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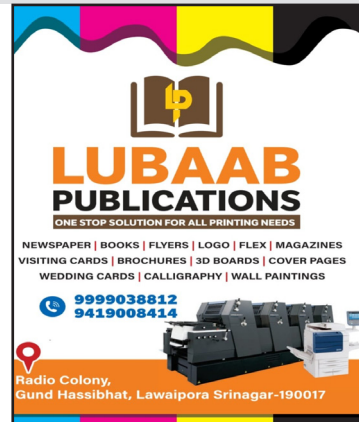
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15TH
YEAR OF
PUBLICATION



HEADLINES TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless



No Farmer Will be Left Alone in The Hour of Crisis : Union Agriculture Minister

Centre Releases Rs 171 Cr to Flood Hit J&K Farmers



■ HT News Desk

NEW DELHI, OCT07: In a major relief initiative for farmers affected by recent floods and landslides in Jammu & Kashmir, the Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers' Welfare, and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on Monday released the 21st instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme in advance. The installment, amounting to Rs

171 crore, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), was transferred directly to the bank accounts of 8.55 lakh farmers, including 85,418 women beneficiaries, through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system. With this, the cumulative assistance under PM-KISAN for farmers in Jammu & Kashmir has reached Rs 4,052 crore.

The release function was held at
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LG thanks PM Modi, Union Minister

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCT07: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan for advance release of 21st instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme for the farmers of UT of Jammu Kashmir.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor has said: "I am extremely grateful to Hon'ble PM Shri @Narendramodi Ji and Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri @ChouhanShivrajji for advance release of 21st instalment of the Pradhan

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CM Omar Abdullah Reviews Progress of CAPEX, CDF Works



■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCT 7: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level meeting here to review the utilization of CAPEX budget and execution of works under Constituency Development Fund (CDF) for the financial year 2025–26 across various sectors and progress achieved by departments in execution of works under UT capital outlay.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javid Ahmed Dar, and Satish Sharma. Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretaries of Higher Education, Jal Shakti, Tourism, Agriculture Production, ACS to the Chief Minister, all Admin-

istrative Secretaries, Director General Budget, DG Expenditure Division-I, DG Accounts & Treasuries, DG Codes/Resources, and other senior officers were also present. Officers from other districts participated in the meeting through virtual mode.

The Chief Minister reviewed department and district-wise progress under the CAPEX and CDF. He stressed the need for accelerated execution of projects and timely utilization of funds. He directed departments to ensure 100% uploading of works on the BEAMS portal and expedite administrative approvals & tendering process, particularly in view of the limited working season in the Kashmir division.

Chief Minister asked Finance Department
● Turn on Page 2

Dy. CM calls for collective efforts to tackle drug menace

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCT07: A deputation of Civil Society Forum Kashmir called on Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary in Civil Secretariat here and submitted a memorandum requesting firm efforts to curb the menace of drug addiction in Jammu & Kashmir.

The deputation also apprised the Deputy CM regarding drug addiction spreading in an alarming manner across educational institutions, including schools, colleges, universities, and coaching centres stressing on urgent need to address the issue in a systematic, coordinated, and evidence-based manner.

The deputation suggested various recommendations to combat and control drug addiction within educational institutions including Institutional Monitoring Committees, enhanced surveillance and security, faculty training and capacity building, monitoring of vendors, Anti-Narcotics awareness camps etc.

Understanding the seriousness of the issue, the Deputy Chief Minister called for collective efforts aimed at tackling drug addiction and ensuring
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India responded decisively after Pahalgam attack: President Murmu

■ HT News Network

NEW DELHI, OCT07: President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday said Operation Sindoor demonstrated the Indian Armed Forces' coordinated strength and strategic planning by dismantling terrorist infrastructure across the LoC, which she termed as India's consistent balance between peace and war preparedness. According to the news agency—Kash-

mir News Observer (KNO), the President was addressing the faculty and course members of the 65th National Defence College Course at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Referring to the cross-border operation launched in response to the Pahalgam terror attack, Murmu said that a tri-service response was executed in a calibrated manner.

"This operation resulted in the dismantling of terror infrastructure across



the Line of Control and further beyond, and showed the impact of working together across military branches," she said, adding that this level of coordination was made possible due to structural changes in defence administration.

The President referred to the creation of the Department of Military Affairs and the appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff as its Secretary as part
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Govt Aims for Efficient GMCs with Modern Facilities: Sakeena Itoo

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCT 07: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today held a comprehensive review meeting to assess the overall performance, functioning, and infrastructure development of the Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) at Sri-

nagar, Anantnag, Baramulla, and Handwara.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; MD JKMSCL, Principals and Medical Superintendents of all GMCs, Director Finance/Planning Health and Medical Education department, Chief Engineer R&B, South Kashmir/Central Kashmir/

North Kashmir, Chief Engineer Mechanical and other senior officers of the Health and Medical Education department.

During the review, the Minister took a detailed appraisal of academic performance, patient care services, manpower position, and the status of ongoing infrastructure projects in all four institutions.
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Rs 4.44 Cr Cyber Fraud busted, 3 held

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, OCT7: In a major breakthrough against organized cybercrime, the Cyber Police Station Jammu has busted a high-value online fraud amounting to Rs 4.44 crore and arrested three accused from Surat, Gujarat.

The operation was conducted under the
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Ladakh Admin Committed to Resolving People's Concerns Through Dialogue: LG

■ HT News Network

LEH, OCT7: Ladakh Lt Governor Kavinder Gupta on Tuesday said his administration is committed to address the genuine concerns of the people through continuous engagement.

He expressed confidence in the people of the Union Territory for choosing the path of peace, and cooperation.

"The administration values their sen-

timents and is committed to addressing genuine concerns through continuous engagement, transparency, and participatory development," Gupta said after chairing a high-level review meeting here.

The Lt Governor assessed the overall situation in the Union Territory, including law and order and essential services.

He appreciated the coordinated efforts of the district administration, police, and security agencies in maintaining har-

mony and normalcy across the region.

Making an appeal to all sections of society to work together in strengthening peace and unity for Ladakh's brighter future, he reiterated that peace, development, and welfare of the people remain the guiding pillars of the administration's policy framework and reaffirmed his vision to transform Ladakh into a prosperous, resilient, and self-reliant region.
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Weather improves after two-day wet spell in J&K

Major highways, roads closed; MeT predicts dry climate till Oct 17

■ HT News Desk / KNO

SRINAGAR, OCT 07: The season's first snowfall was recorded at multiple places in Jammu and Kashmir on the second straight day on Tuesday, while the weather conditions improved from this afternoon amid the closure of all the major highways and roads in the region.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the maximum temperature continued to witness a dip today as well amid the season's first snowfall in Kokernag, Sonamarg, Gulmarg, Sadhna Top, Karnah, Sinthan Top, Pir Ki Gali and others.

The weather conditions improved from this afternoon, while the day temperature recorded a dip for the second consecutive day today.

As per the details, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a maximum temperature of 16.1 degrees Celsius (9.4 degrees Celsius below normal), Qazigund, the gateway of Kashmir, recorded 15.4 degrees Celsius (8.7 degrees Celsius below normal).

The details further reveal that the maximum temperature in Pahalgam settled at 12.1 degrees Celsius (10.3 degrees Celsius
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CS Reviews Functioning of Mining Department

CM Stresses Strict Enforcement via Integrated Mining Surveillance System

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCT 7: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a comprehensive review of the functioning of the Mining Department, with a special focus on the implementation and performance of the Integrated Mining Surveillance System (IMSS), a technology-driven platform designed for real-time monitoring of mining operations across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Mining; Chairperson, Pollution Control Committee; Director, Geology & Mining, and other senior officers of the concerned departments. During the meeting, the Chief Secretary emphasized the



importance of leveraging the IMSS for ensuring transparency and curbing illegal

mining activities across the UT.
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Chief Secy for Fast tracking modernization of transport sector

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCT 7: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a high-level review meeting of the Transport Department to assess its overall functioning, modernization initiatives, and measures aimed at enhancing road safety across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Transport Department, Avny Lavasa; Transport Commissioner; Managing Director, J&K RTC; Director, Motor Garages; RTOs of Kashmir and Jammu, besides other senior officers of the department.

During the meeting, the Chief
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Advisor Nasir Aslam engages with Film and Entertainment Industry leaders at FICCI Frames, Mumbai

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

MUMBAI, OCT 07: Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani held a series of meetings with prominent film and entertainment industry leaders and stakeholders on the sidelines of FICCI Frames at Mumbai.

The Interactions centered around promoting Jammu and Kashmir as a premier destination for film shooting and developing a vibrant film ecosystem in J&K.

The Advisor highlighted the Government's commitment to facilitate film production in J&K and assured the filmmakers and industry representatives of all necessary support and assistance for shooting their projects in the region. He also invited them to explore the scenic and



diverse locales of Jammu and Kashmir for their upcoming ventures.

Among those who met the Advisor included heads and senior representatives from the Producers Guild of India, National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), Motion Picture Association (America), Prasar Bharati, Indian Motion Picture Producers Association (IMPPA), and several other leading film bodies and production houses.

The meetings provided an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between the J&K Government and the national film fraternity, aimed at reviving the J&K's rich cinematic legacy and positioning it as a preferred destination for filmmakers across the globe.

SKUAST-K's NSS Volunteer Mohd Firdoos Receives National Recognition for Social Service

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCT 6: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Kashmir (SKUAST-K), continues to make headlines for producing socially conscious youth as Mohd Firdoos, a dedicated NSS (National Service Scheme) volunteer from the Faculty of Horticulture, has been conferred the MY Bharat National Service Scheme Award for the year 2022-23. This prestigious national honour was conferred upon Mr. Firdous by President, Smt. Droupadi Murmu during the Bharat National Service Scheme Awards 2022-23 function held at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi, on October 6, 2025.

This prestigious national award recognizes Mr. Firdoos's outstanding commitment to community service, social upliftment, and public welfare. His efforts span a wide range of grass-roots-level initiatives. He has participated in multiple blood donation camps, including making personal donations, showcasing his deep commitment to humanitarian causes. As part of his environmental mission, he has planted over 2,450 saplings, contributing to ecological sustainability, and took part in 14 health camps, extending medical assistance to undeserved rural populations.

Mr. Firdoos's achievement comes under the visionary leadership of Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, who continues to foster a strong culture of social responsibility and youth engagement at the university. The award-winning contributions of Mr. Firdoos were further shaped under the guidance of Prof. S.A. Gangoo, NSS Programme Coordinator, and the supervision of Dr. Seemi Lohani, Programme Officer NSS, Faculty of Horticulture, Shalimar Campus.

In addition to health and environmental initiatives, Mr. Firdoos has significantly contributed to educational empowerment by offering free coaching and distributing stationery to rural children, thereby improving access to education in remote communities. His involvement in multiple awareness campaigns—including Digital Literacy, Gender Sensitization, Plastic-Free India, and government schemes like PM Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Jeevan Bima Yojana, and promoting a Cashless India—reflects a deep and sustained commitment to public awareness and national development.

The recognition not only brings honour to the university but also reinforces SKUAST-K's mission of nurturing future leaders who are driven by compassion and social responsibility. Mr. Mohd Firdoos's journey serves as a powerful example of how the youth, when properly mentored and supported, can make meaningful contributions to society.

Guild holds 343rd session in Srinagar

JK Fiction Writers Guild Honing Narrative Craft of Emerging Fiction Writers: Prof Ayaz Rasool Nazki

■ Zubair Qureshi

SRINAGAR, OCT 07: Author, academic and poet Prof Ayaz Rasool Nazki, Saturday presided the 343rd session of the Jammu and Kashmir Fiction writers Guild (JKFWG) at its Abi Guzar Srinagar office.

The event was attended by a galaxy of scholars, students poets and fiction writers from across the valley. Ms. Roma Wani a former Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service (KAS) officer and a prominent social activist, writer, poet, and painter known for her work with The Inner Call forum for human development and with the Indian Red Cross Society was the Special Guest at the session.

In his presidential address Prof Ayaz Rasool Nazki had all appreciation for the short stories read in the session and praised JKFWG for doing a nice job by honing the Narrative Craft of emerging writers and giving them a much needed direction. While emphasizing upon the structure of the story, Prof Nazki told the young writers to be good observers. "Look around, see through events and happenings around you assimilate ideas and recreate accordingly as demanded by the theme you are handling" said Prof Ayaz Rasool Nazki pointing to a group of young writers, students and scholars in the audience.

The special guest Ms. Roma Wani, listened carefully to all the short stories presented in the session and lauded the role of Guild in promoting the genre of fiction writing especially short stories, in the region.

Prominent short story writers



Dr Manzoor Nazar, Shakeel ur Rehman, and Arshid Mushtaq read their short stories in Urdu, Kashmiri and English titled Ulti Ginti, Khadir Torkun Khazir Bub, and The old Book Shelf respectively.

Others who attended the session were Dr Muneeb Haroon, Ms. Herdeep Koul Bali, Dr Hena Barjees Ms Tasneem Akhtar, Ms. Rehana Shajar, Mohudin Reshi, Mohd Ashraf Khan, Sofi Bashir Bashir, Ms. Masooda Rajpuri, Dr Nelofar Naz Nehvi, G M Bhat, Dr Zameer Ahmad, and Suhail Salim.

The session was moderated skillfully by young writer Mr. Taha Mughal while as vote of thanks was presented by Dr Shazada salem, author and researcher.

Besides holding regular weekly sessions, JKFWG holds short story writing workshops across valley and trains young boys and girls in the art of short story writing in various schools. The organization also holds special sessions under its meet the eminent programme, besides occasional book release events.

Kulgam Police Destroys Bung Cultivation Spread Over 350 Kanals Across District

Public Lauds Action; Urges Continued Anti-Narcotics Drive in Adjacent Areas

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, OCT 7: In a significant crackdown on narcotics, Kulgam Police, in collaboration with concerned departments, launched a massive anti-drug operation and destroyed cannabis (bung) cultivation spread over approximately 350 kanals of land across multiple areas in the district.

The operation was conducted under the close supervision of SSP Kulgam Shri Sahil Sarangal and was jointly executed by officials of various police stations along with teams from the revenue, excise, and other concerned departments.

Large-scale illicit cultivation of bung and poppy was identified and destroyed on the spot at several locations including Behibagh, Qazigund, Devsar, Mirbazar, Yaripora, DH Pora, Kund, Manzgam, Kulgam, and Qaimoh.

Speaking on the occasion, a senior police officer highlighted that the drive is part of Kulgam Police's ongoing mission to eliminate the roots of



drug abuse and dismantle the networks that promote it. "This operation resulted in the destruction of cannabis plants over nearly 350 kanals. We remain committed to taking strict action against anyone involved in such illegal activities," the officer said.

SSP Sahil Sarangal praised the coordinated efforts of all participating teams and reiterated the department's commitment to making the district drug-free. "The eradication of illicit cultivation is crucial to disrupting the supply chain and protecting our youth from the scourge of substance abuse," he stated. He also urged the public to actively support the police by sharing any information related to drug cultivation or trafficking.

The initiative has been widely appreciated by the local population, who commended the police for their proactive and sustained campaign against narcotics. Citizens also appealed to the authorities to extend similar operations to adjoining areas to ensure complete eradication of the threat.

Kulgam Police has assured that the anti-narcotics drive will continue with full intensity, and all those found involved in drug-related activities will face strict legal action under relevant laws.

KU-IUCAA begin workshop on Data Analytics and AI in Physics, Astronomy

■ HT News Desk

SRINAGAR OCT 07: To strengthen research capacity and enhance understanding of emerging technologies in the field of physical sciences, the Department of Physics, University of Kashmir (KU), in collaboration with the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune, commenced a four-day workshop on 'Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence in Physics and Astronomy' at the Main Campus.

The workshop aims to equip young researchers and students with practical knowledge of data-driven techniques and artificial intelligence tools that are increasingly shaping modern research in physics, astronomy, and related disciplines.

In her address at the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, said that the workshop represents the University's continued focus on integrating advanced technologies into academic and research pursuits.

"Such programmes are vital in equipping our



scholars with skills that match the evolving scientific and industrial landscape," she remarked.

Prof. Ajit Kembhavi, Professor Emeritus at IUCAA, spoke about the increasing role of artificial intelligence in understanding complex astronomical data and expanding the frontiers of astrophysical research.

Earlier, Prof. Gowhar Bashir, Head, Department of Physics KU, welcomed the participants and acknowledged IUCAA's support in promoting collaborative learning and research initiatives at the University. Prof. Manzoor Malik, Coordinator of the workshop and faculty at the Department of Physics KU, highlighted the importance of developing data-centric and technology-oriented skills among researchers in view of the changing demands of academia and the job market.

The inaugural session was attended by faculty members, IUCAA experts, scholars, and students of the University.

Drug Control Authority Conducts Inspections Across Dozens of Medical Stores in Anantnag

Action Initiated Against Several Violators

■ Farooq Rather

ANANTNAG, OCT 7: To ensure effective monitoring and regulatory compliance among pharmaceutical outlets, the Drug Control Department Anantnag, under the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, launched a wide-ranging inspection drive across the district.

As part of the initiative, more than 48 medical stores were inspected in various areas, including Qazigund, Khahbazar, and



Shairbagh. The inspection teams checked for adherence to essential norms such as CCTV surveillance systems and computerized billing systems.

While most establishments were found in compliance, one store — Universal Medical Store — was immediately suspended on the spot for failing to maintain proper records of Schedule H1 medicines, as required under drug regulations.

The department also focused on the implementation of the revised GST slabs, directing chem-

A spokesperson for the Drug Control Department said "The department is committed to ensuring the safe, transparent, and ethical sale of medicines. Inspection drives like these are essential for safeguarding public health and ensuring accountability within the pharmaceutical sector."

The initiative has been widely appreciated by the public, who view it as a welcome step toward strengthening the drug sale system and enhancing consumer protection in the district.

Javid Dar attends virtual meeting on advance release of 21st instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 07: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, attended the virtual meeting on the advance release of the 21st instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kissan).

The meeting was chaired by Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh.

The Union Minister released

advance 21st instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi to all eligible farmers, including those in Jammu and Kashmir. Approximately 8.55 lakh beneficiaries from J&K will benefit from this initiative.

The Union Minister also announced assistance of rupees 1.40 lakh for damaged houses with additional ₹30,000 for each household, making it a total of ₹1.70 lakhs.

Javid Dar said that the release of the 21st instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi is a significant step towards providing financial assistance to farmers and promoting agricultural growth in J&K,



particularly after the recent floods. "This development is a testament to the close coordination between the Agriculture Production Department (APD) under the guidance of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and the Union government" he stated.

He further said that the timely release of funds will likely provide much-needed relief to farmers in J&K, enabling them to revive their agricultural activities and rebuild their livelihoods. He added that the collaboration between the J&K and central governments demonstrates their commitment to support-

ing the agricultural sector and promoting the overall development of J&K.

Javid Dar requested the Union Minister to provide a special package for Jammu and Kashmir to address the unique challenges and requirements of the region, particularly in the agriculture sector, as previously discussed during the visit of Union Minister in Jammu.

Additional Chief Secretary, APD, Shailendra Kumar; Secretary Technical APD, G A Sofi; Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah and other officers were also present in the meeting.

High Court's Mediation drive on litigations concludes

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 07: In a significant step towards promoting alternative dispute resolution and reducing the burden of pending litigations, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh under the leadership of Justice Arun Palli, Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh successfully conducted a mediation drive from 1st July, 2025 to 6th October, 2025.

The drive was launched pan India under the guidance of Chief Justice of India, Justice B.R Gavai and Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman NALSA and Chairman MCPC who conceptualized the "Special Mediation Drive-Mediation 'For the Nation'" (90 days Mediation Drive to settle pending cases in all the Taluka Courts, District Courts and High Courts of India).

During this initiative, a total of 960 cases were taken up for mediation, of these 08 cases were settled through mutual agreement of parties, 206 unsettled cases and 646 cases are pending for final settlement due to awaited affirmation from the parties. These cases are expected to be finalized upon completion of all the required formalities.

The remaining cases were processed accordingly for further proceedings. The mediation drive witnessed active participation from litigants, advocates, mediators, with an utmost support from court officials and staff.

Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Chairman, Mediation & Conciliation, Committee expressed their gratitude to all the stakeholders for their valuable support and expressed hope for continuing such initiatives to enhance access to justice and disposal of pending cases through Mediation.

DC Bandipora Reviews Functioning of Education Department Stresses on Quality Education, Timely Completion of Works

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chibon Tuesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Education Sector at Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation on the overall status of the Education Sector was presented by the Chief Planning Officer, highlighting the district profile, school enrolment, infrastructure status, DBT disbursement, learning outcomes, and progress under various schemes

including Samagra Shiksha, District Capex, UT Capex, PM SHRI, and KGBVs.

The DC reviewed the overall functioning of the Education Department and discussed in detail the status of works being executed under different schemes. She passed a series of on-spot directions to the concerned officers for expediting ongoing projects and ensuring better delivery at the grassroots level.

The DC directed the Executive Engineers to adhere to timelines for completion of works taken up under District Capex, UT Capex, Samagra Shiksha, and other

schemes and ensure that completed buildings are handed over to the concerned school authorities for use by students.

She also instructed them to submit bills against released amounts and furnish lists of works requiring NOCs from the Forest Department and WUQMA.

She further directed submission of lists of schools lacking basic facilities including toilets, drinking water, and those buildings without truss or ceiling for inclusion under future plans. The DC also instructed the officers to provide updated details of out-of-school, dropout, and never-enrolled

children identified under the Talash Survey for necessary action.

The DC emphasized improving the quality of education, ensuring 100% enrolment and retention, and giving special focus to girl education and migratory children. She directed strengthening of monitoring and supervision at zonal levels to ensure transparency and timely execution of works.

The meeting also reviewed the functioning of Atal Tinkering Labs, Vocational Labs, KGBVs, and other key initiatives under the education sector. The DC stressed that Atal Tinkering Labs be given pref-

erence for resource allocation and strengthening of innovation-oriented learning.

The DC appreciated the efforts of the department and called for renewed focus on infrastructure upgradation, learning outcomes, and inclusive education in all schools across the district.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Bandipora Mohammad Maqbool; Chief Education Officer (CEO) Bandipora Altaf Hussain Tara; Dy. CEO, Dr. G.M. Pujoo; all Zonal Education Officers and Executive Engineers of PVD (R&B) Divisions of the district.

District Hospital Bandipora Intensifies Drug De-addiction Outreach MS Urges Affected Individuals to Seek Help

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 07: District Hospital Bandipora has intensified its outreach and awareness activities to inform the general public about the availability of dedicated Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) services aimed at combating the challenge of substance abuse in the district.

The hospital administration has urged individuals and families affected by drug addiction to come for-

ward and avail the treatment, counseling, and rehabilitation support available at the facility.

The Medical Superintendent, District Hospital Bandipora, said that the ATF provides a safe and confidential environment where patients receive comprehensive medical care and psychological support from trained professionals.

To facilitate easy access, the hospital has made available a helpline number (+91 1954 317975) for addiction-related consultations and appoint-

ments. The helpline remains operational between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM on all working days.

The Medical Superintendent further informed that the hospital also offers referral services for patients who require advanced or specialized treatment at tertiary care institutions.

The initiative is part of the hospital's ongoing efforts to strengthen community health awareness and promote a collective response against substance abuse.

DC Kathua presides over 25th Shaheedi Diwas of Shaheed Gdr. Surinder Kumar (Sena Medal)

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KATHUA, OCTOBER 7: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today presided over a solemn function organised at Village Garniari (Amala) to commemorate the 25th Shaheedi Diwas of Shaheed Gdr. Surinder Kumar, Sena Medal, who made the supreme sacrifice for the Nation.

The Deputy Commissioner, along with Army personnel, family members and local citizens, offered floral tributes at the memorial of the martyr. A Guard of Honour was presented by the Army followed by wreath laying and Shardhanjali by the general public as a mark of respect to the valiant soldier.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner remembered the exceptional courage and sacrifice of Shaheed Surinder Kumar and said that such supreme acts of bravery continue to inspire the younger generations to serve the nation with dedication and honour. He reiterated the commitment of the District Administration to extend all possible support to the families of martyrs.

On the occasion, the father of the martyr was felicitated with a shawl as a mark of respect and gratitude for his son's supreme sacrifice.

Senior Army officers, SDM Hiranagar Phulail Singh, family members of the martyr and a large number of local residents participated in the event and paid glowing tributes to the braveheart.

SBI RSETI Ramban organises entrepreneurship awareness programme to empower rural women

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 07: State Bank of India Rural Self Employment Training Institute (SBI RSETI) Ramban, under the leadership of Director SBI RSETI Ramban Harvinder Singh organized an Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) here at village Gaitye. The program focused on motivating women to become self-reliant, confident and economically independent by establishing their own income-generating ventures.



The awareness camp was conducted under the supervision of

Senior Faculty Amrik Singh Raju and CFL Field Officer Asif Mustafa Naik.

As many as 25 women belonging to nearby villages attended the awareness programme. Participants were informed about the role of SBI RSETI in providing free skill development training in multiple trades such as tailoring, dairy farming, house wiring and food processing. They were also educated about different government-sponsored schemes including PMEGP, JKREGP, MUDRA Yojana and HADP designed to assist budding entrepreneurs

with financial support for launching or expanding their enterprises.

A session on financial literacy was also held, highlighting social security schemes like PMJDY, PMSBY, PMJJBY, APY and Sukanya Samridhi Yojana.

Notably, five new PMSBY applications were registered at the event. Participants expressed gratitude to SBI RSETI Ramban for organizing such an informative and motivational camp promoting women's empowerment and financial inclusion.

NCORD Committee reviews drug control measures in Udhampur DC emphasises strengthening counselling services, IEC activities

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

UDHAMPUR, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, today convened a meeting of the District Level NCORD Committee to review and reinforce the ongoing efforts aimed at curbing the menace of drug abuse in the district.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Amod Ashok Nagpure, Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh, and officers from Health, Education, Police, Social Welfare, Excise, and other line departments.

During the meeting, a comprehensive review was conducted covering multiple aspects of the anti-drug campaign,

including identification and rehabilitation of addicts, status of NDPS cases, drug seizure data for 2025, inspection of de-addiction centres, and awareness activities being undertaken under the IEC and Nasha Mukta Panchayat initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner called for strengthening inter-departmental coordination to ensure effective tracking of drug traffickers, identification of vulnerable areas, and promotion of community-based rehabilitation measures. She underscored the importance of a multi-pronged approach, combining enforcement, education, and awareness to eradicate the drug menace from its roots.

DC Saloni Rai directed all departments to intensify coun-



selling services and amplify IEC campaigns to educate the public, especially youth, about the ill effects of drug abuse. She urged college principals to organize

regular seminars, debates, and awareness sessions within their institutions, while instructing the Chief Medical Officer to conduct capacity-building workshops

for healthcare staff and extend counselling and awareness activities to all health centres.

The DC also laid stress on stringent enforcement measures

to curb the circulation of narcotics and safeguard the younger generation. She called upon officers to adopt a collaborative and sustained approach to dis-

mantle drug supply networks and promote healthy, drug-free communities.

Furthermore, the Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) were directed to organize intensive awareness drives, nukkad natak, and community interactions within their respective jurisdictions to sensitize the public and encourage active participation in the fight against substance abuse.

The meeting concluded with a resolve to make Udhampur a model district in the fight against drug abuse, ensuring the active involvement of all stakeholders including government departments, educational institutions, panchayati raj representatives, and civil society organizations.

DC Kathua reviews Diwali arrangements

Directs for strict enforcement of safety, sanitation and quality control measures

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KATHUA, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a meeting of officers of line departments to review the arrangements put in place for the smooth celebration of Diwali- the festival of lights. The meeting was held in the VC Room of the DC Office Complex.

The DC directed the JPDCL and Jal Shakti departments to ensure uninterrupted power and drinking water supply during the festive days. He instructed the Fire and Emergency Services Department to station fire tenders at identified locations to meet any eventuality, besides maintaining full readiness across the district.

The ADCs and SDMs were directed to ensure that the sale of firecrackers is carried out only by the licensed vendors, strictly at the identified locations and in ac-



cordance with laid down safety protocols.

The Deputy Commissioner

further directed the concerned departments to maintain strict vigil over quality and pricing of

eatables, ensure proper sanitation and remove encroachments from market areas and other busy localities. The Municipal authorities were instructed to conduct pre and post-Diwali cleanliness drives and regulate roadside vendors to prevent congestion in market places.

Emphasizing food safety, the DC called for intensified market checking drives to curb adulteration in milk, sweets and other food items and directed immediate action against erring traders. The Legal Metrology department was asked to intensify checking of weighing and measuring instruments while Police and Traffic authorities were directed to ensure smooth vehicular movement and security of vital installations.

For effective ground-level monitoring, a joint committee comprising the Assistant Director FCS&CA Kathua, Tehsildar

Kathua, Assistant Controller Legal Metrology, Food Safety Officer and TSO Kathua has been constituted to conduct market inspections, quality checks and monitor pricing of essential commodities during the festive season.

The ASP Kathua, Rahul Charak, informed the meeting that adequate police personnel will be deployed at all important locations and crowded areas to ensure a safe and secure environment during the celebrations.

Among others, ADC Kathua Vishavjeet Singh, SDM Hiranagar, Executive Engineers of line departments, CEO Municipal Council Kathua, EO Municipal Committees Lakhampur and Parole, Assistant Director FCS&CA and other district and sectoral officers attended the meeting. ADCs Billawar and Basohli along with SDM Bani participated in the meeting through virtual mode.

DC Poonch finalizes Action Plan for reinforcement of Anti-drug measures

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

POONCH, OCTOBER 7: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting to review and strengthen measures against drug abuse and narcotic trade in the district.

The meeting focused on assessing the current situation across subdivisions and tehsils with SDMs and Tehsildars presenting detailed reports on the prevalence of drug abuse, instances of peddling and steps taken so far to curb the menace. The Deputy Commissioner expressed concern over the rising trend and stressed the need for coordinated and intensified action.

The meeting was attended by SSP Shafket Hussain Bhat; ADC Tahir Mustafa Malik; PO ICDS Khalid Hussain Wafa; ACR Mohd Sayeed; SDMs; Principal GDC Mendhar Mohammad Azam; Prof. Shamim Bandy; Prof. Fateh Mohammad Bassi; CMO Dr. Parvaiz Ahmed Khan; Tehsildar Haveli Azhar Majid; Tehsildar Mandi, Ashfaq Hussain, Tehsildar Mendhar Rahul Basotra and others.

The Education Department was instructed to intensify awareness campaigns in schools and colleges and monitor shops in the vicinity of educational institutions to prevent sale of any drug-related substances.

Tehsildars in coordination with police were directed to establish nakas (checkpoints) to detect drug users and peddlers. Simultaneously, the Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) was asked to launch a special drive for conducting substance abuse test for commercial vehicle drivers.

Other concerned officers were tasked with reviewing CCTV footage from chemist shops and ensuring computerized billing to enhance transparency and detect any illegal activity.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) provided updates on the functioning of the district drug de-addiction centre and treatment status of individuals struggling with drug addiction.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Shafket Hussain Bhat emphasized timely reporting of any suspicious activities or drug peddlers by officials for swift action. He also recommended the involvement of police personnel in morning school assemblies to educate students about the dangers of drug use.

DHS Jammu reviews functioning of health facilities in Jhajjar Kotli

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, OCTOBER 07: Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar visited Jhajjar Kotli today to review the functioning of local health facilities and assess the preparedness of medical teams catering tourists and local residents in the area.



The Director inspected the Health and Wellness Centre (HWC) at Jhajjar Kotli and interacted with the medical and paramedical staff. He reviewed the availability of essential drugs, diagnostic kits, and emergency services. The Director emphasized maintaining round-the-clock emergency care, especially considering the tourist influx at Jhajjar Kotli.

The DHSJ also took stock of sanitation, waste management and drinking water facilities within and around the health centre premises. He directed the staff to ensure a clean and patient-friendly environment and to strengthen preventive health measures against seasonal diseases.

While interacting with the staff and community members, the Director highlighted the importance of public health awareness, safe food practices and immediate medical response in case of emergencies near water bodies or picnic spots.

He appreciated the dedication of the health staff and assured that all necessary support would be extended by the Directorate to upgrade facilities and ensure better healthcare delivery in the area.

"Our focus remains on improving access to quality healthcare even in recreational and rural zones like Jhajjar Kotli. Health preparedness at such spots is vital for both locals and tourists," the Director said.

The visit concluded with an interaction session where staff shared suggestions regarding strengthening of medical logistics and infrastructure support.

DC Kishtwar reviews progress of Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan

Calls for Mission-Mode approach to eliminate the disease

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma, who also serves as Chairman of District Health Society, today chaired a review meeting to assess the implementation status of the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan (PMTBMA) in the district.

At the outset, the Chief Medical Officer Dr. Yudhvirsingh Kotwal pre-

sented the department's current strategies and action plans aimed at the elimination of Tuberculosis (TB) in the district.

The DC issued a series of critical directions to strengthen execution of the programme at the grassroots level.

He directed the Health Department to create institution-wise IDs and appoint dedicated nodal officers for each health institution to ensure close and

continuous monitoring.

He further directed the compilation of updated TB patient data across the district within two weeks which shall be submitted to his office.

The DC stressed upon the need for a mission-mode approach and urged all field functionaries of the Health Department to work with utmost dedication and urgency to achieve the targets of the national TB elimination programme.

DDC Doda reviews progress under District Capex Budget 2025-26

Sets timelines for 100% allotment, completion of works

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

DODA, OCTOBER 07: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the Mini Meeting Hall, DC Office Complex, to assess the progress of works being executed under the District Capex Budget 2025-26.

At the outset, Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Manesh Kumar Manhas presented a detailed sector-wise overview of the physical and financial achievements recorded so far. He informed the meeting about the ongoing and proposed works across key sectors including Rural Development, Education, Health, PHE, R&B, and Power.

While reviewing the department-wise performance, the DDC laid special emphasis on expediting execution of all ongoing works and directed officers to ensure their completion before mid-November 2025. He set a firm target for achieving 100% allotment



of works by the end of the current week, stressing the need for timely tendering, transparent allotment, and adherence to prescribed quality standards.

The DDC underscored the im-

portance of strengthening the monitoring and reporting mechanisms to ensure that each work is completed within stipulated timelines. He called upon the executing agencies to maintain close

coordination with the planning section and other line departments for smoother implementation and early resolution of bottlenecks.

Highlighting the significance of outcome-oriented spending,

DDC Doda urged officers to focus on high-impact projects that directly benefit the public, improve infrastructure, and enhance service delivery in rural and urban areas alike. He further directed that photographic evidence and geo-tagging of completed works be uploaded regularly to maintain transparency and accountability.

The DDC reiterated that delay in execution or poor quality workmanship would invite strict action, and officers must personally inspect field works to ensure adherence to approved specifications. He also instructed departments to submit weekly progress reports to the CPO office for consolidated monitoring and periodic review.

The meeting concluded with a call for collective effort and proactive governance, ensuring that all developmental targets under the Capex Budget are met within the stipulated timeframe for the holistic development of District Doda.

DDC Kathua reviews implementation of District Capex Budget 2025-26

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KATHUA, OCTOBER 07: District Development Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of ongoing projects being executed under the District Capex Budget 2025-26.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Commissioner Kathua, Surinder Mohan, Chief Planning Officer Kathua, Ranjeet Thakur, ACD Kathua, Akhil Sadotra, CMO Kathua, Executive Engineers of PDD, PHE and PWD (Kathua, Hiranagar, Billawar) besides BDOs and representatives of various implementing agencies.

During the meeting, the DDC reviewed sector-wise progress of works and fund utilization across departments including Health, Education, Rural Development, PHE, PWD and Power Development Department. A detailed presentation was also given on the status of physical and financial achievements



under different components of the Capex Budget.

The DDC emphasized the need for timely execution and optimal utilization of funds, directing all executing agencies to expedite the pace of work and ensure completion of projects within stipulated timelines, particularly before the onset

of the winter season. He underscored the importance of maintaining quality standards, strengthening monitoring mechanisms and ensuring transparency and accountability at all levels.

Issuing specific directions, the DDC asked the Rural Development Department to accelerate completion of approved works and submit bills for physically and financially completed projects. The Health Department was instructed to prioritize upgrading health infrastructure and essential equipment, while the Education Department was asked to ensure that ongoing school infrastructure projects are completed before the commencement of the new academic session.

The DDC also reiterated the importance of timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) and Monthly Progress Reports (MPRs) by all departments, cautioning against delays or lapses in project execution.

DC Ramban reviews execution of District Capex Budget 2025-26

Emphasizes timely completion of developmental Works

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of the District Capex Budget 2025-26, with a primary focus on the completion of developmental works sanctioned across all sectors.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Dr. Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, Assistant Commissioner Development, Mohammad Ashfaq and officers from line departments and executing agencies including engineers from REW, PWD, PMGSY and other concerned sectors.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the status of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Financial Inclusion initiatives, State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) Plan and the District Road Safety Plan along with discussions on new project proposals and requirements for ongoing



works.

He directed the Executive Engineer REW to complete the allotment process for all approved works within the prescribed timeline so that execution could begin without

delay. He further instructed all executing agencies to expedite the tendering process after securing Administrative Approval (AAA) for all sanctioned projects. He further emphasized the importance of adhering to financial and physical progress targets.

The Block Development Officers (BDOs) were specifically directed to complete all SOS works—both physically and financially—by the end of this month, as the requisite funds have already been released. He also reviewed the implementation of directions regarding SANJY.

The Deputy Commissioner said that timely execution of projects is essential to achieve the developmental goals and ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach the grassroots level. He directed all departments to work in close coordination, maintain transparency and adhere strictly to deadlines to ensure optimal utilization of resources for the overall development of Ramban district.

HT EDITORIAL

Make books available for students on time this year

As the annual examinations in both the government and private schools of Kashmir valley have either commenced or are set to commence a big challenge is going to be faced by the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The challenge is in the form of publishing textbooks for the different classes. Ever since uniform syllabus has been prescribed for the students of both the government and private schools the board has failed to publish the requisite number of books.

The publication division of the board seems to be incapacitated when it comes to publishing various books for the students of different classes. No homework was done by the people at helm when they ordered the publishing of books for the students of the government and private schools. Ideally the capacity should have been increased so that there is no problem in publishing the books. Since the publication division of BOSE was asked to publish books in huge numbers they could not cope up with the pressure.

The inability of the publication division in publishing the books meant problems for the students. The students could be seen running from one book shop to another in order to get text books of the different subjects. Since most of the students could not get the text books from the market they were forced to look for used textbooks so that their academics did not suffer. The students as well as their parents had to burn midnight oil in order to get books from the market or second hand books.

Last time around, education minister Sakeena Masood Itoo had promised that the books would be made available to the students on time and there would be no delay in this regard. The promise remained a mere promise with very little relief for the students and their parents on the ground. Despite repeated assurances the BOSE could not publish the adequate number of books and as such faced backlash from the people as a whole.

Since the annual examinations are set to culminate by the last week of October the publication division of BOSE should have at least published half of the books by this time. Given the lackadaisical attitude of the board authorities one can say that the publishing of books is yet to start. If that is the case then the students have to face mental agony yet again and there would be nobody to take the blame.

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Inside the Four Walls: A Day in a Classroom

More than lessons and exams, a classroom captures laughter, discipline, curiosity, and the quiet shaping of young lives.



Mohammad Hanief

Not all moments are joyful, of course. The classroom also witnesses tension: the nervous silence before a test, the sting of unfinished homework, or the weight of a teacher's stern voice. But even these difficult moments play their part. They teach discipline, responsibility, and resilience. Students gradually learn that life, much like the classroom, is about balancing joy with effort and freedom with responsibility. In fact, the challenges inside a classroom mirror the larger challenges of the world outside

The classroom has always been described as the beating heart of education. Within its four walls, futures are shaped in ways that often go unnoticed. To the casual eye, it might seem ordinary—desks arranged in neat rows, a blackboard, the sound of chalk against slate, the hum of children settling down—but to those who live it every day, a classroom holds magic that extends far beyond textbooks.

The day begins with a slow trickle of students. Some arrive with sleepy eyes, still adjusting to the early morning, while others bounce in with the eagerness of youth. There are whispered conversations, hurried revisions for surprise tests, and quick stories shared before the teacher walks in. As soon as the bell rings, the chatter melts into silence. The classroom transforms instantly into a space of learning, discipline, and discovery.

Morning lessons bring energy. For younger children, it may start with rhymes and stories; for older students, it may be mathematics, literature, or science. Some write diligently, capturing every word on the blackboard. Others drift into daydreams, eyes fixed on the window outside, yet still absorbing more than they realize. There is rhythm to it all—the questions, the answers, the brief pauses of silence as students wrestle with new ideas. The classroom breathes with its own pulse, and every lesson, whether fully understood or only half grasped, adds something lasting to young minds.

By mid-morning, curiosity begins to blossom. Group discussions, debates, and experiments draw students out of their shells. A quiet boy might suddenly shine with a brilliant response. A mischievous student, known for disruptions, may surprise everyone with a creative spark. These moments remind us that education is not only about following syllabi but also about discovering talents hidden in plain sight. The classroom becomes not just a space of learning but a stage where personalities unfold and where students begin to recognize their own strengths and weaknesses.

Then comes the much-awaited lunch break. The serious air of learning dissolves into laughter and sharing. Books are pushed aside, desks turn into dining tables, and the aroma of homemade meals fills the room. Food is exchanged, jokes are cracked, and friendships deepen. This half-hour is more than just refueling; it is the heartbeat of the classroom community, where bonds are formed that often last a lifetime. The lunch break reminds students that education is not only about lessons but also about learning to live with others, to share, and to find joy in companionship.

Afternoons bring a different mood—slower, more reflective.



Fatigue shows, but teachers know how to hold attention. History lessons turn into stories, science becomes a hands-on experiment, or sometimes, the class enjoys a guest lecture. A sudden quiz or a teacher's anecdote can transform a dull hour into an unforgettable one. These moments break the monotony and create memories that outlive the school years. It is often in the afternoon that students discover how knowledge connects with real life, as teachers link lessons to society, current events, or personal experiences.

Not all moments are joyful, of course. The classroom also witnesses tension: the nervous silence before a test, the sting of unfinished homework, or the weight of a teacher's stern voice. But even these difficult moments play their part. They teach discipline, responsibility, and resilience. Students gradually learn that life, much like the classroom, is about balancing joy with effort and freedom with responsibility. In fact, the challenges inside a classroom mirror the larger challenges of the world outside.

As the final bell approaches, energy returns. Students glance at the clock, waiting for freedom, yet reluctant to let go of the chatter, the jokes, and the companionship of the day. Teachers wrap up lessons, assign homework, or share parting words of encouragement. Sometimes they let the class end with laughter, reminding students that education is as much about warmth as it is about knowledge. These closing moments leave a lingering impression, shaping how students feel about school itself.

When the last bell finally rings, the classroom empties quickly, leaving behind an echo of the day—laughter, questions, scribbles on the blackboard, and the faint marks of chalk dust. For students, the classroom lives on in memory until tomorrow. For teachers, the work continues, as they prepare lessons, grade assignments, and quietly reflect on how best to inspire the next morning. The cycle of teaching and learning never truly

ends.

A day in a classroom may seem routine, but it is far more than that. It is a microcosm of life itself—filled with struggles and triumphs, failures and encouragement, laughter and discipline. Within these walls, children learn not only equations and grammar but also cooperation, empathy, and the courage to dream. These are lessons no textbook can list, yet they are the ones that truly shape human beings.

Looking back, many adults realize that some of their most powerful memories are tied to classrooms. The chalk-stained boards, the nervous excitement of being called to answer a question, the collective sigh of relief after a tough test, or the joy of a teacher's praise—all of these form the mosaic of school life. A classroom is not merely a space for academic instruction; it is a crucible where personalities are shaped, resilience is built, and friendships are forged.

Even in an age where technology and online learning are rapidly gaining ground, the traditional classroom still holds a magic of its own. The physical presence of peers, the human connection with teachers, and the shared atmosphere of a learning space cannot be replaced by screens and headphones. A classroom teaches not only the syllabus but also empathy, cooperation, patience, and respect. These lessons, though unlisted in textbooks, are the ones that stay with students for a lifetime.

Thus, a day in a classroom is more than just a routine. It is a living story, written anew each morning and concluded each afternoon, only to begin again the next day. Every chalk line drawn, every question asked, and every laugh shared contributes to the making of individuals and the shaping of society. Within those four walls, futures are quietly being written, one lesson, one friendship, and one day at a time.

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The Importance and Fears of Artificial intelligence

■ Vijay Garg

India is also taking steps in technological development globally. Our country has become a digital nation. In the power of Internet, we have left many Western countries behind. Not only that, in recent years we have also claimed the development of artificial intelligence on a world-leading basis. Artificial Fields in the Machine Age Today And innovation is the result, so we can also call it a machine field. It is clear that it will require knowledge of the Internet to change the framework for working in the country. And the younger generation has digital. We have to keep the expansion in our control, from artificial media. Knowledge However, scientists are also concerned that the infinite power of artificial intelligence will not go beyond the human mind and divert the progress

of the entire world in some other direction by creating negative values. In view of this fear, artificial intelligence cannot be denied completely India in terms of population It is the largest country in labor or generation and it has an abundance of working youth. So robotic artificial intelligence can have an impact on human labor. But the extent to which artificial fields can be used goes beyond ordinary deposits. So artificial clouds and robotic powers are a new reality that cannot be denied. In India, the use of artificial media is also being pushed forward with digital and internet power development. commission The NITI Aayog of India has recently released a new report on the prospects for artificial intelligence and internet power. It clearly states that the country's GDP could increase by \$500 to \$600 billion if we make proper use of

artificial media in production, investment and agricultural development over the next decade. The policy is that if artificial media are widely used within the industrial sector, it could make a significant contribution to the global economy of up to 1.726 trillion dollars. If artificial intelligence is made an ally of the workforce in technology, science, engineering and mathematics there can be a strong and significant development change in India. We will be able to achieve ten and fifteen percent of the global artificial intelligence value. The use of artificial media will increase the chances of creating new jobs at skill level, but NITI Aayog's report also acknowledges that low-level unskilled workers may be disconnected from existing employment framework. At the same time, using artificial media in financial services

and manufacturing can prove particularly useful. Gross domestic product in these areas can increase by twenty to twenty percent. India is buying crude oil from Russia and selling it processed to European and third world countries This is benefiting our petroleum companies. Thus, it will not be difficult to accelerate the country's growth rate if we link our manufacturing process with artificial fields. However, it requires extensive efforts. At this point, India's growth rate is close to 5.7 percent. Even if we call it the fastest rate of growth in the world, we have to boost GDP over the next ten years.

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Stray Dogs, Silent Graves:

Why India Must Choose Between Laws and Lives



Hidayat Bukhari

Statistics may dull the senses, but grief never does. To read 51,000 bite incidents is cold abstraction. To sit with a mother at SMHS, waiting with her mauled child, is visceral. To see a convulsing boy in Jammu, powerless and dying, is to know that no court ruling, no municipal excuse, no activist petition can erase such cruelty. Socrates urged us to examine our lives, to test whether our laws reflect truth or hypocrisy.

I recently saw a video of a young man writhing in chains. His crime was not theft, not rebellion, not violence. His only "offense" was that he had been bitten by a rabid dog. The virus tore through his body, convulsions shook him, his screams ripped the air, and without timely treatment, he was condemned to die in indignity—chained like an animal until the end. To witness such a death is to see not only the cruelty of disease but the collapse of humanity itself. It forces us to ask: what kind of society allows this? What is a law worth if it shelters beasts but abandons babes?

The crisis of stray dogs in Jammu and Kashmir has lingered for decades, but in the last ten years it has crossed into catastrophe. What was once a nuisance is now an epidemic. The numbers are staggering. In 2022, the Union Territory reported 22,110 dog-bite cases. By 2023, that number had soared to 34,664. In 2024, it leapt past 51,000—a 130 percent increase in just two years. And the spiral continues. January 2025 alone recorded 4,824 new victims; between April and September, nearly 3,800 more cases were logged at Kashmir's Anti-Rabies Clinic. In the twelve months between June 2024 and May 2025, over 6,200 people were attacked by dogs across the Valley. Each number is a wound, each figure a silent cry. Nowhere is this more visible than in the twin capitals—Srinagar and Jammu. In Srinagar's colonies and commercial hubs, packs of strays dominate the urban landscape. At Sanat Nagar Chowk, dogs cluster at street corners, scattering traffic and causing fear in passersby. In Rawalpura, after dusk, snarling packs prowl residential lanes, forcing families indoors. Bemina, and Parimpora has become notorious: a motorcyclist was critically injured after dogs chased him and he lost control, and on the RTO office road, strays wait at dawn and dusk. In Old City's Safakadal, young Arhan Bilal was mauled in a narrow lane and rushed to SMHS Hospital with severe wounds. In Rainawari, a sudden assault by seemingly coordinated dogs left dozens wounded—women, men, children running in terror. Across Lal Chowk, Chanapora, Eidgah, Rajbagh, Jawahar Nagar, and near hospital zones like SMHS and SKIMS, residents recount nightly sightings of dog packs among garbage heaps and open drains. In Jammu City, too, around Gandhi Nagar, Jewel Chowk, Janipur, Canal Road, attacks and chases are increasingly common. The Anti-Rabies Clinic at GMC Jammu records hundreds of bite victims every month, testimony that this is not a remote issue—it is central to both capitals.



For a moment, it seemed India's judiciary might step in robustly. In August 2025, the Supreme Court intervened in Delhi and NCR, ordering all stray dogs to be captured and relocated within eight weeks, without returning them to streets. It was a bold directive placing human safety first. But that hope was shortlived. Animal welfare groups challenged the order using the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2013, which mandate sterilisation, vaccination, and return of dogs to their "territory." Under pressure, the Court revised its ruling: many dogs may be released post-sterilisation, while only "aggressive" ones may be detained. For activists, it was a victory. For grieving parents, another betrayal: their children lie buried, not abstract laws.

Statistics may dull the senses, but grief never does. To read 51,000 bite incidents is cold abstraction. To sit with a mother at SMHS, waiting with her mauled child, is visceral. To see a convulsing boy in Jammu, powerless and dying, is to know that no court ruling, no municipal excuse, no activist petition can erase such cruelty. Socrates urged us to examine our lives, to test whether our laws reflect truth or hypocrisy.

Were he to walk lanes of Sanat Nagar or Old City, he might ask: What is justice, if it protects animals but abandons infants? What is compassion, if it silences the cries of parents? What is law, if it multiplies suffering rather than alleviating it?

The state cannot plead ignorance. Infrastructure is threadbare. Shelters house dozens when thousands roam. Sterilisation drives sputter. Rabies vaccines are missing in rural health centers. Waste management is chaotic—yet here lies the core of the problem: garbage is the magnet that draws stray packs. Where filth accumulates, dogs

congregate. Waste is their food and shelter. To illustrate the scale: across the 78 Urban Local Bodies in J&K, daily solid waste generation is estimated at 1,502.14 tons. In Jammu City alone, research shows production of 350–400 metric tons of municipal solid waste daily, with about 0.55 kg per person each day. In the Union Territory overall, official data report waste generation of 1,472.52 tons per day, but only 446.24 tons are processed—leaving 1,026.28 tons added daily to "legacy waste." In Jammu region, out of about 657 tons generated per day, only ~87.14 tons are processed, leaving ~570+ tons unprocessed. In Kashmir, the generation is 760.12 tpd, but only 304.1 tpd processed.

Srinagar's own waste trajectory is equally alarming. Historically, MSW in Srinagar has grown from ~180 tons in 1981 to ~530 tons by 2011. While data on present-day Srinagar per capita are varied, local reports confirm that waste collection and landfill stress are severe, and that open dumping remains common.

Even in Jammu, waste segregation at source is abysmally low. Only ~13 percent of waste is segregated by households. That means 87 percent of garbage—wet, decaying, food, decomposing matter—mixes indiscriminately. Roadside bins, uncovered dumps, drains, nullahs brim with refuse. These are havens for stray dogs: food scraps, rotten vegetables, discarded leftovers attract them. The more waste left unattended, the denser the packs.

In effect, the dog menace is directly proportional to municipal failure. Every uncollected sack, every open dump, every weed-choked gutter is a banquet for a stray dog. More waste, more food, more shelter—and thus more reproduction, more packs,

more attacks. To blame dogs without blaming waste management is to treat symptoms, not disease.

And yet, India need only look abroad to see that solutions exist. In Singapore, a country with strict cleanliness, stray dogs are near-absent—not because compassion is lacking, but because waste is controlled, streets are clean, and refuse is removed promptly. In Germany and the UK—places where animal rights are older and stronger—one rarely sees packs of strays in city streets. Why? Because they have long prioritized waste management, segregation, recycling, and scientific disposal. Dogs thrive where filth thrives; filth is their anchor. Those nations prove that one can both love animals and protect people. India's failure is not compassion but disorganization and neglect.

It is not enough to call this a menace. That word trivialises the grief of families whose children are gone. To reduce their suffering to a "nuisance" is to mock their pain. Rabies is not a nuisance; it is nearly always fatal once symptoms appear. Each victim is condemned to agony, chained in terror, dying without dignity.

This is not merely a matter of public health. It is a question of civilization itself.

India has mobilised before—cholera, dengue, COVID-19—with scale, resources, public participation. Why then does rabies merit less urgency? Perhaps because its victims are poor, rural, unvoiced. But their silence is not consent. Their graves are indictments.

The choice before India is stark. It can cling to archaic rules that give dogs territorial rights but deny children safety. It can allow sentiment to overshadow suffering. Or it can summon the courage to act. The title of this column is not poetic exaggeration. India must choose between laws and lives.

And history will remember that choice. When future generations ask what we did, will we say we defended the vulnerable? Or will we be recorded as a society that retreated into legalism while children convulsed in chains?

In the end, it is not the dogs that are savage. It is our silence. Our failure to act. Unless India chooses life over law, the graves will multiply—silent, unmarked, undeniable testimony to a society that betrayed its own humanity.

The Author is an AI researcher and columnist whose work explores the intersections of technology, governance, and public policy in India and can be mailed at hidsfan@gmail.com.

The Impact Of Overtourism In Doodhpathri

Doodhpathri, a bowl-shaped valley in the Pir Panjal Range of the Himalayas, located in the Budgam district, was introduced to the tourism map. Over the years, this alpine valley, with its pine, fir, and deodar forests, lush meadows, snow-covered mountains, and wildflowers such as daisies, forget-me-nots, and buttercups, has captured the attention of tourists. The local management aims to attract even more visitors.

Well, Instagram has made it easier—it all starts with a simple hashtag or a viral reel. A scenic location is identified, influencers capture a breathtaking shot, and that's it. A hidden treasure quickly transforms into a must-visit destination, thanks to the power of social media. But when the tide of visitors swells into a tsunami, over-tourism takes hold.

Now, this ecologically sensitive area is struggling with an influx of tourists. Beneath the picturesque selfies and the thrill of discovering Doodhpathri, a quiet calamity is unfolding.

Overtourism:

Overtourism is a global phenomenon that disrupts the delicate balance between tourism expansion and the long-term preservation of a location's natural, cultural, and socio-economic resources. While tourism plays a crucial role in fostering social development, cultural exchange, and economic growth, it also poses a risk of depleting these very resources—especially in fragile locations like Doodhpathri.

In recent years, the concept of overtourism has gained significant attention in the tourism industry, media, and academic research. Overtourism occurs when visitor demand exceeds a destination's capacity, leading to congestion, environmental degradation, and a negative impact on the surrounding area.

The concept of overtourism emerged from the harmful effects of unchecked tourism expansion, including societal instability and ecological damage. While tourism offers significant economic benefits, an excessive influx of visitors in popular destinations often leads to irreversible environ-

mental degradation—a phenomenon known as "tourism kills tourism."

Despite growing research on the issue, practical challenges persist, particularly in regions like the Kashmir Valley, where managing overtourism remains difficult due to unique sociopolitical and environmental factors.

Overtourism in Doodhpathri:

Doodhpathri, a popular tourist destination in the Kashmir Valley, is renowned for its tranquility and natural beauty. While tourism authorities celebrate this surge as a major achievement, environmentalists are deeply concerned that the numbers exceed the area's carrying capacity. They argue that excessive tourist traffic is damaging the region's delicate ecosystem. Critics contend that Doodhpathri's ecological sensitivity is being overlooked in favor of promoting it as a mass tourism destination. As one critic puts it, "This is not development; this is degradation." They urge the government to implement eco-friendly tourism policies that balance tourist needs with environmental preservation.

Experts urge the government to adopt eco-friendly tourism strategies that balance visitor needs with environmental preservation. In 2013, approximately 125,000 tourists visited Doodhpathri. Over the past decade, the number of visitors has increased significantly.

Although tourism authorities praise this surge as a significant achievement, environmentalists are deeply concerned that the numbers exceed the area's carrying capacity. They argue that the region's fragile ecosystem is being harmed by excessive visitor traffic.

Carrying Capacity and Doodhpathri:

The World Tourism Organization defines tourism carrying capacity as "the maximum number of people that may visit a tourist destination at the same time, without destroying the physical, economic, and sociocultural environment and causing an unacceptable decrease in the quality of visitors' satisfaction."

To assess the tourism carrying capacity of Doodh-

pathri, a study titled "Carrying Capacity—A Brief Case Study of Doodhpathri Tourist Spot in Jammu & Kashmir's Budgam District" was conducted in 2022. The study aimed to determine the maximum number of tourists the site can accommodate without negatively affecting its ecological, social, and cultural context.

Using a quantitative approach based on the Cifuentes (1992) framework, the study calculated two key measures:

First, the maximum number of people that can physically occupy a given area is known as physical carrying capacity (PCC). The analysis considers the total Doodhpathri tourist area (335 hectares) and the average tourist density (3.15 people per hectare).

Since tourists typically spend about eight hours at the site, three different groups of visitors can use the same location in a single day. The study concludes that Doodhpathri could potentially accommodate 4,437 visitors per day. However, this number does not account for practical limitations such as extreme weather, transportation challenges, accommodation shortages, and waste management issues.

The study applies certain limiting parameters to adjust the PCC for a more accurate estimate. The capacity is reduced by 24.65% due to harsh winters, which render much of the destination inaccessible for over three months.

Transportation is another major concern, with 42% of travelers reporting that it is inadequate. Accommodation is also an issue, as only 14% of tourists are satisfied with the available lodging options. Additionally, 18% of respondents cited inadequate waste management as a problem.

Taking all these factors into account, the study determines that the Effective Real Carrying Capacity (ERCC) is 1,367 visitors per day—the maximum number that can be accommodated without negatively impacting the ecosystem or the overall tourist experience.

The Author Is A Regular Columnist And Freelance Writer

The Scarlet Fever

Medical and Scientific Insights into an Age-Old Disease



Surinderpal Singh

The Scarlet fever which was once considered as the dreaded disease of the 19th and early 20th centuries, remains a subject of medical importance even today. Although modern antibiotics have reduced its severity and fatality but the recent global health reports and surveys indicates a resurgence of cases in several regions, making renewed scientific awareness essential about the forgotten fever.

Understanding Scarlet Fever

The Scarlet fever is also known as scarlatina is an infectious disease caused by Streptococcus pyogenes (group A streptococcus), the same bacterium responsible for strep throat and certain skin infections. The illness is primarily seen in children between the ages of 5 and 15, though adults are not entirely immune. The infection spreads through respiratory droplets, contaminated surfaces and close personal contact which makes outbreaks common in schools, markets, colleges, universities and crowded environments.

The hallmark feature of scarlet fever is the production of erythrogenic exotoxins by the bacterium, which trigger the characteristic red rash across the body. These toxins also account for the systemic manifestations of the disease.

Clinical Symptoms

The onset of scarlet fever is typically sudden and marked by symptoms resembling strep throat, followed by systemic signs.

Some of the key symptoms include:

1. Fever and sore throat are usually the first indicators which are often accompanied by chills and body aches.
2. Rash is a fine, red, sandpaper-like eruption that usually starts on the chest and spreads to other areas. The rash often spares the palms and soles.
3. Strawberry tongue is a distinct finding where the tongue appears red, swollen, and bumpy.
4. Facial flushing with circumoral pallor – redness on the cheeks with a pale area around the mouth.
5. Other features includes nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and swollen lymph nodes may also be present.

Symptoms usually appear within two to five days after exposure to the bacteria. If left untreated, the rash typically persists for about a week, followed by skin peeling, especially on the fingertips and toes.

Medical Risks and Complications

While scarlet fever is usually self-limiting with timely treatment, complications can arise if the infection is neglected. These include:

Suppurative complications such as otitis media (ear infection), sinusitis and abscess formation.

Non-suppurative complications triggered by immune responses, including rheumatic fever, glomerulonephritis (kidney inflammation) and pediatric autoimmune neuro-

psychiatric disorders (PANDAS).

Toxic shock-like syndrome, though rare, can be life-threatening. The risk of complications underscores the need for early diagnosis and intervention.

Diagnosis

Diagnosis is primarily clinical supported by laboratory confirmation. A rapid antigen detection test (RADT) or throat culture helps identify Streptococcus pyogenes. Blood tests may reveal elevated white blood cell counts and markers of inflammation. Differential diagnosis is necessary to rule out measles, rubella, drug-induced rashes and other viral exanthems.

Treatment and Management

The introduction of antibiotics has dramatically reduced the burden of scarlet fever. The primary treatment strategy includes:

1. Antibiotics – Penicillin and amoxicillin remain first-line therapies. For penicillin-allergic individuals, macrolides (such as azithromycin or clarithromycin) are effective alternatives.
2. Symptomatic relief – Antipyretics like paracetamol and ibuprofen help control fever and sore throat. Adequate hydration and rest are crucial.
3. Infection control – Patients are considered contagious until at least 24 hours after starting antibiotics. Preventive measures include hand hygiene, avoiding sharing utensils and isolation during the infectious period.

Scientific and Public Health Perspectives

Despite being controlled for decades, scarlet fever has seen periodic outbreaks in different countries of the world over the past decade. Researchers attribute this resurgence to genetic changes in streptococcal strains, increased antibiotic resistance and improved diagnostic reporting systems.

Scarlet fever also serves as a reminder of the dynamic nature of infectious diseases. While antibiotics have transformed its prognosis, inappropriate or incomplete antibiotic use may pave the way for resistant strains, which could reintroduce scarlet fever as a significant health threat.

Scarlet fever, though no longer the killer it once was, deserves continued scientific and medical vigilance. Its distinct symptoms, especially the characteristic rash and strawberry tongue, make clinical recognition straightforward. However the real challenge lies in ensuring timely treatment, monitoring complications and preventing outbreaks through public health measures.

As history has shown infectious diseases can resurge unexpectedly. Scarlet fever stands as a reminder of the delicate balance between microbes and modern medicine, and the importance of sustained research, awareness, and responsible antibiotic use.

The Author is a Faculty in Science Department in Sri Amritsar Sahib Punjab

India Emerging as Hub of Major Non Communicable Diseases



Vijay Garg

India is witnessing a worrying rise in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases. They account for about 63% of all deaths in India, but this number alone doesn't capture the real crisis. What truly matters is the share of these deaths that occur between the ages of 30 and 70 – what the WHO defines as premature mortality.

In India, NCDs are cutting lives short during the most productive years, when people are most needed by their families, communities, and the economy. That is where the focus must lie: reducing premature mortality from NCDs. Globally, countries have committed under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.4 to reduce premature NCD mortality by one-third by 2030. India has a long way to go. Currently, around 25-26% of NCD deaths in India occur in the 30-70 age group. By comparison, the figure is roughly 23% in Brazil, while in developed nations such as the Nordic countries or the United States, it is closer to 10-15%.

These numbers underline why India cannot simply compare itself to global averages. The challenge is not just about how many people die of NCDs, but when they die. Preventing early deaths is the real public health priority because no family, no society, and no economy can afford to lose people in their prime.

India is witnessing a worrying rise in NCDs among young adults – a trend that makes routine preventive check-ups and early health promotion more important than ever. Among NCDs, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes are increasing most rapidly. Diabetes in particular is appearing earlier in life, with an estimated 8-10 lakh children in India living with type 1 diabetes.

While the absolute numbers are still small, the upward trend is unmistakable, and it is a red flag we cannot ignore. The real concern lies in how rapidly the NCD burden has grown in just a decade. Intervention must begin early, across the life course. Health promotion shouldn't wait

until adulthood. It must start with pregnant women, children, and adolescents and continue throughout life.

India now faces a triple burden: under-nutrition, multiple micronutrient deficiencies, and growing rates of overweight and obesity. Alarming, obesity has already overtaken underweight as a leading nutritional issue. If India does not act decisively through health promotion, prevention, and timely management; these cases will continue to rise. The path forward lies in early detection, stronger health literacy, and healthier environments so that India's young people can grow up protected from the lifelong burden of NCDs. India has a National Program for Prevention and Control of NCD (NP-NCD). Should its ambit be expanded to include children?

The focus today is moving earlier, towards child-centric health promotion and prevention. With government leadership and support from UNICEF and other experts, India is exploring ways to start early screening in schools.

The urgency is clear. Changing lifestyles, poor diets, and rising consumption of processed foods are fueling health risks. The next frontier for India's NCD strategy is therefore not just treatment but health literacy and responsible communication. Building awareness from a young age, through schools, families, and communities, will be key to ensuring healthier choices, stronger prevention, and a lifetime of protection against NCDs.

India has a proven track record in public health, whether it was eradicating polio or delivering COVID-19 vaccinations at scale, with speed and safety. Despite conspiracy theories that have challenged vaccines globally, India has consistently treated immunisation as one of the highest-return public health investments.

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

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LIST OF MANAGING BODY

S No.	Name	Parentage Spouse	Residence	Designation	Qualification	Cell No.	Aadhaar No.	Photograph
1	Aashiq Hussain	Mohammad Yousuf Ahanger	Hanjiwera Pattan	Chairman	P.HD	7006234660	846821154285	
2	Irfan Suliman	Mohd Suliman Rather	Tilgam	Vice Chairman	M SC ,B.ED	9149560210	619413304100	
3	Bashir Ahmed Dar	Gh. Ahmad Dar	Khambiyar Pattan	Member	10TH	8491928311	620393586381	
4	Shugufta Javid	Javid Ahmad Ganaie	Wanigam Payeen	Member	B.A	8491914599	989407501626	
5	Fayaz Rasool	Gh. Rasool Ganaie	Kreeri	Member	M.Phil.	9149036004	694464242079	
6	Saleem Maqbool	Mohammad Maqbool Mir	Kreeri	Member	B.SC, M.LT	9149631406	892960697085	
7	Aijaz Ahmad Bhat	Abdul Hamid Bhat	Pattan	Member	M.SC,B.ED	9697088656	965708566347	

Public Notice

My son's Date of Birth (DOB) wrongly mentioned in school records as 21-03-2016 instead of 22-03-2016. Now I am applying for its correction if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Principal Hill Crest School Kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**BASHIR AHMAD MIR F/O UMER BASHIR
R/O PUSNAG TEHSIL KREERI**

Public Notice

I have lost my 10Th class School leaving and Character certificate. Now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Principal Govt Hr Sec School Kreeri within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**SHABIR AHMAD LONE S/O GH MOHI UD DIN
LONE R/O KAREWA KREERI**

Public Notice

I have lost RC of my Tractor bearing registration no JK05G 1934 and RC of my Bike bearing registration number JK05H 6252 Now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact ARTO Sopore within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**SHABIR AHMAD LONE S/O GH MOHI UD DIN
LONE R/O KAREWA KREERI**

Public Notice

I have lost my Driving licence under licence number JK0520110032470 Now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact ARTO Sopore within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**SHABIR AHMAD LONE S/O GH MOHI UD DIN
LONE R/O KAREWA KREERI**

Public Notice

My son's Date of Birth has been wrongly written as 21/03/2016 in her date of Birth certificate while his correct date of Birth is 22/03/2016 which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**NameBASHIR AHMAD MIR
F/OUMER BASHIR , R/O ...PUSNAG KREERI
DOB ...22/03/2016**

Public Notice

I am applying for fresh Pesticides/Fertilizers/Seed License under the name Farm Edge Solutions Pvt Ltd situated at Aglar Pattan. In this regard if anybody is having any objection may file the same to Chief Agriculture Officer Baramulla and PPO Lal Mandi Srinagar within the time period of 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. (Aabid Ashraf S/o Mohammad Ashraf Bhat R/o Aglar pattan) Cell No. 6005461490).

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this context a report sought from patwari halqa concerned and the Death certificate issued by the competent authority reveals that LT MUNEEERA AKHTER W/O PEER SHAMUS UD DIN has passed away on 06/06/2025 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below
1.... , PEER ISHTIYAK AHMAD son 35 Govt employee
2.... , PEER SUHAIL AHMAD SON 35 years //

The applicant has applied for Issuance of Legal heir certificate in favour of Self

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

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

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1.... , PEER ISHTIYAK AHMAD son 35 Govt employee
2.... , PEER SUHAIL AHMAD SON 35 years //

The applicant has applied for Issuance of Legal heir certificate in favour of Self

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

Public Notice

I have lost my Passport. Now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Regional Passport office Srinagar within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**SAJA BEGUM R/O KAREWA KREERI
Contact 9906160611**

Public Notice

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

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

Public Notice

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

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

Public Notice

I have lost my Passport. Now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact Regional Passport office Srinagar within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

**GH MOHI UD DIN LONE
R/O KAREWA KREERI Contact 9906160611**

Public Notice

This is to inform the general public that my actual name is "Javid Ahmad Mir" S/O- Ghulam Ali, R/O- Karkit but it has been recorded wrongly in the official documents as "Javid Ahmed Mir" S/O- Ghulam Ali, R/O- Karkit. Anybody having any objection may contact concerned authorities within the period of 7 days.

Public Notice

I have cleared my loan from SBI Choklamsar for the vehicle Tata Nexon bearing registration number LA01 3320. Anybody having any objection may contact SBI Choklamsar, Leh within the period of 7 days from the publication of this notice.

**Name- Abdul Shukoor , S/O- Mohd Faqir
R/O- Murad Bagh Drass**

Public Notice

I have cleared my loan from J&K Bank for the vehicle Alto K10 bearing registration number LA01 4840. Anybody having any objection may contact J&K Bank branch Barzulla, Srinagar within the period of 7 days from the publication of this notice.

**Name- Ghulam Raza , S/O- Ibrahim
R/O- Yourbaltak**

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION DOORU NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Fresh NIT NO 33 OF R&B/Dooru/2025-26 /E-TENDERING/ EED/HD/2633-38 DATED: 07-10-2025

For and on behalf of the **Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K, Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Dooru invited e-tenders** on % age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works: -

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Temporary Restoration of approach of Dehruu Mantipora bridge	18.07 lacs (15.34 +2.73)	800	36140	30 days	Capex DMRRR	CEE,BEE, class only
2	Temporary Restoration of Vented Cause way at Kharpora Hakura	2.00 lacs (1.70+0.30)	200	4000	14 days	Capex DMRRR	DEE Class Only
3	Upgradation of Toilet block at Nadoora and chain link fencing at Kulam Chinara and Nadoora park Dooru .	2.96 lacs (2.52+0.44)	200	5920	1 Months	5452 CO on Tourism	DEE class Only
4	Establishment of Kindergarten Classes at GMS Mantipora.	0.48 lacs (0.41+0.07)	200	960	21 days	UT Capex Budget	DEE, class only

Position of AAA ; Accorded

Position of TS: Accorded

The date of completion is subject to the availability of funds.

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

S.No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	07/10/2025
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 08/10/2025 (9:00 Am) To 16-10-2025 (06:00 PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 08/10/2025 (9:00 Am)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 16/10/2025 (06:00 PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	17/10/2025 (11:00AM) In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division DOORU.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of **Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD)** in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division DOORU [Tender Inviting Authority]** (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date (NIT No and Name of work/ Item No. should be mentioned on Treasury Challan) and **EMD (2% of advertised Cost)** in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to **Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division DOORU (Tender receiving Authority)**.
- All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.**
- The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division DOORU (Tender receiving authority)** within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarment of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.
- The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @5% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and same shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.
- Note: a. MSME's are required to pay only 50% of Tender Document Cost or Rs 500/- whichever is lower. MSME's are required to pay only 50% of the amount of EMD/ Bid Security or Rs 5000/- whichever is lower.**

No:EED/HID/2633-38
Dt:07/10/2025

DIPK: 6892/25

Er Farooq Ahmad Khan
Executive Engineer,
PWD (R&B) Division DOORU

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE SRINAGAR KASHMIR

Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 – email:- kash.flori@jk.gov.in

Subject: Extension Notice No. 03

In view of no response, the Bid Submission end/ opening date (Online) of technical bids in respect of e-NIT No. 28 of 2025 dated: 14.08.2025 invited by this office under endorsement No. DOFK-GS0TNDNR/19/2025/E-7745644/e-NIT-28 dated: 14.08.2025 with regard to **“Outsourcing of entry ticketing system of Eidgah Park Srinagar”** is hereby extended as per the details given below:-

1.	Bid Submission End date & time	23.10.2025	Up to 02:00 PM
2.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	27.10.2025	At 02:00 PM

Other terms & conditions shall remain same as laid down in the concerned e-NIT.

No: DOFK-GS0TNDNR/19/2025/E-7745644/e-NIT-28 | Dated: 07/10/2025

**Sd/- Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)**

DIPK: 6908/25

Dated: 07-10-2025



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MP Ghulam Ali Khatana Reviews Progress of Line Departments in Kupwara

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KUPWARA, OCTOBER 7: Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Ali Khatana today chaired a review meeting at District Administration Complex, Kupwara, to assess the progress and achievements of various line departments operating in the frontier district.

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse; SSP Kupwara, Ghulam Jeelani; and senior officers from key departments including Jal Shakti, Power Development, Health, Education, Rural Development, R&B, PMGSY, BEACON, Forests, and others attended the meeting.

Addressing the officers, MP Ghulam Ali Khatana emphasized the need for proactive and people-centric governance, especially in the far-flung and border areas of Kupwara. He urged officials to view their roles as an opportunity to uplift marginalized communities, with special attention to the poor and destitute sections of society.

During the detailed departmental review, the MP sought updates on the implementation of government schemes and per-



formance indicators under key developmental and welfare programs. He laid special emphasis

on Rural sanitation and solid waste management, rationalization of teaching staff across government

schools, implementation of Forest Rights Act, saturation of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, improving road connectivity in unconnected and inaccessible areas.

The MP assured full support from the Union Government in resolving public grievances and in ensuring the timely completion of developmental projects. He stressed that bottlenecks delaying critical infrastructure work must be identified and addressed with urgency.

While appreciating the ongoing efforts, MP Khatana commended the District Administration of Kupwara, led by the Deputy Commissioner, for its resilience and commitment to service delivery under challenging geographic and climatic conditions. He lauded the collaborative efforts of all departments in steering development in the strategically significant and backward district.

The MP also reiterated the Centre's resolve to strengthen last-mile delivery of services, promising to be an active facilitator for channeling more support and funding to frontier districts like Kupwara.

DC Kupwara chairs DLSCC meeting to discuss ex-gratia relief cases

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KUPWARA, OCTOBER 07: The District Level Screening-cum-Coordination Committee (DLSCC) today held a meeting under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, to deliberate upon ex-gratia relief cases related to incidents of death, injury, and damage to property, as well as cases under SRO-43 and those involving police personnel.

During the meeting, the Committee undertook a comprehensive review of nine cases, examining reports and recommendations received from the Police, Army, CRPF, and other field functionaries. Each case was discussed in detail to ensure transparency and fairness in the decision-making process.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of meticulous verification and inter-agency coordination before finalizing any case. He directed the concerned departments to ensure that all necessary documents, verification reports, and field assessments are submitted in time so that deserving beneficiaries are not subjected to unnecessary delays.

DC Kupwara also stressed adopting a compassionate yet objective approach in dealing with ex-gratia cases, keeping in view the sensitivity of incidents involving loss of life or property. He instructed officers to maintain close liaison with law



enforcement and security agencies to obtain timely clarifications in pending cases.

After threadbare deliberations, two cases were cleared by the Committee for submission to the General Administration Department (GAD) for further approval, while the remaining cases were deferred pending requisite clarifications from the concerned agencies.

The Deputy Commissioner urged all stakeholders to expedite follow-up action and ensure that genuine claimants receive timely relief as per government norms and policy guidelines.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Kupwara, Ghulam Jeelani, Additional Deputy Commissioner Gulzar Ahmad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, District Information Officer, and officers representing the Army, CID, and CRPF.

DC Pulwama Chairs meeting on Master Plan preparation for Awantipora Town

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

PULWAMA, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, today chaired a meeting here at administrative complex Pulwama to review and discuss the formulation of a GIS-based Master Plan for Awantipora Town.

The meeting aimed to take forward the vision of planned and sustainable urban development in the town through advanced and modern tools & technology and coordinated inter-departmental inputs.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on the proposed villages to be included within the Master Plan, municipal boundaries of Awantipora, and the revenue villages associated with Tehsil Awantipora.



The DC directed all departments to provide updated records, maps, and data sets to facilitate the preparation of a comprehensive GIS-based plan in coordination with the Town Planning Organisation and SPA experts. He stressed that the Master Plan should incorporate local requirements, natural features, and heritage aspects while maintaining environmental sustainability.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Town Planner Kashmir; Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama; Tehsildars of Awantipora, Pampore and Kakapora; Executive Officer Municipal Committee Awantipora/Pampore; Block Development Officer Pampore/Awantipora; while representative from the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), New Delhi also joined the meeting virtually.

JKTPO organises Export Awareness Workshop, E-Commerce onboarding drive at Samba

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SAMBA, OCTOBER 7: Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) today organized an Export Awareness Workshop and E-Commerce onboarding drive at the DC Office Complex, Samba under the guidance of Managing Director, JKTPO Sudershan Kumar. The Workshop aimed at sensitizing local producers, entrepreneurs and artisans about export opportunities and digital market access.

The event received an overwhelming response with over 110 participants, including entrepreneurs, traders, farmers and self-help groups from Samba district. Participants appreciated JKTPO's efforts in promoting export awareness and monitored the ongoing restoration works on National Highway-44 (NH-44) near Nashri, where an overnight mudslide had disrupted traffic movement on the up-tube towards Srinagar.

The workshop was organised with ODOP team of Department for Promotion of Industry and



Internal Trade (DPIIT), focusing on imparting knowledge about Government export promotion schemes, financial and insurance assistance for exporters and the compliance and documentation required to obtain an Importer Exporter Code (IEC). An E-Commerce Onboarding Drive was also held in collaboration with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) to help local sellers expand

their reach through online platforms.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Champa Devi appreciated the initiative and stated "So far, producers and manufacturers from the district have primarily focused on the domestic market. This workshop serves as a platform to help them explore international opportunities. Our prod-

ucts already meet global standards, but many farmers and producers lack awareness about export processes. I'm confident that this initiative will empower them to confidently venture into global markets.

The workshop witnessed participation from representatives of Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), Export Credit Guarantee

Corporation (ECGC), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and HDFC Bank, who shared detailed insights into their respective domains and explained various schemes and benefits available for exporters. A representative from GeM also guided participants on the GeM onboarding process for sellers.

As part of its ongoing outreach initiative, similar Export Awareness Workshops and E-Commerce Onboarding Drives are scheduled in Jammu (8th October), Kathua (9th October) and Udhampur (10th October) to further promote export readiness and digital enablement across the districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

The JKTPO remains committed to empowering local entrepreneurs and producers by providing them with the knowledge, support and opportunities required to integrate with national and international markets.

DC Ramban inspects restoration work on NH-44 at Nashri Instructs NHAI to speed up road clearance

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 07: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan, along with SSP Traffic NHW, Raja Adil Hamid and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh Charak today inspected and monitored the ongoing restoration works on National Highway-44 (NH-44) near Nashri, where an overnight mudslide had disrupted traffic movement on the up-tube towards Srinagar.

The Deputy Commissioner took stock of the situation and directed the engineers of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to expedite the clearance operations and ensure early restoration of vehicular move-



ment. He emphasized deploying adequate men and machinery to clear accumulated debris and mud from the affected stretch in the shortest possible time to minimize inconvenience to commuters.

The SSP Traffic NHW briefed the Deputy Commissioner on traffic regulation measures implemented to ensure smooth movement of vehicles from both sides and to prevent congestion. The ADC Ramban coordinated with local administration, police and NHAI officials to monitor the situation on real-time basis.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the concerned agencies to remain in a state of readiness and respond promptly to any further eventualities, given the prevailing weather conditions. He stressed maintaining close coordination among district administration, NHAI and traffic authorities to ensure public safety and uninterrupted movement along the Jammu-

Drugs Control Department inspects medical shops in Banihal Township

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN OCTOBER 7: The Drugs Control Department Ramban today conducted inspections of medical shops in Banihal town to verify compliance with directives from the Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, J&K and the Commissioner, Food and Drugs Administration, J&K.

The inspections aimed to raise awareness among chemists about the prohibition on dispensing pediatric cough syrups and cold syrups to children aged 2-5 years. During inspections samples of cough syrups were also lifted for testing to safeguard children from potential syrup toxicity.



These inspections were also conducted to implement revised GST slabs and chemists were directed to pass on the benefits to consumers.

During the inspection, thorough checks were conducted at various medical establishments in Banihal town. Samples of cough syrups were lifted for testing and chemists were directed not to dispense cough or cold syrups meant for children between 2-5 years old.

BIOCME 2025: CME cum Workshop on "Key Laboratory Techniques in Newborn Screening " held at Biochemistry Department GMC Srinagar

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 7: A one day CME cum workshop was organized here in GMC Srinagar today which was attended by eminent national and regional experts, faculty members, and young researchers, creating a vibrant platform for academic exchange and skill-building.

During a day-long programme, the participants including clinicians, biochemists, medical lab technologists and researchers gained hands-on training in key laboratory techniques that comprise automated capillary electrophoresis, ELISA, ECLIA and

Multimode Reader Assays for metabolic disorders.

This event marks the beginning of the first phase of free screening for pregnant women and newborns, under DBT-GOI funded NIDAN Kendra, established in collaboration with the Departments of Pediatrics and Obstetrics & Gynecology. This initiative aims at detecting inherited metabolic and genetic disorders early.

The workshop was inaugurated by Principal/Dean, GMC Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Shah, who lauded the department for its pioneering role in translating molecular and genetic technologies into clinical and public

health practice. She emphasized the importance of early detection, and intervention in reducing the burden of inherited and metabolic disorders among newborns. She complimented the organizers for their tireless efforts in organizing this event.

Highlighting the objectives of the UMMID Initiative of DBT-GOI, the Coordinator, Prof. (Dr.) Sabhiya Majid, explained that the NIDAN Kendra focuses on diagnosis and care of genetic and metabolic disorders. Screen pregnant women and newborns for inherited diseases and train the clinicians in human genetics and molecular medicine. She noted

that congenital and genetic diseases contribute significantly to neonatal morbidity and mortality, particularly in regions with higher consanguinity, such as Kashmir.

On this occasion the speakers of national and international repute including Dr. Priyanka Srivastava, Associate Professor, Genetic Metabolic Unit, department of pediatrics, Advanced Pediatrics center, PGIMER Chandigarh, delivered insightful lectures for enriching the knowledge and information of participants which included some Heads of Departments from various medical Colleges of Kashmir valley.

The event marked yet another milestone for GMC Srinagar in promoting evidence-based medicine, collaboration, and innovation in health research and diagnostics for the benefit of society.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Administrator, Associated hospitals GMC Srinagar, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak; Ex-HOD pediatrics GMC Srinagar, Prof. Muzaffar Jan; EX-HOD biochemistry GMC Srinagar, Prof. Syed Taffazul Hussain; HOD obstetrics & gynecology GMC Srinagar, Prof. Syed Masuma Rizvi; HOD ENT, Prof. Manzoor Ahmad latoo and Medical Superintendent SMHS hospital., Dr Andleeb Bashir.

Hindi Pakhwada celebrations conclude at NIT Srinagar with awards ceremony

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 7: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Tuesday marked the conclusion of its 15-day Hindi Pakhwada celebrations with a grand valedictory ceremony organized by the Rajbhasha Cell.

The event featured a series of competitions, awareness programmes, and training activities aimed at encouraging the use of Hindi as the official language on campus.

The valedictory session was presided over by In-Charge Director Prof. Roohi Naaz and Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman, who also served as the Chief Guest. The ceremony was attended by senior officers, faculty members, and ministerial staff from various departments.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, commended the Rajbhasha Cell for its dedication and successful conduct of the fortnight-long event.

"The consistent efforts of the

Rajbhasha Cell reflect our commitment to promoting Hindi as an effective medium of official communication. Such initiatives not only preserve the nation's linguistic identity but also foster inclusivity and better coordination within academic and administrative systems," Prof. Kanaujia said.

Addressing the gathering, In-Charge Director, Prof. Roohi Naaz, appreciated the Rajbhasha Cell for its efforts in organizing the 15-day programme successfully.

"Language plays a crucial role in uniting people and strengthening cultural identity. Hindi Pakhwada reminds us of the importance of preserving our linguistic heritage while using Hindi more actively in day-to-day communication. I encourage all faculty, staff, and students to embrace Hindi in their official and academic interactions," she added.

In his remarks, Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman praised the Rajbhasha Cell, led by Dr. Rajesh Prasad Shukla, for its exem-



plary work during Hindi Pakhwada

He said the initiative benefited both students and employees, creating awareness and appreciation of Hindi as an official language.

"We hope that by next year there will be a visible improve-

ment in the use and understanding of Hindi across the campus. Regular Hindi training sessions should be organized to help employees enhance their communication skills and professional growth, Prof. Rehman said.

He further suggested that the Rajbhasha Cell develop a struc-

tured timetable for such training, in line with the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language.

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The event was attended by Deputy Registrar (Admin) Faisal Irshad Ganai, AR (Academics), AR (Academics), Hin-

di Teaching & Training Supervisor Mohammad Iqbal Dar, AR Accounts Shahid Hamid, Hindi Officer Dr. R.P. Shukla (Assistant Professor, CED), Hindi Anuvadak Dr. Sabzar Gani Batoo, and faculty coordinators including Dr. Ved Prakash, Dr. Brajesh Kumar, Dr. Jitendra Gurjar and Dr. Atendra Kumar

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rajesh Prasad Shukla, Hindi Officer and Head of the Rajbhasha Cell, highlighted the collective efforts made to promote Hindi within the institution.

"The Rajbhasha Cell has worked continuously to strengthen the presence of Hindi in the institute's official functioning. The enthusiastic participation of faculty and staff throughout Hindi Pakhwada shows our shared commitment to this cause," he said.

Dr. Shukla also acknowledged the contributions of Mohammad Iqbal Dar, Dr. Sabzar Gani Batoo, and other coordinators for their active involvement during the celebrations.

The event concluded with a

felicitation ceremony, during which the Director and Registrar presented mementoes and certificates to the top performers of Parangat and Praveen exams and other participants in recognition of their achievements and contributions.

In the Parangat Exam, the top performers from NIT Srinagar were Naresh Kumar (Junior Assistant), Mohammad Iqbal Dar (Hindi Teaching & Training Supervisor), and Ajay Kumar (Junior Assistant).

In the Praveen Exam (Examination Held by Hindi Teaching Scheme New Delhi), Tawheed Hussain (Junior Assistant), Mohammad Sibgat-Ullah (Technical Assistant), and Er. Kaleem Dar (Technical Assistant) secured the first, second, and third positions, respectively.

A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Sabzar Gani, Hindi Anuvadak, who expressed gratitude to Director, Registrar, faculty members, coordinators, and all participants for their support and cooperation in making Hindi Pakhwada a grand success.

Five-day workshop on Python for Artificial Intelligence commences at NIT Srinagar

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 7: A five-day workshop on Python for Artificial Intelligence, organized by the Department of Information Technology, was inaugurated at NIT Srinagar by I/C Director (Dean R&C) Prof. Roohie Naaz Mir.

The event was attended by HoDs, Associate Dean R&C, faculty members, and participants.

In her address, Professor

Roohie Naaz congratulated the Department of Information Technology for organizing the workshop. She highlighted the growing role of Artificial Intelligence in today's world and emphasized the importance of Python as a key tool for developing AI applications.

"Artificial Intelligence is transforming every sector, from healthcare to finance. Python skills will give our students a strong founda-

tion to innovate and excel in this fast-evolving field," she said.

Dr. Roohie Naaz also encouraged students to continuously update their skills to keep pace with AI-driven innovation.

In his message, Registrar, NIT Srinagar, Prof. Atikur Rehman said that workshops like these not only enhance technical knowledge but also prepare students for real-world challenges. We are committed to supporting initiatives that foster

innovation and learning, he said.

Dr. Shabir Ahmad Sofi, HoD of Information Technology, lauded the overwhelming participation of students from diverse academic backgrounds. He stressed the significance of such workshops in equipping students with skills necessary to excel in a competitive global environment.

The workshop coordinator, Dr. Saniya Zahoor, expressed gratitude to the Director, Registrar, HoD,

and the organizing team for their guidance and support. She also elaborated on the applications of Artificial Intelligence across various fields and the crucial role of Python in AI development.

The workshop will provide hands-on experience and insights into the latest developments in Python-based AI applications, aiming to empower students with practical knowledge for future innovations.

Drugs Control Department Ramban Conducts Inspections

HT News Desk

RAMBAN, OCT 7: The Drugs Control Department Ramban today conducted inspections of medical shops in Banihal town to ensure strict compliance with directives from the Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, J&K, and the Commissioner, Food and Drugs Administration, J&K.

The inspections aimed to raise awareness among chemists about the prohibition on dispensing pediatric cough syrups and cold syrups to children aged 2-5 years. During inspections samples of cough syrups were also lifted for testing to safeguard children from potential syrup toxicity.



These inspections were also conducted to implement revised GST slabs and chemists were directed to pass on the benefits to consumers.

During the inspection, thorough checks were conducted at various medical establishments in Banihal town. Samples of cough syrups were lifted for testing, and chemists were directed not to dispense cough or cold syrups meant for children between 2-5 years old.

The Drugs Control Department reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring the availability of safe and quality medicines to the public and maintaining strict vigilance to protect public health.

Dr. Karan Singh honours Mohsin Ali, Coach Bilquis Mir for Khelo India Gold

HT News Desk

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 7: In a rare and special honour, former Sadr-i-Riyasat and eminent statesman, Dr. Karan Singh, felicitated young athlete Mohsin Ali and his celebrated coach and Paris Olympics Jury Member, Ms. Bilquis Mir, for securing a gold medal at the Khelo India Water Sports event held in Srinagar this August.

The felicitation ceremony was also attended by Martand Singh, Trustee of the Hari Tara Charitable Trust and grandson of Dr. Karan Singh.

Dr. Karan Singh congratulated Mohsin on his outstanding performance, particularly against strong contenders from Madhya Pradesh and Punjab. He also commended Ms. Bilquis Mir for her dedicated coaching and long-standing commitment to nurturing Mohsin's talent.

Bilquis expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Karan Singh and Martand Singh for this honour and conveyed her hope that this recognition would inspire Mohsin and other athletes to continue pursuing their dreams. The two athletes also shared insights into the development of sports in Jammu & Kashmir under the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Khelo India Scheme, along with other related initiatives.

It is noteworthy that Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated and applauded Mohsin and coach Bilquis Mir in his recent "Mann Ki Baat" address, during which he interacted with Mohsin and lauded his achievement in the Khelo India Water Sports Festival.

Young Swimmers Make Waves at Inter-District Championship

HT News Desk

JAMMU, OCTOBER 7: The Department of Youth Services & Sports (DYSS), Jammu and Kashmir, successfully organized the Inter-District Swimming Championship 2025 at IDPS School, Sujwan, Jammu, showcasing exceptional talent and sportsmanship among young swimmers from across the Union Territory.

The final day of the boys championship witnessed a series of exhilarating races and nail-biting finishes as participants from Jammu and Srinagar districts competed fiercely across various categories and strokes. The event reflected not only the swimmers skill and determination but also the growing popularity of swimming as a competitive sport in the region.

Under-17 and Under-19 Events
In the Under-17 100-meter Freestyle, Musa Parvaiz (Jammu) captured gold with a stellar timing of 1:02:32,

while Barkat Ali (Srinagar) and Divyan Aggarwal (Jammu) claimed silver and bronze, respectively. The 50-meter Backstroke (U-17) saw Abdul Alim (Srinagar) dominate with a winning time of 43:21, followed by Barkat Ali (Srinagar) and Aariv Gupta (Jammu).

In the Under-19 50-meter Butterfly, Kartikaya Choudhary (Jammu) triumphed with an impressive 00:33:10, edging out Junaid (Srinagar) and Kousar Ali (Srinagar), who took silver and bronze.

Under-14 Races Highlight Emerging Talent

The Under-14 events drew some of the most exciting performances of the championship. In the 100-meter Breaststroke, Rajvardhan Singh (Jammu) struck gold, followed by Dakar Viran Yadav (Jammu) and Abrar Ali (Srinagar). The 50-meter Freestyle was dominated by Aryan Parbhakar (Jammu), who clocked a lightning-fast 29:30, ahead of Ayansh Gupta (Jammu) and

Mehdi Mushtaq (Srinagar).

Aryan continued his winning streak in the 50-meter Butterfly, clinching another gold with 35:17. Anadan Hussain (Srinagar) finished second, while Faheem Ali (Srinagar) was disqualified. In the 50-meter Backstroke, Pratyaksh Parma (Jammu) claimed first place, followed by Ayanesh Gupta (Jammu) and Mustazir Ali (Srinagar).

The two-day championship drew widespread appreciation from coaches, parents, and officials, who praised the young athletes for their enthusiasm and discipline. The Department of Youth Services & Sports commended IDPS School Sujwan for hosting the event successfully and ensuring a well-coordinated and encouraging environment for the swimmers.

The Inter-District Swimming Championship 2025 concluded on a high note, celebrating teamwork, determination, and the spirit of healthy competition hallmarks of Jammu and Kashmir's growing sports culture.

Army Organizes Medical Camp for Gujjar, Bakkarwal and Pahadi Communities at Mathiyanigala, Rajouri

HT News Desk

RAJOURI, OCTOBER 7: As part of its ongoing commitment to community welfare, the Indian Army organized a medical camp

at Audan & Mathiyanigala, on 07 Oct 2025. The initiative aimed to provide essential healthcare support to local communities, including the Gujjar, Bakkarwal and Pahadi residents of Audan and

surrounding areas. The camp witnessed voluntary participation from medical professionals of the Government Civil Hospital, including Dr. Irfan Hussain, who contributed their expertise and ser-

vices to the initiative.

The event received an overwhelming response from the locals, reflecting the trust, cooperation and goodwill between the Indian Army and the civil

population. A total of 232 individuals comprising 28 men, 168 women and 36 children benefited from the free medical consultations and treatment provided during the camp.

BJP pays rich tributes to Bhagwan Valmiki Ji on Valmiki Jayanti

HT News Desk

JAMMU, OCTOBER 7: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, led by its senior leaders, paid rich tributes to Bhagwan Valmiki Ji on the auspicious occasion of Valmiki Jayanti, observed on the Purnima of the Ashwin month, at the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. The programme was marked by devotional fervour, floral tributes, and reflections on the divine teachings and life of the great sage.

J&K BJP Vice-President Rajeev Charak, General Secretaries Sanjita Dogra, Baldev Singh Billawaria, and Gopal Mahajan, Office Secretary Tilak Raj Gupta, Spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan, Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, SC Morcha President Dharminder Kumar, Library Incharge Kulbhushan Mohtra, HS Pammi, Hans Raj Loria, Adarsh Jathiaar, Pooja Grover, Seema Devi, Yashpaul Shivgotra, Mohinder Bhagat, Balbir Ram, ML Menia, Rajkumar, Vijay Anand Gill, President, All J&K Valmiki Sabha & BJP SC



Morcha senior leader along with dozens of Sabha office bearers

including Bharat Hans, Love Bhatti, Tarsem Hans, Amar Mo-

man, Ajit Gill, and others paid tributes to Bhagwan Valmiki Ji on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajeev Charak said that Bhagwan Valmiki Ji was a beacon of wisdom and enlightenment who taught the values of righteousness, compassion, and equality. He said that the Revered Ramayana by the Adikavi Bhagwan Valmiki, continues to guide humanity towards moral living and social harmony.

Sanjita Dogra emphasized that Valmiki Ji's life exemplifies

the power of transformation and devotion. She said that the teachings of Bhagwan Valmiki remind us that with sincere effort and purity of heart, one can overcome all challenges and achieve greatness.

Baldev Singh Billawaria said that BJP draws inspiration from Valmiki Ji's message of social equality and upliftment of the downtrodden. He said that the party is committed to carrying forward his ideals through inclusive development and respect for all.

Gopal Mahajan highlighted

that the teachings of Valmiki Bhagwan have been an integral part of India's social fabric which teaches us that your present and future are determined by your actions.

Dharminder Kumar said that Valmiki Jayanti is an occasion to rededicate ourselves to the path of truth and equality envisioned by the sage.

Vijay Anand Gill said that Bhagwan Valmiki Ji's message of universal brotherhood and justice is more relevant today than ever before.

Walter: Williamson Deserves Time on Availability

The New Zealand coach is content to work out flexible agreements with casual contract players

■ **Andrew McGlashan**

DUBAI: Kane Williamson's availability for New Zealand's home summer will take a little longer to lock in. However, head coach Rob Walter is content to give a player of his standing the extra time.

Williamson, who is one of the group of players to hold a casual contract with NZC, made himself unavailable for the three-match T20I series against Australia, having previously missed the tour of Zimbabwe to play county cricket and the Hundred. The next part of New Zealand's home season sees them play England in

T20Is and ODIs before an all-format visit by West Indies in November. "Kane, we're still in conversations as to what the summer is going to look like," Walter told reporters after the Australia series. "He will play, no doubt about that. Just what and where is still in discussion. "I think the reality is we're dealing with all the guys on casual contracts, actually in different positions from a playing point of view. Kane is one of those of those and he deserves the opportunity to sit and talk about what the rest of his year will look like. But I keep coming back

to the most important thing, [which] is that he wants to play for his country, and so putting out exactly what that looks like can take an extra week or two, but surely, he deserves that."

Walter confirmed that New Zealand would continue to be without Finn Allen (foot) and Adam Milne (ankle) for the visit of England while Lockie Ferguson (hamstring) and Glenn Phillips (groin) were unlikely to be fit.

However, he was hopeful that white-ball captain Mitchell Santner and Rachin Ravindra, who was a late withdrawal from the Australia series after suffering a facial injury colliding with the boundary boards at training, will have recovered in time for the series which starts on October 18 in Christchurch.

Walter was unperturbed about not being able to get his full-strength T20I side together in the build-up to next year's World Cup.

"I think we don't live in an ideal world and so that's part and parcel of it," he said. "I've been part of a World Cup campaign [with South Africa] where the team assembled at its full strength three days before our first game and that team managed to make a final. "For me, it's just the way it works. I think what's more important is the environment and the team culture that sort of assimilates together when it needs to. We do know that by the back end of the India series [in January] prior to the World Cup, that's when our full World Cup squad will be together."

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Goud times roll for India's newest new-ball star

Kranti Goud picked up 3 for 20 to continue her rapid rise with India's ODI side

■ **Shashank Kishore**

NEW DELHI: Kranti Goud, 22, was informed of her India debut at the R Premadasa Stadium in May 2025. She had largely been picked as an apprentice, with India waiting on two senior players - Renuka Singh and Pooja Vastrakar, both injured and in rehab.

It was an unremarkable debut, for figures of 5-0-22-0. But among the many things she did right was hitting Chamari Athapaththu, a ferocious puller of the cricket ball, on her ribs. That tiny moment, lost amid Smriti Mandhana's century and Sneha Rana's four-for, encouraged India's selectors to take a punt on her for the England tour.

When she picked up a six-for in Durham, hooping the ball and leaving England's top order gasping en route to an impressive series victory, it



was fairly evident Goud had sealed her World Cup spot, irrespective of whether the injured senior pacers returned. Renuka has, Vastrakar hasn't, but Goud has made herself undroppable after just two outings.

A week after she opened the 2025 World Cup with 1 for 41 in India's win over Sri Lanka, Goud stung Pakistan's top order in a fiery new-ball spell.

She finished with 3 for 20 in India's 88-run win in Colombo, one that her neighbourhood watched on a giant LED screen they'd installed back in Ghuwara, a town in rural Madhya Pradesh.

"The talk is about focusing on line and length only," Goud said after winning the Player-of-the-Match award. "I haven't thought of doing much extra. Variations like bouncer or

slower balls, those depend on the situation. The coaches told me to pull my lengths back a little based on the conditions and surface, that's what I did."

It wasn't merely Goud listening to her coaches that did the trick. She also got the captain to give her the fields she wanted most times. In the 12th over, with the ball losing some of its shine, Harmanpreet Kaur pulled out Deepti Sharma from

the slips, only for Goud to wheel her back to where she'd been.

The result? Aliya Riyaz was defeated by late movement to get a healthy edge through to Deepti at second slip. A jubilant Goud immediately turned to her captain, who ran towards her to acknowledge her contribution.

"The ball was swinging early on, I couldn't understand what was happening," Goud said with a chuckle when asked about her first spell. "One ball came in a long way. Then when the ball was old, Harman wanted to take the slip off, but I said, 'no didi, let's keep the slip for this over'."

"I had that feeling from within that I could get a wicket, and I got it off the first ball. They found it tough to play our pacers. Because the ball was moving in and out, that's why I had a lengthy first spell."

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