

Srinagar
Tuesday
April 14 | 2026
25 Shawwal 1447 AH
Issue No: 90
Volume: 16
Pages: 12
Price: Rs 02/-

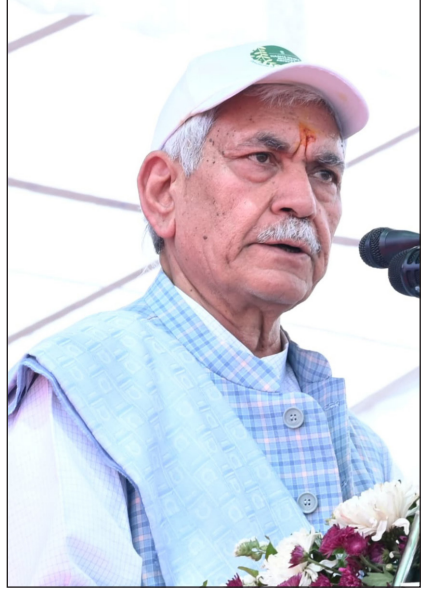
16TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION
HEADLINES TODAY
Voice To The Voiceless

LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS
ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS
NEWSPAPER | BOOKS | FLYERS | LOGO | FLEX | MAGAZINES
VISITING CARDS | BROCHURES | 3D BOARDS | COVER PAGES
WEDDING CARDS | CALLIGRAPHY | WALL PAINTINGS
9999038812
9419008414
Radio Colony, Gund Hassibhat, Lawaipora Srinagar-190017

'We Will Build a Drug-Free J&K Through Collective Resolve': LG Manoj Sinha

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APRIL 13: Manoj Sinha on Monday launched a major public movement against drug abuse in Kathua, asserting that a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir can only be achieved through united and sustained efforts by society. Addressing a large public rally, the Lieutenant Governor said the fight against narcotics must go beyond government initiatives and become a collective mission, warning that drug abuse not only harms individuals but also weakens the social fabric of entire communities. "Let us build a J&K where our youth's energy illuminates the world, not destroys itself. This challenge demands unwavering resolve," Sinha said, as he flagged off a padyatra from the Sports Stadium to Government Degree College, Kathua,



joined by thousands of citizens, officials, students, and civil society members. Describing the initiative as a people's movement, the LG called upon every household to actively participate in efforts to eliminate drug abuse from every part of the Union Territory. He said the next three months would be crucial, guided by a structured 100-day action plan focusing on awareness, deeper community engagement, and long-term sustainability. Sinha emphasised that the campaign's cornerstone would be passionate rehabilitation, urging a shift in mindset to treat addicts as patients in need of care and support. He stressed the importance of expanding accessible and humane rehabilitation centres to help affected youth recover and reintegrate into society.

Turn on Page 2

PRIs remarkable example of women's leadership: PM Modi

HT NEWS NETWORK / AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, APRIL 13: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Nari Shakti Vandan programme at Vigyan Bhawan on Monday. Speaking on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi and ahead of New Year celebrations in various parts of the country, the Prime Minister also paid tribute to the martyrs of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. "India is about to take one of the biggest decisions of the 21st century, a decision dedicated to Nari Shakti," asserted Modi. Describing the moment as historic, the Prime Minister said the nation's Parliament is close to creating a new history that will fulfill the visions of the past and the resolutions of the future. Emphasizing the importance of social justice, he stressed that the country envisions an egalitarian India where social justice is not merely a slogan but an integral part of the work culture. "The wait of decades, from state assemblies to the nation's Parliament, is coming to an end," remarked the Prime Minister. Recalling the passage of the Nari Shakti Vandan Act in the new Parliament building in 2023, the



Prime Minister noted that it was passed unanimously with all parties agreeing that it should be implemented by 2029 in any case. PM Modi remarked that the Nari Shakti Vandan Act must be implemented on time so that women's participation strengthens our democracy, for which a special session of Parliament's Budget Session will begin from April 16. "Our effort and

Turn on Page 2

'SARAL AI' to Bring Science to the Masses in 18 Languages: Jitendra Singh

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, APRIL 13: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh on Monday announced the development of 'SARAL AI', an artificial intelligence-based platform designed to translate complex scientific research into simple, engaging social media content for



wider public consumption. The announcement was made during a review of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), where the minister outlined a forward-

Turn on Page 2

Power Push in Gulmarg: Parliamentary Panel Meets Omar Abdullah to Review J&K Energy Sector



HT NEWS NETWORK

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy on Monday held a detailed meeting with

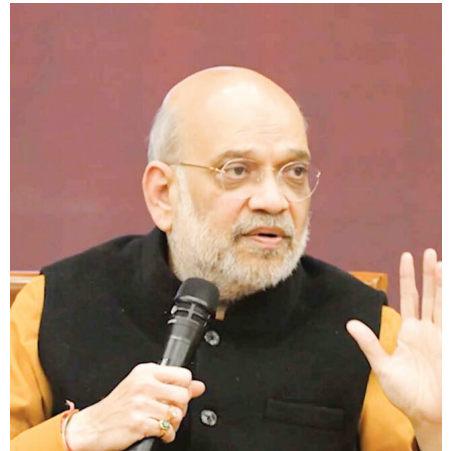
GULMARG, APRIL 13: A study group of the

Turn on Page 2

India Hit Pakistan 'Where It Hurt the Most' After Pahalgam Attack: Amit Shah

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, APRIL 13: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday asserted that the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered a decisive blow to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, stating that India struck Pakistan "where it hurt the most" through the military action codenamed "Operation Sindoor" following the Pahalgam terror attack. Addressing a public rally in Paschim Bardhaman, Shah criticised the previous UPA government led by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, alleging that



Turn on Page 2

Army Vows Strong Retaliation to Border Threats, Stresses Unity in Rajouri

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

RAJOURI/JAMMU, APRIL 13: The Indian Army on Monday asserted its readiness to deliver a strong and immediate response to any hostile activity along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir, with troops maintaining a high state of alert in the sensitive Rajouri and Poonch districts. Addressing a gathering at the annual 'Rajouri Day' General Officer Commanding of the Ace of Spades Division, Maj Gen

Kaushik Mukherji, said the Army remains fully prepared to counter any aggression and will continue to work in close coordination with the civil administration and local population to foil enemy designs. Commemorating the bravery of soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the 1947-48 operations to liberate Rajouri, the Army officer highlighted the enduring bond between security forces and residents of the Pir Panjal region. He

Turn on Page 2

Patwari Held Guilty in 17-Year-Old Bribery Case, Sentenced to One-Year Jail

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, APRIL 13: A Special Anti-Corruption Court here on Monday convicted a former Patwari in a 2007 bribery case and sentenced him to one year of imprisonment along with a fine of Rs. 10,000. The judgment was delivered by Special Judge Anti-Corruption Court Srinagar, Tasleem Arif, in connection with FIR No. 20/2007 registered at the then Police Station Vigilance Organisation

Turn on Page 2



Zero-tolerance approach to dismantle drug ecosystem within 100 days: SSP Srinagar

HT NEWS NETWORK / KNO

SRINAGAR, APRIL 13: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar, Dr Sandeep Chakravarty on Monday said that a strict zero-tolerance approach against drugs will dismantle the narcotics ecosystem in the district within the next 100 days. Speaking at a function held at Amar

Singh College here, the SSP, as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the initiative is part of a focused 100-day action programme under the 'Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan', which he described as a "national mission" rather than a routine campaign. He said the programme, envisioned by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha,



aims to eliminate the drug menace through a well-coordinated strategy involving police, civil departments and the community at large. "J&K Police have full clarity and a firm resolve. This is not just an awareness drive but a strategic action plan. In the next three months, visible results will be on the ground."

Turn on Page 2

پیشہ
Preserve Your Ideas
We Bring Them to Life
LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS
ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS
We Publish in
Arabic | Urdu | Hindi | Persian | Kashmiri
Contact us:
9697071471 | 9999038812
lubaabpublications01@gmail.com

LG, CM & Ministers Greetings people on Baisakhi

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APRIL 13: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha extended his heartfelt greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi, which will be celebrated tomorrow. In his message, the Lieutenant Governor said: "On the joyous occasion of Baisakhi, I convey my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all. This harvest festival stands as a solemn reminder of the extraordinary contributions of our farmers whose labor, sacrifice, and dedication sustain the very foundation of our nation. Baisakhi also marks the historic foundation of the Khalsa Panth by the tenth Guru,"

Turn on Page 2

REVIVE CARE
Mr. Meer Turab
Audiologist & Speech Therapist
(Avaz Certified & Apraxia Practitioner)
Former Sr. Audiologist & Speech Therapist at
MAX Hospital Saket New Delhi
Former Sr. Audiologist at Dr. JM M Hans
Center for ENT & Vertigo
RCI No.: A53474
Available Every Wednesday and Sunday From 4PM
Address National Highway Kanispora
Baramulla Near Petrol Pump
99062 15683





CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

'We Will Build.....'

At the same time, the Lieutenant Governor announced a strict crackdown on drug networks, directing police to prepare lists of top drug peddlers at every police station and dismantle such networks within 30 days. He warned that a newly notified Standard Operating Procedure would enforce stringent action against smugglers, including revocation of passports, driving licences, Aadhaar cards, and arms licences.

Referring to provisions under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, he said authorities would confiscate assets, freeze bank accounts, and conduct comprehensive financial investigations to ensure that offenders are brought to justice.

Calling for wider public participation, Sinha urged women's self-help groups to form vigilance squads to monitor and report drug-related activities in their areas. He said the government has empowered enforcement agencies with full authority to dismantle drug syndicates but stressed that community cooperation remains vital.

Reiterating his commitment, the Lieutenant Governor said the future of Jammu and Kashmir would be shaped not merely by policy decisions but by the collective action taken during this movement, aimed at bringing lasting change across villages, towns, and cities.

PRIs remarkable.....

priority is that this work should be accomplished through dialogue, cooperation and participation, which will enhance the dignity of Parliament," said Modi.

Acknowledging the nationwide enthusiasm among women on this issue, the Prime Minister observed that women across the country are voicing their aspirations about reaching assemblies and the Lok Sabha. Their dreams have received new wings and a positive atmosphere has been created in the country. "I appeal to all women to maintain their active participation in this entire process and meet their MPs to share their perspectives and expectations," urged the Prime Minister.

Tracing the contribution of women from the freedom struggle to the Constituent Assembly, the Prime Minister highlighted the immense role of Nari Shakti in laying the foundation of independent India. Women who received opportunities for representation have done outstanding work for the nation. He observed that even today, in our country, from the President to the Finance Minister, Women are holding such important positions. "From President to Prime Minister, wherever women have been, they have created their own legacy," stated Modi.

Citing panchayati raj institutions as an excellent example of women's leadership, the Prime Minister shared that over 14 lakh women are successfully working in local government bodies today. In approximately 21 states, their participation in panchayats has reached nearly 50 percent. "This active participation of lakhs of women in politics and social life surprises even the world's leading leaders and political experts, enhancing India's pride," remarked the Prime Minister.

Referring to various studies, the Prime Minister pointed out that when women's participation in decision-making processes increased, it brought sensitivity to systems. This has led to more dedicated work on issues like water, education, health and nutrition. "The success of Jal Jeevan Mission is an example where women's participation at the panchayat level has played a major role," said Modi.

Emphasizing that lakhs of women working in local bodies and institutions for years now possess extensive experience, the Prime Minister said they are ready and eager for bigger roles. Implementing the Nari Shakti Vandan Act will become a great opportunity in the lives of all such women. "The journey from panchayat to Parliament is going to become easier," affirmed the Prime Minister.

Highlighting the critical role of women in the Viksit Bharat journey, the Prime Minister expressed satisfaction that his government has created schemes for every stage of women's life cycle since 2014. From the first breath to the last, the government stands ready to serve sisters and daughters with various schemes. "We launched Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao campaign to prevent female foeticide, provided Rs 5,000 financial assistance under Matru Vandan Yojana for proper nutrition during pregnancy, and started the high-interest Sukanya Samridhi Yojana to support daughters' education," elaborated Modi.

Detailing the comprehensive support system, the Prime Minister mentioned Mission Indradhanush for timely vaccination, toilets under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, nearly free sanitary napkins, financial support under Khel India scheme, and opening the doors to Sainik Schools and National Defence Academy. For later stages of life, Ujjwala Yojana provided crore gas connections, Har Ghar Nal Se Jal campaign brought water to homes, free ration

scheme ensured food security, and Ayushman Yojana offered health insurance up to Rs 5 lakh. "All these initiatives, including Jan Aushadhi Kendras offering up to 80 percent discount on medicines, have primarily benefited our sisters and daughters," said the Prime Minister.

Stressing the necessity of increasing women's economic participation for their empowerment, the Prime Minister said every decision and scheme prioritized this aspect. Previously, family property was mainly registered in men's names, but under PM Awas Yojana, homes were registered in women's names on a priority basis. "In the past 11 years, over 3 crore women have benefited from this decision and become owners of their homes, making them economically empowered," remarked Modi.

Addressing financial inclusion, the Prime Minister recalled that in 2014, crores of women had never seen a bank's door. The Jan Dhan Yojana opened bank accounts for over 32 crore women. "Today our daughters are creating their identity in new businesses, with over 60 percent of Mudra Yojana loans taken by women," stated the Prime Minister.

Highlighting women's leadership in the startup revolution, the Prime Minister shared that over 45 percent of registered startups have at least one woman working as a director. To ensure careers are not affected, maternity leave has been extended to 26 weeks. "The results of Skill India Mission launched years ago are now visible through thousands of Drone Didis revolutionizing agriculture by teaching modern farming through technology," said Modi.

Sharing remarkable achievements, the Prime Minister informed that in the past 11 years, nearly 10 crore women have joined self-help groups. The government has set a target of making 6 crore sisters associated with rural economy into Lakhpati Didis, of which over 3 crore have already achieved this status. "These women are becoming brand ambassadors of Vocal for Local," remarked PM Modi.

Emphasizing that the women-led development vision has challenged old mindsets, the Prime Minister said women today are touching heights in sectors once considered male bastions. Indian daughters are becoming fighter pilots and touching the skies. "India has the highest percentage of women pilots compared to any country in the world," stated Modi.

Celebrating educational achievements, the Prime Minister noted that PhD enrollment of daughters has doubled compared to 2014, with nearly half the participation in higher education and research being women. In mathematics and science education, daughters' numbers have reached approximately 43 percent. "These achievements reflect the changing landscape of opportunities for our daughters," affirmed the Prime Minister.

Addressing women's safety, a major societal challenge, the Prime Minister said the government has taken strong steps in this direction. Legal reforms have been made and fast-track special courts established to make the justice system more sensitive and speed up decision-making. "The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita prioritizes women's safety, simplifies FIR filing procedures allowing e-FIR or Zero-FIR from any location, and provisions for recording victim statements through audio-video," elaborated Modi.

The Prime Minister assured every mother, sister and daughter of the country that the nation understands their aspirations and is taking every necessary step to realize their dreams. The country's Nari Shakti has touched new heights through hard work, courage and self-confidence. "We must collectively give new energy to this power and expand opportunities for them," said the Prime Minister.

Making a special appeal, the Prime Minister urged women to take the discussions from the Nari Shakti Vandan programme to every village in the country through personal meetings and social media. The country needs to make every woman aware of this major decision so they can understand its strength, comprehend their role, and openly dream that in the coming times, they can register their presence from states to the nation's Parliament. "Let us all together resolve that Nari Shakti will have their rights and they will become full participants in the decision-making process - this is the biggest guarantee of our bright future," concluded Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Power Push in.....

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in Gulmarg, focusing on key issues concerning the Union Territory's power sector.

During the interaction, the visiting members outlined the purpose of their tour and engaged in discussions on energy infrastructure, supply challenges and the scope for renewable energy development in Jammu and Kashmir.

Reaffirming his government's commitment, the Chief Minister emphasized the

need to strengthen power infrastructure, ensure reliable electricity supply and accelerate ongoing reforms to meet the region's growing energy demands. He highlighted that sustained investments in the sector remain critical for delivering affordable and uninterrupted power to consumers.

The committee members pointed to gaps in existing infrastructure and stressed the importance of augmenting power systems while tapping the region's significant hydroelectric and renewable energy potential.

Welcoming the panel, Omar Abdullah appreciated its initiative to assess the ground situation and said the government is prioritizing clean energy and optimal utilization of available hydro resources as part of its long-term strategy.

The meeting also took stock of challenges facing the sector, with the Chief Minister assuring full cooperation in facilitating the committee's work and implementing its recommendations.

The study group is part of the Parliamentary panel mandated to examine subjects related to the power sector and allied ministries. MLA Gulmarg Pirzada Farooq Ahmed Shah was also present on the occasion.

India Hit Pakistan.....

it failed to take firm action against terrorism emanating from across the border. He also targeted the Trinamool Congress, accusing it of backing a lenient approach during that period. "Earlier governments showed softness in dealing with Pakistan-sponsored terrorism and treated terrorists with 'biryani' instead of responding with strength," he said.

Referring to the April 22, 2025 attack in Pahalgam, in which 26 tourists were killed, Shah said the Modi government responded with "Operation Sindoor," a tri-service military strike conducted on May 6 and 7, 2025. The operation, he said, targeted and destroyed nine terrorist camps located deep inside Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK).

Officials described the strikes as calibrated and non-escalatory, aimed at dismantling terrorist infrastructure while signalling a tougher counter-terrorism stance. The action led to brief military skirmishes between India and Pakistan that continued for four days before de-escalation after communication between the two sides' Directors General of Military Operations.

Shah also accused the Trinamool Congress of sheltering illegal infiltrators, alleging that such elements had long been protected. He said that the BJP, if voted to power in West Bengal, would identify and deport illegal infiltrators, asserting that eliminating such threats remains a key priority for the party.

'SARAL AI' to.....

looking roadmap aimed at strengthening India's research ecosystem through mission-driven programmes, societal innovation and enhanced accessibility of scientific knowledge.

Emphasising the need to bridge the gap between laboratories and the public, Singh said research outcomes must be communicated in simple formats to help citizens understand their relevance and impact. The 'SARAL AI' platform will convert technical research into podcasts, short videos and digital content in 18 Indian languages, enabling broader dissemination across diverse audiences.

The meeting was attended by senior officials including Abhay Karandikar and Shivkumar Kalyanaram, along with representatives from leading academic and research institutions.

Officials informed that ANRF is set to roll out 'MAHA' (Multidisciplinary Advanced Research Hubs for Action) programmes, envisioned as large-scale initiatives to drive impactful research in priority sectors by fostering collaboration between academia, industry and government.

In a parallel initiative, ANRF will launch a dedicated "Innovation for Society" vertical to develop scalable, technology-led solutions addressing key challenges such as pollution, climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, infrastructure development, energy efficiency and economic inclusion.

The Foundation has witnessed robust participation, receiving nearly 20,000 research applications in the past four months under schemes including the Advanced Research Grant (ARG) and the Prime Minister's Early Career Research Grant (PM-ECRG), reflecting growing momentum in the country's research landscape.

To further enhance outreach, ANRF has introduced a Lightning Talk Series, offering researchers a platform to present their work in concise and engaging formats, while also promoting early-career scientists through digital channels.

As part of efforts to streamline research processes, nodal officers have been appointed in around 250 institutions to support project implementation. Addition-

ally, an ANRF WhatsApp channel has been launched to provide real-time updates and improve communication within the research community.

The review reaffirmed ANRF's focus on fewer but high-impact programmes, aimed at accelerating the translation of research into real-world applications while ensuring wider public access to scientific advancements.

Army Vows.....

said the support and cooperation of locals significantly strengthen internal security and operational effectiveness.

"This trust and partnership are our greatest strengths," he said, adding that the Army and civilians will continue to stand united against any threats.

Maj Gen Mukherji also paid tributes to those who lost their lives in Operation Sindoor, including senior officials and soldiers who were posthumously awarded the Sena Medal for their sacrifice.

Outlining developmental measures, he announced plans to set up a plastic waste recycling plant in coordination with the administration. The facility will convert waste into interlocking tiles for use in constructing tracks along forward areas of the Line of Control, aiming to curb pollution, improve troop mobility, and generate employment for locals.

He further highlighted the 'Digital Bharat Darshan' initiative, under which students in government schools will virtually explore major cities from their classrooms every month. The programme, he said, seeks to connect youth in border areas with broader national development and opportunities.

Describing it as an expanded version of earlier educational tours, the GOC said the digital format would ensure that every student benefits, fostering awareness and aspiration among young minds in remote regions.

Patwari Held.....

Kashmir, now Anti-Corruption Bureau.

The accused, Ghulam Qadir Bhat, who was serving as Patwari Halqa Khushipora Zainkot at the time, was found guilty of demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs. 3,000 from a complainant for implementing a land mutation in his favour.

According to the prosecution, the case was registered on April 1, 2007, under Section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 2006, read with Section 161 of the Ranbir Penal Code. The investigation conducted by the Vigilance Organisation Kashmir established the charges against the accused through oral and documentary evidence.

The charge sheet was filed before the Anti-Corruption Court on February 29, 2008, following which the trial was conducted.

After examining the evidence on record, the court held the accused guilty and awarded the sentence. The case on behalf of the Anti-Corruption Bureau Srinagar was argued by Senior Prosecuting Officer Wajahat Jameel.

Zero-tolerance.....

Dr Chakravarthy said. Highlighting ongoing efforts, he said Srinagar Police have already intensified operations against drug peddlers and users, adding that sustained enforcement and preventive measures will continue during the campaign period.

The SSP stressed that tackling substance abuse requires collective responsibility, calling upon parents, students and educational institutions to actively participate. "This is not just a policing issue but a societal challenge. We must fight it together," he said.

He appealed to the youth to join the anti-drug movement and urged citizens to share information about drug-related activities without fear. "We assure complete protection of informants. Their identity will remain confidential," he added.

Dr Chakravarthy further said the mission is to make Srinagar a drug-free district and contribute towards a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir and the nation.

Meanwhile, the SSP reviewed preparedness for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra, assuring that all necessary arrangements are being put in place to ensure a peaceful and secure pilgrimage—(KNO)

LG, CM & Ministers.....

Guru Gobind Singh Ji, who empowered the people and the community. As we celebrate Baisakhi, let us recommit ourselves to Guru Gobind Singh Ji's eternal teachings of righteousness,

unity, devotion and selfless service to humanity. May this festival bring prosperity and joy to all in the year ahead."

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today extended warm greetings to the people on the joyous occasion of Baisakhi, highlighting the festival's cultural and spiritual significance.

In his message, the Chief Minister said that Baisakhi marks the harvest season and symbolizes prosperity, hope and new beginnings. He noted that the festival reflects the rich cultural diversity and communal harmony of Jammu and Kashmir, where people of different faiths celebrate each other's traditions with mutual respect and enthusiasm.

The Chief Minister emphasized that such occasions strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and reinforce the values of unity and inclusiveness in society.

He expressed hope that the festival would bring peace, happiness and prosperity to every household and prayed for the well-being of the farming community, whose hard work sustains the region's economy.

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today extended warm greetings to the people on the auspicious occasions of Baisakhi and Ambedkar Jayanti.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that both the occasions hold immense significance for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, who celebrate these festivals with great fervour and enthusiasm. He highlighted that Baisakhi marks the harvest season and symbolizes prosperity, joy and gratitude among the farming communities across the region.

He said that April 14 marks the birth anniversary of B. R. Ambedkar, the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, whose life and ideals continue to inspire the generations towards equality, justice and social empowerment.

The Deputy Chief Minister emphasized that the celebrations of both Baisakhi and Ambedkar Jayanti reflect the rich cultural diversity and inclusive spirit of Jammu and Kashmir. He added that the region has always been a shining example of brotherhood, harmony and peaceful coexistence.

He expressed hope that these occasions would further strengthen the bonds of unity and inspire the people to work collectively for progress and prosperity of J&K.

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today extended her warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the occasion of Baisakhi.

In her message, the Minister said that Baisakhi festival symbolizes prosperity, happiness and rich cultural heritage of our country. She added that this festival reflects the spirit of togetherness, gratitude and hope, inspiring people to work collectively for peace, progress and harmony in society.

The Minister also prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of entire Jammu and Kashmir.

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, today extended warm greetings to the people on the auspicious occasions of Baisakhi, Foundation Day of Khalsa Panth and birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar being observed on April 14.

In his message, the Minister highlighted that these occasions symbolize unity, cultural heritage and social justice. He said that Baisakhi marks the solar New Year and the harvest season, reflecting joy, prosperity and gratitude towards the hardworking farmers who form the backbone of nation's economy.

Javid Dar emphasized the historic significance of the Foundation Day of Khalsa Panth, saying that it represents courage, sacrifice and commitment to righteousness. He extended his best wishes to the Sikh community and prayed for peace, harmony and prosperity for all.

Paying rich tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the Minister remarked that his pioneering role in framing the Constitution of India continues to inspire the generations. He lauded his relentless efforts towards promoting social justice, equality and education, describing him as a guiding force for building an inclusive and progressive society.

The Minister expressed hope that these significant occasions will further strengthen the bond of unity and inspire the people to work collectively for the welfare and development of society.



Sakeena Itoo reviews proposed AI initiatives of IIT Jammu for reforms in School Education, Health sectors

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APR 13: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today chaired a high-level meeting to review the proposed Artificial Intelligence (AI) initiatives presented by IIT Jammu aimed at bringing transformational reforms in the School Education and Health sectors across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Health and Medical Education, M. Raju; CEO, State Health Agency, Anant Dwivedi; Directors of School Education Jammu/Kashmir and other senior officers of the Health and School Education departments, either in person or through video conferencing.

Speaking during the meeting, the Minister emphasized on developing a structured, age-appropriate AI curriculum spanning primary, middle and higher secondary levels, covering AI fundamentals, responsible use of generative AI, prompt engineering and computational thinking. She called upon the representatives of IIT Jammu to conduct in-depth deliberations with



School Education department and take all aspects into consideration from the grassroots level before finalizing these initiatives.

The Minister stressed on the need to prepare students for future technological advancements and asked both Directors to explore introduction of Artificial Intelligence literacy in Government schools through a structured and age-appropriate curriculum.

She also called for studying the existing platforms like Smart Classrooms and Atal Tinkering Labs of the School Education department and their integration with these proposed initiatives.

The Minister highlighted that promoting experiential learning

and fostering innovation among students is the need of hour adding that such initiatives would empower young learners to develop technology-driven solutions for local challenges and help in building a future-ready workforce across Jammu and Kashmir.

Highlighting the importance of inclusivity in education, Sakeena Itoo directed that AI education content should be made accessible in regional languages to ensure equitable learning opportunities for students across all districts, particularly in remote and underserved areas.

While reviewing the proposed initiatives for Health sector, the Minister underscored the importance of adopting modern tech-

nologies to build a transparent, efficient and accountable healthcare system in Jammu and Kashmir. She directed the Health department to examine the proposed AI-based interventions for strengthening healthcare governance and enhancing service delivery.

The Minister laid particular emphasis on leveraging Artificial Intelligence for fraud detection in AB-PMJAY/SEHAT schemes, stating that robust monitoring mechanisms must be established to ensure public funds are utilized transparently and reach genuine beneficiaries without misuse.

Further, the Minister directed for exploring the possibilities of introducing AI-based optimiza-

tion of hospital operations including bed management, workforce planning, ambulance deployment and infrastructure utilisation to improve patient care and administrative efficiency across healthcare institutions.

She directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination with IIT Jammu for developing a comprehensive roadmap and implementation strategy aligned with Government priorities for phased execution of the proposed initiatives.

Reaffirming Government's commitment towards modernization and innovation-led governance, the Minister stated that adoption of Artificial Intelligence in education and healthcare would serve as a transformative step towards building a technologically empowered and citizen-centric administration in Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, the team of IIT Jammu presented detailed proposals for integration of AI-driven interventions in government schools and healthcare governance in collaboration with its Institute Incubation & Innovation Council (IIC) and implementation partner Innefu Labs Limited.

Advisor Wani visits bereaved Kupwara family

Assures help for repatriation of mortal remains from Saudi Arabia

HT NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA, APRIL 13: On the directions of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani today visited the residence of Bilal Manzoor, a resident of Sogam in Lolab, who recently passed away after a brief illness while working in Saudi Arabia.

Advisor Wani met the bereaved family at their home in Lolab and conveyed the heartfelt condolences of the Chief Minister. He expressed deep sympathy with the family and stood in solidarity with them during this difficult time.

Spending time with the family, the Advisor offered words of comfort and support. He also assured them that the government would extend all necessary assistance to facilitate the early repatriation of the mortal remains of their son from Saudi Arabia.

Comm State Taxes chairs review meeting of Kashmir Division

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, APR 13: Commissioner State Taxes Department, P.K. Bhat today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the performance and progress of the department in the Kashmir Division.

The meeting was attended by Additional Commissioners State Taxes (Adm. & Enf.) Kashmir, Parveez Ahmad Raina and State Taxes Officers of all Circles of Kashmir Division.

The meeting focused on key agenda items, including year-on-year revenue realisation, action taken on reports generated by GST Analytics & Fraud Detection (BISAG), growth in cash and IGT settlements, progress in Audit cases initiated under Section 65 of the JK GST/CGST Act for FY 2022-23, efforts to curb the menace of fake Input Tax



Credit (ITC), payments released by Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) and resultant tax paid by taxpayers, scrutiny of returns under Section 61 of the Act, enforcement activities and their outcomes, as well as utilisation of various analytical reports and their results.

The Commissioner deliberated on the impact of rate rationalisation on the Automobile, Cement, and Insurance sectors. The tax rate was revised from 28% to 18% for Automobiles and Cement, and to zero percent for Insurance. While the rationalisation is likely to affect revenue growth during FY 2025-26, it is expected to have a positive impact on revenue collection in the current financial year.

The rationalisation exercise reflects the government's broader objective of making essential and mass-market goods and services more affordable while simplifying the tax regime and promoting sectors such as affordable housing, mobility, and financial protection. The Commissioner also acknowledged that compared to payments of Rs 9007 crore released against various works contractors, payments of Rs 8994 have been released during FY 2025-26. He also emphasized that registrations granted under Rule 14A need to be scrutinised properly and on regular basis to check any misuse and passing on of fake ITC. During the circle-wise review, the Commissioner evaluated the progress made by each circle towards target achievement, including DRC-03 realised as a result of assessments, follow-up on non-filers, and actions initiated as per the Act.

P.K. Bhat emphasised the critical need to leverage data, reports, and inputs generated by BISAG, PRIME, DC IT and Analytics, specialised teams such as the Special Investigation Unit (SIU), Business Intelligence Unit (BIU), and field enforcement units. He stressed meticulous scrutiny, integration of field inputs, and available reports to effectively curb fake ITC and other fraudulent practices. The Commissioner reiterated that the overarching purpose of these efforts is to ensure achievement of assigned revenue targets, containment of fraudulent activities, promotion of fair trade practices, and safeguarding the revenue of the state exchequer.

The Additional Commissioner stressed the urgent need for officers to adopt a highly proactive and vigilant approach. He directed focused monitoring on sectors prone to fake Input Tax Credit (ITC) claims, ensuring that cancelled taxpayers do not result in revenue loss to the State Exchequer through payments by DDOs. He further emphasized maximizing the use of modern IT tools and intelligence reports to encourage fair trade practices and robustly safeguard the revenue of the exchequer. The department remains committed to strengthening GST compliance, enhancing enforcement, and utilising technology-driven analytics for transparent and efficient tax administration in the Kashmir Division.

COUNTING BLESSINGS, NOT BURDENS: THE ART OF LIVING GRATEFULLY

AMIR IQBAL KHAN

BHADARWAH, APR 13: The truth is that your attitude, your mood and your lifestyle are not created in a single day. They are the result of a journey. And if we truly want to understand this journey, we must recognize one fundamental thing and that is gratitude.

Gratitude is not just a word. It is a state of mind. It is the perspective that sees blessings instead of lack, appreciation instead of complaint. Gratitude does not simply mean saying "thank you", it is a way of living.

Someone once said that gratitude makes what we have enough and it is true. Gratitude is the lens that changes your world. It is a choice. It is your decision how you choose to see life.

It is not a reaction, it is an attitude. It does not depend on events, but on your consciousness. When you are grateful, you shift your focus from scarcity to abundance.

Gratitude keeps us grounded in the pres-

ent moment. But how do we stay present? The answer lies in gratitude. It reminds us that what we have now is the greatest gift. And when you live with gratitude, life itself begins to support you.

Happiness does not make us grateful, gratitude makes us happy. Many people believe that they will be grateful once they achieve happiness. However, even those who seem to have everything are not always truly happy because they lack gratitude. It is gratitude that brings true happiness.

In today's world, we are constantly chasing the next success, the next step, the next experience, the next goal. But gratitude pauses us and reminds us to look at how much we already have.

When you are grateful, humility is born within you. You begin to understand that not every blessing is the result of your own efforts. There is a greater wisdom at work. This realization softens a person, making them more compassionate and respectful towards others.

KU's Law School & DSW launch 'Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyaan' with awareness rally

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR APR 13: The University of Kashmir's (KU) School of Law, in collaboration with the Department of Students Welfare (DSW), organised a programme to mark the launch of the 100-day 'Nasha Mukh Jammu Kashmir Abhiyaan' at the Main Campus. The initiative aimed to raise awareness among students about the harmful effects of substance abuse and to promote a culture of healthy, responsible living.

Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofar Khan, in her message, highlighted the importance of collective efforts in addressing the growing challenge of substance abuse among youth. "The Nasha Mukh Abhiyaan is a significant step towards creating awareness and empowering young minds to make informed and responsible life choices. Educational institutions must play a proactive role in building a drug-free society," she said.

Dean and Head, School of Law, KU, Prof.

Shahnaz, highlighted the role of academic institutions in shaping socially responsible citizens and noted that such initiatives encourage students to engage with pressing societal issues beyond classrooms.

Dean DSW KU, Prof. Parveez Ahmad, also emphasized the importance of sustained awareness campaigns within campuses, noting that active student participation is key to building a conscious and drug-free academic environment.

As part of the programme, students participated in an awareness rally across the campus, spreading messages on the importance of a drug-free lifestyle and collective responsibility in combating substance abuse. Faculty from School of Law and officials from DSW were also present on the occasion.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and faculty, reflecting a shared commitment towards building a healthier and more aware society.

Nasha Mukh J&K:

DC Srinagar, SSP launch 100 day intensive 'Nasha Mukh Srinagar' program from Amar Singh College

Flag off anti-Drug Rally, administer pledge to participants

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR APRIL 13: As part of the ongoing 100-Day 'Nasha Mukh Jammu and Kashmir' campaign launched by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K with an aim to eliminate the menace of drug abuse from society, the District Administration Srinagar on Monday organized a mega District-level inaugural event at Amar Singh College, which saw overwhelming participation from all senior Civil & Police officers, college students, youth volunteers and representatives from various civil organisations.

The Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, Akshay Labroo presided over the inaugural event while Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Dr Sandeep Chakraborty attended the event as the Guest of honour.

The event was attended by Joint Director Information, Syed Shahnavaz Bukhari, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aadil Fareed, Superintendent of Police, Umar Shah, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Prin-

cipal Amar Singh College, Prof Aijaz, Nodal Principal Colleges, Seema Naaz, Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Khurshid, Additional CEO SCLL, Suhail ul Islam, District Social Welfare Officer, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, Cultural Officer DIPR, Burhan Hussain, all senior Civil and Police Officers, faculty members and students of Amar Singh College.

During the mega anti-drug district-level programme, the DC administered the anti-drug pledge to all participants, urging them to commit themselves to the fight against substance abuse. The DC along with SSP Srinagar also flagged off an anti-drug awareness rally, which saw enthusiastic participation from students and youth volunteers.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of the 100-Day 'Nasha Mukh Jammu and Kashmir' campaign, describing it as a focused initiative aimed at producing tangible results in safeguarding youth from the menace of drugs. He urged students to act as ambassadors of change and



spread awareness within their communities.

The DC emphasized the need for collective and coordinated efforts from all sections of society, including students, civil administration and police, to effectively address the challenge of drug abuse. He underlined stringent action against those involved in the narcotic trade.

He further stated that drug addiction destroys lives and ruins families, urging students to carry forward the message of a drug-free society. Reiterating the importance of unified action, the DC called for sustained community participation to achieve the goal of a 'Nasha Mukh Srinagar'.

The DC also stressed the importance of treating addiction

in a scientific and humane manner and highlighted the availability of medical support and treatment facilities through government healthcare systems, including Tele-MANAS and IMHANS.

He added that the thrust of the campaign is on community-led initiatives and public participation, calling upon officers to ensure active involvement of youth, Religious leaders, social activists, market associations, students, and civil society organizations so that the message of the campaign reaches every corner of the District.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the SSP reiterated the pivotal role of law enforcement agencies in curbing drug trafficking and appealed to the youth to stay away from substance abuse. He also urged citizens to report any suspicious drug-related activities to the authorities. Emphasizing a strict enforcement approach, he reaffirmed a zero-tolerance policy against drugs and those involved in the narcotic trade.

DC Srinagar visits Hajj House Bemina, takes onsite inspection of arrangements for pilgrims

Emphasizes ensuring seamless, well-coordinated arrangements for safe and hassle-free pilgrimage

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, APRIL 13: Ahead of the commencement of Hajj-26, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo Saturday visited Hajj House Bemina to conduct an on the site inspection of preparations and arrangements for seamless departure of Hajj-2026 pilgrims.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mir Imtiaz Ul Aziz, Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Khurshid, Additional CEO SCCL, Suhail ul Islam, SP West, Imtiaz Ahmad, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, SDM West, Irfan Bahadur, LDM (Banks), Nilofer Jan, Tehsildar Shalteng, Rayees Ahmad and other Officers from Health, PHE, KPDCL, Hajj



Committee and SMC.

During the visit, the DC carried

out a comprehensive review of facilities and basic amenities available at the Hajj House, including accommodation, sanitation, medical facilities, parking space and transportation arrangements. He also inspected the cleanliness of lodging rooms and reviewed the availability of essential services such as water supply and uninterrupted electricity.

Emphasizing coordinated efforts, the DC directed all concerned departments to ensure the best possible arrangements focusing on their comfort, safety and convenience throughout the journey.

He stressed upon maintaining proper hygiene, ensuring the availability of essential services and providing all necessary assistance so that pilgrims do not

face any inconvenience.

The DC further instructed departments to work in close coordination and ensure all arrangements are finalized well in advance.

He highlighted the importance of delivering efficient and meticulous services to pilgrims during their stay at the Hajj House and at the time of departure.

Earlier, the DC was briefed by CEO, Hajj House about the preparedness for facilitating a smooth and hassle-free experience for the pilgrims.

It was informed that Hajj pilgrims are scheduled to begin their departure from April 18, 2026. A total of 4,764 pilgrims from Jammu and Kashmir, including 1,159 from Srinagar district, will undertake the pilgrimage this year.

STD conducts GST workshop for CSCs in Jammu Division

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APRIL 13: Jammu and Kashmir State Taxes Department (STD) today organized a comprehensive training workshop for representatives of Common Service Centers (CSCs) operating across Jammu, Samba and Kathua districts. The initiative aimed at enhancing awareness and strengthening compliance in Goods and Services Tax (GST) procedures.

Chaired by Additional Commissioner Administration and Enforcement Jammu, Namrita Dogra, the participants were sensitized about various aspects of GST, including registration procedures, return



filing and overall compliance requirements.

Department's officials also educated CSC Operators on different types of fraud that may occur during the registration and return filing processes, emphasizing the need for vigilance and adherence to prescribed norms.

The participants were further apprised of the legal implications and consequences of any wrongdoing under the GST framework, encouraging them to maintain transparency and integrity in their operations.

Addressing the gathering, Additional Commissioner Jammu encouraged CSC representatives to actively engage in the GST domain, describing it as a promising and profitable area of work.

However, she stressed the importance of strict compliance with KYC norms and advised against any malpractice, reiterating the department's commitment to ensuring a fair and accountable tax system.

The workshop also provided a detailed overview of the GST system, covering its processes from inception to its broader benefits for businesses and the economy.

An interactive session was held wherein department officials addressed queries raised by participants. The CSC representatives participated enthusiastically, making the session informative and engaging. The State Taxes Department reaffirmed its commitment to capacity building and awareness initiatives aimed at promoting ease of compliance and preventing tax-related fraud in the region.

DC Kulgam presides over Orientation Programme under Mission YUVA

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM, APRIL 13: District Administration Kulgam today organised an Orientation Programme under Mission YUVA at DE&CC Kulgam as part of the "100-Day Programme themed, 'From Reintegration to Entrepreneurship.'

The programme was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam who emphasized the importance of proper counselling, timely guidance, and effective handholding of youth beneficiaries to ensure the successful implementation of Mission YUVA across



the district.

During the session, the Deputy Commissioner directed the BHD and SBDU staff to ensure comprehensive counselling of beneficiaries so that they are fully aware of the opportunities, benefits, and support mechanisms available under Mission YUVA.

He further instructed officers and field staff to maintain regular follow-up with beneficiaries, address bottlenecks on priority, and ensure that no eligible youth is left out of the scheme.

Officers and officials from the concerned departments, BHDs, SBDUs, and Mission YUVA implementation teams participated in the programme.

Government College of Education Srinagar inaugurates Samatvam

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, APRIL 13: Government College of Education (IASE), Srinagar, formally inaugurated "Samatvam: The Integrated Wellness Initiative", during a ceremony, held in the College Multipurpose Hall.

Orchestrated by the Committee for Wellness and Student Counselling (CWASC), the initiative aims to institutionalize yoga, mindfulness, and mental health practices to foster a balanced, resilient academic environment for students and faculty.

The proceedings commenced with a formal address by the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz,



who underscored that physical and mental equanimity serves as the cornerstone for effective pedagogy and academic resilience.

Prof. Lateef Ahmad Shah, the event coordinator, provided a comprehensive briefing on the initiative's vision and the integration of wellness into the teacher-education curriculum.

During a technical session, the Lead

Resource Person, Dr. Mohd Jamal from Department of Ayush, Srinagar, elucidated the physiological and psychological benefits of the proposed wellness protocols.

Additionally, Mohammad Younis, Yoga Instructor addressed the participants, highlighting the transformative role of yoga and mindfulness in fostering emotional regulation and serving as a proactive, evidence-based intervention in curbing substance abuse.

A practical session was also conducted wherein all participants actively engaged in the practice of various yoga asanas under the guidance of the expert team.

Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal visits Bandipora; Reviews Judicial Infrastructure Inspects New Court Complex

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA, APRIL 13: Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Administrative Judge for District Bandipora, today visited the newly constructed Court Complex at Bandipora.

On his arrival at the Court Complex, he was received by Jeema Bashir, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Bandipora; Indu Kanwal Chib, Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora; Mir Wajahat, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bandipora; Ajaz Ahmad Zargar, Senior Superintendent of Police, Bandipora; Iqbal Akhoun, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bandipora; Amandeep Singh, Munsiff, Bandipora; Sofi Feroz, President, Bar Association Bandipora; besides other judicial officers, members

of the Bar, and officers of the civil and police administration.

The Principal District and Sessions Judge, expressed gratitude to the Administrative Judge and acknowledged the presence and cooperation of all dignitaries, including officers of the civil and police administration, members of the Bar, judicial officers, media personnel, and all participants who contributed to the successful conduct of the programme.

The Deputy Commissioner, appreciated the development of judicial infrastructure in the district and assured continued cooperation of the administration in facilitating the functioning of the courts. She also emphasized the importance of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and sought the cooperation of the Bar and judiciary in making the campaign successful.



Addressing the gathering, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal emphasized the foundational role of the District Judiciary in the justice delivery system and observed that the effectiveness of the judiciary

is measured by the quality and accessibility of justice at the grassroots level.

While appreciating the establishment of the new Court Complex, he observed that the facility has not yet been fully operationalized and directed that the process of shifting be completed within one week. He further emphasized that all pending requirements be addressed on priority through coordinated efforts of all stakeholders.

He also stressed the importance of strengthening judicial infrastructure, adopting technology for efficient functioning, ensuring timely disposal of cases, and maintaining fairness, sensitivity, and efficiency in the administration of justice. He also highlighted the vital role of the Bar in assisting the courts and emphasized the

need for professional responsibility and cooperation.

On the occasion, justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal also interacted with judicial officers, members of the Bar, and officers of the civil and police administration and took stock of issues relating to infrastructure and functioning of courts in the district.

Sofi Feroz, President, Bar Association Bandipora, expressed gratitude to the Administrative Judge for his visit and highlighted various infrastructural requirements at the Court Complex, including availability of basic amenities, provision of facilities for litigants and lawyers, and the need for full-time functioning of courts. He also sought establishment of a Consumer Court and strengthening of judicial infrastructure in the district.

DJMC IUST Hosts GDC Anantnag Students for Academic Visit

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

AWANTIPORA, APRIL 13: As part of academic outreach initiative, students from Government Degree College (GDC), Anantnag, visited the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), on Monday.

During the visit, the students were given a comprehensive tour of the department's I-Mac equipped Media Lab, Community Radio Station (CRS), Multimedia Studio, Smart Classroom and departmental library.

The programme aimed at bridging the gap between academic learning and practical exposure.

Welcoming the students, Head of the Department, Dr. Rabia Noor, briefed them about the Master's programme, highlighting its focus on hands-on training and industry-oriented learning. She informed them that the curriculum has been framed in alignment with the National Education Policy, 2020.

Dr. Monisa Qadri, Senior



Assistant Professor, interacted with the students and spoke about career prospects in the field of media, encouraging them to explore emerging opportunities in journalism and communication.

On the occasion, a departmental profile video was screened, and copies of IUST's news magazine, Times Echo were distributed among

the visiting students.

The visit also featured a series of hands-on technical sessions. Dr. Mujeeb Liyakat, Coordinator CRS and Assistant Professor, DJMC, guided the students through the process of radio programme production, offering insights into recording and broadcasting. The students also participated in a short

recording session.

In the Multimedia Studio, Dr. Sayar Ahmad Mir, Assistant Professor, DJMC, familiarised the students with newsroom practices, along with the fundamentals of lighting and video editing. Zahoor Ahmad, Junior Technical Assistant, DJMC, conducted a session in the Media Lab, introducing students to basic camera operations and media career prospects.

In the Smart Classroom, Dr. Haifa Mohammad engaged the students in interactive activities designed to enhance their communication and news framing skills. As part of the visit, the students were also taken to the departmental library, where they were introduced to academic resources and research facilities.

The programme concluded with a visit to the university's synthetic athletic track, giving the students a glimpse of the campus infrastructure. The visit provided valuable exposure to both the academic and practical dimensions of media education, enriching the students' understanding of the field.

GDC Bandipora organises Awareness Session under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA, APRIL 13: Under the able guidance of the Principal GDC Bandipora, Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra, the college organized an awareness session during the morning assembly as part of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

The programme aimed at sensitizing students about the harmful effects of substance abuse and encouraging them to adopt a healthy and responsible lifestyle.

The session commenced with insightful introductory remarks by Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Parey, Head of the Department of Education, who highlighted the growing menace of drug addiction and emphasized the role of educational institutions in shaping a drug-free society.

This was followed by a brief yet impactful address by Dr. Mubashir Hamid Mir, Head of the Department of Physics, who elaborated on the physical, psychological, and social consequences of substance abuse. He urged students to remain vigilant and make informed choices to safeguard their future.

The programme concluded with the pledge ceremony, wherein Prof. Irfan Ahmad Wagay, Convener of the College NSS Unit,



administered the pledge to the students, reaffirming their commitment to stay away from drugs and to contribute actively towards building a Nasha Mukht Bharat.

The session was both enlightening and motivating, leaving a lasting impression on the students and reinforcing the collective responsibility towards a healthier and addiction-free society.

Deputy CM inspects work on Bridge Project at Meeran Sahib; emphasizes quality, timely completion

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APRIL 13: The Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary today inspected the ongoing construction work on Rs. 7.42 crore bridge project being executed on the Satwari-RS Pura road at Meeran Sahib, Jammu.

During the inspection, the Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the pace and quality of work being executed on the vital infrastructure project. He emphasised the importance of timely completion of the vital project while strictly adhering to the set quality parameters.

Highlighting the significance of the bridge, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the project holds historical importance and will play a crucial role in ensuring seamless connectivity and improved accessibility for the people of the area.



Interacting with the engineers and officials, he sought detailed information regarding the construction methods, quality of

materials being used and overall progress achieved, so far. "We will closely monitor the project and conduct periodic

inspections to ensure that the work is carried out as per the prescribed standards," asserted the Deputy CM.

The Deputy Chief Minister also reviewed the safety features of the bridge, including provision of a footpath for the pedestrians aimed at preventing accidents and enhancing public convenience.

Chief Engineer R&B, Rajesh Kumar Agastam, SE and Executive Engineers and other senior officers accompanied the Deputy Chief Minister during the inspection.

Earlier, the Deputy Chief Minister visited Sukh Sagar Bhawan Ashram at village Sikandarpur, Bisnah in Jammu and paid obeisance at the temple.

He also interacted with the caretakers and reviewed the ongoing works, emphasising their timely completion and quality execution.

KVIB BANDIPORA ORGANISES PMEGP AWARENESS CAMP AT GDC SUMBAL

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA, APRIL 13: Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) Bandipora on Monday organised an awareness camp under PMEGP and JKREGP schemes at Government Degree College (GDC) Sumbal. The programme was aimed at spreading awareness among local youth, artisans and aspiring entrepreneurs about various government-sponsored self-employment schemes. The camp witnessed the participation of Prof. Shabeena Iqbal Shawl, Principal GDC Sumbal; Dr. Nuzhat Gul, Convenor Career Counselling Cell; Lead District Manager Bandipora; representatives from the Financial Literacy and Credit Counselling Centre (FLCC); RSETI Bandipora; Bank officials and other line departments.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy CEO, KVIB Kashmir Division, highlighted the importance of PMEGP in creating sustainable livelihood opportunities at the grassroots level. He urged participants to come forward with viable projects.

Officials present on the occasion briefed the participants about the key features of



PMEGP, including eligibility criteria, subsidy pattern and the procedure for availing financial assistance. They also emphasised KVIB's role in facilitating and guiding beneficiaries throughout the process.

The camp also served as a platform to disseminate information about other government initiatives related to employment and entrepreneurship. The programme concluded with an interactive session, during which participants raised queries and received clarifications from the officials.

Legislators, delegations call on Javed Rana

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APRIL 13: Several legislators, delegations and individuals today called on Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, here at Civil Secretariat, to apprise him of a wide range of public and sector-specific issues.

Among those who met the Minister were legislators R. S. Pathania and Khurshid Ahmed. A delegation of Water Testing Laboratory employees, representatives of the JJM Contractors Association and other individuals raised their issues.



During the interactions, the visiting legislators and delegations highlighted a range of pressing concerns, particularly those related to drinking water supply schemes, forest management issues and other matters of public importance affecting local communities.

The delegation of Water Testing Laboratory employees drew the Minister's attention to their demand for enhancement of honorarium.

Meanwhile, representatives of the JJM Contractors Association raised the issue of delays in the release of payments for works executed under various water supply projects.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to all the delegations and individuals, acknowledging the significance of the issues raised.

He assured them that their genuine concerns would be addressed on priority and issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned authorities for their prompt and time-bound resolution.

SSP, ADC review preparations for 100-Day Anti-Drug campaign in Ganderbal

Admin & Police Unite for Drug-Free Drive

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL, APRIL 13: In a significant step towards building a drug-free society, the District Administration Ganderbal today launched a comprehensive 100-day action plan under the Nasha Mukta Abhiyan, aiming to intensify efforts against substance abuse through coordinated and grassroots-level interventions.

The campaign was launched during a high-level meeting co-chaired by the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Ganderbal, Sudhanshu Dhama, and Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Syed Faheem Bihagi at the Mini-Secretariat Complex, aimed to intensify the fight against substance abuse through a multi-departmental and grassroots

approach.

The ADC informed the meeting that the intensive campaign is scheduled to run for 100 days, effective from today until June 30. A program has been devised through extensive collaborative exercise between the District Administration and the Police stressing grassroots outreach covering every educational institution, Panchayat, and Urban Local Body (ULB) within the district to ensure maximum outreach and community participation.

The heads of departments, institutions, and blocks were on the occasion directed to personally monitor and ensure the religious implementation of assigned activities.

He urged officers to ensure full participation and proactive involvement in the campaign to

achieve meaningful results. It was noted that while the district has conducted several awareness programmes in the past, the focused 100-day drive is expected to bring more impactful outcomes.

Addressing the meeting, the SSP said that under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, we have launched a three-month intensive charter for a Drugs Free Jammu and Kashmir that demands tangible, measurable outcomes rather than symbolic efforts. This mission requires every department head to take personal responsibility for creating confidence-building measures and awareness, ensuring families feel supported in seeking help for substance abuse, he remarked.

He said, while the police will aggressively target peddlers, the collective focus must remain on the sustained rehabilitation and

reintegration of victims to prevent relapse. "We must act with urgency and creativity to ensure that, after 90 days, we can demonstrate a substantial and sustainable impact on the lives of those in our district."

The District Administration reaffirmed its commitment to making Ganderbal a model district under the Nasha Mukta Abhiyan through sustained efforts, community engagement, and strict monitoring of implementation.

District Informatics Officer, National Informatics Centre; Additional Superintendent of Police Ganderbal, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, Divisional Forest Officer and other officers and officials attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, the launch was marked by a series of events today,

including press briefing by the Senior Superintendent of Police Ganderbal and Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal. During the press conference, the SSP and ADC outlined the roadmap and daily schedule of activities planned during the three-month long campaign period and sought the Media's cooperation in amplifying the message and mobilizing community support.

This was followed by a pledge ceremony, wherein the ADC administered the Nasha Mukta Pledge to the participants.

Later, a joint Nasha Mukta rally led by SSP Ganderbal and ADC Ganderbal featuring district administration officers and officials and police staff was flagged-off from the DC Office towards the Clock Tower to sensitize the public about the harmful effects of substance abuse.

SAKEENA ITOO PAYS RICH TRIBUTES TO DR. B.R AMBEDKAR ON BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU, APRIL 13: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today paid rich tributes to Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar on his Birth anniversary.

In her message, the Minister paid rich tributes to Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, acknowledging his immense contribution towards nation-building and his pivotal role in shaping the Constitution of India. She said that Dr. Ambedkar's life and ideals



continue to inspire generations to

work for equality, justice and empowerment of all sections of society.

The Minister remarked that Dr. Ambedkar dedicated his life to uplifting the marginalized and advocating for social justice, leaving behind a legacy of knowledge, resilience and progressive thought.

Sakeena Itoo urged the people, especially the youth, to imbibe the teachings and values of Dr. Ambedkar and reaffirm their commitment towards building an inclusive, educated and equitable society.

KVK Ganderbal empowers students through RHWE Orientation

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL, APRIL 13: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ganderbal today organized a comprehensive orientation programme of Rural Horticultural Work Experience (RHWE) for the B.Sc. Horticulture (Hons.) students.

The programme aimed to bridge the gap between academic learning and field-level application, preparing the students for the challenges and opportunities in the horticulture & allied sectors.



Gracing the occasion as Chief Guest, Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension SKUAST-K in her address, emphasized that the RHWE initiative is designed as a cornerstone for developing professional competence, allowing students to transition from theoretical frameworks to practical, field-based problem solving. She further noted that the engagement of students in rural settings is vital for fostering innovation in extension services, ensuring that the next generation of agricultural experts is well-equipped to address the evolving needs of the farming community.

Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Malik, Head KVK Ganderbal underscored the importance of the RHWE program in shaping the professional outlook of students. He emphasized that this phase is crucial for the socio-economic dynamics of rural farming to be understood by the students and that close collaboration with experts and local farmers, will be helpful in improving their extension skills.

During the programme Dr. Suja Nabi Qureshi, Scientist (Horticulture) gave a comprehensive presentation regarding the Strategic Plan of Action for the students, focusing on bio-resource mapping of Ganderbal District.

On the occasion, the Kendra also conducted a seed distribution under the Front-Line Demonstration programme, wherein SR4 paddy seeds were distributed among several local farmers.

One-Day Career Counseling, Motivation Program organised at GDC (Women) Anantnag

DC urges students to focus on Hardwork, Consistency

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG, APRIL 13: Aimed to guide students for various competitive examinations, Exceptional Academy in collaboration with Government Degree College for Women, Anantnag today organised a one-day career counseling cum motivation programme at the college auditorium.

The program essentially focused on motivating students for competitive examinations like IAS, JKAS, NEET, etc. and to encourage them to make informed, mature and pragmatic career choices.

The function was graced by Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dr. Bilal Mohud Din Bhat as the Chief Guest and was attended by Muneeb Afzal (UPSC 2025-26 Qualifier); Principal, Professor, Dr. Khalida Hassan, faculty and students of the college, aspirants of the nearby places, besides the representatives and faculty of the Exceptional Academy.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC highlighted the importance of quality education, dedication, and proper guidance to achieve success in competitive exams. He encouraged students to remain focused and make the best use of

such training and motivation sessions.

Crediting hardwork and consistency as key ingredients for success, Dr. Bilal urged students and aspirants to stay focused during their study and preparation phases besides aligning career choices in tune with individual abilities and need of the society. He advised them to participate in such expert guidance and interactive sessions in routine and strategise their examination and career planning accordingly.

To motivate the students, the DC delivered a detailed lecture on his personal career, outlining the key preparation methods as well the sources and study material including NCERT textbooks, newspapers and digital platforms. He emphasized that the aspirants should adopt a step by step approach while keeping their goals and career options in sight. He also addressed a few queries raised by the aspirants regarding timing to pursue competitive examinations, general difficulties in preparation and the ways to take those in an efficient manner. The youth can leverage technology and digital platforms not only for competitive examinations but also to boost their knowledge and soft skills as



demanding by modern times, he noted.

Outlining the employment choices, the DC said there are a diverse range of fields including medicine, education, science and technology, civil services, engineering, arts, sports, among others, which can be opted by the students keeping in consideration

their true abilities and interest. "Aspirants should pursue their dreams in a realistic manner, avoiding irrational race for a particular job", he remarked. He said that failures are part and parcel of competitive examinations and aspirants should never feel depressed and demotivated, however, other plans be always

kept in line.

Dr. Bilal further advocated to inculcate an entrepreneurial spirit among the youth and called upon them to avail benefits of various self employment government schemes, assuring proper support and facilitation by the administration in promoting self employment in the district.

The Principal in her address asked the students to make best use of such programs and focus on studies and other positive activities for a better and prosperous tomorrow.

Interacting with the students and aspirants, Muneeb Afzal shared his preparation strategy and motivated the students to have a positive and patient approach to pursue such prestigious examinations. Faculty members of the college and the academy also shared valuable insights on exam preparation, time management, and subject-specific techniques. The initiative was widely appreciated by students and faculty members, who lauded the authorities and Exceptional Academy for organising such an informative and motivational programme, encouraging them to stay committed to the academic and career goals.

HT EDITORIAL

Find some solution to dog menace issue

Few days back an eight year old girl was mauled to death by a pack of stray dogs at Sopore in North Kashmir's Baramulla district. The Sopore incident is not an aberration but similar incidents have come to the fore from the different parts of the Kashmir valley from time to time. There is hardly any district where reports of attacks by stray dogs have not come in the past.

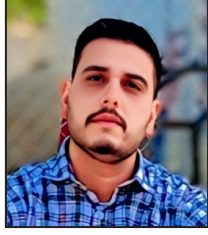
The menace of stray dogs and attacks by them on the people has assumed alarming proportions over the past few years. Scores of attacks by dogs have been reported over the past few years and there is no end to the same. The worst part of the story is that the concerned stake-holders are unmoved over the same and no action whatsoever has been taken to stop such incidents. More and more attacks by dogs are coming to the fore with the people being at the receiving end.

As far as Srinagar district is concerned, years back the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) framed a plan for sterilization of dogs. It was envisaged that the dogs would be sterilized and as such there would be no more population of canines in the summer capital of the union territory of Jammu & Kashmir. This process was carried on for some days only and with the passage of time the sterilization process remained confined to papers only. As a result of this there has been an increase in the population of dogs in the Srinagar district.

Given the fact that the sterilization process could not take off in Srinagar the other districts have also failed to start this process. The population of dogs has seen an exponential growth across the Kashmir valley and the numbers would have been known to the people had a census of the canines carried out in the valley. More than a decade back official figures dished out had suggested that the dog population in the Srinagar district is more than 90,000.

Since the practice of giving poison to the dogs has been disbanded across the country there have been negligible deaths of canines in the country. The union territory of Jammu & Kashmir is no exception in this case with very few deaths of dogs taking place. It is imperative that a solution is found out to this glaring social problem so that the people feel relieved at the end of the day.

Stray Dogs: A Growing Menace and the Urgent Need for Balanced, Humane Solutions



JAWAID IQBAL

Stray dogs have emerged as a significant and increasingly visible challenge across urban and rural landscapes, transforming from a manageable aspect of community life into a pressing concern that affects public safety, health, mobility, and the overall sense of security among citizens, as their rapidly growing population—fueled by uncontrolled breeding, irresponsible pet ownership, and the easy availability of food through open garbage—has led to frequent human-dog conflicts, rising incidents of dog bites, and the spread of dangerous diseases such as rabies, which continues to pose a serious public health risk, especially in regions where awareness and access to timely medical care remain limited; the issue is further compounded by the fact that stray dogs often roam in packs, particularly during nighttime, creating an environment of fear and anxiety for pedestrians, school-going children, and elderly individuals, many of whom feel unsafe stepping out of their homes, while traffic disruptions and accidents caused by dogs crossing roads unpredictably or chasing vehicles add another dimension to the problem, highlighting the multifaceted nature of this growing menace that cannot be ignored or addressed through isolated efforts; however, while the dangers associated with stray dogs are real and require urgent attention, it is equally important to approach the issue with sensitivity and understanding, recognizing that these animals are not inherently aggressive but are often victims of human neglect, abandonment, and environmental conditions that force them into survival mode, leading to behaviors that may appear threatening but are rooted in fear, hunger, or past trauma, and therefore, any meaningful solution must strike a balance between ensuring human safety and upholding ethical standards of animal welfare, avoiding cruel or inhumane practices that not only violate moral principles but also fail to provide sustainable results; one of the primary causes of the stray dog problem lies in poor waste management systems, where open dumps and uncollected garbage provide a constant and abundant food source, enabling stray dogs to thrive and reproduce, making it essential for local authorities to implement strict and efficient waste disposal mechanisms that limit access to food and thereby naturally control population growth, while at the same time strengthening and expanding animal birth control programs through widespread sterilization and vaccination drives that have proven to be among the most effective



and humane methods of managing stray populations, reducing both their numbers and the risk of disease transmission; equally important is addressing the issue of pet abandonment, which significantly contributes to the increase in stray dog numbers, as many individuals adopt dogs without fully understanding the long-term responsibility involved and later abandon them due to inconvenience, financial constraints, or lack of commitment, thereby turning once-domesticated animals into strays that struggle to adapt and often become aggressive, underscoring the need for stricter enforcement of laws against abandonment and greater public awareness about responsible pet ownership, including proper care, training, and sterilization of pets; alongside governmental measures, the role of society and community members is crucial in tackling this issue effectively, as collective responsibility and cooperation can lead to meaningful change, with residents encouraged to report aggressive dogs to local authorities, support animal welfare initiatives, avoid irresponsible feeding practices that may encourage large gatherings of dogs in residential areas, and participate in awareness campaigns that promote coexistence and safety; at the individual level, adopting simple yet effective precautions can significantly reduce the risk of negative encounters with stray dogs, such as avoiding provoking or teasing them, maintaining a safe distance especially from groups of dogs, refraining from disturbing them while they are eating or sleeping, teaching children to be cautious and not to approach unfamiliar animals, staying calm and composed if confronted by a dog rather than running or making sudden movements that may trigger a chase response, and carrying basic protective items like a stick or torch when walking in areas known for stray dog activity, particularly during early morning or late evening

hours, while also ensuring that in the unfortunate event of a bite or scratch, immediate first aid is administered by thoroughly washing the wound with soap and water followed by prompt medical attention to prevent infection and complications; in addition to these preventive measures, long-term solutions must focus on sustainable and humane strategies that address the root causes of the problem, including comprehensive sterilization programs, establishment of well-maintained shelters and rehabilitation centers for stray animals, promotion of adoption initiatives that encourage people to provide homes to abandoned dogs, and integration of animal welfare education into school curricula to foster a culture of empathy and responsibility among future generations, thereby reducing instances of cruelty and neglect; it is also important to recognize that stray dogs, despite the challenges they pose, are an integral part of the ecosystem and often play roles such as guarding neighborhoods and controlling pests, which further emphasizes the need for balanced solutions that do not seek to eliminate them entirely but rather manage their presence in a way that ensures harmony and safety for all, and ultimately, the issue of stray dogs serves as a reflection of broader societal and administrative gaps, reminding us that the way we treat animals is closely linked to our sense of responsibility, compassion, and civic awareness, and that resolving this growing menace requires a coordinated approach involving government authorities, local communities, and individuals working together with a shared commitment to creating safer environments while respecting the dignity of all living beings, as only through such collective and conscious efforts can we hope to transform this complex challenge into an opportunity for building a more humane, organized, and secure society where both humans and animals can coexist peacefully.

Keep green live happy



SAHIL MANZOOR BHATTI

In the Kashmir Valley, every season brings a new wave of beauty. After the vibrant tulips of spring, winter now welcomes the colorful chrysanthemums. Over the past few months, these flowers have been cultivated in abundance, showcasing a variety of hues and forms that not only enhance the landscape but also contribute significantly to the valley's economy. Every Kashmiri should nurture a love for flowers. Each household can maintain a small garden with new and diverse varieties. This habit offers countless benefits—fresh oxygen, natural fragrance, peace of mind, and a soothing environment that encourages families to enjoy their mornings and evenings surrounded by nature. Home Gardens: A Natural Oxygen Factory Kashmir's natural vegetation stretches from lofty mountains and plateaus to meadows and riverbanks, rich with herbs, shrubs, and grasses. Nature itself cherishes beauty, and we see picturesque scenes across every corner of the region. Modern techniques like grafting and genetic engineering have expanded the range of available plant varieties. For instance, genetic engineering has produced fascinating



hybrids such as the "pomato," a combination of tomato and potato. These innovations strengthen the horticulture, floriculture, and agriculture sectors, providing better yields and profitability. Floriculture: Beauty with Economic Value Floriculture, or flower farming, plays a crucial role in economic development. It focuses on cultivating and marketing ornamental plants and flowers. Like other industries, floriculture generates employment and supports innovation through techniques like grafting and budding. This field holds immense potential for Kashmir's youth, offering opportunities in design, farming, marketing, and export. Vase or Flower Bed: Choosing the Right Option Vase arrangements are convenient and elegant, though

they require regular care—watering, pruning, and protection during harsh winters. Flower beds, on the other hand, create more natural and striking displays. By planting flowers in ascending height order, every bloom becomes visible, enhancing the beauty of the garden. Selecting the Best Flowers and Plants Different people have different preferences. Some love medicinal plants such as aloe vera and rose, while others focus purely on ornamental beauty. Roses are a great choice—they bloom every 6–8 weeks, often lasting into winter, and also help prevent soil erosion. Popular seasonal choices like hamish bahar and chrysanthemums give gardens an enchanting look. Among the attractive plants are plum, cypress, golden cypress, Italian

cypress, peach blossom trees, and Canadian maple. The choice depends on the available space and climate conditions. Garden Maintenance and Sustainability Regular watering, appropriate use of fertilizers (cow dung or mild chemical fertilizers), and consistent maintenance are vital for healthy gardens. Flower lovers should install a 500–1000-liter water tank to ensure supply during droughts. Gardens enhance the beauty of our surroundings, provide oxygen, reduce carbon dioxide, and promote overall well-being. During peak summer, the sight and aroma of blooming flowers relax the mind and uplift the spirit. Health and Employment Benefits. A well-maintained home garden becomes a companion for morning and evening walks, offering a peaceful environment for those unable to go outdoors frequently. Walking for 30–60 minutes on green surfaces improves physical and mental health. The gardening and floriculture sectors also create employment opportunities for skilled youth. Government administration should support this field by providing subsidized seedlings, training centers, and awareness programs to help gardeners learn modern techniques and boost production. Access to Plants and Seedlings. The best time to start planting is from mid-February. Fresh and high-quality varieties can be purchased from leading nurseries near the Botanical Garden in Srinagar, Tengpora Bypass, and main city markets across Kashmir.

sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com



■ RAQIF MAKHDOOM

The uncontrollable drug addiction crises in Valley

Jammu and Kashmir has lost the fight against Drug addictions. Jammu and Kashmir tops the list of having the highest number of drug addicts. 13.5 lakh people are involved in addictions, which means 8% of the total population is involved in addiction. In Indian Union territory JK tops the list. We have officially reached a place where we can't use "IF". Our vocabulary has changed to "If Not Done". It's high time that something is done or we shall lose the generations to come. Few years back it was hard to find a drug addict but now it's very common that a drug addict is walking by your side. There used to be a time when drug addicts used to consume drug when the sky used to turn dark but now they do it in open. The shame of being a drug addict has faded away. When they are confronted they reply by saying "We do drugs by buying them of our own money. you are no one to stop us". These words are enough to leave one speechless. The age group of drug addicts range from 17 to 75. Not to forget both the genders are equally involved.

A very important question here needs to be asked that "How are drugs so easily available?" Not only available but in such a good quantity, that they are able to give it to others. They have a code words to ask it. They say "Bachav Ya", which means if you have some give some to me as well. And when they drug addicts see anyone they know under the influence of drugs they says "Ye chu tich karith or Ye chu line karith". Which means he has consumed Heroin. They have their own sign language. Which they use to have conversation to ensure that others don't understand.

While as Jammu and Kashmir tops the list in union territories in being drug addict UT. It also leads UTs in being most of the cases under NDPS to be registered. Kerala being top among states in drug addictions.

■ **STATISTICS OF CASES REGISTERED UNDER NDPS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

As of September 2025, 1,342 NDPS



cases were registered in J&K, leading to 1,305 chargesheet filed in court. In the Kashmir Valley alone, around 1,000 cases were registered and nearly 1,400 people arrested in 2025, with properties worth over Rs. 70 crore attached. Government of India informed the Rajya Sabha that 2,232 NDPS cases were registered in J&K in 2023, making it the highest among Union Territories. In 2025, 81 properties worth Rs. 16.64 crore were attached, and 215 detentions were made under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in NDPS Act (PITNDPS). 222 hotspots were identified, with 44 demolished, and 1,350 individuals under active surveillance.

Even after so many efforts, the drugs are still available very easily. The loop hole needs to be identified. Drug dealers need to be curbed more than the addicts. We can't expect that addiction level to

go down till we don't curb the dealers. We need to hold snake by its head. We aren't at the place where we have to chop the branches of the tree. But we have to uproot the tree and ensure that we don't leave anything back. over 160 kg of heroin was seized in 2021. In 2023-2024, the focus heavily shifted toward disrupting smuggling, with significant seizures of heroin worth hundreds of crore. In late 2024/early 2025, Jammu Police reported a major crackdown with over 28 kilograms of heroin recovered in various cases, having a market value of over Rs 129 crore. (2019-2021): Data from the Narcotics Control Bureau showed nearly 400 kg of heroin was seized in J&K between March 2019 and December 2021.

■ **DRUGS USED FOR DRUG ABUSE**

■ **IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

Heroin remains the first choice of the drug addicts. What I am amazed at is "How's this so easily available. That every addict is easily able to lay his or her hand on it". What's more amazing is that it reaches to addicts easily. For those addicts I have spoken to they have never been in shortage of Heroin. All they need to have is money. Cannabis in Kashmir remains the most preferred drug in Kashmir. The problem is that, Charas which's highly consumed in Kashmir. It's seen as a way to achieve a form of spirituality and this concept has made it very common in Kashmir. other things used for drug addiction are buprenorphine, methadone, naltrexone, and a combination of buprenorphine and naloxone. Tramadol like pills are among the favorite things for drug addicts. prega-

balin and Clonazepam are also used for addiction. Crystal methamphetamine also known crystal meth is also used as a drug. The meth is one of the highly addictive drugs.

There are people who have crossed the levels of addiction. The things they used for addiction are used socks, they apply liquid polish on bread and eat it. The dirtiest among all these remains "Used sanitary pad". The pads are boiled in water and the steam is inhaled. While I spoke to a guy who used to do such drugs. Explained it to me with full joy. I was taken aback when I heard him speaking all this.

■ **REASONS FOR DRUG ADDICTION**

When we talk about Jammu and Kashmir, the major reason for drug addiction is "Unemployment". The growing rate of unemployment is the reason for growing addiction in Jammu and Kashmir. The other factors that influence drug addictions are Peer pressure, friend circle, family stress, environment, social influence, biological factors and early childhood trauma. Family plays a very important role in deciding will one become drug addict or not. Slum areas are the hot spot of drug addiction.

■ **INDICATORS OF DRUG ADDICTION**

Like every other things a person involved in drug addiction shows symptoms.

A sense of euphoria or feeling "high", red eyes, dry mouth, major food craving at unusual times, lack of attention, loss of interest in work, increase alertness, behavioral change, behavior change or aggression, poor judgment, hallucination, intolerance to noise, insomnia, involuntary eye movements and irregular heart beats. The indicators I have mentioned are of many drugs. As different drugs show different indicators. Out of which anger issues, behavioral change, changes in food habits, red eyes, dizziness and insomnia are some common indicators.

■ **CONCLUSION**

Drug addiction often leads to death. It attacks kidneys and that becomes the major cause of death. Overdosing also leads to death. Addictions starts with "Let me try once" and ends with death. JK has no other option other than to go war footing to deal with crises or shall lose a generation.

The author is a law student and a human rights activists.

Asha Bhosle:

The Queen of Musical Versatility



■ MOOL RAJ

The passing of Asha Bhosle at the age of 92 invites not merely an outpouring of grief, but a more sustained meditation on the ontology of voice itself—on how certain timbres outline the bodies that produce them, and how song, in rare instances, becomes a durable form of cultural memory. Admitted to Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai on April 11 following extreme exhaustion and a chest infection, she exits the material world; yet her sonic presence persists, diffused across time, inhabiting both private recollection and collective consciousness.

To situate Asha Bhosle within a linear historiography of Indian cinema would be to diminish her significance. She was not simply a participant in the evolution of film music; she was one of its principal agents of transformation. Beginning in the late 1950s, her voice emerged as a site of formal innovation; absorbing, reconfiguring, and rearticulating diverse musical idioms. Her collaborations with R. D. Burman, in particular, may be understood as a paradigmatic moment in South Asian popular music: a confluence where jazz harmonies, Latin rhythms, and indigenous melodic structures coalesced into a new

auditory language. These were not merely compositions, but interventions, reshaping the epistemic boundaries of what playback singing could signify.

Her artistry resists reductive categorisation. To describe her as "versatile," though accurate, is critically insufficient. She functioned instead as a liminal figure, occupying and traversing the thresholds between genres, affects, and performative registers. She was at once unconventional and maverick, yet anchored by an unmistakable humanism. Her voice carried an affective density that allowed it to oscillate between irony and sincerity, eroticism and restraint, melancholy and exuberance, often within the same melodic phrase.

This complexity is perhaps most evident in the interpretive depth she brought to individual compositions. The subdued invitation of Aaiye Meherbaan gestures toward a philosophy of seduction that is as much interior as it is performative; Mera Kuch Saamaan functions almost as an aural palimpsest, where memory, absence, and temporality are layered with remarkable subtlety. In Dil Cheez Kya Hai, she engages with the semiotics of classical desire, rendering it with poise and deliberation.

Yet to confine her to introspective registers would be to overlook another equally significant dimension of her oeuvre. In songs such as Yeh Mera Dil and Piya Tu Ab To Aaja, one encounters a performative modernity, where voice becomes corporeal, rhythmic, and sensorially immediate. The playful cadence of O Mere Sonar Ki Bangla exemplifies her ability to infuse lightness with technical precision, while the husky tonalities of Aao Na Gale Lagao



Na, Dum Maro Dum, and Jawani Janeman reveal a nuanced manipulation of breath and texture that redefined vocal sensuality in Hindi cinema.

Importantly, her contribution was not limited to aesthetic innovation alone; it also possessed a sociocultural dimension. At a historical moment when Indian society was negotiating modernity, urbanisation, and shifting moral frameworks, Asha Bhosle's voice became an acoustic emblem of these transitions. She gave sonic form to desire that was no longer entirely coded

or restrained; she articulated a femininity that was playful, assertive, and self-aware. In doing so, she did not merely reflect changing sensibilities; she actively participated in their construction.

Equally, she remained the voice of celebration. Her more buoyant renditions carried an infectious rhythmic vitality that made generations of listeners, particularly the youth, tap their feet, inhabit the beat, and momentarily dissolve into the sheer physicality of music. In these instances, her art transcended interpretation and

entered the realm of embodied experience, where listening itself became a form of movement.

Thus, Asha Bhosle's legacy demands to be read not simply as a catalogue of songs, but as a complex cultural text, one that traverses aesthetics, affect, and history. She did not merely sing within the frameworks available to her; she expanded them, destabilised them, and reconstituted them in new and unexpected ways. If playback singing in India today possesses a certain elasticity of form and expression, it is in no small measure due to her interventions.

To invoke the epithet "Queen of Versatility" is, therefore, to gesture toward only a fraction of her significance. She was, more profoundly, a theorist of voice, an artist who understood, intuitively and instinctively, that sound could carry not just melody, but meaning; not just rhythm, but thought.

What remains in her absence is not silence, but resonance: a dispersed, enduring presence that continues to inhabit the interstices of memory and listening. In her passing, we are reminded of a paradox central to artistic existence, that the human voice, though ephemeral in its production, can, in its most transcendent articulations, attain a form of permanence that defies time itself. I pray in front of God that Eternal Peace should be provided to departed soul in the Heavenly Abode for ever and strength to her family members

Om Shanti
RIP

The Author Is A Regular Columnist And Freelance Writer

The Food Wastage - A Silent Crisis



■ SURINDERPAL SINGH

Food wastage has quietly grown into one of the most pressing challenges of the modern world, yet it remains largely ignored in public discourse. In an age marked by technological advancement and increased agricultural productivity, it is deeply paradoxical that millions of people still go to bed hungry every night while vast quantities of food are wasted daily. This contradiction reflects not only inefficiencies in our systems but also a troubling gap in our values as a global society. Food, which is a basic necessity for survival, is often treated as disposable, revealing a crisis that is not just environmental or economic, but profoundly moral in nature.

Across the globe, food wastage occurs at every stage of the supply chain. From farms where crops are sometimes left unharvested due to market fluctuations, to transportation systems where poor infrastructure leads to spoilage, to storage facilities that lack proper preservation technology, losses are significant even before food reaches consumers. At the consumption level, households, restaurants, hotels, and large social gatherings contribute heavily to the problem. Plates filled beyond need, buffets overflowing with excess, and the casual disposal of leftovers all add to an alarming volume of waste. This culture of abundance without accountability has normalized a pattern that is both unsustainable and unjust.

The scale of the problem is staggering. It is estimated that nearly one-third of all food produced globally is either lost or wasted. This not only represents a loss of valuable resources such as water, energy, and labor but also contributes significantly to environmental degradation. When wasted food ends up in landfills, it decomposes and releases methane, a

potent greenhouse gas that accelerates climate change. Thus, food wastage is directly linked to environmental issues, making it a dual crisis that affects both people and the planet.

Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of food wastage is its direct connection to hunger and malnutrition. While enormous amounts of food are discarded, millions struggle to access even the most basic nourishment. Children suffer from stunted growth, families face food insecurity, and entire communities remain trapped in cycles of poverty and hunger. This stark imbalance highlights a failure not of production, but of distribution and management. If even a fraction of the wasted food were redirected effectively, it could make a substantial difference in addressing global hunger.

Efforts to bridge this gap have shown promising results in various parts of the world. Food banks, community kitchens, and charitable organizations have taken initiatives to collect surplus food and distribute it to those in need. These efforts demonstrate that the problem is not insurmountable; rather, it requires coordination, awareness, and commitment. When individuals and organizations take responsibility, even small contributions can collectively lead to meaningful change. The idea that food should reach every hungry person is not unrealistic—it simply demands better systems and stronger will.

Addressing food wastage, however, requires more than isolated efforts. It calls for a comprehensive approach involving individuals, communities, governments, and institutions. Awareness is the first step. People need to understand the value of food, not just in economic terms, but as a vital resource that sustains life. Campaigns that highlight the consequences of food wastage can encourage more mindful consumption habits. When individuals begin to think before they waste, the impact can be significant.

Planning also plays a crucial role. At the household level, buying and cooking only what is necessary can reduce waste considerably. Simple practices such as proper meal planning, storing food correctly, and reusing leftovers can make a noticeable difference. Similarly, event



organizers and hospitality services must adopt responsible practices by estimating requirements accurately and avoiding unnecessary excess. Celebrations should not come at the cost of wastefulness; rather, they should reflect thoughtful and sustainable choices.

Another important aspect is the development of efficient food redistribution systems. Establishing networks that connect food donors with recipients can help ensure that surplus food does not go to waste. Technology can be a powerful tool in this regard, enabling real-time coordination between restaurants, event organizers, and charitable organizations. Mobile applications and digital platforms can facilitate the collection and distribution of excess food, making the process more streamlined and effective.

Improving storage and transportation infrastructure is equally vital. In many regions, especially in developing countries, inadequate facilities lead to significant losses during transit and storage. Investing in cold storage systems, better packaging, and efficient logistics can greatly reduce spoilage. Technological advancements in food preservation can extend shelf life and maintain quality, thereby minimizing waste before food even reaches consumers.

Governments also have a critical role to play in tackling food wastage. Policies and regulations that promote responsible food management can create a framework for

change. Incentives for businesses that donate surplus food, penalties for excessive wastage, and support for food redistribution initiatives can encourage more sustainable practices. Public-private partnerships can further strengthen efforts by combining resources and expertise to address the issue effectively.

Education is another powerful tool in shaping attitudes towards food. Schools, in particular, have a unique opportunity to instill values of conservation and responsibility in young minds. By integrating lessons on sustainable living, ethical consumption, and food conservation into the curriculum, educators can nurture a generation that respects food and understands its importance. Practical activities such as zero-waste lunch programs, community service, and awareness campaigns can reinforce these lessons and encourage students to adopt responsible habits from an early age.

The role of society and cultural attitudes towards food cannot be overlooked. In many communities, food is closely linked to hospitality, celebration, and status. Lavish feasts and extravagant spreads are often seen as symbols of generosity and prestige. However, this mindset can lead to excessive preparation and inevitable wastage. Changing this perception is essential. True hospitality should be measured not by abundance, but by thoughtfulness and respect for resources. Social norms must evolve to recognize that wasting food is

not a sign of wealth, but a disregard for the value of sustenance.

Media and public discourse can also contribute to changing perceptions. By highlighting stories of food conservation, successful initiatives, and the impact of waste reduction, awareness can be amplified. Influencers, community leaders, and public figures can use their platforms to advocate for responsible consumption and inspire collective action. When the narrative shifts from indifference to responsibility, societal change becomes more attainable.

Ultimately, food wastage is not merely an issue of excess; it is a reflection of imbalance in our systems and priorities. It underscores the need for a shift in perspective—from viewing food as a commodity to recognizing it as a precious resource. Every grain of rice, every piece of bread, represents the effort of countless individuals and the use of valuable natural resources. Respecting food means respecting the environment, the labor of farmers, and the needs of those who lack access to it.

The path forward requires a combination of awareness, innovation, policy, and collective responsibility. It demands that individuals make conscious choices, that institutions adopt sustainable practices, and that governments create supportive frameworks. Small actions, when multiplied across millions of people, can lead to significant change. Reducing food wastage is not an impossible goal; it is a necessary one. In conclusion, food wastage stands as a silent crisis that calls for urgent attention and action. It is a challenge that transcends borders and affects humanity as a whole. By adopting responsible habits, improving systems, and fostering a culture of respect for food, society can move towards a more equitable and sustainable future. The solution lies not in producing more, but in preserving and valuing what we already have. If we can bridge the gap between abundance and need, we can not only reduce waste but also restore dignity and hope to millions who struggle for a single meal each day.

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

MS. JAASINDAH MIR

RCI-LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST | EFT MASTER PRACTITIONER | FLOWER ESSENCE PRACTITIONER | AUTHOR

TRAUMA-FOCUSED PSYCHOLOGIST

MA Applied Psychology (Clinical)-Jamia Millia Islamia Air 4-NIPCCD (RCI-Licensed)

SPECIALIZATIONS

- Anxiety & Depression
- Trauma & PTSD
- Emotional Dysregulation
- Chronic Stress
- Psychosomatic & Pain Disorders
- Parent-child Counselling
- Adolescent & Young Adult Mental Health

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2000+ Therapy Sessions Delivered
20+ Workshops Conducted
Former Lead Psychologist At K.R. MANGALAM UNIVERSITY, GURUGRAM
Founder - Redeemer Heals Counselling & Wellness

THERAPEUTIC EXPERTISE

EFT | REBT | CBT | FLOWER ESSENCE TREATMENTS | MR | ART & PLAY THERAPY

Available Post

9TH JANUARY AT REVIVE CARE
NATIONAL HIGHWAY KANISPORA NEAR PETROL PUMP
SATURDAY & SUNDAY

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT
A Day Prior To Your Visit
Contact Us At **9906215683**

Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat
MS Orthopaedics

Available for FREE Consultations on Fridays
at My Residence, Near Hanfia Mission High School Kreeri, Baramulla

I Will See Patients in Kreeri on Saturdays & Mondays

On Mondays I Will See Patients Suffering from

✓ ARTHRITIS ONLY
Mon Tue | Wed | Thur. | Fri | Sat.

+91 70060 01351 · +91 78896 60469

REVIVE CARE+

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

BOOK APPOINTMENT

Call To Schedule Your Visit

REVIVE CARE
NATIONAL HIGHWAY KANISPORA
NEAR PETROL PUMP
9906215683

Bringing Better Health Closer To Home

Revive Care

Complete Approach to your Well being
Chemists & Druggists, Polyclinic, Clinical Lab

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Minor Surgical Procedures Including, Post Operative Dressing, All Types Of Wound Dressing, Immediate First Aid

Lab Facilities (Collection Centre of Global Diagnostic & Imaging centre)

AVAILABLE CONSULTATIONS

- General Medicine, Chest Medicine, Braces & Dental Care, Speech Therapy & Audiology
- Orthopedics, Paediatrics, Clinical Psychology, Neurosurgery

Contact Us At **9906215683**

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT
A day prior to your visit : (First Come, First Served)

NATIONAL HIGHWAY KANISPORA NEAR PETROL PUMP

REVIVE CARE+

Dr. Pervaiz Majeed Zunga
CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN SPECIALIST

- ✓ MBBS, MD (MEDICINE) SKIMS
- ✓ EX REGISTRAR SMHS HOSPITAL
- ✓ Fellowship Diabetes, Fellowship Gastroenterology, Hepatology
- Expert in Thyroid Disorder, Diabetes, and Diabetic Neuropathy

Available Every
Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday Friday
Morning 9AM to 10 AM
Evening 5:30 PM onwards

Near Petrol Pump National Highway Kanispora Baramulla
9906215683

REVIVE CARE x MAX HOSPITALS
BRINGING WORLD-CLASS ENT CARE TO BARAMULLA!

Dr. SUMIT MRIG

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

Director Sankalp ENT & Cochlear Implant Centre NEW DELHI

@kifayatkifi

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

4-Day Jashn-e-Mouseeqi Festival Concludes

NZCC Organised the Festival in Collaboration with JKAACL

■ GULFAM BARI

SRINAGAR, APRIL 13: The four-day Jashn-e-Mouseeqi music festival, organised by the North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala, in collaboration with the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) concluded successfully with its final event held at GDC Tral. The concluding programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members and music lovers creating a vibrant cultural atmosphere. The event commenced with a welcome address by the In charge Principal of the college Prof. Rafiq Ahmad Khan who appreciated the initiative taken by NZCC and the Cultural Academy and described it as an important step towards promoting and nurturing the talents of young people.

Representing the Cultural Academy Dr. Syed Iftikhar Ahmad highlighted the various initiatives being undertaken by the Academy for the promotion of art, culture and languages. He particularly referred to the outreach programmes being organised in educational institutions.



The highlight of the concluding ceremony was a captivating performance by renowned Kashmiri singer Shazia Bashir whose melodious voice and soulful renditions mesmerised the audience. This was followed by a performance by noted folk singer Mohd. Abdullah Shaksaz who enthralled the gathering with tradi-

tional Kashmiri folk music. Among the prominent personalities present on the occasion were noted cultural activist Gulzar Ahmad Bhat, Ferooz Ahmad Shah, Arshid Ahmad Shah and NZCC Coordinator Shahjahan Ahmad Bhagat. Speaking at the conclusion of the programme, Assistant Director, NZCC,

Ravinder Sharma expressed his gratitude to all the guests, artists, organisers and participants, stating that the four-day festival became a grand success because of their collective efforts. It is pertinent to mention that events under the four-day Jashn-e-Mouseeqi festival were also organised at GDC Bemina, Govt. College for Women Nawakadal and Mansbal Safapora.

The proceedings of the event were conducted by noted broadcaster and senior announcer of All India Radio Srinagar, Rashid Nizami.

Public Notice

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my Grandfather name MALLA SAMAD S/O MALLA ISMAIL R/O WATERGAM then transferred on my Father's name GH RASOOL MALLA Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0212040001000 wants to be registered on my name JAHANGIR AHMAD MALLA S/O ABDUL RASHEED MALLA R/O WATERGAM .If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

**Name. JAHANGIR AHMAD MALLA
S/O....ABDUL RASHEED MALLA
R/O ...WATERGAM
BLOCK.... WAGOORA**

Public Notice

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my Father's name ABRAZQA TELI R/O ABWAHAB TELI R/O WARIPORA BALA Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0212040003478 wants to be registered on my name FAYAZ AHMAD TELI S/O ABRAZQA TELI R/O WARIPORA BALA .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...FAYAZ AHMAD TELI
S/O...AB RAZAQ TELI
R/O ...WARIPORA BALA
BLOCK.... WAGOORA**

Public Notice

My son's and daughters parentage has been wrongly written as MOHD RAFEEQ MIR while his/her correct parentage is RAFEEQ AHMAD MIR which needs to be corrected if anybody having objection in this regard he/she may contact with the office of GOVT HIGH SCHOOL KAKOTHAL / ZONE WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

**Mane...RAFAEEQ AHMAD MIR
F/O ...AIMAN RAFEEQ
F/O ...MOHSIN RAFEEQ
R/O ...KAKOTHAL**

CONDOLENCE

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ



"Indeed, we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we shall return."
(Surah Al-Baqarah, 2:156)

It is with profound sorrow and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Asif Hameed Zargar (Son of Abdul Hameed Zargar).

We humbly pray that Almighty Allah bestows His infinite mercy upon the deceased, forgives his sins, and grants him the highest place in Jannah. Ameen.

Chaharrum - Fatiha Khwani

The Chaharrum Fatiha Khwani will be held on:
Wednesday, April 15, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Near Zindshah Masjid Graveyard, Rainawari, Srinagar

All relatives, friends, and well-wishers are cordially invited to attend and offer prayers for the departed soul.

Bereaved Family:

Abdul Hameed Zargar (Aakhon) | Gh. Hassan Zargar
Rafiq Ahmed Aakhon

Contact: +91 94190 05340 | +91 70067 92292
+91 94694 34473

"To Allah we belong, and to Allah we return."

Day Two of Nasha Mukt J&K Campaign marked by Pledge ceremony at Mini Secretariat Shopian

Awareness events held across district

■ HT NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN, APRIL 13: Second day of the ongoing Nasha Mukt J&K Campaign in District Shopian was observed with a pledge ceremony held at the Mini Secretariat Shopian and awareness events across the district.

Employees of the Mini Secretariat participated in the pledge ceremony at Shopian, collectively affirming their resolve to work towards a drug free society and to actively support awareness efforts under the campaign. The event was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone, Additional Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Dr Zakir Hussain Faaz, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Shopian, Shakoora Ahmad Dar, along with other district officers and officials.

While addressing the gathering, the ADDC underscored the importance of



individual responsibility in eliminating drug abuse. He stated that the fight against drugs must begin at the personal level, urging employees to lead by example through conscious choices and responsible behaviour. He further highlighted that consistent individual efforts can collectively bring meaningful change in society.

Employees were also seen holding placards depicting various anti-drug slogans, reinforcing the message of awareness and prevention.

On the occasion, official from the District Social Welfare Office highlighted the ill effects of drug abuse and emphasized the need for awareness, early intervention, and community

participation to curb the menace.

Meanwhile, as per the campaign schedule, similar pledge ceremonies and awareness events were also conducted in schools across the district, accompanied by special morning assemblies where students and staff took a collective oath to stay away from drugs and promote a healthy lifestyle.

EXCELLENCE WITH PERFECTION

Branding • Designing • Printing • Web • Event • Advertising

LARGE SCALE PRINTING

TRANSFORM YOUR GROWING BUSINESS INTO A LEADING BRAND

OUR SERVICES

- Large Format Printing
- Digital & Offset Printing
- Promotion Display Materials
- Printing
- Signage
- Graphic Design
- Embroidery
- Screen Printing
- Supply of Office Stationery
- Vinyl Cutting
- Branding
- Printing
- Photocopying
- Scanning
- Binding
- Lamination

CALL OR WHATSAPP 7006618090 | 9858086898

Room No 12, Huda Ash Central Market, Abi Guzar Lalchowk, Srinagar
email: srpixels2021@gmail.com

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar has submitted case file pertaining to Death of SONAULLA MIR S/O MOHAMMAD SULTAN MIR R/O. DOLIPORA RESHIPORA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of death as 03/11/2022 event has been shown to be occurred at HOME for issuance of delay order .In this connection .

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

Sd/- Executive Magistrate 1st Class Kreeri

Laptop Care House

Wholesale Dealer Of New And Pre Used Laptops

DEALS IN ALL KINDS OF LAPTOPS AND ACCESSORIES

REPAIRING OF: ALL TYPES OF LAPTOPS & DESKTOPS

SERVICE FOR ALL LAPTOPS

7006083461

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of the Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar
Phone No. 0194-2952606, Email: to-exenmidrsrinagar@jk.gov.in

Gist of Notice Inviting e-Tender
e-NIT No. 06 of 2026-27 dated 13-04-2026

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor Of J&K UT, e-tenders are invited through e-tendering mode from reputed, registered electrical contractors/ workshop holders for Annual Electrical Framework Contract of irrigation schemes of Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar and registered with Government of Jammu and Kashmir having up to date Sales Tax Clearance Certificate and relevant experience in work. The e-tenders will be valid for One hundred and eighty days (180) for executing the following contract: -

S. No	Particulars of the work	Qty.	Name of Division	Estimated Amount (In Rs.)	Cost of document/ tender fee (In ₹)	Earnest money (In ₹)	Bid Validity	Duration of contract
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I.	Annual Electrical Framework Contract of irrigation schemes of Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar covering sub divisions Marval & Lethpora having jurisdiction in Pulwama and Budgam Districts.	As per requirement	Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar	888000	500	17760	180 days	Upto 31 st March 2027

Head of account: M.H. 2701

The Bidding documents consisting of specifications, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the official website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule given below:

a.	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	13-04-2026	(1600 Hours)
b.	Period of Downloading Tender Documents	13-04-2026 to 28-04-2026	(1600 Hours) to (1400 Hours)
c.	Document Download End date	28-04-2026	(1400 Hours)
d.	Bid Submission Start Date	13-04-2026	(1600 Hours)
e.	Bid Submission End Date	28-04-2026	(1400 Hours)

Each tender should be accompanied with an Earnest Money in the form of CDR/ FDR/ IBG/ Insurance Surety Bond as detailed above, pledged to the Executive Engineer Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar. In absence of Earnest Money, the Tenders shall be rejected out rightly.

Any information regarding the tenders can be had from this office on all working days.

DIPK: 385/26 | Dated: 13-04-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical Irrigation Division
Srinagar

Ashish Chauhan: The man who steadied India's financial markets

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, APRIL 13: As the Indian stock market displayed its resilience in the face of West Asia-borne global securities crisis, the spotlight is on Ashish Kumar Chauhan, considered the "father of modern financial derivatives" in India.

Chauhan, an IIT Bombay and IIM Calcutta alumni, who was recently conferred the Forbes magazine's Editor's Choice Lifetime Award, steered the National Stock Exchange (NSE) which he helms amid the recent meltdown, urging investors to stay focused on long-term wealth creation, while highlighting India's strong macroeconomic buffers. Under his stewardship, the exchange's robust technology ensured seamless operations despite global uncertainty and extreme market volatility by demonstrating operational resilience, supported by high-performance technology infrastructure capable of handling massive trading volumes without disruption.

Insiders say that Chauhan believes in incremental change and invisible change as over dramatic efforts and India's stock market has gained much from his management foresight which went around plugging loopholes so that periodic booms and busts tainted by scandals no longer occur.

Chauhan began his professional journey with the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) as an industrial finance officer. Rising through the ranks he switched towards a different sphere of India's financial markets in 1993, as a member of the core founding team of NSE, he played a key role in building the equities and derivatives markets in the 1990s, helping lay the foundation of a modern, technology-driven trading ecosystem.

His early career was shaped during the aftermath of the Harshad Mehta Scam, a major financial fraud that exposed systemic loopholes.

Chauhan has recalled losing Rs 50,000 during that period—



equivalent to nearly sixteen months of his salary at the time—an experience that tested his mettle while strengthening his ability to look towards the long-

term. At NSE, he was instrumental in setting up the initial information technology backbone, including a commercial

satellite telecom network that enabled reliable, high-speed connectivity across the country, even in remote areas.

Chauhan also contributed to

establishing a roadmap for the National Securities Clearing Corporation (NSCCL) and the early establishment of the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), both critical pillars of India's financial infrastructure.

In 2001, Chauhan moved on first to pursue an entrepreneurial journey and then to become Chief Information Officer of Reliance Infocomm in 2004 and Group CIO in 2005, where he led digital transformation across sectors such as petrochemicals, refining and retail, while implementing enterprise-wide SAP systems to unify operations.

After nearly eight years in the corporate sector, he returned to financial markets by joining the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) as Deputy CEO in 2009.

He went on to become CEO within three years, leading the transformation of Asia's oldest stock exchange into a modern, technologically advanced and profitable institution.

During his tenure, he introduced key initiatives such

as the BSE StAR MF platform, which expanded mutual fund distribution, and also led the establishment of India International Exchange at GIFT City in 2017.

In a full-circle moment, Chauhan returned to NSE as Managing Director and CEO in 2017, focusing once again on strengthening technological infrastructure, handling large-scale market operations and enhancing system resilience.

He has also played a key role in expanding financial literacy, with NSE conducting over 13,000 investor awareness programmes in fourteen languages between April 2024 and February 2025, reaching more than seven lakh participants.

Chauhan's journey—from a young banking professional to a central figure in India's market transformation—reflects resilience, innovation and a deep commitment to building robust financial systems, making him one of the most influential figures in the evolution of India's capital markets. UNI

Women-led development signals major mindset shift: DG Soumya Mishra

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

HYDERABAD, APR 13: Telangana State Prisons & Correctional Services Director General Soumya Mishra on Saturday said the shift from women's development to women-led development marks a significant transformation in policy, leadership, and societal mindset.

Speaking as the chief guest at the "EMERGE" Women's Leadership Summit organised by the Hyderabad Management Association (HMA) here, Mishra said women are no longer just participants in development but are emerging as decision-makers, innovators, and leaders across sectors, including governance, technology, and entrepreneurship.

Highlighting the impact of emerging technologies, she stressed the need for increased participation of women in fields such as artificial intelligence (AI) to ensure inclusive and ethical innovation.

She also shared insights from initiatives undertaken by the Telangana Prisons & Correctional Services Department, focusing on skill development, education, mental well-being and rehabilitation of women inmates.

Mishra urged young women to step into leadership roles, emphasising the importance of self-belief, creating opportunities and supporting one another.

"When a woman is empowered, she becomes a catalyst for change within her family and community," she said.

The summit was attended by several prominent personalities, including Karuna Gopal, President of the Foundation for Futuristic Cities, Dr. Ch. Preeti Reddy, Vice-Chairman of Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth, and Chitra Sood, Director - Product Operations at Google Cloud Operations.

Discussions covered a wide range of topics such as technology, media, policy, entrepreneurship and leadership, aimed at fostering collaboration and actionable outcomes.

Mishra commended the organisers and expressed confidence that the summit would contribute to building inclusive ecosystems and advancing women-led development. UNI

Adani to develop airport related real estate assets

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

MUMBAI, APR 13: Adani Enterprises Limited informed the stock exchange on Saturday about the incorporation of four new wholly-owned subsidiary companies, namely Adani Mangaluru Airport City Limited (AMACL), Adani Jaipur Airport City Limited (AJACL), Adani Lucknow Airport City Limited (ALACL) and Adani TRV Airport City Limited (ATACL) under its step-down subsidiary called Adani Airport City Limited.

These subsidiary companies, which have been incorporated to focus on real estate and construction projects, mark a strategic expansion in the company's airport-linked infrastructure development.

Each of the four new companies has been incorporated with a paid-up share capital of Rs 10,00,000,

according to the regulatory filing. Adani Enterprises has confirmed that these four subsidiaries, held by Adani Airport City Limited, will specifically focus on the development of airport city projects in Mangalore (Mangaluru), Jaipur, Lucknow and Thiruvananthapuram.

Adani TRV Airport City Limited (ATACL) will focus exclusively on developing airport related real estate assets in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, according to the company statement.

Each of the four incorporated entities is dedicated to real estate development activities, including the construction of buildings on own or leased property, as well as the management of hospitality assets such as hotels, motels, and resorts.

The company has invested a paid-up capital of Rs 10,00,000



into each subsidiary company, represented by 1,00,000 equity shares per entity at a face value of Rs 10.

The latest move reinforces the Adani Group's commitment to creating integrated commercial and hospitality ecosystems surrounding its airport assets, which it had announced earlier.

In December 2025, the Adani Group had announced that it would invest Rs 1 lakh crore (US\$ 12.5 billion) in its airport sector over the next five years to help the group capitalise on growing trends in air traffic demand, which is estimated to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 16%, according to Adani Airports

Director Jeet Adani.

The current operations of Adani Airports encompass a broad spectrum of metro and regional airports, namely Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram, Jaipur and Mangalore, besides Mumbai as well as the Navi Mumbai International Airport, which began operations recently.

As a result of this substantial capital injection, the conglomerate intends to improve airport infrastructure, improve passenger experience, and take a proactive role in impending airport privatisation tenders, including the shortlisted 11 airports to be operated by the government.

Aside from developing core airport infrastructure, Adani Airports is also anticipated to develop other supporting facilities and improve capacities. UNI

Hyderabad's Orbicular Pharma secures US FDA tentative approval for Generic Ozempic with Apotex

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

HYDERABAD, APRIL 13: Orbicular Pharmaceutical Technologies on Saturday announced that a generic version of Ozempic® (semaglutide injection), developed in partnership with Apotex, has received tentative approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The product will be marketed and commercialised in the United States by Apotex Corp., the Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) applicant, the Hyderabad based pharma company said in a release here.

The tentative approval marks a significant milestone in expanding access to complex peptide-based



therapies, which are considered among the most scientifically and regulatorily challenging segments in generic drug development.

Dr. M.S. Mohan, Managing Director of Orbicular Pharmaceutical Technologies, said achieving technical equivalence in complex peptide

products requires high scientific precision and disciplined development.

He noted that the collaboration combined Orbicular's development expertise with Apotex's regulatory leadership, enabling the partners to secure the FDA's tentative approval.

Barry Fishman, Chief Corporate Development Officer at Apotex, acknowledged Orbicular's contribution, stating that the company's scientific depth and quality focus were instrumental in advancing the programme.

He added that Apotex remains committed to delivering high-quality, affordable peptide therapies and values the partnership that enabled the milestone. UNI

Himachal: Rs.87 lakh Budget approved for Kangra Civil Hospital

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

DHARAMSHALA, APRIL 13: An approximately Rs 87 lakh budget for the financial year 2026-27 was approved at a meeting of the Patient Welfare Committee of the Civil Hospital Kangra on Friday under the chairmanship of SDM Kangra, Ishant Jaswal.

Senior Medical Officer Dr. Alpana, along with members of the committee, attended the meeting.

During the meeting, a budget of approximately Rs.87 lakh for the financial year 2026-27 was approved after detailed discussions on various issues. A comprehensive review of the expenditure for the year 2025-26 was also presented.

The Senior Medical Officer informed that Civil Hospital Kangra has witnessed significant improvement, with a rise in both OPD and IPD services. At present, around 500 patients are being attended to daily in the OPD.

Discussions for the coming year focused on strengthening hospital infrastructure and services it was decided to prioritise the installation of new machinery, the enhancement of the operation theatre, and the modernisation of the testing laboratory. The committee also deliberated on increasing the income of the Rogi Kalyan Samiti.

A proposal to establish a feeding room in the hospital was placed, along with measures to improve facilities for senior citizens. The installation of an ultrasound machine at the earliest was also discussed.

The committee decided to keep the charges for tests and other services unchanged from the previous year. However, the fee for mid-day meal workers will be reduced from Rs. 200 to Rs. 150. Filling of vacant posts in the hospital was also taken up during the meeting.

The committee expressed gratitude to all donors who have contributed towards the hospital. It was also informed that the government has provided around Rs.15 lakh for roof repairs and for operationalising the operation theatre.

SDM Ishant Jaswal appreciated the hospital staff for the increase in patient footfall and services. He said that the strengthening and modernisation of Civil Hospital Kangra is helping reduce the burden on Tanda Medical College, and further improvements will be made to provide better healthcare facilities to patients in the coming time. UNI

Olectra Unveils New Brand Identity, Adopts Tagline 'Transforming Everyday'

■ UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

HYDERABAD, APR 13: Olectra Greentech Limited (part of the MEIL Group), India's leading electric bus manufacturer, on Friday unveiled its new brand identity as part of its strategic evolution into an innovation-driven company focused on integrated mobility and energy solutions.

The Hyderabad-based company also introduced a new tagline, "Transforming Everyday," reflecting its vision to lead the global transition towards sustainable and value-driven mobility.

Announcing the rebranding, the company said the refreshed identity signifies Olectra's transformation from a pioneering electric bus maker into a future-ready organisation committed to delivering responsible mobility and energy solutions.

The new brand positioning features a modern visual language, sharper narrative and a unified voice aligned with its long-term



strategic goals.

As part of its renewed vision, Olectra said it aims to become a trusted partner in mobility and energy solutions through accessible innovation, operational excellence and enhanced customer experience, creating long-term value for

stakeholders.

The rebranding exercise is built around three key pillars - pragmatic Futurism, Accessible Innovation and Trusted Guide, which the company said will shape its approach to product development and market engagement going

forward.

The company has also reinterpreted its visual identity, redesigning its central triangle into the "Olectra Prism" to symbolise structural integrity and direction, while the surrounding circle, termed the "Olectra

Universe," represents the wider ecosystem of stakeholders, cities and infrastructure it serves.

Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director Mahesh Babu said the new identity reflects the company's ambition and future direction.

"Olectra's new brand identity is not just a visual change it represents our ambition, mindset and the direction we are heading. As we transform into a future-ready, innovation-led organisation delivering integrated mobility and energy solutions, this new identity reflects our core values and our commitment to transforming everyday across the mobility and energy ecosystem," he said.

Backed by strong manufacturing capabilities and a growing order pipeline in the government sector, Olectra said it is entering the next phase of growth from a position of operational strength.

The company's expanding portfolio includes electric buses, trucks and tippers. UNI

Iyer and Co Make 200-Plus Chase Look Routine Yet Again

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

CHANDIGARH: "It's interesting," Punjab Kings (PBKS) assistant coach Brad Haddin said with a chuckle. "In the batters' meeting, when you talk about rotating the strike, they say, we don't need to do that anymore; we just put it in the second tier."

It may have sounded like exaggeration, or arrogance, perhaps even a touch of dressing-room humour. But you can't argue with that after the PBKS made a 200-plus chase look like a mere formality for the second game in a row.

Against Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in Chennai last week, they made 209 look 20 short. In New Chandigarh against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) on Saturday, they first pulled the game back from the brink of 250, and then chased down 220 with seven balls to spare. On both occasions, Shreyas Iyer controlled the tempo of the chase with half-centuries.

It was the tenth time PBKS had successfully chased down a 200-plus target in the IPL - the most by any team in the IPL, comfortably ahead of second-placed Mumbai Indians (six).

The genesis of their Saturday chase lay in the surge provided up top. Through the sheer weight of his performances, Priyansh Arya has begun to question the very idea of second-season blues, while Prabhsimran Singh - leaner and fitter - has evolved into a far more com-

plete batter, adding range to his already fearless approach.

The pair had an incredible 99-run stand in just 6.2 overs, their audacity matching that of Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma from earlier in the day.

Iyer then walked in and allowed himself a brief period of recalibration. He was on a run-a-ball 6 to begin with, even surviving a near-chop-on against left-arm wristspinner Shivang Kumar, before slipping into control mode.

Control, here, wasn't milking singles but picking his spots and having the confidence in executing them. Like he did while lining up and dispatching Harshal Patel's variations for two fours and a six in the 15th to kickstart their final surge. Those hits off slower deliveries of different lengths were dispatched to different corners. Iyer wasn't pre-meditating; he was reading them off the hand and the surface.

In the next over, Eshan Malinga received similar treatment. Within minutes, the equation was down to 23 required from 24. In his assessment of the chase, Iyer was modest about his own role and credited the openers for their tempo, which had a knock-on effect.

"At the end of the day, all of us know that we've got the skills," Iyer said. "But it's important to have a strong mindset in such chases. Openers, we don't need to tell them how to go about it. They

have been flowing right from the start, so there's no need to curb their instincts.

"And for the rest of us, when they set a platform like that from ball one, it becomes easier to just rotate strike and go with the run rate. Overall, our work ethic has been magnificent."

"The way they [openers] showed how to play the powerplay, it was magnificent to watch. It was pleasing to the eye. They played proper cricketing shots and steadied the rhythm at the start. Then it was kind of, I wouldn't say easy, but just about maintaining that momentum. I just told myself I needed to give it a little bit of time, gauge the pace of the wicket, and then capitalise. Thankfully, it worked out."

Iyer makes this method seem simple, but it requires the collective clarity that coach Ricky Ponting and Co have been able to give to the group. And there has been a collective buy-in, with team culture at the forefront of this change PBKS have embarked on since 2025.

"Even in the two-day break we had, everyone came together, trained hard, worked their bodies off. You can see that effort translating on the field," Iyer said. Some of this change has been triggered by their history of near-misses, like in 2025. Which is why they aren't celebrating yet, despite sitting pretty with three wins and a washout from four games.



'Bit of space from the game': how Buttler got his form back

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

LUCKNOW: Gujarat Titans wicketkeeper-batter Jos Buttler has credited a "little bit of space from the game" in helping him find his form back after a lean year.

Buttler had a lukewarm T20 World Cup 2026, where he managed just 87 runs in eight innings at an average of 10.87 and a strike rate 116.00, despite England making it to the semi-final. But he's been back among the runs in IPL 2026. Buttler began the season with a 33-ball 38 against Punjab Kings and followed it up with a 14-ball 26 against Rajasthan Royals. He then struck 52 in GT's last-ball win against Delhi Capitals before racking up his 100th T20 half-century, finishing with 60 off 37 balls as GT recorded their second-straight win of the season.

"A little bit of space from the game and time to just kind of think and it sort of just came to me," Buttler said on how he found his form again in a post-match interview for the host broadcaster. "I've just been focusing a lot in the weeks I've been here on my set-up and my basics. I think a few technical issues maybe crept into my game, which actually allowed me not really see the ball that well. "I've been around for a while and



it's nice to be back scoring runs. Obviously, I had a bit of a lean patch in the last few months, so it's nice to find some form and contribute to another win."

Buttler also praised GT batting coach Matthew Hayden and how a piece of advice from the former Australian opener helped him get among the runs.

"When he speaks, you listen. In one of the first few sessions he asked me, 'how well are you watching the ball? It doesn't look like you're tracking it that well!'" Buttler said of his conversations with Hayden. "Great players like him [come] with the most simple advice, which is nice. "It's a hard game if you're not picking up the ball well. So, I've just been focusing on everything pre-delivery and then backing that. As I said, I've played for 15 years. I know what to do when I get in."

J&K Tennis Ball Cricket Trials on April 29 at MA Stadium Jammu

FAROOQ RATHER

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Tennis Ball Cricket Association has announced one-day selection trials for both men and women players for the upcoming All India Tennis Ball Cricket Championship.

According to an official statement, the trials will be held at M.A. Stadium Jammu on April 29, 2026, starting at 10:30 AM sharp. The selection process aims to finalize the J&K Union Territory senior teams (men and women) for participation in the prestigious national championship scheduled

to be held in Haridwar from May 1 to May 3, 2026.

Interested and eligible players have been directed to report at the venue on time in proper cricketing kit. Participants must bring six recent passport-size photographs along with a photocopy of their domicile certificate and a valid physical fitness certificate issued by a registered physician.

The trials will be conducted under the supervision of Mr. Gulshan Rattan, Incharge Selection Trials, who will oversee the selection proceedings. The statement further added that the screening of short-



listed players will take place at the same venue on April 30, 2026, at 11:00 AM under the aegis of the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council.

The selected UT teams are scheduled to depart on the evening of April 30 for onward participation in the championship.

Eligibility criteria mandate that participating players must have prior experience of representing their district or the Union Territory in recognized competitions before being considered for national-level representation.

The notification has been issued by the General Secretary of JKTBCA, urging aspiring cricketers across Jammu & Kashmir to avail this opportunity to showcase their talent at the national stage.



LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS
ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR ALL PRINTING NEEDS

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

9999038812
9419008414



Radio Colony,
Gund Hassibhat, Lawaipora Srinagar-190017

HEADLINES TODAY INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

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

Send your contributions to:

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

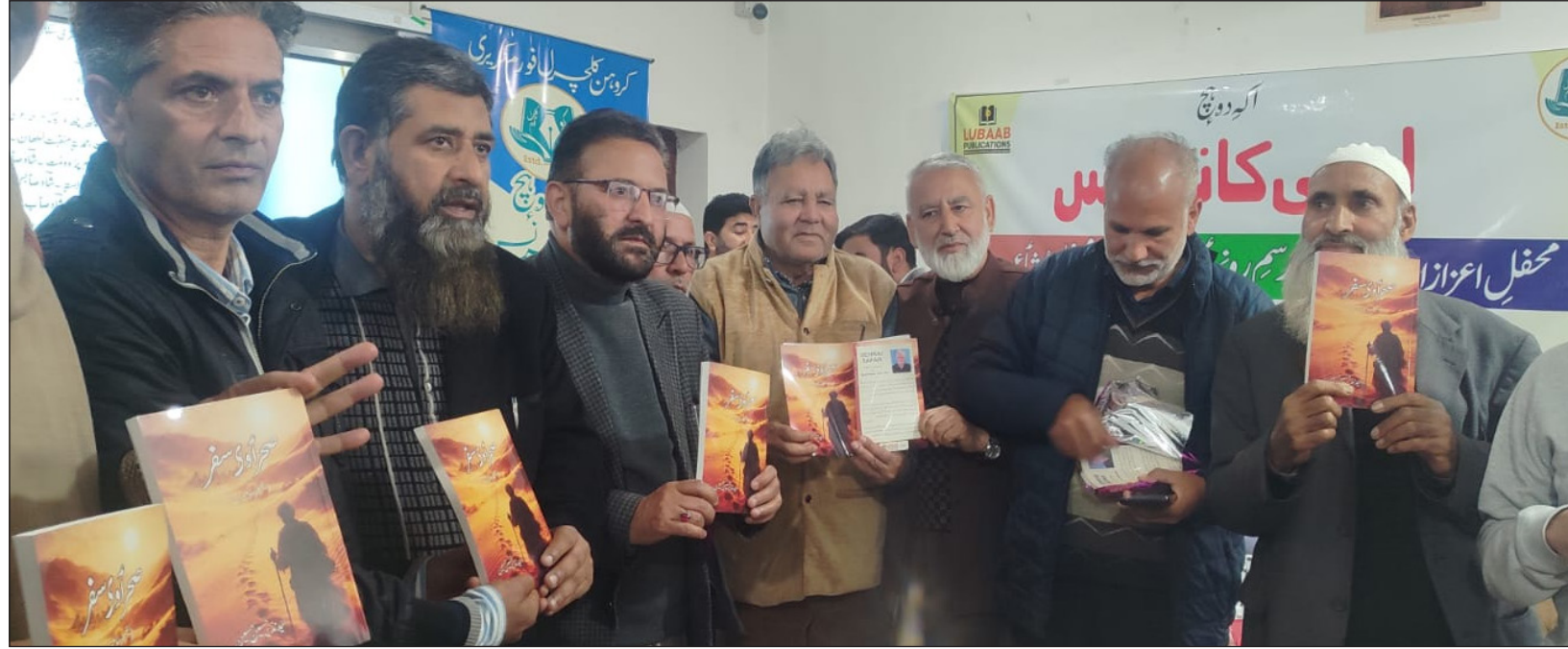
YOUR WORDS CAN INSPIRE,
INFORM, AND IGNITE; LET
THEM BE HEARD.



Grand Literary Event Held at Degree College Kreeri, Eminent Writers Honoured

Krohan Cultural Forum Confers Awards, Releases Three Books, Calls for Revival of Literary Activities

Books namely SAHRAI SAFAR, XCHUR HALAM, & MIR SYED HUSSAN WASIF (RA) Released Amid Enthusiastic Scenario



ASHIQ HUSSAIN / DR AB QAYOOM
HT Correspondents

Kreeri, April 13: A grand literary event organized by the Karohan Cultural Forum was held today at Degree College Kreeri, drawing participation from several prominent literary figures and enthusiasts. The programme celebrated literary excellence, honoured distinguished contributors, and witnessed the release of notable works.

The event was presided over by renowned writer Dr. Ghulam Nabi Haleem, who highlighted the importance of sustaining literary traditions and encouraging creative expression in society. In a significant moment during the function, the late Manzoor Hashmi was posthumously honoured with the prestigious "Khillat-e-Karohan Award" in recognition of his contributions to literature.

Several other noted personalities, including Fayaz Tilgami, Syed Nazir Hussain, Shad Dardpuri, Nooruddin Hosh, Syed Saaduddin Saadi, and Tanha Nizami, were felicitated with the "Sharaf-e-Karohan Award" for their contributions to the literary field.

The ceremony also featured the formal release of three books. These included Sehrai Safar authored by Syed Nazir Hussain,



Zhoor Halm by Rafiq Tahir Kaw Chaki, and a compiled and edited work on Mir Saeed Hussain Wasif Bukhari prepared by Syed Saaduddin Saadi. The book release segment was received with appreciation from the audience.

Speakers and attendees lauded the efforts of the Karohan Cultural Forum for organizing such a meaningful event. They stressed the need for continuing such literary initiatives to foster creativity and intellectual engagement, and to revive the forum's activities on a sustained basis.

The proceedings of the event were conducted by Jahangir Bukhari, who ensured smooth coordination throughout the programme.

