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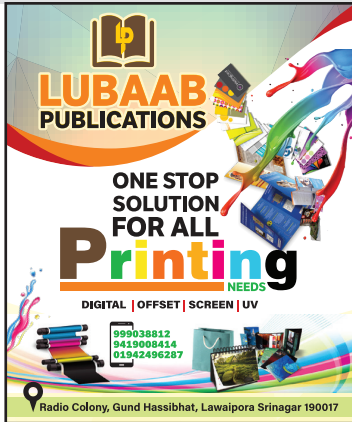
15TH  
YEAR OF  
PUBLICATION



HEADLINES

TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless



# J&K Has Gained It's Rightful Place on National Sporting Landscape: LG Manoj Sinha

■ HT News Desk

**ANANTNAG, AUG 13:** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today attended the Trophy unveiling ceremony of Bijbehara Premier League (BPL) at Anantnag.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the players and officials and congratulated the organisers of the Bijbehara Premier League.

"Bijbehara Premier League is widely considered as the most prestigious cricket tournament in J&K UT which also serves as a platform to showcase talent and earn their place at national and international level," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the Bijbehara Premier League is far more than an ambitious competition for the youth of Anantnag and its neighbouring districts. This tournament has also made a major contribution to improving the quality of sports throughout Jammu and Kashmir, he added.



The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, J&K UT has made its rightful place in the Indian sporting landscape.

"In the past five years, we have invested in creating modern sports infrastructure, cultivate suitable environment for players and focussed on strong strategy and effective execution at grass roots

level to foster sports culture," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said the remarkable progress in J&K's sports sector is due to hard work and unwavering determination of our sportspersons, dedicated coaches and tireless efforts of officials of Sports Council.

"J&K UT since 2020 had adopted a player-centered approach to

## Felicitation at Katra Highlights Unbeatable Spirit of India: LG Sinha

■ HT News Desk

**KATRA, AUG 13:** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today felicitated the Langar organisations for their significant contribution during Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025.

At a felicitation ceremony held at Spiritual Growth Centre Katra, the Lieutenant Governor congratulated and expressed his deep appreciation to the Langar organisations for their selfless service to the devotees of Baba Amarnath.

"Today's felicitation of Langar Organisations at Katra also carried a message that nothing can beat the spirit of India. Successful conduct of holy pilgrimage of Shri Amarnath Ji this year with unwavering determination of all the stakeholders has shown that we are second to none in the world. It is also a vindication of our steadfast commitment

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## Security Forces on High Alert Along LoC to Ensure Peaceful Celebrations of 79th Independence Day

■ HT News Network

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** As the nation prepares to celebrate 79th Independence Day, security forces along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border are on high alert.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) all the arrangement have been put in place to ensure robust border security and thwart any threats.

Officials said that this heightened vigilance spans key frontier areas, including North Kashmir's Gurez sector, Uri, Karnah, Tangdhar, and the Sunderbani sector in Jammu.

They said that security measures have also been intensified along the International Border (IB) in the Jammu region, where Border Security Force (BSF) personnel are maintaining a close vigil through round-the-clock patrolling, digital surveillance, and other necessary measures.

"Troops have intensified surveillance and patrolling along the LoC, maintaining strict domination over the sensitive border region. Our forces are fully alert and prepared to respond swiftly to any infiltration attempts or ceasefire violations," they said.

"We have deployed all necessary resources and are leveraging cutting-edge technology to maintain full

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## PM Modi likely to visit New York for UNGA Session

■ United News of India

**UNITED NATIONS, AUG 13:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address the annual high-level session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September, according to a



provisional list of speakers issued by the UN here.

The 80th session of the UNGA will open on September 9. The high-level General Debate will run from

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## Petitions on J&K statehood and nomination of 5 MLAs listed today

■ HT News Network

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** Two separate petitions—one seeking the restoration of Jammu & Kashmir's special status, and another challenging the nomination of five MLAs—are listed for hearing in the Supreme Court and the Jammu & Kashmir High Court, respectively, on Thursday. As per news agency—Kash-

mir News Observer (KNO), the Supreme Court will tomorrow hear pleas seeking restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. "The case is listed at serial number 9 before the bench headed by Chief Justice of India," advocate Soayib Quershi told KNO.

Two separate petitions- one filed by Zahoor Ahmad Bhat (lawyer and academician)

and Khursheed Ahmad Malik (socio- political activist) and another by Irfan Hafiz Lone (MLA Wagoorah- Kreeri) are listed for hearing before the CJI-led bench.

Meanwhile, the petition challenging nomination of five MLAs is also listed for hearing before J&K High Court tomorrow. As already reported by KNO, the Ministry of Home Affairs

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## Hunt For Terrorists In Kulgam In Final Stages: Kashmir IGP

■ HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** The hunt for terrorists hiding in the forest area of Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir has entered its final stages, a top police officer said on Wednesday, the 13th day of the operation.

Two Army soldiers have been killed and nine injured since the operation began on August 1 in the Akhal forest area.

Two terrorists have also been killed in the encounter. The identities and group

affiliation of the slain terrorists have not been revealed so far.

"The Akhal operation has entered the final stages," Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, V K Birdi, told reporters on the sidelines of the full dress rehearsal for the Independence Day celebrations at the Bakshi Stadium here.

He said the details of the operation will be shared in due course of time.

This is the longest anti-terror operation in the Kashmir Valley in recent years.

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## Smart Fence, Robotic Mules & ATVs Boost LoC Security in J&K

■ HT News Desk / UNI

**SUNDERBANI, AUG 13:** Keeping pace with the changing security scenario driven by rapid advancement in AI-powered technology, the Army has gone high-tech with the introduction of state-of-the-art equipment like smart fence system, robotic mules and all-terrain vehi-

cles to fortify security along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said.

The newly-introduced equipment, including quadcopters, advanced surveillance tools, bulletproof vehicles, modern weapons and night-vision sights, were all successfully tested during Opera-

tion Sindoore between May 7 and May 10, when Indian armed forces carried out missile strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in the wake of the April 22 Pahalgam attack and successfully countered the enemy retaliation.

Providing a rare opportunity to visiting mediapersons to witness

the Indian Army's unwavering courage and dedication along the LoC in the remote regions of Sunderbani ahead of Independence Day, the Army has activated a three-layered security system and intensified patrolling and vigil all along the border to ensure peaceful celebrations of the event.

The induction of advanced mili-

tary vehicles like the Armado and all-terrain vehicles have given the Army's quick-reaction teams an advantage to act swiftly in the most challenging and rugged terrain with dense foliage to neutralise any threat, especially from infiltrating terrorists, the officials said.

During a drill, the soldiers

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## Jammu to receive heavy rains till tomorrow

■ HT News Network

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** As the temperatures continued to soar once again across the Valley, the weatherman here has predicted moderate showers in Kashmir and heavy to very heavy rainfall in Jammu division for the next two days.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that generally

cloudy with light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected at many places with possibility of heavy to very heavy rain at isolated to scattered places of Jammu division, especially in Reasi, Udhampur, Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Doda & Rajouri mainly towards night and early morning hours till August 15.

He said that a few places of Kashmir division may also

receive moderate showers with brief intense showers and gusty winds during the next two days, adding that generally hot and humid weather with possibility of brief showers is expected at few places on August 16.

Ahmad added that from August 17 to 19, light to moderate rain and thunder is expected at many places with heavy rain at few places of Jammu

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## I-Day: SFs on high alert along LoC in J&K

■ HT News Network

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** As the nation prepares to celebrate 79th Independence Day, security forces along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border are on high alert.

All the arrangements have been put in place to ensure robust border security and thwart any threats.

Officials said that this heightened vigilance spans key frontier areas, including North Kashmir's Gurez sector, Uri,

Karnah, Tangdhar, and the Sunderbani sector in Jammu.

They said that security measures have also been intensified along the International Border (IB) in the Jammu region, where Border Security Force (BSF) personnel are maintaining a close vigil through round-the-clock patrolling, digital surveillance, and other necessary measures.

"Troops have intensified surveillance and patrolling along the LoC,

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## CS For Transforming KKGs Into 'Instruments of Change' For Farmers

■ HT News Network

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today directed the Agriculture Production Department (APD) to transform Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) into vibrant multipurpose centres in villages, positioning them as "instruments of change" for the farming community across Jammu & Kashmir.

Chairing a high-level meeting held to review the functioning of KKGs across the districts, the Chief Secretary described the initiative as a "phenomenal programme" conceptualised by the leading national experts, with the potential to accelerate agricultural growth, enhance farmer awareness



and promote best farming practices. He emphasised that every farm family should have at least one member registered with a KKG. He highlighted the unique role of these centres in delivering timely advisories, customised guidance and awareness on mod-

ern, scientific farming techniques.

To enhance their utility, the Chief Secretary directed for integrating the additional services into KKGs, including recognition as Common Service Centres (CSCs) for delivering various

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## CS Reviews Progress Under 'TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan' In J&K

■ HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to review the progress of the TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan and assess the measures being taken to achieve the goal of a tuberculosis-free Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Health & Medical Education (H&ME); Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM); Director, SKIMS; Principles of Government Medical Colleges (GMCs); Director, Coordination (Medical Colleges); Director, Health Services, Jammu/Kashmir; HoD, Chest

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## Omar-led govt will fulfill all promises: Rana

■ HT News Desk / KNO

**SHOPIAN, AUG 13:** Jal Shakti and Forest Minister Javed Rana on Wednesday said the Union government has not fulfilled the promises made to Jammu & Kashmir. He, however, asserted that with Omar Abdullah now taking charge of the government in J&K, all commitments made to the people will be fulfilled.

Speaking to reporters here, Rana said he interacted with representatives and common citizens to understand their pressing needs, especially regarding lift irrigation schemes for orchards.

"I listened to the demands of the people. A comprehensive master plan will be prepared to provide adequate irrigation facilities to the horticulture sector, which is the backbone of our economy," he said, adding that the work will be taken up in a phased manner to ensure long-term benefits.

Highlighting the progress under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), the minister said more than 90% of the schemes under the programme have been completed across J&K. "We are committed to providing potable water at people's doorstep. The majority of the remaining

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# MD JAL JEEVAN MISSION ASKS PHE DIVISIONS FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RURAL PIPED WSSS

**HT News Desk / DIPR**

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), J&K, Khurshid Ahmad Shah, today convened a review meeting with all districts of J&K through virtual mode.

The MD enquired about the details of Rural piped Water Supply Schemes where multiple schemes are providing water supply to common villages or habitations.

The Mission asked the divisions to provide information on

these mother-child schemes so that single IDs are created for these schemes as directed by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, National Jal Jeevan Mission. He was assured that the requisite information in this regard will be provided soon.

The Mission Director also reviewed the division wise status of Har Ghar Jal reported and certified villages. He gave instructions regarding physically completed schemes which need to be reported in the first instance. He was informed that



the gap between Functional House Hold Tap connection (FHTC) completed villages and Har Gar Jal reported villages will be bridged.

The MD directed the districts to certify the Har Ghar Jal Reported villages by holding special Gram Sabha's from 15th August to 2nd October 2025, on the directions of Ministry of Jal Shakti.

The MD also reviewed the creation of IDs for Panchayat Secretaries for district online Dashboards under JJM.

The Mission Director directed the divisions to expedite the process of on boarding of Panchayat Secretaries on District Water & Sanitation (DWSSM) Dashboard being hosted by the Deputy Commissioners in their respective districts.

The meeting was attended by Superintending Engineers (Hydraulic), Executive Engineers of all Divisions, Technical Officers with Chief Engineer, PHE Jammu/Kashmir and officers of Mission Directorate, Jal Jeevan Mission, J&K.

## SKUAST-K Concludes Week-Long Training on Niche Crops, Horticulture under JKCIP

**Dr. Ab Qayoom**

**SRINAGAR AUG, 13:** Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) has concluded a week-long Capacity Building Programme on Agri Niche Crop and Horticulture Promotion Support under the J&K Competitiveness Improvement Project (JKCIP), funded by IFAD. The training, organised by the Directorate of Extension from August 8 to 13, aimed at strengthening technical and extension skills of agriculture and horticulture officers and field staff across the



UT. Director Extension, Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, in her valedictory address, said the programme had bridged critical skill gaps and would help officers promote innovative practices in niche crop cultivation, orchard management, post-harvest handling and market linkages. She emphasised the role of trained officers as key facilitators at the grassroots.

Project Coordinator JKCIP, Prof. Ashiq H. Pandith, highlighted thematic areas including saffron, lavender, buckwheat, quinoa, climate-resilient farming, orchard rejuvenation, pest management, cold chain development and value addition. Deputy Director Trainings, Dr. Farahanaz Rasool, informed that 300 participants, including 48 agriculture officers, 48 horticulture officers and 200 field staff, attended the programme. Feedback revealed that over 90% participants found the training relevant and practical. The event concluded with recommendations for refresher trainings, exposure visits and strengthening ICT-based farmer advisory services.

## High-Level CITAG Delegation Visits Verinag, Kokernag, and Achabal to Review Tourism Infrastructure

**Farooq Rather**

**ANANTNAG, AUG 13:** A high-level official delegation from the Central Institute for Tourism and Allied Growth (CITAG), led by Dr. Sandeep Ji, CEO of CITAG, and Shri Rattan Ranjan Ji, Deputy CEO, visited Verinag, Kokernag, and Achabal today to assess existing tourism infrastructure and explore possibilities for its restructuring along modern lines.

The visiting delegation conducted detailed inspections of

key tourism assets managed by the Kokernag Development Authority (KDA) and Verinag Development Authority (VDA). They were accompanied by Mohd Touf Rahman (JKAS), CEO of KDA/VDA, who facilitated the team's visit to several prominent locations.

The tour covered critical infrastructure including the Budgeted Accommodation at Kokernag, the CEO Office, the Children's Park, and the Tourist Facilitation Centre (TFC). The delegation discussed prospects for upgrading



facilities, improving tourist services, and integrating sustainable tourism practices.

The visit marks a significant step towards revitalising South Kashmir's tourism landscape and aligns with broader efforts to develop eco-friendly and visitor-centric tourism infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir.

Officials from both CITAG and the local development authorities expressed commitment to collaborative planning and innovation to boost tourism potential in the region.

## DC Kulgam Reviews Modern Slaughter House; Facility to Be Operational Soon

**Farooq Rather**

**KULGAM, AUG 13:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Shafi Khan (IAS), today visited Adpora to inspect the newly constructed modern slaughter house (Abattoir) for Kulgam town, which is nearing completion and is expected to become operational in the coming days.

During the visit, officials from the executing agencies informed the DC that the facility has been constructed at an estimated cost of ₹191.14 lakhs and is equipped with modern amenities to ensure hygienic and efficient meat processing.

The abattoir is designed to handle the slaughtering of over 30 animals simultaneously, significantly enhancing both hygiene standards and operational capacity. It will be staffed with veterinary doctors and food safety officials who will inspect and certify the meat before it is distributed to the market, ensuring consumer safety.

DC Athar Aamir Shafi Khan highlighted that the facility will not only ensure clean and hygienic meat supply but will also promote proper certification processes and effective disposal of offal and other animal waste, contributing to better sanitation and public health standards in the district. He directed the concerned officers to expedite finishing touches and ensure the abattoir is fully



ready for operation without delay.

The development of this modern slaughter house marks a major step towards improving food safety and hygiene infrastructure in Kulgam.

The Deputy Commissioner was

accompanied by ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri (JKAS), Tehsildar Kulgam Nisar Ahmad, Xen R&B, CEO Municipal Council, and officials from the Food Safety and Pollution Control Department.

## Shanipora Khan Sahib High School Building Incomplete for Over a Decade

**Ubaid Mehdi**

**BUDGAM, AUG 13:** A high school building in Shanipora Khan Sahib area of central Kashmir's Budgam district, sanctioned under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in 2014, remains incomplete even after more than ten years, leaving students and residents anguished.

Local residents told news agency JKNS that despite repeated appeals to authorities over the past decade, no steps have been taken to finish the project. The existing school building is in a dilapidated condition, posing safety risks for children and severely affecting the learning environment.

Residents also alleged that the half-built structure has turned into a hub for illegal activities, including drug abuse, attracting youths from other areas. They warned that the situation is becoming a threat to both the community and schoolchildren.

"The authorities say there are no funds to complete it, but at least they should dismantle this unsafe ruin. We don't need an abandoned structure that invites trouble," said a local resident.

According to locals, the project was initiated by the R&B Department but came to a halt due to funding issues. Despite taking up the matter with elected representatives, the Governor's administration, and the Deputy Commissioner of Budgam, no progress has been achieved.

Residents have now demanded immediate intervention to either complete the building or demolish the unsafe structure to prevent further harm.

## Full Dress Rehearsal for Independence Day Celebration Held at District Kulgam

**Farooq Rather**

**KULGAM, AUG 13:** In a vibrant display of patriotic spirit and detailed preparations, the Full Dress Rehearsal for the 2025 Independence Day celebrations was successfully held today at the District Police Lines (DPL) Kulgam.

On the occasion, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Shri Altaf Ahmad Khan (JKAS), accompanied by Additional Superintendent of Police Kulgam, Shri Mohammad Aftab Awan (JKPS), unfurled the National Flag and took the salute at an impressive march past.

The parade was commanded by Dy.SP (Probationer) Shri Neer-



aj Badyal (JKPS) and featured contingents of District Police (men and women), JKAP, CRPF, Home Guard, and students from various educational institutions across

the district.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Vikar Ahmad Giri (JKAS), along with senior officers from the civil and police administration, was also present, lending ceremonial significance to the event. Following the parade, the gathering was treated to a series of colourful cultural performances presented by local cultural groups and school students, reflecting the rich heritage and unity of the region.

The rehearsal underscored the district's full preparedness for the upcoming 78th Independence Day celebrations on August 15 and rekindled a strong sense of patriotism and national pride among all present.

## Condolence message from the J&K Forest Department

The Forest Department of Jammu & Kashmir and the State Forest Service Officers express their profound sorrow on the sad demise of the respected uncle of Mr. Irfan Rasool Wani, IFS (Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir) and the beloved mother of Mr. Feroz Ahmad Chaket (Divisional Forest Officer, SFD Tangmarg).

In this moment of grief, the entire Forest Fraternity stands in solidarity with the bereaved families. We pray to Allah (SWT) to grant the departed souls the highest rank in Jannat-ul-Firdous, illuminate their graves with mercy and light, and grant the bereaved families sabr-e-jameel (beautiful patience) to bear this irreparable loss.

"Inna Lillahi wa Inna Ilayhi Raji'un"



# Full Dress Rehearsals Inspire patriotic fervor ahead of 79th Independence Day in Kashmir

Div Com hoists National Flag at Bakshi Stadium, takes Salute at March Past; pays floral tribute to martyrs at Balidan Stambh

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** In a vibrant display of patriotism and unity, full-dress rehearsals for the upcoming 79th Independence Day celebrations unfolded today across Kashmir.

The rehearsals held at all district headquarters marked the culmination of weeks of preparation, offering a glimpse into the grand festivities set to light up the Valley on August 15.

On the occasion, heartfelt tributes were paid to the nation's leaders, freedom fighters, and martyrs whose sacrifices paved the way for India's independence. Their unwavering dedication was honored as the foundation of the freedom enjoyed by the country today.

At Srinagar, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri hoisted the National Flag at Bakshi Stadium, inspected the parade contingents, took salute at March past and addressed the participants.

Earlier, Div Com paid floral tribute to the martyrs of the nation, who laid their lives in the line of national duty, at Balidan Stambh, Pratap Park. He was accompanied by IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Birdi, DC Srinagar Akshay Labroo, and other officers of civil administration & security agencies.

Addressing the participants at the Bakshi Stadium, the main venue for the celebration of Independence Day in J&K, Div Com highlighted developmental and socio-economic achievements of the government.

Div Com said that terrorists who massacred innocent people at Pahalgam tried to create fear and division among the people but the general public strongly condemned the heinous and drastic act of terrorism in one voice.

He remarked that operation Sindoor was a befitting reply to dismantle the bases of terrorism while operation Mahadev delivered justice to the actual perpetrators of Pahalgam killings.

Bidhuri said the government successfully executed Hajji pilgrimage despite the prevailing situation during operation Sindoor. He also credited civil & security departments for peaceful and smooth conduct of annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra.

Different contingents of BSF, CRPF, ITBP, SSB, JKAP, IRP, Women contingent, SDRF, Fire & Emergency, Forest Protection Force, NCC contingents, Pipe band, Brass band and students from different schools participated in march past parade.

IGP, Kashmir, DIG Central Kashmir, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, SSP Srinagar, SSP Traffic Srinagar, SSP Traffic Rural, SSP Security, Senior officers and other security agencies including CRPF, BSF, NDRF besides HODs & offices all civil departments were present on the occasion.

The colourful cultural programmes enacted on the occasion by students & artists demonstrated the fervor for Independence Day celebration.

At Anantnag, A full dress rehearsal for the upcoming Independence Day 2025 celebrations was held today at the Shaheed Himayun Muzzamil Memorial, Government Degree College (Boys), Anantnag.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Anantnag, Sandeep Singh Bali, hoisted the National Flag and took the salute at the march past which was presented by the contingents from the CRPF, J&K Police, Home Guards, Fire & Emergency Services, NCC, and various schools.

Addressing the gathering, ADDC highlighted the district's significant achievements in key sectors including education, healthcare, agriculture, rural development under schemes like MGNREGA and Jal Shakti, women and youth empowerment, macadamization and road connectivity, and self-employment initiatives.

On the occasion, colorful and vibrant cultural items on patriotic themes and rich local heritage and traditions were presented by students from different educational institutions.

The rehearsal was attended by ACR, SP, Executive Engineer R&B, CEO, DIO and other district officers, Tehsildar Anantnag, and officers from police and engineering wings, officials from other departments alongside a large gathering of the general public.

At Ganderbal, A full dress rehearsal for the forthcoming 79th Independence Day was held today at Qamaria Stadium, Ganderbal, showcasing the district's



readiness to celebrate the national event with patriotic fervor.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ganderbal, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, hoisted the Tricolour, took the salute at the ceremonial march-past, inspected the parade, and expressed satisfaction over the arrangements made by various departments to ensure smooth conduct of the celebrations.

The impressive march-past was presented by contingents of JKP, JKP (Ladies), CRPF, SSB, PTS Manigam, SPO Ganderbal, Home Guard, Forest Protection Force, and students from various schools.

In his address, ADDC underscored the significance of Independence Day celebrations and highlighted that in 2025, Ganderbal district successfully showcased its best administrative capabilities during major events such as the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, Kheer Bhawani Mela, Urs of Syed Qamar-ud-Din Bukhari, and other religious gatherings of Sufi saints.

He emphasized that the district administration ensured world-class facilities, robust security, and a welcoming atmosphere for millions of pilgrims, reflecting Ganderbal's legacy of religious harmony, cultural tolerance, and effective governance.

Highlighting the district's developmental progress, the ADDC noted the administration's focus on improving rural roads, bridges, public infrastructure, water and power supply, digital learning facilities, and strengthening the healthcare sector with modern equipment and specialist doctors. He also stressed on eco-friendly tourism development in Sonamarg, Naranag, and Manasbal.

The event also featured a vibrant cultural programme with patriotic songs and traditional folk dances performed by schoolchildren.

Among others, SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Ahmad Poswal; ADC, Syed Fahim Bihaqi; ASP; ACR; and other senior officers from civil and police administration attended the event.

At Kulgam, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Altaf Ahmad Khan, hoisted the Tricolour, took the salute at the march-past, and inspected the parade during the full dress

rehearsal function held at District Police Lines, Kulgam.

The march-past was presented by contingents of JKP, CRPF, JKAP, Home Guard, the women contingent, NCC, and students from various schools.

In his address, ADDC highlighted the historical significance of the day and the achievements and progress made under various schemes and programmes by different departments in the district. He also spoke about measures taken to curb the drug menace.

On the occasion, a vibrant cultural show was presented by students on patriotic songs besides folk dances.

The event was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Vikar Ahmad Giri; ACR, ACD, A-SP, CEO, DySPs, Executive Engineer, besides other district and sectoral officers, and members of the public.

At Shopian, Full Dress Rehearsal for the upcoming 79th Independence Day celebrations was today held at District Police Lines (DPL), Shopian with patriotic enthusiasm and vibrant participation of the public.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone hoisted the Tricolour, took salute at the march past and inspected the parade.

Impressive march past was presented by contingents of J&K Police, CRPF, JK Ladies Police, Home Guard, FPF and school children.

In his address, ADDC highlighted the district's progress, outlining major developmental activities completed and underway including construction and upgradation of roads to improve connectivity in rural areas, implementation of employment generation and welfare schemes, agricultural and allied sector initiatives under HADP and promoting socio-economic upliftment.

He reaffirmed the administration's commitment to ensure inclusive growth and good governance to improve the quality of life for all residents.

The event concluded with patriotic and cultural performances by school children depicting India's freedom struggle and rich cultural heritage, drawing applause from the audience.

Officers of district administration, school children and a large number of people attended the programme.

At Baramulla, Full Dress Rehearsal for the Independence Day 2025 was held today with patriotic fervour at Showkat Ali Stadium, Khawaja Bagh, Baramulla.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Baramulla, Syed Altaf Hussain Musvi hoisted the National Flag and took the salute at an impressive march past presented by contingents of Jammu & Kashmir Police, CRPF, BSF, NCC cadets and students.

In his address, ADC said that the Full Dress Rehearsal is not only a run-up to the grand celebrations on 15th August but also an occasion to remember the sacrifices of the martyrs and the struggle that secured our nation's freedom.

He urged all citizens to participate actively, hoist the tricolour at their homes, and pass on the legacy of freedom to the younger generation.

Senior Superintendent of Police Baramulla, Gurinderpal Singh; Additional Superintendent of Police Baramulla, Feroz Yahya; District Youth Services and Sports Officer Baramulla, besides Engineers from R&B, JKPDCL, and Jal Shakti Department and other departments, besides a large gathering of citizens, officials, students, and dignitaries attended the function.

The event also featured vibrant cultural performances by school students, including patriotic songs, traditional dances, and speeches, which were warmly received by the audience. Meanwhile, the Police Band Baramulla added to the patriotic ambience with spirited musical performances.

At Budgam, the full dress rehearsal function in connection with Independence Day 2025 was held today at sports stadium Budgam.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Budgam, Mehraj-ud-din Shah, hoisted the National flag, took salute at the march past besides inspecting the parade of contingents.

The contingents that participated in the march past parade included Police, JKAP, CRPF, NCC and students besides contingents from various schools of district Budgam.

Besides, artists and other troupes, students performed colorful cultural programmes amid the patriotic songs and local popular songs which enthralled the audience and invoked huge applause.

Among others present were ASP Budgam, Syed Sajjad Bukhari; GM DIC, PO ICDS, CEO, ACD, CHO, CAO, Heads of all line departments, senior police officers, students, media persons besides officers of CRPF and other security agencies.

At Pulwama, A full dress rehearsal for the Independence Day 2025 celebrations was held today at the District Police Lines (DPL), Pulwama.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Pulwama, Dr. S.M Ashraf hoisted the National Flag and took the salute at the march past.

The parade, attended by senior officers from the district administration and security forces, featured impressive contingents from various security agencies and local schools. The participants demonstrated excellent marching skills and discipline, reflecting the spirit of patriotism and unity.

The rehearsal was followed by a vibrant cultural programmes presented by local artists and school students. These performances highlighted the rich cultural heritage of the region and added a festive charm to the occasion.

In line with this, a full dress rehearsal was also held at DPL Awantipora, featuring contingents from security forces and students, along with cultural performances, to ensure that all arrangements are in place for the smooth conduct of the Independence Day celebrations on August 15, 2025.

At Kupwara, The full dress rehearsal for celebration of 79th Independence Day was held today at District Police Lines (DPL) Zangli Kupwara where Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad took salute on the march past.

The parade consisted of contingents from JK Police, JKAP, CRPF, BSF, and Forest Protection force and school students. Pipe and Brass bands of BSF, JKP, JKAP and Army played tunes to the march past.

On the occasion, various cultural programmes were also presented by the school children. The cultural items depicted, national integration, unity in diversity, harmony and composite culture of Jammu Kashmir UT, Government initiatives besides featured patriotic songs, folk music and dance.

ASP Kupwara, Javaid Ahmad; ACR Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad and other district officers were present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, full dress rehearsal functions were also held at District Police Lines Handwara, Mini Secretariat Tangdar and GDC Sogam where concerned Tehsildars hoisted the tri-colour and took salute at the march past.

Officers from civil & police administration were present on the occasion. Colorful cultural programmes were also presented by students from different educational institutions. Information department Kupwara also organized folk and cultural items.

At Bandipora, Ahead of Independence Day celebrations, full dress rehearsals were held today across Bandipora district.

The main event was held at S. K Stadium Bandipora where Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawal accompanied by ASP Bandipora, Ruhail Mircha hoisted the National flag and took salute at the march past presented by the contingents comprising JKP, NCC cadets and contingents from various schools.

Senior officers of civil administration, J&K Police, and paramilitary forces were also present at the full dress rehearsal.

In his speech, ADC threw light on the celebrations of Independence Day and highlighted the developmental activities carried out in the district.

The cultural programs by various schools were also presented to enthrall the audience. Cultural programs presented on the occasion depicted the country's rich cultural heritage and economic, women empowerment and social progress.

Similar full dress rehearsal functions were also held at subdivision Sumbal and Gurez, where respective Tehsildars hoisted the National Flag.

The full dress rehearsal functions were also held across the district at Block Level, panchayat level, and in all schools and colleges.





# NIT Srinagar faculty gets ₹73.92 lakh Ministry of Mines GOI, project to boost J&K's infrastructure

■ **Mohammad Hanief Khan**

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** A faculty member from the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar has secured a prestigious research grant of ₹73,92,450 from the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, for a project aimed at strengthening Jammu and Kashmir's infrastructure through advanced material technology.

The three-year project, titled "Strengthening Jammu and Kashmir's Infrastructure: Corrosion-Resistant and High Strength 6082 T6 Aluminium Alloy for Bridges and High Structures", will be led by Dr. Deepak Kumar Naik, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, as the Principal Investigator (PI), along with Dr.

Sandeep Samantaray, Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering Department, as the Co-PI.

The research will focus on improving the mechanical strength and corrosion resistance of the 6082 T6 aluminium alloy, making it ideal for demanding infrastructure projects such as bridges, towers, and high-rise structures in the Union Territory. Given J&K's challenging climate and terrain, the project aims to deliver durable, safe, and cost-effective construction materials.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, congratulated Dr. Naik and Dr. Samantaray, stating that the project reflects the institute's commitment to addressing real-world engineering challenges and contribut-



ing to regional development.

"This project is a testament to our faculty's capability to secure competitive national grants and address critical engineering challenges. It will have a direct impact on infrastructure quality in the region," he said.

Institute's Registrar, Prof. Atikur Rehman also praised the achievement, noting that such initiatives elevate the research stature of the institute and demonstrate how academic expertise can be channelled to solve pressing developmental issues.

"This grant is a significant milestone that will strengthen the institute's research profile and reinforce its role in national infrastructure initiatives,

particularly in Jammu & Kashmir," he said.

Meanwhile, Dr. Naik expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Mines for the support, noting that the funding will enable cutting-edge research to enhance the properties of the 6082 T6 aluminum alloy.

Dr. Samantaray highlighted that the outcomes would directly benefit infrastructure projects such as bridges, towers, and high-rise structures, particularly in J&K's demanding climatic conditions.

He further stated that his research group is currently working on multiple projects focused entirely on development of Jammu & Kashmir, with the combined value of these initiatives amounting to ₹1.06 crore.

## KVK-Budgam held Kisan Sampark Abhiyan- Rural Credit Workshop at Aarigam block Khansahib

■ **HT News Desk / DIPP**

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** Krishna Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Budgam, in collaboration with the department of Agriculture and allied sectors, today organized the Kisan Sampark Abhiyan Rural Credit Workshop under the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture & Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP) at Aarigam, block Khansahib Budgam.

MLA Khansahib, Saif-ud-Din Bhat presided over the event as the chief guest. In his address, he highlighted the benefits of the mega programme in improving farmers' access to institutional credit, promoting entrepreneurship, and strengthening the agricultural economy of the district.

He also urged the farming community to take full advantage of JKCIP-IFAD and other schemes available with Agriculture and allied departments for socio-economic upliftment and self-reliance.

He commended SKUAST-K and its partner departments for "working shoulder to shoulder with farmers at the grassroots to make agriculture a sustainable commercial enterprise."

Dr. Bilal Ahmad Lone, Prof. & Head, KVK-Budgam, emphasized the importance of such initiatives in bridging the gap between farmers and financial institutions, and enabling farmers to benefit from government schemes aimed at enhancing productivity and income.

He also highlighted that the workshop reflects SKUAST-K and KVK Budgam's commitment to door-step delivery of technology, improved agricultural practices, and farmer-oriented interventions to drive economic growth.

The event brought together officials from agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, sheep husbandry, and fisheries departments, along with representatives from RBI. More than 100 participants, including members of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), progressive farmers, and Agri-entrepreneurs, took part in the programme.

The technical session featured a farmer-scientist interface, where KVK experts, including Dr. Sabia Akhter, Dr. Shabeer Ahmad Ganie, Dr. Iram Farooq, Dr. Kavita Rani and Dr. Irfan Ahmad, provided on-the-spot solutions to farmers queries.

## AJKSA to Hold Majlis-e-Aza at Ghund Khawaja Qasim; Meeting Called to Finalise Arrangements

■ **HT News Desk**

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** The All Jammu & Kashmir Shia Association (AJKSA) President, Molvi Imran Ansari, convened a meeting at Darul Jawad (Qamarwari) with representatives from Ghund Khawaja Qasim and neighbouring areas to discuss arrangements for the upcoming Majlis-e-Aza scheduled on 28th Safar at Ghund Khawaja Qasim. This will mark the resumption of the gathering after a gap of four years.

The meeting focused on ensuring adequate facilities for azadaars and smooth conduct of the programme. Senior office-bearers present included AJKSA Vice President Irfan Ansari, AJKSA Spokesperson Molvi Syed Taib Rizvi, and AJKSA President for Zakireen, Zakir Majid Khawaja.

Towards the end of the meeting, Molvi Imran Ansari emphasised the values of brotherhood and unity, urging



everyone to stand together for the cause of Imam Hussain (AS). He also referred to the recent incident at Ichgam (Budgam), stressing the need to maintain harmony in the community. He informed that he had spoken to his representatives in Ichgam to ensure the peaceful atmosphere is preserved. Molvi Imran expressed full faith in the Budgam police and their investigation and appealed to the public to fully cooperate with the authorities.

## Full Dress Rehearsal Held at DPL Kupwara, ADC Takes Salute

■ **HT News Desk**

**KUPWARA, AUG 13:** In a vibrant display of patriotism and preparedness, the full dress rehearsal for the 79th Independence Day celebrations was held today at District Police Lines (DPL) Zangli Kupwara, with Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Gulzar Ahmad taking the salute at the ceremonial march past.

The rehearsal began with a smartly turned-out parade featuring contingents from Jammu & Kashmir Police (JKP), J&K Armed Police (JKAP), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Forest Protection Force, and students from various educa-

tional institutions. The march past was accompanied by spirited tunes rendered by the Pipe and Brass Bands of the BSF, JKP, JKAP, and the Army, adding a ceremonial grandeur to the proceedings.

Following the parade, school children from different institutions presented a series of cultural performances that celebrated national integration, unity in diversity, communal harmony, and the composite cultural heritage of Jammu & Kashmir. The programme also included patriotic songs, traditional folk music, and energetic dance sequences showcasing the region's rich artistic traditions. Special thematic items highlighted government welfare schemes

and development initiatives, blending cultural entertainment with social awareness.

The event was attended by ASP Kupwara Javaid Ahmad, ACR Kupwara Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, senior police officials, and officers from the civil administration.

Meanwhile, similar full dress rehearsal events were held at District Police Lines Handwara, Mini Secretariat Tangdar, and Government Degree College (GDC) Sogam. In each location, the respective Tehsildars unfurled the tricolour and took the salute at the march past, which featured contingents from local police units, paramilitary forces, and school students.

## ICC Jammu Presents MSME Concerns & Recommendations in RBI's 67th Empowered Committee Meeting

■ **HT News Desk / DIPP**

**JAMMU, AUG 13:** The Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Jammu, under the leadership of Chairman Rahul Sahai and accompanied by senior member Sanjay Aggarwal, presented a comprehensive representation on the economic and sectoral concerns of the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector during the 67th Empowered Committee Meeting of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) held in Jammu. The meeting, chaired by Sh. Chander Shekhar Azad, Regional Director, RBI Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh,

served as a crucial forum for direct dialogue between industry representatives and the banking sector.

At the outset, Sahai extended warm greetings on the eve of the 79th Independence Day, commending the RBI for its proactive engagement with industry stakeholders and its role in facilitating meaningful interactions that bridge the gap between the financial sector and ground-level business realities.

Addressing the gathering, Sahai highlighted the emerging global trade disruptions, including tariff measures by the USA

on several countries—India among them—which have directly affected sectors like pharmaceuticals, textiles, and yarn manufacturing in J&K. He stressed the urgent need for flexible, supportive banking measures to assist MSMEs navigating these economic headwinds.

Key recommendations from ICC Jammu included:

Liberal renewal of credit limits for affected MSMEs to maintain working capital stability.

Special loan schemes targeting distressed units, particularly in export-driven sectors.

CIBIL score improvement work-

shops in collaboration with credit rating agencies, enabling entrepreneurs to strengthen their financial credibility.

Specific lending products for hospitals and nursing homes facing liquidity issues due to delays in Ayushman Bharat reimbursements.

Simplified loan against property schemes for sectors under stress.

ICC Jammu welcomed the positive disbursement of collateral-free loans under the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), noting its role in supporting both

startups and existing units. The Chamber further proposed that the Government of India conduct a nationwide audit to ensure all eligible MSMEs in J&K are registered on Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platforms like RXIL and M1 Exchange, to improve cash flow cycles and reduce payment delays.

In addition, ICC Jammu submitted a separate sector-specific memorandum addressing the challenges faced by the automobile sector, with suggestions aimed at reviving sales, improving financing options, and resolving dealer-level operational hurdles.

## Balwant Thakur Explores UK Theatre Collaborations

■ **HT News Desk**

**LONDON, AUG 13:** In a landmark move to foster cross-cultural collaborations and expand the reach of Indian theatre on the global stage, Padma Shri awardee and eminent theatre director Balwant Thakur, founder of the internationally acclaimed theatre group Natrang, has embarked on a strategic tour of the United Kingdom. The visit aims to explore partnerships, study advanced theatrical practices, and identify opportunities for presenting Natrang's signature productions to British audiences.

During his UK tour, Thakur held high-level meetings with some of the most influential figures in the British theatre scene, including artistic directors, theatre managers, and representatives of major cultural institutions. The highlight of his engagements was an in-depth discussion with Chris Sudworth, Creative Director of the historic Hippodrome Theatre Complex—a 120-year-old cultural powerhouse supported by the Arts Council, UK. With venues in London, Birmingham, and other major cities, the Hippodrome is a hub for world-class touring productions, experimental theatre, and innovative artistic collaborations.



Thakur's visit provided him with the opportunity to observe the operational and technical frameworks of the Hippodrome, including stage management systems, lighting design innovations, and audience engagement strategies that have helped the institution remain a beacon of theatre excellence. Discussions also touched upon the feasibility of bringing Natrang's most celebrated productions—known for their originality, cultural depth, and strong narrative structure—to mainstream UK theatre circuits.

As part of his itinerary, Thakur also travelled to Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare, where he toured the

Royal Shakespeare Theatre and met with resident actors, dramaturgs, and cultural facilitators. In these exchanges, ideas for joint productions, actor exchange programmes, and script development workshops were actively explored.

Speaking about the experience, Thakur noted that while Natrang's productions often offer more innovative and culturally rooted storytelling than many Western shows, the UK theatre sector is decades ahead in stage technology, production budgets, and audience infrastructure.

"To present our work in England, we must master the latest stagecraft techniques and adapt our

productions to meet international technical standards. Here, a single theatre production's budget often exceeds that of a Bollywood blockbuster, and box office revenue for one night can cross one crore rupees. With such resources in India, we could achieve unimaginable heights in the performing arts," Thakur said.

Despite the disparity in resources, Thakur believes Natrang's simplicity, authenticity, and thought-provoking narratives are its greatest strengths—qualities that can resonate deeply with global audiences. He emphasised that storytelling rooted in truth and culture often surpasses high-budget spectacles in emotional impact.

Encouraged by the warm reception from UK theatre leaders and the keen interest in Indo-UK collaborations, Thakur is optimistic about initiating a series of cultural exchanges, touring productions, and collaborative projects in the near future.

This visit is expected to lay the groundwork for a new chapter in Indo-British theatre relations, potentially giving Indian theatre a more prominent place on the global cultural map while exposing UK audiences to the richness and diversity of Indian stagecraft.

## BADC Seeks Immediate Restoration of Border Roads Damaged by Monsoon Rains

■ **HT News Desk**

**JAMMU, AUG 13:** The Jammu and Kashmir Border Area Development Conference (JKBADC), a prominent organisation advocating for the rights and welfare of border residents and tribal communities, has called upon the J&K Government and the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to launch urgent repair operations on critical border roads severely damaged during the ongoing monsoon season.

Chairman of JKBADC, Dr. Shazad Ahmed Malik, said that incessant and heavy rainfall over the past several weeks has unleashed widespread devastation in hilly districts including Poonch, Rajouri, and several other border belts. Massive landslides, flash floods, and continuous soil erosion have damaged or destroyed vital stretches of road, leaving many villages completely cut off from the outside world.

"In numerous locations, the main link roads are either washed away or buried under tonnes of mud, boulders, and debris. People are unable to reach hospitals, schools, government offices, or even meet their relatives in nearby towns," Dr. Shazad explained. "The crisis has disrupted daily life in every possible way."

He highlighted that elderly patients in need of regular treatment, pregnant women requiring antenatal care, and students appearing for examinations are facing severe hardships. In some areas, residents

are walking several kilometres on foot through slushy, unsafe tracks to reach the nearest motorable point. Public transport is operating sporadically, goods carriers are stuck for hours, and in several pockets, people are compelled to take long and dangerous detours through forested terrain, increasing the risk of accidents and exposure to wild animals.

The disruption has also impacted the supply of ration, medicines, LPG cylinders, construction materials, and other essentials, leading to shortages in several remote villages. Dr. Shazad stressed that the delay in restoring road connectivity could deepen the humanitarian crisis.

Appealing to the BRO, Public Works Department (PWD), and local administrations, Dr. Shazad urged immediate deployment of machinery, manpower, and technical teams to clear landslide debris and commence full-fledged repair work. "This should not be a stopgap patchwork, but a robust, long-term solution," he emphasised.

He proposed the construction of scientifically designed drainage channels, concrete slope protection walls, and the use of weather-proof materials to withstand repeated monsoon onslaughts. The JKBADC chairman also pressed the Soil Conservation Department to prioritise anti-erosion measures such as building small dangas, retaining walls, and vegetation-based slope stabilisation to prevent recurrence of such damage in future.





HT EDITORIAL

## Water crisis assume alarming proportions in Srinagar, Budgam areas

For the past 10 days or so a huge population living in the twin districts of Srinagar and Budgam in Central Kashmir is facing acute water crisis. People living in the different areas of both these districts are up against many odds on account of clean and potable drinking water. The water supply to these areas has been limited to a great extent and as such thousands of souls are suffering like anything.

The water being supplied from the filtration plant at Kralpora is dirty and no step whatsoever has been taken to improve the situation. Some of the reports said that the chemicals needed to make the water clean are missing from the filtration plant and as such people are being supplied dirty water full of dirt and impurities. The Kralpora filtration plant receives water from the Doodh Ganga stream and the same water is supplied to scores of areas located in the Srinagar and Budgam districts.

It would be in place to mention here that day in and day out that there are complaints about the quality of water being supplied from Doodh Ganga stream. People opine that the water being supplied from the stream is not up to the mark and it lacks the basic parameters of clean and potable drinking water. Most of the people believe that the water being supplied from Doodh Ganga is the dirtiest when it comes to the water sources present in the Kashmir valley.

Interestingly no official statement has come from the Jal Shakti department and the officers of the department are keeping mum over the same. Their silence on the issue is no less than a crime since it pertains to the health of thousands of people. In many areas people have been collecting water in bottles and have been making it public that the water being supplied is full of dirt and other impurities. This should act as an eye opener for the people at helm since they are turning a blind eye to the issue.

It is important that the concerned department makes adequate stock of alum and other chemicals at the different filtration plants so that the health of the people is not compromised. Kashmir is probably the only place in the country where the stock of alum and other chemicals gets exhausted and it takes weeks together for the department to get the fresh stock of the necessary chemicals.

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■ Amir Iqbal Khan

Independence is a gift won through sacrifice, preserved through vigilance and sustained by collective responsibility. Yet, in the comfort of our daily routines, we often forget the struggles and hardships that forged the freedoms we enjoy today. This forgetfulness is dangerous, for history teaches that rights taken for granted are the easiest to lose.

The patriotic and valiant freedom fighters of that era like Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Rajguru, Ashfaqullah Khan, Chandrashekhar Azad, Jhansi Ke Rani and many others dedicated their lives to the struggle for independence. These martyrs who faced the might of the colonial powers with unwavering courage, embraced death with a smile even on the gallows. Some bore deep wounds from the battlefield, yet fought relentlessly until their final breath laying down their lives for the motherland. Their sacrifices did not fade into oblivion; instead, their blood ignited a revolution whose flames could not be extinguished by the British Empire.

India's journey to independence was neither swift nor effortless. It was carved out through decades of political struggle, social mobilisation and the ultimate sacrifices of countless individuals. Those who endured



colonial subjugation knew the weight of repression, the absence of choice, the stifling of voices, the denial of dignity and what not? Today, we walk freely, speak openly and participate in governance. But do we truly value these liberties or have they become invisible luxuries?

Freedom is not merely the absence of foreign rule. It is the presence of justice, equality and the rule of law. It requires citizens to hold themselves and their leaders accountable, to protect the rights of others as fiercely as their own and to resist complacency in the face of injustice. Sadly, when corruption is tolerated, when prejudice goes unchallenged and when civic responsibilities are

ignored, freedom begins to wither, not by force but by neglect.

The modern threats to liberty are often subtle. They come in the form of misinformation, the erosion of democratic norms or the gradual silencing of dissenting voices. Without active participation and informed engagement, these threats can hollow out the very institutions meant to safeguard our independence.

As we celebrate our national milestones, let us remember that freedom is not a permanent possession. It is a trust, one that must be renewed through our actions, our vigilance and our unity. The sacrifices of our forebears were not made for us to live in apathy but for us to uphold the

principles they fought for.

We attained freedom after immense sacrifice and hardship, a struggle etched in golden letters in the pages of history. Yet the question remains: do our youth truly understand the price paid for the liberty in which they now breathe so freely? It is imperative to instill in them a deep appreciation for the value and worth of this hard-won freedom. So, they may guard and cherish it for generations to come.

The question is not whether our independence was worth the struggle. The question is whether we are willing to struggle to keep it.

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## Controlling stray dogs: Human life first

Supreme Court's strict order- along with compassion, security is also necessary



■ Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

The Supreme Court has directed that stray dogs be removed from every area and kept in safe places. Strict action will be taken against organizations or individuals who obstruct the process. This order has been given keeping in mind the safety of children, women and the elderly. The increasing cases of dog attacks and fatal diseases like rabies have raised concerns. The court suggested a balanced solution—dogs will not be killed, but they will be kept in safe shelters. This is a concrete step towards ensuring the safety of both humans and animals.

The recent Supreme Court decision directing the removal of stray dogs from every locality and shifting them to safer places is a significant and long-awaited move. The court clearly stated in its order—"human life and safety first"—which marks a decisive stand in the ongoing debate on this issue. This decision is not only legally significant, but also a reminder to society that the time has come to move beyond emotional debates and adopt practical solutions.

Estimates of the number of stray dogs in India vary from state to state, but some reports suggest that there are about 15 to 20 million stray dogs in the country. This number is not just a statistical fact, but an alarming one—because their presence is directly impacting public safety, hygiene, and health. Stray dog attacks have been on the rise over the past decade. Data from the Union Health Ministry shows that about 17 to 20 lakh people are bitten by dogs every year. A large number of these are children, as their height and vulnerability make them easy targets for dogs. What is serious is that the consequences of these attacks are not just limited to injuries; there is always the risk of fatal diseases like rabies, which claim thousands of lives every year.

Animal rights organisations argue that killing stray dogs is inhumane and they too have a right to live. This view is correct, but it can be recognised only as long as it does not endanger human life. The court has also struck a balance and said that dogs should not be killed indiscriminately, but rather they should be shifted to safer places or shelters. The question here is—are our municipal bodies and panchayats ready for this challenge? Because just giving orders is not enough; its implementation on the ground will require adequate resources, trained staff and a planned strategy.



This decision of the Supreme Court also presents a legal framework. The court has clearly stated that if any organization or person obstructs this process, strict action will be taken against them. This means that now the court has set a clear priority in the debate of "human life vs animal rights". Also, the court has given the responsibility to the municipal corporations and panchayats to not only remove stray dogs, but also make proper arrangements for their care. This order is also a test of the capability and honesty of the administrative system.

Rabies is a major health problem in India. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), around 59,000 people die of rabies every year worldwide, a large proportion of which come from India. The disease is transmitted by dog bites in 99% of cases and once symptoms appear, it is not possible to cure it. Therefore, preventing dog bite cases is the most effective measure. In addition, packs of stray dogs often search for food in garbage dumps, spreading many types of infections and filth. This also affects efforts such as urban sanitation and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

This problem is not just administrative; society also has a big role to play in it. People often feed stray dogs outside their homes out of religious or compassionate feelings. While this sentiment is commendable, it sometimes leads to dog packs and aggressive behaviour. If this food is thrown out in the open, it attracts more dogs and increases the danger to the local population. Society needs to understand that compassion and responsibility must go hand in hand. If we really want the well-being of these animals, it is important to take them to shelters in an organised manner and run a sterilisation programme.

To control the number of stray dogs, a large scale

sterilization campaign will have to be conducted. Adequate number of dog shelters should be built in every town and panchayat, where they get food, water and medical facilities. It is important to teach people how to maintain a safe distance from dogs and not to feed them in the open. Garbage lying in the open is the main attraction for stray dogs, which needs to be controlled. Monitoring committees can be formed at the mohalla level which keep an eye on the activities of the dogs and inform the administration.

Many countries have adopted successful models to tackle this problem. For example, in Thailand, the government and NGOs worked together to run sterilisation and vaccination programmes, which drastically reduced the number of stray dogs and attacks. Turkey, under its "Street Dogs Project", kept dogs in safe places and implanted microchips in them to track them. India can learn from these models and develop solutions for its local context.

The problem of stray dogs is not just a matter of law and court, but it is a social issue related to human safety, health and morality. The Supreme Court's stance of "human life and safety first" gives the right direction to this debate. Now it is the responsibility of municipal bodies, panchayats and citizens to find a solution to this problem together. Compassion does not mean that we ignore the danger, and safety does not mean that we become inhuman. A balanced, humane and practical approach is the way through which both humans and animals can remain safe.

The author is a Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, Radio and TV panelist, 333, Fairy Garden, Kaushalya Bhawan, Barwa (Siwani) Bhiwani, Haryana - 127045



# Hazrat Sheikh Najm al-Din Kubra (RA) Life, Spiritual Eminence, Martyrdom, and His Connection with the Bukhari Sayyids

Authored by: Abu al-Waqas, Mufti Sayyid Sharif al-Haqq Bukhari Mirwaiz, Khanqah Muradiyah, Muradabad-Kreeri



## Introduction

Hazrat Sheikh Najm al-Din Kubra (RA) (540 AH / 1145 CE – 618 AH / 1221 CE) was one of the most eminent saints of the Muslim world – a great Sufi master, Quranic exegete, hadith scholar, warrior, and the founder of the Kubrawiyya order.

His full name was Najm al-Din Ahmad ibn 'Umar ibn Muhammad ibn 'Abdullah al-Khwarazmi and his renowned epithet was "Shaykh Wali Tarash" (The Maker of Saints) – because countless disciples attained sainthood in his blessed company.

## Reference:

Abd al-Rahman Jami, Nafahat al-Uns (Urdu trans. Maulana Abd al-Hakim Sharaf Qadri, Maktabah Rahmaniyyah, Lahore).

## Birth and Education

He was born in 540 AH in the vicinity of Khwarazm. After receiving his early education locally, he travelled to Nishapur, Bukhara, Isfahan, and Herat, excelling in the Islamic sciences.

He became a master in Fiqh, Tafsir, Hadith, and Kalam.

## Reference:

Shaykh Abd al-Hayy Lakhnawi, Nuzhat al-Khawahir, Nadwat al-Ulama, Lucknow.

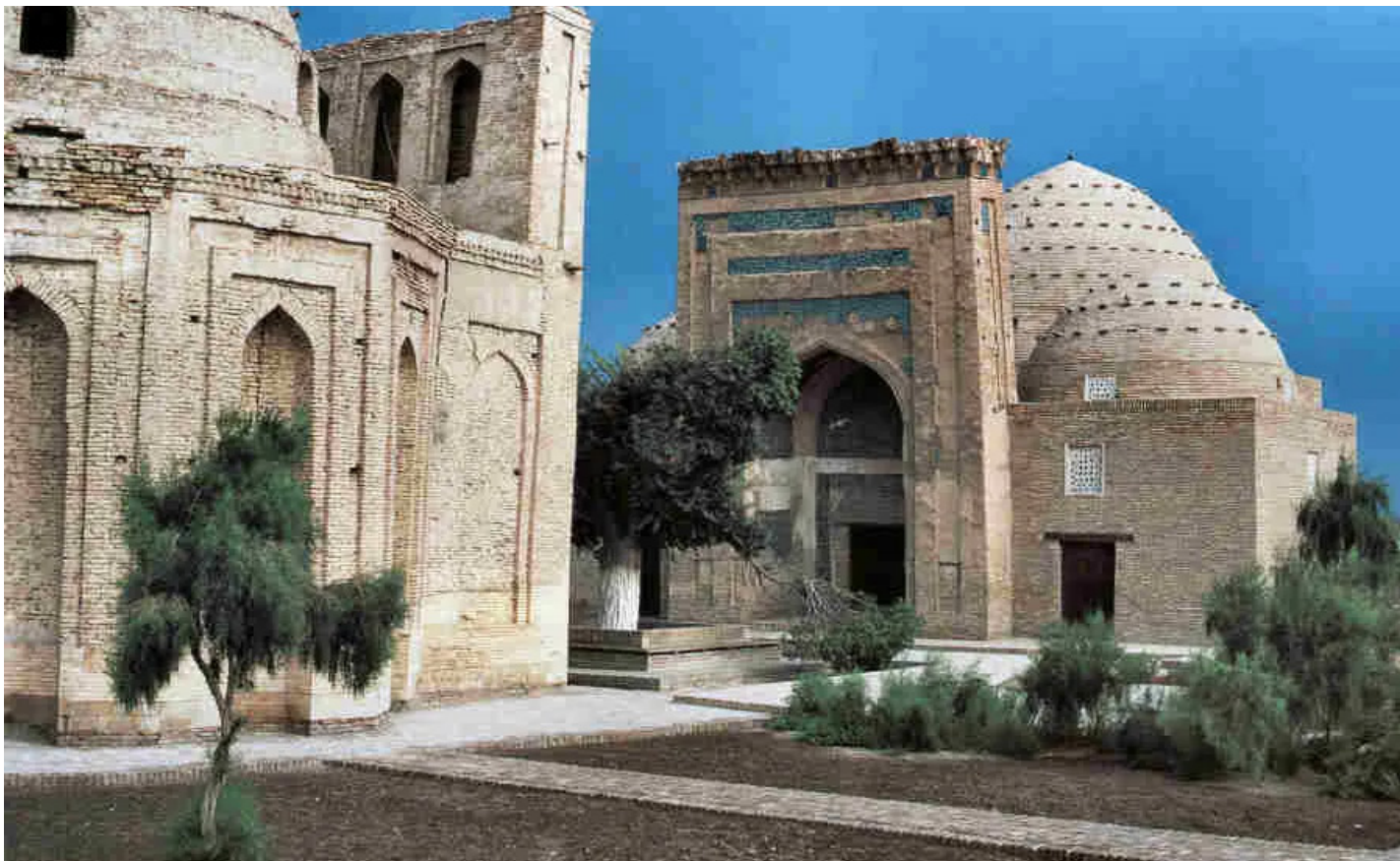
## Spiritual Training

Najm al-Din Kubra pledged allegiance (bay'ah) at the hands of Shaykh Isma'il al-Qasri (RA) and also benefited greatly from Shaykh Ruzbihan Baqli Shirazi (RA).

He systematised the principles of spiritual wayfaring into the famous treatise "Usul al-Asharah" (The Ten Principles), which remain a guide for seekers to this day.

## Reference:

Maulana Abd al-Halim Sharaf Qadri, Masha'ikh al-Tariqa, Maktabah Qadriyyah, Lahore.



## Major Works

1. Usul al-Asharah – The ten essential principles of Sufi path.
2. Fawa'id al-Jamal wa Fawatih al-Jalal – On spiritual stations and Divine gnosis.
3. Tafsir al-Kubra – On the exoteric and esoteric meanings of the Qur'an.

## Reference:

Prof. Muhammad Siddiq Qureshi, Tarikh Tasawwuf-e-Islam, University of Lahore Publishing.

## Jihad and Martyrdom

In 618 AH, when the Mongol army under Genghis Khan invaded Khwarazm, his disciples pleaded with him to leave for safety. He replied:

"I have lit the lamp of faith in this city; I will not allow it to be extinguished."

He took up the sword, fought valiantly for several days, and eventually embraced martyrdom in the battlefield.

## Reference:

Maulana Muhammad Sadiq Qureshi, Tarikh Masha'ikh Chisht, Karachi.

## Bay'ah of the Bukhari Sayyid Family

The noble Bukhari Sayyid family, descendants of Imam 'Ali al-Naqi (AS), pledged spiritual allegiance to Hazrat Sheikh Najm al-Din Kubra (RA).

This blessed lineage later spread from Bukhara and Khurasan to the Indian Sub-continent and Kashmir, serving Islam through both spiritual guidance and public leadership.

## Notable Figures:

Sayyid Jalal al-Din Surkh Bukhari, known as Makhdum Jahaniyan Jahangasht (RA)

Sayyid Ala al-Din Bukhari (RA)  
Sayyid Muhammad Murad Bukhari al-Naqwi al-Shattari (RA) – Founder of Khanqah Kreeri, Kashmir

## Reference:

Sayyid Mahmud Bukhari, Silsila Kubrawiyya wa Sadat Bukhariyya ki Tareekh, Maktabah Qadriyyah, Lahore.

## Prominent Beneficiaries of His Spiritual Training

Shaykh Saif al-Din Bakharzi (RA)  
Shaykh Majd al-Din Baghdadi (RA)  
Shaykh Sa'd al-Din Hamawi (RA)  
Shaykh Ala al-Din Attar (RA)

The noble elders of the Bukhari Sayyid family

## Reference:

Prof. Ghulam Mustafa Khan, Bar-e-Saghir mein Tasawwuf ka Irtiqa, University of Karachi.

## Appendix I: Genealogy of the Bukhari Sayyid Family

1. Imam 'Ali al-Naqi (AS)
2. Sayyid Muhammad (Abu Ja'far)

3. Sayyid 'Ali al-Murtada (RA)
4. Syed abdullah
5. Syed mir syed ahmed
6. Sayyid mehmoos
7. Mir syed mohammed
8. Syed jafer bagdadi
9. Syed al mola qab ubul barkat makhdoom aazam syed sharief
10. Syed jalalud din surukhposh
11. Mir syed sultaan ahmed kabeer
12. Mir syed jalal ud din jania jahangut bukhari Makhdum Jahaniyan Jahangasht
13. Syed vakiel ud din mahmoos
12. Syed nasir din rd
13. Sayyid 'Ala al-Din Bukhari (RA)
14. Syed fakhar ud din bukhari
15. Sayyid Muhammad Murad Bukhari al-Naqwi al-Shattari (RA)

## Appendix II: Spiritual Chain (Silsila) of the Kubrawiyya Order

1. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ
2. Imam 'Ali al-Murtada (RA)
3. Imam Husayn (RA)
4. Imam Zayn al-'Abidin (RA)
5. Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (RA)
6. Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq (RA)
7. Imam Musa al-Kazim (RA)
8. Imam 'Ali al-Rida (RA)
9. Ma'ruf al-Karkhi (RA)
10. Sari al-Saqati (RA)
11. Junayd al-Baghdadi (RA)
12. Abu Bakr Shibli (RA)
13. Abu al-Hasan al-Kharqani (RA)
14. Abu Sa'id Abu al-Khayr (RA)
15. Yusuf al-Hamadani (RA)
16. 'Abd al-Khalik al-Ghujdawani (RA)
17. Ahmad Yasawi (RA)
18. Isma'il al-Qasri (RA)
19. Najm al-Din Kubra (RA)
20. Saif al-Din Bakharzi (RA)
21. Ala al-Din Attar (RA)
22. Elders of the Bukhari Sayyid family

## Persian Rubai (Quatrain)

### Translation:

The heart that is illuminated by the Divine Light of Majesty,  
In the realm of love is safeguarded from annihilation.

When the soul is filled with the grace of Najm al-Din,  
Upon the Tablet of Eternity, the name of Jawad is engraved.

## Interfering with Artificial Intelligence in the Playground



■ Vijay Garg

The tradition of sports in India is centuries-old from the dusty arena of a village to the shining synthetic tracks of the city, the smell of sweat in our common memory and the sondhi fragrance of Mati is equally hatched. But the last few years have brightened a new light in front of this traditional scene, such as the smart-band wrapped in screens, smart readers, and buds. In the past few years the playground has not only been an arena of players' hard work and practice, but now it is becoming a laboratory of technology. While the first one coach's eye and player's sensations used to measure performance, today artificial medha (Aii) eyes, data analysis and modern technical equipment capture every moment of the game closely. In such a situation, it is also an opportunity for India to change as emerging sports power and the challenge is also every astral vibration of the player's body is now data, which the 'algorithms' read in the blink of an eye. The recently released 'India AI Mission and National Sports Policy-2025' has worn this change into institutional Jama. The sports policy actually rests on three big promises. First, public participation- means connecting every child with at least one game. Second, high performance- i.e. instead of standing on the threshold of India medals till the Olympics of the year 2036, the stairs above

climbed. Third, the development of the sports industry—i.e. making the game a full-time mechanism of careers, markets and innovation. In the sports policy to speed up all these three promises, artificial medha is assumed to be fuel, like pulling three horses to a chariot and artificial is their halin thame charioteer. Collecting industrious figures in schools, opening sports science centres in states and widening the path of vachan by giving tax-concession to the private sector, all of them are part of the same thought-series. Today the level of fitness of the player, heart rate, fatigue, sleep and even his mental condition is measured by technical tools and software. Games like football, cricket and haki then it has become a normal thing, but now in traditional games like wrestling, kabaddi and athletics in countries like India, it has also started showing technical interference. The 'machine's eye' i.e. artificial medha does not just gather statistics, but helps coach and sports institutions to understand what kind of performance the player will perform at what time. Kabaddi players are now wearing a 'smart reader jacket' at Delhi's Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium. This also records the subtle blinking of his eyes when the player jumps, turns, breathing movements, even changing the panes. 'Sensor Stick' at Lucknow's Women's Haki Academy revealed that Jyoti Singh's right wrist rotates more than needed at the time of 'drag flick'. A week improved and he scored a decisive goal in Asian Champions Trophy. France and the US artificial medha were extensively used during the Paris Olympics 2024 preparations. The U.S. gymnastics team identified individual vulnerabilities using an artificial medha tool to conduct a three D analysis of players' 'Badi Movement' and changed the training accordingly France's

cycling team measured players' heartbeat, oxygen levels, and fatigue using smart helmets, helping them change strategies during the competition

Interference of Artificial Intelligence in the playground (female players, Divyangjan, tribal and traditional games will get special support) Vijay Garg The tradition of sports in India is centuries-old From the dusty arena of a village to the shining synthetic track of the city, our common memory has the smell of sweat and the sondhi fragrance of Mati par rchi-basi. But the last few years have brightened a new light in front of this traditional scene, such as the smart-band wrapped in screens, smart readers, and buds. In the past few years the playground has not only been an arena of players' hard work and practice, but now it is becoming a laboratory of technology. While the first one coach's eye and player's sensations used to measure performance, today artificial medha (Aii) eyes, data analysis and modern technical equipment capture every moment of the game closely. In such a situation, it is also an opportunity for India to change as emerging sports power and the challenge is also every subtle vibration of the player's body is now data, which the 'algorithms' are read in the blink of an eye. Recently released 'India AI Mission and National Sports Policy-2025' has put this change into institutional Jama. The sports policy actually rests on three big promises. First, public participation- means connecting every child with at least one game. Second, high performance- i.e. instead of standing on the threshold of India medals till the Olympics of the year 2036, the stairs above climbed.

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

## I am Not here to Date



■ Sidharth PK

*I am not here to date,  
She is not there to make out  
He is not there to draft anything  
We are not here to rally on,  
I am not meant to be you  
I am not meant to be a drum  
I am the music that sings  
I am the snow that falls  
I am the river that speaks  
I am the poet who loves  
Can I be the man of your time?*



# Rain Woes: How to keep your home odour-free in monsoon?



■ **Shahnaz Hussain**

Is the humidity during monsoons making your living spaces feel heavy and uninviting?

Bad odour is a chronic monsoon issue. Most people have a strong reaction to the rains; they either love them or hate them. Monsoon woes are a real thing.

The damp environment is a breeding ground for mould and mildew, the main culprits behind the musty odour.

This displeasing odour can warp the original smell, much to the chagrin and discomfort of the homeowners.

The smell can be powerful in closed spaces like closets, bathrooms, and bedrooms.

Traditional air Fresheners for the home might not always do the trick, so you can always adopt a monsoon home care regime to keep your home smelling fresh, clean and pleasant.

## Scented Candles

There's no denying that the scent will influence your mood.

With their soft, alluring light and sweet scent, candles will surely liven up your place in more ways than one.

People have used candles for centuries, even candles are a delightful addition to the ambience of your home.

If you've ever noticed that certain scents feel more vivid or comforting on rainy days. Trust me, this isn't just imagination; rain amplifies certain fragrances, making your home smell heavenly.

Scented candles add warmth and glow in the room and also infuse the air with captivating fragrances. Choosing the right scented candle can transform your space into a haven of relaxation.

And one effective way of doing it is by placing some heavenly and fresh-smelling scented candles – simply light them up to add warmth and romance to your home; plus, they work pretty fine to dust away the stifling musty smells of the rain, especially when humidity jumps in only to make it worse. Only scented candles can come to the quick rescue!

## Aromatic spray

Aromas in nature are believed to have healing effects on the mind, body and spirit.

Room sprays are the perfect fireless deodorisers to make your house smell divine.

Room sprays are made using pure, steam-distilled essential oils of flowers and herbs, sustainably sourced from their natural habitat. These room fresheners are created using potent Ayurvedic herb extracts that are traditionally known to possess stress-relieving and soothing properties.

Perfect for those who want a quick, instant solution to the problem of the musty odour that becomes a permanent ill-effect of the monsoon season, these



fragrant room freshener sprays are the best way to go. Helping spread a pleasant fragrance all around, these sprays can be prepared at home with natural ingredients if you wish or can easily be bought from the stores.

The three most important elements in any effective room spray are: essential oils, water and witch hazel. Essential oils define the prevailing fragrance, and any oil of preference can be utilised.

## Perfect Your Laundry

Ever wondered why freshly laundered clothes instantly elevate your mood? The secret lies in the fragrant detergents that do more than just clean.

Many people overlook the impact of detergent fragrances on their clothes and home environment, missing out on their numerous benefits.

The scent your detergent leaves

behind has the power to evoke feelings of freshness, cleanliness, and even nostalgia.

This scent is created by a combination of aromatic compounds specifically formulated to survive the rigorous process of cleaning, rinsing, and drying.

These are small, fragrant beads which dissolve in water during the wash cycle and are specially made to infuse your clothes with a long-lasting scent. Scent boosters work in conjunction with your fabric softener to give you that much more potent and longer-lasting aroma.

These fragrance molecules bind to fabric fibres during the washing process, ensuring that the freshness lasts long after the clothes are cleaned. As the clothes are worn or moved, and as air circulates around them, the fragrance gradually evaporates and diffuses, gently releasing its scent into the surround-

ings. This process not only keeps your clothes smelling fresh but also refreshes your environment with every movement.

## Lavender Essential Oil

Known for its calming and soothing properties, it's perfect for combating monsoon mustiness.

In addition to having a lovely floral aroma, Lavender essential oil is particularly useful in the rainy season.

It can aid in odour removal and provide calm in your house.

The intoxicatingly sweet fragrance of Lavender, when diffused, can help a room get rid of any unpleasant odours common during the rains.

Lavender oil is especially helpful in bedrooms because it can improve sleep quality and create a relaxing atmosphere.

To use lavender essential oil, add a few drops to a diffuser in your living room or bedroom to create a relaxing atmosphere. You can also make a room spray by mixing lavender oil with water in a spray bottle and spritzing it around your home.

By adding it to your laundry, you can give your garments a new scent and eliminate the musty smell they often have after a rainy season.

Due to its ability to sweeten and deodorise any place, lavender essential oil is especially wonderful during the rain. You can also sprinkle baking soda on rugs, carpets, and even beds to absorb smells and clean them, along with this essential oil, to wipe and deodorise them.

**The author is international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India**

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## Office of the Naib Tehsildar, Achabal, District Anantnag

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that Tufail Bashir Dar, S/o Bashir Ahmad Dar, resident of Kuwarigam, Tehsil Achabal, District Anantnag, has submitted an application in this office for the issuance of an RBA (Reserved Backward Area) Certificate.

As per the applicant, the details of the family members are as follows:

1. Bashir Ahmad, S/o Rahman Dar – Occupation: Labour – Annual Income: ₹96,000/-
2. Shaheena, W/o Bashir Ahmad – Housewife
3. Tufail Bashir – Student
4. Azmat Jan – Daughter
5. Seerat Jan – Daughter

According to the applicant, the total annual income of the family is ₹1,06,000/- and there are no other family members.

If any person or institution has any objection regarding the issuance of the RBA Certificate to the applicant, they may submit their objection in writing in the office of the Naib Tehsildar Achabal within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained after the stipulated time period.

**Naib Tehsildar  
Achabal, District Anantnag**

### Public Notice

My residence has been wrongly written as KHISIPORA 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/O ....GUZAR AHMAD MALIK  
R/O KHISEPORA KREERI**

### 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**

## 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**

### 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**

## Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of BAKHTI BEGUM W/O late GH MOHD MIR R/O KAKOTHAL 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 GH MOHD MIR S/O AB REHMAN MIR has passed away on 31/7/2022 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1. BAKHTI BEGUM 45 years head Housewife
2. ULFAT 25 years daughter H/W job
3. DANISH AHMAD 23 years SON labour
4. MEHWISH 17 years daughter student

The applicant has applied for Issuance of Legal heir 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

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

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 YUJAUUF daughter 24 years Student

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

Subject: Application of GHULAM MOHD WANI S/O WALI MOHD WANI R/O KREERI 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 MOHD ASHRAF WANI S/O GH MOHD WANI R.O KREERI has passed away on 07/04/1998 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1. GH MOHD WANI 85 years Father aged
2. SARA BEGUM 75 years Mother aged
3. FAROOQ AHMAD 48 years Brother shopkeeper
4. ASHIQ ABTAL 40 years Brother shopkeeper
5. NASEEMA AKHTER 44 years Sister housewife

The applicant has applied for Issuance of Legal heir 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**

# HT - NEWS / ADVT

## 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
5. WAHEEDA 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 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

Subject: Application of AYAZ AHMAD DAR S/O MOHD AKBAR DAR R/O HAIL JAGIR 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 JAVID AHMAD DAR S/O MOHD AKBAR DAR R.O KREERI has passed away on 22/02/1997 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1. MOHD MAQBOOL DAR 58 years brother labour married
2. AYAZ AHMAD DAR //50 years //
3. FAYAZ AHMAD DAR //40 years
4. AB HAMID DAR //37 years //
5. SHABIR AHMAD DAR // 33 years //

The applicant has applied for Issuance of Legal heir 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**

## FORM VI Preliminary Notification (See sub-rule (1) of rule-25 and section-11(1) of the Act-30/2013) OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR LAND ACQUISITION/ SDM KHANSAHIB Notification No: 01 of 2025 | Dated: 08-08-2025

Whereas, on the basis of indent placed by requiring body (Chief Educational Officer Budgam and Zonal Educational Officer Khansahib vide No: CEOB/PLG/2024//17868-70 Dated: 24-03-2024 and ZEO/KHS/LAND/COMP/302 Dated 05-08-2023 respectively, it appears to the Government of J&K UT that the land specified in the below mentioned schedule to be needed for public purpose namely, newly proposed of MMS Kachwari and development of playground at MMS Dragger.

Whereas, report submitted by Committee constituted under rule 4(1) vide order dated 08-07-2025, reveals that no displacement or rehabilitation is involved, therefore as per rule 8 of "The Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2023, issued vide S.O 440 dated 24.08.2023", the report submitted vide letter dated 08-07-2025 of the committee shall be as SIA (Social Impact Assessment) report.

Whereas, Tehsildar Khansahib prepared revenue papers & Sajra Khasra of the and same stands authenticated by indenting body, Chief Educational Officer Budgam and Zonal Educational Officer Khansahib. Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the village Kachwari and Dragger, Tehsil Khansahib & District Budgam, a piece of land measuring 17Marlas& 156 sfts and 01 Kanal 110 sfts, the description ofwhich is as following is under:

S.No	Name of School	Village	Survey No.	Area under Acquisition			Type of title	Type of Land
				K	M	Sft		
01	MMS School	Kachwari	879 min	-	17	156	Government	Rural
02	Play Ground of MMS Dragger	Dragger	1439 min	01	13	110	Government	Rural

This notification is made under the provisions of Section 11(1) of "The Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement Act 2013" to all whom it may concern.

The land plans and other details of the area proposed to be acquired may be inspected in the office of the collector land acquisition/Sub Divisional Magistrate Khansahib on any working day during office hours.

Under sub section (4) of section 11 of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e. sale/ purchase, etc., or create any encumbrance on such land from the date of publication of this notification without prior approval of the Collector.

Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by any interested person within 60 (Sixty) days from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the Act before the Collector.

**No:- SDM/KHS/2025-26/398-406 | Dated: 07-08-2025**

**Sd/- Collector Land Acquisition / SDM Khansahib**

**DIPK: 5179/25 | Dated: 13-08-2025**

## OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR D H PORA

### Proclamation of Sale of Immovable Property

Whereas, land measuring 02 Kanals 11.5 Marlas falling under survey No.385 situated at estate K B Pora Khalisa was attached and kept under the Superdari of the Lumbardar concerned pursuant to the order 29-05-2025 passed by Hon'ble Court of Principal District Judge Kulgam in case titled Ali Mohd Bhat S/o Mohd Maqbool Bhat R/o Laram Ganjipora versus Peer Fayaz Ahmad S/o Peer Gh Mohammad R/o Khur Batpora

Whereas, further vide order dated 14-06-2025 passed by Hon'ble Court of Principal District Judge Kulgam, undersigned has been directed to make sale of aforesaid attached property.

Whereas, complying with the directions, proclamation was issued for the sale of said attached property.

Whereas, auction for the below described attached property was scheduled to be held on 09-07-2025 in the office of undersigned but no body turned up at the auction due to which undersigned was incapacitated to make sale of the attached property.

Whereas, vide order dated 27-05-2025, the Hon'ble Court has ordered further to take fresh steps and put the property of Judgment debtor viz; Peer Fayaz Ahmad S/o Peer Gh Mohammad R/o Khur Batpora on sale under law.

Therefore, complying with the directions, auction for the below described attached property is scheduled to be held on 19-08-2025 in the office of undersigned.

#### Description of the property.

S.No	Village	Khasra No.	Type of land	Quantum of land	Market value/ Stamp duty
1	K B Pora Khalisa	385 Min	Abi Bagh	2 Kanals 11.5 Marls	Rs. 314000 per Kanal

**No: TDHP/OQ/2025-26/201-03  
Dated: 12-08-2025**

**Sd/- Tehsildar DH Pora**

**DIPK: 5150/25 | Dated: 13-08-2025**



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# President to inaugurate Summer Annuals of Amrit Udyan today; Public viewing begins on Aug 16

■ [United News of India](#)

**NEW DELHI, AUG 13:** President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the Summer Annuals of Amrit Udyan at Rashtrapati Bhavan tomorrow. The garden will be open to the public for viewing from August 16 to September 14, offering visitors a unique blend of natural beauty, artistic landscaping and serene experiences.

This year a key highlight is the introduction of 'Babbling Brook', a naturalistic water feature that replaces the earlier musical fountain. Designed to enhance the sensory appeal of the gardens, this new addition includes meandering water streams with cascades, sculptural spouts, stepping stones and a raised reflecting pool.

Visitors can explore various landscape zones such as Banyan Grove, featuring reflexology paths, Panchatatva trails, and



forest-inspired soundscapes; Herbal and Plumeria Garden, with grass mounds and curated plantations for an immersive sensory

experience.

The garden trail will also include Bal Vatika, Herbal Garden, Bonsai Garden, Central Lawn,

Long Garden and Circular Garden.

The Amrit Udyan will open from 10 AM to 6 PM (last entry at 5:15 PM) and will remain closed

on all Mondays for maintenance.

Special access will be granted to athletes and sports persons on August 29 (National Sports Day) and teachers on September 5 (Teachers' Day).

The entry will be free of cost. Visitors can book their slots online at [visit.rashtrapatibhavan.gov.in](http://visit.rashtrapatibhavan.gov.in), or register as walk-ins through Self-Service Kiosks placed outside Gate No. 35 (near North Avenue Road) which serves as the sole entry and exit point.

Visitors can carry items including mobile phones, electronic keys, purses, handbags, water bottles, baby milk bottles and umbrellas. No other items will be allowed inside the Udyan.

With its blend of tranquil natural elements and artistic design, this year's Summer Annuals at Amrit Udyan promise a refreshing and enriching experience for all visitors. UNI RBE RB

## BJP MP Rajiv Pratap Rudy sweeps Constitution Club election

■ [United News of India](#)

**NEW DELHI, AUG 13:** Bharatiya Janata Party MP Rajiv Pratap Rudy has won the election for the post of Secretary (Administration), Constitution Club of India, securing more votes than his party colleague and another contender Dr. Sanjeev Balyan.

Speaking on the win, Rudy said that it is his panel's victory, adding that he won with a margin of over a 100 votes.

He expressed happiness that the members of his panel had also won, who come from different parties.

Other than Rudy, other office bearers include Secretary (Culture) Tiruchi Siva, who was declared



elected unopposed on July 10, Rajiv Shukla, Secretary (Sports) also declared elected unopposed.

While addressing the reporters, Rudy shared that a total of 707 votes were polled, while he secured 391 out of them.

The contest between Rudy and Balyan witnessed intense campaigning. Parliamentarians from different parties visited the club to cast their votes.

Rudy, a former Union Minister, has served as the Secretary (Administration) of the CCI for over two decades. He has been credited with revamping the club of the parliamentarians and also former MPs, during his tenure.

There are eleven executive members that include Naresh Agarwal, Prasun Banerjee, Shrirang Appa Barne, Kalikesh N. Singh Deo, Pradeep Gandhi, Jasbir Singh Gill, Deepender Singh Hooda, Naveen Jindal, N K Premchandran, Pradip Kumar Verma and Akshay Yadav, as per the CCI notice.

CCI has emerged as an effective forum, providing a platform for interaction amongst the former and present MPs. UNI AGR RN

## E3 nations threaten to resume sanctions on Iran

■ [United News of India](#)

**TEHRAN, AUG 13:** France, Germany, and the UK, collectively known as the E3, have once again threatened Iran with the reimposition of the snapback UN sanctions, unless the country resumes negotiations, reports Iran International.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General António Guterres and the Security Council, the E3 foreign ministers reiterated their threats of reimposing international sanctions on Iran under the tenets of the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, unless Tehran resumes talks or asks for a deadline extension.

"We have made it clear that if Iran is not willing to reach a diplomatic solution before the end of August 2025, or does not seize the opportunity of an extension, E3 are prepared to trigger the snapback mechanism," the ministers wrote, according to Financial Times' report.

The letter bears the signatures of French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot, Germany's Johann Wadepul, and Britain's David Lammy, and comes two months post the ceasefire between Israel and Iran, following their 12-day war. The Iranian mission to the UN did not immediately respond to a request for comment.



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi had dismissed the threats, stating that the E3 nations lacked both the capability and the authority, to reimpose said sanctions.

Nonetheless, Iran's Ministry of Intelligence has warned ministries and businesses to be prepared for the looming snapback sanctions which seem more and more likely.

The leaked document by the Ministry cautioned that renewed sanctions would target arms sales, freeze overseas assets, and reimpose restrictions on industries such as oil, petrochemicals, banking, shipping, insurance and sensitive technologies.

As a countering move, a senior Iranian lawmaker warned on Wednesday that the parliament could move to withdraw Iran from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) if Western powers were to reimpose the UN sanctions.

"If the other side takes steps toward operationalizing the snapback mechanism and uses it, the Iranian parliament will definitely respond," Manouchehr Mottaki, a member of parliament's economic committee, was quoted as saying by Iranian media.

He said lawmakers were "ready to pull the trigger" on an NPT exit, adding that the West had no legal grounds to restore sanctions under the 2015 nuclear deal and was using the threat only as leverage.

"If they make their threat a reality, in line with the guidance of the Supreme Leader, we will also make our threat a reality," Mottaki said. UNI ANV

## Hungarian PM declares Russia has won Ukraine war

■ [United News of India](#)

**BUDAPEST, AUG 13:** Ahead of the Trump-Putin summit, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has said that Russia has already won the war in Ukraine, and it is now up to the Western powers to acknowledge this truth, reports RT.

On Tuesday, the Hungarian premier had slammed EU over its statement on Ukraine, where the bloc pledged full support to Kyiv on all fronts, as well as told the US that President Volodymyr Zelensky's presence at the summit was a must. Orban refused to sign the EU statement and said that Europe was in no position to dictate terms to anyone,

especially as no European leader was invited to the Alaska summit.

Speaking to the 'Patriot' YouTube channel, the Hungarian leader said he partly opposed the statement as it only made the EU look "ridiculous and pathetic." "When two leaders sit down to negotiate with each other, the Americans and the Russians ... and you're not invited there, you don't rush for the phone, you don't run around, you don't shout in from the outside," Orban stated. "If you are not at the negotiating table, you are on the menu." The Hungarian PM said that Moscow won the war long back, stating that Kyiv's backers simply refused to admit the hard truth despite knowing it.

"We are talking now as if this were an open-ended war situation, but it is not. The Ukrainians have lost the war. Russia has won this war," he stressed. "The only question is when and under what circumstances will the West, who are behind the Ukrainians, admit that this has happened, and what will result from all this." Hungary has been one of the few EU nations to have maintained friendly ties with Russia, and since Orban became PM, has consistently maintained a policy of neutrality, though it has been much more Moscow aligned, refusing the country's entry into the EU and slamming the bloc consistently over its attempts at militarisation. UNI ANV PRS

## Typhoon Podul makes landfall in eastern Taiwan

■ [United News of India](#)

**TAIPEI, AUG 13:** Typhoon Podul made landfall in eastern Taiwan's Taitung County at around 1:10 p.m. on Wednesday, bringing severe storms to Hualien and Taitung, according to the local meteorological agency.

The agency continued to issue both sea and land warnings for Podul on Wednesday. At noon, its central pressure was 945 hectopascals, with maximum sustained winds reaching 43 meters per second near the center.

The land warning covers 13 counties and cities, including Hualien, Taitung and Miaoli, while the sea warning applies to the waters off eastern Taiwan, the Bashi Channel, the Taiwan Strait and waters near Dongsha Island.

Rainfall is currently heaviest in eastern Taiwan and mountainous areas, the agency said, noting that as the typhoon moves westward, the rain will also spread from east to west -- with the heaviest rainfall expected in the latter half of Wednesday.

Due to the typhoon, railway services and flights were disrupted on the island, while many counties and cities suspended work and classes on Wednesday. UNI

## SC cancels bail to wrestler Sushil Kumar in Sagar Dhankar murder case

■ [United News of India](#)

**NEW DELHI, AUG 13:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday set aside the Delhi High Court's March 4 order granting bail to Olympic medallist wrestler Sushil Kumar, the prime accused in the 2021 murder of junior national champion Sagar Dhankar.

A bench comprising Justices Sanjay Karol and Prashant Kumar Mishra allowed the plea filed by the victim's father, Ashok Dhankar, challenging the High Court's decision, and directed Kumar to surrender within one week.

Senior advocate Siddharth Mridul appeared for the petitioner, while senior advocate Mahesh Jethmalani represented Kumar.

Kumar, along with several others, is accused of brutally assaulting Dhankar and his friends Sonu and Amit Kumar in the parking lot of Delhi's Chhatrasal Stadium on May 4, 2021, allegedly over a property dispute.



Dhankar, 23, died from cerebral injury caused by blunt force trauma, while the others sustained serious injuries. The incident led to a high-profile manhunt for Kumar, who evaded arrest for 18 days before being apprehended by Delhi Police in Mundka on May 23, 2021.

Following his arrest, Kumar was suspended from his Railways job and remained in judicial custody until the High Court granted him bail earlier this year. The Supreme Court, however, found merit in the victim's family's argument that the trial was ongoing

in a serious offence involving murder and set aside the bail.

The High Court had earlier noted that Kumar had spent over three and a half years in custody, granting bail on a bond of ₹50,000 with two sureties of the same amount. Advocates for Kumar had also pointed to the slow pace of the trial, with only 30 out of 186 witnesses examined over three years.

In July 2023, Kumar was granted a week-long interim bail on medical grounds for surgery on a torn ligament near his right knee. Earlier, in October 2022, the Rohini District Court framed charges against Kumar and 17 others under IPC Section 302 (murder) and related offences, including rioting, criminal conspiracy, and attempted murder, in connection with the killing and injuries caused during the Chhatrasal Stadium incident.

With Wednesday's order, Kumar will have to return to custody while the trial continues. UNI SNG PRS

## BJP hits back at Cong for charges against EC, highlights its record of poll irregularities

■ [United News of India](#)

**NEW DELHI, AUG 13:** The BJP today strongly rebutted allegations made by leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi against the Election Commission (EC) and its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter list in Bihar, calling it a frustrated attempt in the face of his party's consecutive electoral setbacks in the recent years.

Addressing a press conference, BJP MP Anurag Thakur accused Rahul Gandhi and the Congress of repeatedly undermining democratic institutions through baseless claims and said it was the Congress that has a history of electoral manipulations.

The BJP leader sought to cite

historical precedents, stating that "from Sardar Patel to Dr B.R. Ambedkar, history bears testimony to Congress' attempts at election manipulation for political gains dating back to India's first general election in 1952."

Thakur highlighted the defeat of Dr Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution, in the 1952 elections as a telling example of Congress's electoral malpractices. "In that election, Congress, in alliance with the CPI, ensured that Dr Ambedkar lost by a narrow margin of just 14,561 votes, while over 74,000 votes were rejected. This laid the foundation for electoral corruption in the country," he remarked.

He further recalled instances where Congress indulged in booth



capturing in 1957 and rigging with the National Conference in 1987. "Indira Gandhi once disparaged voters as a 'bunch of fools' after suffering electoral defeat, and Rajiv Gandhi famously blamed ballot papers. "Today,

Rahul Gandhi demands the return of those same ballot papers," Thakur added.

Responding to Rahul Gandhi's recent accusations of 'vote theft' during the Maharashtra elections and alleged irregularities during

the Bihar SIR process, Thakur dismissed the claims as "misleading and baseless." He emphasized that the Election Commission has conducted the revision process transparently and maintained public engagement throughout, with no credible complaints reported.

"The Congress has lost elections 90 times under Rahul Gandhi's leadership and has resorted to excuses each time. Now, fearing another defeat in Bihar, they are resorting to falsehoods to discredit the Election Commission," he asserted.

Thakur urged the Congress to respect the democratic process and the voters of India instead of spreading misinformation that threatens the credibility of key institutions. UNI AJ PRS



# Harmanpreet, Mandhana Eye Maiden World Cup Glory

■ Vishal Dikshit

**NEW DELHI:** India's senior duo of Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana is banking on the team's recent form, collective confidence and their changed methods of preparation to "break the barrier" and lift India's maiden ODI Women's World Cup.

The 2025 tournament, which features eight teams, will kick off on September 30, with India taking on Sri Lanka in the opening game. India failed to make the semi-finals of the last ODI World Cup, in 2022. Their best result at an ODI World Cup so far has been the runners-up place - twice, in 2005 and 2017, both times under Mithali Raj. They will hope to go one step further with home advantage and recent form on their side.

"Playing in front of a home crowd, that is always special, and hopefully, this time we will give our 100% and try to break that barrier which all Indian fans and we are waiting for," Harmanpreet said at an ICC event in Mumbai to start the 50-day countdown for the World Cup.

India have had a good ODI year so far, having won nine of their 11 games. The results include a 3-0 whitewash of Ireland, a tri-series victory in Sri Lanka (also featuring South Africa), and most recently, a 2-1 series win in England, who are ranked second in ODIs.

What are India's confidence levels like right now heading into the World Cup? "To be honest, very high - because

the amount of cricket we have played in the last couple of years, that has really given us a lot of confidence. And touchwood, the way we are playing [for] the last couple of years, we just want to continue with that. I think it is all about mindset and [the] fearless cricket we have been playing," Harmanpreet said.

The ODI series win against England also followed a 3-2 T20I series win - India's first such win on English soil.

"We were not surprised with the results [in England] because we knew the kind of preparation we have done," Harmanpreet said. "We knew that we can do this easily. I think we have been working very hard for it, but I think at the same time, we kept things very simple, and we knew that we can easily win any series or any tournament. We were only talking about how we can win, how we can improve ourselves. So, for us, it was not like we have done something great. [The result] was because of our routines and we want to keep doing the same things, again and again." Mandhana, the vice-captain in white-ball formats, said the recent team form was a result of their off-field preparations.

"The amount of training we are doing and the efforts we are putting in our training camps, that is finally giving us a result and hopefully this World Cup will be very special for us," she said. "In the last one-and-a-half month in UK, I just felt that a lot of things. Even off the field was very right about the

team, in terms of how everyone came together and we, as a team, are really big on it in terms [of how] we are working hard here each day, day in, day out.

"For all the youngsters to come in... and I remember Kranti [Goud] taking six wickets [in the third ODI], I mean to watch her go was just amazing. So sometimes, the environment kind of really helps all of them."

Mandhana has had a dream run since last year, with a tally of 747 in 2024 (average 57.46) and 628 (average 57.09) this year, with a higher strike rate of 107.53 in 2025 compared to 95.15 in 2024. She has struck 12 sixes this year, the most for her in a calendar year, and she is also the highest scorer in ODIs in 2025.

"I think more than my mindset, the work ethics have changed quite a lot in the last two or three years," Mandhana said. "And because of that, there is a lot of calmness around how I want to go about my cricket. So that's one thing which has changed massively. What happens in the field is a very secondary thing. Our primary job is to do the job. And not only for me - I think the whole team is heading into that direction, [where] we know where we actually have to work hard. So, we all are pretty clear with those sort of things. And that creates a lot of calmness."

"I would say that in the last one-and-a-half-odd years, that's been a massive change for me personally, and also, within the team."

Esnprcricinfor



## Ellahi Bagh Centre Athletes Shine with 100% Medal Tally at 4th Open Kashmir Pencak Silat Championship

■ HT Sports Desk

**SRINAGAR, AUG 13:** The athletes of Ellahi Bagh Centre put up a spectacular show at the 4th Open Kashmir Pencak Silat Championship, finishing with a flawless 100% medal tally. All 30 participants from the centre returned home with podium finishes - a clear reward for their dedication, discipline, and months of hard training.

The championship, held at the Indoor Sports Hall, Budgam, concluded after two days of intense and spirited competition. Organised by the District Budgam Pencak Silat Association in collaboration with the Pencak Silat Association of J&K, the event was conducted under the banner of Marhoom Allama Aga Syed Mohammad Baqir Al-Moosavi Al-Najafi. Around 400 athletes from various schools and clubs across the district competed in Under-14, Under-17, Under-20, and Senior categories for both boys and girls.

Ellahi Bagh Centre's medal haul:

Gold: 21

Silver: 7

Bronze: 2

Gold Medalists:

Hadi Raina, Ishaq, Ahmad Zack, Aban Sajad, Noorain Hilal, Hamnah, Ziya Mehraj, Shahid Hilal, Zehran Rouf, Sofi Sharmeen, Binaat Mustafa, Muhammad Alim, Muhammad Saad, Farik Fiza, Hani, Aariz Mukhtar, Zulfishan, Iqbal Hamid, Muskan, Adil Hussain Khan, Ashiq Sultan.

Silver Medalists:

Marwah Binti Wajid, Muhammad Ibrahim, Fatima Mehraj, Zainab Mustafa, Farhana, Aahil Mudarik, Sharjeel.

Bronze Medalists:

Mysha Bilal, Nisar Ahmad Dar.

The team trains under the guidance of Chief Coach of India, Mr. Irfan Aziz Bota, and was led



at the event by Shahid Hilal. Expressing satisfaction over the results, Hilal said, "We are extremely proud of our athletes' performance. This is a strong start, but the journey has only just begun."

Adding to the celebrations, Binaat Mustafa from Ellahi Bagh Stadium has earned a place in the 3rd Junior Asian Championship, set to take place in Kashmir next month. Coaches believe this achievement will motivate young athletes and further promote Pencak Silat in the Valley.

The focus now shifts to the 10th J&K UT Pencak Silat Championship 2025-26, to be held

at the Indoor Stadium Polo Ground (West), Srinagar, from September 12 to 14, 2025. Organised by the District Srinagar Pencak Silat Association in collaboration with the Pencak Silat Association of J&K and under the aegis of the J&K Sports Council, the event will serve as a selection trial for the 13th Pre-Teen, Sub-Junior & Junior National Pencak Silat Championship 2025-26, scheduled in Koppal, Karnataka from September 26 to 28, 2025.

"We are already preparing for this next challenge, and I'm confident Ellahi Bagh athletes will make their mark again," said Sofi Sharmeen, one of the gold medalists from the centre.

## 15 Teams Participate in Anantnag Rugby Championship

■ HT Sports Desk

**ANANTNAG, AUG 13:** About 15 teams (150 players both boys and girls) from different schools and clubs of district Anantnag participated in this said championship.

Chief guest on opening ceremony was principal of Birla open minds international school, Batangoo Anantnag Mrs. Shaziya Farooq, Guest of honour was Mr. Owais Ahmad Dar and Special Guest was Manager/Incharge Sports stadium Anantnag Mr. Bashir Ahmad.

Chief guest on closing ceremony was Mr. Anees Ul Islam Coordinator J&K National Conference Anantnag and Guest of honour was Mr. Syed Saba shafi District vice president National Conference Anantnag

and Chairman KIE Anantnag Mr. Shahid Rasheed Dar and CEO Royal sports academy Anantnag Mr. Suhail Hassan Bhat.

Overall winners of the said championship were players of Birla Open minds International school, Batangoo Anantnag and runner-up were players of KIE Anantnag and 2nd runner-up were players of Royal sports academy Anantnag.

District Anantnag Rugby association Secretary Mr. Shujaat Altaf Pahalwan thank to Secretary J&K sports Council Miss. Nuzhat Gull, Secretary and president J&K Rugby association, District Administration, Birla Open minds international school Anantnag, KIE Anantnag and organising committee for always supporting us for organising such events.



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