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NEP is PM Modi's Gift To Our Future Generations: LG Manoj Sinha

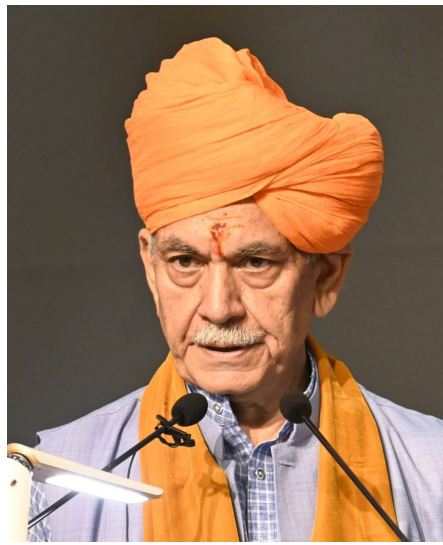
Says true knowledge is transformative, it changes life of seeker

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUG 04: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that the National Education Policy is PM Modi's gift to younger generation and it has empowered them.

Addressing the Medhavi Chhatra Samman Samaroh organized by Amar Ujala Group at Convention Centre Jammu here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has gifted to the nation's education system, which has empowered the younger generation and is set to change their destinies."

He said that the NEP lays emphasis on value-based education, and it has ensured that the young students not only gain knowledge but also develop a moral and ethical foundation to become responsible citizens. "True Knowledge is transformative. It changes the life of the seeker. It fosters new innovations, discoveries, and research while instilling core values like integrity,



patience, and honesty. The true Knowledge allows an individual to contribute meaningfully to society and the nation," LG Sinha said, adding, "We must understand that the right education triggers curiosity and

creative thinking and inspires students to explore the unknown."

"It should be our prime responsibility to nurture future-oriented talent and create a conducive environment where the students acquire knowledge and education in their truest forms," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor felicitated the meritorious students of class 10th and 12th from JKBOSE. He congratulated and extended his best wishes to all the students.

"It is inspiring to see the soaring spirit of our young generation and equally firm resolve for nation building. The adventurous pursuit of our students will ensure a bright future for the nation and humanity," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the educational institutions and teaching community to focus on the overall development of the youth, impart life values, encourage new ideas, promote creativity and independent thinking among the students while ensuring they have access

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Farmer welfare is the top priority of Hon'ble PM Modi: LG Sinha

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUG 04: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed the 9th Convocation ceremony of SKUAST-Jammu.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor congratulated all the graduating students. He also extended his felicitations to the management, faculty, and staff on the completion of 25 glorious years of the University.

The Lieutenant Governor lauded the significant contribution of Nari Shakti to innovation and enhancing productivity and efficiency in the agriculture sector.

He said, in areas like climate smart crops, pest management, biotech solutions, organic farming, the participation of women scientists has made invaluable contribution.

"Agriculture and Allied Sector is witnessing women-led development. I am extremely proud that out of 8 gold medalists in post-graduate and graduate students, 7 are our daughters. Out of 35 Certificates of Merit in PhD and Post-Graduate, 32 Merit Certificates were awarded to our daughters. It is a symbol of the rising influence of Nari Shakti in Agriculture and allied sectors and I believe they will be driving innovation for sustainable agriculture and enhancing farmers' income," the Lieutenant Governor said.

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CM Omar Backs Organic, Climate-Resilient Farming

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUG 4: Underscoring the critical role of agriculture in shaping the economic future of J&K, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who is also the Pro-Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu, today addressed the 9th Convocation of the University at Baba Jitto Auditorium, Chatha. Congratulating the graduating scholars, the Chief Minister said that agriculture and allied sectors are "fields of promise as well as of responsibility" and acknowledged their growing complexity in the face of climate change, resource depletion and emerging global standards.

He observed that fragmented land holdings, depleting water resources and the unchecked use of chemical-based

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Govt releases ₹33.34 lakh for Karkhandar Scheme in Kashmir Division

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, today announced release of ₹33.34 lakh for the implementation of its Karkhandar Scheme across the Kashmir Division.

This significant financial allocation, disbursed to the respective Assistant Directors of Handicrafts and Handloom, underscores the Government's commitment to preserving and promoting the rich artisanal heritage of the region while ensuring the welfare and economic upliftment of craftsmen.

The Karkhandar Scheme, notified in 2021, is a landmark initiative designed to revive languishing crafts like pottery and foster sustainable development of the craft sector in UT of J&K. Implemented by the Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom, the scheme aims to empower artisans, enhance skill development, and boost the livelihoods of craftsmen through structured interventions.

Highlighting its role in revival of languishing crafts, a spokesman of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, stated that the Karkhandar Scheme focuses on preserving traditional crafts such as walnut wood carving, silver filigree, carpet weaving, Kani shawl weaving, Khatamband, papier-mâché, and others like Sozni, tapestry, and engraved copperware, which face a shortage of skilled

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CM Reviews Tawi Riverfront Project in Jammu

CM Hails Tawi Project as Key Boost to Jammu's Urban Growth

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUG 4: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today conducted an extensive inspection of the Tawi Riverfront Development Project, a flagship initiative under Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL). The project aims to revitalise the banks of the Tawi River by integrating flood protection with recreational and commercial infrastructure to create a dynamic urban space.

The inspection was also attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani and Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, IT, S&T and Transport, Satish Sharma.

Commissioner JMC and CEO JSCL,

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CM Omar Inaugurates Agri Projects in Jammu

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUG 4: "Gradual and lasting transformation will come through inclusive and balanced regional development," Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said as he inaugurated critical agricultural infrastructure projects at Talab Tillo and Narwal Fruit Mandi today.

Stressing the need to bolster trade, tourism and manufacturing alongside agriculture, he underlined that such

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'TERROR-RELATED DEATHS DROP IN J&K SINCE ARTICLE 370 ABROGATION'

HT News Desk / KINS

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: Six years after Article 370 was revoked and Jammu and Kashmir was reorganized into two Union Territories, government data shows a significant drop in

terror-related deaths across the region.

However, officials caution that while local militancy has declined, foreign threats continue to pose challenges.

According to figures from the

Jammu and Kashmir Police, 1,230 people died in terror-related incidents between August 5, 2019 (when Articles 370 and 35A were scrapped), and August 4, 2025. This is a 33% drop compared to the six years

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After Pahalgam attack, India won't relent on terror: Army Chief

HT News Desk / KNO

CHENNAI, AUG 04: Describing Operation Sindoor as a major shift in India's counter-terror strategy following the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, Army Chief General Uppendra Dwivedi on Monday said the 88-hour-long tri-ser-

vices operation compelled Pakistan to seek a ceasefire.

The Army Chief was speaking during the inauguration of 'Agnishodh', a new Indian Army Research Cell at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras. The facility has been established as part of a broader effort to integrate academic research

with operational needs and support the Indian Army's transformation agenda.

General Dwivedi said the Indian Armed Forces are preparing for fifth-generation warfare marked by non-contact operations and strategic psychological pressure. He said

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Ensure peaceful conduct of upcoming events: DGP

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: Director General of Police (DGP) Jammu and Kashmir, Nalin Prabhat (IPS), chaired a comprehensive security review meeting Monday at the conference hall of Police Control Room (PCR) Kashmir, in view of Independence Day 2025 and other forthcoming events.

The meeting was attended by senior officers including Special DG Coordination J&K S.J.M. Gillani, ADG CRPF

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CS Inspects Jammu Hospitals, Reviews Services & Projects

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUG 4: In a move to assess and strengthen the healthcare delivery system in Jammu, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today conducted an extensive tour of the city's major government-run medical institutions.

Those who accompanied the Chief Secretary included the Principals of concerned Medical Colleges, Medical Superintendents, Faculty Members,

Chief Engineer (PWD) and others.

The visit aimed to take stock of the patient care facilities being provided in these premier medical facilities besides taking on spot assessment of the status of critical infrastructure projects currently underway to upgrade healthcare services in the region.

The Chief Secretary commenced his visit from the Government Medical College (GMC), Bakshi Nagar, where

he inspected the newly constructed 100-bedded Critical Care Block, a vital addition to the hospital's capacity to handle high-dependency patients.

He also reviewed the progress on the site of the Department of Interventional Pulmonology and High-End Laboratory (DIPHL), which is envisioned to further enhance the specialized care services at the institution.

Afterwards, the Chief Secretary visited the adjoining Bone & Joint Hos-

pital and later the Shri Maharaja Gulab Singh (SMGS) Hospital at Shalamar, Jammu.

At SMGS, he undertook a detailed inspection of the under-construction 243-bedded Gynaecological Block, being developed at a cost of Rs 31.59 crore.

The Chief Secretary was apprised that the new block is poised to significantly strengthen the hospital's maternal and neonatal care

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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@jkk 0005010100009519

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

Advt - Comp...

CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

NEP PM Modi's....

to global standards of education. "I firmly believe that the right balance of science and sanskar will provide students with the ability to face the challenges of the future. To fully exploit the potential of India's growing economic power, school education must focus on developing scientific temper and curiosity among students," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He urged the Amar Ujala Group to dedicate a special award to recognize and honour students for unique innovations and research. The unique ideas, original and distinct essays and research papers of the students which reflect their individual personality and critical thinking should be honoured and celebrated, he added.

The Lieutenant Governor also called upon the youth to find their inner voice and achieve excellence in life.

"You are the future of this nation and the engine of its growth. The responsibility for steering India towards a Viksit Bharat lies on your shoulders," he further said.

Advisor, Amar Ujala Group, Uday Sinha; Executive Editor, Amar Ujala Group, Dr. Indu Shekhar Panchoi, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, Dr KS Chandrasekar; Principal Secretary, School Education, RN Sharma; Editors and members of Amar Ujala Group; teachers, students and their parents were present.

Farmer welfare.....

At the convocation ceremony, the Lieutenant Governor spoke on the need for a stronger innovation and modern technology ecosystem for sustainable agricultural practices to prioritize farmer incomes, risk mitigation and strengthening farmer-industry linkages.

"Farmer welfare is the top priority of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

The positive impact of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project in J&K (JKCIP) on farmers' income is now visible.

Total transformation at all stages of Beej se Bazar tak- from Seed to Market has been our Mantra in J&K. The resolution of Lab to Land has been realised to make the small and marginal farmers self-reliant," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the new generation of scientists and experts to focus on smart farming.

He said the revolution in seed production, pest management, food processing, farm mechanization has ensured opportunities for the young professional to contribute in product development and quality control.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor inaugurated a state-of-the-art Ex-Situ Gene Bank. SKUAST Jammu has become the 3rd institution in the country to have Ex-Situ Gene Bank. This facility will preserve genetic resources such as seeds, plant tissue, animal germplasm outside their natural habitat and will prove to be an invaluable resource for breeding and research programmes.

The Lieutenant Governor also laid the Foundation stone for 200-bedded Farmers' Hostel and a Faculty Building with common academic facilities.

During the convocation, 446 degrees were awarded including 157 Masters, 46 Doctorates, and 243 Undergraduate degrees. Eight Gold Medals were also conferred to meritorious students.

Chief Minister, Shri Omar Abdullah; Minister for Agriculture Production, Shri Javid Ahmed Dar; Chief Secretary, Shri Atal Dulloo; Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production, Shri Shailendra Kumar; Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu; members of Board of Management and University Council, faculty members and students were present.

Members of Legislative Assembly and Vice Chancellors of various universities were also present at the convocation ceremony.

CM Omar.....

fertilizers are issues that demand urgent course correction, calling for a decisive shift toward sustainable and organic practices. He also emphasized the rising concerns around microplastics in the food chain and climate vulnerability, noting that environmental awareness is no longer optional, but an operational imperative.

Encouraging the graduating students, Omar Abdullah urged them to imbibe the ideals of SKUAST and contribute to the broader mission of rural transformation. "Let your innovation create employment, let your knowledge build enterprises and let your compassion redefine agriculture," he said, calling on the new graduates to be job creators rather than seekers.

Commending the University's efforts, the Chief Minister appreciated the launch of the Ex Situ Gene Bank, highlighting its role in conserving native seed varieties and crop diversity. "Such infrastructure will only bear fruit when paired with the right talent," he said, urging students and faculty to make full use of the facilities to address

the evolving challenges of agri-science.

The Chief Minister also lauded the students' academic excellence and equal participation in developmental narratives, expressing confidence that SKUAST-Jammu's alumni will drive innovation and entrepreneurship in the agri-sector.

Among other dignitaries present at the Convocation of SKUAST-Jammu were Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha as the Chief Guest, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Javid Ahmed Dar; Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; and Principal Secretary Shailendra Kumar, who congratulated the university on its silver jubilee and commended the Vice Chancellor and faculty for their visionary alignment with national frameworks such as NEP-2020, Startup India and Viksit Bharat @2047.

Presenting the University Report, Vice Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi highlighted SKUAST-Jammu's consistent achievements in education, research, innovation and outreach. "Our commitment to excellence is reflected in the patents we've secured, the start-ups we've incubated and the knowledge we've transferred to empower the farming community," he noted.

The convocation saw the awarding of 446 degrees, including 157 Master's, 46 Doctorates and 243 Undergraduate degrees, in addition to 8 Gold Medals for meritorious students. Several Professors of Practice, innovators and entrepreneurs were also felicitated for their contributions to agri-technology and rural entrepreneurship.

The ceremony also marked the inauguration of a Farmers' Hostel and a state-of-the-art Faculty Building funded under CAPEX-NABARD and J&K Government, bolstering SKUAST-Jammu's capacity for academic and research excellence.

The event was attended by senior officials, members of the University Council and Board of Management, faculty, students, farmers and members of the public.

CM Reviews.....

Devansh Yadav; Additional CEO JSCL and Joint Commissioner JMC, Subah Mehta; Director Projects JSCL, Sunil Thusu; Senior GM JSCL, Rajesh Abrol; AEE JSCL, Akhil Samyal; and senior engineers and officers from UEED Jammu and Irrigation & Flood Control Department were also present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister, reviewed the progress of civil works under Phase-I of the project, which spans from Bhagwati Nagar Barrage to Bikram Chowk Bridge. He was informed that over 97 percent of work under Part-A, which includes the construction component of Phase-I, has been completed. The target for full completion is set for September 2025.

During the inspection, the Chief Minister reviewed key features of the project, including the development of multi-tiered promenades along both banks of the river and a central island, construction of flood mitigation infrastructure such as diaphragm and retaining walls, pier protection measures on existing bridges, creation of a central business and recreational zone and installation of interceptor drains to divert polluted nallahs away from the river. The CM was briefed that under Part-A, a total embankment length of 2.70 kilometres is being developed, incorporating four promenades of varying widths and reclaiming around 23 hectares of land. Part-B of the project will include finishing works such as construction of connecting roads, food courts, viaducts, toilet blocks, horticulture and promenade flooring.

The Chief Minister expressed satisfaction with the pace of execution and stressed the importance of its timely completion. He stated that the project is not solely about urban beautification but about shaping a new identity for Jammu centred on the historic Tawi River. He added that the initiative will serve both ecological and economic objectives.

He also highlighted the potential of the project to enhance tourism, generate employment and provide sustainable commercial real estate options, including green buildings, parks, sports zones and cultural plazas.

The Chief Minister reviewed the monetisation strategy currently being prepared by CBRE, which will support the extension of the riverfront development from Tawi Bridge to Sidhra Bridge in future phases.

The Chief Minister appreciated the coordinated efforts of JSCL, JMC and the Jal Shakti Department. He directed the concerned officials to maintain strict adherence to quality and timelines while ensuring sustainability and public convenience throughout the execution of the project.

CM Omar.....

interventions are pivotal for holistic economic growth across Jammu and Kashmir.

At the Jammu and Kashmir Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd Complex in Talab Tillo, the Chief Minister commissioned a 5,145-MT cold storage facility built with NABARD assistance. The

facility features 21 cold chambers and four scientific ripening chambers with automated temperature and humidity controls, Freon-based refrigeration and solar-powered backup.

Robust insulation, SCADA-based monitoring and dedicated docking bays will dramatically reduce post-harvest losses and extend the shelf life of perishables.

"Our endeavour is to establish assets that benefit the maximum number of people. Infrastructure must make farmers more resilient and their produce more valuable," he stated.

The event was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar; Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs; Transport; Science & Technology; Information Technology; Youth Services & Sports; ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma; MLA Jammu West, Arvind Gupta; Principal Secretary Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar; Managing Director J&K Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd., Sandesh Kumar Sharma and Divisional Manager, A.H Salaria, besides other senior officers.

At Narwal Fruit Mandi, the Chief Minister inaugurated four new post-harvest and value-addition units to strengthen Jammu's agri-value chain. These include a 2,000-MT cold store with ten chambers capable of temperatures down to -10 °C for apples, cherries, grapes and walnuts; a Common Incubation Centre under the PM-FME scheme for dairy and bakery processing; a 120-MT integrated pack house for onions and potatoes with cleaning, sorting, grading and pre-cooling lines; and a display and processing centre for agri-horti tools with dedicated exhibition and sales space.

Addressing a gathering of traders and other stakeholders, the Chief Minister observed that increasing youth and women participation in agriculture, evident from higher enrolments at SKUAST-Jammu, reflects a sector in transformation. Echoing "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan," he reiterated agriculture's equal importance to national service.

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, emphasised agriculture's centrality to the UT economy, noting that a large part of the population depends on farming. He outlined government benefits through HADP and other centrally sponsored schemes, the expansion of post-harvest infrastructure and the establishment of satellite mandis to reduce crop wastage. A sub-committee has been formed on the directions of the Chief Minister, to address lease-expiry and other issues affecting fruit marketing agents, he informed.

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs; Transport; Science & Technology; Information Technology; Youth Services & Sports; ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma affirmed the UT government's commitment to equitable development, ensuring that critical sectors like agriculture receive dedicated attention.

MLA Bahu Vikram Randhawa welcomed the initiatives, describing mandis as vital economic hubs for which continued investment will benefit both producers and traders.

Managing Director JKHPMC, Farooq Ahmed Dar, delivered the welcome address, commending the government's efforts to link production, processing and market access through modern infrastructure.

The newly inaugurated facilities will benefit farmers across Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur, Rajouri and Poonch by reducing post-harvest losses, improving price realisation and creating local employment in logistics, processing and maintenance.

Govt releases.....

artisans. "It prioritizes crafts at risk of extinction, ensuring their legacy endures. It also facilitates skill transfer from master craftsmen, including National/State/Shipil Guru awardees, to the younger generation," he said, adding meritorious trainees from departmental training centres receive advanced training in nearby Karkhanas to enhance their expertise and productivity.

Trainees receive a monthly stipend of ₹2,000 during the six-month training period, disbursed via direct bank transfer. "Karkhandars are provided ₹25,000 in two equal installments to cover logistics, tools, equipment, and raw materials, along with ₹2,000 per trainee per month to support their efforts.

This financial release of Rs. 33.34 lakh will empower Assistant Directors, in first phase, of Anantnag, Budgam, Baramulla, Kulgam, and Srinagar districts to accelerate the scheme's implementation, ensuring artisans receive the necessary resources, training, and support to thrive.

"Terror-related....."

before the constitutional change, when 1,845 people were killed.

Before 2019: 243 civilians, 475 security personnel, and 1,121 terrorists were killed.

After 2019: 189 civilians, 204 security personnel, 833 terrorists, and 4 unidentified individuals lost their lives.

The data also highlights that 2018 saw the highest deaths in the last decade with 452 fatalities. That number has since fallen significantly—134 deaths were reported in 2023 and 127 in 2024. So far in 2025, 71 people have been killed, including 28 civilians, 10 security personnel, and 32 terrorists.

Before the abrogation, yearly fatalities often exceeded 170. For example: 2014: 189 deaths, 2016: 267 deaths, 2017: 357 deaths

Security forces suffered heavy losses especially in 2016 and 2017, with 88 and 83 personnel killed respectively.

After the constitutional changes, the numbers dropped sharply. In the five months following August 2019, only 50 deaths were recorded, compared to 233 in the first seven months of that year. The following year, 2020, saw a brief rise with 321 deaths due to intensified counter-terror operations, but the trend declined again in subsequent years.

Civilian deaths have decreased overall, with just 12 reported in 2023—the lowest in over a decade. However, in 2024, 31 civilians died, and 28 have been killed so far in 2025. Notably, 26 of this year's civilian casualties occurred in a single terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently told Parliament that the end of Article 370 weakened local terror networks. He said, "Terrorism in Kashmir no longer has local roots. It is now driven by foreign operatives, mostly from Pakistan. No local has joined a terrorist group in the last six months."

He added that earlier, large crowds used to gather at terrorists' funerals, but now they are buried where they are killed—often with no public reaction.

J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha echoed this in his previous Independence Day speech, stating, "Local recruitment has fallen drastically. Pakistan is sending in foreign terrorists, but strikes and stone pelting have become things of the past."

He said that there is no top militant leadership left in the region, and growing public trust in democracy has frustrated those trying to destabilize the region.

Senior police officers in Srinagar also acknowledged that infiltration from across the border continues. However, they credited intelligence-based operations and stronger ties with local communities for maintaining peace and control.

"The challenge now is dealing with foreign terrorists who try to sneak in. But our teams are alert and proactive," said a senior officer on condition of anonymity. (KINS)

After Pahalgam.....

modern conflicts demand the co-existence of conventional forces and technological tools, where "boots must share space with bots".

He said the Army is working towards self-reliance through collaborations under national technology missions like INDIAai, Chip-to-Startup, and Project QuILa. Institutions like MCTE Mhow are acting as key strategic partners in these efforts, he added.

Gen Dwivedi mentioned the contributions of Army research cells at IIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur, and IISc Bengaluru, which are focused on translating academic knowledge into usable military applications.

He said the Agnishodh cell at IIT Madras will help convert lab-scale innovations into field-ready defence technologies. It will work with the IIT Madras Research Park and organisations such as the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Development Centre (AMTDC) and Pravartak Technologies Foundation.

These collaborations are expected to support Indian Army projects in additive manufacturing, cyber security, wireless systems, unmanned aerial platforms, and quantum computing.

He said the research facility would also help upskill Army personnel in emerging technologies, thereby building a more capable and tech-enabled workforce within the military.

During his visit to Chennai, General Dwivedi also visited the Officers Training Academy (OTA), where he reviewed infrastructure and training methods. He said the OTA is equipping

cadets to handle evolving security challenges. He interacted with Army veterans and honoured four retired officers with Veteran Achievers Awards for their contribution to the Armed Forces.

The Indian Army, he said, is undergoing major changes under its "Decade of Transformation" plan, which includes doctrinal shifts and a focus on integrated responses to grey-zone conflicts.

The Army chief said initiatives like Agnishodh would support India's journey toward becoming a developed nation by 2047 through sustained progress in indigenous defence innovation. (KNO)

Ensure peaceful.....

Rajesh Kumar, ADGP Armed J&K Anand Jain, ADGP CID J&K Nitish Kumar, JD SIB J&K/L, Inspectors General of Kashmir Zone, Jammu Zone, and Security J&K, IGs of BSF and CRPF (KOS and Srinagar), all Range DIGs, DIGs of Traffic, Railways Kashmir, ITBP Srinagar, SSB Jammu, and CISF Jammu. Also present were all district SSPs of J&K, SSPs of PCR Kashmir, Railways, APCR, CID SBK, Security Kashmir, CID CIK, and SSPs of PC Srinagar and PC Jammu, among other senior officers.

At the outset, the DGP was briefed on the prevailing security situation in the Union Territory by the Zonal Inspectors General and heads of various security and intelligence wings. Intelligence officials also shared their assessments on recent developments.

The meeting focused on reviewing recent security trends, current challenges, and the strategy to counter emerging threats. DGP Nalin Prabhath emphasized the need to strengthen security plans, enhance coordination among forces, and implement effective counter-insurgency measures to ensure the peaceful and smooth conduct of all upcoming events.

He directed officers to intensify surveillance on anti-national elements, enhance area domination, and improve security around vulnerable locations. He also stressed the importance of robust and foolproof security arrangements at all critical sites.

Further, the DGP instructed all district police heads to monitor social media platforms closely to curb the spread of misinformation and maintain public order.

The meeting concluded with a collective resolve to ensure heightened vigilance, improved inter-agency coordination, and the seamless execution of security measures to maintain peace and public safety across Jammu and Kashmir. (KINS)

CS Inspects.....

services, with advanced Perinatology and Neonatology units. The facility is expected to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) besides cutting down the waiting time for planned surgeries considerably.

During the visit, the Chief Secretary also reviewed the functioning and infrastructure of the State Cancer Institute (SCI), Jammu, which is being developed at an estimated cost of Rs104 crore. He took a first-hand assessment of various crucial services including Outpatient and Inpatient Departments (OPD/IPD), diagnostic laboratory facilities, chemotherapy and radiotherapy units and the PET Scan operations.

He also enquired about the ongoing work on three modern operation theatres, and the status of installation of Linear Accelerator (LINAC) and other high-end medical equipment, being facilitated by Jammu and Kashmir Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (JKMSCL) here.

The Chief Secretary was briefed on other flagship projects taken up at GMC Jammu to further augment specialized patient services, including the establishment of a Catheterization Laboratory (Cath Lab) and other related infrastructure components.

Earlier, he visited the Government Dental College, Amphalla, where he inspected both the patient care arrangements and the newly constructed infrastructure block. He directed the executing agency to expedite the formal handover of the building to the department to ensure its early operationalization for public benefit.

During the day-long visit, the Chief Secretary emphasized the timely completion of all ongoing works with strict adherence to the set quality standards. He asked for ensuring that the new facilities are optimally utilized to deliver high-quality healthcare services to the people of Jammu and its adjoining areas.



Public Accounts Committee holds meeting in Srinagar

Reviews Audit Paras of Health & Medical Education Department

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUG 04: The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar to review the audit paras pertaining to the Health and Medical Education (H&ME) Department.

The meeting was chaired by PAC Chairman Sham Lal Sharma and attended by members including Mubarak Gul, Nazir Ahmad Khan (Gurezi), Qaysar Jamshaid Lone, Altaf Ahmed Wani (Kaloo), Javid Hassan Baig, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal and Sajad Shaheen.

During the session, the Committee conducted a detailed examination of Audit Paras 3.8 and 3.9 from the year 2000-01 and 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7 from 2017-18, pertaining to the H&ME

Department.

The Committee deliberated on several key issues including construction of an Animal House at the Food and Drug Laboratory Jammu, testing of antibiotics and innovative drugs in the laboratory, functionality of air conditioners and related infrastructure and the wasteful expenditure on imported dental units by Dental College Srinagar. Other matters discussed included establishment of spinal injury centres, non-establishment of a swine flu testing laboratory at GMC Jammu and non-functional status of the Trauma Centre at Khelani.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Sham Lal Sharma called for strengthening the healthcare services and upgrading infrastructure across all health institutions in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized



the need to provide affordable and accessible healthcare in remote and far-flung areas such as Gurez, Tangdar, Bani and Basoli. He also highlighted the

importance of adopting best practices from other states to improve the healthcare delivery.

The Chairman underscored

the vital role of the Health Department in the social sector and stressed the need for greater transparency, accountability and seriousness in its function-

ing. He emphasized the need for establishment of trauma healthcare infrastructure at all designated locations to ensure prompt and effective medical care for trauma patients.

To ensure efficient oversight, the Chairman directed that sub-committees be constituted to inspect the functioning of Bio-safety Laboratories and Spinal Injury Centres in both Srinagar and Jammu divisions. He also stressed the importance of fostering a sense of duty and accountability among doctors and paramedical staff. He called for consistent efforts to improve the work culture in all healthcare institutions across J&K.

The meeting was attended by Principal Accountant General J&K, K. P. Yadav; Secretary H&ME, Abid Raheed; MD NHM, Baseer ul Haq Choudhary; Secretary Legislative

Assembly; Commissioner, Drug and Food Administration; Director General Accounts and Treasuries; Principal GMC Srinagar; Principal Dental College Srinagar; Director Finance H&ME; State Drug Controller; Director Planning and other senior officials.

The Chairman reiterated the PAC's mandate to promote transparency, fiscal discipline and accountability in governance. He appreciated the commitment of Committee members and officials, urging them to continue upholding high standards of legislative oversight and contributing meaningfully to good governance and public accountability.

Various audit paras were also dropped by the Committee with directions to further improve patient care across health institutions in J&K.

Awareness and Counselling Programme Held at BHSS Ganderbal

■ HT News Desk

GANDERBAL, AUG 4: An Awareness and Counselling Programme was successfully conducted today at BHSS Ganderbal, organized by the Srinagar Chapter of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.

The event aimed to enlighten students about the importance of financial literacy, career opportunities in cost and management accounting, and overall academic and professional counselling.



The occasion was graced by the Worthy Chief Education Officer Ganderbal, Mr. Oneel Kumar Bhat, and Madam Rumysa Sangeen Ji, who were felicitated with mementos as a token of appreciation for their valuable support in making the programme a grand success.

The organizers expressed heartfelt gratitude to all the dignitaries, faculty, and students for their enthusiastic participation and contribution to the programme's success.

Evaluation Report on Mumkin Livelihood Generation Scheme released in Kupwara

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, AUG 4: An evaluation report on the Mumkin Livelihood Generation Scheme was today released by the Chairman District Level Evaluation Committee, Ms. Ayushi Sudan whereunder all the sample beneficiaries were verified on ground in all 24 CD Blocks of the district.

ADDC Kupwara, Mufti Fareed u din; ACR Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, CPO/District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, Parvaiz Ahmad; AD Planning, Ghulam Nabi, AD Employment, Arshid Qadir, and other concerned officers were present on the occasion.

As per the report released, the beneficiaries have reported that they were provided small commercial vehicles by the District Employment & Counseling Center Kupwara (Nodal Department for Mission Youth Schemes). The beneficiaries were found satisfied with the gesture of the Government to provide handholding to the youth having skill in driving to earn their livelihood.

The report was drafted by District Statistics & Evaluation Officer Kupwara under the overall control of the District Development Commissioner Kupwara in a time bound manner.

Young Kashmiri scientist to represent India at prestigious ICGAC2026 in Paris

"Rocket Boy of Kashmir" invited to speak at global gathering of top physicists

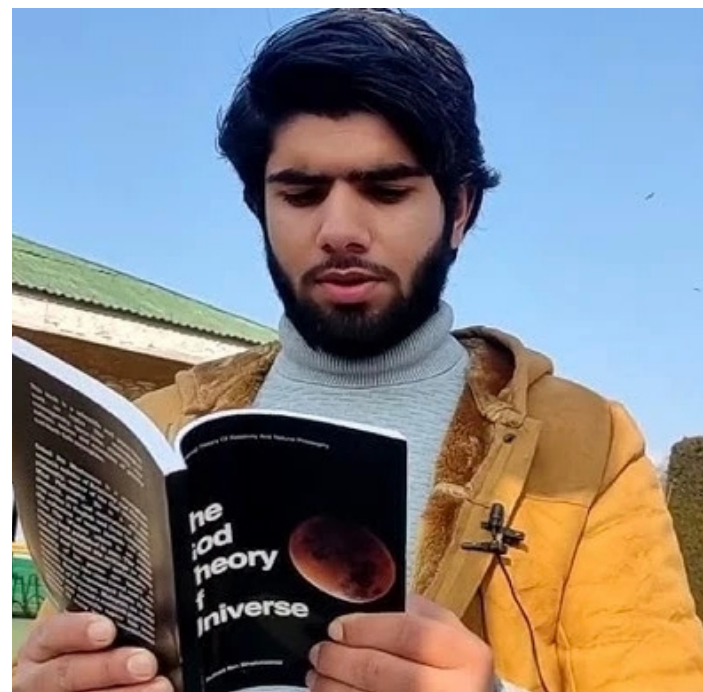
■ HT News Desk

KULGAM, AUG 04: In a proud moment for Jammu & Kashmir and India's scientific community, Suhail ibn Shahnawaz, a young physicist from Kulgam district, has been officially invited to speak at the 2nd International Conference on Gravitation, Astrophysics and Cosmology (ICGAC2026), to be held in Paris, France from April 16 to 18, 2026.

Suhail, often referred to as the "Rocket Boy of Kashmir", has been recognized for his groundbreaking work in theoretical physics, quantum gravity, cosmology and aerospace innovation.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), his research has attracted global attention, making him one of the most promising young scientific minds emerging from the region.

ICGAC2026 is expected to host



Nobel Laureates, top astrophysicists and renowned scholars from around the world. Suhail's inclusion as a speaker

is seen as a major acknowledgment of his contributions to modern science and innovation. His presence at the global stage also shines a spotlight on the untapped scientific potential of Kashmir.

"This invitation is not just about me—it's about every aspiring young scientist in Kashmir who dreams beyond boundaries," Suhail told KNO.

Born and raised in Kulgam district, Suhail's journey into the world of space science began with a deep-rooted passion for physics and innovation. He gained early recognition through youth-led space awareness initiatives, most notably Buraq-1—a symbolic space mission designed to inspire interest in aerospace and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education among Kashmiri youth.

Suhail actively engages in science communication, delivering motivational talks and participat-

ing in educational outreach programs.

He has appeared on platforms like the Teen Talk Show, where he encourages young minds to explore science as a career and as a way of thinking.

Suhail is a vocal advocate for making science more accessible in remote and underserved regions, particularly in conflict-affected areas like Kashmir.

He believes that promoting scientific curiosity and hands-on innovation can open new opportunities for the youth. "Space belongs to everyone. I want every child in Kashmir to know they can be part of this cosmic journey," he said.

With this international recognition, Suhail ibn Shahnawaz not only elevates the image of Kashmir in the global scientific landscape but also offers a powerful message of hope, resilience and intellectual brilliance

BJP Kashmir Unit Holds Review Meeting on 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign at Church Lane, Srinagar

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Kashmir Unit convened a review meeting at Church Lane, Srinagar, to assess preparations for the upcoming 'Tiranga Yatra' campaign, held under the broader national initiative of 'Har Ghar Tiranga'.

The meeting was chaired by BJP J&K General Secretary Anwar Khan and State Vice President Dr. Shehnaz Ganie, and was attended by State Office Bearers, Morcha Presidents, District Convenors, Co-Convenors of the campaign, District Presidents and other senior leaders.

State Office bearers who were also present included State Secretary Arif Raja, Mudasir Wani, Media Incharge Adv. Sajid Yousuf Shah, Social Media Incharge Sajjad Raina, IT Incharge Sartaj Majeed, and All Cells Incharge Bilal Parry.

In her address, Dr. Shehnaz Ganie emphasized the need for wholehearted participation by every party worker to ensure the success of the campaign. Reiterating the directives of BJP National President JP Nadda, she urged the cadre to take the Tiranga the national flag to every rooftop across the region. She called for meticulous planning and robust training of workers through grassroots-level workshops.

Highlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of widespread public involvement, she said this Independence Day should reflect a nation unified under the colors of the Tiranga. She also warned against the attempts of those who once opposed the spirit of nationalism, stating that the campaign must send a strong message of unity and resilience.



BJP General Secretary Anwar Khan presented a detailed roadmap of upcoming activities under the campaign. He emphasized the importance of comprehensive planning at the booth and mandal levels to ensure widespread participation. He announced that grand Tiranga Rallies and Padyatras would be organized to celebrate the occasion.

He called for extensive involvement of the youth and emphasized the need to engage with security personnel and their families, acknowledging their immense contributions

to the nation.

BJP Spokesperson Altaf Thakur, referencing the historic success of Operation Sindoor, highlighted the added emotional and patriotic significance of this year's Independence Day celebrations.

The meeting proceedings were conducted by Mudasir Wani, who outlined the objectives of the workshop in detail. Salinder Singh delivered the vote of thanks and encouraged all party leaders and workers to work collectively toward the successful execution of the campaign.

Assault Accused Held Swiftly by Srinagar Police at Khayam Chowk

■ Mohammad Hanif Khan

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: In a decisive move against social crimes in the society, Srinagar Police have arrested five persons in connection with a violent assault incident that took place during the intervening night of 3rd and 4th August 2025 at Khayam Chowk, Khanyar.

The accused individuals were allegedly involved in creating a public disturbance and physically assaulting a few persons in the area.

Taking swift cognizance of the incident, FIR No. 40/2025 was registered at Police Station Khanyar under the sections 109, 115(2), 126(2), and 324(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

During the course of investigation, all five accused were identified and subsequently arrested by the Police.

Two vehicles used in the commission of the offence—a Mahindra Scorpio N and a Toyota Glanza—have also been seized, as part of the ongoing investigation.

The details of the arrested individuals are as follows:

1. Faheem Ahmad Khan, S/o Mohd. Ayub Khan, R/o Botshah Mohalla, Lal Bazar, Srinagar
2. Talat Hassan, S/o Ghulam Hassan Dhar, R/o Housing Colony, Chanapora, Srinagar
3. Nadeem Malik, S/o Bashir Ahmed Malik, R/o Natipora, Mehjoor Nagar, Srinagar
4. Amir Rashid Molvi, S/o Abdul Rashid Molvi, R/o Jogilanker, Rainawari, Srinagar
5. Mudasir Ahmed Sheikh, S/o Sheikh Nazir Ahmed, R/o Ikharajpora, Rajbagh, Srinagar

Further investigation into the matter is currently underway.

Srinagar Police remains committed to maintaining public safety of all citizens and ensuring timely justice to the aggrieved.

HT EDITORIAL

KPDCL puts people to trouble by announcing frequent shutdowns

The Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) had adopted a 'dignified' and 'decent' way of putting the people of Kashmir to trouble during the gruelling days of intense heat and sultry weather. Day in and day out the KPDCL puts the people in trouble by announcing shutdown for different areas of the valley. The word shutdown has become a buzzword among the employees of the Corporation and also among the people since they have to bear the brunt at the end of the day.

Announcing a shutdown for a day and that too for a few hours is acceptable but making it a regular feature defeats the very purpose of the shutdown. The KPDCL has been announcing the shutdown for the different areas on a regular basis and as on date people don't know when the power supply is on and when it is off. The announcement of shutdown is not limited to the areas falling under the Srinagar district, but the same extends to the other districts of the valley.

The curtailment schedule has become a regular feature in the daily bulletin of the Department of Information and the KPDCL comes out with a list of the areas that are expected to witness shutdown in the subsequent days. At times there is more than one news item containing details about the areas that are going to witness shutdown in the coming days. This information is supposed to be published by the newspapers, but in most of the cases the information never reaches the people.

For the past so many years the KPDCL has been claiming that round the clock power supply would be made available to the people where the smart meters are installed along with insulated cables. There are areas where the modernization of infrastructure has taken place months or years back, but the people living in these areas are subjected to both the scheduled and unscheduled power cuts. The matters have been made worse by the shutdown being carried out on a regular basis by the Corporation.

The people as a whole opine that the shutdown should be limited to a few hours in a day and not for hours together. In most of the cases the shutdown extends to at least eight hours in a day and one can easily understand the situation faced by the people once the power supply is off during the intense hot conditions. The problem does not end here since the shutdown is extended for days together in a week.

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The Justice Mirage: When Time Becomes the Biggest Obstacle



Munish Bhatia

"Justice delayed is justice denied" – this famous quote highlights one of the most pressing problems of our country's justice system. When a person suffers from pain and injustice, they turn to the courts with the belief that they will get justice in a timely manner. But as time passes and the case drags on for years or even decades, that person's trust in the justice system slowly erodes. This is the situation today due to millions of pending cases in India's courts, where getting justice has become a long, tiring, and often frustrating wait. The ground reality of India's judicial system is that there are over 5 crore cases pending in courts at various levels. These include countless cases such as property disputes, dowry harassment, domestic violence, murder, rape, corruption, government related litigation, and commercial disputes. It takes years for an ordinary person to resolve a case, and by the time a verdict comes, that person is either old or their life has completely changed. The biggest reason for the delay is a lack of judicial resources. In a country with a huge population like India, there is a limited number of judges per million people, while the global standard is many times higher. This abnormally increases the workload on judges. They hear dozens of cases in a single day and are often forced to simply give new dates. At the same time, lawyers' strikes, the absence of government witnesses, delays in forensic reports, and repeated adjournments further complicate the process. Even when it comes to the basic infrastructure of courts,



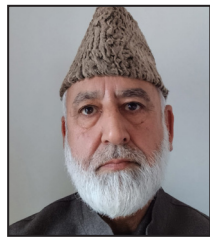
many lower courts still lack digital infrastructure. Piles of files, a slow prevailing system, and paper-based procedures make the entire system cumbersome. The available technical solutions—such as e-courts, video conferencing, and e-filing—are not being fully utilized, especially in rural and small-town areas. For any person, starting a legal battle is not just a judicial process; it also affects their economic, social, and mental state. Lawyers' fees, repeatedly going to court, taking leave from work, pressure on the family—all these start to break that person from within. Especially when they see that their case gets date after date for years, but no

concrete decision is reached. This not only affects the plaintiff or defendant but also spreads dissatisfaction and mistrust of justice throughout society. To get out of this challenging situation, several important steps need to be taken. First, vacant positions in the judiciary should be filled on a priority basis. At the same time, new courts should also be established so that the burden of cases is divided equally. Systems like e-filing, e-summons, and online hearings should be made more widespread. This will speed up the hearing process and reduce the complexity of documentation procedures. The number of fast-track courts should be increased, especially for cases of women's safety, child abuse, and senior citizens, so that justice can be served quickly in these sensitive matters. Also, mediation, panchayati justice, and conciliation committees should be encouraged so that small and simple cases can be resolved outside the court. Employees associated with the judiciary should be given training based on modern technology and procedures so that they become efficient and court proceedings become more systematic. Justice is not just a legal term; it is the basis for the common person's faith in democracy and the constitution. When an innocent person waits for justice for years, it creates not only anger towards the system but also disappointment towards the entire system. This is an alarm bell for democracy. The time has come to get out of this labyrinth of litigation and make the process of justice simple, accessible, and quick. The true value of justice is only when it is received on time. If courts work for more days, the pending cases can be settled quickly. The courts should be modernized and digital platforms should be used. This will not only save time but also bring transparency to the process. The scales of the goddess of justice will remain balanced only when every person gets justice on time. Justice delayed is truly another suffering for the victim.

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Correction in Wrongly Attributed Pincode to Muradabad Kreeri: A Herculean Task

How Important is the Postal Code, If You Want to Understand it's Importance Ask The Denizens of Muradabad Kreeri, Writes SGM Andrabi



SGM Andrabi

Postal Index Number Code popularly known as pincode was initially conceived for swift delivery of postal items like parcels, letters money orders and other items intended to be sent through the post offices.

In India the Postal department introduced pincodes wef 15 August 1972. Each post office and sub post office in the country were allocated a 6 digit unique code which would be relevant for location of a geographic area. With the advent of information revolution this code became more relevant for registration in the public services schemes and on line facilities like Aadhar cards, Election cards, Ration data besides the address certificates of individuals.

My Home town Kreeri falls in Distt Baramulla historically called "Kruhin Kreeri". It is a centre of political, religious, trade & culture affairs of the area since the advent of in the middle of 9th century Hijri corresponding to 15th century AD. The patron saint lived in kreeri till 17th of zulhahj 861 Hijri corresponding to 4th Nov 1457 AD. It was in his lifetime a kharqah (centre of worship & Learning) was set up which produced hundreds of scholars of Religious Knowledge as well of art culture, poetry and calligraphy. It remained the centre of all social activities for centuries. When Sultan Zainul Abideen, Badshah visited kreeri to pay his obeisances to the patron Saint, he proclaimed, that Juma prayers will be offered henceforth in kreeri. In those days only few places outside srinagar city had the honour of conducting Juma prayers. With the advent of post Independence political realignments in kashmir, our

town faced continued discrimination in developmental front and govt apathy, partly because our elders being educated and politically emancipated could not toe the line of political powers of the time and partly because of being unrepresented in state Legislature for a considerable period. Some institutions like Jk Bank branch, 1976, Primary Health centre, 1969, Govt High school, 1960 were sanctioned by the authorities as result of personal & persistent efforts of civil society of kreeri.

It was in 1977, when a group of concerned citizens, took up the mantle of re-assuring the political identity of kreeri area. That year, a fresh Delimitation of Assembly segments in J&K was being carried out and we succeeded in getting a new segment "sangrama" carved out in distt Baramulla. Though this was not an ideal situation for kreeri area which we had proposed but still for the first time after 30 years of Independence, we were able to politically assert without being toed to Baramulla, Pattan or sopore Assembly segments as heretofore. What happened thereafter, many witnesses to the history are still alive, to narrate the story to the posterity.

One thing remains certain, that even today, our civil society is still active, agile and alive to the situation in taking up social issues confronting our area from time to time.

Tehsil Hqr at kreeri was sanctioned in 2006 but started functioning only from kreeri in 2013, thanks to the unwanted and vested -interest created artificial divide between Kreeri & Wagoora towns.

In the year 2010, Govt of India initiated a scheme for registration of its citizens popularly known as Aadhar. For this an autonomous authority, named, Unique Identification Authority of India, UIDAI, was established. A no of parametres were included in this data base which also included, biometrics, date of birth, residential address, Cell No and an area pincode based on the records of

India Post.

Kreeri has a sub post office since 1980 and it's area pincode is 193108 as per the records of India Post.

To our misfortune it was wrongly recorded as 193198 in the UIDAI (Aadhar) Database by unknown reasons.

For many years nobody bothered about it and even started using this wrong pincode as well in thier address, social media and business addresses / Sign Boards with the result a great confusion was created. When the UIDAI ordered updating of Aadhar Cards in 2023, people started facing trouble in updating besides availing of various online facilities of the Govt depaments.

When situation became more difficult and our local our local news & social media started highlighted the public difficulty in updating Aadhar Cards, Driving Licenses and other identity cards of government flagship schemes, I decided to take up the issue, as no other political or civil society group had shown any interest in mitigation of this difficulty, though all were publicly feeling concerned.

I went to the office of Tehsildar kreeri which supervises the Aadhar centre in kreeri. Mr Mubashir Amin, KAS, then Tehsildar kreeri, well known for his academic and social bent of mind, was very kind to take the issue with Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla. He also followed it in the DC office and finally a letter from DC office was written to state coordinator Aadhar, for correction of Pincode in UIDAI Database.

For one year nothing happened. Finally I lodged a grievances with Hon'ble LGs grievance Cell. After 6 months I was informed that Asstt Post Master Gen J&K circle has written to UIDAI for correction. 3 months passed with no progress. I again approached post Master General of India. They informed me that UIDAI has been asked to do it. Wait continued. I took to my X handle and lodged a complaint with UIDAI (Aadhar).

They responded and asked me to give relevant documents which I uploaded on their X handle. I also brought the issue to notice of Dr Jatinder Singh, Hon'ble MoS in PMS office, under whom, UIDAI falls.

Finally it was 9th of July 2025 when UIDAI, Chandigarh Regional office had launched a 3 days awareness programme at SKICC, which was to be inaugurated by Hon'ble LG.

I siezed the opportunity, discussed issue with UIDAI authorities there. By that time my earlier correspondence along with India Post records had reached them.

They assured me that database will be uploaded with correct pincode of Kreeri area 193108 within couple of weeks. I remained in touch with Mr Sohail of Srinagar UIDAI out sourced office, who was always cordial. Our Aadhar centre chief Mr Jaleel was kept in the loop since the beginning of my endeavor who would keep me posted about the latest on the subject. I am also thankful to our local Social Media and news groups also helped in keeping the issue alive by highlighting this public grievance periodically.

The update has now been carried out wef 31st July 2025 as 193108. A great difficulty/grievance has been redressed.

Now it our duty to make corrections in all places where Pincode is required or written, particularly in voter ID cards, besides updating Aadhar cards afresh.

I advise the youth of kreeri area to keep on taking up social issues persistently. It may take time but when we are right in our demand and sincere in our effort, it will be achieved.

I Pray to Allah that he has finally heard us and our problem solved as at the end it is He Who knows how things shape in this world and the time fixed for it....

The Author is a retired SSP of J&K Police, Writes on Socio-Religious issues and can be reached at sgmandrabi@gmail.com

The Prospects of a Happy Man

(Inside Reflection)



■ Sidharth P K

For a man to be happy is his own

choice and to satisfy with dignity along the struggle makes Abin's life a remarkable course of action. Abin, who currently serves as a government employee at Ernakulum guest house, is a happy man, moreover he energetic the, domain in the capacity.

Abin is very much creative in his ways along with the administrative duties he is entitled to do so. He creates an order of simplicity along the lines and corridors of the guest house. As he runs the atmo-



sphere with much peace and ability, gives out his time to suit his acceptance.

A family man with a humble devotion to his on-going service keeps his record, most admirable and enchanting. Abin keeps his time fixed to the service he has taken. As Abin relates to the same ordinary man, his life signals out as a direction of happiness in length and breath.

The author is a freelance

Kudos to the Indian Army and District Administration Baramulla for this visionary initiative

Riti, Riwaaj, Riwayat aur Bikhre Moti!



■ By M S Nazki

A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots. And Culture is a product of law. And laws create norms for society. This is why anyone who wants to change the culture of a country must try to change the norms of the country. By the way, the present day youth of Kashmir know this!

I have been in Kashmir for several years! But as a child I never knew that a volcano would erupt! But what saves Kashmir today is culture!

A lady from Baramulla taught me this, 'culture is to know the best that has been said and thought in the world. And Kashmir has that quality!' She did add that cultural differences should not separate us from each other, but rather cultural diversity brings a collective strength that can benefit all of humanity.' Also she added: "Intercultural dialogue is the best guarantee of a more peaceful, just and sustainable world..... Majors Diary

Therefore culture is simply the hospitality of the intellect. Your mind is open to new ideas and larger views; when they enter, you know how to receive them, and to entertain, to be entertained, and take what they have to offer without allowing them to dominate you.

So we come to the story: Riti, Riwaaj" "Riwayat aur Bikhre Moti!

Riwaaj" and "Riwayat" both refer to customs and traditions, but with slightly different connotations. "Riwaaj" translates to "custom," "practice," or established way of doing things, a social norm or convention.

"Riwayat," on the other hand, can also mean tradition or custom, but it can also carry a stronger sense of historical or familial lineage, suggesting a practice passed down through generations.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

Riwaaj: A "riwaaj" could be the custom of wearing specific clothing for certain occasions, or a particular way of celebrating a festival.

Riwayat : A "riwayat" could be a family's traditional recipe, a historical account of a place, or a long-standing practice within a community.

In essence: While the three words denote customs and traditions, "riwaaj" is more about the current, widely accepted practices, while "riwayat" emphasizes the historical and generational aspect of those practices.

Kashmiri Riti, Riwaaj and Riwayat:

Kashmiri customs and traditions are deeply rooted in the region's history and geography, blending religious and cultural influences. Key aspects include unique clothing, vibrant festivals, diverse music and dance forms, and celebrated handicrafts.

Clothing: Kashmiris wear distinctive clothing, with the Pheran, a long woolen cloak, being a winter staple. Women often wear intricately embroidered Pherans, especially during special occasions, and pair them with headscarves like the Taranga. Traditional clothing also includes loose salwar kameez, kurta pajamas, and skullcaps. The choice of fabric, often wool or Pashmina, reflects both the climate and cultural identity.

Festivals: Kashmiris celebrate a variety of festivals with great enthusiasm, including Eid-ul-Fitr, Hemis Festival, Lohri, and Baisakhi. Festivals are marked by prayers, feasts, music, dance, and the exchange of greetings.

The Shikara Festival, held on Dal Lake, showcases Kashmiri culture through music, dance, and art.

Navroz, a festival celebrated by the Parsi community, is another important event.

Music and Dance: Music and dance are integral to Kashmiri culture, with various forms like Chakri, Rouf, Bhand Pather, and Dumhal.

Dumhal: is a traditional dance performed by men,



while Rouf is a graceful dance often performed by women during festivals.

Bhand Pather: is a unique folk theater that combines dance, drama, and satire.

Hafiza: is a classical dance form performed during weddings, accompanied by Sufi music.

Musical instruments like the Santoor, Rabab, Sitar, and Tabla are commonly used.

Handicrafts: Kashmiri handicrafts are world-renowned, with Pashmina shawls being a symbol of royalty and warmth. Other popular items include woolen rugs, hand-knotted carpets, walnut wood furniture, silverware, papier-mâché, and baskets. The handicrafts industry is a significant part of the Kashmiri economy and is a popular attraction for tourists.

Other Customs: Wazwan, a traditional multi-course meat-based meal, is an integral part of Kashmiri weddings and celebrations.

Menzhat, the night of applying henna, is a significant pre-wedding ritual.

Visiting holy shrines and fasting are also important aspects of Kashmiri religious traditions.

And the youth lived up to the traditional stepping stones to the future as they embarked upon a new journey!

Youth of Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district on Saturday created a world record for the largest-ever Kashmiri folk dance performed by 10,000 young women at the 'Kashur Riwaaj' cultural festival.

It is the largest-ever Kashmiri Folk Dance performed by 10,000 young women at Kashur Riwaaj Cultural Fest on the occasion of 78th Independence Day.

The mega event was organised by the Dagger Division of Chinar Corps in collaboration with Baramulla District Administration and Indrani Balan Foundation (IBF), as a run-up celebration for the 78th Independence Day.

The festival took place at Prof. Showkat Ali Indoor Stadium to showcase the vibrant traditions of Kashmir through traditional dances, music, calligraphy and cultural activities.

"The highlight was the collective performance of the 'Rouf' dance by the young women, setting a new world record," he added.

"We have been rehearsing for almost a month. Now we feel all the effort was worth it. This is a great achievement and we are proud to be part of the world record," said one of the young participants.

Minga Sherpa, Deputy Commissioner led the team that ensured the smooth execution of the event. Senior officials from the J&K Cultural Department, Police and NGOs were also present at the historic event.

The record-breaking event was adjudicated by the Universal Records Forum. Universal Records Forum (URF) is an ISO 9001:2015 certified organisation, compliant with Guinness records standards, which underscores its commitment to maintaining quality management standards.

A local professor commented, "Kashmiri culture is a melting pot of diversity, but today's youth show declining interest because it is not fashionable. The initiative of the army and district authorities has revived interest in our age-old traditions."

The cultural fest served as a vibrant showcase of Kashmiri artistry and talent from renowned local artists. Attendees had the privilege of witnessing remarkable performances and celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir. Ishfaq Hamid Bhatt, a 13-year-old prodigy, showcased his exceptional skills on the 'Rubab'.

Awarded the prestigious Pradhan Mantri Bal Puraskar 2024, Ishfaq is renowned for his remarkable talent and dedication to preserving Kashmiri musical traditions.

Naseer Ahmed Mir, a celebrated Santoor player, also performed at the fest. He was awarded a gold medal by the President during the Kashmir University convocation in 2021, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the art of Santoor playing.

The Rubab and Santoor mini-concert mesmerised the audience. Shafi Mir, a calligraphy expert from Baramulla, was also part of the event.

“

Clothing: Kashmiris wear distinctive clothing, with the Pheran, a long woolen cloak, being a winter staple. Women often wear intricately embroidered Pherans, especially during special occasions, and pair them with headscarves like the Taranga. Traditional clothing also includes loose salwar kameez, kurta pajamas, and skullcaps. The choice of fabric, often wool or Pashmina, reflects both the climate and cultural identity.

The show was stolen by the passionate performance of the "Strings of Baramulla" band of the Chinar YUVA Centre. The audience was thrilled to see the popular RJs of Radio Baramulla take centre stage as the Master of Ceremonies.

"The Indian Army remains closely connected with the people of Kashmir and actively supports the preservation of their heritage and traditions. The Army has worked alongside the community, contributing to the empowerment, education, skilling, infrastructure development and continuation of cultural practices and values, demonstrating a commitment to the region's cultural legacy, while also guarding the nation's borders and maintaining peace in the hinterland," the Army spokesperson said.

"The success of 'Kashur Riwaaj' has set a benchmark for future cultural engagements in the region, uniting the youth of Kashmir in a display of tradition and patriotism," he said

The festival aimed to revive traditional Kashmiri art forms, promote youth engagement, and spread awareness about the dangers of drug abuse.

Kashur Riwaaj is a shining example of how culture, creativity, and community can come together for a greater cause. Kudos to the Indian Army and District Administration Baramulla for this visionary initiative. The participation of 20,000 youth is a testament to the spirit and potential of Kashmir.

Organised by the Indian Army's Chinar Corps in collaboration with the District Administration of Baramulla, the festival aimed to revitalise and showcase traditional Kashmiri art forms, while emphasising youth engagement, as also raise awareness about the perils of substance abuse.

The festival achieved a remarkable milestone by setting two unprecedented world records. The first record was set for the largest "Ladishah Performance", featuring an impressive 20,000 students across 162 locations in the district.

Ladishah, a centuries-old Kashmiri musical storytelling tradition, seamlessly weaves together satire, humour and social commentary, historically serving as a powerful medium for social awareness and commentary in rural communities.

The Second record was achieved in the realm of "Kalamkari" (Calligraphy), where 18,350 young participants collectively penned the patriotic verse "Saare Jahaan Se Achha", a symbol of National pride and unity, in the traditional calligraphic style.

The festival set a new benchmark for not only revival of our traditional culture but also invigorated youth engagement in the valley.

To finally round up the things we would say that culture is the arts elevated to a set of beliefs. Kashmiri youth proved it yet again!

White Coats Under Fire

By Zainab Shabir

In the charged health care environment of Jammu and Kashmir, doctors of today must walk a thin tightrope between popular perception and professional duty. From hospital corridors to cyberspace, the doctor's profession is faced with twin challenges: a rise in violence initiated by patients and increasing concerns about ethical misconduct by health care professionals. What we witness is not a black-and-white tale of heroes and villains—but a stark image of an institution plagued with crisis.

On one side of this crisis are brutal acts of violence against doctors. In already overcrowded and short-staffed hospitals, doctors are being physically assaulted, sometimes while performing essential duties. An incident of this kind recently occurred within the emergency wing of a prominent government hospital, when a doctor was attacked by a patient's attendant following a fatal result. The assault led to suspended operations, public indignation, and renewed calls for security measures in government hospitals. These attacks are not isolated aberrations but reflect a growing tension between a desperate public and a stretched medical community.

On the other side of the same system is an online wave of activity that has begun to complicate the public perception of physicians. In another and equally serious controversy, a medical student uploaded a video of his first exposure to an operation theatre. The video, which was meant to be personal or celebratory, was found to be inappropriate and insensitive—warranting serious questions of ethics, consent, and professionalism. Such incidents have prompted regulatory agencies to step in, issuing strict guidelines that now prohibit physicians and medical students from uploading videos, images, or medical data online that may violate privacy or undermine the integrity of the profession.

These two incidents—doctors being

attacked while at work, and others attacked for vlogging—are connected. Both are indicative of the underlying cracks in the system. Healthcare workers are struggling with poor support, long shifts, and heightened public expectations. Patients are coping with waiting times, over-stretched resources, and growing distrust. In such an environment, one fatality or one video is sufficient to trigger protests, violence, or widespread condemnation.

Even hospitals like Lal Ded Hospital were not spared the public backlash, as doctors were filmed recording material on hospital premises. Even if confidentiality was not breached, the fact that they were recording it was a very serious matter of priorities and boundaries. Hospitals, especially maternity and casualty wards, are not just centers for treatment—these are vulnerability zones. All recorded or posted moments need to be treated with care and humility.

There are further layers to the credibility crisis. One troubling concern raised by both patients and insiders is the absence of senior doctors during evening and night shifts. It has been routinely observed that senior specialists often delegate critical night responsibilities to interns or junior residents, leaving hospitals with minimal supervision during high-risk hours. This lack of senior presence compromises both treatment quality and public trust. In emergency and casualty wards—where timely decisions can mean life or death—experienced oversight is not a luxury; it is a necessity. The healthcare system must make it mandatory for senior doctors to be physically present and accountable during evening and night hours to uphold professional standards and patient care.

Another contentious issue damaging doctor-patient trust is the prescription of branded medicines, often at the behest of pharmaceutical companies. Patients have reported that some prescribed brands are available only at select medical stores located within or near hospital premises, creating suspicion and resentment. There



is growing concern that some prescriptions may be influenced by incentives or gifts offered by medical representatives, rather than patient welfare. To restore integrity, doctors are now being advised to prescribe medications by their generic salt names, not by specific branded products. This simple but meaningful change can reduce costs for patients, ensure transparency, and protect the doctor's image from being seen as profit-driven. Medical ethics demand that the act of prescribing be driven by patient need—not industry influence.

Doctor: A Saviour or an Executioner

While discussing the changing dynamics of the medical profession, it is worth recalling the insightful words of the noted columnist, writer, educational counsellor, and my respected teacher Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun. In his thought-provoking column titled "Doctor: A Saviour or an Executioner", published in Brighter Kashmir on 3rd July 2021, he eloquently writes: "To begin with the word 'Doctor' — it

signifies not just a profession, but a beacon of hope. A doctor is one who can bring smiles to the faces of the suffering, one who stands as a guardian between life and death. The medical profession, therefore, commands immense respect in every civilized society.

Doctors constitute an indispensable pillar of our community. Their importance is universally acknowledged, and their service is marked by dignity, honour, and the heart-felt gratitude of those they heal. It is a profession where dedication, passion, perseverance, and relentless hard work elevate an individual to a stature not easily attained.

However, with the increasing pursuit of material comforts and luxuries, the noble spirit of service that once defined this profession appears to be eroding. The medical field, once considered a divine calling, now risks being reduced to a mere means of livelihood.

Disturbing reports frequently surface — of impostors posing as doctors, of fake degrees being unearthed, and of patients

losing their lives due to negligence or the administration of substandard medicines. Such incidents not only tarnish the sanctity of the profession but also cast a dark shadow on the thousands of honest, dedicated doctors who still uphold their oath.

This slow corrosion of values within the medical fraternity compels us to reflect: Has the healer become a merchant? Has the saviour, in some cases, turned into an executioner?"

Bottomline

To offset mounting pressure, there have been measures taken by authorities: requiring doctors to wear name tags and white coats on duty, ensuring senior supervision in casualty wards, and proposing greater legal protection for doctors. These are all necessary measures, but they scratch the surface only. Problems beneath remain untouched. Shortage of personnel, substandard facilities, and absence of proper communication channels still fuel pandemonium.

What this episode demands is not piecemeal punishment but wholesale reform. Doctors need protection—but also the very highest moral standards. Hospitals need security—but also humane administration. And the public need answers—but also a realization of the pressures that medical people have to live with on a day-to-day basis. Without the balance, the blame game and backlash will only continue.

The health system crisis in Jammu and Kashmir is no longer an issue of infrastructure. It is an issue of culture, behavior, and credibility. When doctors turn into social media stars, and when hospitals turn into fronts for battlegrounds, the trust fabric gets damaged. All actors—doctors, patients, hospitals, and the authorities—will have to behave with responsibility and sensitivity and mend it. For if the white coat is meaningless, then the entire system is deprived of heart.

The author is a Class 12th PCB. sheikhzain@gmail.com

Papaya Brings Glamour to the Face



Sahil Manzoor Bhatti

With the passage of time, the Kashmir Valley is witnessing the availability of high-quality fruits at affordable prices. In the past, only a few varieties of fruits were common—some grown locally, such as apples, pears, and cherries, while others like oranges, bananas, grapes, and melons were imported from other states at higher prices. Thanks to the rapid advancement in cutting-edge technologies, both the horticulture and agriculture sectors are thriving. As a simple rule: more production leads to lower prices, while low production causes prices to rise.

Smart and vigilant individuals take their health seriously, observe any abnormality in their body, and consult doctors when needed. They also maintain a healthy diet, which is essential for well-being.

Why is Diet So Important for Good Health?

Almighty Allah has created human beings and, alongside, everything needed for their survival. Our bodies require a wide variety of foods rich in essential nutrients. Eating the same food every day can lead to nutritional deficiencies and digestive issues.

A human body is composed of around 36 trillion cells—the basic structural and functional units of life. To keep these cells healthy, we need a balanced diet. Different organs in the body—like the skin, eyes, hair, teeth, and stomach—require different nutrients for proper functioning.

No single food item contains all essential nutrients. For example:

- Carrots are rich in vitamin A, which supports eye health.
- Collard greens are high in fiber and help with digestion.
- Fish is loaded with omega-3 fatty acids and supports heart health.
- Pulses are rich in protein and support muscle growth.
- Water keeps us hydrated and helps with bowel movements.
- Let's Talk About Papaya

In recent times, especially after the watermelon controversy in Kashmir, papa-

ya has become a household name. This sweet, tropical fruit is now trending across the Valley and is often sold in poly bags during winter.

Papaya is cultivated in Indian states such as Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat. With increasing awareness of its health benefits, papaya is becoming more popular than ever.

Top 10 Health Benefits of Papaya Enhances Skin Health

Papaya is packed with antioxidants like vitamin A and C, which promote collagen production, make the skin radiant, and reduce wrinkles.

Provides Energy

Thanks to its natural sugars and minerals, papaya offers an instant and sustained energy boost—perfect for mornings.

Boosts Immunity

With its high vitamin C content, papaya strengthens the immune system and protects against infections.

Supports Weight Loss

Low in calories and high in fiber, papaya helps you feel full longer, aiding in healthy weight management.

Improves Mood and Brain Function

Papaya contains folate (vitamin B9), which is vital for brain health and mood regulation. Eating it regularly can enhance cognitive function and emotional well-being.

Protects Eye Health

Rich in beta-carotene and vitamin A, papaya supports good vision and reduces the risk of age-related eye disorders.

Aids Digestion

Papain, an enzyme in papaya, helps break down proteins and promotes smooth digestion.

Reduces Inflammation

Its anti-inflammatory properties help reduce pain and inflammation caused by conditions like arthritis.

Supports Heart Health

Papaya's potassium and fiber content help manage blood pressure and cholesterol, reducing the risk of heart diseases.

Relieves Constipation

High in fiber, papaya promotes regular bowel movements and keeps the digestive system in check.

Papaya truly beneficial, don't just rely on papaya alone include a wide variety of fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables in your diet. Avoid junk food, stay hydrated, and exercise regularly to maintain your health and vitality.

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India, Philippines talks expected to focus on boosting maritime, defence cooperation, with China in focus

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, AUG 4: Talks between the Philippines and India during President Ferdinand Marcos Jr's five-day state visit are expected to focus on strengthening bilateral maritime and defence cooperation, amid China's growing footprint in the seas off the Philippines.

The Philippines President, who is visiting India at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, arrived in the afternoon. He is accompanied by his wife, First Lady Liza Araneta-Marcos, several Cabinet members and a high-level business delegation. They were welcomed at the Palam Air Force Station by Minister of State for External Affairs

Pabitra Margherita, Indian Ambassador Harsh Kumar Jain and other officials.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr will be meeting PM Modi at Hyderabad House tomorrow for bilateral talks.

The visit comes as Indian Navy warships are engaged in joint patrolling parts of the West Philippine Sea (WPS) with the Philippine Navy, for the first time ever.

Indian Navy vessels—guided missile destroyer INS Delhi, anti-submarine warfare corvette INS Kiltan, and fleet tanker INS Shakti—are conducting joint sail with the Philippine Navy's guided missile frigate BRP Miguel Malvar in the WPS.

The presence of two Chi-

nese warships was monitored during the joint patrol with the Indian navy, an official of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) said.

The Philippine vessel detected two People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) ships—a Jiangkai II-class frigate, and a Luyang-class destroyer.

The Jiangkai-class frigate was observed at a distance of 10 nautical miles, while the Luyang-class destroyer was spotted 15 nautical miles away.

Manila has heightened defence cooperation with a range of allies over the past year after a series of clashes in the West Philippine Sea. Beijing claims nearly the entirety of the South China Sea despite an international ruling that its



assertion has no legal basis.

The Philippines has also recently purchased BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles from India, a state-of-the-art weapon designed to sink warships. The two sides are expected to ink around six pacts in areas such as law, cul-

ture and technology.

However, all eyes will be on any potential defence agreements. Before his official engagements begin on Tuesday, Marcos is expected to meet with members of the Filipino community in the city. Ahead of his India visit,

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr said in his departure statement, "India has been a long-valued friend of the Philippines. Filipinos and Indians have had mutually beneficial interactions since pre-colonial times."

"With the Philippines being the oldest constitutional democracy in Asia, and with India being the continent's largest democracy, our two countries share several core interests, such as our democratic ideals, our respect for basic freedoms, and the preservation of a rules-based order in the international arena."

"There is much potential for cooperation with India that will mutually benefit our peoples. We intend to explore

these by charting a plan of cooperation across a broad spectrum of shared interests: from defense, to trade, investment, health, pharmaceuticals, connectivity, agriculture, tourism, and many other areas."

The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X:

"Mabuhay, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.!

"President @bongbongmarcos has arrived in New Delhi on his first State Visit to India. Received by MoS @PabitraMargheritaBJP and accorded a warm welcome.

"India & Philippines are celebrating 75th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties. This visit will lead to further strengthening of India-Philippines relations." UNIRN

Repro bank presents cheque of Rs 22.90 cr towards dividend to Amit Shah

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, AUG 4: Repco bank today presented a cheque of Rs 22.90 crore towards dividend for 2024-25 to Union Home Minister Amit Shah here.

Shah congratulated team Repco Bank for posting a profit of Rs 140 crore in the financial year 2024-25, which is the highest in the history of the cooperative bank.

In a post on X, Shah said, "The bank under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has set an example of efficiency, dedication, and professionalism that will serve as an inspiration for the cooperative sec-



tor. All my best wishes to the team on their future journey".

The cheque was handed over by Chairman of Repco Bank, E Santhanam, Director—Repco Bank and Chairman of Repco Home Finance Ltd, C Thangaraju, and Managing Director, OM Gokul.

Present on the occasion were Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan and Secretary, Border Management, Rajendra Kumar.

Repco Bank has posted a net profit of Rs 140 crore during the FY 2024-25 and paid 30 percent dividend, which is the highest in the history of the cooperative society. Repco Bank is a Government of India Enterprise.

The Government of India has 50.08 percent shares in Repco Bank and it comes under the administrative control of MHA. It is a continuous profit-making institution declaring dividend consistently for more than three decades. UNI RBE SSP

Joint expedition team successfully scales highest peaks in Pangong Tso region

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, AUG 4: A joint expedition team consisting of instructors from three premier National Mountaineering Institutes successfully summited Mt Merag-III (6,480 meters) and Mt Kangju Kangri (6,710 meters), the highest peaks in the Pangong Tso region of Ladakh. The participating institutes were the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports (JIM&WS), Pahalgam; the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering (NIM), Uttarkashi and the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), Darjeeling, a Defence Ministry statement said.

The expedition was flagged off on July 24 from Sonamarg and was led by Colonel Hem Chandra Singh, Principal of JIM&WS, Pahalgam. The experienced team comprised members from all three institutes: Sub Maj/Hony Lt (Retd) Rafiq Ahmad Malik (JIM&WS), Hav Sajad Hussain (JIM&WS), Nk Bharat Singh (JIM&WS), Hav/NA Yogesh (JIM&WS), Sub Maj Hajari Lal (NIM), Np Sub Bhupinder Singh (NIM), Robin Gurung (HMI), and Zubin Rai (HMI).

Demonstrating remarkable courage, resilience, and teamwork in the face of extreme weather and high-altitude challenges, the team achieved a significant milestone in Indian mountaineering.

The landmark accomplishment not only embodies the indomitable spirit and endurance of our nation's mountaineers but also stands as a proud testament to India's growing prowess in adventure sports and high-altitude expeditions. UNI RBE RN

Philippines President arrives on four-day State visit to India, will hold talks with PM Modi

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, AUG 4: Philippines President Ferdinand R Marcos Jr arrived here today on a five-day State visit during which he will have discussions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on strengthening cooperation in areas including Defence, trade, investment, health, pharmaceuticals, connectivity, agriculture and tourism.

He was received at the airport by Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita. He is the first Philippine President to visit India since 2007. The first Philippine State visit to India was in 2007 by the then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. The last State visit of an Indian leader to the Philippines was in 2019 by the then President Ram Nath Kovind.

President Marcos Jr will also call on President Droupadi Murmu and is scheduled to visit Ban-

galore on August 7-8 to meet business leaders.

External Affairs Ministry spokesman Randhir Jaiswal said India and the Philippines are celebrating 75th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties. This visit at the invitation of Prime Minister Modi, will lead to further strengthening of bilateral relations.

The two countries are scheduled to sign six agreements for strengthening cooperation in law, culture, science and technology, the Philippine Foreign Office has said. "The areas of cooperation actually are very wide-ranging. But we look forward to expanding them even more," Philippine Foreign Office official Jimenez-Ducrocq said in a briefing in Malacañang on Friday. "We have... upwards of six agreements to be concluded," she added.

In his departure statement in Manila, President Marcos said it is "incumbent upon us, now more



than ever, to maximize the opportunities in trade and investment with the world's fourth-largest economy."

He highlighted the maritime ties between the two countries and emphasized their shared strategic interests and values.

"Our geostrategic position as coastal states that border the busiest international trade routes and critical sea lines of communication in the Indo-Pacific

region, our shared interest in protecting the rights and welfare of our international seafarers, our steadfastness in upholding international maritime law, including UNCLOS and the 2016 Arbitral Award, and our unwavering commitment to regional peace and cooperation serve as credible foundations of our active and growing maritime cooperation," he said.

He also hoped that the two

countries' commonalities would lead to a "deeper, broader, and more meaningful" bilateral cooperation that would promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the wider Indo-Pacific region.

The Philippine Presidential Communications Office (PCO) said the areas of cooperation are very wide-ranging. But we look forward to expanding them even more. The PCO said the expansion of maritime cooperation will also be discussed.

"Part of our ongoing relationship with India is in maritime cooperation activities. So we look forward to expanding these, deepening our relationships, and expanding our areas of cooperation," Jimenez-Ducrocq said.

"A number of the companies have already made some investments in the Philippines, and so we're looking to expand these investments from the same companies or to reach out to new companies," she said. UNI RB 1923

Russia downplays US nuclear sub deployment, dismisses any reports of escalation



■ **United News of India**

MOSCOW, AUG 4: Downplaying US President Donald Trump's deployment of two nuclear submarines after his verbal spat with former Russian President and now Deputy Chairman of the country's Security Council Dmitry Medvedev, the Kremlin said it had no intention of involving itself in polemics, reports BBC.

In the first official reaction since the US president's comments last Friday, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov dismissed any kind of nuclear panic, stating that American submarines were on combat duty anyway and there had been no escalation.

"Very complex, very sensitive issues are being discussed, which, of course, many perceive very emotionally," Peskov said - though he added that everyone should be "very cautious" with nuclear rhetoric.

US Special Envoy to the Middle East Steve Witkoff is set to visit Moscow on August 6, where the deployment is more than likely to be discussed.

Trump has been in a long game

of verbal spats with Medvedev, with the two leaders having taken pot shots at each other many a time. While Trump had called him a "failed President", Medvedev in turn belittled the POTUS' deadline on ending Russia's war with Ukraine, accusing him of "playing the ultimatum game" and scorning him.

The spat took a heated turn afterwards, when President Trump last week ordered two nuclear submarines to "be positioned in the appropriate regions" in response to what he called "highly provocative" comments by Medvedev.

Russia's response has been rather light and restrained, with neither Medvedev or Putin slamming Trump for the move, or threatening any kind of retaliation.

In an indirect reference to the spat between the two leaders, Peskov said today that while "in every country members of the leadership... have different points of view", in Russia foreign policy was dictated by President Vladimir Putin alone.

Despite the recent developments, US-Russia relations have improved significantly under the Trump

administration, though Trump has recently commented that Putin may not be interested in peace, referencing his further advancements on Ukraine.

In response, Trump has threatened further tariffs on Moscow and given the country a deadline of August 8 to come to a settlement with Kyiv, while also acknowledging that further tariffs were unlikely to harm Russia.

Russia - already the most tariffed country in the world - has capped well the international sanctions, with its economy not experiencing any major setbacks.

Trump has said that Russia is "pretty good at avoiding sanctions", while Moscow has retorted that it has been living too long under Western sanctions and was "immune" to them.

Despite their row, Washington and Moscow remain in contact and Peskov welcomed Witkoff's trip later this week.

"We are always happy to see Mr Witkoff in Moscow... We consider such contact important, meaningful and useful," he said, adding that Witkoff and Putin may meet. UNI

Putin open to talks with Zelensky after completing necessary prep: Kremlin

■ **United News of India**

MOSCOW/KYIV, AUG 4: Russian President Vladimir Putin is open to holding a meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky, but only after the required groundwork has been laid by both countries' delegations, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said today. Reiterating Moscow's long-standing position over the matter, he said that a top-level summit must be preceded by substantial progress at the expert level, reports RT. "A Putin-Zelensky meeting is possible only after all necessary preparations are completed and a sufficient distance in negotiations is crossed," he told reporters.

Zelensky has consistently been pushing for direct talks with Putin, arguing that meaningful negotiations require the involvement of both heads of state.

However, the Kremlin has raised its doubts over Zelensky's legitimacy, as his presidential term formally expired in 2024. Under Ukraine's constitution, power should transfer to the speaker of parliament in the absence of an election—something currently suspended under martial law.

While Moscow considers the legality of Zelensky's extended rule Kyiv's internal affair, it has also warned that the legality of any agreement signed with him on an international level could be challenged.

Zelensky, in turn has accused Putin of deliberately avoiding talks to prolong the conflict, stating that he does not want peace, urging Kyiv's allies to increase their military support and maintain pressure on Russia via sanctions.

Despite the political impasse, diplomatic channels remain partially open. Ukrainian officials reportedly agreed earlier this year to resume lower-level peace talks with Russia—abandoned in 2022—to dispel perceptions that Kyiv is obstructing a negotiated settlement. Over three rounds of direct negotiations have since taken place in Istanbul, with few agreements having taken place, which include the topic of prisoner exchanges and the return of the remains of thousands of Ukrainian soldiers recovered by Russian forces.

Whether these developments will eventually lead to a top-level summit remains uncertain, as both sides continue to hold fundamentally opposing positions on the terms of peace. UNI ANV SSP

Imran Raza Ansari Meets Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi

HT News Desk

NEW DELHI, AUG 4: President All J&K Shia Association Imran Raza Ansari met with Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah today in the national capital for a detailed discussion on the prevailing situation in Jammu & Kashmir.

During the meeting, Ansari raised key issues concerning the people of the Union Territory, including the urgent need for the rehabilitation of families affected by terrorism. He appreciated the efforts made under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, while also highlighting that several cases still require immediate attention and consistent follow-up.



The discussion also covered the recent observance of Muharram in the region. Ansari expressed gratitude for the cooperation extended by both the Central and UT administrations

but flagged the ban on a few traditional processions. He urged that measures be taken to allow their peaceful revival from next year, in line with religious freedoms and local sentiments.

"We had an open and constructive dialogue," Ansari said after the meeting. "I conveyed both my appreciation for the positive steps taken so far and my concerns regarding areas that need further action. I am hopeful that the discussion will translate into meaningful results for the people on the ground."

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with a shared commitment to maintaining peace, promoting inclusivity, and addressing the socio-political concerns of Jammu & Kashmir.

Ehsaas Foundation Serves Free Tea at Urs of Hazrat Abli Wani (R.A)

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR AUG 4: Ehsaas Foundation, a prominent Non-Government organization known for its humanitarian efforts, organized a free tea service for thousands of devotees attending the annual Urs of revered Sufi poet and saint, Hazrat Faqeer Abli Wani (R.A.) at Waniyar Eidgah.

The initiative, part of the Foundation's continuous community outreach programs, was warmly received by the attendees who gathered to pay homage to the legendary saint known for his poetry, piety, and spiritual teachings.



Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of Ehsaas Foundation, Zahoor Malik, emphasized the importance of unity, compassion, and brotherhood in today's world.

"Hazrat Faqeer Abli Wani (R.A.)'s message was rooted in love, tolerance, and spirituality. It is our duty to uphold those values in our society. Through such small acts of service, we aim to foster a sense of togetherness and mutual respect," he said.

The Foundation also expressed gratitude to its volunteers and supporters who made the event a success. The free tea stall remained active throughout the day, symbolizing the spirit of selfless service and devotion.

The Urs concluded with soulful recitations and prayers, echoing the timeless legacy of Hazrat Abli Wani (R.A.) and drawing people from all walks of life.

Devotional Bajan "Chandi maa da pyar" released in Jammu

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUGUST 4: Sohail kazmi along with Social Activist, and Retd. Judge Subhash gupta M.D Maa Bawe Wali Records Sahil Mahajan releases a new devotional Bajan titled "Chandi maa da pyar" adding a new melody to the rich tapestry of local spiritual music.

The song, "Chandi maa da pyar," features the heartfelt voices of singers: Vijay malhotra and Nidhi Singh. The soulful lyrics have been penned by Vijay malhotra, with music composed by Naresh NB (Music Mafia). The Bajan visual narrative was directed by KK Malhotra, with cinematography by KK Malhotra.

Sohail kazmi along with Social Activist, and Retd. Judge Subhash gupta while Speaking said "It is a great pleasure to be a part of the release of 'Chandi maa da pyar' especially devotional music which has a unique way of connecting people and bringing peace. I congratulate the entire team for their dedication and creating such a beautiful piece of art. This bajan will surely resonate with many and strengthen their spiritual connection."

Sahil mahajan while speaking said that he has always believed in promoting local talent and preserving our cultural heritage. 'Chandi maa da pyar' is a testament to the immense talent present in our region. The song's message of faith and devotion is something that we all need in our lives, and I am confident it will be very well received by the audience."

AMGDC Kilam Hosts Seminar on "Freedom Struggle in India" Ahead of 79th Independence Day

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, JULY 4: As part of the celebrations marking India's 79th Independence Day, Altaf Memorial Government Degree College (AMGDC), Kilam organized a one-day seminar on the theme "Freedom Struggle in India" on July 4, 2025. The event was a joint initiative of the College Debates and Seminar Committee in collaboration with the Department of History.

The programme began with a formal welcome address by Prof. (Dr.) Shabir Ahmad Padder, In-charge Principal of the college. He warmly welcomed the speakers and participating students and encouraged them to embrace and uphold the values passed down from India's freedom movement.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Kowser Ahmad Ganai, Head of the Department of History. In his insightful speech, Dr. Ganai emphasized the importance of observing national events and commemorating historical milestones. He stressed that such platforms are essential for sensitizing the youth about the nation's hard-earned freedom and the sacrifices made by its leaders to establish a sovereign and democratic India.

Student participation added fur-



ther depth to the seminar. Mohd. Tahir, a third-semester student, spoke on the pivotal role of Mahatma Gandhi and his philosophy of non-violence in India's path to freedom. Sujeel Fayaz, from the first semester, gave an overview of the key events of the Indian freedom struggle, tracing the movement from the Revolt of 1857 to India's independence in 1947.

An interactive session followed the presentations, during which stu-

dents posed several thoughtful questions to the keynote speaker, contributing to a lively and engaging discussion.

The seminar concluded on a positive note, with participants appreciating the relevance of such academic and historical discourses. Glimpses of the event were captured in photographs, reflecting the enthusiasm and active participation of the students and faculty.

INDIAN ARMY DEDICATES COMPUTER LAB TO LITTLE ANGEL SCHOOL BHADERWAH CAMPUS

Amir Iqbal Khan

BHADERWAH, AUG 4: In a significant step towards promoting digital literacy and strengthening civil-military cooperation, the Indian Army's 4 Rashtriya Rifles (4RR) on Sunday dedicated a modern computer lab to Little Angel School of Bhaderwah Campus, University of Jammu.

The facility was formally inaugurated by Colonel Yogesh Chouhan, Commanding Officer, 4RR, who attended the event as the Chief Guest.

"This initiative is aimed at bridging developmental gaps and empowering future generations through education and technology," Col Chouhan said, addressing students and staff at the inauguration ceremony.

He praised the efforts of the teaching and administrative staff of Little Angel School and commended the leadership of the



Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, for the commitment to holistic development. Rector of Bhaderwah Campus, Prof Rahul Gupta, extended his gratitude to the Indian Army for their support.

"The establishment of this computer lab is not just an infra-

structure upgrade, but an investment in the future of our children," Prof Gupta said in a message adding, "It reflects the spirit of collaboration and nation-building."

External Relations Officer of Bhaderwah Campus Arif Haleem welcomed the guests and

acknowledged the Indian Army's continued support for educational and community development initiatives.

"We deeply appreciate the Indian Army's active role in empowering youth and uplifting the education sector in the

region," he stated.

Following the inauguration, students of Little Angel School presented a cultural programme showcasing the region's vibrant heritage which captivated the audience.

Vote of thanks was presented on this occasion by the Principal of Little Angel School, Ms Aamira Bano. She expressed gratitude to 4RR Unit of the Indian Army based at Bhaderwah.

"We are committed to providing a holistic learning environment, and this generous contribution by the Army greatly enhances our capacity to do so," Ms Bano asserted.

Among those present were Assistant Registrar of Bhaderwah Campus Mujeeb Sheikh, Campus Programmer Mrs Bubloo Sharma, faculty members from various departments and students from both Bhaderwah Campus and Little Angel School.

MLA Arvind Gupta visits Saini Mohalla, assures timely redressal of civic issues

HT News Desk

JAMMU, AUGUST 4: MLA Jammu West Arvind Gupta conducted an extensive tour of Ward No. 32, Saini Mohalla, where he interacted with residents to assess on-ground civic conditions, especially focusing on issues related to lanes, drains, and sanitation infrastructure.

During the interaction, several locals highlighted their grievances regarding

improper drainage systems, choked lanes, and the lack of timely repair work, which had caused inconvenience to daily life, particularly during the rainy season. Residents urged the MLA to expedite developmental works in the area.

Responding to their concerns, Arvind Gupta assured the public that their issues would be addressed on a priority basis. He said, "It is our responsibility to ensure

that the basic civic infrastructure in each ward is functional and up to the mark. The issues raised by the residents today will be taken seriously, and necessary instructions will be given to the concerned departments to start the repair and maintenance work at the earliest."

He added, "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of BJP's state leadership,



our focus remains on development that reaches the grassroots. No ward or mohalla will be left behind in the journey of Viksit Bharat."

The MLA was accompanied by former Deputy Mayor Dharam Veer Singh Jamwal, Mandal President Anil Angral, Kushant Prajapati, and several BJP Karyakartas including Satha Bhushan Dubey, Rahul Nargotra, Rajesh Saini, Ram Pal Saini, Bachan Bhagat, Kali Jyoti

Prakash, Ravinder Khajuria, Guru Charan Singh, Raj Saini, Binny Singh, along with local residents of the ward.

The visit ended with Gupta instructing local party workers to keep close coordination with the community and ensure that every complaint is monitored until resolved. He also urged residents to actively participate in the development process by providing regular feedback.

Public Notice

I, Mohammad Ashraf Ahangar, S/o Ghulam Mohammad Ahangar, R/o Laripora, Lari Pora, Anantnag, Jammu & Kashmir - 192126, hereby inform through this notice that my name is incorrectly mentioned as Feroz Ahmad in my Aadhaar Card bearing number 4234 1431 4830.
My correct and legal name is Mohammad Ashraf Ahangar, and I shall henceforth be known and identified by this name for all official, legal, and personal purposes.

**Sd/-
Mohammad Ashraf Ahangar**

Public Notice

I, Shabir Ahmad Mir, S/O Ali Mohammad Mir, am the rightful holder of electricity consumer ID No. 0209 020023585.
My previous address was wrongly recorded as Yanner, Pahalgam, which is now being corrected to Koths, Srigufwara.
If any person or institution has any objection to this change, they may submit their concerns along with relevant documents to the Sub-Division Office, Ashmuqam within 7 days of the publication of this notice. No objections will be entertained after that period.

Public Notice

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

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora) / chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Death of RAFEEQA BEGUM W/O MOHD YOUSUF R/O WATERGAM Tehsil WAGOORA Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Death as 23/08 /2016 and event has been shown to be occurred at HOME for issuance of delay order .In this connection .
If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of death certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Wagoora

Public Notice

My son's mother's name has been wrongly written as AFROZA BEGUM in school record while his correct mother's name is ROZI BEGUM as per aadhar record which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his /her objection in the office of ZEO WAGOORA / GOVT HIGH SCHOOL WATERGAM within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

**Name...ROZI BEGUM , M/O...HARIS SHABIR
ZONE...WAGOORA**

Public Notice

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

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora) / chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Death of MOHAMMAD AKBAR LONE S/O ABDUL RAHMAN LONE R/O KHISIPORA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of death as 11/10/2002 and event has been shown to be occurred at HOME for issuance of delay order .In this connection
If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Death certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

Public Notice

I have lost Death Certificate of My Son Mohd Ashraf Wani S/O GH Mohd Wani issued on 03-02-2003.Now i am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned Authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**GH MOHD WANI F/O LATE MOHD ASHRAF WANI
R/O KREERI BARAMULLA**

Public Notice

My Name and My Parentage wrongly mentioned in my Bank Account and Pass Book as Mohd Assadullah Trumboo S/O Gul Mohd Trumboo instead of my Name as Assadullah Wani and my Parentage as Gulle Joo Wani .Now I am applying for its correction if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Manager J&K Bank Branch Kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**ASSADULLAH WANI S/O GULLE JOO WANI R/O
KREERI BARAMULLA**

Public Notice

I have lost Death Certificate of My Son Mohd Ashraf Wani S/O GH Mohd Wani issued on 03-02-2003.Now i am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned Authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**GH MOHD WANI F/O LATE MOHD ASHRAF WANI
R/O KREERI BARAMULLA**

Public Notice

My Name and My Parentage wrongly mentioned in my Bank Account and Pass Book as Mohd Assadullah Trumboo S/O Gul Mohd Trumboo instead of my Name as Assadullah Wani and my Parentage as Gulle Joo Wani .Now I am applying for its correction if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Manager J&K Bank Branch Kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**ASSADULLAH WANI S/O GULLE JOO WANI R/O
KREERI BARAMULLA**

**Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri
(Executive Magistrate 1st Class)**

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora) / chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of RAJA BEGUM D/O GHULAM MOHAMMAD YATOO R/O DULETPORA Tehsil kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 21/07/1950 and event has been shown to be occurred at home for issuance of delay order .In this connection .
If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

**Sd/- Executive Magistrate
1st Class Kreeri**

Public Notice

I have lost my Mobile phone;(Awesome Graphite 8GB) along with sim card bearing phone No 8899990181 & 2nd sim card 9419461665 while travelling from in children Hospital Bemina if anybody found Kindly return to below mentioned address otherwise I am applying for Duplicate Sim cards any objection in this regard he /she may contact with POLICE STATION BEMINA SRINAGAR within seven days from the publication of the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

**Name...FIRDOUS AHMAD TANTRY
S/O MOHD MUSTAFA TANTRY
R/O ...DANGERPORA QASBA MALMOH
BARAMULLAH**

Public Notice

I want transfer my driving license from AHMAD HUSSAIN S/O HAJI MOHD HASSAN R/O TAMBIS KARGIL bearing licence JK074119 to GHULAM ABASS S/O GHULAM HAIDER R/O TRESPONE KARGIL If anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may contact with ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER KARGIL. within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

**TransferorAHMAD HUSSAIN
S/O ...HAJI MOHD HUSSAIN
R/O TAMBIS
Transferee....GHULAM ABASS
S/O GHULAM HAIDER
R/O TRESPONE**

Public Notice

I have lost my date of Death (DOD)certificate bearing DOD 12/05/1998 issued by POLICE STATION KREERI at somewhere Now i am applying for its duplicate if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his /her objection in the office of POLICE STATION KREERI within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**Name...SITARA BEGUM
M/O MUZAFFAR AHMAD SHAH
W/O GH NABI SHAH
R/O WATERGAM
TEHSIL....WAGOORA**

Public Notice

My name has been wrongly written as NUSRULLAH KHANPATHAN in my driving licence bearing licence no JK09 2020 0001687 while my correct name is NUSRULLAH KHAN as per adhar record which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his /her objection in the office of ARTO KUPWARA /BARAMULLA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

**Name....NUSRULLA KHAN
S/O HABIBULLAH KHAN**

Public Notice

My name has been wrongly written as RIZWAN MOHI UD DIN in my Adhar card while my correct name is NAZIMA JAN which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection he /she may contact with concerned adhar authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**Name....NAZIMA JAN
D/O GHULAM MOHI UD DIN BHAT
R/O VIZER WAGOORA**

Public Notice

My name has been wrongly written as SAKEENA BANO in my Adhar card while my correct name is AAMINA SHABIR which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection he /she may contact with concerned adhar authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**Name....AAMINA SHABIR
D/O SHABIR AHMAD BHAT
R/O TRUMBUND**

Public Notice

It is hereby notified that my dob has been incorrectly mentioned on his Adhar card, 37130932765 as DOB 02/04/1950 while his correct DOB is 02/08/1939, Namely, Jana now I have applied for the correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection concerned authority /UIDAI office within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.

**Name: JANA DOB , 03/08/1939
W/O LATE AB RAHEEM MIR
R/O: GULOORA TEHSIL LANGATE DIST KUPWARA**

Public Notice

It is hereby notified that my son's name and dob has been incorrectly mentioned on her Adhar card 338900910934, namely Wahid Rasool dob 26/01/2008 S/O Ghulam Rasool, Bhat while her correct Name and dob is as per record Ubaid Rasool dob 10/04/2013, S/O Ghulam Rasool Bhat r/o,

Kandikhass/Tehsil/Handwara, now i have applied for the correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/ she may file his/her objection at UDAI Office Or BDO Office Natnussa within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.

**Name: UBAID RASOOL DOB 10/04/2013
Parentage: GHULAM RASOOL BHAT
R/O: KANDI KHASS/ Tehsil/ Handwara
District/ Kupwara**

Office of the Medical Superintendent District Hospital Pulwama

Re-Tender

On behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT sealed tenders affixed with revenue stamp of Rs5/= (Rupees Five) are invited from the Hoteliers/Suppliers/dealers for the supply food items to the patients admitted in Gynae section District Hospital Pulwama under JSSK-Scheme. The tenders along with CDR of Rs5000/-(Rupees Five thousand Only) Pledged to the Medical Superintendent District Hospital Pulwama from any J&K Bank, shall reach to office of the undersigned with seven days from the date of publication of this quotation in newspaper.

Terms & Conditions:

1. Initial Contract shall be for the Period of One year
2. The amount should not exceed Rs. 100/= per pack (pack menu to be mentioned)
3. The rates should be written legibly and without cutting/over writings.
4. No conditional tenders will be accepted.
5. The supplies should be FOR to bed side of patients.
6. The undersign has the right to reject any tender without assigning any reason at any time.

**No: MS/DH/Pul/JSSK/2579-82
Dated: 04/08/2025**

**Sd/- Medical Superintendent
Distt. Hospital Pulwama**

DIPK: 4766/25 | Dated: 04-08-2025

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P) KASHMIR**

Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 e-mail: kash.flori@jk.gov.in

GIST of e- Tender Notice No.20 of 2025 | Dated: 01/08/2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory, J&K, bids are invited (In double cover system) from the Registered Contractors/Firms/ Bidders with J&K UT/Central Govt., CPWD for the following work:-

S.No.	Name of Work/ Contract	Reserve Bid (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) @ 10 % (in Rs.)	Cost of Tender Documents in shape of Demand Draft (Non-Refundable) (In Rs.)	Validity of Contract
01.	Outsourcing of entry ticketing System of Children Park Srinagar	30,27,199.00	3,02,720.00	1000/-	One (1) year from the date of award of contract

The bidding document(s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, BOQ (Bill of quantity) terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the Departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	01.08.2025 from 03:00 PM to 22.08.2025 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	01.08.2025 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	22.08.2025 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	26.08.2025 at 02:00 PM

**Sd/- Accounts Officer, (Member Secretary)
Floriculture Department, Kashmir**

DIPK: 4783/25 | Dated: 04-08-2025

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Speaker Reviews Urs Arrangements at Pakherpora Shrine

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, AUG 04: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, today visited the revered Pakherpora Shrine to review the preparations and arrangements being put in place for the upcoming Urs celebration.

During the visit, the Speaker held public interaction with the local residents, civil society members and shrine management.

The public raised wide range of issues and demands regarding smooth conduct of the Urs. Main issues raised included uninterrupted electricity, adequate water



supply, timely ration distribution and proper transport facilities from major routes like Budgam, Pulwama and Charar-i-Sharief to Pakherpora Shrine.

The Speaker assured the public that all the necessary arrangements will be made well in advance. He directed the concerned departments to ensure that adequate electricity, water and ration supplies are available during the Urs days to avoid any inconvenience to the devotees. Furthermore, he emphasized on the need for hassle-free transport facility from the surrounding districts and towns to facilitate smooth movement of pilgrims.

The Speaker reiterated that the administration is committed to facilitate the religious events with dignity and proper planning. He added that all public grievances would be resolved at the earliest to ensure a peaceful and spiritually enriching Urs at Pakherpora Shrine.

The locals expressed gratitude to the Speaker and District Administration for active role and commitment for arrangements for the Urs.

CEO Yousmarg Development Authority, SDM Charar-i-Sharief, BMO, Assistant Director Food, ARTO Budgam and other senior officers accompanied the Speaker during the visit.

SHA J&K clarifies allegations of denial of PM-JAY benefits in Private Hospitals

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: In response to a recent news report by KNS Kashmir highlighting the concerns about alleged denial of services under the Ayushman Bharat scheme in certain private hospitals, the State Health Agency, J&K, has issued a clarification to reassure the beneficiaries of their rights and the support available to them.

As per an official communique issued today in this regard, the SHA has established a robust and transparent grievance redressal mechanism to ensure that no eligible beneficiary is denied treatment under the Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY and AB PM-JAY SEHAT schemes.

If any empanelled private or public hospital refuses to provide treatment under the scheme, beneficiaries are advised to immediately report the issue. Complaints can be registered by calling the toll-free helpline 104 for direct assistance and quick action. Additionally, grievances can be submitted online through the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), Central Grievance Redressal and Management System (CGRMS) or the JK Samadhan Portal. If any hospital is found guilty of denying treatment or violating scheme guidelines, strict action is taken, including imposition of penalties, temporary suspension and even permanent de-empanelment from the scheme.

A dedicated Grievance Cell at SHA monitors and resolves complaints on a priority basis. Additionally, the State Anti-Fraud Unit (SAFU) conducts regular follow-up calls with the patients to verify whether they received the entitled cashless treatment.

It is important to note that all treatment packages under the Ayushman Bharat scheme are scientifically designed and standardized by the expert committees under the National Health Authority (NHA). These packages define clear medical protocols, costs and durations and are applicable uniformly across all empanelled hospitals in the country. Hospitals are not permitted to alter or overcharge for these packages, ensuring transparency and uniform quality of care.

As per the scheme guidelines, no empanelled hospital is allowed to deny treatment or demand payment for services covered under the scheme. Any such act whether in the form of service denial or asking for money constitutes a serious violation. Hospitals found guilty are liable to face strict action, including penalties, suspension or permanent de-empanelment from the scheme.

The SHA has urged all the beneficiaries to register their Grievances/Complaints through available channels. For any help or complaints, beneficiaries can call 104.

Awareness programme to sensitize students on critical legal & social issues held at GBHSS Hazratbal

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 04: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar, organized a comprehensive legal awareness programme today at Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS) Hazratbal, Srinagar.

The initiative aimed to sensitize students about critical legal and social issues including the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, drug abuse, bullying, teasing, violence, and the services available through the NALSA Helpline No. 15100.

The event was held under the chairmanship of Tasleem Arief, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and conducted under the supervision of Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-Judge and Secretary, DLSA Srinagar.

On the occasion, insightful presentations from legal experts addressed the pressing concerns faced by young individuals.

Zeenat Nazir, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC), DLSA Srinagar, spoke at length about the provisions and significance of the POCSO Act. She also shed light on the growing menace of drug abuse among youth, urging students to stay informed and vigilant.



Suhaila Ali, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Srinagar, addressed the issues of bullying, teasing, and violence in educational institutions. She emphasized the importance of early intervention and encouraged students to seek help through the NALSA Helpline No. 15100, a vital resource for legal aid and support.

The programme concluded with an interactive session where students expressed their concerns and queries, reflecting the impact and relevance of the awareness drive.

Har Ghar Tiranga campaign sees vibrant participation across Budgam

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, AUG 04: A series of patriotic activities were held today across various educational institutions and public offices in district Budgam as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, being celebrated under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

These events were organized under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, aimed at fostering a spirit of nationalism and deepening the emotional connect of citizens with the Indian national flag.

All departments, educational institutions, and local bodies have been actively mobilized to ensure widespread awareness and community involvement.

The day witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and community members in flag hoisting ceremonies, cultural programs, awareness rallies, and painting competitions. Special focus was laid on educating students about the significance of the national flag and the Flag Code of India, ensuring they understand the correct ways of displaying the Tiranga.

At various Government schools across the district, including Government Higher Secondary School Kanir, students showcased handmade tricolour-themed artwork and



participated in engaging patriotic song competitions. The school premises were decorated with flags and banners echoing national pride.

The Municipal Council building and Clock Tower in Budgam town were beautifully illuminated in the colours of the national flag, creating a vibrant ambience and drawing public attention towards the importance of the campaign.

District administration also appreciated the efforts of schools, government departments, local bodies, and community stakeholders for their proactive role in spreading awareness and encouraging public participation.

The campaign continues to gain momentum in Budgam, as students, citizens come together to honour the Tricolour and reaffirm their commitment to the ideals of the nation.

DSEK mourns demise of former Commissioner Secretary- G.A. Peer

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 04: Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the passing away of G.A. Peer, a distinguished former Commissioner-Secretary to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

A seasoned and visionary bureaucrat, Peer served J&K with distinction from 1977 across several pivotal administrative roles during his illustrious civil service career.

In a condolence message, Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N. Itoo, described late G.A. Peer as a man of rare dedication, humility, and intellect, who always remained connected with the grassroots and was deeply committed to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"G.A. Peer was an officer of impeccable integrity and a reservoir of knowledge whose sincerity and tireless work ethic made him one of the most respected officers in our administration. His ability to empathize with the people and resolve their concerns with sensitivity set him apart. With his demise, the administration of Jammu and Kashmir has lost one of its finest public servants," Dr. Itoo said.

To pay homage to the departed soul, a condolence meeting was convened today at the Conference Hall of the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir. The solemn gathering was attended by officers and staff of the Directorate who recalled Peer's outstanding contributions to public administration and his inspiring legacy of leadership, simplicity, and service.

JKSDM launches India Skills Competition 2025 across 20 districts of J&K

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 4: The Jammu & Kashmir Skill Development Mission (JKSDM) today launched the India Skills Competition 2025 across all 20 districts of the Union Territory, signaling a significant push to empower the skilled youth of J&K and align them with national and global platforms of excellence.

The launch, held simultaneously across the districts, is part of the nationwide campaign initiated by the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to discover and reward the most skilled young professionals across India through India's largest skill competition.

On the occasion, the Mission Director, JKSDM, remarked that "India Skills 2025 is more than just a competition, it is a movement that recognizes skill as a tool for empowerment. Launching it across all the 20 districts ensures inclusivity and access for every aspiring youth in J&K. Our goal is to continue building on past successes and prepare our youth to meet world-class standards."

The district-level rollouts were conducted in collaboration with the District Skill Committees, ITIs,

Polytechnics, educational institutions and industry partners. The activities included awareness sessions, orientation drives and registration support for the interested candidates. On the spot registration kiosks were setup and many candidates registered for the competitions. All the information related to India Skills was provided to the aspirants.

As per J&K's track record in the India Skills 2023-24, the UT showcased stellar performance during the India Skills 2023-24 competition, securing 3 Gold Medals, 4 Bronze Medals and 6 Medallions of Excellence.

This performance reflects the growing competence and potential of youth across the Union Territory. With expanded outreach and strategic mentoring, JKSDM is aiming for even greater success in the upcoming national rounds.

India Skills 2025 is featuring 63 official and provisional skill trades including sectors like Mechatronics, Welding, Web Technologies, Fashion Technology, Cyber Security, Bakery, Health, Social Care and many more.

All the eligible youth born on or after 01 January 2004 (and for select skills, after 01 January 2001)



are encouraged to register for the competition. "There is no formal educational requirement for participation, the only eligibility criteria is that participant should fall in the specified age group and should have skills to showcase in the competitions even if acquired informally", said one of the Officers of J&K Skill Mission.

As per the format, the participants shall have to compete at the District Level Competitions which will lead to State Level Competitions. The State Level Winners

will form Team J&K and will represent the UT at the Regional Level Competitions that shall be conducted by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and the winner will proceed to National Level Competitions.

The winners of National Level Competitions will form Team India and represent India in the World Skills Competitions scheduled in Shanghai, China in 2026. In previous edition, J&K sent 03 candidates who won Gold at National Level and represented India at World

Skills Competitions that were held in Lyon, France in September 2024. All the expenses on part of competitions and trainings for level of competitions shall be borne by the Government.

"This is the biggest platform where the youth can showcase their skills and get recognized and appreciated at State, National and International Levels. The India Skills Competitions are aimed at glamorizing the skills and evade the blue collar stigma", added Leena Padha, Mission Director JKSDM.

JKSDM will continue its outreach and mobilization through institutional networks and local industry. District Nodal Officers have been activated and SPOCs (Single Points of Contact) will be assigned for each skill sector to streamline the registration and training coordination. All the information about India Skills 2025 and the guidelines and tutorials of registration are available at www.skill.jk.gov.in/cms/competition.

All the eligible candidates can register themselves for the competitions by or before 30th of September 2025 which is the last date for registrations.

Distribution camp for 'Children with Special Needs' organized at Shopian

MLA Shopian presides-over as chief guest

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SHOPIAN, AUG 04: In a significant initiative towards inclusive education, Chief Education Officer Shopian organised a distribution camp for Children with Special Needs (CWSN) under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha.

The camp was graced by the Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Shopian, Shabir Ahmad Kullay, as chief guest.

During the event, necessary aids and appliances were distributed among the CWSN students enrolled in various educational institutions across the dis-

trict, tailored to their individual needs.

The objective of the camp was to facilitate inclusive education by ensuring that specially-abled children receive the required support to learn and grow alongside their peers.

A team of ALIMCO (Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India) along-with the team of Special Education Teachers under Samagra Shiksha, Shopian managed the distribution process and provided guidance on the use of the equipment.

The aids included braille kits, hearing aids, wheelchairs, walking sticks, and



other assistive devices, essential for smooth classroom learning and mobility.

In his address, MLA Shopian lauded the efforts of the Education department and assured continued support for such initiatives. He stressed the importance of holding similar camps in remote and far-flung areas of the district to ensure no child is left behind. He further promised to advocate for additional resources to strengthen support for CWSN students in the future.

Speaking on the occasion, CEO Shopian, Mukhtar Ahmad Shah, emphasized the importance of empowering children

with special needs through education. He highlighted various initiatives undertaken in this direction, such as the construction of ramps, CWSN-friendly toilets, and provisioning of specialised equipment in schools.

He encouraged parents to actively support the education of their children, stating, "They are born with special abilities and can achieve greatness if nurtured with care and guidance." He also cited inspiring examples like Stephen Hawking, who overcame severe physical challenges to become a global icon.

Dhoni Eyes Gaikwad's Return To Fix CSK Batting

United News of India

NEW DELHI: MS Dhoni has said the return of Ruturaj Gaikwad will bolster Chennai Super Kings' (CSK) batting in IPL 2026. Gaikwad was ruled out of IPL 2025 after playing five games with an elbow injury. Dhoni took over the CSK captaincy but could not turn the team's fortunes around; they finished at the bottom with just four wins from 14 matches, struggling to put together consistent batting efforts.

"We are slightly worried about our batting order," Dhoni said at an event in Chennai. "But I think our batting order is quite sorted out now. Rutu (Gaikwad) will be coming back. He got injured. But he will be coming back. So, we are quite sorted now."

Dhoni said the team will try to further strengthen the unit at the mini-auction later this year. "I won't say we (CSK) slacked off (in IPL 2025)," he said. "But there were certain holes that we needed to plug in. A small auction is coming in December. Some loopholes are there, and we will try to plug those in."

Gaikwad's last competitive outing remains CSK's match against Punjab Kings at Mullanpur on April 8. He had a county deal with Yorkshire but withdrew citing personal reasons. He has been named in the West Zone squad for the Duleep Trophy 2025-26, beginning later this month. Dhoni admitted CSK were below-par over the last two seasons, and said it was important for the team to identify the areas of concern.

"Yes, the last couple of years have not been good for us," Dhoni said. "We have not been up to the mark. But what is important is for you to see the learnings. Yes, you had a bad season. But what went wrong? And that was the question for us last year also."

Dhoni said the team will try to further strengthen the unit at the mini-auction later this year. "I won't say we (CSK) slacked off (in IPL 2025)," he said. "But there were certain holes that we needed to plug in. A small auction is coming in December. Some loopholes are there, and we will try to plug those in."

"We were like, 'okay, there are some shortcomings'. But first we needed to exactly figure out what were the shortcomings and then look at solutions. I feel more often than not we have been able to figure out what exactly went wrong. In sports, you know you can have a very good time and at the same time there will be periods when you won't be performing well. In CSK, more often than not, we are on the higher side. "So, we do talk about the processes. But at the same time we do want the result to come to our side. Last year it wasn't there. But looking ahead, we will try to sort out most of the things, and we will hopefully be at our best." "We do talk about the processes. But at the same time we do want the result to come to our side. Last year it wasn't there. But looking ahead, we will try to sort out most of the things, and we will hopefully be at our best."

Dhoni started his journey with CSK in 2008 and has led them to five IPL titles. He said his journey with franchise and the city has played an important part in his personal growth. "It's a very long relationship that we have had and it started much before the start of IPL... 2005 was the time when I made my Test debut which happened to be in Chennai. So, it started from that point of time. And yes, CSK helped in a big way because all of a sudden I'm spending 45-50 days here."

"So, I feel the relationship over the years has grown. It helped me improve as a person. It helped me improve as a cricketer. So, CSK just happened. I think it's good for Chennai. So, today it's good for me also. Nowadays when we go and say CSK, it's not a brand only in India, but when we go to Australia, South Africa, or any of the cricket playing nations."



Holder: Burning Desire Drives My Best Effort

Vishal Dikshit

LAUDERHILL: West Indies had nothing going for them coming into this second T20I on a balmy evening in Lauderhill. They had won just two of their last 19 completed T20Is, which included the forgettable 5-0 loss to Australia at home. They had put down multiple catches in the first T20I. Rovman Powell joined Brandon King, Evin Lewis and Shimron Hetmyer on the injury list, Andre Russell and Nicholas Pooran had recently said their goodbyes, and the three-match series was on the line.

If not for a comprehensive team effort, West Indies were looking for something, a semblance of a spark, any individual brilliance to turn things around amid the mounting pressure in the build-up to the T20 World Cup next year. It came, the individual brilliance, and from one of the oldest members in the squad.

At the age of 33, a body that has been through the rigours of 12 years of international cricket as a pace-bowling allrounder, participation in nine T20 leagues around the world and a shoulder rehab not too long ago among other injuries, Jason Holder became West Indies' highest wicket-taker in the format, took stunning figures of 4 for 19, pounced two sharp catches, and hit the winning runs when West Indies had lost all their batting steam and needed three to win off one.

What was Holder going to remember the most from this day? "Just getting over the line, to be honest," he said on being named the Player of the Match. "As I said before, it's been a tough couple of weeks for us. We just needed a win. We brought it down to the very end, unfortunately. But fortunately, we still got over the line."

The most pressure-cooker situation of those must have been when he got the strike back against Shaheen Shah Afridi in the last over of the chase with six to get from three balls. Holder had Shamar Joseph at the other end, and still, inexplicably, took a single when he couldn't put away a low full toss. Shamar, for his part, gave the strike back and it all came down to Holder to hit four runs off the last ball to keep the series alive. He shuffled away to off, Afridi bowled the full delivery well wide of him outside off and the wide signal eased Holder's nerves a little. Next delivery, Holder covered the stumps and this time when Afridi aimed for the stumps, Holder swiped it away behind square for four.

The ball had barely left the 30-yard circle and you could hear Holder's shriek of celebration on the stump mic before the camera turned to him with his arms aloft, accompanied by a roar of celebration. Holder explained what their chasing strategy was when he was batting with Romario Shephard and they needed 36 from 18.

"I told Romario when we were batting, we needed at least four sixes with the scenario that was posed to us. We got three. We fell probably one short, but we still got over the line. That was our target. Just keeping wickets in hand, obviously, but still trying to hit our strong areas and find the boundary. "We are powerful players and we know we can find the boundary. But credit to the Pakistani bowlers as well. I thought they bowled really well."

Marta's late heroics lead Brazil to ninth Copa America Femenina title

QUITO: Six-time world player of the year Marta came off the bench to score twice, including an equalizer in stoppage time, as Brazil came from behind three times before winning the penalty shootout 5-4 against Colombia on Saturday to secure their ninth Copa America Femenina title. The 39-year-old Marta entered the match in the 82nd minute and scored in the sixth minute of stoppage time to level for Brazil at 3-3, before scoring again in extra time to have the Brazilians in front for the first time in the match.

Leicy Santos scored in the 115th to bring Colombia back level at 4-4 as the match went to a penalty shootout.

Goalkeeper Lorena Da Silva then saved two pen-



alty kicks in the shootout to clinch Brazil's fifth title in a row at the continental championships, and beat Colombia for the fourth time in the past five finals.

Brazil's Marta, left, and Tarciane celebrate after winning the Women's Copa America final soccer match against Colombia in a penalty shootout at Rodrigo Paz

Delgado stadium in Quito, Ecuador, Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025.

Marta, who has played in six World Cups and six Olympics, has 122 goals in 206 games with Brazil.

Angelina Alonso in the 45th and Amanda Gutierrez in the 80th also scored for the Brazil team that won the silver medal at the Par-

is Olympics losing to the United States in the final.

Gutierrez scored her sixth goal of the tournament to finish as the top scorer alongside Paraguay's Claudia Martinez. Linda Caicedo in the 25th, Mayra Ramirez in

the 88th and Santos scored for Colombia. The Colombians also had an own goal by Brazil defender Tarciane in the 69th as it took the lead three times before being pegged back in an extraordinary final.

The Brazilian women have won eight of the nine editions of the Copa America and are considered the best team in South America. Their best finish at the World Cup was runner-up in 2007 and they have reached the Olympic final three times.

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