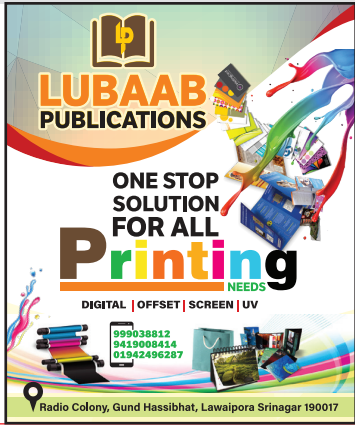


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HEADLINES
TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless



Rotten Meat Row; Food Catastrophe....

Act Tough, Set Example Through Exemplary Punishment to The Culprits: CM Omar to Officials

■ [Ht News Network](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Asking Officials to act tough against the accused selling adulterated and rotten food to the public, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said that culprits will be given exemplary punishment. The Chief Minister while chairing a high-level meeting here amidst the ongoing crackdown against the sell-



ing of rotten meat and chicken in the markets. Accordingly passed slew of directions to the concerned authorities, seeking an end to such practices, saying that the public health can't be compromised at any cost. Pertinently, large quantity of adulterated and rotten meat was seized from different parts of Kashmir during the past two weeks. The people

TURN ON PAGE 2

11,668 Kg Rotten Meat Seized in J&K, 2 Key Suspects Booked

■ [HT News Desk](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: In one of the biggest food safety crackdowns in recent years, authorities in Jammu and Kashmir have seized over 11,668

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Statehood petition listed for hearing on Aug 14

Case to be heard by CJI-led bench

■ [HT News Desk / KNO](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: The Supreme Court is set to hear the petition seeking the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood on August 14. According to the cause list issued by the Apex Court registry, the statehood petition is listed for hearing before a bench headed by Chief Justice of India. "The case is listed for hearing on August 14 before a bench headed by the Chief Justice of India," advocate Soayib Qureshi told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) over phone from New Delhi. The case was mentioned on August 5 by senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan before a bench comprising Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran. Sankaranarayanan informed the Court that the hearing was listed for August 8 on the Supreme Court website and requested that it not be removed from the cause list. The CJI had agreed to the request. However, the case was not listed on August 08.

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2 police officers killed in Sgr accident

LG Sinha expresses grief

■ [HT News Desk](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Two police officers lost their lives and another was injured in a road accident on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway on Monday, an official said. The incident occurred at Tengan in the Lasjan area of Srinagar when three sub-inspectors, returning to Jammu from Srinagar after completing Amarnath Yatra duty, met with the accident. The injured officers were rushed to a nearby hospital.

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Being Outside The Preview Of Elected Govt, LG To Nominate 5 Legislators Without Aid or Advice of Cabinet : MHA

■ [Ht News Network](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: The Ministry of Home Affairs has informed Jammu & Kashmir High Court that nomination of five MLAs of Jammu & Kashmir Assembly falls outside the purview of the elected government and is to be made by the Lieutenant Governor without aid and advice of the council of ministers. In a preliminary affidavit reply submitted to J&K High Court, the

MHA has stated that J&K Reorganisation Act explicitly confers upon the LG the statutory authority to nominate members to the Legislative Assembly. "Sections 15, 15A and 15B all recognize the power and authority of the Lieutenant Governor to make a nomination to the Legislative Assembly. Accordingly, there can be no manner of doubt that it is the Lieutenant Governor who has to exercise this statutory duty in his discretion, as a

statutory functionary and not as an extension of the government, thus, without aid and advice," reads the affidavit filed by MHA through Vishal Sharma, Deputy Solicitor General of India.

While Section 15 of the Reorganisation Act empowers the Lieutenant Governor to nominate two women to the Assembly if he feels that they are not adequately represented, Sections 15A and 15B confer upon

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Ahead of Independence Day Security on High Alert Across J&K: BSF Official All Security Measures, Including Tech Surveillance in Place to Provide Foolproof Security To Ensure Peaceful Celebrations: IGP Kashmir

■ [Ht News Network](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11 : Security has been heightened across Jammu & Kashmir ahead of the Independence Day celebrations on August 15, with multi-tiered measures, sanitisation and area domination exercises being carried out by security personnel, officials said here on Monday.

This year's Independence Day will be the first following the formation of an elected government after the abrogation of J&K's special status in 2019. A senior security official said, that security has been increased in 20 districts, particularly in the border areas. "Sensitive areas in Kashmir have seen enhanced security, including road blockades, vehicle

checks, security cordons, and search operations," he said. The official said there is an extensive deployment of police and paramilitary forces along the International Border (IB) and Line of Control (LoC). "Senior officers have reviewed security arrangements in sensitive border areas to ensure effective coordination between various agencies,"

he added. Meanwhile, the official said that BSF personnel opened fire on a Pakistani national attempting to cross into Indian territory along the International Border (IB) in Kathua district, injuring him. "On the evening of 11 Aug 2025, BSF troops observed suspicious movement

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J&K has immense dairy potential: CM Omar Reviews Dairy Infrastructure Scheme

■ [HT News Desk](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level review meeting on the Jammu & Kashmir Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Scheme (JKDPIDS), a Rs 1,433 crore initiative aimed at transforming the J&K's dairy sector into a robust, organized and globally competitive industry. During the review, the Chief Minister highlighted the vast potential of dairy in Jammu & Kashmir. He stressed the urgent need to expand organized milk processing from the current 4% to at least 20% within the next seven

years, ensuring better prices, regular payments, and market access for over 5 lakh dairy farmers. Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar, gave a detailed presentation on the scheme, implemented by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as the nodal agency. The plan envisages the establishment of 10 automated milk processing plants across 18 districts (excluding Srinagar and Jammu), enhancement of milk collection and chilling capacity to 10 LLPD, creation of 100 milk testing laboratories, and the

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Reviews Master Plans, Building Bye-Laws

■ [HT News Desk](#)

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Monday chaired a meeting to review the master plans for the twin cities of Srinagar and Jammu, alongside the Unified Building Bye-Laws (UBBL) for Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Commissioner Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department

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Govt constructed over 4 cr homes for poor: PM Modi

Inaugurates flats for MPs

■ [United News of India](#)

NEW DELHI, AUG 11: Inaugurating a complex of multi-storey flats for parliamentarians, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday suggested that the residential premises housing the MPs should celebrate India's different festivals and compete on cleanliness. Taking a swipe at his rivals, he said some people may link Kosi, the name of one of the four towers christened after different rivers, to the upcoming Bihar assembly polls but he will tell such "small-minded" people that the tradition of naming towers after rivers unites people. The new complex in Baba Kharak Singh Marg close to Parliament House comprises 184

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Chinar Book Festival; A Memorable Literary and Cultural Festival

■ [Dr Basharat Khan](#)

It is often said that literature is the mirror of society. Though I belong to the medical profession, my connection with literature has remained unbroken. Whenever I hear about a good book, I grow restless until I have read it. That same restlessness had been with me for several days, ever since I saw news of the Chinar Book Festival on social media. Taking advantage of a Sunday holiday, I set out with my children, Imadudin Khan and Basirat Jahan, to see it for myself. The moment we entered the venue, my heart lifted. Hundreds of students wandered between bookstalls, their faces lit with curiosity and joy. I too



bought several books from different stalls. The publishers looked pleased, some sharing that sales this year had far surpassed the previous one. I had the chance to meet Dr. Shams Iqbal, Director of the National Council, who seemed equally satisfied with the festival's success. Held from 2 to 10 August at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar, the Chinar Book Festival was organised by NCPUL New Delhi, National Book Trust and Kashmir University Department of Urdu unfolded in a setting as beautiful as the books it celebrated—beside the calm waters of Dal Lake, with the Zabarwan

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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
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0005010100009519

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

Advt - Comp...

Committee on Environment calls for robust sanitation mechanism in rural areas

Examines inputs on FSSM, sustainable sanitation policy

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: The Committee on Environment of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today stressed the need for implementing a robust and effective sanitation mechanism in rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Committee made this recommendation during a meeting held at the Legislative Assembly Complex in Srinagar under the chairmanship of Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami.

Members including Peer-

zada Mohammad Sayed, Dr. Sajjad Shafi, Peerzada Feroze Ahmad, Khurshied Ahmad, Mushtaq Guroo, Irshad Rasool Kar and Darshan Kumar also participated in the meeting.

The Committee thoroughly examined the inputs and suggestions of members regarding Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM) Policy and the Sustainable Sanitation Policy for rural areas of J&K.

During the meeting, the Chairman called for aggressive capacity building and wide-spread awareness campaigns



under the IEC framework across rural areas, with active public participation to achieve tangible results.

He said the Committee would submit its suggestions and rec-

ommendations for final sanitation policy to be drafted and approved by the government.

The Chairman also directed the concerned authorities to submit reports on mining operations and plantation drives in the affected areas. Emphasizing sustainable sanitation and cleanliness, the Committee underlined the importance of daily door to door garbage collection, segregation and proper disposal, solid and liquid waste management, bio-degradable waste processing and effective scientific treatment of daily-generated plastic waste.

It was decided that meetings and seminars on the importance of implementing sanitation mechanisms would be conducted across various districts.

The Committee also resolved to undertake spot visits to infrastructure sites and facilities to strengthen the environmental safeguards.

Highlighting the importance of the Committee's role in protecting J&K's fragile environment, the Chairman instructed the concerned department to involve experts and prepare a yearly action plan for rural sanitation.

Kupwara Hosts Series of JKCIP Camps to Boost Agriculture & Allied Sectors

MLAs, Experts Join Hands to Promote Agriculture Schemes in Rural Kupwara

Dr. Ab Qayoom

KUPWARA AUG 11: Under the ongoing Kisan Sampark Abhiyaan of the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture & Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP), the Agriculture Production Department, J&K, today organized a series of awareness camps at Sogam, Magam, and Qadirabad CD Blocks. The initiative, funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), aims to enhance the competitiveness of agriculture and allied sectors across the Union Territory. This inaugural phase of the programme targeted multiple Panchayats in the concerned blocks, ensuring outreach to a wide section of the farming community. Farmers, youth, and members of vulnerable groups, including the Chohan and ST categories, turned out in large numbers, participating with notable enthu-



siasm. The events were graced by the presence of Hon'ble MLA Kupwara Mir Mohammad Fayaz, MLA Langate Khurshied Ahmed Sheikh, and MLA Lolab Qaysar Jamshaid Lone. Speaking on the occasion, the legislators underscored the vital role of agriculture and allied activities in strengthening the rural economy. They urged farmers, particularly the younger generation, to capitalize on the new schemes and technologies being introduced under JKCIP. District Nodal Officer KSA (DSHO Kupwara), along with all district-level officers from agriculture and allied departments, joined experts from SKUAST-K and KVK Kupwara in delivering detailed presentations. They explained the complementary and supplementary activities covered under various JKCIP components, outlining opportunities for capacity building, infrastructure development, and modern farming practices. On-the-spot registrations were conducted, and feedback from participants was collected digitally through dedicated Google links, ensuring seamless communication and follow-up. The awareness camps concluded successfully, leaving participants motivated to adopt modern agricultural practices and avail themselves of scheme benefits. The initiative will continue in the coming days to cover all identified Panchayats in the district, aiming to transform agriculture into a more competitive, sustainable, and profitable sector for the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

Handwara Police Leads Mega Tiranga Rallies Across PD Handwara

Dr. Ab Qayoom

HANDWARA AUG 11: In a spirited celebration of patriotism and national unity, Handwara Police, in collaboration with the Education Department and civil society, today organized mega Tiranga rallies across Police District Handwara as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga and Meri Maati Mera Desh campaigns. The rallies were held simultaneously at Handwara, Langate, Qalamabad, Vilgam, and Kralgund, witnessing an

overwhelming turnout of police personnel, students from various schools, teachers, members of civil society, and local residents. With the Tricolour held high and patriotic slogans echoing through the streets, the events radiated an atmosphere of pride and solidarity. Flagged off by senior police officers, the rallies saw students in colourful uniforms carrying banners and placards promoting unity, peace, and the ideals of freedom. At the conclusion ceremonies in each venue, the National Anthem



was sung in unison, and speakers paid homage to the sacrifices of freedom fighters, encouraging citizens to work collectively for a stronger, united India. Police Handwara extended heartfelt thanks to all participants, especially students, teachers, and civil society members, for making the events a resounding success. Reaffirming their dedication to peace, brotherhood, and patriotism, the police stressed their continued commitment to strengthening the bond between law enforcement and the public.

One-Day Awareness Programme on Drug Abuse Prevention Held in Kulgam

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, AUG 11: As part of the ongoing celebrations marking the 78th Independence Day, the State Level Coordinating Agency (SLCA), in collaboration with the Tehsil Administration Kulgam, organised a one-day awareness programme on drug abuse prevention under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan at Kulgam.

The event aimed to highlight preventive strategies, ensure the effective implementation of NCORD meeting directives, and promote the vision of drug-free Panchayats and Municipalities.

Tehsildar Kulgam Nisar Ahmad, who presided over the programme as the Chief Guest, emphasised the critical role of lumberdars in preventing substance abuse and referring victims to appropriate treatment and rehabilitation centres, including the District Drug Addiction Centre (DDAC) Kulgam and Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) Kulgam.

He called for maximum community involvement in Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities and stressed the need for vigilance against illegal drug trade and misuse of prescription medicines.



"Drug addiction is one of the gravest challenges confronting our society today. No developmental initiative can achieve lasting success unless we effectively counter this menace," the Tehsildar remarked.

The programme was attended by TSWO Kulgam, Muzafar Ahmad Rather Project Manager DDAC Kulgam, representatives from the Health Department, and officials from various line departments.

Resource persons from DDAC pro-

vided detailed insights into the objectives of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan, the structure and role of anti-drug committees at the panchayat and ULB levels, and shared data on the current substance abuse trends in Kulgam district.

The programme concluded with an interactive Q&A session, during which participants discussed challenges and proposed suggestions to strengthen community-led anti-drug initiatives.

DC Kulgam Flags Off Mega Bike Rally Under 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, AUG 11: In the spirit of patriotism ahead of Independence Day, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan (IAS), flagged off a Mega Bike Rally under the nationwide #HarGharTiranga campaign. The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation as bikers, carrying the National Flag, rode through the streets, spreading the message of unity and national pride.

The event was held as part of the ongoing Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations to encourage public involvement in the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' initiative. Riders from across the district joined the rally, which passed through key routes of Kulgam, receiving a warm response from the public.

The occasion was graced by Additional Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Vikar Ahmad Giri (JKAS), and Tehsildar Kulgam, Nisar Ahmad, who were present alongside other officials and participants to support the initiative.

Speaking to the media, DC Athar Aamir Khan highlighted the significance of the campaign in fostering a deep emotional connection with the national flag and promoting a sense of collective responsibility and patriotism. "Such events not only celebrate our freedom but also unite us in the values we stand for," he said.

The rally is among several events being organized across the district in the lead-up to India's 79th Independence Day, reinforcing the spirit of freedom and unity.

Chinar Book Festival Concludes with Cultural Extravaganza in SKICC Srinagar

Gulfam Barji

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: The Chinar Book Festival, which wrapped up Sunday after a vibrant nine-day run, wasn't just about books, it was a celebration of Kashmir's stories, voices, and artistic soul. The festival grounds buzzed with laughter, lively discussions, and the rustle of pages turning, but it was the closing night that truly left the audience spellbound.

The Azad Dramatic Cultural Club Ganderbal brought the curtains down with a stirring performance of "KEND MANZ GULAB", a beloved Kashmiri stage drama penned by the Master Abdul Samad Mir. Directed by Ashaq Hussain Najar, the play unfolded like a shared memory,



with seasoned actors like Gh Rasool Lone, Ramzan, Mushtaq Ahmad Dar, Mehraj U Din Bhat Bhat, Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat, Ab Majeed Dar, M. Maqbool

Bhat, Nissar A Bhat, and Ashaq Hussain Najar drawing both laughter and quiet reflection from the crowd.

For many in the audience, the

play was more than entertainment, it was a piece of home. "You could feel the emotion in every line," said Amina Bhat, a college student who attended with her

family. "These stories connect us to our roots."

Beyond the stage, the festival had something for everyone, children flipping through colourful picture books, poets reciting verses under the shade of chinar trees, and local artisans displaying crafts alongside literary stalls. "It's rare to see so many people from different walks of life come together for art and literature," remarked Farooq Ahmad, a schoolteacher. "This festival reminds us how much beauty there is in our culture."

As the final notes of music faded and the last stalls packed up, visitors left with not just books, but a renewed sense of pride in Kashmir's rich storytelling tradition.

DC Kupwara Reviews Functioning of Revenue Department; Stresses Timely Public Service Delivery

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, AUG 11: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse (IAS), today convened a comprehensive review meeting of revenue department at the Mini Meeting Hall of the DC Office, Kupwara, to assess revenue operations and service delivery.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, briefed the DC through a Power-Point presentation on district-wide administrative metrics, digitization initiatives, and public grievance resolution. Key agenda items included district administrative units, digitization of jamabandies, geo-referencing

of cadastral maps and SVAMITVA Property Cards.

The DC said that the digitization process will be taken to its logical conclusion as per directions of the Government and directed the officers to expedite the digitization process and ensure 100% geo-referencing of cadastral maps. He emphasized timely attestation of mutations, completion of pending girdawaris. He also reviewed the RCCM portal. The SVAMITVA survey progress was critically reviewed, with Tehsildars instructed to submit pending aabadi deh maps to the Survey of India and complete the Ground truthing and verification timely to ensure generation of Property Cards and



their distribution in time bound manner.

The meeting evaluated online service delivery including migrant grievance redressal. He mandated strict adherence to PSGA timeframes for all digital services, particularly online applications via Jan Sugam and Revenue Portals. Infrastructure projects, including National Highway stretches at Langate-Braripora-Wodpora and other areas, were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kupwara Gulzar Ahmad, ADC Handwara Javid Naseem Masoodi, ACR Kupwara, SDM Karnah, SDM Lolab, Tehsildars, and other Revenue officials.

Mega Tiranga Rally Held in Drugmulla with Enthusiastic Participation

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, AUG 11: A grand Mega Tiranga Rally was organized in Drugmulla, led by Mr. Syed Bashrat Rasool, Tehsildar Drugmulla, accompanied by Mr. Bilal Rashid, DO Police Post Drugmulla, Mr. Javid, ZEO Drugmulla, along with officers and officials of various departments, and students of Girls High School Drugmulla.

The rally started from Girls High School Drugmulla and moved ahead with spirited



participation from officers/officials of various departments, local residents, and enthusiastic students. The tricolour fluttered high as patriotic slogans echoed through the streets, creating a vibrant atmosphere of unity and pride.

The primary aim of the rally was to keep the spirit of patriotism alive, instill pride for the motherland among the youth, and send out a strong message of unity and patriotism across the community.

The event drew wholehearted involvement from the community, making it a spirited prelude to the upcoming Independence Day celebrations.

Mushtaq Reshi Elected President as DTOAK Charts New Course for Kashmir Tourism

New leadership vows sustainable growth, industry unity, and fresh initiatives for 2025-2027 term

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUG 9: In a show of unity and vision, the Domestic Tour Operators Association of Kashmir (DTOAK) elected its new leadership for the 2025-2027 term during a spirited gathering at Hotel Winter Sky, Dalgate. The event drew full participation from members, reflecting the industry's determination to strengthen Kashmir's tourism landscape.

Following a fair and transparent election, Mushtaq Reshi was chosen as President, Fayaz Ahmad Dharma as Vice-President, and Firdous Guroo as General Secretary.

The new team pledged to work hand in hand with stakeholders to tackle challenges, promote sustainable tourism, and enhance Jammu & Kashmir's appeal to domestic travelers, ensuring both economic growth and cultural preservation.

The ceremony was attended by notable tourism leaders, including Abdul Rashid Sahib, General Secretary, HBO; Ghulam Nabi Dharma, Executive Member, TAAK; and Jan



Sahib, President, UTТА, who extended their congratulations and support. With this renewed leadership,



DTOAK has set its sights on a dynamic, collaborative future for the region's tourism sector.

Mega Tiranga Rallies Continue Across Kulgam Under 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, AUG 11: As part of the ongoing 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, mega Tiranga rallies have been taking place across Kulgam district for the past three days, witnessing enthusiastic participation from various sections of society.

Educational institutions including Altaf Memorial Degree College Kilam, Government Degree College Waltengoo Kund, Government degree College Qazigund, Higher Secondary School Devsar, and institutions from DH Pora, among others, actively participated in the rallies.

The events saw the presence of SDM Noorabad



Bashir-ul-Hassan, local Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars, principals, Anganwadi workers and helpers, police personnel, students, Numberdars, Chowkidars, and a large number of local residents.

Adding to the patriotic fervor, a grand bike rally was organized in Kulgam town today, which was flagged off by Deputy Commissioner Athar Aamir Khan (IAS).

The rally witnessed energetic participation from local youth, who rode through the streets carrying the National Flag, spreading the message of unity, pride, and patriotism.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Vikar Ahmad Giri (JKAS), along with other officials, was also present on the occasion and appreciated the public's overwhelming response and enthusiasm.

These activities are part of the broader goal of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign — to promote emotional connection with the National Flag and to reinforce the spirit of national unity and pride among citizens.

Srinagar Police Books Two Notorious Drug Smugglers under the PIT NDPS Act

■ Mohammad Hanif Khan

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Continuing the relentless crack-down against drug trafficking and dismantling the illegal narcotics network, Srinagar Police has booked two notorious drug smugglers under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (PIT-NDPS Act).

These drug smugglers include :

1. Danish Mushtaq Hafiz S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Hafiz R/o Natipora A/P Shaheen Colony, Allochibagh, involved in FIR No. 88/2022 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act Of PS Sadder.

2. Hamid Jan Sheikh @ Hamid Koon S/o Reyaz Ahmad Sheikh R/o Madawpora, Allochibagh, involved in FIR No 23/2022 U/S 8/20, 21 NDPS Act Of PS Shergarhi.

They have been booked under the PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining the formal detention orders, on the basis of dossiers prepared by Srinagar Police against them.

Consequently, these drug smugglers were detained and subsequently lodged in District Jail of Udhampur.

They have been involved in the peddling of narcotics



among the youth of Srinagar on an alarming scale. Besides, they were also involved in several NDPS Act cases of different Police stations of Srinagar. Despite several NDPS Act cases registered against them, they did not mend their ways after getting bailed out from courts and were brazenly promoting drugs among the youth of the valley, especially in Srinagar, through their illegal narcotics network.

Srinagar Police has also set into motion the process to attach their properties under the provisions of PIT-NDPS Act.

Pertinently, Police has been systemically targeting and dismantling the illegal narcotics infrastructure in the Srinagar city and numerous drug smugglers have been detained under the PIT NDPS Act in Srinagar till date.

J&K Police affirms its steadfast commitment of eliminating drug peddling in the region with the full might of law. We also caution those engaged in this unlawful activity that the long arm of law would catch them sooner than anticipated and every offender will face justice.

For any information related to drug dealers/peddlers in Srinagar, citizens are encouraged to contact the nearest police establishment or PCR.

Together, we can build a safer and healthier society.

Wild Cannabis Destroyed by Revenue and Excise Departments in Handwara

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, AUG 11: In a concerted effort to curb the growth and spread of wild cannabis, teams from the Revenue Department and the Excise Department carried out a destruction drive in the Handwara region today.

Acting on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner, DC, Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse and under the supervision of the Additional Deputy Commission-

er, (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, joint team led by the Tehsildar Handwara, Zeeshan Khan, along with officials from the Excise Department Kupwara, destroyed a large patch of wild cannabis at Chota Braripora, located along the Kupwara, Handwara highway.

The operation covered approximately four to five kanals of land, including a dense patch in village, where wild cannabis had been growing unchecked.



Local residents welcomed the initiative, praising the civil administration for its swift and timely intervention. They expressed hope that such actions would continue to help reduce the potential misuse of narcotic plants in the region.

Authorities have reiterated their commitment to maintaining vigilance against the growth of such illegal plants and ensuring the safety and well-being of the local population.

DC Budgam reviews HADP in the district

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, AUG 11: A meeting of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) Committee was today convened under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at DC Office, here.

The session was held to review and approve beneficiary applications across various activities and departments falling under the HADP initiative.

During the meeting, a total of 1,309 applications were approved, aimed at boosting agricultural productivity, live-stock development, and allied activities in the district. The department-wise approvals were approved such as in Sheep Husbandry 393 applications, in Animal Husbandry 127 applications, in Agriculture 541 applications, in Sericulture 39 applications, in Fisheries 12 applications, in Horticulture 197 applications

The DC Budgam emphasised that the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) is a transformative initiative designed to uplift the farming community by integrating modern techniques, infrastructure support, and value-chain linkages.

He said that the aim of HADP is to ensure that every farmer and agri-entrepreneur has the tools, resources, and training they need to improve productivity and

income.

He said that by approving these applications promptly, District Administration is accelerating on-ground implementation of schemes that can bring long-term benefits to rural economy of Budgam.

DC urged all implementing departments to ensure transparent, time-bound execution of approved projects and to maintain close coordination with beneficiaries for effective monitoring.

He also stressed the need for regular follow-up to ensure that the support provided under HADP leads to tangible outcomes in terms of productivity, employment generation, and quality produce.

Bhat said district administration is committed to integrated rural development through targeted interventions in the agriculture and allied sectors, in line with the vision of sustainable and self-reliant farming communities in budgam.

He reiterated the administration's commitment to integrated rural development through targeted interventions in the agriculture and allied sectors, in line with the vision of sustainable and self-reliant farming communities.

Besides, GMDIC, Budgam Zahid Ahmad, ACR, ACP, CAO, CAHO, CHO, DSHO, DSO, AMO, HPM, AD Fisheries, DR Co-operatives, DM NABARD, LDM, DFO, PCKVK, DH HPM, other concerned officials also participated in the meeting.

Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign

DC Kupwara Leads Mega Tiranga Rally from Pahari Hostel Branwari

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, AUG 11: As part of the ongoing nationwide 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse today led a Mega Tiranga Rally from Pahari Hostel Branwari.

The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from hundreds of students, government officials, civil society members, and locals, all carrying the National Flag with pride and patriotism. Among others, ASP Kupwara, Javed Ahmad; DSP, Mohammad Rafiq and Warden Pahari Hostel, Firdous Ahmad also attended the Tiranga Rally.

The rally, which began from the Pahari Hostel Branwari, passed through different streets and markets of Kupwara town and culminated at the Fountain Chowk Kupwara, resonating with patriotic slogans and nationalistic fervor. Participants showcased their commitment to the spirit of unity, integrity, and nationalism that the Tricolour represents.

On the occasion, the DC Kupwara emphasized the importance of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' initiative in instilling a deep



sense of patriotism among citizens. He urged people to hoist the National Flag at their homes from August 13 to August 15, and participate wholeheartedly in the celebrations of India's Independence.

The rally is part of a series of events being organized across Kupwara district to commemorate the sacrifices of the freedom fighters and to celebrate India's 78th Independence Day with pride.

Rana reviews expansion plan of Jambu Zoo

Night Safari, New Species to enrich visitor experience

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today chaired a meeting at the Civil Secretariat to review the functioning of Jambu Zoo and discuss its expansion plans aimed at enhancing its appeal as a major tourism destination.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment, Sheetal Nanda (via video conferencing), Chief Wildlife Warden Sarvesh Rai and other senior officers in person.

The Minister highlighted that Jambu Zoo has rapidly emerged as a prominent tourist attraction. He emphasized the need for focused efforts to unlock its full potential and significantly increase visitor footfall. He stressed that development of the zoo should be guided by a vision to make it a world-class attraction

through sustainable practices and innovative visitor amenities.

He exhorted upon the officials to formulate strategies that boost attendance during the summer months, which typically see a decline due to high temperatures.

The Minister suggested incorporating climate-responsive features such as shaded recreational zones, green tunnels, tensile sheds, interactive indoor exhibits and well-crafted promotional campaigns to draw the visitors.

Reviewing the ongoing upgradation works, Rana directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination to ensure timely and quality completion of all initiatives that contribute to a richer visitor experience. He underscored the importance of involving all relevant departments in the development strategy for more integrated and effective outcomes. The Minister also emphasized



that animal welfare must remain a core priority for the zoo. He directed the officials to establish a robust monitoring system to ensure proper diet, nutrition and healthcare for all species in line with veterinary guidelines. This

included maintaining high standards in food procurement, ensuring timely feeding schedules and conducting regular health assessments.

He also instructed the officials to prioritize the plantation of

fruit-bearing trees within the premises to serve as a natural food source for select species, enhance biodiversity, improve habitat quality and add to the overall visual and ecological appeal of the zoo.

Rana further called for implementing green initiatives such as rainwater harvesting, adoption of renewable energy solutions, a Zero-Waste Policy and soil and water conservation measures in the zoo. He also enquired about the existing staff strength and highlighted the need for adequate, well-trained personnel to ensure smooth operations, high standards of animal care and an enhanced visitor experience.

Chief Wildlife Warden Sarvesh Rai gave a detailed presentation on the existing visitor facilities and outlined the zoo's ambitious expansion plans. He informed the meeting that 11 new animal enclosures have already been completed and the remaining are scheduled to be completed by December 2025.

The zoo plans to introduce prominent species such as Zebra, Rhino, Sloth Bear, Snow Leopard, Red Panda, Primates and other native and exotic animals. The

development plan also includes creation of nature trails, elevated walkways, log huts, tree houses, themed rest zones, a toy train for children and the implementation of a smart zoo management system.

One of the major upcoming attractions will be a Fossil and Dinosaur Park aimed at providing an educational and entertaining experience for the visitors. An immersive AR/VR setup will also be installed to allow the guests to explore extinct and rare species in a simulated environment.

Additionally, supervised feeding sessions with select species are planned to further enrich the visitor engagement.

It was also informed during the meeting that a Night Safari, along with seasonal themed events, will be introduced to diversify the visitor experience, extend operational hours and boost tourism and revenue generation at the zoo.

Baramulla resonates with Patriotic Fervour with Grand Tiranga Rallies

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BARAMULLA, AUG 11: Ahead of Independence Day 2025, Baramulla came alive with the colours of patriotism as more than 12 thousand citizens from all walks of life joined a grand Tiranga Rally in the heart of the town, proudly carrying a majestic 2.5 kilometre-long tricolour.

Jointly led by Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, and Senior Superintendent of Police, Gurinderpal Singh, the rally witnessed the participation of ADC Baramulla Syed Altaf Hussain Mausvi, other officers from the civil administration, army and police officers, officials from various departments, students, and local residents, coming together to create an unforgettable display of unity and patriotic spirit.

The rally commenced from the historic Saint Jo-



seph School Baramulla, where thousands of enthusiastic participants carried the national flag, chanted slogans, and sang patriotic songs, honouring the sacrifices of freedom fighters and fallen heroes who gave their lives for the nation's independence.

After passing through the heart of Baramulla town, the rally culminated at Showkat Ali Stadium, where various government departments had set up exhibition stalls and a vibrant cultural programme was presented by the students from various schools, celebrating the spirit of patriotism.

On the occasion, the DC extended his heartfelt gratitude to each and every participant of the Tiranga Rally, emphasising that their collective presence not only added vibrancy and grandeur to the celebration but also reflected the deep-rooted patriotism and unity that define the spirit of Baramulla.

Minga Sherpa further highlighted the significance of the event, underscoring that the participation of thousands of citizens, ranging from school children to elderly residents, reflected how the national spirit rises above age, background, and all other differences.

Earlier, the DC, along with the SSP, jointly flagged off a vibrant bike rally from Akbar Chowk to Showkat Ali Stadium, witnessing the enthusiastic participation of a large number of bikers carrying the Tiranga, celebrating unity and patriotic spirit in the run-up to Independence Day 2025.

Later, during his visit to Gulmarg, the DC led a high-spirited ATV Rally with tricolour fluttering in the air, traversed through the breathtaking expanse of the Gulmarg Bowl, spreading the message of patriotism.

Furthermore, in a unique display of patriotism, Minga Sherpa also flagged off a spectacular Horse Riders Rally at the picturesque tourist destination of Gulmarg stirring deep patriotic fervour, uniting locals and visitors alike in the spirit of Independence Day.

Shopian hosts impressive Tiranga Exhibition at Zainapora

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SHOPIAN AUG 11: As part of the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR) Shopian, in collaboration with the Cultural Unit, DIPR J&K and Sub-divisional administration Zainapora today organised a grand celebrations at Higher Secondary School Zainapora.

The event featured a vibrant Tiranga Photo and Selfie Exhibi-

tion and a series of cultural and patriotic programmes aimed at fostering a deep sense of national pride.

The celebrations commenced with performances by students from NIPS Zainapora and HSS Zainapora followed by thematic cultural presentations by local artists sponsored by Cultural Unit DIPR J&K and DIPR Shopian.

Engaging skits based on the spirit of Har Ghar Tiranga drew loud applause from the audience.

A special photo exhibition and a selfie booths were set up by DIPR, Shopian attracting enthusiastic visitors who captured memorable moments with the Tricolour- a symbol of love, respect, and unity.

Later, a spirited Tiranga Rally was carried out from HSS Zainapora to the SDM Office via the main market, witnessing huge participation from students, officials, and locals, filling the streets with patriotic fervour.

Speaking on the occasion, SDM Zainapora highlighted the significance of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, urging people to proudly hoist the National Flag as a mark of respect and as a pledge towards the unity, integrity, and sovereignty of the country.

He noted that the Tricolour is not merely a piece of cloth but the embodiment of our shared sacrifices, rich heritage, and collective aspirations for a strong and united India.

The Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, running from 2nd to 15th August, aims to inspire every citizen to participate wholeheartedly in celebrating the spirit of freedom and nationhood.

The occasion was graced by the presence of SDM Zainapora Bilal Ahmad, DIO Showkat Hussain Ganie, SDPO Zainapora Waseem Ahmad, BDO Zainapora Tariq Ahmad, Dy CEO Shopian, Principal HSS Zainapora, SHO Zainapora, and others.

Har Ghar Tiranga: patriotic slogans echo during Tiranga Rally in Bandipora

MLA, DC & SSP Lead Bandipora Rally

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, AUG 11: In a spectacular display of patriotism and community spirit, the District Administration Bandipora on Monday organised a Mega Tiranga Rally under the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2025, as part of the run-up to the Independence Day celebrations.

On the occasion, MLA Bandipora Nizamuddin Bhat, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, and SSP Bandipora Harmeet Singh led the rally from the premises of the Mini Secretariat Bandipora to SK Stadium Bandipora, accompanied by a large contingent of women and children.

The event witnessed massive participation from people of all walks of life including senior officers from the district administration and police, students, women, youth, senior citizens, and the general public.



Thousands of participants proudly waved the Tiranga, filling the air with slogans and songs of patriotism, symbolising unity, freedom, and national pride. The rally served as a vibrant celebration of India's national identity and reflected the col-

lective commitment of the people of Bandipora to the values enshrined in the Tricolour.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Bandipora Nizamuddin Bhat lauded the enthusiastic participation of students, youth, and citizens, and said the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign aims to strengthen the spirit of nationalism and encourage every household to hoist the national flag. He emphasised that the rally was part of a series of activities being conducted across the district in the run-up to Independence Day, fostering a shared sense of belonging and unity.

Similar Tiranga rallies were also held across subdivisions including Gurez, Sumbal, and other areas, organised by various departments, municipal bodies, and local institutions, ensuring that the patriotic fervour reached every corner of the district.

Mission YUVA: Training prog for YUVA Doots, BHDs held at Anantnag

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

ANANTNAG, AUG 11: A one-day refresher training program under Mission YUVA was held for the BHDs and YUVA Doots of the District today at Dak Bangalow Khanabal here.

YUVA Doots from all five BHDs, along with BHD members and officials of Employment Department Anantnag attended the training session.

The programme was aimed at enhancing the understanding of Mission YUVA, updating participants on the latest developments, and reinforcing their roles and responsibilities as field functionaries.

In his address, Joint Director Employment Department Kashmir, Waseem Raja, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest, lauded the entire team for their efforts and achievements made under Mission YUVA so far, and emphasised the need for sustained efforts to ensure the success of the initiative.

Career Counselling Officer, Shazlia Qureshi briefed the participants about Mission YUVA and presented an overview on its organisational setup.

Employment Officer, Rayees Iqbal deliberated on the Mission YUVA App and DPR formulation, while the financial aspects were discussed by Bank Representative, Mr. Abrar.

SDM Sumbal Reviews Independence Day Arrangements

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, AUG 11: In preparation for the grand celebration of Independence Day 2025, the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Sumbal, Murtaza Ahmad, on Monday convened an extensive review meeting at Dak Bungalow, Irrigation Colony Sumbal. The meeting brought together key officials and departmental heads to ensure meticulous planning for the upcoming national event.

The SDM said that Independence Day is not only a symbolic commemoration of India's freedom struggle but also an opportunity to showcase the cultural heritage, unity, and developmental achievements of the sub-division. "We must strive to make this celebration meaningful and inspiring for every citizen," he remarked, urging all departments to work in close synergy for the smooth conduct of the programme.

Detailed Preparations Reviewed

The review covered every aspect of the celebrations, including:

Security and Crowd Management: Coordination with the police, CRPF, and civil defence teams to ensure a secure and orderly event.

Venue Readiness: Cleaning, decoration, and arrangement of seating at the designated celebration ground, ensuring adequate

signage and accessibility.

Cultural Programmes: Finalisation of the schedule, selection of participants, and rehearsal timelines for school children, cultural groups, and local artists.

Public Address System & Sound Arrangements: Installation and testing to ensure clear audio throughout the venue.

Emergency Services: Deployment of medical teams, ambulances, and fire tenders for quick response.

Utilities: Assurance of uninterrupted water and electricity supply, with backup systems in place.

Inter-departmental Coordination The SDM emphasised that each department must ensure completion of their assigned responsibilities well before the event. He called for regular follow-up meetings and on-ground inspections to address any last-minute gaps.

Officials Present

The meeting witnessed participation from the Commandant 45 Bn CRPF Sumbal, SDPO Sumbal, Block Development Officers, Zonal Education Officers, Executive Engineers, municipal officers, representatives from the District Information Office, and sectoral officers from health, horticulture, agriculture, fisheries, social welfare, fire & emergency services, among others.

CU, DIPR Organize Awareness Programme Against Drug Abuse at GHSS Nowhatta, Tailbal

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukti J&K Abhiyan—a mission to combat the growing menace of substance abuse—the Cultural Unit Srinagar, Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), on Monday organised a series of impactful awareness programmes aimed at sensitising young minds towards a drug-free lifestyle.

The first programme was held at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Nowhatta, under the patronage of Principal Shaista Afshan, where students and staff gathered to engage in open discussions about the harmful consequences of drug use.

Addressing the participants, Cultural Officer Srinagar, Burhan Hussain, stressed that the fight against drugs requires a united approach from all sections of

society.

"Drug abuse is not just an individual problem; it weakens families, erodes communities, and threatens the future of our youth. Our collective vigilance and action are the only antidotes to this crisis," he said.

The campaign then moved to Government Boys Higher Secondary School Tailbal, led by Principal Sheeba Shareef, where Burhan Hussain once again engaged the gathering, emphasising the importance of empowering the youth with awareness, education, and positive recreational opportunities to prevent them from falling into the trap of addiction.

Interactive Engagement & Student Participation

Both programmes saw enthusiastic participation from students, who took part in question-and-answer sessions, shared their views,

and pledged to spread awareness among peers and within their communities. Faculty members, local representatives, and cultural activists also contributed by sharing real-life examples and preventive strategies.

The sessions also highlighted:

Early Warning Signs: How to identify and intervene before substance use escalates.

Role of Education & Arts: Encouraging cultural, sports, and creative pursuits as healthy alternatives.

Government & Community Support: Availability of counselling services, helplines, and rehabilitation centres in J&K.

Community Call to Action Concluding the events, the Cultural Officer urged students to act as ambassadors of the Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyan and ensure that the message reaches every household.

HT EDITORIAL

Set up slaughter houses for supply of quality, fresh meat to people

For the past one week or so reports of rotten meat are coming not only from the different areas of Kashmir valley but from the Jammu division as well. People have raised questions over the procurement of the rotten meat and alleged that there is a free entry of such meat to the valley. The Food Safety Department seized quintals and quintals of rotten meat and chicken from different areas of the union territory.

As on date the biggest problem regarding the procurement of fresh meat in Kashmir valley is that there are no slaughter houses in any place of the valley. There was a time when the butchers would have to visit the slaughter house in the Srinagar city and other places of the Kashmir valley. After slaughtering a goat or a sheep the concerned officials of Srinagar Municipality would put the stamp on the slaughtered goat or sheep. This would ensure that only hygienic and fresh meat is being sold in meat shops.

With the passage of time the slaughter houses got closed and as a result of this no stamp whatsoever was placed on a goat or sheep that was slaughtered. The butchers have kept a portion of their premises at home for slaughtering of the sheep and goats. The failure to keep the slaughter house going on has led to a situation where some of the meat sellers are selling inferior meat in the name of first class meat. As on date the butchers and meat traders are having an open field and they are dictating terms to the people.

Some time back the government had decided to construct some slaughter houses in Srinagar and other places of the Kashmir valley. The proposal to set up a slaughter house in Srinagar had to be shelved since people raised concerns over the construction of the same due to varied reasons. It is important that the process is revived so that slaughter houses are constructed and people get quality meat. This would ensure that the health of the common masses is not compromised when it comes to supply of meat.

Since many open spaces are available in Srinagar outskirts and other districts of Kashmir the government should identify such places so that the slaughter houses are constructed. Scientific disposal of the waste should be ensured at these slaughter houses so that nobody raises a finger over the whole process of slaughtering a sheep or a goat.

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Counselling During Teenage: A Key to the Upliftment of the Young Generation



■ Sahil Manzoor Bhatti

Counselling at any stage of a student's life is important, but during teenage years, it becomes vital for shaping the future of our young generation. Our blooming buds possess immense potential to excel in any competitive exam—be it state, national, or international level. What they truly need is consistent motivation, encouragement, and opportunities to test and refine their abilities.

It is heartening to see that the competitive spirit among the youth of Kashmir Valley is growing in a healthy and positive way. In the name of Allah, we hope that the literacy rate here will continue to rise sharply in the coming years.

Years ago, there were only a few qualified teachers who could guide students for state-level competitive exams like the CET (Common Entrance Test). This exam decided the fate of thousands of aspiring doctors and engineers, as it was the gateway to courses like MBBS, BVSc, BDS, BUMS, BAMS, BSc Agriculture, and various engineering disciplines. Today, the CET has been replaced by the UG-NEET (Undergraduate National Eligibility cum Entrance Test) for medical admissions, conducted at the national level.

Science stream students usually begin preparing for this prestigious exam from the 11th grade itself, as the syllabus covers both 11th and 12th-grade topics. For a long time, most students in the Valley dreamt only of becoming doctors or engineers. However, the trend has changed. Inspired by the success of officers like Shahid Iqbal Chaudhary,



Shah Faisal, Aijaz Asad, and Amir Athar Khan, many students now aspire to join the administrative services. These officers serve at influential positions such as Deputy Commissioners, Secretaries, and Commissioners—roles that allow them to directly contribute to society.

Today, a growing number of students are aiming to crack the UPSC, JKAS, and other top-level competitive exams. This shift is inspiring, but it also comes with a reality check—civil service vacancies are very limited compared to the huge number of aspirants. The UPSC is widely considered the toughest exam in India and, arguably, one of the most challenging in the world. Its syllabus is vast and demands unwavering focus, discipline, and smart preparation.

Interestingly, I have met students who set their sights on the civil services as early as their matriculation days. The UPSC recruits for various high-ranking positions, including IAS, IPS, IRS, and more. Similarly, the Jammu & Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) conducts the combined competitive examination

for JKAS, JKPS, and other administrative roles. These positions not only offer the chance to serve the nation but also to empower weaker sections of society, promote social justice, and generate employment opportunities for others.

However, with great power comes great responsibility. Those who enter the civil services must remain humble, accountable, and dedicated to the welfare of the general public at all times.

The growing interest in administrative careers has also changed students' study habits. Books like Indian Polity by Laxmikanth, NCERT textbooks (Grades 6–12), and reasoning guides like Arihant are now common in every aspirant's book collection. Many also keep updated with current affairs, economics, and atlas references—an encouraging sign of academic seriousness.

Suggestions for Strengthening This Positive Trend:

School & College Counselling: Regular career guidance sessions should be conducted to motivate students and clarify pathways to different careers.

Proper Regulation of Tuition Centres: Coaching institutes must operate with official permissions and maintain quality standards.

Public Libraries: District- and tehsil-level libraries should be established and stocked with competitive exam material.

Scholarship Schemes: Financial support programs should be introduced for deserving students in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Access to Current Affairs: Newspapers and competitive magazines must be made available daily in schools, colleges, and coaching centres.

Safe Accommodation for Girls: Secure and well-maintained hostels should be provided to encourage female participation in competitive exam preparation.

With the right guidance, resources, and a nurturing environment, our youth can not only clear the toughest exams but also serve as torchbearers of progress and change for the entire nation.

sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com

The Unsung Hero in Every Home – A Father's Love



■ Dr. Azad Rashid Sheikh

In the rhythm of life, some heroes do not wear uniforms, carry swords, or stand beneath spotlights. They stand quietly in the background, holding the entire stage together. One such hero is a father. His love is rarely sung about, seldom written in grand poems, and often mistaken for silence. Yet it is there deep, steady, and unshakable.

Unlike a mother's affection, which often overflows in visible tenderness, a father's love is quiet strength. It is in the way he leaves the last piece of bread for his children without a word. It is in the sacrifices he never announces walking miles so you can ride, working late nights so you can sleep peacefully, and hiding his own worries so your heart stays light.

For many of us, childhood memories of our fathers are filled with images of them heading to work before sunrise, returning after sunset, and still finding the time to fix a broken toy or help with schoolwork. His hands may be rough from labour, yet they hold a tenderness that can calm any storm. His words may be few, but each one carries the weight of guidance, protection, and hope.

A father teaches us life in ways no book can. He teaches resilience not through lectures, but by example standing tall in hardships, showing that strength is not about never falling but about always rising. He teaches responsibility, not by demands, but by living it daily. And he teaches love, not in grand declarations, but in small, consistent acts of care.

Often, we realize the depth of a father's love only when we step into adulthood, carrying the same burdens he once carried for us. Only then do we understand that behind every bill paid, every roof repaired, every meal served, there was a man quietly



placing his family above himself.

In a world where the word "hero" is often reserved for those who make headlines, perhaps it is time we recognize the everyday heroes in our own homes. A father may not seek applause, but his silent devotion deserves it. His sacrifices may go unnoticed, but they shape the very foundation of our lives.

To all the fathers biological, adoptive, or father figures who protect without pride, guide without glory, and love without limits: you are the unsung heroes of our stories. May we learn to sing your song while you can still hear it?

For my beloved father, Ab Rashid Sheikh:
You were my first teacher, my strongest shield, and my safest home. Your wisdom was my compass, your smile my comfort, and your prayers my greatest protection. Even though you are no longer here

to walk beside me, I feel your presence in every step I take. The lessons you taught me were not just about life, but about living it with integrity, compassion, and grace. I miss your voice, your laughter, and the way you always seemed to know what I needed before I spoke. Papa, you were and will forever be the unsung hero of my life the man who gave me roots to stay grounded and wings to fly.

You are gone, yet every heartbeat speaks your name.

You are unseen, yet your love lights every path I walk.

You are silent, yet your presence is the loudest comfort in my soul."

The author teaches History at Govt. College of Education Jammu

Bacchon Ke Pyaar mein ghairat-e-jazbaat ne rone na diya, Warna kya baat thi jis baat ne rone na diya!



■ By M S Nazki

Sun sun kar nasihat, bhalai ki baat, har qadam pe milegi tuihe aisi hayat (listen to advice, the talk of goodness, every step will find such a life!)

G P Singh DG CRPF must be telling the same to the children in the picture with the story! And what we could make out was the best leaders strive to create a family environment within their organization!

What I studied in last 27 years of oblivion (by the way I still am).....Finally, concerning professionalism, I believe even now the clock is bringing us closer to some few seconds, minutes or hours in the future when the professionalism we will have, or will not have, will make a life or death difference for the men placed under our leadership!.....Majors Diary

Incidentally good leadership revolves around good judgment. That is the defining characteristic of a good leader!

Various institutions of 108 RAF were reviewed by GP Singh, DG, CRPF who appreciated the commendable efforts of all ranks. He took a round of office blocks, barracks, training area, canteen and co-operative. During his visit to institutions run by RCWA, Dr. Anamika Singh, President, CWA joined him. They felicitated Veer Naris & the families of Martyrs and assured them all possible support and assistance. Nazki MS. Just send me this extract! For me it was enough to create a journey on 16 (may be less) that Indian railways tag on to the engine the driving force!

A CRPF top man did say once upon a time that half the lives of our troops is spend on either railway compartments/ bogeys or on platforms! A small but important part in convoys! He was not wrong back in 1996! He made this statement in Guwhati.....Majors Diary!

But DG GP Singh is a different man and he believes that put the welfare of your troops above your own. They eat before you eat; they sleep before you sleep!

108 RAF refers to the 108th Battalion of the Rapid Action Force (RAF), a specialized unit of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in India. The RAF was established in 1992 to handle situations like riots and civil unrest. The 108th Battalion is one of the 15 battalions that make up the RAF.

The RAF is designed to be a rapid



deployment force, meaning it can quickly respond to emergencies and crisis situations. The 108th RAF battalion, specifically, is stationed in Meerut. They have been involved in various activities, including public order management, disaster response, and even health awareness programs.

In essence, 108 RAF is a specific unit within the larger RAF structure, tasked with maintaining public order and responding to emergencies within India.

Conduct fun, family-oriented events to enhance unit cohesion is their basic aim!

Obviously the history is rich:
Motto: Serving Humanity with Sensitive Policing!

Volunteers 1,000,000 Active Personnel
Governing body Ministry of Home Affairs (India)

The Rapid Action Force (RAF), is a specialized rapid reaction wing of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) of India established in October 1992 to deal with riot and crowd control situations.

RAF was established on 11 December 1991 by the Union Home Ministry with headquarters in New Delhi. It became fully operational on 7 October 1992, to deal with riots, riot-like situations, crowd control, rescue and relief operations, and related unrest. The first five battalions were operationalized by October 1992 and an additional 5 battalions were added in April 1994.

On 7 October 2003, with 11 years of service, the force was presented with the President's Color. On 9 November

2013, the RAF Academy of Public Order was established in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. In 2017, the Indian government approved an additional five battalions to be based in New Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar.

Organization: RAF is commanded by an Inspector-General of Police (IGP), functioning at New Delhi. The RAF is divided into three ranges headed by a Deputy Inspector-General of Police (DIGP) in New Delhi, Mumbai, and Dehradun. It has also a specialized training center "RAPO" (RAF Academy for Public Order) in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh headed by a DIGP. The RAF has a distinctive uniform with a blue-coloured camouflage pattern which symbolizes peace.

It currently has 15 specialized trained and equipped battalions, which are numbered 83, 91, 97, 99 to 108, 114 and 194 in the CRPF. Each battalion is headed by a Commanding Officer (CO), an officer of the rank of Commandant.

A team is the smallest independent functional unit of the force and is commanded by an Inspector. Each team has three components: riot control, tear smoke, and fire. Each company of RAF has one team composed of women personnel to deal with women demonstrators.

The force is equipped with non-lethal weapons for dispersing the crowd with minimum harm and losses. It is always kept in readiness for rapid deployment when the situation so demands and are only deployed by the orders of Ministry of Home Affairs on specific demands from state governments for a short duration.

Role

Riot and crowd control: This unit has been used to deal with communal violence, law and order duty, festival and election duties and agitation.

United Nations Peace Keeping Operations: The CRPF female and male contingents under the arrangements of RAF are deployed in United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), Monrovia and Zedru in UN Peacekeeping mission since 2007-08. CRPF Female Formed Police Unit was the first of its kind in the world, which was deployed under the aegis of UN Peace Keeping Mission.

Humanitarian activities: A 2017 stamp dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Rapid Action Force!

The Human Face:

RAF has also succeeded in projecting the human face of the Government and built bridges with the public by carrying out prompt rescue and relief operations during floods, earthquakes, cyclones and outbreak of epidemics in various parts of the country.

Anti-terror operations: Kamlesh Kumari of the 88 Mahila Battalion was posthumously awarded the Ashoka Chakra for her bravery during the 2001 Indian Parliament attack.

RAF was active during the 2002 Swaminarayan Akshardham temple attack in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

During the November 2008 Mumbai Terror Attacks, RAF was involved in cordoning the areas around the Oberoi Trident and the Taj Mahal hotels.

CWA CRPF stands for CRPF Family

Welfare Association. It is a non-profit organization established to support the families of CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) personnel, particularly those serving in difficult and remote locations. The CWA focuses on the well-being of these families, especially when personnel are away on extended deployments or in conflict zones.

Purpose: The CWA aims to address the needs and challenges faced by families of CRPF personnel, including issues related to accommodation, education, health, and overall welfare.

Establishment: It was originally known as the CRPF Wives' Welfare Association (CWWA) and was formally registered as an NGO in 1995.

Activities: The CWA engages in various activities to support families, including:

Providing assistance during times of need.

Organizing vocational training and educational sessions.

Arranging activities related to health, career, and children's education.

Raising funds for welfare schemes.

Organizing cultural and sports activities.

Membership: -All wives of CRPF personnel are considered members of the CWA.

Registration: The CWA is registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 in Delhi and is also recognized as an NGO by the Income Tax Department.

Governance: The CWA has a governing body that oversees its operations, including a President, Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer, Secretary, and Honorary Secretary.

The CWA, originally established as the CRPF Wives' Welfare Association in 1995 under the Societies Registration Act, has been instrumental in supporting the families of CRPF personnel. As a non-profit organization, it provides welfare initiatives such as family welfare centers, free school bus facilities, and awareness campaigns, including a 24-hour toll-free helpline for issues like HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, and welfare schemes. These efforts aim to empower families, enhance self-reliance, and address the challenges faced by those separated from their loved ones due to operational duties.

Dr. Anamika Sharma W/o DG CRPF GP Singh believes in only one thing, helping a child today will help prevent a broken adult tomorrow. And her husband says to write about a child is to reckon with other childhoods. And finally we will conclude: 'Bacchon Ke Pyaar mein ghairat-e-jazbaat ne rone na diya, Warna kya baat thi jis baat ne rone na diya!' Think over it!

Goodbye Registered Post - A silent farewell to an era



■ Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

On September 1, 2025, when the registered postal service of India Post will be formally discontinued, it will probably not be printed on the front page of any newspaper, nor will it be discussed on any news channel. As normal as this news seems, it leaves a deep impact on that generation, who for years started their day by listening to the bell of the postman's bicycle. Who lived relationships through letters and waited for communication by standing in queues at the post office.

Registered post was no ordinary service. It was a testimony to the days when we used to pour out our emotions with ink on paper. When an envelope contained many unsaid things, long waits and countless emotions. When a letter, whether it was from a family member or a government document, was not just a piece of paper but a symbol of trust - that it would definitely reach, in the right hands, at the right time.

Registered post was the bridge that connected the village to the city, mother to son, lover to lover, and citizen

to the government. It was not only a medium of communication, but also a guard that kept the relations safe. Its specialty was that it did not get lost, it did not wander. Its registration was its security, and the acknowledgement of its receipt was a kind of emotional satisfaction.

There was a time when the postman was not just a messenger but a familiar face in the house. Everyone awaited his voice, his bicycle bell and the envelopes hidden in his bag. Be it a government letter, an uncle's money order, news of a son living far away - everything reached through registered post. And when the letter was received, it was touched before opening it - the thickness of its paper, the depth of its colour and the smell of the ink on it - there was a sense of belonging in everything. But times have changed. Technological advancement has completely transformed the way we communicate. Today, mobile phones, instant messaging services, social media, and the Internet have almost eliminated the traditional postal system. No one has to wait anymore, everything is sent and received in a jiffy. At such a time, the decision of India Post to formally discontinue registered mail and merge it with speed mail is timely and necessary, but also emotionally painful.

Speed mail is undoubtedly a better service in line with modern requirements. It has speed, monitoring, technical expertise. But it does not have the intimacy that registered mail had. That intimacy, that slow but reliable communication, that simplicity - will now become history. The end of registered post is not just the end of a service, it is the end of an era. The era when words were

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treasured, when one waited for weeks, not days, to get a reply. When a reply had layers of love, respect and emotions. Today, we may be able to communicate in a single click, but that communication lacks permanence and depth. We send messages, but not emotions. We read, but do not understand. Registered post was the last vestige of an era when communication was not just a talk, but an emotion.

Such letters are still found in our old trunks - yellowed paper, letters stained with ink, time-marked edges and everything inside that was once priceless. Those letters

are now just memories, but registered post has delivered them safely till today. This is its greatest success - that it has made words immortal.

With the closure of this service, an emotional bond will be broken. This was the service that had made distance a bond. It had connected everyone from a mother's lap to her son, from a lover's eyes to her lover, from a teacher's teachings to his student. Now speed mail will come - fast, convenient, modern. But it will not have that halt, that patience, that waiting which made registered mail special. Today, as much as we have become technically capable, we have become emotionally hollow. Communication still takes place, but it lacks soul. Registered post was not just a letter, it was a document of the soul. Now that it is bidding adieu, it is not just an administrative decision - it is the closing of a page of our cultural heritage.

Registered post, you didn't just deliver letters, you delivered relationships. You taught us to connect - with words, with emotions, with waiting, and with faith. You may be formally closed now, but you will always live in our memories, in our old boxes, in our hearts.

Today, when we are bidding you farewell, it is not a farewell, it is a salute - to that era, to that simplicity, to that patience, to that affection, which you carried on your shoulders for years. Now even if the post offices change, postmen become digital, letters become history - but you, registered post, will always remain immortal for us.

The author is Freelance columnist, active in writing on social issues and cultural change

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Stinky Meat and People's Health – A Growing Concern in Kashmir



■ **Imran Raina**

As the saying goes, "You are what you eat." ensuring clean, healthy, and fresh meat is not just a matter of taste – it is a matter of survival and also protecting Kashmir from the dangers of stinky meat is not just a regulatory duty – it is a moral obligation to safeguard the lives and well-being of every citizen.

Food is central to Kashmiri culture, hospitality, and daily life. Meat, especially mutton, is more than just an ingredient – it is a part of tradition and celebration. Selling spoiled or chemically treated meat is not only a betrayal of that tradition but also an attack on public health.

If the issue of stinky meat is ignored, it risks triggering outbreaks of disease, eroding consumer confidence, and damaging the reputation of the local meat trade. The time for action is now – with firm enforcement, honest business practices, and informed consumers, Kashmir can ensure that every meal served is safe, fresh, and worthy of the trust its people place in their markets.

In recent weeks, the seizure of foul-



smelling Kabab, Rista etc. and mutton and chicken from markets across Kashmir has set off alarm bells for public health. Reports suggest that some vendors are selling spoiled meat – sometimes disguised with chemicals or spices – putting thousands at risk of food poisoning, parasitic infections, and other serious illnesses.

The issue of foul-smelling, unhygienic meat reaching markets in parts of Kashmir has sparked outrage among consumers and health experts alike. For a region where these Kabab, Rista etc. and mutton and chicken are staple items on many dining tables, the sale of spoiled meat is not just a matter of poor quality – it is a serious public health hazard. This growing problem, if left unchecked, threatens both the well-being of the population and the credibility of the local

food supply chain.

Recently we have seen that several districts indicate that some restaurants and meat vendors have been selling products that emit a bad odour, have an unusual colour, or are past their safe consumption date. Consumers have complained of meat turning slimy within hours of purchase, raising questions about how it was stored, transported, and handled. In some cases, officials have seized consignments of rotten mutton and chicken from markets, but such incidents often highlight the problem only after it has reached the consumer.

Kashmir's meat supply chain involves slaughterhouses, wholesalers, transporters, and retailers. A single lapse at any stage – whether due to unhygienic slaughtering conditions, lack of refrig-

eration, or excessive storage time – can turn fresh meat into a dangerous product. The situation becomes worse in warmer months when temperatures rise and bacteria multiply faster.

As we know that Meat spoils primarily due to bacterial growth, and this process accelerates when proper hygiene and temperature controls are not maintained. In many parts of Kashmir, meat is still transported in open vehicles without cold storage. At retail points, carcasses are sometimes displayed for hours in the open air, exposed to dust, flies, and pollution.

Additionally, there have been concerns about unethical practices. Some sellers allegedly use chemicals such as formalin or strong spices to mask the smell of rotting meat, thereby deceiving customers into buying an unsafe product. Such acts are not only illegal but also life-threatening.

The consumption of spoiled or chemically adulterated meat can lead to serious health problems like Food Poisoning, Botulism, Parasitic Infections, and Chemical Hazards etc. The Harmful preservatives or coloring agents used to disguise bad meat can damage internal organs, weaken immunity, and in some cases increase cancer risk over time.

For Kashmir, where healthcare facilities in rural areas are already under pressure, an outbreak of food borne illnesses could place a severe burden on the system.

Now the Question is Why the Problem Persists in Kashmir? There may be several factors that allow this issue to continue. This firstly includes Weak enforcement of food safety laws – Inspections are not always frequent or strict, and

penalties for offenders are often too lenient to deter repeat violations. Secondly, inadequate cold chain infrastructure – Many vendors lack refrigerated transport or storage, making it hard to keep meat fresh from slaughterhouse to shop. Also Vendors sometimes try to sell ageing stock at discounted prices rather than discard it, especially in times of market slowdown. Lack of consumer awareness also adds to the problem.

There must be combined efforts from authorities, sellers, and consumers to curb this serious issue. There must be regular and Strict Market Inspections of slaughterhouses, transport vehicles, and retail outlets. The government can support small vendors by providing shared cold storage units or subsidized refrigerated vans to maintain hygiene standards during transport.

Also Butchers and meat handlers should undergo training on hygiene, storage, and safe meat handling practices before they are allowed to operate. Besides this, media outlets, social organizations, and schools should educate the public on how to identify fresh meat and the dangers of consuming spoiled products.

Though Food safety officials say the problem is worsened by poor hygiene in slaughterhouses, lack of refrigerated transport, and weak enforcement of health regulations and have urged Consumers to inspect meat carefully before purchase. But the Authorities must go for stricter inspections and heavy penalties for offenders.

The writer is a Teacher hailing from Kangan Ganderbal. He is a regular contributor

HT - HEALTH TIPS

5 TIPS FOR

Taking Care of Your Mental Health

Practice Mindfulness

Take daily moments for mindfulness, like meditation, to find inner calm.

Stay Active

Do regular exercise, as it can boost your mood and reduce stress.

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Practice Gratitude

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Dy CM reviews progress on PWD works in Nowshera constituency

Emphasizes timely completion, adherence to quality parameters

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, AUG 11: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review the physical and financial progress on developmental works being executed by PWD (R&B) in Nowshera constituency of district Rajouri under different components.

The meeting focused on evaluating the progress and impact of ongoing projects in the constituency being executed under PWD and PMGSY schemes.

During the review, the Dy CM, who is also the MLA from Nowshera constituency, had a comprehensive assessment of various aspects of the R&B sector including implementation of various projects under UT Capex, City and Town, NABARD SAMAGRA, PMGSY and allied programmes.

The Chief Engineer PWD (R&B) Zone Pir Panjal apprised the Deputy Chief Minister regarding the



ongoing and new projects under execution.

He informed that under UT Capex there are 38 roads with an estimated cost of over Rs 73.49 crore and 6 Bridges with estimated cost of over Rs 18.34 crore. He further informed that under C&T component there are 36 ongoing projects with an estimated

cost of over Rs 4.66 crore and 52 new projects with Rs 12.74 crore allocated budget. He informed that there are 21 works under NABARD and 44 works under Samagra with an estimated cost over Rs 80.15 crore and Rs 8.60 crore, respectively.

While taking a detailed review,

Surinder Choudhary emphasized transparency and accountability as central principles in R&B sector projects. He laid stress on convergence with other departments in building community development assets.

The Dy CM directed to complete all the works during this financial year, especially Kallar-Potha bridge

and Chakli Bagla bridge which will benefit scores of local people after completion.

Highlighting the importance of PMGSY in socio-economic empowerment of rural areas, the DyCM directed the Chief Engineer to prepare DPR of minimum 50 roads for projection under PMGSY-4 Phase II. He exhorted upon the concerned officers to facilitate smooth and effective execution of all development works being done under this ambitious scheme.

Choudhary directed the CE to focus on completion of pending works besides expediting the tendering process and monitoring of departmental works on regular basis.

The Dy CM directed the Executive Engineers to expedite the progress on all works ensuring their timely completion, maintaining all prescribed quality standards. He asked them to follow the work completion deadlines so that the vital projects are dedicated to the public in time.

DC Budgam flags off enthusiastic Tiranga Bike Rally

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, AUG 11: As part of the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga campaign under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today flagged off a Tiranga Bike Rally from the DC Office Budgam.



The event witnessed overwhelming participation from enthusiastic bikers, youth volunteers, government officials, and members of civil society, all proudly carrying the National Flag.

Riders, adorned with the Tricolour, traversed through key routes of Budgam town, drawing the attention of locals and inspiring patriotic fervour.

Raising spirited slogans of "Mere Jaan Tiranga Hai", the rally echoed with a sense of unity and pride. The participants showcased their commitment to the ideals of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, urging the public to hoist the National Flag at their homes and actively join the district-wide celebrations.

Speaking at the flag-off ceremony, the DC said that the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign is a celebration of the collective spirit of the nation.

He highlighted that the Tricolour is a symbol of our unity, sacrifice, and progress, and called upon all citizens to participate with full enthusiasm.

He further added that such events not only strengthen patriotic feelings but also bring communities together in the true spirit of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

DC said that rallies are part of a larger series of patriotic activities being organised across all sub-divisions of Budgam district. These include Tiranga-themed rangoli making, rakhi making competitions, cultural performances, and flag hoisting at Amrit Sarovars.

He said that similar programmes have been reported from Blocks Narbal, Charisharief, Surasyar, S.K. Pora, B.K. Pora, Chadoora, Beerwah and others, with local residents and students actively taking part in colourful and creative expressions of patriotism.

The programme concluded with bikers and participants dispersing after completing the route, their voices still resounding with the heartfelt slogan "Mere Jaan Tiranga Hai", leaving behind a wave of patriotic enthusiasm in the air.

One day Rural Credit Workshop under JKICP held at Kishtwar

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KISHTWAR, AUG 11: A one-day Rural Credit Workshop was today organised under the Krishi Sampark Abhiyan 4.0 as part of the JKICP initiative at village Indiranagar in District Kishtwar.

The programme was presided over by Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma.

Chief Agriculture Officer Kushal Chandel, KVK Scientist Narinder Pal, Chief Scientist & Head RHRSS Bhaderwah Neeraj Kotwal, public representatives, officials from Agriculture & allied sectors, bank officials, KVK representatives, PMFBY officials and



other stakeholders participated in the event.

The workshop aimed to generate awareness among farmers about various rural credit schemes, agricultural financing options and insurance schemes to ensure better access to financial resources for sustainable agriculture.

Dr Narinder Paul from KVK welcomed the participants. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by FPO Development Officer JKICP Kishtwar Dr Shah Nawaz Ahmed.

In his inaugural address, the DC called upon all the stakeholders to work in unison to achieve the objective set under JKICP. He also called for exploring opportunities in the niche crop for raising income of the farmers.

More than 100 farmers, farm women and rural youth actively participated in the programme, interacting with experts and gaining valuable insights into government initiatives, banking procedures and allied agricultural services.

The event concluded with an interactive session held with team of experts from Agriculture, KVK, RHSS, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry and Bank, where participants raised queries and shared their experiences, paving the way for stronger linkages between farmers, banks and agricultural institutions in the district.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Chief Agriculture Officer Kishtwar Kushal Chandel.

National Deworming Day observed with district-wide campaign in Kathua

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KATHUA, AUG 11: As part of the nationwide initiative to eliminate worm infestation among children, National Deworming Day was today observed across Kathua district with a series of activities aimed at promoting awareness and administering preventive medication to the targeted population.

The main programme was organised at Government Middle School, Kalibari, where Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma presided over the function and formally distributed Albendazole tablets among the students. The event witnessed the participation of teachers, health workers, Anganwadi workers and a large number of students.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of the day in safeguarding the health of children and adolescents. He said that intestinal worm infections, though preventable, can significantly hamper the physical growth, cognitive development and academic performance of children. The DC informed that the district administration, in coordination with the Health and Education Departments, is conducting the deworming drive in both government and private educa-



tional institutions.

Underscoring the need for community participation, the Deputy Commissioner appealed to parents, guardians and school authorities to ensure that all children in the 1-19 years age group are administered the deworming medicine. "A healthy child is the foundation of a healthy nation, and timely deworming plays a crucial role in improving nutritional uptake and learning capacity," he said.

Chief Medical Officer Kathua informed that the campaign is being simultaneously implemented across all schools and Anganwadi Centres in the district. Sharing details of the tar-

get, the CMO said that nearly 1.5 lakh children, including school-going and out-of-school children, are covered under the current round of the campaign. He added that a single dose of Albendazole is administered every six months to children above two years, while those aged between one and two years are given half a tablet as per medical guidelines.

Pertinently, the National Deworming Day is observed bi-annually across the country under the National Health Mission with the objective of reducing the prevalence of parasitic intestinal worms among children and adolescents.

DDC reviews progress of JJM Projects in Samba District

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SAMBA, AUG 11: District Development Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan convened a comprehensive review meeting to assess the status and progress of projects under the Jal Jeevan Mission in the district. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Ms Champa Devi and Chief Planning Officer Samba, along with the

engineering and administrative functionaries concerned.

During the deliberations, it was apprised that out of 130 approved water supply schemes, 86 schemes have been successfully completed, while 18 schemes are in an advanced stage of execution.

Providing a detailed account of major infrastructure achievements under the Mission, the Executive Engineer Samba informed that a one sanctioned dug

well completed, 74 out of 80 tube wells stand completed, 21 bore wells have been completed, 10 out of 11 Rapid Sand Filtration Plants are operational and 50 out of 55 OHTs have been completed.

Taking cognisance of the progress, the DDC Samba directed the Executive Engineer, along with AEEs, AEs and JEs to resolve all site-specific issues in close coordination with the respective Sub-Divisional Magistrates. She further

instructed SDMs to personally monitor the pace, quality and adherence to technical standards of JJM works within their jurisdictions.

Underscoring the importance of timely delivery, the DDC emphasised that the 18 schemes currently nearing completion must be finalised within one month. She observed that this would markedly enhance household coverage with Functional Household Tap

Connections, ensuring safe and adequate drinking water supply to residents and facilitating the Har Ghar Jal certification of villages in Samba district.

The meeting concluded with a clarion call for synergised action between executing agencies, field staff and monitoring authorities to achieve the set targets within the stipulated timelines, thereby advancing the mission's vision of universal access to potable water.

HGT Mahotsav held at Behist-i-Zehra Park Showcasing Schemes, Services, Patriotism

Public Outreach Brings Government Services to Citizens' Doorsteps in Budgam: DC

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, AUG 11: As part of the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga (HGT) campaign under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a vibrant Mahotsav was today celebrated at Behist-i-Zehra Park, Budgam.

The event featured an impressive display of stalls set up by multiple government departments, aimed at creating awareness among the general public about various welfare schemes and providing on-spot registration services for beneficiaries.

Participating departments included Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Employment, Rural Development Department (RDD),

ICDS, Handicrafts, Handlooms, Industries, Banks, NRLM, Horticulture, Sheep Husbandry, and Health. Each department showcased its schemes, services, and achievements, drawing keen interest from the large number of visitors.

In the ICDS stall, a live demonstration of the Poshan Abhiyaan was presented to promote nutritional awareness.

The Agriculture Department displayed indigenous honey, vegetables, and other crops, while the Handicrafts and Handloom departments exhibited hand-woven items, including a beautifully crafted Tricolour motif made entirely by hand.

Banks conducted on-spot



registrations for social security schemes like Pradhan Mantri

Suraksha Bima Yojana and PM Jan Dhan Yojana, registering at

least 160 cases during the event.

Similarly, RDD, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Horticulture, and Health departments highlighted their ongoing programs and the benefits available to the public.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, lauded the collective efforts of all participating departments in making the Mahotsav a grand success.

He said that such public outreach programs not only inform people about government schemes but also bring services closer to the community.

The DC emphasised that all these initiatives are being con-

ducted under the aegis of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, with every sub-division and block in Budgam actively participating with zeal and enthusiasm.

He said that Har Ghar Tiranga campaign is more than just a symbolic gesture, it is a reflection of our shared identity and national pride.

He further said that India events like these are a reminder that development and patriotism can go hand in hand, and that a truly empowered society is one where people are aware of their rights, have access to opportunities, and feel a deep sense of belonging to the nation.

DC also underlined that the

administration is committed to ensuring last-mile delivery of all schemes.

He said, "No household should remain unaware of the benefits the government offers. Through such Mahotsavs, we bridge the gap between governance and the people."

DC further highlighted that the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations are an opportunity to connect people with the vision of a progressive India, where every citizen's participation strengthens the foundation of democracy.

Besides, GM DIC, PO ICDS, CPO, ACD, CAHO, LDM, DIO, other district and sectoral officers participated in the event.



Public Notice

I want to correct my residential Address Yourbaltak Garkone Instead of Garkone Village / Street Gargardoo. Anybody having any objection may contact concerned Authorities within the period of 7 days

Khatija Begum, D/O: Nazir Ali
R/o: Garkone Village / Street Gargardoo

Public Notice

My residence has been wrongly written as KHISEPORA in school record while my correct residence is KHISEPORA which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he /he may file his /her objection in the office of GOVT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL KREERE within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name....WASEEM AHMD MALIK
S/OGUZAR AHMAD MALIK
R/O KHISEPORA KREERI

Public Notice

It is notified for information of General Public that the spelling of my name in my Passport has been wrongly mentioned as, Khurshied Ahmad while as my full name with correct spelling is, Khurshed Ahmad Qazi and same is to be entered in my passport. I have applied for renewal and correction of my name in the passport before the Passport Officer Boulevard Road Srinagar Kashmir.

If anybody has any objection in this regard He or She may approach th e office of the Passport Officer Boulevard Road Srinagar Kashmir within one week after that no objection will be entertained.

Khurshed Ahmad Qazi
S/o Munshi Ali Mohammad
R/o 35, New Colony , Nigeen Bagh
Srinagar Kashmir

Public Notice

This is inform to the general public that my name & Mother's Name has been wrongly mentioned in my documents as Musaib Parveez Kuchay & Mother Name Gulshan While as my actual name is Musaib Parvaiz Kuchay & Mother Name Gulshana Bano. Now I want to apply for the correction of the same if anybody is having any objection he/she may contact concern Aadhar Centre Jammu Srinagar within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be entertained.

Musaib Parvaiz Kuchay, S/o: Parvaiz Ahmad Kuchay
R/o: Humhama

Public Notice

It is hereby informed that my name mentioned in the bank records as "Mehreen" is incorrect. My correct name is "Mehreen Abid". In future, my name should be read as "Mehreen Abid" in all documents and records.

Mehreen Abid
Kawarigam

Public Notice

It is hereby informed to the general public that my father, Ghulam Mohammad Ahanger, son of Ghulam Qadir Ahanger, resident of Laripora, Tehsil Pahalgam, District Anantnag, passed away on 15th August 1989 at home.

His death has not been recorded in the records of the Registrar Office, Chowkidar, or the concerned Police Station.

I, Shabir Ahmad Ahanger, son of Ghulam Ahanger, permanent resident of Laripora, Tehsil Pahalgam, District Anantnag, intend to register the said death with the Municipal Committee Pahalgam in order to obtain the death certificate as per the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1969.

If anyone has any objection to the said registration, they may submit the same in writing with relevant proof to the Municipal Committee Pahalgam or the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, the death will be registered accordingly.

Shabir Ahmad Ahanger
S/o Ghulam Ahanger
R/o Laripora, Tehsil Pahalgam, District Anantnag

Public Notice

I want to correct my residential Address Yourbaltak Garkone Instead of Garkone Village / Street Gargardoo. Anybody having any objection may contact concerned Authorities within the period of 7 days.

Mehboob Ali, D/A: Nazir Ali
R/o: Garkone Village / Street Gargardoo

Public Notice

I have lost my 9th pass certificate session 1990.Now i am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Principal Govt Hr Sec School Wagoora within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

MUMTAZA BANO D/O MOHD AKBAR AHANGER
R/O DARWA WAGOORA

Public Notice

My Daughter's Date of Birth (DoB) wrongly mentioned in her Aadhar card as 04-03-2001 instead of 17-10-2001.Now i am applying for its correction 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.

FAYAZ AHMAD BUKHARI F/O IQRA FAYAZ
R/O KREERI BARAMULLA

Public Notice

Change of Name in Electricity Bill.

I want to change then Name in my electricity connection from my late fathers Name i.e -Sanaulah Mir S/O Gh Rasool Mir to my Name i.e - Mr Zahoor Ahmad Mir S/O Late Sanaulah Mir bearing consumer I'd -

Anybody having any objection in this regard, may file his/ her objection in the office of Concerned PDD Department within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entertained.

Name - Zahoor Ahmad Mir , S/O Late Sanaulah Mir
Under consumer I'd

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of GH MOHAMMAD AALIE S/O ABDUL KARIM AALEI R/O WARIPORA PAYEEN for the issuance of LEGAL HEIR certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this context a report sought from patwari halqa concerned and the Death certificate issued by the competent authority reveals that PARVEENA AKHTER D/O GH MOHAMMAD AALIE has passed away on 31/03/2000 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

- 1.... GH MOHAMMAD AALIE 65 years Father farmer
- 2....ASHA BEGUM 63 years MOTHER H/W
- 3....BILAL AHMAD AALIE 26 years Brother labour
- 4 ...SHOWKAT AHMAD AALIE 23 years Brother //
- 5...PARVAZ AHMAD 20 years Brother //
- 6....MASHOOQ AHMAD 15 Years Brother student
- 7....MUMTAZA AKHTER 24 years sister H/W

.The applicant has applied for Issuance of Dependent certificate in favour of Self

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

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 hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of SAHIBA FAISAL S/O MOHAMMAD FAISAL R/O RAJA -KA-TAJPUR Tehsil CHANDPORA Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 25/04/2018 and event has been shown to be occurred at CHC KREERI for issuance of delay order .In this connection .

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

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 hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of UMER AHMAD GANIE

S/O ALI MOHAMMAD GANIE R/O KAKOTHAL Tehsil kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 05/03/2006 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

HT - NEWS / ADVT

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application for issuance of RBA certificate applicant MOHD YOUSUF SHEIKH S/O. AB GANI SHEIKH SHEIKH R/O SHEIKHPORA Tehsil KREERI in favour of daughter AYAT YOUSUF for the issuance of RBA in his /her / their favor

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of RBA in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of SHEIKHPORA of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the SHEIKH community having annual income 400000// the details of family of the applicant are as follows

- 1...MOHD YOUSUF SHEIKH head 57 years farmer
- 2..MUGLI BEGAM wife 56 years Housewife
- 3... AIJAZ AHMAD Son 33 years labour
- 4..RAFIQ AHMAD Son 31 years Labour
- 5 ...AYAT YUAUF daughter 24 years Student

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application for issuance of RBA certificate applicant MOHAMMAD SHABAN SHEIKH S/O. GHULAM RASOOL SHEIKH R/O SHEIKHPORA Tehsil KREERI in favour of Son's MOHD NADEEM ,SHOWKAT & WAHEED AHMAD R/O SHEIKHPORA for the issuance of RBA in his /her / their favor

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of RBA in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of SHEIKHPORA of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the SHEIKH community having annual income 701292// the details of family of the applicant are as follows

- 1...MOHD SHABAN SHEIKH self 61 years retire employee
- 2..HALEEMA BEGAM wife 60 years Housewife
- 3...RIFAT AKHTER daughter 31 years H/W
- 4.MOHD NADEEM Son 29 years CSC centre
- 5WAHEEDA BANO daughter in law 28 years H/W
- 6...SHOWKAT AHMAD son 28 years private employee
- 7... WAHEED AHMAD son 26 student

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government OF Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER REW DIVISION BANDIPORA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS | E-NIT No: 22 OF 2025-26 | Dated: 02-08-2025

For and on behalf of the Lt.Governor, Of UnionTerritory Of J&K , e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with UT of J&KGovt., CPWD,Railways and other State/Central Governments for thefollowingworks:-

S.No.	Block	NAME OF WORK	Adv. Cost	TENDER FEE	Time	Class
1	HAJIN	DEVELOPMENT OF PLAYFIELD AT GANDBAL HAJIN BUN MOHALLA BY WAY OF FENCING & LEVELLING	29.41	1800/-	45 DAYS	AAV/BEE

SCHEME: UT-SECTOR(YSS)

PositionofA/A: Accorded

EMD: 2% of Advt. Cost

PositionofT/S: Accorded

TYPE OF TENDER: Open

TheBiddingdocumentsconsistingofqualifyinginformation,eligibilitycriteria,specifications,Drawings,billofquantities(B.O.Q.),Setof termsandconditionsofcontractandotherdetailscanbeseen/downloadedfromthedeptamentalwebsitewww.jktenders.gov.inasperscheduleofrates.

1.	DateofIssueofTenderNotice	04-08-2025 9:00AM
2.	OnlineBidsSubmissionStartDate	04-08-2025 9:00AM
3.	OnlineBidSubmissionEndDate	13-08-2025 AT 6:00PM
4.	Date&TimeofOpeningOfOnlineBids	14-08-2025 at 11:00 AM
5.	Note: Hard copy of original Tender Document, Fee Receipt EMD, and performance security shall be deposited after the financial bid is opened. In case the original Tender Document Fee Receipt and EMD is not Deposited within 7days after the Financia lBidisOpenedforallresponsivebiddersWhohaveparticipated online,theDepartmentshallserve theNoticeasperRules.	

NO: XEN-REW-BPR-2025-26/3376-85

DATED: 02-08-2025

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER REW-BANDIPORA

DIPK: 5111/25 | Dated: 11-08-2025

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA) (UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CITY ROADS (SMC) DIVISION SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS | NIT No: E-NIT/65/CRD/SMC/SGR/2025-26 | Dated: 08-08-2025

For and on behalf of the Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders (in Single cover System) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Governments.

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost	T.D Cost	E/M	Time	Class
1	Macadamization of road H/o Abdul RehmanSofi to H/o Fayaz Ahmad SofiLal Nagar Chowk (Malbagh) to Rehmatabad, KokerBagh, Mallabagh.	12.00	600/-	24000/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class
2	Imppt/upgradation of road surface at Abu baker Colony Habak lane 3,4naseembagh links by way of Providing & Laying 75 mm WMM, 50mm BM,25mm SD and 6mm thick premixed seal coat.	34.00	1100/-	68000/-	20 Days	AAV/ BEE Class
3	Upgradation/imp of road surface from main road to Iqbal Abad Colony SozeithLawaypora.	12.10	600/-	24200/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class
4	Macadamization of lane from Masjid Siddiqui (RA) upto H/o Rafiq Ahmad Wani at Firdous Colony Eidgah.	12.00	600/-	24000/-	12 Days	BEE/ CEE/ DEE Class
5	Imp/upgradation of various links at BaghiSundarBalaChattabal by way of p/I of 75mm thick compacted WMM (wetmix) 50mm thick compacted BM, 25mm thick compacted SD with premixed seal coat.	17.60	800/-	35200/-	15 Days	BEE/ CEE Class

M.H of A/C: Capex Budget (2025-2026)

AAA: Accorded.

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, Drawings, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental websitewww.jktenders.gov.inas per the schedule of dates given below:

Scheduled Dates& Time of Online Tenders.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice Online	09-08-2025.		
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	FROM	09-08-2025 10:00 A.M	
3.	Bid submission Start Date	09-08-2025	FROM	10:00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	21-08-2025	UPTO	4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	22-08-2025 at 10:00 A.M in the office of the Executive Engineer City Roads SMC Division Srinagar.		

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of introducing Bank Receipt as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No: 02160102000000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (With NIT No. and S.No. of work mentioned)by simply uploading a copy of necessary Bank Receipt.

2. Bids must be accompanied with Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) @2% of the advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar which shall be uploaded with the tender documents at the time of tendering. The same shall be released after receipt of 5% of performance security which should be valid till completion of DLP from the successful Bidder.

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Sitewww.jktenders.gov.inand conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer City Roads (SMC) Division Srinagar(Tender receiving authority).

4. The bids for the work shall remain Valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.

5. The lowest bidder (L1) also called the successful Bidder has to produce a performance security amount equal to 5% (five percent) of the contract value in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG immediately after the opening of financial bids, but prior to fixation of contract. The validity period of the FDR/ BG for requisite amount shall be upto DLP. Any FDR/ BG having less validity period shall not be entertained. The CDR/ FDR/ BG shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP).

6. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws/ modified his bid during the period of validity etc, the Department is at liberty to suspend the bidder for one year or as shall be deemed suitable by the tender inviting Authority. Same shall hold good if the bidder fails to produce performance security within the specified time.

7. The successful bidder (L1) shall have to furnish hard copy of the uploaded documents viz Registration card duly renewed, Valid GST Registration, PAN Card, GSTR-3B etc. alongwith Treasury Challan Receipt.

8. The execution of works falling under the jurisdiction of LAWDA shall be subject to NOC from LCMA (LAWDA) Department.

NIT/65/CRD /SMC/SGR/2025-26/e-tendering/ | DATED: 08-08-2025.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, City Roads (SMC) Division, Srinagar

DIPK: 5106/25 | Dated: 11-08-2025

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Opposition march against EC: BJP calls it false agenda

■ United News of India

NEW DELHI, AUG 11: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today termed as an "attempt to create chaos in the country" the noisy march taken out by the Opposition parties, including Congress and the INDI alliance, from the Parliament House to the Election Commission office in Delhi against the ongoing Bihar's electoral revision process.

At a press conference here, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan hit back at the opposition, accusing Congress and Rahul Gandhi of having an "anti-constitutional attitude". He also dismissed the march as a "false agenda".

Targeting Congress, he said their language resembled that of "anti-national elements".

He said SIR (Systematic Voter's List Revision) is not a new process and has been conducted before.



"However, the Opposition is using it as a pretext to spread falsehoods and create chaos in the country," he said.

Pradhan said, "The country is watching those who work against the Constitution, led by Rahul Gandhi. The Opposition repeat-

edly raises doubts over EVMs, spreads lies, and tries to undermine faith in the election process. This is a deliberate strategy to

spread unrest in the country."

The senior BJP leader also urged the Opposition to raise their concerns in Parliament instead of taking out marches on the streets. He pointed out that even during discussions on Operation Sindoor in Parliament, the Opposition and Congress lacked a solid agenda. He accused them of diverting public attention from real issues.

The Union Minister explained that SIR is not a new process but a regular exercise by the Election Commission across all states to update and organise the voter list. He said, "The Opposition has no clear policy; they are only playing politics."

He also accused Congress of lying on several issues like EVMs, Rafale, and China border disputes. Pradhan said, "Questioning India's army and sovereignty is wrong. The Opposition should clarify whose side they are on." UNI/AJSSP

Minister Seethakka slams BJP over Rahul Gandhi's arrest, alleges vote fraud

■ United News of India

MULUGU (TELANGANA), AUG 11: Telangana Panchayat Raj, Women and Child Welfare Minister Dr Danasari Anasuya Seethakka has strongly condemned the arrest of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and other party leaders, accusing the BJP of coming to power through "fraudulent votes" and "stealing the people's verdict".

Lashing out at the ruling party at the Centre, Seethakka questioned, "Does Ram Rajya mean coming to power by stealing votes and changing the people's verdict while chanting 'Jai Shri Ram'?" She challenged the BJP to release the complete voters' list through the Election Commission to prove



the legitimacy of its mandate, a statement here said today.

In the statement, the minister alleged that the BJP has "registered lakhs of fake votes" and used bribes, intimidation, and arrests to hold on to power. She claimed that despite surveys predicting Congress victories in Haryana, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh, results were "manipulated" through fraudulent voting.

Accusing the BJP of misusing central agencies like the ED, CBI, and IT, Seethakka said the party is now "using the Election Commission as its pocket institution." She asserted that Rahul Gandhi has exposed the BJP's "dirty tactics" and that is why "false cases and arrests" are being used against him.

"Vote is a powerful weapon given by the Constitution, but BJP is stealing that weapon and killing democracy," she said, adding that the Congress will take the issue to the streets. "The people will stop BJP from entering the villages," she declared. UNI/VVARN

Amid heightening leadership row with son, Ramadoss vows to form 'victorious alliance'

■ United News of India

CHENNAI, AUG 11: Amid the heightened leadership row between the father and son duo in the first family of the OBC-Vanniyar dominated PMK, its Founder Dr S Ramadoss said he would definitely form a "victorious alliance" for the 2026 Assembly polls, due in 8-9 months.

In a veiled reference to his son Dr Anbumani, who had made a similar claim at the GC meeting convened by him two days back in his capacity as the PMK President (though later demoted as Working President by his dad in May this year over the leadership tussle) after the Madras High Court cleared the decks, Dr Ramadoss urged the PMK cadres not to heed to anybody's words and asserted that whatever he tell will definitely happen.

Winding up the 8th Vanniyar Women's Conference organised by the PMK at Vanniyar Sangam at Poompuhar in Mayiladthurai district last night, he exhorted the party cadre not to heed to "anyone else's words" and assured that he would definitely form a "victorious alliance" for the 2026 Assembly elections.

"I will form a victorious alliance in 2026 no matter who says what. You don't even have to hear it — only what I tell will happen," Dr. Ramadoss told the gathering.

Urging Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to conduct the caste-based survey in state and questioned his hesitancy, Dr. Ramadoss said conducting the census would secure the Chief Minister, a place in "social history."

"Late Chief Minister Karunanidhi was my good friend. He gave 20% reservation for MBCs. As his son, you should not hesitate," he said, in a fervent plea to Mr Stalin to conduct the census.

He also urged Mr Stalin not to push the PMK to launch state-wide agitations in this regard.

He also demanded introduction of total prohibition in the state and the elimination of ganja and drug menace in the state. and resolutions in this regard were adopted at the conference. UNIGV 1443

Tension erupts in UP's Fatehpur over religious site dispute, heavy police force deployed

■ United News of India

FATEHPUR, AUG 11: Tensions flared in the Abunagar area of UP's Fatehpur on Monday morning after members of Hindu organizations arrived at a disputed site, claimed to be a mazar (mausoleum), and attempted to assert it as a Hindu temple. The situation escalated when some individuals climbed onto the roof of the structure and hoisted a saffron flag, triggering outrage from the local Muslim community.

Following the incident, clashes broke out, including stone-pelting, between the two groups. Police forces arrived promptly and dispersed the crowd using lathicharge to control the situation. Due to the sensitive nature of the dispute and the growing

unrest, heavy police deployment has been made, including personnel from Sadar Kotwali, Radha Nagar, Malwan, Husainganj, and Hariyawan police stations.

Senior officials, including DSP Gaurav Sharma, ASP Mahendra Pal Singh, and ADM Avneesh Tripathi are on the scene, attempting to mediate and pacify the protesters.

The dispute centres around a structure located in the Sadar Kotwali area, which Hindu groups claim is not a mazar but an ancient temple of Thakur Ji. According to them, the site was allegedly encroached upon and converted into a mausoleum. Hindu groups had earlier announced their intent to conduct religious rituals and also to clean the site on August 11, so that they could celebrate Janmashtami.

On Friday, the Math-Mandir Sangharsh Samiti submitted a memorandum to District Magistrate Ravindra Singh, demanding the removal of what they termed as "illegal occupants" and restoration of the site as a temple. In anticipation of potential unrest, the DM and SP Anuj Singh had visited the site on Sunday.

On Monday morning, scores of members from the Math-Mandir Sangharsh Samiti and other Hindu groups gathered about 50 meters from the disputed structure and began chanting Hanuman Chalisa. BJP district president Mukhlal Pal and other local leaders were also present.

Authorities remain on high alert, and efforts are ongoing to maintain peace and prevent further escalation. UNI/PRI PRS

TRUMP DECLARES INTENT TO MOVE ALL HOMELESS PEOPLE FAR AWAY FROM WASHINGTON

■ United News of India

WASHINGTON, AUG 11: In his moves to strengthen federal security and law enforcement after the attempted assault on Department of Government Efficiency official, US President Donald Trump declared that all homeless people in the capital need to be moved "far away" — suggesting more aggressive policing of the national capital, and putting it under federal control — reports CBS News.

Taking to Truth Social on Sunday, the US President announced his intentions of making Washington "safer" and more "beautiful"

than ever before, and wrote: "The homeless have to move out, immediately. We will give you places to stay, but far from the Capital. The criminals, you don't have to move out."

"We're going to put you in jail where you belong. It's all going to happen very fast, just like the border. We went from millions pouring in, to zero in the last few months. This will be easier — Be prepared! There will be no 'MR NICE GUY!' We want our Capital BACK. Thank you for your attention to this matter!"

Hours later, he bemoaned the capital's condition calling it "dirtier" and more "dangerous" than



ever before, declaring his intent on making the city "Great Again".

"Just like I took care of the border, where you had zero illegals coming across last month, from millions the year before, I will take

care of our cherished Capital, and we will make it, truly, GREAT AGAIN! Before the tents, squalor, filth, and crime, it was the most beautiful Capital in the World. It will soon be that again".

Last week, Trump threatened to put Washington under federal control. A spokeswoman for the FBI Washington Field Office on Sunday confirmed to CBS News that its agents are "participating in the increased federal law enforcement presence in Washington, DC."

Since assuming office, Trump has been trying to evict homeless people, and has been increasingly pressuring cities like DC —

which have a strong record of homeless people — to remove all homeless from their streets.

He signed an executive order last month telling the Justice Department to "reverse judicial precedents and end consent decrees that limit state and local governments' ability to commit individuals on the streets who are a risk to themselves or others."

It also directed federal agencies to prioritise grants to cities that "enforce prohibitions on open illicit drug use, urban camping and loitering." The move drew criticism from advocacy groups like the National Homelessness Law Center. UNI

Two-state solution best hope to break cycle of violence in ME: Australian PM

■ United News of India

CANBERRA, AUG 11: Australia will formally recognise the State of Palestine at the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in September, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced today, framing the move as part of a coordinated international push towards a two-state solution to the Middle East conflict.

Speaking after a Cabinet meeting, Albanese said the decision followed direct consultations with world leaders, including Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron, New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

"A two-state solution is humanity's best hope to break the cycle of violence in the Mid-

dle East," Albanese said. "It will bring an end to the conflict, suffering, and starvation in Gaza, and secure peace and safety for both Israelis and Palestinians."

Addressing a press conference, Albanese stressed that Australia's recognition is conditional on "commitments from the Palestinian Authority (PA), including recognition of Israel's right to exist, demilitarisation, holding general elections, abolishing payments to families of prisoners and militants, and undertaking governance reforms under international oversight."

The PA has also pledged to reform its education system to remove incitement to violence and hatred. The announcement comes as global pressure mounts on Israel over its conduct in Gaza and the rapid expansion of settlements in the West Bank. Albanese warned that these recent developments could put a two-state solution "out of reach for a gen-

eration." He said the humanitarian crisis in Gaza had "gone beyond the world's worst fears," accusing Israel of defying international law by blocking aid.

"This is about much more than drawing a line on a map — this is about delivering a lifeline to the people of Gaza," Albanese said.

Foreign Minister Penny Wong, standing alongside the Prime Minister, said Australia's recognition marks a "moment of opportunity" after decades of stalled peace efforts.

"It's been more than 77 years since the world promised a Palestinian state," Wong said. "We will help build the capacity of the Palestinian Authority and ensure they are held to their commitments. The practical implementation of recognition will be tied to progress."

Foreign Minister Wong also condemned Hamas for its October 7, 2023, attacks on Israel — the deadliest single day for Jews since



the Holocaust — and reaffirmed that there would be "no role" for Hamas in a future Palestinian state.

Australia will continue to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza, Wong said, and will work with partners to "forge hope from despair" by supporting the Arab League's call for Hamas to relinquish power and disarm.

With the announcement, Australia joins a growing bloc of nations including Spain, UK, Canada, Norway, and Ireland moving to formally recognise Palestinian statehood this year, in what Albanese described as a decisive moment to "turn the world's will into reality."

The Australian PM urged early Palestinian elections and

called Hamas the 'Enemy of Palestinian People'.

When asked about the feasibility of holding general elections in Gaza given the current situation, he said he would like to see the process take place "as soon as possible," while acknowledging that it remains a key issue for debate in the path ahead.

"The matter is tied to the broader reform of the Palestinian Authority (PA), which has not held elections "for some time." Referring to the 2007 takeover of Gaza, he recalled that when Hamas took over Gaza, there was violence by Hamas against Palestinians as well," he added.

"Hamas is not just an enemy of Israelis; it's an enemy of the Palestinian people as well," the Prime Minister said, adding that the group's actions including its reported brutality against internal opposition during the current conflict have been condemned not only by Australia but also by

the wider international community. The Australian PM also cited Arab Nations' 'Historic' stand against Hamas.

Asked whether efforts to separate Palestinians from Hamas would require cooperation from Tehran, given the group's deep entrenchment since its 2006 election victory, Albanese rejected the notion that such thinking was "simplistic." "Not at all," he said. "One of the key moments, if you like, when people will look at how we've got to where we are today, will be not just 10 June, the statement by the Palestinian Authority, but importantly the statement by Arab nations, which was very historic."

The Prime Minister pointed to a meeting in New York convened by France and Saudi Arabia, which he said produced "very clear and unequivocal statements of opposition to Hamas, of disarming of Hamas, and of Hamas not playing a future role." UNI

Warner, Spirit Take Spoils Despite Bairstow Fire

■ United News of India

LONDON: David Warner made his first half-century in the Hundred to see London Spirit take the spoils against Welsh Fire in Cardiff, despite a thrilling, unbeaten 86 from Jonny Bairstow in response.

Like a boxer on the ropes, Bairstow sat back and absorbed the blows as his Fire team fell to 55 for 6 at the halfway point of their reply, before launching a high-octane counterattack that took them close to a famous victory.

Bairstow's 50-ball innings contained six sixes, and saw 74 runs plundered from balls 66 to 95, leaving 17 required off the last five of the innings. As the Sophia Gardens crowd belted out "Wales, Wales, Wales!" it appeared that Bairstow - ably supported by Chris Green - would pull off the comeback but Luke Wood got Spirit over the line.

Warner's innings was a different affair, but was equally effective in driving the visitors - the Australian legend using his experience and nous to work out a defensible total on a track that had something for the bowlers.

With the ball, before the Bairstow show, Liam Dawson and Richard Gleeson were both parsimonious and though they may briefly have feared that their hard work would be

undone it was runs on the board that emerged victorious in the end, Kane Williamson and Justin Langer getting off and running and consigning Fire to a second defeat in two.

Warner, the Meerkat Match Hero, said: "That got very close at the end, and credit to the way Jonny and Greeny batted. They were absolutely superb. The partnership they built was fantastic, and what it did do was what we're trying to do here - entertain the crowd and hopefully everyone was excited by that game."

"I think what the guys were saying there was that across the last 25-30 balls it wasn't that stoppy. It skidded, but it was still slow in the wicket. We tried to execute as well as we could but Jonny was on fire there, he was hitting the ball cleanly and obviously we got over the line but it was a good effort by them."

"When you're out there batting, the five balls and then 10 balls from one end - you think you have to change ends as a batter. I'm getting used to it, but what I am loving is the crowds. It's fantastic. It's all about the kids, and us trying to put entertainment on the TV - credit to everyone who came out today, thank you."

"This is a really important win for us. We lost our first game at home but we've got an away game in Manchester coming up, and hopefully we can tick that off."



SPECTRUM KINGS PAMPORE CROWNED in T-20 Knockout Tournament Edition-II at Natipora Srinagar



■ HT Sports Desk

SRINAGAR: Spectrum Kings Pampore made short work of Sultan Warriors Summerbugh in a thrilling T20 cricket match of the Natipora Knockout Tournament Edition II Cricket League. The Kings' crushing victory was fueled by an impressive all-around performance.

Batting first, Spectrum Kings posted a competitive total of 155 runs, thanks to a fiery captain's knock by Mohammed Munazah, who blasted

90 runs. His batting prowess set the tone for the team's strong showing.

In response, Sultan Warriors Summerbugh struggled to keep pace, eventually being all out for 130 runs. Spectrum Kings' bowlers proved too potent, and their fielding was equally impressive, with sharp catches and quick ground fielding that sealed the win.

The team's owner, Gowhar Bhat, and Sarfaraz Rashid deserve special mention for their unwavering support, which has been instrumental in the team's success.

However, the mastermind behind this win is undoubtedly Coach/Mentor Asif Jeelani, whose strategic guidance and mentorship have propelled Spectrum Kings to new heights.

This victory showcases the team's potential and highlights their contribution to promoting cricket in Pampore. With such performances, Spectrum Kings Pampore is indeed giving new horizons to the town of Pampore in cricket, inspiring young talent and cricket enthusiasts alike.

Sesko, Ekitiké Aim to Break Post-Bundesliga Struggles

■ United News of India

London: Benjamin Sesko's long-awaited move from Leipzig to Manchester United is done. Now the real work begins. Sesko and his fellow Premier League arrival from the Bundesliga, Liverpool's Hugo Ekitiké, will need to buck a recent trend of highly rated forwards from the German league struggling after they leave.

Another with something to prove is Mathys Tel, whose move to Tottenham from Bayern Munich was made permanent despite scoring just two goals in 13 Premier

League games on loan last season.

Of course, Erling Haaland smashed records as soon as he arrived in the Premier League with Manchester City from Borussia Dortmund in 2022.

For every star like Haaland, plenty of players like Jadon Sancho, Timo Werner or Randal Kolo Muani lost their way after leaving Germany in big-money deals. One reason might be that the Bundesliga is a happy hunting ground for would-be goalscorers.

It led the top five European leagues in terms of goals scored per game last season with 3.13 - the others were all below three - and is the only one to average more than three goals per game in each of the last seven years.

Some of that is down to Bayern racking up the score against smaller teams, but Germany is also the home of a tactical shift in world soccer over the past 15 years.

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