

Srinagar
Wednesday
July 30 | 2025
4 Safar, 1447 AH
Issue No: 179
Volume: 15
Pages: 12
Price: Rs 02/-

15TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION
HEADLINES TODAY
Voice To The Voiceless

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS
ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS
DIGITAL | OFFSET | SCREEN | UV
99938832 945008414 9345249287
Radio Colony, Gund Hassibhat, Lalwalpora Srinagar 190017

MONSOON SESSION

We Needed Nobody's Dictation to Put Op-SINDOOR on Halt: PM Modi

PM Removes the Doubt About Third Party Mediation by Trump for Arriving at Ceasefire

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday affirmed in the Lok Sabha that no leader of any country asked India to stop Operation Sindoore but lamented that while the nation got support from the entire world, the Congress and its allies could not stand behind the valour of the nation's soldiers. Responding to the two-day debate on the Pahalgam attack and Opera-

tion Sindoore in the Lower House, he said no country in the world stopped India from taking action in its defence against terrorism.

The comments by the prime minister come amid repeated questions by the Opposition about why US President Donald Trump announced the "ceasefire" between India and Pakistan.

Modi told the House that on May 9th night, "US Vice President (JD Vance) tried to reach out to me 3-4



airbases hit by India "are still in ICU" and the masterminds of the April 22 terror attack continue to have sleepless nights.

"No country in the world has stopped India from any action in its defence against terrorism. Only three countries spoke in favour of Pakistan at the UN.

"India got support from the entire world, but it is unfortunate that the Congress did not support the

TURN ON PAGE 2

SHAH CONFIRMS ELIMINATION OF 3 WANTED TERRORISTS

HT News Desk / UNI

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday affirmed that no leader of any country had asked India to stop 'Operation Sindoore' which was still giving "sleepless nights" to the masterminds of the Pahalgam attack even as Home Minister Amit Shah announced that three terrorists involved in the massacre were eliminated by security forces.

As the discussion on 'Operation Sindoore' in both houses of Parliament witnessed fiery speeches by top guns of the BJP and the Congress including by Rahul Gandhi, Modi said Pakistani airbases hit by India in the retaliatory strikes in May are "still in ICU" and asked the Congress to stop giving clean chit to Pakistan under pressure from "one family".

"Operation Sindoore will continue. It is a notice to Pakistan that India will always act till Pakistan stops attacks," Modi declared during his marathon reply to the discussion in the Lok Sabha, as he accused the Congress and its allies of becoming spokespersons of Pakistani propaganda.

Shah told the Lower House that Indian agencies have "ample" evidence that the three men who were killed on Monday in an encounter as part of 'Operation Mahadev' near Srinagar, nearly 100 days after the Pahalgam attack, were Pakistani terrorists affiliated to the banned Pak-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

The comments by the prime minister denying foreign interference in India-Pakistan ceasefire after the four-day military conflict came amid repeated questions by opposition parties about why US President Donald Trump made the ceasefire announcement on May 10.

TURN ON PAGE 2

Hurriyat Is Terror Outfit, No Talks With Them: Amit Shah

HT News Desk / UNI

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday described separatist amalgam Hurriyat Conference as an "outfit of terrorist organisations" and made it clear that the Modi government will never engage with it for any dialogue.

Participating in a special discussion on Operation Sindoore in the Lok Sabha, Shah also



TURN ON PAGE 2

If Pak Can't Act on Terror, India Will Help: Rajnath

HT News Desk / UNI

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said if Pakistan cannot take action against terrorism on its soil, India is ready to help the neighbouring country as Indian forces are capable of fighting terror on the other side of the border as well.

Initiating a special discussion on Operation



TURN ON PAGE 2

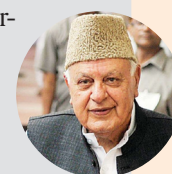
Terrorism Will Never Succeed: Farooq

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUL 29: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday said the elimination of the perpetrators of the Pahalgam terror attack is a lesson that terrorism will not succeed.

Abdullah was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a function here.

"I have not seen them and I don't know who



TURN ON PAGE 2

J&K Police Following LG's Mantra: DGP On Terrorism

HT News Desk

JAMMU, JUL 29: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Tuesday reaffirmed his force's unwavering commitment to justice, guided by the core principle of "not touching the innocent and not sparing the guilty", as laid down by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

Prabhat said the new laws enacted by the government are gradually being implemented on the ground and are built around a victim-centric approach.

"The lieutenant governor has a mantra (guiding principle) 'do not touch the innocent and do not spare the guilty'. This defines the duty of the Jammu and Kashmir Police. It is our approach and it remains our constant effort," he said addressing a function here.

The DGP highlighted the role played by police in its outreach initiatives to people in difficulties.

"We do our utmost to reach out to those who are oppressed, distressed or in pain. In whatever way possible, we try to help them and for those who have no support, we stand with them in addressing all their problems," he said.

Speaking at a public interaction, Prabhat emphasized this mantra defines the ethos and functioning of the police force in the Union Territory.

"Our goal is to stand with the oppressed and help resolve their issues," he said.

Highlighting the multifaceted demands of policing,

TURN ON PAGE 2

Youth Thrive Only in Peaceful Atmosphere: LG

LG Attends Kashur Riwaaj 2025 Cultural Fest in Baramulla

HT News Desk

BARAMULLA, JULY 29: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today attended the Kashur Riwaaj 2025, a mega event celebrating Kashmir's Culture at Baramulla.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor extended his heartfelt congratulations to 20,000 youth of Baramulla for making history and securing world record title.

"By coming together for Ladis-hah and Calligraphy, you have set a new world record. This accomplishment will serve as an inspiration across the sections of society to reconnect with their heritage, embrace their culture, and uphold their values," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also lauded the Indian Army and District Administration Baramulla for the commendable



endeavour.

"I salute the dedication and commitment of our Army. They are not only safeguarding the nation's unity and integrity but also actively serving as a custodian of this region's vibrant cultural heritage and consistently striving to fulfil the dreams and aspirations of our youth.

Unity in diversity is a hallmark of India's great culture. The Indi-

an Army has consistently worked to harness this power for societal benefit, creating opportunities for youth to strengthen national unity through literature, music, art, and sports," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor reiterated the commitment of Government of India and J&K Administration, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri

TURN ON PAGE 2

CS REVIEWS READINESS FOR 'SAMPOORNATA SAMMAN' AWARDS

Top government performers to be honoured

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 26: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a high-level meeting of the Planning Department to review preparations for the upcoming Union Territory-level 'Sampoornata Abhiyan Samman Samaroh'.

The event is being organized to felicitate districts and blocks that have shown exceptional performance in achieving saturation under the nationwide Sam-

poornata Abhiyan.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Planning Department, Dr. Ashish Chandra Verma; Director General, Economics & Statistics; Director, Planning; and other senior officers. Deputy Commissioners of the Aspirational Districts participated via video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary also took stock of preparations for district-level felicitation

TURN ON PAGE 2

J&K shines at Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam 2025, New Delhi

Sakeena Itoo highlights success of "Paigam" NEP mela across J&K

HT News Desk

NEW DELHI, JULY 29: The prestigious Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam 2025 was held today at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, with a vision to further the transformative goals of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The event was inaugurated with an address by Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan, who emphasized the Centre's commitment to inclusive and innovation-driven education in India.

From the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, participated in the event. She was accompanied by Secretary School Education, J&K, Ram Niwas Sharma, Director School Education Kashmir (DSEK), Dr. G. N. Itoo, SPD



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION KASHMIR
NEP MELA ON 29 JULY
to be celebrated by Cluster Heads involving all affiliated Schools, School Management Committee, PPRs, Community, Parents, Local Social organizations, NGOs
It will involve
DEBATES
DISCUSSIONS
NEP ORIENTED CULTURAL PROGRAMMES
Celebrating 5 years of NEP 2020
PAIGAM
Policy Action & Implementation for growth and Ameness in Meeting "NEP From Policy to Practice"

Samagra Shiksha and two UT topper Students of INSPIRE MANAK Awards from HSS Pahloo, Kulgam, J&K.

In an interaction with the media during the programme, several parents expressed appreciation for the Union and J&K Governments' proactive efforts to disseminate awareness about NEP 2020 among all stakeholders, especially through grassroots initiatives.

In her remarks, Sakeena Itoo commended the committed efforts of higher officials and Heads of Institutions (Hols) for ensuring mass participation in the "NEP Mela - Paigam", which was held across the length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir. She noted that the initiative has successfully carried the message of NEP 2020 to students, teachers, and communities at large.

TURN ON PAGE 2

AN APPEAL TO MAKE A COLLECTIVE EFFORT

VMS SPECIALTY HOSPITAL (VMSSH)



FROM THIS:

TO THIS:



YOU SUPPORTED US ALL THROUGH NOW A LITTLE MORE EFFORT & WE WILL OPEN THE DOORS OF THIS HOSPITAL TO OUR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM HEART DISEASE:

Our vision is clear:

Healthy Children Shape a Healthier Society

The hospital is taking form—paint, tiles, and firefighting systems are in place—

But vital work remains: air conditioning, medical gas pipelines, electrical systems, and partitioning.



JK HOPE AND HEALTH FOUNDATION
TMO16418915@jkb
0005010100009519

One Last Push To Keep Young Hearts Beating: Every Penny Supports A Heart Beat

Advt - Comp...

CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

No country....

valour of our soldiers. Congress leaders targeted me for political gains, but their frivolous statements ended up discouraging our brave soldiers," he said.

The prime minister noted that India called out Pakistan's nuclear bluff and showed the world that "we will not bow down to nuclear blackmail".

"Our operations range from Sindoore to Sindhu (Indus Waters Treaty)... Pakistan knows they have to pay a huge price for any misadventure. Terror attacks were launched earlier and the masterminds of attacks knew nothing would happen, but now they know India will come for them." PM Modi said drones and missiles made in India exposed the capabilities of Pakistani arms and ammunition during the military operation.

"The world saw the strength of self-reliant India during Operation Sindoore. We destroyed terror sites deep inside Pakistan within 22 minutes to avenge the April 22 Pahalgam attack," he said.

Modi noted that Pakistan had some inkling of Indian action and had started issuing nuclear threats, but could do nothing when terror targets were hit.

"The Congress and its allies have unfortunately become spokespersons of Pakistani propaganda. India is becoming self-reliant, but Congress is now dependent on Pakistan for issues. The entire country is amazed to see Congress give a clean chit to Pakistan and sing the same tune as theirs.

PM Modi said, "It (Pahalgam attack) was a conspiracy to instigate riots in India and the country's unity foiled that attempt. When I speak of this Parliament session being a Vijayotsav (celebration of victory), it is of destroying the headquarters of terror." "I stand here to make a case for India, and to show a mirror to those who do not understand this. I had said that we will teach the terrorists and their masters a befitting lesson which will be beyond their imagination.

"We have complete trust in the capabilities of our armed forces and they were given a free hand to respond. The armed forces taught them such a lesson that the masters of terrorism are still losing their sleep over it," he added. (Agencies)

PM: No Nation....

Rahul earlier in the day accused Prime Minister Modi of using the armed forces to protect his image after the Pahalgam attack on April 22 and dared him to rebut Trump's claims of brokering the ceasefire.

"If Modi ji has even 50 per cent of the courage that Indira Gandhi had, then clearly he must say in Parliament - Donald Trump is lying," he told the Lok Sabha.

In his 102-minute speech, Modi made it clear that no country in the world stopped India from taking action in its defence against terrorism and that no leader of any country asked India to halt 'Operation Sindoore'.

"No country in the world has stopped India from any action in its defence against terrorism. Only three countries spoke in favour of Pakistan at the UN," he said.

Modi also accused the Congress of operating through the remote control of Pakistan and making young leaders call India's retaliatory strikes a 'tamasha'.

"India got support from the entire world, but it is unfortunate that the Congress did not support the valour of our soldiers. Congress leaders targeted me for political gains but their frivolous statements ended up discouraging our brave soldiers," he said.

The prime minister noted that India called out Pakistan's nuclear bluff and showed the world that "we will not bow down to nuclear blackmail". "Our operations range from Sindoore to Sindhu (Indus Waters Treaty)... Pakistan knows they have to pay a huge price for any misadventure. Terror attacks were launched earlier and the masterminds of attacks knew nothing would happen, but now they know India will come for them." India has suspended the Indus Water Treaty following the Pahalgam attack.

As many as 26 people, mostly tourists, were shot dead by terrorists at Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam, which prompted the armed forces to launch 'Operation Sindoore' on May 7 against the terror infrastructure in Pakistan.

PM Modi said drones and missiles made in India exposed the capabilities of Pakistani arms and ammunition during the military operation. "The world saw the strength of self-reliant India during Operation Sindoore. We destroyed terror sites deep inside Pakistan within 22 minutes to avenge the April 22 Pahalgam attack."

Modi noted that Pakistan had some inkling of Indian action and had started issuing nuclear threats, but could do nothing when terror targets were hit.

"Congress and its allies have unfortunately become spokespersons of Pakistani propaganda. India is becoming self-reliant, but Congress is now dependent on Pakistan for issues. Entire country is amazed to see Congress give a clean chit to Pakistan and sing the same tune as theirs.

"I stand here to make a case for India, and to show a mirror to those who do not understand this. I had said that we will teach the terrorists and their masters a befitting lesson which will be beyond their imagina-

tion," he said.

Forensic ballistics, witness identifications, Pakistani chocolates and voter IDs, a midnight plane and an early morning video call from scientists was all the scrambling done in less than 24 hours to confirm that the three terrorists killed by security forces were the ones who perpetrated the Pahalgam attack.

The three terrorists were killed on Monday in a joint operation by the Army's 4 PARA commandos and personnel of the CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police in Dachigam but officials had held back in identifying them conclusively as the Pahalgam attackers.

Giving a blow-by-blow account of 'Operation Mahadev', Shah said the slain terrorists have been identified as Suleman alias Faizal, Afghani and Jibran.

"While Suleman was an A-category commander of Lashkar-e-Taiba, Afghani was also an A-category LeT terrorist. Jibran too was a notorious and wanted terrorist. All these three involved in the killing of our citizens at Baisaran valley in Pahalgam have now been eliminated."

Shah said the identity of the terrorists was confirmed by those detained for sheltering and providing them with food ahead of the Pahalgam attack.

The arms - one M-9 and two AK-47 rifles - recovered from the terrorists were flown to Chandigarh Monday night in a special flight for examination at the Central Forensic Science Laboratory.

The empty cartridges found at Pahalgam and those after test firing by the guns recovered from the terrorists were matched by the forensic lab, Shah said.

"Six forensic experts have confirmed to me on a video call this morning that these are the same bullets used in the Pahalgam attack."

Shah said security forces had recovered Pakistani voter IDs of two of the killed terrorists as well as chocolates made in Pakistan and the weapons.

The home minister also attacked the Congress for allegedly giving a "clean chit" to Pakistan for the Pahalgam attack.

Shah was referring to former Home Minister P Chidambaram's recent remarks that those behind the Pahalgam massacre could be "homegrown terrorists".

In the Rajya Sabha, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said if Pakistan cannot take action against terrorism on its soil, India is ready to help the neighbouring country as Indian forces are capable of fighting terror on the other side of the border as well.

"Our vision is that Operation Sindoore should carry on continuously. There can be a comma but no full stop," he stressed.

In his no-holds barred attack on the government, Rahul Gandhi also claimed that the loss of Indian aircraft during the operation was due to political constraints, not military shortcomings.

"The aircraft were lost because the political leadership had tied the hands of the armed forces by deciding not to attack military and air defence infrastructure in Pakistan."

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also slammed the government over the "lapses" that led to the Pahalgam attack. (Agencies)

Hurriyat Is....

said that there was a time when leaders of the Hurriyat Conference got VIP treatment and the government used to have dialogue with it.

"There used to be a red carpet for the Hurriyat. Representatives of the Manmohan Singh government used to have talks with them. We banned all the constituents of the Hurriyat and everyone is now behind bars. We do not want to talk to Hurriyat."

"I wish to reiterate the Narendra Modi government's policy - Hurriyat is an outfit of terror organisations. We will not speak to them. We will speak to the youth of the valley," he said.

The Hurriyat, formed in 1993, is an amalgam of several Jammu and Kashmir-based separatist organisations. It has been considered as a pro-Pakistan group for its views, activities and political statements over the years. Talking about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah said from 2004 to 2014, there were 7,217 terrorist incidents in Kashmir and from 2014 to 2025, these incidents have come down by 70 per cent to 2,150. "From 2004 to 2014, 1,770 civilians died. This reduced by 80 per cent to 357 from 2014 to 2025. From 2004 to 2014, the number of deaths of security personnel was 1,060. This decreased to 542 in our time. And there was a 123 per cent increase in the deaths of terrorists," he said.

The home minister said between 2005 and 2011, there were 27 terrorist attacks but what did the Congress government do, they just sent dossiers to Pakistan.

"Terrorists are now sent from Pakistan to Jammu and Kashmir as there are no local terrorists in Kashmir. Scrapping of Article 370 has destroyed terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir," he said. (Agencies)

If Pak Can't....

Sindoore in the Rajya Sabha, Singh said three terrorists involved in the Pahalgam attack have been eliminated by Indian forces. He further said that Operation Sindoore -

India's response to the Pahalgam attack - has been suspended, and can be resumed anytime if Pakistan indulges in terror activities in India again.

"India wants terrorism to end in the whole world, including Pakistan. I would advise Pakistan, if you are not able to take action against terrorism, take help from India, we are ready to help. Our forces are capable of fighting terror on this side of the border, as well as on the other side, this has been proved by Operation Sindoore," he said.

"If Pakistan commits any terror incidents in future, we will relaunch Operation Sindoore without hesitation," he said. "Our vision is that Operation Sindoore should carry on continuously. There can be a comma but no full stop," he stressed.

Singh also congratulated the security forces for killing three terrorists who were involved in the Pahalgam attack in which 26 people were killed.

"I congratulate the forces for killing three terrorists who carried out the Pahalgam terror attack in April. These are the terrorists who killed people in Pahalgam," the defence minister said.

He said Home Minister Amit Shah has provided details of the joint operation by the forces in the Lok Sabha.

Singh said post the Pahalgam attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting with the service chiefs, and gave them free hand to use their wisdom, strategic understanding and regional security situation to decide on the response.

He said the military leadership also showed maturity, and stressed that India's response - Operation Sindoore - was aimed at giving a clear message that India will take strong action and go to any extent against terror.

"Our action was in self-defence, it was not expansionist... The aim was to destroy terror infrastructure and give the message of zero tolerance for terror," Singh said.

"The political-military objective was to punish Pakistan for using terrorism as a proxy war," he added.

Singh said Pakistan's Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) urged India to stop the hostilities, and India accepted it on the condition that the operation would be suspended, not terminated.

"If Pakistan commits any terror incidents in future, we will relaunch Operation Sindoore without hesitation," he said. "Our vision is that Operation Sindoore should carry on continuously. There can be a comma but no full stop," he said.

While expressing surprise over questions raised by some opposition leaders over getting back Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), Singh said, "I am surprised at this demand, because when they were in power, they did just the opposite".

"There would come a day, I cannot predict when, but a day would come when people in PoJK would be able to say proudly that they are Indians," he said. He said the forces achieved the goals set under the operation.

"Through Operation Sindoore, we have given a clear message, India can go to any extent against terrorism," he said.

Singh appealed to the international community to stop funding for Pakistan, stating that a major portion goes into funding terror activities. He also slammed the United Nations over Pakistan's appointment to the key counter-terrorism committee.

Earlier, as the Upper House reassembled at 2 pm, after it was adjourned around 11 am, Deputy Chairman Harivansh said the discussion on Operation Sindoore would be taken up, and urged the members to be mindful of the sensitive nature of the issue.

Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien tried to raise a point of order.

Harivansh, however, did not allow it, stating that it was not related to the topic of discussion. TMC MPs raised slogans against the SIR, and some MPs also trooped into the Well. As the Chair did not allow the Opposition MPs to speak, MPs from TMC and some other INDIA bloc parties staged a walkout from the House. (AGENCIES).

Terrorism Will....

they are. Only those people can identify them who have seen them. If they have been killed, it is a good thing. They have got a lesson that terrorism will never succeed," the former chief minister said.

Three of the terrorists who carried out the Pahalgam massacre have been eliminated by security forces in a joint operation by the Army, CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police near Srinagar, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Participating in the special discussion on Operation Sindoore, Shah said the terrorists were killed under Operation Mahadev on Monday. They have been identified as Suleman alias Faizal, Afghani and Jibran.

"While Suleman was an A-category commander of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, Afghani was also an A-category Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist, and Jibran too was a notorious and wanted terrorist. All three terrorists involved in the killing of our citizens at Baisaran valley in Pahalgam have now been eliminated," he said. As many as 26 persons - mostly tourists - were shot dead by terrorists at Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam, which prompted the

armed forces to launch Operation Sindoore on May 7 against the terror infrastructure in Pakistan. (Agencies)

J&K Police....

the DGP likened the duties of the force to achieving excellence across disciplines.

"I often tell my team to aim high - like winning a Nobel Prize in Physics, a gold medal in Mathematics or earning a PhD from a top university. We must be ready to play every role and become instruments of real change," he said.

Prabhat underlined that no problem in society is disconnected from police work and said it is the mission of police to ensure justice in all such matters.

"It has always been the mission of police to deliver justice in one way or another. Just as it is the duty of police to bring justice to any individual or section of the society in distress, it is equally the society's responsibility to support police in their efforts," he added.

Referring to a recent case where fraudsters promised jobs in exchange for money, the DGP called it a "clear-cut case of cheating" and urged the public to stay vigilant.

"Why do we often slip on the same banana peel? Why don't we open our eyes before the damage is done?" he asked.

Prabhat noted that crime is an unfortunate reality that can't be entirely eliminated even with societal awareness.

"The first line of defence against crime is society itself. Citizens must stay alert and responsible," he said.

The DGP reiterated that police has always stood by people and will continue to do so in every fight - be it against drugs, gangsters, general crime or terrorism.

"Every day is a test for police and every day we must deliver results worthy of the highest medals," he asserted.

Commenting on recent legal reforms, Prabhat said the government has enacted new laws that are gradually being implemented on the ground.

"These laws are built around a victim-centric approach. The aim is to quickly nab the culprits, seize their properties and deliver timely justice to victims," he added. (Agencies)

Youth Thrive....

Narendra Modi, to empower Youth of J&K. With a whole-of-government approach, we are working to align the aspirations of youth of Jammu Kashmir with the nation's aspirations, he said.

"Hopes and dreams of youth can only flourish in a peaceful environment. Pakistan-backed terrorism and separatism had robbed Jammu and Kashmir of peace, progress, and the youth's aspirations. Now, Jammu and Kashmir is rapidly moving forward," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed gratitude on behalf of the nation and J&K UT to Army, Paramilitary and Police force for successfully executing Operation Mahadev, in which three Pakistani terrorists involved in the April 22 heinous Pahalgam terror attack were eliminated in Dachigam forest.

He also called upon the youth to rise above language, sect, and religion and collectively counter those who spread public unrest. "There are disturbing elements in society who attempt to justify terrorism and the killing of innocent lives and try to hold hostage the aspirations and dreams of lakhs of youth. Such individuals need to be unmasked," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He further sought the cooperation of young generation in the fight against drug menace and to bring the youth who have fallen prey to drug addiction back into the mainstream.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor announced Guru-Shishya Parampara programme of J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and Calligraphy course in collaboration of JKAACL with University of Kashmir.

J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages with University of Kashmir is going to launch a 6 month and one year Certificate/ Diploma course in Calligraphy. Under the JKAACL's Guru-Shishya Parampara programme, Gurus to train 4-8 shishyas in extinct arts and will receive Rs 10,000 per month. The Shishyas will also get Rs 5000 per month, while assistants will receive Rs 7500 per month.

Principal Secretary Culture, Shri Brij Mohan Sharma; GOC 19 Infantry Division, Major General Parmanvir Singh Punia; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri; DIG North Kashmir, Shri Maqsood-Ul-Zaman; Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Shri Minga Sherpa; senior officials of Security Forces, Civil and Police Administration; office bearers of Universal Record Forum, Artists, prominent citizens and youth in

large number were present.

CS reviews....

events being organized to honour the frontline workers and block-level officers who played a crucial role in implementation of the programme. He interacted with the Deputy Commissioners individually, reviewed their progress and directed them to ensure proper arrangements and dignified conduct of these events.

Dulloo further reviewed the overall performance of districts and blocks under the Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks programmes. He assessed national-level rankings, status of key indicator saturation, and commended the remarkable efforts of the administrative machinery. He emphasized the need for sustained progress and focused intervention to ensure long-term development.

Highlighting the impact of the three-month Sampoonnata Abhiyan campaign (July 4 - September 30, 2024), the Chief Secretary appreciated the efforts of the officers and field teams. The campaign, launched by NITI Aayog, focused on achieving 100% saturation in six critical indicators spanning health, nutrition, education, agriculture, infrastructure and livelihoods.

Providing a detailed overview, Dr. Ashish Chandra Verma informed that both Aspirational Districts of J&K Baramulla and Kupwara have achieved saturation across all six key indicators. Based on performance, the recognitions in the shape of Gold Medals shall be awarded to DDCs of Aspirational Districts that had saturated all six indicators including that of Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Kulgam and Reasi. Besides, the Silver Medals had been proposed for the DDCs of Pulwama, Ramban and Kishtwar districts with saturation of five indicators and a Copper Medal to DDC of Rajouri district for achieving saturation in three indicators.

Among the Aspirational Blocks, Tulail, Singhpora, Manzgam, Keran and Thakrakote have accomplished full saturation. Three others Marwa, Khari and Ichegoza have saturated five indicators, while Khwas achieved saturation in three.

Noteworthy performance improvements were also recorded. Ichegoza (Pulwama) improved its composite score by +9.13 points, reaching Rank 2 in March 2025. Tulail (Bandipora) rose by +6.66 points, securing Rank 8 with a score of 68.90.

The campaign positively impacted around 12.64 lakh people nearly 10.3% of the population across 44 identified backward blocks, driving progress in sectors such as agriculture, health, education, water supply, irrigation, and power infrastructure.

To honour these achievements, the Sampoonnata Abhiyan Samman Samaroh will recognize District Development Commissioners, block-level officers and frontline workers.

For successful conduct of the event, NITI Aayog has sanctioned Rs 10 lakh for the UT-level function and Rs 5 lakh to each district for organizing district-level felicitation programmes.

A key highlight of the event will be the launch of "Akanksha Haat", a week-long initiative aimed at showcasing local innovation and entrepreneurship. NITI Aayog has provided an additional Rs 5 lakh per district to support this initiative across the aspirational districts of the country.

J&K shines at....

Secretary School Education, J&K, Ram Niwas Sharma, reiterated the Government's strong resolve for effective and timely implementation of NEP 2020 in the Union Territory. He underlined the focus on quality, inclusivity and innovation in education as per the national vision. Dr. G. N. Itoo, Director School Education Kashmir, who also participated in the Samagam, closely monitored the conduct of NEP Mela 2025 in Kashmir from New Delhi.

Speaking to the media, Dr. Itoo stated that "an extensive mega programme under the title 'Paigam' was conducted across Jammu and Kashmir to spread awareness regarding NEP 2020. In the Kashmir Valley alone, nearly 400 events were held, witnessing participation from over 42,000 students, 3,000+ teachers and Heads of Institutions, along with a large number of community members."

The NEP Mela featured debates, discussions and cultural programmes centered around NEP 2020, aiming to empower the learners and educators with the knowledge and spirit of the policy. The participation of J&K's top officials and young achievers at the national stage underlines the region's active and commendable role in transforming its educational ecosystem under the vision of NEP 2020.



Committee on Privileges meets in Srinagar

Deliberates on constitutional rights, protocol of legislators

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: The Committee on Privileges of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar to discuss matters related to the constitutional privileges and entitlements of legislators.

The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman Nizam-ud-Din Bhat and attended by members of the committee

including Vikram Randhawa, Javid Riyaz (Bedar), Salman Sagar, Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed (Pardesi), Reyaz Ahmad Khan, Bharat Bhushan and Javid Iqbal.

Also present were Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD), M. Raju; Secretary, Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Department, Achal Sethi; and Secretary, Hospitality & Protocol Department, Neeraj Kumar and Secretary Legislative Assembly, Manoj



Kumar Pandita.

The Chairman underscored the significance of legislators

asserting their constitutional rights and privileges on all appropriate platforms. He stressed the need for a well-defined framework to safeguard the dignity, autonomy and effective functioning of elected representatives.

The Committee resolved that a detailed report concerning the privileges and protocol issues of legislators be compiled and submitted within a stipulated timeframe.

The Chairman expressed

confidence in collective efforts and commitment of the Committee members, reaffirming their role in upholding the integrity of the institution. He assured that the Committee would cooperate and perform within its defined mandate to continue contributing for the public welfare.

The meeting witnessed active participation from members, who shared insightful suggestions and feedback on various issues.

GHSS Pahloo Students Shine at National Education Summit

Kulgam School's Success Highlights NEP 2020 Impact

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, JULY 29: Students from Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Pahloo, Kulgam, have brought pride to Jammu & Kashmir by earning top honors at the prestigious Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam held in New Delhi.

The students were recognized as UT Toppers of the INSPIRE MANAK Awards, showcasing their innovative scientific projects developed under the framework of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Their participation and achievements at the national level highlight the success of NEP 2020 in nurturing young minds and promoting innovation-based learning.

Mr. Showkat Ali Beigh, Chairman of the Jammu & Kashmir Teachers Forum, praised the students for their remarkable achievement. He also lauded:

Principal Ajaz Hussain Dar for his visionary leadership, The committed faculty for their mentorship and guidance, UT Financial Secretary Mohd Ashraf Lone for his continued support in facilitating educational development.

Mr. Beigh extended heartfelt thanks to the Hon'ble Education Minister, Miss Sakeena Itoo ji, the Secretary of Education, and the Director of School Education Kashmir for their efforts in effectively implementing NEP 2020 across the Union Territory.

This national-level recognition not only celebrates the talent of GHSS Pahloo students but also reflects the broader educational transformation taking place in Jammu & Kashmir under NEP 2020. The achievement stands as a shining example of how policy-driven reforms can unlock student potential and foster a spirit of scientific inquiry and innovation.

Amarnath Yatra set to cross 4 lakh mark today

HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, JUL 29: The ongoing Amarnath Yatra is all set to surpass the four lakh mark, as the cumulative number of pilgrims, who have performed darshan at the holy cave has reached 3,93,401 as of Tuesday, official figures reveal.

According to data, a total of 7,203 pilgrims offered prayers at the holy cave shrine on Tuesday amid tight security arrangements and a spiritually charged atmosphere.

The day's pilgrim turnout included 5,025 males, 1,352 females, 109 children, 47 sadhus, 1 sadhvi, 1 transgender person, and 668 personnel from the security forces. The total footfall of pilgrims since July 3 has now reached 3,93,401.

Officials said the yatra has continued smoothly with a good daily turnout despite weather-related challenges in the higher reaches. "We expect the total number to cross 4 lakh tomorrow if the trend continues," an official said.

Meanwhile, the 27th batch of 1,490 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu early Monday morning and has reached the twin base camps in the Valley.

According to the details, the convoy departed in two segments and was escorted by CRPF and J&K Police personnel to ensure safety throughout the journey.

The batch comprised 1,262 men and 186 women, along with 42 sadhus and sadhvis—37 sadhus and 5 sadhvis. The yatriis were accommodated in 61 vehicles, including 35 buses, 7 medium motor vehicles (MMVs), 18 light motor vehicles (LMVs), and 1 two-wheeler.

The convoy was split between the two main routes leading to the holy cave. The first group, consisting of 327 pilgrims in 16 vehicles, proceeded towards the Baltal base camp in Ganderbal district via the shorter but steeper 14-kilometer route. The second group, comprising 1,163 pilgrims in 45 vehicles, took the traditional 48-kilometer Pahalgam route in Anantnag district.

The annual Amarnath Yatra, which commenced on July 3 and is scheduled to conclude on August 9, has been proceeding smoothly, drawing participation from across the country. (KNO)

Kupwara Celebrates 5 Years of NEP 2020 with Cluster-Level Educational Melas

District-wide Events Highlight the Shift from Rote Learning to Competency-Based, Holistic Education

Javid Bhat

KUPWARA, JULY 29: The fifth anniversary of the National Education Policy 2020 was celebrated with fervor across Kupwara district, with all the Cluster Heads organizing vibrant educational Melas to demonstrate the transformative impact of the policy. The events aimed to reflect the NEP's emphasis on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN), Vocational Education, Critical Thinking, and Multidisciplinary and Holistic Development of learners.

Chief Education Officer Kupwara, Mehrajuddin Shah, while attending this program described NEP 2020 as "a real transformation of literacy into meaningful education." He highlighted the shift from rote-based learning to a more conceptual, skill-based, and learner-centric approach that aligns education with 21st-century demands.

tury demands.

In Zone Villgam, the celebrations stood out for their inclusivity and innovation. Cluster Heads of Zone Villgam spearheaded impressive NEP Melas aimed at fostering experiential learning and showcasing the implementation of FLN strategies in early-grade classrooms. These Melas featured speeches of cluster Heads and Educators, live demonstrations, interactive activities, and thematic exhibitions based on core NEP components.

Zonal Education Officer Vilgam, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, and Zonal Education Planning Officer Vilgam Javid-ul-Hassan Peer praised the proactive role of educators in translating the vision of NEP into classroom practices. They underscored the importance of teacher capacity building, play-based pedagogy, and competency-based assessments as cornerstones of the



policy's success.

The Melas served as platforms

for students to present project-

based learning modules, voca-

tional skill displays, art integration, and cultural performances that emphasized value-based education, gender sensitivity, and environmental consciousness—all critical elements outlined in NEP 2020.

The event also reinforced the importance of the School Quality Assessment and Accreditation Framework, digital learning integration, and community engagement in achieving equity and excellence in education. Local stakeholders, including parents and PRI members, participated actively, reflecting the policy's commitment to school-community partnership.

The district-wide celebrations reaffirmed Kupwara's resolve to implement NEP 2020 in letter and spirit, fostering a system where education is not just about academic achievement but about the holistic growth, creativity, and well-being of every child.

Tabassum Rehman honoured with Uttam Bharat Puraskar for outstanding contribution to Art and Culture

Gulfam Barji

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: In a moment of immense pride for Jammu and Kashmir, noted folk artist Tabassum Rehman was conferred with the prestigious Uttam Bharat Puraskar 2025 for his exceptional and long-standing contributions to the field of Art and Culture. A statement issued here, the award was presented in a grand ceremony held at Tagore Hall, Srinagar, and was graced by Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson of the J&K Waqf Board, Tauseef Raina, noted political and youth leader, and Dr. H.R. Rehman, Chairman of the Global Human Rights Trust (GHRT).

Born in the Khanyar area of Srinagar Kashmir, Tabassum Rehman is considered to be one of the finest performing art artists particularly in the field of Rouf Dance. The centuries old folk form (Rouf Dance) has been among the rich cultural traditions of Kashmir. Tabassum Rehman is an approved artist in all India Radio Srinagar. Tabassum has started her career by participating in programs like (Baman) from Doordarshan and (Phulwin Tour) from Radio Kashmir Srinagar. Later on she participated in the Eid Roufs from both Doordarshan and Radio Kashmir Srinagar. Tabassum has played a boys Character in the famous play (Dhak Ghar) Written by Nobel Ioriat of Indian culture Rabin-dra Nath Tagore. Tabassum Rehman



an has earned a respectable position in this field throughout the country. She is the president of folk cultural group namely (Lotus Cultural Group) under which almost around twenty girls are associated with.

These girls have also made the field as profession and are becoming role model for other young girls. Tabassum Rehman is also the mentor of the group and under her direction the group have performed in program conducted by the departments as like, Doordarshan Kendra Srinagar, Song and Drama Division Chandigarh, NZCC Patiala, NCZCC Illahabad, Academy of Art Culture and Languages

Srinagar, Sangeetnatak Akademi New Delhi, EZCC Bihar, Social Welfare Kashmir, Rural Development Department Kashmir, Central Bureau of Communications (CBC), Ministry of Culture Government of India New Delhi. Tabassum Rehman and her group have performed almost in all Indian states and Uts like in Andaman Nicobar Islands. Tabassum Rehman has recently received JK Gourav Samman also. She has been also the part J&K contingent Republic day parade in New Delhi 2025. Tabassum Rehman seems to be one of the finest folk artist of Kashmir to whom future generation is proud of.

Arizal-Budgam Road Work Progressing Rapidly Under PMGSY

Ubaid Mehdi

BUDGAM, JULY 29: The macadamization of the 20-kilometer Arizal-Budgam road is progressing swiftly under the supervision of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) department. The vital road project, which has been underway for the past year, has now entered its final modernization phase.

Local residents from the Arizal area have expressed satisfaction with the ongoing work. "Work has been going on for the past one year. We are happy with the way the contractor has worked here and hope the road will be completed soon, making travel easier for us," said one resident.



Others have also acknowledged the department's efforts. "We are grateful to the department for speeding up this work. The way they have started and maintained the pace is already benefiting us in many ways," another local said.

Residents see this development as a major boost to connectivity and infrastructure in the region. Once completed, the road is expected to ease transportation and benefit thousands across Budgam district.

BJP Minority Morcha Hosts Kalam Tribute, Startup Youth Meet

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: The BJP Minority Morcha Kashmir unit organized an important meeting at the BJP Headquarters, J-53 Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar, in the esteemed presence of Ajmal Zaidi, National Vice President, BJP Minority Morcha. The meeting was held as part of the ongoing programme dedicated to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Azad, with a focus

on Startup Youth, scheduled for 12th August.

The programme was graced by senior leadership of the Minority Morcha Kashmir unit, including Sheikh Bashir, Bhat Imtiyaz, along with other prominent leaders and active members of the unit.

Discussions during the meeting revolved around the importance of youth empowerment, innovation, and entrepreneur-



ship, as envisioned by Dr. Kalam.

Ajmal Zaidi appreciated the Kashmir unit's efforts and encouraged the leadership to further engage with the youth and inspire them to contribute actively to nation-building.

The meeting concluded with a collective commitment to promote Dr. Kalam's legacy by nurturing a new generation of visionary and responsible youth across Jammu & Kashmir.

HT EDITORIAL

For a change PDP President heaps praises on Prime Minister Modi

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti wants to have good relations with the union government and bury all differences with Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP). The same was proved on Monday July 28 during the foundation day celebrations of the party in Srinagar. During her speech the PDP President heaped praises on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said that PM Modi has the capacity to solve the Kashmir problem once for all.

The PDP President said that the country had Prime Ministers like Indira Gandhi and Atal Bihari Vajpayee who took bold steps to solve political problems being confronted by the people at helm and the common masses. Mehbooba in the same breath said that PM Modi has the capacity to come up with a solution to the Kashmir imbroglio. She exuded confidence that the Prime Minister would come up as a real saviour and apply balm to the wounds being inflicted on the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

In the recent past the PDP President and other leaders of the party had launched a diatribe against BJP and its leadership. For a change Mehbooba chose to be soft towards the union government and the BJP leadership. The reasons for the same are better known to the PDP leadership especially its President but apparently it seems the same was done to keep the BJP in good humour. The PDP President knows it fully well that if the Prime Minister is praised then the other leaders of BJP would also fall in line.

The PDP President needs to be reminded that the BJP has made it clear that the revocation of Articles 370 and 35A were the ultimate steps needed to bring about peace in Jammu & Kashmir especially, Kashmir valley. The BJP leaders have been claiming success saying that with the abrogation of Article 370 there is no separate constitution for Jammu & Kashmir and the whole country is being governed by a single constitution. They are also claiming that there has been an end to the violence in Kashmir.

In such a scenario the PDP President's praises on PM Modi seem to be somewhat out of context vis-a-vis Kashmir and the problems being faced by the people of the valley. The only apparent reason seems to be that the party wants to have good relations with BJP. This would ensure that in future both the parties can stitch an alliance if such an arrangement comes up.

15TH ANNIVERSARY HEADLINES TODAY Voice To The Voiceless

Chief Patron Of Lubaab Publications Group:
Syed Sad Ud Din Bukhari (Saidi),
Printer Publisher, Owner And Editor:
Syed Jahangir Bukhari,
Printed At: Lubaab Publications, Radio
Colony Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora
Srinagar -190017,
Gen. Manager: Sheikh Mushtaq Ahmad
Cell No - 9697071471,
Editorial Section: 7006846797,
Multimedia Section: 9419008414,
Advertisement Section: 9697071471
RNI No: Jkeng/2011/39231

Engage Yourself and Achieve Your Goals



■ Sahil Manzoor Bhatti

Every nation across the globe is prioritizing the strengthening of its education sector. A well-established educational system lays the foundation for progress in every other field. Where education thrives, so does the entire society.

Sensible individuals always dedicate their full efforts to any task entrusted to them. However, true and lasting success cannot be achieved overnight. It requires a well-educated and well-trained workforce.

Today, we live in a world increasingly governed by machines. These machines—whether smartphones, photocopiers, or vehicles—are the creations of human intelligence, particularly the brilliance of educated youth. Yet, it is not machines that



control the world; it is the humans behind them.

The Almighty has blessed the human brain with astonishing potential. Studies suggest that even great scientists have used only about 30% of their brainpower, yet they've changed the world with their inventions. Imagine what could be achieved if more of us tapped into our true abilities!

Each of us has unique talents. Some aspire to become great teachers, engineers, or doctors. It's impor-

tant not to force learners into careers against their interests. Instead, guide and support them—nurture their passions. Today, government initiatives and educational schemes are available to help everyone realize their dreams.

The world is full of opportunities. Believe in yourself. With faith, perseverance, and consistent effort, you can change the world. Social media has connected us globally, allowing us to share knowledge and ideas like never before. But remember: never

take rest that rusts your talent. Stay active, stay curious, and keep discovering yourself.

Once you identify your talent, that moment becomes the true beginning of your success story.

How to Get Good Marks in Exams

Success in exams doesn't come overnight. It requires planning, discipline, and attention to detail. Here are some essential tips: Handwriting Matters: Keep your handwriting neat and legible. Avoid overwriting and excessive corrections. Start Early: Don't delay your preparation. Start from day one. Procrastination only adds stress and reduces your performance. Focus on Weak Areas: First tackle the topics you find difficult. Don't keep postponing them. Be Precise: Write answers that are to the point. Avoid unnecessary or irrelevant details. Presentation Counts: Use good-quality pens, pencils, and rulers. Leave proper space between answers to avoid clutter. Check Details Carefully: After completing your paper, recheck your roll number and other particulars thoroughly.

sahilmanzoor0401@gmail.com

After BSNL, now it is the turn of government schools

It's not a conspiracy, it's the truth



■ Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

Whenever a government talks about national interest, citizens should understand who is actually benefiting from these so-called national interests. Today's India is standing at a turning point where public services are being handed over to private hands in a planned manner. What we are calling reform is actually a planned disinvestment - in which the rights of the public are being slowly snatched away and converted into market commodities. The biggest example of this entire process is Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited i.e. BSNL, and now the same experiment is being done on the government schools of India.

BSNL was once a communication system that reached every corner of the country. BSNL had services even in the mountains, border areas and rural areas where no private company could reach. But the governments gradually started stopping its pace. It was prevented from introducing new technologies, there was delay in providing 4G service, the number of employees was reduced, and financial assistance was limited. The result was that an important public company of the country gradually weakened. Parallel to this, private companies like Jio were encouraged at every level. They got spectrum at cheap rates, rules were relaxed and administrative help was also given. Ultimately BSNL was weakened and private companies dominated the market.

The same scenario is now being repeated in the field of education. Government schools are being systematically maligned. It is being said that the level of education there is poor, there are fewer students, the results are not good. But no one asks how many teachers are teaching in these schools, for how many years permanent appointments have been stopped, how dilapidated are the school buildings, where are the libraries and laboratories. What is the transport arrangement to take children to school? All this has been deliberately neglected, so that an image can be created that government schools are unsuccessful.

When government schools look weak, the trust of the society will automatically decrease. Then parents will be forced to send their children to private schools, even if their financial condition does not allow it. This is a very deep and dangerous strategy. First weaken the services, then make the public choiceless, and finally push them towards private services.

Today, all the big private schools have some

“

Now the situation is such that even poor and middle class families are paying huge fees to educate their children in private schools. Admission fees, monthly fees, annual fees, uniforms, books, smart classes, transport - money is taken for everything and education is sold as a product. If a parent delays paying the fees, the child is humiliated or threatened with expulsion from school. Is this the purpose of education?

political or administrative person behind them. A minister's wife's trust, a former MP's charitable foundation, a bureaucrat's NGO - these are the names behind the glitz of private schools. In such a situation, when an education policy is made, only these people benefit. The government itself makes the policy, and its own schools benefit from those policies.

Now the situation is such that even poor and middle class families are paying huge fees to educate their children in private schools. Admission fees, monthly fees, annual fees, uniforms, books, smart classes, transport - money is taken for everything and education is sold as a product. If a parent delays paying the fees, the child is humiliated or threatened with expulsion from school. Is this the purpose of education?

Meanwhile, a policy of merging government schools is brought. Where the number of children is less, there is a suggestion to merge them with the nearby school. But it is not seen whether the distance is too much? Are there enough teachers there? Has the safety of the girl students been taken care of? Policies look good only in figures, not on the ground.

Today, even the Right to Education Act has become a mere paper document. School Management Committees exist only in name. Governments do not give priority to education in their budgets. Expenses are cut, teachers are not recruited for years, and the teachers who are there are put to non-teaching work. Sometimes election duty, sometimes census, sometimes vaccination campaign - teachers are made to do everything except teaching.

Amidst all this, the English language has been presented in such a way as if life is impossible without speaking English. Private schools have made the English medium synonymous with superiority. If a child can speak two sentences in English, he is considered smart and successful, even if he does not understand the subject. On the other hand, no matter how intelligent a child studying in government schools is, if he speaks in Hindi, he is considered backward. This is the height of mental slavery.

Government schools are not just buildings, they are the hope of education for the most backward and deprived sections of society. For these children whose parents are laborers in the fields, rickshaw pullers or domestic workers, government schools are the only means of education. If these schools are abolished, it will be an insult not to education but to social justice.

Here the question is not only of facilities but also of intentions. If the government wants, it can make government schools model schools. They can be made better than private schools by providing facilities like teachers, library, lab, smart class, sports equipment and transport. But doing so would go against the personal interests of the people in power, so it does not happen.

The problem is that we have considered education as a means of profit. Now it is not a right, it has become a service - and that too a service which is available only to the rich. This is dividing the society into two parts - one who will get expensive education in English and get urban jobs, and the other who will study in Hindi and work as labourers in the villages under broken roofs.

Now the time has come that we should not remain silent. If we do not raise our voice now, then the coming generations will remain puppets in the hands of a particular class. We have to demand that instead of closing down government schools, they should be strengthened. The pillar of education should be strengthened in every village, every town. Teachers should be recruited on time, they should be given only the work of teaching and schools should be made resource-rich.

We have to understand that privatization of education is not only a path to economic slavery but also to ideological slavery. When a class is not educated to think, question and recognize its rights, then democracy will become only a vote machine.

What happened with BSNL was an economic game, but abolishing government schools would be a social and ideological crime. If we want the next generation of the country to be independent, empowered and have an egalitarian mindset, then we must save the government education system today.

The author is a Research Scholar in Political Science, Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, Ubba Bhawan, Aryanagar, Hisar (Haryana)-127045

GOTTEY GAE GOTTEY': Abdul Quddir Kundria's Dogri Poetry Collection Emerges as a Voice of Conscience for Society



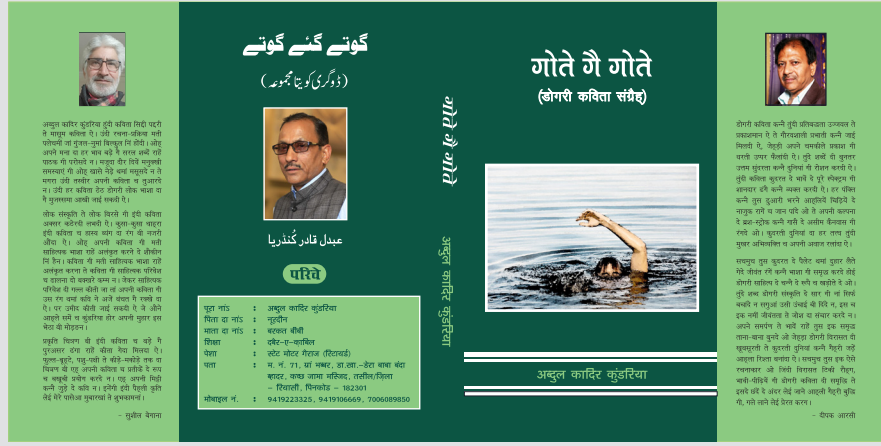
By Mohd. Yaseen

In a time when literature often finds itself overshadowed by fleeting digital distractions and commercial pursuits, a compelling poetic voice has emerged from the hills of Jammu and Kashmir, calling upon society to reflect, reform, and reconnect with its moral compass.

Some days back, Kundria formally presented a copy of his book to Ms. Nidhi Malik, IAS, Deputy Commissioner of Reasi, in a ceremonial moment that reflected the union of literature and governance for public welfare.

Gottey Gae Gottey, translated loosely as "Entangled Upon Entangled," is not just a poetic compilation, it is a reflection of contemporary society's greatest battles: moral erosion, communal tensions, substance abuse, and the silent suffering of youth.

What makes this work stand out is the poet's consistent and purposeful effort to not just write for the sake of art, but to write for the sake of people.



districts of Jammu, Udhampur, and Reasi. This initiative reflects the poet's strong desire to awaken young minds and inspire them to engage with the pressing realities around them.

At the heart of 'Gottey Gae Gottey' lies a commitment to truth. Each poem is an echo of real lives, real emotions, and real sufferings.

Another powerful theme is communal disharmony. In a region where religious diversity has long coexisted in delicate balance, Kundria's verses serve as both a cautionary tale and a hopeful prayer.

bureaucratic corridors, he writes with restrained anger and surgical insight. But he also explores personal domains, broken families, gender injustice, fading traditions, with tenderness and empathy, making his voice universally relevant.

Kundria's style is accessible yet profound. His poetic diction employs Dogri idioms and folk references, which give the verses a local flavor and deep-rooted authenticity.

His verse is rhythmic and resonant, often resembling traditional Dogri folk songs. This musicality makes the poems easily memorable and recitable.

The response to the book has been overwhelmingly positive. Critics have called it a cultural milestone in Dogri literature. Educators have welcomed it as a meaningful tool for classroom discussion and value-based education.

from uncomfortable truths. His book is not only a literary gem but a valuable resource for social awakening, she said. She further emphasized that works like Gottey Gae Gottey deserve to be part of academic discourse, especially in regions grappling with youth-related challenges.

DC Udhampur Ms. Saloni Rai echoed this sentiment, expressing her admiration for the book's ability to stimulate societal dialogue. When literature speaks the language of the people and reflects their pain and aspirations, it becomes an agent of change.

In continuation of his literary outreach, Abdul Quddir Kundria has also presented copies of Gottey Gae Gottey to several other key administrative and police officials across the region. These include SSP Reasi, Addl. SP Reasi, DSP HQ Reasi, SHO Reasi, CEO Reasi, SSP Udhampur, DIG Reasi-Udhampur Range, DIG Shiv Kumar Sharma of the Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range, SHO Woman Wing Udhampur, PA to HQ SSP Udhampur, and Addl. SP Udhampur.

Abdul Quddir Kundria is not new to literary activism. For decades, he has been writing with a sense of purpose, addressing social taboos, reviving linguistic heritage, and promoting communal harmony.

community leaders is a deliberate attempt to integrate literature into public consciousness. By placing his book in the hands of policymakers and educators, he hopes to bridge the gap between art and action.

Moreover, he continues to visit schools and colleges to interact with students, conducting poetry readings and discussions around the issues raised in the book. These sessions often turn into open conversations about drugs, discrimination, and identity.

At a time when regional languages face the threat of decline, Kundria's use of Dogri is both a cultural assertion and a defiant act of preservation. He believes that the soul of a community resides in its language, and losing Dogri would mean severing ties with a rich heritage.

The book stands as proof that regional literature need not be parochial. When rooted deeply, it can rise tall and touch universal themes. As Kundria proves, the local is not the opposite of the global, it is its foundation.

Gottey Gae Gottey is not just a poetry collection, it is a moral compass, a cultural document, and a heartfelt appeal for change. In every stanza, Abdul Quddir Kundria urges readers to look inward, speak truth, and act justly.

Through this literary offering, Kundria has given society more than just a book, he has given it a mirror, a map, and a mission.

The writer is the son of Abdul Quddir Kundria and a National Scholarship and Fellowship Holder from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India

Parvez Maanous: A Radiant Star of Urdu Literature



Mohammad Arfat Wani

Kashmir, known across the world as Paradise on Earth, is celebrated not only for its breathtaking valleys, azure lakes, and snow-clad mountains but also for its profound literary and poetic legacy that has captivated hearts for centuries.

Parvez Maanous is not among those who treat words as mere tools; for him, words are living beings pulsating with the heartbeat of love, echoing the human soul, and

delivering emotions straight into the reader's heart. His poetry mirrors love, agony, sacrifice, and hope, where every reader finds their own reflection.

His literary journey commenced in 1985 with poetry's fragrance, later extending to the vast realms of fiction. His first collection, Beete Lamho Ki Saugaten (1993), revealed lyrical prowess, followed by Shikare Ki Maut (1995), establishing him as a versatile storyteller.

The poetry of Parvez Maanous is an ocean of emotions where each wave crashes with meaning. Rarely do poets emerge who, through words, touch hearts and ignite revolutions in thought—he is among such rare souls.

message, and hope's radiance. His verses on the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (RA) stand as monuments of faith: "Koi kahan thi alamat Hussain se pehle, dikha sake jo shujaat Hussain se pehle, namaz-e-ishq mein sar ko katane wali ye, dikhai kis ne ibadat Hussain se pehle."

In his verses, life's bitter realities appear like mirrors reflecting truths one cannot ignore. He weaves threads of pain into words that pierce hearts and linger as haunting melodies: "Sab par hai nazar uski likhta hai kitaabon mein, khamosh sa rehna hai kirdaar mere dil mein, lafzon ko prota hai ik dard ke dhaage mein, Maanous koi to hai fankaar mere dil mein."

Such lines embody wounds capable of demolishing joy's castles. Likewise, his verses reveal society's apathy: "Is shehr-e-namurad ka haamil kahin kise, hai muntashir har aadmi paagal kahin kise, raste bhi cheekh cheekh ke kehte hain kuch na kuch, sunna ho gar sukoot ka jaahil kahin kise."

The philosophy in his verses awakens readers to hidden truths. He unmasks love's deceit, hatred's bitterness, and the significance of practical affection: "Daana kabootron ko dikha kar fareb ka, unko qafas mila hai yahan daar ke ewaz, dushman hua kuch is tarah mausam bahaar ka, aangan mein aag bhar gaya gulzaar ke ewaz."

Maanous's poetry transcends romance, carrying social consciousness. His lines expose insensitivity: "Kuch log mere zakhm pe hanste hain be sabab, chupte hain mere dil mein yahi khaar kya karoon."

Yet amidst darkness, he scatters light and paints hope: "Paon jakre huye zanjeer ka dukh baant sake, kaun hai

joyahan raahgeer ka dukh baant sake, log tasveer uthate hain chale jaate hain, kaash koi mere Kashmir ka dukh baant sake."

His art makes readers weep in one breath and breathe hope in the next. He is not only a poet but a healer who applies balm through words, giving broken hearts the strength to live. His essence lies in transforming pain into beauty, darkness into light.

Through poetry and prose, Maanous proved that literature is not just a craft but a responsibility—to spread love, ignite hope, and connect humanity. His creations echo suppressed voices and unspoken emotions. They hold truths time cannot erase, impacts that light the reader's soul, and strength that inspires courage.

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

'TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan' launched at Budgam

DDC leads campaign with emphasis on awareness, early detection & community involvement

HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, JULY 29: In a step aimed at eliminating tuberculosis (TB) from the district, 'TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan' was formally launched in Budgam today under the chairmanship of the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who also serves as the Chairman of the District Health Society Budgam. The campaign, aligned with the national objective of making India TB-free by 2025, aims to strengthen early diagnosis, promote complete treatment, and intensify public awareness across the community. The slogan of the campaign was 'TB Harega, Desh Jeetega.' On the occasion, the DDC emphasised the importance of collective

grassroots efforts to combat TB. He said, "The fight against TB requires not just medical intervention but also strong community participation. Through this campaign, we aim to promote early diagnosis, complete treatment, and awareness to eliminate both the disease and the stigma attached to it."

The campaign involved rallies for vibrant awareness, carried out by enthusiastic students from various schools, who marched through the main areas of the town carrying placards, banners, and raising slogans to educate the public on TB symptoms, prevention, and the need for completing the full course of treatment.

IEC- health vehicles from RBSK (Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram) were innovatively decorated with



eye-catching IEC materials in local languages. The material consisted of posters and banners detailing TB symptoms, transmission modes, and treatment protocols. Health vehicles were also equipped with public

address systems broadcasting educational audio messages as they traversed through various towns and villages, ensuring that the campaign's message reaches remotest corners of the district.

DDC said, focus of the Abhiyan will be on, Active Case Finding (ACF) for early TB detection, nutritional support and care for TB patients, Public-Private partnership under the Nikshay Mitra initiative, destigmatisation and community-based awareness campaigns etc.

He called for a unified effort to eradicate TB from Budgam, adding, "Let us all work together to build a healthy and TB-free Budgam".

Besides CMO, all BMOs, TB officer and other Health officers, school students participated in TB Mukht Abhiyan.

Alcohol and Pancreatic Cancer: New Evidence About Risk

Amy Norton

LONDON, JULY 29: Does drinking alcohol increase the risk for pancreatic cancer? Researchers have long suspected it does, but the evidence has remained inconsistent.

Now, a global study of more than two million people is firming up the case that a link exists.

The study, which pooled data from 30 prospective cohorts, found that daily alcohol intake was associated with a "modest" increased risk for pancreatic cancer in both women and men, regardless of smoking status.

However, the extent of the risk depended somewhat on how the researchers modeled alcohol intake. One model, which mapped continuous increases in alcohol consumption, suggested there is no safe dose of alcohol — any amount can increase the risk for pancreatic cancer, though only by 3% for every additional 10 g of alcohol per day or about two thirds of a standard drink.

The other model, which compared risk by alcohol volume categories, found that the risk does not become significant until a certain alcohol threshold — about two to three drinks per day for men and one to two for women.

Still, overall, "our findings provide new evidence that pancreatic cancer may be another cancer type associated with alcohol consumption, a connection that has been underestimated until now," the study's senior author Pietro Ferrari, PhD, head of the Nutrition and Metabolism Branch at International Agency for Research on Cancer, said in a statement.

The co-author Jeanine Genkinger, PhD, MHS, had a stronger take on the findings. "I think this shows that alcohol use is a robust risk factor for pancreatic cancer," said Genkinger, associate professor, epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York City, noting that even more moderate drinking levels — no more than one drink for women and two for men — might be enough to boost pancreatic cancer risk.

How Much of a Risk? The latest data, published in PLoS Medicine, come at a time of increased attention to the alcohol-cancer link.

Earlier this year, then-US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, MD, issued an advisory calling for cancer warnings to be added to alcohol labels. Major cancer organizations have determined alcohol to be an established risk factor for seven cancer types: those of the oral cavity, larynx, pharynx, esophagus, liver, breast, and colon/rectum.

Despite the strong suspicion that drinking alcohol also contributes to pancreatic cancer risk, this aggressive cancer has not yet made the official list.

The major reason is that the evidence surrounding an alcohol-pancreatic cancer link has been deemed "inconsistent," "suggestive," and "inconclusive" by expert panels. Studies have been hampered by difficulties separating alcohol use from smoking — a known risk factor for pancreatic cancer — as well as varying findings by alcohol type and geographic location. In addition, certain studies highlighting a link have indicated that any association between alcohol and pancreatic cancer is driven only by more extreme drinking habits — more than four drinks a day, and sometimes as high as nine drinks.

The latest analysis, Genkinger said, helps clarify uncertainty surrounding the alcohol-pancreatic cancer link, which is especially important for "a disease where we don't have that many modifiable risk factors."

The findings are based on cohorts spanning four continents, all part of the Pooling Project of Prospective Studies of Diet and Cancer. Just under 2.5 million cancer-free participants were recruited between 1980 and 2013 (median age, 57 years), of whom 70% were alcohol drinkers, 47% were never-smokers, and 64% were alcohol drinkers and never smokers. Most study participants were from North America (60%), followed by Europe or Australia (32%) and Asia (8%).

Alcohol intake was modeled in two ways: continuously for every 10 g/d increase and by volume threshold, using 0.1 to < 5 g/d as the reference for nondrinkers. For context, in the US, the amount of alcohol in a standard drink is defined as 14 g of pure alcohol — equivalent to a 12-ounce can of regular beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine, or a 1.5-ounce shot glass of distilled spirits. Over a median of 16 years, the researchers observed 10,067 incidents of pancreatic cancers.

In the continuous model, the risk for pancreatic cancer rose by 3% for every additional 10 g of alcohol consumed per day (hazard ratio [HR], 1.03; 95% CI, 1.02-1.04). This association remained consistent and significant in women and men (HR, 1.03 for both), current smokers (HR, 1.03), former smokers (HR, 1.02), and never-smokers (HR, 1.03), and across cohorts from Australia, Europe, and North America (HR, 1.03 for all), though not Asia (HR, 1.00).

Courtesy Medscape

Dementia takes 3.5 years to diagnose after symptoms begin: Study

HT News Desk / IANS

NEW DELHI, JULY 29: People with dementia are diagnosed an average of 3.5 years after symptoms are first noticed, according to a new study.

Early signs of dementia may include memory loss, difficulty finding words, confusion, and changes in mood and behaviour. The study, published in the International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, showed that younger age at onset and having frontotemporal dementia were both linked to a longer time to diagnosis.

For those with early-onset dementia, the diagnosis can take 4.1 years, with some groups more likely to experience longer delays.

"Timely diagnosis of dementia remains a major global challenge, shaped by a complex set of factors, and specific health care strategies are urgently needed to improve it. Timely diagnosis can improve access to treatments and, for some people, prolong the time living with mild dementia before symptoms worsen," said lead author Dr. Vasiliki Orgeta, from the Division of Psychiatry at the University College London (UCL).

For the study, UCL researchers reviewed data from 13 previously published studies that took place in Europe, the US, Australia, and China, reporting data on 30,257 participants.

Dementia is a growing public health concern, affecting over 57 million people globally. Studies estimate that only 50-65 per cent of cases are ever diagnosed in high-income countries, with many countries having even lower diagnostic rates.

Timely diagnosis of dementia remains elusive, and specific healthcare strategies are urgently needed to improve it.

Dr. Phuong Leung, from UCL's Division of Psychiatry, pointed out that "symptoms of dementia are often mistaken for normal ageing, while fear, stigma, and low public awareness can discourage people from seeking help."

Orgeta urged the need for public awareness campaigns to help improve understanding of early symptoms and reduce stigma, encouraging people to seek help sooner.

"Clinician training is critical to improve early recognition

and referral, along with access to early intervention and individualised support so that people with dementia and their families can get the help they need," the expert said.

Data from 10 studies included in the analysis showed that an "average mean (time to diagnosis) across all types of dementia was 3.5 years", while those from six studies showed "time to diagnosis in young onset dementia was 4.1 years".

The authors also highlighted a lack of standard criteria to measure time taken between developing early symptoms and diagnosis of dementia.

"Our work highlights the



need for a clear conceptual framework on time to diagnosis in dementia, developed in collaboration with people with dementia, their carers, and supporters," Orgeta said.

Author Phuong Leung, from University College London's division of psychiatry, said, "Symptoms of dementia are often mistaken for normal ageing, while fear, stigma, and low public awareness can discourage people from seeking help."

Public awareness campaigns can help people recognise early symptoms and encourage them to seek advice sooner, potentially speeding up dementia diagnosis, Orgeta added.

DR. SAJAD AHMAD PALLA
MBBS, DNB (Medicine)
Specialist Physician - Comprehensive Adult Care
Expertise in: Hypertension (High BP), Diabetes & Metabolic Disorders, Thyroid Illnesses, Respiratory & Lung Diseases, General Internal Medicine.
OPD Timings: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, 10:00 AM
Location: Khaliq Medicate, Near Postoffice, Tangmag Bus Stand
Book your appointment now! +91 98 58 55 607, +91 7780 895122

Medanta Mediconsult Centre
NEURO OPD
Dr. Jyoti Sehgal
Director, Institute of Neurosciences
Symptoms: Paralysis and Feet, Loss of Memory, Back Pain, Epilepsy, Neuralgia, Numbness in Hand and Feet, Parkinson's Disease, Headache, Sleeplessness / Insomnia.
Wednesday, 23rd July 2025, 9:30am to 1:30pm
Venue: 30A/A1-Green Belt, (Opp. Hotel Asia-Behind HP Petrol Pump), Gandhi Nagar, Jammu-180004
96222 00900 / 94191 91439

Book Your Full Body Health Check-up
SwasthFit
₹ 699/- to ₹ 1820/-
30 PARAMETERS COVERED: Glucose Fasting, Uric Acid, Creatinine, Cholesterol, Complete Blood Count, TSH, Ultra-Sensitive.

SHIFA MEDICAL CENTRE
Detect Early Signs of Heart Attack
Get a checkup with the best Cardiologist of Valley
7051022389
DR TARIQ RASHID
Director & Head, Department of Cardiology, Consultant Interventional Cardiologist, MBBS, MD (DM) (USA)
OPD Timings: 4PM - 7PM, Hospital Location: Shifa Hospital Magarmal bagh Srinagar

Dr. Sheikh Mustafa
M.B.B.S, MD (OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY)
Former Associate Professor, GMC Srinagar
Available At **RADIOCARE** Imaging & Diagnostic Centre
8082641411 | radiocareimaging@gmail.com

ESSCO PLACEMENTS PVT. LTD
Your Future begins here
ADMISSION Open
Study In **BANGLADESH!**
Why Choose Us? Guaranteed Admissions in Top Govt. & Private Universities, Hassle-free Admission Process, Visa, Documentation & Travel Assistance, 100% Genuine Consultancy - Trusted by Thousands.
Apply Early to Secure Your Spot!
Umer Abad, Zaikote, HMT, Sgr.
7006710373 - 7051779981
www.esscoplacements.com

KASHMIR'S HEART IS IN GOOD CARE!
Experienced Cardiologists, World-Class Facilities
Treatment For: Angina, Heart Attack, Heart Failure, Arrhythmia
1800 889 8984
Ujala Cygnus KASHMIR

DR. SANJEED SULTAN KAWOOSA
MBBS, MD (DGO)
SENIOR CONSULTANT GYNAECOLOGIST & OBSTETRICIAN
Available For Consultation On: Saturday, 4:00 PM onwards
Venue: Mediwave Chemists & Druggists, Near J&K Bank, Gulmarg Road, Srinagar

Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital Srinagar
Now don't worry about the cost of treatment
18008898984
Facilities available: Angiography, Angioplasty, Pacemaker

PARAS HEALTH
ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR Heart Health?
HEALTHY HEART PACKAGE ₹999/-
Lipid Profile, ECG, Cardiac Consultation, TMT/ECHO
Book an Appointment

MEDIWAVE
DR AB HAMID KHAN
MBBS, MD SKIMS SOURA
CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN HEALTH SERVICES KASHMIR
WILL BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW FROM 8:30 AM AT MEDIWAVE

SC Sets August 12 Hearing In Bihar Voter List Case, Warns Against Mass Exclusion Of Voters

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JULY 29: The Supreme Court today scheduled a detailed hearing on August 12 on a batch of petitions challenging the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls ordered by the Election Commission of India (ECI) in Bihar, cautioning that "if there is any mass exclusion, then the Court will step in." A bench led by Justice Surya Kant took up multiple pleas filed under Article 32 of the Constitution against the ECI's June 24, 2025 directive, which initiated a state-wide revision of the voter list ahead of the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections. The exercise is expected to impact over 4.5 crore voters.

While the Court refrained from passing any immediate orders, it directed the Election Commission to submit the complete schedule and timeline for the revision by 10:30 AM on July 30, noting the magnitude and potential consequences of the exercise.

"The Court will intervene if large-scale exclusion occurs", Justice Kant said.

Responding to concerns raised by Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, Justice Kant assured the petitioners that the Court was closely monitoring the process. "They do have the right to object. Who said they don't? The moment there is any deviation from the notification, we will intervene," he said.

Justice Kant emphasised: "If there is any mass exclusion, then the Court will step in."

Senior Advocate Prashant Bhushan submitted that out of 65 lakh people, a large majority may be wrongly categorized as deceased or ineligible. Sibal added, "We don't know who has been left out. Give us a timeline."

In response, Justice Kant said, "We are extending the time to three hours."

When Sibal requested more time for arguments — "One day for us, one day for them" Justice Kant replied, "That is not possible. You know the art of precision. No need for repetition by counsels. A practical way is one day for petitioners, one day for the ECI."

In its affidavit, the Election Commission defended its June 24



order, stating that the SIR aims to enhance electoral integrity by removing ineligible persons. It highlighted that all major political parties were part of the process, having deployed over 1.5 lakh booth-level agents to assist eligible voters.

The Commission argued that eligibility to vote flows from Article 326 and is governed by Sections 16 and 19 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950,

and Section 62 of the 1951 Act. It added that ineligible persons cannot claim voting rights under Articles 19 or 21.

However, the lead petitioner, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), warned that the SIR process grants unchecked powers to Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), potentially resulting in widespread disenfranchisement.

ADR criticised the exclusion of Aadhaar and ration cards from

acceptable documentation in the enumeration process, calling it "patently absurd" and lacking justification.

It alleged that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) were signing enumeration forms on behalf of voters, and in some cases, deceased individuals were marked as having verified their details. The NGO also alleged that many voters' details were uploaded online without their knowledge or consent, further undermining the legitimacy of the process.

Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Jha, a petitioner, submitted that BLOs allegedly did not visit certain neighborhoods and forged signatures on voter forms.

He also expressed concern that the requirement for documentary proof of citizenship marks a significant and abrupt departure from past practices.

Activist Yogendra Yadav warned that nearly four million voters could be at risk of losing their voting rights under the current SIR mechanism.

The Special Intensive Revision is Bihar's first such exercise since

2003, and it covers over seven crore voters. BLOs have been tasked with door-to-door verification, aided by pre-filled enumeration forms. Citizens may also verify their information online. The draft rolls are scheduled to be released on August 1, 2025.

Earlier, a vacation bench headed by Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia had directed the ECI to accept Aadhaar, Voter ID, and ration cards as valid identity proofs and allowed the ongoing process to continue, pending further orders. Despite claims by the ECI that the revision was based on concerns raised by political parties, the petitioners contend that no major party demanded a complete overhaul of the rolls. Rather, the concerns centred on fictitious entries and wrongful deletions, particularly of opposition voters.

The Supreme Court will now hear detailed submissions from both sides on August 12, with the focus on the constitutional validity of the SIR process and its impact on the right to vote, a fundamental facet of Indian democracy. UNI SNG RN

DRDO successfully conducts two consecutive flight-tests of Pralay missile

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JULY 29: Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted two consecutive successful flight-tests of Pralay missile from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam island off the coast of Odisha.

The flight tests were carried out on July 28 and 29 as part of the user evaluation trials to validate the missile system's maximum and minimum range capabilities. The missiles precisely followed the intended trajectory and reached the target point with pinpoint accuracy, meeting all the test objectives, a Defence Ministry statement said.

All subsystems performed as per expectations, which were verified using test data captured by various tracking sensors deployed by Integrated Test Range (ITR) including instruments deployed on ship positioned near the designated impact point.

Pralay is an indigenously developed solid propellant quasi-ballistic missile employing state-of-the-art guidance and navigation to ensure high precision. The missile is capable of carrying multiple types of warheads against various targets.

The system has been developed by Research Centre Imarat in collaboration other DRDO labs. The flight-tests were witnessed by senior scientists of DRDO, representatives of the users from the Indian Air Force and the Indian Army as well as the industry representatives.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh while complimenting the DRDO, armed forces and industry said that the missile equipped with modern technologies will give further technological boost to the Armed Forces against threats.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and chairman DRDO Samir V Kamat congratulated the teams, stating that the successful completion of this phase-1 flight tests paves the way for induction of the system into the armed forces in near future. UNI RBE PRS

Over 4,300 thalassemia patients registered in portal; Majority under age 12: Govt in RS

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JULY 29: As many as 4,361 thalassemia patients have been registered on the National Sickle Cell Portal, with children below the age of 12 accounting for a significant share ie 2,579 cases, data shared by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare today in the Rajya Sabha revealed.

Responding to a written question in this regard, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel stated that a dedicated thalassemia module was integrated into the Sickle Cell Portal in 2023.

The module enables States and

Union Territories to systematically upload patient records, thereby facilitating regular monitoring, follow-ups, and data-driven surveillance on a national scale.

The Minister noted that while the overall responsibility for thalassemia-related management and public awareness lies with respective State and UT governments, the Centre continues to extend support under the National Health Mission (NHM). This includes both financial and logistical assistance aimed at strengthening public health infrastructure.

"Support is provided for a range of services, including screening and treatment, provision of medicines, blood bank



facilities, day care centres, laboratory services, training of health-care personnel, and Information, Education and Communication

(IEC) activities," Patel said. These measures are incorporated into the Programme Implementation Plans submitted annually by States and UTs, she added.

Highlighting ongoing efforts to improve access to advanced treatment, the Minister also referred to the Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojana (TBSY), an initiative supported by Coal India Limited under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) mandate. The scheme provides financial assistance of up to Rs10 lakh for bone marrow transplants (BMT) in eligible patients, and is currently operational across 17 empanelled hospitals nationwide. UNI AJ SSP

Belarusian air defense systems intercept drone over Minsk, no casualties- Defense Ministry

United News of India

MINSK, JULY 29: Belarusian air defense forces on duty intercepted an unidentified drone over the capital of Minsk, the Belarusian Defense Ministry said on Tuesday, adding that there were no casualties.

"At about 2 a.m. [23:00 GMT on Monday] on July 29, the air defense forces on duty detected and inter-

cepted an unidentified aerial target — a violator of the airspace use rules, identified as a UAV — in the airspace of Belarus. As a result of the impact of electronic warfare equipment on it, at 02:33 the UAV crashed... in Minsk," the ministry said in a statement, adding that there were no casualties.

The Investigative Committee of Belarus, which is looking into the

details of the drone crash, said that the drone was equipped with explosives.

"A criminal investigation team worked at the scene. An investigator, with the assistance of experts from the State Committee of Forensic Expertise and a bomb disposal team, conducted an inspection and documented the trace evidence," the committee said. UNI

Russian Space Agency chief Bakanov arrives in US - Roscosmos

United News of India

MOSCOW, JULY 29: Roscosmos CEO Dmitry Bakanov has arrived in the United States to meet with NASA management and the crew of the Crew Dragon spacecraft, which includes Russian Oleg Platonov, the state corporation told journalists. "Dmitry Bakanov arrived in Houston as the head of the Roscosmos delegation to meet with NASA management. This is the first face-to-face meeting of the heads of Russian and US space agencies in eight years," the statement said.

It is noted that first, he and the leadership of the US space agency will visit the structural divisions of the Johnson Space Center and get acquainted with their work. In addition, the Russian delegation plans to



visit the Boeing production unit, where reusable manned transport spacecraft CST-100 Starliner is being developed, and hold talks with the management of the company's space program "On the eve of the launch of the Crew-11 mission, which is scheduled for July 31, Dmitry Bakanov will meet with the crew of the Crew Dragon spacecraft, which includes Roscosmos cosmonaut Oleg Platonov as part of the cross-flight program. For the Russian, this will be the first flight into space," the Russian space agency added.

At the John F. Kennedy Space Center, the head of the state corporation will take part in events related to checking readiness for the launch of the next mission to the International Space Station. UNI

Vadodara boat capsized: SC orders Rs 1.2 Cr compensation for harni lake Boat tragedy victims

United News of India

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: The Supreme Court today directed that over Rs 1.2 crore deposited by M/s Kotia Projects, the contractor operating at Harni Lake in Vadodara, be disbursed to the families of 12 children and 2 teachers who died in a tragic boat capsizing incident on January 18, 2024.

A Bench comprising Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice KV Viswanathan stayed Gujarat High Court's full liability order which held the contractor fully liable.

The bench recorded the statement of the senior counsel for the petitioner-firm that they had deposited Rs 81,99,664 and Rs 30,74,880 with the Deputy Collector, Vadodara, and had no objection to the amount being distributed to

the bereaved families.

"Taking note of the submission, the Deputy Collector, Vadodara shall release the aforesaid sums to the parents of the deceased children and the family members of the two deceased teachers on a rational basis," the Court ordered. The disbursement is to be completed within six weeks.

In a significant relief to the contractor firm, the apex court stayed the Gujarat High Court's order that had directed M/s Kotia Projects to deposit nearly Rs 4 crore as full compensation for the victims of the tragedy.

The Supreme Court issued notice on the Special Leave Petition (SLP) filed by the contractor challenging the High Court's decision, which held the firm solely liable and rejected its plea to involve

insurance providers and joint venture partners.

The State of Gujarat informed the Court that the compensation amount was calculated using principles from the Motor Vehicles Act, in the absence of any specific legislation dealing with compensation in boat accident cases.

The apex court also granted liberty to Kotia Projects to approach the Gujarat High Court for impleading its joint venture partners and the insurance company as co-respondents in the ongoing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) concerning compensation for the tragedy.

The Supreme Court directed the High Court to allow such impleading applications if made.

Earlier, the firm had argued before the High Court that the lake operations were insured and that

the insurance company must share liability, but the Sub-Divisional Magistrate rejected the request.

The High Court ruled that the firm's internal disputes or insurance arrangements could not dilute its responsibility towards the victims. On February 17, 2025, the Gujarat High Court directed Kotia Projects, tasked by the Vadodara Municipal Corporation with the development and operation of Harni Lake to deposit over Rs 3.5 crore in compensation.

The Court allowed phased payment in four instalments, with 25 per cent due by March 31, 2025, and the rest to follow in monthly tranches.

The firm later filed a review petition, claiming that its earlier counsel had no authority to admit liability beyond 25 per cent, and

that the High Court's order relied excessively on counsel's submissions.

However, on May 9, 2025, the High Court dismissed the review petition, asserting that the order was based on independent judicial reasoning and not merely on counsel's statement.

The Court held the partnership firm, not individual partners, responsible for the compensation, and said insurance coverage and internal disputes were irrelevant. The review petition was dismissed as misconceived and a mere "cloak to escape liability."

The matter will now continue before the Supreme Court, which has granted interim relief to the firm while ensuring immediate relief to the families of the victims. UNI SNG AAB

SMC Launches Major Anti-Encroachment Drive Across Srinagar City To Clear Footpaths And Key Market Areas

Drive Aims to Restore Public Convenience, Says Chief Anti-Encroachment Officer Mohammad Syed

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has stepped up its anti-encroachment operations across key areas of the city in a sustained drive aimed at clearing public pathways, decongesting traffic routes and restoring public spaces. The campaign is being led by SMC Chief Anti-Encroachment Officer, Mohammad Syed, under the order of the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

In recent weeks, SMC teams have launched a major Anti-

Encroachment Drive in different market areas and high-traffic zones where roadside encroachments, illegal shop extensions and vehicles placed by car and motorcycle dealers were obstructing pedestrian and vehicular movement.

"This is not a one-time activity, but a continuous drive. Our focus is on locations where pedestrian movement is heavily disrupted and traffic congestion is worsened by illegal encroachments," said Mohammad Syed, emphasizing the department's commitment to reclaiming public space.

Syed said that "We have issued formal notices to all violators and given them time to remove their encroachments voluntarily. Our aim is not to harm anyone's livelihood but to ensure that city infrastructure works for everyone, especially the common citizens who face daily hardships due to blocked footpaths and narrowed roads."

The operation has been particularly focused on areas like Sanat Nagar, Khayam, Karan Nagar, Hyderpora, Tengpora, Batamaloo, Shaheed Gunj, Bemina, Qamarwari and bypass stretches including Bemina to



Parimpora. In these zones, several illegal structures, stalls and parked sale vehicles on roads have been cleared.

The Chief Anti-Encroachment

Officer also pointed out that locations near major hospitals and traffic junctions such as JVC Hospital, Children's Hospital, SMHS Hospital and the

Bypass near Shalteng and Parimpora have witnessed severe encroachments, hampering not only traffic but emergency services as well.

Syed appreciated the public support the initiative has garnered, "General Public and other stakeholders have welcomed our efforts. People now understand that public pathways and roads belong to everyone. Shopkeepers have a role in maintaining civic discipline and should avoid occupying space that affects public mobility."

He also cautioned that strict action will continue against repeat violators. "This drive will

not stop. Wherever encroachment occurs, our teams will reach and dismantle it. We are doing this for the collective well-being of Srinagar's citizens."

The SMC urges the business community, especially vendors and auto dealers, to cooperate with the administration and help create a more pedestrian- and commuter-friendly city. With a consistent anti-encroachment policy, backed by field enforcement and legal notices, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation aims to restore order on the city's roads and ensure public convenience takes priority.

RDD presents draft Rural Sanitation Policies before House Committee on Environment

HT News Network / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: The Rural Development Department today presented the draft sustainable sanitation and fecal sludge management policy for rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir before the House Committee on Environment.

The meeting, held at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar, was chaired by Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Assembly and Chairman of the House Committee on Environment, Abdul Rahim Rather, and co-chaired by the Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javed Ahmad Dar.

Chairman of the Environment Committee, M.Y. Taragami and Members of the Committee including MLA Anantnag, Peerzada Mohammad Sayeed; MLA Uri, Dr. Sajjad Shafi; MLA Sopore, Irshad Rasool Kar; MLA Chanapora, Mushtaq Guroo; MLA Devsar, Peerzada Firoz Ahmed; MLA Kokernag, Zafar Ali



Khatana; and MLA Gulab Garh, Khurshid Ahmed, attended the meeting.

Commissioner Secretary Rural Development Department, Babila Rakwal; Director General Rural Sanitation, J&K, Anu Malhotra; Secretary Assembly J&K, Manoj Kumar Pandit; Director Rural Development Department, Shabir Hussain Bhat; and other senior officers were also present in the meeting.

A detailed presentation on the contours of the draft policy was given to the Committee members, outlining the proposed operational framework, institutional arrangements, funding mechanisms and monitoring systems for rural sanitation. The policy aims to establish structured operations and maintenance systems, ensure safe containment and treatment of faecal sludge, and promote environmental sustainability in rural areas.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said, "Sanitation is a critical aspect of public health, and it is our responsibility to ensure that our rural areas have access to safe and hygienic sanitation facilities. I am confident that the policies we are developing will make a significant impact on the lives of our people."

The Speaker appreciated the RDD Minister for taking the initiative of holding a consultative process before formal notification of the policy. He observed that this approach would help incorporate key suggestions from stakeholders, making the policy more practical and better aligned with ground requirements.

The Chairman of the House Committee, while appreciating the draft policy, informed that the Committee would further deliberate upon it and finalize the suggestions to be incorporated before the policy is notified.

During the discussions, the members of the Committee suggested ensuring active community participation in implementing and monitoring the policy, starting sludge management and treatment plants on a pilot basis before scaling them up to all blocks in a phased manner, creating mass awareness on safe sanitation practices, strengthening village-level institutions for operations and maintenance, and ensuring convergence of schemes to secure adequate funding support for rural sanitation infrastructure.

DC Budgam reviews Power infrastructure and Renewable Energy progress

Also reviews KPDCCL operations, PM Surya Ghar Yojana & RDSS Implementation

HT News Network / DIPR

BUDGAM, JULY 29: In a bid to strengthen the power infrastructure and expedite renewable energy adoption in the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCCL) Budgam and allied departments.

The meeting was convened to deliberate on critical power sector initiatives and ongoing projects in Budgam, with a focus on improving energy access, grid efficiency, and solar energy implementation under the Government of India's flagship schemes.

Meeting discussed overall functioning and performance of KPDCCL in district Budgam, progress of solarization initiatives under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, including targets, achievements, and vendor performance.

The chair was apprised that as of July 25th, 2025 a total number of 10,420 applications have been received, and total 1,218 Vendors have been selected besides 211 SRT systems stand Installed by Vendors across district Budgam. It was further informed that total Subsidies approved are 183, total subsidy approvals under process are 17 in the district.

At the outset, Implementation status of Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) and Prime Minister's Development Programme (PMDP) in the district, assessment of capacity, load management, and augmentation plans for Receiving Stations and Grid Stations across Budgam were also reviewed.

Executive Engineer KPDCCL division Budgam delivered a detailed presentation covering each agenda point.

The presentation outlined current infrastructure capacities, ongoing augmentation works, technical gaps, and proposed



upgrades required to meet the growing power demand.

DC emphasized the urgent need to modernize the district's power infrastructure to reduce transmission losses and improve quality and reliability of power supply, particularly during peak demand.

He said, reliable electricity

supply is critical for socio-economic growth, "Our focus must remain on infrastructure strengthening, clean energy integration, and timely implementation of central schemes."

DC said, Budgam must emerge as a model for energy efficiency and solar adoption.

He also highlighted the sig-

nificance of solar energy in reducing dependency on conventional power sources, urging officials to fast-track household-level installations under PM Surya Ghar, while ensuring awareness and affordability for rural households.

DC directed all concerned departments to work in close coordination and monitor implementation timelines closely under RDSS and PMDP to achieve the desired impact. He assured full administrative support from district administration, and directed periodic monitoring to ensure efficient delivery of services and long-term sustainability of the power ecosystem in Budgam.

Besides, GMDC Budgam, CPO, Deputy CEO (JAKEDA) Kashmir, Executive Engineer, KPDCCL Division Budgam, along with all AEEs and AEs, Executive Engineer, STD-II Division Srinagar, Executive Engineer, Project Division Left KPDCCL, Assistant Executive Engineer, JAKEDA Budgam, District Nodal Officer, JAKEDA Budgam were present in the meeting.

Sheep Husbandry Kashmir organizes seminar on role of Para-Veterinary Professionals

HT News Network / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: The Sheep Husbandry Department, Kashmir, in collaboration with the All J&K Sheep and Wool Workers Association, today organized a day-long seminar at Lal Mandi, here, focusing on the vital role of Para-Veterinary professionals in the department.

The event was presided over by the Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperatives & Elections, Javed Ahmad Dar while MLA Sonawari, Hilal Akbar Lone and Principal Secretary Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar, graced the occasion as Guests of Honour.

During the seminar, the President of the Association highlighted the immense dedication of Para-Veterinary professionals, particularly their work in high-altitude and difficult terrains during harsh winters. He also projected several issues faced by the workforce, including a demand for additional remuneration for services rendered under challenging conditions.

Speaking on the occasion, Javed Dar lauded the commitment of Para-Veterinary employees and assured the gathering that their genuine demands would be examined and addressed on priority. He emphasized that livestock plays a pivotal role in



strengthening the rural economy and acknowledged the critical contribution of Para-Veterinary professionals in safeguarding the livestock wealth of farmers.

MLA Sonawari, Hilal Akbar Lone, also appreciated the dedication of the Para-Veterinary staff and underscored their role in ensuring effective service delivery at the grassroots level.

On the sidelines of the seminar, the Minister flagged off eight new

pickup vehicles to be deployed across districts of the Kashmir division to strengthen the department's field operations and improve service delivery to farmers.

The seminar also witnessed participation of Director Sheep Husbandry, Kashmir, Dr. Rafiq Ahmad Shah; Director Agriculture, Kashmir, Sh. Sartaj Ahmad Shah; Joint Director (Farms), Dr. Ajay Sudan; and other senior officers of the department along with para vet staff and officials.

DDC Reasi reviews status of PMGSY Projects

HT News Network / DIPR

REASI, JULY 29: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Reasi, Nidhi Malik chaired a comprehensive review meeting today to assess the progress of infrastructure projects taken up under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in different parts of the district. The meeting focused on the status of key road and bridge construction works, with particular attention to project delays and quality-related concerns.

The DDC took a detailed review of the road projects currently at different stages of execution. Officials attributed the delays primarily to land disputes and pending compensation payments. The DDC directed the concerned officers to take up these issues with higher authorities to expedite the release of funds for land compensation and ensure uninterrupted progress of the works.

The DDC sought an immediate inquiry and a detailed report from the Superintending Engineer (SE), PMGSY, into the quality of work on the Arnas-Chalad, Kanthan-Savalakote, and Mari-Dhakikote roads, as highlighted during the recent DISHA meeting. She emphasized that accountability will be fixed in cases of negligence or poor workmanship.

Addressing additional bottlenecks, DDC Nidhi Malik instructed PMGSY officials to urgently coordinate with the Forest Department to resolve clearance issues, particularly for the Barmankot-Bagodas road, which remains stalled due to pending forest clearances, as informed by the SE PMGSY.

Reiterating the importance of timely and high-quality execution, the DDC directed all executing agencies to prepare structured work plans to accelerate project progress. Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) were tasked with compiling comprehensive reports on all halted projects affected by land disputes and related constraints.

ADC Bhadarwah reviews arrangements for Kailash Yatra 2025

HT News Network / DIPR

BHADARWAH, JULY 29: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal chaired a review meeting today to assess and streamline preparations for the upcoming Kailash Yatra 2025.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Superintendent of Police, Divisional Forest Officer, BDO, Executive Officer

Municipal Committee, AEE Jal Shakti, AEE JPDCL and the representatives from Langer committees and religious trusts including President Kailash Sewa Sangh Trust, President Kumar Langer Ganthak, President Ramtund Chobia Langer, Hayan Rishi Dal, Anapurna Langer Rishi Dal, Ashapati Kailash Sewa Simiti and Vasuki Sewa Sangh Chubia.

The ADC emphasized the importance of cleanliness and

environmental sustainability during the yatra. He urged all stakeholders to keep the Langer sites and yatra routes free from plastic waste. Coordination between the Forest Department, BDO, Municipal Committee and Langer Committees was stressed to ensure timely collection and disposal of plastic waste before, during, and after the yatra.

Key directives were issued including the repair of water

supply schemes from Kailash Kund to Hayan, installation of water taps at campsites, tendering for firewood supply and repair works of damaged electric poles, wires and DG sets by JPDCL. The BDA was instructed to repair sheds and toilets at Kailash Kund and Hayan.

The BMO was asked to ensure the availability of two stationary medical teams and oxygen cylinders, along with a

mobile medical unit to accompany the yatra from the Kellar side. For security, ASP Bhadarwah will deploy a dedicated force at Kailash Kund and Hayan.

The ADC directed all concerned departments and stakeholders to ensure that the required arrangements are completed in all respects by 10th August 2025 to facilitate the smooth and successful conduct of the yatra.

CS for early operationalization of LG's Sainik Sahayta Kendras

Reviews modalities for its launch, effective functioning

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today chaired a high-level meeting to discuss the modalities for operationalizing the newly established Lieutenant Governor's Sainik Sahayta Kendra (SSK) in the Civil Secretariat at Jammu and Srinagar.

The Kendra, set up through a recent order issued by the General Administration Department (GAD), is envisioned as a dedicated grievance redressal and support platform for serving the soldiers associated with Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Home; Commissioner Secretary, GAD; Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir; Secretaries of Tribal Affairs Department

(TAD), Information Technology and Law and Deputy Commissioners either in person or virtually.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the proposal presented by the Administrative Secretary heading the Kendra. He emphasized the need for a robust and responsive system to cater to the needs of the soldiers.

To ensure smooth implementation and oversight, he directed for constitution of a Steering Committee headed by the Principal Secretary, Home Department. The Commissioner Secretary, GAD will serve as a member and the Secretary, TAD, as the Member Secretary, being the administrative head of the Kendra. The Home Department was designated as the Nodal Department for the Kendra, acting as the primary liaison between



civil and military establishments.

The Chief Secretary also directed for appointment of an Additional Secretary-level officer in the Home Department to exclusively handle the matters related

to the SSK.

Highlighting the importance of technology-driven grievance redressal, Dulloo instructed the concerned departments to develop a secure digital portal for registration, tracking and

feedback of grievances. He directed that the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) be onboarded for early development of the online portal. He set a deadline of

August 20 for launching the portal after conducting the necessary security audits and user trials.

The Chief Secretary stressed that the portal must provide real-time access to the applicants, their Commanding Officers and concerned authorities from respective states/UTs to monitor and update the status of grievances in a transparent and time-bound manner.

Principal Secretary, Home, Chandraker Bharti, underscored the need for holding awareness workshops to familiarize the stakeholders with the objectives and functioning of the Kendra. He also suggested that all States and Union Territories designate the senior nodal officers to facilitate smooth coordination and resolution of grievances of soldiers posted in or hailing from J&K.

Secretary, TAD, Prasanna Ramaswamy G, who is also the in-charge of the Sainik Sahayta Kendra, provided an overview of its establishment. He noted that the cell is tasked with addressing the domestic and service-related grievances of soldiers serving within J&K as well as those from J&K serving elsewhere in the country. He informed the meeting that the workflow for the Kendra's operations is being finalized and strict timelines will be set for grievance redressal.

As per the GAD order, senior JKAS officers and necessary support staff, including data entry operators, have already been posted for effective functioning of the Kendra. With the upcoming launch of the portal, he said, the SSK will begin serving its intended purpose in letter and spirit.

CS reviews 'SPREAD' initiative to boost sustainable tourism in emerging destinations

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed and discussed the operational roadmap for Sustainable Promotion and Revamping of Emerging Alternate Destinations (SPREAD) initiative, aimed at positioning Jammu & Kashmir as a year-round, eco-sensitive and economically vibrant tourism hub.

The meeting, held in this regard, was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department along with Principal Secretary PDD, Principal Secretary Finance, Principal Secretary PWD, Commissioner Secretary H&UDD, Commissioner Secretary Forests, Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce, Commissioner Secretary RDD, MD, JKTDC, Directors Tourism of Jammu and Kashmir besides other senior officers concerned.

The Chief Secretary emphasized the need to decongest the overburdened tourist destinations by developing the sustainable and lesser-explored alternatives, leveraging J&K's unique topography and cultural diversity. He stressed the importance of balancing the 3Es, Economy, Ecology and Equity, in all tourism development interventions.

Emphasizing the pivotal role of local communities, the Chief Secretary called for their active engagement in management and economic activities linked with tourism. He also underscored the need to create targeted incentives to attract private sector investment



in these emerging destinations.

The Chief Secretary also stressed the importance of establishing a robust institutional framework to achieve the initiative's objectives. These included sustainable development of circuits featuring leisure, adventure, religious and niche tourism components.

ACS Tourism, Dr. Ashish Chander Verma, revealed that the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance, will support the initiative, with the execution being routed through J&K ERA. He informed that dedicated Project Implementation Units (PIUs) will be institutionalized to implement infrastructure, waste management, ecological conservation and livelihood projects sustainably.

In her presentation the MD, JKTDC, Shreya Singhal elaborated that the SPREAD initiative envisions the holistic development of emerging tourist destinations in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions of J&K.

It was also revealed that a structured 10-point agenda focusing on formulating world-class master plans for each site, strengthening public infrastructure and resilient governance mechanisms, encouraging private sector investment and community participation would be ensured. Additionally, enhancing skill-building, strategic marketing and environment safeguards and establishing strong project monitoring and advisory mechanisms are going to be put in place under this government programme.

It was noted that the expansion of tourism into these areas would not only mitigate the seasonal overcrowding but also boost local economies by empowering the communities and generating employment.

The SPREAD initiative is poised to redefine J&K's tourism landscape by making it more inclusive, sustainable and aligned with global best practices in destination management and tourism promotion in the region.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Office Of The District Development Commissioner, Budgam

E-mail: budgamcpo@gmail.com, ddc-budgam@jk.gov.in

Advertisement Notice

(MISSION YUVA)-Yuva Udhayami Vikas Abhiyan -Build the Future of Entrepreneurship in J&K

District Administration, Budgam invites applications for contractual roles under the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU) and Business Help Desks (BHDs) initiative under Mission YUVA. The Contractual Positions include are given below:

S. No	Name of the Posts	Remuneration per month (Lump sum in Rs.
1.	SBDU Lead (01 post)	50,000.00
2.	SBDU Coordinator (02 posts)	35,000.00
3.	SBDU Financial Expert (01 post)	35,000.00
4.	SBDU Enterprise Development Expert (01 post)	35,000.00
5.	SBDU Marketing Expert (01 post)	35000.00
6.	BHD Lead (4 posts)	40,000.00
7	BHD Coordinator (8 posts)	35,000.00

Eligibility:

- 25-45 years as on the date of notification
- Domicile of Jammu & Kashmir
- Minimum 03 years graduate degree. The qualifying degree must be in one of the following discipline. Business Administration, Management, Commerce, Accounting, Finance, Economics. At least 60% or equivalent CGPA from a UGC-recognized university.

How to apply: Candidates can apply online through Mission YUVA Portal link(www.missionyuva.jk.gov.in or directly apply via this Mission YUVA form link https://forms.gle/19JcMJxKnbaWe83P6 this form Link:

Last date for submission of forms: One month from the date of issuance of this advertisement notice i.e 23-08-2025.

Detailed guidelines for selection process, evaluation, criteria and role description.https://drive.google.com/file/d/14CrlrmBT5htL2BkvyNlq7jRoLQeRqDIV/view

Yuva Sapne, Navi Ummedein- Mission YUVA

Issued by: District Administration Budgam

(Note: This is a public Service advertisement. No fee is required for the application process .

No: DDCB/YUVA/3702-17

Dated: 28/07/2025

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner, Budgam

DIPK: 4474/25 | Dated: 29-07-2025

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Office Of The District Development Commissioner, Budgam

budgamcpo@gmail.com , ddc-budgam@jk.gov.in

Advertisement Notice

Subject: Temporary Engagement of Chartered Accountant/Professional Expert for DPR Formulation under Mission YUVA for a period of three (3) months.

In pursuance to the Director Employment cum Mission Director YUVA J&K communication No- ED/ Plan/MissionYuva/243/1124-45 where in temporary arrangement for hiring CA or any professional expert for preparation of DPRs and Quotation Proforma under Mission YUVA was sought and in accordance with the decision taken in the meeting held on 29.07.2025 vide Minutes of meeting endorsement No. DDCB/YUVA/meeting/3786-93 dated: 29.07.2025, Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the temporary engagement of a Chartered Accountant (CA) or Professional Expert with experience in the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) under Mission YUVA for a period of three (03) months. The engagement is aimed to augment the capacity of the Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) and Business Help Desks (BHDs) in processing applications from aspiring entrepreneurs.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Educational Qualification: Chartered Accountant or P.G in Finance/ Management.
- Experience: Preferably three (03) years experience in DPR formulation, have experience of formation of 100 DPRs worth cumulative Rs. 20.00 crores and shall annex front/ first page of DPRs so framed.

Honorarium:

- ₹40,000 (Rupees Forty Thousand Only) per month

Terms of Reference (ToR):

- Ensure zero pendency in DPR/Quotation Proforma preparation for applications submitted to SBDUs.
- Complete at least 10 DPRs/Quotation Proformas per day to meet the processing targets.
- Prepare all documents in consultation with SBDU/BHD officials, training them simultaneously in DPR formulation.
- Ensure effective use of DPR Generator Manual, AI-based DPR tools, and Mission YUVA Portal for sustainable implementation.
- Build capacity of SBDU/BHD officials by familiarizing them with DPR tools and formats over the engagement period.

Selection Procedure:

The selection shall be made on the basis of qualification, experience, interview cum On-spot live demonstration of DPR/ Quotation Proforma preparation to be conducted during the selection process to assess practical expertise and suitability for assignment. A constituted selection committee vide Order No. 35 of 2025 dated: 28.07.2025 shall evaluate all eligible applicants.

How to Apply:

Interested candidates are required to mail/ submit their detailed resume/CV along with self-attested copies of qualifications and experience certificates in the Office of District Employment and Counselling Centre Budgam by or before 6th August 2025, (email: dccbudgam@gmail.com)

Note: The engagement shall be purely temporary in nature for a period of three (3) month and shall not confer any right for permanent absorption in the Government services.

No: DDC/BUD/MissionYUVA/25-26/3798-3804

Dated: 29/07/2025

Sd/-

Chief Planning Officer/
Chairman Selection Committee, Budgam

DIPK: 4443/25 | Dated: 29-07-2025

Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpora

Email.xenrandbzainapora@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM/ADDENDUM

It is notified for the information of all concerned that please read:

- Name of Item as: Providing of 01 light Vehicle i.e Toyota Innova/ Mahindra Scorpio / Bolero with Driver for official Purpose in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpora.

Instead of

Providing of 01 light Vehicle i.e Toyota Innova/ Mahindra Scorpio / Bolero excluding Driver for official Purpose in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpora

- Class of Contract as: Travel / Passenger Light Vehicle union / a registered light vehicle owner with passenger permit and valid Licensed Driver.

Instead of

Travel / Passenger Light Vehicle union / a registered light vehicle owner with passenger permit.

- Chapter-II (Condition 3) as: The Supplier has to quote rate on day basis in consonance with rates as in vogue in state motor garage only for the vehicle with driver.

Instead of

The Supplier has to quote rate on day basis in consonance with rates as in vogue in state motor garage for the vehicle only without driver.

- The bidder should Upload Valid Driving License of the driver besides other documents prerequisite for the bidding process. For the NIT No. 09/ZNP/RnB/e-tendering/2025-26 Dated: -24-07-2025.

No: R&B/ZNP/DIV/1600-04 | Dt: 28-07-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer
R&B Division Zainpora

DIPK: 4455/25 | Dated: 29-07-2025

DSEJ celebrates 5 years of NEP

Div Com hails inclusive, future-ready approach of National Education Policy-2020

HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, JULY 29: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar, addressed an event to commemorate five impactful years of the transformative National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 organised by the Directorate of School Education Jammu, in collaboration with SCERT J&K and Samagra Shiksha at Polytechnic Jammu.

The event witnessed participation from stakeholders from across the School Education Department of Jammu & Kashmir, including teachers, students, heads of institutions, educational administrators, and representatives from JKBOSE, JKSCERT, DIETs, Colleges of Education, and other allied institutions.

The Divisional Commissioner inaugurated the exhibition of innovative Teaching-Learning Ma-



terials (TLMs) developed by teachers and SCERT, showcasing the creativity and learner-centric approach promoted under NEP

2020. In his address, the Divisional Commissioner spoke on the transformative spirit of NEP 2020 and

its far-reaching impact on the education system. He highlighted the improvements NEP 2020 has brought over previous education policies, especially in terms of its learner-centric, inclusive, and future-ready approach. He emphasized the relevance of the policy in the context of Jammu & Kashmir and called attention to its focus on holistic development of school children, the integration of vocational education, promotion of mental health and emotional well-being, and inclusion of Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

The Divisional Commissioner urged the teaching fraternity to become agents of change, shaping the future of students by implementing NEP 2020 in its true spirit.

Director School Education Jammu Naseem Javed Choudhary presented an overview of the implementation of NEP 2020 in

the Union Territory. He also underscored the department's efforts in training teachers, revamping assessments, promoting multilingualism, and setting up school complexes for resource sharing and academic enrichment.

A special highlight of the event was the distribution of educational aid kits to Children with Special Needs (CWSN), who were specially invited guests, reflecting the Department's continued emphasis on equity and inclusion.

Joint Director, SCERT, Sindhu Kapoor, Director Academics JKBOSE, Dr. Sudhir Singh, Ajeet Sharma, Chief Education Officer Jammu, representatives from Government College of Education DIET Jammu, Samagra Shiksha, JKUT, along with students, ZEOs, HOIs, teacher educators, and officials from various wings of the School Education Department were present.

BADC Urges J&K Govt to Grant 30-Day Leave for Employees Caring for Elderly Parents

HT News Desk

Jammu, July 29: The Jammu and Kashmir Border Area Development Conference (JKBADC), a registered organisation working for the welfare of people living in border areas and tribal regions of the Union Territory, has appealed to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to introduce a clear and compassionate leave policy allowing government employees to avail up to 30 days of earned leave each year to take care of their elderly parents.

This appeal from JKBADC comes after Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh recently informed the Rajya Sabha that Central Government employees are entitled to use 30 days of earned leave annually for personal needs, including elder care, under the Central Civil Services (Leave) Rules, 1972.

Dr. Shazad Ahmed Malik, Chairman of JKBADC and former Vice Chancellor, stated that such a provision is especially important for employees serving in remote border and tribal belts of Jammu and Kashmir, where ageing parents often rely entirely on their children for daily care and emotional support.

He said, "If Central Government employees are



allowed to take leave to care for their elderly parents, then employees of the Jammu and Kashmir Government should also get the same opportunity. It is a simple but meaningful step that can ease the lives of many working families."

Dr. Shazad urged J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo (IAS) to issue clear, employee-friendly instructions to J&K General Administration Department so that this leave benefit can be availed without unnecessary delays or confusion.

The organisation also offered its support and Policy Advice including legal assistance to the government in drafting people-centric service rules that address the genuine needs of J & K government employees, especially those working in difficult areas near border and hilly area, who manage both professional duties and family responsibilities with limited resources.

Balwant Thakur visits Shakespeare's birthplace to link dogri with global theatre

HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, JULY 29: Balwant Thakur the eminent theatre Director and playwright of India today visited the birthplace of world's most sought after playwright and poet Shakespeare to have an in-depth study of his eventful life and amazingly striking creative works. During his day long visit, in addition to visiting Shakespeare's museum Balwant Thakur being a celebrated Indian theatre director also got the rare opportunity to interact with the resident actors of Shakespeare Birthplace Trust who performed select sequences from the popular plays of Shakespeare including a sequence from 'Romeo Juliet'.

William Shakespeare is widely regarded as the most famous and influential playwright in the English language and poet.

Shakespeare's Birthplace is a 15th-century timber-framed house on Henley Street in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, where William Shakespeare was born in 1564 and spent his childhood and the early years of his marriage. Now a museum, the house was significantly restored between 1857 and 1868 by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, returning its exterior to its 16th-century appearance. It was the home where William Shakespeare was born, grew up with his family, and later lived with his wife, Anne Hathaway, for the first five years of their marriage.

Balwant Thakur is currently on an extensive tour to England aimed at expanding the International theatre network of Natrang and widening his scope of creative work. His visit to Shakespeare's Birthplace at Stratford Upon Avon had a specific motive as he has all plans to adapt 'Romeo Juliet' into Dogri and merge it with the popular Dogri folk tale 'Kunju Chanchlo'. Balwant Thakur finds lots of similarities in both the legends. Both Romeo and Juliet and Kunju Chanchlo are fundamentally tragic love stories, both implicitly advocates for peace by showcasing the devastating consequences of hatred and conflict, particularly through the actions of characters like Romeo and Benvolio, Kunju and Chanchlo who, at times, seek to avoid or de-escalate violence. Interspersed with Dogri folk narrative music and Balwant Thakur's theatre of images, the proposed production will be a living example of using the theatrical arts and methodologies as a tool for conflict transformation, peacebuilding, and social change, engaging participants in dialogue, reflection, and action to address social issues and foster understanding and reconciliation. The resultant work later can travel to England as well.

JKEDI commences 3 fresh batches of Summer Internship Program for 133 UG students

HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, JULY 29: The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) on Tuesday inaugurated three fresh batches of Summer Internship Program (SIP), welcoming 133 undergraduate students at its Bari Brahmana campus. The initiative underscores JKEDI's commitment to fostering experiential learning and strengthening industry-academia linkages in line with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The participating students, enrolled in undergraduate programs at Government Sri Pratap Memorial Rajput (SPMR) College, Jammu, will undergo a 10-day internship designed to fulfill the NEP-mandated 60-hour experiential learning component.

The program is structured to enhance students' understanding of entrepreneurship, innovation, enterprise creation, and research. Interns will engage in interactive sessions led by seasoned professionals, participate in business simulations, and explore



real-world entrepreneurial challenges and solutions. Key focus areas of the internship include fundamentals of research methodology and literature review, Orientation on the J&K Start-up Policy 2024-27, preparation and

presentation of internship reports, awareness of various self-employment schemes operational in the Union Territory of J&K, career guidance on pursuing entrepreneurship as a viable option.

The program was inaugurated by Joint Director JKEDI Chand Kishore Sharma.

Meanwhile 38 students completed their summer internship program at JKEDI District Centre Jammu on July 28, 2025.

The participants will also gain insights into the organizational structure and functional verticals of JKEDI, with hands-on exposure to its various programs and initiatives.

By bridging classroom knowledge with practical application, this initiative aims to cultivate critical thinking, problem-solving capabilities, and an entrepreneurial mindset among the students. It aligns with JKEDI's broader vision of nurturing future-ready talent and contributing meaningfully to the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir and beyond.

KVK Ramban starts 15 day certificate course on INM for Krishi Udhymis

HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN, JULY 29: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Ramban and SKUAST Jammu today started a 15 day certificate course (training) on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) for Krishi Udhymis of district Ramban at Dhalwas.

The programme was conducted under the guidance of Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu Dr B.N. Tripathi and organized by Senior Scientist & Incharge, KVK Ramban Dr Raj Kumar under the supervision of Dr Amrith Vaid, Director Extension SKUAST Jammu.

Chief Agricultural Officer Dr Vinay Kumar Jandial, DAO Kuldeep Raj Bassan, and District SMS Ram-

ban Jyoti Parkash Sharma, were also present at the inaugural function of the programme. Trainees/Krishi Udhymis from different Blocks of district Ramban enrolled for the certificate course joined this training programme.

The programme started with a welcome address by Senior Scientist & Incharge, KVK Ramban and briefed the participants about the content and outline of the 15 days programme schedule and highlighted the importance of the programme for the aspiring fertilizer dealers. He added that the organization of the 15 day INM course in the Ramban district will benefit not only the input dealers but also the farmers of the Ramban district.



On the first day of the programme, Dr Raj Kumar delivered a lecture on essential plant nutrients and their role and proper nutrient management to increase

production and productivity of crops. He laid emphasis on use of balanced nutrient management by using recommended doses of fertilizers for different crops. Be-

sides he deliberated and demonstrated the various components of Natural Farming.

The CAO threw light on the handling, stocking and transportation of fertilizers. He laid emphasis on use of balanced nutrient management by using recommended doses of fertilizers for different crops. The DAO deliberated upon the current scenario of fertilizer use in district Ramban. He also laid emphasis on the role of Krishi Udhymis. The DL SMS briefed the participants about the nutrient content of different manures and fertilizers. Various queries of the participants were also answered by the organizer. Technical session ended with the vote of thanks.

DC Doda flags off Doda-Chamba JKRTC Bus Service

'Move aimed to boost regional connectivity, tourism, pilgrimage'

HT News Desk / DIPR

DODA, JULY 29: In a significant step towards improving regional connectivity and promoting tourism, Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh today flagged off the much-awaited JKRTC bus service from Doda to Chamba (Himachal Pradesh), via Bhandarwah.

The flag-off ceremony took place here at the DC Office Complex in the presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner Anil Kumar Thakur, Chief Planning Officer Manesh Kumar Manhas and DySP Traffic Sarabjeet Singh.

The service is expected to benefit commuters, tourists, students, pilgrims, and traders by providing safe, reliable, and affordable public transport between Jammu & Kashmir and Hi-



machal Pradesh.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted that the launch of this inter-state bus service fulfills a long-standing demand of the public and will significantly ease travel between Doda and Chamba. He said the initiative would especially benefit devotees traveling to the holy shrine of Mindhal Chandi Mata in Himachal Pradesh by providing them

a safe, reliable, and affordable mode of transport.

The DC further announced that a return bus service from Chamba to Doda will also be started soon to ensure smooth two-way connectivity. He emphasized that such transport initiatives not only improve public convenience but also contribute to economic growth by boosting religious tourism, trade, and people-to-people connections between the two states.

The launch of this JKRTC bus service is part of the district administration's broader efforts to improve transport infrastructure and provide better facilities to the residents of remote areas. The initiative reflects the commitment of the administration towards responsive governance and regional development.

Five-day NEP Utsav-2025 commences at GGHSS Samba

HT News Desk / DIPR

SAMBA, JULY 29: The five-day NEP Utsav 2025 commenced with a grand inaugural ceremony here at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Samba, commemorating the 5th Anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The event was organized by the Chief Education Officer with a special emphasis on inclusion and empowerment of Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

The event was graced by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma as the Chief Guest, who formally inaugurated the NEP Utsav. He was accompanied by Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Ajay Bharti, Chief Education Officer Samba Kewal Krishan, Principal GGHS Samba Smt. Bhavana Abrol and Sh. Deepak Thakur from

Bharti Airtel Foundation.

In his keynote address, DC Rajesh Sharma highlighted the revolutionary vision of NEP 2020 in transforming Indian education and stressed the importance of inclusivity, equity, and accessibility in education. He lauded the efforts of the education department in ensuring that CWSN students are not left behind in the journey toward educational excellence.

A special feature of the inaugural day was a distribution camp for CWSN students, where aids and appliances recommended for them were distributed by DC Rajesh Sharma along with CEO Kewal Krishan, enabling them to access learning with greater ease and confidence. The camp witnessed active participation from children, parents, and educators, reinforcing the commitment of the administration toward



inclusive education.

The NEP Utsav 2025 will continue till August 2, 2025, with various educational, cultural, and capacity-building activities lined up, focusing on holistic development, inclusion, and future-ready learning in line with NEP 2020.

DC Srinagar reviews progress of projects under Scheme for Revival, Restoration, Preservation of Heritage/ Assets

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: A meeting of District Level Coordination-cum-Implementation Committee (DLIC) on development, restoration and preservation of heritage assets in the district was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo here on Tuesday at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex.

The meeting discussed threadbare the action plan prepared for carrying out the restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of Architecture

and Heritage of Religious Places/ Heritage Sites in Srinagar in the financial year 2025-26.

Among other, Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Rifat Aftab Qureshi; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed; Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; Superintending Engineer R&B, Shabir Ahmad; Executive Engineer of R&B, Dy CEO, Officers from Archives, Culture and other departments attended the meeting.

At the outset, DC was given a detailed overview about the DPRs regarding the all the iden-



tified religious places/ heritage sites under "Scheme for Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage in Jammu and Kashmir".

On the occasion, DC reviewed the efforts aimed at the restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of various architectural and heritage sites in Srinagar district.

He highlighted the significant cultural value of Srinagar's architectural heritage, underscoring the critical need to preserve these historical assets as symbols of the district's identity and legacy.

DC emphasized that the projects to be undertaken for development are vital for preserving the district's heritage value, promoting tourism, and enhancing livelihood opportunities. He instructed officials to expedite the submission of remaining Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the pending projects for approval of the government.

He also instructed the concerned officials to expedite the work on the projects, approval for which has already been received during the last financial year.

DC Budgam inaugurates Inclusive Education Distribution Camp at HSS Soibugh 100+ CWSN Get Aids Under Samagra Shiksha

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, JULY 29: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today inaugurated a distribution camp for Children with Special Needs (CWSN) under the Inclusive Education component of Samagra Shiksha at Higher Secondary School Soibugh.

The event was organised by district administration in collaboration with the Education department Budgam.

More than 100 CWSN beneficiaries were provided with customized aids and appliances to support their educational journey. These included wheelchairs, CP (Cerebral Palsy) chairs, collators, hearing aids, smart sticks, braille kits, teaching-learning material (TLM) kits.

Besides, Joint Director Education, Kashmir; CEO Budgam and other senior officers from the Education and Social Welfare department were also present on the occasion.

Speaking at the event, DC emphasised that inclusive education is not only a constitutional mandate but a moral responsibility. He said this initiative is a message of empowerment, dignity, and opportunity.

He said every child, regardless of their physical or cognitive challenges, deserves the right to quality education, adding "District administration will ensure that no child in Budgam is left behind."

Dr Bilal highlighted the government's focused efforts under Samagra Shiksha to provide inclusive support to marginalized groups, especially children with special needs.

He urged parents, teachers, and com-



munity leaders to actively contribute towards building a learning environment rooted in empathy, equity, and accessibility.

DC called for sustained collaboration among institutions, families, and civil society to promote inclusive education in both letter and spirit.

He said, "We must work hand-in-hand to ensure that children with special needs are not only enrolled but fully engaged and empowered throughout their educational journey."

Dr Bilal said this distribution camp is aimed at facilitating mobility, sensory support, communication, and learning enhancement for specially-abled children, ensuring their effective participation in regular schooling.

The event also witnessed enthusiastic participation from school staff, parents, and resource persons.

DC Srinagar reviews progress of PM Surya Ghar- Muft Bijli Yojana; Model Solar Village Scheme

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo (Chairman Monitoring and Management Committee PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana) today chaired a meeting here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to discuss the plan for Model Solar Village in the district.

The meeting discussed threadbare the plan related to the selection

of one Model Solar Village in Srinagar district, a component of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY) which focuses on establishing Model Solar Village in the district and raising awareness about the scheme aimed at installing rooftop solar plants.

Speaking on the occasion, DC said that the initiative is aimed at promoting sustainable energy solutions by establishing Model Solar Villages that will serve as a bench-

mark for harnessing solar energy to meet local electricity needs.

During the meeting, DC also took a firsthand appraisal of the progress made in installation of Solar Rooftops under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in all four Electric Divisions of the district.

He urged KPDCL Engineers to work in mission mode and make coordinated efforts to accelerate the pace and progress in the scheme implementation to achieve set tar-

gets in time bound manner.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar; Additional Deputy Commissioner; Chief Executive Officer, JAKEDA; Chief Planning Officer, Executive Engineers of KPDCL, Lead District Manager (Banks), Executive Engineers, Executive Engineer JAKEDA and other Officers of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL).

Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyan: Cultural Unit Sgr-DIPR organizes awareness programme on drug abuse at GBHSS Zadibal

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyan, Cultural Unit Srinagar of the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), in collaboration with Govt. Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS) Zadibal, organized an awareness programme focused on the perils of drug addiction.

The highlight of the event was a thought-provoking short play performed by a group of local artists, who dramatically showcased the devastating impact of substance abuse on youth and society.

The performance received an overwhelming response, with students deeply moved and inspired, many expressing eagerness for more such meaningful engagements.



Ishrat, Principal of the institution, emphasized the need for collective community efforts in guiding the younger generation.

Burhan Hussain, Cultural Officer Srinagar, delivered an insightful address, highlighting the transformative power of theatre and cultural expression in raising awareness and shaping public attitudes.

TLSC Sumbal organizes awareness programme on 'Drug Abuse & Legal Framework'

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, JULY 29: Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Sumbal, under the aegis of District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Bandipora, today organized an awareness programme on 'Drug Abuse and Legal Framework' at Government Higher Secondary School, Naidkhai.

The programme was conducted under the supervision of Khalil Ahmad Choudhary, Chairman, DLSA (Pr. District & Sessions Judge) Bandipora, and the joint guidance of the Secretary, DLSA Bandipora, and the Chairperson, TLSC Sumbal.

The event witnessed active participation from staff members, students of the host institution, and Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of TLSC Sumbal.

Eminent speakers including Panel Lawyer, Lecturer, Teacher, and selected students of the school delivered insightful lectures on the multifaceted issue of drug abuse and the legal mechanisms in place to combat the same.

Speakers collectively emphasized that drug abuse has emerged as a global menace, with the youth being the most vulnerable segment of society. It was articulated that drug addiction erodes cognitive abilities, deprives individuals of the joy of life, and renders them socially and psychologically incapacitated. The condition of a drug addict was metaphorically described as that of a 'living corpse' - caught between life and death.

Speakers urged that all responsible citizens, including religious scholars, community leaders, and educators, must come forward to combat this social evil. They stressed that drug addicts should not be stigmatized or treated as societal outcasts; rather, they should be approached with empathy and supported through structured rehabilitation efforts.

It was further highlighted that cases involving drug addicts should be dealt with in a humane and reformative manner. Legal aid must be extended to them under the mandate of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, to ensure their access to justice and rehabilitation facilities.

The programme concluded with a collective resolve to raise continued awareness, discourage drug abuse in all its forms, and support those affected through legal and social means.

Awareness, screening & medical education activities held to observe 'World Hepatitis Day' at D.H Budgam

Week-long campaign culminates in CME session, mass screening for early detection & prevention

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, JULY 28: In observance of 'World Hepatitis Day,' a comprehensive awareness and screening programme was organized today at District Hospital Budgam, focusing on the theme of hepatitis prevention, early diagnosis, and access to treatment.

The initiative aimed to enhance community awareness and promote proactive health-seeking behavior around hepatitis and its long-term impacts.

A Continuing Medical Education (CME) session was jointly conducted by the Department of Medicine, featuring expert participation from

Dr. Irshad Ahmad (Gastroenterologist) and Dr. Mehmood Qadri, with insightful presentations by Dr. Kunal and Dr. Tauseef Balroo. The session focused on key clinical and public health aspects of hepatitis, including its modes of transmission, preventive strategies, diagnosis, and clinical management.

The CME witnessed active participation from hospital staff, paramedical professionals, and medical students, reflecting District Hospital Budgam's strong commitment to advancing public health education and training.

In parallel, a mass screening campaign was held at the Central Laboratory, where samples were



collected for hepatitis testing. Patients visiting the hospital were

also sensitized about the significance of World Hepatitis Day, the dangers of untreated hepatitis, and the critical importance of early diagnosis, vaccination, and timely treatment.

The day's activities marked the culmination of a week-long campaign carried out across various service points within the hospital. These efforts contributed to increased hepatitis screening coverage and public education in the district.

The event underscored the importance of collective medical action, education, and preventive healthcare in the fight against hepatitis, in line with national and global health goals.

Anantnag celebrates 5 years of National Education Policy

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

ANANTNAG, JULY 29: To mark the 5th anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Chief Education Officer Anantnag today organised a distribution camp of aids and appliances for specially-abled children & awareness programme under the Inclusive Education component of Samagra Shiksha, J&K.

The event was held at Government Higher Secondary School (Boys), Bijbehara, and witnessed participation from students, teachers, officials, children from educational zones Bijbehara & Sirigufwara, besides civil society members.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Education Officer (CEO) Anantnag highlighted the significance of the NEP 2020 in ensuring equitable and inclusive education for all learners, especially children with special needs. He stated that the policy is being implemented in letter and spirit across all schools in the district to promote holistic development and equal opportunities for students from all backgrounds.

"NEP 2020 lays strong emphasis on inclusive and accessible education, and we are committed to reaching every child, including the specially-abled, with quality learning facilities," CEO said.

District Education Planning Officer (DEPO) Anantnag, in his address, elab-

orated on the key provisions of NEP and the steps taken for its effective implementation in the district. He emphasized the transformative nature of the policy and its potential to reshape the education landscape of Jammu & Kashmir.

Likewise Padma Shree Javid Tak spoke about the problems of the specially-abled and the provisions in NEP for them. The event concluded with the distribution of mobility aids, learning tools, and assistive devices among 61 Children including Wheelchairs, Crutches, Hearing Aids, Tricycles, Braille Kits, Smart Phones etc. to several specially-abled children, enabling them to better participate in academic and co-curricular activities.

DLSA Srinagar holds awareness programme on drug abuse, bullying & teasing

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, JULY 29: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar, 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 organised an awareness programme at Boys Higher Secondary School.

The awareness programme, organized in collaboration with the School Education department, aimed to sensitize students about the harmful effects of drug abuse and the rising concern of bullying and teasing among school-going youth.

Students, faculty members, and legal experts ensured their participation in the programme. The program aimed

to equip students with knowledge about the psychological, social, and legal consequences of substance abuse and bullying behaviors.

Speaking on the occasion, Zeenat Nazir (Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel) emphasized the importance of early intervention and peer support in curbing addiction and promoting a safe and respectful school environment.

She also interacted with students and elaborated on the legal provisions under the NDPS Act related to drug abuse.

Adv Syed Shabana Kounser (Panel Lawyer) highlighted the availability of free legal aid services for students and laws pertaining to harassment, bullying and juvenile justice. Real life examples, case studies, and open discussions encouraged active student engagement and awareness.



Gautam Gambhir All fast bowlers, including Bumrah, are fit for Oval Test

■ Sidharth Monga

NEW DELHI: India coach Gautam Gambhir has confirmed India have a whole quota of fit fast bowlers to select from for The Oval Test, which they need to win to level the series. Equally significantly, Gambhir didn't rule out the possibility of Jasprit Bumrah playing a fourth Test after he had said he was good to play only three in the lead-up to the series.

Bumrah, whose pace was down at Old Trafford, which could also have to do with a soft outfield and loose foot holes, has had time to put his feet up since before lunch on day four of this Test. The fifth and final Test begins on Thursday.

India came into the third Test crippled with injuries to Arshdeep Singh (bowling hand) and Akash Deep (groin), and general fatigue for Mohammed Siraj. They had to call in reinforcements from India in Anshul Kamboj, who played ahead of Prasad Krishna.

"All the fast bowlers are fit," Gamb-

hir said after India's 143-over batting effort to secure a draw at Old Trafford and stay alive in the series. "There are no injury concerns."

That also includes Bumrah, but his case is different. He is not playing only three Tests because of any injury, but instead for workload management purposes so that he prevents further injuries after his stress reaction earlier in the year. That stress reaction had kept him out for five months. Gambhir was asked if that workload prescription was still set in stone with a series still on the line.

"We haven't had any conversation around the combination for the last Test," Gambhir replied. "No decision has been made on whether Jasprit Bumrah will play or not. Ultimately, whoever plays, they will try and do the job for the country."

Gambhir said this India team was an inexperienced side and the results needed to be seen in that light. But he also said that reason doesn't change the scoreline of the series. He also didn't

want to get carried away with the achievement of drawing at Old Trafford.

"You are asking someone who only believes in results," Gambhir said. "I've said that in the past as well, that I believe in results. We are still 2-1 down in the series. This is the Indian team. Yes there is inexperience but this is still the best Indian team right now. So for me, I think we are still down 2-1. And hopefully we can try and make it 2-2. That's going to be a good achievement."

"When you are put under pressure, and you end up batting five sessions, I think that's great character. Anything that you do in these conditions, when you are put under pressure and you come out of those pressure moments, it is always a great feeling, and it just ends up giving a lot of confidence in the dressing room as well."

"And I'm sure going into The Oval, we will be high on confidence, but we can't take anything for granted. I think it's going to be a new game, it's going to be against a strong England side, and we absolutely will be up for it."

B'la lifts U-17 Boys title in a thrilling IDPL Kabaddi final at Pulwama

HT News Desk / DIPT

BARAMULLA, JULY 29: Baramulla continues its dominance in the inter district provincial level Kabaddi competitions as the Under-17 Boys team emerged victorious against a strong Budgam side, winning the grand finale by a close margin of 4 points in Pulwama.

This remarkable victory comes right after Baramulla's Under-14 Boys team also lifted the championship trophy, making it a double triumph for the district in this prestigious event organized by the Youth Services and Sports department, J&K.

DYSSO Baramulla expressed immense pride on the achievements of the young athletes and extended heartfelt congratulations to all the participating players. Special appreciation was also given to the dedicated field staff, whose tireless efforts in training and mentoring the players have borne fruit on the provincial stage.

"It's the relentless hard work, discipline, and commitment of our field staff that has shaped our teams into champions. Baramulla stands tall today, and we are confident that our Under-19 boys will continue this winning streak and bring further glory to the district," remarked DYSSO Baramulla.

The victories reflect the growing sports culture and talent development initiatives in the district under the guidance and supervision of the Youth Services and Sports department.



Bayern agree deal worth £65.5m with Liverpool for Diaz

HT News Network

LONDON: Luis Diaz is set to join Bayern Munich after the German champions agreed a deal worth 75m euros (£65.5m) including add-ons with Liverpool.

Liverpool rejected an initial bid of £58.6m from Bayern for the Colombia forward earlier this month.

Diaz, 28, was left out of Liverpool's squad for Saturday's 4-2 pre-season friendly defeat by AC Milan in Hong Kong because of speculation surrounding his future.

He has been given permission by Liverpool to fly to Europe from Asia to complete a medical in the coming days. Bayern won their 34th Bundesliga title last season and scored a league-high 99 goals, but only made it to the last 16 of the German Cup and exited the Champions League in the quarter-finals.

Liverpool have signed forwards Florian Wirtz and Hugo Ekitike already this summer and are interested in Newcastle United's Alexander Isak.

Diaz arrived at Anfield from Porto in a deal worth an initial £37m in January 2022 and has scored 41 goals in 148 appearances, including 13 as the Reds won the Premier League title last season, according to a BBC news/ His 17 goals in all competitions in 2024-25 was the most prolific season of his career.

Bayern won their 34th Bundesliga title last season and scored a league-high 99 goals, but only made it to the last 16 of the German Cup and exited the Champions League in the quarter-finals. Diaz will provide an attacking option for the Bavarian side, who will be without forward Jamal Musiala for a "long period" after he suffered a broken leg and dislocated ankle at the Club World Cup.

WELCOME YATRIES AND TOURISTS TO J&K TRAFFIC POLICE JAMMU ZONE AT YOUR SERVICE 24X7

RANGE TRAFFIC HQ JAMMU

0191-2467338 70063 17443
digtfjcjmu@jkpolice.gov.in 72987 27146

TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT JAMMU - RURAL FOR ENQUIRY/ASSISTANCE /COMPLAINTS KATHUA - SAMBA 88990 41447 RAJOURI-POONCH 94193 24490 spritirajmu@jkpolice.gov.in	TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT JAMMU FOR ENQUIRY/ASSISTANCE /COMPLAINTS 0191-2459048 94191 47732 HELP LINE 103 tcujammu01@gmail.com	TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT NHW - RAMBAN FOR ENQUIRY/ASSISTANCE /COMPLAINTS 94199 93745 (RBN) 99060 23617 (RBN) 84919 28625 (RBN) HELP LINE 1800 180 7043 spsitcjhnu@jkpolice.gov.in
--	--	---

HELP US TO SERVE YOU BETTER | TRAFFIC POLICE JAMMU ZONE

Space Devoted in Public Interest by HEADLINES TODAY

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS

ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL **Printing** NEEDS

NEWSPAPER | BOOKS | FLYERS
LOGO | FLEX | MAGAZINES
VISITING CARDS | BROCHURES
3D BOARDS | COVER PAGES
WEDDING CARDS | CALLIGRAPHY
WALL PAINTINGS

999038812
9419008414
01942496287

Gund Hassi Bhat, Radio Colony, Lawaypora, Srinagar