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In Building a Developed India, Youth to Play Pivotal Role: LG Sinha

LG Lauds Yuva Shakti of J&K, asks them to be a catalyst for change

■ HT News Desk

JAMMU, SEP 30: The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha, today attended the valedictory function of 'Viksit Bharat Ke Rang-Kala Ke Sang' at Jammu. During the program, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the school and college students. The vibrant art workshop was organised by Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) and Divisional Administration Jammu.

The Lieutenant Governor began his address by applauding Yuva Shakti of Jammu Kashmir and asked them to be a catalyst for change. He said the event is unique and special and provides opportunity to youth to imagine and paint Viksit Bharat of their dreams.

"The responsibility of creating a developed India not only on canvas but in reality, too is in their hands," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, we are committed to harnessing the poten-



tial of youth and providing them with the resources they need to achieve their full potential.

"Sewa Parvis preparing the young demography to face the future challenges with a positive mindset. The creative and constructive spirit will make them future leaders, inventors, and builders and they will shape India's growth trajectory," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the Youth to take the leadership role and set clear goals for nation-building.

"Our youth are key to shaping the prosperous future, preserving cultural values and driving innovation. They have onerous responsibility of contributing to the growth and progress of society to propel the country forward.

He called upon the young generation and all sections of society to remain vigilant and unite against the divisive forces trying to destabilize the country.

The Lieutenant Governor
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J&K's Soil Enriched by Sacrifices of Police, Army & CAPF Martyrs: LG Sinha

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: "Those who speak the language of separatists and terrorists insult the sacrifices of our martyrs and hurt their soul and strictest possible action as per law of the land will be taken against such elements," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday. He said the land of UT of Jammu Kashmir is saturated with blood and sacrifice of J&K Police, Army, CAPFs martyrs for the nation's integrity and if anyone disrespects the sovereignty of India and the memories of police martyrs, he will not be spared. The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the Closing Ceremony of 20th J&K Police Martyr's Memorial Football Tournament.

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'Op Sindoor' reduced fratricide risk through coordination: Rajnath Singh

■ HT News Network

NEW DELHI, SEP 30: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Tuesday said that Operation Sindoor demonstrated the effective synergy of the Tri-Services through a unified real-time operational picture, which enabled timely decisions, enhanced situational awareness and reduced the risk of fratricide.

This operation is a true example of jointness, Rajnath said during a seminar organized by the Indian Air Force at Subroto Park, New Delhi.

He stated that the Indian Air Force's Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS) worked in unison with the Indian Army's Akashteer and the Indian Navy's Trigun, forming a joint operational backbone during Operation Sindoor.

Singh said the government's objective is to further promote jointness and integration among the Tri-Services, describing it not only as a matter of policy but as a matter of survival in the fast-changing security environment.

He noted that the path to jointness lies in dialogue, understanding and respect for traditions. He added that the services must honor each other's challenges while building new systems together.

According to him, the evolving nature of warfare and the
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Do away with Class 11 Board exam: Union Secy DoSEL

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: Union Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Sanjay Kumar, along with a team of senior officers Tuesday conducted a detailed review of the School Education Department in Jammu and Kashmir.

Union Secretary, who chaired a high level meeting at SKICC Srinagar, stressed the need to improve quality of education throughout government schools in Jammu and Kashmir.

He encouraged for carrying out sustainable infrastructure upgradation to facilitate at all government schools for education.

At the outset, Sanjay Kumar called for a massive increase in student enrolment in government schools and directed the department to ensure quality education through vocational and skill-based learning across all institutions.

The meeting was attended by Secretary School Education J&K Ram Niwas Sharma, Director General School Education Kashmir GN Itoo, Director School Education Jammu Dr. Naseem Choudhary, senior officers from various wings of the Education Department including Samagra Shiksha, JKBOSE.
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J&K Police Fighting Terror, Drugs & Engaging Youth Through Sports: DGP Prabhat

■ HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Tuesday said that Jammu and Kashmir Police are not only combating terrorism and narcotics but also actively

engaging youth through sports and rehabilitation initiatives.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the 20th J&K Police Martyr's Memorial Football Tournament 2025 here the DGP, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO)

highlighted the measures being taken by the police force, both on the security front and in social engagement.

Referring to the legacy of sacrifice within the force, the DGP said the
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'J&K likely to require additional 4600 MW power in coming 9 years'

■ HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: Amid 'unserved energy' predictions in coming years, Jammu and Kashmir is likely to require more than 4600 Megawatts (MWs) of power other than the planned capacities to meet electricity demands.

According to the official figures available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO),
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India's Pharma Exports To Cross \$30 Billion This Year: Dr Jitendra

■ HT News Network

NEW DELHI, SEP 30: India's pharma exports, currently valued at nearly \$27.8 billion, are expected to cross \$30 billion by this year end, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Depart-

ment of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh said here today.

Meanwhile, the Minister disclosed that India's domestic pharma market is \$60 billion, but is expected to double, that is, \$130 billion by 2030.

The Minister was speaking after the signing of an official Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt of India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The agreement, executed through DBT's Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) and the Uttar Pradesh Promote Pharma Council (UPPPC) is part of a centre-state partnership model to accelerate innovation.
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India Won't Bow To Nuclear Blackmail: CDS Gen Chauhan

■ HT News Desk / KNO

NEW DELHI, SEP 30: India won't bow to nuclear blackmail, Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan said on Tuesday, asserting that the military must be ready to respond to nuclear and biological threats.

The Army, he said, must also be ready to respond to "low-probability but high-impact nuclear emergencies".

Speaking at a scientific session held as part

of the 100th Raising Day celebrations of the Military Nursing Service (MNS) at the Manekshaw Centre in Delhi Cantt, General Chauhan said that while the possibility of nuclear weapons use in the Indian context remains low, it is necessary to factor it into security planning.

He said radiological contamination would require separate treatment protocols, and training must include these aspects to ensure operational readiness.
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LG Kavinder Gupta Assesses Prevailing Law & Order Situation In Ladakh

■ HT News Network

LEH, SEPT 30: The Lieutenant Governor Kavinder Gupta today chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the prevailing law and order situation in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The Lt Governor inquired about the condition of security personnel injured during the unfortunate incidents of violence on September 24. It was informed that 105 security personnel including 57 CRPF personnel and over 48 police personnel sustained injuries while perform-

ing their duty at various location.

Kavinder Gupta assured that the injured personnel would receive the best possible medical treatment and directed the administration to extend full support to their families. He expressed deep appreciation for the courage and dedication displayed by the security forces in maintaining law and order under challenging circumstances.

The Lt Governor directed the senior police officials to identify and take strict action against the miscreants
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Crime graph declines in J&K from 2021 to 2023: NCRB

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, SEP 30: Jammu and Kashmir has shown a decrease in the number of overall crime incidents from 2021 to 2023, recording a fall of 2,080 cases during the period, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report 2023 said.

The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday released the 71st edition of the NCRB annual report, which presents a comprehensive analysis of crime statistics for the calendar year 2023.

As per the report, overall crime data, including Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes and Special and Local Laws (SLL) crimes, have shown a decrease in cases from 31,675 in 2021 to 30,197 in 2022 to 29,595 in 2023.

The data shows a decline of 2,080 cases from 2021 to 2023.

As per the breakup of the cases, there is an increase in cases related to SLLs. The number cases went up to 4,468 in 2023 from 4,282 in 2022 and 4,228 in 2021, with the rate of chargesheets for such cases recorded at 90.7 per cent, it said.

However, the cases pertaining to the Indian Penal Code have decreased by 2,320 cases—from 27,447 in 2021 to 25,915 in 2022 to 25,127 in 2023. The report said that the rate of cognizable
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Chief Secretary Dulloo Reviews Functioning of GAD

Sets timelines for recruitment, transparency, and governance reforms

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today reviewed the overall functioning of General Administration Department (GAD) at a meeting held at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting attended by Administrative Secretaries of all departments held threadbare discussions on various issues like accelerating reforms, enhancing



transparency and strengthening service delivery across government departments.

While chairing the meeting, Atal Dulloo urged upon the officers to work in a mission-oriented, time-bound manner, with a strong emphasis on innovation, efficiency, and public trust to ensure that citizens must feel the difference through timely services, fair processes, and a clear framework
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Sakeena Itoo advocates student friendly model at KU

● Reviews academic, administrative functioning of Varsity ● Assures support in making KU ‘a beacon of academic excellence’

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo today underscored the need for higher education institutions of Jammu and Kashmir to align themselves with aspirations of students and modern academic standards.

The Minister made these remarks while chairing a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review academic and administrative functioning of the Kashmir University (KU).

The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan; Registrar KU, senior officers of KU and Higher Education department.

During the meeting, the Minister took a comprehensive assessment of university's progress across multiple fronts, like teaching and research output, infrastructure development,



student welfare measures and other initiatives of the university.

She emphasized that the student community must remain at the core of every policy and reform initiative, as they are the true stakeholders of the education system.

The Minister observed that many challenges faced by students stem from delayed

administrative processes, lack of timely communication. She called on the university administration to adopt a student-friendly model that ensures smoother functioning of academic and administrative services.

"Students should be the top priority of all our academic institutions. They should feel that their concerns are heard



and addressed promptly," she said.

Stressing the importance of building trust, Minister Sakeena urged the university leadership to institutionalize transparent systems for examinations, admissions, financial management and research programs. She added that openness in decision-making and clarity in proce-

dures will reduce grievances, prevent delays, and enhance the credibility of the university in the eyes of its students and society.

Highlighting that regular interaction forums between students, faculty, and administrators is necessary to build dialogue and trust, she encouraged the officers to develop dedicated student grievance

redressal cells with clear escalation mechanisms.

Acknowledging the rich academic legacy of Kashmir University, Minister Sakeena said that this prestigious institution carries a responsibility to set benchmarks for higher education in the region.

"Kashmir University must aspire to be more than just a centre of higher learning, it

should be a hub of opportunity, innovation, and growth, where every student feels empowered to achieve their dreams," she noted.

The Minister urged upon the University authorities to work collaboratively with students and faculty to implement these reforms in a time-bound manner. She assured her continued support in strengthening the institution and making it a beacon of academic excellence and student welfare.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the Minister also took stock of various issues and grievances raised by students of KU who had come to meet the Minister.

While interacting with these students, Sakeena Itoo assured them prompt redressal of grievances and issues raised. She also gave directions for onspot redressal of various grievances raised by the students.

Kulgam Police Arrests Drug Peddler; Seizes 2.5 Kg Contraband Substance

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, SEP 30: In a significant action against drug trafficking, Kulgam Police arrested a notorious drug peddler near Wanpoh and recovered a substantial quantity of contraband from his possession, reaffirming its commitment to a drug-free society.

A police team from Police Station Qaimoh, during routine naka checking, intercepted an auto-rickshaw bearing registration number JK18D-9586. Upon conducting a thorough search, officers recovered 2.5 kilograms of poppy straw-like contraband, concealed inside a bag. The accused has been identified as Manzoor Ahmad Baba, son of Ghulam Qadar Baba, a resident of Ghat Redwani Payeen. Following the recovery, a case under FIR No. 72/2025 has been registered at Police Station Qaimoh under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. Police have initiated further investigation to uncover the network and identify other individuals potentially involved in the illicit drug trade. Urging the community to remain vigilant, Kulgam Police reiterated the importance of public cooperation in eradicating drug abuse. Locals have been encouraged to share information about drug-related activities, with the assurance that the identity of informants will be kept confidential.

Commenting on the development, SSP Kulgam, Shri Sahil Sarangal (IPS) said "The fight against drugs is a collective responsibility. While police are taking strict action against peddlers and traffickers, public support is crucial. Together, we can protect our youth and build a healthier, safer future for our society."

Kulgam Police reaffirmed its zero-tolerance policy against drug trafficking and assured continued enforcement to safeguard the well-being of the community.

NSS KU begins service-driven youth connect under Sewa Parv 2025

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of the University of Kashmir (KU) launched the Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme – Sewa Pakhwada Edition in collaboration with the varsity's Department of Students' Welfare (DSW) at the Main Campus. The programme, running up to October 2, 2025, aims to engage youth in activities promoting nation-building, community service, and social responsibility, in line with the larger vision of Sewa Parv 2025.

The programme includes volunteer-led activities designed to strengthen youth participation in social development.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Dean Academic Affairs KU, Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada, said, "The involvement of youth in meaningful service initiatives creates a foundation for responsible citizenship and nurtures values of empathy, leadership, and commitment to society. The University is committed to providing such platforms that connect young people to the broader vision of a developed and inclusive India."

Dean DSW KU, Prof. Pervez Ahmed, said that the programme aims to strengthen the participation of students in activities that directly impact communities. "The initiative provides an opportunity for our students to channel their energies towards construc-



tive social change," he said.

Deputy Director, My Yuva Bharat, Mr. Pradeep Kumar, highlighted the importance of such

initiatives in creating awareness about national priorities among young people, while Youth Icons Advocate Sheikh Salman and Mr.

Mridull Thaplu emphasized the role of youth participation in democratic processes and urged students to actively contribute to social development through volunteerism.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Programme Coordinator NSS KU, Dr. Wakar Amin, outlined the objectives of the Yuva Connect Programme and emphasized the role of NSS in empowering young people to take up meaningful community-oriented initiatives.

The inaugural event was attended by faculty members, administrative officers, NSS volunteers, and students from the main campus and affiliated colleges. The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Humaira Showkat, Programme Officer NSS KU.

Wahabpura Residents Decry Neglect of Crumbling Road, Accuses Authorities of False Promises

■ Ubaid Mehdi

BUDGAM, SEP 30: Residents of Wahabpura village in central Kashmir's Budgam district have expressed strong resentment over the government's failure to repair the Budgam-Wahabpura road, which they say has remained in a dilapidated condition for years.

Locals told news that the road, which serves as a vital link for hundreds of households, has become a daily ordeal for commuters. Large potholes, broken patches and muddy stretches during rains have made travel extremely difficult for both

vehicles and pedestrians.

"We were assured multiple times by the Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department that repair work would begin in 2024. Now, as 2025 is nearing an end, not even a single step has been taken," said Ghulam Ahmad, a local resident.

Residents alleged that successive governments had only made hollow promises. "Even during the tenure of the National Conference government, this road was ignored. These repeated assurances without action have completely eroded public trust," another villager remarked.

The deteriorating road, they said, has especially affected schoolchildren, elderly people and patients. "Ambulances get stuck, buses refuse to operate on this stretch, and children are forced to walk long distances because no public transport is willing to use the route," locals added.

Appealing to the Lieutenant Governor-led administration and the R&B Department, the residents demanded immediate repair and macadamization of the road. "We urge the authorities to stop making promises and start taking action. This injustice must end," they said.

DC Kupwara Reviews and Finalizes Arrangements for Karnah Festival under Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan

■ HT News Desk

KUPWARA, SEP 30: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Mr. Shrikant Suse (IAS), today chaired a meeting to review and finalize arrangements for the upcoming Karnah Festival – Mega Awareness Camp being organized under the theme "Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan." The festival is scheduled to be held on October 2, 2025, at Tribal Village Amrohee, Block Teetwal.

Chairing the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner underscored the objective of achieving 100% saturation of centrally sponsored tribal welfare schemes during the festival. He directed all line departments to set up functional service counters, awareness stalls, and cultural exhibitions highlighting tribal heritage, eco-friendly products, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.



The DC informed that the festival will feature a series of special activities, including:

Health camps for local communities
Plantation drives to promote

environmental conservation
Drug de-addiction awareness programmes
Youth engagement and educational awareness sessions

He further emphasized mobi-

lizing all eligible tribal beneficiaries to ensure they are enrolled in and benefit from various government schemes. Special focus, he added, will be laid on the "Vocal for Local" campaign, with dedi-

cated promotion of tribal arts, crafts, and culture.

Highlighting the larger vision, the Deputy Commissioner said the festival—organized in line with the directions of the Tribal Affairs Department, J&K Government—will also work towards addressing critical gaps under the 25 key interventions being implemented by 17 departments.

"The Karnah Festival will serve as a vibrant platform for community participation, preservation of indigenous heritage, and promotion of eco-conscious tribal entrepreneurship, thereby strengthening the developmental framework in the tribal belts of the district," the DC remarked.

The meeting was attended by ACR Kupwara Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, CPO, DIO, CAO, AD Food, and other concerned officers.

Mock Youth Parliament organized at BHSS Ganderbal

■ HT News Desk

GANDERBAL, SEP 30: Mock Youth Parliament was today organized at BHSS Ganderbal under the "SEWA PARV" Calendar, with *Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ganderbal, gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest.*

The program was held under the supervision of *Mr. Oneel Kumar Bhat,* and witnessed enthusiastic participation of students from different schools across the district. *Ms. Rumysa Sangeen, Deputy CEO Ganderbal (also holding the additional charge of Principal of the host institution),* coordinated the event.

During the session, students showcased their



debating skills, discipline, and leadership qualities while following the formal rules and procedures of the Parliament. Their confident performances reflected the dedicated "training and guidance provided by their teachers."

Addressing the gathering, the "ADDC Ganderbal" applauded the role of the Education Department in creating such vibrant platforms, praised the talented performances of the students, and appreciated the effective management of the event by the Principal and staff of BHSS Ganderbal.

Such initiatives under SEWA PARV not only strengthen "democratic values" among youth but also enhance their confidence, critical thinking, and spirit of leadership.

Sewa Parv Celebrations Held at AMGDC Kilam

DC Kulgam, SSP Distribute Sanction Letters, House Keys; Lead Plantation & Sanitation Drive

■ **Farooq Rather**

KULGAM, SEP 30: As part of the nationwide Sewa Parv-2025 celebrations, a grand function was organized at Altaf Memorial Government Degree College (GDC) Kilam, showcasing the spirit of public service, community engagement, and environmental responsibility.

The event was presided over by Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar Aamir Shafi Khan (IAS), with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal (IPS) as the special guest. The function witnessed the enthusiastic participation of students, teachers, volunteers, officers, and local residents.

On the occasion, the DC distributed sanction letters to unemployed youth under various self-employment schemes and handed over house keys to deserving families under the 'Ghar Pravesh' initiative of PM Awas Yojana, marking a significant step in inclusive development and citizen empowerment.

The celebrations also included the kick-off of a plantation drive and a campus-wide sanitation campaign, aimed at raising awareness about environmental protection and

promoting cleanliness in line with Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. In his address, DC Athar Aamir Khan emphasized that Sewa Parv is not just a celebration but an opportunity to strengthen the values of volunteerism, social responsibility, and civic participation. He called upon all citizens to actively participate in cleanliness drives, adopt waste segregation practices, and minimize plastic usage to contribute to a sustainable future.

Various government departments had also set up informational stalls at the venue to facilitate on-spot registrations and disseminate awareness



about welfare schemes and public services, ensuring last-mile delivery of benefits. Prominent dignitaries present at the event included: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Viqar Ahmad Giri (JKAS) Additional SP National Highway, Mumtaz Ali Bhatti (JKPS) Tehsildar Devsar, Rakib Ahmad Ganie (JKAS) Principal AMGDC Kilam, Dr. Shabir Ahmad Padder, along with officers from various line departments.

The event concluded with a collective pledge toward cleaner surroundings, empowered youth, and an active, service-oriented community.

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Kulgam Police Hosts PCPG Meeting at Kanchloo Kund to Strengthen Public-Police Cooperation

■ **Farooq Rather**

KULGAM, SEP 30: In a continued effort to foster stronger ties between law enforcement and the public, Kulgam Police on Monday organized a Police Community Partnership Group (PCPG) meeting at Kanchloo Kund area of the district.

The meeting was chaired by SSP Kulgam Shri Sahil Sarangal (IPS), who was accompanied by Additional SP NHW Qazigund Shri Mumtaz Ali Bhatti (JKPS), SDPO Qazigund Mansoor Ahmed, and SHO Police Station Kund. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local representatives, elders, and prominent citizens from Kanchloo and adjoining villages.

During the interactive session, participants raised various community-related concerns including road safety, development needs, and the alarming rise in drug abuse among the youth. They also shared valuable suggestions for improving public safety and strengthening coordination between the police and the community.

Addressing the gathering, SSP Kulgam stressed the importance of participatory policing and com-



munity involvement in ensuring peace and order. He urged parents, teachers, civil society members, and local influencers to guide the youth away from reckless driving and drug addiction, highlighting the need for collective responsibility in shaping a safe and secure future.

"We must work together to curb the growing menace of drugs, prevent road mishaps, and identify anti-social or anti-national elements who attempt to disturb peace," he said. He also assured that all genuine grievances would be resolved on priority and other developmental issues would be taken up with concerned departments.

The SSP further emphasized that the role of the police is most effective when supported by the active involvement of the community. "Policing is not a one-way street. It thrives on mutual trust, cooperation, and shared responsibility," he said.

The locals expressed gratitude for the police outreach and appreciated the personal engagement of senior officers. They requested that such meetings be held regularly to address local issues at the grassroots level.

Concluding the session, SSP Sahil Sarangal reaffirmed the commitment of Kulgam Police to public service. "Our focus remains on ensuring peace, security, and a drug-free environment for our youth. With community support, we can overcome every challenge and build a safer, stronger society," he said.

11th Death Anniversary of Maulana Iftikhar Hussain Ansari (RA) Observed Across Kashmir with Reverence

■ **HT News Desk**

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: The 11th death anniversary of Maulana Iftikhar Hussain Ansari (RA) was observed with deep respect and emotion across Jammu & Kashmir under the banner of the All Jammu & Kashmir Shia Association (AJKSA). Thousands of Mominen and Mominaat joined in prayers, Qur'an Khwani, Marsiya Khwani, and Majalis to remember the towering personality whose absence is still deeply felt in the religious, social, and political life of the Valley.

The commemorations began on the evening of 29th September at Baba Mazaar, Gasiyar Zadibal, where large gatherings took part in Fateh Khani, Qur'an Khwani, and Marsiya recitations. At the same time, similar programs were held at Darul Jawad, Qamarwari, the residence of Maulana Ansari (RA), where family, friends, and followers paid rich tributes to his life of service and sacrifice.

On the morning of 30th September, Qur'an Khwani and Fateh Khani continued at Baba Mazaar, followed by Marsiya recitations that filled the air with remem-



brance and reflection. The central program of the day was held at Imam Bargah Shadipora, which saw day-long proceedings from 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Scholars, Zakireen, and respected personalities addressed the gathering, with

Maulana Ali Haider Farishta of Hyderabad, representative of Ayatullah Sistani, delivering a heartfelt sermon on the legacy and teachings of Ahlulbait (AS) and Maulana Ansari (RA). His

words touched the hearts of many, reminding people of the unshakable commitment Maulana Ansari (RA) had towards the cause of truth, justice, and service to the community.

Beyond the religious gatherings, Kashmir witnessed a unique wave of creative tributes. An art competition was organized in which children and young artists drew portraits of Maulana Ansari (RA). These works of love and devotion were later displayed

across Srinagar at places such as Hawal, Batamalo, Polo View, Kashmir University, Airport Road, and Hasanabad. In the evening, a special 52-minute documentary on the life and struggles of Maulana Ansari (RA) was telecast, capturing his four decades of service. Those who had been closely associated with him shared moving memories, painting a picture of a leader who stood by his people till his last breath.

The 11th anniversary also

found space in the Valley's media, as all leading newspapers carried special quarter-page tributes to Maulana Ansari (RA). His life and mission were also remembered in the messages of several political and social leaders. Sajad Gani Lone President of JKPC, along with President Apni Party Altaf Bukhari, DDC Chairperson Baramulla Safina Baig, and senior JKPC figures including Abdul Gani Vakili, Bashir Dar, Abbas Wani, Irfan Pandithpuri, and Sheikh Imran, issued statements of remembrance. They described him as a guiding light for the people of Jammu & Kashmir one whose vision and courage continue to inspire even after more than a decade of his passing.

The atmosphere across Srinagar and other parts of Kashmir reflected both grief and pride. Grief, for the loss of a leader who was a voice for the voiceless. Pride, for having had a figure like Maulana Iftikhar Hussain Ansari (RA) whose legacy of faith, wisdom, and courage endures. The day-long commemorations were not just rituals, but a collective reaffirmation that his mission lives on in the hearts of the people.

NCDC Celebrates Placement of Four Alumni in Prestigious Teaching Positions

■ **HT News Desk**

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: One of the prominent children and women welfare bodies, the National Child Development Council (NCDC), has reported the successful placement of four more of its alumni into prestigious educational institutions.

As per official communications, Athira Baiju (65th Batch), Alphonsa Sheril C K (73rd Batch), K Sneha Mathews (65th Batch), and Raheesa O (68th Batch) have landed esteemed teaching jobs at schools. Their success has been cited as a demonstration of the rigorous and quality training conducted by NCDC.

These successful alumni went through rigorous training in the capable care of NCDC Evaluator Incharges, Rahmath Salam, Shakkila Wahab, Sheeba P K, and Smitha Krishnakumar, as a part of the

organization's Montessori Teacher Training Courses.

The National Child Development Council (NCDC) is a self-governing organization devoted to the well-being and development of women and children throughout India. In addition to providing professional teacher training, NCDC also actively works on pressing matters concerning women and children through its Core Committee Meetings, keeping in mind positive solutions and policy influence.

For candidates planning to pursue a fulfilling profession in early childhood education, information regarding the Montessori Teacher Training Course and the application process is available on the official NCDC website: <https://ncdconline.g/courses>. Alternatively, potential applicants can reach out to the Faculty Incharge directly at +91 7356607191 for directions.

YAC Installs Water Cooler at GBHSS Bhadarwah for Student Welfare

■ **Amir Iqbal Khan**

BHADARWAH, SEP 30: In a bid to provide relief to students during the sweltering heat, the Youth Action Committee (YAC) installed a 50-litre water cooler at Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS) Bhadarwah.

The facility was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar Butyal in the presence of SDPO Shokat Ahmed, Municipal Committee Executive Officer Ravi Saini, Dr Varsha Kotwal and Principal Kapoor Singh.

YAC Chairman Naseer



Mehboob said the initiative was aimed at ensuring access to clean and chilled drinking water for students, stressing the organisation's commitment to community welfare.

The school administration and students wel-

comed the step, handing over a certificate of appreciation to YAC for its contribution. The move, officials noted, underlined the importance of civic bodies and local groups in strengthening grassroots education infrastructure.

Labour Commissioner S. Charandeep Singh Engages Kupwara Stakeholders, Distributes Welfare Cheques to Workers

■ **HT News Desk**

KUPWARA, SEP 30: The Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Kupwara, today organized a comprehensive interactive session under the leadership of S. Charandeep Singh, JKAS, Labour Commissioner, J&K, bringing together key stakeholders from the district. The event witnessed the active participation of transporters, business owners, industrialists, private school associations, and construction workers.

During the session, Labour Commissioner S. Charandeep Singh held detailed one-on-one discussions with attendees, addressing their concerns and



grievances related to the implementation of various labour laws. The dialogue provided a platform for stakeholders to seek clarifications, share challenges, and gain a deeper understanding of the legal frameworks governing fair and regulated workplaces.

Highlighting the administration's commitment to social welfare, the Labour Commissioner distributed financial assistance cheques to registered Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW). The assistance, provided under the BOCW Welfare

Scheme, will support workers in areas such as medical assistance, higher education for their children, and death assistance for dependents of deceased workers.

Speaking on the occasion, S. Charandeep Singh emphasized that the Labour Department is

dedicated to strengthening the social security net for workers while ensuring strict compliance with labour regulations across all sectors. The event also served to raise awareness about workers' rights and the critical role of adhering to labour laws for creating a fair, safe, and equitable working environment. On the occasion awareness about various Social Security viz; PMSBY, PMJJBY and PMSYM was imparted to various stakeholders. The interactive session in Kupwara marks another step forward in the Labour Department's ongoing initiatives to promote welfare, transparency, and engagement with all stakeholders across Jammu & Kashmir.



DC Srinagar inspects initiation of work on construction of SDM Office East, Tehsil Office Eidgah

Also conducts inspection of progress of work on construction of Tehsil Office, Khanyar, Bio-Medical Waster Shed at JLN, Rainawari

SRINAGAR SEPTEMBER 30: In order to augment the Revenue infrastructure in the district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo on Tuesday inspected the initiation of works on construction of new Office for SDM East and Tehsil Office Eidgah in order to modernize & augment the Revenue setup to enhance public service delivery.

The Deputy Commissioner also inspected the progress of works on Construction of new Tehsil office, Khanyar.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, Executive

Engineer R&B Core, Shuja Ahmad, Tehsildar Eidgah, Mohammad Iqbal, Tehsildar Khanyar Syed Shahid and other concerned Officers.

During the inspection, the DC reviewed the quality and pace of work on the key projects, emphasizing the importance of timely completion and adherence to quality works to ensure efficient functioning of these key Administrative. He underlined that in order to create a more efficient and citizen-friendly work environment, Revenue infrastructure is being further strengthened across the District.

While reviewing pace of construction works on Tehsil Office Eidgah, the DC was apprised that the upcoming Revenue Office Complex is being constructed at



a cost of Rs. 63.51 lakh by R&B department. He further was informed that the new Office building for Eidgah Tehsil will comprise of Tehsildar Room, Tehsildar court Room, Waiting Room/Area, Naib Tehsildar Room, Staff Room, Meeting Hall, Computer Room, Establishment Room and a modernised Record Room.

On the occasion, the DC directed the executing agency to expedite the pace of work while maintaining high construction standards and completing the project under set timelines.

The DC also took stock of ongoing works on the building of Tehsil Office Khanyar being executed by R&B Department at a cost of Rs 60 lakhs in Sheher-e-Khaas of the district. He reviewed the progress of structural work,

finishing, internal services (electrical, plumbing, etc.) and directed for further accelerating the pace of remaining works so that Tehsil Office is made functional before the onset of winter season.

Adjacent to the Khanyar Tehsil Office, construction has commenced on a new building to house the Office of Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) East, The DC was informed that plinth work will be completed by the first week of October 2025.

Later, the DC visited JLN Hospital Rainawari to inspect the ongoing works on Bio-medical waste shed being executed by R&B department to support the safe and scientific disposal of hospital biomedical waste, contributing to improved hospital hygiene and environmental safety.

Mega event under Sewa Parv organized at Razwen Budgam

BUDGAM, SEPTEMBER 30: The District Administration Budgam today organized a Mega Event under Sewa Parv at Government Middle School Razwen, Budgam. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from line departments, students, beneficiaries, and members of the public, making it a vibrant platform for awareness, outreach, and community engagement.

In pursuance to the directions of District Administration, various departments including Health, Horticulture, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Handicraft/Handloom, KVIB/KVIC, Employment, NRLM, ICDS, Lead District Bank, and CSC Budgam installed their departmental stalls at the venue. These stalls showcased flagship schemes, success stories, and departmental achievements, and also provided on-the-spot

beneficiary registrations, demonstrations, and awareness sessions for the general public.

The stalls remained the main attraction of the event where people interacted directly with officials, sought guidance, and availed of different services.

Adding to the spirit of the celebration, students from various schools across Budgam presented colourful cultural programmes, including songs, skits, dances, and performances based on social themes. These presentations not only entertained but also sensitized the audience on issues of social importance, highlighting values of unity, cleanliness, drug de-addiction, and women empowerment.

The programme was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Budgam, Mehraj-ud-din Shah.

Among other prominent officers



present were Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Budgam, Javaid Ahmad; Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Budgam, Hilal Ahmad; Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Budgam, Naseer Ahmad; Block Development Officer (BDO) Budgam along with other district and sectoral officers.

As part of the day's proceedings, several

awareness and demonstration activities were also carried out, in line with the ongoing Sewa Parv initiatives across the district. These included Awareness/Demonstration on Value Addition and Processing in Horticulture with special focus on marketing linkage for farmers.

Run for Unity organized under Sewa Parv at Hardapanzoo and

other adjoining areas. Medical and Health Camps offering consultations, screenings, and awareness on health and hygiene.

Yoga Sessions held in schools including Higher Secondary School Khag, aimed at promoting physical and mental well being among students.

Cleanliness and Swachhta Drives in different blocks including Charar-i-Sharief and Surasayar.

Joint Awareness Programmes on Drug Abuse Prevention, organized with the support of Police and Educational Institutions.

Distribution of IEC material and Dustbins by Municipal Committees in Budgam and Chadoora to further strengthen cleanliness initiatives.

Painting Competitions and Wall Art Activities by students, themed on Sewa Parv and social awareness.

Speaking on the occasion, the officers

appreciated the efforts of all participating departments, schools, and institutions in making the event successful.

They stressed the importance of community participation in government initiatives and urged officials to continue ensuring that information and services under government schemes reach the grassroots level.

The Mega Event concluded with a message of collective responsibility, social service, and unity, resonating with the spirit of Sewa Parv that aims to bring government services closer to people while encouraging citizen engagement.

The Sewa Parv initiative is aimed at promoting community service, mass participation, and awareness about government schemes, while fostering a sense of unity, responsibility, and nation-building among citizens.

DLIC Budgam approves 136 cases under Mission YUVA scheme

BUDGAM SEPTEMBER 30: District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) Budgam today discussed & approved the applications of 136 cases under the Mission YUVA (Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyan) scheme. The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner Budgam Mehraj-ud-din Shah.

The objective of the meeting was to review and approve applications submitted by young aspiring entrepreneurs under the Mission YUVA initiative, which aims to provide financial assistance and capacity-building support to youth for starting and sustaining their businesses.

Officers from the concerned departments presented a detailed review of the applications.

The approval of these cases is expected to boost entrepreneurial spirit among youth and contribute to the overall economic development of the district.

General manager DIC Budgam, CPO Budgam, Deputy Director Employment Budgam, District Nodal Officer JKEDI, Lead District Manager (LDM), Cluster Head JK Bank Budgam were present in the meeting.

Seva Parv: FCS&CA, Kashmir, BIS organise Stakeholders Conclave 2025

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30: Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir along with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office (JKBO), organised the Stakeholders' Conclave 2025.

Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Dr. Owais Ahmad, was the chief guest at the event. In his address, he emphasised the importance of standards in everyday life, noting that "standards are the backbone of quality, safety and reliability, and their adoption is crucial for the welfare of consumers." Pankaj Atri, Joint Director, BIS-JKBO, also addressed the gathering, stressing the vital role of BIS in creating a culture of standardisation. "BIS is committed to ensuring that consumers get quality products and services."

ADDC Kulgam reviews performance of Banks at DLRC meeting

KULGAM SEPTEMBER 30: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam Altaf Ahmad Khan today chaired the District Level Review Committee (DLRC)-cum-District Consultative Committee (DCC) meeting in the VC Room, DC Office Complex to review the performance of banks for the quarter ending June 2025. A detailed discussion was held on sector-wise lending in priority and non-priority sectors, bank-wise position of deposits and advances, and the progress of various financial inclusion schemes in the district.

While reviewing the Credit Deposit (CD) Ratio (90.60%) the ADDC appreciated the improvement made as compared to the national benchmark.

He emphasised that the flow of credit to priority sectors such as agriculture, renewable energy, social security schemes (PMSBY, PMJJBY and APY), Mission Yuva housing and allied activities must be further enhanced to promote inclusive growth. In terms of financial inclusion, the ADDC directed all banks to submit weekly progress reports to the Lead District Manager (LDM), who will also conduct weekly reviews.

He called for launching an intensive campaign at the Gram Panchayat level, with specific targets set for the next six months to ensure a net increase in financial inclusion. He stressed the need for better coordination between banks and line departments to resolve grievances, ensure timely case processing and extend maximum benefits to the public. Highlighting the need to improve banking access in remote areas, he asked banks to explore possibilities for opening new bank branches/more BC points in uncovered areas. The meeting was informed that YOY deposits in the district have increased from 2463.16Cr to 2725.40Cr witnessing 10.64% increased while as advances have grown from 2263.72Cr to 2470.81Cr witnessing a growth of 9.23%.

DC Shopian for coordinated approach to mitigate winter challenges

SHOPIAN, SEPTEMBER 30: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta, today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review winter preparedness and department wise Action Plans.

DC called for immediate preparation of Departmental Action Plans and emphasized the need

for a coordinated approach to mitigate winter challenges.

He instructed concerned officers to execute mitigation plans efficiently, ensuring prompt responses to avoid inconvenience to the public.

Focus was given on preparation of the action plans mentioning the prioritisation of roads for snow

clearance, unhindered power supply & timely replacement of DTs with decentralised & adequate Buffer stocking in Zainapora, Keller and Shopian. He stressed on proper and comprehensive arrangements for uninterrupted water supply, healthcare facilities, fire fighting services, relief and rescue, Mughal Road snow clearance.

Chairman DDC Kulgam presides over closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada at JNV

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 30: District Development Council, DDC, Chairman Kulgam, Mohammad Afzal Parrey, today presided the closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, (JNV), Kulgam.

On the occasion, he distributed sports kits of cricket, badminton, and volleyball equipments along with certificates and prizes among students who excelled in various competitions during the fortnight-long celebrations.

Students who represented the institution at the national

level were also honoured, including Bazila Baksh, who represented JNV in the National Volleyball Championship held at JNV Rajkot, Gujarat for the Regional Games.

In his address, Parrey highlighted the importance of Hindi as a language that acts as a bridge between different regions of the country.

He added that Hindi is now being taught across the world, and expressed happiness that the students of JNV are actively learning and promoting it.

At the same time, he underlined the significance of one's



mother tongue, stressing that it should be equally respected and preserved. Chairman lauded the

achievements of the students and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence in

academics, sports, and cultural activities.

He further assured his continued support for youth development and extracurricular initiatives in the district.

Responding to a demand, he also assured that a high-mast light would soon be installed in the Vidyalaya premises.

Principal JNV Kulgam, Ratheesh Kumar, expressed his gratitude to the Chief Guest for his encouragement and acknowledged the dedicated efforts of staff and students.

He highlighted that Hindi Pakhwada,

celebrated from September 14 to September 29, witnessed enthusiastic participation, making it a remarkable and memorable event.

Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were Station House Officer Kulgam Subzar Ahmad, Inspector Manzoor Ahmad, Shabir Ahmad Parry, JSA, and Dr. Samiya Husain, TGT Physical Education & Sports Incharge.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and appreciation for the collective efforts that contributed to the successful celebration of the event.

HT EDITORIAL

Open the road at Sanat Nagar Chowk connecting uptown areas with city centre

Some time back deputy chief minister Surinder Kumar Chaudhary who holds the portfolio of R&B ministry paid a visit to the construction site of Sanat Nagar flyover and reviewed the progress of work going on at the site. The minister ordered for the completion of work on the flyover by November 15 this year and issued a stern warning to the contractor for failing to meet the deadlines set in this regard from time to time.

The minister said that if the contractor fails to meet the latest deadline stern action under rules will be taken against him and the contractor would be blacklisted. The minister took a serious note of more than due payment made to the contractor. The contractor has so far received more than 70 percent of payment while the progress of work has not been up to the expected level. It is important that a probe is carried out in this regard and action is taken against the guilty.

During his visit the minister issued directions to the authorities to open the road linking Rawalpura area with Lal Chowk. As the work on this portion of flyover has been completed it is imperative that the road is thrown open for vehicular traffic. The road has already been macadamized and the encumbrances have also been removed. One fails to understand what is stopping the executing agency to open the road for the vehicular movement and movement of the people.

As on date the people coming from areas like Rawalpura, Wanbal, Rangreth and adjoining ones have to travel an extra mile and take turns on the bye-pass connecting Hyderpora area with the Nowgam area. As a result of this the motorists have to burn more fuel in reaching their respective destinations and the same does not look good given the inflationary economic situation prevailing in the market at present. The issue needs to be looked into and corrective measures need to be taken.

It is important that the concerned minister as well as the chief engineer R&B Central Kashmir take the issue seriously and direct the field staff to throw open the road considered to be an important road in the uptown areas. This would result in relief for the people and they would express gratitude to the minister as well as the engineers. The sooner it is done the better it will be for the people.

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Inspiring Minds, Shaping Futures

Teachers' Day at Ramzaan College



■ Mohammad Arfat Wani

The 18th of September at Ramzaan College of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences was a memorable day. It was a day in the calendar, but a living thanksgiving of love, regard, and appreciation for the heart and soul givers—the teachers. Though the celebrations had been delayed due to the recent flood, the spirit of gratitude was undiminished, and when the day finally arrived, it shone with even greater warmth and joy. This Teachers' Day was not merely a function but a fete of religion, culture, and emotion, a reflection of the timeless association that the teacher shares with the taught. There was rejoicing in every corner of the college, every smile testified to appreciation, and every sound hummed with the awe of the wisest of professions on planet earth.

I entered the auditorium and was amazed at sheer beauty and warmth of decorations. Balloons floated gracefully in the air, twinkle lights were plentifully scattered on the stage, and lovely decor imparted the hall with a glistening look of a garden of respect. The atmosphere was just the perfect balance of enthusiasm and respect, reminding one and all that teachers are dream builders and pillars of society. Each glint and every placement seemed to say thank you and love.

Proceedings were launched by a motivating address by Bushra, a student, who discussed the real spirit of teaching, reminding everyone that they should believe in the reality that teachers are not trainers but good educators are artists of character and the unseen pillars of countries.

Later on, Principal Maam, Professor Jamsheeda zaroo was also addressed by the public with powerful and motherly speeches, highlighting perseverance, discipline, and dedication as mantras of success. Her



speeches kindled the fire of motivation in every student, highlighting potentiality, responsibility, and optimism. Ambreena and Salma later delivered speeches with grace, their speeches silky with experience, expertise, and genuine emotions lasting for decades.

No Kashmiri celebration is ever complete without its heritage. Soon, the auditorium reverberated to soulful Kashmiri songs—be it "Chollham Na Pooshai" or the energetic "Bum-broo Bumbroo" mingling heritage and happiness. Showstoppers such as "Mai Aa Likhu Tu Aajayay" and "Aaz Roozei Saanay Dilbar Meanay" turned the hall into a musical universe, where laughter, longing, and pride mingled, reminding everyone that roots are the anchor even when education provides wings to fly.

The cream of the day was teacher-student interactive games. Laughter and bonhomie were encouraged by chits carrying funny one-liners, with formalism giving way. Zahid sir's sarcastic comment that the question was "out of syllabus" invited a quick reply: "Now you understand how we

feel in exams," which echoed down the hall of laughter. Mahak Maam jokingly proposed inserting "Nun Chai" into nursing, and snarky responses such as "Mei Gow Hearts Dam" rang innocence and engaging friendship. Such responses put everyone in the mindset that teachers are human, approachable, and part of the society that they build.

After lunch, there was a pleasant surprise. Every teacher was greeted with a special song, carefully selected to appreciate their uniqueness and contributions. Respected Principal Mam received "Tum Aaye Ho Noor Aa Gaya Hai," and Ishrat Mam's arrival was blessed with "Yeh Dil Tum Bin Lagta Nahi." Nazakat Mam received "Tu Hi Dildaar Mera," Rimsha Mam "Tere Chehre Se Nazar Nahin Hatti," and Ajaz Sir with the melodious "Tum Itna Jo Muskura Rahe Ho." Rabia Mam was felicitated with "Sadaagi To Hamari Zara Dekhiye," and Rayees Sir brought the atmosphere alive with "Zara Dil Ko Thaam Lo."

Mudasir Sir's liveliness was complemented by "First Class," Zahid Sir's enthusiasm thundered with "Apne

To Jaise Taise," and Nighat Mam was crowned with "Surili Akhiyon Wale." Abid Sir's dynamism illuminated the floor with "Swag Se Kareenge Sabka Swagat," while Rouf Sir's arrival was brought alive by "Dard-e-Disco." Rifat Mam's autonomy shone bright through "Banjaara," Aqib Sir's bravery resounded in "Galti se mistake," and Inayat Sir's benevolence was commemorated with "Ale Ale."

Asifa Mam's celestial beauty was accompanied by "Ilahi," Mahak Mam's robustness in "Kuch Pa Kar Khona Hai," Zeeshan Sir's youthfulness in "Ek Pal Ka Jeena," and Ubaid Sir's happiness in "Tu Kahan Se Aaya Hai." Even office aunts did not miss out on their own special numbers reminding one that no effort is ever too small to be noticed on this day of celebration.

Reflecting back on the day, one can clearly see that this Teachers' Day was not just an event but a golden page in the annals of this college's history. There was laughter, music, culture, respect, and devotion mingling into perfect harmony. For me, it was my first Teachers' Day ever celebrated on such a large scale, and I am sure it was one of the best seen ever. My heart gratefully bows to the management, all the voluntary students such as Yamin Yaqoob, Sadaf Jan, shaista, and above all to Faizan Turray, whose outstanding dedication, imagination, and tireless work as an organizer transformed every problem into triumph and made this celebration really unforgettable. A special thanks also to Faizan Javaid and Aanif, not only for their dedication and diligence, but also for being great DJs who made the energy and passion of the event go higher than ever.

This day will continue to live as a shining memory, a cultural treasure, and most importantly, an eternal hymn to the world's most noblest profession—teaching.

The author is a passionate writer, social activist, and medical student from Kuchmulla Tral, is also a B.Sc. Nursing student at Ramzaan College of Nursing & Paramedical Sciences, Galander Pampore. Email: wania6817@gmail.com

Bhagat Singh: From the Revolution to the Present Day



■ Dr. Satyawar Saurabh

Bhagat Singh's life is not just a revolutionary saga, but a symbol of an ideology. His ideas had power before his martyrdom, and their influence remains immortal even after his death. Today, as we grapple with economic inequality, communalism, and corruption, Bhagat Singh's ideas become even more important than ever. His dream wasn't limited to freedom from British rule; he envisioned an India where everyone had equal rights and opportunities.

March 23, 1931—The footsteps of three young men are heard in a Lahore jail. Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev, smiling, walk toward the gallows. There's no fear of death, but a spark in their eyes—of revolution, of change. They know their ideas will never die. On March 23, 1931, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru were hanged. But can a revolutionary truly die? Their ideas, their thoughts, and their inspiration live on even today. They fought not just against British rule, but for an India based on equality, justice, and freedom.

Birth of a thinker

Born on September 28, 1907, in Banga village, Punjab (now in Pakistan), Bhagat Singh's childhood was spent surrounded by books and revolutionary discussions. His family was steeped in patriotism. However, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919 was a shock for him. He realized that freedom should not be just a dream, but a reality of struggle. Bhagat Singh was rebellious and curious from childhood. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre (1919) shook him to his core and made him decide that he could not

remain a mere spectator.

The first step on the path to revolution

Joining the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA), Bhagat Singh shaped his fight against British rule. Saunders Murder Case (1928) – Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev assassinated police officer John Saunders to avenge the death of Lala Lajpat Rai. This sent a revolutionary message that tyranny would be resisted. Assembly Bomb Case (1929) – Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw a bomb in the British Parliament, but it wasn't to harm anyone. They were willing to be arrested so they could convey their views to the entire nation from the courtroom. Their motive wasn't mere violence. Their intention was to awaken the people, to show them that freedom shouldn't just be about political change, but also about social change.

Revolution of ideas in prison

Bhagat Singh was not just a revolutionary with a gun; he believed in the power of ideas. While in prison, he went on a hunger strike for 64 days, forcing the British government to surrender. He wrote numerous articles that clearly reflect his views on socialism, religion, and freedom. He believed that a true revolution would occur when a wave of change swept through society. It would not be wrong to say that Bhagat Singh's true strength lay in his pen and his thinking. While in prison, he wrote numerous articles in which he expressed his profound thoughts about socialism, religion, freedom, and revolution. He once said, "If you want the deaf to hear, you must raise your voice very loudly."

Martyrdom and immortality

Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru were hanged on March 23, 1931. But their deaths were not just an incident; they fueled the Indian freedom struggle. Their ideology, their courage, and their revolutionary spirit remain vibrant today. Bhagat Singh's ideology was not only against British rule, but also advocated for a society free from exploitation, justness, and based on scientific thinking. His ideology continues to provide a new direction

for us even today.

The relevance of Bhagat Singh's ideology in today's times

Today, as we grapple with problems like economic inequality, corruption, unemployment, social discrimination, and communalism, Bhagat Singh's ideology is more relevant than ever. He not only fought for independence but also envisioned a society free from exploitation and based on equality. Bhagat Singh believed that true freedom would only be achieved when the public was educated and aware. Even today, there is a need for a better education system and rational thinking. He advocated for a society free of caste, religion, and class discrimination. Even today, we need to work towards social harmony and equal opportunities. Bhagat Singh considered youth as agents of change. Today, as the youth of the country are raising their voices on various social and political issues, Bhagat Singh's ideology can guide them. Bhagat Singh envisioned a system of governance that serves the people, not misuses power for selfish ends. Even today, the demand for transparency and accountability remains.

Could we create the India of his dreams?

Today, as we fight social inequality, corruption, and communalism, Bhagat Singh's ideas are more relevant than ever. He spoke not only of political freedom, but also of economic and social equality. Bhagat Singh is not just a name, but an ideology.

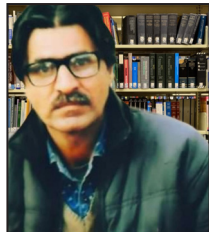
Bhagat Singh's revolution was not about guns, but about ideas. He taught us that real change comes through struggle and sacrifice, but most importantly, the power to think and question. Today, as we embrace his ideas in our lives, it becomes imperative that we contribute to building the India of his dreams.

"Inquilab Zindabad!"

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Peer Kamil

Hazrat Ghaus-ul-Azam Dastagir (RA)



■ **Tariq Shabnam**



■ **Translated by Imran Rather**

Whenever a blessed and luminous personality tears through the veil of non-existence and steps into the realm of life, every moment of their radiant existence testifies to divine grace, devotion, and light. Every page of such a sacred being's life announces that the book of their existence began with light.

The king of saints, guide of the spiritual path, imam of the sharia, and leader of the faith, Hazrat Sheikh Saeed Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA), is the chief of the saints of the world, a man of greatness, and a unique figure of monotheism. Many saints have appeared and will continue to appear until the Day of Judgment, but in terms of spiritual unveiling, miracles, and perfections, the Perfect Saint (RA) holds a distinct place among them. For this reason, many saints of high rank foretold his coming. His sainthood and greatness were so widely accepted that the entire ummah agreed on his title of "Ghaus-ul-Azam".

Hazrat Ghaus-ul-Azam (RA) was born on the 1st of Ramadan, 470 AH, in the city of Gilan, Iran. His father's name was Syed Abu Saleh Jangi Dost, and his mother's blessed name was Umm-ul-Khair Fatima. From his father's side he descended from Imam Hasan (RA), and from his mother's side he traced lineage to Imam

Hussain (RA). The Perfect Saint fulfilled the responsibility of keeping the light of the Prophet's (PBUH) sharia alive and radiant. He was nurtured in piety and righteousness under the care of his virtuous mother, as his father had passed away in his childhood.

When the love of Allah began to stir in his heart, he sought his mother's permission to travel to Baghdad for learning the path of sharia and tariqa. His mother, after placing forty dinars in his robe and giving him her prayers, advised him: "Always speak the truth. Never let a lie leave your tongue."

He later narrated the story of this journey: "When the caravan passed beyond Hamadan, suddenly bandits attacked us and looted everything. They left me alone. One of them asked what I had. I truthfully replied, forty dinars. Thinking I was joking, he walked away. Another came and asked, and I gave the same answer. Finally, the bandit leader himself asked me. I again replied that I had forty dinars sewn in my robe. He opened it and found them. Shocked, he asked why I had not hidden them out of fear of bandits. I said, because my mother advised me always to speak the truth, and I cannot disobey her words."

The leader was so moved by this truthfulness that he wept, saying: "You refuse to break your mother's advice, yet I have for years broken the covenant of my Lord. How wretched I am." He fell at my feet and sincerely repented. When his followers saw him repent, they too followed, returned the stolen goods, and later became righteous worshippers. Hazrat Ghaus-ul-Azam said, "This was the first group to repent at my hands."

Upon reaching Baghdad, he enrolled at the famous Nizamia madrasa, studied under great scholars, and completed his education. He endured many hardships, even going without food for twenty days, but remained steadfast in pursuit of knowledge. He said, "I continued to study until I became the learned of the learned, and Allah granted me the treasures of grace."

After completing his education, he dedicated himself to uplifting Islam



through teaching, preaching, and spiritual struggle. At first, his sermons attracted few listeners. But one night, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) appeared to him in a dream, saying with affection, "My dear son, why do you not preach?" Hazrat replied, "O Messenger of Allah, I am a non-Arab. How can I speak before the eloquent of Iraq?" The Prophet (PBUH) then asked him to open his mouth and placed his blessed saliva in it seven times, saying, "Invite people to the path of Allah with wisdom and

good counsel." From then on, his sermons carried such power that gatherings grew to tens of thousands, with seventy thousand listeners and hundreds recording his words.

He never hesitated to confront the rulers of his time. He criticized their wrongs boldly, and such was the power of his speech and sincerity that no ruler dared oppose him in his presence.

One of his greatest titles was "Muhyi-ud-Din" (Reviver of Religion). Seeing the decline of Islam, he devoted himself to

reviving its strength. He once said, "The walls of the religion of the Prophet (PBUH) are collapsing, its foundations are crumbling. O people of the earth, come together to strengthen what has fallen and rebuild what has collapsed. This cannot be done alone; all must join together." His efforts were successful because he himself embodied what he preached.

Under his influence, countless non-Muslims embraced Islam and thousands of Muslims reformed their lives. Every gathering of his sermons saw people repenting, some leaving Judaism, some leaving Christianity, and pledging allegiance to him. From kings to commoners, all were touched by his reform.

His character reflected the noble manners of the Prophet (PBUH). He honored the weak and poor, respected elders, showed compassion to the young, forgave the faults of his students and guests, and never turned away a seeker. Divine grace guided him, knowledge refined him, and closeness to Allah beautified him. His outward life was adorned with sharia, and his inner being was illuminated with truth.

At the time of his passing, the words of the Kalima remained on his blessed lips. He departed this world at the age of ninety-one on the 11th of Rabi-ul-Thani, 561 AH.

The mission of Sheikh Muhyi-ud-Din Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA) was to revive Islam, reform individuals and society, and strive for the establishment of faith. He achieved immense success through Allah's grace. If we truly claim love and devotion to Ghaus-ul-Azam (RA), then we must learn from his real works, take lessons from his life, and engage ourselves in the struggle for reviving Islam and fulfilling our responsibilities. That is the truest way of showing devotion to him.

Can anyone measure the strength of his arm!

The gaze of a true believer changes destinies.

tariqs709@gmail.com
Translated by imran Rather

Navratri, Prasad and Parenting: The Importance of Discernment in Faith

The message of Navratri is that faith, restraint and prudence should be adopted together



■ **Dr. Priyanka Saurabh**

Traditional offerings like halwa and puri are important during Navratri, but they are safe only for humans. Cows' digestive systems differ from humans, so products made with ghee, sugar, and refined flour can be harmful. During this time, cows should only be fed green grass, straw, fruits, and fodder. Devotion and protection can coexist. The purpose of Navratri is not just devotion, but also prudent faith and animal protection. By maintaining balance, we can maintain both tradition and animal welfare.

Navratri is a highly significant festival in Indian culture and religious beliefs. It is not just a nine-day celebration, but also a symbol of devotion, restraint, health, and social responsibility. During Navratri, devotees worship Goddess Durga in their homes and temples, and pay special attention to food and eating habits. Halwa-puri, chana dal, fruits, and other traditional dishes hold special significance for devotees on this occasion. The deliciousness and sacred nature of these dishes make them a part of a religious ritual.

However, amidst this sacred tradition, an important question arises: Are these dishes prepared during Navratri safe only for human consumption, or can they also be given to our sacred friends, such as cows? This question is important not only from a religious perspective, but also from a health and ecological perspective.

The halwa-puri prasad (offering) during Navratri is primarily prepared from wheat flour, ghee, and sugar. Devotees delight in its flavor and aroma, and consider it a symbol of devotion to the Goddess. Enjoying halwa-puri is not only a part of the celebration, but also strengthens family and social bonds. However, it is equally important to consider its health benefits.

Halwa-puri provides a limited amount of energy and satisfaction for humans. However, eating it in excessive amounts can cause digestive problems, weight gain, and other health risks. During Navratri, people often consume fruits, light sattvic foods, and milk to purify both the body and mind. Therefore, Halwa-puri should be consumed in moderation and with caution.

Now the question arises whether halwa-puri can be given to cows. Cows are considered extremely sacred in Hinduism. They are considered a mother, and religious texts emphasize the importance of serving and protecting them. However, cows' digestive systems differ from humans. They primarily rely on green grass, fodder, straw, and grains. Heavy and sweet foods like ghee, sugar, and refined flour can be harmful to them. Excessive ghee and sugar in halwa-puri can adversely affect their health, causing diarrhea, indigestion, and other gastrointestinal problems.

The need for balance becomes clear here. The purpose of Navratri is not only faith and devotion, but also to maintain coexistence with animals and nature. Devotion and protection can coexist. Offering halwa and puri is not good for the health of cows, and the best option is to provide them with natural fodder, green grass, and fruits. From a religious perspective, the true meaning of devotion is to use discretion while still practicing our faith.

Traditionally, the distribution of prasad during Navratri should be limited to human consumption only. Doing so adheres to religious beliefs and ensures the safety of animals. Many temples and religious sites maintain this balance by offering only fruits, green leaves, and dry grains as prasad. This provides nutrition to cows and protects their health.

This topic is extremely important from a cultural perspective. In Indian tradition, the cow is considered a mother. Religious texts and folk tales specifically mention their protection, respect, and service. If we ignore the health of cows during Navratri out of devotion and tradition, we fail to uphold the principles of their protection and care. This is a matter where a balance between religion and science is essential.

Education and awareness play a crucial role in this regard. Religious organizers, temples, and families

This topic is extremely important from a cultural perspective. In Indian tradition, the cow is considered a mother. Religious texts and folk tales specifically mention their protection, respect, and service. If we ignore the health of cows during Navratri out of devotion and tradition, we fail to uphold the principles of their protection and care. This is a matter where a balance between religion and science is essential.

need to understand that every offering they make must be safe not only for humans but also for animals, if any. Awareness campaigns should be conducted through schools, social organizations, and religious organizations to ensure that people understand that halwa-puri is not safe for cows.

Health experts also believe that keeping cows away from human food is essential for their long-term health. Ghee, sugar, and oil-based foods can cause problems in their gastrointestinal system. Therefore, traditional offerings during Navratri should be enjoyed only for humans. This maintains religious values and ensures the safety of the animals.

The significance of Halwa-Puri during Navratri is not limited to taste or tradition. It is also a medium of devotion, collective enthusiasm, and spending time with family. But we must remember that devotion does

not simply mean following tradition; it must also include discretion and prudence. Prasad should be distributed while keeping in mind the health of cows and other domestic animals.

Studies and experiences show that neglecting animals during religious events not only impacts their health but also highlights a lack of awareness in society. Therefore, prioritizing both animal safety and human health during Navratri is essential. This fulfills both our religious beliefs and social responsibility.

Through this tradition, we can also impart an important lesson to children. They can be taught that religious festivals are not just a means of celebration and joy, but also hold messages of wisdom, responsibility, and coexistence. When children learn that halwa-puri is only for humans and that cows are fed natural fodder, they become sensitive and responsible citizens in their own lives.

The message of Navratri is to embrace faith, restraint, and prudence. While enjoying traditional delicacies and offerings, we must remember that the safety and health of our four-legged friends is paramount. If we maintain this balance, the Navratri celebration becomes even more meaningful and enjoyable.

Finally, it must be remembered that the true purpose of Navratri is not merely to indulge in food and drink and festivities. This festival teaches us that faith and wisdom can coexist. It is our religious and social responsibility to take care of the health of both humans and animals. Therefore, during Navratri, halwa-puri should be consumed in moderation for humans, and cows should be given only natural fodder. This is the correct and balanced approach, which integrates faith, culture, and safety.

Through this balance and wisdom, the Navratri festival not only becomes religiously fulfilling but also serves as an inspiring example for our society and animal welfare. In this way, we can adhere to religious faith and cultural tradition while fulfilling our responsibility to our four-legged friends.

The author is a Research Scholar in Political Science, Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, Ubba Bhawan, Aryanagar, Hisar (Haryana)-127045

Health Benefits of Oranges



■ **Sahil Manzoor**

Orange is one of the most loved fruits of Kashmiri people during winters. While most fruits become costly or even disappear in the valley due to the harsh season and frequent suspension of the National Highway—the main route that connects Kashmir with other states—orange remains widely available and affordable.

In winter, our diet in Kashmir often shifts toward red meat, mutton, chicken, fish, cereals, and other heavy foods. Though nourishing, overconsumption of these items can lead to fat accumulation and health problems. A balanced diet is what our body truly needs: adequate amounts of proteins, fats, vitamins, minerals, and fibers. Without balance, lifestyle diseases like fatty liver—now common both in Kashmir and across the globe—can develop. Fatty liver brings risks such as kidney issues, dehydration, and backache. Preventing these problems requires not just a mindful diet but also regular physical activity. Exercise doesn't always mean going to the gym—it can simply be staying active at home through daily tasks.

In this context, oranges come as a natural blessing. This

citrus fruit, grown in warm climates across the country, offers numerous health benefits:

- Nutritional and Health Benefits of Oranges**
Rich in Vitamin C: Boosts immunity, fights harmful free radicals, and slows down age-related macular degeneration (a major cause of vision loss).
- Supports Healthy Skin:** Vitamin C helps the body make collagen, which heals wounds and keeps skin smooth.
- Prevents Anaemia:** Oranges enhance iron absorption in the body.
- Good for Pregnant and Lactating Women:** Oranges are a natural source of folate, vital for DNA formation, cell division, and preventing birth defects.
- Strengthens Bones and Muscles:** Being rich in calcium, oranges help maintain bone and muscle strength.
- Improves Digestion:** High fiber content supports bowel movement, prevents constipation, and keeps the body refreshed.
- Regulates Blood Pressure:** Potassium in oranges helps lower blood pressure and keeps the heart healthy.
- Final Word**
Oranges are a simple, natural way to maintain health during winters in Kashmir when fresh local produce is scarce. For those with sensitive stomachs or medical issues, it is wise to consult a doctor before consumption. Otherwise, making oranges part of your daily winter diet can be one of the easiest steps toward staying active, balanced, and disease-free.

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Navratri Fasting: A Path to Fitness & Wellness



■ **Dr. Navin Kumar**

The nine-day Navratri fast, a cornerstone of our timeless 'Durga Upasana', a practice woven into the spiritual and health traditions of our ancestors for millennia, offers a profound opportunity for holistic renewal, moving beyond its spiritual intent to serve as a potent strategy for metabolic and psychological optimization. This structured regimen, when approached with the informed perspective of a fitness expert, aligns with modern nutritional strategies, specifically the practice of time-restricted feeding, to achieve tangible and lasting wellness goals.

In the last decade, a significant body of research has emerged, moving intermittent fasting, Google's most searched diet trend in 2019, from a fringe diet to a wholesome scientific strategy for health optimization. Beyond the simple mechanism of weight loss, studies have consistently demonstrated its profound effects on cellular health and metabolic function. Intermittent Fasting, is a potent trigger for a natural and essential cellular "housekeeping" process known as autophagy, for which Japanese scientist Yoshinori Ohsumi was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2016. During this state, the body clears out damaged cells, dysfunctional proteins, and waste, effectively resetting and repairing its systems. This mechanism is believed to be a central reason behind the "rejuvenating" effects of fasting, contributing not only to longevity and a reduced risk of age-related diseases but also to enhanced mental clarity and overall systemic resilience.

The fundamental parallel between the Navratri fast and modern intermittent fasting lies in the principle of caloric restriction within a defined daily window. The most common Navratri tradition—consuming one or two meals of specific, non-grain foods—naturally establishes a prolonged daily fasting period that can be tailored to a 16:8 schedule, or even a more extended fast. This pattern is far from a simplistic caloric deficit; it initiates a systemic metabolic switch, compelling it to transition from burning carbohydrates for energy to utilizing stored fat, a key goal of IF. While Navratri fasting is rooted in spiritual devotion and cultural tradition, its physiological effects—such as improved insulin sensitivity, fat burning, and cellular repair (autophagy)—are the same as those sought through a scientifically-designed IF regimen.

The traditional Navratri diet, often termed sattvic, provides a unique set of challenges and opportunities. To maintain an active lifestyle during the fast, it is imperative to secure an adequate supply of protein. The absence of grains means relying on high-quality, plant-based and dairy sources. Incorporating a variety of nuts like almonds and



walnuts, along with dairy products such as paneer and curd, is crucial for preserving muscle mass and supporting recovery. This strategic emphasis on protein serves a dual purpose: it provides the building blocks for tissue repair and significantly enhances feelings of fullness, which is a powerful psychological tool for adhering to a limited eating window and preventing overconsumption.

From a physical training perspective, the fast demands a shift in exercise philosophy. The primary goal is not to achieve peak athletic performance but to maintain muscle and improve metabolic flexibility without inducing excessive stress on a body with reduced caloric intake. High-intensity workouts or prolonged endurance sessions are counterproductive and can lead to overexertion and an elevated stress response. Instead, the focus should be on low-to-moderate intensity activities. The key is to choose a routine that supports fitness goals without placing undue stress on body. The best approach prioritizes low-to-moderate intensity exercises, which are effective for fat burning and muscle maintenance in a fasted state, while also being safe.

The psychological and spiritual dimensions of the Navratri fast are also integral to its efficacy. This is a period of self-imposed discipline that extends far beyond food. The act of consciously abstaining from certain desires—whether for a specific food or a high-intensity workout—strengthens one's resolve and builds a greater sense of self-control. This discipline, when practiced over nine days, can rewire behavioral patterns, making the transition to healthy habits post-festival more natural and sustainable. This enhanced cognitive self-regulation is a powerful and often overlooked benefit of a structured fast.

Essentially, the Navratri fast is a well-established, traditional method for wellness that aligns perfectly with modern fitness science. By thoughtfully combining time-restricted eating, a protein-focused diet, and light exercise, this ancient practice becomes a powerful, nine-day plan for boosting health and mental clarity. It's a holistic blueprint for renewal, so long as it is approached with a conscious plan for safety and well-being.

The author is a Department of Electronics, Langat Singh College, Muzaffarpur, Bihar

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9

J&K emerging as model of self-reliance under PM Modi's vision: Sat Sharma

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEP 30: Jammu & Kashmir is rapidly emerging as a model of self-reliance under the dynamic vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, asserted Sat Sharma (CA), President, J&K BJP.

Sharma reaffirmed the party's steadfast commitment to the Prime Minister's mission of building an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', emphasizing that while the Abhiyan has today become a cornerstone of India's economic growth and national prosperity, it has laid a new platform for a reliable and persistent growth in J&K.

He was addressing a press conference at S-1 Church Lane, Srinagar. J&K BJP General Secretary Anwar Khan, Secretary Arif Raja, and other senior leaders were also present in the press conference.

Sat Sharma, while addressing the media persons, underlined the far-reaching impact of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative across Jammu & Kashmir, particularly in empowering youth, women, small business owners, and start-ups. He said that under the leadership of PM Modi, India



is rapidly moving towards the vision of Viksit Bharat and has already risen to become the world's fourth-largest economy.

Sharma said that the Atmanirbhar Bharat is not just a slogan, it is a mass movement that is reshaping the soul of India. He said that

in Jammu & Kashmir, people are witnessing a silent revolution as our youth are becoming job creators, our women are emerging as entrepreneurs, and our local industries are finding national and global markets. Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji, we are laying the foundation of a strong, confident, and self-reliant new India, he said.

Sat Sharma also highlighted the successful implementation of central schemes such as PMSVANidhi, Startup India, and Vocal for Local in J&K, which are creating livelihoods and accelerating regional development.

Praising the resilience and determination of the people of the Valley, Sat Sharma said that Jammu & Kashmir is steadily emerging as a model of self-reliance and innovation for the entire nation. He reiterated that the BJP remains committed to peace, progress, and prosperity in the region.

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Naib Tehsildar, Pahalgam

I, Pakiza Jan, daughter of Mohammad Asraf Najar, resident of Laripora, Pahalgam, have applied for issuance of an RBA Certificate at the Office of the Naib Tehsildar, Pahalgam.

Family Details (as per record):

1. Widow: Hawa Bi (W/o Late Abdullah Khan)
2. Daughter: Ruby Jan
3. Son: Yaseen-ud-Din
4. Son: Shaukeen-ud-Din
5. Son: Israr-ud-Din

If anybody has any objection regarding the issuance of the said certificate in my favour, they may file the same in writing before the Naib Tehsildar, Pahalgam, within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the said period, no objections shall be entertained, and the certificate shall be issued in my favour.

Sd/- Pakiza Jan
D/o Mohammad Asraf Najar
R/o Laripora, Pahalgam

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JMC strengthens environmental initiatives under NCAP

■ HT News Desk

JAMMU, SEP 30: The Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has been actively implementing multiple projects under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) with the objective of reducing pollution, improving air quality, and transforming Jammu into a greener and cleaner city.

As part of the Green Jammu, Clean Jammu campaign, the Corporation undertook a massive plantation drive during the recent monsoon season, under which more than 60,000 saplings were planted across various parts of the city. Under Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam initiative, School Children, Swachhta Ambassadors and Civil Society has adopted 7000 of these trees and tagged them with QR code. This innovative step will not only help track the growth and health of the trees but also encourage public involvement, as citizens will be able to scan and check details about the plantations in their area.

In addition to greening measures, JMC has launched a major initiative for construction of modern, end-to-end footpaths integrated with green corridors. These pedestrian pathways have been planned to provide a safe, accessible, and uninterrupted walking experience for citizens while simultaneously enhancing the city's environmental profile. Each footpath has been equipped with soak pits to promote rainwater harvesting and water conservation, thereby ensuring that precious rainwater is absorbed into the ground rather than wasted.

The green corridors along these footpaths are lined with ornamental plants and shade trees, which will not



only beautify the city but also act as natural dust and pollution filters, improving the overall air quality. With adequate shade and seating, these spaces are being envisioned as vibrant urban zones, where pedestrians can walk, relax, and connect with nature. Dr. Devansh described the initiative as a model of transformative pedestrian infrastructure aimed at merging functionality with sustainability.

Highlighting future plans, Dr. Yadav informed that under NCAP, several new sites are being identified for environmental development. Recently in a meeting chaired by Divisional Commissioner, Jammu. More than 20 locations for the year 2025-26 for creating green urban walkways. A committee has been constituted to oversee and monitor the implementation of these projects, and to ensure adequate sapling supply for future plantation drives, new nurseries will be developed in collaboration with the Urban Forestry Division Jammu.

Dr. Yadav reiterated JMC's commitment for making Jammu city a pollution-free, environmentally sustainable urban centre. He stressed

that community involvement is crucial for the success of these projects. In this regard, the Corporation is actively engaging schools, colleges, and local institutions to spread awareness about air pollution, the importance of tree plantation, and sustainable living practices. Various outreach activities and campaigns are being organized under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to encourage citizens to participate in maintaining cleanliness and supporting JMC's green initiatives.

Abdul Star, Joint Commissioner (H&S), JMC added that the Corporation will be working at an accelerated pace in the coming months, focusing not only on plantation and footpath development but also on other allied measures such as improved solid waste management, dust control mechanisms, and strengthening of green cover.

The Jammu Municipal Corporation envisions these initiatives as a step towards creating a healthier urban environment, where development and ecology move hand in hand, ultimately ensuring better quality of life for the residents of Jammu.

JKUT BJP Mahila Morcha Organises Medical Camp under "Swastha Nari Sashakt Parivar" at Chowk Chabutra, Jammu

■ HT News Desk

JAMMU, SEP 30: As part of the ongoing Seva Pakhwada being observed to mark the birthday of Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, a free medical camp was organised today by Ayush Services under the theme "Swastha Nari Sashakt Parivar" at Chowk Chabutra, Jammu. The initiative was organised under the leadership of Mandal President, Jammu Mahila Morcha, Anuradha Sharma and witnessed enthusiastic participation from local women.

The camp was inaugurated jointly by J&K BJP Mahila Morcha President Adv. Neha Mahajan, Former Minister & BJP Vice President Priya Sethi, BJP District President Jammu Rajesh Gupta, and District Mahila Morcha President Savita Anand.

In her address, Adv. Neha Mahajan said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has dedicated his life to the service of the nation, and Seva Pakhwada is a reflection of his vision of Seva Hi Sangathan. Women are the backbone of our society, and their health directly strengthens families



and the nation. This camp is a step towards fulfilling Modi ji's vision of a healthy and empowered Bharat.

Addressing the gathering, Priya Sethi said that BJP Mahila Morcha has always been at the forefront of people-centric initiatives. This medical camp, organised under Seva Pakhwada, truly reflects the spirit of service that BJP stands for. Prominent members of the State Mahila Morcha team including Poonam Gupta, Prerna Nan-

da, and Ritu Thakur were also present.

The camp saw the active involvement of Ritika Mahajan, Preeti Sharma, Surbhi Sawhney, Shishu Sharma, Sanjana Verma, Neeru Anand, and Sushma, among others, making the event a grand success.

The program concluded with a collective resolve to continue organising such health camps across the region to ensure "Swastha Nari, Sashakt Parivar, Samarth Rashtra."

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

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GIST of e-Tender

e-NIT No:	MDSK/TS /2025-26/48
Date	29.09.2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from eligible **contractors** / registered firms for the below mentioned works:-

Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In rupees)	Estimated Cost (In Rs)	Bid security (EMD) in Rs	Position of AA	Position of TS
Supply of Spares required to conduct one annual preventive maintenance of Snow clearance machines-Unimog 400 and Unimog 423 of Machinery Division Kashmir.	500/-	18,15,425.00	36400.00	Works programme approved by CE vide order No. M&HED/K/Actt/107 of 2025-26 Dt.30.05.2025.	Technical sanction accorded by CE issued vide order No.MHED/K/TS/111 Dt. 19.09.2025.

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

01	Publish date	29 -09-2025(18:00hrs)
02	Period of downloading of bidding document	29 -09-2025(18:30 hrs)
03	Bid submission start date	29-09-2025 (18:55hrs)
04	Bid submission end date	13 - 10-2025(18:55 hrs)
05	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	14 - 10-2025(14 hrs)

No: MDSK/TS/2926-29 | Date: 29.09.2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Machinery Division, Kashmir

DIPK: 6706/25 | Dated: 30-09-2025

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION TANGMARG NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (CIVIL WORKS)

NIT No: 65/R&B of 2025-26 | Dated: 29-09-2025

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class	Project Authority	Tender call
1	Construction of Boundary wall at newly under construction R&B Sub-Division Office Kunzer.	10.00	600/-	20000/-	20 days	3054-M&R	D/C/B	R&B Deptt.	1 st
2	Const. of RB/wall on Poshkar and Allahpora Larkipora road on wayside of the Allahpora road.	5.98	300/-	11960/-	15 days	3054-M&R	D/C	R&B Deptt.	1 st

Position Of AAA: Accorded

Position of T.S: Accorded

Position of funds: Assured

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	29-09-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	30-09-2025
3	Bid submission Start Date	30 -09-2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	09-10-2025 4:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	10-10-2025 11:00 AM

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

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

- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form), NIT, GFR 2017 & JK PWD Engineering Manual 2020.

- As per the Circular No. 01 (Adm) FD of 2025 Dated: 08-07-2025 issued by Finance Department of UT J&K **"Every participating supplier/contractor to mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder".**

No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/4674-84
Dated: 29-09-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer
R&B Division Tangmarg

DIPK: 6698/25 | Dated: 30-09-2025



CMYK

Series of community centric activities held across District Doda under Sewa Parv 2025

DODA, SEPTEMBER 30: A series of community-oriented programmes, focusing on environmental protection, public health, inclusive governance and traditional wellness practices were held across Doda District on the 13th day of Sewa Parv 2025. The events were coordinated by multiple departments and institutions witnessing enthusiastic participation from students, government employees, healthcare professionals and local residents.

At the institutional level, Government Dy. SP Aman Thakur Memorial Degree College, Kastigarh organized a debate on Inclusive Governance.

Students delivered thought-provoking speeches, underlining the importance

of citizen-centric administration, digital empowerment, gender equality and youth participation in democracy.

The Health Department Doda organized health screening camps under the Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Campaign at GHSS Chinta, Village Katyara and other locations. Services included antenatal check-ups, NCD and TB screening, Hb testing, vaccinations, free diagnostic tests and distribution of free medicines. Health education sessions on menstrual hygiene, personal care and handwashing practices were also organized. The activities were supervised by CMO Dr. Om Kumar and coordinated by Block Medical Officer Bhaderwah Dr. Versha Sharma.

The Ayush Department



organized multiple activities under Sewa Parv, Poshan Mah and Swachta Pakhwada celebration.

Highlights included yoga awareness sessions, Poshan

Mah camps, medical camps for women, cleanliness drives, diet awareness sessions, school health programmes and plantation drives. A total of 22 Ayush institutions actively

participated, spreading awareness about holistic health and wellness.

Plantation and awareness drives were carried out at different locations. The JK Pollution Control Committee, in collaboration with the Health Department organized plantation drives at the CMO Office premises and Government ANMT School, where participants also took the Mission Life Pledge to reinforce environmental responsibility.

The Range Office Marmat, Batote Forest Division, conducted plantation drives at Ward No. 06 (Rural) and Loga Behota (Ward No. 02). School children, government employees, PRI representatives and local residents planted saplings to promote greenery and sustainable living.

GDC Ramgarh concludes Sewa Parv with floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi

SAMBA, SEPTEMBER 30: The Sewa Parv celebrations came to an end at Government Degree College Ramgarh with solemn floral tributes to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

The concluding programme was held under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college and was efficiently organized by Dr. Aditi Khajuria along with the members of the organizing committee.

On this occasion, the faculty members along with students gathered to pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi and offered floral tributes as a mark of respect. The presence of faculty members enriched the solemnity of the event and reinforced the values of service, truth and non-violence that Gandhi ji stood for.

The celebration of Sewa Parv at GDC Ramgarh served as a platform to encourage students to imbibe the spirit of compassion, humility and responsibility towards society. The event concluded with a collective pledge by faculty members and students to continue spreading the message of peace, non-violence and dedicated service to humanity.

CIPMC Jammu organizes 2-day workshop on Integrated Pest Management

UDHAMPUR, SEPTEMBER 30: The Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Jammu, today organized a two-day Human Resource Development Programme on Integrated Pest Management at Village Mand East.

The programme was aimed at sensitizing farmers about eco-friendly pest management practices, promoting the safe use of pesticides and encouraging sustainable agricultural practices in the region. The inaugural session witnessed enthusiastic participation from DDC Vice Chairperson Udhampur, Juhi Manhas Pathania, along with Arti Sharma, Balwan Singh and local farmers.

Deputy Director (PP) Dr. M K Arya delivered a comprehensive presentation highlighting the importance of Integrated Pest Management in minimizing crop losses, reducing dependence on chemical pesticides and ensuring food and environmental safety. He emphasized the judicious use of pesticides and advocated for adopting IPM as a holistic approach to achieve healthier crops and higher productivity.

APPO (E) Ravi Kumar Chappare demonstrated the National Pest Surveillance System mobile app, enabling farmers to access real-time pest surveillance data and advisories.

Farmers actively participated in interactive sessions, raising queries regarding pest-related challenges and appreciating the practical knowledge shared by the experts. They lauded CIPMC Jammu for organizing such a meaningful programme at the grassroots level.

Agriculture Department Jammu accords warm send off to retirees

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 30: The Directorate of Agriculture Jammu today bid a warm and affectionate farewell to Additional Mission Director HADP J&K/Joint Director Agriculture (Extension) Jammu Satish Sharma; AAO Ashok Kumar and Gardner Kanshi Ram, who superannuated after rendering more than 35 years of dedicated service to the Department.

A heartfelt farewell function was organized at the Directorate to honour the retirees for their remarkable contribution to the Department and the farming community. Director Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare, Jammu Anil Gupta graced the occasion and extended his best wishes to the retiring officers.

In his address, the Director lauded exemplary service, professionalism, and unwavering commitment of retiring officials towards agricultural development and farmers' welfare.

Dr. Ashwani Sharma, Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs) Jammu, and Aman Jyoti Sharma, Joint Director Agriculture (Extension) Kashmir, also conveyed their warm wishes and heartfelt appreciation to the retirees. They acknowledged the invaluable contributions made by Satish Sharma and colleagues, wishing them happiness, good health and success in the new phase of life.

Warm wishes for a healthy, peaceful and prosperous post-retirement life were also extended by officers and staff from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir Division.

GDC Vijaypur hosts Book Donation Drive and 'Meet the Author' Session under Sewa Parv

SAMBA, SEPTEMBER 30: To promote the spirit of giving and community service, Yuva Mission, Unnat Bharat & Shikshit Bharat clubs of Government Degree College (GDC) Vijaypur organized a Book Donation Drive as part of the ongoing "Sewa Parv". The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from both students and the faculty members.

Students and teachers generously contributed a wide range of books including academic texts, reference materials, novels and self-help books, which will be made available to underprivileged students and local libraries in need.

Meanwhile, the College hosted a literary event "Meet the Author", to promote regional literature and encourage students' engagement with authors and scholars.



The distinguished guest for the event was Dr. Manoj Heer.

Assistant Professor in the Department of Dogri, Dr. Manoj Heer is a renowned academician and literary figure of Dogri language and literature. Dr. Heer has significantly contributed to the promotion of Dogri through his extensive body of work which includes numerous books, research and news articles, journal publications etc.

He interacted with the students and provided valuable insights into his

writing journey, the nuances of Dogri literature and the importance of preserving regional languages. His address was both enlightening and motivational, sparking curiosity and interest among students toward creative writing and literary pursuits.

The twin events were coordinated with the support of Prof. Anita Jamwal (Associate Professor, Dept. of Political Science), Prof. Mamta Gupta (Associate Professor, Dept. of Commerce), Prof. Ritu

Bhagat (Associate Professor, Dept. of Education), Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat (Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology), Dr. Arti Sharma (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Environmental Sciences), Prof. Meetu Sharma (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Geography), Dr. Pooja Gupta, Lecturer (Dept. of Commerce), Dr. Gunjeet Mahiwal (Lecturer, Dept. of Education), Dr. Anoop Singh (Lecturer, Dept. of History), Prof. Sonia Devi (Lecturer, Dept. of Hindi).

JKEDI organises Startup Idea Challenge Boot Camp at Govt Degree College Doda

DODA, SEPTEMBER 30: The Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), District Centre Doda, organized a Startup Idea Challenge Bootcamp at Govt. Degree College (GDC) Doda, inspiring young minds to explore innovation and entrepreneurship.

The event was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, who encouraged the participants to take full advantage of such government initiatives. He also interacted with participants at the idea presentations and emphasized the pivotal role of startups in driving regional and national economic development. The bootcamp witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 100 students, with 13 aspiring innovators/teams presenting their business ideas.

Earlier, the program began with a welcome address by Sr. Associate Faculty/Range Officer (DKR), JKEDI Dr. Majid Manzoor Khan, who highlighted JKEDI's role in building an entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Assistant Professor Tanveer Ahmed also addressed the gathering, stressing the importance of empowering youth as job creators. Entrepreneur Azhar, CEO of Yazu Digital motivated participants by sharing his personal startup journey.

A comprehensive session on the J&K Startup Policy 2024-27 was delivered by District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Shabir Majeed. He elaborated on various

incentives, benefits and support available for budding entrepreneurs. The highlight of the event was the Idea Pitching Session, where 13 participants presented their concepts before a distinguished jury comprising Dr. Majid Manzoor (JKEDI), Shabir Majeed (JKEDI), Tanveer Ahmed (GDC Doda), representatives from DECC, Govt. Polytechnic, ITI, JK Bank Doda and Azhar (Yazu Digital).

Following rigorous evaluation, promising participants/teams were shortlisted for the next round. Certificates of participation were awarded to all idea pitchers by Dr. Majid Manzoor Khan.

The bootcamp provided a dynamic platform for ideation, innovation, and entrepreneurial learning, reaffirming JKEDI's mission to foster startups and strengthen the innovation ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Shabir Majeed, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Doda.



DC Kathua leads Swachhata Campaigns, Felicitates Winners of Painting & Essay Competitions under Sewa Parv

KATHUA, SEPTEMBER 30: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma, today spearheaded a series of activities under the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations focusing on Swachhata, youth engagement and personality development.

The day commenced with a visit to Government Higher Secondary School Budhi, where the Deputy Commissioner along with Additional Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Vishavjeet Singh participated in a signature campaign, plantation drive and Swachhata campaign. The students were also administered a cleanliness pledge to reinforce the spirit of community responsibility.

While interacting with the students, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of October 2 and sensitized them about the vision of Mahatma Gandhi. He underscored that the ideals of truth, non-violence and Swachhata are timeless and called upon the younger generation to adopt cleanliness as a daily habit. The DC urged the students to watch the special episode on Gandhiji scheduled to air on 2nd October and reminded them that building a clean nation begins with individual responsibility.

Earlier, a prize distribution ceremony for painting and essay competitions, organized by Municipal Council Kathua under Sewa Parv, was held at the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex Kathua. Students from various schools and adjoining areas had participated in the competitions with enthusiasm, showcasing their creativity on themes



of cleanliness and social awareness.

The Deputy Commissioner felicitated the winners from both senior and junior categories with prizes and certificates. In his address, he encouraged students to balance academics with co-curricular activities for holistic personality development and lauded the originality and social message reflected in their writings and artwork. He called upon the youth to act as Swachhata ambassadors, inspiring their families and communities to adopt cleanliness as a way of life.

The event was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Kathua, Vishav Partap Singh, Chief Executive Officer MC Kathua, Amit Sharma, District Education Planning Officer Kathua and other concerned officers.

Sewa Parv: DECC Kathua organises Job Fair, employers offer 267 Vacancies

KATHUA, SEPTEMBER 30: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv, District Employment and Counselling Centre Kathua, under the aegis of District Administration Kathua, organized a Job Fair at its officer premises drawing an enthusiastic response from the youth of the district.

The Fair witnessed participation of nearly 100 students from different Colleges of Kathua and adjoining areas, who registered themselves as job aspirants in pursuit of diverse career opportunities.

The event also provided a platform to familiarize youth with digital career solutions, as more than 50 participants downloaded the Mission YUVA App on the spot to access real-time job notifications, career counselling modules and entrepreneurship schemes.

Six reputed companies—Raxa Security Services Ltd., Pidilite Industries Ltd., Varun Beverages Ltd., Kandhari Beverages Pvt. Ltd., Jupiter Aluminium Ltd, and Chiripal Poly Film Ltd.—set up their stalls to interact with candidates and conduct preliminary screenings. Together, these companies offered more than 267 vacancies in varied job roles such as Security Guard, Packing Helper, Electrician, Production Engineer, Maintenance Trainee Engineer, Fitter, Apprentices, MIS Executive, ITI Trainees, ITI Fitter/Electrician, ITI Welder, Junior Engineer (JE), Engineer, Shipping Assistant, Store Assistant, Store Helper and Forklift Operator.

The day-long recruitment exercise witnessed 26 candidates being shortlisted, while one candidate secured on-the-spot selection, marking an encouraging beginning for many aspirants. Company representatives appreciated the enthusiasm, preparedness and skill levels of the candidates and assured to extend more opportunities in the future.

In addition to job placements, the participants were also sensitized about government schemes designed for youth empowerment, particularly Mission YUVA, which aims to provide a comprehensive platform for career growth, skill enhancement and entrepreneurship development.

Punjab CM meets Home Minister, seeks funds for flood relief efforts

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, SEP 30: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann today met Home Minister Amit Shah and apprised him of the extent of damage in the State caused by floods during the Monsoon season.

He also demanded additional funds for the state for disaster relief and restoration, a Home Ministry statement said.

During the meeting the Chief Minister was apprised that in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), Punjab has sufficient funds to the tune of Rs 12,589.59 crore, which can be utilised for the relief and immediate restoration to the affected people as per

Government of India norms.

The Home Minister said the Central Government has provided all possible assistance from central agencies to the state administration, in search, rescue and immediate restoration during the recent floods in the State.

Shah said Modi government is standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the people of Punjab and is committed to providing all possible help to flood affected people of the state.

On September 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited Punjab and reviewed the flood situation and damages caused in state. Out of the financial assistance of Rs 1,600 crore announced by the Prime Minister, Rs 805



crore (including Rs 170 crore under sanction by NHAI) has already been released to the State

Government and intended beneficiaries under various schemes. The rest will be released on receipt

of relevant information from the State.

An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted on September one without waiting for the receipt of memorandum from the State of Punjab. The team visited the affected areas for an on-the-spot assessment of damages in the State from September 3-6. However, the State Government is yet to submit a detailed memorandum. After receipt of the memorandum, the same will be considered by the Central Government as per the Government of India approved norms.

Besides this, the state can prepare a recovery and reconstruction plan for restoration of livelihood and damaged infrastructure. UNI

Delhi govt declares mourning for Malhotra

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, SEP 30: The Delhi government has declared a one-day state mourning tomorrow following the passing of senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader, and Delhi's first Chief Executive Councillor, Professor Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has expressed deep sorrow over his demise, calling it an immense and irreplaceable loss.

Gupta has said that the state government would ensure that his last rites are conducted with full honours.

Today, CM visited his residence to pay her respects to Professor Malhotra and reiterated that his passing is an irreplaceable loss.



She further remarked that Malhotra, who also served as a Member of Parliament and a legislator in Delhi, was a frontline warrior of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the BJP.

Gupta said that he not only shaped Delhi's politics, but also set new standards of public service, earning respect with true service to people.

As the first president of Delhi BJP, Malhotra strengthened the party's foundations and guided countless workers with his example of service, discipline, and dedication, she said.

Gupta further said that Professor Malhotra's life exemplified patriotism, organisational skill, and simplicity, adding that he was a guiding figure for party workers, and his selfless dedication will continue to inspire everyone.

The CM postponed all her programmes, while several government events were postponed. UNI

Ten people killed, 30 wounded in Quetta car bomb explosion

■ **United News of India**

QUETTA/NEW DELHI, SEP 30: More than 10 people were killed and at least 30 wounded in a car bomb explosion outside Pakistan's para-military force headquarters in Balochistan's Quetta today.

Local media reported that a suicide bomber blew himself up near the Frontier Constabulary headquarters. Before the blast five-six gunmen in the car stepped outside and fired on the security forces. However, all the gunmen were killed in the encounter.

Officials told the local media that the wounded were being treated at the hospital. Some of the wounded were critical and the toll might go up. Some reports said 13 people were killed.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. Local media quoted Provincial health minister Bakhat Kakar as saying that the death toll could rise further and most of those killed and injured were civilians. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said six attackers were involved in the assault and all of them were killed by security forces.

Local television channels showed a car stopping in front of the gate of the paramilitary headquarters. The car explodes and gunfire is heard after the blast. In Islamabad, Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif denounced the bombing. Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti also condemned the attack. UNI

EFTA, TEPA to come into effect tomorrow, provision for 100 bn USD investment, one mn jobs in 15 yrs

■ **United News of India**

NEW DELHI, SEP 30: The India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) will come into effect from tomorrow, an official statement said today.

TEPA offers binding commitment of 100 bn US Dollar investment and one million direct jobs in the next 15 years and will stimulate services exports in sectors like IT, business services, education, audio-visual etc. It also provides Mutual Recognition Agreements in Professional Services like nursing, chartered accountants, architects etc.

The agreement was signed on March 10, 2024. TEPA is a modern and ambitious agreement that incorporates, for the first time in any Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed by India, a commitment linked to investment and job creation.

The agreement comprises 14 chapters with main focus on market access related to goods, rules of origin, trade facilitation, trade remedies, sanitary

and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, investment promotion, market access on services, intellectual property rights, trade and sustainable development and other legal and horizontal provisions.

The EFTA's market access offer under TEPA covers 100 percent of non-agri products and tariff concession on Processed Agricultural Products (PAP). Sensitivity related to PLI in sectors such as pharma, medical devices and processed food etc. have been taken while extending offers.

The agreement goes beyond goods and services and is committed to promoting investments with the aim of increasing the stock of foreign direct investments by USD 100 billion in India in the next 15 years, and to facilitate the generation of one million direct employment in India, through such investments, the statement said.

EFTA is an important regional group, with several growing opportunities for enhancing international trade in goods and services. EFTA is one important economic block out of the three (other two - EU & UK) in

Europe. Among EFTA countries, Switzerland is the largest trading partner of India followed by Norway.

The TEPA will empower India's exporters by providing access to specialized inputs and create conducive trade and investment environment. This would boost exports of Indian made goods as well as provide opportunities for services sector to access more markets.

As per Article 7.1 of TEPA, the EFTA States shall aim to increase foreign direct investment (FDI) from their investors into India by USD 50 billion within 10 years from the entry into force of the Agreement, and an additional USD 50 billion in the succeeding 5 years, amounting to a total of USD 100 billion over 15 years.

Concurrently, the EFTA States shall aim to facilitate the generation of 1 million direct jobs in India resulting from these investment inflows.

This investment commitment explicitly excludes foreign portfolio investment (FPI), focusing on long-term capital for productive capacity building. UNI

Trump slams former defence secretaries, threatens to fire generals-admirals he doesn't like

■ **United News of India**

QUANTICO, SEP 30: US President Donald Trump during his meeting with the top brass of the US military in Quantico, slammed the former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Mark Milley and former Defence Secretaries James Mattis and Mark Esper, branding them "horrible", and threatened to fire generals he doesn't like, ahead of his speech, reports CNN.

Speaking to reporters at the US

Marine Corps Base, he praised his efforts at the military's resuscitation, despite poor leadership in the Pentagon.

"We had some real bad ones last time. I rebuilt the military, the entire military, but I had unbelievable people to do that," Trump said when departing the White House. "But I also had some bad ones at the top, like Milley, Mattis and Esper."

Trump, specifically singled out Esper in his statement and called him "horrible", claiming that the former

Defence Secretary had been steered into bad appointments by establishment Republicans.

"They were recommended by RINOs (Republicans in Name Only) and others, and they're not good. What we have now is the best," he said.

The remarks underline Trump's continuing feud with the top political-military brass in the US, as many senior officials - including Esper and Mattis -- have been critical of his recent policies. UNI

ISRAEL ACCUSES FLOTILLA MISSION SAILING TO GAZA OF HAMAS TIES

■ **United News of India**

JERUSALEM, SEP 30: Israel has called the flotilla currently sailing to the war-torn Gaza Strip in defiance of Jerusalem's blockade, proxies of Hamas. The claim was made after the IDF recently unearthed some of the terrorist organisation's documents in the Strip. The documents according to the Israeli Foreign Ministry showcase the terror group's "direct involvement" in the fleet of activists currently sailing

dozens of boats in 'solidarity with Gazans', reports Times of Israel.

According to the Jerusalem, the files tie flotilla organisers to the Palestinian Conference for Palestinians (PCPA), a Hamas-linked body established in 2018 that Israel designated a terrorist organisation three years later. Officials described the PCPA as Hamas's "embassy network" abroad, charged with organising marches, demonstrations, and flotilla campaigns against Israel. One recovered document cited by

the ministry was allegedly a letter from 2021 written to the organisation by the group's former political chief Ismail Haniyeh, where he was explicitly backing the PCPA. Another, found in a Hamas outpost, listed senior PCPA figures, including Zaher Birawi, head of the group's UK branch. Birawi has been a central figure in pro-Gaza flotillas for over a decade, including the 2010 Mavi Marmara mission in which 10 activists were killed in clashes with Israeli commandos. UNI

UNGA General Debate concludes after witnessing difficult discussions, some for, some against

■ **United News of India**

NEW YORK/NEW DELHI, SEP 30: The 80th UN General Assembly (UNGA) Debate in New York concluded today after a difficult Session both for the UN itself and for the multilaterals spirit it is meant to embody.

General Assembly President Annalena Baerbock said the world body remains "the house of diplomacy and dialogue" in a divided world and as the UN marks its 80th anniversary, member States must show the people of the world why the organization matters and uphold its founding principles in the decades ahead.

The Debate concluded with strong speeches by the leaders of 189 countries. The deepening humanitarian crisis in Gaza echoed as the General Assembly heard calls by most world leaders for urgent global action to stop Israeli attacks. However,

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel will not rest until Hamas is eliminated and hostages are freed.

Ukraine situation and calls for an end to the war was also mentioned by many leaders.

The Session witnessed cryptic remarks by some leaders about the relevance of the UN while some demanded strengthening and overhaul of the world body to address the new challenges.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said "The United Nations is committed to fully supporting all meaningful efforts to end" the Ukrainian war. Against this backdrop, Mr. Guterres argued that the UN remains indispensable.

"At its best, the United Nations is more than a meeting place, it is a moral compass, a force for peace... a guardian of international law and a lifeline for people in crisis." He noted

that today's multipolar world could bring dynamism, but without cooperation it risks instability. International cooperation, he insisted, is not naïve but a necessity.

"No country can stop a pandemic alone. No army can halt rising temperatures. No algorithm can rebuild trust once it is broken." In this moment of crisis, the United Nations has never been more essential, the Secretary-General stressed. "The world needs our unique legitimacy. Our convening power. Our vision to unite nations, bridge divides and confront the challenges before us."

Deputy UN Chief Amina Mohammed, while addressing a 60,000 strong crowd at the 2025 Global Citizen Festival on the Great Lawn in Central Park, New York City, said "The UN doesn't give up. We faced a few shots fired this week, but we're not giving up."



Amina Mohammed was obliquely referring to the potshots taken by US President Donald Trump in his UNGA address in which he described UN as a feckless institution and said "UN is not coming close to living up to its potential." The US President also criticized the UN over the failure to stop wars and said "The UN is supposed

to stop invasion, not promote them."

In his address to the General Assembly on September 27, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar outlined the failings of a "gridlocked" UN, while asserting the need for more international cooperation and a reformed Organisation.

Highlighting the issues of

Ukraine and Middle-East crises, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), tariff volatility and uncertain market access, Dr Jaishankar said these issues point to a need for more international cooperation. He questioned the UN's ability to solve them.

Dr. Jaishankar said the UN is "in a state of crisis," and gridlocked, partly due to resistance to reform even though most members want change. "It is imperative that we see through the cynicism and purposefully address the reform agenda," he said.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said widespread violations of the principle of the equality of states are the cause of crises and conflicts and the founding principles of the UN are as relevant as ever in today's "age of multipolarity."

African leaders delivered a resounding and unified message: the United Nations must

undergo meaningful reform and the global order must be reshaped to ensure fairness, equity and representation for all nations.

The UN symbolizes the highest expression of the aspiration for peace and prosperity but the ideals that inspired its founding 80 years ago are under threat as never before, Brazilian President Lula Da Silva told the General Assembly in his address.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said the world faces "testing times" marked by conflict, terrorism, and climate change. He called for urgent action for peace in South Asia, the Middle East and beyond.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy warned world leaders that international institutions are "too weak" to stop wars. He urged more countries to join Ukraine's security coalition and step up pressure on Russia. UNI

Chris Woakes Announces England Retirement After Ashes Omission

Double World Cup-winning allrounder signs off after 15-year international career



■ ESPNCricinfo

OVAL: Chris Woakes, the England allrounder, has announced his retirement from international cricket, bringing down the curtain on a 15-year career representing his country across all three formats.

Woakes was omitted from England's Ashes squad last week after a battle to regain fitness following a shoulder dislocation suffered in the fifth Test against India at the end of July. Rob Key, England Men's managing director, said afterwards that Woakes "isn't in our plans... at all" and he has now decided to call time, posting a statement on Instagram.

It means his final act in an England shirt - after 62 Tests, 122 ODIs and 33 T20Is - was walking out to bat at No. 11 in the Oval Test with his arm in a sling, in a vain attempt to help secure a series-sealing victory on the fifth day.

"The moment has come, and I've decided that the time is right for me to retire from international cricket," he said.

"Playing for England was something I aspired to do since I was a kid dreaming in the back garden, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have lived out those dreams. Representing England, wearing the Three Lions and sharing the field with teammates over the last 15 years, many of whom have become lifelong friends, are things I'll look back on with the greatest pride.

"Making my debut in 2011 in Australia seems like yesterday, but time flies when you're having fun. Lifting two World Cups and being part of some amazing Ashes series is something I never thought was possible, and those memories and celebrations with my teammates will stay with me forever.

"To my Mum and Dad, my wife Amie and our girls Laila and Evie, thank you for your unwavering love, support and sacrifices over the years. None of this would have been possible without you.

"To the fans, especially the Barmy Army, thank you for the passion, the cheers and the belief. To my coaches, team-mates and everyone behind the scenes both with England and Warwickshire, who helped me play for my country - your guidance and friendship has meant the world.

"I look forward to continuing to play county cricket and exploring more franchise opportunities in the near future."

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