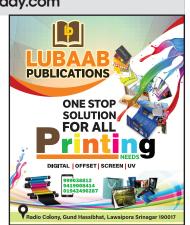
Pages: 12

Price: Rs 02/-





Nearly 9,500 Evacuated as Jhelum **Floods Srinagar Outskirts**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEP 04: Many areas were submerged in Srinagar outskirts on Thursday after the water from river Jhelum entered the residential areas in Taigan and Shalina localities, prompting the authorities to launch a massive rescue operation. The administration has evacuated nearly 9500 people from different parts of the valley.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the heavy rainfall on Wednesday afternoon once again led to the rise in the water level in different rivers and streams across Jammu and Kashmir, leading to a flood-like situation across the region.

Water level recedes at Sangam

However, the water level amidst the improvement in the weather conditions has started receding. The Sangam station of river Jhelum has receded below the danger mark after a



Weather Radars: Dr Jitendra

J&K to Get Four New

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, SEP 04: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Thursday said that J&K would get four additional

Police Rescue 200+ Families **Amid Rising Floods**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEP 04: Amid ongoing heavy rainfall

3,000 Vehicles Stranded on Kashmir Side of Sgr-Jmu Highway

HT News Network

QAZIGUND, SEP 04: More than 3000 vehicles,

NHM, SKIMS Issue Health Advisory Amid J&K Floods

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEP 04: As the flood-like situation in

11 years wasted post-2014 floods, will review what has been done: CM Omar

■ HT News Network

BUDGAM, SEP 04: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said the widespread destruction caused by the ongoing floods could have been prevented if authorities had acted on the plan post-2014 floods and implemented concrete preventive measures.

The CM, as reported by the news

agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), visited several flood-affected areas in Budgam district and urged the Centre to immediately announce a relief package for victims.

He said timely evacuation by the administration saved lives, but damages to homes and infrastructure were "unavoidable and must not be ignored".

"Had the governments in the last 11



years taken preventive measures, the situation could have been different," Omar said. "We formulated a package after the 2014 floods to increase the carrying capacity in flood channels and the river Jhelum, but unfortunately, it seems that the 11 years have been

CM Abdullah said that in the

Turn on Page 2



A Significant Step Towards Building the Aatmanirbhar Bharat

NEXT-GEN GST: The 2 Slab Revolution

Simplified Compliances & Enhanced Global Competitiveness



To build a developed India, we will neither stop nor bow down, we will keep working hard and we will build a developed India by 2047.

> Narendra Modi **Prime Minister**

Benefits to the Businesses

Two Rate Structure



More than 99% of goods & services under GST regime are now either exempt or fall under:

▶ 5% GST Slab

> 18% GST Slab

This will simplify classification and will significantly reduce litigations

Registration



Automatic registration within 3 working days for applicants:

- ▶Identified by the system based on data analysis
- > Who determines that he would not pass Input Tax Credit exceeding ₹2.5 Lakh per month and opts for the Scheme

This will benefit around 96% of new applicants

Refund



Sanction of Provisional Refunds by proper officer, through system based risk evaluation for:

- > Zero Rated Supplies
- Supplies with Inverted Duty Structure

This will ease cash flow constraints and boost India's economy

For the complete list of revised rates & other GST changes, please scan



X @cbic_india







(C) @CBICIndia

www.cbic.gov.in





CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE......

Nearly 9,500.... gap of 28 hours.

As per the details, the water was flowing at 24.53 ft this evening, just some inches below the danger mark.

The latest readings at River Jhelum show: Pampore: 6.36 m (danger mark: 5 m); and Ram Munshi Bagh: 21.62 ft (danger mark: 21

Other readings include Asham: 13.99 ft (danger mark: 16.5 ft) and Wullar: 1576.77 m (full level: 1578 m).

Regarding tributaries, the data show: Vishow Nallah at Khudwani: 7.39 m (danger mark: 8.5 m); Rambiyara Nallah at Wachi: 3.47 m (danger mark: 5.7 m); Lidder Nallah at Batkoot: 0.55 m (danger mark: 1.65 m); and Sindh Nallah at Doderhama: 2.07 m (danger mark: 3.9 m).

While the water level is still above the danger mark at Ram Munshi Bagh station and Pampore, the flood threat still looms across Srinagar, with some of the areas in the Srinagar outskirts like Taigan and Shalina getting submerged.

The rescue operation was immediately launched to evacuate the families from the flood-affected areas.

Nearly 9500 people evacuated Earlier in the day, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg said that nearly 9,000 people have been evacuated from affected areas in Budgam as a precautionary measure following a breach in the Jhelum embankment.

He also urged people not to panic, assuring that the situation is under control as the water level is receding. "Some areas of Budgam were inundated, but as a precautionary measure, we carried out evacuations last night itself. Around 9,000 people were safely shifted to avoid any loss of life," Garg told reporters.

Similarly, the Police in Srinagar said they rescued and evacuated nearly 200 families from flood-affected areas of the district.

The district police have formed quick reaction teams to actively assist stranded citizens, a police spokesperson said.

"In response to the ongoing flood-like situation and heavy waterlogging in various parts of the city, Srinagar Police, in close coordination with SDRF and River Police, has activated a comprehensive evacuation and relocation plan to safeguard the lives and well-being of affected citizens," he said.

The spokesperson said teams from concerned police stations, along with River Police and SDRF units, have been deployed under the supervision of territorial officers across multiple vulnerable locations in the

"These teams have successfully evacuated and relocated nearly 200 families and individuals from the severely impacted areas, which included 24 families and houseboat dwellers who were rescued from Peerzo Island and Basant Bagh," he said.

According to the spokesperson, 39 families were evacuated from Bonyarbal, SR Gunj, Malik Sahib, Safakadal, Pamposh Colony, Noorbagh, Guzarbal, and Madanyar Fateh Kadal. "Around 20 families and individuals were evacuated and relocated from Dedi Kadal, Habba Kadal, Zaindar Mohalla, Tankipora, Karan Nagar, Kursoo, Igbal Colony, and Aramwari, while 20 families were rescued from Tailbal and vulnerable areas of Hazratbal," he added.

The spokesperson said 63 individuals were rescued and relocated from Panzinara-Mujgund, Bund Side, Maloora Bund, Khawajabagh Bund, Parimpora Bund, Bilal Colony Bund, Qamarwari, Rampora Chattabal Bund, Zenpora, and Tengan.

Landslides damage infrastructure Moreover, a series of landslides disrupted life and infrastructure across parts of Jammu and Kashmir, damaging projects, transport links, and border fencing while prompting multiple rescue operations.

In Kishtwar district, a landslide struck temporary tin structures at the Ratle power project site in Dhrabshala. The sheds, which had been erected for use as washrooms, collapsed under the impact.

Five people who were inside at the time were trapped. They were pulled out by the local administration and rescue teams. Three among them were shifted to the Government Medical College Hospital in Doda for treatment, officials said.

Union Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr Jitendra Singh, said he had spoken with Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Sharma following the incident. He wrote on X that the timely response by the district administration had prevented further harm. Singh added that the rescued individuals were receiving medical attention and other required

Elsewhere, connectivity was affected in several sectors, including in many parts of Kishtwar. The Jammu-Katra shuttle train, introduced recently to facilitate local travel and assist stranded passengers, remained out of service for a second consecutive day due to flood-related damage and landslides

Officials also said that nearly 30 kilometres of fencing along the international border in Jammu division had been impacted by floodwaters.

In several areas, the barriers were submerged, displaced, or bent, creating additional security and maintenance challenges, they said.

In Udhampur district, a major landslide hit a section of National Highway-44, the primary road link between Jammu and Srinagar. The incident took place at Tharad, where a 200-metre stretch was damaged by

Teams from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) have been deployed to restore traffic and clear debris. The disruption has added to the difficulties faced by commuters and transporters already struggling with weather-related closures.

In Ramban district, police and local administration carried out a rescue operation after around 50 tourists from West Bengal were stranded near Nashri on the Jammu-Srinagar highway.

The group, which included women and children, had been stuck for several hours after sudden flash floods and falling debris cut off movement on the road.

The official said that a team from Police Station Batote, joined by the Tehsildar and the disaster management unit, responded soon after receiving information. The visitors were moved to Batote, where they were accommodated in safer conditions. According to police, all tourists were unharmed.

Weather forecast

Pertinently, the weather conditions improved across Jammu and Kashmir since yesterday afternoon, with the weatherman predicting dry weather conditions till September 07.

Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that a brief spell of rain and thunder is expected at a few places with moderate showers at one or two districts of Jammu division for the next three days.

He added that on September 8 and 9, a spell of moderate rain is expected over a few districts of Jammu division during 8th late night and 9th morning and improvement thereafter. Also, from September 10 to 12, a brief spell of rain and thundershower activity is expected at a few places.

11 years wasted.....

next week, he will conduct a review to see what has been done in the last 11 years and what needs to be done to ensure that such a situation is prevented in the future. We will raise the questions in this regard to get the answers, he said.

"As the teams from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) have been deputed to Jammu districts, I will write to the Home Minister Amit Shah to depute the team to Kashmir districts also to assess the damage caused to the orchards, agriculture and other things due to the floods and announce the package for both Jammu as well as Kashmir accord-

ingly," he said. About the floods, the CM said Srinagar has been protected, but some areas like Lasjan and others have been submerged. He, however, added that the administration, including Divisional Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and MLAs, have evacuated the people on time, which saved lives, but there is undeniable damage to the proper-

During his visit to Tengan and Shalina in Budgam, Abdullah reviewed the situation caused by continuous rains and rising water levels in the Jhelum, which led to breaches and flooding of nearby areas. He commended the swift action of the administration and MLAs, who remained on the ground during

J&K to Get.....

weather radars under 'Mission Mausam' to strengthen district-wise forecasts and early warning systems.

Dr. Singh, who is also the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Atomic Energy and Space, according to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), convened a high-level review meeting via video conference with the Divisional Commissioner of Jammu and the Deputy Commissioners of Doda, Kishtwar, Ramban, Kathua, and Udhampur.

The meeting reviewed ongoing relief and rehabilitation measures following unprecedented rainfall, cloudbursts, and flash floods across the districts.

Dr Singh said that Union Ministry of Earth Sciences, in collaboration with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), will install four additional weather radars in

Three radars are already operational in the region, and the new installations aim to provide more precise monitoring of extreme

Dr Singh directed the Ministry of Earth Sciences and IMD to issue dedicated, district-specific forecasts for North Indian states including Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Punjab. He also instructed round-the-clock monitoring of weather patterns to ensure timely alerts and minimize loss of life and

property. The Minister commended the efforts of district administrations and civil society, noting that despite challenging weather conditions, officials have worked tirelessly to provide rations, medicines, and shelter to affected families.

Dr. Singh, who is also the Lok Sabha MP from Udhampur, confirmed that additional consignments of ration kits, advanced water filters, and essential medicines are being dispatched from his own MP funds to supplement government relief measures. He also highlighted measures taken to prevent water-borne diseases by ensuring access to potable drinking water and medical kits.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah are closely monitoring the situation, with an inter-ministerial committee set to visit Kathua to assess damages and coordinate assistance, Dr. Singh added.

In Doda, DC Harvinder Singh said that timely intervention prevented large-scale inundation in Bhaderwah by clearing blocked culverts and diverting water channels during peak floods.

In Udhampur, 38 relief camps accommodate over 2,000 people, while around 190 of the 380 damaged roads have been restored. In Kathua, 26 relief camps shelter 1,900 people, with restoration of roads and water supply schemes ongoing. Ramban and Kishtwar also saw swift response operations, including the rescue of five people trapped in a landslide at the Rattle Power Project.

Dr. Singh assured that no effort would be spared in providing relief and rehabilitation across all affected districts, praising the role of local authorities and community volunteers as integral to a coordinated government response.

Police Rescue.....

and rising water levels, Srinagar Police, supported by the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), River Police, and other agencies, have launched large-scale evacuation and relief operations across floodaffected areas of the city. To date, over 200 families and individuals have been success-

Kashmir Police Chief V. K. Bidhuri assured full coordination among all agencies involved, saying their united effort to safeguard lives and property. He said all rescue and relief operations are being carried out under the direct supervision of territorial officers.

Officials told the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that evacuations were carried out under the direct supervision of territorial officers.

Around 24 families and houseboat dwellers were rescued from Peerzo Island and Basantbagh; 39 families from Bonyarbal, S.R. Gunj, Malik Sahib, Safakadal, Pamposh Colony, Noorbagh, Guzarbal, and Madanyar Fateh Kadal, they said, adding that 20 families and individuals from Dedi Kadal, Habba Kadal, Zaindar Mohalla, Tankipora, Karan Nagar, Kursoo, Iqbal Colony, and Aramwari; and another 20 families from Tailbal and vulnerable pockets of Hazratbal.

Additionally, 63 individuals were evacuated from Panzinara-Mujgund, Maloora Bund, Khawajabagh Bund, Parimpora Bund, Bilal Colony Bund, Qamarwari, Rampora Chattabal Bund, Zenpora, and

Besides rescue efforts, police personnel plugged potential breaches at multiple embankments, preventing further escalation of the situation. Quick Response Teams (QRTs) and contingency squads have been activated across all police establishments to regulate traffic, provide frontline assistance, and reach stranded families in time.

Srinagar Police have also set up dedicated 24×7 helplines while publishing contact numbers of district officers to ensure immediate public access during emergen-

Meanwhile, people have been urged to avoid unnecessary travel during heavy rains, report waterlogging, fallen trees, or electrical hazards, and cooperate fully with emergency services.

IGP Bidhuri, speaking to reporters here, said all departments, including the Police, Army, SDRF, NDRF and civil administration, are working in close coordination to ensure timely rescue and relief.

"Our forces are on the ground wherever water entered residential areas. Rescue teams remain on standby, and whenever a call is received, the nearest unit responds immediately," he said.

He added that police units have been directed to patrol along Jhelum's embankments to detect seepages or breaches. "If such situations arise, they are reported to flood control authorities, and plugging operations are initiated without delay," Bidhuri said.

The IGP urged people to remain calm, follow advisories, and cooperate with authorities. "Weather is showing signs of improvement, and water levels are expected to recede. All agencies are united in this mission to safeguard lives and property," he

"J&K Police remain fully committed to public safety and will continue to extend all possible assistance during these challenging times," the IGP said.

3,000 Vehicles.....

HT - NEWS

including 500 fruit-laden trucks, are stranded on the Kashmir side of the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, officials told the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) on Thursday.

They said that the landslides and roads caving in at many places along the 260-km highway have led to the blockade of this arterial road. "Efforts are on to make the highway motorable and restoration works are going on in full swing" an official told KNO.

He said, "Vehicles, including 500 fruit-laden trucks, are stuck between Qazigund and Wanpoh. As soon as the highway reopens fruit-laden trucks will be cleared on priority.'

Pertinently, the highway has not been fully restored for almost ten days after it suffered massive damages at Udhampur on August 26. "A 10-kilometre stretch of the highway between Sarmoli and Udhampur has been sinking, posing a major challenge for road maintenance agencies. Multiple stretches of the 250-kilometre highway have also been blocked due to debris, boulder slides, and sunken patches, particularly in the Ramban-Banihal sector," said an official.

"Clearance work is underway on the crucial Ramban-Banihal stretch. This stretch will be restored for vehicular movement by tonight," they added.

Stranded for over ten days, drivers on the Qazigund side are pleading for assistance as the load in their trucks is about to perish and they are running out of resources. "We have neither rations nor money. We need facilities here and the highway should be restored on a war footing basis," said a

Meanwhile, the strategic Mughal Road, connecting Poonch and Rajouri with Shopian in south Kashmir, is also closed due to landslides and shooting stones at several locations, while the Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road remains shut due to unstable condi-

NHM, SKIMS.....

several parts of Jammu and Kashmir continues, the Health and Medical Education Department, in coordination with the Department of Community Medicine, SKIMS, and the National Health Mission (NHM), has issued a comprehensive Public Health

The advisory highlights measures to prevent the outbreak of water-borne and vector-borne diseases, ensure food and water safety, and address mental health needs during this crisis.

According to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), health experts have cautioned that contaminated water and food sources pose a grave risk of diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid, and hepatitis A and E.

They said the foremost priority

should be access to safe water. "People should drink only boiled or chlorinated water (rolling boil for at least 5–10 minutes), sealed and packaged bottled water from reliable sources remains the safest option, if water appears muddy, it must be filtered through a clean cloth before boiling or treating and water should be stored in clean, covered containers, and hands or unclean objects should not be dipped into stored water, instead, a ladle or small vessel should be used."

Doctors have urged that only freshly cooked, hot food should be consumed. "Raw vegetables, cut fruits, or uncovered food must be avoided. Any food that has come into contact with floodwater should be discarded immediately. Dry rations should be stored at elevated levels inside homes to protect them from contamination.'

According to the advisory, people must maintain strict hand hygiene wash hands with soap and clean water after defecation and before meals, and avoid wading in floodwaters. If unavoidable, use rubber boots and clean and dry skin folds properly to prevent fungal infections.

In endemic areas, authorities have advised people to sleep under insecticide-treated bed nets, wear full-sleeved clothing in the evenings, use mosquito repellents and prevent stagnation of water in containers or surroundings.

"People must avoid walking in floodwaters, especially at night without adequate lighting, be alert for snakes seeking shelter in dry areas and in case of a snake bite, immediate medical care is essential," they said.

Doctors have urged people to dispose of solid waste only at designated sites, avoid dumping garbage into water sources and use temporary latrines if regular sanitation facilities are submerged.

The advisory also highlighted the psychological toll of natural disasters.

Children and the elderly should be reassured and provided with emotional support, and for anxiety, depression, or trauma, people have been encouraged to seek help from mental health

The Tele MANAS helpline (14416) has been activated to provide mental health assistance.

The NHM advisory further urged residents to seek early medical help in case of fever, diarrhoea, vomiting, jaundice, skin infections, or injuries and continue routine immunisations and ensure patients with chronic illnesses like diabetes and hypertension continue their treatments without inter-

For emergencies, the helpline numbers 104, 102, and 108 remain

Neglecting these precautions could lead to a secondary health crisis of preventable diseases, medical experts

BJP Ex.District President Visits Flood-Hit Pampore

Urges Immediate Relief and Action from Authorities

■ HT News Desk

PULWAMA, SEP 04: BIP leader and former District President Pulwama, Mohammad Lateef Bhat, visited the flood-affected Khankha Bagh locality (Ward No. 9) in Pampore Tehsil on Thursday. Accompanied by the Tehsildar Pampore, Bhat met with distressed residents and assured them of raising their concerns at the highest levels.

Residents of Khankha Bagh described a grave and recurring crisis: water from the Jhelum River continues to inundate their homes due to a damaged bund and an inadequate drainage system. According to locals, even a minor rise in the river level causes reverse water flow from the drainage outlet, leading to flooding, property damage, and severe inconvenience.

Despite repeated pleas to the administration, no concrete action has yet been taken. Residents are now demanding urgent intervention from government authorities to prevent further damage and ensure



long-term safety.

The affected residents have submitted a threepoint demand Raise the height of the Jhelum bund by several feet to prevent future breaches. Repair and upgrade the existing drainage system—specifically the stretch from the house of Shafiq Ahmad Bhat to Mohammad Iqbal Baktoo. Install a pumping/motor system at the drainage outlet to ensure smooth water discharge, even when the river level rises.

Speaking to the media. Lateef Bhat expressed deep concern over the situation and urged the district dent.

administration to take swift and effective measures to restore normalcy. "The suffering of these residents is unacceptable. I will personally follow up with the concerned departments to ensure they receive the attention and support they urgently need," he said.

Locals expressed hope that the visit would mark a turning point in the government's response to their long-standing issues.

"We need immediate action, not just assurances.Our lives and properties are at stake," said a local resi-



Div Com Kashmir visits flood-affected areas in Srinagar, Budgam

Supervises relief efforts, urges public to stay away of low-lying areas

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 04: Following breaches in the embankments of the River Jhelum at Zonipora and Shalina in Budgam, which led to flooding in several low-lying areas of Srinagar and Budgam districts, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg, visited the affected regions to oversee relief and rescue operations.

Accompanied by IGP Kashmir and the Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar & Budgam, Div Com visited Lasjan and Nowgam to assess the situation and ensure that coordinated efforts were underway to safeguard residents.

Speaking on the occasion, Div Comsaid, "Early this morn-

ing, breaches occurred in the Jhelum embankments at Zonipora in Budgam, resulting in flooding of nearby areas. However, as a precautionary measure, we had already evacuated

around 9,000 people last night, which helped in preventing any loss of life."

He further added that the weather conditions have started to improve, especially in South

Kashmir, and most areas are currently experiencing clear skies.

"Water levels at Sangam and Ram Munshi Bagh are receding, which is a positive sign," he stated. He added that relief and rescue teams including personnel from the SDRF, NDRF, police, and revenue departments are actively engaged in operations in affected low-lying areas, ensuring timely assistance to

residents

"To ensure proper coordination and effective on-ground response, senior officials of divisional administration & district administrations are present on the spots," he said.

Highlighting the importance of public cooperation, Div Com appreciated the support from the people and said that continuous announcements are being made to keep the public alert and informed.

He also shared updates on evacuation efforts, stating that evacuations have been carried out in six villages of Budgam, while preventive evacuations are underway in Srinagar. He urged people to avoid venturing into low-lying areas as a safety measure.

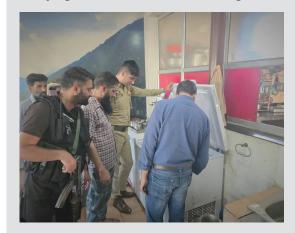
Later in the day, Div Com along with Deputy Commissioner Budgam visited Shalina to inspect ongoing relief and mitigation efforts, reaffirming the administration's commitment to supporting all affected residents.

Police Conduct Market Checking Drive in Tral to Ensure Food Safety and Fair Pricing

■ HT News Desk

TRAL, **SEP 4:** In a proactive move to ensure food safety and curb overpricing, the Tral Police on Wednesday conducted a comprehensive market checking drive across the town.

The inspection was aimed at monitoring the quality of food being served in restaurants and verifying that commodities were being sold at



government-approved rates.

The drive was carried out under the supervision of Station House Officer (SHO) Tral, Abdul Raashid. During the inspection, several restaurants were visited, where food quality, hygiene standards, and price lists were thoroughly checked.

The police have reiterated that similar drives will continue in the future to keep a regular check on market practices, and anyone found violating the norms will be dealt with strictly under the law.

J&K Pensioners Demand One-Time Benefits, Higher Allowance

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 04: J&K Pensioners and senior citizens United front,s meeting was held under the Chairmanship Rafiq Ahmad Khanyari on 30th,of August 2025 at Chadoora Budgam.Retired employees of different departments had participated in the meeting.partspants had highlighted the problems facing by the retired empolyees .



The retirement benifits such as gratuity,leave salary,commutation ,GPF and insurance are being in installments now which is totally injustice.Matter be agitated before the higher authorities that the retirement benifits shall be given to retiree in one time as soon as he retires.Further the medical allowance be enhanced from Rs.300/-to Rs.1000/- thousand per month to the retirees. Mr.Habib Ulla Yuto has been nominated as Tehsil Presidant Chadoora. Hence unanimously the Government has requested to redress the grievances of retirees immediately.Members of the United front are here by informed that the scheduled meeting which is to be held on 5th.be held on 9th.Sep.,2025 for this month.

Save Youth Save Future Foundation Releases Groundbreaking Research Report on Unmarked and Unidentified Graves in Kashmir Valley

■ HT News Desk

NEW DELHI, SEP 4: The Save Youth Save Future Foundation, a prominent Kashmiri NGO, unveiled its landmark research report titled "Unraveling the Truth: A Critical Study of Unmarked and Unidentified Graves in Kashmir Valley" at the Press Club of India today.

The event was attended by media representatives, eminent citizens, scholars, and intellectuals, sparking a thought-provoking discourse on a sensitive and highly contested issue.

The meticulously executed study, spearheaded by the Foundation's scholars and volunteers, examined and documented nearly 4,500 unmarked and unidentified graves across four border districts of Kashmir—Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, and Ganderbal. Covering six years of intensive field research, the report offers empirical evidence to counteract misinformation and propaganda regarding these graves, clarifying their origins and the involvement of both for-



eign and local militants.

Wajahat Farooq Bhat, Chairman of the Save Youth Save Future Foundation, highlighted the importance of the study, asserting:

"Our research is a step toward truth and transparency. These graves have long been enveloped in mystery and conjecture. Through empirical evidence and thorough analysis, we aspire to promote an informed dialogue

that aids in achieving peace and societal stability in the Kashmir Valley"

The event featured an in-depth presentation by Anika Nazir, a principal researcher involved in the project, who emphasized the difficulties faced during the study and its ramifications for the future of the region.

"This report transcends mere statistics: it encapsulates human

narratives, provides closure for families, and tackles a significant issue with both sensitivity and precision," she stated.

The Chief Guest, Wajahat Habibullah, former Chief Information Commissioner of India, addressed the audience, praising the Foundation's initiative:

"This study represents a commendable endeavor to clarify a complex and emotionally charged issue. It highlights the significance of truth in healing wounds and fostering a peaceful future."

Rishi Suri, Senior Editor at The Daily Milap, also spoke at the event.

"This study will go a long way in restoring the dignity of the families and communities that have been held hostage to a false narrative all these years and will chart a brighter path for Kashmir," he said.

The program concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session and a vigorous discussion, showcasing the Foundation's dedication to fostering constructive dialogue. The release of the report signifies a crucial milestone in addressing the intricacies of unmarked graves in Kashmir, setting the stage for informed policy-making and societal healing.

Speakers lauded the Save Youth Save Future Foundation's commitment to fostering peace, stability, and social empowerment through research, advocacy, and community involvement.

KVK Kulgam Organizes Rural Credit Workshop under JKCIP at Manzgam

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEP 4: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Kulgam, in collaboration with the Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, and other allied sectors, organized a Rural Credit Workshop today under the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement in Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP) at Manzgam, Kulgam.

The workshop witnessed the participation of over 120 farmers, rural youth, members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). The event aimed to create awareness about timely institutional credit access and its crucial role in transforming agriculture at the grassroots level by making it more competitive, climate-resilient, and economically sustainable.

Dr. Ab Shakoor Khanday, Dr. Shahid Ahmad, and Dr. Tariq Iqbal—scientists from KVK Kulgam—stressed the importance of adopting modern agri-enterprises and crop diversification to enhance income per unit area, particularly for small and marginal farmers.

Officials from the allied departments briefed participants on various credit-linked schemes and subsidies available under JKCIP. They encouraged farmers to explore opportunities in horticulture, agriculture, dairy, poultry, and sheep rearing by establishing modern, income-generating



ınits.

An interactive Q&A session followed, during which farmers raised pertinent questions related to loan eligibility, repayment flexibility, and insurance coverage. KVK scientists and officers from line departments addressed all concerns and assured farmers of continued support in simplifying banking procedures and bridging existing gaps between farmers, financial institutions, and development agencies.

The farmers appreciated the ini-

tiative, calling it a timely step toward financial empowerment and rural entrepreneurship. Many attendees noted that such workshops are vital in promoting accessible and farmerfriendly credit systems in rural areas.

The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Tariq Iqbal, who extended gratitude on behalf of KVK Kulgam to all collaborating departments and the farming community for their active participation and support.

Struggle for Women's Equality, Dignity, and Justice Will Continue: JKWA

■ <u>Farooq Rather</u>

SHOPIAN, SEP 4: The Jammu and Kashmir Women's Association (JKWA), affiliated with the All India Democratic Women's Association (AlDWA), held its district-level conference today in Shopian. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from progressive women activists, students, and citizens committed to the cause of women's rights. The conference was presided over by Ms. Lateefa Ji, who conducted the proceedings with determination and conjugates.

Throughout the sessions, several key issues affecting



women were thoroughly discussed, including gender discrimination, limited access to education, safety concerns, and economic hardships. Speakers emphasized that ensuring women's dignity, safety, and empowerment requires strengthened efforts in education, awareness, and collective action. At the conclusion of the discussions, the participants unanimously passed a resolution to intensify their efforts towards women's empowerment. At welve-member district committee was also elected to lead JKWA's work in Shopian going forward.

The conference concluded with a strong spirit of unity and resolve, as all participants reaffirmed their commitment to continue the struggle for women's equal rights, dignity, and justice.

CMYK

Rana calls for enhanced inter-departmental coordination in implementation of tribal welfare schemes

HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 04: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs. Javed Ahmed Rana, today held a detailed discussion with Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo to review inter-departmental coordination and monitoring mechanisms related to tribal welfare schemes and development projects in Iammu & Kashmir.

The meeting was convened in the wake of the recent flash floods that have caused extensive damage across several regions, affecting tribal communities.

Expressing deep concern over

the hardships faced by affected families, the Minister called for immediate and effective implementation of rehabilitation measures announced by the Govern-

He emphasized that shortterm relief is critical but there is a pressing need to develop long-term, sustainable strategy for the permanent settlement and protection of tribal populations vulnerable to recurring natural calamities.

He noted that administration's response must be swift and anchored in structural reforms to reduce long-term vulnerability and ensure security and dignity



During the deliberations, the

Minister highlighted several priority areas like timely dis-

bursal of compensation for losses incurred by both individuals and communities, damage to private property and public infrastructure which require urgent attention.

He also called for rapid restoration of essential services in affected areas, stressing that delays in restoring basic amenities could deepen the distress of vulnerable populations.

Rana underscored the critical importance of a robust monitoring framework to ensure that inter-departmental tribal welfare projects are implemented without unnecessary delays.

He reiterated that efficient

inter-departmental coordination is key to the success of developmental and relief initiatives and urged for the establishment of accountability-driven mechanisms to facilitate timely execu-

tion and measurable outcomes.

He also directed for aligning UT-level initiatives with the broader policy directives of NITI Aayog, particularly with regard to the mandated allocation of financial resources for tribal development.

He further stressed the need for targeted investment in infrastructure, healthcare, education and livelihood generation to create a strong and sustainable support system for tribal com-

Reaffirming the Government's commitment to inclusive growth, Rana stated that the objective must go beyond reactive relief measures. He advocated for transformative approach that integrates disaster preparedness with long-term development planning.

The Chief Secretary assured that instructions will be reiterated and amplified to strengthen coordination mechanisms to ensure that tribal communities are not left behind in the progress of Jammu & Kashmir.

DC B'la convenes meeting on Water **Quality Testing and Prevention of Water-Borne Diseases**

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BARAMULLA, SEP 04: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today chaired a meeting in his office chamber here to review the campaign for prevention of water-borne diseases and intensifying of water quality testing in affected areas of the

During the meeting, DC directed the concerned departments to constitute special teams to collect water samples from different areas for regular testing to ensure the availability of safe drinking water. He further instructed for special sanitation drives at water sources and related assets to prevent contamination.

It was highlighted that recent heavy rainfall and flood-like situations in parts of Kashmir had raised concerns regarding water contamination and the spread of water-borne diseases.

DC emphasized the need for wide-scale public awareness, including announcements through mobile vans, to sensitize people about the safe use of

drinking water, hygiene, and sanitation practices. Chief Education Officer was directed to disseminate awareness among students regarding preventive measures, hygiene, and safe water consumption so that children can act as ambassadors of change within their families and communities.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Development Baramulla, Chief Medical Officer Baramulla, Chief Education Officer Baramulla, Executive Engineer PHE Baramulla, Executive Engineer I&FC Baramulla, and District Social Welfare Officer Baramulla.

DC Ganderbal directs Intensified Water Quality Testing to prevent Water-Borne Diseases

HT News Desk / DIPR

GANDERBAL, SEP 04: In view of the recent incessant rains that caused water logging in several areas of the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today convened a meeting to review preventive measures against water-borne diseases and directed for intensified water quality testing across the district.

The meeting discussed the

functioning of water testing laboratories, activation of Pani Samitis, and finalization of the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns to spread awareness about preventive mea-

DC directed the Executive Engineer Ial Shakti to enhance water quality monitoring through intensified testing and ensure that Pani Samitis carry out regular water testing at Panchayat level

to prevent any outbreak of waterborne diseases. He also instructed that daily water testing reports be shared for close monitoring.

Further, Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal was directed to distribute chlorine tablets, especially in water-logged areas, and to ensure wide publicity of health advisories issued by the Health Department. He was also directed to ensure adequate availability of essential medicines at all

The CEO and Heads of higher education institutions were asked to sensitize students about precautionary measures to be adopted at home in post-flood situations.

DC also instructed the Rural Development Department (RDD) and Municipal authorities to conduct sanitation drives in affected

He stressed on intensifying IEC

campaigns jointly by RDD, Municipality and Health, particularly through IEC vans in waterlogged areas to spread awareness among the general public.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Fahim Bihaqi; SDM Kangan; Program Officer ICDS; ACD; Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti and I&FC; CMO; EO MC Ganderbal, besides other concerned officials.

DC Udhampur reviews measures to prevent waterborne diseases post heavy rains, floods

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

UDHAMPUR, SEP 04: To discuss preventive measures against waterborne diseases in the aftermath of recent heavy rains and floods, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai today chaired a meeting of officers of line departments in the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by IAS Probationer Seerat Baji; Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Dr Ashwani Hansa and other senior officers.

The DC emphasized the urgent need for intensive water quality testing, public awareness campaigns and effective sanitation drives, particularly

She directed concerned officers to ensure that safe potable water is made available to all affected families.

Jal Shakti Department was directed to undertake regular water testing and ensure chlorination of all water supply schemes.

The Health & Medical Education Department was directed to organize awareness drives on safe drinking water and distribute chlorine tablets at the community level.

Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj to educate people on safe sanitation and hygiene practices under the WASH program. The Education Department was directed to involve schools and colleges in Administration.

in flood and landslide-affected areas. spreading awareness through students and special cleanliness drives. Besides, the DC calls for using Mobile awareness vans, radio and TV jingles to be used for disseminating advisories regarding safe water consumption and

disease prevention. The DC further stressed on close inter-departmental coordination. timely reporting of field-level issues and regularly sharing water testing

The DC also appealed to the general public to avoid consuming water directly from flood-affected sources, adopt proper water purification practices and strictly follow advisories issued by the District

Div Com tours flood affected areas in Jammu City

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 04: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar today conducted an extensive tour of the severely affected areas in Jammu city post heavy rains and floods.

The Divisional Commissioner, accompanied by Managing Director JPDCL, Commissioner JMC, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Chief Engineers of PWD, Jal Shakti, PDD and other officials, visited different affected areas and essential infrastructure installation that suffered damages due to the heavy rains and floods.



The Divisional Commissioner commenced the tour from Kalka Colony at Bahu Tehsil where he inspected the damages to Tawi embankment and the houses of people that were inundated. He directed the IMC to provide all assistance to the affected residents for removal of the remaining silt and muck

Afterwards, the Div Com, along with the team of officers, visited the water Filtration Plant at Har Ki Pouri. He was apprised that the filtration plant has been partially restored. He directed the Chief Engineer Jal Shakti to ensure functioning of the plant at its full capacity at the earliest.

At Rajiv Colony, Bikram Chowk, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned officials to restore the Tawi Bank that was partially eroded in the flood induced by incessant rains. He also directed the Engineers of JPDCL and Jal Shakti to make the water supply scheme at Rajiv colony functional

The Divisional Commissioner also visited the Peerkho area that was severely impacted by the floods during the heavy rains. Interacting with the locals, he was informed by the residents that they received ample support from Jammu Municipal Corporation for removing the silt and muck accumulated in the lanes and houses.

Talking to media persons, the Divisional Commissioner said that water and power has been restored in majority of areas in Jammu City, while efforts are on to restore the same in remaining severely af-

He further said the District administration has provided immediate relief and an assessment process is underway to provide compensation for damages to private property under SDRF norms. "The Administration and government stands in solidarity with the victims of the heavy rains and floods and will provide all assistance for their rehabilitation," he added.

Later, the Divisional Commissioner visited the water filtration plant at Dhonthly which has been restored partially. The Div Com directed the concerned officials of the PHE departments to restore the plant to its full capacity by evening so that the water supply to the old city is restored completely.

Doda admin formulates action plan to prevent spread of water-borne diseases

DC asks for launching water testing derive, mass awareness campaign

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

DODA, SEP 4: In response to the recent floods and the subsequent risk of contamination of drinking water sources, Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh today chaired a crucial meeting to chalk out preventive strategies against the possible outbreak of water-borne diseases in the district.

The meeting was attended by District Programme Officer Akhtar Hussain Qazi; ACD Din Mohd Afaqi; ACP Mushraf Haff; District Social Welfare Officer Tariq Qazi; Chief Medical Officer Dr. Om Kumar, Chief Education Officer Mohammad Hafiz, Heads of Government Degree Colleges of Doda, Thathri, Gandoh, Bhaderwah and Kastigarh, Superintending Engineer Hydraulics, XENs PHE, Kishtwar and Gandoh, along with other senior officers.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the urgent need to ensure supply of safe drinking water to all affected areas. He directed the Hydraulic Department to intensify chlorination, repair of damaged pipelines and water quality testing.

The Health Department was asked to strengthen surveillance of vulnerable areas, deploy medical teams, and stock essential medicines to deal with any potential outbreak. The Education Department was directed to spread awareness among students regarding hygiene and safe drinking



practices, while the Social Welfare and Rural Development Departments were tasked with community-level sensitization campaigns.

DC Harvinder Singh informed the officers about the government guidelines for handling water-borne $diseases\, and\, directed\, the\, XEN\, PHE$ to initiate a district-wide water testing drive. He also instructed

them to start mobile campaign to spread awareness. The CMO was directed to mobilise ASHA workers for household visits to educate people about using safe and treated drinking water. The ACP was asked to create awareness in every Panchayat about the possible spread

of water-borne diseases. The CEO Doda was directed to

organize hygiene awareness and WASH campaigns through students in schools, while Principals of Degree Colleges were instructed to conduct similar campaigns and practices in their institutions. The DC also directed ACP to take immediate action to start dewatering and mud clearance in the colleges and schools that were sub-

merged due to the recent heavy rains. The District Social Welfare Officer was asked to organize WASH awareness campaigns in institutions under the department's supervision, while the District Programme Officer was directed to conduct awareness drives on hygiene and water safety in all Anganwadi Centres.

CMYK

HT-NEWS

Rana reviews water supply restoration measures across Jammu

Commends engineers for timely restoration of Tawi Filtration Plant

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 04: In a move to ensure safe and reliable drinking water for the people of Jammu province, Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment, and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana chaired a meeting to review the progress of water supply restoration measures.

The meeting focused on assessing the ongoing restoration of essential water infrastructure severely impacted by recent flash floods, incessant rainfall and widespread landslides.

During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the status of key water supply installations in Jammu city and appreciated the tireless efforts of the Jal Shakti Department staff and engineers.

He specially commended their work in successfully restoring operations at Tawi Filtration Plant at Dhounthly, which resumed functioning late last night. He emphasized that potable water

Director agriculture Jammu visits

flood affected areas of R.S. Pura

to assess crop loss

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 4: Director Agriculture Jammu Anil

Gupta today visited the flood affected area of R.S.

Pura subdivision to make a firsthand assessment of

the crop loss caused by incessant rains and subsequent

landslides. He was accompanied by Chief Agriculture

Officer Manohar Lal Sharma; SDAO R.S. Pura, Arun

Jaral; State Head Bajaj Allianz General Insurance,

Sonu Kumar, along with SMS SDL, concerned JAEOs,

AEAs and representatives of the insurance company.

The areas visited by the Director Agriculture in-

cluded Badyal Brahmana, Dehrian, Chak Hansoo and

adjoining villages, where he also interacted with the

- Nama A - M

During the visit, the Chief Agriculture Officer

briefed the Director Agriculture about the prevailing

situation in the area and shared detailed information

regarding the extent of crop loss. He further informed

that the process of compilation of data in Badyal

Brahmana and other villages of the R.S. Pura subdi-

vision is in progress. "The SDAO along with his team

is working on a war footing to register farmers' com-

plaints and document the crop loss. To facilitate the

process, four farmer registration and grievance fa-

cilitation centres have been opened at Badyal Brah-

land holding of 95.78 hectares, nearly 74.07 hectares

of crop has been damaged in Sangyal village, while

the crop over 117.95 hectares have been reported

damaged in Bikarma village, which has the total land

solidarity with their concerns and reassured them

that the Department of Agriculture will take every

possible measure to mitigate their losses. He assured

the farmers that the department is committed to

ensuring timely relief and support under the provi-

 $tionaries \, to \, expedite \, the \, completion \, of \, crop \, damage$

assessment reports and submit them to the concerned

authorities so that immediate relief measures can

be initiated. He also directed that awareness camps

be organized across affected villages to educate farm-

ers about their rights and benefits under PMFBY and

the claim settlement process. He emphasized the

need to mobilize technical teams for on-ground sup-

port, ensure timely distribution of seeds and inputs

where needed and extend advisory services to farm-

ers on crop restoration measures.

The Director issued instructions to the field func-

sions of PMFBY and other relevant schemes.

 $While \, addressing \, the \, farmers, Anil \, Gupta \, expressed$

As per the preliminary assessment out of total

mana," he informed.

holding of 143.65 hectares,.

affected farmers.



The meeting also reviewed the status of the 600 mm diameter rising main from Sitlee to Lohar, which had been significantly dam-

Mohalla, Kachi Chowani, Jain Ba-

zar, Zulaka Mohalla and other

The Minister instructed the concerned engineers to expedite restoration work and ensure full

resumption of water supply.

Assurances were also extended to residents in localities such as Janipur, Roopnagar, Bantalab, Keran Swarn Vihar, Muthi, and Indra Colony, who have faced intermittent water supply in the wake of the natural calamity.

The Minister instructed the concerned engineers to expedite restoration work and ensure full resumption of water supply. He also called for fully restoring water supply to Janipur, Roopnagar, Bantalab, Keran Swarn Vihar, Muthi, and Indra Colony, which faced intermittent water supply in the wake of the natural calamity.

Taking note of the situation concerning the Sitlee-Mandarising main, the Minister issued firm instructions to engineering teams to work round the clock to restore this vital supply line that that

provides water to localities, including Old City, New Plot Rehari, Bakshi Nagar, and adjoining areas.

The Minister was also briefed on the status of tube wells across Jammu, where 240 out of 255 installations are currently func-

He was informed that restoration of the remaining 15 tube wells is being prioritized and will be completed within the next two days.

To address the immediate water needs of residents in severely affected zones, the Minister directed the deployment of a fleet of 90 water tankers.

He also instructed the department to establish a dedicated 24/7 control room to respond to public grievances and complaints in a timely and efficient manner.

Rana reiterated Government's commitment to ensuring that all efforts are directed toward mitigating the hardships faced by the people of Jammu and restoring normalcy at the ear-

DC Doda stresses timeline implementation of Financial Inclusion Schemes

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

DODA, SEP 4: Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh today chaired a meeting in the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex to review the progress of the financial inclusion schemes being implemented in the

The meeting was attended by ACD Din Mohammad Afaqi; ALC Nehal Pandit; CPO Manesh Kumar Manhas; LDM Parveen Kumar and representatives from SBI, J&K Bank, PNB, HDFC, ICICI and others.

During the deliberations, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized that financial inclusion schemes form the cornerstone for social welfare as these are designed to provide access to basic banking, insurance and pension facilities to marginalized and economically weaker sections of so-

He noted that schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yo-



Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana are vital in building a strong safety net for the vulnerable population.

The DC directed all stakeholders,

jana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima particularly banks, to appoint dedicated nodal officers in every branch to ensure accountability and effective implementation of these

NCORD Meeting: DC Samba reviews action plan to strengthen drug control measures

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SAMBA, SEP 4: Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan today chaired the meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) mechanism at the DC Office Complex. The meeting marked a significant step forward in the district's coordinated approach to addressing narcotics-related challenges through rehabilitation, prevention and community engage-

The Deputy Commissioner announced the establishment of dedicated helpline numbers for drug $de-addiction\, support, emphasizing\, a\, compassion ate$ approach that prioritizes treatment and rehabilitation over punitive measures. This victim-centric initiative is designed to encourage voluntary participation in recovery programs by creating a supportive environment for those seeking help. DC Sudan directed the Chief Medical Officer to ensure these helplines become operational at the earliest, providing 24/7 support to affected individuals and

DC Samba directed that a comprehensive district-wide survey be carried out to create detailed profiles of drug-affected persons, including their age, occupation, and recovery status through treatment and counseling. This systematic approach will enable officials to implement targeted interventions and monitor progress effectively.

Senior Superintendent of Police Virender Manhas proposed leveraging ASHA workers as grassroots information gatherers, recognizing their unique position within local communities to identify affected individuals. He also mandated strict monitoring of restricted drug sales at chemist shops across the district to curb illegal dispensing.

The meeting emphasized the revival of community-based prevention strategies under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan framework. DC Sudan directed the District Sports Officer to organize inter-level tournaments including cricket, volleyball and other sports activities to positively engage youth and provide healthy alternatives to substance abuse. This sports-based intervention strategy aims to channel youth energy constructively while building community solidarity against drug abuse.

Institutional strengthening emerged as a key focus area, with DC Sudan directing Sub-Divisional Magistrates to establish sub-divisional level committees and conduct regular inter-departmental NCORD monthly meetings. The revival of youth clubs was prioritized as a crucial mechanism for sustained community engagement, while officials were tasked with exploring employment linkages for recovered patients to ensure sustainable rehabilitation and prevent relapse.

Among others present at the meeting were Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, SDMs Vijaypur and Ghagwal and other concerned officers, demonstrating the administration's unified commitment to creating a drug-free Samba through coordinated action, community participation and compassionate intervention strategies.

DC Kishtwar launches campaign for prevention of water-borne diseases, intensification of water quality testing

HT News Desk / DIPR

KISHTWAR, SEP 04: In pursuance to the directions of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir UT, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting to review and implement the campaign for the prevention of water-borne diseases and intensification of water quality testing in flood and landslide affected areas across the district.

The stakeholder departments were asked to start the campaign aligning with the guidelines issued by the General Administration Department.

The campaign will run for 15 days, starting from September 4, 2025 across the district.

The DC instructed the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti to chalk out a calendar for conducting intensive water quality testing in flood- and landslide-affected areas, in collaboration with field-level workers.

visions of Chatroo, Paddar and Dachan, besides the NABL accredited laboratory at the district level. The testing will be conducted with a special focus on the recently flood-affected zones, including Chisoti, Margi,

laboratories functioning in three Subdi-

These testing will be done at the 3

Mughal Maidan and landslide-affected areas. The public awareness campaign will be conducted through announcements and mobile vans, along with preparing audio jingles and messages for circulation

among other departments. The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Kishtwar was directed to alert people

about water-borne diseases, issue timely health advisories, promote preventive healthcare and generate awareness about the importance of safe

water consumption. The Programme Officer ICDS and the Rural Development Department were instructed to organize special sanitation drives in villages, Anganwadi Centres and at traditional water sources, particularly in flood-affected areas.

The PO ICDS was further directed to ensure that Anganwadi Workers conduct water sampling, promote hand-washing practices in flood- and landslide-affected areas and sensitize the public about WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) practices, along with conducting sanitation drives in Anganwadi Centres.

The School Education Department was asked to conduct demonstrations of water quality testing and sensitize students about WASH practices.

Awareness measures will be amplified through print, electronic, and social media, as well as through jingles and audio/video messages on FM radio and TV channels

The campaign will particularly focus on flood-affected, landslideaffected, inundated and rehabilitation zones, with regular monitoring at the district level to ensure effective implementation.

PO ICDS Kishtwar Rishi Kumar Sharma, CPO Kishtwar Akhil Thakur, DSWO Kishtwar Zubair Ahmed, CMO Kishtwar Dr. Rajinder Kumar, CEO Kishtwar Sanjay Dogra, ExEn Jal Shakti Kishtwar Sanjeev Kumar Gupta besides other Senior Officers were present during the meeting.

Shrine Board Provides Relief Material for the Second Consecutive Day



■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KATRA, SEP 4: The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) commenced its relief efforts on Wednesday as per the directions of Hon'ble Chairman, Shri Manoj Sinha (Lt. Governor, J&KUT) for the second consecutive day. Continuing with humanitarian approach, the Shrine Board provided essential relief material, extending support to both Reasi and Udhampur District Administrations.

These materials include dry ration kits, utensils, blankets, tarpaulins, tents, and other necessary items for immediate assistance to families affected by the recent floods and landslides in the region.

Notably, recent heavy rains and landslides in Reasi and Udhampur districts have severely impacted several villages. In response to this crisis, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has pledged to actively participate in relief and rehabilitation measures. So far, the Shrine Board has successfully reached out to over 1,200 affected families. Continuing with the endeavor, relief materials were formally handed over to the Reasi and Udhampur district administrations, who are distributing them on a priority basis to those affected by the calamity. The Board is exceeding its initial target in terms of the number of families being assisted.

Teams from the Shrine Board visited the affected areas and with the support of local administration, ensured distribution of relief supplies across dozens of villages in and around Katra. These teams assessed the ground realities and provided immediate assistance based on the needs of the affected families.

In addition, the Board has set up temporary shelter facilities at Shakti Bhawan, Niharika for displaced families from the village of Purana Daroor. Free meals are also being provided at these shelters, ensuring a safe and secure environment for those who have been severely affected.

Local residents expressed deep gratitude for this humanitarian effort by the Shrine Board. They remarked that the Board has not only fulfilled its social responsibilities during this difficult time but has also demonstrated genuine compassion and a strong spirit of service.





HT EDITORIAL

People welcome new **GST** rates wholeheartedly

The Government of India's decision to keep the tax rate for goods under Goods & Services Tax (GST) at 5 and 12 percent instead of multiple percentages has been welcomed by one and all. People as a whole have termed the decision as a great step and the same would go a long way in bringing down the prices of commodities that are closely related with the life of a common man.

Given the fact that the GST rates have been slashed it is expected that the prices of things needed on a daily basis would come down drastically. At the same time keeping a higher percentage for luxury cars and other related things is a good thing since it concerns an elite class of the society. Since the people who are well off and can buy luxury cars can easily pay a higher tax rate. In such a manner the government is in a win-win situation with no brunt being borne by the common masses.

It is important that relief is provided to the common masses and the prices of essential items like cooking oil, pulses, rice and related items is brought within the buying reach of the common people. A responsive government is one which feels the pulse of the people as a whole and more so of those who belong to the lower strata or middle strata of the society. Taking pro-people measures should be taken so that the common masses feel that the people at helm have a feel of their problems.

The decision taken with respect to GST would go a long way in satiating the demands of the masses as a whole. Since there were multiple percentages of tax under the GST regime there was confusion all around. The masses as a whole were somewhat confused about the tax rate to be paid under the previous GST tax slab. At the same time since the essential items were bracketed under a higher tax rate there was disappointment among the masses.

As the corrective steps have been taken the masses are quite elated and they are over the moon since they have to pay less tax on essential items now. This would result in a situation where the people belonging to the middle and lower strata of the society would be able to save some income. The money thus saved can be invested somewhere else.

HEADLINES

Chief Patron Of Lubaab Publications Group: Syed Sad Ud Din Bukhari (Saidi), Printer Publisher, Owner And Editor: Syed Jahangir Bukhari, Printed At: Lubaab Publications, Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar -190017,

Gen. Manager: Sheikh Mushtaq Ahmad Cell No - 9697071471, Editorial Section: 7006846797,

Multimedia Section: 9419008414, Advertisement Section: 9697071471 RNI No: Jkeng/2011/39231

⊕ ●●●● ■





Rivers Remember, Choes Of September 2014



Nawazz Ibn Ahad

Never indulge in nature's nature, nor attempt to insulate yourself from its activity, for the rhythms of creation are not toys in mortal hands. When man stretches his arrogance against the balance set by the Almighty, when he dares to choke the veins of rivers and suffocate the lungs of the earth, the response comes silently yet severely. The stick of Allah does not strike with clamorous sound; it descends without warning, and the cries of people themselves become the echo of its impact. Such is the lesson once again written across our valley, as floods revisit us in uncanny resemblance to the calamity of September 2014, almost to the same date and month, as if water itself preserves memory.

The valley of Kashmir, often portrayed as a paradise on earth, is also a fragile cradle balanced upon the mercy of seasons. Its brooks, streams, and orchards make it appear eternal, yet in truth it is as vulnerable as the tear of a child. In September 2014, floods washed away illusions of permanence when waters rose beyond imagination, submerging entire localities and forcing people to rooftops, boats, and prayers. That was called a flood of the century, but less than a decade later, here we stand again-watching swollen rivers reclaim their stolen space and echo their forgotten wrath. The question is not merely of rainfall or cloudburst, but of heedlessness, greed, and the arrogance of human encroachment.

Where rivers once flowed wide and free, colonies now stand-erected upon state lands and embankments that were never meant for concrete. What was once a channel of breathing water has been shrunk to the width of greed. Residential houses mushroom where riverbeds once spread, and No Objection Certificates were issued where objections should have thundered like warnings. The very institutions tasked with safeguarding the environment became deaf to reason and blind to responsibility, providing silent approval where refusal was most needed. Encroachment has narrowed the natural passage of water, reducing its pathways to suffocating lanes, and when the torrent arrives, it refuses to be caged. Water makes its own way. Water takes its share. And whatever we captured unjustly, it reclaims without hesitation.

The Qur'an repeatedly warns mankind not to cause fasad fil-ardh-corruption upon the earth. Cutting forests, blocking waterways, raising walls where streams must flowthese are not just civic follies, they are sins against creation. Allah entrusted humankind with amanah, a sacred guardianship of the earth. But instead of stewardship, we chose plunder. Instead of reverence, we chose exploitation. Thus calamities are not random happenings; they are consequences as well as signs. They remind us of fragility, they test our endurance, and they call us to reflec-

Floods, like other disasters, carry dual meanings in Islam. They are trials, but also messages. They break arrogance while demanding humility. They erase illusions of control while reminding of the One who truly governs. In the Qur'an, Allah promises tests with fear, hunger, and loss, not to annihilate the believer but to refine faith. For those who

endure with sabr, who respond with repentance, who extend helping hands in times of hardship, these calamities become purifiers of the soul. But for those who remain stubborn, who rebuild upon the same mistakes, who treat the roar of water as an episode rather than a warning, such calamities turn into recurring

The flood of Nuh (A.S.) was not only an act of destruction but a proclamation of divine justice. It stood as a reminder that when corruption prevails unchecked, when arrogance deafens ears and blinds eyes, the decree of water becomes the decree of Allah. Today, the valley stands at a similar crossroad—not of annihilation but of decision. Will we treat these September floods as mere weather patterns, or will we recognize them as a call to repentance and responsi-

Responsibility begins with acknowledging the sin of greed. It is greed that drives men to occupy riverbanks. It is greed that bends laws and manipulates permissions. It is greed that blinds departments into granting NOCs on fragile embankments. And it is greed that narrows the channels of water until destruction becomes inevitable. These decisions are not isolated mistakes; they are moral failures, for they value profit over protection and possession over preservation. The floods that follow are therefore not only natural occurrences but the inevitable harvest of corrupted seeds. Jaise karni, waise bharni-as one sows, so shall

Yet Islam does not abandon humanity to despair. Within the roar of floods lies also the whisper of mercy. Calamities strip away illusions but also reveal resilience. In the submerged streets and broken homes, faith finds expression through compassion. Neighbors rescue neighbors, strangers offer shelter, and bread is shared among the hungry. The Prophet 鄭 said, "The best of people are those most beneficial to others." In these times, that teaching becomes flesh and action. To lift, to feed, to console, to serve-these are not optional virtues but obligatory duties, the very proof of faith.

But compassion alone is not enough. To simply rebuild after every flood, ignoring the causes that invite disaster, is to mock both nature and the Almighty. If we again raise walls on embankments, if we again allow papers to justify plunder, if we again suffocate rivers into alleys, then September will always return with vengeance. True faith demands foresight. It demands that we treat rivers not as enemies but as arteries of life, to be respected, preserved, and given their rightful space. To live in harmony with water is to live in harmony with creation, and thereby with the Creator.

When these present waters recede, they will leave behind more than mud-caked walls and ruined crops. They will leave behind a message written in silt: that no man can $cage\,water, no\,certificate\,can\,overrule$ nature, and no arrogance can defy Allah's decree. Rivers will remember. and when they return, they will reclaim what was unjustly taken. The valley has been warned before; the valley is warned again. Whether this September becomes only another sorrow or the beginning of a wiser era depends on what lessons we choose to embrace.

Never indulge in nature's nature. Never imagine that rivers can be silenced. For when the stick of the Almighty falls, it needs no sound of its own—the people's cries become its thunder, and their broken homes become its testimony. May we awaken before September becomes not just a memory but a destiny.

Education has no alternative



Sahil Manzoor Bhatti

Education is the only way to change your world. Education has taught us great and revolutionary lessons of life. Today all the corners of the globe are well aware about the fact how education is necessary. Some people consider education as the oxygen and can't live without its existence.

In today's fast-paced and competitive world, rest has little room. To achieve our goals, we must stay active and continuously engage ourselves in meaningful pursuits.

Across the globe, every country is prioritizing the development of its education sector. A strong educational foundation paves the way for advancements in all other fields. Sensible and committed individuals always put in 100% effort toward the $tasks\,entrusted\,to\,them.\,True\,success\,doesn't\,come$ overnight-it demands educated minds, proper training, and unwavering dedication.

We often feel overwhelmed in a world increasingly dominated by machines. These machineswhether made of iron, plastic, or complex circuits are designed and operated by well-educated, brilliant minds. From smartphones to vehicles to photocopiers, these innovations are the fruits of human intelligence. The Almighty has blessed us with extraordinary brains, yet only a few fully tap into this divine gift. Studies show that even scientists use only about 30% of their brain capacity. Imagine the potential that lies within each of us.

"The rest is rust." Some individuals aspire to become great teachers. It's our responsibility to support the interests of learners, rather than forcing them into fields that don't align with their passions. Everyone has unique potential. Whether it's medicine, engineering, or any other field, people should be encouraged to pursue what they love. Governments today are providing numerous schemes and opportunities to help individuals realize their dreams.



The world is brimming with opportunities. Believe in yourself—you can be the change and influence others. Every person possesses different skills, talents, and abilities, each with its own scope and value. With social media and digital platforms, we are more connected than ever before. But remember: rest rusts your abilities. Stay engaged and keep discovering yourself. Once you identify your true potential, that moment will mark the beginning of your success.

Today, unlike in the past, we have unlimited resources at our fingertips. While earlier generations had limited ways to learn, we now have vast digital libraries, tutorials, and tools that can help us master a wide range of knowledge and skills. However, to succeed, we need patience, perseverance, consistency, and hard work.

How to Get Good Marks in Exams Getting good marks requires consistent effort and smart preparation. Here are some practical

Handwriting Matters



Maintain clear and neat handwriting. Avoid overwriting, cutting, or making your answers messy. Solve Difficult Problems Early Tackle the questions you find most challenging

first during your preparation. 3 Start Early

Don't delay. Start preparing from the very begin-

ning of the academic session. Procrastination only makes things harder. **№** Be Precise Write to the point. Avoid adding irrelevant or

unnecessary details in your answers.

Use Proper Tools Use a good-quality pen, pencil, ruler, and other stationery. Leave adequate space between answers

to keep your sheet neat. Double-Check Details

After completing the paper, verify your roll number and other details carefully.

Stay motivated. Stay focused. Believe in yourself-and you will achieve greatness.

sahilmanzoor0401@gmail.com





05-September-2025

HT - OPED



Stop the Photo-Shoots, Build Real Flood Preparedness in Kashmir



Er Ishfaq Khaliq

The recent floods have once again reminded us that Kashmir's vulnerability is not an accident of fate but the result of choices made over decades. Each season brings the same cycle: sirens wailing, neighborhoods submerged, families fleeing their homes, and then the predictable procession of officials and NGO workers posing for photographs, making short videos, and offering symbolic relief. Cameras click, reels trend for a few days, and when the waters recede, the attention fades. Yet what remains is the same fragile system: blocked drains, encroached floodplains, weakened embankments, poorly equipped response teams, and ordinary people left to fend for themselves.

If we are serious about preventing devastation, Kashmir must move beyond optics. Preparedness must replace performance. That means planning systematically, acting transparently, and sustaining the effort year-round—not just when disaster strikes.

Why Kashmir Keeps Flooding

Geography alone does not explain our recurring floods. The Jhelum River flows slowly through the Valley, the floodplains are narrow, and heavy rainfall gets trapped by surrounding mountains. But human decisions have turned this risk into recurring catastrophe:

- **Encroachment on wetlands** like Hokersar and Bemina, which once acted as natural sponges
- Rapid and unplanned urbanisation in flood-prone zones, particularly in Srinagar.
- Reckless sand and boulder mining that reshaped the riverbed.
- Neglected and aging embankments and flood-control struc-
- 3 Solid waste choking drains and nallahs, turning rain into urban flash floods.



None of this is inevitable. Each of these risks can be reduced with consistent work and honest accountability.

From Relief Optics to Preparedness

Relief efforts matter in an emergency, but the real test is whether fewer people need relief the next time. That requires shifting resources and attention from short-lived spectacles to long-term preparedness. Kashmir needs a pipeline of resilience, one that connects risk mapping, infrastructure repair, community training, and transparent governance. For example, every ward should have a flood-risk map that shows expected water levels and evacuation routes. Wetlands and floodplains must be restored and protected as seriously as roads and bridges. Urban drainage needs annual desilting, documented with public evidence, and drains must be protected from plastic and waste dumping. Embankments should be audited and reinforced before the next monsoon, while spill channels must be kept open to absorb excess

Preparedness also means empowering communities. Mock drills for evacu-

Flood resilience cannot be built by Govt alone. NGOs must shift from photo-friendly distributions to yearround training, stockpiling, and awareness. Universities and research institutions can support with real-time flood modeling and open-source tools. Religious and community institutions should be equipped as shelters and trusted sources of information, especially for women, children, and the elderly

ation and rescue should be routine, not exceptional. A trained volunteer corps—

and schools—can save precious hours

when disaster strikes. Early warning systems must be hyperlocal, available in Kashmiri, Urdu, and English, and delivered through SMS, WhatsApp, mosque loudspeakers, and even visible river-level signals at bridges.

Building Trust Through Transpar-

Money flows after every disaster, but too often disappears without visible outcomes. If we want to break this cycle, Kashmir must adopt transparent mech-

- Public expenditure trackers showing tenders, contractors,
- and project milestones. Independent social audits whose findings are shared at
- panchayat or ward meetings. NGO accountability that links permissions to published afteraction reports.

Preparedness is not only about embankments and pumps-it is also about public trust. Citizens must see where funds go and how promises are

A Shared Responsibility

Flood resilience cannot be built by Govt alone. NGOs must shift from photo-friendly distributions to year-round training, stockpiling, and awareness. Universities and research institutions can support with real-time flood modeling and open-source tools. Religious and community institutions should be equipped as shelters and trusted sources of information, especially for women, children, and the elderly. And ordinary citizens must take responsibility too-by keeping drains clear, respecting no-build zones, and participating in preparedness

Moving Beyond Performative Relief

Kashmir does not need another cycle offlooded homes, crowded relief camps, and viral reels of officials wading through water. What it needs is a culture of safety-wetlands that breathe, drains that flow, embankments that hold, shelters that protect dignity, and systems that function long after the cameras

Preparedness may not make headlines, but it will save lives, livelihoods, and the very landscape of the Valley. The choice before us is simple: keep repeating the photo-op cycle, or start building real resilience for a safer future.

Teachers Day: Their Aspirations and Duties



Rayees Ahmad Kumar

During the Second World War, when men of intellect were also being killed, Hitler was once asked, "What should we do?" He replied, "By all means protect only the teachers; the whole nation will be rebuilt." Such was the importance of teachers, for they are the true nation-builders. Educating people is one of the noblest tasks in the world. The profession of teaching has existed since time immemorial. In ancient India, the gurukul system allowed students to live with sages in forests, away from their homes, where they received education and training for years. These gurus were revered by students and parents alike, sometimes worshipped next only to God. From that time, a teacher has always been placed at the highest pedestal of respect. Over the centuries, the system of teaching has transformed, and today we see countless educational institutions across the country. Teaching is rightly called the greatest act of optimism, for it is the profession that creates all other professions. Great teachers like Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam remain timeless inspira-



 $tions. Since 1962, September 5\,has\,been$ celebrated as Teachers' Day in India, marking the birth anniversary of Dr. Radhakrishnan, the second President of India, a great philosopher and educationist. When his students wished to celebrate his birthday, he humbly requested them to observe it instead as Teachers' Day, thereby honoring all teachers rather than just himself. Learning, however, is not confined to classrooms. Our first teachers are our parents; later, we learn from society, experience, and even our mistakes. Life itself is the greatest teacher. Personally, I feel blessed to have been taught by wonderful teachers, and it is because of their influence that I, too, chose this noble profession.

Teacher's Day in Kashmir, A Different Reality-Unfortunately, in Kashmir, Teachers Day has a unique dimension. Instead of being celebrated for their contribution, teachers are often tar-

geted for none of their faults. Whether it is poor board results or institutional failures, teachers are made easy scapegoats. Admittedly, teachers also share part of the blame. Many fail to update their knowledge or skills and sometimes display negligence in their teaching duties. A few have even been found indulging in unprofessional or immoral activities, which tarnish the dignity of the profession.

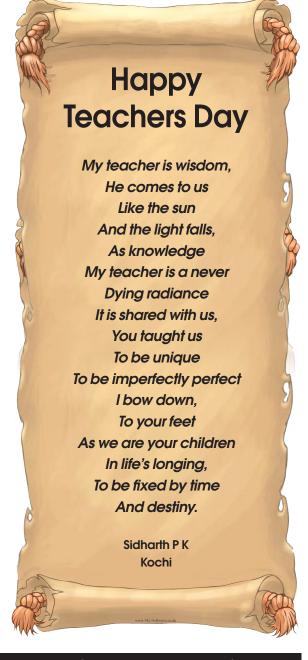
To restore the lost glory of teaching, every teacher must uphold honesty, dedication, and commitment. Another grave injustice lies in the non-teaching duties thrust upon teachers—such as election duty, census duty, or yatra duty. These disrupt their primary responsibility of teaching and harm students education. Posting teachers in far-off areas, without considering their circumstances, also affects their efficiency and morale. Respect for teachers can only be regained when they are allowed to focus on their real calling-teaching. Declining Respect for Teachers

Sadly, both teachers and the profession are not regarded today with the same reverence as in the past. Ironically, government functionaries like patwaris, police constables, or rural development workers often receive more respect than teachers. This distorted social perception ignores the fact that teachers shape the future of our children and act as their moral and spiritual guides.

In contrast, in developed nations, teaching is still considered a sacred profession. In Germany, for example, teachers enjoy the highest salaries in the country. When judges, doctors, and engineers once demanded equal pay, Chancellor Angela Merkel famously responded, "How can I compare you to those who taught you?. Dedicating a day to teachers should not just be ceremonial. It must mean giving them the respect they deserve, acknowledging their contribution to society and the nation, and ensuring they can guide the next generation effectively.

Teachers are indeed the backbone of society. They inspire, counsel, and empower the youth with knowledge and values. Because of teachers, nations advance socially, morally, and economically. The next time you or your community achieve something great, pause to remember and thank the teachers who made it possible.

> Writer is a columnist based in **Qazigund Kashmir**



Views, Opinions, facts etc Expressed by the Authors are their Own and Headlines Today doesn't acknowledge the viewpoint in any manner. And the claims made by the advertisers, promoters through their write-ups need to be ascertained by the readers and Headlines Today Shall not be held responsible for any misleading information in any manner...

HT - HEALTH

Foot Care Tips for Monsoon



Shahnaz Husain

LEYEAR OF PUBLICATION CONTINUES

Walking in the rain and jumping in the waterlogged streets is always fun, not to mention the probability of foot problems in the monsoon.

Caring for your feet during monsoons can prove to be quite tricky as they're exposed to dirt and germs due to prolonged and constant exposure to muck and rainwater during a downpour.

Walking through dirty water is unavoidable, exposing feet to germs and infections. Our feet bear the brunt of it and are exposed to all sorts of dirt and pollutants floating in the water.

The humid, wet and sticky climate translates into wet shoes, sweaty feet, cracked toes, fungal infections, itching, athlete's foot and many other allergies.

Wearing tight, closed-toe shoes, keeping your feet wet for a long time, and getting minor skin or nail injuries on your foot are common causes of fungal infections of the feet.

A little extra care tendered to your feet during the monsoon and rainy seasons can help prevent shoe bites & serious foot conditions.

The main problem during the Mon-

soons is high humidity and sweat. The feet are among the areas where germs accumulate and odour forms. The waste matter, which is secreted with sweat, has to be removed by daily washing to eliminate odour and feel fresh and clean. Pay special attention to your feet while bathing. After washing them well, dry them thoroughly and apply talcum pow-

Selecting appropriate footwear is crucial to maintaining foot health during the monsoon. Avoid wearing heels in the monsoons as roads get wet and slippery. If unavoidable, wear footwear that is resistant and with as little heel as pos-

Switch your heels for simple footwear such as flip-flops, slippers, rubber boots, sandals, etc., as they allow maximum ventilation and help the perspiration evaporate. But open footwear also attracts dirt, and therefore, foot hygiene becomes all the more important. Don't forget to wear gum boots if you live in a region prone to heavy rainfall and floods. If you wear closed shoes, talcum powder can be sprinkled inside the shoes.

Avoid Sharing Footwear: Sharing shoes or socks can spread fungal infec-

tions, so always wear your own. After a hot day, soak your feet in cold

water to which some salt has been added. A foot problem called "Athlete's Foot" develops more easily during hot and humid weather, because it thrives on soggy skin. If neglected, it can become a stubborn problem, with an itchy condition. The athlete's foot starts as a fungal

infection. So, if there is dry scaling on the feet, especially between the toes, with some itching, consult a dermatologist without delay. Anti-fungal preparations are effective in dealing with the problem in the initial stages. However, excessive moisture, caused by excessive sweating, tight shoes and humid weather, can lead to bacterial activity, and this worsens the condition. If socks are a must, wear cotton ones. In fact, during the hot and humid season, the feet should be exposed to the air as much as possible. Do not neglect any type of warts, wounds or minor infections on your feet. Clean your wounds with an antiseptic liquid

Have a salon pedicure once a week. It keeps the feet in good condition and is also most relaxing!

Here are some home remedies for Monsoon foot care:

¥ Foot Soak:

In one-fourth bucket of warm water, add half cup of coarse salt and 10 drops of lemon, or orange essential oil (if you cannot get essential oil, use half a cup of lemon or orange juice). If your feet tend to sweat a lot, use a few drops of tea tree oil, as it has germicidal properties. It helps to deal with bad odour. Soak the feet for 10 to 15 minutes.

№ Foot Lotion:

Mix 3 tablespoons of rose water, 2 tablespoons of lemon juice and one teaspoon pure glycerin. Apply to the feet and leave on for half an hour.

Foot Care:

Sprinkle antifungal powder on your

feet and inside your shoes to keep moisture and fungi at bay.

Change socks regularly, especially if they become wet. Cotton or moisturewicking socks are ideal.

Soak your feet in hot water for about 10 minutes. Add lemon drops inside to soak them as it helps reduce bad smells and prevents sweating on the feet. Lemon kills the awful smell and avoids overabundance perspiration on the feet. You can use it twice a week for better results.

In one-fourth bucket of cold water, put 2 tablespoons of honey, one tablespoon of herbal shampoo, and one tablespoon of almond oil. Soak feet in it for 20

Soaking your feet in warm water mixed with Epsom salt can help relax tired feet and soften rough skin. Additionally, applying a mixture of honey and lemon juice on your hands can help lighten dark spots and keep them moisturised.

Cooling foot bath:

Add rose water, lemon juice and a splash of eau de cologne in cold water and soak feet in it. Cools, cleans and removes odour.

Toenails:

Overgrown nails are an invitation to dirt and grime that accumulate under them and a breeding ground for fungal infections.

Toenails should be trimmed straight across and the edges filed with an emery board. Cutting nails too short should be avoided, as this can lead to ingrown toenails and infections.

Keeping your toenails groomed by

cutting them to an optimal length is a way of making sure that an unnecessary amount of dirt doesn't accumulate in your toenails, which may prompt fungal diseases.. Additionally, moisture causes toenails to become brittle, so a regular trim keeps them in check. It will keep residue and soil from getting gathered under your nails,

Cooling Massage Oil:

Take 100 ml olive oil and add 2 DROPS eucalyptus oil, 2 DROPS rosemary oil and 3 DROPS khus, or rose oil. Mix and keep in an airtight glass jar. Use a little of this for a foot massage. It cools and protects the skin and keeps it healthy.

Make a mix of three tablespoons of rose water with two tablespoons of lemon juice and one teaspoon of pure glycerine. Apply this daily after washing and drying the feet.

Excessive sweating can also cause your feet to become wet so preferably you should use talcum powder before you put on your footwear. If there is a pungent smell in your feet, you could be having a fungal infection, and it is time to visit a doctor.

Before putting on socks and shoes, ensure they are completely dry.

1 Turmeric

Paste of turmeric, which is well known for its antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral properties, can be applied around the toes to get rid of fungal infections too.

The author is an internationally famous beauty expert and is called the Herbal Queen of India

SUGARY DRINKS INCREASE HAIR LOSS RISK, **BUT THESE NUTRIENTS CAN HELP**

■ Healthline

PARIS: For many people, maintaining healthy hair goes beyond a good hair cut or buying the latest products. According to new research, hair health begins with a nutritious diet. A review published on August 21 in Nutrition and Health suggests that what you eat can affect hair

growth, strength, and even hair loss. The analysis shows that sugarsweetened beverages and alcoholic drinks were associated with a higher risk of hair loss, but also indicates that certain nutrients can promote healthy hair. From vitamins and minerals to specific foods and drinks, the findings or strength. Non-human studies, reviews, offer practical tips for anyone wanting to support their hair health.

Neviewing the effects of diet and nutrition on hair loss

For the review, researchers followed PRISMA guidelines, considered the gold standard for systematic reviews, and registered their work on PROSPERO.

They scoured three big scientific databases — PubMed, Web of Science, and Scopus — looking for studies published between March and June 2024.

Using keywords like "dietary intake," "nutritional status," "hair growth," and "hair loss," they started with 1,287 articles. After filtering for English and Portuguese studies and removing duplicates, 880 remained. Two reviewers independently checked which studies fit their criteria: participants had to be 3 years or older, studies had to focus on specific nutrients or foods, and hair outcomes and case reports were left out.

Eventually, 17 studies made the cut. They included more than 61,000 participants – mostly females ages 7 to 77 and spanned different study types like randomized trials, case-control studies, and cohort studies.

The researchers also assessed the quality of each study, finding some variability, but overall the results offered a clear picture of what we currently know.

The review further highlighted that alopecia was the most frequently studied hair condition, with eight studies focusing on its severity and occurrence, and five studies assessing hair loss more

Various assessment methods were used, ranging from clinical history and physical examination to objective measures like the Severity of Alopecia Score (SALT) and phototrichograms, ensuring had to include things like growth, texture, a broad evaluation of hair health outcomes.

Vitamin D, other nutrients promote hair health

Among the nutrients studied, vitamin D emerged as the most extensively researched, with five studies focusing on its relationship to hair conditions such as alopecia areata (AA) and androgenetic alopecia (AGA).

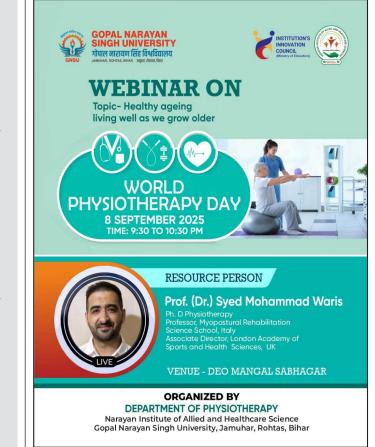
Most of these studies found an inverse correlation between vitamin D levels and the severity or duration of alopecia, suggesting that higher vitamin D status may be protective against these hair loss disorders.

However, one study did not find any association, highlighting the need for further clarification.

Iron was another nutrient highlighted for its positive impact on hair health.

One study showed that iron supplementation (100-milligram tablets) improved hair growth among women with alopecia, supporting the role of iron in hair follicle metabolism and cellular proliferation.

Conversely, protein deficiency was found to negatively affect hair health by reducing hair bulb diameter and pigmentation, emphasizing the importance of adequate protein intake for keratin production, the key structural protein in hair.



HEADLINES TODAY INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS

Are you a writer, poet, storyteller, columnist, or feature writer with a passion for literature or health writings? Headlines Today offers a platform to share:

Literature Section: Well-crafted essays, literary articles, reflections, and creative writings.

Health Section: Well-researched articles, expert columns, and in-depth feature reports from professionals and specialists.

Send your contributions to:

Dr Basharat Khan

Honorary Editor: Literature & Health

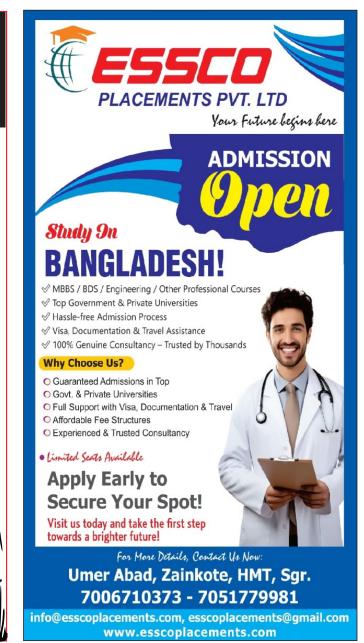
Sections (HT) at

THEM BE HEARD.

chogalwriter76@gmail.com

YOUR WORDS CAN INSPIRE, INFORM, AND IGNITE; LET







Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application for issuance of OBC certificate applicant FAYAZ AHMAD CHOPAN S/O GH AHMAD CHOPAN R/O RESHIPORA Tehsil KREERI in favour of son's with daughter for the issuance of OBC (Other Backward class in his /her / their favor

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC in this connection a report of patwari halga concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of RESHIPORA of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the CHOPAN community having annual income 130000 // the details of family of the applicant are

- 1...FAYAZ AHMAD CHOPAN Head 44 years carpenter
- 2..RUBEENA BEGUM wife 45 years Housewife
- 3...MUSAIB FAYAZ Son 21 years Student
- 4.. RAZIA FAYAZ daughter 20 years// 5FAIZAN FAYAZ son 15 years //

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application for issuance of OBC certificate applicant AB HAMID DHOBI S/O ABDUL AHAD DHOBI R/O FRASTHAR TILGAM Tehsil KREERI in favour of SON AAQIB HAMID DHOBI for the issuance of OBC (Other Backward class in his /her / their favor

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of FRASTHAR TILGAM of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the DHOBI community having annual income 480996 // in words Four Lack Eighty thousand Nine hundred Ninty six only the details of family of the applicant are as fallows

- 1...AB HAMID DHOBI self 58 years Farmer
- 2..SHAMEEMA BEGUM wife 56 years Housewife
- 3...ASIF HAMID DHOBI Son 27 years Govt employee 4..IQBAL HAMID DHOBI son 23 years Labour
- 5AAQIB HAMID DHOBI son 25 years student
- 6....KHUSHBOO HAMID daughter 20 years H/W

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Public Notice

My name has been wrongly written as SYED RUQIYA BUKHARI D/O SYED ATTEQULLAH on my Aadhar card while my correct name is RUQIA AKHTER D/O SYED ATTIQULLAH BUKHARI as per school record which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned Aadhar authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name.....RUQIA AKHTER D/O SYED ATTIQULLAH BUKHARI R/O ...KREERI , Distt..... BARAMULLA

Public Notice

This is to inform the general public that I, Mohammad Ramzan Dagroo, son of Abdul Gani Dagroo, resident of Kalantra Bala, have noticed an error in the school records of my children. Their caste has been incorrectly recorded as "Malla" instead of the correct caste, "Dagroo". I now wish to correct the names and caste of my children in the school records. The correct details are as follows:

- 1. Faizan Bin Ramzan
- S/o Mohammad Ramzan Dagroo
- 2. Nadim Ramzan Dagroo
- S/o Mohammad Ramzan Dagroo 3. Owais Ahmad Dagroo
- S/o Mohammad Ramzan Dagroo
- 4. Ishraq Ramzan Dagroo S/o Mohammad Ramzan Dagroo
- If any person has any objections to this correction, they may file their objections with the Headmaster, Govt. Middle School Kalantra Bala, or the Zonal Educational Officer, Chandoosa,

within seven days of the publication of this notice. **Mohammad Ramzan Dagroo** S/o Abdul Gani Dagroo R/o Kalantra Bala, Tehsil Kreeri,

Distt. Baramulla, J&K

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of GH NABI MIR S/O ALI MOHD MIR R/O KREERI for the issuance of LEGAL HEIR certificate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this context a report sought from patwari halqa concerned and the Death certificate issued by the competent authority reveals that Mst SHAHMALI W/O ALI MOHD MIR has passed away on 22/06/2006 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

- 1..., GH NABI SON 54 years Labour
- 2....TAJA BEGUM daughter 71 years H/W
- 3...FATIMA daughter 46 //

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

The general public is informed that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar card issued under No. 8097 4132 6289 as Naiem Bano instead of Naiema Banoo as per my Matriculation Certificate, Now I want to correct the entries of the Aadhaar card issued. In this connection anybody having any objection may file the same to the concerned Aadhaar issuing authority within seven days, and no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the publication date.

Naiema Banoo, D/o Ali Mohmad Dar R/o Chak-I-Mujgund Ghat, Central Shalteng Sgr.

Public Notice

This is to inform the general public that I, Abdul Aziz Dar, S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar, R/o Kalantra Payeen, Baramulla, have misplaced my Registration Certificate (RC) at the main market in Kalantra. The details of the RC are as follows:

Registration No.: JK05G9554

Eng.No TBJ1H69977 Ch No.MA1ZU2TBKJIH63409,

Name: Abdul Aziz Dar

S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o: Kalantra Payeen, Baramulla

I now intend to apply for a duplicate RC at the ARTO Office, Sopore, Baramulla. If anyone has any objections, they may file their objections at the ARTO Office, Sopore, Baramulla, within seven days of the publication of this notice. No objections will be entertained after this period.

Abdul Aziz Dar, S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o Kalantra Payeen, Baramulla

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar hassubmitted case file pertainingto Birth of GULLA LONE S/O MOHAMMAD LONE R/O KAREEWA KREERI Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 06/03/1967 and event has been shown to be occured

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

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of NAYEEMA BEGUM W/O late ABDUL HAMID

WANI R/O HAIL JAGIR for the issuance of LEGAL HEIR certificate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this context a report sought from patwari halqa concerned and the Death certificate issued by the competent authority reveals that ABDUL HAMID WANI S/O GH NABI WANI has passed away on 09/02/1996 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

- 1..., NAYEEMA BEGUM wife 47 years Housewife
- 2....ADIL HAMID WANI son 31 years private teacher 3...SAHBA BEGUM Mother 70 years old aged

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 IRFAN AHMAD MIR S/O Lt MOHD YOUSUF MIR R/O HAIL JAGIR for the issuance of legal Heir / Dependent certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this connection a detailed report was sought from patwari halqa concerned which reveals that MOHD YOUSUF MIR S/O GH MOHD MIR passed away on 20/03/1994 Moreover the death certificate issued by the competent authority also depicts the same further more the report of patwari concerned points out that deceased has left behind the following legal heir tabulated as below

- 1. IRFAN AHMAD MIR son 30 years driver married
- The applicant has applied for Issuance of legal heir / Dependent
- If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of said certificate certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Public Notice

I Syed Imtiyaz Geelani

R/o Rajpora Tehsil Zachaldara

It is hereby notified that my daughter's dob certificate applied my daughter's , now i have applied for the birth certificate at BDO office Handwara . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection at Block Development Office Handwara within a period of 07 days after that no objection will be accepted.

> Namely: Syed Sadaat Imtiyaz Geelani DOB: 29/07/2020 Syed Arwa Imtiyaz Geelani DOB: 04/10/2022 Syed Hoor Ui Hiba Geelani DOB: 04/10/2022

> Parentage: Syed Imtiyaz Ahmad Geelani R/O: Rajpora Tehsil Zachaldara Dist Kupwara

Public Notice

I am applying for fresh pesticides and Frertiliser under the name M/S AGROPULSE Pesticides & Frertilisers situated at Sadat pora Naidkhi, Bandipora, In this regard, if anybody is having any objection, may file the same to Chief Agriculture Officer Bandipora and PPO Lal Mandi, Srinagar, within the time period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Imtiyaz Ahmad Hurra, S/O: Abdul Khaliq Hurra Contact: 6006131314

Public Notice

I am applying for fresh pesticides and Fertilizers license under the name M/S Pure Yield Agro Solutions (Pesticides & Fertilizers) situated at Gosh Bugh Pattan, In this regard, if anybody is having any objection, may file the same to Chief Agriculture Officer Baramulla and PPO, Lal Mandi Srinagar, within the time period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

> Nazir Ahmad Hurra, S/O: Bashir Ahmad Hurra Contact: 7889380661

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer REW Division Bandipora **NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**

E-NIT No: 44 OF 2025-26 | Dated: 28-08-2025

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

S.No.	Block	Panchayat	Name of Work	Advt. Cost	Tender Fee	Class	Scheme
1	Bagtore	Kanzalwan	Construction Of Irrigation Drain From Satar Lone To Fields At Kanzalwan	7.68	500/=	DEE/CEE	NRM/IWMP
2	Gurez	Wanpora	Construction Ofcheckdams At Darthani Nallah Wanpora	3.60	300/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
3	Gurez	Khabdyal	Construction Of Protection Bund In L/O Gh Rasool , Ab Majeed And Others At Khandayal	4.75	300/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
4	Gurez	Badwan	Construction Of Protection Bund At Kishen Ganga Khoopri	7.57	500/=	DEE/CEE	NRM/IWMP
5	Gurez	Wanpora	Construction Of Protection Bund At Darthani Nallah Wanpora	2.80	200/	DEE	NRM/IWMP
6	Gurez	Badwan	Construction Of Protection Bund At Khoopri Ph Ist	13.21	1000/	DEE/CEE	NRM/IWMP
7	Bagtore	Kanzalwan	Construction Of Checkdams At Dahi Nallah Kanzalwan	4.88	300/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
8	Bagtore	Bagtore	Construction Of Protection Bund Against Soil Erosion Land Of Ab Rashid Ahanger A Nd Others At Bagtore	3.00	300/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
9	Bagtore	Bagtore	Construction Of Check Dams At Bagtore Nallah Bagtore	2.98	200/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
10	Bagtore	Kanzalwan	Construction Ofprotection Bund At Dahi Nallah Kanzalwan	5.85	500/=	DEE/CEE	NRM/IWMP
11	Gurez	Khandyal	Construction Of Irrigation Koul Near L/O Altaf Ahmad Samoon At Khandyal	3.00	300/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
12	Gurez	M a s t a n Khopri	Construction Of Water Harvesting Tank In L/O Zameer Ahmad At Khopri	1.40	200/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
13	Gurez	M a s t a n Khopri	Construction Of Water Harvesting Tank In L/O Ab Raheem At Khopri	1.40	200/=	DEE	NRM/IWMP
14	Arin	Kudara	Chain Link Fencing Around Public Park Near Jamia Masjid Shareef Checkpati At Kudari	3.00	300/=	DEE	UT CAPEX (TSP)
15	Arin	Ca Khan	Construction Of Road With Drain From Khan Mohalla Masjid To Onwards At Mulkihama	4.00	300/=	DEE	UT CAPEX (TSP)
16	Arin	Chuntimulla	Construction Of 01 No Of Bathrooms Nera Masjid Shareef Gubari At Chuntimulla	1.50	200/=	DEE	UT CAPEX (TSP)
17	Arin	Chuntimulla	Construction Of 02 No Of Bathrooms Nera Masjid Shareef Kustani Pati At Chuntimulla	1.50	200/=	DEE	UT CAPEX (TSP)
18	Arin	Chuntimulla	Construction Of 03 No Of Bathrooms Near Jamia Masjid Shareef Chuntimulla	3.45	300/=	DEE	UT CAPEX (TSP)

Time of Completion: 30 Days EMD: 2% of Adv. Cost

No. of Calls: 1st Call Position of A/A: Accorded

Position of T/S: Accorded

TheBiddingdocumentsconsistingofqualifyinginformation, eliqibilitycriteria, specifications, Drawings, billofquantities (B.O.Q.), Setof termsandconditionsofcontractandotherdetailscanbeseen/downloadedfromthedepartmentalwebsitewww.iktenders.gov.inasperscheduleofrates.

termounded and to so contractand and actual season and manager and analysis of the season actual sea						
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-08-2025 6:00PM				
2. Online Bid submission Start Date		28-08-2025 6:00PM				
3.	Online Bid Submission End Date	08-09-2025 AT 6:00PM				
4.	Date &Time of Opening Of Online Bids	09-09-2025 at 11:00 AM				

5. Note: Hard copy of original Tender Document, Fee Receipt EMD, and performance security shall be deposited after the financial bid is opened. In case the original Tender Document Fee Receipt and EMD is not Depositedwithin7daysaftertheFinancialBidisOpenedforallresponsivebiddersWhohaveparticipated online, the Department shall serve the Notice as per Rules.

No: XEN-REW-BPR-2025-26/5500-5508 Dated: 28-08-2025

DIPK: 5934/25 | Dated: 04-09-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer REW Bandipora

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION TANGMARG

FRESH NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (MACADAM WORKS)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved

ı	and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Rallways sand other State/Central Governments for the following works:							
	S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost	T.D Cost	E/M	Time	Class	Approved outlay for Current Financial Year (Rs. in Lacs)
	1	Inner links at Bunshoora.	6.70	300/-	13400/-	20 days	D/C	7.00
	2	Reram to Astan road	9.49	600/-	18980/-	20 days	D/C	8.00
	3	Restoration of Zangam Yall road.	14.23	600/-	28460/-	25 days	D/C/B	12.00

M.H of Account: Pot Hole 2025-26 Tender Call: 2nd

Project Authority: R&B Deptt. Position Of AAA: Accorded

Position of T.S: Accorded Position of funds: Committed 1. 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	03-09-2025			
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	04-09-2025			
3	Bid submission Start Date	04-09-2025			
4	Bid Submission End Date	12-09-2025 4:00 PM			
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	13-09-2025 11:00 AM			

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 Tangmarg (tender inviting authority)

41. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form), NIT, GFR 2017 & JK PWD Engineering Manual 2020. 42. As per the Circular No. 01 (Adm) FD of 2025 Dated: 08-07-2025 issued by Finance Department of UT J&K "Every participating supplier/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".

No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/3742-52

DIPK: 5922/25 | Dated: 04-09-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg



CEO Tourism Reviews Arrangements for Annual Veth Truvah Festival at Verinag

■ Faroog Rather

VERINAG, SEP 4: In preparation for the important annual Hindu religious festival "Veth Truvah," the Chief Executive Officer of Verinag **Tourism Development Authority** conducted a visit today to Khahgund and Verinag to review the ongoing arrangements.

During the visit, the CEO took a detailed assessment of key preparations including tent installations, beautification works, lighting arrangements, and deployment of staff from the Tourism Development Authority. The aim is to ensure that visiting devotees are provided with adequate facilities and that the event is conducted in a peaceful and organized manner.

The Veth Truvah festival holds significant religious and cultural importance for the Kashmiri Pandit /Hindu community, and a large gathering of devotees is expected this year. Officials stated that special

Maruti Suzuki

launches All-New

VICTORIS

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEP 4: Redefining the Indian SUV

segment Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL), today,

launched its latest SUV, the VICTORIS. Engineered

to set new benchmarks, the VICTORIS seamlessly

blends hyper-connected technology, all-round

safety, futuristic and sleek design, and thrilling

performance to deliver an SUV that has 'Got It All'.

petrol with Strong Hybrid, ALLGRIP Select (4x4),

eco-friendly S-CNG technology with segment-first

under body tank design, the VICTORIS offers a wide

range of power train systems to suit today's dynam-

ic youth. Starting today customers can book their

Managing Director & CEO, Maruti Suzuki India

Limited, said, "The new-age Indian customer is

well-travelled, hyper-connected, socially aware,

technologically progressive and environmentally

responsible. To meet the aspirations of such custom-

ers, our new SUV the VICTORIS has "Got It All".

VICTORIS is a Latin word that means 'victory'. We

are confident the VICTORIS with its high technol-

ogy, sleek design, intelligent and connected features,

5-star level safety and multiple environment friend-

ly power trains will win hearts in India. With VIC-

TORIS we are strengthening our SUV portfolio and

are always listening to our customers. Today's young,

and dynamic audience consider an automobile as a

reflection of who they are - energetic, composed, confident, and always moving forward. We gave

this brief to our design and engineering teams for

the All-New 'VICTORIS'. SUVs may be the most loved

segment today, but the SUV buyer has evolved. This

new generation of young customers are ambitious,

hyper-connected and value experiential living. The

All-New VICTORIS is our answer to that shift - a progressive blend of tech, design and versatility. It

is engineered with true SUV DNA and sets a new

benchmark for what today's automobiles can feel

like. With the VICTORIS, we're not just launching

another SUV, we're celebrating a new dimension to

becomes an extension of the 'Always Online, Always

On The Move Lifestyle'. The sophisticated interiors

of the VICTORIS feature a suite of intelligent tech-

nologies, developed for a connected and immersive

experience. Built for digital natives who shape their

world through creativity, connectivity, and self-

expression, VICTORIS offers a new 26.03cm (10.25")

inch fully digital instrument cluster with multiple

With cutting-edge digital integration, VICTORIS

driving - one that's 'Got It All'."

Commenting on the launch, Partho Banerjee, Senior Executive Officer, Marketing & Sales, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "At Maruti Suzuki, we

MARUTI SUZUKI

TORIS

Introducing the VICTORIS, Hisashi Takeuchi,

All-New VICTORIS for Rs. 11000.

our overall market share."

A company spokesperson said that available in



attention is being paid to cleanliness, crowd management, and assistance for pilgrims throughout the event.

The CEO assured that the Tourism Development Authority is making all necessary efforts to ensure that the Veth Truvah celebrations are peaceful, well-organized, and enjoyable. He emphasized that such events are

vital for promoting communal harmony and preserving the region's cultural heritage.

The administration is also maintaining close coordination with other concerned departments to ensure timely completion of all essential preparations and the successful conduct of this spiritual occasion.

Kulgam Police Arrests Drug Peddler; Contraband Substance Seized

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEP 04: As part of its sustained campaign against the menace of drugs, Kulgam Police apprehended a drug peddler and seized contraband from his possession.

During patrolling near Sumo Stand Bumthan, a police team from Police Post Mirbazar arrested one individual identified as Mohd Mubarak, son of Sukar Ali, resident of J Colony, Bawana, Delhi. Upon search, 10 grams of heroin-like contraband substance was recovered from his possession.

Accordingly, a case under FIR No. 177/2025, registered under sections 8/21 of the NDPS Act at Police Station Qazigund, has been taken up for further investigation. Kulgam Police reaffirms its zero-tolerance policy



towards narcotics and appeals to the public to extend cooperation by sharing information related to drug trafficking, enabling decisive action against offenders.

Accordingly, a case under FIR No. 177/2025, registered under sections 8/21 of the NDPS Act at Police Station Qazigund, has been taken up for further investigation.

Kulgam Police reaffirms its zero-tolerance policy towards narcotics and appeals to the public to extend cooperation by sharing information related to drug trafficking, enabling decisive action against offenders.

از عبدالت سب بج مهندواره

باابلاس منظورت بين صاحب بت معوام الناس عليمه بيكم زوجه مرحوم غلام رسول شيخ ساكن سراج پوره تحصيل مبندواژه شلع كپواؤه مدعيه دعوی استقراریه بایت فوتگی سر ٹیفکیٹ

34 of specific Rekef Act r/w see 111 of Bharatiya saklaya Adhiniyam 2023 ا شتهار بمر اد آگاہی ہر حناص وعسام /عوام الناس

مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر مدعیہ نے عدالت ھذامیں دائر کیا ہے جو کہ عوام الناس کے خلاف ہے لہذا عوام الناس کو شناسب موقع دی جاکر باپت عزرات تا کہ مدعیہ کو عدالت هذا ئے رلیف دی جائے لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ عدالت هذا میں بفرض پیروی/عزرات اصالباً یا وکالنا بتاریخ 15/09/2025بوقت10:30حاضرہوہ میعاد گُزُرنے کے بعد کوئی تھی عذریا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا۔

تح ير 2025/08/27 ي

Public Notice

I, Aanisa Jan, D/o Bilal Ahmad Bhat, R/o Kawarigam, Tehsil & District Anantnag, hereby declare that I am applying for an RBA (Reserved Backward Area) Certificate.

My family details are as follows:

S. No.	Name of Family Member	Relation	Age	Occupation	Monthly Income
1	Bilal Ahmad Bhat	Father	45	Labour (Mazdoori)	₹7,000
2	Sherza Bano	Mother	40	Housewife	_
3	Aanisa Jan	Self	16	Student	_
4	Maria Jan	Sister	10	Student	_
5	Aalan Bilal	Brother	6	Student	_

Total Monthly Family Income: ₹8,000 Total Annual Family Income: ₹1,24,000

If anyone has any objection regarding the issuance of the RBA certificate in my favour, they may contact the concerned authorities within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that period, no objections shall be entertained.

Applicant: Aanisa Jan Father's Name: Bilal Ahmad Bhat Address: Kawarigam, Tehsil & District Anantnag

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Naib Tehsildar, Achabal

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Danish Yousuf Bhat S/o Mohammad Yousuf Bhat, R/o Kawarigam, Tehsil Achabal, District Anantnag, has applied for the issuance of an RBA Certificate in his

As per the report submitted by the concerned Patwari, the details of the family are as under:

Mohammad Yousuf (Father), Occupation: Labourer, Monthly Income ₹8000/- + ₹50000/- annually from other sources

Ghulam Hassan Bhat (Grandfather), Income: ---Danish Yousuf (Applicant), Occupation: Student

Tadasum Yousuf (Sister), Occupation: Engineering Worker, Monthly Income ₹5100/-

The total annual family income from all sources has been assessed at approximately ₹2,07,000/-.

Any person having objection in this regard may file the same with documentary proof in the office of the Naib Tehsildar Achabal within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained and RBA Certificate shall be issued in favour of the applicant.

> Naib Tehsildar, Achabal (Seal & Signature)

Public Notice

I, Mukhtiyar Ahmad Bhat S/o Bashir Ahmad Bhat R/o Muja Gund Khawaja Bagh Srinagar, owner of vehicle Pulsar 150 DTS-I, Vehicle No: JK01AP4229, Chassis No: MD2A11CX4MRC43230, Engine No: DHXRMC72980, state that my name has been wrongly recorded as Mukhtivar Ahmad Bhat instead of my correct name Mukhtar Ahmad Bhat S/o Bashir Ahmad Bhat R/o Khawaja Bagh Maloora Srinagar as per my Aadhaar Card. Henceforth, my correct name shall be read as Mukhtar

Ahmad Bhat in all records. If anybody has any objection regarding this correction, he/she may contact the concerned RTO Srinagar within 7 days

of publication of this notice.

Sd/- Mukhtar Ahmad Bhat

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Aripal (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 ARIPAL) has received a case file pertaining to death of SANA ULLAH LONE S/O GH AHMAD LONE R/O DAR GANIE GUND GP JAWHIRPORA LAM Tehsil Aripal Distt. Pulwama wherein the date of death has been verified as 26/05/2025 and the incident has been shown to have happened at the deceased's home which caused the delay in seeking the certificate.

Now that the case is under consideration for the issuance of the certificate, anyone having any objection shall approach this office within 07 days of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the notice period.

Sd/-Executive Magistrate 1st Class Aripal

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Tehsildar Aripal (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 ARIPAL) has received a case file pertaining to death of Gh Hassan Mir F/O Fayaz Ahmad Mir R/O DAR GANIE GUND GP JAWHIRPORA LAM Tehsil Aripal Distt. Pulwama wherein the date of death has been verified as 22-08-2025 and the incident has been shown to have happened at the deceased's home which caused the delay in seeking the certificate.

Now that the case is under consideration for the issuance of the certificate, anyone having any objection shall approach this office within 07 days of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the notice period.

Sd/-Executive Magistrate 1st Class Aripal

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of RAFEEQA BEGUM D/O LATE GHULAM HASSAN MIR R/O SALOOSA KREERI for the issuance of Dependent certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this context a report sought from patwari halga concerned and the Death certificate issued by the competent authority reveals that GHALUM HASSAM MIR S /O AB AZIZ MIR R.O SALOOSA has passed away on 25/10/1998 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1... SARA BEGUM wife 85 years aged widow

2...RAFEEQA BEGUM daughter 46 years H/W married The applicant has applied for Issuance of Dependent certificate

in favour of Self If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay

order of said certificate 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 Tanamara (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 KHAIPORA)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of ROUF BIN MAQBOOL S/O MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL LONE R/O HARNOW KAWACHECK Tehsil TANGMARG Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 31/10/2007 and event has been shown to be occured 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

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Wagoora

Subject: Application of RAFEEQA BEGUM D/O LATE GHULAM HASSAN MIR R/O SALOOSA KREERI for the issuance of Dependent 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 GHALUM HASSAM MIR S /O AB AZIZ MIR R.O SALOOSA has passed away on 25/10/1998 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1... SARA BEGUM wife 85 years aged widow

2...RAFEEQA BEGUM daughter 46 years H/W married The applicant has applied for Issuance of Dependent certificate

in favour of Self If anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of said certificate certificate shall present his/her claim this office

within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained. Naib Tehsild Wagoora

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Tehsildar Wagoora

Subject: Application of SARA BEGUM W/O LATE GHULAM NABI SHAH R/O WATERGAM WAGOORA for the issuance of Dependent 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 MUZAFFAR AHMAD SHAH /O GHULAM NABI SHAH R.O WATERGAM has passed away on 12/05/1998 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1... SARA BEGUM W/O late GH NABI SHAH wife 85 years House wife

2...SHAREEFA BEGUM.D/O GH NABI SHAH daughter 65 years married

3...MOHD AYOOB SHAH son 60 years Farmer

4...JAVID AHMAD SHAH son 57 years Farmer

5...NAYEEMA BEGUM daughter 50 years H/W 6...AFROOZA BEGUM daughter 47 years H/W

7....AIJAZ AHMAD SHAH son 44 years Farmer The applicant has applied for Issuance of Dependent certificate

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

Naib Tehsild Wagoora

Public Notice

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my husband name MUZAFFER MOHAMMAD KHAN S/O GHULAM MOHAMMAD ${\it KHAN\,R/O\,LAWAYPORA\,.} Now this Connection bearing Consumer$ ID NO 0206050011815 wants to be registered on my name AFROOZA W/O LATE MUZAFFAR AHMAD KHAN R/O LAWAYPORA .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...AFROOZA W/O ... LATE MUZAFFAR AHMAD KHAN Division.... BUDGAM Sub division.... NARBAL







display modes.

PM Modi holds joint phone conversation with **Presidents of European Commission, European Council**

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 4: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today held a joint telephone conversation with European Council President Antonio Costa and European Commission President Ursula von der Leven and underlined the role of the India-EU Strategic Partnership injointly addressing global issues, fostering stability and promoting a rules-based order for mutual prosperity.

The leaders also reaffirmed the shared commitment for an early conclusion of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and imple-

mentation of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC). Building on the historic visit of the EU College of Commissioners to India in February, the leaders discussed organizing the next India EU Summit in India at an early date of mutual convenience.

Prime Minister Modi invited the two leaders to India for the same.

The leaders also exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest, including the efforts to bring an end to the conflict in Ukraine.

The Prime Minister reiterated India's consistent support for peaceful resolution of the conflict



and early restoration of peace and

They welcomed progress in bilateral relations in key sectors like trade, technology, investment, innovation, sustainability, defence, security and supply chain resilience.

'As the world's largest democratic forces, India and EU share a strong and close relationship built on trust, shared values, and a common vision for the future. The leaders underlined the role of the India-EU Strategic Partnership in jointly addressing global issues, fostering stability, and promoting a rules-based order for mutual prosperity. UNI

China Shows Military Might at Tiananmen, Trump Sees US Conspiracy

■ United News of India

NEW DELHI/BEIJING, SEP 3: More than 10,000 soldiers of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), Air Force and Navy goose-stepped the historic Tiananmen Square in Beijing today and showcased the latest generation of missiles, drones, tanks and fighter jets in a display of military might to mark 80 years of China's victory against Japan during

Chinese President Xi Jinping inspected the Guard of Honour. The military parade which was held to commemorate the '80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War," was witnessed by 26 world leaders including Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

US President Donald Trump was quick to react, describing the parade as a 'conspiracy' against the United States.

PLA's new system of services and arms were displayed at the parade for the first time. These included unmanned intelligence equipment, hypersonic missiles and electronic jamming systems. This was the second time since 2015 that China has held a military parade to commemorate the victory in the "Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War."

Helicopters flew over Tiananmen Square carrying banners that read "Justice Prevails," "Peace Prevails" and "The People Prevail."

In his speech, President Xi said the PLA should provide strategic support for China's rejuvenation. He reiterated China's commitment to peaceful development saying humanity is again faced with a choice of peace or war, dialogue or confrontation and win-win outcomes or zero-sum games. He said China's rejuvenation is "unstoppable" and humanity's cause of peace and development

"The Chinese people will stand firmly on the right side of history and on the side of human progress, adhere to the path of peaceful development, and join hands with the rest of the world to build a community with a shared future for humanity," he said.

Dressed in a grey Mao suit, President Xi called upon nations to eliminate the root cause of war and prevent historical tragedies from recurring.

President Xi who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, said common security can only be safeguarded when nations across the world treat each other as equals, live in harmony, and mutually support one another.

He said that as inhabitants of the same planet, humanity must stand together in times of difficulty, live in harmony, and never relapse into the law of the jungle where the strong prey on the weak.

Kuki-Zo Council to open NH-02; Tripartite SoO agreement signed to restore peace in Manipur

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 4: In a significant development, the Kuki-Zo Council (KZC) today decided to open the National Highway-02 for free movement of commuters and essential goods after a series of meetings between officials of Home Ministry and KZC during the last few days here.

KZC has also given commitment to cooperate with Security Forces deployed by the Central Government to maintain peace along NH-02, a Home Ministry statement said.

The decision came alongside a meeting between representatives of MHA, Manipur government and Kuki National Organisation (KNO)-United People's Front (UPF) here today. The meeting concluded with the signing of a tripartite Suspension of Operations (SoO) Agreement on renegotiated terms and conditions (ground rules) to be effective from today for a period of one year.

The revised rule reiterated the territorial integrity of Manipur. Need for a negotiated solution to bring lasting peace and stability to Manipur.



KNO and UPF have also agreed to relocate seven designated camps away from areas vulnerable to conflict; reduce the number of designated camps; relocate the weapons with nearest CRPF and BSF camps and stringent physical verification of cadres by Security Forces to de-list foreign nationals, if any.

Besides, a Joint Monitoring Group will closely monitor enforcement of ground rules, and violations will be dealt with firmly in future, including review of the SoO Agreement, the MHA statement added. UNI

Wildfire burns into historic Gold Rush town in California

United News of India

LOS ANGELES, SEP 4: A fast-moving wildfire, burning in the Sierra Nevada foothills, has scorched homes in a historic Gold Rush town in California and forced evacuations of residents from the town and surrounding highways on Tuesday, authorities said Wednesday.

Once a bustling community, the town in Chinese Camp was home to about 5,000 Chinese miners as well as a similar number of American and European settlers during the Gold Rush era, according to Tuolumne

The extent of the damage in Chinese Camp wasn't immediately clear pending an official review, about 61 people still live there, said Emily Kilgore, public information officer with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) Tuolumne Calaveras Unit.

The fire is part of a group of lightning-sparked wildfires that have burned about 56 square km in mul-



tiple locations in Calaveras, Tuolumne and Stanislaus counties of the state, according to the Cal Fire.

As of Wednesday evening, the fires

were 15 percent contained. More than 1,200 personnel and 13 helicopters have been deployed to battle the blazes, Cal Fire said. UNI

Iranian president sees strong prospects for implementing **SCO** agreements

United News of India

TEHRAN, SEP 4: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Wednesday the implementation of the agreements reached during the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2025 will create favorable prospects for the country in the economic, security, scientific and tourism areas.

He made the remarks upon arriving in Iran's capital Tehran from China, where he took part in the summit from Sunday to Monday in Tianjin and the commemorations of the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War in Beijing, according to a statement published on the website of his office.

'We stressed peace based on rights and justice" at the SCO Plus Meeting and China proposed the Global Governance Initiative, "in which truth- and justicebased frameworks and rules should be observed and double standards should not be applied," Pezeshkian said. He also highlighted the 24 outcome documents on strengthening SCO cooperation in sectors such as security, economy and people-to-people ties, noting that "the most important achievement of the trip was the opportunity to hold direct talks with the participating countries' leaders." UNI

India, Singapore to Boost Ties in MRO, Skills, Ports, Chips

United News of India

NEW DELHI. SEP 4: India and Singapore today agreed to focus on cooperation in the development of Indian ports, collaborate in India's growing MRO sector, in skill development, in semiconductors and also explore cooperation in

civil nuclear cooperation. Following talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Singapore PM Lawrence Wong, the two sides in a joint statement outlined an ambitious roadmap to take forward their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, and outlined eight areas under it: Economic Cooperation; Skills Development; Digitalisation; Sustainability; Connectivity; Healthcare and Medicine; People-to-People and Cultural Exchanges; and Defence and Security Cooperation.

India has also evinced interest injoining the maritime patrolling in the busy Malacca Straits.

The two sides agreed to deepen bilateral trade and access to markets, including through building on their Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

The two sides also agreed to achieve substantial review of the ASEAN India trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) in 2025.

In the field of semiconductors, the two sides agreed boost cooperation under the India-Singapore Semiconductor Policy Dialogue; advance resilient semiconductor supply chains; explore mutually beneficial research and development collaborations and potential partnerships between Indian and Singapore firms.

In the field of space, the two sides agreed to promote collaboration between the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) and the Office for Space



Technology & Industry, Singapore, as well as Earth observation and satellite communication technologies and applications.

They also agreed to develop a National Centre of Excellence in Chennai, in the field of semiconductors and also cooperate in the field of skilling. Explore collaboration oppor-

tunities in critical and emerging technologies.

They agreed to cooperate in the establishment of an India-Singapore Green and Digital Shipping Corridor (GDSC) between the Port of Singapore and ports in India to deepen maritime connectivity and work towards the establishment of a green maritime fuel corridor; They agreed to collaborate in India's growing

aviation and aerospace MRO sectors through partnerships between Indian and Singapore companies in these sectors, including the sharing of Singapore's expertise and the provision of upskilling opportunities;

They also agreed to expand the bilateral Air Services Agreement to enhance air connectivity, and partner in airport development, including in management services for Indian airports;

In healthcare, the two sides agreed to deepen collaboration in health and medicine fields including in digital health intervention and disease surveil-

In Defence and Security Cooperation, the two sides agreed on continued defence and security cooperation at all levels, including regular meetings between the two Defence Ministers and exchanges through the joint conduct of army, naval, and air force

Deepen defence technology cooperation in emerging areas such as Quantum Computing, AI, Automation and Unmanned Vessels; Continue the cooperation in maritime security and submarine rescue, Strengthen cooperation in Maritime Domain Awareness. "Singapore acknowledges with appreciation India's interest in the Malacca Straits Patrol," the statement added. On terrorism, it said both sides reaffirmed strong commitment to combat terrorism, including cross-border terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, and reiterated zerotolerance to terrorism.

The two Prime Ministers agreed to institutionalise the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable as a foremost mechanism to annually monitor the progress in the implementation of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. UNI



HT - HERITAGE

Hazi atbal

@HEADLINESTODA17

Revered Shrine Reimagined, Where Heritage Meets Modern Grace

Renovation Under the dynamic leadership of Waqf Board Chairperson Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, has emerged as a watershed moment, breathing new life into the shrine while preserving the sanctity of its spirit.

Abu Hasnain

■ HT-Special Correspondent

Nestled over the serene banks of World famous Dal Lake, Hazratbal has stood as the very soul of Kashmir's spiritual identity for Centuries. Its snow-white dome reflecting in the still waters has long symbolized purity and reverence, while its sanctity as the custodian of the holy relic of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) has made it the beating heart of Kashmiri faith. For the people of this valley, Hazratbal has never been merely a shrine, however it has been memory, prayer, identity, and heritage woven together.

Yet, time leaves its traces even on the most sacred walls. Since 1968, Hazratbal's interiors had not seen a significant renewal. Its grandeur endured, but the details of its artistry dimmed with age, and the comforts for devotees did not keep pace with the demands of a growing pilgrim population. It is in this context that the recent renovation, carried out under the leadership of Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board chairperson Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, has emerged as a watershed moment breathing new life into the shrine while preserving the sanctity of its spirit.



glass inlay art blend seamlessly with golden carvings, offering worshippers an atmosphere that is both uplifting and

The Noor Khana, where the relic is displayed, has been given particular

is not only its artistic flourish but also its practical foresight. The shrine is now equipped with advanced digital lighting, a modern sound system, full air-conditioning, and CCTV surveillance changes that elevate both the spiritual experience and the safety of visitors.

Earlier phases of renovation had already seen the inauguration of marble flooring at the northern entrance, fresh carpeting after seventy long years, and the construction of a two-story sanitary complex. Together, these upgrades mark a holistic approach: attention to comfort without compromising sanctity.

"For the first time in my lifetime, I see Hazratbal so beautifully preserved," said Abdul Majid, a 65-year-old devotee from Baramulla. "It feels as if we are witnessing history, but also stepping into the future."

Beyond Renovation: A Shift in Waqf Governance

Hazratbal's renewal is emblematic of the wider reforms that Dr. Andrabi has sought to bring into the Waqf Board. For decades, the Board was criticized for stagnation, opacity, and poor management of resources. Under her chairmanship, however, a visible transformation has taken root. Revenues have crossed ₹40 crore, transparency has been prioritized, and the focus has

shifted toward upgrading Sufi shrines across the Valley.

For Andrabi, Hazratbal has been more than a project; it has been a statement of intent. "This shrine belongs to the people," she said during the inauguration. "Our

timber. It is a reassurance that Kashmir's cultural and spiritual heritage will not be allowed to fade into neglect. Shrines in this land are not just places of worship; they are living archives of art, architecture, and identity. Their preservation affirms continuity in a time when change often feels overwhelming.

The new Hazratbal invites reflection: on how the Valley can balance its deeprooted Sufi traditions with the pressing needs of a modern society. It demonstrates that modernization need not be at odds with spirituality; rather, it can enhance devotion by preserving heritage while providing dignity and comfort to worshippers.

The Pearl White Dome That Still Speaks to the Sky

As dusk falls over Srinagar and the dome of Hazratbal catches the fading sun, the shrine appears much as it always has: serene, dignified, timeless. Yet step inside, and the transformation is unmistakable. It is as if the shrine has been gently awakened from a long slumber, its voice stronger, its presence sharper, its spirit more radiant.

Hazratbal today stands as a bridge between the past and the future, between tradition and progress, between



A Historic Transformation

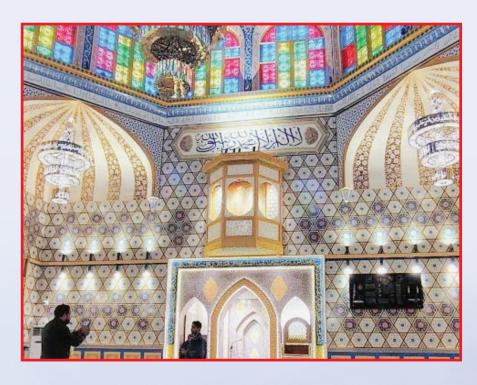
The facelift of Hazratbal is not a cosmetic exercise; it is a cultural revival. For the first time in nearly six decades, the interiors have been infused with both the richness of Kashmiri tradition and the sophistication of modern design. Papier-mâché artistry un furls across the ceilings and walls, khatamband woodwork frames the architecture with intricate beauty, and delicate pinjrakari latticework casts a soft interplay of light and shadow. Quranic calligraphy and

attention. Bathed in the gentle glow of engraved chandeliers, it exudes a luminous dignity, enhancing the spiritual aura of the shrine's most sacred space.

Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, present at the reopening, called it a "cultural milestone for Jammu and Kashmir," praising the way heritage and modernity have been harmonized.

Modern Amenities for Today's

What makes this facelift remarkable



responsibility was to preserve its sanctity while making it accessible and comfortable for today's generations. Faith and modernity must walk hand in hand."

The Larger Significance The rejuvenation of Hazratbal carries

a resonance that goes beyond stone and

devotion and renewal. Its facelift is not just about restoring walls and ceilings; it is about restoring confidence that Kashmir's sacred heritage will endure, and indeed, thrive. The white dome still speaks to the sky, but now it does so with a new brilliance. For the faithful, for heritage lovers, and for future generations, Hazratbal has been reborn.

