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HEADLINES TODAY
Voice To The Voiceless



P:12
South Africa pacer Anrich Nortje raring to go for Test return against Australia

Kulgam Police arrests drug peddler, charas-like substance recovered

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

KULGAM, OCT06 :Kulgam Police arrested a suspected drug peddler and recovered around 14 grams of charas-like substance during naka checking at Chattabal Crossing on Tuesday, officials said.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), a police spokesperson said that continuing its drive against drug trafficking, a police party recovered the substance during naka checking at Chattabal Crossing, within the jurisdiction of Police Station Kulgam, and arrested one person.

He said the police party noticed a person moving suspiciously near the crossing. On seeing the police, he allegedly attempted to flee but was apprehended.

The accused was identified as Mohd Ayoub Bhat, son of Abdul Khaliq Bhat, a resident of Nursingpora, Kulgam. During

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President Urges Young Medical Professionals To Make Compassion, Service And Accessible Healthcare Their Priority

Murmur Murmu Confers Degrees on First AIIMS Bilaspur Graduating Batch

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

BILASPUR (HIMACHAL PRADESH), OCT 6: President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday conferred degrees on 92 students of the first graduating batch of AIIMS Bilaspur at the institute's inaugural convocation, marking a significant milestone in its academic journey. Addressing the graduates, Murmu urged them to uphold the institution's reputation through dedicated service and ensure that quality healthcare reaches people, particularly those living in remote and inaccessible areas. President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday conferred degrees on the first graduating batch of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Bilaspur at the institute's first convocation, marking a major milestone in its academic and healthcare journey. The President addressed the graduating students in the presence of Himachal



Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta and Union Health and Family Welfare Minister J P Nadda.

Congratulating the graduates, gold medalists, parents, guardians and teachers, Murmu said the first graduating batch has a special responsibility in shaping the identity and legacy of AIIMS Bilaspur.

She urged the graduates to uphold the reputation of the institute through their conduct, commitment and service, and reminded them that the medical profession carries a responsibility towards humanity. The President called upon the graduates to keep the

>>> MORE ON P 02

Omar Seeks Global Push to Make Kashmir Marathon a Major Sporting Event

₹3.17-crore prize purse and new 5K Fun Run aimed at attracting wider participation

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, OCT 6: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday reviewed preparations for the third edition of the Kashmir Marathon and directed officials to strengthen its national and international outreach. Scheduled for October 25, the event carries a total prize purse of ₹3.17 crore and will also feature a new untimed 5K Fun Run aimed at encouraging participation by families, youth and amateur runners.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today reviewed the preparations for the third edition of the Kashmir Marathon and called for a stronger national and international outreach to attract runners from across India and abroad and establish the event as a major global sporting attraction. Chairing a high-level meeting

to review arrangements for the October 25 marathon, the Chief Minister directed the Tourism Department and other concerned agencies to intensify publicity for the event, including through



leading running and fitness influencers. He called for inviting prominent runners and fitness influencers to Kashmir ahead of the event to generate greater interest and build wider visibility around the marathon.

>>> MORE ON P02

J&K Climate Action Plan Sets 2030 Roadmap for Climate Resilience

Revised SAPCC proposes 55 mitigation and 100 adaptation measures with quarterly monitoring



HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, OCT 6: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Tuesday reviewed the revised Jammu and Kashmir State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC 2.0) and called for clearly defined departmental actions, timelines and measurable outcomes up to 2030. The plan proposes 55 mitigation strategies and 100 adaptation measures aimed at reducing climate risks and strengthening resilience across key sectors of the Union Territory.

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a meeting to assess the revised Jammu & Kashmir State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC 2.0), calling for further refinement of the plan by incorporating clearly defined,

department-wise actions, outcomes and timelines up to 2030.

The meeting was attended by several Administrative Heads including ACS, PDD; ACS, Tourism; ACS, PWD; Principal Secretary, DMRR&R; Commissioner Secretary, H&ME; Commissioner Secretary, Forests; Secretary, Transport; Principal Chief Conservator of Forests; Representatives from MoEFCC and senior officers of the concerned departments.

The revised SAPCC, prepared by the Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, seeks to provide a comprehensive framework for strengthening climate resilience in J&K while aligning the Union Territory's climate response with India's

>>> MORE ON P02

HAL Koraput Delivers 2,000th Aero-Engine, Second Shakti Line Announced

Rajnath Singh calls for greater indigenous capability in aerospace propulsion technology

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

KORAPUT, OCT 6: Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's Koraput Division on Tuesday delivered its 2,000th aero-engine, marking six decades of engine manufacturing and overhaul operations. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who witnessed the milestone, announced a second production line for Shakti engines and stressed the need to strengthen indigenous capabilities across the entire aerospace propulsion ecosystem.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Koraput Division delivered its 2,000th aero-engine on Tuesday, marking six decades of aero-engine manufacturing and overhaul operations. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh witnessed the milestone and announced the establishment of a second production line for Shakti engines.



reliance in the aerospace and defence sector. HAL Koraput, established in 1964, has produced engines powering aircraft including the MiG-21, MiG-27, MiG-29 and Su-30MKI. The division has also overhauled more

>>> MORE ON P02

Army Commander reviews operational preparedness in Rajouri, Kalakot

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

RAJOURI, OCT 06 : Army Commander Northern Command Lt Gen Pratik Sharma on Tuesday visited the Kalakot and Rajouri sectors to review operational preparedness and the security situation, with troops briefing him

on vigilance, training and measures to maintain security along the LoC and hinterland.

In a post on social media platform X, the Army, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said Lt Gen Pratik Sharma visited the

New J&K Industrial Policy Nears Final Stage: Dy CM Surinder Choudhary

Says past lapses will not be repeated and benefits will be ensured transparently

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, OCT 6: Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Tuesday said the Union Territory's new industrial policy is in its final stage and will be implemented soon. He said the government is working to remove existing bottlenecks and ensure that industrialists receive benefits in a fair, transparent and legally sound manner. Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Tuesday said the new industrial policy is in its final stage, asserting that past lapses will not be repeated and that the government is working to remove bottlenecks and ensure fair benefits for industrialists in the Union Territory.

Speaking to news agency Kashmir News Service (KNS) Surinder Choudhary said every officer, under the leadership of the Chief Minister, has worked very hard on the new industrial policy and it will be implemented soon.

Have a little patience. Today, the Supreme Court has taken up the case of the Election Commissioner of India and its hearing has begun. One day, a morning like that will also come —



revealing who did it wrong in the previous industrial policy and who did not, he said. On the industrial package for Jammu and Kashmir, the Deputy Chief Minister said a package of ₹28,400 crore had been received, and

>>> MORE ON P02

Woman succumbs day after being struck by e-rickshaw in Nishat

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, OCT 06 :A 50-year-old woman succumbed to her injuries a day after she was struck by an e-rickshaw near Ishber Chowk in Nishat area of Srinagar, officials said.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that an e-rickshaw bearing registration number JK01BE-5707 hit the pedestrian near Ishber Chowk in Nishat on Monday evening.

He said that the woman was shifted to a hospital for treatment, where her condition remained critical during the night. However, she succumbed to her injuries on Tuesday morning.

The deceased woman was identified as Shafiq Bano (50), wife of Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, a resident of Ishber Nishat.

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit is New IAF Chief,

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, OCT 6: The government has appointed Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the 29th Chief of the Air



Staff in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, with effect from the afternoon of October 31.

The present Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, will superannuate from service on October 31, following which Air Marshal Dixit will take charge as the head of the Indian Air Force.

Widely known for his role in

promoting indigenous LCA Tejas and other indigenous aircraft projects in the force, Air Marshal Dixit is expected to further strengthen the government's Aatmanirbharta initiative in the defence sector.

Air Marshal Dixit was commissioned into the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force on December 6, 1986. He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Staff Service College in Bangladesh and the National Defence College. He has more than 3,500 hours of flying experience.

According to the Ministry of Defence, the Air Marshal has held several significant field and staff appointments during his career.

As Commanding Officer, he re-equipped No. 9 Squadron with Mirage-2000 aircraft and later commanded a frontline fighter air base in the Western Sector and a premier fighter training base in the Southern Sector. The Air Officer subsequently served as Air Defence Commander of

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Fresh Rain, Snow Spell Likely Across J&K Over Next 24 Hours

Western Disturbance may bring snowfall to higher reaches along with thunderstorms and gusty winds

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, OCT 6: Jammu and Kashmir is likely to experience a fresh spell of rain and snowfall over



the next 24 hours under the influence of a Western Disturbance, with the higher reaches likely to receive light snowfall. The Meteorological Department has forecast generally cloudy conditions, light rain and thunderstorms at some places from

October 6 to 8, followed by a more active weather spell on October 9 and 10. A fresh spell of rain and snowfall is likely over parts of Jammu and Kashmir in the next 24 hours under the influence of a Western Disturbance.

According to Kashmir Weather, an independent weather forecaster based in Kashmir, thundershowers are likely at some places in the plains, while snowfall is possible over the extreme higher reaches. Temperatures have remained significantly above normal during the last few days, and hailstorms and gusty winds cannot be ruled out at a few places, it said.

Meanwhile, the Meteorological Department, Srinagar, has also forecast a fresh

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Fateha-e-Qul of Muhammad Ibrahim Qadri, Former KAS Officer on October 8



HT NEWS DESK

BARAMULLA, OCT 6: The Fateha-e-Qul (Chahrum) of former KAS officer and former Tehsildar Baramulla, Muhammad Ibrahim Qadri, who passed away after a brief illness, will be offered at his ancestral graveyard in Tragpora, Rafiabab, on Thursday, October 8. Qadri, a resident of Tragpora, Rafiabab, who was presently residing near Baba Reshi

>>> MORE ON P02



addressing genuine concerns relating to the welfare and working conditions of members of the Bar. The KJBA assured the Hon'ble Chief Justice of its continued cooperation and constructive support in further strengthening the rule of law, judicial administration and the legal fraternity.

Deputy CM lays foundation stone for Cafe House, Guest House at govt Silk Factory Rajbagh

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today laid the foundation stone for construction of Café House and renovation of existing Guesthouse at Government Silk Weaving Factory Rajbagh, a unit of Jammu and Kashmir Industries Limited.

MLA, Lal Chowk Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed Pardesi, Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department Vikramjit Singh besides others were present on the occasion.

The project is being executed by the J&K Small Scale Industries Development Corporation Limited (JKSICOP) and aims to enhance the overall ambience of the premises while creating additional facilities for the visitors and stakeholders. The initiative is also expected to generate additional revenue for Jammu & Kashmir Industries Limited (JKI), thereby contributing towards its financial sustainability and institutional revival.

During the event, the Deputy Chief Minister visited the JKI



showroom within the premises of Government Silk Factory, which showcased a wide range of products made from renowned mulberry silk and local wool which is integral to the region's cultural and textile heritage. While appreciating the quality, design and originality of the products, the Deputy Chief Minister commended JKI for its

efforts in preserving traditional skills, especially those related to the world-famous Kashmiri mulberry silk.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the project reflects the Government's commitment to modernisation and optimum utilisation of existing industrial assets, strengthening the

institutional infrastructure of public sector undertakings and exploring avenues for revenue generation through productive use of available resources. He emphasised the JKI officials to work with dedication and enhance the production and subsequent sales for overall development of the organization. He asked them to continue their

efforts in promoting local crafts, which are vital for the region's economic growth and employment generation.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Lal Chowk highlighted the importance of preserving and upgrading the infrastructure of the Government Silk Weaving Factory, Rajbagh, given its significance in promotion of the region's traditional silk industry and preservation of Jammu and Kashmir's rich textile heritage.

Commissioner Secretary Industries and Commerce highlighted that the employees of any organization plays a vital role in shaping its future. He stressed upon the JKI employees to work with integrity and sense of responsibility which will directly contribute to the progress of our industries and the prosperity of our society.

Managing Director JKI, Managing Director JKSIOP, Director Finance, I&C Department, Director Planning, I&C department and other senior officers of the Department were also present on the occasion.

SMC makes home composting mandatory for all its Gazetted Officers

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: In a significant step towards strengthening source-level waste management, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has made home composting mandatory for all its Gazetted Officers, wherever practicable.

The order has been issued by Faz Lul Haseeb, Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, directing all Gazetted Officers to ensure that biodegradable and wet waste generated at their residences is segregated and subjected to home composting through appropriate and scientifically suitable methods. The initiative is aimed at reducing the quantity of wet waste requiring transportation to municipal waste-processing facilities and promoting environmentally responsible waste-management practices among the Corporation's own officers.

Under the order, officers have been directed to submit geotagged photographs of the home-composting activity as evidence of compliance within 10 days. The concerned Zonal Officers and Sectional Heads will maintain records and submit a consolidated compliance report to the Corporation.

The order also provides for verification of compliance before processing the salary of the concerned officer for the current month, subject to applicable service and financial rules. The initiative forms part of SMC's broader efforts to promote source segregation, decentralised processing of biodegradable waste, reduction in waste transportation and sustainable waste management across Srinagar.

The move also seeks to encourage senior officers of the civic body to lead by example, demonstrating that responsible waste management must begin at the point where waste is generated. Faz Lul Haseeb, said the initiative reflects the Corporation's commitment to making source-level waste management an integral part of everyday civic practice and to building a cleaner and more sustainable Srinagar.

Three medical shops closed down at Qaimoh for violation of licence conditions, schedule drug record discrepancies

■ Farooq Rather

KULGAM, OCTOBER 06: An intensive drive was conducted today at Qaimoh area of District Kulgam by the Drug Control Authorities, Kulgam in coordination with Police Department.

During the inspection, three medical shops were found violating the conditions of licences and discrepancies were observed in the maintenance of records of Schedule drugs, especially Schedule H, H1 drugs.

The shops have been closed down on spot under Section 22(d) of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and operation of their licences has been disallowed till compliances.

The inspection is part of continuous efforts of the department to bring transparency in the sale of schedule drugs and to curb the misuse of prescription drugs.

All chemists of the area have been strictly advised to adhere to responsible sale and purchase of schedule drugs, maintain sale/purchase bills, prescription CBS registers as mandated under Rules, and issue bills/cash memo for every sale.

Further, the department has warned that those found violating the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act and Rules shall be strictly dealt with under law. All chemists of the area have been strictly advised to adhere to responsible sale and purchase of schedule drugs, maintain sale/purchase bills, prescription CBS registers as mandated under Rules, and issue bills/cash memo for every sale.

NACM delegation meets Speaker JKLA, seeks intervention for implementation of FRA-2006

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: A delegation of the National Alliance on Community Forest Resources & Minor Forest Produce (NACM), along with members of the Jammu & Kashmir Climate Action Group, today called on Speaker, Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, and submitted a memorandum seeking his intervention for effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA-2006) in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The delegation comprising representatives from Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir, apprised the Speaker of various issues and concerns pertaining to the implementation of the Forest Rights Act in the UT.

The members of the delegation urged the Speaker



to intervene in the matter and facilitate necessary measures for the effective implementation of FRA-2006, stating that the legislation has contributed to transforming rural livelihoods in States where it has been implemented.

The delegation also apprised the Speaker of the issues being faced by communities dependent on forest resources and sought his support in taking up the matter with the concerned authorities for appropriate consideration and resolution.

The Speaker assured the

members that he would take up the matter with the concerned authorities and seek appropriate intervention for addressing the issues raised by them. He assured the delegation that their concerns would be conveyed to the concerned quarters for due consideration in accordance with the applicable provisions and framework. The delegation also apprised the Speaker of the issues being faced by communities dependent on forest resources and sought his support in taking up the matter with the concerned authorities.

Kashmir Jurists Bar Association Delegation Meets Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court of J&K and Ladakh

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, October 6, 2026: A delegation of the Kashmir Jurists Bar Association (KJBA) today called upon the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Hon'ble Justice Dr. Pushpendra Singh Bhatia, and extended a warm welcome and best wishes on his assumption of office.

The delegation was headed by Adv. Altaf Ganderbali, President, KJBA, and accompanied by Adv. Tajamul Choudhary, Chief Coordinator, KJBA, along with Sr. Adv. Ahmad Javid, Sr. Adv. Ehsan-ul-Haq, Adv. Hilal Noorani, Adv. Sibgat Tabasum, Adv. S.M. Saleem, Adv. Waseem Ramzan Lone, Adv. Saima, Adv. Nighat, Adv. Shagufta, Adv. Hamid, Adv. Ishiyah, Adv. Mohd. Shah Nawaz and other members of the Bar. During the meeting, the KJBA delegation discussed matters concerning the welfare and professional interests of advocates, strengthening the justice-delivery system, and the need for speedy disposal of cases and timely delivery of justice.

The delegation expressed its hope that under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Chief



Justice, the High Court and subordinate judiciary would continue to work towards ensuring efficient, accessible and timely justice, while also addressing genuine concerns relating to the welfare and working conditions of members of the Bar.

The KJBA assured the Hon'ble Chief Justice of its continued cooperation and constructive support in further strengthening the rule of law, judicial administration and the legal fraternity.

Rana e-inaugurates 10 water supply schemes in Lolab Constituency Schemes worth 35.64 cr to benefit over 5,600 households

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today e-inaugurated 10 Water Supply Schemes in Lolab Constituency, completed at a total cost of 35.64 crore benefiting 5,662 households across various villages.

The schemes, executed by the Jal Shakti PHE Division Kupwara, are aimed at strengthening the drinking water infrastructure and ensuring improved access to safe, reliable and sustainable water supply for people in the constituency.

Speaking on the occasion, Javed Rana said that the Omar Abdullah-led Government is committed to the welfare and well-being of the people, with a focused approach towards strengthening the basic infrastructure and improving delivery of essential public services.

"The Omar Abdullah-led government is committed to improve the quality of life of people by ensuring that the benefits of development reach every household. Our focus is on strengthening the essential infrastructure and delivering reliable public services at the grassroots," the Minister said.



He said that access to safe and reliable drinking water is fundamental to the well-being and dignity of every household. He added that the government has accorded priority to the expansion, augmentation and timely completion of water supply schemes across Jammu and Kashmir.

Rana said the e-inauguration of the 10 schemes in Lolab marks an important step towards strengthening the water supply network in the constituency and providing improved drinking water facilities to thousands of households.

"Our objective is not merely to create infrastructure but to ensure that every completed scheme delivers the intended benefits to the people. We will continue



to work with a people-centric approach so that every household gets access to essential services in a reliable and sustainable manner," he added.

The inaugurated schemes included WSS Khabuth Dar Mohalla, costing 1.08 crore and covering 93 households in Maindanpora; WSS Dever Anderbugh, costing 3.50 crore and benefiting 1,400 households in Dever and Anderbugh; WSS Gangbugh, costing 3.77 crore and covering 450 households in Sogam and WSS Krusen, costing 4.67 crore and benefiting 626 households in Krusen.

Similarly, WSS Walkhul, constructed at a cost of 4.25 crore, covers 200 households in Tekipora, while WSS Gadwah

costing 0.92 crore caters to 91 households in Sewer Thendipora. WSS Kawari Harden Sewer, costing 3.79 crore, covers 900 households in Sewer Thendipora, while WSS Mergi, costing 0.90 crore, benefits 250 households in Dever Anderbugh. Likewise, WSS Gundmacher constructed at an estimated cost of 2.95 crore, covers 452 households in Rekh Muchwari and Rakhi Gundmacher. Besides, WSS Surigam Wavoor Bon Maidanpora has been completed at a cost of 9.81 crore which covers 1,200 households in Surigam, Wavoor and Maidanpora.

The Minister directed the concerned officers to ensure proper operation and maintenance of the completed schemes so that the intended benefits are sustained and reach the targeted households effectively. He also stressed the need for close monitoring of ongoing water supply projects, timely completion of works and optimum utilisation of public resources, while directing officers to maintain regular field-level oversight of the schemes.

The e-inauguration marks a significant step towards strengthening drinking water infrastructure in Lolab and ensuring improved access to essential public services for the people of the constituency.

Srinagar hosts workshop on RuTAGe Smart Village Centre to promote technology-enabled rural development

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: A workshop on "RuTAGe Smart Village Centre (RSVC)" was held today in Srinagar, with the objective of exploring technology-enabled, inclusive and sustainable solutions for rural development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The workshop was chaired by Babila Rakwal, Administrative Secretary, Science & Technology Department.

Among others who participated included Sapna Poti, Director Strategic Alliance, Office of Principal Scientific Advisor, Govt. Dr. P. R. Dhar, CEO JAKEDA and senior officers from the Departments of Agriculture, Rural Development, Health, Education, Tribal Affairs and others besides representatives from SKUAST-Kashmir, NABARD, J&K SRIM, universities, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), NGOs and other partner institutions.

The workshop focused on the concept of RuTAGe Smart Village Centres as platforms for convergence of technology, local resources, government programmes, institutions and community participation to address the specific needs of rural communities. The discussions highlighted the need for location-



specific, need-based and technology-enabled solutions, keeping in view the diverse geographical and socio-economic conditions of Jammu & Kashmir, including remote mountainous, border and tribal areas.

Emphasis was laid on inter-departmental and institutional convergence, particularly in areas such as agriculture and horticulture, post-harvest management, food processing, storage, market linkages, rural livelihoods, women-led enterprises, skill development, renewable energy, digital connectivity, health and education. The RSVC model can provide a platform for identifying, demonstrating and taking appropriate technologies closer to rural communities.



Stakeholder meeting held for preparation of GIS-Based Master Plan for Kulgam town under AMRUT 2.0

■ **Farooq Rather**

KULGAM, OCTOBER 06: A stakeholder meeting for preparation of the GIS-based Master Plan for Kulgam Town under AMRUT 2.0 was held today at Mini-Secretariat, Kulgam, in presence of MLA Kulgam and Devsar, Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, Special Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, MD AMRUT 2.0, Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir and Chief Town Planner Kashmir.

The meeting deliberated upon a comprehensive framework for planned, sustainable and future-oriented development of Kulgam town, with the proposed vision and development framework up to 2047 forming a key focus of discussion.

During the meeting, the stakeholders discussed positioning Kulgam as a regional



agro-logistics and district service hub while ensuring sustainable urban growth, improved connectivity, economic development and better quality of life.

Various proposed components of the Master Plan were deliberated upon including strengthening of agro-logistics and mandi infrastructure, development of a multispecialty hospital, educational infrastructure, decentralised

parks and recreational spaces, augmentation of the water supply network, improved parking and traffic management, bypass-oriented development and mixed-use development along identified corridors.

Local stakeholders from Kulgam, including market associations, traders, town residents, local communities of town, citizens, ex-PRLs and activists, social society members and other concerned

development and service oriented departments put forward their suggestions for the finalisation of Master Plan.

They suggested that the Master Plan should be framed with a long-term perspective and should not create avoidable liabilities, unplanned development or infrastructure-related burdens for future generations. They stressed that development should remain balanced with environmental protection, adequate infrastructure, traffic management and preservation of the town's natural resources so that the benefits of planned development are sustained for generations to come.

Particular emphasis was laid on river-sensitive development along the Vishaw River, including development of riverfront public spaces and measures for strengthening flood resilience. The need to protect water bodies and environmentally sensitive areas from unsuitable and hazardous

activities was also discussed. It was emphasised that dumping and other potentially polluting activities should not be permitted in the vicinity of water bodies.

Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur stressed the need for ensuring that future construction is safe, planned and compatible with surrounding land use. She emphasised that the Master Plan should clearly identify the permissible activities and type of construction in the core area and other designated zones, while preventing hazardous or incompatible structures and activities in sensitive locations.

The meeting also discussed formulation of appropriate local development by-laws to regulate construction and land use in accordance with the requirements of the town. The proposed shift towards flexible, demand-driven and mixed-use planning, with compatible uses permitted subject to a defined.

DC Bandipora reviews functioning of RDD, reviews progress of Development Works

■ **HT News Network**

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 06: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today chaired a meeting to review the functioning and overall progress of the Rural Development Department (RDD), with particular focus on the status of works under the District CAPEX Budget 2026-27.

The meeting reviewed the status of estimation, tendering and allotment of works, besides expenditure on ongoing works under the District CAPEX Budget 2026-27 covering DDC, BDC, PRI, ABDP and ABDS components.

A detailed review was conducted on the status of works, including estimates framed, Administrative Approvals (AA) received, works tendered and allotted, allotments issued, works taken up and completed. The status of funds released and expenditure booked under ongoing and new works was also reviewed. Block-wise progress was presented during the meeting.

On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned Executive Engineers to expedite execution and ensure that all allotted works are taken up promptly, keeping in view the approaching winter conditions.

The DC directed the concerned officers to closely involve AEEs and JEs in monitoring and field-level supervision.



She also directed that contractors who have taken multiple works must ensure adequate manpower and resources to maintain efficiency and take up all works simultaneously.

The DC further directed that concerned Officers along with JEs shall attend the next review meeting and present updated ground-level status of works.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stressed that action shall be taken against those who fail to commence allotted works within the current week.

Emphasising the need for effective inter-departmental coordination, the DC directed all concerned officers to work promptly and ensure timely execution and completion of works before stipulated timeframe.

DC Kulgam flags off 60 Farmers to exposure visits under HADP

■ **Farooq Rather**

KULGAM, OCTOBER 06: Department of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Kulgam today organised two exposure visits for farmers of the district under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) 2026-27.

The visits are aimed at providing farmers with practical exposure to modern agricultural technologies, scientific farming practices and successful models of agricultural diversification.

Under the first exposure visit, a group of 30 farmers from Kulgam will visit Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh, for a period of six days under the promotion of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants component of HADP 2026-27.

Similarly, another group of 30 farmers will undertake a six-day exposure visit to Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, under the promotion of Floriculture component of HADP 2026-27.

The exposure visits shall



also enable farmers to learn about the latest developments in agriculture and allied sectors through interaction with agricultural scientists, experts and progressive farmers. The participating farmers will get an opportunity to observe modern farming techniques, improved varieties, protected cultivation practices, post-harvest management and other innovative approaches being adopted in different parts of the country.

The visits will also provide practical knowledge about

value addition, grading, packaging, storage and market-oriented farming, besides encouraging farmers towards diversification and adoption of high-value crops and allied activities.

Exposure to successful agricultural models is expected to help farmers identify suitable practices that can be replicated in their own areas.

The event was also attended by CAO, Mohd Rafiq and other officers and officials of the department.

District Mentor reviews progress of AgriStack, Farmer ID Generation in Tehsil Keller

■ **HT News Network**



SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 6: District Mentor for Farmer IDs, Najma, IAS Probationer, today visited Tehsil Keller, District Shopian, to assess and review the progress made regarding the creation of Farmer IDs and the implementation of the AgriStack initiative across the Tehsil.

During the inspection, Najma was accompanied by the Tehsildar Keller and Naib Tehsildar Keller.

She interacted directly with field functionaries to evaluate the status, pace, and execution of the ongoing registration work.

The District Mentor stressed upon all concerned Patwaris to accelerate the creation of Farmer IDs and ensure that all assigned targets are achieved within the stipulated timeframe. She further directed field staff to arrange proper and adequate village-level announcements to ensure all eligible farmers are well-informed and encouraged to generate their Farmer IDs.

Najma emphasized that Patwaris must maintain close coordination with officials from the Agriculture Department to guarantee seamless data verification, accuracy, and timely completion of the process.

The initiative aims to streamline agricultural administration and ensure government benefit distribution reaches all eligible farmers transparently and efficiently through digitized AgriStack records. Najma emphasized that Patwaris must maintain close coordination with officials from the Agriculture Department to guarantee seamless data verification, accuracy, and timely completion of the process.

District Admin Budgam conducts eye screening of 65000 students across all Govt schools

■ **HT News Network**

BUDGAM, OCTOBER 06: The District Administration Budgam, in collaboration with Nayonika Eye Care Charitable Trust has achieved a significant milestone under the district-wide Children's Eye Health Programme, with 60,500 students screened so far out of 70,280 students in the 6-18 age group. The comprehensive screening programme aims to ensure early identification of vision-related problems among school-going children and facilitate timely diagnosis and treatment. The initiative is being implemented across schools in the district with the objective of ensuring that no child is left with an undetected vision problem that could affect learning and overall development.

Out of the students screened so far, around 459 children have been identified with suspected visual difficulties. These children will be provided



spectacles free of cost, wherever required, and will be referred for further examination and appropriate treatment. Children requiring specialised or surgical intervention will be facilitated for treatment at higher health institutions, including tertiary-care eye hospitals.

The screening process involves preliminary eye examinations at the school level, followed by rescreening and detailed assessment at concerned Sub-District Hospitals and District Hospital, ensuring that children identified

with vision difficulties receive appropriate medical attention.

The programme was initiated under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, who has emphasised the importance of screening all school-going children in the district. The Deputy Commissioner has stressed that early detection and treatment of vision problems can significantly improve children's participation in classroom learning and educational activities.

Power Shutdown by KPDCL

■ **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL has informed that the Shutdown of 33 kV Lisser Dooru Line Dooru,

Nowgam, Chowgund, Qammer Hiller, Sadiwara, Verinag, Toolpost and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 03 PM on 07 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Nehalpora Markundal line will be observed due to which power supply to Markundal, Naidkhai, Sumbal, Gund Boon adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 03 PM on 07, 11 & 14 October 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV KP Bagh line will be observed due to which power supply to KP Bagh, Soiteng PHE, Mehjoornagar, Jawaharnagar, Kursoo, Rajbagh, Rajbagh, Zero Bridge, Gogibagh, Lalmandi and adjoining areas will be affected from 10 AM to 03 PM on 10 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Budgam SIDCO line will be observed due to which power supply to Ompora, SIDCO, Housing

Colony, Railway Station Budgam, NIFT and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 03 PM on 10 October 2026.

Meanwhile, the Chief Engineer has informed that the Shutdown of 220 kV Wagoora-Zainakote Circuit-I line, scheduled for 10 October 2026 stands cancelled. Meanwhile, the Chief Engineer has informed that the Shutdown of 220 kV Wagoora-Zainakote Circuit-I line.

Fix monthly targets for timber marking to auction: Rana Directs FDC to prepare vision document, focused policy to boost sales, efficiency

■ **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: Minister for Forest, Ecology & Environment Javed Ahmed Rana today directed the Forest Development Corporation (FDC) Limited and concerned agencies to put in place clear and time-bound monthly targets for timber marking, extraction, transportation and auction.

He issued these instructions while chairing a meeting at Civil Secretariat here held to discuss the issues related to Forest Development Corporation Limited.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment,

Sheetal Nanda and Managing Director, Forest Development Corporation Limited, Dr K Anandh while Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Sarvesh Rai participated online.

Javed Rana emphasised the need to streamline the entire supply chain and ensure timely availability of quality timber to the common people at reasonable rates while calling for completion of the current year's extraction before the onset of snowfall.

"We have to find a way to meet our targets and complete the extraction of the available timber for this year before the onset of snowfall. There should be no avoidable delay at any stage, from marking and



extraction to transportation and auction," the Minister said.

He stressed the need for fixing monthly measurable targets for all stages of timber operations and directed the officers to closely monitor their achievement. He also called for

expediting the tendering process and removing procedural bottlenecks that may affect timely extraction and supply.

"The tendering process has to be streamlined and monthly targets must be fixed and monitored. There should be no

slump in timber marking, as any delay at this stage ultimately affects extraction, transportation and availability of timber in the market," Rana said.

The Minister further directed the concerned authorities to ensure proper

grading and quality assessment of timber so that consumers receive good-quality timber at reasonable and transparent rates. "Our objective should be to make good-quality timber available to the people at reasonable rates. Proper grading, transparent auctioning and an efficient supply mechanism are essential to ensure that the benefit reaches the common man," he said. Rana called for a comprehensive review of functioning of the concerned Forest Corporation, including its monthly performance, sales, revenue generation and measures undertaken to improve the operational efficiency. He directed the officers to prepare a detailed vision document for

the next two to three years, clearly outlining the targets for timber sales, revenue enhancement, operational reforms and improved public service delivery.

"We need to assess where the Corporation stands today, what steps have been taken to improve its functioning and what more needs to be done. A comprehensive MPR and a clear vision document with targets for the next two to three years should be prepared so that progress can be reviewed regularly and corrective measures taken wherever required," the Minister said.

He also directed the officers to formulate a focused policy aimed at increasing the timber

sales, strengthening market linkages and improving the overall efficiency of the timber supply chain while ensuring that forest resources are managed sustainably and the legitimate requirements of the people are adequately met.

Rana also took a detailed status of auction depots and Central Timber Sale Depots (CTSDs) across Jammu and Kashmir and called for ensuring their proper and efficient functioning. He directed the concerned officers to address the operational bottlenecks and strengthen service delivery so that the public gets timely access to timber and does not face avoidable difficulties or have any cause for complaint.





DIPR's Cultural Unit Kashmir holds Drug-Abuse Awareness Programme at GGHS Wakoora

HT News Network

GANDERBAL, OCTOBER 06: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukta Abhiyan, the Cultural Unit Kashmir of the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) today organised an awareness programme on drug abuse at Government Girls High School (GGHS), Wakoora, Ganderbal.

The programme aimed to sensitise students about the harmful effects of drug abuse and encourage them to adopt healthy, productive and responsible lifestyles. Students actively participated in speeches and other awareness activities based on the theme of the programme.

Addressing the gathering, Assistant Exhibition and Cultural Officer (AECO), Cultural Unit Kashmir, Syed Shakeel Shan, emphasised the crucial role of parents in preventing children from falling prey to substance abuse. He urged parents to maintain regular



communication with their children, keep a close and caring vigil over their activities and create a supportive environment where children can openly discuss their concerns.

The Head of the Institution also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the importance of sustained awareness among students regarding the dangers of drug abuse. He appreciated the efforts of DIPR in taking awareness programmes to educational institutions and thanked the Cultural Unit Kashmir for organising the programme.

Noted folk singer Haseena Akhtar presented thematic songs highlighting the message of a drug-free society. Her performance added an engaging cultural dimension to the awareness campaign and received appreciation from the students and faculty.

At the conclusion of the programme, the participating students were felicitated with

certificates and mementos in recognition of their active participation and contribution to the awareness initiative.

The programme reiterated the collective responsibility of families, educational institutions and society in building a Nasha Mukta J&K and safeguarding the future of the younger generation. The Head of the Institution also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the importance of sustained awareness among students regarding the dangers of drug abuse. He appreciated the efforts of DIPR in taking awareness programmes to educational institutions and thanked the Cultural Unit Kashmir for organising the programme.

Noted folk singer Haseena Akhtar presented thematic songs highlighting the message of a drug-free society. Her performance added an engaging cultural dimension to the awareness campaign and received appreciation from the students and faculty.

DC reviews preparations for Basohli Utsav; inspects key venues

Departments asked to complete necessary well in advance

HT News Network

KATHUA, OCTOBER 6: Deputy

inspected the OBC Hostel, Water Sports Centre and Ramila Ground. He reviewed the preparations and availability of essential facilities at



Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today visited various locations across Basohli to review the preparations for the upcoming Basohli Utsav. He took stock of arrangements at key venues and issued necessary guidelines to the concerned officers for successful conduct of the festival.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya hostel, the Water Sports Centre, Janjhar field, Rani Talab, OBC Hostel, Water and Ramila Ground, among other designated venues.

At Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, the DC directed the PWD authorities to complete the tile work outside the Multipurpose Hall within seven days and undertake tarring of the adjoining road. He further directed concerned departments to make available adequate drinking water, power supply and other amenities at all venues including the hostel near Degree College, Janjhar and Rani Talab.

The Deputy Commissioner also

these venues.

The DC stressed close coordination among all stakeholder departments. He directed the officers to ensure that all works and arrangements are completed within the stipulated timeline, with special focus on visitor convenience, safety and overall presentation of the festival venues.

He was accompanied by ADC Basohli Pankaj Bagotra; CEO BBDA BR Tandon; DFO Suresh Sharma; Tehsildar Basohli Sagar Vishwa Karma and other concerned officers. The DC stressed close coordination among all stakeholder departments. He directed the officers to ensure that all works and arrangements are completed within the stipulated timeline, with special focus on visitor convenience, safety and overall presentation of the festival venues.

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GHSS Dawar Gurez Students Visit JKAA-CL for Interaction-cum-Exposure Tour

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6: The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAA-CL), Srinagar, hosted an Interaction-cum-Exposure Tour for students of Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Dawar, Gurez, as part of their internship course.

The programme was presided over by Secretary JKAA-CL, Harvinder Kour, with Additional Secretary, Lal Chand, and Principal GHSS Dawar, Gurez, Mohammad Asadullah, in the presidium.

Salim Salik, Editor, Urdu,



JKAA-CL, briefed the students about the Academy's history, mandate and functioning, with particular emphasis on its literary publications, cultural activities and initiatives for the promotion and preservation of regional languages and literature. He also apprised them about the activities of the Urdu Wing and its publications.

The students actively participated in the interaction, sought information about the Academy's literary and cultural initiatives, and also visited the JKAA-CL Library to familiarise themselves with its resources.

Speaking on the occasion, Harvinder Kour appreciated the students and faculty of GHSS Dawar for undertaking the exposure tour and stressed the importance of preserving the region's linguistic heritage. She encouraged the students to learn Shina language and contribute to its promotion through writing and creative expression.

CUKashmir's DIQA starts 3-day workshop on 'NAAC Data Consolidation and Faculty Profile Updation on Samarth'

HT News Network

Ganderbal, Oct 6: The Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance (DIQA), Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir), began a three-day sensitization and orientation workshop on "NAAC Data Consolidation and Faculty Profile Updation on the SAMARTH portal" for the department nodal officers at the Tulmulla Campus here Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Registrar, Dr. Nisar Ahmad Mir said, "The quality of accreditation and ranking depends on how accurately and coherently we present our institutional data. Our focus should be on authentic, consistent and evidence-based information that truly

reflects the University's students, faculty, infrastructure, research and resources." He further asked the participating faculty members and other employees to share the proceedings of the workshop with other colleagues. "What we learn through such programmes must be shared and translated into action across the University so that we are fully prepared for the requirements of NAAC accreditation and other institutional rankings" Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir added.

Addressing the participants, Director DIQA, Prof. Syed Zahoor Ahmad Geelani, emphasised collective ownership of quality assurance. "We are all part of this university," he said, adding, "we can never remain in silos.

Kashmir Climate Consultation Brings Diverse Voices Together in Srinagar Under Climate Week India 2026

HM Mustafa Botoo

Srinagar/ 6 October 2026

* As part of Climate Week India 2026, a powerful Kashmir Climate Consultation was organised in Srinagar by Stand for Kashmiri Youth (SKY) Trust. The consultation brought together academics, civil society organisations, climate activists, students, and members of marginalised communities on a common platform to deliberate on a critical question: What is climate change doing to Kashmir? Participating organisations included the Institute for Social Democracy, New Delhi; Human Welfare Voluntary Organisation, Human Aid Society; SAF Initiative, Kashmir Lifeline, SEED J&K; SSM College of Engineering, alongside independent climate activists. The deliberations focused on: - How Kashmir is being impacted by the climate crisis and the drivers behind it.

- What has visibly changed in



Kashmir when viewed through a climate lens- How climate change impacts people differently, disproportionately affecting marginalised communities with the least resources.

- The responsibility of individuals, institutions and organisations in responding to the crisis - Concrete personal and collective commitments for climate mitigation in Kashmir. More than a discussion, the consultation became a moment of self-realisation of recognising what

Kashmir is slowly losing, of acknowledging unequal vulnerabilities, and of accepting shared responsibility. Participants resolved to carry the conversation beyond the consultation hall through sustained personal action, institutional collaboration, and community-led climate initiatives. The organisers stated that the Kashmir Climate Consultation marks the beginning of a longer, inclusive climate dialogue in the region, one that centres justice, youth leadership, and grassroots experience.

Stakeholders Meet-cum-Workshop on Medicinal Plants Sector Held at Leh

HT News Network

Leh, October 06: The Regional cum Facilitation Centre Northern Region-II (RCFC NR-II), SKUAST Kashmir, in collaboration with the School of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (SAS&T), University of Ladakh, organized a Stakeholders Meet-cum-Workshop on "Strengthening of Medicinal Plants Sector through Conservation, Sustainable Cultivation and Entrepreneurship Development" at SAS&T, Stakna, Leh.

The programme brought together farmers, officials, scientists, faculty members, students and other stakeholders associated with the medicinal plants sector, with a focus on conservation, sustainable cultivation and entrepreneurship development.

The programme commenced with registration of participants



and delegates, followed by a traditional Khatak ceremony and presentation of mementos to the distinguished dignitaries.

Prof. Maheshwar Singh Kanwar, Associate Director/Dean, SAS&T, University of Ladakh, delivered the welcome address. Dr. Kunzes Angmo, Scientist-cum-Assistant Professor, SAS&T, University of Ladakh, gave a presentation on medicinal plants cultivation and highlighted their importance and potential in the regional context. Dr. Sonam Dawa,

District Horticulture Officer, Department of Horticulture, Leh, delivered the keynote address and briefed the participants about various schemes available in the region, besides sharing field experiences from the horticulture sector. Prof. Tariq H. Masoodi, Nodal Coordinator, RCFC NR-II, made an introductory presentation on the "Status, Challenges and Strengths of Medicinal Plants in Ladakh Region vis-à-vis Way Forward". He highlighted the vision and mandate

of RCFC NR-II, its achievements and various initiatives aimed at strengthening the medicinal plants sector in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Dr. Tashi Thinlas, Director Health Services/Ayush and Chief Executive Officer, State Medicinal Plant Board, UT Ladakh, attended the programme as Guest of Honour and addressed the gathering. He highlighted the scope and potential of medicinal plants, sustainable cultivation practices and existing bottlenecks in the sector, stressing the need for coordinated efforts among stakeholders. An interactive session with farmers, scientists, officials and other stakeholders provided an opportunity for exchange of experiences and discussion on measures to promote conservation, sustainable cultivation and entrepreneurship in the medicinal plants sector.

GBHSI Khonmoh students get first-hand exposure to AI, cybersecurity at GenTechPro

Industrial visit complements LG Manoj Sinha-led push to introduce AI, cybersecurity and emerging technologies at school level in J&K

JAMEEL ANSARI

Srinagar, Oct 5: In line with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha-led initiatives to promote emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cybersecurity at the school level, GenTechPro IT Solutions hosted students and faculty members of Government Boys Higher Secondary Institute (GBHSI), Khonmoh, Srinagar, for an industrial exposure visit aimed at familiarising them with the fast-evolving Information Technology sector.

The visit provided students with practical exposure to workplace practices, software development, computer networking, cybersecurity, IT infrastructure and emerging career opportunities in technology-driven fields.

The initiative assumes

significance amid efforts in Jammu and Kashmir to expose school students to new-age technologies at an early stage and prepare them for changing academic, professional and employment requirements.

GenTechPro, a technology, proposal development and staffing firm with offshore operations in Srinagar and clients in the United States, introduced the visiting students to different aspects of its professional work environment and technology-driven operations.

Welcoming the students, GenTechPro CEO and Co-founder Dr. Hidayat Bukhari highlighted the growing role of Artificial Intelligence in education, employment and the future workplace. He said students in Kashmir need greater exposure to emerging technologies so that they are better equipped to compete in



an increasingly technology-driven world.

Dr. Bukhari said he had earlier put forward suggestions regarding education reforms in Jammu and Kashmir, including greater emphasis on Artificial Intelligence and cybersecurity at the school level.

"I am highly thankful to Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj

Sinha for considering my suggestion with respect to introducing subjects such as cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence in computer science education at the school level during the fourth episode of 'Awaam Ki Awaaz' radio programme," he said.

He said introducing students to contemporary areas of computer science at an early stage could

strengthen technology education in Jammu and Kashmir and help young people identify career paths beyond conventional academic choices.

GenTechPro Co-founder and Director of Operations Syed Jahangir Nazir spoke about how Information Technology, cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence are reshaping career opportunities across sectors.

He said exposing students to such subjects at the school level was important to help them understand future skill requirements, broaden their intellectual outlook and prepare them to explore opportunities in software, cybersecurity, data science, Artificial Intelligence and other technology-driven fields.

The industrial visit comprised 46 students from Classes IX to XII, including girl students, who

interacted with professionals and observed different aspects of the organisation's working environment.

During the visit, Samreen Tak, Proposal Lead at GenTechPro, briefed the students about the firm's areas of work and explained the importance of remaining abreast of technological developments. She encouraged students to build digital skills and develop an understanding of how technology is increasingly becoming integral to different professions and industries.

Munawar Ahmad, Business Development Head at GenTechPro, said the growth of IT and AI-driven businesses could create new opportunities for students in Kashmir in employment, entrepreneurship and remote work. He said early exposure to the industry could help students understand how technology skills

can be developed into viable careers and business opportunities.

Students and faculty members of the institute, including Dr. Shafiya Yaseen, Senior Lecturer, Chemistry; Dr. Sebiha Rehman, Senior Lecturer, Physics; Khalid Masroor, Senior Lecturer, Commerce; Tabaruk Hussain, Teacher; Mohinder Paul, Teacher; Hilal Rather, Teacher; and Nazia Nazir, Vocational Trainer, IT, thanked GenTechPro for providing students with an opportunity to gain practical exposure to the IT industry and emerging fields such as Artificial Intelligence and cybersecurity.

They said such industry interactions complement classroom learning and help students understand the practical application of technology, workplace requirements and future career opportunities.



HT EDITORIAL

J&K's New Industrial Policy Must Put Local Industry First

The revised framework must move beyond incentives and ensure that local entrepreneurs, MSMEs, workers and resources are at the heart of industrial growth

The Jammu and Kashmir Government's decision to finalise a revised Industrial Policy comes at an important moment. Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary's assurance that the shortcomings and alleged selective treatment witnessed under the previous policy will not be repeated is welcome. But the real test of the new policy will not be the number of incentives it offers or the size of the investment it announces. It will be whether industrial growth actually strengthens Jammu and Kashmir's own economic base.

The Union Territory has already received an industrial package of Rs 28,400 crore. Yet the benefits of such a substantial package have not been felt uniformly across the industrial landscape. The experience of the previous policy has highlighted the need for greater transparency, faster implementation and, above all, a stronger focus on local industry.

The new policy must therefore put local entrepreneurs, existing industrial units, MSMEs and local employment at its centre. Jammu and Kashmir should not become merely a destination where outside investors establish units, avail incentives and eventually take away most of the economic value. External investment is important and must be encouraged, but it should complement—not displace—the region's own entrepreneurs.

There is an urgent need to strengthen industries based on J&K's distinctive strengths. Horticulture and food processing, handicrafts and handloom, wool and textiles, furniture and wood-based products, tourism-linked manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, renewable energy, IT and services, cold-chain infrastructure and packaging can create substantial local value if supported by appropriate infrastructure and market access.

The policy should also give special attention to value addition within J&K. Too often, raw material produced in the region leaves for processing elsewhere, while the higher-value finished product returns to the market at a much greater price. This cycle must be broken. Apple, saffron, walnut, dry fruits, spices, dairy, wool and other locally produced commodities should increasingly be processed, packaged and branded within the Union Territory.

Likewise, existing industrial estates and manufacturing clusters deserve as much attention as new investment proposals. Many local units face problems relating to power supply, roads, logistics, finance, raw material, land, taxation, market access and delayed approvals. Reviving and expanding existing units should be treated as an industrial priority alongside attracting new investors.

The government should consider a dedicated mechanism for local MSMEs, with easier access to credit, technology upgradation, common testing and processing facilities, digital marketing support and government procurement opportunities. Local enterprises should not be expected to compete with large companies on unequal terms while struggling with basic infrastructure.

Employment must be another non-negotiable measure of success. Incentives should be linked, wherever appropriate, to verifiable local employment, skill development and investment actually made on the ground. A project that receives public support but generates few sustainable jobs for local youth cannot be considered a complete industrial success.

The consultation process undertaken by the government—placing the draft in the public domain and inviting suggestions—is a positive step. But consultation must not end with the notification of the policy. Industrial associations, MSMEs, entrepreneurs, workers and local business groups should have a continuing role in monitoring implementation and identifying bottlenecks.

The revised policy must also eliminate perceptions of selective treatment. A transparent, rule-based system should replace discretion wherever possible. Clear eligibility conditions, time-bound approvals, online tracking, single-window clearances and an effective grievance-redress mechanism can substantially improve investor confidence.

Jammu and Kashmir does need outside capital. It needs modern technology, new markets and large investments. But the ultimate objective should be to build an economy in which local capital grows, local businesses expand, local resources are processed locally and local youth find dignified employment at home.

The Rs 28,400-crore industrial package provides an important opportunity. The revised Industrial Policy must ensure that this opportunity is not measured merely in crores sanctioned or projects announced, but in factories that actually operate, enterprises that survive, products that carry a J&K identity and jobs that remain with the people of the Union Territory.

When Those Who Guard The Sanctuary Of Knowledge Become Its Predators



Jasmine Fatima

The following is not a scene from a horror movie. There is no dark room, no deserted street, no masked stranger lurking in the shadows. It is a classroom. In a university. In broad daylight. And if the reported account is true, what happened there is perhaps more terrifying precisely because the person who allegedly crossed every boundary was not an unknown predator—but a professor, a Head of Department, a man entrusted with the education, evaluation and academic future of the very students who sat before him.

Picture the scene. A classroom in a science department. Young men and women sit quietly, each carrying a different story of struggle behind their academic journey. Some have come from modest homes. Some have watched their parents sacrifice everything so that their children could study.

Some have travelled miles, fought financial hardship and spent years preparing for the privilege of sitting in that classroom. They came there believing that a university would be a place that would change their lives, where knowledge would liberate them, and where the person standing at the head of the classroom would be worthy of their respect.

Then, reportedly, the professor calls out a female student's name.

"Stand up."

She stands. He looks at her, and, in the presence of the entire class, the professor reportedly draws attention to her father's humble occupation, making a degrading remark about his profession, and then turns his attention to the young woman's appearance.

Imagine a young woman standing before an entire classroom, suddenly reduced—not to a student, not to a scholar, not to a human being with dreams and dignity—but to an object of someone else's vulgar amusement.

For a few seconds, she reportedly stands frozen. She says nothing. Words fail her. And then, almost imperceptibly, tears begin to gather in her eyes. She does not scream. She does not protest. She simply stands there, trying to hold herself together while silent tears run down her face.

The room falls silent. Her tears speak, because she cannot.

Before the shock has even settled, the professor reportedly turns to the class and offers himself, astonishingly, as someone who can advise students about alcohol consumption.

Then comes the statement that should make the conscience of every decent society tremble.

Addressing the female students, the man reportedly tells them, in substance, that they should understand who he is; that he has the power to destroy their careers and their lives; that the marks of their theses are in his hands.

And then, reportedly, comes the most grotesque declaration of all: these young women are not his daughters or sisters; they can, in his words, be his girlfriends or wives.

Stop for a moment.

Read that again.

This was reportedly not whispered in a dark corridor. Not muttered behind a closed door. Not said secretly to one frightened individual.

It was allegedly said in a classroom, in front of students, by a person occupying a position of authority.

That is perhaps the most frightening part of the entire story.

Because when a predator begins to speak without fear in daylight, in a room full of witnesses, the question is no longer merely about the predator.

The question becomes: what has happened

to the ecosystem around him that taught him he had nothing to fear? If the subsequent reports are accurate, students protested. A complaint was lodged. The matter attracted public and media attention. And then came the familiar institutional choreography: explanations, statements, committees, appeals for calm, and—most disturbingly—attempts to persuade or pacify the victim.

And then, reportedly, the complaint was withdrawn. The frightened person disappeared into silence.

Those who had dared to speak were reportedly asked to explain themselves.

And the alleged perpetrator? Conveniently absent.

Perhaps this is how institutional machinery protects itself: not by proving that nothing happened, but by making the person who complained wish that she had never spoken.

BUT WHO GAVE HIM THE COURAGE?

This is where the real questions begin. What gave this so-called custodian of knowledge, the courage to speak in such a manner before an entire classroom?

Jasmine Fatima is Editor in Chief- Wadi Ki Awaaz and she can be reached at (Email: fatimajasmine2024@gmail.com)

Wildlife Conservation: Securing the Future with Nature



Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

Wildlife is not just a country's natural wealth; it is also a vital link in its ecosystem. Forests, grasslands, wetlands, rivers, and marine ecosystems can remain balanced only when the diverse species inhabiting them are protected. India is among the world's most important countries in terms of biodiversity. It is home to a diverse range of habitats, from the Himalayas to the Western Ghats, the Thar Desert to the Sundarbans and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Therefore, wildlife conservation is not just an effort to save a few rare species, but also a question of protecting natural resources and human life. The efforts to scientifically reintroduce the captive-bred Great Indian Bustard (Great Indian Bustard) to its natural habitat in Rajasthan are an example of India's emphasis on scientific interventions alongside traditional conservation measures.

The first and most obvious importance of wildlife conservation is protecting biodiversity. Every species plays a role in the ecosystem. The extinction of a species is not simply the loss of a single individual, but can also affect many biological processes associated with it. The conservation of a critically endangered species like the Great Indian Bustard is important because its survival is linked to the protection of its entire grassland habitat. Similarly, the conservation of the tiger has promoted the protection of large forest areas, prey species, and the entire food chain in India. Therefore, the conservation of an 'umbrella species' can provide a protective shield for many other

species.

Wildlife also plays a vital role in maintaining ecological balance. Predatory species control herbivore populations, pollinators aid plant reproduction, and many birds and small creatures contribute to seed dispersal. Weakening a crucial link in the food chain can have devastating

economic importance. National parks, sanctuaries, and tiger reserves promote nature-based tourism, creating employment and income opportunities for local communities. If tourism is developed with local participation and within environmental constraints, conservation and livelihoods can complement each other.



effects on the entire ecosystem. Healthy forests and grasslands also contribute to water conservation, soil quality, and carbon sequestration. Thus, wildlife conservation is directly linked to climate and environmental security.

Wildlife conservation also ensures numerous ecological services for human society. Conservation of forests and wetlands helps conserve water, recharge groundwater, control floods, and moderate temperatures. Conservation of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators is linked to agricultural productivity. Similarly, natural habitats contribute to carbon storage and help mitigate the effects of climate change. Therefore, protecting nature is not just an environmental responsibility; it is also fundamental to food, water, and livelihood security.

Wildlife conservation is also of no small

importance. National parks, sanctuaries, and tiger reserves promote nature-based tourism, creating employment and income opportunities for local communities. If tourism is developed with local participation and within environmental constraints, conservation and livelihoods can complement each other.

Furthermore, wildlife is part of India's cultural and natural heritage. It is our generation's responsibility to ensure that future generations see tigers, elephants, great Indian boas, rhinoceroses, lions, and numerous bird species in their natural surroundings.

However, the challenges facing wildlife conservation are serious. The most significant challenge is habitat degradation and fragmentation. Growing populations, agricultural expansion, mining, roads, railways, industries, and other infrastructure projects are shrinking wildlife habitats. Fragmented forests affect animal movement and breeding. Protecting wildlife corridors is essential, especially for large species such as elephants, tigers, and leopards.

Modern infrastructure development has also brought new challenges. Road and rail accidents, collisions with power lines and energy

infrastructure can threaten many bird and other wildlife species. The Great Indian Bustard is a significant example. Simply increasing bird numbers is not enough to conserve it; threats to its habitat must also be mitigated. This highlights the need for conservation strategies to be both species-focused and landscape-focused.

Human-wildlife conflict also poses a major conservation challenge. When elephants enter farmlands, leopards appear near settlements, or wild animals damage crops, they pose real economic and security challenges for local people. If conservation benefits do not reach local communities, resentment towards conservation can develop. Similarly, poaching and wildlife trafficking continue to threaten some species. Climate change further complicates this challenge, as changing temperature and rainfall patterns are impacting the traditional habitats of many species.

Therefore, the strategy ahead must be multifaceted. First, natural habitats must be protected while simultaneously restoring damaged habitats. Wildlife corridors must be scientifically identified and protected. Environmental clearances for development projects must consider not just a single protected area, but the entire landscape and wildlife movement. Where scientifically appropriate, captive breeding, gene banks, radio-tagging, camera traps, and other modern technologies should be utilized. Breeding and restoration programs for endangered birds like the Great Indian Bustard will only be successful if their natural habitats are also protected.

The participation of local communities is one of the most important prerequisites for conservation. Instead of treating villagers as mere conservation law enforcers, they should be made partners in conservation.

(Dr. Priyanka Saurabh, PhD (Political Science), is a poet and social thinker.)

Festival Look For Navratras



need bright colours, otherwise your face will look pale.

First, cleanse the skin and apply a liquid moisturizer. For oily skin, apply an astringent lotion with cotton wool.

Wait for a few minutes. Then, cover blemishes with a concealer, before applying foundation. Or, use a lighter colour foundation on dark blemishes and then apply normal foundation on the entire face. If you wish to cover a pimple or spot, it should be done before applying foundation or powder. Concealing sticks are available for this. Using a thin brush, paint over the spot with a little concealer, or lighter shade of foundation. Then, apply a little powder.

Dot foundation on the face and blend with a damp sponge or with finger tips. Don't forget the neck. Apply loose powder, or try compact powder to set the foundation. Use foundation with beige tones, rather than pink. I feel beige suits Indian skin colour better. If you have a very fair ivory skin, go for beige with a rosy tint. If the complexion is fair, but pale (yellowish), avoid pink tones and go for beige or biscuit. Darker complexions look better with brownish beige. I feel that most Indian skin tones look better in beige or biscuit shades of foundation,

rather than pink.

Or go for gold foundation for this special occasion. Dot the face with it and blend with a moist sponge, to give the skin a golden glow. When you apply make-up, remember not to smear too much or rub it. Whether it is foundation or blusher, it is best to dot it with a light touch, using a finger tip, or an applicator. It can also be applied lightly and evenly with a damp sponge.

Try tinted powders, like warm yellow tones of powder. Powder with a golden tint will also suit. It should be lightly applied. If you want a really healthy glow without the shine, go for a bronzing powder. Avoid applying too much. It should be lightly applied, using a big powder brush.

A hint of blusher should be used on the cheeks. A powder blusher is easier to apply. Use it after you have applied powder. Apply on the cheeks and blend it outwards and slightly upwards. Then, apply light coloured highlighter on the cheekbones. Blend well.

Blusher colours for the night need not match lip colour exactly, but it should be in the same colour tone. For example, if you have worn an orange lipstick, avoid pink blush on. For fair skin, try pinks and reds. If you have a

yellowish skin, avoid orange. For wheat complexions, colours like rose, coral, copper are flattering, while plum, wine, bronze may suit darker complexions.

For eyes, apply lighter brown shadow on the upper eye lid and dark brown eye shadow in the crease, to add depth. Outline the eyes with dark eye pencil or eyeliner. For a smudged effect, a dark eye shadow also works well on the upper lid, close to the lashes. Extend it a little beyond the outer corner of the eyes, slightly upwards. Smudging can be done with a sponge tipped applicator. Eye liner or dark eye shadow may be applied on the lower lid and then smudged.

Actually, dramatic and heavy eye make-up, with the black eye-lined or winged eye look has been the trend and is gaining in popularity. It will be ruling fashion trends. Go for dark eyeliner just under the lower lashes and on upper lid close to the lashes. Extend the lines on upper and lower eyelids beyond eyes, like the 60s heavy eye make up look. Coloured liner can also be used with black eyeliner, as it is becoming a trend. Pastel eyeliners, in blue, yellow and even orange will be "in" during the coming seasons.

For Navratri make-up, you may want to try gold, silver or bronze shadow to line the eyes over your eyeliner on the upper lid. Highlight under the brows with gold, ivory or a light coloured eye shadow.

Then apply mascara. Roll-on mascara is easy to apply. While applying mascara on the upper lashes, look downwards. Apply it both above and below the upper lashes, for a thicker look. Apply on lower lashes too. Wait for a while and apply a second coat. Then brush out the lashes, with a small eyelash brush. To make lashes appear thicker, apply powder between two coats of mascara.

Gloss is popular for the lips. Use a lip liner the same colour as your lipstick. Apply lip gloss in the centre, after applying lipstick.

The author is international reputed beauty expert and is known as herbal queen of india

The views and opinions expressed in this article are solely those of the author and do not reflect the editorial policy of Headlines Today at all and in any manner. We assume no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, completeness, or consequences of the views expressed therein....

A few words from the General Dhiraj Seth CAOS renewed my confidence



By M S Nazki

A few words from the Chief renewed my confidence.....Informality and much more decentralized because the heart is more active than a mind in a shoot off!

-The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him

-This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave...

-Courage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.. Nelson Mandela

-Bravery is the only one who knows you're afraid

-When the will defies fear, when duty throws the gauntlet down to fate, when honor scorns to compromise with death—that is heroism...Unknown!

-Psychological and Mental Resilience

• Positive Mental Attitude (PMA): Militaries train soldiers to maintain a positive and focused mindset to handle extreme stress, fatigue, and danger.

• Coping and Survival: Experiencing moments of hope or camaraderie can sometimes buffer against severe psychological trauma during ongoing conflicts.

• Overconfidence and Positive Illusions: Leaders and nations often rely on optimistic biases—overestimating their own strength while underestimating the enemy—which can drive them into conflict but also sustain morale.

Societal and Systemic Perspectives

• National Unity: Historical and philosophical arguments sometimes view external conflict as a catalyst that forces divided populations to unite

behind a common purpose.

• Technological and Industrial Growth: Major wars have historically accelerated medical breakthroughs, manufacturing scale, and technological infrastructure.

• Economic Stimulation: Defense sectors and arms manufacturing industries often see financial growth and employment spikes during active hostilities or heightened geopolitical tensions.

Criticisms and Counter Arguments

• Moral Objections: Critics argue that finding "positive" outcomes in war minimizes immense human suffering, loss of life, and devastation.

• Toxic Positivity: Forced optimism or dismissing the horrific realities of combat can prevent soldiers and civilians from processing genuine trauma or seeking help for post-traumatic stress.

-The theme of the story went something like this:

-I see positivity, informality, and ease whenever the chief visits and interacts with his officers and troops. His statesmanship and generosity are felt throughout. General Dhiraj Seth CAOS is a breath of fresh air—the kind the Indian Army has long needed. More power to you!

-Now how to elaborate it was the question:

-The answers I found out!

-While the Indian Armed Forces are defined by discipline and stoicism, several legendary commanders are globally celebrated for their infectious optimism, humor, and ability to remain cheerful in the face of absolute peril.

Three Indian generals famed for their unwavering positive attitude include:

1. Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw (Sam Bahadur)

-Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw is perhaps the most celebrated icon of military optimism and wit in Indian history. Even when facing deadly situations, his cheerful confidence never wavered:

• The "Mule" Incident: During World War II, he was shot nine times in the stomach. When the surgeon asked what happened, a smiling Manekshaw famously joked that he had been "kicked by a mule".



• The Last Words: His legendary optimism lasted until his final days. Suffering from severe pneumonia on his deathbed in 2008, his last recorded words were confident, "I'm okay".

• Handling Political Pressure: When Prime Minister Indira Gandhi asked if he was ready for the 1971 war, his characteristically charming and upbeat reply was, "I am always ready, sweetie".

2. General K.S. Thimayya (Timmy)

-General K.S. Thimayya, who served as the Chief of Army Staff from 1957 to 1961, was universally loved for his radiant personality and brilliant smile.

• The "Smiling General": He was known for leading from the front with a beaming face, which boosted the morale of his troops during tough Himalayan deployments.

• Infectious Enthusiasm: He firmly believed that an army officer's greatest weapon is a high-spirited attitude. His approachability and cheerfulness made him an icon not only within the Indian Army but also internationally during his UN assignments.

3. Lieutenant General Kanwaljeet Singh Dhillon (Tiny Dhillon)

A modern-day example of relentless positivity,

Lt. Gen. K.J.S. Dhillon (Retd) commanded the crucial 15 Corps (Chinar Corps) in Kashmir during highly volatile periods, including the Pulwama crisis.

• "Kitne Ghazi Aaye, Kitne Ghazi Gaye": His signature phrase (which also became the title of his bestselling book) perfectly captures his unshakeable, positive swagger in the face of terrorism.

• Community-First Optimism: Instead of an aggressive-only approach, he spearheaded uplifting public initiatives like Operation Maa to guide local youths away from extremism and back to their families, proving that constructive, forward-looking positivity can change lives even in conflict zones.

-Positivity in warfare refers to the psychological mindsets, morale-building strategies, and societal arguments that frame armed conflict or military service through a constructive or optimistic lens.

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I never told you about five principles: Two I will give with the first half of the story:

-Sincerity means doing your best and being honest even when no one is watching.

-The Empty Flower Pot

-An old emperor wanted to find a new leader.

He gave a special seed to every child in the kingdom. He said, "Water this seed for six months and bring back your plant."

A boy named Leo watered his pot every single day. But the seed did not grow. After six months, other children carried huge, beautiful flowers to the palace. Leo felt sad, but he carried his empty pot to the king and told the truth about his failed plant.

Beyond the Noise

Learning to Hear Yourself



Dr. Uzma Naqash

Introduction

In a world filled with constant notifications, opinions, expectations, comparisons, and responsibilities, finding a moment of silence has become increasingly difficult. We are surrounded by noise—not only the sounds around us, but also the noise within us. The expectations of family, society, colleagues, friends, and social media can sometimes become so overwhelming that we gradually lose touch with our own thoughts and feelings.

Learning to hear yourself is not about withdrawing from the world. It is about creating enough inner space to understand what you truly feel, what you need, and what matters to you.

The Noise Within

Not all noise is external. Sometimes the loudest voices are inside our own minds.

"Am I doing enough?"

"What will people think?"

"Why am I not successful yet?"

"Should I be more like someone else?"

Such questions can create continuous mental pressure. When we repeatedly compare ourselves with others or seek approval, we may begin to ignore our own emotional needs.

Over time, this can contribute to stress, emotional exhaustion, self-doubt, and a feeling of disconnection from oneself.

The Influence of Social Media

Social media has transformed the way people communicate and see the world. It can provide connection, information, and opportunities, but constant exposure to carefully presented images of other people's lives can also encourage comparison.

We often see achievements but not struggles, celebrations but not disappointments, and confidence but not insecurity. Comparing our ordinary moments with someone else's carefully selected moments can create unrealistic expectations.

Taking occasional breaks from social media can therefore become an important form of self-care. Silence can help us distinguish between what we genuinely want and what we have simply learned to desire.

Learning to Listen to Your Emotions

Emotions are important signals. Sadness

may tell us that something matters to us. Anger may indicate that a boundary has been crossed. Fear may alert us to uncertainty. Exhaustion may tell us that we need rest.

Instead of immediately suppressing difficult emotions, we can learn to ask:

"What is this feeling trying to tell me?"

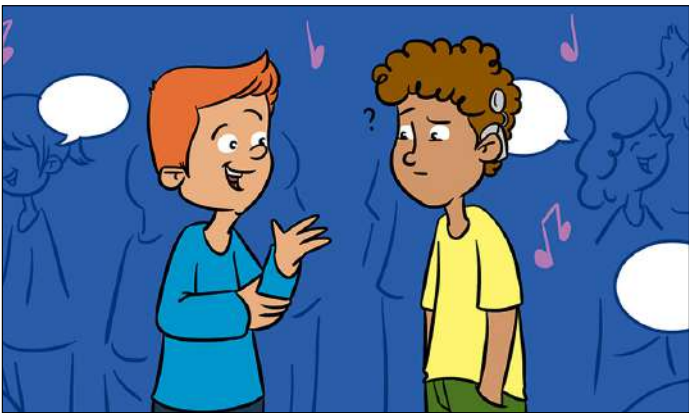
Listening to ourselves does not mean allowing emotions to control every decision. It means acknowledging them and responding thoughtfully.

The Courage to Say "No"

Sometimes hearing yourself begins with learning to say no.

Many people agree to things because they fear disappointing others. They take on responsibilities they cannot manage, remain silent when something hurts them, or constantly place their own needs at the end of the list.

A respectful "no" is not selfishness. Healthy boundaries allow us to protect our time, energy, relationships, and emotional well-being.



Making Space for Yourself

Self-awareness requires time and attention. Simple practices can help create that space:

• Spend a few minutes each day without your phone.

• Write down your thoughts and feelings.

• Spend time in nature or in a peaceful environment.

• Practice deep breathing or mindfulness.

• Identify what gives you energy and what consistently drains you.

• Talk openly with someone you trust when you feel overwhelmed.

• Give yourself permission to rest without feeling guilty.

These small habits can help reconnect us with ourselves.

You Do Not Have to Have Everything Figured Out

Modern life often creates pressure to have a clear career, successful relationships, financial stability, and a perfect future. But life rarely follows a straight path.

It is perfectly normal to feel uncertain sometimes. Changing direction does not

necessarily mean failure. Taking a pause does not mean falling behind.

Sometimes, the most important question is not "Where am I supposed to be?" but "What do I need at this point in my life?"

When Silence Feels Difficult

For some people, being alone with their thoughts can feel uncomfortable. Constant activity can become a way of avoiding difficult feelings.

If persistent sadness, anxiety, hopelessness, severe stress, sleep difficulties, or emotional distress begins interfering with daily life, seeking support from a qualified mental-health professional can be an important step.

Asking for help is not a weakness. It is an act of self-awareness and care.

Finding Your Own Voice

The world will always have opinions. People will have expectations. Social media will continue to present idealised versions of life. There will always be someone moving faster, achieving more, or living differently.

But your life cannot be measured entirely through someone else's standards.

Learning to hear yourself means becoming more aware of your values, emotions, boundaries, dreams, and limitations. It means understanding that your worth does not depend solely on achievement or external approval.

Key Message

In a world that constantly demands our attention, learning to listen to ourselves is an essential part of emotional well-being. We do not always need to follow every opinion, meet every expectation, or compare our journey with others. Taking time to pause, reflect, understand our emotions, and recognise our own needs can help us develop greater self-awareness and inner peace.

Your voice matters. Your feelings matter. Your journey matters. Sometimes, stepping away from the noise is the first step toward finding clarity, confidence, and yourself.

Conclusion

Beyond the noise is a quieter voice—the voice that tells us what we genuinely feel, what we value, what we need, and what kind of life we want to build.

Learning to hear that voice takes patience. It requires slowing down, questioning unnecessary expectations, accepting our emotions, and giving ourselves permission to be imperfect.

In a world that constantly tells us who we should become, perhaps one of the most meaningful forms of self-care is to pause and ask:

"Who am I, when I am no longer trying to be everything for everyone?"

Sometimes, finding ourselves begins simply by becoming quiet enough to listen.

The Boy Who Insisted On Seeing God



BY-MOOL RAJ

Vivekananda, before becoming a monk, was known simply as Narendra, a sharp, restlessly questioning young man thoroughly unwilling to accept matters of faith purely on authority alone.

He visited several respected and well-known religious leaders of his

present as he could see Narendra standing directly before him in that very moment, and that he could help Narendra see the same truth for himself.

This direct, unhesitating answer, unlike anything Narendra had ever encountered before in his search, became the true beginning of his gradual transformation into a devoted disciple and, eventually, a world-renowned spiritual teacher.

Narendra's sheer persistence in demanding a real, honest answer, rather than simply accepting comfortable ambiguity, was ultimately what led him to genuine,



time, asking each one directly and without hesitation whether they had personally, actually seen God, only to receive vague, evasive, or unconvincing answers in return each time. When he finally posed that same blunt question to Ramakrishna, expecting a similarly evasive response, Ramakrishna answered plainly and without any hesitation that yes, he had indeed seen God, as real and as clearly

lasting conviction. We often accept vague reassurances about what matters most to us, faith, purpose, relationships, rather than continuing to ask honest, searching questions.

Today, ask one honest question you've been avoiding, even if the answer that comes back might prove genuinely uncomfortable.

The Author Is A Regular Columnist And Freelance Writer

Ensure timely service delivery, effective enforcement & road safety: Transport Commissioner at Rajouri

■ HT News Network

RAJOURI, OCTOBER 6: Transport Commissioner J&K Vishesh Paul Mahajan today chaired a joint meeting of the Motor Vehicle Department (MND) functionaries of Rajouri and Poonch here to review the functioning of the Department, including online service delivery and road safety measures in the twin border districts.

The Transport Commissioner reviewed the online services on the SARATHI and VAHAN portals and took stock of the pendency and disposal of applications.

He directed the concerned officers and officials to ensure transparency and accountability in the delivery of services. "Applications shall be processed and disposed of in a time bound manner so that the general public does not face any inconvenience," he added.



The Transport Commissioner also reviewed the causes and trends of road accidents and took stock of road safety awareness campaigns conducted in educational institutions. He emphasised the need for launching a sustained campaign to generate awareness among students and young drivers, to promote responsible road-user behaviour and reduce road accidents. As part of the road safety review, the Transport Commissioner also inspected identified blackspots along the National Highway and Mughal Road and reviewed the corrective measures. He stressed the need for regular monitoring and coordinated action to improve road safety at such locations.

The Transport Commissioner further directed the concerned officers to identify and seal all vehicle showrooms operating without a valid Trade Certificate/licence, in

accordance with the applicable rules. He stressed that strict action should be taken against establishments found operating in violation of the prescribed requirements.

The ARTOs of the two districts were asked to conduct joint enforcement drives on the National Highway, with focus on checking violations that pose a threat to road safety. ARTO Rajouri Ashiq Rafiq Malik, ARTO Poonch Nawaz Sharif, Motor Vehicle Inspectors and other officials of the Transport Department attended the meeting. The ARTOs of the two districts were asked to conduct joint enforcement drives on the National Highway, with focus on checking violations that pose a threat to road safety. ARTO Rajouri Ashiq Rafiq Malik, ARTO Poonch Nawaz Sharif, Motor Vehicle Inspectors and other officials of the Transport Department.

Poonch: District Level Screening-cum-Coordination Committee reviews SRO-43 cases

■ HT News Network

POONCH, OCTOBER 06: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting of the District Level Screening-cum-Coordination Committee in his office chamber to review the cases under SRO-43 of 1994 pertaining to the next of the kin of civilians and personnel of the uniformed forces killed in militancy-related incidents.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tahir Mustafa Malik; Additional Superintendent of Police, Dr. Ajay Sharma; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Muhammad Sayeed; representatives of 53 Bn BSF, Headquarters 93 Infantry Brigade, 10 Infantry Brigade and 6 Sector Rashtriya Rifles, besides other concerned officers.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner briefed the Committee in detail regarding the current status of each case and the progress made towards completion of the requisite formalities.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for timely disposal of the cases, observing that the affected families have high expectations from the Government for expeditious resolution of their claims.

ADC Kishtwar reviews implementation of PMDDKY

■ HT News Network



KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 6: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal today chaired a meeting of the stakeholder departments to review Output Indicators under the Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY). The ADC emphasized the need for accurate, complete and timely submission of the requisite information. He directed the concerned departments to submit their respective Output Indicators positively by today to facilitate consolidation of data and uploading of the same on the designated PMDDKY portal within the stipulated timeline. "The information submitted should be factual, properly verified and aligned with the prescribed indicators as the data forms an important component to assess the implementation status of the scheme," he added. He called for close coordination among all stakeholder departments and directed the concerned officers to accord top priority to the matter. The meeting was attended by ACR Idrees Lone, ACD Manoj Kumar, Dy. Registrar Cooperative Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal, CAO, Kushal Chandel, besides other officers and officials from concerned departments.

DC Kishtwar reviews functioning of Additional HRT Shalimar Lift Water Supply Scheme

■ HT News Network

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 06: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma reviewed the functioning of the additional HRT Shalimar Lift Water Supply Scheme and took note of the issues affecting its completion and operationalisation.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner issued directions to the concerned departments to resolve the pending issues and make the additional HRT Shalimar Lift functional at the earliest so that the water scarcity issue is resolved.

The GM, NHPC, was directed to allow tapping of the overflow water, which is presently getting wasted and flowing into the nallah and provide the same to the Jal Shakti Department so as to maintain a stable head in the sump tank and ensure judicious utilisation of water for Kishtwar town.



The ExEn, JPDCL Kishtwar, was directed to immediately remove any tapping or extra connection made from the independent power line provided for the additional HRT Shalimar Lift Water Supply Scheme.

The ExEn, JPDCL Kishtwar, was further directed to provide two transformers by tomorrow — one 400 kVA and one 250 kVA.

The Deputy Commissioner directed both departments (Jal Shakti and JPDCL Kishtwar) to

ensure compliance with the instructions and resolve the issues on priority so that the additional HRT Shalimar Lift Water Supply Scheme, completed under the RR Plan, is made functional at the earliest.

The meeting was attended by ExEn Jal Shakti Kishtwar, Rohit Wadera, ExEn JPDCL Kishtwar, Abdul Hamid, PM DPMU Kishtwar, Er. Fayaz Mehta, GM NHPC Kishtwar and other concerned officers.

DC inaugurates district-level workshop on VB-G RAM G Scheme at Ramban

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 6: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today inaugurated a district-level workshop on the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G), 2025 organised by the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj.

ACD Mohammad Imran Naik; Executive Engineer Rural Engineering Wing (REW); Block Development Officers, field functionaries were oriented by Master Trainers and Resource Persons.

They sensitised participating officials and field functionaries about the provisions, objectives and implementation framework of the newly introduced VB-G RAM G Act, 2025, and the J&K VB-G RAM G Scheme, 2026.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner advised the stakeholders to develop a clear understanding of the new framework to ensure its effective and transparent implementation at the grassroots level. He called for coordinated efforts by the concerned departments and field functionaries to ensure that the intended benefits of the scheme reach eligible rural households and contribute towards sustainable livelihood generation and rural development.

The workshop also highlighted the transition from the earlier rural wage-



employment framework towards an integrated approach aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, with enhanced focus on employment, livelihood generation and rural development.

The ACD urged the participants to utilize the opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of the provisions and implementation framework of the VB-G RAM G Scheme. He encouraged the participants to actively participate in the sessions, seek clarifications and clear their doubts to avoid future difficulties in its effective implementation at the grassroots level.

Later, the Master Trainers and Resource Persons conducted detailed sessions on the provisions and operational aspects of the VB-G RAM G framework, besides sensitising the participants about their role and responsibilities for its effective implementation at the field level.

Community awareness Programme held at Poshan Project Gool

■ HT News Network

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 6: A community awareness programme was organised today under the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah at Poshan Project Gool. District Programme Officer (DPO) Abdul Qayoom and ZEPO Gool graced the occasion.

At the outset, local CDPO Bashir Ahmed presented a brief overview of the programme, followed by an informative awareness session conducted by Supervisors on the five key themes of this year's Poshan Maah. Speaking on the occasion,



the DPO highlighted the vital role of Anganwadi Workers at the grassroots level. He appreciated their contribution towards improving nutrition, strengthening Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), supporting mothers and children and contributing to

the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

The Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) briefed the gathering about various schemes and services being provided through Anganwadi Centres, highlighting their important role in promoting nutrition, health, early childhood care and

education and community awareness. The AWWs also presented ECCE-focused rhymes and activities, creating an engaging and joyful learning environment for children. The Supervisors demonstrated various play-based learning activities. The same were enthusiastically followed by the children, underscoring the importance of joyful and activity-based learning at the Anganwadi level.

A health camp for children was also organised to assess their health and well-being, followed by the distribution of baby kits among nursing mothers.

Autumn session of Assembly failed people, public issues buried under statehood politics: Altaf Thakur

■ HT News Network

Srinagar, Oct 6: BJP J&K spokesperson and senior BJP leader Altaf Thakur on Tuesday termed the J&K Assembly's autumn session a "complete failure" and accused the Omar Abdullah-led National Conference government of turning the House into a platform for political posturing while leaving the pressing concerns of ordinary people unresolved. Thakur said the session failed to provide meaningful answers on reservation, recruitment, daily wagers, contractual employees, ASHA workers, vocational trainers, unemployment,



development, price rise, healthcare, education, roads and other basic public issues.

He said thousands of young aspirants are waiting for clarity on the reservation policy, while daily wagers and contractual workers who have served the government for years continue to seek job security and

regularisation; ASHA workers and vocational trainers are struggling for better remuneration and employment security, and unemployed youth are waiting for transparent and time-bound recruitment. "Instead of addressing these issues, the government allowed the entire session to be overshadowed by the statehood resolution," he said. Thakur accused the government of using the statehood issue as a "political shield" to deflect attention from its failures in governance. He said the people elected the government to deliver on employment, development, public services and welfare, not merely to pass

resolutions. "Statehood is an important aspiration, but it cannot become an excuse for ignoring bread-and-butter issues. People need jobs, regularisation, fair recruitment, better healthcare, functioning schools, roads, electricity, water and accountable administration," he said. He further accused the government of failing to provide a clear roadmap on the recruitment of thousands of vacant posts, the future of casual and contractual workers and the concerns surrounding outsourcing of government jobs. He said the government must explain what concrete steps it has taken to reduce unemployment.

NC Govt Committed to Promoting Social Justice, inclusive development of ST, SC, OBC: Rattan Lal Gupta

■ HT News Network

Jammu, October 6: Senior National Conference leader and Provincial President Jammu, Rattan Lal Gupta, said that the NC Government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is committed to promoting social justice, inclusive development and welfare of the Scheduled Tribes (ST), Scheduled Castes (SC), Other Backward Classes (OBC) and other disadvantaged sections of society, particularly those living in far-flung and rural areas.

He said that development is being extended to villages and basties inhabited by ST, SC and OBC communities through improved facilities relating to Jal Shakti, electricity, roads, communication and other essential civic amenities.

Mr. Gupta was speaking while welcoming Manzoor Ahmad Wani, Retired Inspector, resident of Bathindi, along with his supporters into the National Conference at the Party Headquarters, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. The joining programme was held under the chairmanship of Ch. Nadeem,



District President, ST Cell, Jammu Urban, in the presence of Sheikh Bashir Ahmed,

Provincial Secretary; Vijay Lochan, Chairman SC Cell and Shama Akhtar, former Corporator; Welcoming Mr Wani and his supporters into the party fold, Mr. Gupta said that their decision to join the National Conference reflects their commitment to the party's principles of social justice, equality and inclusive development.

He expressed confidence that the joining of Mr Wani and his supporters would further strengthen the National Conference at the grassroots level,

particularly among the ST community and other weaker and disadvantaged sections. Mr. Gupta reiterated that the National Conference would continue to work for equitable development and ensure that the benefits of government schemes and basic civic facilities reach people living in remote and underserved areas of Jammu Province.

Among others who were present on this occasion: Rajinder Parshant Sharma, Vijush Kumar, Monu Kumar, Sikender Dogra and others.



FDA conducts Enforcement, Awareness Drive among Street Food Vendors

395 Vendors Inspected, 38 Cases Compounded, 50,500 Fine Imposed

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06: The Food & Drugs Administration (FDA), J&K conducted enforcement, inspection and awareness activities among street food vendors across all districts with the objective of strengthening compliance with food safety standards and ensuring the availability of safe, hygienic and wholesome food to consumers.

As part of the UT-wide drive, 395 street food vendors were inspected across all the districts. The inspections focused on personal hygiene of food handlers, cleanliness and sanitary conditions of vending premises, safe handling and storage of food, use of food-grade utensils, packaging materials and proper management of cooking oil.

During the enforcement drive, 38 cases were compounded under Section 69 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, resulting in a cumulative fine of 50,500.

In addition, 68 cases were recommended for appropriate statutory action before the concerned Adjudicating Authorities (Additional Deputy



Commissioners) of the concerned districts, based on the nature and gravity of the violations detected, under the relevant provisions of the Act, including 39 cases under Section 56, which provides for a penalty of up to 1,00,000 for unhygienic or insanitary processing or manufacturing of food and 29 cases under Section 58, which provides for a penalty of up to 2,00,000 for contraventions for using non-food grade

utensils/packaging materials. Approximately 130 kg of unsuitable food/snack articles were also destroyed in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Alongside enforcement, 92 awareness and sensitization sessions were conducted across the Union Territory. During these sessions, vendors were sensitized about personal hygiene, cleanliness of vending premises, safe food handling and storage practices, use of food-grade utensils and packaging materials, avoidance of non-food-grade materials and newspapers for wrapping food, prohibition of unauthorized synthetic food colours, prevention of cross-contamination and proper management and disposal of used cooking oil.

Special emphasis was laid on Used Cooking Oil (UCO) management and testing through Digital Oil Testing Meters.

During the drive, 75 samples of cooking oil were tested, and all 75 samples were found within the permissible range, with no instance of Total Polar Compounds (TPC) exceeding the prescribed limit of 25% reported during the drive. The initiative is aimed at promoting responsible cooking-oil management and discouraging the repeated use of degraded cooking oil by food vendors.

The FDA, J&K reiterated that street food vendors constitute an important component of the food supply chain and provide a wide variety of local and traditional food items to

consumers. The street Food Vendors were advised to proactively comply with the prescribed food safety and hygiene requirements and extend cooperation to enforcement officials during inspections and awareness activities.

Consumers are being requested to report any suspected unsafe or adulterated food product through Toll-Free Helpline No. 104 or email at cfsjandk.fnd@jk.gov.in. Alongside enforcement, 92 awareness and sensitization sessions were conducted across the Union Territory. During these sessions, vendors were sensitized about personal hygiene, cleanliness of vending premises, safe food handling and storage practices, use of food-grade utensils and packaging materials, avoidance of non-food-grade materials and newspapers for wrapping food, prohibition of unauthorized synthetic food colours, prevention of cross-contamination and proper management and disposal of used cooking oil.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified that the applicant namely Ali Mohmad Rather S/o Gh Ahmad Rather R/o Mati pora Tehsil Pattan District Baramullah applied for the name caste correction in his own adhar card .The applicant name has been inadvertently recorded adhar card as Ali Mohmad .

The applicant intends to register the correct name as Ali Mohmad Rather S/o Gh Ahmad Rather in the adhar card

If any one has objection in this regard, he can approach concerned publication office authorities within a period of seven days and after the publication of said Notice . No objection will be entertained .

05 /10 /2026

OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR, PAHALGAM NOTICE

It is hereby notified for information of the general public that I, Habib Bhatt S/o Ghulam Ahmad Bhatt, R/o Burzawachan, Tehsil Kreeri, District Baramulla, UT of J&K, have applied for correction of my name in my Aadhaar record.

My correct and full name is HABIB BHATT, whereas the name has been mentioned as HABIBULLAH BHAT in the Aadhaar record.

Any person having any objection regarding the said correction may contact the concerned Aadhaar Authority within the prescribed period. In the absence of any objection, the necessary correction may be carried out as per rules.

ANNUAL DAY Celebrated at Nehalpora Higher Secondary School

JOHN WANI

Pattan, 06 Oct (HT) ANNUAL DAY was celebrated with enthusiasm and fervour at Government Higher Secondary School, Nehalpora, today. The event witnessed the participation of students, teaching staff, officials and distinguished guests.

The Chief Guest on the occasion was Pattan MLA Javid Riyaz Bedar, who attended the programme and interacted with the students. Zonal Education Officer, Nehalpora, was also present during the celebrations. Addressing the gathering, the dignitaries highlighted the importance of education, discipline, character building and the overall development of students. They appreciated the efforts of the school administration and teaching faculty for organising the programme and providing students with a platform to showcase their talent and abilities.

The event also featured various activities and presentations by students, adding enthusiasm and vibrancy to the celebrations. The programme concluded with a vote of



thanks to all the guests, staff members, students and others whose participation

contributed to the successful conduct of the event.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION
SRINAGAR
Email:- dfo_sgrst@jk.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM

Sub:- Maintenance and upgradation of Range Office, Social Forestry Range Ganderbal at Waheedpora Nursery in District Ganderbal, Social Forestry Range Ganderbal, SF Division Srinagar. Under CAPEX 2026-27.

Ref:- e- NIT NO: - 07 OF 2026 DATED:- 26-09-2026

Due to non acceptance of tender document feat treasuries of above subjected work issued vide this office e-NIT No. referred above is hereby extended as under:-

1	Bid Submission End date	10-10-2026, 4:00 PM
2	Date of Opening of technical bid	12-10-2026, 11:00 AM

The bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document /tender fee through treasury or to be deposited in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account bearing No. 0110010200001103, Branch:- Civil Secretariate, IFSC Code:- JAKA0MOVING as per the S.O. 247 notification dated 24th September, 2026 issued by the finance department vide No. FD-Code/290/2026-AO-1054 Dated 24-09-2026.

The bidders who have already prepared CDR/BG/FDR/TDR for the said work be uploaded & will be accepted. Further, the bidder who had not prepared the above mentioned instruments as on date have to deposit the tender fee/EMD @ 2% in cash in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account bearing No. 0110010200001103, Branch:- Civil Secretariate, IFSC Code:- JAKA0MOVING, MICR Code:- 190051062 and receipt of the same be uploaded online and submit hard copies to this office.

**DIPK-6475/26
Send Date :- 06-07-26**

**Sd/
Divisional Forest Officer
Social Forestry Division
Srinagar**

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION CHADOORA NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (for Road work/bridges/Buildings)

**TWO COVER SYSTEM
(Above Rs. 2.50 crores)
NOTICE INVITING FRESH TENDER**

ENIT No. 79 OF R&B /CHADOORA/ 4669-78 of 2026-27 DATED: 06/10/2026
For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on %age basis (as the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	T.O.C	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of Lanes, Drains, Paths, Parks, R/Walls, Roads, Fencing of Graveyards and Culverts in all Wards of MC Chadoora.	478.35	5500.00	9,56,700	Two years	AAY

Project Authority: = Director Urban Local Bodies vide No. 727/DULB/Plg of 2026 dated 15/07/2026
Major Head of Account= FC GRANTS

Position of AA =Accorded
Position of T/S =Accorded vide No. CE (R&B) CK/TS/15263-65 of 2026 dated: 14/08/2026

- The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule:
 - Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Challan Receipt (under M.H-0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (The Date of Treasury Challan, must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date).
- At the time of tendering all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority i.e. Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Budgam. The Date of Earnest money must be between the date of start of bid and bid

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06/10/2026
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 06/10/2026
3.	Bid submission Start Date	06/10/2026at 10.00 AM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	13/10/2026upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	14/10/2026 at 11.00 AM in the Office of Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Budgam
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

submission end date). However, the successful bidder shall have to produce Performance security @ 5% of Allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG before the award of contract. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security @ 5% of the Allotted cost which will be released after successful completion of the DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity

- Abnormally Low Bid Price:

- As per the Circular instructions of Chief Engineer PWD Central Kashmir. Vide No. CE /R&B/WS/12340-43 Dated: 11/07/2026, which is reproduced as
- Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee/security percentage shall be Incremented by 0.1% for every percentage of bid price below 10% of the project cost put to bid starting at 11% with the additional bid performance guarantee being 0.1% and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- Where the bid price is 20% or more below of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee percentage shall be Incremented by 0.2% for every percentage of bid price below 20% of the project cost put to bid in addition to 1% of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- 30% or More Below Cost: Bid price 30% or more below the estimated cost incurs an additional 0.5% increment for every percentage point past 30%, stacked on top of an initial 3% baseline APS on the total bid price.
- The additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance security. Additional performance Security shall be taken only after approval of next Higher authority.
- Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
 - All bidders shall upload Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
 - Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora. The name of work or NIT / S. No. should clearly be mentioned on the Treasury Challan failing which the tender will be rejected outrightly).
 - The Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG Pledged to Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Budgam, (failing which the tender will be rejected outrightly). The Issuance date of the Treasury Challan and CDR/FDR Must be in between the date of Downloading to Bid Submission end Date
 - Registration Card valid for the year 2026-27. A valid contractor/Firm Registration certificate issued by a competent authority in accordance with the contractor Registration Act with latest Renewal. Only digitally issued and renewed contractor registration card through jkpwdsms.jk.gov.in shall be accepted for contractor's registration with PW (R&B) department. However, contractors registered with other departments must have online registration on www.jkpwdsms.gov.in
 - Valid Original PAN Card with visible PAN Number.
 - Valid GSTIN Registration Certificate.
 - All Bidders/ participating supplier/contractor to mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/ Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder (as per Annexed format) in light of Circular No.01 (Adm) FD of 2025 dtd. 08-07-2025
 - Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B of the latest quarter/ latest Month to the Issuance of NIT.

DIPK-6468/26

Send Date: Oct 6 2026

Executive Engineer

R&B Division Chadoora.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written as IQRA BANO D/O MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL TANTRAY on my Adhaar card bearing Adhaar No. . 6496 0355 4928 while my correct name is IQRA MAQBOOL D/O MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL TANTRAY which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the office of concerned Adhaar authority of India within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name...IQRA MAQBOOL
D/O..MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL TANTRAY
R/O..DARAHU FRASTWARI KACHWA MUQAM



Director Sericulture takes stock of Developmental needs in Border Villages

Directs Time-Bound action under VVP-II

■ **HT News Network**

BARAMULLA, OCTOBER 06: Director Sericulture J&K, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, who is also Visiting Officer for Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II), undertook an extensive two days field visit to the border villages of Shahdara and Ghallan in Sub-Division Uri, Baramulla, to assess the ground-level implementation of developmental interventions and interact directly with the local community.

During the visit, the Director undertook a detailed

assessment of basic infrastructure, public amenities, connectivity, service delivery, livelihood opportunities and other development requirements of the border villages. The field visit provided an opportunity to assess the actual status of interventions on the ground and identify areas requiring greater inter-departmental convergence and administrative attention.

As part of the visit, Bhat visited Government High School, Shahdara, Government Boys Middle School, Jabda and Government Boys High School, Ghallan, where he reviewed



the existing educational infrastructure, availability of basic amenities and developmental requirements of the institutions. He interacted with the staff and took note of the issues and requirements relevant to the schools and the surrounding communities.

A major component of the field visit was the interaction with local residents, PRIs, community representatives and other stakeholders. The Director listened to the concerns, suggestions and development priorities raised by the people and sought first-hand feedback regarding

the availability of Government services, infrastructure and connectivity, livelihood and employment opportunities and implementation of various interventions under VVP-II.

Bhat assured the local residents that the issues raised during the interaction would be appropriately recorded and taken up with the concerned departments for necessary action. He stressed that the objective of VVP-II is not merely to implement schemes on paper but to ensure visible and tangible improvement in the quality of life of people living in border villages.

ADDC Shopian chairs Meeting to accelerate AgriStack, Farmer IDs, Digital Crop Survey Rollout

■ **HT News Network**



SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 06: In a major push toward advancing digital governance in the agriculture sector, Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone, today presided over a high-level review meeting at the Mini-Secretariat Shopian.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Lone emphasized the critical need for speed, precision, coordination and seamless collaboration among the Agriculture and Horticulture and Revenue Departments alongside CSC VLEs for the successful rollout of AgriStack across Shopian.

the ADDC stressed achieving 100% coverage, absolute entry accuracy and strict adherence to established project timelines. Field officers and CSC Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) were directed to maintain close coordination to promptly fix technical glitches and guarantee full coverage for all eligible farmers. The meeting focused on the implementation of AgriStack, the creation of Farmer IDs and the execution of the Digital Crop Survey (DCS) Kharif-2026. The meeting focused on resolving field-level bottlenecks and streamlining inter-departmental operations and detailed analysis was conducted on the progress of Farmer ID creation, with instructions to clear unclaimed buckets, resolve land-record fetching issues and rectify technical field discrepancies. The meeting was attended by District Mentor for Farmer IDs, Najma, IAS, Probationer; ADC Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, Shakoor Ahmed Dar; SDM, Zainapora, Bilal Ahmed, Tehsildars, district officers and other concerned.

District Admin Bandipora organises drowning prevention, water safety demonstration at Bonakoot

■ **HT News Network**

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 06: In view of recent drowning incidents and as part of the ongoing awareness drive initiated by the District Administration Bandipora, the Administration today conducted a comprehensive demonstration and awareness programme at Government High School, Bonakoot. The programme aimed to sensitise students, youth and the local community about drowning prevention, water safety measures and life-saving techniques to be adopted during water-related emergencies. During the session, SDRF personnel demonstrated practical rescue techniques, safe approaches during water emergencies and essential first-aid measures, besides sensitising participants about precautions to be taken during flash floods and while near fast-flowing water bodies.

MLA Kulgam reviews JJM implementation Stresses timely completion of works and reliable water supply

■ **HT News Network**

KULGAM, OCTOBER 06: Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Kulgam, M.Y. Tarigami today reviewed the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) during a meeting held at the Conference Hall of Mini-Secretariat, Kulgam.

The meeting held a detailed review of the progress of various JJM works and schemes, including household coverage, status of ongoing works, functionality of water supply schemes and issues affecting the provision of drinking water.

MLA also called for timely redressal of public grievances related to drinking water supply and JJM works and emphasised that the concerns of people should be addressed on priority and that the benefits of the Mission reach



every eligible household.

He further stressed the need to ensure regular and reliable drinking water supply, particularly in areas facing water supply-related issues, and directed the concerned agencies to remain responsive

to the requirements of the people. Senior officers and officials from the Jal Shakti Department, JJM DPMU, Mechanical Division, Quality Control & Procurement Division and other concerned agencies attended the meeting.

DC Kishtwar reviews performance of Banks; Calls for enhancing priority sector lending

■ **HT News Network**

KISHTWAR, OCTOBER 06: The District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting for the quarter ending June 2026 was held today. Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired the meeting to review the performance of banks operating in the district during the financial year 2026-2027.

At the outset, Lead District Manager (LDM) Praveen Kumar presented a comprehensive overview of the district's banking performance, highlighting achievements under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP), Priority Sector Lending, Credit-Deposit (CD) Ratio and the Government-sponsored schemes. It was informed that against the overall annual credit target of 131690.79 lakh for FY 2026-27, banks collectively achieved disbursements of 25252.23 lakh.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed that all banks need to enhance their contribution



towards Priority Sector Lending. He observed that the Priority Sector advances reflect a bank's trust and confidence in its customers and are vital for inclusive economic growth. He directed the Banks to continue progress in Credit-Deposit (CD) Ratio, which is at 62 percent and advised them to focus on improving credit flow. "Explore greater lending opportunities in the Renewable Energy and Social Infrastructure sectors to strengthen Priority Sector performance and support sustainable development in the district," he stressed. He further advised Banks to organize awareness programmes in educational

institutions to encourage education loan uptake.

The RBI Lead District Officer directed all the Rural Banks to organize minimum 3 camps per quarter for awareness generation.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner chaired the District Level RSETI Advisory Committee (DLRAC) meeting and reviewed the performance of RSETI. An overview was presented on the institute's training programmes, achievements and ongoing initiatives. The DC directed the AD Employment and CAO for extending hand-holding to individual trained by SBIRSETI so that they can start their own ventures.

DAJ conducts extensive field visit in Udhampur District

■ **HT News Network**

UDHAMPUR, OCTOBER 06: Director Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Jammu Anil Gupta today conducted an extensive field visit in Udhampur district. He reviewed the ongoing activities and implementation of departmental initiatives in the region.

The Director was accompanied by local Chief Agriculture Officer Vikas Padha, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer Darshan Kumar along with Agriculture Extension Officers, Junior Agriculture Extension Officers, Agriculture Extension Assistants and other field staff of the Department.



The Director visited the Zonal Agriculture Office at Jib and chaired a review meeting with the zonal staff. He took detailed feedback on the ongoing departmental activities, implementation of the schemes and the progress of field-level interventions.

The Director also interacted with local farmers from village Kambal Danga. He sought feedback regarding the benefits

being provided to the local farmers under various schemes and programmes of the Agriculture Department.

Afterwards, the Director inspected the Zonal Seed Store and took stock of seed availability, storage arrangements and the mechanism for timely and proper distribution of quality seed to farmers. He also distributed mustard mini-kits among beneficiary farmers.

DC Poonch approves Fisheries units under DAJGUA

■ **HT News Network**

POONCH, OCTOBER 06: The District Level Steering Committee (DLC) has approved several fisheries sector units under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA). The beneficiaries were selected through a draw of lots.

The Deputy Commissioner and chairman of the DLC Ashok Kumar Sharma granted the approval to the units under the 2026-27 annual plan of the scheme. The approved units include a three-wheeler with ice box for fish vending. The beneficiary was selected through a draw of lots among 5 eligible fishermen. Similarly, the



Committee approved Motorcycles with Ice Box for 5 beneficiaries selected among 11 eligible applicants.

The Committee also approved Cycles with Ice box for 4 individuals out of 07 eligible applicants, besides finalizing 01 applicants for Construction of Trout Raceway. Among the 2 applicants, priority was given

to the 1st time applicant as the other one had already availed subsidy for construction of Trout Raceway under other Government schemes.

All eligible cases were scrutinized by the departmental Committee and subsequently placed before the District Level Steering Committee for final approval.

KVK Bandipora-1 hosts First Training Programme on Makhana Cultivation

■ **HT News Network**

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 06: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bandipora-1, SKUAST-Kashmir, in collaboration with the Department of Rakhs and Farms, Kashmir, organised the first in a series of training programmes under the Central Sector Scheme on Development of Makhana at KVK Bandipora-1, Potushai.

The programme aimed to sensitise farmers about the potential of Makhana cultivation and provide technical knowledge on its cultivation, management, harvesting, processing and value addition under Kashmir conditions.

Director, Rakhs and Farms, Kashmir, Ajab Singh Ajeeb, was the chief guest. In his address, he highlighted the immense potential for Makhana development in Kashmir, particularly in view of the Valley's extensive wetland resources. He emphasised that the available wetlands could be scientifically utilised for developing Kashmir as a potential Makhana hub.

Assistant Director, Rakhs and Farms, Kashmir, Feroz Ahmad Shapoo highlighted the focus areas and initiatives being undertaken for promoting Makhana in the Valley.

Head, KVK Bandipora-1, Dr. Tariq Sultan delivered a detailed presentation on the scope, cultivation,



management, harvesting, processing and value addition of Makhana. He highlighted that Makhana offers considerable scope for wetland-based livelihood diversification, income generation and entrepreneurship, particularly when integrated with other economically important aquatic crops such as Lotus and Water Chestnut.

Farmers from Bandipora and Baramulla districts actively participated in the training and raised queries regarding crop establishment, planting material, management practices, harvesting, processing and marketing of Makhana.

As part of the practical exposure, the participating farmers visited the

aquatic crop demonstration and trial plots at the KVK Farm, where they observed ongoing trials and demonstrations of Makhana, Lotus and Water Chestnut. Assistant Director, Rakhs and Farms, Kashmir, Feroz Ahmad Shapoo highlighted the focus areas and initiatives being undertaken for promoting Makhana in the Valley.

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Roughage The Essential Element For A Healthy Life



SURINDERPAL SINGH

In an age when diets are increasingly dominated by refined foods, packaged snacks and highly processed meals, one essential component of nutrition is often overlooked roughage, or dietary fibre. Although roughage does not provide significant calories or get completely digested by the human body, its contribution to health is far greater than its simple definition suggests. A fibre-rich diet is fundamental to healthy digestion, metabolic balance and long-term well-being.

Roughage is primarily found in plant-based foods such as whole grains, fruits, vegetables, pulses, beans, nuts and seeds. Unlike carbohydrates, proteins and fats that are broken down and absorbed in the small intestine, dietary fibre largely passes through the digestive system. This unique characteristic enables it to perform several important functions along the way.

One of the best-known benefits of roughage is its role in maintaining healthy bowel movements. Fibre adds bulk to stool and helps it move efficiently through the intestine,



Roughage can also contribute to better blood-sugar control. Soluble fibre, found in foods such as oats, beans, fruits and some vegetables, can slow the absorption of glucose after meals. This may help reduce sudden rises in blood sugar and support better metabolic health. For people at risk of type 2 diabetes, replacing refined, low-fibre foods with fibre-rich alternatives can be an important part of a healthy dietary pattern.

Another significant benefit is its relationship with heart health. Certain types of soluble fibre can help reduce the absorption of dietary cholesterol and may contribute to healthier blood cholesterol levels. Diets rich in vegetables, fruits, whole grains, legumes and nuts are consistently associated with better cardiovascular health. Thus, roughage is not merely

they may be less likely to overeat. Importantly, the benefit comes not from fibre alone but from consuming whole, nutrient-rich foods that naturally contain it.

There are different types of dietary fibre, broadly classified as soluble and insoluble fibre. Soluble fibre dissolves or swells in water and is particularly associated with blood-glucose and cholesterol regulation. Insoluble fibre adds bulk to stools and supports regular bowel function. Many plant foods contain a mixture of both, making a varied diet the most practical way to obtain their benefits.

Despite these advantages, modern eating habits often move in the opposite direction. Refining grains removes much of their natural fibre, while excessive consumption of sugary drinks, refined flour products, fast

flour, brown rice or other whole grains instead of highly polished grains, seasonal fruits instead of sugary desserts, vegetables with meals, and regular consumption of pulses, beans, nuts and seeds can make a substantial difference. Fibre intake should be increased gradually, particularly in people whose current diet is low in fibre, and adequate water should be consumed to support comfortable digestion.

It is also important to remember that fruit juice is not equivalent to whole fruit. Juicing removes much of the fibre found naturally in whole fruit. Similarly, replacing traditional whole grains with heavily refined products may reduce the fibre content of a meal even when the food appears substantial.

The importance of roughage therefore extends beyond preventing constipation. It is connected with the health of the digestive system, the gut microbiome, blood-sugar regulation, cholesterol management, satiety and overall dietary quality. In an era increasingly concerned with lifestyle-related diseases, returning fibre-rich plant foods to the centre of our meals is a simple but powerful nutritional step.

Health does not always depend on expensive supplements, fashionable diets or complicated wellness programmes. Sometimes, the answer lies in returning to the basics. A plate rich in vegetables, whole grains, pulses, fruits, nuts and seeds is not merely a traditional choice—it is a scientifically sound investment in long-term health.

Roughage may be indigestible, but its importance to the human body is undeniable. It is time to give this humble component of our daily diet the attention it deserves.

Surinderpal Singh Faculty In
Science Department
Sri Amritsar Sahib Punjab.



reducing the likelihood of constipation. Adequate fibre intake can also support a healthy gut environment by providing nourishment for beneficial microorganisms living in the large intestine. These microorganisms, collectively known as the gut microbiota, play an increasingly recognised role in digestion and overall health.

a digestive aid; it can be part of a broader strategy for protecting the heart.

Fibre also supports healthy weight management. High-fibre foods generally require more chewing and can create a greater feeling of fullness than many highly processed foods. When people feel satisfied for longer,

food and packaged snacks can displace fibre-rich foods from the diet. The result can be a dietary pattern that supplies plenty of calories but inadequate fibre and other essential nutrients.

Increasing roughage intake does not require expensive or complicated foods. Whole wheat instead of refined



Harmanpreet calls time on captaincy, Mandhana tipped as successor

United News Of India

GUWAHATI, OCT 6 :India's World Cup-winning captain Harmanpreet Kaur has stepped down from the leadership role across all three formats, saying she has fulfilled her responsibilities as captain and is now "ready to play for the love of the game again."

The 37-year-old announced her decision on Tuesday following a BCCI review meeting here to assess the team's recent performances and future direction. The meeting was chaired by BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia and attended by Harmanpreet, vice-captain Smriti Mandhana and head coach Amol Muzumdar.

"Today, I step down as captain of the Indian Women's Cricket Team across all formats,"

Harmanpreet, who has been enduring a lean patch for a while now, wrote in an Instagram post. "This is not an easy decision. It carries years of memories, emotions, sacrifices, and moments that will stay with me for the rest of my life," added the right-hander, who had earlier spoken about wanting to lead the team till at least the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics for which India have already qualified.

Harmanpreet took charge of India's



T20I team in 2016, became ODI captain in 2022 and assumed leadership across all formats in 2023.

She had previously expressed her desire to continue as captain until at least the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, for which India have already qualified.

"I feel I have done my duty. I gave this team everything I had. I carried the responsibility with pride, and I will always be grateful for the privilege of leading Indian women's cricket," the Moga-born player said.

Despite stepping away from captaincy, Harmanpreet will continue to represent India as a player. Reflecting on her time as leader, she said she often

put personal ambitions aside to prioritise the team.

"Now, it is time for me to turn the page. Captaincy may end today, but my love for Indian cricket never will. Blood. Sweat. Sacrifice. Pride. I gave it all. Now, I'm ready to play for the love of the game again. Captaincy ends. The journey continues," she said in her post, which was accompanied with a picture of her facing the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground.

In her emotional statement, the veteran batter said she gave the team everything she had as its captain and often put aside her personal goals to fulfill her duties.

"...my blood, my sweat, my time,

and many times, a part of my own game and personal ambitions. There were moments when I had to put my individual performance, my own growth, and what I wanted for myself aside, because I believed the team had to come first," she wrote.

Harmanpreet's tenure included some of the biggest achievements in Indian women's cricket. She led India to their maiden ODI World Cup title last year and a second consecutive Asian Games gold medal. India also won silver at the 2022 Commonwealth Games under her leadership. She captained the side in five Tests, 51 ODIs and 155 T20Is. However, India's failure to reach the semifinals of the T20 World Cup earlier this year, coupled with Harmanpreet's inconsistent returns with the bat, had led to growing calls for a change in leadership. Former India captain Diana Edulji was among those who backed Mandhana for the role.

"As a captain, I have had to make difficult decisions. Decisions that were not always understood, not always easy, and sometimes came at a personal cost. "But every decision I made was with one intention - to make this TEAM better and to give other players the opportunity to grow, believe in themselves and become the best versions of themselves."

Five young Asian Games medalists ready to make their mark in APL Season 2

United News Of India

A historic Asian Games gold has added another chapter to Kumkum Mohod's remarkable

HYDERABAD, OCT 6 :India's young archery stars return from a historic Asian Games campaign with medals, milestones and growing international recognition. Their performances have underlined the depth of talent emerging across both recurve and compound disciplines, with several of these young archers now stepping into bigger roles for India.

The next challenge comes quickly, with the Archery Premier League Season 2 beginning in Hyderabad on October 8. The league will bring together India's leading young talents and established international names, with its 15-second shooting format adding another layer of speed, pressure and decision-making. For some of these medalists, it will be a return to a familiar stage; for others, it will be their first taste of the APL environment.



rise. The 17-year-old became the first Indian recurve archer to win an individual gold in Asian Games history and was part of the Indian women's recurve team that ended South Korea's 28-year dominance in the event, alongside Ankita Bhakat and Kirti Sharma.

Inter-District UT-Level Judo Championship (Boys) Concludes at Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Ground

HT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6, 2026:

The Inter-District UT-Level Judo Championship for Boys concluded successfully at the Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Ground, Srinagar, with young judokas from different districts of Jammu & Kashmir displaying exceptional skill, strength, discipline and sporting spirit.

The championship was organised by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, through the concerned District Youth Services & Sports authorities, with the objective of providing talented young athletes a competitive platform to showcase their abilities and promote the sport of Judo at the grassroots level.

Players representing District Srinagar, Jammu, Reasi and Kathua put up an extraordinary performance throughout the championship. The participants demonstrated remarkable technical ability, physical fitness,

determination and fighting spirit, making the competition highly competitive and exciting.

The bouts witnessed impressive displays of throws, holds, agility,

commendable performances. The championship also provided an important opportunity for the identification and nurturing of promising young judo talent for future



tactical awareness and sporting discipline, reflecting the hard work and dedication of the young athletes as well as their coaches and physical education personnel.

The Department of Youth Services & Sports appreciated the enthusiastic participation of the athletes, officials and coaching staff and congratulated all the participants for their

competitions at higher levels.

The successful conduct of the championship reflects the continued efforts of the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, towards promoting sports, encouraging youth participation and creating competitive opportunities for young athletes across the Union Territory.

KPPL to serve off Oct 9 with seven franchises, 56 players in Bengaluru

United News Of India

BENGALURU, OCT 6 :Karnataka is set to get its first franchise-based pickleball league as the Karnataka Pickleball Premier League (KPPL) makes its debut here on October 9, bringing seven teams and 56 players together for a three-day competition aimed at giving the fast-growing sport a professional platform in the state.

The inaugural KPPL will be held from October 9 to 11 at GKVK, Bengaluru, with Coorg Originals, promoted by Joshua Tree PLAY, among the seven franchises taking the court. The league will feature players from Karnataka and across India, with the 56-member field selected from 89 aspirants through a nine-round draft held in Bengaluru on September 20. The seven franchises -- Bengaluru Chargers, Coorg Originals, Mangaluru Roarers, Mysuru Royals, Belagavi Barons, Ballari Tuskers and Tumakuru Titans.

-- will represent different regions of Karnataka, giving the league a distinctly state-wide character.

Abhishek, Gill, Shafali and Charani among ICC September award nominees

United News Of India

NEW DELHI, OCT 6 :India batters Abhishek Sharma and Shubman Gill, along with Zimbabwe all-rounder Sikandar Raza, have been nominated for the ICC men's Player of the Month award for September, while India's Shafali Verma and Sree Charani and Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu have made the shortlist for the women's honour.

Abhishek's explosive T20I performances against Afghanistan, Gill's record-breaking ODI exploits and Raza's all-round contributions against Australia earned them the men's nominations. In the women's category, Shafali and Charani played key roles in India's Asia Cup and Asian Games triumphs, while Athapaththu impressed with both bat and ball as Sri Lanka reached the finals of both competitions.

Abhishek returned to form in the three-match T20I series against Afghanistan, scoring 229 runs at an average of 76.33. After managing just one half-century in his previous 10 T20

innings, he struck an 82 off 32 balls in the opening match before producing a stunning 108 off 45 deliveries in the third T20I. His century came off just 30 balls, the fastest by a batter from a



Full Member nation in men's T20Is. Gill, meanwhile, began September with a 110 against the West Indies before delivering a career-defining innings in Guwahati. Chasing 406, India completed the second-highest successful run chase in ODI history, with Gill remaining unbeaten on 223 off 133 balls. His knock, which included 26 fours and eight sixes, became the highest individual score in a successful ODI chase.

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