

Srinagar
 Saturday
 January 24 | 2026
 5 Shaban 1447 AH
 Issue No: 21
 Volume: 16
 Pages: 12
 Price: Rs 02/-

16TH
YEAR OF
PUBLICATION



HEADLINES TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless



LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS

ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS

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

 9999038812
 9419008414

 Radio Colony,
 Gund Hassibhat, Lawaipora Srinagar-190017

Faith in Action at Kashi; Compassion Is the Highest Form of Devotion: LG Manoj Sinha

At Silver Jubilee of Shri Baba Kashi Vishwanath Seva Samiti, LG Hails 25 Years of Selfless Service

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha on Friday attended the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Shri Baba Kashi Vishwanath Seva Samiti at Varanasi, paying rich tribute to the organisation's 25-year journey of dedicated service rooted in spiritual values and human compassion.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor underlined that true spirituality finds its expression in selfless action rather than ritual alone. "True faith lives in



The Lieutenant Governor noted that in the present era, spiritual consciousness provides balance through empathy and compassion, helping build value-driven citizens who form the backbone of a strong and resilient nation. He said spiritual prosperity strengthens social harmony and reinforces moral foundations.

Describing the Samiti's work in the demanding terrain and harsh climatic conditions of the high Himalayas, LG Sinha termed the service to devotees of Baba Barfani as a spiritual discipline rather

● Turn on Page 2

The Change That Was Overdue Is Finally on Its Way: PM Modi

On Kerala's Political Future PM Cites Thiruvananthapuram Civic Win as The New Beginning

■ HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JAN 23: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday declared that Kerala is heading towards a major political transformation, asserting that public faith in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is steadily growing and will reshape the state's future.

Addressing a massive BJP rally at Putharikandam Maidan, Modi said the party's recent victory in the Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation marked a historic turning point, ending more than four decades of Left rule in the city. He described the win as the foundation of a broader political change that would soon reflect in the state's Assembly elections.

Drawing a parallel with Gujarat, the Prime



Minister recalled that the BJP's rise there began with winning a single city in 1987. "Our journey in Gujarat started from one municipal

● Turn on Page 2

Snowfall Hits Jammu Hills; Rains End Dry Spell

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: Moderate to heavy snowfall was experienced in high-altitude areas, including the famous Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in the Jammu region, leading to the suspension of traffic on key roads and disruption of air and rail services.

More than 100 stranded persons were rescued from snowbound areas in Poonch and Udhampur districts, while moderate rains lashed the plains, including Jammu city, bringing an end to a dry spell that had lasted for over two months.

As predicted by the meteorological department, it started snowing in most high-altitude areas late Thursday evening, preceded by gusty winds, while intermittent rains

● Turn on Page 2

Snowfall, Winds Hit Power Supply; 80% Restored

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, JAN 23: In anticipation to snowfall prediction, KPDCL had geared up the preparedness to tackle the snow fall aftermath on the electric infrastructure especially in hilly terrains and rural areas.

According to the official statement by KPDCL, severe gusty wind, incessant rainfall and heavy snowfall across various parts of the Kashmir Division, the power demand/load of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation

● Turn on Page 2

CM Omar Abdullah Chairs Pre-Budget Meet in Srinagar



■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, JAN 23: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday chaired a pre-Budget consultation meeting with key stakeholders at the Civil Secretariat here to gather

inputs and perspectives from various sectors ahead of the Budget 2026-27 of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javid Ahmad Dar and Satish Sharma;

● Turn on Page 2

CM Reviews Storm, Snowfall Situation in J&K

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, JAN 23: Amid inclement weather conditions following widespread snowfall, gusty winds and snow storms, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday evening chaired a high-level meeting at the Civil Secretariat here to review the overall situation across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Minister Satish Sharma; Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta; Additional Chief

● Turn on Page 2

12 Stranded In J&K Snowfall Rescued By Cops In Daring 3-Hour Mission

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: The Udhampur police in Jammu and Kashmir have successfully rescued 12 people, including women and children, who were stuck in heavy snow. Locals, reported to be from mobile families, got stuck amid inclement weather in the Chochru Galla area.

A distress call was received by the police post at Sangh, nearly 12 kilometres from the Chochru Galla area. Following this, officials were rushed to the spot. It took Udhampur

● Turn on Page 2

Doda Accident

Lt Gen Mishra leads wreath laying ceremony

■ HT NEWS NETWORK / KNO

JAMMU, JAN 23: In a solemn ceremony at the technical airport here, senior military and police officials paid homage to 10 Army soldiers who lost their lives in a road accident in Doda district on Thursday.

The wreath-laying ceremony was led by Lieutenant General P.K. Mishra, General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the White Knight Corps and it was attended by Air Commodore A. Shridhar, Air Officer Commanding of the Jammu Air Force Station and Bhim Sen Tuti, Inspector General of Police (IGP) for the Jammu zone. They were joined by fellow officers from the Army, Indian

● Turn on Page 2

Govt committed to boost sports infra across J&K: Dy CM

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, Friday asserted that the government is committed to boost sports infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir, with emphasis on providing quality facilities to youth in far-flung and border areas.

The Deputy Chief Minister was speaking after inaugurating the ASMITA Khelo India Women's League – North Zone Kickboxing Tournament 2026 at the Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu.

Addressing the gathering as chief guest, the Deputy Chief Minister extended a warm welcome to the women athletes and officials from all North Zone States and Union Territories, terming the

event a significant step towards promotion of sports and women empowerment in J&K.

"The present government is focused on ensuring equitable development and providing essential facilities, including sports infrastructure, in villages across far-flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir. This will empower our rural youth to showcase and further hone their sporting talent," he said.

The Deputy Chief Minister lauded the ASMITA initiative for creating meaningful opportunities for women athletes and for strengthening sports at the grassroots level.

"It is encouraging to see our young boys and girls participating in sports with such energy and commitment. This gives us confidence

● Turn on Page 2

Top JeM Terrorist Killed In Encounter In Kathua

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: In a significant breakthrough in counter-terror operations, security forces on Friday eliminated a top Pakistani terrorist linked to the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit in an encounter in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

Inspector General of Police, Jammu range, Bhim Sen Tuti, said the terrorist

● Turn on Page 2

Friday Following Shab-e-Mehraj 'Faith and Snow': Devotees brave chill, snowfall at Hazratbal Shrine

■ HT NEWS NETWORK / KNO

SRINAGAR, JAN 23: Amid fresh snowfall and sub-zero temperatures, hundreds of devotees thronged the Hazratbal Shrine to mark the observance of Friday following Shab-e-Mehraj.

Braving biting cold and snowfall, people gathered in large numbers to offer supplications and witness the display of the sacred relic after congregational prayers.

According to the details available with the news

agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the devotees carrying umbrellas braved the chilly conditions to witness the holy relic.

Many devotees said the snowfall made the sighting of the holy relic feel even more sacred as flakes drifted gently around the shrine. "The snow and rain don't dampen our faith," said one worshipper, standing under an umbrella facing the shrine.

Others echoed similar sentiments, adding that this annual observance draws people from

● Turn on Page 2

"Govt Focuses on Strengthening Rural Healthcare in J&K"

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM, JAN 23: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo inaugurated newly established Dialysis Unit at Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Memorial, Sub District Hospital (SDH), D.H. Pora here today.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Sakeena highlighted the government's commitment to ensuring accessible, affordable and

quality healthcare services, especially in far-flung and rural areas.

She stated that the newly inaugurated dialysis facility will greatly benefit patients suffering from chronic kidney ailments by providing timely and lifesaving treatment closer to their homes, thereby reducing the need for referrals to distant tertiary hospitals.

Following the inauguration, the Minister also conducted a detailed inspection of various wards of the hospital and reviewed the avail-

ability of essential medical care facilities. She interacted with patients and healthcare staff, seeking first-hand feedback on the quality of services being provided.

The Minister also took stock of infrastructure, manpower, availability of medicines and functioning of medical equipment. She directed the officers to maintain buffer stock of medicines and other essential medical supplies in view of inclement weather.

Sakeena Itoo directed the hos-

pital authorities to maintain high standards of patient care and ensure that all facilities remain fully functional. She stressed the importance of compassionate service delivery and timely medical attention to patients, especially living in far-flung and peripheral areas.

Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr Jahangir Bakshi; CMO Kulgam, BMO and other senior officers of district administration and

● Turn on Page 2



Preserve Your
Ideas
 We Bring Them to Life


**LUBAAB
PUBLICATIONS**
ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS

We Publish in
 Arabic | Urdu | Hindi | Persian | Kashmiri

Contact us:
 9697071471 | 9999038812
 lubaabpublications01@gmail.com

CMYK

SMC Srinagar Webcasts Launch of SVANidhi Credit Card Facility by Hon'ble PM

DC, Commissioner SMC distribute sanction letters, Credit Cards to street vendors

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, JAN 23: In a major boost to financial inclusion and livelihood support for street vendors, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India today launched a dedicated credit card facility and disbursed loans to one lakh beneficiaries across the country under the PM SVANidhi Scheme, during a national-level programme.

In this connection, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) webcasted live the launch of the PMSVANidhi Credit Card Facility during an event, and proceedings were collectively viewed by officers, officials, and beneficiaries at SMC. The event at SMC was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Akshay Labroo and Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Faz Lul Haseeb, along with Joint Commissioners SMC, senior officers, and staff of the Corporation.

On the occasion, Deputy Com-



missioner, Srinagar and Commis-

soner SMC, distributed sanction

letters and credit cards to eligible

beneficiaries, marking an impor-

tant step towards ensuring time-ly access to institutional credit and strengthening the financial empowerment of street vendors. The initiative aims to provide easy access to institutional credit for street vendors, enabling them to strengthen and expand their businesses, meet working capital requirements, and achieve economic self-reliance. The newly introduced credit card facility will ensure seamless, flexible, and timely credit, further integrating beneficiaries into the formal financial system.

The officers interacted with the beneficiaries and reviewed the on-ground implementation of the scheme, reaffirming the administration's commitment to the effective delivery of welfare initiatives. The launch of the credit card facility and large-scale loan disbursement underscores the Government's resolve to ensure last-mile delivery of welfare benefits, promote self-employment, and build a resilient and inclusive economy.

DC Kupwara reviews Healthcare Services, Snow Clearance Operations amid Snowfall

HT NWES NETWORK

KUPWARA, JAN 23: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse today took stock of ongoing snow clearance operations and inspected the Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Kupwara to review healthcare arrangements in view of the prevailing snowfall conditions in the district.

While inspecting SDH Kupwara, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with doctors, paramedical staff, and patients, including those admitted in the Emergency Ward. He assessed the availability and functioning of essential medical services, infrastructure, and facilities to ensure uninterrupted healthcare delivery during adverse weather.

The Deputy Commissioner also inspected surrounding areas to closely monitor ground conditions and assess the impact of the snowfall. He reviewed ongoing snow clearance operations and was informed that all major roads in Kupwara town have been cleared, ensuring smooth vehicular movement and enhanced public safety.

Subsequently, the DC visited various market areas of Kupwara town to take stock of the overall situation. He interacted with shopkeepers and local residents and reviewed the functioning of essential services. He directed the concerned departments to remain vigilant, continue snow clearance operations in inner lanes and link roads, and ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities to the public.

Reiterating the district administration's commitment, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized timely response, public convenience, and safety, assuring that all necessary measures are being taken to mitigate the impact of adverse weather conditions.

DC Baramulla reviews Snowfall Response, Power Restoration and Health Services

Directs swift action on War Footing

HT NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA, JAN 23: In view of the heavy snowfall across the district, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today undertook extensive field visits to review emergency response measures, snow clearance operations, power restoration efforts, and healthcare preparedness.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted an on-spot inspection of Tower No. 142 of the Delina-Sheeri Lower Jhelum 132 KV transmission line, which suffered severe damage due to snowfall. He directed the concerned executing agencies to restore the damaged infrastructure and make the line operational at the earliest to ensure uninterrupted power supply.

Later, the DC visited Government Medical College (GMC), Baramulla, to assess the availability of healthcare facilities during the prevailing weather conditions. He reviewed the stock of emergency medicines, heating arrangements, and patient care services. The DC also interacted with patients and attendants to take first-hand feedback on service delivery and directed hospital authorities to ensure uninterrupted medical services.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed snow clearance operations across various parts of the district, including highways, major roads, and



inner link roads. He instructed all concerned departments to work on a war footing to ensure early restoration of connectivity and safe movement of traffic.

Meanwhile, snow clearance operations are progressing at a fast pace across Baramulla. National highways and all major roads have been cleared

for traffic, while efforts are underway to restore full connectivity on inner roads at the earliest.

The DC emphasized close inter-departmental coordination and directed officers to remain alert, responsive, and proactive to address public inconvenience during the ongoing snowfall.

DC Budgam, reviews snow clearance measures in district, visits old Bus Adda, District Hospital

HT NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM, JAN 23: Extensive snow clearance operations across Budgam district were on spot reviewed by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, to ensure smooth connectivity and uninterrupted essential services during the ongoing winter conditions.

The DC highlighted that all major and minor roads, including those leading to khag, Khanshaib, pakherpora and Yousmarg, are being cleared and will be maintained in operational condition through continuous snow removal efforts.

During the review, emphasis was placed on



prioritizing snow clearance to minimize inconvenience to the public. Special attention has been devoted to roads leading to critical installations and public utility areas, including the District Hospital Budgam, Old Bus Stand, main market areas, and inner lanes, ensuring accessibility for emergency and essential services at all times.

The DC said that instructions have been issued for the immediate restoration and maintenance of electricity and water supply, particularly in residential areas and healthcare facilities. He said that men are actively at work to restore electricity, and several feeders have already been repaired. Efforts are ongoing, and electricity is expected to be fully restored soon.

The DC conveyed that men and machinery have been kept in ready deployment, with snow clearance machines operating on a priority basis at critical and vulnerable locations.

All concerned departments have been directed to remain alert and responsive to emerging situations, ensuring timely intervention wherever required. To monitor the situation closely, a 24x7 District Control Room has been established.

Departments have been mandated to maintain close coordination for swift redressal of public grievances and effective response to emergencies caused by snowfall or inclement weather, the DC added.

The DC laid significant stress on maintaining smooth traffic regulation across all routes, with directions issued for prompt snow clearance to facilitate hassle-free movement of vehicles and pedestrians. He said District Administration Budgam remains fully committed to minimizing public inconvenience during the winter season/inclement weather.

Regular field visits and inspections by officials are being conducted to assess ground conditions and ensure that relief, rescue, snow clearance, and essential services restoration measures, including electricity, are implemented efficiently and in a timely manner.

District Budgam Participates in Nationwide launch of PM SVANidhi Credit Card

DC distributes Sanction Letters among 21 Street Vendors

HT NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM, JAN 23: District Administration Budgam today participated in the nationwide live streaming of the launch of the PM SVANidhi Credit Card by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, aimed at further strengthening financial inclusion and urban livelihoods of street vendors. In this connection, a programme was organised in Budgam, where in Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-din Bhat, distributed sanction letters among 21 street vendors of the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the PMSVANidhi Credit Card will significantly empower street vendors by providing them with easy



access to institutional credit, enabling them to expand their businesses and improve their livelihoods.

He further said that the PMSVANidhi scheme, launched by the Government of India, provides collateral-free working capital loans of ₹15,000 in the first tranche, followed by ₹25,000 in the second tranche and ₹50,000 in the third tranche on timely repayment.

The scheme also offers interest subsidy and incentives for digital transactions, encouraging vendors

to adopt cashless modes of payment.

The DC emphasised that the initiative reflects the Government's strong commitment towards financial inclusion, self-employment, and economic self-reliance of the urban poor. He urged the beneficiary vendors to utilise the credit facility judiciously and productively to sustainably grow their businesses and improve their socio-economic conditions. Besides, CEO MC Budgam, senior officers and officials of the District participated in the event.

District Admin Kulgam facilitates live streaming of launch of PM SVANidhi Credit Card scheme

ADC distributes Sanction Letters among 18 Eligible Street Vendors

HT NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM, JAN 23: A large number of people today gathered here at new conference hall of DC office Kulgam to virtually take part in the nationwide rollout of the PM SVANidhi Credit Card initiative, launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi from Kerala.

Additional Deputy commissioner, Vigar Ahmed Giri; Chief Executive Officer MCKulgam, Mohammad Irfan Wani, LDM and other officers from various departments and a large number of people who attentively listened to the Prime Minister's address.

On the occasion, the ADC distributed sanction letters among 14 street vendors to empower and strengthen their livelihoods.

ADC and CEO also highlighted that



the PM SVANidhi Credit Card is a significant step towards providing flexible and hassle-free credit support to street vendors, enabling them to meet their working capital requirements and manage day-to-day business needs more efficiently.

The PMSVANidhi Credit Card initiative forms part of the restructured PM SVANidhi scheme and is aimed at offer-

ing UPI-linked RuPay credit cards to eligible street vendors who have demonstrated good repayment behaviour under earlier loan tranches.

The initiative allows vendors to access credit digitally, encourages cashless transactions, and helps build a formal credit history, thereby enhancing their financial credibility and long-term economic security.

HT EDITORIAL

Engage domestic help only after proper verification

Over the past decade or so there has been a mushroom growth of the placement companies supplying domestic help to the residents of Srinagar city. Such companies have also come up in the other districts of the Kashmir valley and as such the people receive manpower for carrying out different chores at their respective homes. The people are ready to pay a huge sum as registration charges and monthly wages after hiring such domestic help.

In most of the cases it has been observed that the placement companies engage people as domestic help without ascertaining their antecedents and character. Some of these people have a criminal background and at times they take the extreme step by killing the owner who has hired them. The latest example in this regard is the murder of a middle aged woman in the Nowshera area of the Srinagar city on Thursday.

The Jammu & Kashmir Police has already issued an advisory asking the people to submit the details of the person whom they engage as a domestic help or for any other purpose. It has been observed that most of the people take the advisory lightly and, in some cases, they have to face the consequences thereof. The murder of the Nowshera woman has been condemned by the people belonging to the various sections of the society. However, very few people have gone to the root cause of the problem for the reasons best known to them.

It is imperative that the placement agencies play their role to perfection and with responsibility. As and when some person is hired by them, they should seek complete details of said person. Getting in touch with the police force of the concerned state or union territory is very important in this regard. Once the police force gives a no objection certificate (NOC) then the said person should be sent to any household for carrying out the household chores of that particular family.

On their part the families availing the services of manpower from the placement agencies need to be careful as well. They should report to the concerned police station at the earliest and submit details of the person received by them. Over dependence on domestic help especially in financial matters needs to be avoided by the people. This would ensure that there are least risks involved and there is no threat to the lives of the family members.

Chief Patron Of Lubaab Publications Group:
Syed Sad Ud Din Bukhari (Saidi),
Printer Publisher, Owner And Editor:
Syed Jahangir Bukhari,
Printed At: Lubaab Publications, Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat Lawaipora Srinagar -190017,
Gen. Manager: Sheikh Mushtaq Ahmad
Cell No - 9697071471,
Editorial Section: 7006846797,
Multimedia Section: 9419008414,
Advertisement Section: 9697071471
RNI No: Jkeng/2011/39231
dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com
headlinestoday2024@gmail.com

Caring for Elderly Parents:
A Shared Social Responsibility



■ MOHAMMAD HANIEF

Caring for elderly parents is one of the most profound responsibilities faced by families and societies today. It is a subject that goes beyond private homes and enters the public domain, touching upon values, social structures, health-care systems, and economic priorities. As life expectancy increases and family patterns evolve, the question of how societies care for their ageing population has become more urgent and complex. A comprehensive approach to elder care is no longer optional; it is essential for maintaining social balance and human dignity.

The world is witnessing a demographic shift marked by a growing elderly population. Advances in medicine and improved living conditions have allowed people to live longer lives, but longevity often comes with chronic health conditions and reduced physical strength. Elderly parents may face mobility issues, declining vision or hearing, and illnesses that require ongoing medical attention. At the same time, adult children are navigating demanding careers, urban living, and nuclear family structures. This convergence of ageing and modern pressures has reshaped the traditional model of elder care.

Physical health remains a central concern in caring for elderly parents. Age-related ailments often require regular monitoring, medication management, and assistance with daily routines. Proper nutrition, physical activity suited to their abilities, and preventive healthcare significantly influence their quality of life. Safe living environments are equally important, as minor hazards can lead to serious injuries for older adults. Thoughtful home adjustments and consistent medical follow-up can reduce risks and promote independence as long as possible.

Equally significant is the emotional



and psychological dimension of ageing. Elderly parents may experience loneliness, insecurity, or a sense of loss as their social circles shrink and their roles within the family change. Retirement, declining health, and reduced independence can affect self-esteem and mental well-being. Emotional support, therefore, becomes a cornerstone of effective elder care. Regular interaction, meaningful engagement, and a sense of being heard can help older adults feel valued and connected. Mental health challenges such as depression or cognitive decline require timely recognition and compassionate intervention.

Preserving dignity is fundamental to a comprehensive approach to elder care. Ageing should not strip individuals of their autonomy or self-respect. Elderly parents often fear becoming dependent or burdensome, a concern that can deeply affect their emotional health. Allowing them to participate in decisions, respect their preferences, and maintain control over aspects of their daily lives reinforces their sense of purpose. Support should aim to empower rather than replace, ensuring that assistance enhances independence instead of diminishing it.

Family remains the primary pillar of support for elderly parents, but the responsibility of care must be shared. When caregiving falls on one individual alone, it can lead to physical exhaustion and emotional strain. Cooperation among siblings and extended family members not only

eases the burden but also strengthens family bonds. Beyond the family, community involvement plays an increasingly important role. Social networks, neighborhood initiatives, and community organizations provide opportunities for interaction and engagement, reducing isolation and enriching the lives of senior citizens.

The economic aspect of caring for elderly parents cannot be overlooked. Healthcare costs, caregiving services, and daily living expenses often place significant pressure on family finances. Many elderly individuals lack sufficient savings or social security to meet long-term care needs. Financial planning and access to affordable healthcare are therefore critical components of elder care. Transparent discussions within families can prevent misunderstandings and ensure that resources are managed responsibly. At a broader level, effective public policies and social welfare systems are essential to support families in meeting these challenges.

Professional caregiving has become an important element of modern elder care. Trained caregivers, home nursing services, and assisted living facilities offer specialized support that families may not always be able to provide. When used thoughtfully, professional care can complement family involvement rather than replace it. Emotional connection, regular communication, and continued participation in decision-making remain

vital in maintaining trust and well-being, regardless of the care setting.

The well-being of caregivers themselves is an integral part of the caregiving equation. Long-term caregiving can take a toll on physical health, mental resilience, and personal relationships. Without adequate support, caregivers may experience stress, fatigue, and emotional burnout. Recognizing these challenges and encouraging self-care is essential. Access to support systems, respite care, and flexible work arrangements can help caregivers sustain their role without sacrificing their own well-being.

Planning for the later stages of life is a sensitive but necessary aspect of comprehensive elder care. Clear understanding of medical preferences, legal arrangements, and financial responsibilities helps families navigate difficult situations with clarity and respect. Early planning ensures that elderly parents retain control over their choices and reduces uncertainty during emergencies. Such preparation reflects respect for their wishes and provides reassurance to both parents and caregivers.

Caring for elderly parents ultimately extends beyond individual families to society as a whole. Governments, institutions, and employers all have roles to play in creating environments that support ageing with dignity. Accessible healthcare, age-friendly infrastructure, and inclusive social policies are essential in addressing the needs of a growing elderly population. Public awareness and cultural attitudes toward ageing also shape how seniors are treated and valued.

In conclusion, caring for elderly parents is both a personal responsibility and a collective obligation. It demands compassion, patience, and thoughtful planning across physical, emotional, and social dimensions. While the challenges are undeniable, a holistic approach can transform elder care into an experience grounded in respect and shared responsibility. The manner in which societies care for their elderly today will shape the moral and social fabric of future generations.

The author is a senior analyst and can be mailed at m.hanief@gmail.com X/Twitter: @haniefmha

Valley Blessed with Snowfall

■ SAHIL MANZOOR BHATTI

Alhamdulillah, the Kashmir Valley has been blessed with fresh snowfall. It was predicted about a week earlier by the Meteorological Department, and on the 23rd of January, the prediction finally came true. Every corner of the valley now looks whitish and enchanting. The entire landscape appears wrapped in a soft blanket of snow, creating a magical and peaceful atmosphere. Snowfall is not just a natural phenomenon in Kashmir; it is an emotion, a celebration, and a blessing for the people of the valley.

Winters in Kashmir are incomplete without snowfall. Snow gives a unique identity to the valley and enhances its natural beauty. Kashmir experiences four distinct seasons, and each season has its own charm and serenity. Summers are marked by lush greenery, pleasant weather, and crystal-clear waters flowing through famous rivers. The soothing breeze during late summer nights brings calmness and spiritual peace. Autumn, on the other hand, is a season of harvest and transformation, when leaves turn golden and farmers reap the fruits of their hard work. Winter stands apart as the most awaited and mesmerizing season, attracting lakhs of tourists from across the globe while also bestowing blessings upon the local population.

The Kashmir Valley has no alternative anywhere in the world. There is no climate like Kashmir's in any part of the nation. The valley has been defined and praised by great poets, writers, and travelers in their own ways. A famous saying rightly describes its beauty: "If there is paradise on earth, it is here, it is here, it is here." Kashmir is greatly influenced by its lofty mountains, giant waterfalls, smooth-flowing rivers carrying crystal-clear water, dense forests, refreshing air, and breathtaking landscapes. Words often fall short when one tries to describe the beauty of the Kashmir Valley. The English dictionary seems limited when it comes to expressing its charm. One would need an entire gallery of artistic work to truly capture the essence of Kashmir.

Kashmir is a treasure trove for writers, poets, researchers, and educationists, as it provides a vast field for creativity and exploration. The valley inspires imagination and deep thinking. Over the years, writ-

ers have described Kashmir extensively, and thousands of articles have been published in newspapers, magazines, and electronic media. Each piece of writing reflects a different shade of its beauty, culture, and natural richness. Kashmir continues to remain a subject of admiration and curiosity for people across the world.

The valley is known for its vast diversity and numerous mesmerizing tourist destinations. Some of the most famous places include Doodhpathri, Pahalgam, Sonamarg, Gulmarg, Sukhnag, Aharbal Waterfall, and several trekking sites. These destinations attract tourists with their charm, serenity, and natural elegance. Visitors come from all corners of the world to enjoy their time with friends and family, creating lifelong memories. Each destination has its own identity and appeal, offering something unique to every visitor.

During winter, Kashmir transforms into a wonderland. Snow-covered rooftops, frozen lakes, white meadows, and icy trees create a dreamlike scene. It is amazing to see how the natives of Kashmir feel thrilled and joyful when they witness the first snowfall of the season. Children play in the snow, elders recall memories of past winters, and families come together to celebrate this blessing. Kashmiri people are known for their warmth, kindness, and hospitality. They have hearts full of love and respect for tourists and guests. This hospitality has made Kashmir famous worldwide.

Tourists have been visiting Kashmir for centuries, capturing its beauty through paintings, photographs, and now digital media. The snow-covered landscapes, traditional houses, and local culture fascinate visitors. Winter tourism has become an important part of the valley's economy. Despite the cold weather, tourists remain excited and enthusiastic, exploring various destinations and enjoying winter activities.

Gulmarg holds a special place among winter tourist destinations. It is widely known as the heart of winter tourism in Kashmir. Gulmarg is beautifully decorated with snow during winters and offers world-class facilities to visitors. The advanced cable car, known as the Gondola, is one of the highest cable cars in the world and attracts tourists from different countries. It provides a

breathtaking aerial view of snow-clad mountains and vast meadows. Gulmarg is also equipped with modern hotels, cozy huts, well-maintained roads, and excellent tourist services.

Winter sports are another major attraction of Gulmarg. Activities like skiing, snowboarding, and snow trekking take place every year. Both local and foreign tourists participate in these sports and enroll in various training courses. Gulmarg has earned international recognition as a skiing destination, hosting national and international events. Every year during winters, Gulmarg witnesses a huge rush of tourists, which creates employment opportunities for the local youth. Hotels, transport services, guides, instructors, and small businesses benefit greatly from winter tourism.

Snowfall also plays an important role in the agricultural and environmental balance of the valley. It helps replenish water resources, nourishes the soil, and ensures a good supply of water for irrigation during summer. Snow acts as a natural reservoir, slowly releasing water into rivers and streams. This process supports agriculture, horticulture, and hydroelectric power generation in the region. Thus, snowfall is not only a source of beauty but also a vital natural resource.

For the people of Kashmir, snowfall is both a blessing and a challenge. While it brings beauty, joy, and tourism opportunities, it also demands preparedness. Roads may get blocked, daily life may slow down, and harsh cold conditions test resilience. However, the people of Kashmir have learned to live in harmony with nature. Their strength, patience, and adaptability reflect their deep connection with the land.

In conclusion, the snowfall in the Kashmir Valley is a divine gift that enhances its beauty and significance. It turns the valley into a paradise on earth, attracts tourists from across the globe, supports the economy, and sustains the environment. Each season in Kashmir has its own charm, but winter holds a special place in the hearts of its people and visitors alike. The valley continues to inspire admiration, creativity, and love. Truly, Kashmir remains unmatched in its beauty, culture, and natural blessings.

sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com

Sakeena Itoo conducts surprise inspection of District Hospital Kulgam; reviews patient care, other facilities

Interacts with hospital authorities, patients, attendants

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM, JAN 23: In view of the inclement weather conditions, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo conducted surprise inspection of District Hospital Kulgam and took stock of the patient care and other healthcare services being provided to patients.

During the visit, the Minister inspected different wards of the hospital including Emergency section and other critical sections and took on spot appraisal of the facilities available for the public. Interacting with the hospital administration on the occasion, Minister Sakeena asked them to ensure buffer stock of all essential medicines and other life saving drugs in view of inclement weather. She directed them to implement the duty roster in letter and spirit so that the doctors and other required staff remain



available 24x7.

The Minister also directed

them to maintain close coordination with all Sub-district hospi-

tals, CHCs, PHCs, other health centres, and provide all support

to them in case of any requirements in view of heavy snowfall. She emphasized on the need for ensuring quality healthcare services, patient-friendly facilities and timely medical attention for all.

While interacting with patients and attendants, Minister Sakeena enquired about the availability of medicines, diagnostic facilities and overall patient care. She highlighted that the Government is committed to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure across the length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on rural and peripheral areas.

Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar Aamir UI Shafi Khan; Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Jehangir Bhakshi; CMO Kulgam, Medical Superintendent DH Kulgam, other senior officers of district administration and health department also accompanied the Minister during the visit.

Snow Fury Hits Kupwara, Power Outages and Road Blockades Reported

Army, Police and Civil Administration Launch Massive Rescue Operations

■ DR. AB QAYOOM

KUPWARA, JAN 23: The season's first major snowfall on Friday brought life to a complete standstill across Kupwara district, with continuous snow disrupting normal life and plunging the entire region into darkness due to widespread power outages.



Heavy snowfall severely affected traffic movement, as most roads turned slippery and were blocked at several locations. While nearly 1.5 feet of snow was recorded in the plains, the upper reaches including Keran, Machil and Karnah passes received over three feet of snowfall, forcing authorities to suspend vehicular movement on roads leading to these areas. As per the official status shared by the office of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara to HEADLINES TODAY mentioned that, snow clearance and restoration work is underway on a war footing. Under PMGSY, about 61 percent of road connectivity has been restored so far. The R&B Department, Mechanical Department (65%), Urban Local Bodies (76%) and BRO (47%) are also actively engaged in clearing snow from their respective road networks. Power supply remains disrupted, with 57 percent restoration on 33 kV feeders, while 98 percent of 11 kV lines have been restored by the PDD. Meanwhile, 26 percent of PHE schemes have been affected due to the severe weather conditions. To ensure uninterrupted essential supplies, the district administration has already stocked food grains in border areas such as Karnah, Keran, Machil, Jumgund and Kumkadi, which are sufficient till June 2026. Officials confirmed that there is no shortage of essential commodities, and adequate quantities of LPG, petrol and diesel are available across the district. On the health front, all major health institutions including District Hospital Handwara, SDH Kupwara and NTPHCs are functioning normally with sufficient availability of medicines and emergency drugs. Border areas like Tangdar, Keran and Machil have been supplied with adequate medicines, essential drugs and oxygen cylinders. Ambulances have been equipped with anti-skid chains, and duty rosters of doctors and paramedical staff have been framed to ensure round-the-clock services. A joint Control Room has been established at the DC Office Kupwara to monitor the situation, with helpline numbers made public for emergency assistance. District officers have been directed not to leave their stations and remain alert during the ongoing weather conditions. According to the latest status report dated January 23, 2026, snowfall continues across the entire district, though at a slower pace. All major passes including Keran, Karnah and Machil remain closed, while internal roads in many areas have been cleared. Men and machinery have been deployed extensively to keep vital routes to hospitals, government offices and markets operational. Deputy Commissioner Kupwara Sharikant Suse personally visited SDH Kupwara and surrounding areas to assess the situation. He also conducted late-night inspections of snow clearance operations, interacting with field staff and issuing on-the-spot directions to accelerate restoration work on critical routes. Emphasis was laid on coordinated efforts among all departments and maintaining round-the-clock operations to avoid inconvenience to the public. The efforts of the district administration, Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police were widely appreciated by the people, as several medical rescue operations were carried out successfully across Kupwara and Handwara, ensuring timely assistance to patients and stranded residents. Despite the harsh weather, the district administration remains committed to restoring normalcy at the earliest and ensuring public safety amid the ongoing snowfall.

Faizan Mohammad Honoured by Ehsaas Foundation

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR JAN 23: Faizan Mohammad, Director, SAMZAN Group, was bestowed with a Certificate of Appreciation by the Director Industries & Commerce, Ladakh, for his exceptional entrepreneurial leadership, innovative spirit, and valuable contribution towards economic growth. Ehsaas Foundation organised the award ceremony; it was attended by noted dignitaries, industry representatives, and media partners.

It is a recognition of Mr. Faizan Mohammad's sustained efforts to develop progressive business practices and promote innovation-driven growth. Speakers at the event gave concrete hints on his future-oriented vision that in way could empower the industrial and technological ecosystem in the region.

During the ceremony, Faizan Mohammad also shared that he is actively working on advanced robotics collaborations with China, bringing in next-generation robotic solutions to India. It is bound to create a ripple effect, especially in the healthcare, automation, and smart infrastructure sectors, and is considered a giant leap toward making the region a hub for technological advancement.

Director Information administers NVD pledge to officers, employees of DIPR at Jammu

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 22: In connection with the observance of National Voters' Day, Director Information and Public Relations, Nitish Rajora today administered the National Voters' Day (NVD) Pledge to officers and officials of the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) at Media Complex here.

On the occasion, the Director along with the officers and officials of DIPR readout the pledge, reaffirming commitment to the democratic values enshrined in the Constitution of India and uphold the principles of democracy, exercise their electoral rights responsibly and encourage greater participation in the electoral process.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Information highlighted on the significance of this year's theme 'My



India My Vote' of NVD, adding that the theme reflects the strengthening democratic institutions and fostering awareness about the importance of informed and ethical voting.

Emphasizing on the role of DIPR

regarding SVEEP activities of Election department, the Director urged DIPR personnel to actively contribute towards spreading voter awareness and promoting inclusive participation in elections.

Piyush Singla reviews progress on Meghraj cloud service

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: Secretary, Information Technology Department (ITD), Piyush Singla, today chaired a high-level meeting to review the hiring and operationalisation of Megh Raj Cloud Services, a flagship initiative aimed at strengthening the government IT infrastructure and accelerating digital transformation in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by the CEO, JaKeGA; State Informatics Officer (SIO), NIC, Special Secretary IT Department; Deputy Secretary, IT Department; representatives of NICSI; National Government Cloud (NGC) and other officers, ensuring comprehensive stakeholder participation.

During the meeting, representatives of the National Government Cloud (NGC) briefed the participants on MeghRaj Cloud 2.0, outlining its architecture, service offerings, security frame-



work, compliance standards and onboarding process for Government Departments.

Detailed deliberations were held on conceptualization, scope definition and implementation framework of the project to ensure to settle the payment modalities.

The Secretary stressed on following the GFR guidelines and

organising proper training of the module besides close alignment of NICSI with Cloud committee.

While briefing the participants, the Secretary highlighted that MeghRaj 2.0, implemented under the National Government Cloud (NGC) framework and facilitated by NICSI, represents a next-generation cloud eco-system designed specifically for

government workloads. He emphasized that MeghRaj 2.0 offers secure, scalable, resilient and sovereign cloud infrastructure, enabling departments to host applications and data within India in compliance with government security and data-localization norms.

He further stated that MeghRaj cloud services will significantly

enhance data management, cybersecurity resilience, disaster recovery capabilities and efficiency of service delivery, while reducing dependency on fragmented infrastructure. The initiative aligns seamlessly with the Digital India vision, promoting innovation, interoperability, and optimal utilization of IT resources across departments.

District administration distributes PM SVANidhi Credit Cards, loan Sanction Letters at Ramban

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

RAMBAN, JAN 23: The district administration Ramban today distributed PM SVANidhi credit cards and loan sanction letters among beneficiaries in the district, following the nationwide launch of the PM SVANidhi Credit Card, a significant initiative aimed at the welfare of the urban poor, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

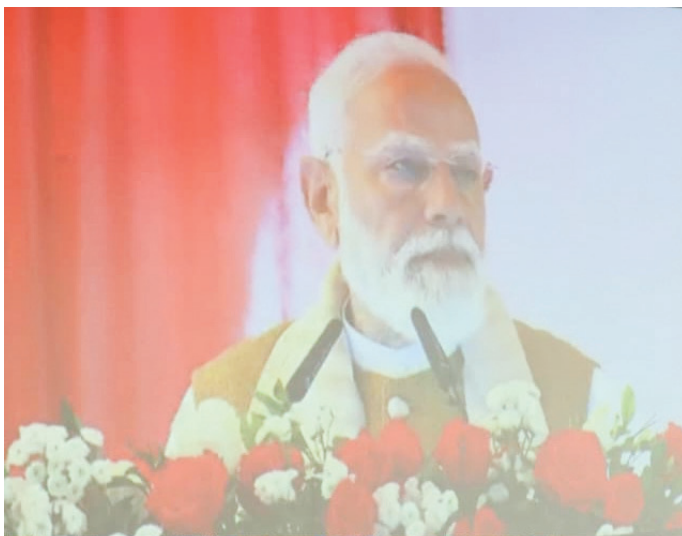
The district-level programme held here in the Conference Hall was presided over by Member of Legislative Assembly Ramban, Arjun Singh Raju and

Deputy Commissioner, Mohammad Alyas Khan.

Handing over the PM SVANidhi Credit Cards and sanction letters to the beneficiaries, the MLA and DC emphasized that the initiative would significantly benefit street vendors and hawkers in the district.

The MLA congratulated the beneficiaries and the people of Ramban for availing the benefits of the welfare-oriented scheme.

The DC informed that the PM SVANidhi scheme provides collateral-free working capital loans in three progressive stages of ₹10,000, ₹20,000 and ₹50,000 to eligible street ven-



dors. He assured that all eligible beneficiaries in the district would be covered under the scheme in a time-bound and transparent manner.

On the occasion, two beneficiaries were provided PM SVANidhi Credit Cards, eight beneficiaries were sanctioned third-stage collateral-free loans and one fresh loan sanction letter was issued by PNB, J&K Bank and SBI respectively. Meanwhile, to mark the 150th Anniversary of India's National Song "Vande Mataram", the participants collectively recited the National Song, adding patriotic fervour to the programme.

District Ganderbal participates in nationwide launch of PM SVANidhi Credit Card by Hon'ble Prime Minister

DC Ganderbal and Director ULB Kashmir distribute sanction letters among street vendors of District Ganderbal

HT NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL, JAN 23: District Administration Ganderbal today joined the nation-wide live streaming of the launch of PM SVANidhi Credit Card by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, as part of efforts to strengthen urban livelihood.

Addressing the nation-wide participants from Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala, Hon'ble Prime Minister said the launch of PMSVANidhi Credit Card marks the next phase of financial inclusion for street vendors.

He said the UPI-linked, interest-free revolving credit facility will provide instant liquidity, promote digital transactions, and help beneficiaries build formal credit histories. The Prime Minister also disbursed PM SVANidhi loans to 1 lakh beneficiaries across the country.



In this connection, a programme was organised at the Mini Secretariat, Ganderbal, where Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore in presence of Director Urban Local Bodies, Qazi Sarwar handed-over sanction letters among beneficiary vendors of the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said the PM SVANidhi Credit Card will significantly empower street vendors by providing them with easy access to institutional credit, enabling them to expand their businesses and improve their livelihoods.

He emphasized that the initiative reflects the Government's commitment towards financial inclusion and economic self-reliance of urban poor. He also urged beneficiary vendors to utilise the credit facility judiciously to suitably expand their businesses.

Directorate of Agriculture Jammu observes National Voters' Day 2026

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: To commemorate National Voters' Day 2026 observed annually on 25 January to mark the foundation day of the Election Commission of India and to promote voter awareness and democratic participation, a programme was organized today at the Conference Hall, Directorate of Agriculture Jammu.

Director Agriculture Jammu, Anil Gupta led the National Voters' Day attended by the sectoral heads and staff of the Directorate, with participants



reaffirming their commitment to uphold democratic values, ethical voting practices and to inspire others to exercise their sacred right to vote.

In his address, Anil Gupta said "National Voters' Day is a reminder of the power vested in every citizen through the ballot. As responsible stakeholders in public service, we recommit ourselves to fostering democratic awareness, encouraging first-time voters and contributing towards an inclusive and vibrant electoral process. My India, My Vote is not just a theme, it is an affirmation of our collective duty to safeguard and strengthen our democracy."

The function was attended by Joint Director Agriculture (SLUB/Farms), Aman Jyoti Sharma; Deputy Director Agriculture, Central, Sanjeev Rai Gupta along with all sectoral heads, senior officers and staff of the Directorate.

DLSA Udhampur convenes first meeting of Under Trial Review Committee -2026

HT NEWS NETWORK

UDHAMPUR, JAN 23: District Legal Services Authority Udhampur held its inaugural Under Trial Review Committee (UTRC) meeting of 2026 pursuant to directives from National Legal Services Authority (NLSA) and J&K Legal Services Authority (J&K LSA).

The meeting convened at Conference Hall DLSA aimed to comprehensively review under-trial prisoner cases and expedite the release of eligible individuals who have endured protracted detention without trial.

Kalpna Revo, Chairperson DLSA/ Principal District & Sessions Judge Udhampur chaired the meeting which was attended by Sumati Sharma, Sub-Judge/Secretary DLSA Udhampur; Prem Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner Udhampur; Sandeep, Additional DSP Udhampur representing Senior Superintendent of Police Udhampur; Reyaz Ahmed, Assistant Superintendent District Jail Udhampur along with Satish Kotwal, Munshi District Jail Udhampur representing Superintendent District Jail, Udhampur and Pawan Gupta, Chief LADC Udhampur.

The Committee meticulously reviewed cases based on Supreme Court and NLSA guidelines, focusing on prisoners lacking adequate representation or detained without trial. Key discussion points included conducting regular meetings to track progress, maintaining a consolidated data sheet to monitor prisoner cases and preparing quarterly reports to ensure the benefits of legal provisions reach the intended beneficiaries.

DHS Jammu reviews functioning of Childcare Unit, implementation of health schemes at DH Ramban

HT NEWS NETWORK

RAMBAN, JAN 23: Director Health Services, Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar conducted a comprehensive visit to District Hospital Ramban to review the functioning of the Special Newborn Care Unit (SNCU) and the implementation of ongoing health schemes.

The Director inspected the SNCU facilities and reviewed the availability and operational status of neonatal care equipment, position of trained medical and nursing staff, maintenance of infection control protocols and overall quality of care being provided to sick and low-birth-weight newborns.

Emphasis was laid on strict adherence to standard treatment guidelines, regular monitoring of admitted neonates and strengthening of referral and transport mechanisms to ensure timely and effective neonatal care.

The Director also interacted with doctors, nursing staff and paramedical personnel and stressed the importance of strengthening maternal and child health services. The efforts of the hospital staff were appreciated and the administration was directed to address gaps observed during the inspection.

The Director also reviewed the implementation of major National and UT health programmes including RMNCH+A, Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), Janani Shishu Suraksha



Karyakram (JSSK), National Health Mission (NHM) initiatives, Universal Immunization Programme, NCD screening programmes and other public health schemes. Officers were directed to ensure effective service delivery, proper record maintenance and maximum beneficiary coverage under all schemes.

An interaction meeting was held with the hospital administration, medical officers, nursing staff and paramedical personnel. The DHSJ appreciated the dedication and efforts in delivering healthcare services in challenging terrain. Directions were issued to promptly address gaps observed during the inspection and

to further strengthen critical care and maternal-child health services.

Infrastructure facilities, availability of essential drugs, diagnostics and patient-centric services were also assessed during the visit. DHSJ stressed the need for improving coordination between District Hospital and peripheral health institutions for seamless referral services, especially in emergency and neonatal cases.

The visit underscored the Health Department's commitment to enhancing healthcare infrastructure, improving neonatal outcomes and ensuring equitable, accessible and quality healthcare services for the people of Ramban district.

Doda admin organises live streaming of PM SVANidhi Credit Card scheme launch

HT NEWS NETWORK

DODA, JAN 23: A programme, under the theme "Utsah, Samman, Swabhiman" was today organized here at DC office to mark the nationwide launch of credit cards and disbursement of loans under the Pradhan Mantri SVANidhi Scheme.

Live streaming of virtual interaction of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi with the beneficiaries was convened in the presence of Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Anil Kumar Thakur; Chief Planning Officer, Manesh Kumar; Additional Superintendent of Police, Mohd Aslam; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Musharif Ali; District Social Welfare Officer, Zubair Ahmed; Executive Officer, Munic-



UFM Committee meeting on January 27: JKBOSE

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, JAN 23: The Unfair means Committee of Jammu Division is holding a meeting on January 27, 2026 to examine the nature of irregularities resorted to by certain candidates of Higher Secondary Part-I (Class 11th) Annual Regular 2025, Winter Zone areas of Jammu Division.

The meeting shall be chaired by the Joint Secretary, UFM, JD here at JKBOSE Rehari Colony.

The candidates of SSE (Class 10th) & HSP-I (Class 11th) of session Bi-Annual 2025 of Jammu Division, whose cases were deferred shall also be heard in the said meeting.

The stakeholder candidates have been informed to attend the proceedings and plead their cases with the committee through evidence. The details of the candidates bearing examination Roll Nos. can be surfed on the official website, www.jkbose.nic.in. and also at their respective Sub/Branch Offices of JKBOSE.

GDC Ramkote Shines at 1st National Rover/ Ranger Jamboree at Chhattisgarh

HT NEWS NETWORK

KATHUA, JAN 23: The Rangers of Government Degree College Ramkote proudly marked their maiden presence in the 1st National Rover/ Ranger Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides held at Dudhli, Balod District, Chhattisgarh under the theme "Sashakt Yuva, Viksit Bharat."

The 12 Ranger college contingent consisted of Minakshi Devi (Sem V), Taniya Sharma (Sem V), Sakshi Devi (Sem V), Minu Devi (Sem V), Latasha Sharma (Sem V), Reeta Devi (Sem III), Neha Devi (Sem III), Sonali Sharma (Sem III), Nitakshi Sharma (Sem III), Richu Devi (Sem III), Priyanka Devi (Sem III) and Tania Sharma (Sem III) was flagged off by Principal of the college Prof. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul under Haroon Malik Contingent Leader of Jammu & Kashmir Bharat Scouts and Guides and college Unit Leader-Shallu Verma.

Three Rangers, Minakshi Devi, Taniya Sharma and Sakshi Devi participated in the cultural Dogri folk dance. Four Rangers, Richu Devi, Tania

Sharma, Sakshi Devi and Latasha Sharma participated in the March Past. Two Rangers, Nitakshi Sharma and Reeta Devi participated in the Colour Party. Two Rangers, Taniya Sharma and Minu Devi participated in Backwood cooking which helped develop teamwork, self-reliance and Time Management skills. One Ranger Neha Devi participated in the Youth Parliament which helped develop leadership skills and civic understanding.

Rangers Minakshi Devi and Tania Sharma welcomed the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Vishnu Deo Sai at the jamboree site. The jamboree also featured activities and sessions on climate change, disaster management, life-saving skills and the theme "Be Prepared - Ready for Life."

The Jammu & Kashmir Rangers/Rovers contingent bagged 8 awards, outperforming in various competitions. The Rangers also got an opportunity to visit places like Ganga Mata Temple, Tandula Complex, Golden Temple (Amritsar), Jallianwala Bagh and the Attari-Wagah Border.

Live Telecast of PM SVANidhi Credit Card launch held at Kathua

DC gives away loan cheques to 27 beneficiaries

HT NEWS NETWORK

KATHUA, JAN 23: The live broadcast of the launch of Credit Card facility and Disbursement of Loans to one lakh beneficiaries under the PM SVANidhi Scheme by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was held today at the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex-Kathua.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma was the chief guest at the event, which was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Surinder Mohan Sharma; Assistant Commissioner Development, Vishavjeet Singh; CEO Municipal Council, Amit Sharma; Lead District Manager, Aman Jasrotia, Executive Officers of different municipal bodies, besides officers from line departments and benefi-

ciaries of the scheme.

After the formal launch, the Deputy Commissioner gave away loan cheques to 27 PM SVANidhi scheme beneficiaries hailing from different parts of the district.

The beneficiaries expressed gratitude to the Government for extending timely financial assistance which will help them strengthen their livelihoods and achieve economic self-reliance.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the PM SVANidhi scheme is a landmark initiative aimed at uplifting street vendors by integrating them into the formal financial system. He urged beneficiaries to utilize the loan amount judiciously to expand their businesses and improve their income.

Baramulla joins Nationwide Rollout of PM SVANidhi Credit Card

DC distributes Sanction Letters among 14 eligible Street Vendors

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA, JAN 23: A large number of people gathered in the meeting hall of DC office Baramulla to virtually take part in the nationwide rollout of the PM SVANidhi Credit Card initiative, launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi from Kerala.

The programme was presided by Deputy commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa and was attended by the officers from various departments and a large number of people who attentively listened to the Prime Minister's address, which underscored the importance of financial inclusion and easy access to institutional credit for street vendors.

On the occasion, the DC Baramulla distributed sanction letters among 14 street vendors, reaffirming the district administration's commitment towards



empowering small traders and strengthening their livelihoods.

The DC highlighted that the PM SVANidhi Credit Card is a

significant step towards providing flexible and hassle-free cred-

it support to street vendors, enabling them to meet their working capital requirements and manage day-to-day business needs more efficiently.

The PM SVANidhi Credit Card initiative forms part of the restructured PM SVANidhi scheme and is aimed at offering UPI-linked RuPay credit cards to eligible street vendors who have demonstrated good repayment behaviour under earlier loan tranches.

The initiative allows vendors to access credit digitally, encourages cashless transactions, and helps build a formal credit history, thereby enhancing their financial credibility and long-term economic security.

Meanwhile, Minga Sherpa urged street vendors to actively enroll and make optimum use of the PM SVANidhi Credit Card to strengthen their businesses and achieve sustainable growth.

Bandipora Participates in Nation-wide launch of PM-SVANidhi Credit Card

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA, JAN 23: District Administration Bandipora today led by Deputy Commissioner, Indu Kanwal Chib, participated in the nation-wide live streaming of the launch of the PM-SVANidhi Credit Card by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, an initiative aimed at strengthening urban livelihoods and deepening financial inclusion for street vendors.

The event, organised under the PM-SVANidhi Scheme, was attended by the Deputy Commissioner, street vendors, representatives from various banking institutions, officials, and workers of the Municipal Council.

On the occasion, 14 loan cases amounting ₹0.0525 crore were disbursed to eligible street vendors under



ADC Ramban discusses Youth Engagement Plan, seeks suggestion from stakeholder departments

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

RAMBAN, JAN 23: Additional Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Varunjeet Singh Charak, who is also the Chairperson of the District Level Committee for implementation of youth engagement plan, today chaired a meeting to discuss the youth engagement plan for the district.

The meeting aimed at formulating a comprehensive, inclusive and result-oriented strategy to positively channelize the energy and potential of the youth.

The meeting was attended by Additional Superintendent of Police, Mujeeb-Ur-Rehman, General Manager DIC, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, Chief Agriculture Officer, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Tehsildar Headquarters, Director R-SETI, District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Superintendent ITI and other concerned officers.

The ADC sought suggestions from all stakeholder departments including JK Police, Education, Health, Industries, Youth Services & Sports, R-SETI,



Agriculture and Horticulture to formulate a plan to address the aspirations and challenges of the youth in a holistic manner. Officers shared valuable feedback and sector-specific inputs to strengthen the initiative.

Emphasizing the need for coordinated efforts, the Chairperson directed each department to submit individual youth-centric action plans within two days which will be consolidated into a comprehensive district-level youth engagement plan.

The ADC stressed that engaging youth in sports, agriculture, entrepreneurship, skill development and voluntary services is essential for their overall development. He highlighted that constructive engagement would help channelize youthful energy towards nation-building, removal of social evils, promotion of discipline and creation of a positive, progressive and self-reliant society.

Earlier, the AD Employment Ramban, the Nodal Officer for youth engagement briefed the chair on the proposed framework, objectives and strategic interventions required for effective youth participation across various sectors. The plan focuses on skill development, employment generation, entrepreneurship, sports, volunteerism and social development.

ADC Kulgam chairs DLAC on Food Safety

Says regular inspections and registration of vendors be ensured

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM, JAN 23: A meeting of the District Level Advisory Committee (DLAC) on Food Safety was convened today under the chairmanship of the Additional Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Viqar Ahmed Giri.

The meeting, attended by all Committee members, was convened to review the overall status of food safety enforcement and hygiene standards across the district.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation on the functioning and implementation of food safety measures was given by the Assistant Commissioner Food Safety, Kulgam.

The ADC underlined the need to focus on strict adherence to food safety norms across the district and emphasised on regular inspections.

He underscored that regular and broad based sampling of food establishments and street food vendors should become the norm and directed the food safety department to intensify the surveillance so that quality food products are made available to the general public.

It was exhorted that all street food vendors must be mandatorily registered under the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, and compliance in this regard shall be monitored.

The ADC stressed that unregis-

tered vendors shall be sensitized and proceeded against as per norms, wherever required particularly with focus on fast food outlets. He also directed that samples shall be collected from the main markets of all blocks in kulgam within a stipulated timeframe and sent for analytical testing to ascertain quality standards.

It was emphasized that timely sampling, testing, and follow-up action must be ensured without delay.

The ADC impressed upon all concerned departments to maintain close inter-departmental coordination and ensure effective implementation of food safety regulations in letter and spirit.

Udhampur: DCO foils drug trafficking attempt through courier service

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

UDHAMPUR, JAN 23: Drugs Control Organization (DCO), Jammu & Kashmir has confiscated a consignment of 8,000 Pregabalin-300 capsules being illegally transported through a private courier service.

Acting on specific intelligence and routine surveillance of courier networks, a team of Drugs Control Officers—Rakesh Singh Slathia and Narinder Parvesh, under the supervision of Assistant

Drugs Controller Udhampur, Sanjeev Gupta conducted a targeted inspection at a courier facility operating in the region.

During the inspection, a suspicious parcel was identified and opened in the presence of authorized personnel. Upon examination, the parcel was found to contain 8,000 capsules of Pregabalin-300 (SP-NYL-300), a drug commonly prescribed for neuropathic pain but reportedly misused for

intoxication by antisocial elements. The consignment was found concealed and was not supported by any valid documentation.

Taking immediate cognizance of the matter, the drugs were seized on the spot under Form-16 in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Preliminary investigations indicated that the consignment was being routed into Jammu & Kashmir from a neighbouring state and intended for illegal

sale within the Union Territory. Further investigations are underway to trace the origin and destination of the parcel and consignee details are being verified for initiating appropriate legal action under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

It is pertinent to mention that recently, 4,500 capsules of the same drug formulation were also seized from unscrupulous elements with the active cooperation of police authorities.

State Drugs Controller J&K,

Rajesh Kumar directed field officers to maintain strict surveillance over courier services, transport agencies and suspected pharmaceutical distribution channels and to take stringent action against violators.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner FDA, J&K, Smita Sethi reiterated that the Government of Jammu & Kashmir remains firmly committed to eradicate the menace of illegal drug trafficking from the Union Territory.

REVIVE CARE

DR. GURDEV SINGH BALI
(BDS, MDS ORTHODONTICS)
(Govt. Dental College Srinagar)

BOOK APPOINTMENT
Call To Schedule Your Visit

REVIVE CARE
NATIONAL HIGHWAY KANISPORA
NEAR PETROL PUMP
9906215683

REVIVE CARE

BOOK APPOINTMENT
Call To Schedule Your Visit

REVIVE CARE
NATIONAL HIGHWAY KANISPORA
NEAR PETROL PUMP
9906215683

REVIVE CARE

DR. SUMIT MRIG
Director & Head,
ENT & Cochlear implant surgery
Max Smart super speciality hospital Saket & Max Hospital Dwarka . NEW DELHI

Director Sankalp ENT & Cochlear Implant Centre
NEW DELHI

JOIN FACEBOOK LIVE
WITH Dr.SUMIT , Mr.TURAB, Former Sr. Audiologist
at Max Hospital Saket ,Delhi)
@ Kifayatkifi
8:00PM On January 18th, Sunday

Dr. SUMIT MRIG
Director & Head,
ENT & Cochlear implant surgery
Max Smart super speciality hospital Saket & Max Hospital Dwarka . NEW DELHI

Director Sankalp ENT & Cochlear Implant Centre
NEW DELHI

JOIN FACEBOOK LIVE
WITH Dr.SUMIT , Mr.TURAB, Former Sr. Audiologist
at Max Hospital Saket ,Delhi)
@ Kifayatkifi
8:00PM On January 18th, Sunday



Abhishek Blitz Puts India 1-0 Up

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

SYDNEY: Abhishek Sharma kickstarted 2026 in fine fashion with an explosive 35-ball 84 that helped India take an early lead in the five-match T20I series. On the back of a fantastic 2025 in T20 cricket, Abhishek carried forward that momentum in his first outing for the national side this year and slammed eight sixes in his thrilling knock as India put up 238/7 - their highest T20I total against New Zealand. In reply, the visitors fell short comfortably by 48 runs. India lost two wickets very early in the contest as Kyle Jamieson and Jacob Duffy got rid of Sanju Samson and Ishan Kishan. But as always, Abhishek wasn't deterred by the early losses as he hammered four sixes inside the powerplay as India raced to 68/2 after six overs. Suryakumar Yadav, desperate for runs, started off in fine fashion too as he even brought out

his trademark pick up short to clear the ropes early in his innings. In the process, Abhishek brought up his fifty off just 20 balls as the two batters put on 99 for the third wicket before Suryakumar's dismissal at the halfway mark.

In the very next over, New Zealand also saw the back of Abhishek as he cleared the ropes two more times against Ish Sodhi before miscuing one. At this point, India still had eight overs left in their innings. Even though Shivam Dube fell early immediately after smashing a six, Hardik Pandya made 25 off 16 before Rinku Singh took charge at the death. Rinku took full toll of New Zealand's decision to bowl Daryl Mitchell at the death as he carted him away for two fours and two sixes to remain unbeaten on 44.

New Zealand received an early setback when Devon Conway chased an away going delivery to edge it behind, fol-

lowed by Rachin Ravindra nicking one to slip in the second over. Losing two wickets within the first nine deliveries, New Zealand still managed to put up 50 runs in the powerplay, thanks predominantly to Glenn Phillips. However, Varun Chakaravathy came into the attack and got rid of Tim Robinson immediately after the powerplay ended to further dent the visitors. Phillips and Mark Chapman hit enough boundaries including a phase where they combined to clear the ropes thrice in the space of five balls.

Despite those efforts, New Zealand were always under the pump given the target they were chasing. And once Phillips departed for a 40-ball 78, it was curtains for New Zealand. Chakaravathy rounded off his spell with Chapman's wicket before the likes of Santner and Mitchell added a few more boundaries that ultimately only helped in reducing the margin of defeat.

Injured Sadhu out of WPL 2026, Giants pick Kalita as replacement

■ ESPNCRICINFO

MUMBAI: Gujarat Giants (GG) pacer Titas Sadhu has been ruled out of the WPL due to injury, with seam-bowling allrounder Jintamani Kalita named as her replacement.

Sadhu, who represented Delhi Capitals in seven matches over the last two seasons, was picked up by the Giants for INR 30 lakh at November's mega auction. However, she did not feature in any matches in 2026. Her 2025 was disrupted by injuries as well, limiting her appearances across formats.

After playing in the home ODI series against Ireland in January last year and featuring in three WPL matches in February-March, Sadhu missed the



tri-series in Sri Lanka involving South Africa in April. She was also sidelined for the white-ball tour of England in July. Sadhu returned to competitive cricket in August, earning selection across all three formats for the India A tour of Australia. She has played for India in eight ODIs and 12 T20Is overall.

Kalita, meanwhile, has previously represented Mumbai Indians, playing a total of 13 matches across the 2023 and 2025 seasons. She has picked up one wicket and scored six runs.

Giants are tied on points with four teams but currently bottom of the WPL points table on net run-rate. They have suffered three consecutive defeats after beginning the season with two back-to-back wins. They have three remaining league games as they push for a place in the playoffs.

Finn Allen's sixy BBL season a result of 'stable base' and a 'really clear game plan'

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

DALLAS: Of the record 37 sixes Finn Allen has whacked this season - the most by a batter in a single BBL tournament - there is one outrageous blow that stands out for him.

In the qualifying final at Optus Stadium, Perth Scorchers had an uncharacteristically sedate start with Allen unable to land a punch in his engrossing battle with Sydney Sixers spearhead Mitchell Starc.

With Scorchers trudging to 18 for 1 after 3.3 overs, Allen had enough and shuffled across his stumps to scoop Starc for a mighty blow that landed in the seats near the sight screen.

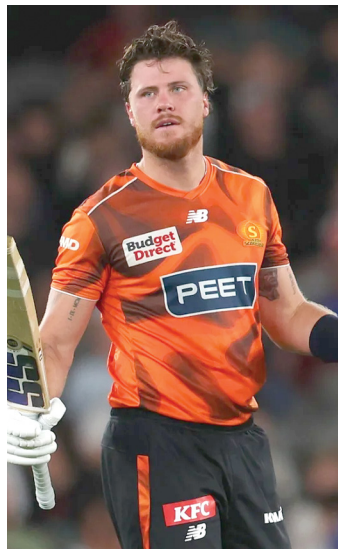
"Always nice to hit him for

six," a grinning Allen told reporters on Thursday.

There is the tantalising prospect of round two in front of 55,000 at Optus Stadium in the final if Sixers beat Hobart Hurricanes on Friday at the SCG. By the time of Sunday's final, Scorchers will not have travelled for more than a week and will face a weary opponent having to rack up plenty of miles.

"It would be cool to play the Sixers again," Allen said. "There's obviously a lot of history there and I guess it'll probably mean a little bit extra to get up against them on Sunday."

After missing finals last year for just the third time in their proud season, Scorchers have been rejuvenated in a major



bounce back fuelled by an Allen-led powerful batting order.

Allen, in the final season of a two-year contract with Scorchers, was named in the BBL team of the tournament and is currently second on the run-scoring list with 430 from 10 innings.

His strike rate of 186 is the fourth most in the competition, but significantly higher for those who have faced at least 150 balls - with Sam Harper next best with 155.51. Allen has also hit almost double the sixes of second-placed David Warner and Josh Brown with 20 apiece.

"I feel really clear in my game plan and how I'm trying to go about my innings, which is a nice place to be in," Allen said. "It doesn't always come off. I've really worked hard on being still at the crease

and having a stable base."

"Being here makes me a better cricketer. So to have some personal success, I guess is a reflection of my game and gives me confidence going into the backend of that series against India and then on to the World Cup." Scorchers had notably struggled in recent seasons at the top of the order, with Allen failing to adjust to the seam-friendly conditions of Optus Stadium in a misfiring debut campaign in BBL 14.

But the experience has proven invaluable with Allen tweaking his technique and also allowing himself to settle into an innings instead of blasting from the get-go like he did last season.

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS

ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS

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

9999038812
9419008414

Radio Colony, Gund Hassibhat, Lawaipora Srinagar-190017

HEADLINES TODAY INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

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

Send your contributions to:

Dr Basharat Khan
Honorary Editor: Literature & Health Sections (HT) at
chogalwriter76@gmail.com

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

