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LG Sinha Reviews J&K Security with Unified HQ



HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha today chaired Unified Headquarters (UHQ) meeting at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar to review the current security scenario

in Jammu Kashmir.
The meeting was attended by Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, Chief Secretary Shri Atal Dulloo, DGP Shri Nalin Prabhat, GoC 15 Corps Lt Gen Prashant

LG Orders Reopening of 12 more Tourist Spots in J&K

HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: After a thorough

LG Sinha Launches Sainik Sahayta Kendra Portal

HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Lieutenant

CM Omar Meets Public Delegations at Raabita Office



HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today continued his ongoing public outreach initiative, meeting several delegations and individuals at his Public Outreach Office Raabita here, to address and resolve people's issues.

Among the visiting delegations, a team led by the Vice President of Jammu & Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) presented key suggestions on education reforms in J&K, while also highlighting the recent developments and concerns of the teaching community.
A deputation headed by the Chairman of Civil Society Baramulla raised important

CM Omar Inaugurates 3rd Junior Asian Pencak Silat Championship

HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today officially declared open the 3rd Junior Asian Pencak Silat Championship 2025 at the Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex, Srinagar.
The championship, which runs from

CS Reviews PM Vishwakarma Yojana Implementation In J&K

Calls for enhanced credit linkage and mass awareness



HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to review the implementation of PM Vishwakarma Yojana in Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on enhancing credit linkage for the registered beneficiaries.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce (I&C), Vikramjit Singh; Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan; Executive Director, J&K Bank; Directors, I&C Jammu/Kashmir; and other senior officers.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary emphasized that at least 70,000-80,000 beneficiaries should be brought under the ambit of credit linkage with financial institutions to enable them to expand their enterprises on commercial lines.

He directed the concerned departments and banks to work in close coordination to ensure smooth loan sanctions and timely disbursements.

Highlighting the need for robust

CS Assesses Development of Single Window Portal

HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to review the functioning and progress of the Single Window Portal of the Industries & Commerce Department, aimed at providing time-bound, transparent, and hassle-free services to entrepreneurs and businesses across Jammu and Kashmir.
The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Secretary, IT, Dr. Piyush Singla; MD, JaKeGA; State Informatics Officer, NIC; and other concerned officers.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary

MiG-21 Shaped India's Military History from 1971 to Balakot: Rajnath Singh

HT News Desk / KNO

CHANDIGARH, SEP 26: As the MiG-21 fighter jet formally retired after nearly six decades of service on Friday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the aircraft had provided critical strength to the Indian Air Force in conflicts ranging from the 1971 war to 'Operation Sindoor'.



Speaking at a decommissioning ceremony here, Singh, according to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said the MiG-21 was not confined to a single battle or event but had shaped India's military operations across several decades. "For a long time, the MiG-21 has been a witness to numerous deeds. Its

Govt promotes 19 JKAS Officers

HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEPT 26: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Friday ordered the promotion of 19 officers of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) to higher grades following the approval of the Council of Ministers on September 23, 2025.

According to the order issued by the General Administration Department (GAD), five senior officers have been elevated to the Super Time Scale (Level-14). Those promoted include Dr. Ghulam Nabi Itoo, Tariq Hussain Ganai, Mohammad Rafi, Shahbaz Ahmad Mirza, and Rubina Kousar.

Officials said Dr. Itoo, Ganai, and Kousar have been designated as Director Generals in their respective departments, while Rafi and Mirza will continue at their present postings.

In a separate order, six officers were promoted to the Special Scale (Level-13). The officers elevated are Parvez Sajad Ganai, Vir Krishan Dhar, Dr. Tahir Firdous Dutta, Shokat Mehmood, Vishal Sharma, and Dr. Des Raj Bhagat. Of these, Dhar, Mehmood, and Sharma have been designated as

ACB chargesheets ex-JDA Vice Chairman

HT News Desk / KNO
JAMMU, SEPT 26: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Jammu and Kashmir has filed a chargesheet against former Vice Chairman of Jammu Development Authority (JDA), Vinod Sharma, and others in connection with an illegal plot allotment and encroachment case in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.
The chargesheet was produced before the Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Jammu in case FIR No. 18/2014, registered under Section 5(1)(d) read with

Section 5(2) of the J&K Prevention of Corruption Act, Svt. 2006, and Section 120-B RPC.

Those named in the chargesheet include Vinod Sharma, his wife Mamta Sharma, Ghany Sham (then Naib Tehsildar, JDA, now retired and deceased), and Rishi Kumar (then Patwari, JDA, also retired and deceased).

According to ACB, the case originated from a verification conducted by the then Vigilance Organization (now ACB) into allegations of the illegal allotment of

PM to unveil BSNL's homegrown 4G stack today

HT News Network
NEW DELHI, SEP 26: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unveil on Saturday state-owned BSNL's 'Swadeshi' 4G stack, marking India's entry into a coveted league of nations such as Denmark, Sweden, South Korea,

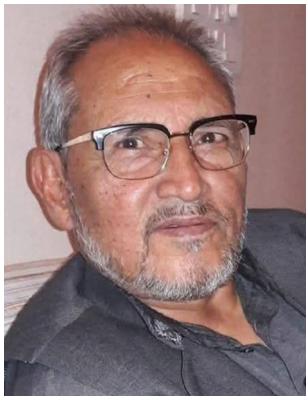
Altaf Bukhari Bereaved

Suliman Bukhari, (Alias -SAITH SULAIMAN) Uncle of Apni Party President Passed Away at Baramulla

HT News Desk
SRINAGAR, SEP 26: A renowned businessman of North Kashmir Sulaiman Bukhari (Saith Suliman), passed away today after a brief illness at his residence at Baramulla.

The deceased was uncle of Apni Party President, Muhammad Altaf Bukhari. The deceased was laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard at Ladora, Rafiabab.

Team Headlines Today in general and Chief Patron Syed Sad ud Din Saidi and Editor in Chief Jahangir Bukhari has expressed deep sorrow and solidarity with the Bereaved family.



Apple Growers Struggle Amid Cold Storage Shortage, Low Demand, Mismanagement

HT News Desk / KNO

PULWAMA, SEP 26: Kashmir's apple industry - often described as the backbone of the valley's economy - continues to reel under crisis this year. While highway blockades and low demand have already dented the season, the shortage of cold storage space has now left small and medium-scale growers in despair, forcing many to sell their produce at throwaway prices.

Speaking with the news agency-Kashmir News Observer

(KNO), small growers from Shopian, Pulwama, and adjoining districts said that while the government often advises them to make use of cold storage facilities during market slowdowns, the ground reality is very different.

"Tell us, what is the benefit of cold storage units when we can't even store our produce in them?" asked Abdul Rashid, an orchardist from Pulwama. "We were waiting for better market rates by storing our apples, but when we approached the units, they said all slots were booked months ago.



This facility only secures the position of big traders, while small and middle-class growers like us are left helpless."

Another grower, Ghulam Ahmad from Shopian, urged immediate government action. "In every crisis, we are told to rely on cold storage. But capacity is far less than demand. Unless new units are established, this problem will haunt growers every year," he said.

Growers also complained about the skyrocketing freight charges and low demand.

Turn on Page 2

Sakeena Itoo, JKBOPEE Chief Discuss Strengthening Professional Education in J&K

Ensure students of J&K have access to quality, diverse, career oriented opportunities: Sakeena to Chairperson

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today held a brief meeting with Chairperson Jammu and Kashmir Board of Professional Entrance Examination (JKBOPEE), Prof. Minu Mahajan to discuss ways and means for strengthening of professional education opportunities across J&K.

During the interaction, the Education Minister took detailed appraisal from the Chairperson about the function-

ing and other related aspects of the JKBOPEE. She also took stock of the functioning of Composite Regional Centre (CRC) Srinagar. The Minister directed the Chairperson to study the feasibility for creating additional seats at CRC in special B.Ed course as there has been significant demand for trained special educators in J&K both in main stream and specialized institutions who can cater to the requirements of specially enabled students.

While discussing other issues of JKBOPEE, the Education Minister directed the Chairper-



son to establish a standard grievance redressal mechanism for the facilitation of students and applicants.

Minister Sakeena also appreciated the role of JKBOPEE in ensuring transparent and merit-based admissions. She assured the Chairperson full support from the Government in creating more opportunities for students from J&K to pursue professional and technical education at par with the rest of the country.

The Minister asked the Chairperson to keep working on various initiatives which will

strengthen professional education ecosystem and ensure that the deserving students of J&K have access to quality, diverse and career oriented opportunities.

During the interaction, the Chairperson JKBOPEE expressed gratitude to Education Minister for securing additional 290 MBBS seats for students of J&K, highlighting that this significant step will provide aspiring students a greater opportunity to shine in the field of medicine and strengthen the collective resolve of Omar Abdullah led Government to establish J&K as a hub of academic excellence.

JKESIS organises "Swasthya Mela" in Kashmir under Swasth Nari, Shashakt Parivar Abhiyaan

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: As a part of Sewa Parv 2025, J&K Employees State Insurance Society (JKESIS) today organised a "Swasthya Mela" in Kashmir under "Swasth Nari, Shashakt Parivar Abhiyaan".

Labour Commissioner and Director JKESIS, S. Charandeep Singh, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event also witnessed active participation of FA/CAO JKESIS, Insurance Medical Officer BAMK, and dedicated staff of JKESIS, who played a pivotal role in organising the camp and ensuring seamless delivery of services to the beneficiaries.

Speaking on the occasion, the Labour Commissioner underlined the need to adopt healthy lifestyle practices for long-term well-being. He further appealed to insured persons (IPs) to submit their medical claims timely so that reimbursements can be processed speedily.

The Mela brought together a team of specialists from multiple disciplines who provided consultations, awareness talks, and preventive health check-ups. More than 200 insured persons (IPs) participated in the camp, availed health check-ups from the doctors' teams, and actively interacted with them on health and lifestyle issues.

The medical team included Dr. Deeba, Consultant Psychiatrist from TELEMANSIMHANS; Nida Nazir, Counsellor at TELEMANSIMHANS; Sumaiya, Counsellor from DME, 500-bedded Govt. Children Hospital; Dt. Jayanti Divedi, Clinical Dietitian & Consultant Nutritionist at Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Superspecialty Hospital; Dr. Lopa Mudra, Surgical Oncologist (Consultant) at Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Superspecialty Hospital; and Mehreen, Medical Social Worker from DME, 500-bedded Govt. Children Hospital.

The "Swasthya Mela," organised under Sewa Parv 2025, is part of JKESIS's ongoing outreach efforts to ensure accessible healthcare, awareness creation, and empowerment of insured workers and their families, thereby contributing to a healthier and stronger workforce in J&K.

Committee on Privileges discusses legislators' privileges, protocols

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: The Committee on Privileges of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex, Srinagar, to deliberate on matters related to the constitutional privileges and entitlements of legislators.

The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman, Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, and attended by members Riyaz Ahmad Khan, Salman Sagar, Javaid Riyaz (Bedar), Javaid Iqbal, and Bharat Bhushan.

Also present were Commissioner Secretary GAD, M Raju;



Secretary Hospitality & Protocol, Bhupinder Kumar; Secretary Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs, Achal Sethi; and Secretary Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandita.

The Committee emphasized the need to ensure proper protocol and privileges to legislators and directed for greater cooperation to facilitate the smooth functioning of the legislature.

At the outset, the Chairman underscored the importance of legislators asserting their constitutional rights and privileges on all appropriate platforms. He expressed confidence in the col-

lective commitment of members to uphold the integrity of the institution and assured that the Committee would continue to perform within its mandate in the larger interest of public welfare.

Members also offered valuable suggestions and stressed maintaining protocols to safeguard the dignity, autonomy, and effective functioning of elected representatives.

The Committee resolved to compile a detailed report on issues related to privileges and protocols of legislators and submit the same to the concerned quarters for appropriate action.

Srinagar Police Holds "Run for Unity" for Sardar Patel's 150th Birth Anniversary

Mohammad Hanif Khan

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: In a spirited celebration of national unity and patriotism, Srinagar Police organized a large-scale "Run for Unity" across jurisdictions of Police Stations Lalbazar, R.M. Bagh, Safakadal, Karan Nagar, Chanapora, Masiuma, Rajbagh, Khanyar, Sadder in the District to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, revered as the Iron Man of India.

The event was held as a tribute to Sardar Patel's pivotal role in unifying the country post-Independence and his enduring legacy as a symbol of national integration.

The "Run for Unity" also served as a platform to encourage community engagement, particularly among the youth, in promoting the ideals of unity, discipline, and social harmony.

The run saw active participation from hundreds of students, teachers, civil society members, and local stakeholders, who gathered with enthusiasm and patriotic fervor.

Various schools and colleges across Srinagar collaborated with the Police for this initiative, underlining the importance of educational institutions in fostering values of citizenship and unity among young minds.

Participants ran predetermined routes in their local areas, carrying banners, placards, and flags, creating an atmosphere charged with energy and national pride. Police officials, teachers, and community leaders flagged off the runs and interacted with participants throughout the event.

To recognize the effort and involvement of the participants, Srinagar Police distributed certi-

ificates of participation and provided refreshments. This gesture was met with appreciation and further strengthened the bond between law enforcement and the community.

The event is part of a series of initiatives undertaken by Srinagar Police to promote civic responsibility, build trust with the community, and create awareness around key national figures and their contributions.

The success of the event reflects the growing spirit of collaboration between law enforcement and the citizens in fostering peace, progress, and unity.

With vibrant participation and a strong message of togetherness, the "Run for Unity" stood as a fitting homage to one of India's greatest leaders and a reaffirmation of the values that continue to bind the nation together.

Buchwara residents urges JK LG and CM to resolve water crisis

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: For over a month, residents of Buchwara, Dalgate have been without safe drinking water, causing severe hardship for hundreds of families. Despite repeated complaints to the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department and the concerned Water Works authorities, the regular water supply has not been restored for the last one month.

In the interim, residents of Buchwara, Near Masjid Sharief, adjacent to Goodwill Public High School, Dalgate, Srinagar are forced to rely on bore wells at local mosques and a temporary rubber pipeline from a tube well to meet their basic water needs. Community leaders warn that these temporary arrangements are unsafe and cannot continue indefinitely, particularly for children, the elderly, and patients with medical conditions.

This prolonged disruption has caused immense inconvenience, raising serious questions about the timely provision of essential services. Water is a basic necessity, and the delay in restoring supply has left the community frustrated and distressed.

The residents are now appealing directly to the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir to intervene urgently, direct the concerned department to restore proper water supply on a war-footing basis, and provide a clear timeline for permanent resolution.

DC Baramulla Hands Over Sanction Letters under Mission Yuva as Part of Sewa Parv Celebrations

HT News Desk

BARAMULLA, SEP 26: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations, the Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today handed over 50 sanction letters under Mission Yuva at DC Office Meeting Hall, Baramulla.

The event was held in the presence of General Manager J&K Bank, Narjay Gupta, Assistant Director Employment Baramulla, and other senior bank officials of the district.

It is pertinent to mention that under Mission YUVA, around 3000 applications have been received in Baramulla, providing aspiring entrepreneurs an opportunity to establish income-generating units and promoting self-employment



in the district.

On the occasion, the DC directed banks to increase the disbursement of cases under Mission YUVA,

ensuring timely financial support to aspiring entrepreneurs. He emphasized that Mission Yuva is playing a pivotal role in nurturing

entrepreneurship, creating livelihood opportunities, and strengthening the spirit of self-reliance among the youth.

Prof. Gh. Jeelani Khanday Receives Presidential Honour for Climate Research

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: Prof. Dr. Gh. Jeelani Khanday, resident of Arigam Tral and Professor & Head, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Kashmir, has been honoured with a prestigious award by Her Excellency, the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, in recognition of his outstanding scientific contributions in the fields of glaciers, hydrology, and climate studies.

It is pertinent to mention that Prof. Jeelani is regarded among the world's leading scientists extensively engaged in research on glaciers, climate change,



oceans, and water bodies. The people of Tral wholeheartedly congratulate Prof. Jeelani Sahib on

this remarkable achievement, which has brought immense pride and honour to the region.

DC Srinagar chairs meeting to devise action plan on decongesting traffic in Srinagar City

All stakeholder departments to come up with coordinated & actionable points for effective implementation of the plan

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 26: In order to address traffic congestion and ensure smooth movement of traffic in Srinagar City, a meeting was held on Friday under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo here at the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority (SDA), Mohammad Rafi; Vice Chairman Lake Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA), Mohammad Shahid Saleem; SSP Traffic Police, Ajaz Ahmad; Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz Ul

Aziz; GM SRTC, Showkat Ahmad; Joint Commissioner SMC, Syed Abul Qasim; Joint Director Tourism, Waseem Raja; Superintending Engineers of R&B&SMC, ARTO Srinagar and concerned.

At the outset, stakeholder departments were brainstormed to come up with the actionable points to decongest the Srinagar City and ensure smooth plying of vehicles and better traffic management system particularly at heavy traffic junctions to overcome traffic jam on City roads.

A threadbare deliberation was also held with regard to reducing congestion, increasing road capacity and road infrastructure, encroachment



removal, tackling instances of wrong parking and addressing bottlenecks at different parts of the City, besides safety and accident reduction measures and enforcement of traffic rules & regulations.

On the occasion, DC sought comprehensive feedback from all stakeholder departments to devise and develop an effective, practical and sustainable traffic management system for Srinagar City. He asked the Traffic Police, RTO, LCMA, SMC, and SDA to jointly identify congestion points and propose concrete measures for their resolution.

Stressing the need for coordinated efforts, DC asked concerned departments to take all necessary steps to decongest

City roads and ensure smooth movement. DC emphasized the need for adequate parking facilities in busy areas.

Calling the resolution of this emerging challenge as a multi-agency effort, DC urged the departments including SMC, R&B, ARTO, SRTC, and Traffic Police to work in close coordination and come up with an actionable, practical blueprint to decongest the City and build a reliable and efficient public transport system.

DC directed that the meeting shall be held again soon to finalise the first draft of the actionable points and also suggested that feedback be also sought from common public towards this end.

Integrated Pest Management gets boost through HRD programme in Budgam

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, SEP 26: A Human Resource Development (HRD) programme on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was held today at Budgam by the Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Srinagar, in collaboration with the Agriculture department, Budgam.

The programme saw active participation from local farmers, agriculture officials, and subject experts, focusing on the promotion of sustainable, eco-friendly pest control practices.

Dr. Mithilesh Kumar Arya, Deputy Director (PP), CIPMC Jammu, in his address stressed the need to adopt IPM techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides, citing their environmental and health benefits. He urged farmers to embrace biological, mechanical, and cultural pest control methods for sustainable agriculture.

Assistant Plant Protection Officer (PP) presented the features of the National Pest Surveillance System Mobile App, emphasizing its user-friendly design, real-time pest reporting, expert consultations, and timely advisories.

Agriculture Extension Assistant Budgam elaborated on IPM components suited to local agro-climatic conditions.

The event was also attended by DAO (Extension), and Assistant Soil Chemist.

The programme concluded with an interactive session where farmers shared insights and queries, making the event highly engaging and impactful.

Sewa Parv: DCPU Bandipora organises community outreach programme

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, SEP 26: As part of Sewa Parv campaign, District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Mission Vatsalya Bandipora on Friday conducted a community outreach programme at multiple locations, including the Main Market, Nasoo Bus Stand, and Kaloosa Bus Stand, Bandipora.

During the programme, traders, drivers associations, and the general public were sensitized and provided awareness about child rights and the role of different stakeholders in ensuring a safe and secure environment for children in vulnerable situations.

Officials from DCPU, CWC, JJB, CHL, and CHD actively participated in the event and distributed IEC material among the participants.

and clothes across the schools of the district, benefitting more than 700 students, encouraging a culture of sharing and compassion.

Agriculture department facilitated interactions with successful entrepreneurs, inspiring farmers and youth to adopt innovative practices in line with today's Sewa Parv theme of entrepreneurship and self-reliance. Horticulture department provided technical guidance to orchardists at Imam Sahib and Hermain and distributed plant protection machinery in Zone Keller, helping farmers

adopt modern and sustainable practices.

Rural Development Department mobilized community participation by encouraging eco-friendly practices during festivals, promoting Swachh Bharat Mission branding and strengthening Reduce-Reuse-Recycle (RRR) centers. Municipal Council Shopian, under Swachhata Hi Seva and Sewa Parv, organized an intensive cleanliness drive at Natoo and Sangloo Nallah, which saw the active involvement of ULB staff, Swachhata Executives, volun-

teers, and sanitary workers.

CAHO Shopian, along with field officers and scheme beneficiaries, emphasized awareness about departmental schemes, online application handholding, technical support, and the benefits of establishing self-employment units in livestock and poultry sectors.

Forest Department, Forest Protection Force and Social Forestry, in collaboration with Sunrise Public School Sedow, carried out a plantation drive at Ladigas, engaging students in green

activities.

District Social Welfare office organized an awareness-cum-registration camp at Darbagh Zainapora, covering pension schemes, senior citizen programmes, marriage assistance, OSC services, child helpline, women helpline, and Poshan initiatives.

Alongside these, other departments also performed their scheduled activities, ensuring that the spirit of Sewa Parv continues to touch every corner of the district.

KVK Shopian organises Animal Clinical Camp at Cooler Meadows, Keller

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SHOPIAN, SEP 26: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Shopian today organized an Animal Clinical Camp at Cooler Meadows, Chowan Keller, Shopian.

Prof. Rehana Habib Kant, Director Extension, SKUAST-K was the chief guest on the occasion.

The camp recorded active participation of more than 80 tribal farmers.

Director Extension (SKUAST-K) in her address highlighted the significant role of KVKs in making such programmes more meaningful and beneficial for tribal



farmers by treating sick and diseased animals.

During the health camp, experts provided on-spot treat-

ment to around 200 animals including sheep, goats, cattle and

horses. Free medicines and dosing material were also distributed among the tribal farmers and nomadic communities.

The camp reported common animal health issues such as foot rot in sheep, secondary infections following controlled FMD, deficiency diseases and parasitic problems, which were promptly diagnosed and treated by the expert team.

CAHO, DSHO, Head KVK Malangpora, Head KVK Shopian, Scientists of KVK Shopian and Veterinary Assistant Surgeons from the Animal and Sheep Husbandry Departments were present.

DLSA Budgam organizes awareness programme on drug abuse, solid waste management

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, SEP 26: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam, under the aegis of the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKLSA), organized an awareness programme on drug abuse and solid waste management (SWM) in collaboration with TLSC Chadoora at Sogam Chadoora.

The programme was conducted under the supervision of O.P. Bhagat, Chairman, DLSA Budgam, and the active guidance of Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary, DLSA Budgam.

The awareness programme was aimed at sensitizing the public about two critical issues viz. drug abuse and solid waste management.

The objective of solid waste management is to protect public health and the environment by ensuring scientific and systematic waste disposal, while promoting reduction, reuse, and recycling to conserve resources and minimize pollution.

Similarly, the drug abuse awareness component sought to educate people about the dangers of substance abuse, its social consequences, harmful effects of different drugs, and the legal framework governing them.

Deputy LADC Budgam, Nazir Ahmad Wagay, deputized by DLSA Budgam as the resource person delivered an insightful presentation, raising awareness among participants.

Wagay highlighted the legal protections available to minors, harmful consequences of drug abuse, and its alarming impact on society, particularly on the younger generation. He



emphasized the urgent need for vigilance to protect children and youth from falling prey to this menace.

He also spoke extensively on solid waste management, underlining its direct impact on public health and the environment. He highlighted the importance of proper waste segregation, disposal, and recycling practices, stressing that reduction, reuse, and recycling are key to sustainable waste management.

He further elaborated on the legal framework and regulations related to waste management that must be

followed by all stakeholders.

Wagay urged everyone to adopt responsible practices, including segregation of waste at the source, minimizing waste generation, maximizing resource recovery through recycling and composting, and ensuring safe disposal of residual waste. The ultimate goal, he said, is to safeguard natural resources, improve public health, and enhance the quality of life for both present and future generations.

The programme witnessed active and enthusiastic participation from marginalized communities.

Budgam Celebrates Sewa Parv 2025 with Service Initiatives

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, SEP 26: As part of the ongoing nationwide Sewa Parv 2025, district Budgam today witnessed a vibrant series of community-oriented activities, organised across different zones, schools, municipal bodies and panchayats. The programmes reflected the collective spirit of service, social responsibility and public participation, bringing together students, citizens, and officials under one banner of seva.

Key Activities held included book distribution & donation drives. At MSTangnar, Zone Nagam, a book distribution camp was organised to encourage reading habits and support underprivileged students. Similar book donation drive was held at BHSS Ichigam, mobilising students and teachers to contribute books for a noble cause. Special cleanliness drives were carried out at Panchayat offices of Block S.K. Pora, ensuring neat and hygienic public spaces. Community participation was witnessed in the cleanliness of canals and streams across Budgam, aimed at improving water quality and environmental hygiene.

A separate cleanliness drive was also conducted at HSS Khag, where students actively engaged in Shramdaan to maintain the campus and surroundings.

At Higher Secondary School Narbal (Block Narbal), a health awareness programme for adolescent girls was organised, covering personal hygiene, nutrition, and wellbeing.

In addition, a rally was taken out by the Municipal Committee Budgam in Ompora, raising awareness among citizens on cleanliness and community responsibility.

Essay and painting competitions were held at HSS Hayatpora, Zone Nagam, where students showcased their creativity on themes of service, environment, and social responsibility. At PM Shri HSS Kandoora, Beerwah, a painting competition was also organised, with enthusiastic student participation.

Health check-ups for Safai Mitras and women workers were conducted under the Sashakt Nari Sashakt Bharat initiative, ensuring their wellbeing and recognising their service. Under the theme Waste to Wealth, innovative activities were held across panchayats of Block S.K. Pora, highlighting recycling, waste management, and sustainable living practices.

A plantation programme under Ek Paad Maa Ke Naam was undertaken in Chadoora by the Municipal Committee Budgam, symbolising commitment towards environmental protection. An eco-awareness programme was also organised by Soil Range Budgam (Pir Panjal Forest Division) at GHSS Soibugh, sensitising students on conservation and biodiversity.

A massive Shramdaan programme 'Ek Din, Ek Ghan-ta, Ek Saath' was held across various halqas of block Narbal, mobilising people for voluntary work in their localities.

District administration Budgam has reiterated its commitment to carry forward the objectives of Sewa Parv 2025 by ensuring mass participation, spreading awareness, and encouraging service as a shared responsibility.

Sewa Parv: Multi-sectoral outreach initiatives held at Shopian

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SHOPIAN, SEP 26: Sewa Parv campaign in district Shopian today achieved another milestone with a wide spectrum of activities focused on education, cleanliness, livelihood support, and social welfare.

The day was marked by community-driven initiatives that reinforced the values of service, responsibility, and collective participation.

Education department spearheaded a donation drive of books

Sewa Parv Day-10: Mega public outreach camp held at Tral

MLA Tral, DC Pul, elected representatives attended program

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

PULWAMA, SEP 26: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations, a mega public outreach camp was organised today at Town Hall Tral, witnessing enthusiastic participation of local residents, civil society members, and leaders of diverse communities and officials from line departments.

The event was attended by Member of Legislative Assembly Tral, Rafiq Ahmad Naik, and Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, along with DDC Member Dadsara Avtar Singh, DDC Member Tral Dr. Harbaksh Singh, and DDC Member Aripal Manzoor Ahmad Ganie.

On the occasion, stalls were set up by departments including Agriculture, Horticulture, Social Welfare, Sheep Husbandry, Rural Development, Education, FCS&CA, ICDS, and Social Forestry providing awareness about schemes and services.

The progress of service delivery was reviewed and officials were directed to ensure maxi-

mum outreach and saturation of beneficiaries under various government schemes during the Sewa Parv campaign.

A medical camp was also organised under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, where officials were instructed to bridge gaps in ABHA and Golden Card coverage and intensify screening for anaemia, tuberculosis, and Diabetes and hypertension in addition to other ailments.

Speaking at the event, MLA Tral emphasised the importance of cleanliness and environmental responsibility, urging locals to actively contribute towards creating clean surroundings. He called upon people to make full use of the services and entitlements being extended during the Sewa Parv campaign for their overall welfare.

He further urged citizens to contribute voluntarily to the ongoing Sewa Parv activities by taking part in cleanliness drives, plantation campaigns, awareness rallies, and blood donation camps. He emphasised that the true

essence of Sewa Parv lies in collective action, where every individual plays a role in building a cleaner, healthier, and more responsible society.

Addressing the gathering, DC Pulwama highlighted the wide range of activities undertaken across the district as part of Sewa Parv. He stressed that even though the government is working continuously in areas like hygiene and sanitation through programmes like the Swachh Bharat Mission, real and lasting change will only happen when people join hands with administration and bring positive changes in their habits. He urged citizens to practice source segregation of waste, join local sanitation committees, and transform cleanliness into a citizen-led movement.

Dr. Qayoom also laid emphasis on self-employment and livelihood schemes such as Mission Yuva, encouraging youth to enrol in flagship programmes to realise their entrepreneurial aspirations. He further drew attention to the free medical



camps organised under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, urging women in particular to undergo anaemia screening, blood pressure checks, and other preventive health tests for early detection of lifestyle and nutritional disorders.

The event also witnessed addresses by DDC members, who urged locals to actively participate in activities such as cleanliness drives, plantation drives, blood donation camps, and awareness programmes, ensuring the spirit of Sewa Parv reaches every household.

As part of the programme, students from various schools presented speeches on themes of Sewa Parv including the spirit of service, cleanliness, waste segregation, and social responsibility.

Later, DC Pulwama distributed prize money among students as a token of appreciation for their efforts.

Earlier in the day, a plantation drive was also organised and various entitlements among beneficiaries of welfare

schemes were also distributed.

The outreach camp also provided a platform for local citizens, community leaders, and civil society representatives to put forth their issues and demands related to development, welfare schemes, and public services. The officers assured that their concerns would be addressed in a time-bound manner through coordination with concerned departments.

Meanwhile, as part of Sewa Parv activities across Pulwama, RDD and Housing & Urban Development Department organised extensive cleanliness drives with special focus on garbage removal from SBM assets and water bodies. Education Department led donation drives of books, clothes, and toys for underprivileged students. In addition, medical camps were held at PHCs, CHCs, and Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, providing screening and awareness on maternal, child, and adolescent health, nutrition, menstrual hygiene, and lifestyle-related diseases.

Ganderbal CEO Highlights Teachers' Role in Teaching Moral & Social Values

■ HT News Desk

GANDERBAL, SEP 26: Today, during the ongoing "Donation Drive" under the "SEWA PARV" calendar, the Chief Education Officer Ganderbal, Mr. Oneel Kumar Bhat, emphasized the larger responsibility of "teachers" in shaping the minds and hearts of students. He highlighted that the "Morning Assembly" must not remain a ritual of routine prayers alone but should become a "living classroom" where students are made aware of:

1. The importance of daily activities and observance of significant national and international days.
2. The cultivation of moral values through short lectures, anecdotes, and real-life examples.
3. The duty of cleanliness, use of dustbins, preservation of the environment, and the planting of trees to ensure a green and clean tomorrow.

The spirit of service ("SEWA/Khidmat")—towards grandparents, family, neighbors, society, villages, employees, and even the ill and "underprivileged".

He reminded teachers that Sewa is not just an activity but a "philosophy of life," where every individual asks, "How can I contribute to society?"—"*



whether through donating books, participating in cleanliness drives, or extending care to those in need.

The "CEO" further stated that teachers must instill in students a sense of shared responsibility, where education is not confined to textbooks but extends to service, empathy, and ethical living. Teachers are not only instructors but "guardians", sharing the responsibility of parents in nurturing children. "Our students belong to us, and we are here for them," he noted with conviction.

He also stressed upon regular monitoring of students' notebooks and academic progress, ensuring that the bond between teacher and pupil becomes one of trust, discipline, and inspiration.

In conclusion, the CEO called upon all educators to use the platform of "Morning Assemblies" as a beacon of knowledge, values, and social awareness, in alignment with the SEWA PARV calendar, to create responsible citizens and compassionate human beings. CEO Ganderbal was accompanied by "ZEO Ganderbal" Mr. Mohammad Hussain the visit of schools of Gutlibagh Cluster.

MBU drive: UIDAI R.O Chandigarh organizes mega camp held at Hajin Bandipora

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, SEP 26: Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Regional Office Chandigarh, in collaboration with the Directorate of Samagra Shiksha, School Education Department, Jammu and Kashmir, has launched a large-scale Mandatory Biometric Update (MBU) drive across the Union Territory, covering both Government and Private Schools.

As part of this initiative, a mega Aadhaar MBU camp was successfully organized at the ZEO Office Hajin, Bandipora under the supervision of Chief Education Officer (CEO) Bandipora, Altaf Hussain Tara, accompanied by ZEO Hajin, DNO Aadhaar SAMAGRA, ZNOs and Aadhaar heads.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of students,

parents, and school authorities, ensuring smooth biometric updates without disrupting academic schedules. The effort has significantly enhanced outreach in rural areas.

Currently in its first phase, the MBU drive has established biometric update camps across 1,800 schools in J&K. The focus remains on children in the age groups of 0-5 years and 15-17 years, which are crucial for Aadhaar biometric updates. The exercise ensures accuracy in Aadhaar records, reducing errors related to names, dates of birth, and biometrics.

Accurate Aadhaar details play a vital role in enabling students to appear for competitive examinations such as JEE, NEET, UPSC, and other national-level tests, where Aadhaar-based verification is mandatory. Updated records also facilitate seamless



access to scholarships, welfare schemes, higher education admissions, and services like passport issuance.

Officials from the Regional Office Chandigarh reiterated that Aadhaar is not just an identity document but an enabler of opportunities. Timely biometric updates safeguard students from potential hurdles in their educational and professional journey. The mission is being implemented in close coordination with state education departments, school authorities, and Aadhaar ecosystem partners, extending even to remote and hilly terrains.

The drive will continue with the same momentum in the coming days, expanding across more schools in J&K, with the aim of reaching every eligible child and ensuring updated Aadhaar records.

KVIC Organizes Series of Events Under Sewa Parv 2025 at PMTC Pampore

■ Farooq Rather

PAMPORE, SEP 26: As part of the ongoing nationwide celebrations of Sewa Parv 2025, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) organized a series of impactful programmes on Friday at its training centre, PMTC KVIC Pampore.

The event commenced with a welcome address by Shri Anil Kumar Sharma, Principal of PMTC KVIC Pampore, who greeted the dignitaries, guests, and participants.

A plantation drive was conducted in collaboration with the Forest Department, where a large number of saplings were planted across the PMTC campus. The initiative was aimed at promoting environmental awareness and green practices. Among the prominent participants were Shri Rajesh Kumar, State Director KVIC J&K; Shri Anil Kumar Sharma; officials from the Forest Department; school children; and PMTC staff.

In alignment with the nationwide cleanliness campaign "Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath," a cleanliness drive was jointly organized by PMTC Pampore and the Municipal Committee



Pampore, encouraging community participation and public awareness for a cleaner environment.

The day also featured a drawing competition in which school students showcased their artistic talent. Winners were felicitated with trophies in recognition of their creativity and efforts.

A yoga session was also held, witnessing enthusiastic participation from students, KVIC employees, and Forest Department officials, underlining the importance of physical and mental well-being.

Additionally, a debate competition was organized, where school children actively spoke on various social and cultural topics, highlighting the

spirit of Sewa and civic engagement.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Anil Kumar Sharma, who expressed his gratitude to all participants, collaborators, and volunteers for making the events a grand success.

It is pertinent to mention that the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, is celebrating Sewa Parv 2025 from 17th September to 2nd October, as a nationwide festival of service, creativity, and cultural pride. Inspired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047, the initiative seeks to unite communities across the country in the spirit of selfless service and national development.

Students Step Up for Green Campus Drive in Doda under Sewa Parv

■ Amir Iqbal Khan

DODA, SEPT 26: The Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Doda, in collaboration with the 10 J&K Battalion NCC Bhaderwah, held a Green Campus Initiative under Sewa Parv 2025 to promote cleanliness and environmental awareness. Junior Division NCC cadets and students actively joined Shramdaan by cleaning the school premises and taking a pledge for a Cleaner and Greener India. The pledge was administered by Associate NCC Officer Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Koul and senior faculty member Mr. Hoshiyar Singh.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Koul said, "Nation-building begins with keeping our surroundings clean. Small efforts by each of us can lead to big change."

The initiative was part of the Swachhotsav celebrations



with the theme "Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath", highlighting collective citizen action for a sustainable environment. Students were also served refreshments after the drive.

Principal Dr. Rishi Kumar Manhas supervised the event and lauded the participants, saying, "Such programmes instill values of service, cleanliness and civic responsibility among youth."

The campaign showcased the spirit of Seva (service), Swachhta (cleanliness) and sustainable living, bringing students together for a Cleaner and a Greener India.

DR. YOUSUF TAK REPRESENTS J&K AT PRESTIGIOUS CONFERENCE ON PAIN MANAGEMENT & BOTOX THERAPY

■ Mushfaq ul Islam

NEW DELHI, SEP 26: Dr. Yousuf Tak, Senior Consultant with the Jammu & Kashmir Health Department, proudly represented the Union Territory at a high-profile National Conference on Pain Management and Botox Therapy held in the national capital. The event brought together leading experts,

researchers, and clinicians from across India and abroad, making it one of the most significant platforms for medical advancement in this specialized field.

Dr. Tak's active participation and notable contributions during the conference were met with widespread appreciation from both national and international faculty. His work in advancing pain care in

Jammu & Kashmir was especially recognized, highlighting his dedication to improving the quality of life for patients dealing with chronic pain conditions.

The conference showcased the latest breakthroughs in pain management techniques and the expanding role of Botox therapy in treating a wide range of medical conditions. With rich discussions,

hands-on workshops, and knowledge-sharing sessions, the event served as a vital hub for innovation and clinical excellence.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tak expressed his commitment to bringing the latest evidence-based practices to the region. "The insights gained here will be immensely beneficial in enhancing pain management services across

Jammu & Kashmir. We aim to integrate these advancements into our clinical protocols to ensure better outcomes for our patients," he said.

With professionals like Dr. Yousuf Tak leading the way, Jammu & Kashmir continues to make strides in healthcare delivery, ensuring that its residents have access to cutting-edge medical care aligned with global standards.

HT EDITORIAL

Reopening of tourist places rekindles hopes for revival of tourism

In a significant development Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday announced the reopening of 12 tourist destinations across Jammu and Kashmir, which had been closed as a precautionary measure after the Baisaran-Pahalgam terror attack. The decision was taken after a detailed security review meeting chaired by the Lieutenant Governor. The people as a whole, especially those involved with the tourism trade have welcomed the move.

The reopening of the tourist spots will take effect from Monday, September 29. Among the locations in Kashmir Division set to reopen are Aru Valley, Rafting Point Yanner, Akkad Park, Padshahi Park, and Kaman Post. In the Jammu Division, tourist sites including Dagan Top, Ramban, Dhaggar in Kathua, Shiv Cave in Salal and Reasi will resume operations from the same date. It would be in place to mention here that around 50 tourist destinations across the union territory were closed following the Baisaran-Pahalgam terrorist attack.

While some were reopened some time back 12 more tourist destinations are going to reopen from coming Monday. The LG office has emphasized that the decision to reopen these sites is part of ongoing efforts to balance security considerations with the revival of tourism in the union territory. The authorities have urged the people intending to visit the tourist destinations to adhere to standard safety protocols during their visit. The move is expected to provide a boost to the local tourism sector, which has faced temporary disruptions due to security measures.

The tourist season was badly hit following the terror attack that took place on April 22 this year. The reopening of the tourist destinations is expected to give a fillip to the tourism sector and one can hope that tourists in good numbers would come and visit the tourist destinations that are open for the people now. As the autumn season is set to start in Kashmir one can hope and pray that the situation remains normal and there are no more setbacks for the tourism sector.

Once the arrival of tourists picks up in the autumn season it can be expected that the upcoming winter season would be a hit as far as the tourism sector is concerned. But for the same it is important that there is good snowfall in the Kashmir valley especially at those places that attract the tourists. One can hope that Mother Nature would be merciful and the upcoming winter season would witness a bountiful of snow.

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The Wounds we don't see



■ Faheem Ul Islam

In every home, children watch, listen, and absorb far more than we often realize. Their eyes follow the subtle tensions, their ears pick up the raised voices, and their hearts register the silence that follows. When parents fall into continuous conflict, the home — which should be a sanctuary — becomes a battlefield. The arguments, the blame, the long stretches of cold distance: all of these leave behind scars that are rarely visible but deeply felt. This is what psychologists today call generational trauma. But even without academic terms, every society knows this truth: when parents remain in conflict, it is the children who silently pay the price.

I have often met young people who carry these invisible burdens. They tell stories not of physical abuse or neglect, but of the atmosphere of unrest that shaped their childhoods. One young man once shared that he still feels anxious whenever he hears the sound of doors shutting hard, because it reminds him of nights when his parents' arguments ended in slammed doors. Another admitted she had trouble trusting relationships, because she had grown up seeing love turn into hostility inside her own home. Their words reflect what research has long confirmed — children raised in high-conflict families absorb stress as if it were their own, and carry it into adulthood.

Conflict between parents is not unusual. Disagreements are natural in any relationship, and children can even learn resilience when they see their parents disagree respectfully. The problem arises when conflict becomes chronic, unresolved, and hostile. A home filled with bitterness becomes a place of constant tension. For children, this tension seeps into their developing sense of self. They may grow anxious, constantly waiting for the "next fight." They may blame themselves, believing that somehow their existence is the reason their parents are unhappy. In extreme cases, they may even begin to replicate the same patterns later in their own adult lives — repeating the cycle of conflict that once wounded them.

The effects show up in different ways. Some children become quiet and withdrawn, living as shadows in their own homes. Others react with anger and rebellion, trying to push back against the chaos they cannot control. School teachers often notice such signs — a child who cannot focus, another who picks fights with classmates, another who is always restless and tired. These are not "bad children." They are children whose inner world has been disturbed by the instability of their environment.

It is easy to dismiss these experiences as "part of growing up," but research from around the world, as well as voices within our own society, remind us that the damage is profound. Continuous paren-

Conflict between parents is not unusual. Disagreements are natural in any relationship, and children can even learn resilience when they see their parents disagree respectfully. The problem arises when conflict becomes chronic, unresolved, and hostile.

A home filled with bitterness becomes a place of constant tension. For children, this tension seeps into their developing sense of self. They may grow anxious, constantly waiting for the "next fight."

tal conflict elevates stress hormones in children, weakens their emotional regulation, and increases the risk of anxiety, depression, and even physical health problems later in life. We are talking about wounds that last long beyond childhood — wounds that shape how a person loves, trusts, and relates to others in adulthood.

But beyond research, there is a moral and human responsibility. Parents may not always realize that their unresolved conflicts are silently scripting their children's future. A child who grows up in hostility often struggles to believe in peace. A child who sees love broken may struggle to build love themselves. This is how trauma passes from one generation to the next — not through blood, but through behavior, silence, and unresolved pain.

Does this mean parents must never argue? Certainly not. Conflict is part of human life. What matters is how parents argue, and more importantly, how they resolve. Children who witness disagreements handled with respect — where voices are calm, compromises are made, and apologies are offered — actually learn valuable lessons about relationships. The harm begins when argu-

ments become cruel, repetitive, and unresolved, creating a constant climate of fear.

I often think about how little we, as a society, talk about this. We speak at length about education, careers, and opportunities for youth, but we rarely pause to ask: what kind of homes are they growing up in? Are these homes nourishing their spirit, or quietly wounding it? Our silence on this matter allows the cycle to continue unchecked.

Breaking this cycle requires courage. It means parents must recognize that unresolved conflict is not a private matter; it spills over into the lives of their children. Seeking help — whether through counseling, spiritual guidance, or simply honest conversation — is not a weakness but a strength. It is a commitment to ending a legacy of pain. And for those who have already grown up in such environments, healing is possible. Awareness is the first step; seeking healthy relationships, therapy, and supportive communities can slowly untangle the knots left by childhood experiences.

Society too has a role to play. Schools can create safe spaces where children from difficult homes feel seen and supported. Communities can encourage open conversations about family well-being, breaking the stigma around counseling. Religious and cultural leaders, who hold deep influence in our society, can remind parents that nurturing peace at home is as important as any public duty.

At the heart of it all is a simple truth: children deserve safe and loving homes. They should not have to walk on eggshells, waiting for the next explosion of anger. They should not have to grow up faster than their years, playing the role of mediator or caretaker when their parents fail to resolve their issues. Childhood is meant to be a time of growth, learning, and security. When we deny that, we are not just harming individuals; we are weakening the very fabric of our society.

Generational trauma is not destiny. It is a cycle, yes, but cycles can be broken. The first step is awareness, the next is responsibility, and the final is action. Every parent has the power to choose: to pass down either the weight of unresolved conflict or the gift of peace and stability.

As I reflect on the stories I have heard, I am reminded of a line often shared in our culture: "Children are not only our future, they are also the mirrors of our present." What we give them today, they will carry into tomorrow. If we want a generation that is compassionate, resilient, and at peace, then we must first ensure that their earliest world — the home — is a place of compassion, resilience, and peace.

The arguments between parents may fade from memory, but their echoes remain in the hearts of children for a lifetime. Let us not allow those echoes to become shackles. Let us instead teach our children, through our actions, that even in disagreement, love and respect can survive. Only then can we hope to raise a generation that heals rather than hurts, that builds rather than breaks.

The author from Achan Pulwama, is an author and public speaker with a master's in International Politics from AMU. He can be reached at faheemulislam9@gmail.com.

Mathematics Needs Patience of the Learner

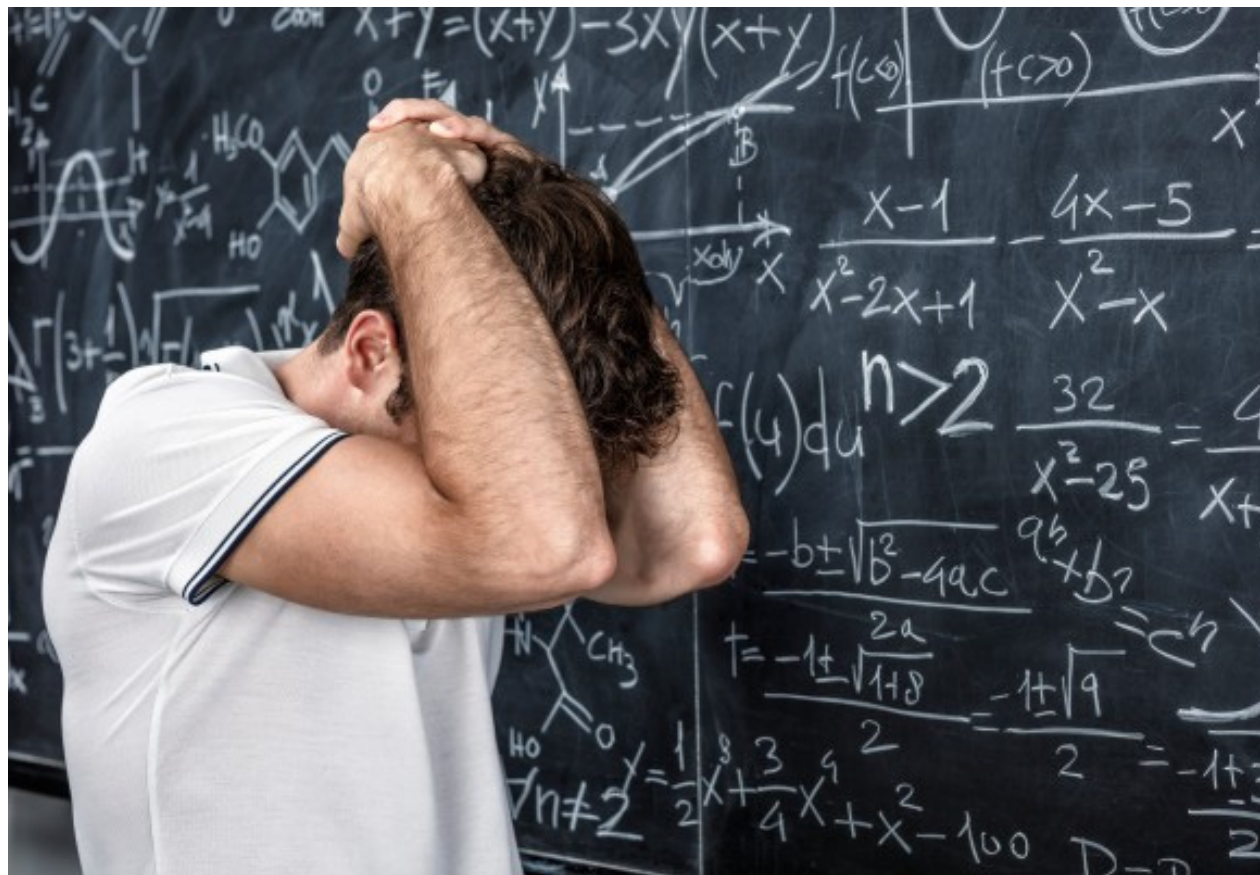


■ Sahil Manzoor

Most of us are afraid of mathematics. Yet, it is rightly considered the father of all subjects. Only a few students find joy in solving mathematical problems, equations, and operations, while the majority struggle because mathematics requires complete focus and patience. A learner who engages deeply in the subject will never develop a phobia of mathematics in the future.

Mathematics is not confined to textbooks; it is part of our daily lives. We use it while purchasing household commodities, measuring the size of windows, calculating the area of land or a house, and in countless other ways. Its influence on our everyday activities is undeniable. That is why we must learn it with dedication, as it builds our confidence and equips us for the future.

Knowledge of mathematics, like any other subject, boosts our self-esteem and helps us adapt to a changing world. We learn and update ourselves every day through reading newspapers, accessing the internet, and discussing issues with others. No one is superior or inferior; the Almighty has blessed each of us with unique abilities. We should remain thankful for what we have, never feel inferior, and always strive for the betterment of family, neighbors, relatives, and



society at large.

Every student dreams big: some aspire to be the world's richest person, others aim to become renowned doctors, engineers, pilots, teachers, or entrepreneurs. However, only those who pursue their goals with hard work, perseverance, and dedication transform dreams into reality. Almighty God has blessed us with a powerful mind—capable of making the impossible possible, capable of revolutionizing the world through creative ideas

and effective action. Never suppress your opinions; uplift yourself and remember that "impossible" itself says, I'm possible.

To succeed in mathematics, students must master the basics: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, place value, face value, and the BODMAS rule (brackets, of, division, multiplication, addition, and subtraction). Mastery takes time—days, weeks, or months—but it is achievable with consistent interest and confidence.

Remember: rest is rust. Engage your mind in problem-solving, think critically, and enjoy the learning process.

The government is rightly focused on improving the education sector, as it determines the nation's future. As learners, we must do our part. Never feel discouraged. Always remind yourself: I can do it. I have potential. I can change the world. I will bring positive and effective changes to society.

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White light weaving a shroud on the road

The Untold Story of Road Accidents – The Truth About White Headlights



■ Dr. Satyavan Saurabh

Bright white headlights at night dazzle not only the eyes but also life itself. Every year, thousands of people die in accidents due to this. This is not just a personal tragedy, but a shattered life for entire families. The solution is simple – install yellow headlights, avoid bright white lights, the government should make rules, and the general public should be aware. The message of the Janjan Gupta campaign is clear: “We want yellow friendship, not white glare!” May the roads be safe, families be saved, and night travel be fear-free.

Night travel is always challenging. Darkness, fog, rain—all these factors increase road risks. But today, a new and unseen danger is spreading on our roads—the bright white headlights of vehicles. This glare not only hurts the eyes but also often causes road accidents.

Every year, nearly 150,000 people die in road accidents in India, and millions are injured. The vast majority of these accidents occur at night. Road safety experts believe that the bright glare of white headlights plays a major role in these accidents. This isn't just a technical issue. It causes the breakdown of families, the helplessness of children, and the anguish of parents.

White headlights are much brighter than traditional yellow headlights. Human eyes are sensitive to blue-white light. When this bright light comes from directly ahead, both drivers and pedestrians are blinded for a few seconds. In that instant, accidents occur. Bike riders fall, truck or bus drivers lose control, and pedestrians are trapped in life-and-death situations. The elderly and children are most affected, as their eyes are already sensitive.

A road accident isn't just a personal tragedy. It changes the lives of entire families. Children are separated from



their parents, and parents lose their children. Many families are left incomplete forever. The economic impact of accidents is also significant. India loses approximately three percent of its GDP every year due to road accidents. This isn't just a personal loss; it also poses a serious threat to the country's economy.

Many developed countries around the world have already recognized this problem. Europe, Japan, the United States, and Australia have strict regulations on the brightness and color of headlights. Yellow headlights are preferred there. This is not only safer for the eyes, but also makes the road clearer in rain and fog. In India, regulations exist, but enforcement is lax. Vehicle manufacturers install bright headlights on vehicles, and the public is often unaware of this danger.

The factors contributing to the problem in India are rampant after-market

fittings, meaning people blindly install LED headlights; lack of enforcement of laws and disregard for road safety; and lack of awareness, where most people are unaware that their white headlights can be a danger to others.

The solution to this problem is not difficult. The government, vehicle manufacturers, and the public need to work together. The government must set clear standards for headlight brightness and color temperature. White headlights with color temperatures higher than 4300K should be banned. The Road Transport Department must conduct regular inspections and take strict action. Vehicle manufacturers should install safe, yellow headlights by default, prioritizing safety over brightness.

Additionally, awareness campaigns are crucial. Campaigns like Janjan Gupta's should be expanded nationally. Messages like “Use Yellow Headlights - Save Lives” should be widely shared on TV,

radio, and social media. People should take the initiative, make their vehicle headlights safer, and raise awareness among their family and friends.

The message of the Jan Jan Gupta campaign is simple and powerful – “We want yellow friendship, not white glitter.” This isn't just a slogan, it's a movement. If we all embrace it together, roads will be safer, families will be more protected from accidents, and night travel will be free of fear.

Road safety isn't just about following the rules; it's about protecting human life. Even something as small as a white headlight can cause massive death and suffering. Every accident is a tragedy not just for one person, but for the entire society.

This problem has now become serious in India. Every day, accidents occur on the roads due to bright white lights. Many of these accidents are fatal. The elderly, children, and pedestrians are the most

vulnerable. The bright white light does not give them time to make decisions, and accidents become inevitable. The lives of many families are forever changed because of this.

A road accident is not just a road accident; it is a social tragedy. Children are separated from their parents, and parents from their children. Many families are never truly happy again. Furthermore, accidents result in significant medical and recovery costs, impacting both families and society.

Many countries around the world have already taken action. Yellow headlights are preferred in Europe, Japan, and the United States. Bright white headlights are banned. India has regulations, but enforcement is weak. Automakers promote bright headlights for fashion or marketing purposes, and people are unaware.

The solution is simple. The government should enact regulations and enforce them. Vehicle manufacturers should install safer, yellow headlights. The public should take action and raise awareness. Campaigns like Janjan Gupta can play a vital role in this direction.

Road safety isn't just about following the rules; it's about protecting lives. Something as simple as white headlights can endanger lives. A moment of bright light can cause eternal darkness for many families. If we all work together to spread awareness and adopt safer headlights, roads will be safer, families will be saved from accidents, and night travel will be free of fear.

Today is the time for us all to speak out, urge the government to tighten regulations, for vehicle manufacturers to understand their responsibility, and for ordinary people to become aware and bring about change. If a moment of light can transform life into darkness, why not transform that moment into the light of life and safety? Roads should be safe, families protected from accidents, and night travel free from fear – this should be our goal.

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Green Gold in Balanced Development is Bamboo



■ Vijay Garg

India is the second big bamboo producing country after China. But China is still far ahead of us in terms of export. He exports most of bamboo in countries like India, Vietnam, Germany, Netherlands and Turkey. In one round British rule had imposed restrictive conditions on its cultivation and harvesting keeping bamboo under the category of a plant. Bamboo polygamy has never been noticed due to these repressive rules for decades. Bamboo to be established as farming, it reclassified bamboo in India in the year 2017 in view of its importance in strengthening the nation's economy and its importance in environmental protection. Its great advantage this happened across the bamboo got liberated from restrictive rules. The farmers easily started getting permission to harvest and transport it. States like Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh took the initiative towards making bamboo different kinds of items while taking advantage of it and their export prospects from the country also increased rapidly. Bamboo cultivation is very useful. This does not only cause the treatment of waste water, but also the air is pure and soil erosion is also less. Bamboo is a fast growing plant. It helps in absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. It can be called higher yielding grass at low cost. It can be grown in dry areas along with forests. According to experts, Bamboo usually gets ready for harvesting in three to four years. Once applied it can yield for forty-fifty years. After harvesting it starts to grow again. It has also been used in Ayurvedic medicine and natural medicines. Bamboo powder is used for diseases like cough and asthma. Its juice in Ayurveda is used to reduce fever and heat. Bamboo is growing from useful in building cups, plates, toothbrushes, combs and dustbins etc. across the globe. has been. Bamboo fibres keep the skin safe and comfy by absorbing moisture as they are naturally antibacterial. So it is also being used in textile industry. It comes handy in making balli, ladders, baskets and



mat etc., the furniture made from it is also market in diverse forms. Its cultivation is proving effective in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh with the growing use of bamboo in making the same of other furnaces, including toys, agricultural implements and paper making. Country-Bamboo abroad is also started to be used to prepare organic fuels. Charcoal manufactured from bamboo is being used in water and air purification machines, medicines and cosmetics. Incentives are being given on behalf of the government to promote bamboo products under the National Bamboo Mission. The Maharashtra government has initiated a grant of up to seven lakh rupees per hectare to farmers to encourage bamboo cultivation under MGNREGA. Bamboo with a view to environmental protection with sustainable development can prove green gold for India

in the future. Right now, bamboo cultivation takes place at a large level in the areas of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and South.

For the spread of its cultivation in the country, the central government in the year 2017 amended the Indian Forest Act 1927 and classified bamboo into the category of grass by removing it from the category of trees. There are about 136 species of bamboo that can grow even under odd conditions, but its commercial use is limited in India now due to its not being aware of its multi varieties. Despite growing on large land area, we are not getting the benefit of its export. While bamboo is such a plant, every single part of which can be used separately for different functions. In this regard with training it can play a palpable role in income growth of farmers from Jagru type. In comparison,

bamboo plant scientific research suggests that thirty-three percent of other plants absorb more carbon dioxide and provide thirty-five percent more oxygen. Year in China He gained momentum in the efforts of bamboo cultivation in the year 1980s and has been from it today. There are fifty lakh hectares of land taking the most economic advantage of bamboo cultivation on the Lagad hectare area, while the absence of awareness by taking its diversity and utility despite the cultivation of one crore bamboo in India and due to difficulties in marketing, we are not getting its reasonably economic advantage. It's a great pleasure to have you. While effective efforts have taken place in Maharashtra over bamboo yields since the government has notified bamboo as hay. This leads to a large number of farmers' trend towards bamboo cultivation. There have also been efforts towards beautification of hotel industry and other industries from bamboo. Similar efforts if there are in other states too, then in future its positive results can come out. Heat and humid climate are suitable for bamboo cultivation. The production of several varieties of bamboo under the National Bamboo Mission with incentives across the country if bamboo production training under the spread education of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Agricultural Universities held at a macro level, bamboo can also contribute significantly to the economic empowerment of farmers. There has been a lot of work on planting bamboo on the pasture land and variety in bamboo production in Piplantri village in Rajsamand district of Rajasthan. This is a village in Rajasthan where many varieties of bamboo are grown together. There have also been innovative experiments in bamboo farming. Instead of plastic bamboo eco friendly products if it is promoted to grow on barren and pasture land, its very good results can be found in future. Bamboo farming with economic benefits for farmers is also very important in terms of environmental protection. Need to create environment for use of bamboo in rural livelihood creation. Bamboo cultivation on the lines of China and linking industries associated with it to eco environment conservation, bamboo cultivation is important for us to restore barren land available at large, tackle erosion and desert and improve the income of rural communities.

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

Vitamin B3 May Help With Skin Cancer Prevention, Researchers Say

Healthline

A common vitamin supplement could play an even bigger role in skin cancer prevention than we once thought.

A new study published on September 17 in JAMA Dermatology Trusted Source examined more than 33,000 U.S. veterans and found that people who took nicotinamide (a derivative of vitamin B3) had fewer cases of non-melanoma skin cancers than those who didn't.

The researchers reported a 14% overall reduction in future skin cancers, including basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma. Meanwhile, the biggest benefit was seen in people who started taking nicotinamide after their first skin cancer diagnosis. Their risk of developing another dropped by more than half.

While the protective effect wasn't as strong in people who began taking nicotinamide after multiple cancers, the findings add weight to growing evidence that this low-cost and widely available supplement may be a helpful tool in skin cancer prevention.

A clinical study Trusted Source published in 2015 with 386 participants showed that those who took the vitamin B3 derivative developed fewer new occurrences.

This larger study validates those earlier findings by examining real-world data from tens of thousands of patients, offer-

ing stronger evidence of nicotinamide's protective effect against skin cancer.

Hannah Kopelman, MD, dermatologist at Kopelman Aesthetic Surgery, told Healthline this research is "confirmatory evidence" that nicotinamide can reduce future keratinocyte skin cancers, especially squamous cell carcinoma, when started soon after a first cancer.

"This study builds on earlier randomized trials and makes me more comfortable recommending it to the right patients in my own practice," she said.

Kopelman explained why nicotinamide appears to have a protective mechanism when it comes to skin cancer.

"Nicotinamide replenishes energy stores in the skin cells so they can repair DNA damage from UV exposure more efficiently," she said.

"It also helps preserve local immune surveillance in the skin, which UV light can suppress," she added.

"Together, these effects mean fewer UV-damaged cells are able to survive, accumulate mutations, and progress into skin cancers."

Anna Andrienko, a dermatologist and aesthetic doctor at Dr. Ducu Clinics, said nicotinamide is a precursor to NAD+, a cellular cofactor that's involved in DNA repair and cellular energy metabolism.

"UV radiation causes DNA damage and depletes cellular NAD+ and ATP re-

serves, but nicotinamide helps restore these energy stores and boosts the efficiency of DNA repair processes in UV-damaged skin cells," she explained.

"It also has anti-inflammatory effects, which can reduce the pro-tumour environment created by chronic UV injury."

Together, Andrienko said these actions make nicotinamide "biologically plausible as a chemopreventive agent for UV-related skin cancers."

While the new study's findings show promise for the protective effects of nicotinamide against certain types of skin cancer, there are a few important caveats. "This was a retrospective study, Kopelman noted. "This means there are confounding factors we can't completely control, like sun habits, adherence, and the intensity of dermatology follow-up."

"The population was also older and mostly male, which limits how widely we can apply the findings. And in certain groups, like solid-organ transplant patients, the benefit was not as clear," she added.

Andrienko said the exposure measurement in this study relied on prescriptions and records rather than direct adherence monitoring, and the timing of when nicotinamide was started relative to UV exposure varies. "These limitations mean the results should be interpreted as strong, suggestive evidence rather than definitive proof," she explained.

Vitamin B3 should be viewed as an adjunct, not a replacement, for sunscreen and sun-protective behavior, Andrienko said. "Sunscreen, protective clothing, and regular skin checks address the root exposure to UV and early detection, and they remain the cornerstone of prevention," she explained.

"Nicotinamide may add an internal layer of protection by improving DNA repair and reducing inflammation, which is valuable especially for people at higher risk or with prior skin cancers." Andrienko advised thinking of nicotinamide as a complementary tool to use alongside, not instead of, the established measures.

As for nicotinamide's effectiveness, Kopelman said it depends on the patient's individual risk factors and health status.

"In people who are immunocompetent and high risk, particularly those who have already had a skin cancer, I do think nicotinamide can make a real difference if taken consistently at the studied dose of 500 milligrams twice daily," she said.

"The key is that patients need to actually take it regularly and continue all the other preventive strategies."

"In immunosuppressed patients, like transplant recipients, the evidence is more mixed, and I'm more cautious in how I present its potential benefits," she added.

Nicotinamide is a promising adjunctive preventive option, but following

proven skin cancer prevention habits is key. "My first-line recommendations are always daily broad-spectrum sunscreen, protective clothing like hats and UPF-rated shirts, and avoiding peak sun hours," said Kopelman.

Andrienko agreed. "Use SPF 30 or higher daily, apply it generously, and reapply it every two hours when outdoors," she advised. "During peak hours, make sure you're wearing sun-protective clothing, like wide-brimmed hats and UV-blocking sunglasses. You'll also want to avoid intentional tanning and limit your time in direct sunlight," she added.

Checking for signs of skin damage is one of the most proactive skin cancer prevention habits you can complete.

Andrienko recommends performing regular self-checks of your skin and seeing a dermatologist promptly if you notice any new, changing, or symptomatic spots. "Early detection matters," she said.

For those with a history of skin cancer, Andrienko recommended talking with your doctor to go over any current risks, medications, and individual factors. A healthcare professional can help determine whether 500 mg of nicotinamide twice daily is right for you.

While nicotinamide shows promise, sunscreen, protective clothing, and regular skin checks remain the best strategies for preventing skin cancer.

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Health screening, awareness camps organised in Doda

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

DODA, SEP 26: On the 10th day of the ongoing ‘‘Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar’’ campaign, the Health Department Doda, under the guidance of Chief Medical Officer Dr. Om Kumar organized a series of health screening-cum-awareness camps in different parts of the district.

The objective of the initiative was to provide quality healthcare services to people in far-flung and underserved areas, with a special focus on women’s health, maternal and child care, preventive healthcare, and community awareness.

At the camps, services like ANC check-ups, general health examinations, NCD and Hb screenings were provided. Awareness sessions on health, hygiene, and menstrual hygiene were also conducted, along with distribution of free of cost medicines among the beneficiaries.

Public Notice

My name & date of Birth has been wrongly written as MOHAMAD YASEEN & DOB 20/08/1976 in my passport bearing passport no L 7206714 while my correct name is MOHAMMAD YASEEN KIRMANI & DOB 01/01/1976 as per Aadhar record which needs to be corrected. If anyone having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of PASSPORT OFFICE SRINAGAR within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name..... MOHAMMAD YASEEN KIRMANI
DOB ...01/01/1976

Public Notice

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my Son’s name PARVAIZ AHMAD SIRAJ S/O MANZOOR AHMAD SIRAJ R/O WATERGAM .Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 021204040000862 wants to be registered on my name MANZOOR AHMAD SIRAJ F/O PARVAIZ AHMAD SIRAJ R/O WATERGAM .If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication ofthis notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name...MANZOOR AHMAD
F/O .PARVAIZ AHMAD SIRAJ
R/O ...WATERGAM WAGOORA

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of PEER ISHTYAK AHMAD S/O PEER SHAMAS UD DIN R/O THINDIMA 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 LT MUNEEERA AKHTER W /O PEER SHAMUS UD DIN has passed away on 06/06/2025 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below
1.... , PEER ISHTIYAK AHMAD son 35 Govt employee
2.... , PEER SUHAIL AHMAD SON 35 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

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of PEER ISHTYAK AHMAD S/O PEER SHAMAS UD DIN R/O THINDIMA KREERI for the issuance of LEGAL HEIR certificate

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2.... , PEER SUHAIL AHMAD SON 35 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

Public Notice

I have lost my daughters school discharge certificate at somewhere bearing admission no 1284 Now i am applying for its duplicate if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his /her objection in the office of GOVT BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BAGHI DED MARI SRINAGAR within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name.... RIYAZ AHMAD RATHER
F/O AYAT RIYAZ
R/O ..SHUNGLIPORA
CLASS ...3RD

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 NELOFAR JAN D/O MOHD DILAWAR KHAN R/O SALOOSA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 17/03/1994 and event has been shown to be occurred at home for issuance of delay order .In this connection.

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

Public Notice

I am applying for fresh seeds and fertilizers license under the name of M/S KOHINOOR seeds /Fertilizers situated at AGLAR PATTAN BARAMULLA if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his/her objection in the office of CHIEF AGRICULTURE OFFICER BARAMULLA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will entertained

Name.... SALEEM JAN
S/O ABDUL RAHMAN BHAT
Contact8825055816

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 MEHMOODA BEGUM S/O AB GANI TRUMBOO R/O KREERI Tehsil kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 04/05/1960 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

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my father’s name GH AHMAD WANI S/O AB AZIZ WANI R/O TILAGAM Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0213040000215 wantsto be registered on name HILAL AHMAD WANI S/O GH AHMAD WANI R/O TILAGAM .If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication ofthis notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name....HILAL AHMAD WANI
S/O GH AHMAD WANI
R/O TILAGAM PATTAN

Public Notice

My daughters name has been wrongly written as FARHAT SHOWAT D/O SHOWAAT AHMAD MALIK in her date of Birth certificate while her correct name is FARHAT SHOWKET D/O SHOWKET AHMAD MALIK R/O WAGILLA which needs to be corrected .If anybody having any objection in this regard he/ she may file his /her objection in the office of TEHSILDAR Wagoora/BDO Wagoora Within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name... SHOWKET AHMAD MALIK
F/O FARHAT SHOWKET
R/O WAGILLA , ZONE ...WAGOORA

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kalantra / Kreeri

Subject: Application of SADDAM HUSSAIN DEADER S/O GH QADIR DEADER for the issuance of ST (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar and Bakerwal Jin favour of SELF & ASMAT BANO D/O GH QADIR DEADER R/O BANDI BALLA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above, the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of ST . in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in village BANDI BALLA and belongs to the GOJRI DEADER caste and Gojer community, having annual income is 138000 in wards (One lack Thirty Eight Thousand)the details of the family of the applicant are as follows

- 1... SADDAM HUSSAIN SELF 30 Labour
- 2.... NASEEMA BEGUM wife 26 house wife
- 3....RABIYA SADDAM Daughter 07 years student
- 4...BURHAN SADDAM Son 06 years //
- 5...ASHIQ HUSSAIN Bro 22 years Labour
- 6...DILSHADA sister 20 years H/W
- 7...ASMAT BANO // 17 years //
- 8... NARGIS BANO 17 years //
- 9...SARWAH JAN Mother 50 years H/W

The applicant has applied for Issuance of ST (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar & Bakerwal) 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



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Ref. No.: KPA/111/09/25

Dated: 26-09-2025

کشمیر پرنٹرز ایسوسی ایشن کے صدارتی ایوارڈ 2025 کی تقریب منعقد

کشمیر پرنٹرز ایسوسی ایشن کے صدارتی ایوارڈ 2025 کی تقریب منعقد

سرنگار 25 ستمبر / کشمیر پرنٹرز ایسوسی ایشن کی جانب سے آج یہاں "صدارتی ایوارڈ 2025" کی برحق تقریب منعقد ہوئی جس میں معزز مہمان خصوصی ڈاکٹر ظہور احمد، جوائنٹ ڈائریکٹر انٹرنیٹ برائیز کامرس کشمیر شریک ہوئے۔ تقریب میں معزز مہمانان ڈی وقار میں محترمہ جی، جنرل نیجر ڈی آئی سی، مسز سمیرا احمد بیگ، ڈپٹی کمشنر سیلنگس، محترمہ منیلوفر، لیڈ ڈسٹرکٹ منیجر سہیو کے بیڈ کے بینک، محترمہ عصمت آرا، ایکسپر ہیڈ۔ اے ایڈ کے بینک اور مسٹر شارق مہراج بکسٹر ہیڈ۔ اے ایڈ کے بینک کے علاوہ دیگر معزز مہمان ایسوسی ایشن نے شرکت کی۔

تقریب کے آغاز پر ایسوسی ایشن کے صدر سمیرا احمد نے مہمانوں اور شرکاء کا پر تپاک استقبال کیا اور پرنٹرز کی زندگی کو درپیش مسائل پر روشنی ڈالی۔ اپنے خطاب میں انہوں نے کہا کہ کشمیر پرنٹرز ایسوسی ایشن نے ہمیشہ اس صنعت کو زندہ رکھنے کے لیے مسلسل جدوجہد کی ہے اور مشکل حالات کے باوجود اس کو بھری نسل تک پہنچانے کے لیے کوشاں رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پرنٹنگ پریس محض کاروبار نہیں بلکہ ہمارے سماجی و معاشی ڈھانچے کا ایک لازمی جز ہے جس پر سیکٹور کے خاندانوں کا روزگار منحصر ہے۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ اس صنعت نے ماضی میں بڑے کھٹن دور دیکھے ہیں، 1980ء کی دہائی میں بدعاشی، طویل ہڑتاؤں اور کرپشن نے اس شعبے کو نقصان پہنچایا، بعد ازاں 2014ء کے چاہ کن سلاب نے مزید مشکلات پیدا کیں۔ تاہم تمام تر رکاوٹوں کے باوجود یہ صنعت آگے بڑھنے میں کامیاب رہی۔ صدر ایسوسی ایشن نے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ موجودہ وقت کا تقاضا ہے کہ اس شعبے کو جدید تقاضوں سے ہم آہنگ کیا جائے، نئی ٹیکنالوجی اپنائی جائے اور سرکاری وحی اداروں کے ساتھ تعاون بڑھایا جائے تاکہ پرنٹنگ انڈسٹری کو دوبارہ فعال و مستحکم بنایا جاسکے۔

تقریب کے دوران ایسوسی ایشن کی خدمات اور شعبے میں نمایاں کردار ادا کرنے والوں کو ایوارڈز سے نوازا گیا۔ چار پرنٹرز کو صدارتی ایوارڈ، پچیس کولائف ٹائم ایوارڈ اور دس کو عہدہ پداران ایوارڈ دیا گیا۔ اس موقع پر معزز مہمانوں نے بھی خطاب کیا اور ایسوسی ایشن کو درپیش مسائل کے حل کے لیے بھرپور تعاون کی یقین دہائی کرائی۔

آخر میں صدر ایسوسی ایشن نے تمام معزز مہمانوں اور ایوارڈ یافتگان کو مبارکباد پیش کی اور دعا کی کہ کشمیر پرنٹرز ایسوسی ایشن مستقبل میں بھی ترقی کی منازل طے کرتی رہے اور خطے کی معیشت اور سماج کو مستحکم بنانے میں اہم کردار ادا کرے۔

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION AWANTIPORA
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
NIT No: 66/EEA/R&B of 2025-26/4686-96 | Dated: 25-09-2025
For and on behalf of the L.T. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways sand other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor	Project Authority
1.	UDDDC2526100012- (CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE LANE FROM MAIN ROAD TO HOUSE OF ABUL QAYOUM GANIE VIA FROM HOUSE OF MOHAMMAD RAFIQ TO HOUSE OF MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL INCLUDING STEPS NEAR POWER TRANSFORMER AT KHAPATTI MOHALLA WARD NO 13 AT MC TRAL).	6.00	300/-	2% of Adv cost	25 days	UDS of District Capex Budget 2025-26	CEE, DEE	DDCP
2.	UDDDC2526100009-(Repairment of Drain from House of Ajaz Ahmad Sofi to House of Mohammad Shafi Khan at Tanchibagh Pampore near Darul-Uloom Lane No 2).	1.28	200	2% of Adv cost	20 days	UDS of District Capex Budget 2025-26	DEE	DDCP
3.	UDDDC2526100011-(REPAIRING TO THE STAIR CASE LOCATED AT LANE NO 1 GOUSIA MOHALLA TULBAGH PAMPORE FROM THE HOUSE OF HABIB ULLAH DAR TOWARDS GRIDIE STATION).	2.00	200	2% of Adv cost	20 days	UDS of District Capex Budget 2025-26	DEE	DDCP
4.	UDDDC2526100010- (IMPROVEMENT OF LANE DRAIN BY WAY OF PIPES AND TILES FROM HOUSE OF RIVAZ AHMAD MIR ABDUL GANI SHEIKH TO MOHD ASIF KHAN AND OTHERS AT MALIK MOHALLA DRANGBAL PAMPORE)	2.20	200	2% of Adv cost	20 days	UDS of District Capex Budget 2025-26	DEE	DDCP

Position Of AAA:-
Position of funds:
Accorded vide order No: 132-DDCP of 2025 Dated: 13.09.2025.
Committed

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q),Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	25-09-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	25-09-2025
3	Bid submission Start Date	26-09-2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	07-10-2025 4:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	08-10-2025 00 PM

1. Every participating contractor to mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder. (As perircular No. 01(ADM) FD of 2025 Dated 08-07-2025 of J&K Finance Department.)
(The participating contractor may disclose his Bank Account as per the format, devised as Annexure- A of the NIT and submit/upload the same accordingly at the time of submission of the bid).

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (Dated between bid submission start date and bid submission end date) with NIT No. , Serial No. and name of work to be deposited in M.H. 0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender inviting authority)

3. All the bidders must upload Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender receiving authority) (The Date of earnest money/Bid security should be between the Bid Submission start date and Bid submission End date, otherwise bids shall be rejected).

Sd/- Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora
DIPK: 6581/25 | Dated: 26-09-2025

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION GUREZ
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
(I&FC) E-NIT No. 46/2025-26/EE/R&B/Grz/5634-41/E-tendering | Dated: 25-09-2025

For and on behalf of the L.T. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-:

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Major Head of Account	Class of Contract or	Project Authority
1	Construction of lining wall and bed treatment from RD. 850 Mtr to 941 Mtr on Khakhar irrigation khul near Nayi Basti Khandiyal Gurez and other important allied works at spots	8.04	600 (indicate name of work with NIT serial no. on TR)	20 days	16080	District Capex	DEE/ CEE	District Development Commissioner
2	Providing and laying of flanged iron pipes from house of Ab Rahim Sheikh onwards phase 2 nd Buglinder	6.80	300 (indicate name of work with NIT serial no. on TR)	20 days	13600	PRI Grants	DEE/ CEE	District Development Commissioner
3	Construction of Malik Qadir-ul-Nizam khul by way of construction of cement concrete lining at spots (Balance work)	1.14	200 (indicate name of work with NIT serial no. on TR)	10 days	2820	UT Capex	DEE	I&FC Jal Shakti Department

Position of AAA:-
Position of TS:-
(Accorded)

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S. No.	Particulars	Dated	
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice.	25-09-2025	
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 26-09-2025 To 03-10-2025	(10:00 AM) (04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 26-09-2025 To 03-10-2025	(10:00 AM) (04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 04-10-2025	(10:00 AM)
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	In the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Gurez	

Sd/- Executive Engineer R&B Division Gurez
DIPK: 6579/25 | Dated: 26-09-2025



Dy. CM attends closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada celebrations at Akashwani Jammu

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 26: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary attended the closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada celebrations, a month long event dedicated to promoting Hindi in official communications, at Akashwani here today. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy CM emphasised on optimal use of Hindi in common masses besides increase of awareness for Hindi among employees also. He said that Hindi is third largest spoken language which shows the universal impact of this language.

Terming Hindi language as an ocean which has ingested many changes with time, the Deputy CM said that Hindi language has absorbed many words of different



languages which are now easily used and understood by the people.

Choudhary remarked that Hindi is the language that can unite the vast boundaries of India. "It has a great potential to remove

language barriers everywhere in the country," he said. During the event, the Deputy CM also participated in plantation drive "Ek Paudha Maa Ke Naam". He also distributed prizes to winners of



competition in various categories.

The nationwide Hindi Pakhwada celebrations celebrated from 02 September to 26 September 2025, showcased a variety of events like essay competitions, letter writing,

typing, general knowledge competitions, and inauspicious pronouns and translation competitions, which aimed at enhancing the understanding and use of Hindi among employees.

Kulgam Police Arrests Drug Peddler, Seizes Large Quantity of Contraband

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEP 26: In a major success in the fight against drug trafficking, Kulgam Police arrested a drug peddler and recovered a large quantity of contraband from his possession during a routine checkpoint operation. The arrest is part of the ongoing anti-drug drive launched by District Police Kulgam to curb the rising menace of narcotics in the region. According to police sources, a checkpoint (naka) was laid at New Bypass Furrah Crossing by a team led by In-Charge Police Post Mirbazar. During the operation, a suspicious vehicle — a Swift Dzire bearing registration number JK03D-9184 — was



intercepted. Upon thorough search, the police recovered 55.5 kilograms of poppy straw, concealed in four bags inside the vehicle. The driver, identified as Muzaffar Ahmad Bhat, son of Ghulam Nabi Bhat, resident of Doonipora Bijbehara, Sangam, Anantnag, was immediately arrested, and the vehicle used in the transportation of the contraband was seized. Subsequently, a case under FIR No. 191/2025 has been registered at Police Station Qazigund under Section 8/15 of the NDPS Act. An investigation is underway to trace the source and destination of the contraband, and to expose the broader network involved in the illegal trade.

Reaffirming its commitment to a zero-tolerance policy against drug trafficking, District Police Kulgam has urged the public to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the nearest police station.

Commenting on the development, SSP Kulgam Shri Sahil Sarangal (IPS) said: "The fight against drugs is not just a law enforcement issue, but a collective social responsibility. District Police Kulgam is fully committed to eliminating this menace and safeguarding our youth. We appeal to the public to come forward and support us in creating a drug-free and healthy society."

The arrest marks another milestone in Kulgam Police's sustained efforts to combat the drug problem and send a strong message to those involved in the illegal narcotics trade.

Sewa Parv-2025

Ramban Administration Promotes Health, Cleanliness & Sustainable Development

■ HT News Desk

RAMBAN, SEP 26: Continuing the celebration of Sewa Parv-2025 under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan, various departments and institutions across the district today carried out activities to promote environmental protection, cleanliness, sustainable development and social awareness.

The Health Department Ramban organized a series of specialized health camps under the 'Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan' with a special focus on women and children. One camp was held at NTPHC Senabati, while two others were conducted at AAM SC Noora Pogal and AAM SC Bassan. Services provided during these camps included NCD screening for hypertension, diabetes and cancers (oral, breast and cervical), ANC check-ups for pregnant women, screening for anaemia and tuberculo-



sis, child vaccinations, Nikshay Mitra enrolment, counselling sessions on menstrual hygiene, nutrition and other health programmes, as well as generation of AB-PMJAY and Vay Vandana Cards.

At Government Middle School Kassar, Block Sanasar, a plantation and cleanliness drive was organized with active participation from students, staff and officials. The Divisional Forest Office Batote conducted plant distribution at Gandhri Range, Bhatan, while the Agriculture Department Ramban held an awareness programme on organic farming and soil health management at Gool.

Simultaneously, cleanliness and garbage removal drives were carried out across Ukhral, Batote, Sangaldan, Rajgarh, Banihal, Gundi Dharam and Ramsoo blocks, mobilizing enthusiastic community participation.

The Animal Husbandry Department Ramban also organised awareness programmes at Ukhral and Dhalwal on credit-linked schemes including KCC, HADP, AHDI, IDDS and IPDP to empower livestock farmers and facilitate easy access to institutional credit.

The day-long activities under Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan and Sewa Parv-2025 reflected the collective commitment of the district administration, government departments, institutions and local communities towards building a healthier, greener, cleaner and economically empowered Ramban.

Shrikant Suse chairs CLU Meeting

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, SEP 26: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikanth Balasaheb Suse (IAS) Friday convened a meeting of the District Level Committee regarding Change of Land Use (CLU) cases in the district.

At the outset, detailed discussion was held regarding comments submitted by various departments for the issuance of NOCs of pending cases of CLU in the district.

As many as 20 cases were put up for discussion; after thorough deliberation on various aspects of the policy, 08 cases were approved by the committee, 03 were rejected and 09 cases were reverted to applicants to get some observations cleared.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to submit quality comments/concrete NOCs within stipulated time as per the provisions of PSGA Act to ensure timely disposal of CLU.

The Deputy Commissioner on the occasion emphasised that since CLU cases involve comments from various



departments, there is an increased need for inter departmental coordination.

He directed officers to stick to the deadlines and conduct the joint site inspections of the cases.

Meeting was attended by ADC Handwara Javid Naseem Masoodi ACR Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad Tehsildars; EXens PHE, PDD Chief Agriculture Officer Kupwara, and other concerned officials.

BIG Koshur Talent Hunt Grand Finale Crowns Kashmir's Rising Stars

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 25: The much-awaited BIG Koshur Talent Hunt Grand Finale concluded with a spectacular showcase of Kashmiri talent, creativity, and cultural brilliance, leaving the audience mesmerized. The event, held at SKUAST, witnessed an overwhelming turnout of art lovers, students, and dignitaries who gathered to celebrate the richness of Kashmir's performing arts.

After weeks of rigorous auditions and intense competition across categories, the winners of the evening emerged in grand style. DPS Anantnag clinched the top spot in the Dance category, dazzling the judges with their innovative choreography and unmatched energy. In the Short Skit category, Froebel School, Anantnag, impressed the jury with their powerful storytelling and stage presence. Meanwhile,



in the Singing category, Owais Ahmad Shah from Dubai Grand School captivated hearts and claimed the winner's title with his soulful performance.

The finale wasn't just about competition—it was an unforgettable celebration of Kashmir's youthful spirit. The audience responded with thunderous

applause and standing ovations, making the evening a true festival of art and culture.

Adding to the star-studded night, eminent personalities including Mr. Irfan and Mr. Bilal from Mizrab Records, MJ Nasir from D Alive, and Bollywood actor Mr. Shahid Lateef graced the event, inspiring the young par-

ticipants with their presence and words of encouragement.

Addressing the gathering, Sh. Satish Sharma ji, Cabinet Minister, said:

"This platform has shown us the true spirit and creativity of Kashmiri youth. BIG Koshur Talent Hunt has not only discovered new stars but has also given them

a stage to dream bigger."

The event was further honoured by the presence of Sh. Tanvir Sadiq, MLA Zadibal and Chief Spokesperson of JKNC, who served as the Guest of Honour. In his address, he praised the participants for their exceptional talent and extended heartfelt appreciation to BIG FM for initiating such a meaningful platform.

The Vice-Chancellor of SKUAST, also a Guest of Honour, congratulated the winners and highlighted the importance of nurturing cultural platforms for youth empowerment and artistic growth.

The grand finale ended on a high note with electrifying performances that showcased the immense artistic depth of Kashmir. The winners now stand at the threshold of greater opportunities, with BIG Koshur Talent Hunt serving as the launchpad for their artistic journey.

NCW holds special workshop on YASHODA AI at Central University of Jammu

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 26: In a continuing effort to bridge the gap between technology and education, YASHODA AI, a flagship programme of the National Commission for Women (NCW) in collaboration with Future Shift Labs (FSL) today organised a special workshop at Central University, Jammu. NCW Chairperson, Vijaya Rahatkar was Chief guest on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the NCW Chairperson said that the true measure of progress is not only in the advancement of technology but in our ability to harness it with responsibility and purpose. "By preparing students to engage thoughtfully with Artificial Intelligence, we are nurturing a generation that will safeguard rights, strengthen justice, and uphold

the values of an informed and equitable society", she said.

Speaking on the occasion, Nitin Narang, Director of Future Shift Labs, stated that YASHODA AI is not merely a programme but a national mission to build digital capacity and ethical awareness among India's youth. "By integrating knowledge of Artificial Intelligence with principles of responsibility and safety, we seek to empower students to become leaders who can shape an inclusive digital future", he added.

This event marked a vital step in sensitizing future social workers, entrepreneurs, and policymakers to the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the justice system and society at large.

The workshop highlighted how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming learning, com-



munication and employment, while also raising new challenges such as misinformation, cybercrime, and online safety. By engaging directly with students, the workshop aimed to build a generation that is not only digitally skilled but also socially responsible in its use of technology. The session brought together students from across the university, providing them with an opportunity to understand how Artificial Intelligence is shaping learning, work, and society. It also highlighted the risks of misuse, ranging from online harassment to the spread of misinformation and the importance of using technology responsibly.

The workshop covered four core themes like AI in Education and Careers, Cyber Law & Women's Safety, Ethics of AI and Practical Exposure with Hands-

on training on tools like Chat-GPT, Cyber Dost, the NCW Women Safety App, and other emerging platforms.

Unlike conventional lectures, the workshop emphasised interactive participation. Students engaged in live demonstrations, scenario-based discussions, and real-world case analysis to better understand the opportunities and risks of AI in everyday life.

This was YASHODA AI's first programme in Jammu, extending its mission to make digital literacy and cyber safety accessible to students and communities across India.

Pertinently, YASHODA AI is NCW's flagship campaign on digital literacy and cyber safety, designed to equip students and communities with the skills to navigate the digital age safely and responsibly.

ED arrests key agent in Multi-State AI forex trading scam

■ United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 26: The Enforcement Directorate (ED), Chandigarh Zonal Office, today announced the arrest of Uttar Pradesh-based agent Navab Hasan for his pivotal role in misleading innocent people and mobilizing public deposits to launder proceeds of crime through the QFX/YFX/BotBro/BotAlpha/Cross-salpa/Minecrypto scam.

He was produced before a Special PMLA Court, which remanded him to nine days of ED custody. The ED initiated its investigation based on multiple

FIRs registered across Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Assam under various sections of the IPC, 1860, indicating the widespread nature of this pyramid scheme.

The accused allegedly promised monthly returns of 5-6 per cent through robot/AI-bot-based forex trading, using payment aggregators and virtual currencies like USDT to collect funds.

After investments were made, investor IDs were deleted, payouts were stopped after a few months, and the proceeds of crime were diverted to the UAE for property purchases in the

names of close associates of the main accused and for luxury spending. The investigation revealed that Navab operated as a senior field leader with the rank of "Blue Diamond Executive" and had built a base of more than 10,000 investors.

He collected cash and funneled investments first through payment aggregators and later via USDT, while coordinating with Dubai-based masterminds Lavish Chaudhary (alias Nawab) and his associates.

Navab admitted that no real forex trading ever occurred on the platform, and investor dash-



boards displayed notional balances while new collections were used to service pending payouts.

He was a frequent traveler to the UAE to meet the absconding mastermind, Lavish Chaudhary,

and was planning another trip to Dubai. He also participated in Zoom calls with Chaudhary to instill confidence in new investors. A previous search at his residence in Shamli led to the recovery of Rs. 94.23 lakh in proceeds of crime generated by defrauding investors. The ED's action follows a series of crackdowns on operators involved in the QFX scam.

Top agent Harinder Pal Singh, arrested on September 17, 2025, and currently in custody, identified Navab as a leading agent in western Uttar Pradesh. A provisional attachment order dated August 26, 2025, attached 45

immovable properties valued at Rs. 9.49 crore acquired by the accused, his family members, and associates. Searches conducted on February 11 and July 4, 2025, resulted in the seizure and freezing of 185 bank accounts holding Rs. 391 crore in proceeds of crime across various shell entities.

This arrest under Section 19(1) of the PMLA, 2002, strengthens the ongoing crackdown to trace the complete trail of the proceeds of crime, identify remaining beneficiaries and fronts operating domestically and from Dubai, prevent further layering, and secure the illicit funds. UNI

EAM Jaishankar joins G4 counterparts to push for expansion of UNSC membership

■ United News of India

UNITED NATIONS/NEW DELHI, SEP 26: The G4 countries of India, Japan, Germany and Brazil, underscored that the expansion of membership of the UN Security Council in both permanent and non-permanent categories is essential to the world body's reform, and that this position is supported by a majority of the UN Member States.

This was affirmed during the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the G4 countries, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Mauro Vieira, Foreign Minister of Brazil, Johann Wadepuhl, Foreign Minister of Germany, and Iwaya Takeshi, Foreign Minister of Japan, on the margins of the 80th Session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly on Thursday.

They met to discuss prospects for reform of the UN Security Council. The G4 Ministers emphasized that, amid increasing instability in the international order and with the UN—the center of multilateralism, increasingly incapable of fulfilling its role—it is crucial to reform the Security Council at the earliest to truly reflect the contemporary geopolitical realities, thereby enhancing its represen-



tativeness, legitimacy, effectiveness, and efficiency, a joint statement said.

Stressing on the need for expansion of the UN Security Council in both permanent and non-permanent membership, the G4 Ministers concurred on the need to enhance the role and participation of developing countries, and those significantly contributing to international peace and security, in the Security Council, in both membership categories.

They reiterated the importance of improving the representation of the underrepresented and unrepresented regions and groups, such as Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, in both membership categories.

The G4 Ministers reaffirmed their strong support for the Common African Position (CAP) as enshrined in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration. A comprehensive reform of the Security Council is in the best interest of all, they said and reiterated their mutual support for each other's candidacies as new permanent members of a reformed Security Council.

Reviewing the work of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly, the G4 Ministers reiterated their strong concern over the continued absence of concrete progress on UNSC reform in the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) format.

Against the backdrop of the 80th anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations, the G4 Ministers expressed their intention to cooperate closely among themselves and in partnership with other groups, taking into account the urgent need for reform, with a view to developing a consolidated model, leading to text-based negotiations.

The G4 Ministers reiterated that discussions on Security Council reform need not be confined to the IGN and expressed their willingness to engage with the wider UN membership on this issue in other forums, including the UN General Assembly.

EAM Jaishankar said in a post on X: "Glad to join the #G4 Foreign Ministers Meeting along with colleagues Takeshi Iwaya, Johann Wadepuhl and Mauro Vieira in New York today.

"G4 reiterated its commitment to reforming the United Nations including the UN Security Council. It also assessed the current state of the Inter-Governmental Negotiation #IGN process." UNI

AICTE had warned institute led by fugitive Swami against illegally using 'Indian' in its name

■ United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 26: In the case involving Swami Chaitanyananda Saraswati, alias Parth Sarthi, it has now emerged that the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) had issued a warning letter to the Sri Sharada Institute of Indian Management Research over the alleged misuse of the words 'India', 'Indian', 'All India', and 'National'.

The trust was headed by Swami, who had allegedly sexually harassed more than two dozen female students.

The AICTE stated in its letter that it had found the Swami's institute was violating Rule No.

3 of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act.

The letter issued by AICTE read, "The Applicants cannot use the name of the technical institution in such a way that the abbreviated form becomes the name of technical bodies. The applicant shall also not use the word(s) 'Government of India', 'Indian', 'National', 'All India', 'All India Council', 'Commission' in the name of the technical institution, giving the impression that it is a government institute while being a fully private institute, and other names as prohibited under the Emblems and Names (prevention of improper use) Act."



"Provided that the restrictions mentioned above shall not be applicable if the technical institution is established by the government of India or its name is

approved by the government of India."

The AICTE also noted that for more than four years, the Swami had not changed the name of the

institute or removed the word 'Indian' from its title.

The council further stated that while a number of other institutions had complied and changed their names after the warning, Swami had not heeded their directives despite repeated attempts.

"The prohibited word ('Indian') is still found to be used in the name of your institute even after specific directions from the Council. You have violated section 3 of the Act," AICTE had said in its letter.

Meanwhile, Swami is still on the run. Delhi's Patiala House court on Friday reserved its order on his bail plea. UNI

India reiterates its zero tolerance approach to terrorism at UN Ministerial Meeting

■ United News of India

UNITED NATIONS/NEW DELHI, SEP 26: Addressing the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, India referred to the scourge of cross-border terrorism that it faces and reiterated its zero tolerance approach towards terrorism.

Secretary West Ambassador Sibi George, while delivering India's National Statement at the Ministerial Meeting, also emphasized the need for the world to come together in the fight against terrorism in all its manifestations.

The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X: "Secretary (West)

@AmbSibiGeorge delivered India's National Statement at the 6th Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism.

"Referring to the scourge of cross border terrorism that India faces, Secretary reiterated India's zero tolerance approach to terrorism & emphasized the need for the world to come together in the fight against terrorism in all its manifestations."

In his address at the Peacebuilding Commission's Ministerial meeting, Secretary West Sibi George high-



lighted India's approach to peacekeeping and peacebuilding that is guided by our civilizational ethos of "The World is One Family."

"He underscored leveraging people-centric technological advances to enhance accountability, transparency, and effectiveness in public service delivery and foster trust among citizens and promote social cohesion and sustainable peace. He also highlighted that peacebuilding should remain demand-driven and nationally owned," the MEA spokesperson said in a post on X.

He also represented India at a min-

isterial meeting of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

In his address, Ambassador George Emphasized that the Agency has a reliable partner in India, and underlined that India will continue to stay engaged in the region.

Separately, he also met with Ms. Belén Martínez Carbonell, Secretary-General of the European Union's External Action Service (EEAS).

They had a wide ranging discussion on deepening India-EU partnership and exchange of views on global and regional developments. UNI

Good interest in moving cargo via Northern Sea Route

■ United News of India

MOSCOW, SEP 26: There is great interest in shipping international cargo using the Northern Sea Route (NSR) and containerised cargo shipments are happening now, said Vladimir Panov, Special Representative of Rosatom Arctic Development.

He was speaking at "The Northern Sea Route in 500 Years" session at the international forum "World Atomic Week" (WAW – 2025) dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Russian nuclear industry.

"We are seeing enormous interest in international transit via the Northern Sea Route (NSR). They have started shipping containerised cargo along the route. During the summer-autumn navigation season (which is not yet over), 14 voyages have already been made through the NSR, transporting 276,000 tons," Panov said.

This is 56 percent more than all shipments last year – 176,000 tons. And now there are three more voyages in the NSR waters. We are open to contact and interaction. We believe that there is great potential in creating new international formats for equal and pragmatic dialogue with all interested states with the aim of developing the economic potential of the Arctic and the NSR, where no countries will be left behind, he said. Participants also said the NSR should be looked at through the prism of trade and commerce and not geopolitics. UNI

Russia to launch world's first nuclear power system with closed fuel cycle

■ By V Jagannathan

MOSCOW, SEP 26: Russian President Vladimir Putin today said the country will launch in the Tomsk Region, the world's first nuclear power system with a closed fuel cycle, Putin said. Terming it as a revolutionary development made possible by Russian scientists and engineers, Putin said by closing the nuclear fuel cycle, almost the entire volume, that is, 95 percent of spent fuel will be reused in reactors more than once.

Speaking at the Global Atomic Forum here yesterday evening Putin said, "As per OECD estimates, all uranium resources under an optimistic scenario will be fully depleted by 2090, which is about eight million tons. In practice the depletion may even happen as early as the 2060s."

The forum is being held as part of World Atomic Week, which marks the 80th anniversary of Russia's nuclear industry and is themed "From a New Technological Paradigm to a New Worldview."

"Given that a quarter of uranium reserves are found in deposits where uranium is a by-product, by 2030 – here I come to what I believe

Russia can truly be proud of – we plan to launch in the Tomsk Region the world's first nuclear power system with a closed fuel cycle," Putin said. Terming it as a revolutionary development made possible by Russian scientists and engineers, Putin said by closing the nuclear fuel cycle, almost the entire volume, that is, 95 percent of spent fuel will be reused in reactors more than once.

"This mechanism will, in the long term, make it possible to virtually eliminate the problem of radioactive waste accumulation and, which is also extremely important, essentially remove the issue of uranium supply," Putin added.

According to him, the full range of advanced materials for the closed fuel cycle will be tested at the International Research Centre now being established in the Ulyanovsk Region. "We invite scientists from different countries to cooperate in developing technologies that, without exaggeration, open a new era in nuclear energy," Putin said.



On the funding of new nuclear power plants, he said, "There is a need to develop modern financing models and involve international financial institutions and development banks."

Putin said, "Earlier this year, the New Development Bank established by the BRICS countries confirmed its readiness to finance nuclear projects, while at the end of last year, on Russia's initiative, a BRICS coordination mechanism – the Nuclear Energy Platform –

was established."

He said Russia's principled approach ensures its leadership in this field.

"First, we strictly honour our contractual obligations. I want to emphasise this. We fulfill all our obligations entirely regardless of political circumstances," he said.

"Second, we reject "technological colonialism" and do not make our partners dependent on Russian technical solutions. On the contrary, we help them establish

their own sovereign national nuclear industries, including personnel training and the creation of competence centres. We enlist local companies, assist in the operation of power units, and ensure the supply of nuclear fuel and waste management," Putin said.

Continuing further Putin said, Russia shares its experience and knowledge in building other advanced industries of the 21st century, such as nuclear medicine, digital systems, electric transport and innovative materials.

"As a result, we help our partners make a genuine development leap, bring their economies to a whole new level of efficiency, and ultimately improve quality of life," Putin said.

Russia views peaceful nuclear technologies as the foundation for extensive international cooperation and for fostering closer ties among nations. Russia is keen on establishing stable, long-term conditions for projects within the nuclear sphere, Putin said. UNI

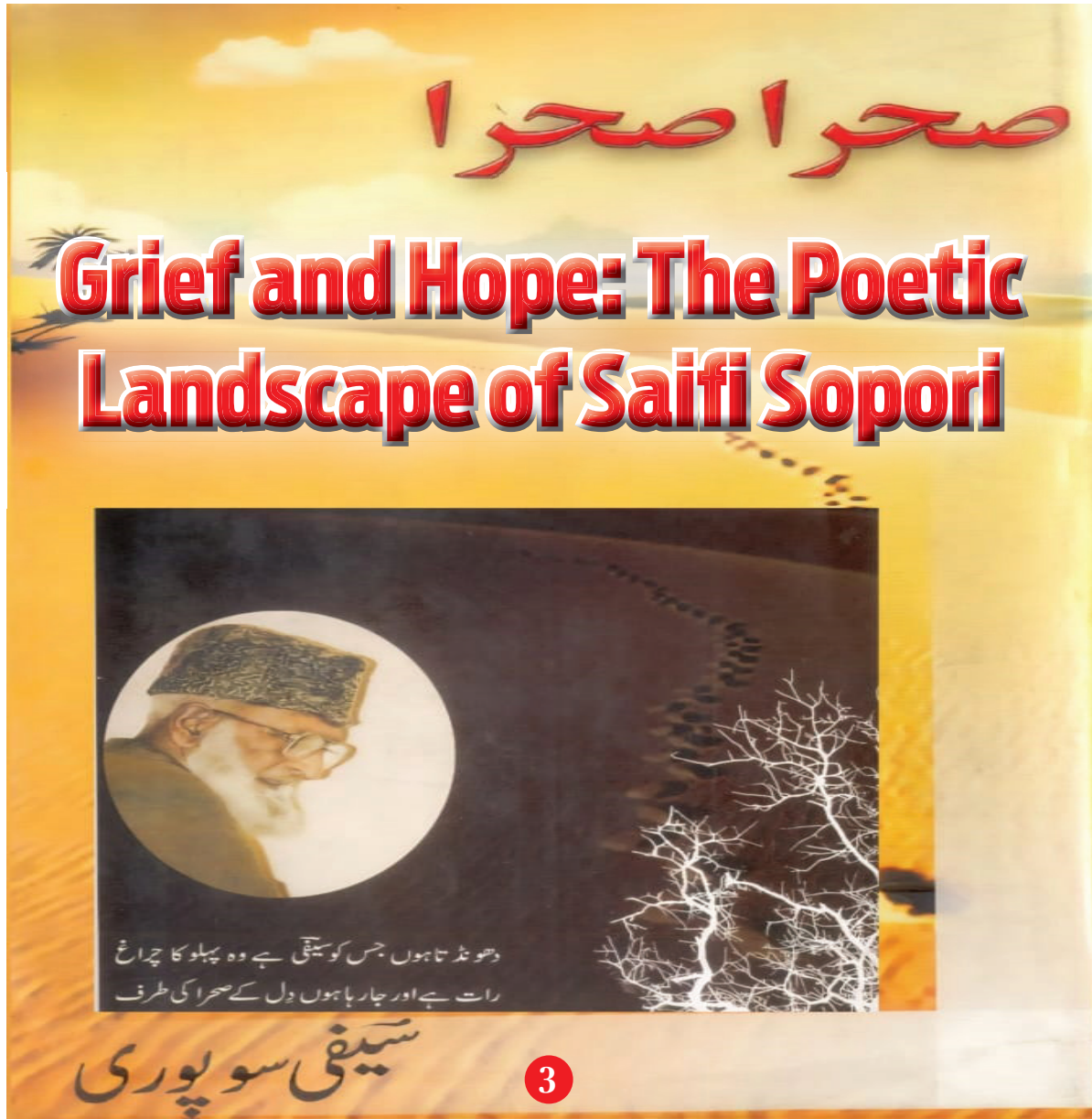
CMYK

HT Saturday

LitStream

WEEKLY SUPPLIMENT OF DAILY HEADLINES TODAY

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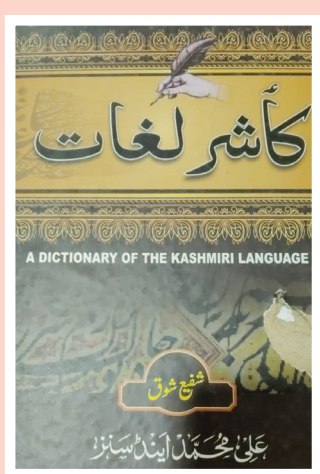
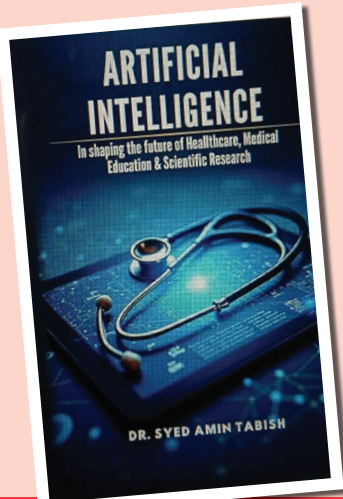


The Kitchen That
Heals:
Rediscovering
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ONE SHELF, MANY WORLDS

ENGLISH, URDU AND KASHMIRI



HT Saturday – LitStream

A weekly supplement of **Headlines Today** dedicated to celebrating the literary spirit of Jammu and Kashmir. It showcases the works and contributions of eminent and emerging voices, with a discerning focus on fiction, criticism, translations, short stories, poetry and prose, feature writing capturing the vibrant pulse of the JK's literary landscape.

Editor LitStream
chogalwriter76@gmail.com

From The Editor

Welcome to LitStream, a literary endeavor born from a profound belief in the power of literature. Our mission, though progressing with deliberate purpose, is to serve as a vital platform for writers, storytellers, and poets, bringing their creative pieces to a wider audience. This is not

just a digital space but a cultural bridge, committed to showcasing local writers across different languages. We achieve this by providing expert translations into English and offering insightful critical analyses and detailed book reviews, fostering a deeper appreciation for the literary arts.

A unique feature of our publication is the LitStream Health Digest, a dedicated section where we publish articles and columns from both accomplished writers and medical experts on various health issues, blending art and science for the benefit of our readers.

Meet The LitStream Advisory Board Members

We are privileged to have a board of advisors whose distinguished careers and diverse expertise lend immense gravitas and vision to our publication.

Professor Muhammad Aslam



A celebrated academic, author, prolific writer and translator. He served as HOD English, MERC and Linguistic at Kashmir University and Head, Dean, School of Languages and Development at Central University of Kashmir. Over his four-decade career as an educator and scholar, he has become widely known for his evocative translations of Urdu and Kashmiri short stories and his insightful

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Dr Ratan Bhattacharjee



A true polymath, his literary journey spans continents and genres. A multilingual journalist and poet, with more than 20 books on poetry and literature. He is the Founder President of KIAS (Kolkata Indian American Society) and Editor of the global magazine "Literary Confluence". He is also a Former Affiliate Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond (USA), and Retired Associate Professor & Head of the Postgraduate

Department of English at Dum Dum Motijheel College, Kolkata. Known as the Oleander Poet for his bestselling collection Oleander Blooms and the short story collection Six Feet Distance (published in the USA), he has also authored critical works on American and British literature. Moreover, he is a Founder Executive in the Advisory Board of the International Theodore Dreiser Society, Philadelphia, USA.

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A distinguished scholar, poet, critic, and former Head of the Department of Kashmiri at the University of Kashmir, Professor Shad Ramzan has made significant contributions to Kashmiri literature. His prolific works include poetry, literary criticism, translations, and monographs. He is a recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award (2014) for his poetry collection Kore Kakud Pushrith Gome and the Sahitya Akademi Translation

Prize (2009). He has authored influential works on Kashmiri literature, folklore, and mystic traditions. A passionate educator and mentor, he continues to play a vital role in nurturing and promoting the Kashmiri language and literature. He currently serves as the Convenor of the Kashmiri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi (Ministry of Culture, Government of India), and as a Visiting Professor at the Central University of Kashmir.

Professor Majrooh Rashid



A luminary in contemporary Kashmiri literature, Professor Majrooh Rashid is a trilingual poet, critic, and academic. His profound and multifaceted contributions to the world of Contemporary Literature is reflected in his extensive publications in Kashmiri, Urdu, and English. He formerly served as the Head of the Kashmiri Department at the University of Kash-

mir and Director Habba Khatoon Centre for Kashmiri Language and Literature Islamic University (IUST)

Lily Swarn



Lily Swarn is an internationally awarded multilingual poet, author, and columnist with ten acclaimed books across poetry, fiction, essays, and food writing and Urdu Ghazals. A Peace and Humanity Ambassador for Peru, Ghana, Morocco, and Nigeria, she has received over ninety honours, including the Reuel International Prize, the Elizabeth Barrett Browning Award, the Rabindranath Tagore Award, the Cesar Vallejo Medal, the International Beat Poet Laureate Award, and the Chandigarh Sahitya Akademi Award (2021) for Rippling Moonbeams. Her debut A Trellis of Ecstasy was hailed by The Journal of Commonwealth Literature as a "veritable delight." A postgraduate in English from Panjab University and former teacher at Sacred Heart College, Dalhousie, her work has been translated into more than twenty languages.

Dr. Nazir Mushtaq



A distinguished physician whose passion for writing has made him a celebrated figure in Urdu literature. His collection of microfiction, Tinkey, is a remarkable work that captures the profound complexities of Kashmiri society in poignant, brief stories, showcasing his unique ability to observe and reflect on the human condition.

Dr. Reyaz Tawheedi



A prolific fiction writer, critic, and educator, Dr. Reyaz Tawheedi is a leading voice in Urdu literature. He has authored six books Urdu, short stories, criticism including the powerful anthology Zindagi Ka Bazar, offer a compelling window into the lives of ordinary Kashmiris. He is also a key figure in promoting digital storytelling and has been internationally recognized for his innovative literary

contributions.

Dr. Supriya Shukla



A gold medalist in English holding a doctorate degree has been Principal as well as Head, Department of English at a reputed postgraduate institution of Kanpur, VSSD College for 34 years.

With a tenure spanning almost 40 years as an educator in other post graduate institutions, it also includes a brief stint of teaching at IIT, KANPUR.

Post retirement she is now actively embracing her second innings as a freelance writer and blogger. She also nurtures a deep passion for vocal music and has her own youtube channel comprising of her song-videos.

An avid traveler with a keen interest in history and culture she has explored nearly half the globe thus enriching

her worldview and creative pursuits.

Being academically active in her second innings she is presently empanelled as a Blogger/ freelance writer with eTimes Of India and The Sentinel.

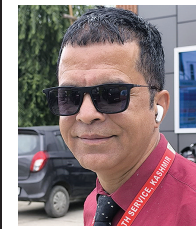
Dr. Tasaduk Hussain Itoo



A distinguished Kashmiri doctor, public health expert, medical writer, and researcher. A Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health (FRSPH, UK) and International Diabetes Federation (IDF Fellow, Belgium), he is also a member of leading global medical societies including the Endocrine Society (USA), American College of Physicians (USA), and the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in

India (RSSDI). Internationally recognized for his contributions to diabetes, and preventive healthcare, he has been honored with several prestigious awards, including the Global Recognition Award 2024, Indian Achievers Award 2025, Top Educator Award 2017, and National Literature Award 2025.

Dr. Muhammad Yousuf Tak (MBBS, MD, FIPM)



He is an expert in Functional and Palliative Medicine with over 20 years of clinical practice. He is the President of the Doctors Association Kashmir, where he combines clinical expertise with leadership advocacy. He is also a medical writer dedicated to advancing healthcare awareness and public dialogue.

Tarique Raheem



A well know journalist who has been associated with Greater Kashmir, the leading english newspaper of JK, for the past four years. He began his career with Munsir TV Hyderabad as a news anchor and desk editor, later moving to Gulistan News in the same role. He then joined JKAC News Channel, where he anchored a range of programs, before becoming part of Greater Kashmir, where he continues his journalistic journey.

Academically, Tarique Raheem holds postgraduate degrees in English and Mass Communication. He went on to earn an MPhil from DAVV University, Indore (Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya) and is currently pursuing his PhD at the same university.

Over the course of his career, he has produced remarkable work in journalism. His contributions include in-depth ground reporting, exposing injustices, highlighting social concerns, and bringing to light the stories of individuals who have excelled in various fields, from writers to entrepreneurs.

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Grief and Hope

The Poetic Landscape of Saifi Sopori



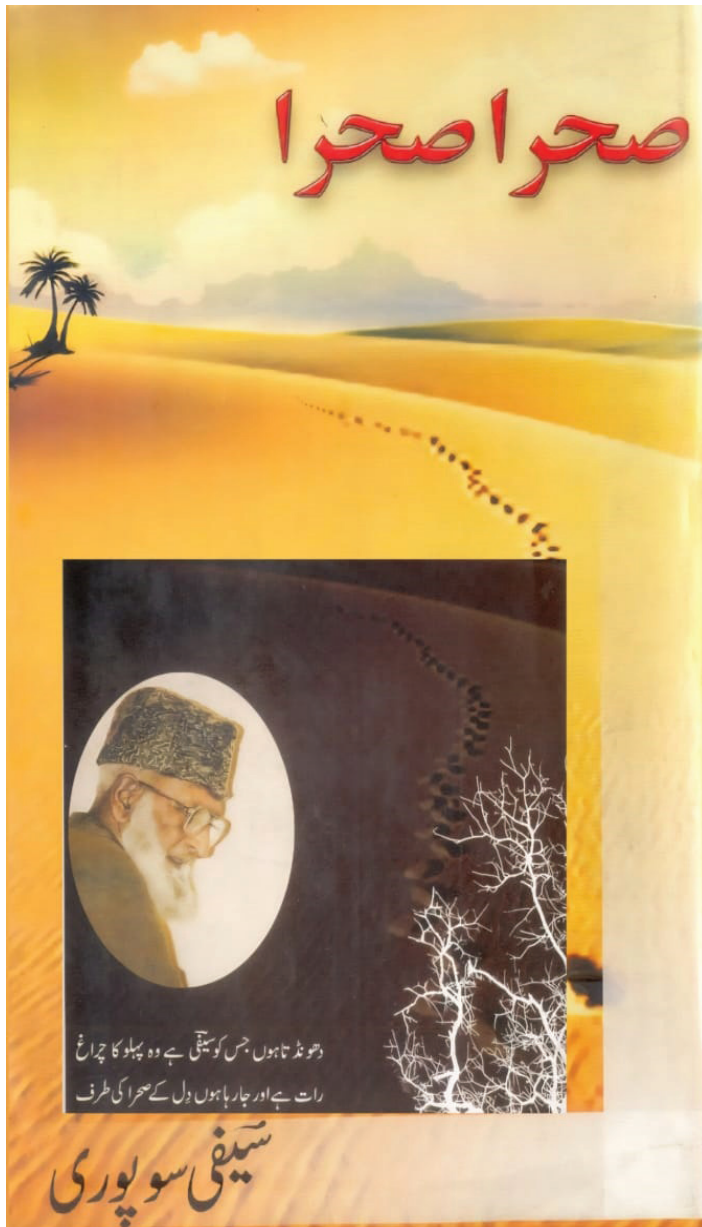
Professor Muhammad Aslam

The poet

Born as Peer Saifuddin Masoodi at Sopore (North Kashmir) in 1922, Saifi Sopori (he used 'Saifi' as a nom de plume) had an illustrious career as an educationist. He completed his Matriculation, B.A., and Honors in Persian from Punjab University, Lahore, before earning his B.Ed. from the University of Kashmir. He joined the Education Department as a teacher in 1944 and rose to the rank of Deputy Director, Non-Formal Education. He retired from service in 1977 and passed away in 2017. Saifi was equally proficient in Urdu, Arabic, Persian and English. Although he was actively engaged in writing and translating, most of his work remains unpublished to date. However, six years before his death, his Urdu poetic collection *sahra sahra* (Boundless Wilderness) saw the light of day in 2011.

My acquaintance with Saifi was coincidental. He would visit the Department of English and meet my senior colleagues who had known him for ages. I was introduced to him, and we started conversing in English. I was stunned to see his fluency in the language. We became very good friends and would meet whenever he visited Kashmir University. After his poetic collection was released, the University held a 'Meet the Eminent' programme where Saifi was the guest, and I had the privilege to conduct the proceedings and ask Saifi about life and work. The recording of the programme must be with the University and his nephew, Mr Showkat Shafi. I found Saifi a treasure of knowledge, kind demeanour and humility. Although I was younger than him by many years, he would shower his blessings whenever we met.

sahra sahra (Boundless Wilderness) consists of one hundred and eighty-three poems—hymns, encomiums and ghazals. I have chosen two ghazals from this collection to talk about the poetic landscape of Saifi Sopori. Saifi seems to have been greatly influenced by Allama Iqbal, which is why one finds in his ghazal philosophical undertones akin to Iqbal's poetry. I would like to dedicate this essay to Saifi Sopori (May he find the best place in Paradise!). The two poems are originally in Urdu. I am repro-



ducing them in transliteration. Let's read and analyse the poems one by one so that we understand how vast and deep Saifi's poetic landscape was.

*aaine ke parde mein agar hum nahin hote
shaayaan-e-tarab aap ke mausam nahin hote
is raah mein tere bhi to paon ke nishaan hain
ab moored-e-ilzaam bas ik hum nahin hote
shafaf hai yeh jheel inhein kaise bataaun
khud apni nigaahon ke jo mehram nahin hote
dil harf ko foulaad ki shahtir bana de
pul barf se bante hain to muhkam nahin hote
yaadon ki yeh waadi to chinaron se saji hai
gham, aise bhi saaye hain, jahan kam nahin hote
bujhti nahin, phir kaise bujhaaye koi, saifi
man mein jo aag lage aag to barham nahin hote.*

English Translation

Had we not been under the mirror's veil

Your seasons would not be cheerful

Your footprints are also on this path

We aren't the only ones to blame

This lake is transparent. How can I tell him

Those who are not protected from their own eyes

Turn the gloomy heart into a steel beam

Bridges are made of ice; they are not strong

This valley of memories is decorated with Chinars

Grief, there are also such shadows, where they do not decrease.

It does not extinguish, then how can anyone extinguish it, Saifi

The fire that is lit in the mind doesn't get enraged.

Summary

The narrator tells the listener that if they hadn't been living under illusions, his/her days

wouldn't seem so happy. The listener, too, has walked the same path. Therefore, he/she can't blame the narrator alone. He draws his/her attention to the lake whose waters are clear, but it is inexplicable to someone who cannot even face his own reflection in it. He says that a sad heart must be as strong as steel because life's bridges are weak like ice and could break easily. The narrator remembers the beauty of Chinara trees as they turn fiery red in autumn. Grief also casts its everlasting shadows, but we need to be resilient like steel. The fire (of inspiration, emotions) neither rages wildly nor does it extinguish completely; it keeps glowing from within.

Interpretation

Couplet 1: "[T]he mirror's veil" suggests appearance or illusions that create false joy. The narrator says that without these illusions, joy may not exist.

Couplet 2: Both the narrator and the listener have walked the same path or taken the journey together. So, the responsibility for sorrow or failure must be shared by both. The listener can't blame the other person alone. They are equally responsible.

Couplet 3: The 'lake' is used here as a symbol for clarity or truth. Those who can't face their own reflection won't accept reality.

Couplet 4: Here, the narrator has become didactic. He says that a weak heart must be strong like steel and realise that life's supports ("bridges") are fragile and could fall at any moment.

Couplet 5: The poet has used a vivid image of the chinara trees in Kashmir whose leaves turned red in autumn. Like these trees, memories are both beautiful and sorrowful.

Couplet 6: Some forms of grief never fade like shadows; they remain constant.

Couplet 7: The fire in the mind is eternal; it never dies out, but burns steadily, making it impossible to extinguish.

Critical Appreciation

The ghazal is about self-introspection, a meditation on identity, memory, and the burden of inner conflict. Using rich metaphors—mirror, footprints, transparent lake, ice bridges, valleys, Chinara—the poet reflects on the fragility of human life, the persistence of grief, and the fortitude of one's consciousness. Saifi situates his personal suffering within a symbolic landscape that is both intimate and universal.

Let's read the second poem now:

*dekhna hai ke yeh mausam hain suhaane kitne
aaine tod diye andhi hawa ne kitne*

*dhoop khil jaaye to yeh barf ka pul toote ga
qaafile aur hain darya ko bahaane kitne
dil ki khidki se kabhi jhaank liya to hota
is bayaabaan mein hain posheeda khazaane kitne
soch darya ka har ek qatra bhanwar hota hai
baadbaan hain teri kashti ke puraane kitne
bach nikalne ke liye fikr ke sehraon se
dil, yehan chaalaak, tarashe hain bahaane kitne
shama jalti rahe saifi ke "sehar hone tak"*

Let's see how pleasant these seasons are

How many mirrors did the blind wind break!

If the sun shines, this ice bridge will break

How many more caravans for the river to drown!

Had you ever peeked through the window of the heart

How many hidden treasures are there in this desert!

Every drop of the river of thought is a whirlpool

How many old sails are there for your sailing ship

To escape from the deserts of thought

The heart, the cunning, has carved out so many excuses!

The candle kept burning, "until dawn"

How many scars are left in the heart to show

Summary

The poem reflects on the fragility of existence, the unpredictability of life's journeys (seasons), and the inner strife of the human heart and mind. Broken mirrors, ice bridges, drowning caravans, deserts, whirlpools, and scars foreground the impermanence and fragility of life. However, despite this, the poet looks for meaning in the hidden treasures of the heart. There is hope amidst disillusionment (candles burning until dawn, treasures in the desert). There is a conflict between resilience and existential threat throughout the poem.

Interpretation

Couplet 1: This is a skeptical statement, an invitation to test the harshness of life's changing times. The non-discriminatory tempests of life ("blind wind") have shattered many self-images ("mirrors").

Couplet 2: Life is unstable and fragile ("the ice bridge"). It appears solid but can collapse anytime under natural change (the sunshine). This shows the impermanence of human existence. Destiny (symbolised

THE SPRIGHTLY ELDERLY!



Dr. Supriya Shukla

A country whose President, Prime Minister, and majority of the cabinet ministers are between the age bracket of 60 to 70 and 70 plus, the 58 to 62 years allotted for retirement of govt / semi-govt officials is unjustified, if only age has been taken into consideration for that policy. When Heads of countries and people at the helm of affairs can be achievers and successfully sail through at the so-called Vanprasth age why cannot the others? The 45th and now the 47th, 79-year old U.S. President is the oldest person in American history to be elected as President for a second time. Even his predecessors were dynamic septuagenarians! But of course their country has not determined any fixed retirement age for the general masses who like their State heads can continue to work as long as they wish to and till health permits them. The sexagenarians and septuagenarians in general are at their active best as they are by then relieved of their parental responsibilities and familial duties. That is the time when they can focus most on their profession and careers. With their maturity, experience and expertise they can prove to be assets in their workplace and for their employers. Personally for them too this is the time when they start loving and enjoying their work afresh for their creativity and avidity are at the highest level. At a time when they are most enthused and energetic and when their potential can be tapped as they are at their flowering best, their dynamism comes to an abrupt halt. It is true that in an overpopulated and still-developing nation like ours the elders after that age need to step down gracefully and make place for the younger generation.



After all our employment crisis does justify the retirement age! Retirement for some brings immediate relief as after a tenure of 30 to 40 years of active service, the break comes as a welcome change. It also provides them the free time to pursue their passions and interests. The spirited and enthusiastic are able to fructify such aspirations that paucity of time did not allow them to till they were employed. For many who have nothing much to look forward to, the post retirement period is just a countdown to the inevitable end. However, for most, the cessation of a steady monthly income is a cause of concern and anxiety. Not all are fortunate to have got over their family commitments and are the sole earning members thereby being in dire need of their jobs. Some schemes should be implemented that can provide employment to those retired per-

sonnel who are eager and willing to work, thereby their services can be utilised. The pension scheme, no doubt affords a lifetime of financial security but since it is taxable, the relief is not very heartening. Pensioners are not entitled to any allowances, even the routine hike of dearness allowance is termed as dearness relief for them. But this word relief is misleading as the taxes imposed on pensioners hardly make it a proposition of relief. It is ironical that people who are being given 'relief' are being levied with taxes of the same slab as the salaried are!! Where is the RELIEF then? Considering the longevity of lives, the extended life spans due to advanced medical aid and general wellbeing, retirement should be extended till the time an individual can work or till one wishes to and till one's health permits. That will be

in the national and personal interest! The recent declaration coming from the PM's office regarding the extension of retirement age is a positive, pragmatic and productive initiative, provided it is enforced and does not remain

one of the many tall claims!

However, there is a heartening side to this saga now. There are portals that do provide and rather welcome retired seniors. One such portal The Wisdom Circle in a survey found that 70% adults between the age group of 50 to 75 plus are either working or exploring opportunities and new job prospects for themselves. Such groups comprise of 15% retired / seniors who are working, 17% are on part-time basis and 36% are looking for and exploring job possibilities. Ageing is now being considered as an opportunity rather than a time to just sit back and decline mentally and physically.

What is indeed a positive change is that considering the experience, expertise and enthusiasm of these ready post retired workers, employers are finding them more constructive and sincere in their jobs. Belonging to the yester years when AI was in its nascent stage these seniors do not depend on ChatGpt or even calculators as they are habituated to work independently using their own mental abilities. Startups, consultation firms are now keen to hire such employees and benefit their organisations through their skill sets. Integrity and discipline are ingrained in them which certainly prove to be assets for any company.

Nevertheless, not all seniors are looking for work opportunities just to be constructively occupied, for several it is a means to subsist also assisting them to be able to fulfil unfinished responsibilities.

Whatever the requirement, retired seniors are now being valued for their proficiency. Organisations are providing opportunities to tap senior talent whether it is through work from home or physically in offices. There is scope and hope to be productive for those elderly who are retired but not tired!!

Dr. Supriya Shukla, retired Principal and former Head, Dept. Of English, VSSD College, a prestigious P.G. institution of Kanpur, is a freelance writer and blogger.

FROM PAGE 3...

Grief and Hope...

through "the river") has swallowed many human caravans and continues to render the journeys futile.

Couplet 3: Here, the poet is in a reflective mood, urging the inner vision to peep into its own self rather than outward appearances. One could find wisdom or value even in barren places (deserts of suffering or thought). It is a paradox of richness in emptiness.

Couplet 4: The thought process could be quite frustrating and destabilizing. Even a single idea ("Every drop") can disorient you ("whirlpool"). There are many outdated methods ("old sails") for us to navigate the uncertain waters of life ("sailing ship").

Couplet 5: The poet wishes for freedom from endless intellectual journeys and a barren mental landscape. The heart continues to find "many excuses" for its being weak and distracted.

Couplet 6: Here, the poet manifests optimism. The image of the candle denotes resilience in facing suffering. It is waiting for renewal or enlightenment "until dawn". The poet has to show many emotional wounds, which is possible only when he keeps his hope alive.

Critical Appreciation

The poem shows a beautiful interplay of natural imag-

ery (seasons, wind, sun, ice, river, deserts, whirlpools) and the psychological state of the poet's mind (thought, heart, memory, scars). He is at once sceptical and hopeful. What appears as solid is threatened by natural forces, as, for instance, the ice bridge would collapse once the sun appears, or many caravans would continue to be consumed by the river. Humans are vulnerable and live in self-delusion. The broken mirrors and ice bridges suggest how deceptive hearts could fail on confronting the reality of existence. However, there is hope that would sustain the poet, despite past scars that are yet to be shown. The image of the candle burning until dawn suggests resilience and perseverance that the poet is holding tight onto himself so that he comes out of the morass of scepticism.

Conclusion

Saifi was a great thinker and poet of eminence who has left an indelible mark on the literary world. Unfortunately, such a great writer was unable to publish his work during his lifetime. I don't know the reasons behind this, but had he brought out his translations and works in Persian and Arabic to light, they would have added to the treasure of literary legacy. One of the greatest Urdu writers of the 20th century, Shamsur Rehman Farooqui,

who Saifi had sent some of his poems for review, was stunned to see such poetry from a nonagenarian poet. In his letter to Saifi, Farooqui remarked: "Jinab Saifi Sopori ki ghazlein dekhkar fauri asar ho qayim huwa hai ki yeh kisi pukhtakar, sanjeedah, lekin jawan-al-umr shayir ka kalam hai. Jab yeh maaloome huwa ki in ka khaliq umr ki naw dahayain puri krny wala hai to hairat hoti hai ki jab takhliqi wafuri ka as waqt yeh aalam hai to khuda jane ayame jawani main kya rang raha hoga" (The immediate impression that emerges from reading the ghazals of Mr. Saifi Sopori is that they are the words of a mature, serious, yet young poet. When it is known that their creator is about to complete ninety years of age, one wonders how colourful he must have been in his youth when he is now so full of imagination.) Farooqui finds that Saifi was influenced by Iqbal, which is evident from his ghazals. Saifi will be remembered as a saintly person, despite living a simple life, has left a rich literary legacy behind. About himself, Saifi has said:

*dhondta hoon jis ko saifi hai woh pehlu ka chiraagh,
raat hai aur jaa rahoone dil ke sehra ki taraf
The one I seek, O Saifi, is the lamp by my side.
It is night, and I set out toward the desert of my heart.*

Teachers Outside Classrooms

Sajjad Bazaz

Straight-Talk-Communications.com

In a routine morning glance at my WhatsApp messages, I came across a message from one of my colleagues at my previous organisation. His message reads: "Happy Teachers Day sir... Wishing you good health. Always indebted to you and your teachings." Basically, the said colleague, Ejaz Ayoub, is more than a colleague to me. In fact, he is a dear friend. He has been working in the BFSI industry in the field of Financial Risk Management, Strategy and Foreign Exchange.

Today, he wittingly timed his message on Teachers Day (September 5). Even as we exchange our thoughts through available social media platforms, the context of today's message was a bit surprising. However, it reflected the magnanimity of the person by remembering my small tips which I used to give him in the beginning of his professional life. He was always responsive to my suggestions. Over a period of time, this man has established himself as a trustworthy expert in the field of his expertise.

In fact, today Ejaz's lines gave me a perfect start to this 'Straight Talk' column, which is appreciated for reminding that teachers exist outside classrooms also.

Even as World Teachers Day is celebrated on October 5, India observes its own Teachers Day every year on September 5. As all of us know this national Teachers Day marks the birthday of the former President, Dr S. Radhakrishnan, who was born on this day in 1888.

Meanwhile, on this day, innumerable posts in honour of the teachers' community flooded the social media platforms and many first-person stories hit newspaper columns where authors shared their tales of student-teacher relationship.



AUTHOR



SAJJAD BAZAZ



Teachers don't exist in classrooms only. In fact, there is also someone outside the classroom who may be imparting you important lessons of living a good life for the overall benefit of humanity.

Most of the anecdotes described classroom business and were, of course, a delight to read. In fact, reproducing a small incident in the classroom during your school or college days that happened some three decades back is always nostalgic and at the same time delights a reader.

In all circumstances, teachers are to be respected for the kind of services they are rendering to society for a better and prosperous tomorrow. However, teachers don't exist in classrooms only. In fact, there may also be someone outside the classroom who may be imparting you important lessons of living a good life for the overall benefit of humanity.

Let me share an extraordinary lesson imparted to me by a great teacher during a brief conversation with him outside the four walls of the classroom. In fact, Teacher's Day always reminds me of my brief half-an-hour meeting with this great teacher, which happened in 1988. That was my first and the last meeting with this

personality – Prof Mushir-ul-Haq, the then vice chancellor of the University of Kashmir. I received a telegram from the University of Kashmir inviting me over a cup of tea with Prof. Mushir-ul-Haq on a particular day. It was the time when Greater Kashmir was a few months old newspaper with weekly periodicity. The reason for inviting me was a report in which I had highlighted the weaknesses and strengths of the Kashmir University.

While discussing the report, Prof. Mushir-ul-Haq didn't contest the facts mentioned in the content of the report. But he told me something exceptional which has a great human value. He didn't deny my report, but said, "Look, this institution (Kashmir University) is like your mother, it has nourished and made you capable of joining a noble profession of journalism. Allah has given us eyelids. One of the justified uses of these eyelids is to shut them when you see something is going wrong on part of the mother. If you

highlight the wrongs in public, it will bring disrepute to the honour of the mother. Things should be set right within the four walls of the house and not by highlighting the wrongs in public."

This was a huge message which he conveyed in his own way of unmatched humble nature despite being a towering personality of his time. His message is relevant for all of us and is valid for all times to come.

The point of mentioning the incident is to understand that teachers in one's life are not confined to classrooms only. There are teachers who are coaching us in our day to day life to live a better tomorrow with peace and prosperity.

Meanwhile, let's have a look at the teaching scenario in our education system. Competition is of course a buzzword today. Be it an unemployed or employed youth, a student or an entrepreneur, a working lady or a housewife, everybody is engaged in competition. In this competitive environ-

ment we see a lot of people taking unnecessary risks and get themselves woven in a do or die situation. Among the breed, the fiercest competition has been triggered in the school going children.

We have a unique modernised education system, which breeds stress and frustration more than infusing physical, mental and spiritual confidence among our toddlers. The drivers of this system are parents whose pressure or what we call expectations and academic performance are the major factors contributing to the high level of stress that is plaguing the minds of our young students. They want their wards to be more or less as plaques through academic and extracurricular achievements, causing huge stress in children. Toddlers as young as 6 years of age are put into a variety of competitions where failure isn't an option.

Let me have a take on our examination system. It breeds fear among students. We have a teaching community instilling the fear of examination even from primary grades. They have evolved a culture of continuous testing which engulfs the primary school curriculum. The whole chain of private schools operating in our state use the stick of punitive measures to ensure that teachers concentrate on pushing students to improve their scores. Does it induce competitiveness? Of course it does, but at a massive cost of burning out the natural desire to learn in children. Precisely we can say that the present state of affairs in our education sector has made even some of our best teachers to act like coaches and drill masters.

Here in our system, the message is clear: "Focus on the examinations." This attitude has led the children to believe that marks, and marks alone, matter. Even our colleges and universities do not

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Degrees Without Skills: Why India's Youth Stay Unemployed



Rahil Rasheed wani
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India is a young country. Everywhere you look, you see students in schools, young graduates in colleges, and coaching centres packed with aspirants. More than half of our population is under 35, which should normally be a huge advantage. But the irony is hard to ignore: instead of becoming a strength, our youth are increasingly stuck in unemployment. Each year lakhs of students graduate, but only a few manage to find decent work.

This makes us ask a tough question why are so many young Indians educated on paper but unemployable in reality?

One of the biggest reasons lies in how we understand education. For most parents, teachers, and society in general, "education" has become equal to degrees and certificates. Marks, grades, ranks these are celebrated as if they automatically guarantee a good career. But in truth, a degree is only a piece of paper if it doesn't come with skills. Sadly, our schools and colleges rarely equip students with what the real world actually demands.

The Indian Degree Obsession

Almost every Indian family has the same story: "Beta, study hard, get good marks, then get a stable job." A job usually means either a government post or something in engineering, medicine, or law. Parents proudly frame report cards and degree certificates, but very few stop to ask: What can my child actually do? What

skills does he or she have?

Because of this obsession, countless young people spend 15-20 years in classrooms chasing marks. Many of them may actually be gifted artists, athletes, entrepreneurs, or even brilliant problem-solvers, but their talents go unnoticed. By the time they realise their true calling, they have lost years trying to fit into society's rigid idea of "success." That's why we see engineers who cannot code, MBAs who cannot communicate properly, and graduates who cannot solve basic real-world problems.

Parents and Teachers: Where We Go Wrong

It's not just the students' fault. Parents and teachers both share responsibility. Parents, often out of love, push children into careers they consider "secure," but this pressure kills individuality. Teachers, instead of being mentors, often limit themselves to textbooks and exams. A student

is judged only by marks, not by creativity or problem-solving. As a result, we end up with graduates who can memorise, but cannot innovate.

How Other Countries Do It

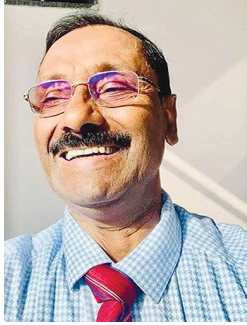
If you look at countries like Germany or Japan, the difference is striking. Germany has a strong vocational training system where students can learn skills through apprenticeships. Japan focuses not only on academics but also on teamwork, discipline, and life skills. Even China, which is often compared to us, identifies children's strengths early and invests heavily in skill development.

In contrast, India keeps most of its youth trapped in traditional schooling and college, with little exposure to practical work. We talk about innovation, but our education system still produces job seekers, not job creators.

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The Brazen Sky

(A Migrant's Tale)



Dr. Ratan Bhattacharjee

The sky over Rajarhat was a brazen sheet of copper on Mahalaya morning, glowing with the promise of divine descent. But for Mahima, the old widow sitting on her broken verandah, it was a sky of silence. Her son Vikram had not called in over a month. No message. No letter. No trace. The wind carried the scent of incense and distant conch shells, but none of it reached her heart. She had waited for this day. Vikram had promised to return from Haryana before Durga Puja. He had spoken of gifts, of Hilsa fish from Bangladesh, of new clothes for her. His voice had been full of hope, like a boy dreaming of a better world. But now, seven days before the festival, Mahima sat alone, clutching the edge of her faded sari, her eyes scanning the road that led nowhere. Her neighbor's son, Raju, had returned from the same construction site in Haryana. He brought news that shattered her last hope. Vikram, he said, might be in a detention camp. The police had suspected him of being Bangladeshi. He had no Aadhar card. The voter ID he carried was fake—bought with borrowed money from a local tout who vanished the day after the deal. Mahima's heart clenched. She had seen the news on television—men behind fences, their eyes hollow, their voices unheard. She imagined Vikram among them, his hands calloused from labor, now gripping rusted bars. But what of his wife, Rina, and their son, little Babu? Were they detained too? Or worse, deported? She had no answers. Only questions that echoed in the silence of her home. Mahima's life had always been a quiet struggle. Her husband, Chironjit, had died in the brick kilns of Murshidabad, coughing blood and dreams. Vikram had inherited his father's strength and his fate. In West Bengal, the daily wage was a pit-



tance. 250 for a day's labor, if lucky. Haryana offered 1000. Vikram had left with hope in his pocket and sweat on his brow. Rina had joined him as a co-laborer. Together, they built homes for strangers, dreaming of a future for their own. Mahima had felt proud. Her son was building a life. This Puja, he had said, would be different. She would wear a new sari. They would eat Hilsa fish. Babu would get a school bag. But dreams, Mahima knew, were fragile things. The nights grew longer. Mahima lay on her cot, staring at the ceiling, whispering Chironjit's name like a prayer. She remembered the days when he would return from work, his shirt soaked in sweat, his eyes tired but kind. He had once told her, "We are like the bricks I shape—burnt, broken, but still holding up someone else's house." She had not understood then. Now she did. She lit a diya at the foot of her tulsi plant. The flame flickered against the wind, a fragile



rebellion against despair. She whispered to the goddess, not for clothes or fish, but for her son's safety. In the local tea shop, men spoke of politics. Of new laws. Of promises. Some leaders had come to their locality, speaking of citizenship cards for those who had come from Bangladesh. A new law had been passed, they said, to protect minorities. Mahima clung to that hope like a drowning woman to driftwood. "If Vikram comes back," she told herself, "we will apply. We will belong." But the sky remained brazen—defiant, unyielding. One evening, Mahima walked to the local police station. Her feet ached. Her sari clung to her like a second skin. She asked the officer about her son. He looked at her with tired eyes. "No record," he said. "Try the camp in Murshidabad." She had no money for the journey. No strength. No companion. She returned home, her heart heavier than her steps. In her dreams, Vikram stood at

the door, holding Babu in his arms, Rina beside him. They smiled. They spoke of wages, of food, of laughter. Mahima woke with tears on her cheeks. She wrote a letter to a local NGO. She did not know if they would read it. She wrote of her son, of his work, of his arrest. She wrote of her poverty, her fear, her hope. She ended with a line her husband once said: "We are like bricks—burnt, broken, but still holding up someone else's house." Days passed. Puja approached. The locality buzzed with preparations. Children rehearsed dances. Women stitched new clothes. Mahima sat alone, watching the world move without her. She remembered Vikram's childhood. His laughter. His stubbornness. His love. He had once stolen a mango for her from the neighbor's tree. He had once fought a boy who called her a beggar. She had once promised never to leave her. She did not blame him. She blamed the sky. On the morning of Saptami, a man arrived at her door. He wore a white kurta and carried a file. He was from the NGO. He had read her letter. "We are trying to locate Vikram," he said. "There are many like him. Detained. Forgotten." Mahima's eyes welled up. She touched his feet. "Just find him," she said. "I don't need clothes. I don't need fish. I just need my son." The man returned two days later. He had news. "Vikram is in the Murshidabad camp," he said. "He is safe. His wife and son are with him." Mahima collapsed to the ground, sobbing. The sky above her turned soft, as if listening. "They will be released soon," the man said. "We are working on it." On Dashami, as the goddess was immersed in the river, Mahima stood by the bank, her hands folded. She did not cry. She did not pray. She simply watched. The sky was no longer brazen. It was a canvas of hope. She whispered to the wind, "Come back, my son. Come back." Two weeks later, Vikram returned. Thin. Tired. But alive. Rina held Babu in her arms. Mahima embraced them all, her tears washing away months of pain. They ate rice and lentils. No Hilsa. No gifts. But they laughed. Vikram held his mother's hand and said, "I will never leave again." Mahima smiled. The sky above them was blue. And for the first time in months, it felt like home.

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Teachers Outside ...

consider it necessary to apply their mind to assess the student's potential. They go by the student's marks scored in previous examinations. Parents push children to work for the highest possible aggregate, rather than to pursue individual interest. This kind of push destroys the student's confidence. Our system undermines the student's ability and potential if he/she has not scored well in the examinations.

Over the years, the demand for children's education has witnessed tremendous growth. Everybody from the poorest of the poor to the well off acknowledges the value of education in the overall development of children. The importance of learning is to

enable the individual to put his potential to optimal use. With rights to education, our student should find himself in a situation with all its windows open to the outside world.

This attitude and mindset has killed the basic concept of education as teaching towards clearing examinations has become the only norm.

What should be done to bail out students from the clutches of stress and frustration? I think we need a change in attitude. We need a change in attitude of parents, teachers and our educationists. This cannot be achieved by the mere imparting of factual information and practical skills. It is the cul-

tivation of the ability to analyse, the desire to question and the courage to challenge convention. Development of a good student to a great extent rests on the schools and the type of education and opportunities given to the students. The parents also should come out of the narrow expectations of making their children an engineer or a doctor but allow them to develop their innate skills. They should cooperate with the schools to implement the reforms initiated for the betterment of the children.

Even as we produce brilliant and intelligent students, they are not an outcome of the current educational system. They are what they are despite the system. The focus

of any system, especially at the primary education stage, should be to benefit all and not merely some. One more obsession that the current educational system faces is the burden of information in the curriculum. If emphasis is given on understanding and creativity rather than memorizing information, much of the bloat from the curriculum can be simply removed.

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The Kitchen That Heals

Rediscovering Kashmir's Anti-Inflammatory Diet



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In Kashmir, the kitchen has always been more than a place to cook. It is where warmth fills the home, where firewood crackles and pots simmer with fragrant meals, and where knowledge quietly passes from one generation to the next. Food here has never been just about filling the stomach; it is care, memory, and a gentle form of healing.

Over the years, however, this close relationship with food has begun to fade. Packaged biscuits have replaced walnuts, and white bread and maida-based parathas have taken the place of grains once ground with patience and care. The effects are evident: tired bodies, aching joints, restless nights. When the kitchen loses its wisdom, the body feels it.

But the answers are not far away, they lie in the valley itself. The anti-inflammatory diet celebrated by modern nutritionists has always existed in Kashmiri homes, tucked into spice jars, baskets of seasonal produce, and every carefully prepared meal.

Every Kashmiri dish carries a whisper of spice. Turmeric, golden and grounding, has been a natural healer for generations. A pinch of cumin in hot oil, a bit of ginger, or a sprinkle of black pepper: once considered ordinary seasonings; are now known to fight inflam-



mation. Our grandmothers added them not only for taste but also, unknowingly, for health.

The walnut tree, gnarled and generous, has long stood in Kashmiri courtyards, offering its heart-soothing nuts. Almonds and flaxseeds can also be easily added to daily meals. Choosing brown rice or local millets like ragi instead of polished white rice helps restore the energy and strength that refined grains often take away. These foods are not just nourishment; they are a living memory of health.

The simplest foods are often the most healing. Dals, beans, and

pulses—staples of every Kashmiri household—are rich in fibre and protein, grounding the body with every meal. Cooked in mustard oil, sharp and fragrant, they remain true to traditional flavours while quietly supporting better health than refined oils.

Eating this way is also about gentle choices. It does not require giving up everything we love but encourages mindfulness. One more walnut, one fewer packaged biscuit. A glass of turmeric milk at night instead of a heavy dessert. These small choices are not sacrifices; they are acts of remembrance and care.

The anti-inflammatory diet of Kashmir is not a new discovery. It is a return, a revival of what was quietly set aside when convenience replaced care. The jars of spices, bottles of mustard oil, handfuls of fresh greens—all have always been there, waiting to be remembered.

Kashmir has always understood that food and healing are inseparable. In every bowl of rice and greens, in every sip of turmeric milk, lies nourishment and comfort. To eat wisely is to care for the body, honour the rhythm of the land, and let the whispers of the kitchen become medicine for everyday life.

Foods to Include & Limit

Foods To Include

Spices:

Turmeric (haldi)
Ginger (adrak)
Cumin (jeera)
Black pepper

Fruits & Vegetables:

Seasonal fruits
Amla (Indian gooseberry)
Spinach (palak)
Fenugreek leaves (methi)
Apples
Walnuts

Nuts & Seeds:

Almonds
Walnuts
Flaxseeds

Grains:

Brown rice
Local millets (e.g., ragi)

Legumes:

Dals (lentils)
Beans
Pulses

Healthy Fats:

Mustard oil
Cold-pressed local oils

Beverages:

Turmeric milk (haldi doodh)

Foods to Limit

Processed Foods:

Packaged snacks
Instant mixes
Ready-to-eat curries

Refined Grains:

White bread
Maida-based parathas
Naans

Sugary Sweets:

Store-bought biscuits
Sugar-laden desserts

Refined Oils:

Replace with mustard oil or cold-pressed local oils

The Writer is President, Doctors Association Kashmir

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Degrees Without Skills...

The Skill Gap in Numbers

Reports often show that nearly 80% of Indian engineering graduates are not employable in their own fields. Similar issues exist across other streams too. Communication skills, digital literacy, critical thinking these are missing in a majority of graduates. The government has recognised the problem through the New Education Policy (NEP 2020), which talks about skill-based learning. But real change is slow, and society's mindset about degrees hasn't shifted yet.

Ground Realities: A Look at Kashmir

The problem is visible in Kashmir as well. In places like Kupwara, some youth realised early that waiting for government jobs was pointless, so they started poultry

and dairy farming units together. They created employment for themselves and others. In Baramulla, many youngsters are reviving traditional handicrafts like wood carving and paper mâché, and selling their work globally using social media. And in Sopore, self-taught coders are now freelancing online for international clients. These examples show that once skills are given importance, degrees stop being the only ticket to success.

What Happens If We Ignore Skills?

The consequences are serious. Unemployment rises, frustration grows, and mental health issues like stress and depression become common. Talented young people often leave India for better opportunities abroad, leading to brain drain. And worst of

all, we waste the potential of millions of students who could have contributed in unique ways if only their skills were nurtured.

The Way Forward

So, what's the solution? First, parents need to realise that success is not just about government jobs or engineering degrees. They should give their children the freedom to follow careers that match their interests. Teachers need better training so they can identify each child's strengths instead of only focusing on exams. Schools and colleges must include internships, vocational courses, and real-life problem-solving in their curriculum. And society needs to change its habit of respecting only doctors, engineers, or civil servants because a skilled entrepreneur or

craftsman is just as valuable.

Conclusion

India is at a turning point. We have the youngest population in the world, which could make us a global powerhouse. But if we keep equating education with degrees alone, we will continue producing unemployed graduates. What we need is a mindset shift from producing degree holders to producing skilled, confident individuals.

Ultimately, the future of India depends not on how many certificates we collect but on how capable, creative, and skilled our youth become. If we get this balance right, the same youth who are seen as a burden today can become the country's greatest strength tomorrow.



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