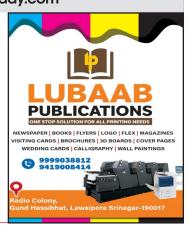
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## **Challenges Turning Into Opportunities Under PM Modi's** leadership: Rajnath Singh

"Operation Sindoor Exhibited India's Technological Capabilities, Courage of Our Soldiers"

HT NEWS DESK

**SRINAGAR, OCT 16:** Stating that Operation Sindoor demonstrated India's growing indigenous defence capability, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday said that under PM Modi's leadership India has turned earlier challenges into measurable outcome

Speaking at the convocation ceremony of Symbiosis Skills and Professional University in Pune, the Defence Minister. said that "The government is committed to building a self-reliant defence manufacturing ecosystem and make India one of the most powerful countries in the

While tracing India's journey towards



self-reliance in defence, he said that the country had been heavily dependent on other nations for weapons since independence. "Under PM Modi's leadership, we pledged to transform the defence sector because, since independence, we lacked the political will and enabling laws to manufacture in India. That required a change," he said.

The Defence Minister said the bravery of Indian soldiers during 'Operation Sindoor' was supported by a significant amount of equipment produced in India. He added that the operation showed both the courage of soldiers and the nation's technological capabilities.

Singh credited the private sector

## **DARBAR Is Back: CM Announces** Revival of Darbar Move in J&K

Shifting of Offices to Jammu for Winter Will Start on Nov 1st, Will Reopen in Winter Capital on Nov 3rd



HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, OCT 16: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday announced the resumption of the traditional bi-annual Darbar Move practice after a gap of more than four years. The practice was halted by Lieutenant

**CM Omar** Abdullah hands over regularisation orders to 863 CPWs

HT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, OCT 16: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today handed over regularisation orders to 863 Contingent Paid Workers (CPWs) of the School Education Department from multiple districts of Jammu province.

The occasion also witnessed the formal inauguration of the Vidya Samiksha Kendra under Samagra Shiksha and the launch of a suite of new ICT and analytics

Turn on Page 2

### 1614 J&K cops martyred fighting Pak, proxies: DGP Prabhat

HT NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR, OCT 16:** Stating that more than 1,614 Jammu and Kashmir Policemen laid down their lives during the past three decades while



fighting Pakistan and its proxies in the Union Territory, Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat, on Thursday reiterated the commitment of the force to safeguard peace and stability in the region.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the 10th All India Police Games Judo Cluster at Indoor Stadium here, DGP Prabhat, according to the

## J&K youth embracing nation's values, heritage: LG Sinha

Lieutenant Governor inaugurates Veshaw Literary Festival at Kulgam

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, OCT 16: "Youth of Jammu Kashmir are now deeply engaging with the country's history, values and aspirations," the Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha said on Thursday. He said youth are forging bond with diversity, heritage and fostering a shared

cultural identity for nation-building. The Lieutenant Governor was addressing the inaugural function of Veshaw Literary Festival at Kulgam, through video conferencing.

The two-day lit fest is celebrating literature by bringing together writers, artists and readers to share and discuss books, new ideas and to promote a variety of creative



and literary works.

"The lit fest will also explore the region's unique spirituality and cultural significance and provide a platform for women writers and young authors to share their creative works. The event will foster appreciation for literature and strengthen the community

Turn on Page 2

### **Altaf Bukhari Lauds Govt On Restoration of Historic Practice Darbar Move**

Calls it A Commendable Step, Urges Govt to Revisit Domicile Rules

SRINAGAR, OCT 16: Apni Party President Altaf Bukhari on Thursday welcomed the government's decision to resume the traditional Darbar Move practice and urged Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to consider revising domicile rules.

In a post on X, Bukhari wrote, Resuming the traditional Biannual Darbar Move practice is

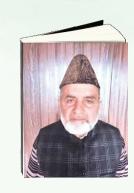


In collaboration with



Kruhen Cultural Forum, Muradabad Kreeri

Is Organizing a book release function of the Kashmiri NAAT Collection



#### **NOOR-I-NOORAAN**

Authored by Syed Sad-ud-Din (SAIDI)

On

Sunday, 19th October 2025 Time: 11:00 AM



Venue: Conference Hall, J&K Cultural Academy, Lal Mandi, Srinagar

Your gracious presence will be highly appreciated and will add warmth and grace to the occasion

With Great Regards...(CHASHM-BA-RAAH)

**Shabnum Tilgami** Gen Sec - ADBI MARKAZ KAMRAAZ,

**Syed Sarwar Hashmi Syed Sharief Hussain Qadri** (From Kruhen Cultural Forum, Muradabad Kreeri) **Syed Jahangir Bukhari** 

CEO LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS, Editor in Chief Daily HEADLINES TODAY. 9419008414.

**Media Partner** 



## Nehru denying free hand to Patel resulted In PoJK: Dr Jitendra

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, OCT 16: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh today flagged off the inaugural 'Unity March Ek Bharat, Akhand Bharat' "Padyatra" here today as part of the nationwide initiative honouring the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Dr Jitendra Singh was joined

by a large number of students, NCC cadets, public representatives and local people during the March which began from Dream Land Park and culminated in the premises of Government Degree College (GMC). The Sardar@150 Unity March is aimed at awakening the spirit of unity, patriotism, and duty among the youth.

Addressing a news confer-

ence after the culmination of the Unity March at Degree College Kathua, Dr Jitendra Singh said, had Sardar Patel been given a free hand, the issue of Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir(POJK) would not have arisen and, the history of J&K, indeed that of India, would have been different.

> He said, the then PM Turn on Page 2

Handicrafts, handloom reflect rich heritage, Govt committed to preservation: Dy CM

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, OCT 16: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary today said that the handicrafts and handloom art represent rich and diverse heritage of Jammu and Kashmir, and Government is fully committed to preserve and promote this legacy for future

The Deputy Chief Minister made these remarks after inaugurating seven days Gandhi Shilp Bazar-2025 at Kashmir Haat, here today.

The Bazar is being organized by Jammu and Kash $mir Trade\ Promotion\ Organization\ (JKTPO)\ under the$ aegis of Industries and Commerce Department, as part of its ongoing initiatives under the

Turn on Page 2

**Omar Govt marks** one year, vows to fulfill people's dreams

HT NEWS DESK

ANANTNAG, OCT 16: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today said that the government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has completed one year in office and remains



**HT - NEWS** 

## CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Challenges Turning .....

for contributing to defence production. He noted that annual production had increased from ₹46,000 crore to ₹1.5 lakh crore over the last decade, with the private sector accounting for around ₹33,000 crore. He said the government aims to achieve ₹3 lakh crore in defence manufacturing and ₹50,000 crore in defence exports

Singh told the students that success is not only about acquiring degrees but also about applying knowledge for society. "We are no longer in the era of 'What do you know?' The world now asks, 'What can you do?' Skill is the bridge between learning and doing," he said.

On technology and artificial intelligence, Singh told students that AI will not replace humans, but those who use AI effectively will replace those who do not. He said technology should remain a tool and should not replace human values, ethics, and sensitivity.

Singh said India is entering a phase aimed at becoming a developed nation by 2047.

He told students that the next 20–25 years will shape both their careers and the country's trajectory. "Let your ambition fuel the country's transformation," he said.

During the event, the School of Defence and Aerospace Technology at Symbiosis Skills and Professional University was inaugurated by Singh and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, in the presence of state ministers and the university's Vice-Chancellor—(KNO)

#### DARBAR Is.....

Governor Manoj Sinha in 2021.

Addressing a press conference here, the CM. said the cabinet has given nod for the revival of the century-old practice. "The file was sent to the Lieutenant Governor and has been approved. The government is reviving the practice soon," he said.

The Cabinet had recommended a return to the full-fledged Darbar Move in September this

Following the Chief Minister's announcement, the J&K Government ordered the transfer of government offices from Srinagar to Jammu for the winter season 2025–26.

According to the order issued by the General Administration Department (GAD) on October 16, 2025, offices observing a five-day work week will close in Srinagar on October 31, while the six-day offices will close on November 1. All  $departments will reopen in Jammu \, on \, November$ 

The order specifies that offices listed in Annexure A will move to Jammu "in full", while those in Annexure B will move "in camp" with one-third of their staff or at least ten officials.

The Jammu and Kashmir Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) will provide adequate buses on November 1 and 2 for transporting employees, with advance ticketing from October 27, according to the order. Each convoy will be escorted by J&K Police with cranes, empty buses, and mobile workshops accompanying the movement to prevent inconvenience.

Medical aid facilities will be arranged at Qazigund, Banihal, Ramsu, Ramban, Chenani, Udhampur, and Jhajjar Kotli by the Health and Medical Education Department.

Employees will receive a Special Move TA of Rs 25,000 while those who fail to move within the prescribed dates will forfeit the allowance, the order states. The salary for October will be disbursed on October 31, and advance pay may be sanctioned for non-gazetted staff.

The order further directs that no employee shall occupy government accommodation without proper allotment. The Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department will ensure ration supply at Jammu residential colonies.

The Winter Secretariat will function at the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar during the move. The Estates Department has been tasked with providing accommodation to officers and staff as per

Office timings in Jammu will be 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 pm for the Civil Secretariat and 10:00 am to 4:30 pm for other departments observing a six-day work week.

The Darbar Move practice was initiated in 1872 by Maharaja Gulab Singh to move the capital between Jammu in the winter and Srinagar in the summer.

#### CM Omar.....

platforms aimed at strengthening the education ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

The ceremony was attended by Cabinet Minister for Health, Medical Education, School Education, Higher Education & Social Welfare Sakina Itoo; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Members of Legislative Assembly Pyare Lal and Er. Khurshid Ahmed; Secretary, School Education Department Ram Niwas Sharma; Project Director, Samagra Shiksha Bhawani Rakwal and Director, School Education Jammu

Naseem Chowdhary. In his address, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed satisfaction over the fulfilment of a long-pending demand, commending the dedication and patience of CPWs awaiting regularisation. He lauded Minister Sakina Itoo, the School Education Department and the administrative leadership for their coordinated efforts in achieving this milestone.

The Chief Minister announced that nearly one thousand infrastructure works are currently underway in the education sector, with approximately ₹450 crore earmarked for civil works under the School Education Department. He stated that by March 2026, all Higher Secondary

and High Schools in Jammu and Kashmir would be equipped with smart classrooms and laboratories, enabling students to compete with their peers nationwide.

Reflecting on the government's first year, theChief Minister said the journey had presented challenges but also immense satisfaction in achieving meaningful reforms. He called upon the newly regularised employees to dedicate themselves to public service, reiterating that "the future of the next generation depends on the quality of education we deliver today."

He also felicitated 25 NEET and JEE achievers from the Jammu region, presenting them with certificates and tablets, and encouraged them to continue striving for academic excellence.

Minister Sakina Itoo described the regularisation as a "moment of relief and recognition for hundreds of families." She credited the Chief Minister's steadfast determination for making this day possible. She said that in Kashmir, about 400 CPWs have already been regularised, with pending cases being processed expeditiously.

Reviewing the government's first-year achievements, she highlighted accelerated disposal of DPCs and staff promotions, fast-tracking of recruitment in Higher Education, and revival of dormant colleges. Under Samagra Shiksha, she stated, around 600 development works are underway, including smart labs and infrastructure improvements aligned with the National **Education Policy.** 

Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani described the day as historic, symbolising one year of constructive governance under CM Omar Abdullah, He praised the CPWs' unwavering dedication and reaffirmed the government's resolve to accelerate governance and service delivery. Wani observed that regularising CPWs is a testament to the government's commitment to justice and inclusivity.

At the outset, Secretary Ram Niwas Sharma delivered the welcome address, highlighting the government's resolve to strengthen the education sector through institutional reforms, technological infusion, capacity building, and equitable

He noted that the regularisation of CPWs reflects the administration's commitment to providing stability and dignity to long-serving vorkers who have contributed selflessly to public service.

Simultaneously, the Chief Minister unveiled Vidya Samiksha Kendra, a holistic educational monitoring and analytics platform under Samagra

The School Education Department also rolled out several new ICT initiatives, including J&K Digilearn, Shikshak Sahayak, JK Edu Insights, JK MIS, JK CRM and Teachers Analytics Portal.

#### 1614 J&K cops.....

news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Supreme sacrifices of police martyrs stand as a testimony to the unwavering courage and commitment of the J&K Police."

He said, "The J&K Police has played a pivotal role in fighting the enemies of peace. Our men continue to work with utmost dedication to ensure the safety and security of the people."

He said that the Police have not only remained at the forefront of counter-terrorism operations but have also been actively engaged in youth outreach and sports activities across the Union Territory. "We conduct such programmes so that our connection with the locals remains strong and meaningful," he added.

Referring to 'Jashn-e-Dal' and other sporting events organized by J&K Police, DGP Prabhat said that thousands of people, including youth from different districts, participated in these initiatives, which have become platforms for community bonding and talent promotion.

Expressing gratitude to the Union Home Ministry, the DGP said, "I am thankful to the Ministry for sanctioning Rs 100 crore for sporting events and youth engagement programmes. This support will further strengthen our efforts to channel the energy of young people in positive directions."

DGP Prabhat also praised the achievements of I&K policemen who have won medals in various national and international events, bringing laurels to the force and the Union Territory.

He reiterated the department's commitment to fostering a peaceful and progressive society, rooted in mutual trust between the Police and the people—(KNO)

#### J&K youth.....

bond," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the writings of prominent literary figures from Jammu Kashmir have inspired generations.

"Kulgam stands as a testament to a rich spiritual and intellectual tradition. Kulgam is a confluence of nature, spirituality, culture, and literature, making this sacred land an important part of Jammu Kashmir's heritage," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted the importance of creating opportunities for young talent. He said such efforts will not only expand human creativity but also ensure that literature serves as a mirror, reflecting societal and global changes.

"Science, spirituality, and literature are the three powerful forces for a progressive and vibrant society. Writers, thinkers, and poets must promote the literary, scientific and spiritual heritage, enrich the folk traditions, and strengthen social harmony. They must also shed light on pressing public issues and become the voice of the marginalized," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also called upon the writers and poets to effectively counter the false narratives in Jammu Kashmir and introduce the new generation to the brighter reality and offer them new perspec-

Shri Mohd Afzal Parray, Chairman District Development Council Kulgam; Shri Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Shri Javid Iqbal Matoo, DIG SKR Anantnag; Shri Athar Aamir UI Shafi Khan, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam; Shri Anayat Ali Choudhary, SSP Kulgam; Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Abass Shah, Principal, GDC Kulgam; senior officials, prominent literary personalities and youth in large number attended the inaugural ceremony.

#### Altaf Bukhari.....

truly a commendable decision.

This historic practice of moving offices between regions may no longer be essential for ensuring administrative efficiency in today's context, but it continues to hold great social, cultural, and economic significance.

I congratulate the government on taking this decision, post reads.

He further Wrote That I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my appeal to the Chief Minister, @OmarAbdullah, to take yet another bold step to set a 50-year residency requirement for domicile eligibility, it reads.

Since you also hold the revenue portfolio, changing the domicile rules lies entirely within vour authority. Extending the residency requirement from the current 15 years to 50 years would be a remarkable contribution by this government, reads the post.

Earlier, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah announced the revival of the decades-old Darbar Move practice, stating that the cabinet-approved file sent to the Lieutenant Governor has been accepted, and the practice will be reinstated soon.

#### Nehru denying.....

Jawaharlal Nehru not allowing his Home Minister Patel to handle J&K the same way as was handling other princely States of the country led to the creation of PoJK. And when the Indian forces were about to retrieve the part of J&K captured by Pakistan, Nehru without consulting Patel or other cabinet colleagues, went on the radio and declared a unilateral ceasefire,

Hailing Sardar Patel for integrating more than 560 odd princely States into Indian union, Dr Jitendra Singh stated Patel and Dr Syama Prasad Mokherjee are the most underrated leaders of Independent India. He said it was due to the timely intervention of Sardar Patel that the armedforces were deployed to repel the tribal raid on Kashmir Valley. Otherwise, the city of Srinagar might have also fallen to the tribal raiders. He said Sardar Patel was the Home Minister post-Partition and had the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru given him the freedom to handle J&K the same way as he was handling other princely states of the country, the history of J&K and indeed that of India would have been differ-

Dr Jitendra Singh said just as Sardar Patel unified a fragmented India, the Unity March will carry forward that spirit so the youth can adopt the ideals of 'Ek Bharat Akhand Bharat' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat. He said during this journey, awareness will be raised about crucial issues like drug eradication, cleanliness (Swachhata) and promotion of indigenous (Swadeshi) products, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a self-reliant and united India.

The Union Minister said that drawing inspiration from Sardar Patel, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had resolved to carry forward the great leader's legacy and rekindle the spirit of unity and patriotism among the youth. He said, PM Modigotthe Statue of Unity built in Kevaria when he was the Gujarat CM, by appealing to all the countrymen across to donate iron for it. He said this Statue is a tribute to the Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who unified India after Partition.

Like Sardar Patel, Dr Mokherjee is another under-rated leader who represents the spirit of nation first by sacrificing his life for the cause of integrating Jammu & Kashmir with the rest of India, said the Minister.

Sharing details about the Unity March Ek Bharat - Atmanirbhar Bharat, Dr Jitendra Singh said it has begun digitally on October 6, 2025, and is split into two phases: District Level Padyatras (October 31 - November 25, 2025) involving 8-10 km walks in every district, preceded by events like essay competitions, seminars on Sardar Patel's life, and pledges for a 'Drug-Free India' and "Proudly Swadeshi". The campaign, he added, will culminate with a historic march from Sardar Patel's birthplace Karamsad to the Statue of Unity, Kevadia on November 26—the Constitution Day, symbolizing the spirit of a united and self-reliant India envisioned by Sardar Patel and carried forward under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Sardar@150 Unity March is not merely an event, said Dr Jitendra Singh, but a nationwide campaign to awaken the spirit of unity and national pride among the youth. He informed that this initiative marks the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and aims to connect young citizens with the ideals of national integration and self-reliance. He said that as part of this campaign, you thac rossthe country are actively participating in digital competitions, social media activities and the Young Leaders Program through the MY Bharat portal, creating a mass movement of awareness and inspiration.

Highlighting the second phase of the campaign, the Minister mentioned that from October

31 to November 25, district-level Unity Marches will be organized across the region, covering villages and towns of Kathua district. The marches will include yoga and health camps, debates, lectures, and awareness drives on Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan and other youth-oriented initiatives.

The Nodal Officer Bhushan Gupta further informed that during these padyatras, youth from schools, colleges, NCC, NSS, and MY Bharat volunteers will walk together to promote the message of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.(KINS)

#### Handicrafts.....

National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP).

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister said that Gandhi Shilp Bazar provides a national-level marketing platform for artisans, bringing together craftspeople from across the country to showcase their exceptional craftsmanship and promote the vibrant heritage of Indian handicrafts.

He added that the week-long bazar will feature live craft demonstrations and direct sales of artefacts at concessional rates, offering visitors a unique opportunity to witness the artistry behind India's handicrafts and purchase authentic handmade products directly from the artisans.

"I hope our artisans benefit from this initiative. Handicrafts and handloom reflect our composite culture, co-existence, and harmony, such events go a long way in ensuring their continued promotion," the Deputy Chief Minister remarked.

During his visit, the Deputy CM inspected various stalls and interacted with artisans. reiterating the Government's commitment to promotion and development of handicraft and handloom sectors.

Managing Director, JKTPO; Director. Industries & Commerce, Kashmir; Director, Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir; Director, IICT; Managing Director, Handicrafts Corporation; General Manager, DIC Srinagar; Assistant Director, DCH; General Manager, JKTPO, and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

Pertinently, around 40 artisans from across India are participating in the event, showcasing a diverse range of handmade products like Pashmina, Kani Shawls, Sozni Embroidery, Paper Mache, Chain Stitch, Basohli Paintings, Crewelwork, Cane and Bamboo, Dry Flower Art, Candle Making, Kapadaganda Dungaria, and Kondh Embroidery Shawls, among others.

The event is part of a series of exhibitions being organized in major cities and metropolitan areas across India to help artisans market their products and preserve traditional art forms and cultural expressions.

Notably, JKTPO recently organized GI Fair – Buyer-Seller Meet at District Budgam, sponsored by Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India to promote handicrafts and supportartisans across Jammu and Kashmir.

#### Omar Govt.....

committed to realizing the dreams and aspirations of people of Jammu and Kashmir. The Deputy Chief Minister made these remarks during his extensive tour of Anantnag and Kulgam districts, where he laid foundation stones for various developmental projects amounting to nearly Rs. 9 crores.

During the tour, the Deputy CM was accompanied by legislators Altaf Ahmad Wani, Abdul Majeed Larmi, Reyaz Ahmad Khan, and Peerzada Feroze Ahmad.

In Anantnag, the Deputy CM laid the

foundation stone for the Rs. 3.16 crore Labour Sarai Project at Wanpoh.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy CM said the facility will help boost economicactivity, generate employment opportunities, and serve as a one-stop centre for workers. "This marks another step towards strengthening welfare infrastructure and improving service delivery for the working class in district Anantnag," he said.

The Deputy CM said that the construction of the Labour Sarai was a long-pending demand of local residents, fulfilled today by the present government. He informed that the project would be completed by June next year. He directed the concerned PWD department to ensure timely execution of the project

Reiterating the government's commitment, he said, "We do not make false promises. We belong to the school of thought of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, and we firmly stand by truth and commitment."

He added that while many promises are still being realized, the government is making all-out efforts to deliver on its commit-

The Deputy Chief Minister urged peopleto have faith in the government, assuring that every decision taken will be in the best interest of the public.

On the occasion, the Deputy CM also released more than Rs. 30 lakh among 1,025 registered workers of the Jammu and Kashmir Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.

The financial assistance was credited directly to the beneficiaries' bank accounts under Meritorious Scholarship, Higher Education Assistance, and Lower Education Assistance schemes.

Later, the Deputy CM visited Kulgam district and laid the foundation stone for Rs. 5.69 crore Khrewan-Palpora Check Road construction project in Devsar Constituency. He said the road would benefit nearly 20 villages, enhancing road connectivity  $and \, easing \, transportation \, for \, local \, residents.$ 

Addressing public gatherings, the Deputy CM reiterated that the Omar Abdullahled government will fulfil all its promises made to the people and continue working for equitable development across J&K.

The Deputy CM also visited KP Colony Vessu, where he laid the foundation stone for Bhumi Pujan at Ganesh Mandir Vessu. Earlier, he conducted an on-spot assessment of the ongoing Transit Accommodation Blocks for Kashmiri Pandits at the colony.

During the inspection, the Deputy CM directed officials to expedite the pace of work on all blocks to ensure their early completion and handing over to deserving families.

Addressing a gathering of Kashmiri Pandits, he reaffirmed the government's commitment to their dignified relief and rehabilitation, assuring all necessary facilities for the inmates residing in these accommodations.

He emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir has always been a land of brotherhood and harmony, where humanity transcends religion and community.

"We are proud of our composite culture, where Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, and Christians have always lived together in peace," he added. Among Senior officers, Chief Engineer R&B, Labour Commissioner, ADDC Kulgam, SEs and XENs of various engineering wings and other officers of District Anantnag and Kulgam accompanied the Deputy CM during the tour.



## NIFT Srinagar Organizes 3-Day 'Craft Bazar' at KU To Celebrate Artisan Excellence

**HT News Network** 

SRINAGAR, OCT 16: National Institute of Fashion Technology(NIFT)Srinagar today inaugurated a three-day event titled "Craft Bazar – Artisan Awareness Workshop and Craft Demonstration" at the University of

The event was inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor of University of Kashmir, Prof. Nilofer Khan, Registrar University of Kashmir Syed Azhar, Joint Director NIFT Srinagar, faculty members, students and several dignitaries from both institutions.

In her inaugural address,

Vice-Chancellor lauded the efforts of NIFT Srinagar in organizing such a meaningful event, describing the craftsmanship of Kashmiri artisans as having "no match in the world." She appreciated NIFT Srinagar for creating a platform that celebrates and preserves Kashmir's rich craft heritage through awareness, education, and inno-

Prof. Khan requested the management team of NIFT Srinagar to collaborate with the University of Kashmir to jointly provide every possible platform and support for artisans. She emphasized that the Uni-



versity of Kashmir is fully committed to collaborating with NIFT in initiatives that promote the region's crafts and artisans.

She further announced that the University would take initiatives to explore how exhibitions could be organized in different parts of the country to showcase the artistic excellence of Kashmiri crafts.

Prof. Khan urged NIFT Srinagar to help the University in setting up stalls and exhibitions during major festivals such as Eid and other cultural occasions, enabling artisans to market their work directly and gain economic empowerment.

The "Craft Bazar" features an array of traditional Kashmiri crafts including Kani, Pashmina, Tweed, Willow Wicker, Copperware and Sozni embroidery, among others. The event is part of NIFT's celebration of 40 years of excellence in fashion education and craft innovation.

The three-day programme includes artisan awareness workshops, live craft demonstrations, and exhibitions that highlight NIFT Srinagar's ongoing commitment to fostering sustainable design practices, skill development, and artisan engagement.

### **Handicrafts Department Budgam Organizes Awareness Camp** for Artisans in Poshkar Khag

Ubaid Mehdi

BUDGAM, OCT 16: The Department of Handicrafts, Budgam, today organized an awarenesscum-registration camp at Poshkar Khag with the objective of educating local artisans and craftsmen about various government-sponsored schemes, financial assistance programs, and modern training initiatives aimed at promoting traditional crafts and improving livelihoods.

A large number of artisans and weavers from Poshkar and adjoining areas participated in the  $program. Of ficials from \, the \, Handicrafts \, Department$ briefed them about the process of registration and the multiple benefits associated with being a registered artisan, including access to credit facilities, marketing support, and participation in national-



level exhibitions.

Speaking on the occasion, Assistant Director Handicrafts Budgam, Muhammad Younis Mir, encouraged the artisans to take maximum benefit from the welfare schemes and initiatives launched by the department. He said that the government is committed to empowering the artisan community by providing them with modern tools, skill development programs, and design upgradation opportunities.

Mir also highlighted the availability of educational scholarships for the children of registered artisans and insurance cover under various government schemes. He further emphasized that such awareness camps play a crucial role in connecting the artisan community with departmental services and ensuring their socio-economic upliftment.

The Assistant Director appreciated the enthusiasm of local artisans and assured them of continuous departmental support in marketing their products and sustaining the legacy of Budgam's rich handicraft traditions.

The event concluded with an interactive session where artisans raised queries regarding registration, documentation, and scheme eligibility, which were addressed by departmental officials.

## Three-Day Cultural Festival by Delphic Council of J&K **Concludes with Grand Valedictory Ceremony**

"Such festivals serve as milestones in promoting art and culture," says Principal Secretary Culture

Jameel Ansari

SRINAGAR, OCT 16: The threeday Cultural Festival organized by the Delphic Council of Jammu & Kashmir, in collaboration with the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and the North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), concluded today with a grand valedictory ceremony held at Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

The Chief Guest of the concluding day was Congress senior leader Tariq Hameed Karra. The programme began with a welcome address by Er. Ashok Singh, President of the Delphic Council Artists from Kashmir as well

as various states across India showcased their exceptional tal-



ent through music, dance, and art performances. The audience was captivated by the Santoor recital by Naseer Ahmad Mir and group, followed by Flute and Mouth Organ performances by Rakesh Anand, Jagdeep Singh, Jagjit S. Ishar, and Rajnish Sharma.

During the festival, several prominent artists including Deepali Wattal, Asad Anjum, Jagdeep Singh, Gulzar Ahmad Ganai, Muneer Ahmad Mir, Waheed Jilani, Ejaz Rah, Ashfaq Hameed Bhat, and Naseer Ahmad were honoured with awards and mementoes by the Delphic Council in recognition

oftheir outstanding contributions

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Secretary Culture, Brij Mohan Sharma, said that such cultural festivals serve as milestones in promoting art, culture, and inter-regional harmony. He appreciated the efforts of the Delphic Council in creating opportunities for young artists to showcase their talent on a broader platform.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Vice President, Delphic Council (Kashmir), who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, artists, and attendees, assuring that the Council will continue to organize such festivals to promote the rich cultural heritage of Jammu & Kashmir at national and international levels.

## KU HOLDS BOOTCAMP TO BOOST STARTUP ECOSYSTEM IN J&K

**HT News Desk** 

**SRINAGAR, OCT 16:** The University of Kashmir (KU) organised a two-day 'Ignite Bootcamp: Sprint to Startup Success' and Investor Meet-up aimed at strengthening the region's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem and fostering youth-led business ideas.

The event was organised by the varsity's NewGen IEDC and Business Innovation and Incubation Centre in collaboration with ALSiSAR Impact, Mumbai, and supported by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India.

The event witnessed participation of startup founders, investors, and mentors from across the coun-

The bootcamp featured masterclasses, hands-on workshops, mentorship sessions, panel discussion, and real-time pitching rounds. Speaking at the valedictory session of the two-day camp Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, Impact. said that the University is committed to strengthening its innovation ecosystem through structured mentorship and industry linkages.

"Initiatives like this reflect our vision to transform the innovative spirit of young minds into sustainable ventures that contribute to inclusive economic growth," she

Speaking on the occassion Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, highlighted the importance of university-led incubation support in promoting regional entrepreneurship, while Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Shah, Director, DIQA KU, emphasised that such events create practical learning opportunities for students and innovators to connect with real-world challenges.

The training sessions were led by Mr. Anuj Sharma, Founder and Director, ALSiSAR Impact, and Ms. Anvitaa Rastogi, Vice President,

As a key outcome of the event, five promising innovators were selected for a three-month fellowship with ALSiSAR Impact.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed between the University of Kashmir and ALSi-SAR Impact to promote sustained collaboration in innovation and entrepreneurship.

The event further announced the launch of a Women Entrepreneurship Vertical, to be operated by NewGen IEDC KU and supported by ALSiSAR Impact, aimed at empowering women-led startups across

The bootcamp was coordinated by Dr. Irfana Rashid, Coordinator, NewGen IEDC KU and concluded with renewed enthusiasm among participants to position Jammu & Kashmir as a vibrant hub for innovation and impact-driven entrepre-

#### **Training on implementation** of e-office 2.0 Held at DC office kupwara

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA, OCT 16: On the direction of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse (IAS), a training session on the implementation of eOffice 2.0 was today conducted at the Main Hall of DC Office complex Kupwara. This initiative aligns with the Union Territory's push towards digital governance and streamlining administrative processes at the

The training, aimed at enhancing digital governance and streamlining official processes, was imparted by ICT official Mr. Fayaz Ahmad from the IT Department, Civil Secretariat Srinagar. The session



focused on equipping officials with the necessary skills to effectively utilize the e-Office platform for day-to-day operations.

Officials from various departments across the Kupwara district actively participated in the training session. The engagement underscored the local administration's commitment to adopting the upgraded digital system as directed by the UT administration.

## Khadi for Nation, Khadi for Fashion — Women Spinners Shine at Bandipora

■ Farooq Rather

**BANDIPORA, OCT 16:** Under the aegis of Khadi Mahotsav 2025, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), PMTC Pampore, in collaboration with NGO Harmukh Khadi, on Thursday organized a Spinner Contest at Bandipora.

More than 150 women spinners from various parts of the district participated in the event,

showcasing their skills and commitment to Khadi, Swadeshi, and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. The slogan "Khadi for Nation, Khadi for Fashion" resonated throughout the programme, celebrating Khadi as both a national symbol and a fashion statement.

The contest aimed to recognize and encourage the craftsmanship of Khadi artisans. Winners of the first, second, and third positions were awarded prizes, while all

participants received certificates of appreciation. Before the contest, Shri Anil

Kumar Sharma, Principal PMTC Pampore, led participants and officials in taking the Khadi Pledge, reaffirming their commitment to Swadeshi and self-reliance. The event also featured a Plantation Drive and concluded with a spirited Khadi Yatra, promoting the message of sustainable and self-reliant living.

#### **Kulgam Police Arrest** Two for Illegal Extraction and **Transportation of Minerals**

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, OCT 16: Continuing its crackdown on illegal mining activities, Kulgam Police have arrested two individuals and seized two vehicles involved in the unlawful extraction and transportation of minerals. Police teams from Police Station Devsar and Police Post Mirbazar intercepted and seized two tractors engaged in the illegal activity at Mirbazar and Devsar, respectively. Both drivers have been taken into custody. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at Police Stations Qazigundand Devsar, and further investigation is underway. Police have reiterated that strict action will be taken against individuals found involved in illegal mining and related activities.

## **Javid Dar inaugurates two days National Seminar** on Scientific Honey Beekeeping at IUST

HT News Desk / DIPR

**AWANTIPORA, OCTOBER 16:** Minister for Agriculture Production Department, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar inaugurated two day National level Seminar on "Scientific Honey Beekeeping Integrated with Oilseed Mission" today at Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST)

The Minister, who was Chief Guest on the occasion, appreciated IUST's initiatives in promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, particularly through programs that link science and technology to socio-economic development. He emphasized on eco-

nomic and ecological importance of beekeeping in enhancing agricultural productivity, biodiversity conservation and improving rural liveli-

The Minister also visited the i-Factory Lab, Design and Development Lab, Fab Lab, and Ultratech Cement Lab. He assured Government's full support to the University's innovationled initiatives aimed at advancing agri-tech development.

Vice Chancellor, IUST, Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, in his address highlighted IUST's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem and reiterated the university's commitment to translating ideas into impactful solutions. He noted that the region's rich biodiversity and favourable climate provide



ideal conditions for high-quality honey production, making beekeeping a high-value livelihood with strong

potential for export-oriented MSME

Professor at the Sant Longowal

ogy (SLIET), Punjab, Prof. Vikas Nanda spoke about recent advances in apiculture research and how technological interventions can improve honey quality and production effi-

Institute of Engineering and Technol-

Founder and CEO of the Academy for Global Business Advancement (AGBA), Washington D.C, Prof. Zafar U. Ahmad stressed the need for branding, quality enhancement, and international promotion of Kashmiri honey to make it a globally recognized product

Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, Prof. A. H. Moon, appreciated the relevance of the seminar in linking research with

Earlier, in his welcome address,

CEO, CIED-IUST Foundation, Prof. Parvez A. Mir highlighted the activities of the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (CIED) and its role in promoting skill-based and sustainable enterprises.

The event sponsored by Ni-MSME Hyderabad brings together experts, policymakers, researchers and entrepreneurs to explore the scientific, economic and entrepreneurial dimensions of apiculture and its integration with the National Oilseed Mission.

Registrar, Prof. Abdul Wahid Makhdoomi; Deans, Directors, faculty members, and students of IUST, as well as a large number of beekeepers from different districts of Kashmir were also present on the occasion.

### World Food Day 2025 celebrated by Division of **Community Science SKUAST-K**

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 16: The Division of Community Science, Faculty of Horticulture, SKUAST-Kashmir, commemorated the World Food Day today at Shalimar Campus, in alignment with this year's global theme "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future.'

The event was chaired by Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, underscored the significance of sustainable food systems, healthy lifestyles, and collective responsibility toward achieving food and nutritional security for all.

He elaborated on the vision for achieving a healthy and food-secure future through scientific innovation, local empowerment, and community participation and reaffirmed SKUAST-K's commitment to promote Awareness and Action toward realizing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hun-

He also addressed to the participants to become aware about SDG's Human Development Indexes, use technology for the betterment of the Agriculture and food related challenges.

Speaking at the occasion, Dean, Faculty of Horticulture, Prof. Neelofar Banday, highlighted the pivotal role of education, research, and innovation in shaping the future of global food systems and

achieving food security for all. Professor & Head, Division of Community Science, Dr. Tabasum Ara, emphasized the importance of food sustainability, mindful consumption and the need to preserve traditional food wisdom in view of their nutritional and cultural signifi-

A booklet titled 'Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future', which encapsulates the vision of collaboration, sustainability, innovation in food systems and community empowerment was also released at the event.

## Polling Staff Training Conducted at District Headquarter Budgam

HT News Desk / DIPR

BUDGAM, OCTOBER 16: In preparation for the upcoming Bye-Elections to the 27-Budgam Assembly Constituency, a comprehensive training programme for polling staff was successfully conducted today at Sheikh-ul-Alam Hall Budgam, Government Degree College Budgam, and Town Hall Budgam.

The training was organized under the overall supervision of the District Election Officer (DEO)/ Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, as part of the Election Commission of India's mandate to ensure the



smooth, transparent, and efficient conduct of the electoral process.

A total of 540 employees, drawn from different departments across the district, were trained during the session. The trainees included Presiding Officers, Polling Officers, and other staff who will be deployed at various polling stations for the bye-elections to the 27-Budgam Assembly Constituency.

During the training, officials were sensitized about their roles and responsibilities on poll day, including procedures related to EVM and VVPAT handling, mock polls, sealing and transport of machines, voter identification protocols, polling station management, and maintenance of transparency throughout the process.

Master Trainers from the election department and technical experts from NIC and election cells conducted detailed demonstrations on the operation of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) systems, ensuring that all polling personnel are wellequipped to manage the polling process effectively.

The training programme concluded with a hands-on practical session and mock demonstration on the proper handling and operation of EVMs and VVPATs to ensure complete understanding of the polling procedures.

## DC Ramban reviews progress of work on Nashri to Banihal stretch of NH-44

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 16: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today convened a meeting to review the progress of widening work on Nashri to Banihal stretch of Prestigious National Highway-44 (NH-

The meeting was attended by Project Director NHAI Shubam Yadav; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Shokat Hayat Mattoo and other of-

The Deputy Commissioner held a detailed, site wise review of the work progress on different segments of the project, including Viaducts, Tunnels, Cut-and-Cover tunnels and approach



roads. He directed the NHAI authorities and construction agencies to accelerate the pace of work and ensure completion within stipulated timelines while maintaining the highest standards of engineering quality and

The DC stressed the importance of ensuring uninterrupted vehicular

movement and directed the concerned agencies to clear all bottlenecks, particularly those affecting the free flow of traffic on the existing highway. He also instructed NHAI to remove debris, maintain road shoulders and restore double-lane carriageways at critical locations to enhance road safety and passenger convenience.

In view of the recent heavy rainfall, cloudbursts, floods and landslides, the Deputy Commissioner directed the executing agencies to carry out immediate restoration and upgradation works at all affected sites between Nashri and Banihal to prevent further disruption and ensure public safety.

#### **DARS, SKUAST-K Conducts Awarenesscum-Input Distribution Programme under HADP** in Bandipora

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 16: The Dryland Agriculture Research Station (DARS), SKUAST-Kashmir, today organized an "Awareness Programme-cum-Input Distribution" event at the remote village of Shadipora, Bandipora, under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

The programme was held under Project No. 01 titled "Development of Seed and Seed Multiplication Chain in PPP Mode" in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture. Over 50 farmers from the twin districts of Bandipora and Ganderbal participated and benefitted from the distribution of high-quality fodder oats seed aimed at enhancing fodder and livestock production.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Fayaz Ahmed Bahar, Professor, Agronomy, SKUAST-Kashmir, highlighted the university's commitment to empowering farmers across the valley through scientific outreach and the pivotal role of fodder oats in sustaining the region's livestock and dairy sector.

Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Lone, Professor, GPB, and Dr. Altaf Ahmad Wani, Senior Scientist, elaborated on the contribution of newly released seed varieties in replacing traditional landraces, thereby improving yield and productivity. Crop cards were also distributed among the participating farmers as ready reference material for field-level guidance and record-keeping.

The session concluded with an interactive discussion, during which experts sensitized farmers on scientific cultivation practices, certified seed use, and climate-resilient farming. Agricultural Officers from the Sumbal and Ganderbal subdivisions also participated and assured continued technical support for successful implementation.

Farmers appreciated the initiative of SKUAST-Kashmir and the Department of Agriculture, terming it a valuable step toward improving rural livelihoods, strengthening the fodder base, and advancing sustainable agricultural development in the region.

## SKUAST-K CONDUCTS AWARENESS PROGRAMME CUM INPUT DISTRIBUTION UNDER HADP AT SHAHGUND BANDIPORA

HT News Desk / DIPR

The Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) on

**BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 16**:

Thursday conducted a one-day Awareness Programme cum Input Distribution at the remote village of Shahgund in Bandipora district under the Holistic Agriculture

Development Programme (HADP).

The programme titled "Rainfed Area Development", was organized by the Dryland Agriculture Research Station (DARS), Rangreth, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture.

During the event, quality fodder oats seed was distributed among farmers to promote fodder cultivation and ensure its wider dissemination within the farming com-

On the occasion, Training Coordinator, Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Bahar, Professor Agronomy, SKUAST-Kashmir, who highlighted the university's role in reaching out to the farming community and emphasized the importance of fodder oats in sustaining livestock productivity and enhancing fodder availability in rainfed areas. Professor (Genetics and Plant Breeding), Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Lone

and Senior Scientist, DARS, Dr. Altaf Ahmad Wani, elaborated on the contribution of improved fodder varieties in replacing traditional landraces and assured farmers of continued technical support for crop diversification and profitability enhancement.

Crop cards of the distributed fodder crop were also handed over to farmers as ready references for improved management and record-keeping.

The programme concluded with an interactive session between scientists and farmers, which witnessed active participation from Agricultural Extension Officer, Subdivision Sumbal, Bandipora.

## Doda: Health check up Camp organised at remote Village Srunga

HT News Desk / DIPR

THATHRI.OCTOBER 16: The Health department organised a mega Health check-up Camp in the remote and hilly forest village of Srunga, nearly four hour on foot from the Kahara-Jai link road. The services camp was held under the guidance of Chief Medical Officer Dr. Om Kumar and the supervision of Block Medical Officer Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Kichloo.

The initiative aimed to extend essential healthcare facilities to one of the most geographically isolated and underserved regions of the district. More than 200 patients were examined free of cost, marking a significant outreach effort by the Health Department.

A comprehensive range of health services were provided during the camp, including general medical consultations, free medicines, screening for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), hemoglobin and blood sugar testing and sputum collection for suspected TB cases. Administrative support was also extended for the creation of ABHA IDs, Golden Cards under Ayushman Bharat and Vay Vandana Cards for senior citizens ensuring long-term health security and accessibility.

In addition, the health team visited Govt Middle School Srunga and conducted health check-ups of students, besides imparting them awareness under the ongoing "Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0."

Students and community members jointly took a pledge to lead a tobacco-free life, showcasing strong community participation in public health initiatives.

The camp witnessed the active involvement of Jonson Chandail, Divisional ASHA Coordinator (Jammu Division), whose participation underscored the spirit of interdepartmental collaboration and commitment to reach out to remote populations.

Villagers expressed heartfelt gratitude to BMO Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Kichloo and his dedicated team for their relentless efforts and compassion in traversing difficult terrain to deliver healthcare at their door-

### Govt Polytechnic Jammu hosts expert lecture on "Solar **Emerging Technology and Green Energy**"

HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, OCTOBER 16: Department of Electrical Engineering of Government Polytechnic Jammu today organised an expert lecture on the topic "Solar Emerging Technology and Green Energy."

Er. Loveneesh Talwar, Head of Department, Electrical Engineering, Yogananda College of Engineering and Technology (YCET) delivered the lecture and highlighted the growing importance of solar energy in meeting the global demand for clean and sustainable power. He elaborated on the emerging Green Engineering examples such as Zero Energy Buildings, Biodegradable Cups and Straws, Electric Vehicles, biofuels, etc., explaining how these innovations are revolutionizing



the energy sector. He also emphasized the role of green energy solutions in reducing carbon emissions and promoting environmental sustainability.

The Expert lecture provided students with valuable insights into the design, operation and maintenance of solar systems and motivated them to explore careers and research opportunities in the field of renewable energy.

The Principal of the Institute, Er. Talet Mahmood Shawl appreciated the Electrical Engineering Department for arranging such an informative session. He encouraged the students to explore and adopt new technologies contributing to India's transition toward clean energy.

The event was coordinated by the Electrical Engineering Department faculty members and the Principal presented a token of appreciation to Er. Loveneesh Talwar for his enlightening talk.

Other faculty members present at the event were Er. Inderjeet Singh Workshop Superintendent; Er. P. K. Angral, Er. Ankush Langer, Er. Devika Bhardwaj, Er. Vandana Chib, Er. Itika Sharma, Er. Vicky Sharma, Er. Moninder Singh and Mr Rakesh Khullar.





## Inter-departmental coordination, advance arrangements essential for effective winter preparedness: Div Com Kashmir

## Reviews developmental scenario of district Anantnag

#### ■ HT News Desk / DIPR

**ANANTNAG, OCTOBER 16:** Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg visited Anantnag and reviewed the developmental scenario and preparedness for the ensuing winter along with implementation of various govt schemes and welfare initiatives in the district in a comprehensive meeting with the concerned officers at Dak Bungalow Khanabal

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid, Director Horticulture (P&MD) Kashmir, ADCs, SP, GM DIC, ACR, ACD, SDMs, sectoral and district officers along with the representatives from NHIDCL, BRO, Oil & Gas Companies and other departments attended the meet-

At the outset, the DC presented a detailed overview of the overall developmental landscape and welfare schemes besides the progress of the district on key initiatives like Mission Yuva, NMBA, TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan, HADP, PMSGMBY and JK Samadhan, among others.

He briefed the chair about the status of social security.



financial inclusion and benefi- with ongoing infrastructural ciary oriented schemes along projects in Health, Education, other key sectors.

Addressing the meeting, the Div Com emphasised that inter-departmental coordination and advance arrangements are essential for effective winter preparedness adding seamless flow of information is vital for mounting prompt response to any eventuality during the forthcoming win-

He issued instructions for making the Winter Control Rooms fully functional and updating their roasters besides supplementing them with officials of all concerned depart-

RDD, R&B, PHE, Power, and ments for efficient operation.

Garg also called for enhancing the real time and area level coordination among concerned civil departments and security forces, police & SDRF units especially during emer-Div Com also directed the

concerned officers to ensure adequate stocking of Transformers, Ration, Fuel and LPG so the people don't face any inconvenience or shortage of essential commodities during the winter

Instructing the officers to ensure saturation of various Central and UT-Sponsored Schemes, Div Com said these schemes are vital for extending essential benefits to the people. He noted initiatives like PM Surva Ghar Muft Bijli Yojna, Mission Yuva and HADP are highly beneficial and the concerned departments should strive for their target oriented implementation.

Calling youth empowerment a top priority, Garg stressed for result oriented implementation of self-employment schemes, adding the banks should expedite the credit lending and loan disbursal process to generate meaningful livelihoods for youth.

#### Div Com chairs JSCL Board of Directors meet

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, OCTOBER 16: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar, who is also chairman of Jammu Smart City Limited, today chaired a meeting of the Board of Directors in his office at Bahu Plaza.

The meeting was attended by Inspector General of Police, Bhim Sen Tuti; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Vice Chairman JDA, Chief Executive Officer JSCL, Chief Engineer PWD, Chief Engineer PDD, officials from JMC and other concerned

A list of agenda items was presented for approval, ratification and information of the Board. The matters discussed pertained to re-purposing of Special Purpose Vehicles of the JSCL, exploring avenues for generation and sharing of revenue for sustenance and maintenance of different projects completed under the smart city

The Divisional Commissioner directed the CEO Smart City limited to explore



hosting of data and cloud services on its Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) and send the proposal of services offered to different government departments

Detailed discussions were held on monetization of IT assets, finalization of revenue sharing for long term sustenance of ICCC and ITMS and taking preventive and corrective measures to provide protection against the cyber attacks.

The meeting also reviewed the progress of development of the Right Bank of Tawi River Front Project, Construction of Waste to wonder Park at Bhagwati Nagar, Second Phase of Oceanarium at Bahu Fort, besides other works.

### Mission Director JJM Stresses Quality and Timely Completion of **Works during Inspection Tour in Ganderbal**

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

**GANDERBAL. OCTOBER 16:** Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Khurshid Ahmad Shah, today undertook an extensive tour of district Ganderbal to review the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission and inspect ongoing water supply schemes under execution.

He was accompanied by the Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply Division Ganderbal, along with Sub-Divisional and field officers of the department.

During the visit, the Mission Director inspected multiple Water Supply Schemes (WSS) being executed under the PHE Sub-Division Kangan, assessing the pace of work, quality of construction, and functionality of assets created under the mission.

Reviewing the on-ground progress, the Mission Director expressed satisfaction over the substantial achievement in providing Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to rural households. He reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring access to safe and adequate drinking water for every household under the 'Har Ghar

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining high-quality standards, Shah directed engineers and field staff to ensure proper upkeep of service reservoirs, filtration and treatment units, and distribution networks. He instructed that testing of water quality must be conducted regularly to safeguard pub-

The Mission Director also di-



rected the officers to take advantage of the favorable weather conditions

to expedite the execution of remaining works and complete them before the onset of winter. He urged officials to focus on the sustainability of water sources, community participation, and post-implementation management for long-term success of JJM initiatives.

During the inspection, he interacted with local residents and PRI representatives, who appreciated the efforts of the department in transforming rural water supply systems and improving living conditions.

The Mission Director assured that regular monitoring and thirdparty quality checks will continue to ensure transparency, accountability, and durability of infrastructure being developed under the Jal Jeevan Mission across Ganderbal

### CPR Awareness-cum-Demonstration Programme Held at GDC Ganderbal

HT News Desk / DIPR

**GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 16:** As part of the ongoing nationwide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Awareness Week, a CPR Awareness-cum-Demonstration Programme was organized today at Government Degree College (GDC) Ganderbal in collaboration with the Health Department Gan-

The programme aimed to spread awareness about the significance of timely CPR intervention and to equip students and faculty members with the basic life-saving skills necessary to respond effectively during medical emergencies.

A team of trained healthcare



professionals and paramedical staff from the Health Department

on Basic Life Support (BLS) techniques, including chest compresconducted live demonstrations sions, rescue breathing, use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), and essential first-response actions to be taken during cardiac arrest or choking incidents. Participants were also given handson practice sessions to strengthen their understanding of CPR

The Principal of GDC Ganderbal appreciated the Health Department, NSS, NCC, and the College Health Committee for organizing such an informative and life-saving event. In her remarks, she emphasized the need to make CPR training a regular part of campus activities, noting that "a well-informed and trained youth can make a real difference in saving lives during emergen-

Students and faculty expressed keen interest and actively participated in the session, describing it as both enlightening and empowering. They also pledged to disseminate the knowledge gained to their families and com-

The event concluded with an interactive question-answer session, during which experts clarified doubts and reiterated the importance of immediate response

in cardiac emergencies. Such awareness programmes, officials noted, play a pivotal role in building a prepared, responsive, and health-conscious society, where timely action can make the difference between life and

### **Training on Implementation** of e-Office 2.0 Conducted at Kupwara

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

KUPWARA. OCTOBER 16: In a significant step towards strengthening digital governance, a training session on the implementation of e-Office 2.0 was today held at the Main Hall of the DC Office Complex Kupwara, under the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse.

The initiative is part of the Union Territory's larger mission to promote paperless administration, transparency, and efficiency in official workflows



through the adoption of advanced digital platforms. The session was conducted by Fayaz Ahmad, ICT Officer from the IT Department, Civil Secretariat Srinagar, who provided a detailed demonstration of the upgraded features of e-Office 2.0, including file management, online correspondence, digital signatures, workflow tracking, and record archiving.

Officials from various district and sectoral offices participated in the programme, gaining handson experience on how to effectively use the system for day-to-day administrative tasks. The participants were also sensitized about data security protocols, user accountability, and the importance of timely file movement under the new system.

Speaking on the occasion, the resource person emphasized that e-Office 2.0 is designed to enhance speed, transparency, and accountability within the government's administrative setup, ensuring better service delivery to citizens.

The training underscored the Kupwara administration's commitment to embracing digital transformation, in line with the directives of the UT administration, to make government offices more efficient, accessible, and environmentally sustainable.

Participants expressed appreciation for the initiative and assured full cooperation in adopting the e-Office system for smoother and faster official communication and workflow management.

## DC Doda encourages students to strive for excellence

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

DODA, OCTOBER 16: Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh today encouraged the students to strive to achieve big and contribute positively to the soci-

He was addressing the students and staff at the annual day function of Faridia Model Higher Secondary School, where he was the Chief Guest. The event marked a significant occasion to acknowledge school's academic excellence and the holistic growth of its students.

Former Minister, Khalid Najib Suharwardy and Patron of the school was the Guest of Honour.

The Deputy Commissioner Doda lauded the school for imparting quality education and fostering discipline, creativity and moral values among students. He encouraged young learners to strive for excellence and contribute positively to society.

The celebration featured a colourful cultural programme including Naats, debates and skill-based performances, showcasing diverse talents and creativity of the students. Prizes and awards were distributed among meritorious students for their achievements in academics, sports and extracurricular

On this special occasion, a book titled



"Roshni Ka Safar" was also released, highlighting school's journey, achievements and contributions in the field of education.

Principal Shahida Khan expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Guest, the Patron, parents and guests for their continued support and encouragement, which have been instrumental in the school's growth and success.

Joint Director Education Ashfaq Khanji; PO ICDS Akhter Qazi; Ex-Chairman Municipal Council and former teachers and parents of students were

### Job Fair & Entrepreneurship Mela held at **GDC Banihal under Mission Yuva**

HT News Desk / DIPR

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 16: The District Employment & Counselling Centre (DE&CC) Ramban on Thursday organized a Job Fair and Entrepreneurship Mela at Government Degree College Banihal under Mission Yuva. The event witnessed enthusiastic par-

ticipation from more than 500 youth of The programme was inaugurated by MLA Banihal Sajad Shaheen in the presence

of Assistant Director Employment, Amit Kumar and the college Principal Dr. Shafiq Katoch. A total of 10 reputed companies participated in the Job Fair, offering over 200 job openings across different sectors. Dur-

ing the recruitment drive, around 180 youth were shortlisted for various employment opportunities. Later, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Mohammad Nasseb joined the event and handed over five sanction letters under Mission Yuva to eligible beneficiaries, en-

neurship among the youth. Additionally, 50 candidates were registered under the entrepreneurship scheme of Mission Yuva, reflecting the growing interest of young people in self-reliant ven-

couraging self-employment and entrepre-

Later, the MLA handed over keys to entrepreneurs who had applied for passenger





Staff members of the District Employment & Counselling Centre, Ramban and Government Degree College, Banihal were also present and played an active role in coordinating and facilitating the successful conduct of the programme.

development, entrepreneurship and finan-

MLA Sajjad Shaheen appreciated the efforts of the Employment Department for organizing such a meaningful programme that connects youth with employment and entrepreneurial opportunities. He urged participants to take full advantage of the initiatives being implemented under Mis-

 $The \, event \, concluded \, with \, a \, vote \, of \, thanks \,$ by the College Principal, who expressed gratitude to all participating departments, companies and stakeholders for their cooperation in making the event a grand suc-

#### HT EDITORIAL

### **Despite Jal Jeevan** Mission people suffer on account of drinking water

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), a flagship programme launched by the Government of India some years back was aimed to provide clean drinking water to the people of India. The scheme might have achieved its target of reaching out to the people since tap water connections have been provided to the people living in the far-flung areas of the country, but on the other hand people continue to suffer.

Reports of water shortage come from different parts of the Kashmir valley every now and then. Over the years the Jal Shakti department has failed to upgrade the system and as a result of this there has been no improvement in the overall water supply. It is due to this reason that a slight increase in the day temperature leads to shortage of the drinking water across the length and breadth of the valley. Failure to upgrade the existing system and above all the failure to introduce new water supply schemes has compounded the problems of the people.

The basic problem is that the planners here have a limited vision and they don't look towards the future. They are concerned about the present day and seem to be least bothered about the future. Ideally the people at helm should have a vision and they should formulate a scheme that can run for decades together. Once this happens the coming generations will not suffer on account of clean drinking water. As on date the people are suffering and one does not know when the things will change.

It is important that the Jal Shakti department upgrades the existing infrastructure so that the problems being faced by the people in the ongoing summer season are solved and they heave a sigh of relief. The rusted pipes need to be replaced by fresh ones and that too with a higher diameter. At the same time proper cleaning of the water supply schemes needs to be done so that clean and drinking water is supplied to the people.

The department needs to pull up the socks and make a proper stock of chlorine and other chemicals that are needed to make water free from all the impurities. It has been observed that during rains dirty and filthy water is supplied to the people and as such people fall prey to different water borne diseases. This needs to be looked into by the people at helm so that the masses are entitled to clean drinking water.

## HEADLINES

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# Baba Bulleh Shah (RA)



**Bulleh Shah** 

was a direct descendant of the **Holy Prophet** Muhammad (SAW) through the progeny of Hazrat Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jeelani (RA) of Baghdad. As is common in South Asian poetry, his verses often include a signature line containing his name. Bulleh Shah lived in Kasur, now in Pakistan



Almighty Allah has bestowed this universe with great spiritual and intellectual scholars. Many of them still live in the hearts of their devoted followers, remembered forthe great roles they played in shaping faith and humanity — a phenomenon that will continue till the Day of Judgement. Among these noble personalities are Islamic preachers, scientists, educationists, and above all, the spiritual saints whose names shine brightly through centuries.

One such saint was Baba Bulleh Shah (RA), who continues to hold an everlasting charm among his followers for his immense contribution to Sufi poetry and spirituality. Baba Bulleh Shah (RA) was a Punjabi Sufi poet believed to have lived from 1680 to 1758. His real name was Abdullah Shah, but "Bulleh" was his affectionate nickname, which he adopted as his poetic sig-

Bulleh Shah was a direct descendant of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) through the progeny of Hazrat Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jeelani (RA) of Baghdad. As is common in South Asian poetry, his verses often include a signature line containing his name. Bulleh Shah lived in Kasur, now in Pakistan.

He primarily wrote in the Kafi style – a poetic form used by Sufis of Punjab and Sindh, and even by Sikh Gurus. His writings portray him as a humanist, deeply concerned with the social and spiritual issues of his time. Through his poetry, he offered timeless wisdom and solutions to the challenges of human existence.

Bulleh Shah's spiritual master was Shah Inayat Qadiri of Lahore, under whose guidance he attained great spiritual enlightenment. His ancestral roots trace back to Uch Gilaniyan in Bahawalpur, now part of Pakistan. His forefathers had migrated from Bukhara (in presentday Uzbekistan) to Malakwal in the Multan district, and later settled in Pandoke, about 14 miles southeast

Bulleh Shah's legacy remains alive - his verses continue to inspire love, peace, and unity, transcending boundaries of religion, caste, and creed.

sahilmanzoor0401@gmail.

## **Unlocking Potential Through Self-Study**



**Development of** Critical Thinking Skills: Engaging in self-study compels students to think critically about the material. They learn to evaluate

resources, synthesize information and draw conclusions independently. This process not only deepens their knowledge but also develops essential skills that are highly valued in today's job market

Today's era has emerged as a technologically advanced age where information is available at our fingertips. The importance of self-study has never been felt more significant than in the present times. Students and professionals are facing the complexities of their respective fields and as a result the ability to learn independently is increasingly becoming a crucial element for achieving success. From the educational sphere to career advancement self-study empowers individuals to take control of their learning journey and unlock their full potential.

#### **Motivation For Independent Learning**

Traditionally education has been viewed as a structured process that heavily relies on classroom instruction and direct teacher assistance. However with the rise of digital platforms and online resources students are embracing self-learning as a complementary method to modern education. Educational psychologists state that "self-study instills a sense of ownership over learning in individuals. It motivates them to explore topics that are personally relevant allowing for deeper understanding and retention."

#### **Benefits Of Self-Study**

 $The \, greatest \, advantage \, of \, self-study \, is \, its \, flexibility.$ Students can adapt their study times and methods according to their personal needs and preferences. This personalized approach allows individuals to focus on challenging or specific areas of interest ultimately enhancing their overall comprehension.

Development of Critical Thinking Skills: Engaging in self-study compels students to think critically about the material. They learn to evaluate resources, synthesize information and draw conclusions independently. This process not only deepens their knowledge but also develops essential skills that are highly valued in today's

#### Increased Motivation and Discipline:

The responsibility of self-study lies solely with the individual, which enhances intrinsic motivation. When students set their own goals and track their progress, they develop a sense of discipline that can be reflected in other areas of life as well. This model of independent learning fosters resilience and adaptability the qualities that are vital for long-term success.

#### Lifelong Learning Mindset:

In a rapidly changing world the ability to adapt and continuously learn is crucial. Self-study fosters a lifelong learning mindset equipping individuals with the necessary tools to remain relevant in their fields. As industries evolve and new technological advancements emerges those who embrace self-study will be better prepared to navigate these changes.

#### **Real-World Stories**

Numerous success stories highlight the impact of self-study on personal and professional development. For instance tech entrepreneur Elon Musk taught himself about rocket science and engineering through books



and online courses. His commitment to independent learning played a significant role in the success of SpaceX

Similarly, many students turned to self-learning during the corona pandemic when traditional educational methods were disrupted. Online platforms such as Coursera, Khan Academy and YouTube became valuable resources for students striving to continue their education. Reports indicate that those who engaged in self-study during this time not only maintained their academic performance but often exceeded expectations.

#### **Facing Challenges**

While there are numerous benefits to self-study, it is not without its challenges. Many individuals experience procrastination or feel a lack of effective resources for studying. To address these issues, it is recommended to create specific and clear goals, develop a structured study plan and utilize various learning materials such as books, videos and interactive courses to make the process engaging.

In conclusion, embracing the power of self-study can lead to significant personal and professional growth, enabling individuals to thrive in an ever-evolving world.

In the turn of time, as we move forward into the 21st century, the importance of self-study in achieving success has never been more understood. By taking control of their learning experiences individuals can develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in increasingly challenging environments. Whether in academic or professional endeavors, self-study empowers students to unlock their potential and guides them on the path to success. Embracing this approach may be the key not only to surviving but also to thriving in this modern world.

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

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## **Opportunities Come Once In A While So Take Them**



STATE HEADLINES

Lt Gen PR Shankar (Retd.): A retired Director General of Artillery, he argued in 2023 for an Indian model of civil-military fusion to find "Indian solutions to Indian problems" and emphasized that "Civil Military Fusion is the only way forward to achieve greatness".

Lt Col Akshat Upadhyay: A research fellow at MP-IDSA, he stated in 2023 that CMF should be a "top-down policyoriented approach that utilises the Indian entrepreneurial spirit rather than being supported and hand-held by the government at all times".

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In discussions on Military-Civil Fusion (MCF) in India, experts and military leaders emphasize developing a unique, indigenous model that leverages civilian technology for national security while fostering economic growth!

Military-Civil Fusion (MCF), this term seems like a counterpart to the American term civil-military integration (CMI), but in reality it is far deeper and more complex. Whereas, according to the U.S. Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, America's CMI is "cooperation between government and commercial facilities in research and development (R&D), manufacturing, and/or maintenance operations", China's Military-Civil Fusion strategy is a state-led, state-directed program and plan to leverage all levers of state and commercial power to strengthen and support the armed wing of the Communist Party of China, the People's Liberation Army

 $Recent \, remarks \, from \, military \, officials \,$ and strategic analysts highlight the increasing focus on integrating civilian and military resources.

Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla (Retd.): In 2022, he defined Civil-Military Fusion (CMF) as "the convergence of military and civilian resources for maximizing a nation's ability to express its comprehensive national power". He stressed the need for rapid acceleration in the military startup

Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi: At the Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2024, he connected national security and nation-building using Chanakya's 'Saptanga Theory,' highlighting the importance of effective institutions, governance, inclusive development, national identity, and societal transforma-

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh: In 2023, he noted that joint working among the three services significantly benefited sectors like logistics, stating it laid the foundation for "a strong logistics system... pivotal for operational preparedness of the Armed Forces".

Indian Army's official statement on 'Converge Capsule II' (August 2025): This initiative was described as a "Military-Civil Fusion initiative" embodying a "Whole of Nation Approach" and fostering collaboration between the armed forces, civil administration, academia, and indus-

Lt Gen P R Shankar (Retd.): A retired Director General of Artillery, he argued in 2023 for an Indian model of civil-military fusion to find "Indian solutions to Indian problems" and emphasized that "Civil Military Fusion is the only way forward to achieve greatness".

Lt Col Akshat Upadhyay: A research fellow at MP-IDSA, he stated in 2023 that CMF should be a "top-down policy-oriented approach that utilises the Indian entrepreneurial spirit rather than being supported and hand-held by the government at all times".

Gp Capt Puneet Bhalla (Retd.): A senior fellow at CENJOWS, he argued in 2023 that implementing Military-Civil Fusion requires a national strategy with a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework enabling private sector participation and institutionalized coordination.

The development of the project by the

Chinese President Xi Jinping has emphasized accelerating the development of a comprehensive military-civil fusion pattern. Analysis by the Vivekananda International Foundation mentions a senior analyst's perspective: "I'm willing to 'fuse' others but not willing to 'be fused' by others". This analysis also notes potential internal resistance in China, summarized as "My game, my turf, my rules".

Regarding the strategic context, the Center for a New American Security highlights that China's MCF is a state-driven strategy, unlike civil-military collaboration in Western countries. Foreign Policy analysis points out that the convergence of civilian and defense technologies, particularly from non-sanctioned entities, creates challenges for the U.S. in balancing national security and innovation.

In India, achieving self-reliance in defense requires collaboration among various stakeholders, including defense public sector undertakings, industry, academia, and military services, according to Indian Air Force analysis. Military analyst Lt. Col. Saurabh Dixit suggests this approach could enhance military capability through a "Whole of the Nation approach" to security challenges.

Many would call it a heavy approach to the subject at hand but will describe it as a whole in the paragraphs that follow!

The first one read Students of RashtriyaRakshaUniversity visited SigarMilitaryStation and experienced a day in



soldier's life through rock climbing, firing, firefighting&leadership related activities. The experience fostered courage, teamwork & patriotism, culminating in a spirited cultural evening.

But what happened had to be the next one: Arunachal Pradesh: Military-Civil Fusion event conducted at Sigar Military Station!

We are an unknown kind of people but the versatility of a soldier lives on! We stay in the North but one of us has studied

Spearhead Division of Spearcorps conducted a significant Military-Civil Fusion event at Sigar Military Station in Arunachal Pradesh.

It was aimed at fostering synergy,  $understanding\, and\, cooperation\, between$ the Indian Army and the civil administration of Arunachal Pradesh.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Secretary Manish Kumar Gupta, General Officer Commanding, Spearhead Division, DGP Anand Mohan, Major General Vivek Bankshi, , and other dignitaries from various departments and the Indian Army attended the Interaction.

The attendees brainstormed on collaborative activities in diverse fields of humanitarian and disaster relief operations, integrated development in border areas, border tourism, and socio-cultural development.

 $While \, appreciating \, the \, efforts \, of \, Spear \,$ Crops towards the welfare of veterans in the State, the participants also discussed other steps that can be taken towards veterans' welfare.

They also witnessed a display of highend military equipment, including drones that showcased the technological advancements in the Indian Army achieved through Atma Nirbhar Initiatives.

A display of high-end military equipment and advanced technology was also organised, providing a glimpse into the evolving capabilities of the Indian Army under the Atma Nirbhar Initiative.

The event successfully reinforced the spirit of "Whole of Nation Approach", highlighting the shared vision of progress, security and harmony between the civil administration and the Indian Army in Arunachal Pradesh.

Civil-Military Fusion (CMF) in India refers to the integration of military and civilian resources, technologies, and systems to enhance national power and security. This concept involves collaboration between the armed forces, civilian government bodies, industry, and academia to boost domestic defense manufacturing, develop advanced technologies like AI and cyber, and improve infrastructure like logistics, ultimately aiming for self-reliance and comprehensive national capability.

Integration of defense and industry: Opening up high-end defense manufacturing, space, and cyber technologies to the private sector is a core element, driven by policies like "Make in India" and "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India).

Technology and R&D: A major focus is on developing disruptive technologies like AI, robotics, and unmanned systems by leveraging both military and civilian R&D

A "revolving door" mechanism, similar

 $to \, the \, US \, model, is \, encouraged \, to \, facilitate$ the exchange of talent and expertise between the military and private sector.

Infrastructure and logistics: CMF includes the development of shared infrastructure like roads, ports, and airports that can be used by both military and civilian sectors, as well as integrated logistical networks.

Inter-agency coordination: It involves joint efforts with civilian authorities and paramilitary forces to enhance preparedness and security.

Drills like "Samanvay Shakti" are held to improve inter-agency coordination for security and critical infrastructure protec-

Sector-specific fusion: Space: Collaboration between military and civilian entities in the space sector is seen as crucial for developing capabilities in ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance) and hybrid warfare.

Cyber: The fusion is especially relevant in cyberspace, where the distinction between military and civilian systems is blurred due to the pervasive nature of digital infrastructure and the rise of cyber

Policy and implementation: CMF is viewed as a top-down policy-oriented approach that needs government support but is also driven by the entrepreneurial spirit of Indian industry.

A stable policy environment with longterm requirements and budgetary assurance is seen as critical for successful CMF.

Opportunities come once in a while so take them, Rashtriya Raksha university (RRU) is one such opportunity! So boys and girls of the future take on this adven-

The University is destined to grow as a model security educational University of India. Its endeavors focus on highly professional security, strategic and police education, research and training through its qualified civilian and security and police faculty, committed human resource, motivated participants and students, intellectually stimulating and professional disciplined environment and world-wide network, sharing and exchange.

It aims at providing security and strategic education in the contemporary and futuristic security strategic and police studies and interdisciplinary areas.

The University contributes to the vision of India of Peace, Prosperous and Stable World in alliance with grand strategic cooperation between like-minded nations and promoting greater understanding between senior security, police officers, diplomats, civil servants and civilians to promote the cause of the Nation.

It adopts a two tier approach, at the national and international levels, in its education, research and training and extension in order to achieve capabilities to respond to the needs, expectations and aspirations of the security and strategic institutions and forces as well as lawmaking, governance, judiciary, economy (agriculture-manufacturing-service sectors) and the civil society organisations.

It is a public central university and an autonomous institute located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India. It is recognized as an Institution of National Importance

under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India, by an act of the Indian Parliament. RRU specializes in national security, cyber security, digital forensics, and internal security.

The university offers undergraduate, postgraduate, research degree programmes, and professional diploma and certificate programmes. The institute was inaugurated by the former chief minister of Gujarat Narendra Modi on 22 July 2010.

The university has been upgraded as Rashtriya Raksha University, a national university, as an Institution of National  $Importance\,through\,the\,Rashtriya\,Raksha$ University Act, passed by Parliament in October 2020.

On 12 March 2022, the university after being dedicated to the nation was given the mandate to establish its campuses all across the country to produce trained manpower for the security organizations of India, by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, and the Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation Minister, Shri Amit Shah. RRU at present has multiple campuses, with the first and main campus in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Rashtriya Raksha University, Arunachal Pradesh Campus: The university opened its first campus outside Gujarat in Arunachal Pradesh. The campus has been established under a memorandum of understanding entered into between the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and Rashtriya Raksha University.

The new campus was inaugurated by the Union Home Affairs and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu on 22 May 2022. The campus is located at Pasighat in the East Siang district of Arunachal

Raksha Shakti University had signed an MoU with Israel based 'HackerU' for its course of PG Diploma in Cyber Forensics

 $Arjun\,Ram\,Meghwal, Minister\,of\,State$ for Parliamentary Affairs, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, awarded the Merit trophy to Raksha Shakti University at the 14th National Youth Parliament Competition,

Forensic psychologist Reena Sharma while pursuing her Ph.D. from RRU opted for the positive criminology route and assessed violent behaviour of 110 prison inmates convicted under heinous offenses like murder, rape, etc. She convinced the prison authorities to set up a psychological cell in Sabarmati Jail, Ahmedabad,

RRU has signed a memorandum of understanding with the India Navy for collaboration for innovation and research in the field of defense. RRU was praised by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on the

Rashtriya Raksha University is set to define a training module for commandos of Special Protection Group. The SPG protects the prime minister and their family members residing with them at the official

The Final line: If things can be done your own way then why eavesdrop or sneak into others doors or houses!

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**HT-HEALTH & SCIENCE** 

## **Skin Detox Tips to Follow Post Diwali**



#### Shahnaz Husain

The festive season is getting over, and it is time to get life back, isn't it?

Due to the festive preparations, we tend to ignore our bodies which takes a toll on our skin and hair and they start to lose their glow and shine.

The night of Diwali is usually reserved for nightlong parties and for loading yourself with sugary stuff. But, in the midst of this all, one thing that goes on for a toss is your body.

Festival treats till the wee hours of the morning, eating oily foods and sweets, cleaning, post-Diwali pollution, skipping out on skincare routines, and the ensuing pollution can affect skin health.

Crackers burst during Diwali contains highly toxic heavy metals such as lead, copper, zinc, manganese, sodium, potassium, etc. which causes various skin issues.

After the Diwali festivities that involve heavy makeup and exposure to pollutants, it's high time we give our skin the love and care it deserves.

However, with the festive season over, now is a great time to detox your skin and take a break from everything

Give your skin the love it needs post-Diwali by following these simple skincare tips for healthy

#### Try intermittent fasting

Intermittent fasting involves periods of entirely or partially abstaining from eating.

There are several different ways to do intermittent fasting, but they are all based on choosing regular time periods to eat and fast.

Fasting completely for 1 or 2 days a week, known as the Eat-Stop-Eat diet, involves eating no food for 24 hours at a time while they can take water, tea, and other calorie-free drinks during the fasting period. Fastly generally begins from morning up to the second day's morning breakfast time.

One way is to drink only water with lemon until 2 pm the next day, and have only one light meal with lots of fluid for a cleanse.

You can opt for day time --- restriction fasting where one can eat normally but only within an eight-hour window each day. For example, skip breakfast but eat lunch around noon and dinner by 9 p.m

Some studies have concluded that intermittent fasting may be more beneficial than other diets for reducing inflammation and improving conditions associated with inflammation,

It is important to drink lots of water and calorie-free drinks, such as herbal teas, throughout the day. This can help ensure you get enough electrolytes, sodium, and potassium chloride.

After breakfast take food that is high in fibre,  $vitamins, and \, minerals, to \, keep \, blood \, \bar{sugar} \, levels$ steady and prevent nutrient deficiencies. A balanced diet will also contribute to overall health.

#### Add antioxidants to your diet

Antioxidants are molecules that fight free radicals in your body.



Plant-based foods are the best source of antioxidants. These include fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts, seeds, herbs and spices, and even

Several vitamins, such as vitamins E and C, are effective antioxidants.

Plants have naturally occurring antioxidants such as carotenoids, flavonoids, isothiocyanates,

Berries, green tea, coffee, and dark chocolate are renowned for being good sources of antioxidants

Antioxidant vitamins Cand E have skin benefits. Antioxidants make skin softer, reduce moisture loss and protect skin cells from sun damage.

However high doses of some antioxidant supplements can be harmful. For example, they can result in the effects of some medicines. If you are on any medicines, make sure you ask your doctor about taking antioxidant supplements.

Antioxidants help skin repair itself. Inflammation impedes the skin's renewal process. By reducing inflammation, antioxidants allow the skin to repair itself and correct visible damage. Some antioxidants, like vitamin C, can also stimulate collagen production, which is vital for youthful

#### Watch out for Food consumption Eating healthy is one of the best and essential

The festive season is all about sweets and snacks. Oily and extra-sweet foods affect the skin leading to breakouts and clogged pores.

Now you need to shift to healthier food such as choosing whole grains over refined grains and eating more protein. Include more fruits, especially citrus fruits, salad, and sprouts in your diet.

It's recommended that you eat at least 5 portions of a variety of fruit and veg every day. They can be fresh, frozen, canned, dried or juiced.

Include a banana over your breakfast cereal, or swap your usual mid-morning snack for a piece of fresh fruit.

For a healthier choice, use a small amount of vegetable or olive oil, or reduced-fat spread instead of butter, lard or ghee.

A good way to ensure you eat your salad as a starter. By doing so, you'll finish all of your greens while you're at your hungriest. It may lead you to eat fewer calories overall, which could result in improved health. Plus, eating vegetables before a carb-rich meal has been shown to benefit blood sugar levels.

Most people consume too much sodium through salt while consuming an average of 9-12 g of salt per day is recommended.

Avoid intake of excessive salt. About threequarters of the salt you eat is already in the food when you buy it, such as breakfast cereals, soups, breads and sauces. More than 1.5g of salt per 100g means the food is high in salt

Try to start with a healthy breakfast which is high in fibre and low in fat, sugar and salt.

It an help you get the nutrients you need for

The pace at which you eat influences how much you eat, as well as how likely you are to gain weight. Your appetite, how much you eat, and how full you get are all controlled by hormones. Hormones

signal to your brain whether you're hungry or full. However, it takes about 20 minutes for your brain to receive these messages. That's why eating more slowly may give your brain the time it needs to perceive that you're full.

But if you eat too little or eat too much, your health and quality of life could be affected. This can result in negative feelings toward food.

Focusing on how and why you eat is just as important as what you eat, By being mindful of your habits and relationship with food, you can empower yourself and reveal the way to eat that is truly nourishing to your body and mind.

#### Keep yourself hydrated

Consuming junk foods and having aerated drinks and sodas for liquid can leave your body dehydrated.

The skin gets dry and flaky because of the hot temperature and the pollution caused due to the crackers. Therefore, in the post-Diwali days, you should concentrate on replenishing the water content of your body.

Hydration is the secret sauce for healthy skin, and post-Diwali skin hydration is our golden ticket to restoring that dewy glow.

Make sure to drink 10 glasses of water throughout the day to keep your skin hydrated. You can also enjoy herbal teas or flavoured water to add a festive touch. This will help control your appetite and reduce the chances of overindulging in unhealthy snacks and sweets.

Water consumption at regular intervals throughout the day is essential for keeping our metabolism active and flushing out toxins.

Inculcate the habit of drinking a glass of warm lemon water early in the morning to flush out toxins in your body. A teaspoon of honey can also be added to the drink. Both lemon and honey have medicinal properties.

Additionally, including hydrating foods such as fruits and vegetables in your meals can also contribute to your overall hydration. This straightforward practice can have a remarkable impact on how you feel throughout the festive season.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

## Dr. Tasaduk **Honored** with Dr. A.P.J. **Abdul Kalam** Excellence **Award**

Dr. Tasaduk Hussain Itoo, has been conferred with the Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam National Excellence Award 2025, in recognition of his outstanding dedication, contributions and achievements as a dishtinguished medico, educator, writer

The award presented by Treta Yug Foundation -- a registered social organization, honours exemplary individuals who embody the vision and ideals of Late Dr. A. P. J. Abdul



Kalam, India's Former President and Missile Man of India. Dr Itoo is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health

(FRSPH), United Kingdom, and a Fellow of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF Fellow, Belgium). He is also associated with globally reputed medical bodies, including the Endocrine Society (USA), RSSDI(India), American College of Physicians(USA).

Pertinently, the Treta Yug Foundation based in Ayodhya, is devoted to promoting education, healthcare, and humanitarian service. Through its National Excellence Awards, the Foundation aims to recognize and celebrate individuals who contribute meaningfully to society.

## **HEADLINES TODAY INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS**

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YOUR WORDS CAN INSPIRE, INFORM, AND IGNITE; LET







## JKCCTU Holds One-Day Conference in Srinagar



#### Farooq Rather

LETTH HEADLINES

**TODA** 

**SRINAGAR. OCT 16:** The Jammu & Kashmir Coordination Committee of Trade Unions (JKCCTU) held a oneday conference in Srinagar, with A Sree Kumar. General Secretary of the All India State Government Employees Federation, as the chief guest.

Around 100 delegates from various departments, including PDD, Horticulture, Agriculture, Social Welfare, Health, and Education, attended the event. In his inaugural speech, A Sree Kumar highlighted service-related issues faced by employees across the country, discussed the challenges

confronting the public sector, and stressed the need to strengthen public institutions for the development of society. He also expressed concern over rising crimes and social evils and urged the government to adopt people- and employee-friendly policies.

Abdul Rashid Najar presented the General Secretary's Report, outlining the organization's achievements, shortcomings, and future strategies. A detailed discussion on the report was also held.

During the conference, a new state committee was elected with Abdul Rashid Najar as President and Fayaz Ahmad Bhat as Vice President. Other office-bearers include:

Vice Presidents: Mohd Amin Dar, Hura Banoo, Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat, Farooq Ahmad Rather, Imtiyaz Ahmad Secretaries: Shahnawaz Ahmad Bhat, Fayaz Ahmad Lone, Tartaz Ahmad Shah, Mohd Ramzan Sheikh

Treasurer: Nazir Ahmad Tantry State Committee Members: Hakeem Umar Jan, Sareer Ahmad Dar, Waseemul Islam, Mohd Yaqoob Hajam, Tariq Maqbool, Mohd Yaqoob

Special invitees Lateefa Ji and AR Pandit attended the conference. The proceedings were conducted by Shahnawaz Ahmad Bhat (Secretary).

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

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

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of DILSHADA BEGUM D/O PEER HABIBULLA SHAH R/O SHEIKHPORA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 22/03/1973 and event has been shown to be occured at home for issuance of delay order .In this connection.

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

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

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

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of SALIB ZAHOOR LONE S/O ZAHOOR AHMAD LONE R/O NOWPORA JAGIR Tehsil BARAMULLA Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 03/01/2014 and event has been shown to be occured at home for issuance of delay order .In this connection.

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

#### **Public Notice**

My name has been wrongly as AASIF AHMAD DAR in my Aadhar card bearing Aadhar No ...4160 7881 0987 while my correct name is MOHD AQIB DAR S/O AB AHAD DAR as per Date of Birth certificate which needs to be corrected if anybody having objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned Aadhar Authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be

Name....MOHD AQIB DAR, S/O ...AB AHAD DAR

#### **Public Notice**

My daughters name has been wrongly written as TAMANAH MAJEED in her Aadar card bearing Aadar no 3744 7997 0131 while her correct name is HADIYA MEHJOOR D/O MEHJOOR AHMAD RATHER as per domicile certificate which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned Aadhar authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name: HADIYA MEHJOOR D/O ...MEHJOOR AHMAD RATHER SHIRPOPRA GAVEGARIN

#### **Public Notice**

My name has been wrongly written as WASEEM AHMAD LONE in my aadhar record bearing Aadhar no 6693 62774790 while my correct name is MOHAMMAD WASEEM LONE S/O MOHAMMAD ASHRAF LONE as per domicile certificate which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned Aadhar authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be

> Name... MOHAMMAD WASEEM LONE S/O ....MOHAMMAD ASHRAF LONE **R/O ....PETHPORA NOWPORA JAGIR**

#### **Public Notice**

My daughter's name and her mothers' name has been wrongly written as AREEBA IMTIYAZ WANI & mother's name MEHNAAZ IMTIYAZ in her Date of Birth certificate while her correct name is AREEBA IMTIYAZ & her correct mother's name is MEHNAAZ MAJID which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his/her objection in the office of BDO WAGOORA /TEHSIL OFFICE WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name....IMTIYAZ AHMAD WANI F/O ...AREEBA IMTIYAZ, R/O ...WAGOORA

#### **Public Notice**

My son's mother's name has been wrongly written as MEHNAAZ MAJEED in his Date of Birth certificate while his correct mother's name is MEHNAAZ MAJID which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his/her objection in the office of BDO WAGOORA /TEHSIL OFFICE WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

> Name....IMTIYAZ AHMAD WANI F/O ...AHSAN, R/O ...WAGOORA

#### **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**

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

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

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

FRESH NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (MACADAM WORKS) Fresh NIT No: 85 /R&B of 2025-26 Dated: 16-10-2025

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

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor	Project Authority	Tender Call
1	Macadimazation of Pattan road to Kralpora.	8.78	600/-	17560/-	10 days	C&T 2025-26	D/C	R&B Deptt.	$3^{\rm rd}$

Position Of AAA : Accorded Position of T.S Accorded Position of funds committed

1. The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be viewed/downloaded from the

departmental website www jatenders.gov.in as per senedule of dates given below -					
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	16-10-2025			
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	16-10-2025			
3	Bid submission Start Date	16-10-2025			
4	Bid Submission End Date	22-10-2025 4:00 PM			
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	23-10-2025 11:00 AM			

- 2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (Dated between bid submission start date and bid submission end date) with NIT No., Serial No. and name of work to be deposited in M.H. 0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender inviting authority)
- 3. All the bidders must upload Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority)(The Date of earnest money/Bid security should be between the Bid Submission start date and Bid submission End date, otherwise bids shall be rejected).
- 4. The Successful bidder will have to provide performance security @ 5% of contract value in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority)as per rule-171 (I) of GFR 2017. The earnest money/ Bid security @2% shall be released to the successful bidder only on receipt of Performance Security @ 5% of Contract value which shall be released after successful completion of DLP /maintenance period.
- 5. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority).
- 6. The earnest money/ Bid security in favour of unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of original Treasury Challan.
- 7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 day s from the date of opening of Technical bids
- 8. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form), NIT, GFR 2017 & JK PWD Engineering Manual 2020.
- 9. As per the Circular No. 01 (Adm) FD of 2025 Dated: 08-07-2025 issued by Finance Department of UT J&K "Every participating supplier/contractor to mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder" No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/5239-49 | Dated: 16-10-2025

DIPK: 7262/25 Dated: 16-10-2025

**Guryul Ravines In Srinagar** Officially Notified As A National Geo-Heritage Site By The GSI

#### ■ HT News Desk

**SRINAGAR, OCT 16:** The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has officially declared Guryul Ravines, Khonmoh, Srinagar also known as the Permian-Triassic Fossil Park as a National Geo-Heritage Site of International Importance, marking a historic milestone in India's geological conservation efforts. With this declaration, Guryul Ravines becomes one of 35 National Geo-Heritage Sites across the country.

The announcement was made by Asit Saha, Director General, Geological Survey of India (GSI), during an online event coinciding with the 4th UNESCO International Geo-Diversity Day and the 9th International Geo-Ethics Day 2025. Alongside Guryul Ravines, three additional sites Mandak Pal, Bursoo and Pastun (Tral) of Pulwama District were also recognized as Geo-Heritage Sites of International Importance.

During the ceremony, Mr. Saha emphasized the need for environmental conservation, balanced development and ethical geological practices, warning against the risks of unplanned expansion and tourism. He urged geoscientists to promote sustainability and preserve biodiversity through responsible action.

The event featured presentations by a UNESCO representative, Dy. DG GSI Dr. P.S. Mishra, Prof. Ghulam Jeelani, Head of Earth Sciences, University of Kashmir. Prof. (Dr.) G.M. Bhat, a noted geoscientist and former Head of Geology at Jammu University, delivered a detailed presentation on new geological findings in the area. He was felicitated for his lifetime contribution to geoscience research. Deputy Director General, GSI, Dr. P.S. Mishra, said "The recognition of Guryul Ravines as a National Geo-Heritage Site of International Importance reflects India's growing commitment to preserving its unique geological legacy. This site will serve as an open classroom for researchers, students and nature enthusiasts, inspiring a new generation to appreciate the Earth's evolutionary history". Director, Kashmir Office, Geological Survey of India, Abdul Qayoom Paul, highlighted the scientific and educational value of the site. He presented the work and its significance during the event, which was attended by both national and international participants.

"The declaration of Guryul Ravines as a National Geo-Heritage Site is not just a recognition of its global significance but also a call for collective responsibility. It is our duty to safeguard this living archive of Earth's history for future generations and ensure it remains a centre of learning and research," said Mr. Paul. EPG Convenor Faiz Bakshi lauded GSI's decision and highlighted the group's decade-long advocacy for the site's protection. He raised concerns about encroachments and industrial expansion near the fossil park, warning that continued construction could irreparably harm the globally significant site. "With this declaration, the protection rules have completely changed and authorities must ensure strict compliance".

#### **DG Assam Rifles Honours Defence Journalist M S Nazki**

#### HT News Desk

**SHILLONG, OCT 16:** In a prestigious ceremony held in Shillong, Director General of Assam Rifles, Lieutenant General Vikas Lakhera, Honors Mr. M S Nazki, a distinguished author and Special Defence Correspondent, for his outstanding contributions to the field of defence journalism.

Mr. Nazki, widely respected for his insightful reporting and in-depth coverage of defence affairs, was honoured for his dedicated efforts in bringing the spotlight to the commendable work of the Assam Rifles. His writings have consistently showcased the operational readiness, humanitarian missions, and historical legacy of India's



oldest paramilitary force.

Lt. Gen. Lakhera lauded Nazki for his balanced journalism, highlighting not only strategic defence narratives but also the humanitarian dimensions of security forces, especially in sensitive regions like the Northeast and Jammu & Kashmir. He praised Nazki's commitment, stating,

"It is rare to find a journalist who reports with such passion, precision, and a sense of national responsibility. Nazki's work carries positive energy and builds public understanding around the forces that protect our borders."

Hailing from Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Nazki has carved a unique space for himself in the defence media landscape. He is known for maintaining a dual focus—keeping one eye firmly on the strategic developments in the defence sector and the other on the genuine humanitarian issues that often arise in conflict zones.

Often referred to as a "Glow-fly Journalist", a term used to describe those who shine a light in the darkest corners of reporting, Nazki's work is not only informative but also deeply empathetic. His journalistic integrity and dedication to truth have earned him admiration from both defence officials and civilians alike.

In his address, Lt. Gen. Lakhera added, "Recognising such journalists is essential in today's world, where defence awareness needs to be both accurate and sensitive. Nazki's work is a brilliant example of this balance."

The Honors of M S Nazki not only acknowledges individual excellence but also underscores the growing importance of ethical and informed defence journalism in nation-building.

#### **Public Notice**

 $I\, Have\, lost\, RC\, Of\, my\, vechile\,\, Scooty\,\, bearingbRagistration$ JK04C-5758 on way From Chatirgam to Nowgam Srinagar ,Now I have applied for its Dublicate.

If any body having any objection in his regard He/She can contct ARTO Budgam within aperiod of 7 days .after that no

Name: Raja Waseem Ahmad Khan S/o: Raja Sakhawat Ali Khan R/o: Dandoosa Bemina Budgam

میں مسمی فاروق احمد میر ولد محد الجرمیر ساکن شہات گنڈ پائین ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار کے آگاہ کرتا ہوں کہ مجھے آٹھویں جماعت کی ڈسچارج سیڑفکیٹ کہی پرٹم ہوگئی ہے اب مجھے اسکی ڈ بلیکیٹ ڈسچارج سیڑفکیٹ نکانی مطلوب ہے اس بارے میں اگر می بھی شخص یا اشخاص کوکوئی عذریا یا اعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دن کے اندراندرگورمنٹ بائز مڈل سکول بٹرگئڈ رون ماور میں پیش کریں میعاد ختم ہونے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا المشہر فاروق الحمد میر ولد محمد المجمد میر ساکن شہاٹ گنڈ پائین تحصیل ننگیٹ ڈسٹر کٹ کپواڈ

آتھویں جماعت کی ڈسچارج سیرفکیٹ گمشد گی

**CMYK** 

**Sd/- Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg** 

## Tribals being made active stakeholders in planning and development by Omar Abdullah led Government: Javed Rana

@HEADLINESTODA17

Meets several Tribal delegations at Srinagar

HT News Desk / DIPR

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 16: Several tribal delegations from Bandipora and Kupwara districts today called on Tribal Affairs Minister, Javed Ahmed Rana in Srinagar to discuss key issues concerning the welfare and develop-

ment of tribal communities. The delegations highlighted several critical concerns, including infrastructure development, healthcare, education, livelihood opportunities and other welfare initiatives aimed at improving the living standards of tribal populations.

The Minister assured the delegations that the government is committed to addressing these issues in a comprehensive manner. He outlined plans for infrastructure upgrades and implementation of

**DC** Samba inaugurates

**Adarsh Abhiyan Gaon Girls** 

**Basketball Tournament** 

■ HT News Desk / DIPR

vices and Sports Office Samba, under the guidance

of Director General Anuradha Gupta, today com-

menced the Inter-District UT Level Girls Basketball

Tournament under Adarsh Abhiyan Gaon (AAG) at

Government High School Jatwal. The event was me-

ticulously organized under the supervision of District

Youth Services and Sports Officer Dharmvir Singh.

Commissioner Ayushi Sudan, who presided over the

function as Chief Guest. Chief Education Officer Ke-

wal Krishan attended as Guest of Honour, along with

The participants took a solemn pledge to actively engage in sports activities and remain committed

The tournament provides an exceptional platform

to abstaining from drugs, reinforcing the message

for emerging athletes to showcase their talent. This

initiative is designed not only to promote physical

fitness among young girls but also to instill essential

values of teamwork, discipline and resilience. The

event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over

60 girl players representing seven different districts

of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, demonstrat-

ing the growing interest in sports among young

extended its heartfelt appreciation to all participants

for their remarkable dedication and exemplary sports-

manship, truly emboding the spirit of competitive

sports and the objectives of this tournament.

The District Youth Services and Sports Office

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Deputy

SAMBA, OCTOBER 16: The District Youth Ser-



welfare schemes under the Tribal Affairs department, aimed at promoting holistic development and creating sustainable opportunities for tribal communities.

He emphasized that the government is focused on safeguarding the rights of tribal communities through the implementation of various flagship schemes and

targeted welfare initiatives.

"These flagship schemes and initiatives are aimed at bridging the developmental gaps, improving living standards and ensuring

the socio-economic empowerment of tribal communities across Jammu and Kashmir" he said.

Javed Rana reaffirmed the commitment of the Omar Abdullah-led government to inclusive development, underscoring that tribal welfare and empowerment remain a top priority in all policy and development efforts.

He said that all initiatives will be implemented with transparency and efficiency, ensuring that tribal communities are active stakeholders in planning and decision making processes.

Minister highlighted that the government's approach to tribal welfare will focus on the effective implementation of welfare schemes to ensure that the intended benefits reach every member of the community.

## Poshan Maah activities conclude in Reasi with grand valedictory event

DC flags off poshan rally, inspects nutrition stalls

HT News Desk / DIPR

REASI, OCTOBER 16: Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik on Thursday chaired the grand valedictory ceremony of the 8th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2025, which was observed from September 17 to October 16 to promote nutrition awareness, community participation and behavioural change.

During the month-long campaign, a total of 26,523 activities were conducted across the district, engaging over 3.11 lakh individuals. The activities included healthy recipe competitions, identification of SAM/MAM children, awareness sessions on healthy lifestyles, recipe demonstrations featuring low-fat, low-sugar meals and yoga activities.

Among others present at the event included ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal; PO POSHAN Sudershan Kumar; impactful activities throughout the ACD Vijay Kumar; CDPO Arnas Shahid Iqbal; CDPO Reasi Suninderjeet Kour; CDPO Pouni Lekha Bhasinand Anganwadi Sanginis and Sahayikas from across the district.

The Anganwadi workers presented a cultural program and a thematic skit highlighting the crucial role of Anganwadi Centres in improving child nutrition and early educa-

A short documentary produced under the Poshan Project Reasi was also screened, showcasing the functioning and positive impact of Anganwadi Centres in the

Speaking on the occasion, DC Nidhi Malik commended the efforts of the POSHAN Department and acknowledged the dedicated contribution of Anganwadi workers, who led

month aimed at promoting health, hygiene and nutrition at the grassroots level.

On the occasion, the DC gave away 26 engagement orders to newly appointed functionaries, including 4 Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and 14 Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) under Poshan Project Reasi and 8 AWHs from Poshan Project

The DC also inspected Nutrition Stalls set up by the Anganwadi Centres, which displayed locally prepared nutritious food items and distributed IEC material to promote healthy eating habits.

Later, DC Nidhi Malik flagged off a "Poshan Rally", organized to raise community awareness on the importance of balanced nutrition, good health and hygiene practices.

### **JKACS** organises 5 KM Red **Run to spread awareness** about HIV/AIDS

HT News Desk / DIPR

JAMMU, OCTOBER 16: In continuation to its efforts for the prevention and control of HIV in Jammu and Kashmir, the J&K AIDS Control Society (JKACS), H&ME Department, Government of J&K organized the second leg of the five Kilometre run for generating awareness on HIV/AIDS and related issues.

The event Red Run - 2025 was organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu for College and University level students with a special focus on youth wellbeing and channelizing their energies in a positive direction. The event, which was part of the two month long Intensified IEC Campaign launched by National AIDS Control Organization in the country on August 12, 2025, concluded today at the sports ground of University of Jammu.

Earlier, the activity started with the flagging-off of 2 KM walkathon on the university campus on October 15 2025 by the Chief Guest -, Director, Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba in presence of Guest of Honour Principal, SPMR College of Commerce Dr. Rajinder Singh and Special Guest, Deputy Director (Finance) JKACS Madan Lal. Around two hundred and fifty students participated in the walkathon.

The whole event was organized under the guidance of Project Director JKACS Dr. Jehangir Bakshi, in collaboration with the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu.

Members of Red Ribbon Clubs from Jammu University and different Colleges of Jammu took part in the walkathon which was followed by the main activity of 5 KMs Red Run on the athletic track of the university campus witnessing participation of 110 students. The run for girls was held on October 15, 2025 and for boys on October 16, 2025.

The winners of the Red Run were awarded by the Chief Guest alongwith other guests present on the stage. First position was bagged by Parul Sharma in women's category from Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu and Karamat Ali in men's category from GDC, Paloura respectively. The winners from J&K will participate in the National Level Running Competition to be organized by NACO at Chumoukedima (Dimapur), Nagaland on October 30, 2025.

Later a felicitation function was also held in which mementoes were presented to the guests, nodal officers of the Red Ribbon Clubs and other concerned officials from the participating departments.

Anchoring of the program was done by Lakhshika Jamwal & Yamneesh Thakur students from Sports and Physical Education Department, University of

## Closing ceremony of 8th Rashtriya Poshan Maah held at GDC Women Kathua

MLA Dr B. Bushan, DC stress on balanced nutrition for well being of family

KATHUA, OCTOBER 16: The closing ceremony of the 8th Rashtriya Poshan Maah was today held at Government Degree College for Women Kathua. MLA Kathua, Dr. Bharat Bhushan, attended the event as the Chief Guest, while Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma was the Guest of Honour.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Dr. Bharat Bhushan lauded the ICDS Department for successfully observing Poshan Maah across the district. He said that the Poshan projects play a crucial role in promoting health and nutrition awareness, especially among women and

initiative provides vital support by encouraging the use of fresh vegetables and local by available nutritious food, which helps improve family health and wellbeing. The MLA further said that such sustained efforts have a direct impact on reducing Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), contributing to the vision of a healthy and self-reliant nation.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, in his address, said that the Poshan Abhiyaan holds immense importance in ensuring nutritional care for pregnant women, lactating mothers and young children. He emphasized



that community participation is essential to achieve the objectives of the campaign and urged all stakeholders to work in coordination to ensure the delivery of nutritional and health services at the grassroots level. The DC appreciated the efforts of ICDS staff, Anganwadi Workers and community volunteers for spreading awareness and implementing various activities Laadli Beti Yojana, Beti Bachao

dedication.

The key focus areas of this year's Poshan Maah included awareness on limited intake of sugar and edible oils to reduce obesity, promotion of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) integrating nutrition with learning, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, mainstreaming men's participation in nutrition and childcare, promotion of locally available nutritious food resources, and integrated action through digitisation.

ATheme based Nukkad Natak was also presented, highlighting the government schemes like

children. He added that the **Reti Padhao**, Gender Equality and Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana.

The MLA and Deputy Commissioner also handed over appointment orders to 11 newly appointed Anganwadi Helpers.

Among others present included PO ICDS, Mohammad Syeed Khan; CMO Dr. Vijay Raina; DEPO Anjana Manyal; CDPOs of Kathua, Bani, Duggan, Lohai-Malhar, Hiranagar, Basohli, Billawar and Barnoti; Supervisors, Anganwadi Workers and Helpers.

The programme concluded with a pledge by all participants to continue spreading awareness on nutrition, health, and gender equality in their respective com-

## DC Samba reviews Health Services scenario

## Emphasizes inclusive patient care, good governance

HT News Desk / DIPR

other government officials.

of healthy living among youth.

women across the region.

SAMBA, OCTOBER 16: Deputy Commissioner Samba, Ayushi Sudan today conducted an extensive review of the Health Department's performance and ongoing initiatives in the district here at a meeting.

The meeting underscored the administration's unwavering commitment to prioritizing health services, promoting good governance, and achieving universal healthcare coverage for all sections of society, particularly the vulnerable and marginalized popu-

The Deputy Commissioner laid special emphasis on accelerating efforts under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), directing officials to achieve the ambitious

target of screening 70,000 vulnerable individuals for TB in the

Recognizing TB elimination

as a top priority, DC Sudan stressed the critical importance of community engagement through Nikshay Mitras, the dedicated community volunteers who serve as a vital bridge between TB patients and healthcare services. She asked Community Health Officers (CHOs) to work in close coordination with Nikshay Mitras to proactively identify potential TB cases, deliver effective treatment support, and diligently monitor patient outcomes to ensure complete recovery.

In line with the administration's vision of inclusive healthcare, the Deputy Commissioner directed immediate saturation of the district's



population aged 70 years and above with ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) cards, thereby ensuring that senior citizens have unhindered access to quality healthcare services and benefits under government

To expedite the creation of digital health identities and promote the adoption of digital health initiatives across all demographics, the DC instructed officials to actively engage

with private sector operators for generating ABHA IDs, thereby leveraging public-private partnerships for enhanced service delivery.

Addressing another critical aspect of healthcare governance and social welfare, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Chief Medical Officer to organize a comprehensive workshop to acquaint medical fraternity with the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act.

"The initiative aims to create awareness about preventing sexselective practices, combating gender discrimination, and promoting the survival and wellbeing of the girl child, thus reinforcing the administration's commitment to gender equality and women's healthcare," she added.

Concluding the review, Deputy Commissioner Ayushi Sudan emphasized that achieving TB elimination goals and ensuring comprehensive healthcare coverage requires collective efforts, sustained awareness campaigns, extensive screening drives and robust treatment support mech-

She called upon all stakeholders, including Nikshay Mitras, Community Health Officers, private healthcare operators, and departmental officials, to work cohesively towards strengthening healthcare services and building a healthier, TB-free society.

The meeting was attended by Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vidhi Bhatial, Block Medical Officers of Nud, Ramgarh and Purmandal, District Health Officer, District Immunization Officer, all Nodal Officers and other senior officials of the Health Department, reflecting the administration's comprehensive approach towards good governance and people-centric healthcare delivery.



## No phone conversation between PM Modi and US President Trump yesterday: MEA

United News of India

**NEW DELHI. OCT 16:** The Ministry of External Affairs today categorically denied any knowledge of a phone conversation between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump yesterday, contradicting the US President on his claims that PM Modi had assured him on October 15 that India would not purchase Russian oil.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a briefing: "I am not aware of any conversation between Prime Minister Modi and President Trump yester-

The US President had said

yesterday: "I was not happy that India was purchasing Russian oil, and he (PM Modi) assured me today that they will not be buying oil from Russia ... That's a big step. Now I've got to get China do the same thing," he told reporters at the White

Regarding the US President's claims on India's purchase of Russian oil, the spokesperson referred to a statement issued in the morning, in which the government has clearly stated that India's energy import policies are guided entirely by the objective of safeguarding the interests of the Indian consum-

The statement had read: "India is a significant importer



of oil and gas. It has been our consistent priority to safeguard the interests of the Indian consumer in a volatile energy scenario. Our import policies are guided entirely by this objec-

"Ensuring stable energy prices and secured supplies have been the twin goals of our energy policy. This includes broad-basing our energy sourcing and diversifying as appropriate to meet market condi-

"Where the US is concerned, we have for many years sought to expand our energy procurement. This has steadily progressed in the last decade. The current Administration has shown interest in deepening energy cooperation with India. Discussions are ongoing."

President Trump, while claiming that PM Modi had assured that India would stop purchasing oil from Russia, described the move as a "big step" in pressuring Russia over the Ukraine war.

Lauding PM Narendra Modi's long tenure and leadership in India, he said, Modi "is a great man. He loves Trump".

"I don't want to destroy his political career," Trump continued. "I have watched India for years. It's an incredible country, and every single year you would have a new leader," Trump said, adding, "My friend has been there now for a long

## **DRDO's indigenous** MCPS sets record with 32,000-ft combat freefall jump

■ United News of India

**NEW DELHI, OCT 16:** In a major boost to India's airborne capabilities, the indigenously developed Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully completed a combat freefall jump from a staggering altitude of 32,000 feet.

Test jumpers of the Indian Air Force executed the high-altitude mission, demonstrating the system's efficiency, reliability and advanced design.



With this feat, MCPS has become the only parachute system currently in operational service with the Indian Armed Forces capable of deployment above 25,000 feet. The MCPS is developed by DRDO laboratories - Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment, Agra and Defence Bioengineering and Electromedical Laboratory, Bengaluru.

The system has compatibility with Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC), the stand-alone navigation satellite system developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The integration will provide the freedom of use against any adversary of our choice and is not susceptible to interference or denial of service by outside parties or nations.

A statement from the Ministry of Defence stated that the system incorporates several enhanced tactical features, including a lower rate of descent and superior steering capabilities, enabling paratroopers to safely exit aircraft, deploy parachutes at predetermined altitudes, navigate accurately, and land at designated zones. The success of this system has opened doors for induction of Indigenous parachute systems. This will ensure maximum utility of the parachute system over its lifetime due to least turnaround time for routine maintenance and repair compared to imported equipment. This will also reduce dependency on other nations for its serviceability during times of conflict and war, the statement read.

Congratulating the DRDO, Armed Forces and the Industry on the successful demonstration, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh described it as a significant milestone for India's indigenous defence capability. "Proud moment for nation! The indigenously developed Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS) by @DRDO\_India has achieved combat freefall jump from 32,000 ft. A remarkable milestone towards self-reliance in critical defence technologies," he wrote in a post on X, today. UNI

## India set to remain fastest-growing economy for the next 20 years: Piyush Goyal

■ United News of India

**NEW DELHI, OCT 16:** union Minister for Commerce and Industries, Piyush Goyal, highlighted that India is set to remain the fastest-growing economy for at least another 20 years.

While speaking at the India-Brazil Business Dialogue, Minister Goyal noted that India's GDP grew by 7.8 per cent in the first quarter, making it the fastestgrowing large economy in the world for the past four years. The Minister expressed confidence that India would continue this momentum for at least the next two decades.

Piyush Goyal highlighted that India's growth under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is built on three key pillars: Strong macro-

economic fundamentals, modern infrastructure development, and improved quality of life for citi-

He said the government has maintained low inflation, ensured steady growth, strengthened the banking system, and built foreign exchange reserves of around USD 700 billion, placing India among the top five globally.

The second pillar focuses on expanding modern infrastructure across the country to enhance competitiveness, reduce logistics costs, and generate employment opportunities, particularly in remote areas.

The third pillar aims to enhance citizens' quality of life through tax reforms and ease of doing business. Goyal noted that recent GST reforms, implement-



ed on September 22, have lowered tax rates and improved compliance, boosting disposable income and supporting inclusive, broadbased development.

Referring to the recent statement by the IMF Chief praising

India's bold reforms, Minister Goyal highlighted that the IMF has revised India's growth projection for 2025, upward from 6.4 per cent to 6.6 per cent.

Henoted that in the last 12 years, 250 million Indians have been lifted out of poverty, creating a strong and aspirational middle class that now drives the nation's consumption and growth story.

Highlightingtheimportanceof the rationalisation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), Piyush Goyal said the purpose of the reforms is to simplify business processes and promote the ability of our people to spend more and look for a better quality of life.

Reitertaing the government's commitment to structural reforms, ease of doing business, and reducing compliance burdens, the minister said that these efforts have strengthened investor confidence and positioned India to become the world's thirdlargest economy in the near future, aiming for a USD 30-35 trillion economy by 2047. UNI

## Bihar SIR: SC says ECI knows its responsibility

■ United News of India

tions challenging the Special Intensive Revision(SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, where the Election Commission of India (ECI) has undertaken a largescale verification and deletion drive ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections.

A bench of Justice Surva Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi observed that the ECI "knows its responsibility" and is bound to publish the final electoral roll after completing additions and deletions, ensuring that the entire process remains transparent and constitutionally compliant.

The court was hearing petitions filed by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and others, represented by senior advocates Prashant Bhushan and Gopal Sankaranarayanan. Appearing for the ECI, senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi defended the revision as a lawful and necessary exercise.

At the outset, the Bench directed that the ECI's latest affidavit, filed earlier in the day, be circulated to all petitioners and granted liberty to Bhushan to file a rejoinder after examining the Commission's submission.

Justice Kant stressed that although elections were imminent, the ECI's duty of transparency continued even after the final voter roll was frozen.

and after doing addition and deletion, **NEW DELHI, OCT 16:** The Supreme they are bound to publish it," he Court today continued hearing peti-remarked, adding that the final list must be shared with all political parties and polling agents.

> Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for ADR, argued that the ECI had failed to publish the "frozen" final voter roll on its website despite major constituency-level and boothwise changes.

> "Fresh deletions are happening even after the draft roll stage. The timeline has become too compressed for meaningful public verification. For transparency, the frozen voter list must be published," he said.

The ECI's own affidavits acknowledged ongoing deletions and additions, making public scrutiny essential for maintaining trust in the electoral process. Justice Kant noted Bhushan's concerns but observed that guidelines for similar SIR exercises exist in other states.

"Yes, you have made points in uidelines to be followed for SIR in other states," he said.

Supporting Bhushan, Senior Advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan asserted that the issue was not political but constitutional. "None of us stands here for any of these parties. This is a completely unconstitutional exercise," he submitted, arguing that the SIR must adhere to the Representation of the People Act, 1951, and that no

"They know their responsibility, administrative enumeration can override statutory safeguards.

"The Representation of the People Act is being thrown overboard, and enumeration data has been substituted. They must respond to our constitutional arguments," he said.

Representing the ECI, senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi defended the revision drive, stating it was a lawful, transparent, and essential administrative measure. He pointed out that previous findings showed Bihar's voter list had exceeded the state's adult population, a concern the Supreme Court itself had earlier noted.

He assured the bench that the ECI had filed its affidavit and verified supporting documents.

"Till tomorrow is the time. How can you say we will not put out the final roll?" he remarked, rejecting claims of opacity and asserting that false or misleading statements were being circulated to create confusion.

Dwivedi said all deletions and additions had been done in accordance with established procedures and that the final roll would be made public once the statutory freeze period began.

"The Commission will reply factually and transparently," he said.

The bench took note of the submissions and clarified that the matter would remain open until the publication of the final roll and submission of rejoinders. UNI

### **ED** raids multiple States in Belekeri Port Iron ore scam

■ United News of India

NEW DELHI, OCT 16: The Enforcement Directorate's (ED) Bangalore Zonal Office is conducting raids at twenty locations across Bangalore, Hospet, and Gurugram in connection with the illegal export of iron ore through Belekeri Port.

This action is part of an ongoing investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act



(PMLA), 2002, initiated by First Information Reports (FIRs) and charge sheets filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), as directed by the Supreme

The ED is targeting key players involved in the illegal trade, including MSPL Ltd (Baldota Group), Greentex Mining Industries Ltd., Srinivasa Minerals Trading Co., Arshad Exports, SVM Nett Project Solutions Pvt. Ltd., and Alphine Minmetals India Pvt.

An ED official stated, "The major beneficiaries of the illegal iron ore export through Belekeri Port, are being covered in the operation, along with their key management personnel. They are MSPL Ltd (Baldota Group), Greentex Mining Industries Ltd., Srinivasa Minerals Trading Co, Arshad Exports, SVM Nett Project Solutions Pvt. Ltd.and Alphine Minmetals India Pvt. Ltd."

'The main allegation against the entities and individuals involved is that they illegally excavated, purchased, sold, and transported iron ore without paying due taxes and royalty. This has caused a huge loss to the state exchequer and immense damage to the environment," the official added. "In the process, these entities and individuals have generated proceeds of crime and projected them as

Further investigation is on. UNI

#### Jairam Ramesh sounds alarm over declining Elephant numbers amid changing habitats directly comparable to previous

■ United News of India

**NEW DELHI OCT 16:** Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh today raised urgent concerns over India's dwindling elephant population, drawing attention to the latest census report released by

the Wildlife Institute of India. The new survey estimates India's elephant population to be between 18,255 and 26,645, with a midpoint estimate of around 22,446 elephants.

However, due to methodological changes, these figures are not

counts, complicating efforts to track long-term trends. Highlighting the threats facing these majestic creatures, Ramesh tweeted, "The elephant faces a crisis perhaps not of extinction but of attrition."

He pointed to a host of challenges: "Changing land use, loss of traditional habitats, fragmentation of movement corridors, pressures from mining and infrastructure projects, invasive plant species, and increasing humanelephant conflict."

Rameshalsolamented the ineffectiveness of recent legal reforms, noting that the amendment to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, introduced three years ago, has failed to halt the decline. "Haathi is indeed our Saathi," he reminded, invoking the elephant's status as India's national heritage animal since 2010 and urging renewed

commitment to conservation. The census employed advanced DNA-based markrecapture techniques to improve accuracy, underscoring the need to tackle habitat fragmentation and human-wildlife conflicts to secure the future of elephants in India. Regional data from the report reveals that the Western Ghats harbor the largest elephant population, with an estimated 11,934 individuals, followed by the North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Floodplains with 6,559. Other regions include the Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains (2,062), and Central India and Eastern Ghats (1,891).

States leading in elephant numbers are Karnataka (6,013), Assam (4,159), Tamil Nadu (3,136),

Kerala (2,785), and Uttarakhand (1,792), highlighting the critical role these states play in elephant conservation. Ramesh's call to action serves as a stark reminder that without comprehensive and effective measures, India's elephants face a slow but certain erosion of their natural heritage. Protecting these gentle giants requires urgent, coordinated efforts spanning habitat preservation, conflict mitigation, and robust legal enforcement-a responsibility that India cannot afford to delay. UNI

# Rashid Khan Becomes No. 1 Ranked **Bowler in ODIs**

Kuldeep Yadav achieved his career-best ranking in Tests after taking 12 wickets against West Indies

■ ESPNcricinfo

**SHARJAH:** Afghanistan wristspinner Rashid Khan has become the No. 1 ranked bowler in ODIs following his team's 3-0 sweep of Bangladesh this month in Abu Dhabi. Rashid, who was previously No. 1 in November 2024, took 11 wickets in the series at an average of 6.09 and economy rate of 2.73. His performance helped him rise from sixth place, and with 710 ratings points he is 30 ahead of South Africa's Keshav Maharaj.

Ibrahim Zadran, who was the Player of the Series against Bangladesh for topscoring with 213 runs at an average of 71 in three innings, has moved up eight places to No. 2 in the ODI batting rankings - the best ever by an Afghanistan batter. He has 20 ratings points fewer than Shubman Gill at No. 1 and eight more than Rohit Sharma

In the ODI rankings for allrounders, Afghanistan's Azmatullah Omarzai reclaimed the top spot from Zimbabwe's Sikandar Raza after taking seven wickets - the second-most in the series - and scoring 60 runs in the three ODIs against Bangladesh. He had been ranked No.1 between February and August too.

India's left-arm wristspinner Kuldeep Yadav has achieved his career-best ranking among Test bowlers, rising seven places to 14th after finishing the two-match series against West Indies as the top wickettaker. Kuldeep took 12 wickets at an average of 19.50. India's opener Yashasvi Jaiswal rose from seventh to fifth after scoring 175 in the first innings of the Delhi Test.



### Shami: If I Can Play Ranji Trophy, I Can Play 50-Overs

**■** ESPNcricinfo

**BENGALURU:** Mohammed Shami refuted any doubts about his fitness on the eve of Bengal's first game of the 2025-26 Ranji Trophy, saying he wouldn't be playing four-day cricket if he wasn't

Shami last played for India during the 2025 Champions Trophy in March. The team has since gone on a Test tour of England, won the Asia Cup T20Is and swept West Indies 2-0 to kick off the new home season. It was in response to India excluding him from their next assignment - a white-ball tour of Australia starting later this month - that Shami said, "if I can play four-dayers [Ranji Trophy], I can also play 50-overs

"Selection is not in my hands. If there is a fitness issue, I shouldn't be here playing for Bengal," the fast bowler was quoted as saying by PTI on Tuesday. "I think I do not need to speak on this and create a controversy. If I can play fourdayers [Ranji Trophy], I can also play 50-overs cricket."

Shami, who recently turned 35, has played only nine international games since recovering from ankle and knee

"About giving an update, it's not my responsibility to give an update or ask for an update," he said.

## **Volleyball Championship Organized by** District Police Baramullla Begins at Kreeri



Aashiq Hussain

**KREERI, OCT 16:** Orginized by Police Sub Division Kreeri Volleyball Championship Begins at Govt Hr Sec Ground Kreeri SDPO Kreeri Javid Ahmad was the Chief Guest on the Occasion. He was accompanied by SHO

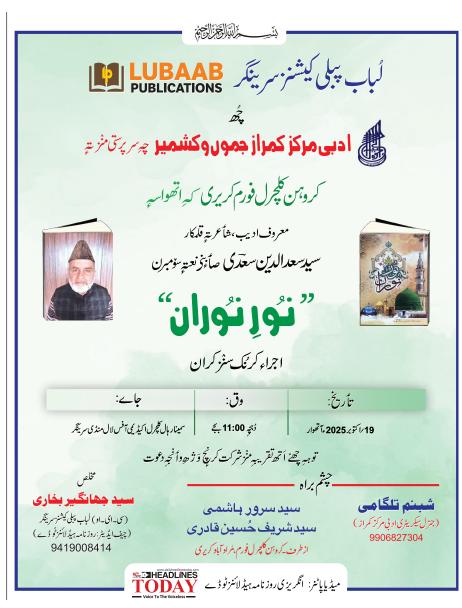
Kreeri Arif Hameed, SHO Chandoosa Manzoor Ahmed and other officers of Police Sub Divi-

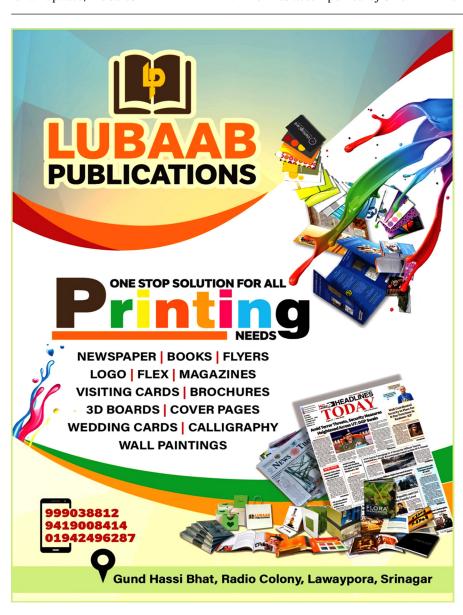
sion Kreeri Inaugural Match was played between Al Murad Sports Club Kreeri and Wagoora Volleyball Club in which Al Murad Sports Club Kreeri

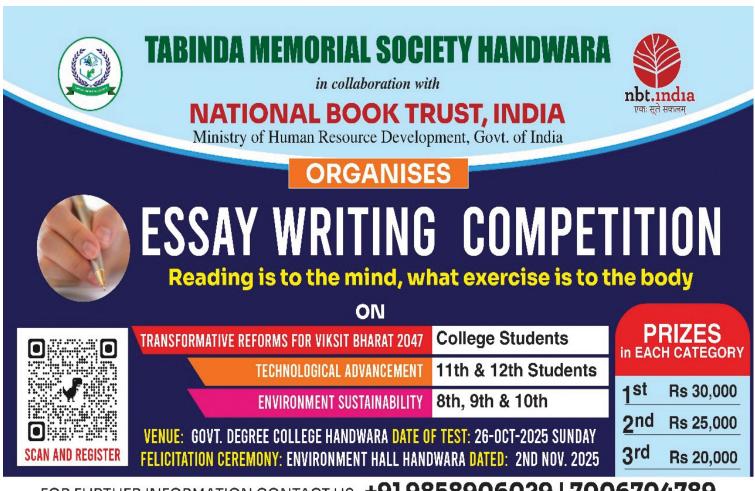
Defeated Wagoora Volleyball Club by 2-0 Sets

At last SDPO Kreeri distributed medals among the winning team players.

Showket Ali of Al Murad Sports Club Kreeri was declared Best player of the match.







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