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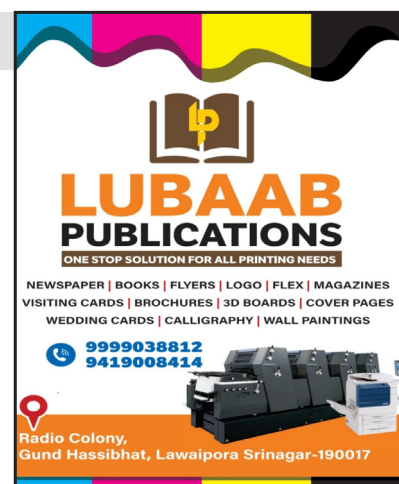
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16TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION HEADLINES TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless



J&K Must Harness Its Full Hydropower Potential to Drive Growth: Amit Shah

Home Minister Reviews Development, Security and Welfare Projects During High-Level Meeting in Jammu



HT NEWS NETWORK

Jammu, Feb 7: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday underscored the urgent need to fully utilise Jammu and Kashmir's vast hydro-

power resources to accelerate economic development and strengthen energy security, while chairing a high-level review meeting on

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Modi Govt Firmly Committed to Building a Developed, Prosperous J&K : Amit Shah

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB 7: Reaffirming the Centre's unwavering commitment to Jammu and Kashmir, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation and Panchayats, Jammu and Kashmir, on Saturday said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Government of India remains firmly dedicated to the vision of building a developed and prosperous Union Territory.

Chairing a high-level review meeting here, Shah took stock of the progress of major development projects across critical sectors, including road infrastructure,

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No New Administrative Units for Now, Govt to Strengthen Existing Ones: CM Omar

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB 7: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said that the government has no immediate plans to create new administrative units in Jammu and Kashmir, stressing that the priority is to operationalise and strengthen those already established.

Intervening during the Question Hour of the Budget Session-2026 in the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Minister was responding to supplementary queries raised by MLA Khanyar



Salman Ali Sagar and other members regarding the demand for carving out a new tehsil by bifurcating certain areas from Eidgah and Srinagar North tehsils.

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India to Stop Indus Waters to Pakistan, Divert Flow to Northern States : Jal Shakti Minister

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAIPUR, FEB 7: In a major policy assertion with far-reaching geopolitical and domestic implications, Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil on Saturday announced that water from the Indus River system will no longer be allowed to flow into Pakistan, as the Centre has completed preparations to divert it for India's benefit.

Addressing reporters at the BJP headquarters in Jaipur, Patil said a Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been finalised to ensure effective diversion of surplus waters to Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi, thereby strengthening water security for agriculture and drinking purposes across northern India.

"A comprehensive DPR has been prepared to ensure proper water diversion. Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi will benefit from the additional water. The aim is to fully utilise India's rightful share," Patil said.

The minister said the government is fast-tracking the Yamuna water project to enhance water management and ensure equitable distribution among beneficiary states. He added that extensive

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Kashmir sees rising night temperatures, snow chills daytime

■ HT NEWS NETWORK / KNO

SRINAGAR, FEB 07: Minimum temperatures across Kashmir rose over the past 24 hours, while fresh snowfall in higher reaches led to a noticeable drop in daytime temperatures, officials said on Saturday.

As per details obtained by the news

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Govt's Action Against Maoists Ended Fear In Bastar, New Dawn Of Development Rising: President

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAGDALPUR (CHHATTISGARH), FEB 7: President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday said that decisive action by the government against Maoists has ended the atmosphere of fear and distrust in the Bastar region, and a new dawn of development is setting in.

Speaking after inaugurating the three-day divisional-level Bastar Pandum festival



in Jagdalpur, the headquarters of Bastar district, the President appealed to those who have renounced violence and joined the mainstream to trust the Constitution and democracy and not be misled by those seeking to divert them from the path of peace.

"Bastar's natural beauty and rich cultural traditions have always attracted people, but the region unfortunately

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'Crop Insurance a Lifeline, But Weather Losses Need Urgent Relief': Kashmir Fruit Growers on J&K Budget

■ HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, FEB 7: The Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union (KVFGCDU) on Friday welcomed several horticulture-centric measures in the Jammu and Kashmir Budget 2026-27, describing the introduction and strengthening of a crop insurance scheme for apple orchards as a "lifeline" for growers, while strongly urging the govern-

ment to announce a comprehensive relief package to compensate for massive weather-related crop losses.

In a statement issued to the news agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the apex body representing fruit growers and traders across the Valley lauded the proposed expansion of Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage facilities and the exclusive crop insurance cover for apples,

saying these steps would help stabilise Kashmir's horticulture-driven economy.

"These initiatives will provide long-term protection to orchardists against unpredictable weather conditions and market volatility. Apple forms the backbone of J&K's horticulture sector, and crop insurance is a much-needed safety net," the Union said.

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Army Chief Visits Forward Posts In Poonch

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB 7: During his visit to forward areas in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir today, Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi reviewed the operational preparedness of troops deployed in the area and interacted with personnel at forward locations. He commended the troops for their high morale and operational readiness.

During the visit, the Army Chief also stopped at Kamsar

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Govt says over Rs 1,534 crore disbursed among displaced persons

■ HT NEWS NETWORK / KNO

SRINAGAR, FEB 07: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday said it has disbursed over Rs 1,534 crore to displaced persons from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and Chhamb.

The government said it is strengthening disaster management and

rehabilitation systems to minimise loss of life, infrastructure, livelihoods, and environmental assets, alongside addressing the socio-economic needs of internally displaced persons.

"Early warning messages are being disseminated through the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) across media platforms, a system that was successfully used during the Shri Amarnath

Ji Yatra in 2025," according to an official document accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

On rehabilitation, the government said that under the Prime Minister's Relief Package (PMRP) 2008 and the Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) 2015, 6,000 jobs were sanctioned for Kashmiri migrant

youth. Of these, 5,880 appointments have been issued, marking 98 per cent of sanctioned jobs.

It further noted that 6,000 transit accommodation units were approved for migrants, of which 3,736 flats have been completed, and 2,264 are under construction. A total of 3,250 flats had been allotted to beneficiaries up

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Modi Govt Working With Commitment For Women-Led Development: Tarun Chugh

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB 7: BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K Tarun Chugh, today addressed the Mahila Samvad Programme organised by BJP Mahila Morcha at Karan Palace, Mishriwala Road, Jammu. Chugh said that under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, women empowerment has become the central pillar of governance and development in the country. He said the Modi Government has transformed women empowerment from a slogan into a

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DC Srinagar, SSP Traffic visits Shankaracharya Temple

Finalizes arrangements for upcoming Mahashivratri/Herath Festival

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, FEB 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, on Saturday along with SSP Traffic Police, Aijaz Ahmad Bhat visited the Shankaracharya Temple to review and finalize arrangements for the upcoming festival of Mahashivratri, scheduled to be celebrated on February 14th & 15th, 2026. The festival holds immense religious and cultural significance and is observed with great devotion, particularly by the Kashmiri Pandit community.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz; Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Khurshid; Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tahir Sajad; Executive Engineers of PHE R&B, KPDCI, Tehsildar South, Tehsildar Khanyar, Chief Sanitation Officer and other concerned, besides, Additional Secretary Dharmarth Trust, Avisash Fotedar and Vidhu Sharma accompanied the DC during the visit.

While reviewing the arrangements on the spot, the DC directed the concerned departments

to ensure that all basic facilities are put in place well in advance for the devotees expected to visit the historic Shankaracharya Temple. He asked the officers of the line departments to ensure all necessary arrangements for a smooth, safe, and enriching pilgrimage experience for the devotees on this auspicious occasion.

The DC instructed for ensuring hassle-free traffic movement for the devotees, besides adequate facilities at the designated place for parking of the vehicles. He also stressed for adequate shuttle bus services to ferry devotees from different parts of the city to the Shankaracharya Temple on Mahashivratri.

Stressing the importance of cleanliness, the DC directed the SMC authorities to ensure proper sanitation and hygiene at the Shankaracharya Temple premises and along the entire pilgrimage route. He also instructed for adequate arrangements for urinals and sanitation facilities. Additionally, he asked for ensuring all streetlights from Nehru Park to the Temple are made functional.



The DC further directed for ensuring uninterrupted supply of electricity and adequate drinking water facility at the venue so that Yatris do not face any inconvenience during their visit.

The DC directed for ensuring uninterrupted power supply and adequate drinking water facilities at the venue so that devotees do not face any inconvenience during their visit to pay obeisance at the Temple.

The DC also directed the Health Department to deploy a Medical team at the venue with the availability of all emergency medicines and first aid facilities.

The DC directed the officers of the line departments to ensure all necessary arrangements required for smooth stay and enriching pilgrimage for all devotees on this religious occasion.

On the occasion, the DC interacted with members of the Dharmarth Trust and organising committee of Bhandara, assuring them of full support from the District Administration for smooth celebrations of Mahashivratri at Shankracharya, Srinagar.

KVK-Anantnag Organizes Valedictory Function for Krishi Udyamis and Krishi Sakhis under NMNF and HADP

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG, FEB 07: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Anantnag, SKUAST-Kashmir organized the valedictory function of two capacity-building training programmes—a five-day training programme for Krishi Sakhis under the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) and a two-day training programme for Krishi Udyamis under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) Project-20. The programmes were conducted in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Anantnag.

The function was graced by Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir, as the Chief Guest. Mr. Shahnawaz A. Shah, Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO), Anantnag, along with officers of the Department of Agriculture and scientists of KVK-Anantnag, were also present on the occasion.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Ishitiyaq A. Khan, Head, KVK-Anantnag, who outlined the objectives and outcomes of the



training programmes. He emphasized the pivotal role of KVKs in capacity building, skill development, promotion of agripreneurship, and dissemination of sustainable and natural farming technologies at the grassroots level. Addressing the participants, Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth emphasized the growing relevance of agripreneurship in the present agricultural scenario, particularly in the context of climate change, market competitiveness, and livelihood diversification. She stressed the importance of self-belief, continuous learning, and acquisition of knowledge and skills to effectively propagate latest technologies in agriculture and allied sectors. She further highlighted the need for a strong and dynamic linkage among farmers, scientists, and line departments for efficient technology transfer and inclusive agricultural growth. The Director Extension lauded the consistent efforts of KVK-Anantnag in empowering Krishi Sakhis and Krishi Udyamis through structured and need-based trainings.

Prof. Kanth also spoke about the upcoming Grand Agri Tech Kisan Mela, popularly known as "Gongul", scheduled to be held from 14th to 16th at the Shalimar Campus of SKUAST-Kashmir. She informed that more than 400 stalls will be on display under various thematic areas, showcasing latest agricultural technologies, live exhibits, quality planting material, improved and climate-resilient seed varieties, innovations, startups, and agri-based enterprises. She urged the farming community, rural youth, and entrepreneurs to visit the mela in large numbers to benefit from the vast exposure and learning opportunities.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shahnawaz A. Shah, Chief Agriculture Officer, Anantnag, highlighted the importance of Krishi Udyamis in strengthening the rural economy and stressed the need for efficient functioning of Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) as a viable and sustainable business model. He encouraged the trainees to translate the acquired knowledge into successful enterprises through close coordination with line departments.

Towards the end of the programme, certificates were distributed among the trainees who successfully completed the training programmes under NMNF and HADP. The valedictory function concluded with a vote of thanks, marking the successful completion of the training initiatives aimed at promoting agripreneurship, natural farming, and sustainable agricultural development in the district.

Snowtales unveils poster and trailer of Dogri web series 'Bairi Hirkh' at Writer's Club Jammu

■ GULFAM BARJI

JAMMU, FEB 7: Snowtales Entertainment unveiled the poster and trailer of its upcoming Dogri web series Bairi Hirkh during a special launch event held at the Jammu Writers Club, Abhinav Theatre. The event drew the presence of several prominent personalities from the fields of politics, journalism, and the arts.

The programme was graced by former MLA Shri Ajay Sadotra as Chief Guest and noted journalist and social commentator Shri Sohail Kazmi as Special Guest. Both dignitaries appreciated the initiative aimed at promoting regional language content and encouraged young filmmakers to present local narratives on national and global platforms.

Snowtales Entertainment is a Jammu & Kashmir based digital content studio founded by Saajan Kerni and Varun Sharma with a vision to create original and meaningful stories rooted in the region's culture, language, and lived experiences.

Bairi Hirkh, written and directed by Pankaj Khajuria, is Snowtales' first Dogri web series and explores themes of love, conflict, and emotional resilience in a contemporary setting. The poster and trailer received an enthusiastic response from the audience at the event.

JKPICCA Welcomes Budget 2026-27, Lauds Strong Push for Horticulture and Crop Insurance in J&K

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGER, FEB 07: The Jammu Kashmir Fruits & Vegetables Processing & Integrated Cold Chain Association (JKPICCA) has welcomed the Union Budget 2026-27, describing it as growth-oriented and particularly beneficial for the horticulture sector, which continues to serve as the economic backbone of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued on Saturday, JKPICCA strongly appreciated the Government's decision to expand crop insurance coverage to key horticultural crops such as apple, saffron, mango and litchi. The Association said the move assumes critical significance in the context of increasing climate variability, frequent weather extremes and market uncertainties. Comprehensive insurance coverage, it noted, will provide much-needed income security to growers and boost confidence in orchard investments and crop diversification.

JKPICCA also welcomed the Government's sustained focus on capital expenditure, infrastructure development and agricultural transformation. The emphasis on high-density horticulture, nursery development, productivity enhancement, agri-allied sectors and processing ecosystems was described as a reflection of a long-term vision aimed at value addition and employment generation across the Union Territory. The Association noted that the Budget's focus on market reforms and ease of doing business would play a crucial role in strengthening the fruits and vegetables value chain in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Tariq Ahmad Shera Honoured with Rashtriya Prerna Doot Award 2025-2026

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

CHAPRA, BIHAR, FEB 07: In a moment of immense pride and national recognition, Dr. Tariq Ahmad Shera, a distinguished social and cultural activist renowned for his contributions to social welfare, art, culture, and linguistic preservation, was conferred with the prestigious Rashtriya Prerna Doot Award 2025-2026. The honour was presented on 3 February 2026, in recognition of his exceptional dedication to societal upliftment and the preservation of India's rich cultural heritage. The award was presented by Hon'ble MLA & former Minister of Art, Culture, Youth and Sports Shri Jitendra Kumar Rai, Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, Chapra Swami Atidevanand Maharaj, Principal of Ganga Singh College Prof. Dr. Pramendra Ranjan Singh, State Coordinator Lalit Kumar Singh, former NSS Coordinator Dr. Vidya Vachaspathi Tripathi, and National President of Face of Future India and President's Awardee Shri Mantu Kumar Yadav during the three-day National Youth Exchange Programme, organised by Face of Future India. The programme aimed to strengthen youth leadership, national integration, and cultural exchange, and saw the participation of young delegates from across the country. Dr. Shera's recognition during this national platform served as a powerful example of purpose-driven and transformative social work.

Dr. Shera's contributions extend far beyond conventional activism. Over the years, he has emerged as a strong voice for cultural revival, social empowerment, and youth development. His relentless efforts in promoting Kashmiri culture, safeguarding linguistic heritage, and encouraging artistic expression have earned him widespread respect across academic,



social, and cultural circles. His work reflects not only commitment and perseverance, but also a rare blend of intellectual depth, compassion, and a deep sense of national responsibility.

During the programme, Dr. Shera also met the Hon'ble Governor of Bihar, who highly appreciated his significant role in preserving cultural identity and empowering the younger generation. The Governor commended him for strengthening social harmony and for acting as a bridge between tradition and progress, ensuring that cultural heritage remains vibrant while youth confidently embrace modern aspirations.

Those familiar with Dr. Shera's journey describe him as a symbol of dedication and integrity, whose initiatives have positively impacted countless individuals. His work continues

to inspire young people to embrace knowledge, culture, and service, helping shape a generation that is socially conscious, culturally rooted, and nationally committed.

The Rashtriya Prerna Doot Award is regarded as one of the most respected honours in the field of social inspiration and national service. Dr. Tariq Ahmad Shera's recognition is not merely a personal milestone, but a tribute to a lifetime of meaningful contribution. His achievements stand as a reminder that genuine change is driven by passion, perseverance, and selfless service to society.

With this honour, Dr. Shera has once again demonstrated that true leadership is defined not by titles, but by the lasting impact created through sincere work, cultural pride, and unwavering dedication to humanity.

9 RR Extends Humanitarian Support to Gujar, Bakarwal Community in Kulgam

■ FAROOQ RATHER

KULGAM, FEB 7: Under the Sadbhavna Project, the Indian Army's 9 Rashtriya Rifles on Saturday distributed mobility aids among members of the minority Gujar and Bakarwal community at Devsar Camp in south Kashmir's Kulgam

district.

According to a news agency, the distribution programme was held from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, during which a total of 40 mobility aids were provided to disabled, physically challenged and needy individuals. The aids included wheelchairs, crutches and elbow crutches,

aimed at enhancing mobility and bringing relief to the beneficiaries in their day-to-day lives.

The initiative forms part of the Indian Army's sustained efforts to reach out to underprivileged sections of society and to strengthen trust and goodwill with local communities through

humanitarian and welfare-oriented activities.

Local residents and beneficiaries lauded the Indian Army for the compassionate gesture, terming it a major support for those struggling with physical disabilities. They also expressed hope that similar programmes would continue

in the future to benefit a larger number of deserving people.

Officials said the Sadbhavna Project has been playing a vital role in addressing social and developmental needs of people living in remote and marginalized areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Proposals for additional infrastructure at Latti, Patnitop are under examination: Deputy CM

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB07: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary today informed the House that the proposals for additional infrastructure at Latti and Patnitop are under examination and shall be considered subject to the feasibility and availability of funds.

The Deputy Chief Minister said this while replying to a question raised by Legislator Balwant Singh Mankotia in the Legislative



Assembly.

He informed that the UT of Jammu and Kashmir regularly takes up proposals with NABARD for sanction of projects under the RIDF, wherein assistance is primarily provided in the form of loans, as per the prescribed norms.

He said that the proposals are formulated and submitted in a phased manner, based on the readiness of projects, absorptive capacity and repayment capabil-

ity. These will be processed for sanction strictly in accordance with the NABARD guidelines, he added.

He apprised that delay in disbursement of compensation is mainly attributed to pendency of court cases, land ownership disputes and non-availability of funds for land compensation at certain stages.

Legislator Nazir Ahmad Khan raised supplementary question on the subject.

Govt won't compromise on quality of macadamization works: Deputy CM

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB 07: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary today said that there will be no compromise on the quality of macadamization works and no payment is released to the contractors in case of use of sub-standard material.

The Deputy Chief Minister said this while replying to a question raised by Legislator Mubarak Gul in the Legislative Assembly.

He said that strict instructions have been given to the officers at district level for taking local Legislators on board before formulation of macadamization plans or road projects.

The Deputy Chief Minister also informed that 344.32 kilometre of road length has been macadamized/ black-topped across J&K during 2025-26. He added that the macadamization of roads in various constituencies during the ensuing financial year under the various sectors /schemes shall be prepared once the ceiling is received from the Finance Department.

Legislator Chander Prakash Ganga raised supplementary question on the subject.

Thanamandi Rajouri Water Supply Project gets ₹5.23 cr boost under AMRUT 2.0: Javed Rana

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB07: The government today informed the Legislative Assembly that the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has been extended by the Government of India till 2028 and necessary steps are being taken to ensure smooth implementation of Water Supply Schemes (WSS) in Rajouri district, despite temporary challenges related to fund availability.

This was stated by Minister for Jal Shakti Javed Ahmed Rana in reply to a question raised by Legislator Iftikhar Ahmed in the House.

The Minister informed that some newly completed/commissioned schemes in Rajouri district facing shortages of manpower is being taken care of through rationalization and internal deployment of the available staff within the Division to ensure smooth operation of essential water supply services.



Giving details of manpower strength of Civil and Mechanical wings in Rajouri district, he said that the vacancies are being referred to the recruitment agencies like JKPSC, SSRB on regular basis.

On projects under AMRUT 2.0, the Minister informed that "Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme Thanamandi, Rajouri", has been allotted at

an estimated cost of Rs.5.23 crore. He said that the work is currently in progress and is expected to be completed during 2026-27.

He added that the project includes construction of intake chambers, gravity mains, a rapid sand filtration plant, sump tanks, ground service reservoirs and distribution systems.

DC Budgam reviews and approves Rent Assessment Cases for Private Buildings

39 Rent Cases approved to ensure smooth functioning of Government Offices

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM, FEB7: Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, chaired a meeting of the District Rent Assessment Committee at the New Conference Hall, DC Office Budgam, to review, assess and finalize rent cases pertaining to private buildings occupied by various Government departments in the district.

During the meeting, a total of 39 rent assessment cases were taken up for detailed deliberation. The cases were examined comprehensively on the basis of relevant records, site-specific details, prevailing market rates and recommendations furnished by the concerned departments.

After due scrutiny and adher-

ence to prescribed norms and guidelines, all 39 cases were approved by the Committee.

During the meeting the DC observed that regular and timely assessment of rents is essential to maintain transparency, financial discipline and administrative efficiency. He laid emphasis on ensuring that rent fixation is carried out strictly in accordance with established government procedures so as to safeguard public resources and ensure equitable treatment of private building owners.

The DC underscored that rationalization and periodic revision of rents would contribute to smoother functioning of government offices operating from private accommodations. He stressed that pendency of rent-related cases should be avoided



and that all future proposals must be processed in a time-bound and systematic manner.

The DC further issued the directions to the concerned departments to expedite comple-

tion of all post-approval formalities so that the approved rent cases are implemented without any delay. He also directed that proper documentation, verification and compliance with codal provisions be ensured in all such cases to prevent discrepancies and enhance accountability.

The meeting was attended by SER&B circle budgam, CMO budgam, representatives from Revenue, Roads & Buildings (R&B), Education, Health, Agriculture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Social Welfare, Fire & Emergency Services, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, and other concerned departments.

Owners of the private buildings were also provided due representation during the proceedings to ensure participatory and fair decision-making.

DC Bandipora review Maha Shivratri Arrangements; Stresses cleanliness, essential supplies

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA, FEB 07: Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib today chaired a meeting to review and finalize arrangements for the forthcoming festival of Maha Shivratri (Herath) to ensure smooth facilitation for devotees across the district. The meeting was held to assess comprehensive arrangements, including sanitation, essential supplies, and coordinated efforts by all departments to ensure the smooth and peaceful observance of the festival on February 15.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized maintaining proper cleanliness and sanitation at temple premises. She emphasized the availability of essential items including walnuts, nadru, fish, marigold flowers, and other festival-related requirements for the community. The DC directed the concerned authorities to carry out dredging of Nallah Ajar to prevent any inconvenience during the celebrations.

The DC directed the Municipal Committee Bandipora to ensure door-to-door waste collection and maintain overall sanitation in the town. Taking note of waste dumping near Hanuman Mandir, Old Hospital Bandipora, she directed officials to take immediate measures to ensure cleanliness in and around the area.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Bandipora, Shabir Ahmad Wani, Executive Engineer R&B Bandipora; AD Fisheries; CEO MC Bandipora; Pandit community members and other concerned officers.

DC Kupwara reviews progress under Agriculture and allied sectors

1,116 cases approved under HADP, JKIP & PMMSY

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA, FEB 07: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee to review the progress under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Jammu and Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement in Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKIP) and other allied schemes. The meeting was aimed to evaluate and approve eligible applications received from various Agriculture and Allied Departments.

It was informed that 566 cases were approved under HADP, which include 239 cases of Agriculture, 66 of Horticulture, 30 of Sericulture, 4 of Horticulture Planning, 78 of Animal Husbandry, 5 of Fisheries Department and 144 of Sheep Husbandry.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on the implementation of various PMMSY components in the district, which include establishment of live fish vending centres, installation of fish kiosks, procurement of three wheelers equipped with ice boxes and replacement of boats and



nets for fishermen. Accordingly, 12 cases of Fisheries Department were approved under PMMSY and 171 cases of IDDS were also approved.

Under JKIP, 367 cases were approved. The approved beneficiaries will be extended assistance for installation of borewells, cultivation of aromatic species, shallot, hill garlic, mushroom, saffron area expansion, development of high-yield orchards, solar fencing, construction of sheep sheds, supply of trolleys and other modern interventions aimed at improving productivity and sustainability.

The DC said that the HADP marks a significant step towards improving farmers' access to modern infrastructure, sustainable practices and diver-

sified income avenues. He added that agriculture and allied sectors are the backbone of the rural economy and interventions like these are instrumental in providing direct livelihood support, skill enhancement and better market competitiveness to farmers and youth in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to facilitate speedy implementation of approved cases and provide handholding support to all the beneficiaries. He specifically directed them to focus on establishment of units after approval and proper tracking of the same.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Parvez Ahmad Lone and concerned district officers.

NOCs issued after thorough scrutiny: Forest Minister

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, FEB07: The government today informed the House that No Objection Certificates (NOCs) are issued only after thorough scrutiny and field verification, in strict adherence to the prescribed norms and statutory provisions for construction of residential houses.

This was revealed today by Minister for Forest, Ecology & Environment, Javed Ahmed Rana, while replying to a question raised by Legislator Altaf Ahmad Wani in the House today.

The Minister informed that during the period from January 2024 to December 2025, the office of Wildlife Warden, South Division, Anantnag received a total of 349 applications for issuance of NOCs for



construction of residential houses from bonafide local residents. He added that these applications were forwarded by the Pahalgam Development Authority, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Pahalgam and Block Development Officer Pahalgam and after due scrutiny and field verification reports, NOCs were issued in respect of 346 applications.

Regarding the empanelled employees, the Minister stated that the Wildlife Department has a total of 517 empanelled employees/workers across various divisions of Jammu and Kashmir, engaged in the protection, conservation and management of wildlife resources. He stated that salaries and wages of all these empanelled employees are being disbursed in a timely manner and no arrears are pending against them.

With regard to funding, the government stated that for the financial year 2025-26, the Wildlife Department has been allocated funds under different schemes, adding that an amount of ₹8575.71 lakh has been allotted under CAPEX, Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and CAMPA.

Public Notice

It is hereby notified for the general public that I am applying for the issuance of birth certificates of my children in the office of the Municipal Committee Handwara.

Details are as under:

1. Mohammad Azan Sheikh

Date of Birth: 03/02/2016

2. Zainab Jaan

Date of Birth: 18/09/2021

Parentage: Dilshad Rashid Sheikh

R/o Chotipora, Tehsil Handwara, District Kupwara. If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file the objection in the office of the Municipal Committee Handwara within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/-
Dilshad Rashid Sheikh
R/o Chotipora, Tehsil Handwara
District Kupwara

Public Notice

IT is hereby notified that my son' applying for Birth certificate in Block Development office handwara Bron at home namely Shahid Bilal DOB 25/02/2021 S/O Bilal Ahmad Ahanger R/o Kandi khass District:kupwara.if anybody having any objection in this regards he/she may file his /her objection in the office of the Block Development Office Handwara within 07 days .After that no objection shall be entertained.

SHAHID BILAL DOB 25/02/2021
S/O BILAL AHMAD AHANGER
R/o KANDI KHAASS TEHSIL HANDWARA
DISTRICT KUPWARA

DC Srinagar inspects progress of upgradation, renovation works at Banquet Hall-Conference Complex

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo today visited the Banquet Hall-Conference Complex at M.A Road, Srinagar to oversee the progress of ongoing renovation works.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiaz Ul Aziz; Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; Superintending Engineer R&B South Tatheer Manzoor; Executive Engineer R&B, Khalid Mehmood; Tehsildar South, Sajad Rasool Shah and other senior officials and engineers accompanied the DC during the visit.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner took stock of the ongoing works and reviewed the



quality and pace of execution. He stressed the importance of timely completion of the project while ensuring adherence to prescribed standards and specifications.

The DC further directed the concerned officers to ensure that the upgraded Banquet Hall cum Conference Complex serves the purpose of improved utility, improved functionality, while preserving its historical and administrative significance.

Highlighting the importance of the facility, the DC stated that the Banquet Hall on M.A. Road serves as a key infrastructure for government meetings, delegation level talks, government programs and beneficiary awareness enrolment programs.

DC Srinagar reviews progress of works under District CAPEX budget for 2025-26

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 07: To review the utilization of District Capex budget for the financial year 2025-26 and to assess the progress of works achieved under different sectors, a comprehensive meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo at Meeting Hall of the DC Office here today.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintending Engineer SMC, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, Executive Engineers from R&B, PHE, I&FC, UEED and SMC, Block Development Officers, District and Sectoral Officers, Engineers and other concerned officials.

While reviewing the physical and financial progress of ongoing and completed works, the Deputy Commissioner appreciated the efforts of the Engineers and officers of the line departments for accelerating physical



and financial progress across different sectors. The DC directed all executing agencies to ensure timely completion of the remaining works within the stipulated timeframe. He emphasized strict adherence to quality standards, transparency in execution and judicious utilization of funds under the District CAPEX budget.

The DC further instructed the departments to expedite financial expenditure in proportion to the physical progress and regular monitoring of works at the ground level.

DC Bandipora presides over Unani Day celebrations 2026 in district

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 07: As a prelude to the nation-wide celebration scheduled on February 11, the Directorate of AYUSH J&K today organised a grand event in Bandipora to mark World Unani Day-2026 under the theme "Innovation and Evidence in Unani Practice."

The event was among a series of programmes being held across four districts of J&K UT.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, presided over the programme and underscored the significant role played by AYUSH during the pandemic, acknowledging the relentless services rendered by the department and urging continued recognition of their dedication. She highlighted the need for coordinated efforts among AYUSH, Forest Department, and JKRLM to promote biodiversity initiatives and harness the potential of medicinal plants for community welfare.



The Deputy Commissioner also inspected the stalls showcasing medicinal plants, NCD screening, and yoga demonstrations, and appreciated the Department's efforts in promoting preventive healthcare. On the occasion, informative booklets focusing on preventive healthcare and healthy living were released, including Guidelines on the National Program for Prevention and Management of Osteoarthritis & other Musculoskeletal Disorders (Under National AYUSH Mission) and Principles of Healthy Living-A Preventive & Promotive Health Booklet Based on Unani Framework.

The programme paid tribute to Hakeem Ajmal Khan Sahib (1868-1927)—eminent Unani physician, social reformer, freedom fighter and pioneer of scientific research in Unani medicine, whose birth anniversary is commemorated annually as World Unani Day.

During the event, a detailed presentation was delivered outlining the departmental vision and activities, including IEC campaigns, yoga sessions in schools and colleges, outreach camps, awareness programmes at schools and ICDS centres, conservation seminars, training of medical officers, NCD screening initiatives, and drug abuse prevention efforts.

The event concluded with a reaffirmation of the Department's commitment to strengthening evidence-based Unani practices and expanding preventive healthcare services across the district.

DC Budgam reviews developmental works across Municipal Committees of district

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 7: Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, today chaired a meeting to assess the progress and implementation status of various developmental works being executed across different Municipal Committees of the district.

The review meeting covered a wide range of urban development initiatives being undertaken under Finance Commission (FC) Grants, Integrated Development of Municipal Towns (IDMT), PM SVANidhi, AMRUT 2.0, Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), National Green Tribunal (NGT) related works, PMAY (Urban), and ongoing beautification projects of Budgam town.

During the meeting, detailed presentations were made by the concerned officers regarding physical and financial progress of works, timelines for completion, and challenges being faced in execution.

The status of infrastructure augmentation, sanitation and waste management, housing, livelihood support, and urban service delivery was reviewed in depth.

The DC emphasised that timely completion of all approved works must be ensured in a mission mode so that the intended benefits reach the public without delay.

He stressed that strict adherence to quality standards shall be maintained at all stages of execution

and that no compromise on workmanship will be tolerated.

The DC directed that proper planning, close monitoring, and regular field inspections be carried out by the Executive Officers of Municipal Committees to ensure that projects are executed as per approved specifications and within stipulated timeframes. He further stressed that utilisation of funds must be done judiciously and transparently to achieve visible and measurable improvement in urban infrastructure and civic amenities.

While reviewing works under AMRUT 2.0 and SBM, the DC laid special emphasis on strengthening sanitation systems, solid waste management, drainage, and cleanliness in all urban areas. He stressed that Swachh Bharat Mission objectives must be implemented in both letter and spirit to improve overall urban hygiene and public health outcomes.

With regard to PMAY (Urban), the DC directed for expediting beneficiary identification, verification, and completion of housing units so that eligible beneficiaries are provided with safe and dignified housing in a time-bound manner. He also stressed streamlining PMSVANidhi implementation to ensure that street vendors are effectively supported through timely disbursement of benefits and facilitation of livelihood



opportunities.

While reviewing NGT-related works, the DC stressed strict compliance with environmental norms and timely execution of projects aimed at improving waste management, sewage disposal, and environmental protection measures. He directed that all NGT directions shall be followed meticulously and progress shall

be regularly reviewed.

The beautification projects of Budgam town were also reviewed, with emphasis on improving aesthetics, public spaces, footpaths, lighting, and overall urban ambience.

The DC stressed that beautification initiatives must be integrated with functionality and long-term maintenance to

ensure sustainable urban development.

The DC further directed that coordination among all Municipal Committees, line departments, and district administration shall be strengthened to avoid duplication of works and ensure optimal utilisation of resources. He also stressed the importance of proper documentation, geo-tagging of works, and regular progress reporting for enhanced accountability.

The DC stated that focus shall remain on citizen-centric development, improved service delivery, and creation of durable urban assets. He stressed that municipal leadership shall play a proactive role in addressing public grievances and ensuring that development works translate into tangible improvements for residents.

The DC said that periodic reviews shall continue to be held to monitor progress and ensure that urban development targets of the district are achieved in a planned, transparent, and efficient manner.

The meeting was attended by the Chief planning officer budgam Javid Ahmad Najar, Chief Executive Officer, Budgam, and Executive Officers of all Municipal Committees of the district, who were directed to maintain close supervision over ongoing works and ensure strict compliance with timelines and quality benchmarks.

RDD establishes District's First 24x7 Public Library cum Reading Room at Shopian

District's unique initiative empowers youth, shaping their future

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY, 07: In a significant step towards youth empowerment by way of career development, the Rural Development Department, through Block Shopian, has established a Public Library cum Reading Room at Gagren at Shopian, the first facility of its kind in the district.

The library, named Noori Public Library, has been functional since April 2025 and is operating round the clock (24x7).

Currently running at full capacity with 100 enrolled students, the facility has emerged as a vital academic space for aspirants preparing for competitive examinations and other academic

studies.

Executed under the District Capex Plan at a cost of Rs 35 lakh, the facility is equipped with modern amenities including uninterrupted electricity, heating arrangements, high-speed internet connectivity, and a conducive study environment.

This initiative reflects the evolving role of the Rural Development Department, which is now extending beyond its conventional mandate of infrastructure creation to actively invest in education, youth empowerment, and intellectual growth.

The library is largely free of cost, with only a nominal maintenance charge paid by students, and is entirely

managed by the students themselves, fostering ownership, discipline, and collective responsibility.

Students have widely appreciated the initiative and expressed gratitude to the District Administration Shopian and RDD for creating a platform that enables them to shape their careers.

The facility stands as a model initiative demonstrating how targeted investments in education can bring transformative change at the grassroots level, said BDO Shopian, Shakil Bhat, who is supervising the operation of the facility. He further added that the project has set a new benchmark for rural development by placing knowledge, aspiration, and youth at the center of governance.

DLSA Srinagar organizes Free Eye Medical Camp at District Court

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 07: Upon the directions of Pr. District and Sessions Judge (Chairman District Legal Services Authority) Srinagar, Haq Nawaz Zargar, District Legal Services Authority Srinagar in collaboration with Kashmir Eye Hospitals, successfully organized a Free Eye Medical Camp along with an awareness programme at the District Court Srinagar.

The initiative aimed at promoting eye health and preventive care among judicial officers, court staff, and members of the legal fraternity.



The Programme started with an informative awareness session by Dr. Qazi Afshan, who sensitized the participants on Diabetic Retinopathy, highlighting the importance of early detection, regular eye check-ups, and preventive eye care, by audio visual mode.

The awareness session witnessed active participation of Learned Judicial Officers, District Court and DLSA staff. Following the session, a free eye medical checkup camp was organized by the medical team of Kashmir Eye Hospitals. Speaking on the occasion, Umi Kulsoom, Presiding Officer, POC SO Court Srinagar, emphasized the significance of such health initiatives within the justice delivery system, particularly for ensuring the well-being of stakeholders associated with the courts.

It was further informed that the next Free Medical Camp for Advocates and litigants is scheduled to be held on 11th February, 2026, as part of the Authority's continued efforts towards welfare-oriented outreach programmes.

Secretary DLSA Ganderbal holds Review Meeting with Panel Lawyers of District

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 07: Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Ganderbal, Sheikh Babar Hussain, convened a review meeting with Panel Lawyers as per Calendar of activities for the month of February, 2026.

The meeting brought together panel lawyers from DLSA Ganderbal, TLSC Ganderbal and TLSC Kangan with an objective to discuss challenges in uploading Data in Legal Services Case Management, key issues, strategies and progress of assigned cases of legal aid beneficiaries.

During the meeting, Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, emphasized the

importance of regularly updating cases assigned to panel lawyers on the LACMS/LSAMS NALSA portal. To ensure record accuracy and reconciliation, Panel Lawyers are requested to submit list of cases assigned to them with requisite records pending before different courts so that same be assigned to them on the NALSA portal as well.

He stressed that timely updates would ensure transparency, efficiency, and effective monitoring of cases, ultimately contributing to the delivery of quality legal aid services. He further emphasized that the panel lawyers will maintain regular communication with clients, keeping them informed

about case progress and panel lawyers will adhere to a strict code of conduct, ensuring professionalism, integrity, and confidentiality in their interactions with clients and the court. Panel lawyers will adopt a client-centric approach, taking into account the unique needs and circumstances of vulnerable populations, including children, women, and persons with disabilities.

By emphasizing these aspects, the Secretary aimed to ensure that panel lawyers provide high-quality, client-focused legal aid services while upholding the highest standards of professionalism and integrity. They are also requested to act as an Ambassador/Resource

person for creating awareness among the general public regarding mediation for the nation 2.0 Campaign.

He further emphasized the importance of coordination between panel lawyers to ensure effective and competent delivery of legal services. He also discussed key aspects including, review of pending cases and strategies for effective representation of legal aid beneficiaries, enhancing access to justice for marginalized sections of society and increasing awareness about available legal services.

The Panel Lawyers presented feedback on their assigned cases. The Secretary provided guidance and support, ensuring that the

panel lawyers are equipped to handle complex cases and provide effective representation to legal aid beneficiaries in a humane and affectionate manner especially in maintenance cases.

The active participation and contributions of all panel lawyers were highly appreciated, underscoring the collective commitment in enhancing the delivery of effective legal services.

Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal urged the panel lawyers to work diligently towards ensuring that marginalized communities receive quality legal representation, and that justice is delivered in a fair, timely, and accessible manner.

HT EDITORIAL

Make the existing administrative units fully functional

Jammu & Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdul-lah on Saturday said that the union territory government has no plans of creating new administrative units, as priority is to operationalise previously established ones. Omar made this intervention during the question hour in the assembly. Omar said that the focus of the government is to make the already created administrative units in Jammu and Kashmir fully functional.

Omar said that most of the MLAs had met him and expressed concern over the non-functioning of several units established in the past. The CM is right in saying that many administrative units in the union territory are not functioning and the same has to be streamlined. There was a time when many politicians raised fingers over the creation of these administrative units and said that these units would lead to chaos and confusion among the masses.

Politics apart, it is an established fact that most of the newly created administrative units have not been able to serve the purpose in the manner they ought to. Infrastructure continues to be the main hurdle in the proper functioning of these administrative units with many of the tehsils and niabats having no buildings of their own. These administrative units and sub-units continue to operate in rented buildings and going by the slackness it might take a lot more time in completing the construction of the tehsil and niabat buildings.

Omar said the government will consider creation of new administrative units only after ensuring full functionality of the existing ones. It is important that the government takes up the creation as well as development of infrastructure of the already announced administrative units more seriously. The work on these development projects has already missed many deadlines and there is no accountability whatsoever. It is imperative to inculcate the element of accountability so that there is no more delay in completion of such projects.

People are suffering since they have to sit out and brave the vagaries of weather as and when they visit an administrative unit in connection with some work. Since the space is cramped in the rented set up people have to remain outside so as to get their work done from the concerned officer or official at the administrative unit. This acts as a dampener to the aspect of governance more so at a time when the government claims that governance has reached the doorsteps of the common masses.

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RNI No: Jkeng/2011/39231
dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com
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How Budget -2026 plans to shape J&K's tomorrow



■ MOHAMMAD HANIEF

The Union Budget 2026-27 and the Jammu and Kashmir Budget 2026-27 together present a comprehensive picture of India's economic direction and its practical impact on ordinary citizens, particularly in a region that has long faced social, political, and economic challenges. While the national budget outlines the country's broader development agenda, the budget presented by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah translates these priorities into concrete policies that directly influence the daily lives of people in Jammu and Kashmir. For the common resident, these financial plans are not merely policy documents but roadmaps that shape access to education, healthcare, employment, transportation, and social security.

At the national level, the Union Budget continues to emphasize growth through infrastructure development. Massive investments in highways, railways, tunnels, airports, and digital connectivity have a direct bearing on Jammu and Kashmir, where difficult terrain and harsh weather have historically limited mobility and trade. Improved road and rail networks mean faster travel between districts, reduced transportation costs for farmers and traders, and better access to markets outside the region. For students, patients, and small entrepreneurs, enhanced connectivity reduces isolation and opens new opportunities.

The expansion of digital infrastructure under the Union Budget also carries major benefits for residents of Jammu and Kashmir. Improved internet connectivity and digital services make it easier for people to access government schemes, banking facilities, telemedicine, and online education. In remote villages where physical access to offices and institutions is limited, digital platforms increasingly serve as gateways to essential services. The emphasis on data centres, cloud services, and e-governance strengthens this transformation and promotes transparency in public administration.

Tax reforms and simplification under the national budget indirectly benefit common citizens by making compliance easier for small traders, professionals, and self-employed individuals. Reduced procedural hurdles and faster dispute resolution help small businesses operate with greater confidence. For young entrepreneurs and start-ups in Jammu and Kashmir, a more predictable tax environment encourages investment and innovation, especially in sectors such as tourism, handicrafts, agriculture processing, and information technology.

Employment generation remains a key outcome of national capital spending. Large infrastructure projects create jobs for engineers, technicians, construction workers, drivers, and service providers. Many of these opportunities are available locally, reducing the need for migration in search of work. Skill development programs supported by

the Centre further enable young people to acquire technical and vocational expertise, improving their chances of securing stable employment.

While the Union Budget provides the framework, the Jammu and Kashmir Budget focuses directly on everyday concerns of households. One of its most important features is the strong emphasis on social welfare. Measures such as subsidized cooking gas, free or affordable education, financial assistance for orphans, and travel concessions for persons with disabilities reduce the financial burden on vulnerable families. For many households struggling with rising living costs, these provisions offer tangible relief and improve basic living standards.

Education emerges as a central pillar of the regional budget. Expanded scholarships, fee waivers, and institutional upgrades make higher education more accessible to students from low-income backgrounds. Support for research and postgraduate studies encourages academic excellence and helps retain local talent. For parents, reduced education expenses ease financial stress, while for students, improved facilities and opportunities enhance future prospects.

Healthcare investments under the Jammu and Kashmir Budget address one of the most pressing concerns of ordinary citizens. The expansion of hospitals, emergency response systems, and ambulance services improves access to timely medical care, particularly in border and remote areas. For families that previously had to travel long distances for treatment, strengthened local facilities mean lower expenses, faster diagnosis, and better health outcomes. The integration of digital health services also allows patients to consult specialists without leaving their districts.

Public transport and mobility are another area where common citizens benefit directly. Improved road infrastructure, upgraded bus services, and travel concessions make commuting easier and more affordable. Better connectivity between rural and urban centres enables workers, students, and traders to move more freely, enhancing economic participation and social interaction. In hilly and snowbound regions, reliable transport is often the difference between access and isolation.

Farmers and horticulturists, who form the backbone of Jammu and Kashmir's rural economy, receive targeted support through irrigation projects, renewable energy solutions, crop insurance, and market infrastructure. Improved water management and solar-powered equipment reduce dependence on costly inputs. Strengthened storage and processing facilities help minimize losses and increase earnings. For apple growers, saffron cultivators, and livestock farmers, these measures translate into more stable incomes and greater resilience against climatic and market shocks.

The budget's focus on tourism and handicrafts has important implications for livelihoods. Investments in infrastructure, hospitality, and promotion are expected to revive tourist inflows, benefiting hotel workers, guides, transport operators, shopkeepers, and artisans. Support for traditional crafts preserves cultural heritage while creating income opportunities for thousands of families. As tourism grows, related sectors such as food services, transport, and retail also experience expansion, generating a multiplier effect across the local economy.

Urban development and housing initiatives

improve living conditions in towns and cities. Upgraded water supply systems, waste management facilities, and affordable housing schemes enhance public health and environmental sustainability. For urban residents, these improvements mean cleaner surroundings, better services, and increased property value. Rural development programs similarly focus on sanitation, drinking water, and renewable energy, improving quality of life in villages.

Women and marginalized groups receive special attention through targeted welfare and employment programs. Skill training, self-help groups, and micro-credit schemes enable women to participate more actively in the economy. Social security measures for widows, elderly citizens, and persons with disabilities strengthen the social safety net. These interventions promote financial independence and social inclusion.

Despite these positive measures, the Jammu and Kashmir Budget operates within financial constraints. A large share of resources is devoted to salaries, pensions, and debt servicing, limiting flexibility. Continued dependence on central assistance remains a structural challenge. However, effective coordination with national programs helps bridge resource gaps and ensures continuity of development initiatives.

The interaction between the Union Budget and the regional budget creates a layered system of support for citizens. National investments in infrastructure, digitalization, and energy strengthen the foundation upon which local welfare and development programs are built. Regional policies then adapt these resources to address specific needs arising from geography, security concerns, and socio-economic conditions.

For the common person in Jammu and Kashmir, Budget 2026 represents more than figures and allocations. It influences whether a child can attend college without financial hardship, whether a patient can access emergency care quickly, whether a farmer receives fair returns, and whether a young graduate finds meaningful employment close to home. It determines the quality of roads, the reliability of electricity, the affordability of healthcare, and the accessibility of government services.

As these policies move from paper to practice, their real impact will depend on transparent governance, efficient implementation, and public oversight. When funds are used effectively and programs reach intended beneficiaries, budgets become instruments of empowerment rather than mere accounting exercises. In this sense, Budget 2026 offers Jammu and Kashmir an opportunity to strengthen social stability, expand economic participation, and build confidence in public institutions.

In an era of rapid change and continuing uncertainty, the combined vision of the Union and regional budgets reflects a commitment to inclusive growth and shared prosperity. By aligning national ambition with local needs, these financial plans aim to ensure that development reaches every household, enabling the people of Jammu and Kashmir to participate fully in India's broader journey toward progress and stability.

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

The Queen Of Evergreen Songs— Remembering Lata Mangeshkar

■ MOOL RAJ

Lata Mangeshkar's death anniversary on February 6, 2026, marks her 4th death anniversary. She passed away on February 6, 2022, at the age of 92 due to multiple organ dysfunction syndrome. Lata Mangeshkar, the nightingale of India, who has charmed the people of India and across the world with her melodious voice will always keep ruling the hearts of people for all times to come. Lata's death marks the end of an era in music. She ruled the world of music for decades and the magic of her voice will live forever. She had sung around 50,000 songs as a playback singer in films in 14 different Indian languages. Her singing journey has become an iconic model success story for many struggling and established singers in India. Lata was named 'Hema' at her birth. Her parents later renamed her Lata after a female character, Latika, in one of her father's plays, 'Bhaav Bandhan'.

Famously known as 'Lata Didi' in the Bollywood music fraternity, Mangeshkar was born in a Marathi-speaking family in Indore to classical singer and theatre actor Pandit Deenanath Mangeshkar and his wife Shevanti, a homemaker.

Perhaps, she must have been the most recorded voice in the history of

this century. She got her first major break with the song 'Dil Mera Toda' in the movie 'Majboor' (1948) but her first major hit was 'Aayega Aana Waala', sung for Madhubala in the movie 'Mahal' (1949). She won a Filmfare award as the best female playback singer for the song 'Aaja Re Pardesi' from the movie 'Madhumati' (1958).

Lata took her first music lessons from her father at the age of 5 and also studied with Aman Ali Khan Sahib and later Amanat Khan. Lata Mangeshkar has sung in more than 500 films and for many Lata is the most admired singer. It was after India's losses in the India-China war in 1962 that a young Lata had sung the song, 'Ai Mere Watan Ke Logon, Zara Aankh Me Bhar Lo Pani' the song, written by Kavi Pradeep, moved many heartening people into tears and still remains to be one of the most patriotic song sung by her. When she sang the song 'Aye Mere Watan Ke Logo' on 27 January 1963, it brought tears to the then Prime Minister of India - Jawaharlal Nehru.

Lata's stylistic innovation offered a solution to the problem of women's presence in the cinematic public sphere. She was the diva of Indian playback who symbolizes honour and success.

"Lag jaa gale", "Aapkinazron ne samjha" and "Mera saaya saath hoga" are but a few chosen gems among

hundreds of priceless ones that Madan Mohan created for Lata. "Pyaarhna iqraar hua", "Yehraat bheegi bheegi", "Ab raat guzarne waali hai", "Main kya karoon Ram" and "Raja ki aayegi baaraat" are but a few Lata hits. Shankar-Jaikishan created for Lata in Kapoor's films. Ram Laxman scored their greatest hit ever with the Lata-voiced "Didi tera dewar deewana" in "Hum Aapke Hain Koun".

With S.D. Burman, Lata got to prove her prowess at playing with authentic earthy notes. If Lata managed to survive, it was owing to her sheer power of perfection as a singer, and unique qualities. She has lent her voice to thousands of songs in Hindi, regional and foreign languages. She was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian honour in 2001. France conferred her with its highest civilian award (Officer of the Legion of Honour) in 2007. She said that "From my experience and understanding, I believe money follows name and fame, while recognition calls for a huge amount of sacrifice. To get something, you have to lose something. That's the rule of life." Earlier there was no category for best playback singer in the Filmfare awards and after her protest, it was included in 1958. She got her 1st Filmfare Award for Best Playback Singer for the song- 'Aaja Re Pardesi' from the movie 'Madhumati' in 1958. From

1958 to 1966, she monopolized Filmfare awards for Best Female Playback Singer and it was stopped in 1969 only when she gave up the awards in an unusual gesture for promoting fresh talents.

She had a voice suited to more soothing, mature, melodramatic and patriotic songs. She had a set of ideals when it comes to good music, and for her, more than popularity, it's about the songs she gets to croon. Lata was an ideal for everyone - be it singer or composer and her identity is the reason for her respect in the music industry and in the hearts of every Indian today. She has inspired and motivated every person in the world by her devotion & dedication.

It is reported that Lata had sung hundreds of songs with Mohammed Rafi, but there was a time when she stopped talking to Rafi. The two refused to sing together. However, after four years, with the effort of actress Nargis, both of them sang the song 'Dil Pukare' in a program. In one her interview she said her true godfather was Ghulam Haidar who trusted her talent.

Her songs have been a part of all of us and her voice engrained in every Indian and we will all cherish her forever.

THE AUTHOR IS A
REGULAR COLUMNIST AND
FREELANCE WRITER

Assam Rifles have proved it over and over again!



■ **M S NAZKI**

The bravest of the bravest!
Some are born brave, some are shaped to be brave and some are those who add sparkle to the word bravery are the bravest of all
Assam Rifles have proved it over and over again!
This is the story of 77th Republic Day when the nation acknowledged the bravest of Assam Rifles!
So let us start!
The 8th Battalion of the Assam Rifles (8 AR) was honored with the prestigious "Bravest of the Brave" Battalion Award during the 2026 Army Investiture Ceremony in Jaipur.
This recognition highlights their exceptional valour, operational excellence, and commitment to duty in the Northeast. Known as the "Sentinels of the Northeast," the force is honored for its long-standing history of service and sacrifice.
Key details:
Award Recipient: 8 Assam Rifles, often referred to as "The Head Hunters Unit," received the title from the Chief of the Army Staff.
Significance: The award recognizes outstanding performance in counter-insurgency and operational roles.
Background: The Assam Rifles, formed in 1835 as the Cachar Levy, is India's oldest paramilitary force.
Recent Actions: In 2025-2026, the force demonstrated high operational competence, including actions in Manipur.
Origins: Originally formed to protect British tea estates and settlements from tribal raids.
Renaming: Evolved from the Cachar Levy to Assam Frontier Police (1883), Assam Military Police (1891), and finally the Assam Rifles in 1917.
World Wars: Participated in both World Wars, fighting alongside the British Indian Army.
Post-Independence: Played a major role in 1962 Sino-Indian War, served with the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in Sri Lanka in 1987, and maintains a strong presence in internal security and counter-insurgency operations.
Great stories about Assam Rifles:
Major Arshdeep Singh of the 1 Assam Rifles (Armoured Corps) was awarded the Kirti Chakra, India's second-highest peacetime gallantry award, for his exceptional courage on May 14, 2025. He led a patrol along the Indo-Myanmar border, neutralizing multiple armed insurgents, including an RPG-equipped threat, despite coming under heavy, sudden fire.
Details of the Operation:
The Incident: On May 14, 2025, while leading a patrol along the International

Myanmar Border, Major Arshdeep Singh's team came under sudden, unprovoked, and heavy hostile fire from a dominant position.
Courageous Action: Displaying raw courage, he assaulted the enemy position through dense undergrowth while under fire.
Neutralizing Threats: He successfully neutralized multiple armed cadres, including a threat armed with a Rocket-Propelled Grenade (RPG) launcher.
Result: Through superior leadership and tactical maneuvering, he ensured the safety of his troops, resulting in zero casualties for his team.
Award: For his bravery, Major Arshdeep Singh was awarded the Kirti Chakra, announced on the eve of Republic Day 2026.
Major Arshdeep Singh, hailing from Mohali, is a symbol of bravery and selfless service for his actions in the North-East.
On the occasion of the 77th Republic Day on 26 January 2026, personnel and units of the Assam Rifles were honored with several prestigious awards and recognitions for their bravery and service.
Gallantry Awards: Multiple personnel were awarded, including Major Arshdeep Singh (1 Assam Rifles) who received the Kirti Chakra for operations on the India-Myanmar border. Major Leishangthem Deepak Singh and Subedar PH Moses (both 1 Assam Rifles), along with Rifleman Manglem Sang Vaiphei (3 Assam Rifles), were conferred with the Shaurya Chakra.
Marching and Band Honours: The Assam Rifles Drill Contingent and Pipe Band secured First Position in both the Marching Contingent and Pipe Band categories at the 77th Republic Day celebrations in Manipur.
Drill Competition: The Assam Rifles contingent secured Third Position in the drill competition at the Agartala Garrison.
COAS Unit Citations: On 14 January 2026, leading up to Republic Day, the 3rd, 4th, and 33rd Assam Rifles Battalions were honoured with the Chief of the Army Staff Unit Citation.
Additionally, on the eve of Republic Day 2026, the President approved 70 Gallantry awards, featuring several Assam Rifles personnel for their role in counter-terrorism and border security operations.
What is Investiture Ceremony:
The Investiture Ceremony on Republic Day (January 26) in India is a prestigious, formal event where the President of India confers top gallantry and distinguished service awards, such as Param Vir Chakra and Ashoka Chakra, to armed forces personnel, police, and civilians, recognizing their bravery and exceptional service.
Significance: The ceremony, often held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, highlights the nation's gratitude for exceptional acts of valour, courage, and service.
Awards: The awards include wartime and peacetime honors like the Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, and Vir Chakra and Ashoka Chakra, as well as other distinguished awards.
Components: It involves the formal



presentation of medals and certificates to the awardees, often followed by a commemorative brochure released in their honor.
Distinction: These are national honors, which differ from other, more routine, administrative or school-level investiture ceremonies that might take place on the same day, focusing instead on national service and bravery.
Timing: The ceremony is part of the overall Republic Day celebrations in 2026. Separately, schools often hold their own "Investiture Ceremonies" on or around Republic Day to appoint student leaders. However, the national-level event is the primary, prestigious ceremony for awarding decorations.
COAS Unit Citations: On 14 January 2026, leading up to Republic Day, the 3rd, 4th, and 33rd Assam Rifles Battalions were honoured with the Chief of the Army Staff Unit Citation.
Additionally, on the eve of Republic Day 2026, the President approved 70 Gallantry awards, featuring several Assam Rifles personnel for their role in counter-terrorism and border security operations.
Half a league, half a league, Half a league onward, All in the valley of Death! Rode the six hundred. "Forward, the Light Brigade! Charge for the guns!" he said. Into the valley of Death! Rode the six hundred.
Stories about more heroes!
Major Leishangthem Deepak Singh
Major Leishangthem Deepak Singh of the 11th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment

(Special Forces), has been awarded the Shaurya Chakra for leading a high-risk rescue and kinetic operation involving kidnapped civilians, during which he advanced under heavy hostile fire, neutralised terrorists at close range and successfully rescued an innocent civilian.
MOSES, 1 ASSAM RIFLES
Subedar Moses, as Second-in-Command of a special mission patrol, displayed outstanding gallantry and tactical brilliance during a high-risk operation against armed cadres. While advancing in the leading section, he encountered unprovoked fire from a dominating height, threatening the safety of own troops. Demonstrating remarkable leadership and composure, he along with his section swiftly located and engaged the cadres with precision. Crawling under intense fire, he secured an advantageous position and neutralized a hostile cadre with unerring marksmanship. Further, coordinated effective fire to pin down remaining threats. In the intense firefight, Subedar Moses maintained composure and adapted quickly to the evolving situation. His precise and calculated fire disrupted the armed cadres' coordination, allowing his section to dominate. Crawling through thick foliage, he neutralised another cadre, disregarding personal safety. His gallant actions ensured safety and enabled the patrol to advance further. Subedar Moses' raw courage, steadfast leadership and unwavering commitment reflect the highest standards of military professionalism. His actions were instrumental in

neutralising multiple armed cadres. For his extraordinary bravery and significant contribution, Subedar
PH Moses was awarded with Shaurya Chakra!
Rifleman Manglem Sang Vaiphei fearlessly held his ground under intense firefight. Displaying complete disregard to his own safety he immediately retaliated with effective fire, engaging three armed cadres in the first volley. His swift counter-action resulted in the killing of two armed cadres and critical injuries to the third, thereby neutralising the immediate threat to the column.
At last light the fleeing cadres resumed fire from the thick vegetated jungle. Rifleman Manglem Sang Vaiphei demonstrated highest standards of battle craft and pinned down the cadres with heavy fire resulting in neutralisation of a total three armed cadre. For this daring action beyond call of duty, Rifleman Manglem Sang Vaiphei was awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".
Rifleman Dhurba Jyoti Dutta was enrolled in the Assam Rifles on 28 February 2010 and has been employed at Company Operating Base (COB), Nambol since 09 May 2025 as Mechanical
Transport Driver: On 19 September 2025, he was tasked to drive the TATA 407 vehicle deployed with COB Nambol for movement of a section led by Naib Subedar Shyam Gurung, for flood relief operations in Imphal Valley, Manipur.
After completion of said task, while returning to COB Nambol, the vehicle was ambushed by unknown Imphal Valley Based Anti-National Elements at Nambol Sabal Leikai on National Highway 2 in Bishnupur district at 1740hrs. Rifleman Dhurba Jyoti Dutta was driving the vehicle, while Naib Subedar Shyam Gurung was in the co-driver's seat. Nine Other Ranks were in the rear compartment of the vehicle. In the initial burst, Naib Subedar Shyam Gurung was hit on the neck by a bullet and immediately succumbed to the injury. Rifleman Dhurba Jyoti Dutta himself sustained multiple gunshot wounds on his thigh, chest, shoulder and forearm. Despite being grievously injured and vehicle tyres being punctured, he sensed the grave danger to his comrades. Maintaining composure and displaying danger to his comrades. Maintaining composure and displaying exemplary presence of mind, Rifleman Dhurba Jyoti Dutta drove the vehicle out of the Killing Zone of the Ambush, under intense hostile fire. His bravery and swift actions, with disregard to personal safety, saved the lives of eight fellow soldiers travelling in the rear compartment of the vehicle. For his gallant actions and operational excellence, Rifleman Dhurba Jyoti Dutta was awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".
So this story was all about heroes and thus the final lines: "Forward, the Light Brigade!" Was there a man dismayed? Not though the soldier knew Someone had blundered. There not to make reply, There not to reason why, Theres but to do and die. Into the valley of Death Rode the six hundred. The Charge of the Light Brigade!

The Brutal Felling of Green Trees: A Growing Environmental Crisis

■ **DR VIJAY GARG**

The image of lush green trees swaying gently in the breeze evokes feelings of tranquility, harmony, and life. Trees are more than scenic backdrops — they are living, breathing pillars of ecological stability. Yet, across the globe, forests are being destroyed at an alarming rate, often through the brutal felling of green trees. This destruction not only scars the landscape but disrupts entire ecosystems, accelerates climate change, and jeopardizes the well-being of future generations.
Why Green Trees Matter
Trees are indispensable to life on Earth. They:
Regulate climate by absorbing carbon dioxide (CO2) — a major greenhouse gas — and releasing oxygen (O2).
Support water cycles by capturing rainwater and reducing soil erosion.
Provide habitats for countless species of wildlife.
Benefit humans by purifying air, providing shade, and supplying wood and other resources.
In short, trees are essential guardians of environmental balance.
The Alarming Scale of Tree Felling
In recent decades, deforestation has surged worldwide. According to global estimates, millions of hectares of forests are lost each year — a rate equivalent to destroying forests the size of a small coun-

try annually. This loss is especially high in tropical regions where biodiversity is richest.
Much of this destruction stems from the targeted removal of green, living trees — not just the clearing of already degraded land. This means thriving ecosystems with vibrant life are being sacrificed.
Causes Behind Brutal Tree Felling
Commercial Logging
Many forests are felled to meet the global demand for timber, paper, and wood products. Logged wood enters construction, furniture, and fast-fashion industries — often without ensuring sustainable practices.
Agricultural Expansion
Large swaths of forest are cleared to create farmland for crops like palm oil, soy, and for cattle ranching. In many regions, small farmers are displaced and land rights are poorly regulated, intensifying forest loss.
Urban Growth
As populations swell, cities expand into forested areas. Roads, housing, and infrastructure projects contribute to the systematic removal of trees.
Illegal Logging
In some areas, trees are felled without permission or oversight, driven by corruption, weak enforcement, and lucrative black-market timber sales.
Environmental Consequences
Loss of Biodiversity
Trees are home to countless species.



When forests are brutally cleared, animals lose habitats and face extinction.
Climate Change Acceleration
Trees store carbon — when they are cut down, that carbon is released into the atmosphere, enhancing the greenhouse effect.
Water Cycle Disruption
Without trees, rainfall patterns change and soil erosion increases, leading to droughts and floods.
Impact on Local Communities
Indigenous peoples and rural commu-

nities often rely on forests for food, medicine, and cultural practices. Deforestation disrupts their way of life.
Signs of a Healthy Forest vs. a Felled One
Healthy Forest After Brutal Felling
Thick tree cover
Barren ground
Rich wildlife
Few surviving species
Stable soil
Erosion and landslides
Regulated water flow
Flash floods or drought
Toward a Greener Future: What Can Be Done?
Stopping the brutal felling of green trees

is not impossible, but it requires global cooperation and individual action:
Support Sustainable Forestry
Look for wood and paper products certified by responsible organizations that ensure trees are replanted.
Strengthen Laws and Enforcement
Governments must enact stronger protections and crack down on illegal logging.
Promote Reforestation
Planting trees helps restore degraded land and rebuilds ecosystems.
Raise Awareness
Education about the value of trees encourages people and communities to protect forests.
Reduce Consumption
Using fewer wood products and choosing alternatives reduces pressure on forests.
Conclusion
The brutal felling of green trees is one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time. Beyond aesthetics, forests are the lungs of our planet — essential for climate balance, biodiversity, and human survival. Recognizing the urgency of this crisis and taking action now can help ensure that future generations inherit a greener, healthier world.
Dr Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

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Home Gym and Its Importance



■ SAHIL MANZOOR BHATTI

Routine exercise reflects discipline and keeps us fit and healthy. Therefore, regular exercise is vital for good health. Today's era is full of anxiety and stress, and people often complain of fatty liver, high cholesterol, obesity, and a number of other dreadful health-related issues. To get rid of these problems, we need proper discipline in our lives. We must follow a balanced diet plan, exercise regularly, and go for routine medical check-ups.

Importance of a Home Gym Healthy People, Healthy Nation

In today's era, people face severe health issues such as obesity, gastrointestinal tract problems, fatty liver, heart-related diseases, orthopedic issues, and several other health risks.

Our body performs immense functions, and every function is under the control of nature, such as digestion, blood circulation, and excretion of waste material. When we keenly observe these bodily functions, it clearly seems that someone is in control. We, as human beings, cannot create such miracles. Alhamdulillah! Every creature believes that there is divine power behind all these phenomena, and that power governs even invisible particles like cells and atoms.

Cell

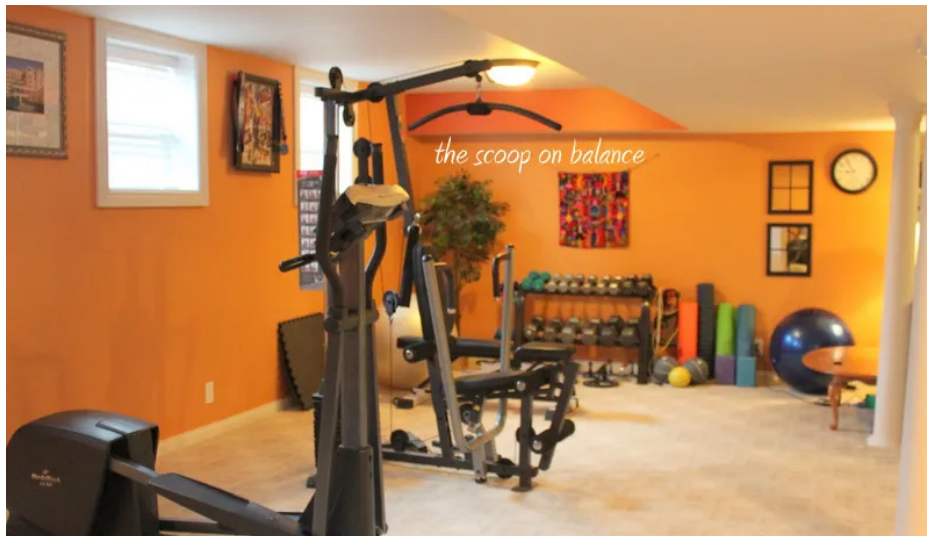
The cell is the fundamental, structural, and functional unit of life. Almost every

living organism is made up of cells, whether multicellular or unicellular. There are about 25 trillion living cells in an adult human body. Different organelles are present in a cell, such as: like Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER): A network of membranes involved in the synthesis of proteins and lipids. Golgi Apparatus (Golgi Complex): Modifies, sorts, and packages proteins and lipids for secretion or delivery to other organelles. Ribosomes: Sites of protein synthesis. Lysosomes: Sac-like structures containing enzymes that digest waste materials and cellular debris. Vacuoles: Membrane-bound sacs that store water, nutrients, and waste products. Peroxisomes: Break down fatty acids and detoxify harmful substances. Cytoskeleton: A network of protein filaments that provides structural support and helps in cell movement. Centrioles: Involved in cell division in animal cells. Chloroplasts (in plant cells): Sites of photosynthesis that convert light energy into chemical energy.

Atoms

Every non-living thing is made up of atoms. They are so minute that we cannot see them with the naked eye. The structure of an atom consists of shells and a central nucleus. This makes us realize that Almighty Allah is the ultimate superpower. We humans only study and initiate research on things that already exist in the universe. So we should always say Alhamdulillah and hope for the best. We are blessed with a great mind that can bring revolution, and that mind is also bestowed upon us by our Creator.

It is very unfortunate that even in the age of cutting-edge technology, we still lack proper treatment for certain dreadful diseases like cancer, AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome), and several chromosomal disorders.



Through this article, I have tried to understand the mercies of the Almighty upon us and reflect on why we are going astray. Why do we claim superiority by saying, "This country is powerful, that country is helpless"? We must always remember that every creature is important and every small part of the universe has value.

Today, I am going to share my opinion on how regular exercise is important for our health and how it keeps us happy, fit, and energetic.

First of all, we must understand what is most important in life health, money, buildings, fame, etc. Everyone prioritizes health first and then moves towards other needs. However, in today's era, we motivate people to achieve success and milestones but often forget to motivate them to prioritize their health first.

Some people are fortunate because their profession itself involves physical activity, such as workers and laborers. Unfortunately, they earn very little an

income that often cannot support their basic livelihood. Laborers deserve immense appreciation and beneficial schemes, such as a minimum monthly remuneration of ₹10,000, so they do not feel insecure.

Sportsmen are also fortunate because regular physical activity keeps them fit and healthy. Through sports, they gain fame, recognition, and financial stability.

Many people complain that they do not have time for regular exercise. For them, I suggest the home gym.

What Is a Home Gym?

A home gym means setting aside a separate room, if available, or arranging some basic equipment so that all body parts can be exercised daily. If you have a separate room, you can gradually add equipment as your financial condition improves. You may also request your friends and relatives to gift fitness equipment instead of extravagant presents on special occasions.

Benefits of Bodybuilding

I was in the 8th class when I started gym exercises. In Kashmir, it is commonly known as the iron game. During this journey, I met great and kind people teachers, business personalities, sports persons, and government employees who supported and motivated me. After facing ups and downs, I experienced immense joy and positivity. Many unhealthy feelings like fatigue disappeared. I noticed a glow on my face and felt fresh and energetic throughout the day.

Based on my experience, I suggest my beloved friends join a gym to enhance their personality, stay away from drugs, develop interest in sports, and become gentle and kind individuals.

Before setting up a home gym, consult a good trainer who can guide you on proper exercises, essential equipment, and full-body workouts. Involve your siblings and parents as well, and you will surely enjoy a healthier life.

Mini gym centers can also be established at the school level to create awareness among students and help them understand the importance of physical fitness. At the college level, gyms often exist but remain locked to protect the equipment. Instead, these facilities should be opened for interested students so they can engage in healthy activities and relieve stress and anxiety.

In villages, many youngsters are falling into harmful habits such as smoking and drug use. It is our collective responsibility to eradicate these evils and introduce healthy activities in society.

Gym centers can keep youth away from anxiety and depression and help them maintain good physical and mental health. Exercise truly keeps us happy, healthy, and rejuvenated.

sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com

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

Office of the Executive Officer Municipal Committee Kunzer

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Prohibition of Open Dumping / Illegal Disposal of Faecal Sludge and Levy of Penalties within Municipal Committee KUNZER

In compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, the Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time (including amendments notified in 2022), the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, and the relevant provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, and in furtherance of the objectives of public health, sanitation and environmental protection, the Municipal Committee KUNZER hereby notifies, for the information of the general public, households, commercial establishments, institutions and desludging operators, that open dumping, discharge or illegal disposal of faecal sludge is strictly prohibited within the municipal limits of KUNZER.

Prohibited Activities : The following acts are strictly prohibited:

- Disposal or discharge of faecal sludge into streets, lanes, drains, nallahs, open drains, water bodies, vacant plots or any public place
- Unauthorized desludging or emptying of septic tanks without approval of the Municipal Committee KUNZER
- Engagement of unregistered or unauthorized private desludging operators
- Any practice involving manual or hazardous handling of faecal sludge, in contravention of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013

Authorized Desludging Services: All households, commercial establishments, offices, hotels and institutions are hereby directed to avail faecal sludge desludging services only through the authorized mechanism of the Municipal Committee KUNZER or through agencies authorized by it, upon payment of notified charges, as applicable.

Penalties for Violations: Any person, household, establishment or desludging operator found violating the provisions of this public notice shall be liable for penal action, including imposition of fines and issuance of challans, as detailed below:

- Households:
 - ₹2,000 for first offence
 - ₹3,000 for second offence
- Commercial Establishments / Offices / Hotels / Private Desludging Operators:
 - ₹3,000 for first offence
 - ₹5,000 for second offence

Repeated Offenders: For the purpose of this notice, a "repeated offender" shall mean any person, household, establishment or desludging operator who is found to have committed violations more than two times, despite having been penalized earlier.

In case of repeated offenders, the Municipal Committee KUNZER may, in addition to the prescribed penalties, take further enforcement action as permissible under law, including seizure of vehicles, equipment or machinery used for illegal disposal of faecal sludge, and initiation of proceedings under applicable municipal and environmental laws.

Enforcement: The Municipal Committee KUNZER shall conduct regular inspections and monitoring through its authorized field staff to ensure strict compliance with this public notice.

For availing authorized desludging services or for further information, the public may contact:

Office of the Municipal Committee KUNZER

01933-241282

ceo-mckUNZER@jk.gov.in

This public notice is issued in the interest of safeguarding public health, sanitation and environmental safety within the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee KUNZER.

No: MC/KZ/2026/167 | Dated:06/02/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Mandatory Segregation and Proper Disposal of Solid Waste at Source (Dry & Wet Waste)

In compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and in furtherance of the objectives of cleanliness, public health and environmental protection, the Municipal Committee KUNZER hereby notifies, for the information of the general public, commercial establishments, institutions and all stakeholders, that segregation of solid waste at source is mandatory within the municipal limits of KUNZER.

Mandatory Segregation of Waste at Source: All households, shops, commercial establishments, offices, institutions, schools, hospitals and other premises shall segregate solid waste at the point of generation into the following categories:

- Dry Waste (Blue Dustbins): Includes non-biodegradable and recyclable waste such as paper, cardboard, plastic containers, bottles, wrappers, glass, metal cans, foil, thermocol, packaging material, old clothes, rubber and similar items.
- Wet Waste (Green Dustbins): Includes biodegradable waste such as kitchen waste (vegetable peels, fruit waste, leftovers), tea leaves, coffee grounds, garden waste (leaves, grass, flowers), egg shells, bones, etc.

Prohibited Practices: The following practices are strictly prohibited:

- Mixing of dry and wet waste
- Throwing garbage on streets, drains, vacant plots or water bodies
- Burning of waste in open areas
- Handing over mixed or unsegregated waste to municipal sanitation workers

Role of Citizens and Commercial Establishments

- Place separate dustbins (Blue for Dry and Green for Wet waste) at residential and business premises
- Store segregated waste hygienically until collection
- Hand over only segregated waste to designated municipal sanitation workers/vehicles during notified collection hours

Enforcement and Penalties

The Municipal Committee KUNZER shall conduct regular inspections through its authorized field staff to ensure compliance. Non-compliance shall attract penal action, including imposition of fines, issuance of challans, seizure of waste, and such other action as permissible under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and applicable municipal laws. Repeated or continued violations may invite stricter action as per law.

This public notice is issued in the interest of seeking the cooperation of all stakeholders to make KUNZER clean, hygienic and environmentally sustainable.

Issued under my hand and seal.

No: MC/KZ/2026/168 | Dated: 06/02/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Collection, Transportation, Processing and Disposal of Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste within Municipal Committee KUNZER

In compliance with the provisions of the Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, and in furtherance of the objectives of cleanliness, public health and environmental protection, the Municipal Committee KUNZER hereby notifies, for the information of the general public, builders, contractors, institutions and all stakeholders, that a designated and authorized system for the collection, transportation, processing and disposal of Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste has been established within the municipal limits of KUNZER.

All generators of Construction and Demolition waste, including households, contractors, builders and institutions, shall ensure that C&D waste is disposed of exclusively through the authorized mechanism of the Municipal Committee KUNZER and at notified charges, as applicable.

Unauthorized dumping, disposal or littering of Construction and Demolition waste on roads, streets, drains, vacant plots, water bodies or any public place is strictly prohibited and shall attract penal action as prescribed under the Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, and other applicable municipal laws.

The Municipal Committee KUNZER shall conduct regular inspections and monitoring through its authorized field staff to ensure compliance. Violations shall attract imposition of penalties, issuance of challans, and other enforcement action as permissible under law.

For availing services related to the collection and disposal of Construction and Demolition waste, the general public may contact:

Office of the Municipal Committee KUNZER

01954-295614

eomc-kunzer-jk@jk.gov.in

This public notice is issued in the interest of maintaining cleanliness and ensuring scientific and environmentally sound management of Construction and Demolition waste within the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee KUNZER.

No: MC/KZ/2026/169 | Dated: 06/02/2026

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Enforcement of Prohibition on Use of Certain Plastic Items under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended).

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, read with the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act, and in pursuance of the directions issued by the Directorate of Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir, the undersigned hereby notifies for general information that the following prohibitions and regulatory measures shall be strictly enforced within the territorial jurisdiction of Municipal Committee KUNZER, in the interest of public health, sanitation and environmental protection:

- Prohibition
 - The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, collection, sale, transport and use of plastic carry bags having thickness less than 120 microns is hereby strictly prohibited.
 - The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, collection, sale and use of single-use plastic items, including but not limited to plastic plates, cups and glasses; cutlery such as spoons, forks and knives; straws; Styrofoam and thermocol products, is hereby completely prohibited, as notified under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time.

2. Applicability:

The provisions of this notification shall apply to all markets and commercial establishments, shops, vendors and traders, institutions, offices and establishments, and residential areas and public places falling within the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee KUNZER.

3. Enforcement & Penalty

The enforcement of this notification shall be carried out by officers and officials authorized by the Municipal Committee KUNZER. Any person, entity or establishment found violating the provisions of this notification shall be liable for penal action, including imposition of spot fines, seizure and confiscation of prohibited plastic items, and issuance of challans, as prescribed under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and other applicable laws. Repeated or continued violations may attract additional action under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act, as applicable.

4. Compliance

All shopkeepers, vendors, traders, institutions and members of the general public are hereby directed to ensure strict and mandatory compliance with the provisions of this notification. Ignorance of this notification shall not be accepted as a ground for non-compliance.

5. Commencement

This notification shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force until further orders.

No: MC/KZ/2026/170 | Dated: 06/02/2026

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Issuance and Enforcement of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Zero Waste Events within Municipal Committee Kunzer

In furtherance of the objectives of sustainable waste management, environmental protection and public cleanliness, and in exercise of the powers conferred under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, read with the relevant provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, the Municipal Committee Kunzer hereby notifies the issuance and enforcement of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for conducting Zero Waste Events within the municipal limits of KUNZER.

Applicability: These SOPs shall be mandatory and applicable to all public and private events, including but not limited to:

- Cultural, religious and social events
- Government and institutional functions
- Exhibitions, fairs, rallies and public gatherings
- Commercial and promotional events organized within the jurisdiction of Municipal Council KUNZER.

Objectives of the Zero Waste Event SOPs

The SOPs aim to ensure the following:

- Waste Reduction: Promotion of the use of reusable, recyclable, biodegradable and eco-friendly materials, and discouragement of single-use plastics and disposable items.
- Segregation of Waste at Source: Mandatory segregation of waste into wet, dry and domestic hazardous waste at the event site, with adequate provision of color-coded bins.
- Scientific Collection and Disposal : Ensuring proper collection, transportation, processing and disposal of waste generated during events through authorized municipal mechanisms.
- Compliance and Accountability: Mandating strict adherence to waste management norms by event organizers, vendors and service providers.
- Monitoring and Supervision: Deployment of authorized municipal officials for inspection, supervision and enforcement of the SOPs during events.
- Public Awareness and Participation: Encouraging active participation of organizers, vendors, volunteers and attendees in adopting zero waste practices.

Responsibilities of Event Organizers

All event organizers shall:

- Obtain prior approval from the Municipal Committee Kunzer, wherever applicable
- Ensure compliance with the notified Zero Waste Event SOPs
- Coordinate with the Municipal Council for waste collection and management
- Ensure that vendors and service providers engaged at the event comply with waste management norms

Enforcement and Penalties: Non-compliance with the provisions of this notification and the prescribed SOPs shall attract penal action, including imposition of fines, issuance of challans, recovery of costs, and other enforcement measures as permissible under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended from time to time) and applicable municipal laws.

Commencement: This notification shall come into force with immediate effect. The detailed SOPs shall be issued and communicated separately through official channels of the Municipal Committee Kunzer.

No: MC/KZ/2026/171 | Dated: 06/02/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Mandatory Compliance by Bulk Waste Generators with On-Site Wet Waste Processing under Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016

In compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, particularly Rule 4 and Rule 15, and in furtherance of the objectives of cleanliness, public health and environmental protection, the Municipal Committee Kunzer hereby notifies, for the information and strict compliance of all concerned, that all Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) within the municipal limits of KUNZER shall ensure on-site processing of wet (biodegradable) waste.

For the purpose of this notice, Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) shall mean such entities as are classified as Bulk Waste Generators under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, and shall include, inter alia, hotels, hospitals, hostels, educational institutions, residential complexes, commercial establishments, offices, markets and other similar entities as may be notified or defined under the said Rules from time to time.

Mandatory Directions

All Bulk Waste Generators shall strictly comply with the following:

- On-Site Wet Waste Processing: BWGs shall establish and operate appropriate on-site wet waste processing facilities, such as composting units, bio-methanation plants or any other environmentally sustainable processing system, within their premises, in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- Segregation at Source: BWGs shall ensure segregation of waste at source into wet, dry and domestic hazardous waste, prior to processing or disposal.
- Prohibition on Disposal of Unprocessed Wet Waste: Disposal or handing over of unprocessed wet waste to the Municipal Council or dumping at any public or private place is strictly prohibited.
- Authorization and Records: BWGs shall maintain records of waste generation, processing and disposal, and shall produce the same for inspection as and when required by the Municipal Committee Kunzer or any competent authority.

Enforcement and Penalties : The Municipal Committee Kunzer shall conduct regular inspections and monitoring through its authorized officers to verify compliance. Non-compliance shall attract penal action, including imposition of fines, issuance of challans, and other enforcement action as permissible under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, and other applicable laws. Repeated or continued violations may invite stricter action as per law. Compliance Timeline : All Bulk Waste Generators are hereby directed to ensure

compliance forthwith. In cases where on-site processing facilities are not yet established, BWGs shall initiate necessary arrangements without delay and intimate the Municipal Committee Kunzer accordingly.

For clarification or assistance, BWGs may contact:

Office of the Municipal Committee Kunzer

eomc-kunzer-jk@jk.gov.in

This notice is issued in the interest of ensuring scientific waste management, environmental sustainability and public health protection within the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee Kunzer.

No: MC/KZ/2026/172 | Dated: 06/02/2026

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Prohibition of Manual / Hazardous Entry into Sewers, Septic Tanks and Faecal Sludge Systems without Safety Measures

In compliance with the provisions of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, and in pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, and the relevant provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, the Municipal Committee Kunzer hereby notifies, for the information of the general public, households, institutions, contractors and sanitation workers, that manual or hazardous entry into sewers, septic tanks, drains or any faecal sludge system is strictly prohibited within the municipal limits of KUNZER.

Absolute Prohibition: The following acts are strictly prohibited:

- Manual entry of any person into sewers, septic tanks, soak pits, manholes or faecal sludge systems
- Hazardous cleaning, desludging or maintenance without use of prescribed safety equipment and protective gear
- Engagement of any person for such hazardous work by households, institutions, contractors or private operators

Permissible Conditions (Exception) : Entry into sewers or septic tanks shall be permitted only under exceptional circumstances, and only when all the following conditions are strictly fulfilled:

- Use of mechanised equipment to the maximum extent possible
- Provision and use of complete Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including safety harness, gas detector, oxygen mask, gloves, boots and protective clothing
- Presence of trained and authorized personnel
- Compliance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) issued by the competent authority

Responsibilities of Employers and Property Owners

- No household, institution, contractor or private individual shall employ, permit or compel any person to undertake hazardous cleaning manually
- All desludging and sewer maintenance activities shall be carried out only through authorized, mechanised and safety-compliant methods

Penalties and Legal Action: Any violation of this public notice shall attract strict penal action under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, and other applicable laws, including:

- Imposition of fines
- Issuance of challans
- Prosecution as provided under law

The Municipal Committee Kunzer shall conduct regular inspections and monitoring to ensure compliance.

Enforcement: Officers authorized by the Municipal Committee Kunzer shall enforce this prohibition strictly. Ignorance of the law shall not be accepted as a defence.

This public notice is issued in the interest of protecting human life, dignity, public health and ensuring safe sanitation practices within the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee Kunzer.

No: MC/KZ/2026/173 | Dated: 06/02/2026

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Levy of Spot Fines and Penalties for Non-Segregation, Littering and Non-Compliance of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016

In compliance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, read with Rule 43 thereof, and the relevant provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, and in the interest of maintaining cleanliness, public health and environmental protection, the Municipal Committee Kunzer hereby notifies the following Penalty / Spot Fine Schedule for violations of the Solid Waste Management Rules within its municipal limits.

A. Spot Fines – Households

- Failure to segregate waste at source (Dry & Wet) : ₹500
- Handing over mixed / unsegregated waste : ₹500
- Littering / throwing waste in public places : ₹200
- Burning of waste in open areas : ₹1,000
- Second and subsequent non-segregation : ₹1,000

B. Spot Fines – Shops & Commercial Establishments

- Non-segregation of waste at source (Dry & Wet) : ₹1,000
- Littering / disposal of waste in public places : ₹1,000
- Disposal of waste outside designated time or place : ₹1,000
- Burning of waste in open areas : ₹2,000
- Repeated or continued violations : ₹2,000 per offence

C. Penalties – Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs)

- Failure to segregate waste at source : ₹5,000
- Failure to process wet waste on-site : ₹10,000
- Dumping of unprocessed waste : ₹10,000
- Repeated non-compliance : ₹20,000 and further action

Repeated Offenders: A repeated offender shall mean any person, household, establishment or entity found violating the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 more than two times despite having been penalized earlier. In such cases, further enforcement action including seizure, suspension of services or prosecution may be initiated as permissible under law.

Statutory Penalty Ceiling

These spot fines are without prejudice to the penalties under Rule 43 of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, under which fines may extend up to ₹50,000 for the first offence and ₹1,00,000 for subsequent offences, with additional fine up to ₹5,000 per day for continuing offences.

Issued under my hand and seal.

No: MC/KZ/2026/174 | Dated: 06/02/2026

Sd/-

Executive Officer Municipal Committee Kunzer

DIPK: NB-3211/25 | 07/02/2026

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J&K Clinches ‘Best Adventure Tourism Destination’ Title at OTM Mumbai 2026

Top honour at India’s premier travel mart boosts global profile of Jammu & Kashmir as a leading hub for trekking, skiing and adventure sports

■ HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

MUMBAI, FEB 7: Jammu and Kashmir has been adjudged the 'Best Adventure Tourism Destination' at the prestigious Outbound Travel Mart (OTM) Mumbai 2026, marking a major milestone in the Union Territory's journey to position itself as a global adventure tourism hotspot.

The Excellence Award was jointly received by Director Tourism Kashmir, Syed Qamer Sajjad, and Director Tourism Jammu, Dr Vikas Gupta, on behalf of the Tourism Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, during the concluding ceremony of the four-day international travel exhibition.

OTM Mumbai, one of India's largest and most influential travel and tourism trade shows, witnessed extensive participation

from domestic and international tour operators, destination marketers, policymakers and industry leaders. Held from February 4 to February 7, the event served as a major platform for showcasing tourism potential, forging partnerships and recognising excellence across destinations.

The award acknowledges Jammu and Kashmir's sustained efforts to promote adventure tourism, strengthen infrastructure, improve safety standards and market its diverse offerings. From world-class trekking routes and ski slopes to mountaineering expeditions, river rafting circuits and cable car tourism, the region has steadily emerged as a preferred destination for adventure enthusiasts.

Officials said the recognition reflects the government's focused strategy to develop sustainable tourism while preserving the



region's fragile ecology and unique cultural heritage. "This honour is a testament to the hard work and vision of the Tourism

Department in transforming Jammu and Kashmir into a premier adventure tourism hub," senior tourism officials said.

Prominent stakeholders and industry leaders present at OTM hailed the achievement, terming it a well-deserved recognition of the Union Territory's immense tourism potential and natural allure. The accolade is expected to significantly enhance Jammu and Kashmir's global visibility, boost tourist inflows, and provide fresh momentum to adventure tourism and allied sectors, generating employment and strengthening the local economy.

With this recognition, Jammu and Kashmir has reaffirmed its place on the global tourism map, reinforcing its image as a destination that blends breathtaking landscapes, rich culture and thrilling adventure experiences.

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of GHULAM MOHAMMAD GOJJER DEADER S/O MOHD ABDULLAH GOJJAER DEADER for the issuance of R/O..BANDI BALA (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar and Bakerwal)in favour of self & ZAHID AHMAD , SHAHID AHMAD & SHAFAYAT AHMAD R/O BANDI BALA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above, the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of ST . in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in village BANDI BALLA and belongs to the ST caste and GOJJER DEADER community, having annual income is 150000 the details of the family of the applicant are as follows

1...GH MOHD GOJJAR DEADER self 62 years Labour
2.... HALEEMA BEGUM wife 60 years H/W
3...ZAHID AHMAD Son 20 years student
4...SHAHID AHMAD son 17 years student
5...SHAFAYAT AHMAD son 13 years student

The applicant has applied for Issuance of ST (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar & Bakerwal) certificate in favour of Self

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of ARSHID ASLAM DEADER S/O MOHD ASLAM DEADER for the issuance of R/O..BANDI BALA (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar and Bakerwal)in favour of self

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above, the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of ST . in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in village BANDI BALLA and belongs to the ST caste and GOJER DEADER community, having annual income is 150000 the details of the family of the applicant are as follows

1...MOHD ASLAM DEADER Father 65 years Labour
2.... KHATOON BEGUM Mother 62 years H/W
3...ISHFAQ AHMAD Brother 27 years Labour
4...NASREENA BEGUM sister in Law 25 years H/W
5.OSMAN ISHFAQ Nephew 04 years infant
6..ISHAN ISHFAQ // 02 years //
7....ARSHID ASLAM self 19 years student

The applicant has applied for Issuance of ST (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar & Bakerwal) certificate in favour of Self.

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Public Notice

This is for information that I, GHULAM HASSAN MOCHI S/O ABDUL RAHIM MOCHI R/O Kalantra Payeen, bearing electricity JKPDD consumer ID 0212040002261, wish to inform that there are some corrections required in my name and address in the bill. I want to correct my details as follows:

Current details: HASSAN SHEIKH S/O REHMAN SHEKH R/O Kalantra Bala

Corrected details: GHULAM HASSAN MOCHI S/O ABDUL RAHIM MOCHI R/O Kalantra Payeen

If anyone has any objection to this correction, they should file their objection in the office of the Assistant Executive Engineer JKPDD Sub Division Watergam Wagoora within 7 days from the date of publication. No objections will be entertained after that.

GHULAM HASSAN MOCHI
JKPDD Consumer ID: 0212040002261

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR
KALANTRA / KREERI

Subject: Application of MOHD SHAREEF DEADER S/O SARDER MOHD for the issuance of R/O..BANDI BALA (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar and Bakerwal)in favour of SHAGUFTA BANO, IRAM JAN , MOHD IMRAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above, the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of ST . in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in village BANDI BALLA and belongs to the ST caste and GOJER DEADER community, having annual income is 107000 the details of the family of the applicant are as follows

1...MOHD SHAREEF self 51 years Labour
2.... RAFIQA BEGUM wife 48 years H/W
3....SHAGUFTA BANO daughter 25 years H/W
4...SHAHID HUSSAIN Son 15 years student
5..IRAM JAN daughter 16 years //
6....MOHD IMRAN Son 12 years //

The applicant has applied for Issuance of ST (SCHEDULE TRIBE Gujar & Bakerwal) certificate in favour of Self.

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

NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

Public Notice

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my Fathers name KHIZAR MOHAMMAD PARRAY R/O KAREWA KREERI Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 021204000368 wants to be registered on my NOOR UD DIN PARRAY S/O KHIZAR MOHAMMAD PARRAY R/O KAREWA .If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name...NOOR UD DIN PARRAY , S/O ... KHIZAR MOHAMMAD PARRAY , R/O .KAREWA

Public Notice

My son's name has been wrongly mentioned as MOHD AAZIM S/O MUSHTAQ AHMAD RATHER R/O SAFAPORA ASHAM in his Date of Birth certificate while his correct name is AAZIM MUSHTAQ S/O MUSHTAQ AHMAD RATHER R/O ASHAM SAFAPORA SONAWARI which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of TEHSIL OFFICE WAGOORA / BDO WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name...MUSHTAQ AHMAD RATHER , F/O...AAZIM MUSHTAQ, R/O ...ASHAM SAFAPORA SONAWARI Distt....BANDIPORA

Public Notice

I am applying for fresh Pesticide and Fertilizer License under the title of Mir Agrotech, deals in Pesticides , Fertilizers and other related items . situated at Dawlatpora, Kreeri, Baramulla. In this regard if anybody is having any objection may file the same to Chief Agriculture Officer Baramulla and PPO Lal Mandi Srinagar within the time period of 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Syed Mir S/o: Fayaz Ahmad Mir
R/o: Dawlatpora, Kreeri Cell No: +91 97977 43568

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application ADIL HASSAN NAJAR S/O GHULAM HASSAN NAJAR R/O KALANTRA PAYEEN Tehsil KREERI for the issuance of OBC (Other Backward classes) in favor of self

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of KALANTRA PAYEEN of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the NAJAR community having annual income 275000 // (five lack thirty four thousand) the details of family of the applicant are as follows

1...GHULAM HASSAN Father 65 old aged
2..RAJA BEGAM Mother 60 years Housewife
3... SAJAD AHMAD NAJAR Brother 34 years Labour
4...ALTAF HASSAN NAJAR Brother 30 years Carpenter
5...MEHJABEEN AKHTER sister in Law 36 years H/W
6...ADIL HASSAN NAJAR self 21 years student
7...HAZIK SAJAD Nephew 2 years //

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application BISMA SHABAN D/O MOHD SHABAN NAJAR R/O KALANTRA PAYEEN Tehsil KREERI for the issuance of OBC (Other Backward classes) in favor of self

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of KALANTRA PAYEEN of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the NAJAR community having annual income 250000 // (five lack thirty four thousand) the details of family of the applicant are as follows

1...MOHD SHABAN Father 57 shopkeeper
2..ATTIQA BEGAM Mother 54 years Housewife
3... AQIB AHMAD NAJAR Brother 31 years Labour
4..UMAR SHABAN Brother sister in Law 27 years
5...BISMA SHABAN self 25 years student

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application MUSHTAQ AHMAD SOFI S/O ABDUL GANI SOFI R/O SHEIKHPORA for issuance of RBA certificate in favour of self for the issuance of RBA in his/her / their favor

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of RBA in this connection a report of patwari halqa concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village of SHEIKHPORA of Tehsil KREERI and belongs to the SOFI community having annual income 560000// the details of family of the applicant are as follows

1..MUSHTAQ AHMAD SOFI self 49 years Farmer
2..GULSHANA BEGUM wife 46 years H/W
3... SEERAT MUSHTAQ self applicant 16 years student
4...MOHSIN MUSHTAQ son 12 years student
5...MASROOR MUSHTAQ son 07 years student

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Tehsildar Kreeri

Subject: Application of. HAFEEZA BEGUM S/O Lt BASHIR AHMAD GANAIE R/O RESHIPORA for the issuance of LEGAL HEIR certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above in this context a report sought from patwari halqa concerned and the Death certificate issued by the competent authority reveals that BASHIR AHMAD GANIE S/O MOHD RAMZAN GANIE has passed away on 23/09/2022 .The report of the patwari further depicts that the deceased has left behind following dependent as tabulated below

1... , HAFEEZA BEGUM 67 wife ,48 widow
2.... HILAL AHMAD GANIE son 32 years labour unmarried
3...TANVEER AHMAD son 23 years Labour unmarried
4...JABEENA daughter 35 years H/W married outstate
5...NUSRAT daughter 25 years H/W married

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

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

Naib Tehsild Kreeri

From the Office of the Block Development Officer, Natnusa

Applicant: Abdul Ahad Ahanger, Son of Late Mohammad Jamal Ahanger, Resident of Kandi Khas, Tehsil Handwara. Public Notice for General Information

With reference to the subject mentioned above, it is hereby informed that the application of the applicant is under consideration in this office.

As per the records and the death certificate submitted, the date of death of the applicant's father is 09/02/2024.

If any person or persons have any objection or claim regarding this matter, they must submit the same in writing at this office within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice.

After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained.

Issued by:
Office of the Block Development Officer, Natnusa

Public Notice

I, Imtiyaz Ahmad Dar, S/o Mohammad Subhan Dar, R/o Yahama, Tehsil Qalamabad, District Kupwara, J&K, hereby inform that my parentage and permanent address i.e, Mohammad Sudhan Dar address is 1072 Field Workshop 99 APO Boleng ADC Siang, ar 791103 have been wrongly recorded in my Driving Licence bearing No. AR21 20220003169, issued by Arunachal Pradesh. My correct particulars as per Aadhaar Card are: Name: Imtiyaz Ahmad Dar Father's Name: Mohammad Subhan Dar Permanent Address: Yahama, Tehsil Qalamabad, District Kupwara, J&K have applied before the concerned authority for necessary correction in my Driving Licence.

Objection, if any, may be filed within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

IMTIYAZ AHMAD DAR
S/O MOHAMMAD SUBHAN DAR
R/O YAHAMA, TEHSIL QALAMABAD,
DISTRICT KUPWARA, J&K

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Harshit Rana in doubt for T20 World Cup due to injury

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: India allrounder Harshit Rana is under an injury cloud for the 2026 T20 World Cup. He "doesn't look good," according to captain Suryakumar Yadav, after the allrounder picked up a niggle during the warm-up game against South Africa in Navi Mumbai on February 4 when he bowled just the one over before walking off the field. Rana was seen with a strapped thigh later and Suryakumar said the final outcome on his availability would be known by the end of the day.

"He is not ruled out yet," Suryakumar said on the eve of India's first game of the T20 World Cup, against USA in Mumbai on Saturday. "He's being assessed by the physios. But I think, today we'll know what's going to happen. But it doesn't look good, it's not that great." While Rana is a player who can provide the batting depth that India prioritises in the format, his unavailability may not cause too much concern if all other players are fit, with Axar Patel expected to slot in at No. 8 and Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh as the two fast bowlers.

"Don't worry, we have 11 players for tomorrow," Suryakumar said with a laugh. "But it's a big blow obviously because you make a squad of 15 players with a lot of combinations in mind. So we made it with the same thought. And

if he is not available for us going forward, then we will set other combinations, however can we do it. But we have enough players, enough combinations, which we can make against all the teams for this tournament. But if we miss him, we will definitely miss him"

Rana had played three of the five T20Is in the recent home series against New Zealand, which India won 4-1. India had not named any reserve players while announcing the squad of 15 as it's a home T20 World Cup. Suryakumar said that if Rana was ruled out, they would look for a replacement who preferably bats but that would not be a necessary factor. Apart from Bumrah and Arshdeep, India's other pace-bowling options in the squad are the allrounders Hardik Pandya and Shivam Dube. Rana, 24, had proved to be a handy option at No. 8 especially after his boundary-laden 52 off 43 at that position in the third ODI against New Zealand in a chase of 338.

"We will see which fast bowlers have done really well for the last one or two years," Suryakumar said. "And which bowler can bat as well. But there is no hard-and-fast rule that he has to bat. Because if you are expecting someone at No. 9 or 10 to come and hit a six, then what do you have the top eight for. But we will see whom to pick. We do have a few options but we will pick the best one."

Rabada: 'You cannot say that there's a favourite in this tournament'

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

LONDON: Popular opinion ahead of this year's T20 World Cup is that co-hosts India are the favourites to win it, on the back of the immense form in the format, and that it is going to be a boon for batters, but Kagiso Rabada has never been one to walk down well-trodden paths. He chose the scenic route, not only in suggesting the field is far more open than India's nine series wins since their T20 World Cup triumph in 2024 makes it seem, but also in his assertion that bowlers may not have it that bad after all.

"You cannot say that there's a favourite in this tournament. I think it's up for grabs. Anyone can take it. We'll be putting our hand up for that for sure. I'm not too sure what's going on in the Indian camp. This tournament is right open," Rabada said to close off a media interaction in Ahmedabad, where South Africa will play their first three group matches.

He started it by answering a question about the surfaces in India; they have become so flat that the big question pre-tournament is whether a team will top 300, and all but poured cold water on the idea. "It's India, there are small grounds, the ball skids on and when dew comes, it makes it even worse. But in ICC events, from what I've seen, not all games will be high scoring. You'll get venues that will be high scoring from time to time, but I don't think all pitches would be that way," he said. "Especially in ICC events, you'll see that there will be something for the bowlers every now and then."

The last ICC event in India that Rabada was part of was the 2023 ODI World Cup, which was played at different times of year (October-November) and was also talked up as being a batting record-breaker. In total, there were three totals over 400 (by South Africa, New Zealand and India) and two of 399. While there was decent bounce and movement overall, bowlers suffered with the worst economy rate since in ODI World Cup history - 5.73 - and the third-worst average across World Cups.

The evidence suggests that the trend will continue, especially where South Africa will play the bulk of the tournament, Ahmedabad. The average first-innings score in eight T20Is at the venue is 189, and that jumps to 230 in the last four matches. Since 2024, it is India's second-highest scoring ground (of the venues being used at this World Cup), after Delhi. Incidentally, the rest of South Africa's tournament takes place at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. Expecting anything other than big runs seems futile but Rabada does have his reasons.

Sharandeep Singh and Shikhar Mohan, a journey of ice and fire

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

JHARKHAND: Sharandeep Singh fondly recounts his conversation with opening partner Shikhar Mohan at the end of the third day's play during Jharkhand's Ranji Trophy game against Odisha. With a place in the quarter-finals on the line, Jharkhand were on a sticky wicket, having conceded a first-innings lead on a Jamshedpur surface that was spitting and bouncing. Odisha had ended day three on 202 for 8, having secured a lead of 221. They were bowled out for 226 on the fourth morning and a 246-run target wasn't going to be easy. But Sharandeep and Mohan - one in

his second Ranji Trophy season and the other in his first - had their plans chalked out.

"Build the target in terms of twenty-run blocks, record a 60-70 run stand and then move ahead." The plan worked. Mohan tried to be the aggressor and Sharandeep the accumulator, and they set a solid foundation for the rest of the batting unit to chase down the target in the final session and secure Jharkhand a quarter-final spot for the first time since the 2022-23 season.

It's been the theme of this fire-and-ice opening partnership this season. Sharandeep and Mohan have aggregated 473 runs for the first wicket in 10 innings,

the fifth-highest for any opening pair in this edition of the tournament. While this is their first time opening in senior cricket, they have done so several times at the Under-19 and Under-23 levels.

"We have been very good friends since our Under-16 days," Mohan says about Sharandeep. "We were even roommates earlier. He made his Ranji debut last year; I made my debut this year. He shared his experience about his Ranji season, how he went about things. That gave me a lot of clarity when I came into the senior team." The understanding is quite evident, even though their batting styles are chalk and cheese. Mohan, 20, is more flam-

boyant, and likes to take on the bowlers. Sharandeep, 23, has the old-school approach of tiring out bowlers. What keeps the two in good stead are the honest conversations about each other's game.

"We are very frank with each other," Mohan says. "I can literally tell him anything. I am younger than him, so he sometimes scolds me if I play a bad shot. We have good communication and that's showing in the opening partnerships that we are having."

Sharandeep agrees with Mohan's sentiments. "Honesty is extremely important in cricket. Sometimes you get carried away by the flow of your innings and don't even realise your mistake.

Then the person at the other end tries to bring you back on track. If one of us makes a mistake, we try to correct it together. We spend the whole day together anyway, so the bonding between us is very strong."

Hailing from Ranchi, Mohan was fast-tracked into the senior Jharkhand setup after two sensational seasons at the Under-23 level. He finished the 2023-24 Col CK Nayudu Trophy with 623 runs in nine innings at 77.88 with three fifties and two centuries, and followed it up with 887 runs in 13 innings the next season at 73.92 - the third-highest in India. And he's continued that run of form for the senior team.

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Honorary Editor: Literature & Health
Sections (HT) at

chogalwriter76@gmail.com

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