

Srinagar
Thursday
September 25 | 2025
2 Rabi Al-Akhar, 1447 AH
Issue No: 228
Volume: 15
Pages: 12
Price: Rs 02/-

15TH
YEAR OF
PUBLICATION

HEADLINES
TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless

LUBAAB
PUBLICATIONS

ONE STOP
SOLUTION
FOR ALL
Printing
NEEDS

DIGITAL | OFFSET | SCREEN | UV

999038812
9419088114
91942496287

Radio Colony, Gund Hassibhat, Lalwalpora Srinagar 190017

After 4-year hiatus, ECI announces polls for J&K Rajya Sabha berths

Voting and counting for 4 seats on October 24; 3 elections to be held for 4 Seats

■ HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday announced the schedule for elections to four Rajya Sabha seats from the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

According to a notification issued by the poll body, a copy of which is in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Commission will issue the notification for these seats on October 6.

As per the schedule, the last date for filing nominations is October 13, while scrutiny of nominations will take place on October 14. The last date for withdrawal of candidatures is October 16.



Voting will be held on October 24 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

● Turn on Page 2

J&K's political chessboard
NC-Congress alliance to win 3 seats, BJP in better position to win 1 seat

■ HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: With the Rajya Sabha elections announced by the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday, the political arithmetic in the newly constituted Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly indicates a clear advantage for the National

● Turn on Page 2



Statehood, The Only Way Forward for Overall Development of J&K: CM Omar

Prof. Gupta calls on CM Omar

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: Prof. Harsh K. Gupta, Former Member of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, Wednesday called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah

at the Public Outreach (Raabita) Office of CM to deliberate on strengthening earthquake resilience and disaster preparedness in Jammu and Kashmir.

The interaction was also attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani and Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo.

● Turn on Page 2

5 Months After Pahalgam Attack, Tourism in Kashmir Still in Crisis

■ HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: Five months after the deadly terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, Kashmir's tourism sector, a key pillar of its economy, continues to reel from its worst crisis in decades.

The attack that killed 25 tourists and a local resident not only shook the valley's sense of security but also triggered a cascading economic fallout, the effects of which are still being felt across hotels, transport, handicrafts and thousands of livelihoods tied to the industry.

As per the details obtained by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the timeline from tragedy to struggle is as follows.

April 22, 2025 – The attack

A terror strike in the Baisaran meadows of Pahalgam claimed 26 lives, sending shockwaves through Kashmir's tourism industry at the onset of the spring season. Within hours, tourists fled in panic, mass cancellations followed, and businesses faced immediate losses.

Late April – Immediate fallout

Security was tightened across

● Turn on Page 2

Lieutenant Governor Interacts with Officers Attending NDC Course

■ HT News Desk

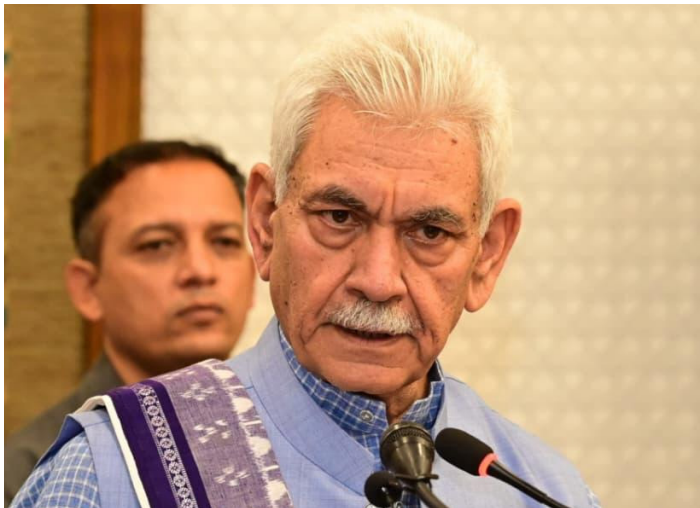
SRINAGAR, SEP 24: Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha interacted with a delegation of Senior Officers from the Indian Armed Forces, Civil Services and friendly foreign countries, currently attending the course at the National Defence College.

During the interaction, the Lieutenant Governor said that under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Operation Sindoor, marked one of India's boldest military responses in recent history and the balanced strategic restraint

with assertive action has drawn a new red line against terrorism.

"If there is a terrorist attack on India in the future, it will be seen as an act of war and a fitting reply will be given. India has also made it clear that it will not tolerate any nuclear blackmail and it will strike precisely and decisively at the terrorist hideouts," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Talking about development of border areas in J&K UT, the Lieutenant Governor said that Hon'ble Prime Minister gave a vision of treating villages of forward areas as the "first village" not the "last village". He said the change in



terminology emphasized their importance as the nation's first line of defence and our priority on the comprehensive development of border villages.

"We adopted a strategic approach to a balance economic growth, security and socio-cultural integration while developing border areas here in Jammu Kashmir. We built robust connectivity to facilitate trade and tourism. Many areas deprived of electricity since 1947 were connected with grid power and internet which significantly improved quality of life," the

● Turn on Page 2

Over 32K devotees pay obeisance at SMVD shrine

■ HT News Network

KATRA (REASI), SEP 24: Over 32,000 devotees have paid obeisance at the cave shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi since the beginning of Navratri on Monday, officials said.

Security has been stepped up at the shrine which has been decorated with flowers and lights for the Navratri festival.

"The yatra is going on smoothly with 12,000 to 13,000 pilgrims paying obeisance at the temple every day. So far, over 32,000

● Turn on Page 2

Karkhandar Scheme a perfect example of Ustaad-Shagird camaraderie

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: With an aim to transfer skill to new generation of craftsmen, Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir, today urged interested awardee artisans to set up Karkhanas under the flagship Karkhandar Scheme of the department.

The initiative aims to empower master artisans to lead skill upgradation programmes, revitalizing traditional crafts on the verge of decline and fostering sustainable livelihood in the craft sector.

Giving details, a spokesperson of the department stated the Scheme provides institutional support,

advanced training, and financial assistance to facilitate the transfer of traditional knowledge to the next generation, enhancing skills, wages, and market linkages through entrepreneurship.

Highlighting the salient features of the Karkhandar Scheme, the

● Turn on Page 2

CBSE announces Class 10, 12 exam schedule

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEPT 24: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Wednesday released the tentative schedule for the Class 10 and 12 board examinations for the 2025–26 academic session, with exams set to begin on February 17, 2026.

● Turn on Page 2

CBK busts multi-crore land compensation scam

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: The Economic Offences Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir on Wednesday carried out multiple raids in Bandipora and Budgam districts

● Turn on Page 2

13,000+ Consumers Benefit from Domestic Power Amnesty 2025-26

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: The amnesty policy of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has witnessed an overwhelming public response with more-than 13,189 consumers availing the benefits and clearing their dues,

till date.

This amnesty policy offers a 100% waiver on interest and surcharges for outstanding bills of domestic consumers as of March 31, 2025.

Focused awareness campaigns and facilitation efforts by the DISCOM has

● Turn on Page 2

CS takes stock of critical care health projects under PM-ABHIM and ECRP

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to take a comprehensive project-wise review of the ongoing critical care projects being established across different districts under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) and Emergency COVID Response Package-II (ECRP-II).

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department (H&ME); Mission Director, NHM; Principals of Government Medical Colleges; Managing Director, HSCC; and other senior officers of the department.



ment.

Underscoring the importance of these critical care facilities in strengthening the healthcare infrastructure across J&K, the Chief Secretary directed the executing agencies to enhance the pace of work to ensure timely completion of all projects.

He stressed that the creation of such facilities would go a long way in augmenting tertiary and secondary healthcare capacities, particularly in district hospitals and new medical colleges.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary took a detailed appraisal of the physical and financial progress of each project, the availability of manpower

● Turn on Page 2

CS Reviews School Infrastructure Development under Various Schemes

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today chaired a high-level meeting to review the progress of infrastructure development works being executed in schools across J&K.

The meeting was also attended by ACS, Higher Education Department; Principal Secretary, PWD;

● Turn on Page 2



Bioresources, University of Kashmir, has once again earned a spot in Stanford University's prestigious list of the

● Turn on Page 2

Chief Justice announces Comprehensive Action Plan for speedy disposal of cases

Outlines multi-pronged strategy to ensure swift, effective adjudication of matters

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: In a significant move aimed at strengthening the justice delivery system, Justice Arun Palli, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has launched a Comprehensive Action Plan for disposal of cases.

The initiative focuses on timely resolution of pending cases, reduction of backlog, and enhancement of judicial efficiency.

Recognizing the growing

concern over case pendency and delayed justice, the Chief Justice has outlined a multi-pronged strategy to ensure swift and effective adjudication of matters, especially those that have been pending for several years.

Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, while launching Phase IV & V, emphasized the importance of judicial efficiency in strengthening public trust. He said that the Justice delayed is justice denied, and this Action Plan reflects the unwavering commitment to



timely and accessible justice for all the citizens of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Following the successful completion of Phases I to III, the next phases i.e. – Phase IV (July 2025 – December 2025) and Phase V (January 2026 – June 2026 aims to deepen the impact of earlier interventions and enhance the delivery of timely justice to citizens.

This structured initiative aims to address the persistent backlog of cases in the district judiciary through strategic planning, monitoring, and

implementation of best practices in judicial administration. The following are the objectives of Phase IV:

- Identification and prioritization of 10+ year-old cases and cases involving senior citizens, women, and vulnerable groups
- Expansion of Evening/Weekend Courts and Special Arrears Sessions
- Strengthening of case management systems through digital dash-

boards and monthly performance reviews

- Improved coordination with the Bar and Prosecution Departments for early disposal
- And, the objectives of Phase V are as under:
- Consolidation of gains from previous phases
- Rollout of paperless courts in select districts on a pilot basis
- Enhancement of ADR mechanisms including mediation and Lok

Adalats for compoundable matters

- Capacity building through targeted training for judicial officers and court staff

The implementation of Phases IV and V will be closely monitored by the Arrears Committee of the High Court, with monthly reporting from all District and Sessions Judges. Progress will be evaluated based on quantifiable metrics including disposal rates, reduction in pendency, and compliance with timelines.

Traffic Police Fine Rs.12,300, Issue 52 Challans in Magam Drive

■ Ubaid Mehdi

BUDGAM, SEP 24: Traffic Police in Budgam carried out a stringent crackdown on traffic rule violators at Magam on Wednesday.

The operation, supervised by DYSP Traffic Muja-hid Nazir along with other police officials, led to the issuance of 52 challans and recovery of fines amount-



ing to Rs 12,300. Several two-wheelers were also seized for violations including riding without helmets, absence of valid documents, and reckless driving.

Police officials urged commuters to strictly follow traffic rules for their own safety and smooth traffic flow, warning that strict action will continue against violators.

CEO Kokernag Assigned Additional Charge of Aharbal Development Authority

■ Farooq Rather

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: As per Government Order No. 85-JK(TSM) of 2025, dated 24/09/2025, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kokernag Development Authority Rouf Rehman (JKAS), who is already holding the additional charge of Verinag Development Authority, has now been entrusted with the additional charge of CEO, Aharbal Development Authority as well.

The order states that the arrangement will continue until the post is filled by the General Administration Department (GAD) or until further orders are issued.

This move comes as part of the administrative reshuffle aimed at ensuring smooth functioning of developmental bodies in the region. The official is expected to oversee ongoing and upcoming tourism and infrastructure projects across all three development authorities.



Biochemistry Department of GMC Anantnag Organizes National-Level CME on Alzheimer's Disease

■ Farooq Rather

ANANTNAG, SEP 24: In a significant academic stride, the Department of Biochemistry, Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag, successfully organized its first-ever National-level Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme on the occasion of World Alzheimer's Day, held at the Main Campus, Dialgam. The CME, titled "Unravelling Alzheimer's", aimed to raise awareness about Alzheimer's Disease—one of the most pressing public health concerns globally—and was attended by nearly 200 delegates from across the country.

The event was formally inaugurated by Principal GMC Anantnag, Dr. Rukhsana Najeeb, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Dr. Showkat Ahmed Jee-lani, and Dr. Syed Tariq Qureshi were present as Guests of Honour, while Dr. Sabia Majid, HoD Bio-

chemistry at GMC Srinagar and Chairperson of the State Allied Health Care Council (J&K), was the Special Guest.

In her welcome address, Dr. Saima Mushtaq, HoD Biochem-istry and Organising Chairperson, highlighted the importance of the event. "This CME marks a milestone in the journey of our department, as it not only delves into the molecular roots of Alzheimer's Disease but also promotes awareness and underscores the urgency of early diagnosis and intervention," she said.

The academic proceedings featured eminent speakers from reputed institutions including AIIMS New Delhi, GMC Srinagar, GMC Baramulla, GMC Handwara, and the host institution GMC Anantnag. Experts shared insights into the pathophysiology, diagnosis, management, and emerging research related to Alzheimer's and related demen-tias.

A Scientific Poster Presenta-



tion Competition was also held as part of the event, with the fol-

lowing results:

1st Prize: Dr. Shah Yasir (Senior Resident, Dept. of Biochemistry, GMC Anantnag)

2nd Prize: Dr. Yusra (Senior Resident, Dept. of Physiology, GMC Anantnag)

3rd Prize: Dr. Siyab (Senior Resident, Dept. of Physiology, GMC Anantnag)

The event was efficiently com-pered by Dr. Yasir, Dr. Huziar, Dr. Siyab, and Dr. Yusra, who man-aged the stage and sessions seam-lessly.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Mehak Mufti, HoD Physiology and Organ-ising Secretary, who expressed gratitude to the administration for their unwavering support. She also emphasized the need for compassionate care and empathy towards individuals suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia.

The CME was hailed as a major academic success, setting a pre-cedent for future knowledge-sharing platforms in the region.

MLA Trehgam Presides Over Sewa Parv Camp at Keran; Reviews Winter Preparedness and Developmental Works

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, SEP 24: MLA Treh-gam, Mir Saifullah, today visited the remote border Tehsil Keran where he presided over a Sewa Parv Camp and later chaired a meeting to review winter preparedness and devel-opmental works in the area.

At the Sewa Parv Camp, organized as part of the nationwide initiative to promote public service and citizen outreach, various departments had set up stalls to provide on-spot services and disseminate awareness about different government schemes. A health camp was also organised where specialist doctors were present including gynecologist, paediatric dentist, cardiologist. Addressing the gathering, MLA Trehgam underlined the importance of Sewa Parv in strengthening citizen-centric governance and last-mile delivery of services.

He also chaired a meeting at the Tehsil Office, Keran, which was attended by CMO, Tehsildar, CAO, DSHO, BMOs and other block-level officers. He directed officers to ensure sufficient supply of ration, Medicine



and essential goods, besides stressing on the availability of doctors during snowbound conditions.

A cultural programme was also presented by the Department of Information & PR Kupwara, featuring folk music and highlighting themes such as Swachhta Hi Seva and financial inclusion schemes.

On the developmental front, the MLA reviewed progress on road connectivity, power, drinking water, education, and health infrastructure. He called for speedy execution and

adherence to quality standards, especially for projects slated to be completed before snowfall. He also instructed concerned officials to ensure the early completion of the long-pending hospital building at Keran Bala.

Interacting with locals, Mir Saifullah reiterated his commitment to ensure that Keran receives due attention in governance and development, while commending the resilience of residents living in the challenging terrains of the border area.

Sewa Parv: GMC Handwara Marks 10th National Ayurveda Day, Highlights Ayurvedic Medicine

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, SEP 24: The Directorate of Ayush in col-laboration with Government Medical College (GMC) Handwara today celebrated the 10th Ayurveda Day under the theme "ayurvedic for "People and Planet."

Principal GMC Handwara, Dr. Khurshed Ahmad Wani, presided over the event as the Chief Guest, while District Ayush Officer, Dr. Amjid Ali Khan and Aijaz Ahmad Bhat MS AH GMC Handwara, graced the occasion as Guest of Honour. The programme highlighted the significant role of Ayurvedic medicine in healing various diseases and appreciated the doctors who prescribe Ayurveda for patient care.

Ayurvedic medicine, one of the world's oldest holistic healing systems, continues to play a vital role in modern healthcare. Rooted in the principle of maintain-ing balance between the body, mind, and environment, Ayurveda focuses not only on curing ailments but also



on promoting overall wellness.

On the occasion, several doctors were felicitated for their contributions including Dr. Shabir MO Ayush, Dr. Tariq Rahi MO, Dr. Saima Amin MO Ayurvedic, Dr. Hadiya Fayaz. The event was attended by Heads of Departments (HODs) of different disciplines, faculty members, and MBBS students of GMC Handwara.

ADC Handwara Visits Fire Victims of Punzwa Village

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, SEP 24: The Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, today visited the fire victims of Punzwa village in Villgam tehsil to take stock of the situation

arising out of the recent fire incident. The ADC interacted with the affected families, expressed solidarity, and assured them of all possible support from the district administration. The ADC also took note of the damages caused and directed concerned officials to ensure timely



relief and rehabilitation measures for the victims.

During the visit, the ADC also inspected the Haji Rasool Memorial School at Punzwa to verify the quality of education being imparted. He interacted with students and staff, reviewed facilities, and stressed upon main-

taining high standards of teaching and learning outcomes. He further emphasized the importance of discipline, regularity, and quality monitoring to ensure better educational opportunities for the students of the area. He was accompanied by Tehsildar Villgam, Dr. Kaisar Bashir.

Improving medical infrastructure, especially in rural and far-flung areas, top priority of Government: Sakeena Itoo

Inaugurates NTPHCs, PHC in Kulgam Anantnag villages

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KULGAM/ANANTNAG, SEP 24: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today said the Omar Abdullah-led government has given top priority to strengthening health-care facilities across Jammu and Kashmir with particular focus on rural and far-flung areas.

The Minister made these remarks while inaugurating various health facilities in several villages of Kulgam and Anantnag districts of South Kashmir.

At Arwani village, the Health Minister inaugurated newly constructed New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) built at an estimated cost of Rs 2.71 crores.

MLA Bijbehara-Srigufwara, Dr. Bashir Ahmed Veeri, CMO Kulgam, BMO Qaimoh, other senior officers and large number of locals were also

present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that establishing these health facilities is part of larger vision of the government to ensure quality, accessible and affordable health care facilities are available grassroots level.

She highlighted that the government led by Omar Abdullah is making sustained efforts to upgrade health facilities across Jammu and Kashmir. She noted that improving medical infrastructure, especially in rural and far-flung areas, is a top priority of Government to bridge the gap in service delivery and reduce the burden on tertiary hospitals.

MLA Bijbehara-Srigufwara also addressed the gathering, highlighting recent achievements of the government.

Later, Sakeena Itoo also visited Fathepora Anantnag and Brinty Anantnag and inaugurated newly constructed NTPHC and PHC respective-



ly, in presence of MLA Anantnag West,

Abdul Majeed Larmi, ADC Anantnag, CMO Anantnag, BMO Verinag, other senior officers of health department and large number of locals.

Addressing a mammoth gatherings after inaugurations at these locations, the Health Minister highlighted that the inauguration of this centres marks a step forward in Government's resolve to make healthcare delivery more inclusive and accessible. She added that Government's commitment is to ensure that no patient is left untreated and every family has access to timely and affordable treatment close to their homes.

The Minister underlined that the Government is working to ensure better medical facilities are available in every nook and corner of Jammu and Kashmir, especially in rural and far-flung areas. "From new health centres to MRI and cath labs, Government's focus is to improve patient care and provide

facilities at doorsteps of people", Minister Sakeena said.

She further highlighted that these health care centres will be equipped with modern diagnostic facilities, essential medicines, maternal and child health services, and trained medical staff to address both preventive and curative needs of the local community.

MLA Anantnag West, Abdul Majeed Larmi also spoke on these occasions.

Earlier, Sakeena Itoo also conducted surprise inspection of Government Higher Secondary School Fathepora Anantnag and reviewed the educational standards of the institution.

The Minister took detailed round of school premises and interacted with the faculty and other school staff.

She also interacted with students and took feedback from them about the quality of education being imparted in the institution.

DC chairs CLU committee meeting at Baramulla

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BARAMULLA, SEP 24: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today chaired a meeting of the Change of Land Use (CLU) Committee held at the meeting hall of the DC Office, Baramulla.

During the meeting, several CLU applications were scrutinized in detail with inputs from the concerned line departments including Revenue, Planning, Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Development. After thorough examination and inter-departmental deliberations, 07 CLU cases were approved, while directions were passed for further clarification and documentation in other pending cases.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed the importance of strict adherence to rules, regulations, and master plans while processing CLU cases. He underlined that unplanned conversions can lead to haphazard growth, loss of agricultural land, and ecological imbalance, which must be avoided at all costs. The DC reiterated the administration's commitment to ensuring planned, sustainable, and transparent development across the district.

He further directed the officers to expedite the disposal of genuine cases in a time-bound manner, ensuring that all mandatory guidelines, including environmental and revenue norms, are strictly followed. He also called for maintaining a digital record of all CLU cases to enhance transparency and accountability in the system.

The DC urged the concerned departments to strengthen inter-departmental coordination so that unnecessary delays are curtailed and applicants are not subjected to inconvenience. He also instructed field functionaries to sensitize the public about the importance of seeking prior approval for land conversion and to curb instances of illegal land use changes.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Pattan, concerned Tehsildars, and other senior officers from allied departments who provided their expert inputs on the cases.

Speaker inaugurates mega awareness camp for Artisans at Nagam Budgam

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, SEP 24: Speaker J&K Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather today inaugurated one-day Mega Awareness Camp cum Seminar for artisans, weavers and trainees at Nagam Chadoora here.

The Awareness Camp was organised by Handicrafts & Handloom Department.

The camp witnessed active participation of artisans, weavers, and trainees, besides officers and officials from various line departments.

In his inaugural address, Speaker applauded the role of artisans in preserving Kashmir's rich cul-



tural heritage. He called upon them to adopt innovation and market-driven approaches while pursuing their craft with sincerity and dedication.

Stressing on the need for self-reliance, Rather said artisans should strive to become Job Givers instead of Job Seekers. He also assured full support for initiatives aimed at the socio-economic upliftment of artisan communities.

Assistant Director Handicrafts & Handloom Budgam, on the occasion, highlighted the achievements and initiatives of the department aimed at strengthening the handicrafts and handloom

sector. He urged artisans to take full benefit of the welfare schemes and capacity-building programmes being implemented by the Department.

Other speakers from various departments shared detailed insights into schemes and opportunities available for artisans and trainees.

Deputy Registrar Cooperatives Budgam, Principals of Government Polytechnic College and Government Girls Higher Secondary School Chadoora, representatives from J&K Bank Nagam Chadoora, and others officers were present on the occasion.

MLA Trehgam presides over Sewa Parv camp at Keran

Reviews winter preparedness, developmental works

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KUPWARA, SEP 24: Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Trehgam, Mir Saifullah, today visited the remote border Tehsil Keran where he presided over a Sewa Parv Camp and later chaired a meeting to review winter preparedness and developmental works in the area.

At the Sewa Parv camp, organized as part of the nationwide initiative to promote public service and citizen outreach, various departments had set up stalls to provide on the spot services and disseminate awareness about different government schemes.

A health camp was also organised where specialist doctors were present including gynecologist, pediatri-

cian, dentist, and cardiologist. Addressing the gathering, MLA Trehgam underlined the importance of Sewa Parv in strengthening citizen-centric governance and last-mile delivery of services.

He also chaired a meeting at the Tehsil office, Keran, which was attended by CMO, Tehsildar, CAO, DSHO, BMOs and other block-level officers. He directed officers to ensure sufficient supply of ration, medicine and essential goods, besides stressing on the availability of doctors during snowbound conditions.

A cultural programme was also presented by the Department of Information & PR Kupwara, featuring folk music, and highlighting themes such as Swachhta Hi Seva

and financial inclusion schemes.

On the developmental front, MLA reviewed progress on road connectivity, power, drinking water, education, and health infrastructure. He called for speedy execution and adherence to quality standards, especially for projects slated to be completed before snowfall. He also instructed concerned officials to ensure the early completion of the long-pending hospital building at Keran Bala.

Interacting with locals, Saifulah reiterated his commitment to ensure that Keran receives due attention in governance and development, while commending the resilience of residents living in the challenging terrains of the border area.

Sewa Parv Day-8: DC Pulwama attends Kala Utsav

Highlights role of students in community service, health & cleanliness

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

PULWAMA, SEP 24: The ongoing Sewa Parv campaign was today celebrated with a vibrant series of activities, reflecting the themes of cultural engagement, community service, health awareness, and environmental conservation.

A major highlight of the day was the Kala Utsav organised by the Education department at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Pulwama.

The event, attended by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, featured art, slogan, and essay competitions around the spirit of Sewa. Department of Information and Public Relations also presented cultural programmes spreading messages on cleanliness, hygiene, anti-drug awareness, and government initiatives, especially Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Qayoom highlighted the series of activities being undertaken across the district by various departments



as part of the Sewa Parv campaign. He emphasised the crucial role of students as ambassadors of cleanliness and social change, urging them to take a firm stand against drug abuse under the Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyan and actively contribute to the goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Dr. Qayoom also stressed the importance of healthy lifestyles, balanced nutrition, and regular health check-ups so that young people can contribute productively to society. "The energy of our youth," he said, "should be channelled into creativity, learning, and service, which will not only strengthen communities but also build a resilient and self-reliant Pulwama."

Later, DC visited a medical camp at Lajoora organised under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, interacting with health officials and reviewing ongoing activities. He directed teams to strengthen screening, early detection, and treatment linkages for both communicable and non-

communicable diseases, with emphasis on anaemia, tuberculosis, and sickle cell disease.

Maternal and child health, immunisation, adolescent care, nutrition, menstrual hygiene, lifestyle disorders, and mental health awareness were also highlighted for comprehensive grassroots well-being.

Meanwhile, a series of plantation drives were organised by Social Forestry, RDD, Urban & Housing Development, and Education departments, promoting environmental consciousness and community participation.

Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, and allied sectors conducted awareness programmes on various schemes, while the Housing and Urban Development Department led extensive drives to eliminate Single Use Plastic (SUP) across municipalities.

Rural Development Department celebrated Clean Green Utsav with eco-friendly, zero-waste events in panchayats of all blocks, alongside awareness on segregation of dry and wet waste.

Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner

reviews ongoing works at Jagti

Migrant Township

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 24: Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M), J&K, Dr. Arvind Karwani today conducted an extensive visit to Jagti Migrant Township to review the pace of ongoing developmental and welfare works.

During the visit, Dr. Karwani inspected the progress of construction activities in various camps and took note of the long-pending demand of residents for adequate water supply. He was informed that work on four borewells has already commenced, bringing much-needed relief to the inmates.

The Commissioner also visited Higher Secondary School, Jagti, where he reviewed ongoing developmental works and actively participated in Swachhata Pakhwara activities, reaffirming the department's commitment to cleanliness and community welfare.

Dr. Karwani sought detailed feedback from the concerned officers about the status of projects and impressed upon them to ensure timely completion of works within the stipulated time frame.

One of the major highlights of the visit was the distribution of NFSA ration cards among the migrant families. Till now, the migrant population was not covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). With their integration into the NFSA database, migrant families will now be able to seek benefits under various social sector schemes, ensuring their inclusion in the wider welfare framework.

Besides this, an awareness camp was also organized in collaboration with the Social Welfare department to create awareness regarding various social welfare schemes and to inform and enable the migrant families to avail themselves of the benefits of these programmes.

Later, a public grievance redressal camp was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Karwani at Community Hall, Jagti. The camp provided a platform for residents to raise day-to-day issues and seek redressal from the authorities.

Interacting with the people on the occasion, Dr. Karwani assured them that all genuine demands and issues would be taken up on priority and reiterated the government's commitment to the welfare and rehabilitation of the migrant community.

The programme was attended by Vijay Kumar Sharma, Deputy Commissioner (Relief); Sanjeev Kumar, Assistant Commissioner (Relief); Kailash Devi, Assistant Commissioner (Relief) and senior officers from various line departments.

Sewa Parv 2025: DC Srinagar hands-over sanction letters to aspiring entrepreneurs under Mission YUVA

Over 3000 applications approved by the DLIC till date, with around 800 cases sanctioned by Banks in Srinagar

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: As a part of ongoing Sewa Parv campaign, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo today handed over 350 fresh sanction letters to aspiring entrepreneurs of the district under Mission YUVA initiative to support them in launching business ventures and promoting self-employment to generate jobs.

These sanction letters were distributed during the 4th Roz-e-Yuva which was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Srinagar, Rifat Aftab Qureshi; Chief Planning

Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; General Manager DIC, Hamida Akhtar; Chief General Manager J&K Bank, Imtiyaz Ahmad Wani; Zonal Head J&K Bank, District Social Welfare Officer, LDM(Banks), Heads of various J&K Bank Business Units and other concerned, alongside a large number of Mission YUVA beneficiaries from different parts of the Srinagar district.

On the occasion, DC handed over 350 fresh sanction letters to aspiring entrepreneurs of Srinagar district under Mission YUVA initiative for whom proposals had been approved by the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) after detailed



evaluation. These 350 approvals follow the distribution of 450 sanction letters earlier, bringing the total number of sanctioned cases to 800 in the district under Mission YUVA initiative. The proposals were approved by the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) after detailed evaluation.

Addressing the event, DC congratulated the Mission YUVA beneficiaries for embracing self-employment and economic empowerment, encouraging them to become job creators rather than job seekers. He also praised the efforts of all stakeholder departments

and banks in fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial environment in Srinagar.

DC expressed his satisfaction at the enthusiastic participation of youth across the district in Mission YUVA and said that over 3000 applications have been approved by the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) till date, the highest across Jammu & Kashmir under Mission YUVA initiative.

He added that the youth's response to Mission YUVA has been inspiring, with the initiative providing timely credit and essential support to help turn entrepreneurial ideas into real-

ity. He encouraged aspiring entrepreneurs to apply through the Mission YUVA website to learn about the government's benefits, including credit and interest subvention.

Senior officers from Jammu & Kashmir Bank, speaking at the event, affirmed their commitment to empowering young entrepreneurs by providing necessary credit and support. They emphasized close coordination with the district administration to ensure a smooth process and proper guidance at every stage, enabling youth to build sustainable livelihoods.

DC Kupwara conducts extensive tour of Lolab sub division, reviews key infrastructure works

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KUPWARA, SEP 24: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse today conducted an extensive tour of Lolab sub division of Kupwara district to take stock of the ongoing developmental projects in the area.

He was accompanied by SDM Lolab, Executive Engineer R&B Division Lolab, Tehsildar and other concerned officers.

During the tour, DC visited KGBV Potushai. While inspecting the school infrastructure, he directed the R&B department to expedite the restoration work of bathrooms, kitchen block. He also inspected the classrooms and interacted with the students, got feedback about the functioning of the school.

Suse also visited Government Degree College (GDC) Sogam and JNV Potushai during which he took stock of the key infrastructural works going in these institutions. He stressed upon the executing agency to gear up construction work and ensure completion of the work within the given time frame. He also took stock of the ongoing digitization work of the revenue department at GDC Sogam.

While inspecting the Water Supply scheme Wavoora, DC was informed that the scheme which stands completed under JJM, covers around 912 households of three villages of Wavoora, Surigam and Bunmaidanpora. He also paid inspection of 10 MVA Receiving Station Sogam and enquired the status of the power supply scenario of subdivision and ongoing works under RDSS.

DC also paid a surprise visit to Sub District Hospital (SDH) Sogam during which he inspected all the sections of the hospital including OPD, Dental, Radiology, Dialysis, Gynea, Labour Room, OT, Pharmacy, etc.

He inspected the under construction building of ICDS Block office at Sogam and directed the R&B department to ensure completion of the project in a fast track manner.

At the Auditorium of GDC Sogam, DC convened a meeting of all sub divisional level officers to take a detailed review of the progress achieved by different line departments under UT CAPEX, District CAPEX and different beneficiary oriented schemes.

The meeting was attended by Principal GDC Sogam, SDM Lolab, SDPO Lolab, XEN R&B, Tehsildar Sogam, Tehsildar Lalpora, BDO, BMO, CDPO, AEE PHE, SDAO, TSO Food and representatives from different departments.

DC directed the officers to work with full dedication and ensure completion of the pending works within the stipulated time frame and put special focus on saturation under beneficiary oriented schemes. He emphasized upon the officers to also put special focus on improving key performance indicators during the ongoing Sewa Parv campaign.

DC B'pora calls for Green Shift; Bio-Waste Fuel & Solar Dehydration of edibles for a sustainable future

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, SEP 24: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, on Wednesday convened a meeting of concerned officers to discuss the adoption of Bio-waste Fuel and Solar Dehydration initiatives in the district.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation and live demonstration showcased the technologies, highlighting their scope and feasibility for local application.

It was explained that Bio-waste Fuel involves converting organic and agricultural waste into usable energy sources such as biogas or briquettes. This not only ensures efficient waste management but also reduces environmental hazards.

Similarly, Solar Dehydration

uses solar energy to dry fruits, vegetables, and other perishables—helping preserve nutritional value, reduce post-harvest losses, and promote clean energy practices. A special focus was laid on the solar dehydration of fruits and vegetables, given Bandipora's agricultural potential.

DC emphasized the need for inter-departmental coordination to ensure effective implementation of these eco-friendly practices aimed at resource conservation and sustainable growth. She underlined that adopting such technologies will reduce waste burden while offering cost-effective alternatives to local communities.

The meeting further stressed chalking out a comprehensive action plan with active involvement



of local bodies and community institutions to maximize benefits.

Notably, representatives from NRLM Self Help Groups (SHGs), Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (VKVs), and the District Industries Centre (DIC) also participated in the programme, exploring avenues to integrate these technologies into community and industrial practices.

DC also appealed to the general public to adopt and utilize these technologies in their daily lives to help reduce waste, conserve energy, and contribute to environmental sustainability.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development, Coordinator WUCMA, Chief Agriculture Officer, and other concerned officers and departmental representatives.

Sewa Parv- Day 8: Activities in Budgam witness enthusiastic participation across schools, panchayats & institutions

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, SEP 24: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations being observed across district Budgam, a series of activities highlighting community service, awareness, and public participation were carried out today in different blocks and educational institutions of the district.

The day witnessed vibrant participation of students, officials, and local communities in activities ranging from cultural events, awareness programmes, health initiatives, and environmental drives, all aimed at promoting the ethos of Sewa and collective responsibility.

Key highlights of the day include educational & cultural activities at Higher Secondary School Hayatpora, Zone Nagam, essay and painting competitions were organised where students expressed their thoughts on themes of social service, environment protection, and patriotism.

HSS Bugam Chadoora organised a rally involving staff and students, raising awareness about cleanliness and service to society. At PM Shri HSS Kandoora Beerwah, painting compe-

titions were conducted under the banner of Sewa Parv.

Health & Wellness initiatives were conducted across Budgam which included a Blood Donation and Health Check-up Camp organized in Municipal Committee Chadoora with active participation from locals, health workers, and volunteers. A special health awareness programme for adolescent girls was conducted at Higher Secondary School Narbal, Block Narbal, focusing on nutrition, hygiene, and well-being.

At HSS Khag, a cleanliness drive and awareness campaign on health and sanitation were carried out.

Moreover, celebration of Breast-feeding Day with lactating mothers was observed across various ICDS Centres of district Budgam, underlining the significance of mother's milk for child health, nutrition, and overall well-being.

Poshan Project B.K. Pora held awareness sessions on obesity and the harmful effects of junk food.

Waste-to-Wealth programmes were organised across different Panchayats of Block S.K. Pora. Besides, multiple cleanliness drives were car-

ried out in Block Chadoora and Block S.K. Pora under the Swachhata theme of Sewa Parv.

Soil Range Budgam (Pir Panjal Forest Division) conducted an eco-awareness programme at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Soibugh, engaging students on issues of biodiversity and forest conservation.

A separate eco-awareness programme was also organised by the Raithan Forest Range under the ongoing campaign.

Handicrafts & Handloom department, Budgam organised a mega awareness camp-cum-seminar at Nagam, Chadoora, aimed at sensitising artisans, weavers, and youth about government schemes, skill development, and marketing support for local handicrafts.

The diverse range of activities conducted under Sewa Parv in Budgam today reflect the district's commitment to spreading awareness on health, education, environment, and cultural preservation. Students, teachers, officials, and community members actively contributed, turning the observance into a mass movement of public service and responsibility.

Awareness/ capacity building workshop on PM-KUSUM- MNRE Gol held at Anantnag

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

ANANTNAG, SEP 24: Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA), Department of Science & Technology, in collaboration with MNRE & GIZ today conducted awareness cum capacity building workshop at Townhall, Anantnag, for sensitization of farmers regarding use of Solar Energy for powering of irrigation pumps under PM-KUSUM scheme.

The occasion was attended by ADDC, Anantnag, CEO Municipal Council Anantnag, Dy. CEO, JAKEDA, and officers from JAKEDA, Horticulture and Agriculture departments.



The capacity building of the farmers was carried out by Dr. Jaswant Singh Kalsi (ASCI) and Dr. Ruchi Gupta (GIZ) on behalf of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, MNRE.

During the programme, officers and the farmers were apprised about the various benefits/incentives extended by the 'Ministry of New & Renewable Energy' MNRE GoI, under PM - KUSUM scheme, which is primarily meant for upliftment of the farmers.

The farmers and officials were apprised about the basics of Solar Water Pumping Systems including USPCs and modalities of Component B of PM KUSUM. It was also informed that under Component - B of PM-KUSUM scheme, a collective subsidy of 80% shall be provided to the farmers who intend to install Solar Water Pumps.

An interactive session was also held with the farmers and officers from other departments, wherein their concern and queries about the schemes were also addressed.

ICDS Srinagar organizes awareness programme under 'Sewa Parv' at Miskeen Bagh

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: In connection with the ongoing 8th Rashtriya Poshan Maah celebrations, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) district Srinagar organized an awareness programme under 'Sewa Parv' at Miskeen Bagh here today.

Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare department, Sarmad Hafeez was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Mission Director ICDS Dr Mush-eer Ahmad, District Programme Officer ICDS, Srinagar, Bureeda Majeed, CDPOs, and other officers of SWD were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner Secretary urged



AWWs to materialise all the schemes on ground level and urged beneficiaries particularly mothers to take advantage of Government schemes. He emphasized the importance of utilizing various government schemes aimed at improving public health and nutrition. "The objective of such programmes is to create awareness about gov-

ernment initiatives and ensure they reach the grassroots level," he said.

Mission Director ICDS in his address, reiterated the department's commitment to reaching every village with vital information about ICDS schemes and initiatives. He underlined the importance of community participation

in achieving the goals of Poshan Abhiyaan, a flagship mission to improve nutritional outcomes across the country.

Talking about the achievements of ICDS in schemes like PMMVY and Ladli Beti, he urged to remove the pendency if any so that beneficiaries can avail services and benefits at the earliest.

Other speakers at the event highlighted the long-term benefits of a balanced diet and the need to instil healthy eating habits from a young age. They stressed the role of nutrition in physical and cognitive development, especially among school-going children and also importance of moral education in inculcating good habits to benefit the society at large.

The event was held with an aim to sensitize the local community about the various themes of Poshan Maah including Menstreaming, obesity, breastfeeding and the harmful effects of junk food as well as to promote healthy and nutritious eating habits, especially among adolescents.

HT EDITORIAL

Don't belittle contribution of tourism towards GDP of Kashmir economy

An impression is being created by a section of people that tourism contributes only 10 percent towards the gross domestic product of the economy of Jammu & Kashmir and there is no need to be hyper about the less inflow of tourists to the union territory. One may or may not agree with this notion but the fact remains that the tourism scenario of Jammu & Kashmir is much beyond the figures.

Multiple sections of the society are involved with the tourism sector and as such once there is setback to this sector lakhs get affected. Same has happened this time around following the deadly terror attack at Baisaran in the picturesque health resort of Pahalgam in South Kashmir. Following the terror attack the arrival of tourists to the Kashmir valley came to an abrupt end and as on date very few people are willing to travel and visit the Paradise on Earth.

There was widespread condemnation of the dastardly attack across the country with people taking out protest rallies and demonstrations against the incident. Condemnation also came from the people living in the different parts of the globe with the foreign governments issuing strong statements against the terror attack. Since there are people who say that the tourism sector is not so important for the Kashmir economy, the economy of this place should not come to a standstill if one believes the same.

People involved with the different trades being carried out in Kashmir are virtually disappointed and dejected since they have no business to do. When one poses a question about the reason for the same, the plain answer is that since there are very few tourists in the town there is no work whatsoever. Tourism and Kashmir economy are directly related and despite varied viewpoints nobody can undermine the importance of tourism towards the GDP of Jammu & Kashmir especially Kashmir valley.

For the success of an economy it is important that all the sectors contribute towards the overall growth and development. In this regard as far as the economy of Jammu & Kashmir is concerned the sectors pivotal to the growth and development are given due recognition and no sector whatsoever should be undermined. Once a sector is undermined then it is quite natural that the common masses start questioning the contribution of the sector towards the overall growth and development of the economy.

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
dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com
headlinestoday2024@gmail.com

The Sports Sector Has Great Potential to Generate Employment



■ Sahil Manzoor Bhatti

Sports not only enhance physical fitness but also play a vital role in addressing health-related issues. Lack of physical activity often leads to stress, obesity, high cholesterol, cardiovascular diseases, body weakness, fatigue, and insomnia. If we consider the definition of exercise, it can simply be described as any body movement. Sports, however, go beyond simple exercise—they engage the entire body, uplift the spirit, and create a sense of joy.

Globally, hundreds of sports are played, and India too has a wide variety of them. Among these, cricket stands as the most popular. It is remarkable that India is home to the world's richest cricket board, the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India), which has a market capitalisation of around ₹18,000 crore. Through the Indian Premier League (IPL), top-class international players participate in one of the most celebrated sporting events in the world. This highlights how sports are increasingly being



recognised as a profession that brings not only fame but also financial success.

India has produced many legendary sports personalities who have brought pride to the nation—Kapil Dev, Sunil Gavaskar, Rahul Dravid, and Sachin Tendulkar in cricket; Sania Mirza and Mahesh Bhupathi in tennis; Bhaichung Bhutia in football; and many others. Each year, countries allocate a budget for sports to promote talent at the district, state, and national levels. Only the most dedicated and fortunate athletes go on to represent the country at the international stage.

The importance of sports is also reflected in events like National Sports Day, celebrated on August 29th

in honour of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. On this day, schools, colleges, and universities across the country conduct various sporting events to remind people of the value of sports in life.

The Indian government has been making consistent efforts to improve sports infrastructure. Constructing stadiums at the panchayat level, providing fenced and levelled grounds, and investing in other facilities are commendable steps. In Jammu & Kashmir, particularly, several sports leagues are organised that help nurture local talent and produce players of national and international calibre.

Benefits of Sports Activities
Health & Fitness: Sports keep indi-

viduals physically active, stress-free, and mentally sharp.

Social Good: Sports help curb drug addiction among the youth, offering a positive and engaging alternative.

Livelihood Opportunities: Many athletes now earn their livelihood through coaching, running gyms, or opening training academies such as boxing and martial arts centres.

Community Engagement: Local tournaments in cricket, football, or volleyball—organised with proper permissions—encourage community participation and youth development.

Tourism Boost: Destinations like Gulmarg in Kashmir offer immense potential for sports tourism, especially skiing, adventure sports, and mountaineering. These activities attract visitors from across the world and contribute to the economy.

Recently, the successful conclusion of the Khelo India Games, where players from across the globe participated, further proved India's growing stature in the global sporting arena.

In conclusion, sports are not only essential for health and happiness but also carry vast potential to generate employment, promote youth development, and strengthen the national economy. The sports sector, if nurtured properly, can become one of the strongest pillars of progress for the country.

sahilmanzor0401@gmail.com

Kashmir's Floods: Nature's Final Warning

Wake Up, Before the Mountains Scream



■ By Sahil Abbas

The Himalayas remember every tree we cut and every warning we ignored.

When the Mountains Wake

They say nature doesn't forgive—because it remembers. In Kashmir, the mountains remember every felled tree, every illegal road, every warning ignored. And this monsoon, they woke with a roar.

On August 14 in Chosoti, Kishtwar, the sky cracked open. Pilgrims resting along the Machail Mata route heard what seemed like thunder—but within minutes, walls of water and rock came crashing down. Camps, families, even children were buried where they stood. At least sixty lives ended before anyone could run.

Weeks later in Kathua, parents dug through landslide debris with bare hands, searching for their children. In Doda, families watched their homes crumble as torrents ripped through village walls. Across Jammu & Kashmir, more than 700 lives have been lost in just three months. These are not statistics. They were farmers, students, shopkeepers—ordinary lives ended by extraordinary violence.



Why This Fury?

Because we stripped the slopes bare. Trees cut illegally, hillsides carved for roads, rivers crowded with construction—we weakened the land until it could no longer hold itself together.

Because the planet is running a fever. With global temperatures now 1.1–1.3 °C hotter than pre-industrial times, the monsoon veers wildly between drought and deluge. In the Himalayas, that volatility turns lethal.

And because we forgot. In 2014, floods drowned Srinagar. We fled, rebuilt, then went back to sleep. We called it an act of God instead of a warning. Eleven years later, the same mistakes returned—crueler.

A Simple Lesson from the Land

Picture a terraced hillside. Each step holds water, slowing its fall. Remove the steps—cut the slope, clear the trees—and one downpour will bring the

whole hillside crashing down. That is Kashmir today: defenses dismantled, waiting for the next blow.

Who Must Answer?

Authorities cannot keep treating mountains as real estate. Forests are not obstacles; they are shields. Early-warning systems and resilient infrastructure are not luxuries; they are lifelines.

And we, the people, are not innocent. We settle floodplains, ignore warnings, and mistake negligence for destiny. Every illegal wall or hut on a riverside is a wager against the lives of our neighbors.

Wake Up, Now

The floods of 2014 were a whisper. This year was a shout. If we do not act, the next cry will be a scream—and it will sound like villages breaking, bridges collapsing, children being carried away.

The mountains have woken. The only question is: will we?

Probity in Governance: The True Test of a Just Society..



■ Yawer Hamid

The true progress of any society is not measured by towering buildings or economic statistics, but by the way its poorest citizens are treated when they seek help from public institutions. A government office, ideally, should be

the first door of relief for a common citizen. Yet, for many of the poor, it often becomes a door of humiliation. They arrive carrying not only applications and documents but also silent burdens of hope, anxiety and trust.

For those who struggle to make ends meet, even a visit to an office can be daunting. They cannot afford "chai," a term that has become a quiet synonym for bribery, nor can they navigate the suffocating layers of red tape that delay even the simplest requests. When public servants forget that their authority is a responsibility, not a privilege, the poor are left trapped between helplessness and exploitation.

This is where probity in governance becomes the moral anchor of public service. Probity is not merely about honesty in financial dealings; it is a commitment to integrity, humility and fairness in every interaction. An official who greets the poor with respect, listens patiently and ensures a fair process does more than fulfill a duty—he restores faith in the very idea of governance.

A kind word, a transparent procedure and a refusal to accept illicit favors can transform fear into trust. The poor should never feel small because they lack wealth or influence. They should never have to pay to access what is

already their right. Public service is not merely about files and signatures; it is about safeguarding human dignity.

A society where government offices welcome the weakest with fairness and empathy is one where administration rises to the level of moral commitment. Probity in governance is, therefore, not just a principle of good administration; it is the very heartbeat of justice and democracy. When the last citizen is treated with respect, governance ceases to be mere machinery, it becomes an instrument of humanity.

hamidyawer360@gmail.com

Marriage Market in Kashmir Goes Online

As economic pressures, societal expectations, and rising divorce rates reshape marriages in Kashmir, a new app is offering young people privacy, trust, and hope.

■ Syed Mohammad Burhan

Saima leans by the carved wooden window of her parents' home, watching sunlight dance across Dal Lake. Memories of her wedding day return, filled with both hope and heartache.

She had dreamed of stability and companionship, but the marriage collapsed within six months. She came back home carrying betrayal and a divorce.

What lingered longer than heartbreak was the judgment of relatives and neighbours.

Seven years later, the thought of remarriage still feels distant.

Her experience reflects a wider shift in Kashmir, where young people are grappling with uncertainty, heavy wedding expenses, and shifting social expectations.

Unemployment among men stands at 17.4 percent, making many reluctant to marry until they feel financially secure. Families, meanwhile, struggle with the weight of dowries and extravagant ceremonies.

Divorce, once rare, is steadily rising, signaling changes in how people view marriage, gender roles, and companionship.

Imran, 32, a software engineer, returned from studying abroad eager to build a life in Srinagar. He wants a steady career and a family, but the unstable job market has made him cautious.

He has watched friends marry only to stumble under financial burdens and family demands. He wonders if he is ready for the same.

Ayesha, 29, a postgraduate in English literature, faces another kind of barrier.

Despite her education, she finds herself sidelined by a society that often prefers younger, less-qualified brides.

Relatives advise her to lower her expectations, a suggestion that leaves her isolated and anxious.

Data confirms these personal struggles.

Jammu and Kashmir has India's highest share of unmarried youth at 29.1 percent, according to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Fertility rates have dropped to

1.4, far below the replacement level of 2.1, raising concerns about an aging population and shrinking workforce.

Doctors, too, warn of health risks. Women marrying later, says Dr. Masooda Khan, an obstetrician in Srinagar, face greater chances of hypertension, diabetes, and cesarean births.

For men, economic insecurity continues to delay marriages, making the issue even more complex.

It is in this setting that Nikahfyme was born.

Developed by Srinagar-based entrepreneur Imad Ur Rehman, better known for his brand name ImadClicks, the app offers a secure and culturally attuned space for matchmaking.

Within a month of its launch, more than 20,000 users signed up, clear proof that Kashmiri youth are searching for alternatives to traditional networks.

Every profile is carefully verified: government-issued IDs and, in some cases, facial recognition confirm authenticity, while encrypted data protection ensures privacy, crucial in a region where trust is fragile.

Behind the platform is a team of young Kashmiri professionals. Developers, designers, and support staff have worked together to create an interface that feels modern yet culturally rooted.

The first 30 days saw three families tying knots, a sign that digital matchmaking is possible even in conservative settings.

For users like Imran, the app offers order and privacy.

"It's not like family-arranged meetings," he says. "Here, you can see profiles, understand backgrounds, and talk without feeling judged. It feels like a private space to make serious decisions."

Ayesha agrees. "I feel respected here," she says. "The focus is on compatibility and values, not just age or looks. For women like me, that means everything."

The design of Nikahfyme reinforces these priorities.

The minimum age is set at 21 for women and 25 for men, encouraging serious intentions. Filters allow users to search by sect, profession,



Behind the platform is a team of young Kashmiri professionals. Developers, designers, and support staff have worked together to create an interface that feels modern yet culturally rooted. The first 30 days saw three families tying knots, a sign that digital matchmaking is possible even in conservative settings.

and location, balancing tradition with choice.

Partnerships with local organizations are in the works to expand reach and build further trust.

"We don't just want digital pro-

files," says Imad from his glass cubicle in Lal Bazar, watching his team enjoy and work with ease and shared purpose. "We want to meet real needs. Young people deserve platforms that respect their values,

ambitions, and privacy."

The broader impact is still unfolding. Traditionally, matchmaking depended on family networks and community reputation. That often excluded those who didn't fit

the mold: divorcees, the elderly, or highly educated women.

Apps like Nikahfyme hand over some control, letting individuals shape their own futures.

Still, technology cannot erase the financial pressures. Families remain tied to lavish weddings and dowries, while stagnant wages and unstable jobs make marriage a gamble.

Rising divorce reflects not only economic strain but also shifting expectations. Young couples want relationships based on values and mutual respect, not obligation.

For Saima, these digital platforms signal a second chance. She watches friends find partners through verified apps, rebuilding lives with more autonomy than earlier generations.

"It's a relief to know there's a system that values privacy and seriousness," she says. "It gives hope to people like me who thought our chances were over."

Nikahfyme is part of Kashmir's wider digital transformation. From education to commerce, online platforms are reshaping traditions. In marriage, the change is deeply personal, touching families, values, and futures.

Technology cannot lift every burden, but it provides tools to steer them with more transparency and choice. The growing popularity of Nikahfyme points to a cultural shift.

Young Kashmiris, once entirely dependent on family networks, are carving out space for autonomy in choosing life partners.

For many, marriage is a partnership built on shared aspirations, personal values, and trust in a system that protects privacy.

On afternoons when the sun lights up Dal Lake, Saima allows herself to imagine a new beginning, guided by both tradition and technology. Imran and Ayesha scroll through profiles, measuring compatibility, values, and ambition.

Nikahfyme may not solve every challenge Kashmiri youth face, but it offers something rare in the marriage market: a sense of control, dignity, and hope.

— The author is Special Correspondent at Kashmir Observer.

Kashmir's Poet-Physician Redefining Relief Globally

Dr. Akhtar Purvez brings the spirit of Kashmir to American medicine, blending science and poetry to transform healthcare.

■ Fiza Masoodi

On a bitter winter morning in the early 1960s, in Tangmarg, just 23 miles from the capital city, a young Akhtar Purvez watched a neighbour mount a horse and ride ten miles to summon a doctor.

Hours later, the physician returned the same way.

By then, the patient had died.

"That memory stayed with me," Purvez recalls. "It wasn't just the loss of life. It was the intense feeling of unmitigated suffering, helplessness, and the relief that was out of our reach."

He grew up in a place where hospitals were distant, doctors rare, and families often relied on prayer, herbal remedies, or hope.

Those early experiences left a lasting impression on the boy who would go on to practice pain medicine in the United States, still a new field of medicine, and lead medical research to discover new therapies that would benefit the humanity beyond one country.

Today, Purvez is a leading physician in America, shaping how chronic pain, and its related field of addiction medicine, is understood and treated around the world.

His upbringing was modest but rich in culture. His father, the renowned Kashmiri-American intellectual and poet, Muzaffar Aazim, instilled in him the virtues of service to the humankind without discrimination and a love of language and culture.

"Our home was full of books and conversations," he says. "We didn't have much wealth,

but we had values: honesty, hard work, and respect for others."

Healthcare in the valley remained a struggle. The nearest hospital was more than fifty miles away, and traditional remedies often failed.

"I saw pain treated as destiny," Purvez continues. "That was difficult for me to accept. I wanted to understand pain and confront it."

Medicine carried great respect in Kashmir. Doctors were guardians of life, and humility was expected.

That cultural gap hit him hard during his first residency interview in the United States.

"They asked why they should hire me," he laughs. "I thought my résumé spoke for itself. In Kashmir, speaking of your achievements feels like boasting. In America, it's a way of life to highlight who you are, and what you have done."

After earning a Master of Surgery in India, Purvez moved to the United States. His first year as a surgical resident in New York was relentless: twenty-hour shifts, sleepless nights, and long stretches without food.

"I asked about another young Kashmiri who had started before me. They said, 'He lasted only two months. That scared me,'" he recalls. "But I decided I would not give up."

Perseverance carried him to Boston University Medical Center, where he trained in anesthesiology, opening a path to pain medicine, a field that demands both precision and empathy.

Later, at the University of Virginia, he studied under Dr.



John Rowlingson, a pioneer, a thought leader in the specialty, and a mentor that would shape his professional career for years to come.

Today, Purvez is President of Momentum Medical Research in Virginia. Over four decades, he has served as a head and neck surgeon, anesthesiologist, interventional pain specialist, and principal

investigator in major clinical trials. His studies range from osteoarthritis treatments to metabolic disorders, vaccine safety and beyond.

Certified by both the American Board of Pain Medicine and the American Board of Anesthesiology, he has helped shape standards that ripple through the medical systems worldwide. "I've always believed medi-

cine is not only about science," he says. "It is also about listening to people, understanding their suffering, and helping them reclaim their lives."

He also teaches as an Adjunct Clinical Professor at Lincoln Memorial University. He has mentored students from Boston University, the University of Virginia, and elsewhere.



Today, Purvez is President of Momentum Medical Research in Virginia. Over four decades, he has served as a head and neck surgeon, anesthesiologist, interventional pain specialist, and principal investigator in major clinical trials. His studies range from osteoarthritis treatments to metabolic disorders, vaccine safety and beyond.

"Technical skill matters," he tells them. "But it should be the caring and compassion that should guide you."

Purvez has written extensively. His books, "Managing Chronic Pain in an Age of Addiction," and "The Brain Behind Pain," have influenced public debate during the opioid crisis. These are available in most libraries in the United States.

He emphasizes addressing pain responsibly without dismissing patients' suffering.

"Pain doesn't care about your income or passport," he says. "It is democratic. The challenge is how we respond, with compassion and science, or with indifference."

At local, national, and international conferences, he frames pain care as a matter of human rights.

His research on atrial fibrillation, dietary additives, and chronic pain syndromes appears in leading journals. He also serves on editorial boards shaping the work of future physicians.

Yet for all his medical accomplishments, Purvez is also a poet.

Fluent in Kashmiri, Urdu, Hindi, Farsi, and English, his verses echo his father's traditions, often weaving medicine with humanity, and science with spirit.

"I see poetry as a form of healing," he says. "Where medicine reaches the body, poetry reaches the soul. Both are necessary."

His poetry carries Kashmir with it: rivers, mountains, resilience. Abroad, he recites his father's verses, introducing au-

diences to the cultural fabric of his homeland.

"In many ways," he reflects, "I am an ambassador of Kashmir through both medicine and poetry."

The valley, often associated with turmoil in headlines, remains central to his identity.

"The inspiration for what I do, my drive to relieve suffering, was born there," he says.

But even today, Kashmir's healthcare system struggles. A 2023 survey by the Ministry of Health found that nearly 40 percent of patients needing advanced care travel outside the region, often facing crippling financial burdens. Specialists remain scarce, particularly in rural areas.

Reflecting on these challenges, Purvez adds, "Every child in Kashmir who dreams of becoming a doctor should have the chance to learn, serve, and lead. That is the hope I carry for our future."

In Virginia, that very much resembles like, and reminds him of Kashmir, he continues to treat patients, guide research, and write. His vision blends the wisdom of tradition with modern science.

"Every patient I see reminds me of where I came from, physically and emotionally," he concludes. "That boy in Kashmir who watched a doctor ride on horseback to save a life is still with me. He pushes me forward."

— The author is a scribe based in Srinagar. She can be reached at fizamsoodi2001@gmail.com.

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...

Easy DIY Face Mask Recipes for Glowing Skin Care



■ **Shahnaz Hussain**

Who doesn't want glowing, radiant skin? And what better way to achieve a chemical-free solution to get that healthy, bright complexion?

Face masks have emerged as a go-to solution for quick and effective skincare. Whether you're looking for a hydration boost or a radiance lift, Face masks packed with antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals can make a noticeable difference in skin quality.

When it comes to creating a homemade face mask for shining skin, there are numerous alternatives. The best part is that you probably already have all the ingredients in your kitchen. Homemade face packs, inspired by age-old Ayurvedic wisdom, are your safest and most effective route to skin that shines from within.

These DIY masks are not only cost-effective but also free from harsh chemicals, making them gentle yet effective.

Wrinkles, dark spots on the face, dryness, an uneven skin tone, and acne can all be treated with the right face pack.

Aloe vera face masks

Aloe vera can promote the formation of new cells and has therapeutic effects. Additionally, it hydrates and calms without clogging pores.

Using aloe vera daily after washing your face can give your skin radiant health.

Aloe vera gel is packed with vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants that deeply hydrate the skin, restore moisture, and promote a youthful appearance. It has anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties that help improve skin texture.

Combine one tablespoon of aloe vera gel, two tablespoons of milk cream, and a pinch of turmeric in a bowl and mix well. Apply the mixture evenly across your face and neck.

Allow the mask to sit on your skin for about 30 minutes. Rinse off the mask with lukewarm water.

Mix fresh aloe vera gel with hydrating ingredients like honey and rose water to form a paste. Apply the mixture to your face, leave it for 20 minutes, and then rinse with water.

Blend one unpeeled cucumber in a blender until the consistency is like a watery paste. Separate the cucumber juice with the help of a strainer. Add two tablespoons of aloe vera gel. Apply all over the face, neck & chin area. Let it sit for 30 minutes. Rinse off well with cold water.

Besan Face Pack

Mix 2 tablespoons of besan (gram flour), 1/2 teaspoon of turmeric powder, and 1-2 tablespoons of yoghurt, or rose water to form into a smooth, lump-free paste.

Apply evenly on a clean face and neck. Leave for 15 minutes. Rinse with lukewarm water and moisturise. Use daily for best results. It helps to



brighten skin, remove tan and exfoliate the skin.

Blend 3 slices of Cucumber into a puree. Mix 2 tablespoons of Besan and 1 tablespoon yoghurt, then add the cucumber puree.

Apply, relax for 30 minutes, and rinse. This pack refreshes the skin, making it ideal for hot days or irritated skin.

Take two tablespoons of besan. Take one ripe tomato. Blend the tomato and add it to the besan to make a paste. Apply the paste and let it sit for 20 minutes. Rinse off and moisturise. Use twice a week for best results.

Honey Mask Face Pack

Mix 1 tablespoon of raw honey with 2 tablespoons of milk, apply it to your face, let it dry for 10-15 minutes, and then rinse with warm water.

Mix one tablespoon of honey. Two tablespoons of almond powder (finely ground) and half a teaspoon of lemon juice to create a fine paste, apply it on the face and scrub in gentle motions. Rinse off. Use this scrub and face pack twice a week for the best results.

Mix 1 tablespoon of the honey with 1 teaspoon of curd to make a smooth mixture of a uniform texture. Add one teaspoon of olive oil.

Apply this homemade mask to your face and leave it for 30 minutes. Rinse with clean water. It will nourish your skin.

Honey Mask Face Pack

Mix 1 tablespoon of raw honey with 2 tablespoons of milk, apply it to your face, let it dry for 10-15 minutes, and then rinse with warm water.

Mix one tablespoon of honey. Two tablespoons of almond powder (finely ground) and half a teaspoon of lemon juice to create a fine paste, apply it on the face and scrub in gentle motions. Rinse off. Use this scrub and face pack twice a week for the best results.

Mix 1 tablespoon of the honey with 1 teaspoon of curd to make a smooth mixture of a uniform texture. Add one teaspoon of olive oil.

Apply this homemade mask to your face and leave it for 30 minutes. Rinse with clean water. It will nourish your skin.

Banana Face Packs

Mix 1 ripe banana and 1 teaspoon of coconut oil to create a smooth paste. Apply evenly and leave it on for 30 minutes. Rinse off and follow up with your regular moisturiser. It heals dry patches and rough skin.

Mash a ripe banana in a bowl, mix it with honey and yoghurt, then apply to a clean face for 15-20 minutes before rinsing with lukewarm water.

3. Grate 1/4 of a papaya, 1/4 of a cucumber, and 1/2 of a banana to make a smooth paste. Apply the paste to your face and neck, wait 20 minutes. After that, thoroughly wash it with warm water.

It will replenish greasy skin. Banana nourishes the skin, while papaya helps lighten pigmentation and cucumber hydrates to lessen dryness. It is best suited for oily skin.

The author is an internationally famous beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

Dr. Itoo Featured in IDF's 75th Anniversary Celebration Video

Dr. Tasaduk Hussain Itoo, a renowned Kashmiri doctor, public health expert, researcher, and international medical fellow, has been featured in the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) 75th Anniversary Celebration Video in recognition of his induction as an IDF Fellow and his contributions to global diabetes care and preventive health education.

The IDF, a global authority representing more than 160 countries, marked its 75th Anniversary by highlighting the achievements and contributions of healthcare leaders and Fellows worldwide who are working to combat diabetes and strengthen public health systems.

Dr. Itoo's inclusion in this milestone celebration underscores his impactful role in promoting diabetes awareness, empowering individuals with lifestyle knowledge, and contributing to preventive healthcare at both regional and international levels.

Reflecting on the honor, Dr. Itoo said:

"Being featured in the IDF's 75th Anniversary Celebration Video is both a privilege and an inspiration. This



Being an IDF Fellow means a lot because it's an honorary title

Dr Tasaduk Hussain Itoo
Fellow of the International Diabetes
Federation, India

recognition strengthens my commitment to advancing diabetes care, promoting health literacy, and working towards healthier communities globally."

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

chogalwriter76@gmail.com

YOUR WORDS CAN INSPIRE, INFORM, AND IGNITE; LET THEM BE HEARD.



ESSCO PLACEMENTS PVT. LTD
Your Future begins here

ADMISSION Open

Study In BANGLADESH!

- ✓ MBBS / BDS / Engineering / Other Professional Courses
- ✓ Top Government & Private Universities
- ✓ Hassle-free Admission Process
- ✓ Visa, Documentation & Travel Assistance
- ✓ 100% Genuine Consultancy - Trusted by Thousands

Why Choose Us?

- Guaranteed Admissions in Top
- Govt. & Private Universities
- Full Support with Visa, Documentation & Travel
- Affordable Fee Structures
- Experienced & Trusted Consultancy

• Limited Seats Available

Apply Early to Secure Your Spot!

Visit us today and take the first step towards a brighter future!

For More Details, Contact Us Now:
Umer Abad, Zainkote, HMT, Sgr.
7006710373 - 7051779981
info@esscoplacements.com, esscoplacements@gmail.com
www.esscoplacements.com

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HYGIENE COLLEGE OF NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
APPROVED BY J & K PARAMEDICAL & NURSING COUNCIL /INC. AFFILIATED a UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU

ADMISSIONS OPEN
THROUGH BOPEE SCORECARD
www.jphnursingcollegejammu.org

#1 Nursing College in Jammu

LAST CHANCE

D-PHARMA (RECOGNISED BY PCI) B.S.C. (NURSING) POST BASIC B.S.C. (NURSING) GENERAL NURSING & MIDWIFERY MULTI-PURPOSE HEALTH WORKER (M/F)

LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE CITY | STATE-OF-THE-ART INFRASTRUCTURE | 100% PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE IN TOP HOSPITALS | WELL EQUIPPED LAB. & DIGITAL LIBRARY AFFORDABLE FEE STRUCTURE (PAYABLE IN EASY INSTALLMENTS) | SAFE HOSTEL FACILITIES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS SEPARATELY

IPH&H Institutional Campus Near Kangar Morh, Kot Bhalwal, Jammu, J&K - 181122

7051179677 | 8082531040 | 8082657200

Book lunch function at writers club Jammu



HT News Desk

JAMMU, SEP 24: In a powerful testament to the intellectual prowess and fearless spirit of the younger generation, "Kashmir A Quarantine State," a ground-breaking book by young author Khushboo Abrol (Sheen), was formally launched today amidst widespread acclaim. The event, organized by Vomedh and TRN at a packed Writers Club Hall, celebrated Ms. Abrol's meticulous research into the complex and often controversial history of Kashmir, with dignitaries praising her courage in confronting long-propagated false narratives.

The book release commenced with a poignant tribute to the late Bansi Lal Koul (Ganjoor), maternal grandfather of Advocate Khushboo Abrol Rohit Bhat, President of Vomedh, delivered the welcome address, expressing immense pride in organizing the event for such a talented "daughter of the soil."

The first edition of "Kashmir A Quarantine State" was formally unveiled by an esteemed panel of dignitaries, including Dr. Arvind Karwani, JKAS, Relief and Rehabilitation

Commissioner J and KUT Government (Chief Guest); Dr. Minakshi Kilam from the University of Jammu; Prof. B.L. Zutshi, a veteran academician and author; and Dr. Kuldeep Swadeshi (Guests of Honour). They were joined on the podium by Senior Journalist and Playwright King C. Bharati, Rohit Bhat, and the author herself, Khushboo Abrol (Sheen), as versatile artist and anchor Kusum Tickoo hosted the program.

King C. Bharati read the paper on said book. Mr. Bharati praised her ability to expose misinformation by quoting the truth documented by historians often quoted by propaganda narrative builders, rather than relying on partisan sources. He asserted that "Gen-Z has changed the discourse wherever they have shown interest in the real history of Kashmir or India." Chief Guest Doctor. Arvind Karwani lauded the younger generation's burgeoning interest in seeking factual truth. He emphasized that "such young authors are the need of the hour who are well qualified, well equipped, and can use latest technology to investigate and research extensively to counter the false narrative in the public discourse."

Dr. Minakshi Kilam expressed immense pride in Ms. Abrol's work.

Prof. B.L. Zutshi conveyed his extreme happiness that such a young author had chosen this vital topic and engaged in genuine research, rather than merely expressing personal thoughts.

Dr. Kuldeep Swadeshi showered praise on the young author, calling Gen Z "the future" and expressing pride that such academic activities by them bring "smiles and a sense of pride among the older generation." would serve

The vote of thanks was presented by Bharati Kaul, Vice President of Vomedh, who lauded Khushboo for her spirit, boldness, authenticity, and confidence. The event, attended by numerous prominent figures including Khushboo's parents Sunil Abrol and Manju Abrol, Pradeep Dutta, senior journalist, Ravinder Sharma, Vijay Kapoor, Shazi Khan, Shashi Kumari, Suman Bhat, Kamakshya Dogra, and Ishu Bharati Pandit, concluded with universal praise for the book and the author's courage in presenting a real perspective of Kashmir's complex history.

Road Show and Millet Campaign Held in Devsar to Promote Millet Cultivation and Consumption

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEP 24: A Road Show and Millet Awareness Campaign was held today at Townhall Devsar in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, aimed at promoting the cultivation and consumption of millets and highlighting their role in transforming the agricultural landscape.

The event was formally inaugurated by MLA Devsar, Peerzada Feroze Ahmad Shah, in the presence of Chief Agriculture Officer Kulgam, Farooq Ahmad, Extension Officers, and other officials from the agriculture department.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 200 individuals, including farmers, school students, teachers, and officials of the agriculture department. The event aimed to raise awareness about the nutritional and economic benefits of millets, while also promoting agro-based Indian products on a global scale.

Speaking to the media, MLA Shah emphasized the importance of incorporating millets into daily diets. "The objective behind organizing such events



is to encourage people to adopt a healthier lifestyle by utilizing millets in their everyday meals," he said. He also announced that similar awareness programmes will be conducted in far-flung areas to ensure that more farmers are informed about the benefits of millet cultivation.

Chief Agriculture Officer, Farooq Ahmad, highlighted the health benefits of millets and the need to expand the area under millet cultivation. "This campaign is aimed at sensitizing students, teaching staff, and farmers about the role of millets in ensuring a healthy life," he said, urging the public to include millets in their diets. At the conclusion of the event, certificates of participation were distributed among the attendees.

Public Notice

This is an information for general public that in my Electricity Agreement bearing Consumer ID No:0216910000334, my name has been Mistakenly Mentioned as Hamidullah Bhat, S/O Abdul Gaffar Bhat, while as my Actual and correct name as per my Aadhaar Card is Abdul Hamid Bhat, S/O Abdul Gaffar Bhat. Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Ajar Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Abdul Hamid Bhat
S/O Ab Gaffar Bhat
R/O Ward NO:03, Plan Bandipora

Public Notice

This is an information for general public that in my Electricity Agreement bearing Consumer ID No:0216020010046, my name has been Mistakenly Mentioned as Mohd Haneef Gojar, S/O Baza Awan Gojar, R/O Awan Mohalla Turkpora Bandipora, While as my Actual and correct name as per my Aadhaar Card is Mohd Haneef Awan, S/O Baaz Mohd Awan, R/O Marad pora Mangnipora, Turkpora, Bandipora. Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Kaloosa Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Mohd Haneef Awan.
S/O Baaz Mohd Awan.
R/O Maradpora Mangnipora,
Turkpora Bandipora

Public Notice

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

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

Laptop Care House

Wholesale Dealer Of New And Pre Used Laptops

DEALS IN ALL KINDS OF LAPTOPS AND ACCESSORIES

REPAIRING OF: ALL TYPES OF LAPTOPS & DESKTOPS



7006083461

HT - NEWS

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

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoor) / chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of MEHMOODA BEGUM S/O AB GANI TRUMBOO R/O KREERI Tehsil kreeri Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 04/05/1960 and event has been shown to be occurred at home for issuance of delay order .In this connection.

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

Public Notice

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

Name.... SALEEM JAN
S/O ABDUL RAHMAN BHAT
Contact ...8825055816

Public Notice

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

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

Public Notice

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

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

Public Notice

My name has been wrongly written as MOHD HUSSAIN MANSOOR PANDITH in the qualification certificate/ documents while my correct name is MOHAMMAD HUSSAIN MANSOOR S/O GHULAM MOHAMMAD PANDITH 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 authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name....MOHAMMAD HUSSAIN MANSOOR
S/O GHULAM MOHAMMAD PANDITH
R/O ATHOORA
Distt....BARAMULLA

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Tral

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
Fresh Short term e-NIT NO: 09 OF 2025-26

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT J&K e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Government for below mentioned works : -

S. No	Name of Works	Adv. cost in Lacs	Earnest Money	Class of Contract	Time of Completion	Cost of Tender Doc	Major Head	Position of AA	Position of Funds
1.	Repair/restoration of 04 No outlets on Medura canal from RD 200m to 6500m.	0.89	1780/=	DEE	10 days.	200/=	2702 M&R	Accorded	Budgetary Provision

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities, set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from :-

Sl	Particulars	Date
1	Publishing date	22/09/2025 @ 18:00 hrs
2	Download date start	22/09/2025 @ 18:00 hrs
3	Bid Submission date start	22/09/2025 @ 18:00 hrs
4	Bid Submission date Ends	29/09/2025 @ 18:00 hrs
	Date of opening	30/09/2025 @ 11:00 hrs

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in.

- The bids uploaded on the Web Site up to due date and time, will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Tral in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. In case of holiday or any event hampering official work on opening date, the same bid will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The Department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons. The bid submission date is the final date and can't be extended in any manner.

The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-

- Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms and conditions of the bid.
- Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 7 Days after fixation of contract.

Unbalanced Bid:-In case of bid of the lowest bidder is found unbalanced i.e below than advertised cost, the bidder shall have to produce additional Performance security in any shape i.e CDR/FDR for any schedule or Nationalized Bank as per following break-up:-

S. No	% age of unbalanced bid viz AT PAR cost on account of low rates.	Additional Performance Security
1	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
2	Greater than 15% and upto 20% below	5%
3	Greater than 20% and upto 25% below	10%
4	Greater than 25% and upto 30% below	15%
5	Greater than 30% below	20%

- Documents to be appended:

- Scanned copy of Registration card along with renewal for the year 2024-25.
- Scanned copy of card Reg. verification certificate.
- Scanned copy of CDR @ 02 % of contract value in shape of CDR / FDR else bid will be rejected for which the contractor is himself responsible and shall be released after completion report of the work will be submitted by concerned Assistant Executive Engineer/ AAO.

No: IDT/CC/2226-35

Date: 22-09-2025

DIPK: 6489/25

Dated: 24-09-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Irrigation Division Tral

Dy. CM inaugurates World Pharmacist Day at Prabha Harjilal College of Pharmacy

Appreciates pharmacists contribution to stronger, more sustainable health system

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, SEP 24: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Kumar Choudhary today inaugurated the World Pharmacist Day celebrations at Madir-e-Meharban Campus of Health Sciences of Prabha Harjilal College of Pharmacy Jammu.

While addressing the gathering, the Deputy CM lauded the role of the pharmacists in the healthcare delivery for the ailing patients and reminded the students of the college about the expectations of patients from them as members of healing team.

The Deputy CM also paid tributes to the services rendered by pharmacists along with doctors on the warfront against covid pandemic when everyone else was hiding in the safety of their homes. He appreciated the pharmacists for their crucial role in building healthier communities and contribution to



stronger, more sustainable health system.

He further advised the students study with full mettle and fulfil the aspirations of parents.

The Deputy CM assured the students that the Omar led government is committed to provide employment to the youth of the region and is working tirelessly to open new av-

enues for them.

Complimenting the management of Madir-e-Meharban of Health Sciences, the Deputy CM assured the college of full support from the government.

Director of the College, Professor R.K Raina, while presenting vote of thanks, informed the gathering that various other sessions were organised to mark the celebrations of World Pharmacists Day which included pre-inauguration of scientific session on Herbal Drug Development programme.

Experts from different advanced centres like Dean Applied Sciences, University of Kashmir Professor ZA Bhat; Senior Scientist at Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine Jammu Dr Praun Kumar Gupta; and Principal JSS College of Pharmacy Najwal Professor Duriaswamy also spoke on the occasion and enlightened the gathering about various advancements in pharmacy.

DLSA Sgr generates awareness on POSH Act, drug abuse & D.V Act among students at GGHSS Kothibagh

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar, today organized a comprehensive legal awareness programme at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Kothibagh, Srinagar.

The initiative aimed to sensitize students about critical legal and social issues, with particular emphasis on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, drug abuse, and the Domestic Violence (D.V) Act.

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

Addressing the gathering, Jahan Ara, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel, DLSA Srinagar, delivered an insightful lecture on the POCSO Act and the menace of drug abuse, elaborating on their legal provisions and the importance of safeguarding children and youth. She stressed the role of awareness in prevention and the necessity of timely reporting and intervention in such cases.



Further, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Srinagar, highlighted the provisions of the Domestic Violence Act. She explained its significance in protecting women against abuse and ensuring their rights within the family structure.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from both students and faculty, who actively engaged in discussions, thereby fostering a constructive dialogue on rights, protection, and available legal remedies.

Sewa Parv-2025: Awareness programme on civic responsibility, NMBA held at GDC Women Anantnag

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

ANANTNAG, SEP 24: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv-2025 campaign, the Government Degree College (Women) Anantnag, in collaboration with the District Information Centre Anantnag and the Cultural Wing, DIPR Kashmir, today organized an awareness programme on civic responsibility and Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) at the college campus.

The programme witnessed active participation of Principal, faculty members, DIO and other officials, artists from Cultural Wing, DIPR Kashmir, and a large gathering of students. The event served as a platform to sensitize the youth about their role in building a responsible society and to highlight the collective fight against the growing menace of drug addiction.

Addressing the participants, Principal GDC (Women) Anantnag appreciated the joint initiative and urged students to inculcate civic sense, discipline, and social responsibility in their daily lives. She underlined that the involvement of youth in community-oriented activities plays a key role in achieving the goals of a progressive and drug-free society.

Several student speakers shared their views on the importance of active civic participation, stressing the need to uphold cleanliness, lawfulness, and respect for public property. They also emphasized the significance of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan, pointing out the grave consequences of drug abuse on individuals, families, and society at large.

The programme was further enriched by cultural presentations including songs, skits, and thematic performances staged by the artists of Cultural Wing, DIPR Kashmir. These performances highlighted the harmful effects of substance abuse, the importance of family support, and the role of educational institutions in shaping a healthy environment.

Participants, including students, faculty, and local stakeholders, expressed their strong support for promoting the spirit of service, civic responsibility, and commitment to eradicating drug abuse. They unanimously resolved to spread the message of NMBA in their neighborhoods and contribute towards creating a socially aware, responsible, and drug-free Anantnag.

The event concluded with a pledge by students and faculty to act as ambassadors of civic responsibility and NMBA, reaffirming the collective vision of Sewa Parv-2025 to build a cleaner, stronger, and healthier society.

Satish Sharma reviews LPG supply position across J&K with Oil companies

Calls for strengthening Rural Distribution Network

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma today held a meeting with representatives of leading oil companies including HPCL to review the availability and supply of LPG in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in wake of recent road blockades.

During the deliberations, the Minister emphasized the need for ensuring uninterrupted availability of LPG cylinders to consumers across Jammu and Kashmir. The representatives of the oil companies assured the Minister that the supply chain is being maintained on daily basis and every effort is



being made to prevent any inconvenience to public.

Highlighting the importance of uninterrupted supply to house-

holds, Satish Sharma called upon the oil companies to accord top priority to trucks carrying LPG cylinders while coordinating with

the concerned authorities to ensure smooth passage.

Minister also underscored the importance of expanding the

network of LPG distribution agencies. He stressed the need to establish more outlets in rural and border areas so that families residing in remote regions are not deprived of timely access to cooking gas.

He directed the officials of FCS&CA to work in close coordination with oil companies for streamlining distribution channels and continuously monitor stock positions to avoid any shortage.

Reiterating the Government's commitment to public welfare, Satish Sharma said that ensuring essential supplies, including LPG, is our top priority, and every necessary step is being taken to safeguard the interests of consumers across Jammu and Kashmir.

Sewa Parv-2025: Overwhelming public response witnessed in host of activities at Shopian

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SHOPIAN, SEP 24: On the eighth day of the ongoing Sewa Parv campaign, district Shopian witnessed an overwhelming public response as a vibrant mix of educational, environmental, health, and community-focused activities were organized across the district. The day's programmes reflected the collective spirit of service, civic responsibility, and social awareness, bringing together students, frontline workers, women's groups, and local citizens.

The Education Department held essay writing competitions at GHS Shopian, Barbugh, Heerpora, Nara-pora, Kanjullar, Keegam, and several other schools. Students enthusiastically penned their thoughts on the "Spirit of Sewa", underlining the role of youth in building a compassionate and service-oriented society.

The Agriculture Department engaged Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in interactive sessions, highlighting the

contribution of women to rural economies, sustainable farming, and self-reliance. Participants discussed innovative farming practices and government schemes tailored for women farmers.

The Forest Department, in collaboration with the Forest Protection Force and Social Forestry Division, carried out a plantation drive at Gunj Baksh Hanfia Public School, Arhama. At the same time, a joint cleanliness drive was organized at TRC Bohrihalan in collaboration with GHS Bohrihalan, promoting the values of environmental stewardship and collective responsibility.

The District Social Welfare Office organized awareness, plantation, and cleanliness drives at Sofipora Zainapora, spreading the message of civic sense and sustainable practices.

In a major outreach, the Municipal Council Shopian held a Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir and Blood Donation Camp at Town Hall Shopian. Sanitation staff and their families benefitted from free medical check-ups, consultations,

and awareness sessions on occupational safety and preventive healthcare. ULB employees, volunteers, and youth also donated blood as a symbol of solidarity and service to society.

The Rural Development Department (RDD) emphasized eco-friendly practices, urging communities to adopt clean, green, and zero-waste celebrations, particularly at religious and public gathering places.

The Health Department complemented the efforts with a series of health education programmes, maternal and child health counseling sessions, women's health check-up camps, and sanitation drives across various locations, ensuring community well-being remained a central focus of Sewa Parv.

In addition to these, several other line departments also organized their scheduled activities, further reinforcing the district's commitment to observing Sewa Parv-2025 with full public participation and inclusivity.

Cooperative Deptt. creates history, confirms In-charge Assistant Registrars as Assistant Registrars after 26 years

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: The Cooperative Department has achieved a significant administrative milestone under the visionary leadership, strategic foresight, and steadfast dedication of Commissioner Secretary Cooperative Department to institutionalize timely promotions and streamline service matters.

The department conducted DPC through PSC for regularization of 113 eligible incharge Assistant Registrars as Assistant Registrars, for the first time ever since 1999 marking a momentous achievement in ensuring administrative parity, transparency, and employee welfare.

This historic and landmark accomplishment would not have been possible without the relentless efforts and unwavering commitment, demonstrated through strategic insight, consistent follow-ups and proactive involvement and presenting this complex cause before the PSC with exceptional clarity and conviction by Registrar, Cooperative Societies J&K and Special Secretary, Cooperative department along with officers and officials of Administrative department under the guidance of Commissioner Secretary Cooperatives.

This long-pending issue had resulted in a backlog of cases over the years, affecting the career progression and service conditions of many deserving officers many of whom have already retired. Recognizing the importance of addressing this concern, the Department undertook a comprehensive review of pending cases, streamlined the regularization process, and ensured strict adherence to all rules, regulations, and eligibility norms.

With this move, All the eligible incharge Assistant Registrars have been formally regularized as Assistant Registrars and there is now no backlog in this category. The step brings much-needed clarity and security to the careers of those affected. This achievement reflects the Department's continued commitment to timely administrative reforms, recognizing merit and service, and strengthening institutional governance.

With this step also, confirmation of Assistant Registrars as Deputy Registrars under promotional quota will be initiated, enabling the department to fill the vacancies of Deputy Registrars.

Javed Rana meets Union Forest Minister

Highlights strategic priorities for Forest and Environmental Sector, Seeks greater Centre-JK cooperation

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment, Javed Ahmed Rana, called on the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav in New Delhi to deliberate on a comprehensive set of issues critical to the forest and environmental landscape of Jammu & Kashmir.

The discussion focused on the need for deeper coordination between the Central Government and the Jammu & Kashmir Government to enhance institutional capacity, accelerate ecological restoration and ensure the effective and timely implementation of key forestry

and environmental programs.

Given the increasing frequency of extreme weather events like torrential rains and floods, Rana emphasized the urgency of strengthening J&K's resilience through targeted interventions in forest fire management, catchment area treatment, biodiversity conservation and wetland ecosystem protection.

The Minister also sought release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management (FFPM) Scheme, for which detailed work plan amounting to 3.5 crore for the financial year 2024-25 has already been submitted.

Underscoring the importance of sustained funding, Rana urged

the Union Minister to advise the National CAMPA Authority to expedite the appraisal and approval of two major proposals submitted by J&K Government.

The first proposal, "Soil & Water Conservation in the Kandi Belt of Jammu & Kashmir," seeks an investment of 143.72 crore and is designed to address land degradation and water scarcity in the semi-arid belt.

The second project, "Forest Resource Management for Livelihood Improvement of Forest-Dependent Communities including Nomadic Tribes," envisions an outlay of 103.35 crore, focusing on promoting sustainable livelihoods, ecological restoration, and

inclusive development among communities living in and around forest areas.

Rana also reiterated the long-standing demand for the release of funds earmarked for Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plans and Biodiversity Conservation Plans associated with the Kiru and Kwar hydroelectric power projects.

Showcasing JK's strides in digital governance, Rana informed the Union Minister that Jammu & Kashmir has been at the forefront of leveraging technology in forest management.

For the past four years, J&K has successfully implemented a digital portal for the preparation and real-time monitoring of Annual Plans

of Operation (APOs) under CAMPA.

With the National CAMPA Authority now transitioning to a centralized digital APO platform, the Minister requested the provision of an Application Programming Interface (API) to facilitate seamless data integration between the J&K CAMPA Portal and the national system. This, he noted, would enhance transparency, efficiency, and accuracy in field-level reporting.

In line with capacity-building efforts, Rana reiterated his earlier request for Jammu & Kashmir to be included in the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-assisted project titled "Capacity Enhancement for Effective Forest Management".

ED Conducts FEMA Raids on Jindal Group Over Suspected Fund Siphoning

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) said today that it recently conducted search operations under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) at thirteen premises connected to the group companies of BC Jindal and Shyam Sunder Jindal, its directors, and other officers. The premises searched were located in Delhi NCR and Hyderabad.

The searches were conducted over suspected FEMA violations by the BC Jindal group entities, especially Jindal India Thermal Power Ltd. (JITPL), Jindal India Powertech Ltd., and Jindal Polyfilms Ltd., concerning their overseas investments, the alleged parking of funds in their

own overseas entities, and the round tripping of funds.

The ED initiated the investigation based on specific input that BC Jindal Group entities, beneficially owned by Shyam Sunder Jindal, his wife Mrs. Shubhdra Jindal, and son Mr. Bhavesh Jindal, remitted Rs. 505.14 crore outside India to their own overseas entity, Topaz Enterprise DMCC, Dubai. This was done to acquire the shareholding of another overseas entity, Garnet Enterprise DMCC (GED), under the guise of an Overseas Direct Investment (ODI).

It was gathered that between the financial years 2013-2014 and 2016-17, Jindal Poly Films Ltd (JPFL) made substantial investments totalling Rs. 703.79 crore in Jindal India Powertech

Ltd., which were further invested in JITPL to set up a coal based thermal power plant in Odisha. In the financial year 2018-19, instead of recovering the Rs. 703.79 crore investment from JPFL, JPFL chose to write it off and sold it at a significant loss to its own promoters and group companies. This is seen as a typical method of siphoning off public investors' money, as JPFL is a listed entity.

Subsequently, on May 2024, JPFL received Rs. 853.72 crore from JITPL by redeeming preferential shares. Instead of repaying this amount to the listed entity JPFL, JPFL allegedly siphoned off Rs. 505.14 crore to Shyam Sunder Jindal's personal entity in Dubai, Topaz Enterprise DMCC, to acquire a 100% stake in Garnet Enterprise



DMCC.

It was gathered that Garnet Enterprise DMCC, Dubai, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Topaz Enterprise DMCC. Garnet Enterprise DMCC, in turn, holds a 48% stake in Jindal Polyfilm Netherlands B.V., which owns

100% stakes in other step down subsidiaries, namely JPF Dutch B.V., JPF USA Holding LLC, USA, and other foreign entities. All these overseas entities are beneficially owned by Shyam Sunder Jindal and his family.

It is suspected that the BC

Jindal group is routing its own funds out of the country under the guise of ODI and parking them abroad. During the search action, certain documents related to overseas entities and their acquisition were recovered. According to these documents, Shyam Sunder Jindal is the beneficial owner and 100% shareholder of Topaz Enterprise DMCC and is the key person controlling its finances and those of other overseas entities.

Documents recovered during the search indicate that the Rs. 505.14 crore was transferred outside India through a sham transaction as an ODI, based on a fraudulent valuation of the foreign entity's shares. Two different valuation reports were obtained from two related

valuers, showing that the valuation was artificially enhanced to enable a larger remittance out of the country.

Data suggests that Shyam Sunder Jindal and his group entities hold multiple overseas entities in the Netherlands B.V., USA, Belgium, Italy, Kerkrade B.V., Luxembourg, Singapore, China, United Arab Emirates, Germany, etc. It is suspected that funds from India have been placed in these overseas entities in contravention of FEMA provisions.

Shyam Sunder Jindal was not available in India during the search, as he had travelled to Hong Kong citing official work and has not yet returned. He has yet to join the investigation. Further investigation into the matter is ongoing, UNI

Skilling of the homeless to re introduce them into the mainstream

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: Asian Paints has tied up with Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Aashray Adhikar Abhiyan (AAA) in the national capital for skilling homeless and rag pickers so that they can be gainfully employed and lead a life of dignity.

Aashray Adhikar Abhiyan (AAA) has been working for the homeless people since 25 years. The NGO has been training the homeless in house painting work since 2018, after the 10-15 day course modules, the NGO finds them work in construction sites.

Speaking to UNI, Dev Kumar, Programme coordinator, said: "We teach them painting work on



walls, wood and metal. After the training, we help them find work."

Kumar himself was homeless for a while before joining AAA.

"I came to Delhi in 2004. After losing my job, I fell on hard times and was homeless. I began to live in an AAA night shelter. Later on, I became an employee of the NGO. The homeless often sever ties with their home and relatives due to embarrassment. I myself, for about four years, cut off all ties with my family when I was homeless.

"Not having an ID is a big problem. Hence one of the earliest things that we at AAA did was get ID's of such people made. The homeless and the rag picker community are often targeted and harassed by the police. Hence we motivate them to learn a trade and join the mainstream, that way they can earn more, live with dignity and not be unnecessarily targeted by the police."

Fellow Program coordinator Rajni Singh says that initially, the homeless people have some inhibitions about coming to the night shelters and learning some craft and hence their counselling is very important. UNI

Shah, Gadkari mourn demise of renowned Kannada novelist SL Bhyrappa

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: union Ministers Amit Shah and Nitin Gadkari today expressed deep sorrow at the passing of celebrated Kannada novelist SL Bhyrappa.

In a post on X in both English and Kannada, Home Minister Amit Shah said Bhyrappa enriched Indian literature with his deep understanding of Indian philosophical traditions and incisive perspectives on social issues.

"Deeply saddened by the passing of renowned Kannada novelist SL Bhyrappa Ji," Shah said.

He said, "Through six decades Bhyrappa Ji enriched our literature with his knowledge of Indian philosophical tradition and insights on social issues. In 2023



the Modi government honored him with the Padma Bhushan

award. His demise is a grave loss to our society".

The Home Minister conveyed condolences to Bhyrappa's fam-

ily and followers.

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari also expressed grief at the passing of Bhyrappa and said India has "lost a towering literary giant".

He said Bhyrappa's writings enriched Kannada literature and inspired generations to think and reflect.

"We have lost a towering literary giant in the passing of Padma Bhushan SL Bhyrappa Ji. His fearless writings and deep exploration of India's soul enriched Kannada literature and inspired generations to think and reflect," Gadkari said on X.

He added, "His legacy will continue to guide us. My heartfelt condolences to his family and countless admirers. Om Shanti." UNI

Centre files curative petition in SC over states' exclusive power to levy mineral taxes

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: The union government has filed a curative petition in the Supreme Court challenging last year's landmark judgment that vested the power to levy taxes on mineral rights exclusively with the states. The move signals the Centre's renewed attempt to reclaim legislative competence over mineral taxation, which it says is crucial for ensuring uniformity in the country's fiscal and economic framework.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta informed a Bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta today that the petition had been filed "with all seriousness," stressing that the issue is of national importance.

On July 25, 2024, a nine-judge Constitution Bench led by former Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud had, by an 8:1 majority, ruled that Parliament lacks legislative competence to impose taxes on mineral rights under Entry 54 of List I of the Seventh Schedule.

The provision empowers Parliament only to regulate mines and



mineral development in the public interest, leaving taxation powers solely with State legislatures.

The verdict significantly curtailed the Centre's authority, reinforcing that taxation on mineral rights lies within the States' exclusive domain. Several mineral-rich States had welcomed the ruling as a victory for cooperative federalism and financial autonomy.

Following the July 2024 decision, the Centre had filed review petitions, but the Supreme Court dismissed them, upholding its constitutional interpretation.

The filing of the present curative petition, the final judicial remedy after review petitions are exhausted, reflects the Centre's determination to reopen the debate on mineral taxation powers. UNI

Diwali bonanza for railway staff: Cabinet approves 78-day PLB

United News of India

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: In a major festive season gesture, the union Cabinet today approved Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for eligible non-gazetted railway employees.

The bonus, amounting to Rs. 1,865.68 crore, will benefit over 10.91 lakh employees ahead of the upcoming Durga Puja, Diwali, and Chhath festivals, said an official statement here.

According to the Ministry of Railways, the bonus is a recognition of the commendable performance by railway staff in the financial year 2024-25. During the year, Indian Railways achieved record freight loading of 1,614.90 million tonnes and transported nearly 7.3 billion passengers, reflecting improved operational efficiency and service delivery.

The maximum PLB amount per eligible employee has been fixed at Rs. 17,951. The bonus will be paid to various categories of Group 'C' employees,



including track maintainers, loco pilots, train managers (guards), station masters, supervisors, technicians, technicians' helpers, pointmen, and ministerial staff.

The annual PLB payment is a longstanding tradition, typically made ahead of Durga Puja and Dussehra, and is aimed at motivating employees towards sustained improvement in the Railways' performance. The officials said the continued payout of PLB underlines the Government's commitment to reward productivity and morale among frontline railway staff.

This year's decision is also likely to provide a consumption boost during the festive season, especially in small towns and rural areas where a large section of railway employees reside, said the officials. UNI

POTUS affirms full support to Israel; French President Macron says Trump can win Nobel only after ending Gaza war

United News of India

NEW YORK, SEP 24: Meeting at the UN with French President Emmanuel Macron, US President Donald Trump affirmed his full support to Israel, telling reporters "I'm on the side of Israel. I've been on the side of Israel, really, my whole life, and we're going to get a solution, and it's going to be a solution that's good for everybody."

Macron, whose nation led the current wave of Palestinian recognition, told the POTUS that if he wanted to truly win the Nobel Peace Prize, he could do so only upon ending the IDF campaign in Gaza, as per Times of Israel.

He made his comments at the onset of his meeting with leaders of the Muslim world, stating that all the parties will "see if we can do something about" ending the war in Gaza.

Trump linked the effort to free the hostages seized during Hamas' 7 October 2023 assault, saying "We want to stop that. We want to get our hostages back, or their hostages back."

Commenting on Paris' move to recognise Palestinian sovereignty, he echoed his statement from the UNGA, aligning with the Israeli position and said "I think it honours Hamas and you can't do that because of October 7. You just can't do that."



Macron replied that "nobody forgets the 7th of October," but asked, "after almost two years of war, what is the result?"

While he gave his support to Israel's targeting of Hamas leadership, and argued that Jerusalem's move for their elimination

was indeed a "great achievement," there has been little reduction in the number of terrorists in the war-torn enclave.

He added "you have as many Hamas fighters as you had the first day. So, it doesn't work to dismantle Hamas. This is not the

right way to proceed. So, we need a full-fledged process."

The French head of state thus insisted on a political solution for resolving the crisis, contrasting with Trump's more emphatic backing of Israel.

Macron later sharpened his point in an interview with BFM TV, saying that if Trump wished to win the Nobel Peace Prize, he must end the Gaza war.

"There is one person who can do something about it, and that is the US president," he said. "And the reason he can do more than us, is because we do not supply weapons that allow the war in Gaza to be waged. The United States of America does." UNI

Ashwin Enters ILT20 Auction with Highest Base Price

■ **Nagraj Gollapudi**

NEW DELHI: R Ashwin has listed a base price of USD 120,000, the highest for any player, at the inaugural ILT20 auction. The auction will be held in Dubai on October 1.

Ashwin, who retired from international cricket as well as the IPL recently, is the only player in the ILT20 auction longlist with a base price in six figures. If he is picked, the ILT20 will be his first overseas T20 league.

Ashwin, 39, is among the 24 Indians on the auction longlist, which has almost 800 players as of now. A final list will be prepared this week once the ILT20 receives the wishlist from each franchise.

The fourth edition of ILT20, comprising six teams, will be played between December 2 and January 4. Ashwin has listed full availability for the tournament, after which he is likely to head to the BBL where four teams are understood to have expressed interest

in hiring him for the latter half of the season.

The ILT20 franchises had carried out their retentions and direct signings in July. Each team could spend up to USD 1.2 million on retentions and direct signings, with the balance amount to be added to the auction purse of USD 800,000. While a franchise can exhaust its entire USD 2 million purse, it will need to spend a minimum of USD 1.5 million. The ILT20 rules also permit franchises to spend an additional USD 250,000 to buy up to two wildcard players outside the auction.

As per the squad composition rules, each franchise needs a minimum of 19 players and a maximum of 21, excluding the wildcards. There must be a minimum of 11 players from the Full Member countries, four from UAE, one from Kuwait, one from Saudi Arabia and two from other Associate countries.

The franchises will also have

one right-to-match (RTM) card but they can use it only to buy back a UAE player. That player must have been part of the franchise's development squad or the 2025 squad.

R Ashwin is set to become the first capped male India player to play in the BBL with four clubs vying for his services to play in the latter stages of the upcoming season. It is understood that Sydney Thunder, Hobart Hurricanes, Sydney Sixers and Adelaide Strikers are the four teams chasing Ashwin's signature in what is set to be a major coup for the BBL. Thunder and Hurricanes appear to be the frontrunners for the India great with a deal likely to be finalised later this week.

No internationally capped India male player has played in the BBL previously, but Ashwin's retirement from the IPL earlier this year has opened the door for him to play franchise cricket overseas for the first time.

ESPNCricinfo

New Turf, New Dreams: Young Politician Zubair Mir Launches Free Football Cup in Baramulla

■ **Umar Rashid**

BARAMULLA, SEP 24: In a remarkable initiative to promote football in North Kashmir, a new chapter of hope has opened for local players. At Sangri Colony Baramulla, where a modern football turf ground was recently established, young politician Zubair Ahmad Mir of Kanthabagh, affiliated with Peoples Conference, inaugurated the first edition of the "Soccer People Cup."

While the turf ground generally charges ₹1500 per hour for matches, Zubair has taken the responsibility of funding this entire tournament from his own pocket, allowing local teams to participate free of cost.

Speaking at the inauguration, Zubair said, "Baramulla has very few spaces for footballers. I have often seen youngsters struggling due to lack of proper grounds. When I saw this beautiful professional turf being built, the high expenses worried me, because not every player can afford it. That's why I decided to bear all the costs of the Soccer People Cup, so that young footballers can enjoy the experience of playing in a professional arena."

He further expressed his dream of seeing Baramulla's sports youth shine at the national and international level. "This is not just about one tournament, it is about creating a movement for Baramulla. I



want to see our footballers and athletes reach the biggest platforms," he added.

The Soccer People Cup has been warmly welcomed by foot-

ball enthusiasts across Baramulla, giving youngsters a much-needed opportunity to showcase their talent without financial barriers.



FOOTBALL NIGHT TOURNAMENT

SPONSORS

AL MUQEET CERAMICS, MODERN BAKERY, ONLINE HUB, KITCHEN, CLASSIC CUISINE, AL QASMI COPPER HOUSE, MIR HARDWARE, DELHI BIRYANI, FLY HIGH HAJJ & UMRAH, AKHOON JEWELLERS, MAX WATER, WANI BOOK SHOP

BANDIPORA SUPER LEAGUE

ORGANISED BY KASHMIR NEWS BUREAU, ALFAH TRADING CRICKET CLUB IN ASSOCIATION WITH J&K SPORTS COUNCIL

STARTING FROM 28TH SEPTEMBER AT Bandipora Stadium

Media Partners: KASHMIR MONITOR, HEADLINES TODAY, KASHMIR CONVERGER, QNS, DG, VOICE, JKNS, KASHMIR, ANDHRA NEWS

Volleyball tournament organized by the J&K Police IRP 20th Bn at Parihaspora



■ **HT Sports Desk**

SRINAGAR, SEP 24: The IRP 20th Battalion of Jammu and Kashmir Police organized a volleyball tournament at an open ground of Govt. Middle School Yakmanpora Parihaspora. The event was part of the department's Civic Action Programme aimed at engaging the youth and promoting sportsmanship, discipline, and camaraderie among participants.

Multiple local teams participated, exhibiting high levels of skill, enthusiasm and teamwork. The tournament concluded with commendations and rewards to the winners and participation certificate to all players, reinforcing police-public relations and encour-

aging constructive youth activities in the region.

Such tournaments by Jammu and Kashmir Police not only foster healthy competition but also serve as positive platforms for channelizing the energy of young people and promoting a spirit of unity and discipline within the community. This tournament represents a step forward to Jammu and Kashmir Police ongoing effort to engage with the community and promoting a sense of unity between the law enforcement and citizen we serve.

The J&K Police remain committed in ongoing such more events, uplift the youth engagement and fostering a healthy supporting culture in Jammu and Kashmir.

ARFATH TOURS Since 1987 HAJ & UMRAH GROUP PURANI HAVELI, HYDERABAD - (TS) INDIA

Lowest Budget Package (30-35 Days) **Rs. 4,99,000/-** GST 5% Extra, TCS 5% Extra

PACKAGE INCLUDES HAJ VISA, VIA FLIGHT HYD TO HYD, ACCOMMODATION & FOOD

Makkah Building Stay in Aziziya Building 5 DAYS OF ARKAN E HAJJ 8 to 12th Zilhajja With Food

MINA Service Category "D" Transport Mina, Arfath, Muzdalifa Jed-Makkah-Madinah-Jed

Madina Hotel 600 to 700 Meters Distance

PURANI HAVELI, HYDERABAD - (T.G) INDIA, Phone : 040-66338338 Contact : 08686633846 | 09700118674 | 09392644008 | 08977712893 E-mail : arfathhours@gmail.com | arfathhour@yahoo.in

JK FABRICS SUITING AND SHIRTING

GOWN AND DRESS MATERIALS | PARTY WEAR AND SEMI-PARTY WEAR | COTTON SUITS | WEDDING SUITS | 7-DAY SUITS FOR THE BRIDE

+91-7006764737 | +91-6005078346

NEAR POST OFFICE AL-AZIZIA COMPLEX MAGAM-193401

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS

ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL Printing NEEDS

NEWSPAPER | BOOKS | FLYERS LOGO | FLEX | MAGAZINES VISITING CARDS | BROCHURES 3D BOARDS | COVER PAGES WEDDING CARDS | CALLIGRAPHY WALL PAINTINGS

999038812 9419008414 01942496287

Gund Hassi Bhat, Radio Colony, Lawaypora, Srinagar