافت فیاض

قریبی صالح قریبی اولاد ان فیاض احمد قریبی تاریخ پیدائش

14-04-2010 - 12-06-2014

ساکن موضع ویلاگام پیشگی ہے بلکہ ہر خاص و عام کو بزرگ اشہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت اندراج تاریخ پیدائش مذکورہ اگر کسی کو بھی غلط یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر دفتر حرا میں پیش کرے بیجا اعتراض ہونے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درج اول ویلاگام

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 entertained

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

I, Ghulam Nabi Tali, S/o [Father's Name], R/o C/O: Ghulam Mohammad Tresi, Khalhar, Bonibagh, Kokarnag, DIST: Anantnag, Jammu and Kashmir - 192202, do hereby declare that I am applying for the correction of my ghum Nabi Tali name in official records.

My correct name is Gulam Nabi Tali, but it has been recorded incorrectly or is being changed for official purposes. I am initiating the process to update the name in my Aadhaar Card (No: 8865 1968 6849) through proper Gazette Notification.

Hence, I request all authorities concerned and the general public to note this correction. If anyone has any objection, kindly inform the undersigned or the relevant authorities within 7 days of this notice.

NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

Over Rs.41 crore allocated under DDC, BDC, PRI & Aspirational Grants in Bandipora

DDC Bandipora discuss roadmap for District Capex Plan 2025-26

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JULY 07: Jammu and Kashmir Government has allocated over Rs. 41 crore for developmental works in Bandipora district under DDC, BDC, PRI, and Aspirational Grants for the financial year 2025-26. This was given out in a meeting chaired by District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Ab Gani Bhat on Monday. The meeting was attended by Vice Chairperson DDC Bandipora, Kowsar Shafeeq, all elected DDC members of the district, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri and all the other concerned officers of district administration to discuss the formulation of District Capex Plan for the financial year 2025-26.



The meeting threadbare discussed sector-wise proposals across all three constituencies of the district besides discussing the progress of ongoing developmental works under the 2024-25 Capex Plan, taking stock of their financial and physical status. On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner gave a detailed overview of the progress made under the District Capex Plan

2024-25, and also highlighted key focus areas for the District Capex Plan 2025-26. The meeting was informed that Rs 10 crores have been reserved for works under DDC Grants, Rs 3 crore under BDC Grants, Rs 25 Crore under PRI grants, Rs 2 Crore under Aspirational Block Development scheme and 1.2 Crores under Aspirational Panchayat Development scheme. Giving details,

Deputy Commissioner informed the meeting that 483 works will be carried out in DDC grants including 139 spill over works, 107 works under BDC Grants including 30 Spill over works, 1488 works under PRI Grants including 579 spill over works. In the regular district budget, it was given out that there are 12 ongoing works in the health sector with a total outlay of 1.86 Cr since last financial year while 8 works are under execution in elementary education infra development with an approved outlay of Rs 2.85 Cr. The meeting also discussed the liability on account of ongoing works and the availability of funds for new works. Deputy Commissioner informed that Rs 1.04 Cr are available for new works under Aspirational Block Development scheme.

DC Kulgam takes review of Mission YUVA; assesses implementation, progress

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, JULY 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, on Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the DC Office Complex here to assess the implementation and progress of Mission YUVA in the district. During the meeting, detailed information was given on the status of Mission YUVA including number of applications received, processed, sanctioned and disbursed under various schemes of Mission YUVA. DC took a case-wise review and stressed the importance of strong on-ground implementation and coordination. He directed that monitoring of progress under Mission YUVA be conducted on a daily basis, and stressed the processing of cases including preparation of DPR's at the BHD level to avoid delays in benefits



reaching the youth. To institutionalize regular performance monitoring and coordination, Business Help Desks (BHDs) were instructed to meet every Tuesday and Thursday while Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) were directed to meet every Friday. It was also instructed that District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) meetings

shall be held every Saturday. DC instructed concerned officers to ensure effective follow-up and mentorship to facilitate the success of youth-led enterprises. The meeting concluded with a firm resolve to transform Mission YUVA into a vibrant platform for youth empowerment through sustainable self-employment and entrepreneurship.

DLSA Shopian conducts visit to Central Jail Srinagar

HT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, JULY 07: In compliance with the directions of the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKLSA), District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Shopian, under the chairmanship of Mahmood Ahmad Chowdhury (Principal District & Sessions Judge & Chairman, DLSA Shopian) conducted a visit to the Central Jail Srinagar, today.

The team, led by Mudasar Farooq, Secretary DLSA Shopian, along with Adv. Rafie Ahmad Ganie, Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC), Shopian, interacted with the under-trial prisoners (UTRs) currently lodged in the facility.

The visit was conducted in the presence of the Superintendent of Central Jail Srinagar, ensuring a comprehensive review of the conditions and facilities provided to the inmates.

During the visit, DLSA team held detailed interactions with the inmates to gather feedback regarding the amenities and legal assistance available to them. The initiative is part of the ongoing Under-Trial Review Committee (UTRC) Cam-



aign 2025, aimed at identifying eligible under-trial prisoners for potential legal remedies, including bail and speedy trials.

The findings from today's visit will be placed before the next UTRC meeting for further necessary action.

DLSA Shopian reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring access to justice and safeguarding the legal rights of prisoners, in line with the mandates of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and JKLSA.

This visit underscores DLSA Shopian's proactive efforts in prison legal aid and jail reforms ensuring that no under-trial prisoner remains incarcerated due to lack of legal awareness or assistance.

Empowering Tribal Communities: DA-JGUA Camps held at Mamer B, Satrina of Ganderbal

HT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, JULY 07: As part of the ongoing Darti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA), district administration Ganderbal organized dedicated outreach camps at Panchayat Halqa Mamer B and Satrina, aimed at inclusive tribal development and delivery of essential public services.

At Mamer B, the camp drew large participation from the local tribal population including Gujars and Bakarwals. Multiple government departments set up stalls and service counters to provide on-the-spot assistance in areas such as health check-ups, education enrollment drives, sanitation awareness, livestock and veterinary care, agricultural extension, and PM JANMAN-

linked benefits. The camp also facilitated community dialogue with frontline workers to raise awareness of schemes related to livelihood, nutrition, and women-centric programs. At Satrina, a major highlight was the provision of Aadhaar Biometric Enrollment and Update Services at the camp site itself. This mobile Aadhaar facility helped tribal residents especially nomadic individuals, women, and children get enrolled for the first time or update critical details like name, date of birth, and biometric data. The availability of Aadhaar is essential for linking with various government welfare schemes including ration, pensions, scholarships, and DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer).

The camps under DA-JGUA are being orga-

nized across remote tribal villages of Ganderbal under the banner of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh 2025, with a focus on saturation of services and real-time tracking of beneficiary coverage through digital platforms. These initiatives are aligned with the national vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi to uplift India's tribal communities and bring governance to their doorsteps. The efforts were jointly coordinated by the district administration, Tribal Affairs department, Rural Development department, ICDS, Health, Education, Animal Husbandry, and CSC officials, under the active supervision of local PRI representatives. Such camps not only bring schemes to the grassroots but also act as a platform for grievance redressal.

World Zoonoses Day celebrated in Shopian

HT NEWS DESK



SHOPIAN, JULY 07: on the occasion of World Zoonoses Day, District Surveillance Unit, Shopian, successfully organized a joint coordination meeting-cum-awareness programme at the Meeting Hall, Mini-Secretariat, Shopian. The programme was conducted in collaboration with the Health and Animal Husbandry Department, and other line departments with the aim of raising awareness about Zoonotic Diseases - diseases transmitted from animals to humans - and to promote better coordination among departments for their prevention and control. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials of the Health, Animal Husbandry, Wildlife, Forest, Municipal Council, and

other allied departments. ASHA Workers, field health staff, and

workers from other key sectors were also present and actively engaged in the programme. Chief Medical Officer, Shopian, appreciated the active involvement of all departments, officials, ASHA Workers, and field staff, emphasizing that the prevention and control of zoonotic diseases requires collective responsibility, community awareness, and sustained inter-departmental coordination. During the sessions, participants were sensitized about the types of zoonotic diseases, their signs and symptoms, prevention strategies, importance of early detection, laboratory diagnosis, and the crucial role of all departments and field-level workers in addressing these health threats.

Declare July 13 as Gazetted Holiday in Memory of 1931 Martyrs: Altaf Bukhari

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 7, KNT: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Monday urged the government to declare July 13 as a gazetted holiday to honour the martyrs of 1931 and called for state-level observance of Martyrs' Day as was the practice earlier. Speaking at a well-attended workers' convention in south Kashmir's Pulwama, Bukhari criticized the present administra-

tion, alleging it had failed to deliver even one percent of its promises despite completing eight months in office.

Addressing reporters after the convention, Bukhari accused the ruling party of deceiving people through "false promises and hollow slogans" during the election campaign. He pointed out that assurances like 200 units of free electricity for all households had been watered down to cover only Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAJ)

beneficiaries, "who constitute less than one percent of the population", and that even this benefit was yet to be implemented.

"The government promised an enhanced ration quota, one lakh jobs within three months, and the return of Articles 370 and 35A. None of these have materialised. Nor do I see any real effort to press the Centre for restoration of statehood," Bukhari said.

On speculation about the Union Territory elections becoming

invalid after statehood is restored, Bukhari remarked, "This government is at risk not because of any legal technicality but due to its poor performance. Otherwise, it holds a full five-year mandate."

Reiterating his demand for the release of detainees, Bukhari said that those involved in stone-pelting were "misguided by certain political parties" and should be released, except those booked for heinous crimes. [KNT]

DC Kupwara reviews progress of Poshan schemes

HT NEWS DESK

KUPWARA, JULY 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the progress of Poshan schemes of ICDS department in the district. Addressing the meeting, DC enjoined upon all the officers to work with concerted efforts and close coordination to ensure achievement of the desired targets within the stipulated time frame. She emphasized for intensifying IEC campaigns for coverage of beneficiaries under different Poshan schemes in the district.

To ensure drinking water and sanitation facilities in left out Anganwari Centres and



schools, ACD was directed to prioritize the work and ensure 100% coverage of these AWCs and schools.

To monitor the functioning of newly constructed buildings, it was given out that the ICDS department shall submit report on weekly basis about completion and handover/ takeover of the buildings being established in different ICDS Blocks. Similarly, for best

utilization of the abandoned buildings, PO was directed to takeover the well located buildings to meet the need of AWCs facing scarcity of space. Earlier, Programme Officer, Yar Ali Khan briefed the chair about progress and achievements of the ICDS department. He said 85962 beneficiaries have been registered under Poshan Tracker from 2320 Anganwari Centres.

DC also took a detailed review of different works and schemes of the ICDS sector which include supplementary nutrition, Pre-School education, nutrition and health education, Immunization, Saksham/Balvidalya AWCs, Poshan Vatikas, PMMVY etc.

Representatives from Piramal Foundation present in the meeting also briefed the chair about 'Kuposhan Mukta Panchayat Initiative' and highlighted different indicators for their improvement. The meeting was attended by Programme Officer ICDS, ACD, CMO, CEO, CPO, and CDPOs, representatives from Piramal Foundation and other concerned were present in the meeting.

Sheep Husbandry deptt organizes PMFME workshop/awareness programme at Sumbal

HT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JULY 07: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Sheep Husbandry deptt, Bandipora designated as the Nodal department for the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme in the district, successfully organized a workshop-cum-awareness programme at the Conference Hall, Dak Bungalow, Sumbal Bandipora. On the occasion, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Bandipora, who is also the District Nodal Officer (DNO), PMFME, elaborated on the scheme's significance, highlighting its role in

empowering individual entrepreneurs and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) through financial and technical support.

District Resource Person delivered a comprehensive presentation on the PMFME scheme, detailing its objectives, components, eligibility criteria and the application process. He urged participants to make the most of the scheme's provisions to enhance their income and establish sustainable enterprises.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 50 farmers and aspiring entrepreneurs, who engaged actively during the session. During the event, a special address



was delivered by the Lead District Manager, J&K Bank, who shed light on various banking and insurance products available to the beneficiaries. He also highlighted the synergy between PMFME and financial institutions in fostering rural entrepreneurship and financial inclusion. Officials and resource persons from various departments including Agriculture, Horticulture, NRLM, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, and Fisheries were present to offer guidance and support to the aspiring entrepreneurs.

On-the-spot beneficiary registration was facilitated by the District Resource Person, enabling immedi-

ate access to the scheme. District Resource Person delivered a comprehensive presentation on the PMFME scheme, detailing its objectives, components, eligibility criteria and the application process. He urged participants to make the most of the scheme's provisions to enhance their income and establish sustainable enterprises. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 50 farmers and aspiring entrepreneurs, who engaged actively during the session. During the event, a special address was delivered by the Lead District Manager, J&K Bank, who shed light on various banking and insurance products available.

HT EDITORIAL

Education department comes in for criticism for not extending summer vacations

The Directorate of School Education Kashmir issued an order on Monday making it clear that there would be no extension in the summer vacations in the educational institutions in the Kashmir valley. As a result of this all the schools right from Nursery to grade 12 will reopen on Tuesday for routine class work. Due to heat wave conditions the department has also changed the timings for the schools across the valley.

The educational institutions falling in Srinagar municipal limits will function between 7:30 AM and 11:30 AM while those falling outside the city will have working hours between 8:00 AM and 12:00 AM. There is a double whammy for the students from class 6th onwards since they have to attend online classes for some time in the afternoon. The teachers have been asked to stay put at the schools and not to leave the same before 2:00 PM.

Since the entire Kashmir valley has been gripped by heat wave conditions for the past couple of weeks or so, most of the parents and students were hoping that there would be an extension in the summer vacations. The school education department instead of listening to the popular demand of the masses decided to reopen the schools from July 8. The higher ups of the department have been maintaining that extension in summer vacations would upset the academic plan of the students.

The department has also come in for criticism from the people for rescheduling the school timings. The masses as a whole more so the parents have said that it is cruel to ask a child to get up early in the morning at about 6 and then make the child ready to leave the school in an hour or so. In such a manner most of the children will not have a sound sleep and they would leave for the school with sleepy eyes. As a result of this there would be an impact on the development of a child.

The students of higher classes are up against more odds since they will have to attend both the live and online classes. These children are expected to have a rest for a little time after coming from the schools and then attending the online classes. This is somewhat absurd with most of the people saying that the department should have stuck to a single mode of education. Mingling the same has not gone well with the students and their parents.

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Doodh Wugra: A Kashmiri Tribute to Karbala



■ Mohammad Aaqib Khan

A Silent Sermon of The Soul Some childhood memories stay with us forever. They return when we least expect them through a familiar smell, a simple taste, or the quiet arrival of a sacred day. For me, the month of Muharram carries one such memory, still fresh and alive in my heart. I remember being in the 3rd or 4th grade when the beginning of Muharram would fill me with a special excitement. I wasn't thinking about the deep history of Karbala or the profound lessons of sacrifice. I was so eagerly waiting for the most respected day of the 10th of Muharram in order to visit Sajja Boba's house in my village, Kuzwera, Chadoora, Budgam. Sajja Boba was our kind neighbour, and that morning of Ashura, their home would be scented with the simple yet soulful aroma of Doodh Wugra [A traditional Kashmiri dish made with milk and rice]. To us, the neighbourhood children, these were the happiest moments. We would run to their house, our faces glowing with joy, eagerly waiting to be served. At that time, I thought it was only about the food. As I grew older, I realized that Doodh Wugra was never just about eating. It was a silent gesture of love, a simple but

heartfelt way of remembering the martyrs of Karbala, especially Imam Hussain (RA) and his loyal companions. It was a small bowl carrying immense emotions: grief, connection, respect, and the spirit of sacrifice. In Kashmir, Doodh Wugra is not just a dish; it is a tender reminder of Karbala's story. Behind its simple milk and rice lies the memory of hunger, thirst, and the extraordinary patience of Imam Hussain (RA) and his family. It was never about showing off or creating a spectacle. It was about remembering, about bringing hearts closer, and about quietly teaching what words sometimes cannot. Sadly, as the years have passed, I have watched this beautiful tradition quietly fade away. The scenes that once filled our homes and touched our hearts have now become rare. Maybe we have simply become too busy, too distracted, caught in a world that often pulls us away from the gentle, meaningful acts that once kept us connected. Some people ask, "Is this practice really allowed in Islam?" And honestly, it is a fair question. But I truly believe that if there is no showing off, no wrongful beliefs attached, and the intentions is pure, simply to remember Imam Hussain (RA), to send rewards to the martyrs of Karbala, and to bring hearts closer, then this is a beautiful and meaningful act.

Islam always encourages anything that spreads love, unity, and the memory of truth. Doodh Wugra was never about grand ceremonies or public ceremonies. It was about quiet devotion; it was about neighbours coming together in simple and sincere ways. It was about a humble pot of food that gently carried

“Islam always encourages anything that spreads love, unity, and the memory of truth. Doodh Wugra was never about grand ceremonies or public ceremonies. It was about quiet devotion; it was about neighbours coming together in simple and sincere ways. It was about a humble pot of food that gently carried the deep message of Karbala. Maybe it's time we bring that spirit back. Maybe we need to slow down & remember that even the smallest traditions can keep our hearts alive and beautifully connected. Sometimes a simple dish is enough to carry a world of love, sacrifice, and faith.

the deep message of Karbala. Maybe it's time we bring that spirit back. Maybe we need to slow down & remember that even the smallest traditions can keep our hearts alive and beautifully connected. Sometimes a simple dish is enough to carry a world of love, sacrifice, and faith.

These are not just cultural practices but they are silent bridges of love, devotion, and unity that once bound our homes and hearts together. Sadly, many of these precious traditions are slowly disappearing as we become preoccupied with worldly matters, often neglecting the simple practices that once held deep

spiritual meaning. We are not just losing a habit; we are losing the soft connections that once made our communities feel like family. These sacred traditions should not be allowed to fade away. Let's remember that these small and sincere practices like preparing, sharing, and remembering can heal hearts, reconnect us, and keep the spirit of Karbala alive in our homes. We should not wait for others to lead. The first step must be ours. Let us bring back the traditions that remind us of patience, sacrifice, and the enduring love for the Ahlul Bayt. May Allah bless us all with wisdom, sincerity, and the courage to revive these noble practices with love and humility.

The author is a Pursing PHD In Islamic Studies Email: maaqibk11@gmail.com

Mesmerizing Beauty of Haijjan Branwar



■ Sahil Manzoor

Central Kashmir's Budgam district—renowned as the vegetable district and for its revered shrines—is home to some of the most serene and scenic locations in the Kashmir Valley. Among its crown jewels is Haijjan Branwar, a hidden gem surrounded by nature's splendor and rich cultural roots.

Budgam boasts iconic tourist destinations like Doodhpathri, a captivating expanse of meadows and pine forests, and spiritual sites like Charar-e-Sharief, the resting place of the mystic Sufi saint Sheikh Noor-ud-din Wali (RA), and the revered Shrine of Samad Mir at Nambalhar, Pakherpora. Yet, nestled quietly among these giants is Haijjan, a destination of raw, untouched beauty.

A Hidden Paradise

Located approximately 45 kilometers from Srinagar, Haijjan Branwar is one of the most luscious, peaceful, and enchanting locations in Budgam. The area is currently used by locals primarily for grazing, but its stunning landscape—carpeted in meadows, dense with coniferous forests, and echoing with the sound of chirping birds—makes it an ideal spot for recreation and tourism.

Locals from surrounding villages and students frequently visit Haijjan for leisure activities. On weekends and holidays, it becomes a hub of cricket games and social gatherings in the lap of nature. The region is safe and secure for visitors, with immense potential for tourism development.

Nature Meets Adventure

A short 20-minute walk across the Doodh Ganga River will lead you to its verdant valley, while a one-hour trek can take you to the famous Yousmarg—making Haijjan a prime trekking destination. The road from Jabbad to Haijjan, however, remains in a dilapidated condition and needs urgent upgrading to facilitate smoother and safer access for tourists and vehicles.

With its unique natural charm and accessibility, Haijjan is steadily emerging as a top trekking and picnic destination, holding potential to generate local employment and catalyze economic growth in the region.

What Makes Haijjan Special?

Haijjan is not just beautiful—it is resourceful. It



serves as the main water source for the 7.5 MW Branwar Hydroelectric Power Project, a major energy initiative in the region. The area is also dotted with small mud-hut-like structures called "kothas" in the Gojri language, used by nomadic herders as temporary shelters during summer grazing seasons.

The meadows, adorned with crystal-clear streams, lush greenery, and serene surroundings, make Haijjan an eco-tourism hotspot waiting to be fully explored.

How to Reach Haijjan

From Budgam:
Route - Budgam → Raithan → Watred → Nego Branwar → Jabbad → Haijjan
Via Chadoora:
Route - Chadoora → Surasyar → Branwar → Jabbad → Haijjan

Ideal for Educational Tours

Schools and educational institutions can plan eco-exploration trips to Haijjan. With proper safety guidelines, group formations of 8–10 students, and staff supervision, students can enjoy and learn from this natural setting. A guided visit to the Branwar Hydroelectric Power Project can offer practical insights into hydropower generation, making it an enriching academic tour for science and environmental studies.

Conclusion

Haijjan Branwar is not just a spot on the map—it's an experience waiting to be discovered. With its captivating landscapes, ecological significance, and potential for tourism and education, it deserves a prominent place on Kashmir's tourist map. With proper infrastructure and promotion, Haijjan could become one of Budgam's most visited and beloved destinations.

sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com

Nusrat Parveen: From Mrs. India to Spiritual Art Luminary



■ **Mohammad Arfat Wani**

As we flip the pages of history not with the mind but with the deep vision of the heart, a revelation is revealed that is a reflection of the sacred hierarchy of the universe: no light emerges out of darkness; light is always the offspring of light. It does not fall like thunder of applause, nor is it bought by the praises of this world. It rises quietly out of the grief of pure hearts, out of praying souls, and out of the integrity of character that inclines towards sacrifice rather than spectacle. This light frequently rises not from the most vocal quarters of fame, but from quiet women—mothers, daughters, wives—who live behind the scenes, yet direct the course of generations.

These women, beyond the din of media and glory, kindle revolutions in the confines of homes. Their prayers, their offerings, their unseen acts, their silences—they etch immortal lines upon the canvas of human history. These are the unheralded flames who exchange applause for prostrations and exchange earthly crowns for divine light. In the orchestra of countries, they are unheard, but they are never unseen.

Through the centuries and civilizations, whether in the resplendent pages of Islamic history or the kaleidoscopic tapestry of Indian culture, there are so many Muslim women who, having scaled the heights of earthly glory, cast their eyes inward to search for something more exalted. They quit the glare of lights and cameras to bend their hearts before the Almighty. They preferred the Quran to fashion shows, Tahajjud to red carpets, and truth to social media attention. Their place in history is not in pixels or paper, but in the hearts they changed, the homes they lit up, and the generations they elevated.

In the serenity of Kashmir's valley, in the pine-perfumed winds and roofs heavy with snow, such a soul was born in the persona of Nusrat Parveen. Her name would sound humble in the records of the world, but in the annals of honesty, she is a sun that shines brightly. A

woman who wore the crown of fame, strutted the catwalks of recognition, and yet dared to remove it all and go deep into the soul. Her narrative is not one of change, but one of deep transformation—a metamorphosis that transformed a model into a reflection of spiritual art.

Brought up by a disciplined defense personnel and a mother drenched in prayer, Nusrat was shrouded in grace right from birth. Brought up in the dual legacy of structure and spirituality, she was not only taught to walk with elegance but to hold dignity within silence. Her initial schooling in Kendriya Vidyalaya Bhawan and Girls' Higher Secondary School in Lucknow instilled in her values that not only formed her mind but also her inner self. A beauty with a passion for art and aesthetics, Nusrat's natural affinity towards beauty pushed her into the spotlight. She went on to become India's representative at the Mrs. India International 2018 event held in Malaysia—a platform where she glowed with brilliance.

But in the midst of the world's applause and lightning-camera flashes, a question rang in her heart: What is this for? Is success just the ringing of applause or is it the quiet that comes after earnest praying? This single question was a quiet revolution. It kindled a flame in her heart that no award could put out. She took off the crown, not in loss, but in heavenly surrender. She bowed, not before men, but to her Creator. That gesture was not of weakness, but of awakening.

Thus started a life of rediscovery. From stunning stages to the sacred isolation of Tahajjud, from palettes of colors to the ink of remembrance of the Divine, she made every step an act of worship. Her art was her prayer. Her canvas was her mihrab. She educated not through sermons, but brushstrokes of honesty, lighting not the gallery walls, but the hearts of her children. As a teacher at Kendriya Vidyalaya, she educated beyond technique; she transmitted the spirit of existence.

Her house in Tral turned into a sanctuary—a haven where walls reverberate with dhikr, where every nook is filled with prayer, and every child turns into an echo of her light. Her spiritual guide on this path was her husband, a man of noble character and great understanding. They constructed a house not of brick and mortar, but of ideals and dreams. When he says, "If I am anything



today, it is because of Nusrat's prayers and sacrifices," it is not humility—it is heart-whispered truth.

In this era, where visibility is worth, Nusrat Parveen changed the measurables. She never pursued the buzz of social media or drowned in the din of titles. She is happy being a mother, a wife, a daughter, and most importantly, a servant of the soul. Her mornings are not spent filtering but in Fajr. Her nights are not spent following trends but in selfless contemplation. Her fingers bear no designer bracelets but instead carry with them prayer beads and the scent of meals cooked and shared in love. Her children develop not in notoriety but in belief.

She is the personification of quiet nobility. Her lap is a school. Her kitchen, a madrasa. Her heart, a mosque. Her paintbrush, a minbar. She redefined success. Her charity is not applauded. Her charity is concealed. She does not ask for admiration because her reward is not on this earth.

Every move of hers is filled with the fragrance of Jannah. The food she silently leaves at a widow's doorstep, the anonymous contribution she makes toward the wedding of a poor girl, or the

tears she weeps within the loneliness of night—these are the deeds that construct heavenly abodes. Her name would perhaps never be trending, but her tale is inscribed upon the heart of time.

The world recognizes her as a former Mrs. India International. But to those who look with spiritual eyes, she is Sultana-e-Fikr (Queen of Thought), Malika-e-Sukoon (Empress of Peace), and Rooh ki Musawwira (Artist of the Soul). Her brushes no longer create for accolades, but for presence—the presence of God in each color.

In a world that celebrates selfies, likes, and shares, she reminds us that real beauty is not captured but present. Her beauty is unfiltered; it is crafted in the crucible of sacrifice. She is a light in a sea of floodlights. A candle that burns not to be noticed, but to illuminate the path.

She says little, but speaks volumes. Her life is a sermon. Her quietness, a spiritual teaching. Her modesty is not a remark; it's a principle. And her existence is not merely a human being—she is a movement. A movement that whispers to every woman: You are not here to be devoured by eyes; you are here to glow from within.

She is one of divine beauty—one who beautifies her soul in preparation for her face. She is free from society's notion of success, and also free from its temptations. She is rooted in reality. Her mirror is the Qur'an, the ramp she uses is the path to righteousness, and the crown she wears is submission.

Nusrat Parveen's story is no exception. It is a summons to each heart that yearns for significance more than the ordinary. It is a beacon to those who believe they are lost in the waves of the world. It is evidence that change isn't just feasible—it is forceful.

Her life is a work of art which does not come to an end on the final page. It starts with each heart she touches. Her life makes us wonder: Are we living for applause or for Allah? Is our deed filling our ego or liberating our soul? Are we adorning the body while leaving the soul behind?

Within the rooms of her heart is an entire universe of contemplation. Her presence is an invitation to stop, think, and come face to face again—again with ourselves and our Maker. She teaches us that no achievement, no fame, no sparkle can match the peace that settles on a soul bent before its God.

To the world, she is simply a woman who traded fashion for faith. But in truth, she is the fashion of faith. She is not a footnote to someone else's story; she is a headline to the book of sincerity. She is not loud, but she is heard in the heavens. Her legacy is not inscribed on stone, but on the hearts she softens.

In an age when humanity is desperately looking for meaning, Nusrat Parveen is not only an example but also a guidepost. She shows us that even silently, a woman can roar. That even in the absence of lime-light, one can radiate. That in an age of noise, the whisper of the soul can still be heard—if it is genuine.

Let it be said, her name might fall out of the newsfeed, but never from the heavenly registry. History is merely the start for those who live for the ages. She will never model the ramp again, but she models among angels. And if there's one thing her life teaches us, it is this: Fame is temporary. But the scent of character, it never loses its potency.

The Author is a , a passionate writer, social activist, and medical student, hails from Kuchmulla Tral. His email address is wania6817@gmail.com

Story: Letters and Silence



■ **Dr. Satyavan Saurabh**

In a small village called 'Niwara' in Bhiwani district, there was a dilapidated post office. Mud walls, a thatched roof and an old neem tree in front, under whose shade the elders used to sit and read letters. Gopal Dakiya had been working in that post office for forty years - like the heartbeat of the village, every house has its own man.

Gopal didn't just bring letters, he also brought news of his sons' jobs, news of his daughters-in-law's in-laws, and love notes from his children who had gone to study far away.

Everyone had their own story—because of Gopal. There was a girl named Savita in the village. And in the city there was a boy named Ramesh who was studying engineering. The series of love letters between the two continued through the fingers of the postman Gopal. Every Friday, Savita, sitting under the neem tree, would ask Gopal, "Has anything come?"

Gopal would smile and hold out the envelope. Savita's eyes would sparkle. Sometimes it would contain a poem, sometimes a dream, sometimes a promise of marriage.

In these same letters, two hearts imagined the

future.

But not everything is always with love. Savita's father Ram Swaroop did not approve of this relationship. The wall of casteism, the pride of property, and the gaze of society - all these turned the ink of letters into poison.

Ramswaroop filed a rape and cheating case against Ramesh.

And from there another door opened - the door to the courtyard.

Now Savita didn't wait for letters every Friday, but rather waited for the next date slip.

In the court, both Ramesh's lawyer and Ram Swaroop's lawyer were looking for arguments of "Savita's consent" and "Ramesh's intention" in their respective papers.

The love letters were now evidence. They were presented in court. The judge said, "Isn't this letter evidence of seduction of a minor?"

Gopal was called to testify. He said in a trembling voice, "Sir, I had just given the letters... not for a court, but for two hearts."

But the court does not understand the language of hearts.

Savita had now become silent. Case diaries had replaced letters. Her parents had forbidden her from leaving the house. The girl had now become an "honor", the value of which was being determined in court.

Every date, Savita was asked the same questions: "Did you write the letters of your own free will?" "Did you two have sex?"

"Did the guy back out of the wedding?" His soul cried out, "Yes, I loved, it was no crime!" But the court doesn't listen to love - it just records

“

There was a girl named Savita in the village. And in the city there was a boy named Ramesh who was studying engineering. The series of love letters between the two continued through the fingers of the postman Gopal. Every Friday, Savita, sitting under the neem tree, would ask Gopal, "Has anything come?"

the statement.

During this time, the village post office was closed. "Now everything is digital, who sends letters?" - Says Gopal, a retired postal worker.

Gopal cried that day. Sitting under the neem tree, he burned the last letters, except for one - Savita's letter to Ramesh, which he had never sent. It read - "If this world separates us, remember... my soul is stained with the ink of your name."

Three years later, the court gave its verdict - "The young man is innocent. The relationship was consensual. The girl was an adult. The case was false."

But by then Ramesh had gone to America and got married.

And Savita? She remained silent. After coming out of the court, a reporter asked, "Are you satisfied with the justice?"

He bowed his head and said:

"I wanted love, not justice."

Gopal now lives alone. He keeps the old letters carefully - as if they were a museum of love.

One day a journalist asked, "Uncle, what do you do now?"

Gopal said-

"I was a postman... now I am in the line of witnesses. Before I used to deliver love letters, now I see crowds of people giving information about the date. I am surprised... the number of post offices has decreased and the number of courts has increased..."

The new generation now communicates through email and WhatsApp. They don't know the importance of letters.

But one day, a girl was doing a project on love letters in her college. She met Gopal.

Gopal gave Savita's letter to him and said,

"If you ever have to recreate the world of letters, remember this - don't let love be the proof."

Letters were the creativity of relationships, and courts were the documentation of broken relationships.

Today, post offices are deserted, and courts are crowded. Dispute has replaced dialogue. This story is not about Savita and Ramesh, but a warning to all of us - that if we do not maintain dialogue, trust and truth in relationships, every love will become a case, and every feeling a date.

The Author is a Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, radio and TV panelist.

DDC Poonch reviews progress of HADP, Agriculture & Allied Sector Schemes

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JULY 07: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Poonch, Vikas Kundal today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review the progress of the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) and other key schemes related to agriculture and allied sectors in the district. The meeting aimed to foster

greater coordination and ensure timely execution of initiatives to benefit farmers and boost agricultural productivity. During the meeting, officers from the concerned departments presented status reports and outlined the targets set for the current financial year under HADP. They highlighted focused efforts on increasing productivity and enhancing farmer



income through sustainable interventions. The DDC conducted a detailed review of major schemes including Daksh Kisan, Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and PM-KISAN, issuing clear directions for time-bound implementation. Emphasizing the importance of achieving set targets under Daksh Kisan, the DDC instructed all stakeholders to adhere strictly to the prescribed

timelines. Stressing the need for inter-departmental coordination, field-level monitoring and farmer engagement, the DDC urged all departments to work in synergy to ensure comprehensive implementation of agricultural programs across the district. The DDC also took stock of the vaccination drives being carried out by the Animal and Sheep Husbandry.

DC inspects progress of ongoing work on GMC Udampur

HT NEWS DESK



UDHAMPUR, JULY 07: Deputy Commissioner Udampur, Saloni Rai today conducted a comprehensive inspection of the ongoing construction work at the new Government Medical College in Bailey. During the visit, the DC meticulously reviewed each construction component, assessed the current progress and emphasized resolving bottlenecks, if any, affecting the project's execution. The DC urged the executing agency to adopt a double-shift work schedule with heightened enthusiasm and synergy, aiming to meet the project's completion within the designated timeframe.

Emphasizing the efficient mobilization of available resources, the DC directed the executing agencies to work productively to achieve optimal results. The DC asked Principal GMC to closely coordinate with the executing agency to accelerate the pace of the construction work. Among others, Principal GMC Udampur, Executive Engineers PWD and PHE and other officers were accompanying the DC.

Shrine Board Judokas to represent India at International Competitions

HT NEWS DESK

Katra, July 7: Three judokas from the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sports Complex - Varun Sharma, Rajat Singh Chib and Akshay Sharma have earned the distinction of representing India in the esteemed World University Games and Asia Cup, events governed by the International Judo Federation.

Varun Sharma will compete in the 81 kg category Judo competition at the World University Games in Berlin, Germany from July 16-27, 2025. Meanwhile, Rajat Singh Chib and Akshay Sharma will represent India in the 90 kg and 73 kg categories respectively at the Senior and Junior Asia Cup Judo competition in Taiwan scheduled from July 12-17, 2025.

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB presented internationally approved judo kits to the judokas in the presence of Satish Sharma, Jt. Chief Executive Officer, Dhruv Gupta, Director (Sports), SMVD Sports Complex and Danish Sharma, Judo Coach at Central Office, Katra with the gesture to support the athletes in their international endeavors, enabling them to perform at their best while representing India. On the occasion, he also extended his best wishes to athletes on behalf of the Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT) for their upcoming events.

Noteworthy that the SMVD Sports Complex has played a pivotal role in nurturing the judokas' talents by offering state-of-the-art facilities and expert guidance under the mentorship of coach Danish Sharma. The SMVD Sports Complex is currently nurturing the talents of over 150 aspiring athletes across various sports disciplines, who have been consistently delivering promising results in national and international competitions.

DDC Chairman Doda flags off Rudra Ganga Yatra

HT NEWS DESK

DODA, JULY 07: In a vibrant and spiritually uplifting ceremony, the District Development Council Chairman, Dhananter Singh Kotwal today flagged off the Rudra Ganga Yatra from Doda to Chandi Dhar Dassa, amidst religious fervour and enthusiastic participation.

The event witnessed the presence of key dignitaries including Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anil Thakur, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Din Mohammad, and Executive Officer Municipality Yasir Wani. Also present were Dy. SP, President of Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Zila Pradhan of Sewa Bharti and Zila Pradhan of Sadbhavana along with a large gathering of devotees and locals.

The Chairman emphasized the spiritual and cultural significance of the Rudra Ganga Yatra, highlighting how such events foster communal harmony, promote the region's rich traditions and boost spiritual tourism. He appreciated the efforts of the organizing committees and administration for their seamless coordination and extended wishes for safe and successful yatra. Traditional rituals were performed before the flag-off and chants of devotion echoed across the town.

Awareness cum 100% saturation camp under DAJGUA held at village Dhar- Ghaddian

HT NEWS DESK

UDHAMPUR, JULY 07: As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janatiya Gramin Utkarsh Abhiyan, awareness cum 100% saturation of Government schemes camp was successfully organized today at Village Dharghaddian, Panchayat Pakhlai, Block Sewna.

The camp was attended by BDO Sewna, Jasreen Kour, officers and officials besides members of the tribal community. The camp was held under the overall supervision of Programme Officer Poshan Subhash Chander who graced the



occasion as the chief guest. He sensitized the local tribal population about various flagship government welfare schemes. He emphasized the commitment of the administration towards ensuring the socio-economic upliftment of tribal communities through saturation of key benefits and

documentation services. During the camp, domicile and ST category certificates were distributed among the eligible tribal beneficiaries, thereby ensuring their access to widespread public welfare schemes. The Health Department, in coordination with Ayush conducted TB sputum sam-

pling and distributed free medicines to the villagers present in the camp. In order to educate the public about global warming, the representatives of the Forest department launched a plantation drive and sensitized the public about the importance of Forest cover. The camp concluded with a plantation drive, symbolizing collective efforts towards environmental conservation and community participation. Officials from various line departments also participated in the camp and provided on-the-spot services.

Mission Director HADP inaugurates five-day Capacity Building Programme for FPOs

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 07: Mission Director, HADP Sandeep Kumar inaugurated a five-day Capacity Building Programme for Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Chairman/Board of Directors (BODs) of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) from across Jammu and Kashmir in the presence of Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen, Director Research SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. S.K. Gupta, senior officers of the department, faculty members and project staff. The programme, organized under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), is being held from July 7 to 11, 2025. The programme is a joint initiative of the Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Jammu and SKUAST-Jammu in collaboration with MANAGE-Hyderabad. In his address, Sandeep

Kumar emphasized addressing the technical challenges being faced by CEOs and BODs in the formation and functioning of FPOs in their respective areas. He encouraged the participants to share their experiences and seek solutions from the expert faculty of MANAGE. He further highlighted the need to empower small and marginal farmers, enhance farm landholdings, promote biodiversity, soil and natural resource conservation, and ethical agricultural practices. He also advocated the promotion of local agricultural products to strengthen rural economies. Speaking on the occasion, the Director underscored the importance of such training initiatives in reforming and strengthening the farming community. He stated that capacity building of CEOs and BODs will play a pivotal role in enhancing the Market-driven strategies of FPOs.

District Treasury Office Kishtwar organizes training programme on SNA-SPARSH

HT NEWS DESK

KISHTWAR, JULY 07: The District Treasury Office Kishtwar successfully organizes a comprehensive training programme on Single Nodal Account Samyochit Pronali Akarit Shigr Hastantaran (SNA-SPARSH) for Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) and Dealing Assistants of the district. The training was specifically designed for officials operating Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The programme aimed to enhance the efficiency of fund management under these schemes and familiarize participants with the SNA-SPARSH system for seamless financial operations. District Treasury Officer, Shoket Ali Rather led the



training session, emphasizing the critical role of SNA-SPARSH in strengthening financial governance. He also guided the participants about key features of the new pension system, including login procedures, uploading of documents, digital verification and submission of pension cases through the online platform. DTO emphasized the importance of speedy

and error-free pension case processing and urged all DDOs to ensure full compliance with the new digital procedure. During the training session about SNA-SPARSH, NIC Resource person Amit Gupta provided a detailed demonstration on bill generation using JKPaySys, covering the process from DDO maker to checker login. Participants received step-by-step instructions

on uploading bills/claims on the portal and submitting them to the treasury for payment. The training also covered the procedure for fetching budget allocations for respective schemes and bill-making protocols, adhering to both UT and Centre guidelines. The programme witnessed active participation from DDOs and Dealing Assistants associated with the district treasury and its subordinate treasuries. The District Treasury Office remains committed to providing such capacity-building initiatives to ensure efficient financial management and compliance with regulatory requirements. The training session was attended by DDOs/Dealing Assistants besides All account's fraternity of district Kishtwar.

Horticulture Department organizes one-day Capacity Building-cum-Training Programme at Pargwal

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, JULY 07: The Department of Horticulture Jammu organised a one-day Capacity Building-cum-Training Programme for farmers, especially targeting the empowerment of women at Pargwal under the chairmanship of Member Legislative Assembly Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat.

The event witnessed the presence of Director Horticulture Jammu, Gul Sayed, Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu, Rakesh Kotwal, District Level Subject Matter Specialist, Rakesh Bhagat and Horticulture Development Officer Khour Amit Saraf.

The programme drew a large number of farmers from the area, with especially enthusiastic participation from women folk. The

strong turnout reflected the keen interest among local farming communities to adopt modern practices and value addition techniques.

An on-spot demonstration session was conducted for the participants on making pickle, jam, squash and other value-added products. Experts explained the processes in detail and answered farmers' queries, encouraging them to adopt such techniques to increase their income and reduce post-harvest losses.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA stressed the importance of setting up small-scale fruit processing units in the block, especially for women and unemployed youth. He said such initiatives would not only make them self-reliant but also generate employment opportunities for other unemployed



people in the area. He called upon the youth and women folk of Pargwal to come forward, adopt modern horticulture practices and avail themselves of government support for entrepreneurship development. Director Horticulture Jammu delivered an

in-depth awareness session on various government schemes run by the Department of Horticulture for the welfare of farmers. He highlighted the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes. He urged the participants to take advantage of these schemes for establishing nurseries, protected cultivation structures, micro-irrigation systems and processing units.

CHO also addressed the gathering, specifically encouraging women farmers to actively participate in the department's schemes. He emphasized the role of women in value addition and entrepreneurship, noting that with proper training and support, they can significantly improve their livelihoods.

As part of the programme's concluding activities, the MLA distributed fruit plants among the participants to promote orchard development in the region. He also ceremoniously handed over the keys of tractors to the beneficiaries under the HADP scheme, marking a significant step towards farm mechanisation in the area.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Horticulture Development Officer, Khour. He expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, officers, and especially the large number of farmers—including many women, for their active participation and assured continued support from the Department of Horticulture to strengthen farmer livelihoods and promote sustainable horticulture practices in Pargwal and surrounding areas.

Farmers demand reconstruction of siphon damaged in 2014 floods

Say irrigation crisis threatens agriculture across several villages; appeal for urgent intervention

HT NEWS DESK

Pulwama/Shopian, Jul 07 (KNO): Farmers across several villages in South Kashmir's Pulwama and Shopian districts have raised their voice against the continued neglect of a crucial irrigation siphon that was damaged during the 2014 floods and hasn't been reconstructed since then, thereby crippling the agriculture-dependent economy of the region.

The siphon part of a vital irrigation canal network lies in Rakh village of Pulwama. While a bridge was rebuilt to restore road connectivity, the siphon, essential for delivering irrigation water to downstream areas, was never reconstructed.

"Our fields have developed cracks in this heat while officials continue to ignore us," said Ghulam Mohammad Mir, a farmer from Rakh village. "We haven't been able to irrigate our paddy land properly in the absence of adequate water supply."

According to locals, the absence of the siphon has disrupted water flow to sev-

eral villages including Rakh, Zahidbagh, Darbagh, Naina, Batpora, and Watchi—spread across both Pulwama and Shopian districts. They said dozens of hectares of farmland are facing threats everywhere due to unavailability of water and this year the condition has reached to extreme level.

The situation has been further aggravated by the ongoing dry spell and erratic water supply from temporary alternatives. A pump shed, established as an interim measure, has failed to offer reliable relief due to several issues.

"The pump functions erratically. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. Even when it does, the pressure is too low to irrigate the distant fields," said Abdul Qayoom, a farmer from Batpora.

Another farmer, Mohammad Akbar from Zahidbagh, expressed deep frustration. "For ten years, we have been requesting the Irrigation department to fix the siphon. Every year they make excuses. We don't want promises—we want action."

Farmers said they have already planted

paddy saplings but are worried about the crop yield due to low water levels in the rivulet and lack of a proper irrigation system.

In the absence of water flow, parts of the canal have also deteriorated into dumping grounds, adding to the environmental woes of the villagers.

Meanwhile, farmers from the affected villages have appealed to the Lieutenant Governor's administration and concerned departments to expedite the reconstruction work before the damage to the agriculture sector becomes irreversible.

An official from the Irrigation and Flood Control Department acknowledged the problem, stating that a mega project to reconnect the broken canal system and reconstruct the siphon was approved years ago, but wasn't taken up due to "certain issues."

"We understand the gravity of the situation. The project is in the pipeline, and work is expected to begin soon," the official said—(KNO)

BRO CE calls on Dy CM; discusses road infra in Jammu province

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JULY 07: BRO Chief Engineer Jammu Province, Brigadier R K Mishra, today called on Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary and apprised him regarding the road projects being executed under Border Road Organisation (BRO) in Jammu Province.

The meeting was aimed to ensure that the road infrastructure development in Jammu province progresses efficiently, contributing to improved connectivity, economic growth and overall development of the region.

The CE provided key updates on various road works being executed in the Jammu division especially in Pir Panjal area including Mughal Road.

In depth discussion was held on several issues like



forest clearance, compensations, removal of structures obstructing the alignment, quality assurance and others. During the discussion, the Deputy Chief Minister emphasized on removal of bottlenecks hindering the progress of projects.

Underscoring the importance of preventing delays in execution of these vital projects, the Dy CM said that removal of structures obstructing the alignment

of roads is crucially important. He also exhorted upon the concerned to expedite land acquisition process, with emphasis on timely disbursement of compensation among the landowners.

Stressing the urgency of timely project delivery, the Dy CM asked all the executing agencies to work in tandem, ensuring prompt completion of these essential infrastructure initiatives.

IUST-RRIUM Hold Third Joint Meet to Advance Unani-Scientific Integration

HT NEWS DESK

Awantipora, July 7: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) and the Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine (RRIUM), Srinagar, recently held their collaborative research meeting at RRIUM, Srinagar. The meeting was jointly led by Dr. Arsheed A. Ganaie, Coordinator, Centre for AYUSH Science, IUST, and Dr. Irfat Ara, Officer Incharge, RRIUM, and focused on reviewing existing collaborations while charting future joint initiatives aimed at integrating Unani medicine with modern scientific approaches.

Discussions at the meeting revolved around three core priorities: the modernization of Unani formulations through advanced scientific evaluation techniques, as emphasized by Prof. Ayub Qadri; the development of collaborative research proposals by leveraging mutual institutional expertise, highlighted by Dr. Irfat Ara; and the need to secure enhanced support from the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) for conducting clinical trials.

MMU appeals for responsible conduct, unity among Muslims

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Jul 07 (KNO): Muttahida Majlis-e-Uluma (MMU) Jammu & Kashmir, which includes both Sunni and Shia organisations, strongly appealed to all the respected scholars, preachers, orators, and community leaders of all schools of thought, to exercise utmost caution and responsibility in their words and statements at all times. The Majlis firmly states that the honour, dignity, and sanctity of purified members of the Prophet's family (Ahl al-Bayt), and the noble Companions of the Prophet (Sahaba)—may Allah be pleased with them all—is a fundamental part of the faith. Any disrespectful remark or irresponsible utterance against any Companion of the Prophet and the Ahle Bait is unacceptable. It exposes the malicious intent, a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO). "It is highly regrettable that a well-known individual, who holds an influential position in our society, has recently made an inappropriate and disrespectful statement about Sahaba, which has deeply hurt the sentiments.

WRITERS GUIDANCE COUNCIL ORGANIZES WEBINAR ON "BOOK AND ARTICLE WRITING"

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar:—To observe its foundation day, Writers Guidance Council (WGC) led by Kashmiri doctor and columnist Dr Tasaduk Hussain Itoo—organized a webinar here today with the title "Book and Article writing".

The webinar was organized under the "Writers Guidance Programme" with a prime objective to guide authors and writers. And the webinar was anchored and moderated by Faheem Ul Islam (published author cum public speaker).

While inaugurating the session, Dr Tasaduk Hussain Itoo put a brief overview of WGC mission and vision with its prime aims and objectives.

Dr Itoo emphasized that the mission of WGC is to empower writers by providing them guidance, support, and mentorship to help them improve their craft.

"By offering mentorship webinars, workshops, and other initiatives, our goal is to create an environment where writers can thrive and reach their full potential," he said.

"While we strive to equip writers



He emphasized the importance of having a clear direction and intention behind writing a book. He stressed that understanding the purpose, setting clear objectives, and identifying the target audience are crucial for creating effective content. Dr. Singh also highlighted the significance of authenticity and originality, encouraging writers to bring their unique perspective and voice to their work.

Abrar Ul Mustafa (noted writer cum columnist) delivered a detailed talk on topic titled "Writing an article in a newspaper".

He emphasized the importance of choosing a relevant and timely topic, conducting thorough research, and structuring the article in a clear and concise manner. Mustafa also stressed on the need for engaging writing, effective use of language, and adherence to journalistic standards.

The webinar was followed with a question-answer (Q & A) session following each talk from the participants, wherein the respected speakers answered their questions.

The webinar concluded with Vote of Thanks presented by Faheem Ul Islam.

Prominent political activists from NC, PC and Apni Party joined the BJP in Srinagar.

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, 7 July 2025—More than a hundred prominent activists and young individuals from across the valley joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday. The joining ceremony

was held at Church Lane, Srinagar, in the presence of Ashok Koul, the BJP J&K's general secretary (organisation), Waqf Board Chairperson (MOS) Dr Darakshan Andrabi, Former MLC S. Charinjeet Singh Khalsa and other BJP State team.

As the new members

were welcomed into the party with BJP Patkas, Ashok Koul highlighted the party's commitment to development and empowerment in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that the participation of the youth reflects the trust the public has in the BJP's vision for

progress, good governance, and stability. "The BJP is dedicated to the betterment of every section of society through our promise of 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas,'" Koul said. He expressed confidence that the party's approach has endeared it.

Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan: Awareness campaigns held across Rajouri district to combat drug abuse

HT NEWS DESK

RAJOURI, JULY 07: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma, a series of impactful awareness programs were organized in various blocks of Rajouri district under the banner of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

These events, part of a concerted effort to combat drug abuse drew enthusiastic participation from the public. The events were held in different blocks including Thanamandi, Budhal Old, Doongi, Panjgrain, Rajouri, Sunderbani and in MC Sunderbani.

ABRSM calls on CEO Jammu projects demands

HT NEWS DESK



A delegation of Akhil Bhartiya Rashtriya Shaishik Mahasangh (ABRSM), under the leadership of District President Sh. Pawan Sharma ji along with Special invitee Sh. Rakesh Sharma ji State Executive member, met the newly posted CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER JAMMU, Sh. Ajeet Sharma ji, to discuss pressing concerns of the teaching fraternity. Key issues raised during the meeting included the undue delay in transfer of teachers, delay in time bound promotions of Teachers, importance of early conduct of DPCs for promotion of Teachers to Masters, and effective implementation of central government education policies aimed at qualitative improvement in the education sector. The delegation comprised of Sh. Rahul Sharma (State Additional Secretary), Sh. Ved Parkash (Jammu District General Secretary), Sh. Tarsem Lal (Jammu District Media Prabhari), Sh. Narrotam Sharma, Sh. Deepak sharma, and Sh. jeet raj, sh. Kuldeep kumar (Zonal president jourian, Sh. Tirath Ram Senior V.P. jourian, sh. Bali Ram Zonal Secretary AKHNOOR and Sh. Makhan Lal. The Chief Education Officer Jammu gave a patient hearing and assured appropriate action on the highlighted concerns.

Doctors at District Hospital Pulwama Accused of Negligence in Woman's Death; Inquiry Ordered

MUSHTAQ ULISLAM

Pulwama, July 7: Allegations of medical negligence have emerged against the staff at District Hospital Pulwama following the death of a woman patient, triggering public outrage and prompting authorities to initiate an official inquiry.

Family members of the deceased have claimed that the medical team failed to provide timely and appropriate treatment, leading to her untimely demise. The incident sparked concern across the district and has been widely circulated on social media platforms.

However, Medical Superintendent District Hospital Pulwama, responded to the controversy by affirming that doctors at the hospital had carried out their duties professionally and as per medical protocol.

Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia Slams NC for Stirring Unnecessary Urdu Controversy

HT NEWS DESK

Jammu, 07 July 2025: In a strongly worded press conference held at the BJP party office in Trikuta Nagar today, party spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, accompanied by Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra and Dr. Makson Tikoo, criticized the National Conference (NC) for fueling an unnecessary controversy around the Urdu language in the context of Naib Tehsildar recruitment.

Dr. Jasrotia termed the issue as politically motivated and aimed at misleading the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. "Urdu is a sister language of Hindi and both have deep roots in Bharat. The attempt to portray it as an exclusive cultural identity is misleading," he said.

He pointed out that during NC's own tenure, the first recruitment rules for Naib Tehsildars in 1973 did not mandate Urdu as a compulsory qualification. "For three decades, this remained unchanged. It was only in 2003 when two parties—one responsible for the partition of Bharat and the other infamously involved in the Amarnath land row—joined hands and planted the seeds of divi-



sion," he said. He further said that the clause making Urdu mandatory was kept in abeyance again in 2009 during another coalition regime involving NC. Dr. Jasrotia demanded an explanation from NC on why it is reigniting this controversy now. "NC should explain to the youth why they are diverting attention from their unfulfilled promise of providing 1 lakh government jobs, which they

mentioned in their very first manifesto," said Dr. Jasrotia. He added that the party is creating confusion among innocent aspirants at a time when digitalization of land records has made such criteria irrelevant. "If knowledge of Urdu is mandatory for Naib Tehsildars, then what about other key officials of the land revenue department like DCs, ACRs, and Revenue Secretaries?" he questioned.

Dr. Jasrotia also recalled that BJP was the first to raise concern over this issue. "Party President Sat Sharma ji and Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma ji were the first to meet Hon'ble LG Manoj Sinha. I too followed up personally, after which BJYM took to the streets demanding justice for youth," he added. Highlighting the inclusive concerns, he said that the issue of Urdu is not only a hurdle for Jammu aspirants but also for youth from the Kashmir region. Taking a dig at former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Dr. Jasrotia said, "Omar Sahib's love for Urdu seems superficial. His Twitter handle is in English. If he truly respects Urdu, he should switch his account to Urdu. Otherwise, Abraham Lincoln was right when he said—you can't fool all the people all the time."

PM Modi holds bilateral with Cuban President, discusses boosting economic ties, healthcare, ayurveda

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Rio de Janeiro/New Delhi,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a bilateral meeting with the President of Cuba Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez on the sidelines of the Rio BRICS Summit, during which they discussed enhancing economic ties, as well as cooperation in biotechnology, pharma, Ayurveda and Digital Public Infrastructure among other things. The PM said in a post on X after their meeting in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday: "It was wonderful to meet President Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez of Cuba. In our talks, we covered a wide range of subjects. Economic relations between our nations have a lot of potential to grow in the coming times. "Equally promising are sectors like technology, healthcare and energy. The growing acceptance of Ayurveda in Cuba is surely a great thing. We even discussed ways to strengthen disaster management apparatus." The Cuban President said in a post on X that it was a fruitful meeting with the Indian PM. "In fruitful meeting with the Prime Minister @narendramodi, we analyze the areas of special economic-commercial interest, cooperation and



investments that currently exist between the #India and #Cuba. "We agree on the excellent state of bilateral relations." The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X: "PM @narendramodimet with President Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez of Cuba on the sidelines of the 17th BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Both leaders exchanged views on various facets of relationship including in the areas of economic cooperation, biotechnology, pharma, Ayurveda and traditional medicine, Digital Public Infrastruc-

ture & UPI, disaster management, and capacity building." The Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez P, in a post said the two leaders highlighted the potential in areas such as biotechnology, energy, agriculture, communications, and tourism. "In a meeting with the Prime Minister of #India, @narendramodi, President @DiazCanelB highlighted the existing potential in economic-commercial and cooperation areas, mainly in fields such as biotechnology, energy, agriculture, communications, and tourism." According to a readout: Prime Minister Modi had earlier met President Díaz-Canel at the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg in 2023, where Cuba was a special invitee. "The two leaders reviewed bilateral ties in the areas of economic cooperation, development partnership, fintech, capacity building, science and technology, disaster management and healthcare. "Acknowledging India's expertise in the digital domain, President Díaz-Canel expressed interest in India's Digital Public Infrastructure and UPI. Prime Minister conveyed appreciation for Cuba's recognition of Ayurveda and extended support for integrating Ayurveda into Cuba's public health system.

BRICS expresses concern at Middle East conflict, Trump threatens 10 pc tariff on BRICS countries

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Rio de Janeiro/New Delhi, July 7

BRICS countries have expressed deep concern at continued conflicts and instability in the Middle East and the situation in "Occupied Palestinian Territory" with continuous Israeli attacks against Gaza even as US President Donald Trump threatened an additional 10 percent tariff on any country aligning themselves with "the Anti-American policies of BRICS". In a Joint Declaration adopted after the BRICS Summit at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, BRICS countries reaffirmed that a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict could only be achieved by peaceful means depending on fulfilment of legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the rights to self-determination and return. They called for adherence to international laws, including the International Humanitarian Laws and condemned attempts to politicize or militarize humanitarian assistance. Reacting to the references to Middle East in the BRICS Joint Declaration, President Trump said in his post on Truth Social that "Any Country aligning themselves with the Anti-American policies of BRICS, will be charged an ADDITIONAL 10 percent Tariff... There will be no exceptions to this policy." China was quick to respond to President Trump's threat and described it as a "tool of political coercion." A Chinese Foreign Min-



istry spokesman said such measures are unproductive and serve no constructive purpose." BRICS is dedicated to cooperation and inclusive global development, rejecting confrontation and geopolitical rivalry, the spokesman said. According to the Joint Declaration, BRICS countries called for further negotiations to achieve an immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire, full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza Strip and all other parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, release of all hostages and detainees held in violation of international law and sustained and unhindered access and delivery of humanitarian aid. "We call on all relevant parties to respect their obligations under international law and act with utmost restraint and to avoid escalatory actions and provocative declarations. We note, in this regard, the provisional measures of the International Court of Justice in the legal proceedings instituted by South Africa against Israel, which, inter alia, reaffirmed Israel's legal obligation to ensure the provision of humanitarian aid in Gaza.

Vietnamese PM congratulates PM Modi on India's growing role on global stage

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Rio de Janeiro/New Delhi, July 7



Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh during his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the Rio BRICS Summit, congratulated India on its recent achievements and growing role on the global stage, particularly within the BRICS bloc. PM Modi in turn described the Vietnamese PM Chinh as a close friend of India. In a post on X, PM Modi said: "Had a good conversation with PM Ph m Minh Chinh of Vietnam on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Brazil." PM Modi and the Vietnamese PM met on the sidelines of the 17th BRICS Summit at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. India is set to take over the rotating presidency of BRICS this year. Vietnam was made a partner country of BRICS this year. The BRICS is a group formed by eleven countries: its five original members - Brazil, China, India, Russia, and South Africa - and six new members admitted in 2024-25 - Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, and Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. It serves as a political and diplomatic coordination forum for countries from the Global South and for coordination in the most diverse areas. The BRICS partner countries are: Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan and Vietnam. It serves as a political and diplomatic coordination forum for countries from the Global South and for coordination in the most diverse areas. The BRICS partner countries are: Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

Defence sector now viewed as economic investment with multiplier effect: Rajnath

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, July 7

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today emphasised that India's defence sector is no longer seen merely as a necessary expenditure, but as a strategic economic investment that is generating a multiplier effect on the nation's economy. Speaking at the Controllers' Conference 2025, hosted by Defence Accounts Department (DAD) here, the Minister highlighted the significant and transformative changes taking place in the sector. "These developments, which were not visible until recently, are now unfolding rapidly. Today's changes are dynamic and often uncertain. While the concept of 'peace time'



may be considered an illusion, it is during such periods that we focus on strengthening our defence capabilities through policy-making, implementation, procurement, training, and various other activities," he said. Stressing the importance of readiness, even in periods of perceived calm, Rajnath said, "I would like to explain this with an example. Let's say we are able to achieve the annual production of a specific type of equipment or ammunition up to a certain number, which we know as the established production capacity. Now, if suddenly a situation arises where we need more of that equipment or ammunition, how will we ensure its availability? What plan should we have for such a situation? We need to think about what preparations should be in place for such a scenario, and this is something we must consider even during peace time." Underscoring the value of introspection and internal reform, Singh said that organic changes from within an organisation often face fewer obstacles. "Ideas that emerge internally are easier to adopt. Improvements through self-reflection not only make the organisation more dynamic, effective, innovative, and professional, but also transform it into a 'living organisation', he said. Calling upon all personnel to uphold the values of their mission, the Defence Minister said, "On this occasion, I appeal to all of you to take a collective pledge to preserve the essence of our motto.

Climate change threatens milk yields, cooling tech only helps partially: Study

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
New Delhi, July 7

Climate change threatens on the crop products have been often talked about, but a new study has highlighted an alarming consequence of global warming on milk production in the dairy sector, with yields expected to decline by up to 10% in the coming decades. For countries like India, the world's largest producer of milk, the implications could be severe, affecting both livelihoods and food security. Dairy cows, when exposed to elevated temperatures, undergo physiological stress, leading to a reduction in milk output and overall health. While cooling technologies such as fans and misting

systems can alleviate some of the heat's impact, these measures have been found to offset only about half of the expected loss in milk yield, said the study published in the journal Science Advances. The research, which primarily focused on Israel's advanced dairy farms, offers a critical glimpse into the potential challenges that could unfold across the globe. The study's authors, including researchers from the University of Tel Aviv and the University of Chicago, found that when the "wet-bulb" temperature—a combined measure of air temperature and humidity—exceeds 26°C, milk production drops sharply. On such days, the decline can reach up to 10 percent per cow.

Trump says 'good chance' of reaching hostage deal with Hamas ahead of Israeli PM's visit to Washington

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Washington/Jerusalem, July 7

US President Donald Trump, a day prior to the arrival of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Washington expressed confidence about the meeting, saying that there was a "good chance" of reaching a hostage deal with Hamas "during the week," reports Times of Israel. "I think there's a good chance we have a deal with Hamas... during the coming week," Trump told reporters as he headed back to Washington following the holiday weekend. "We've gotten a lot of the hostages out, but pertaining to the remaining hostages, quite a few



of them will be coming out," Trump added. Speaking briefly about the meeting, the US President said that Washington was "working on a lot of things" with Israel, including "probably a permanent deal with Iran." He went on to reiterate the success of the US strikes on June 22, claiming that the strikes had

"obliterated" Iran's nuclear facilities during the 12-day Iran-Israel conflict. Regarding the meeting, Netanyahu said that "we are working to reach this deal under the terms we have agreed to." "I sent a team to the negotiations (in Doha) with clear directives," the Israeli PM added. "I think the conversation with President Trump can certainly help advance the outcome we are all hoping for." Netanyahu told reporters as he boarded the plane to DC that "20 living hostages remain and 30 who are fallen. I am determined, we are determined, to bring back all of them."

Indian Astronaut Shukla speaks to ISRO Chief from ISS

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Chennai, July 7

Indian astronaut Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla called Dr V Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO and acknowledged the efforts of the ISRO team in ensuring his safe travel to the International Space Station (ISS), where he is carrying out various experiments during his 14-day stay. Shukla spoke to Dr Narayanan yesterday afternoon. ISRO in a statement today said "On July 06, 2025, in the afternoon, Shubhanshu Shukla, the Indian Gaganyatri



currently aboard the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the Axiom-4 mission, had a telephonic

conversation with Dr V Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space." During the call, the Chairman expressed his keen interest in Shubhanshu's well-being and inquired about the various scientific experiments and activities being conducted on the ISS. The Chairman emphasized the significance of documenting all experiments and activities meticulously after Shubhanshu's return to Earth, as this will provide valuable insights and inputs for the development of India's human spaceflight program,

Gaganyaan. The Gaganyaan program aims to demonstrate India's capability to launch a crewed spacecraft into low Earth orbit, and the experiences and knowledge gained from this mission will be crucial for its success. Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS mission has been executed under the ISRO-Axiom Spaceflight agreement. The discussion was attended by several senior officials from ISRO, including Dr. Unnikrishnan Nair, Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and Chairman of the Program Management Council for Human Space Programme.

Malaysia vital for India's vision of MAHASAGAR and Act East Policy: PM

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA
Rio de Janeiro/New Delhi, July 7

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today met his Malaysian counterpart Anwar bin Ibrahim on the sidelines of the 17th BRICS Summit here and thanked him for his strong condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack and emphasized that Malaysia plays a vital role in India's Vision MAHASAGAR and Act East Policy. "It was a very good meeting with Prime Minister of Malaysia, Mr. Anwar Ibrahim on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Brazil. Malaysia is vital for India, having a key place in our Vision MAHASAGAR and Act East Policy," PM Modi wrote on X. PM Modi introduced India's new vision for the Global South, called

"Mahasagar" or "Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions" in March 2025. PM Modi and PM Ibrahim reviewed the progress in India-Malaysia relations since the latter's state visit to India in August 2024, with particular focus on trade and investment, defence, education, healthcare, tourism and people-to-people exchanges, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement. We reviewed the ground covered in our bilateral relations, including the progress made since PM Ibrahim's visit to India last year. Futuristic sectors like IT, renewable energy and infrastructure are those where bilateral ties are growing strongly.

Medical Debt: A Growing Crisis Fuelled By Diseases In Jammu And Kashmir



BY DR UMAR MAJEED & DR AABID NAZIR

MEDICAL DEBT IS A THIEF, STEALING MONEY, HEALTH, AND HOPE FROM FAMILIES

Imagine you wake up feeling unwell, but instead of rushing to a doctor, you hesitate. Why? Because the cost of treatment could drown your family in debt. In Jammu and Kashmir, medical debt, money owed for healthcare costs, is a silent storm tearing through households. From sudden accidents to chronic illnesses, the region's health challenges are pushing families to the edge. With limited healthcare access and rising costs, diseases common in Jammu and Kashmir are making this crisis worse. Let's dive into what medical debt is, how specific diseases in the region fuel it, and why it's hitting families so hard, all in simple, relatable words.

WHAT IS MEDICAL DEBT?

Medical debt is the money you owe when you can't pay for healthcare, like doctor visits, hospital stays, tests, or medicines. Unlike a loan for a bike or a home, medical debt sneaks up on you because nobody plans to fall sick. In Jammu and Kashmir, where most people pay for treatment out of their own pockets, a single illness can cost thousands or even lakhs of rupees. Without savings or insur-

ance, families borrow money, sell their land, or skip treatment, which only makes things worse. The region's healthcare system adds to the problem. Rural areas have fewer hospitals, and people often travel to cities like Srinagar or Jammu for care, piling travel costs onto medical bills. With medicines and tests getting pricier, medical debt is a trap that's hard to escape.

Diseases in Jammu and Kashmir **DRIVING MEDICAL DEBT**

Certain diseases common in Jammu and Kashmir are major culprits behind medical debt. Here's how they hit families' wallets:

Heart Diseases: Heart problems, like heart attacks or high blood pressure, are on the rise in Jammu and Kashmir. Stress, changing diets, and limited exercise play a role. Treating heart disease is expensive—a single surgery like angioplasty can cost 2-5 lakh in private hospitals. Even medicines for long-term care cost hundreds monthly. For a family in a village in rural areas, this can mean selling assets or borrowing at high interest, plunging them into debt.

Diabetes: Diabetes is spreading fast in Jammu and Kashmir, with studies estimating over 10% of adults affected. Managing diabetes means regular doctor visits, blood tests, and medicines like insulin, which can cost 1,000-3,000 a month. If complications like kidney damage or eye problems arise, costs skyrocket. Many families can't afford this ongoing expense, leading to loans or skipped care, which worsens health and debt.

Cancer: Cancer cases, especially lung, breast, and stomach cancer, are increasing in Jammu and Kashmir. Treatment involves chemotherapy, radiation, or surgery, often costing 5-20 lakh or more. A 2023 report noted that private hospitals in the region charge heavily for cancer care, and government facilities like SKIMS in Srinagar have long wait times. Families in remote areas often sell everything to fund treatment, only to end up in deep debt.

Respiratory Illnesses: The region's cold climate and air pollution contribute to lung problems like asthma, COPD, and tuberculosis (TB). TB treatment is free in government programs, but patients often face hidden costs like travel or lost wages. Asthma or COPD patients need inhalers and regular check-ups, costing 500-2,000 monthly. For daily-wage workers, these expenses add up, forcing them to borrow or cut back on essentials.

Kidney Diseases: Kidney problems, often linked to diabetes or high blood pressure, are common in Jammu and Kashmir. Dialysis, needed for kidney failure, costs 2,000-5,000 per session, with patients needing 2-3 sessions weekly. A kidney transplant can cost 10-15 lakh. Most families can't afford this, leading to crushing debt or untreated illness. A 2021 study showed that many patients in the region stopped treatment due to costs.

Mental Health Issues: Stress from conflict, economic struggles, and health issues has led to rising mental health problems like depression and anxiety. Treatment, including therapy or medicines, is costly and often unavailable in rural areas.

Injuries and Accidents: Road accidents and injuries from conflict-related incidents are common in Jammu and Kashmir. Emergency

surgeries, hospital stays, and rehabilitation can cost 50,000-5 lakh. For example, a family might borrow from moneylenders to save a loved one after an accident, only to struggle with repayments for years. These diseases don't just harm health—they empty bank accounts. Chronic illnesses like diabetes or heart disease require lifelong care, while sudden issues like cancer or accidents demand huge sums upfront. In Jammu and Kashmir, where less than 15% of people have health insurance, these costs fall squarely on families.

The Devastating Impact on Jammu and Kashmir's People: Medical debt isn't just about money—it changes lives. Here's how it's hurting families in the region: **Poverty Trap:** A single illness can erase savings. In India, about 55 million people fall into poverty yearly due to healthcare costs, and Jammu and Kashmir is no exception. A farmer selling his land to pay for cancer treatment might never recover financially, locking his family in poverty.

Fear and Stress: Many avoid doctors due to cost fears, letting small issues grow into emergencies. This delay worsens health and racks up bigger bills. The constant worry about debt causes stress, anxiety, and even depression, affecting entire households.

Borrowing and Sacrifices: Families borrow from friends, relatives, or moneylenders who charge 20-50% interest. A 2021 report noted India's poor, including those in Jammu and Kashmir, are drowning in such loans. Some skip meals or pull kids out of school to pay medical bills, robbing children of education and families

of nutrition. **Healthcare Gaps:** Government hospitals in Jammu and Kashmir often lack specialists, equipment, or beds, especially in remote areas. A 2023 JK Policy Institute report highlighted long wait times and inefficiencies. **Lost Dreams:** Medical debt crushes aspirations. A family saving for a daughter's wedding or a son's college fees might spend it all on a heart surgery. Young people may drop out of school to work and help pay loans, trapping families in hardship for generations.

Why is Medical Debt So Bad in Jammu and Kashmir? Several factors make medical debt a crisis here: **High Costs:** In India, 63% of healthcare costs come from patients' pockets, among the highest globally. In Jammu and Kashmir, low insurance coverage means families bear these costs alone.

Weak Public Healthcare: Government hospitals struggle with shortages of doctors and resources. A 2023 report noted systemic issues in the region's healthcare, forcing reliance on costly private care. **Economic Strain:** Years of conflict, political changes, and limited jobs have hurt the economy. With the region's debt-to-GDP ratio at 51% in 2024-25, the government can't easily fund better healthcare, leaving families vulnerable.

WHAT CAN BE DONE? This crisis isn't hopeless. Here are solutions to ease the burden: **Improve Public Hospitals:** More doctors, better equipment, and shorter wait times in government facilities can reduce reliance on private care. **Expanding schemes like Ayushman**

to cover more families in Jammu and Kashmir is key. **Affordable Insurance:** Low-cost health insurance plans can protect families from huge bills. Government and private sectors should promote these, especially in rural areas. **Spread Awareness:** Teach people about free government schemes, low-cost clinics, and how to avoid debt traps. Community programs can empower families to seek timely care.

Boost the Economy: More jobs and support for small businesses can help families save for emergencies, reducing the need to borrow. **A Wake-Up Call**

Medical debt is a thief, stealing money, health, and hope from Jammu and Kashmir's families. It's the story of a mother in Kulgam skipping treatment for diabetes to feed her kids, or a father in Doda borrowing lakhs for his son's accident surgery. Diseases like cancer, heart problems, and diabetes aren't just health issues—they're financial disasters for families with no safety net. But we can change this. By fixing healthcare, ensuring fair treatment, and supporting families, we can make medical care a lifeline, not a debt trap. Let's act now to give Jammu and Kashmir's people the healthy, hopeful future they deserve.

Sources: Policy Institute, General Health and economic data from the web

Dr Umar Majeed is Resident in Department of ENT & HNS GMC, Jammu

Dr Aabid Nazir is a Junior Resident Doctor

HC Quashes Criminal Proceedings Against Ex-SMHS Medical Superintendent in Embezzlement Case

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 7, KNT: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir has quashed criminal proceedings against Dr. Waseem Qureshi, former Medical Superintendent of SMHS Hospital, Srinagar, in a 2007-09 embezzlement case involving over Rs 1 crore, citing lack of mens rea and ratification of his actions by competent authorities.

Justice Sanjay Dhar held that while procedural irregularities may have occurred, Dr. Qureshi's decision to utilise Rs 16.45 lakh from the Hospital Development Fund during the 2008 Amarnath land agitation was in response to a public health emer-

gency and later ratified by the Hospital Development Committee and local MLAs. The Court noted that Dr. Qureshi was neither the Drawing and Disbursing Officer nor responsible for maintaining cash books, and mere lack of supervision could not imply criminal conspiracy. Departmental inquiries had also exonerated him, and only a warning was issued.

Citing the Supreme Court's ruling in Ashoo Surendranath Tewari v. CBI (2020), the bench said continuing prosecution after departmental exoneration would amount to abuse of process. [KNT]

DLSA Srinagar organizes awareness programme on drug abuse

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 07: In continuation of its committed efforts to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar, in collaboration with Government College for Women, M.A Road Srinagar Monday organised an impactful awareness programme.

The programme focused on the growing concerns of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, with special emphasis on legal rights and remedies available under the law. The event was held under the



chairmanship of Tasleem Arief, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and under the supervision of Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-Judge/Secretary, DLSA Srinagar and Prof (Dr) Yasmeen Farooq Khan, Principal of Government College for Women, M.A Road Srinagar. The awareness programme was

conducted with the objectives of the NALSA (Legal Services to the Victims of Drug Abuse and Eradication of Drug Menace) Scheme, 2015, which aims to provide legal aid and support to the victims of drug abuse while contributing to the national mission of eradicating the drug menace.

Urba Rashid, Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel, delivered a detailed session highlighting the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, spreading awareness about the legal consequences of drug abuse and the rehabilitative measures available under the law.

Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan: DC presides over IEC Campaign at Poonch

HT NEWS DESK

POONCH, JULY 07: As part of the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign under the Nasha Mukh Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, the Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal today presided over a comprehensive awareness programme held at the Town Hall, Municipal Council Poonch. The event witnessed active participation from various stakeholders and community members. Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the critical role of parents in identifying early signs of drug abuse among children and youth. He urged families to remain vigilant and stressed the importance of early intervention through proper counseling and if necessary, referral to de-addiction centres for treatment and care. "The key to tackling drug abuse lies in nurturing strong social values and fostering positive peer relationships," the DC said. He further informed that the District Administration has launched.

DR. SANJEED SULTAN KAWOOSA
(MBBS, MD DGO)

SENIOR CONSULTANT GYNAECOLOGIST & OBSTETRICIAN

(Reg. No.: 23527)

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Doctors Association & Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura celebrated Doctors Day at PGI, Chandigarh

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, July 7th: The Association of Resident Doctors (ARD), PGI, celebrated Doctors' Day with its first-ever grand event - Vitana 1.0 in association with Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh. The celebration dedicated to the tireless commitment and compassion of resident doctors. Prof Vivek Lal, director, PGI, was the chief guest. Dr Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group was the special guest. Senior faculty members and

consultants were also present in large numbers to support and join the celebrations. Nidhi Chhpora, Principal, Aryans Institute of Nursing was present. The evening began with a financial wellness session, addressing the often-overlooked but essential aspect of doctors' lives - financial planning and security. This was followed by a cultural evening where residents showcased their diverse talents through music, dance, and drama. A symbolic cake-cutting ceremony marked the spirit of unity, dedication, and resilience of doctors at

PGI. Renowned comedian Pritish Narula had the audience in splits with his stand-up comedy performance, adding humour to the evening. The celebration concluded on a high note with a DJ night and dinner, where residents, faculty, and guests danced and dined together. "Vitana 1.0" truly embodied the spirit of gratitude, wellness, and togetherness - a perfect ode to the doctors who continue to serve humanity with unmatched dedication. The evening began with a financial wellness session, addressing.



215 Blood Points Collected At Alamgari Bazar Srinagar On Youm-e-Ashoora

HT NEWS DESK

Srinagar/July:7 Helping Hands care Foundation J&K, A Non-Government Organization (NGO) organized a Blood Donation Camp on Sunday at Alamgari Bazar Srinagar where the procession was carried out on the eve of Youm-e-Ashoora marks the day of Mourning for the martyr Imam Hussain (a.s) grandson of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) and his companions in Karbala. A total of 215 blood points were collected throughout the day at the camp, which was organized in collaboration with Lal Ded Hospital Srinagar here.

While Addressing the Donors and volunteers, the Patron of the NGO Mr Ali Mohammad Kuthoo (Mohd Aliyas) congratulated them for coming forward to the noble cause of blood donation. "Kuthoo also said that Every blood donor is a life saver and it brings self satisfaction to the donor as he provides a life saving component to the people in need. Besides, the regular donor's health becomes good as well." He also spoke about the importance of making blood banks which turn out to be assets of utmost importance in times of need. Nasir Hussain, president of the NGO Helping Hands Care Foundation J&K and the organizer of this event said that as being a Human, we must Donate Blood to save others Life. Through Blood

Donation, we can help various needy people and save their precious Life. Blood can be regenerated itself in the body and fulfil its amount and we appeals everyone to be a part of this Noble Cause as blood donation is a worthy cause, as it can save lives and make a difference in a community.

Nasir Hussain also said, that around 215 units of the Blood were collected so far and expressed gratitude to all the distinguished guests, Medical Superintendent Lal Ded Hospital Dr Mohammad Muzaffar Jan, Deputy Medical Superintendent Dr Maimoona Gul, Dr shadan akhter (Blood Bank officer & Transfusion specialist) and Masood Ahmad Bhat Incharge Blood Bank Lal Ded Hospital along with his dedicated staff members of Hospital, SHO Police Station Zadibal, All Jammu and Kashmir Shia Association, print and Electronic Media, Volunteers of the NGO and the generous Blood Donors for Donating the Blood and participation, emphasizing the profound impact their contributions would have on saving lives. "Kuthoo also said that Every blood donor is a life saver and it brings self satisfaction to the donor as he provides a life saving component to the people in need. Besides, the regular donor's health becomes good as well." He also spoke about the importance of making blood banks which turn out to be assets.

Affarwat-XI Smash Record Chase Against Nehalpora CC In Frasthar Premiere League

HT Sports Correspondent

BARAMULLA: Affarwat-XI Sports Club Baramulla smash a record chase as Kamran's and Asif's magnificent innings dismantle Nehalpora Cricket Club by chasing 90 runs in 9.3 overs at Frasthar T10 Premiere League. Opening Pair of Affarwat-XI Sports Club Kamran and Suhail approached the huge chase methodically, ensuring the scoreboard kept ticking while gradually settling in. Suhail played the anchor, accumulating runs with precision, while Kamran brought the fire works. Once set both the batters unleashed an array of strokes, dispatching boundaries at will.

With the Second consecutive win Affarwat-XI Sports club has qualified for the quarter final. Suhail was adjudged as player of the match for his allround performance.



Prithvi Shaw joins Maharashtra ahead of 2025-26 domestic season



United News of India

BENGALURU: Prithvi Shaw will represent Maharashtra in domestic cricket from the 2025-26 season.

Last month, Shaw had sought a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from Mumbai to change teams, which was granted to him in late June.

"At this stage of my career, I believe joining the Maharashtra team will help me grow further as a cricketer," Shaw said in a statement. "I am deeply grateful to the Mumbai Cricket Association for the opportunities and support I

have received over the years." Maharashtra Cricket president Rohit Pawar said Shaw's international and IPL experience would be valuable and the team would stand "firmly behind Prithvi in his new journey" for the seasons ahead.

At Maharashtra, Shaw will likely be led by captain Ruturaj Gaikwad. With only two wins in seven outright games last season in the Ranji Trophy, they failed to qualify out of their group. Their record of 3-3 in the group stage of the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy handed them a first-round exit.

But in the Vijay Hazare Tro-

phy, Maharashtra topped their group and had a strong run before losing to Vidarbha in the semi-final.

Shaw has 4556 runs in 58 first-class appearances at 46.02 but was dropped from the Mumbai Ranji Trophy side last year due to poor fitness and lack of discipline. He last played for Mumbai in the final of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy in December 2024. In List-A games, he has 3399 runs at 55.72 and a strike-rate of 125.74. In T20s, his 2902 runs have come at a strike-rate of 151.54 and average of 25.01. He was unsold in the IPL 2025 mega auction.

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Dr. SYED FURQANA BUKHARI REG. NO.: A-3998

Dental Surgeon, MIDA Ex Resident Govt. Dental College Srinagar Fellowship in Medical Cosmetology

7 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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