@HEADLINESTODA17 @headlinestodaydaily @headlinestoday @headlinestodaynews www.dailyheadlinestoday.com

Srinagar
Tuesay
November 03 | 2026
22 Jamad ul Awal 1448 AH
Issue No: 259
Volume: 16
Pages: 12
Price :Rs: 2/-

www.dailyheadlinestoday.com
16TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION
HEADLINES TODAY
Voice To The Voiceless



P:12 Stay in shape and prepare well for Sri Lanka: Gambhir's message to T20I side

Army porter loses foot in landmine blast near LoC

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

JAMMU, NOV 02 :An Army porter suffered serious injuries after accidentally stepping on an anti-personnel mine near the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district on Monday.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that Krishan Lal, of Langar village, accidentally triggered the mine while moving through a forward area in the Nowshera sector at 11.30 am.

Lal lost his right foot in the explosion and was immediately shifted to a nearby hospital, he added.

Another official said that the forward areas along the LoC are dotted with landmines to prevent cross-border

infiltration. However, some of these mines occasionally get dislodged and washed away due to heavy rains, resulting in accidents and posing a threat to people residing in forward areas, he added—(KNO)

Next Six Months Crucial for Accelerating Development : Omar Abdullah

CM directs Ministers to review departmental performance, expedite pending projects and ensure optimal utilisation of funds



HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday called for accelerating developmental activities, effective utilisation of allocated funds and timely implementation of government commitments, observing that the next six months were crucial for achieving development targets. Chairing an introductory meeting with Ministers and senior civil administration officers at the Civil Secretariat following the Darbar Move, he directed newly inducted Ministers and those assigned fresh portfolios to undertake comprehensive reviews of their departments, assess progress on Budget and manifesto commitments, and identify bottlenecks delaying projects. He also stressed close monitoring of SASCI-funded works, advance preparation of DPRs for 2027-28, winter preparedness, uninterrupted essential services and adequate availability of ration. The Chief Minister further directed officials to address accommodation and office-related issues faced by employees shifted to Jammu.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired an introductory meeting with Ministers and senior officers of the Civil Administration at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu, following the resumption of the traditional bi-annual Darbar Move.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, all Ministers, Advisor to the Chief Minister, Acting Chief Secretary Shailendra Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Administrative Secretaries, heads of departments of several departments and other top civil and police administration.

Outstation officers attended the meeting via video conferencing.

At the outset, Acting Chief Secretary Shailendra Kumar briefed the meeting on

>>> MORE ON P 02

Only Indian Citizens Should Have the Right to Vote : Amit Shah

Home Minister terms Rahul Gandhi's Delhi rally a 'Save Infiltrators' campaign, strongly defends electoral roll revision

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

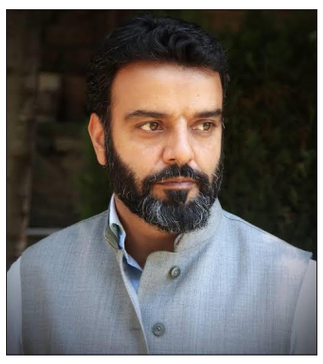


HYDERABAD: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday strongly defended the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, asserting that only Indian citizens should be entitled to vote and accusing the Congress of opposing the exercise to protect infiltrators. Reacting to the Congress-led INDIA alliance's 'Vote Bachao' rally in Delhi, Shah described it as a campaign to save infiltrators rather than protect voters. Addressing a public meeting in Hyderabad after participating in the BJP's 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy' Maha Padayatra, he rejected Rahul Gandhi's allegation that 13 crore votes were being deleted, claiming the figures included deceased voters, duplicate entries and people who had shifted residences. He also challenged Gandhi to participate in a parliamentary debate on the issue and targeted the Congress government in Telangana over alleged corruption and unfulfilled poll promises.union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday strongly defended the

>>> MORE ON P 02

Budgam Admin Clears Aga Ruhullah's Father's Death Anniversary Observance for November 3

Permission granted for gathering at Behishti Zehra Park from 10 am to 1 pm; no rallies, processions or activities disturbing public order allowed



HT NEWS DESK / GNS

SRINAGAR, NOV 2: The District Magistrate Budgam has granted permission for observance of the death anniversary of the father of Srinagar Member of Parliament Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi on November 3 at Behishti Zehra (A.S.) Park, Budgam.

As per an official order issued by the District Magistrate, the programme will be held from 10 am to 1 pm, following a request received from the MP's office on October 29. The administration sought a report from Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Budgam, who conveyed a No Objection to the proposed gathering on November 2, subject to specified conditions.

The permission allows only a peaceful gathering at the designated venue. No rally or procession will be permitted, while provocative speeches, anti-national material, effigy burning or any activity capable of disturbing communal harmony or public order have been prohibited. The organisers have also been directed to ensure that traffic movement remains unaffected.

The order further states that any violation of the prescribed conditions may lead to cancellation of the

>>> MORE ON P 02

"Maintain Highest Standards of Professionalism and Efficiency" : Speaker Rather

Abdul Rahim Rather receives warm welcome as Legislative Assembly Secretariat resumes winter functioning in Jammu

HT NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Abdul Rahim Rather on Monday called upon officers and staff to maintain the highest standards of professionalism, discipline and efficiency as the Assembly Secretariat commenced its winter functioning in Jammu under the Darbar Move. Rather was accorded a warm welcome by senior officers and employees on his arrival at the Secretariat. Interacting with them, he emphasised close coordination among different branches for timely disposal of official business, smooth delivery of services and efficient conduct of legislative affairs. He also stressed the need for a transparent, responsive and public-oriented institutional approach.

Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, was accorded a warm and enthusiastic welcome by senior officers and staff of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on the first day of opening of Darbar Move offices in the winter capital, Jammu, today.The Speaker was received by senior officers and officials of the Assembly Secretariat, who extended greetings on the commencement of the winter functioning of the Assembly Secretariat in Jammu.

>>> MORE ON P 02

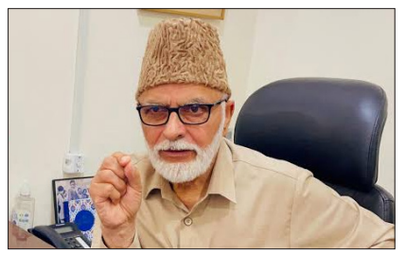
Public Grievances Must Translate into Concrete Action : Ali Mohammad Sagar

Minister holds extensive public interaction in Jammu, assures priority attention and time-bound resolution of people's issues

HT NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Minister for Revenue, Power Development, Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, and Elections, Ali Mohammad Sagar, on Monday assured time-bound redressal of public grievances while interacting with several deputations and individuals in Jammu. The visiting representatives raised issues concerning developmental works, infrastructure, civic amenities, electricity supply, revenue matters and public service delivery. Giving a patient hearing, Sagar said direct engagement with people was essential for understanding ground realities and ensuring responsive governance. He assured that genuine grievances would be taken up with the concerned departments on priority and called for better coordination between public representatives and administrative authorities to ensure timely resolution of people's concerns.

union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday strongly defended the Special



Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of misleading people over alleged deletion of voters.Reacting to the 'Vote Bachao' rally organised by the Congress-led INDIA alliance in Delhi, Shah alleged that it was not a

>>> MORE ON P 02

As paddy loses ground, Kulgam bets big on apple economy

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

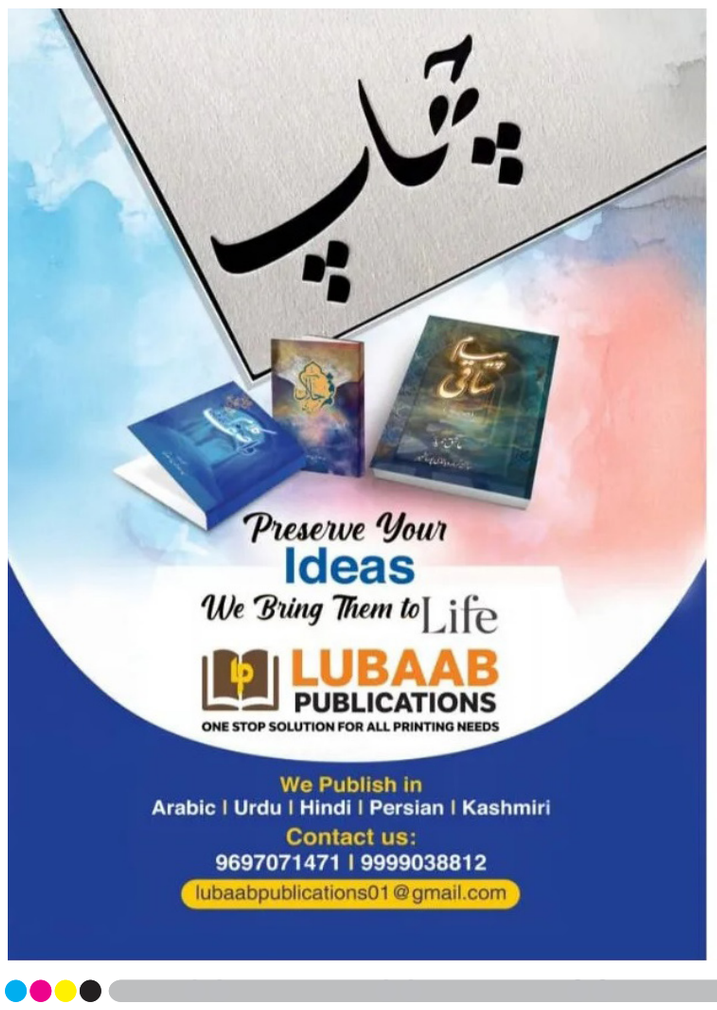
KULGAM, NOV 02 :Once widely known as the 'Rice Bowl of Kashmir', Kulgam district is witnessing a big shift in its agricultural landscape, with apple cultivation increasingly replacing paddy fields and emerging as a major driver of its rural economy.

In a major push to strengthen the growing apple economy, two cold storage facilities with a combined capacity of around 10,000 metric tonnes have become operational in the district, while the administration has identified around 250 kanals of state land at Adipora for establishing a second fruit mandi.

Speaking to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Bashir Ahmad Lone, General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC) Kulgam, said both cold storage facilities were functional, had received bookings and could collectively accommodate around five lakh apple boxes.

"Both facilities are operational, have received bookings and are currently functioning. Their combined capacity is

>>> MORE ON P 02



Preventive Healthcare and Early Detection Must Be a Priority : DC Srinagar

Akshay Labroo inaugurates special health check-up camp at DC Office Complex; over 100 employees and visitors screened

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Akshay Labroo on Monday emphasised the importance of preventive healthcare, regular health monitoring and timely medical intervention while inaugurating a special health check-up camp at the DC Office Complex. Organised by the District Red Cross Society in collaboration with Government Gousia Hospital Khanyar and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, the camp facilitated medical consultations and screening services for employees and visitors. More than 100 people were screened for diabetes, blood pressure-related ailments, ophthalmological conditions and other health concerns. The Deputy Commissioner appreciated the Health Department and District Red Cross Society for the initiative, stressing that proactive health monitoring was essential for promoting employee well-being and maintaining a healthy workforce across the district. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar,



Akshay Labroo, today inaugurated a Special Health Check-up Camp at the premises of the DC Office Complex, with the objective of promoting health awareness and facilitating access to essential healthcare services for employees and visitors.The camp was organised by the District Red Cross Society, Srinagar, in

>>> MORE ON P 02

HT BOTTOM NEWS

Public Can Meet SSP Four Days a Week : Bandipora Police

SSP to hold grievance redressal meetings Monday to Thursday from 2 pm to 4 pm to strengthen police-public engagement

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

BANDIPORA: District Police Bandipora has announced a dedicated public grievance redressal schedule under which the Senior Superintendent of Police will meet citizens at his office from Monday to Thursday between 2 pm and 4 pm. According to a public notice issued by the district police, people can directly approach the SSP during the designated hours to raise complaints, concerns and other issues requiring police intervention. The initiative aims to improve accessibility of senior police officials, strengthen police-public relations and ensure responsive policing. Citizens can also contact Police Control Room Bandipora at 9596767430 for assistance.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to responsive governance and people-centric administration, Minister for



Revenue, Power Development Department (PDD), Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and

>>> MORE ON P 02

Continue from Front Page.....

Next Six

administrative arrangements and key issues concerning the functioning of various departments, including preparation of the Budget for 2027-28.

Deputy Chief Minister and other Ministers also highlighted various issues of public importance and sought the administration's cooperation for timely resolution.

Addressing the meeting, the Chief Minister congratulated the Ministers and officers on the commencement of the Darbar Move in Jammu and stressed that administrative functioning must remain focused and unaffected by external distractions.

Observing that the next six months are crucial for accelerating developmental activities and ensuring optimal utilisation of funds allocated to various departments, the Chief Minister urged all departments to enhance the pace of execution and ensure timely completion of developmental works.

He asked newly inducted Ministers and those assigned new portfolios to undertake a detailed review of their respective departments and assess the implementation status of commitments made during the last Budget.

The review, he said, should clearly identify completed projects, ongoing works and projects yet to be initiated, along with reasons for delays and measures required to expedite their implementation.

The Chief Minister also called for a comprehensive review of the Government's manifesto commitments to assess progress and identify further steps required for fulfilment.

Emphasising the need for close monitoring of developmental projects, particularly those being implemented under SASCI, the Chief Minister directed Ministers to regularly review their progress and ensure timely execution.

For the financial year 2027-28, he directed all departments to prepare project proposals and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) well in advance for projects proposed under SASCI. Departments were asked to keep DPRs and tender documents ready so that tendering and other preparatory formalities could be completed ahead of time, enabling immediate commencement of works once allocations are received.

He said these directions had already been conveyed to the departments and reiterated the need for their effective implementation.

The Ministers were also asked to undertake reviews of the districts assigned to them at the earliest and ensure close monitoring of developmental works.

The Chief Minister reviewed winter preparedness and stressed the importance of maintaining uninterrupted essential services through effective inter-departmental coordination. Taking note of concerns regarding ration dumping in certain areas, he asked the concerned department to address the issue and ensure adequate availability of essential commodities.

Calling for a proactive approach towards budget formulation, the Chief Minister directed departments to initiate consultations with the Finance and Planning Departments well in advance for preparation of the next financial year's Budget.

He observed that early identification of priorities and preparation of realistic proposals would provide adequate time for proper consideration and help avoid last-minute inclusion of commitments that may be difficult to implement.

The Chief Minister also emphasised the need to ensure comfortable working and living arrangements for employees who have shifted to Jammu in connection with the Darbar Move.

He directed the administration to address shortcomings relating to accommodation, office facilities and other essential requirements to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of the Secretariat.

Calling upon Ministers and officers to work in close coordination, the Chief Minister stressed the need for a focused approach towards effective implementation of developmental commitments and public welfare initiatives.

Later, the Chief Minister visited the chambers of the newly inducted Ministers and inspected various rooms, sections and offices of the Civil Secretariat. He interacted with staff and officials and took stock of the facilities and arrangements put in place following the reopening of the Civil Secretariat after the Darbar Move.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by his Cabinet colleagues and other senior officers.

Only Indian

Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of misleading people over alleged deletion of voters.

Reacting to the 'Vote Bachao' rally organised by the Congress-led INDIA alliance in Delhi, Shah alleged that it was not a campaign to save votes but an attempt to protect infiltrators.

Addressing a public meeting at Moazzam Jahi Market (MJ Market) after participating in the 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy' Maha Padayatra in Hyderabad, Shah accused the Congress of opposing the SIR and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) to protect its alleged vote bank.

Referring to Rahul Gandhi's claim that 13 crore votes were being deleted, Shah rejected the allegation and claimed that the figures included voters who had shifted residences, deceased persons, duplicate entries and names of people who did not exist.

He questioned the Congress's opposition to removing such entries from electoral rolls and asserted that only Indian citizens should be allowed to vote.

Targeting Rahul Gandhi, Shah challenged him to explain why the Congress accepted electoral victories in states where it had formed governments if the electronic voting machines (EVMs) were faulty.

He also challenged the Congress leader to participate in a discussion in Parliament on the issues being raised by the Opposition.

Turning his attack on the Congress government in Telangana, Shah alleged that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy had turned the State into an ATM for the party's national leadership in Delhi.

He accused the Chief Minister of collecting what he termed 'RR Tax' and alleged that the money was being channelled to the Congress leadership.

Questioning the implementation of the six guarantees promised by the Congress, Shah alleged that none of the assurances made by Rahul Gandhi had been fulfilled.

He said the people of Telangana would not forgive the government for its alleged failures and corruption.

Shah also highlighted the achievements of the Narendra Modi government, including the abrogation of Article 370, construction of the Ram temple, abolition of triple talaq and various welfare programmes.

He said the Centre had provided free foodgrains to 81 crore people, health coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh to 50 crore people, tap water connections to 16 crore households and financial assistance to 13 crore farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme.

Calling upon BJP workers to take the party's message to every household, Shah said the party had prepared a document in Telugu highlighting the alleged failures and corruption of the Congress government.

He urged party cadres to distribute it across the State and counter what he described as misinformation by the Congress.

Shah expressed confidence that the BJP would form the next government in Telangana and called upon party workers to strive for a two-thirds majority.

Earlier, Shah participated in the Maha Padayatra titled 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy', organised by the Telangana BJP from the statue of Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram at Bashirbagh to MJ Market, protesting against the Opposition parties' agitation over the SIR of electoral rolls.

Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao, BJP MPs, MLAs, MLCs and a large number of party workers participated in the programme.

Public Grievances

campaign to save votes but an attempt to protect infiltrators.

Addressing a public meeting at Moazzam Jahi Market (MJ Market) after participating in the 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy' Maha Padayatra in Hyderabad, Shah accused the Congress of opposing the SIR and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) to protect its alleged vote bank.

Referring to Rahul Gandhi's claim that 13 crore votes were being deleted, Shah rejected the allegation and claimed that the figures included voters who had shifted residences, deceased persons, duplicate entries and names of people who did not exist.

He questioned the Congress's opposition to removing such entries from electoral rolls and asserted that only Indian citizens should be allowed to vote.

Targeting Rahul Gandhi, Shah challenged him to explain why the Congress accepted electoral victories in states where it had formed governments if the electronic voting machines (EVMs) were faulty.

He also challenged the Congress leader to participate in a discussion in Parliament on the issues being raised by the Opposition.

Turning his attack on the Congress government in Telangana, Shah alleged that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy had turned the State into an ATM for the party's national leadership in Delhi.

He accused the Chief Minister of collecting what he termed 'RR Tax' and alleged that the money was being channelled to the Congress leadership.

Questioning the implementation of the six guarantees promised by the Congress, Shah alleged that none of the assurances made by Rahul Gandhi had been fulfilled.

He said the people of Telangana would not forgive the government for its alleged failures and corruption.

Shah also highlighted the achievements of the Narendra Modi government, including the abrogation of Article 370, construction of the Ram temple, abolition of triple talaq and various welfare programmes.

He said the Centre had provided free foodgrains to 81 crore people, health coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh to 50 crore people, tap water connections to 16 crore households and financial assistance to 13 crore farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme.

Calling upon BJP workers to take the party's message to every household, Shah said the party had prepared a document in Telugu highlighting the alleged failures and corruption of the Congress government.

He urged party cadres to distribute it across the State and counter what he described as misinformation by the Congress.

Shah expressed confidence that the BJP would form the next government in Telangana and called upon party workers to strive for a two-thirds majority.

Earlier, Shah participated in the Maha Padayatra titled 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy', organised by the Telangana BJP from the statue of Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram at Bashirbagh to MJ Market, protesting against the Opposition parties' agitation over the SIR of electoral rolls.

Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao, BJP MPs, MLAs, MLCs and a large number of party workers participated in the programme.

"Maintain Highest

Interacting with the officers and staff, the Speaker appreciated their dedication and commitment towards ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of the Legislative Assembly Secretariat. He emphasised the importance of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, discipline and efficiency in discharge of the official responsibilities.

The Speaker called for close coordination among all branches of the Secretariat to ensure timely disposal of official business and seamless delivery of services. He also underscored the need to maintain a responsive, transparent and public-oriented institutional approach while facilitating the smooth conduct of legislative affairs.

He wished the officers and staff a productive and successful tenure during the winter Darbar Move. He expressed confidence that the Legislative Secretariat would continue to uphold the dignity, traditions and institutional responsibilities of the Legislature.

Budgam Admin

permission and action under relevant laws.

As paddy loses

approximately five lakh apple boxes," he said.

Lone said that work was underway on two additional cold storage projects, each having a proposed capacity of around 10,000 metric tonnes. "Taking all four projects together, the total investment is expected to exceed Rs 100 crore," he said.

The General Manager said the projects are expected to generate around 120 permanent employment opportunities, besides providing seasonal employment to nearly 200–250 people at each cold storage facility.

He said the facilities would also generate indirect employment for truck operators, auto drivers, apple box suppliers and other associated workers, giving a further boost to economic activity in the district.

Inviting entrepreneurs to invest in the sector, Lone said the Single Window Portal was currently open for applications for land allotment. He added that entrepreneurs could also establish cold storage units on private land after completing the required formalities, including Change of Land Use (CLU).

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam Shahzad Alam said around 250 kanals of state land at Adipora had been identified for establishing a second fruit mandi.

He said the existing fruit mandi, located near District Hospital Kulgam, frequently witnesses traffic congestion, particularly during the apple season, prompting demands for an additional facility.

"Keeping in view the growing demand, around 250 kanals of state land at Adipora have been identified for the proposed fruit mandi. A proposal for transfer of the land has already been submitted to the government," Alam said.

The DC said the initial steps would include clearing encroachments and undertaking walling work to secure the site, followed by preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) and development of the mandi in phases.

He said the proposed mandi's proximity to the National Highway would ensure better connectivity and help ease traffic congestion in Kulgam town.

Alam said that fruit growers from neighbouring Shopian district would also be able to utilise the facility.

The changing agricultural profile of Kulgam is evident in government figures. Once predominantly known for paddy cultivation, the district now has more than twice the area under apple cultivation compared to rice. According to government data, only 6,951 hectares remained under paddy cultivation in 2024-25, against 18,255 hectares under apple orchards.

A spatial land-use analysis published in 2020 had also documented this transition. Between 2011 and 2020, the area under rice cultivation declined from 18,500 hectares to 12,900 hectares, while land under apple orchards increased from 14,667 hectares to 20,787 hectares—(KNO)

Public Can

Reconstruction (DMRRR), and Elections, Ali Mohammad Sagar, today held an extensive public interaction at Jammu, meeting several deputations and individuals who apprised him of issues concerning their respective areas and communities.

During the interaction, various deputations raised a range of public importance issues, seeking the Minister's intervention for addressing their grievances and resolving matters requiring administrative attention. The issues highlighted included developmental concerns, public infrastructure, basic civic amenities, power-related matters, revenue issues and other matters concerning public service delivery.

Giving a patient hearing to the visiting deputations, Sagar underlined that direct engagement with people is essential for understanding ground realities and ensuring that governance remains responsive to their needs and aspirations.

He assured the deputations that all genuine issues brought to his notice would be examined on priority and taken up with the concerned departments for appropriate action. He also emphasised that administrative delays in resolving public grievances must be avoided and that officers need to adopt a proactive approach towards addressing people's concerns.

The Minister stressed that public representatives and government departments must work in close coordination to ensure effective delivery of services and timely resolution of issues confronting the people.

"Government is committed to inclusive development, equitable allocation of resources and strengthening the institutional mechanism for public grievance redressal",the Minsiter reatraited.

Sagar observed that the government's priority is not merely to hear public grievances but to translate people's concerns into concrete action on the ground. He assured the deputations that their representations would receive due consideration and necessary follow-up.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Bandipora will hold public grievance meetings at his office from Monday to Thursday between 2 pm and 4 pm to facilitate the direct redressal of public complaints, police said.

According to a public notice issued by District Police Bandipora, members of the public can meet the district police chief during the designated hours to raise their grievances, concerns and other issues requiring police intervention.

The initiative aims to strengthen police-public relations and ensure greater accessibility of senior police officials to citizens, the notice said. District Police Bandipora reiterated its commitment to providing accessible and responsive policing.

People can also contact Police Control Room (PCR) Bandipora at 9596767430 for assistance. (KNS)

Preventive Healthcare

collaboration with Government Gousia Hospital Khanyar and Office of the Chief Medical Office.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the initiative was aimed at encouraging preventive healthcare, early detection of potential health issues and regular health monitoring. He emphasised the importance of prioritising health and well-being and encouraged people to make regular health check-ups an integral part of their routine.



www.dailyheadlinestoday.com
16TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION HEADLINES TODAY
Voice To The Voiceless
Srinagar, TUESDAY
November 03 | 2026
HT - NEWS
@HEADLINESTODA17 @headlinestodaydaily @headlinestoday @headlinestodaynews
HEADLINES TODAY
htcity
Srinagar, Tuesday | November 03 | 2026



@HEADLINESTODA17 @headlinestodaydaily @headlinestoday @headlinestodaynews

DC Srinagar inaugurates Special Health Check-up Camp at DC Office Complex under District Red Cross Initiative

Underscores need for proactive health monitoring and timely medical intervention to promote healthy workforce

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, today inaugurated a Special Health Check-up Camp at the premises of the DC Office Complex, with the objective of promoting health awareness and facilitating access to essential healthcare services for employees and visitors.

The camp was organised by the District Red Cross Society, Srinagar, in collaboration with Government Gousia Hospital Khanyar and Office of the Chief Medical Office.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the initiative was aimed at encouraging preventive healthcare, early detection of potential health issues and regular health monitoring. He emphasised the importance of prioritising health and well-being and encouraged people to make regular health check-ups an integral part of their routine.

The camp provided an opportunity for participants to avail themselves of medical consultations and basic health screening services.

The DC underscored the need for proactive health monitoring and timely medical intervention to promote a healthy workforce across the District.



The DC complimented the Health Department and the District Red Cross Society for organising the healthcare camp at the DC Office Complex.

During the camp, more than 100 employees and incoming public at the DC Office and allied Offices located in Amar Niwas Complex, besides a large number of visitors, were screened for diabetes, blood pressure-related issues, ophthalmological conditions and other health related concerns.

The camp was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, IAS Probationer, Aakash Garg, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Accounts Officer, Mohammad Iqbal, Officials of DC Office, members of District Red Cross Society and other concerned. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, today inaugurated a Special Health Check-up Camp at the premises of the DC Office Complex, with the objective of promoting health awareness and facilitating access to essential healthcare services for employees and visitors.

The camp was organised by the District Red Cross Society, Srinagar, in collaboration with Government Gousia Hospital Khanyar and Office of the Chief Medical Office.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the initiative was aimed at encouraging preventive healthcare, early detection of potential health issues and regular health monitoring. He emphasised the importance of prioritising health and well-being and encouraged people to make regular health check-ups an integral part of their routine.

The camp provided an opportunity for participants to avail themselves of medical consultations and basic health screening services.

The DC underscored the need for proactive health monitoring and timely medical intervention to promote a healthy workforce across the District.

The DC complimented the Health Department and the District Red Cross Society for organising the healthcare camp at the DC Office Complex.

During the camp, more than 100 employees and incoming public at the DC Office and allied Offices located in Amar Niwas Complex, besides a large number of visitors, were screened for diabetes, blood pressure-related issues, ophthalmological conditions and other health related concerns.

The camp was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, IAS Probationer, Aakash Garg, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Accounts Officer, Mohammad Iqbal, Officials of DC Office, members of District Red Cross Society and other concerned.

District Admin Anantnag celebrates 150 Years of National Song 'Vande Mataram'

■ HT News Network



ANANTNAG, NOVEMBER 02: The District Administration Anantnag today organised a special programme at Town Hall, Anantnag, to commemorate 150 years of the national song 'Vande Mataram'.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anantnag, Mahima Madan participated in the programme as the Chief Guest.

The event highlighted the historical significance of 'Vande Mataram' and its remarkable contribution to India's freedom movement. Speakers on the occasion emphasised the importance of the national song in promoting patriotism, national unity and a spirit of collective pride.

The programme also served as an occasion to pay tribute to the rich legacy of the iconic national song and reaffirm the values of unity, integrity and national brotherhood.

DC Kupwara inspects SDH Kupwara

Reviews patient care, healthcare facilities & winter preparedness

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara undertook an extensive inspection of Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Kupwara today to take stock of the healthcare facilities, patient care services, and overall functioning of the institution.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Kupwara, Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Dy. CMO), Block Medical Officer (BMO) Kupwara, along with other concerned administrative and health officers

During the visit, the DC inspected multiple vital sections of the hospital, including the Dialysis Unit, Casualty/ Emergency Room (ER), Surgical Wards, Medicine Wards, and General In-Patient Wards. He took detailed stock of the availability of essential life-saving drugs, surgical



disposables, and diagnostic facilities, emphasizing that seamless delivery of medical services must remain the top priority.

The DC interacted directly with admitted patients and their attendants to obtain on-spot feedback regarding the quality of healthcare, sanitation standards, and hospital amenities. He also held detailed deliberations with doctors and paramedical staff, urging them to work with dedication, empathy, and professional integrity. Issuing directions on the spot, the DC instructed the hospital administration to resolve all issues pertaining to non-functional medical equipment on a war footing so that patient care does not suffer. To mitigate traffic bottlenecks within and around the hospital premises, the concerned officers were directed to ensure the optimal utilization of available parking space, ensuring unrestricted movement for ambulances and critical patient transit.

District Admin Kupwara organize Day-Long Disaster Management Workshop in Kupwara

■ HT News Network

KUPWARA, NOVEMBER 02: District Administration Kupwara in collaboration with the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) today organised a day-long workshop on Disaster Management at the Meeting Hall of the ACD Office Complex, Kupwara.

The workshop was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad Khan.

Experts from NDRF and SDRF participated in the workshop and imparted comprehensive awareness to the participants, including district officers, officials, volunteers and school children, about various aspects of disaster management, preparedness and response mechanisms.

The experts also sensitized the participants about the importance of preparedness, timely response and coordinated efforts in mitigating the impact of natural and man-made disasters.

Pamphlets containing important information and guidelines related to disaster management were also distributed among the participants to enhance awareness and



promote community preparedness.

As part of the programme, a mock drill was also conducted in the lawns of the ACD Office Complex, during which NDRF and SDRF personnel demonstrated various rescue operations and emergency response techniques. The demonstration provided participants with practical insights into rescue procedures and highlighted the importance of coordination, preparedness and prompt action during disaster situations.

DC Anantnag chairs NCORD Meeting

■ HT News Network

ANANTNAG, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, today chaired a meeting of the District-Level Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) at the DC Office Complex, Anantnag, to review measures being undertaken to combat drug abuse and strengthen enforcement against drug trafficking in the district. The meeting focused on reviewing the action taken by various departments, strengthening inter-departmental coordination and intensifying efforts towards drug prevention, awareness and rehabilitation.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the need for coordinated efforts by all concerned departments to effectively tackle the menace of drug abuse. He emphasised strict action against drug peddlers, enhanced surveillance and sustained awareness campaigns, particularly among youth.

He also reviewed the functioning of the Drug De-addiction Centre and stressed the need to further strengthen its services.

The meeting was informed that 792 kanals of wild cannabis growing along riverbeds and other areas had been destroyed.

The chair was also informed that 100 percent CCTV cameras have been installed in pharmacies across the district. The concerned department was directed to intensify inspection and checking of pharmacies to ensure strict compliance with prescribed regulations.

DDC Shopian reviews progress of Irrigation Department Works in district

Directs Officers to expedite execution & ensure timely completion of all works

■ HT News Network

SHOPIAN, OCTOBER 02: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Charandeep Singh today held a comprehensive review meeting of the Irrigation Department to assess the progress of various ongoing and planned works being executed under different schemes and budgetary heads across the district.

During the meeting, the DDC undertook a detailed review of the physical and financial progress of ongoing projects and took stock of the status of various proposed and planned works. He emphasised the need to accelerate the pace of execution and ensure that all ongoing projects are completed within the stipulated timelines without compromising on the quality of works.

The meeting was also apprised that the district has a total Command Area (CCA) of 19,700 hectares, out of which 16,693 hectares has been achieved. The



district has an irrigation network comprising approximately 212 km of main canals and 602 km of distributaries.

The DDC directed the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Shopian and his team of officers and field staff to remain vigilant, maintain close field supervision and ensure effective monitoring of all ongoing works. He emphasised that any unnecessary delays, lack of coordination or administrative bottlenecks must be addressed promptly to facilitate smooth execution of projects.

It was further informed that a total of 60 irrigation schemes are presently being managed in the district, comprising 36 Gravity Schemes and 24 Lift Schemes, including 3 Major/Medium Schemes and 57 Minor Schemes.

The DDC further emphasised the importance of proper planning, technical assessment and field verification before preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), observing that all proposed works must be based on actual field requirements, technical feasibility and the anticipated benefits to the public. He directed that DPRs should be comprehensive, realistic and properly vetted to avoid deficiencies and delays at subsequent stages.

Taking serious note of delays in execution by certain contractors, the DDC directed the Irrigation Department to strictly monitor the performance of contractors and take appropriate action against those failing to execute the allotted works as per the prescribed timelines and contractual obligations. He made it clear that accountability must be fixed wherever negligence or undue delay is noticed.

Intensive Motor Vehicle Enforcement Drive conducted in Bandipora; 230 vehicles checked, 55 Compounded

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 02: On the directions of Transport Commissioner, J&K, Vishesh Pal Mahajan, and under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, the Motor Vehicles Department conducted an intensive enforcement drive across Kaloosa, Gulshan Chowk and adjoining areas of the district.

The special enforcement team of ARTO Bandipora conducted thorough checking of commercial and passenger vehicles, focusing on mandatory installation of speed governors, unauthorised operation of passenger vehicles and other violations of the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules.

During the drive, 230 vehicles were checked, out of which 55 were compounded, with an



expected penalty realisation of approximately Rs 1,47,500. The driving licences of four violators were also recommended for suspension.

Transporters and drivers were sensitised and directed to follow traffic rules, comply with road safety requirements and avoid operating passenger vehicles from unauthorised locations to prevent traffic congestion and ensure smooth vehicular movement.

The Motor Vehicles Department reiterated that such enforcement drives will continue across the district to curb traffic violations, strengthen road safety and ensure better traffic management.

The general public, particularly transporters and commercial vehicle operators, have been urged to cooperate with the department and strictly adhere to traffic rules and statutory provisions.

DC Pulwama reviews Mission YUVA implementation

Stresses time-bound disposal of cases, sustainable enterprise development and inclusive entrepreneurship

■ HT News Network



PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, today chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) under Mission YUVA at the Administrative Complex, Pulwama, to review the implementation of the scheme and discuss cases submitted for approval.

At the outset, Assistant Director Employment, Pulwama, presented a detailed presentation highlighting the progress achieved under Mission YUVA, including the status of applications received, verified and approved, loans sanctioned and disbursed, bank-wise pendency and sector-wise distribution of proposed enterprises. The presentation also highlighted the status of applications under different Business Help Desks (BHDs), SHG cases and applications pending approval at various levels.

The chair was apprised that 4,741 applications had been approved by DLIC in the district till date, while 2,826 loans had been disbursed by banks. Of the approved cases, 1,839 pertained to the services sector, 1,517 to trading, 921 to manufacturing and 464 to the agri-allied sector. The committee also reviewed 515 applications pending approval at the DLIC level.

During the meeting, the DC sought component-wise details of the scheme and reviewed the progress and pendency at different stages of implementation. He stressed the need for establishing a clear timeline covering the entire process, from submission and verification of applications to approval, loan sanction, disbursement and subsequent establishment and operationalisation of enterprises.

He directed that meetings of the DLIC be convened every 15 days to ensure regular review and timely disposal of cases. He further directed the banks to furnish Action Taken Reports (ATRs) within 15 days after each DLIC, detailing the status of pending cases and action taken towards their disposal.

Emphasising inclusivity in the implementation of Mission YUVA, the DC stressed the need to ensure adequate participation of women, members of the transgender community and specially abled persons. He called for focused outreach and facilitation measures to ensure that eligible beneficiaries from these sections are made aware of the scheme and receive appropriate support in accessing its benefits.

The DC stated that the focus of Mission YUVA should extend beyond the creation of enterprises to the generation of sustainable and perennial livelihood opportunities. He stressed the need to identify and promote viable enterprises in sectors having strong local potential, particularly saffron, dairy and other activities, so that the district's existing economic strengths are translated into sustainable employment opportunities.

Highlighting the potential of the dairy sector, he called for exploring the establishment of milk collection points and strengthening the supporting infrastructure to facilitate better market access for dairy farmers and encourage the growth of dairy-based enterprises.

The DC also emphasised the need for undertaking a comprehensive SWOT analysis and systematic skill mapping to identify local strengths, market opportunities and skill gaps. He called for aligning skill development and training programmes with the requirements of identified sectors, followed by adequate financial assistance, continuous handholding and institutional support to beneficiaries at every stage of enterprise development.

DDC Kupwara reviews NABARD, PMGSY Projects

Stresses last-mile Connectivity and development of Vibrant Villages

■ HT News Network



KUPWARA, NOVEMBER02: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Abhishek Sharma, today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review the physical and financial progress of developmental projects being executed under the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) across the district.

Emphasising the importance of robust road infrastructure, particularly last-mile connectivity, the DDC observed that reliable connectivity is fundamental to grassroots development. He directed executing agencies and line departments to work in close coordination, address procedural bottlenecks and ensure timely completion of all ongoing projects.

The Superintending Engineer, R&B Circle Kupwara, presented a detailed overview of NABARD-funded works under RIDF 27, RIDF 29, RIDF 30 and RIDF 31. Key projects, including Galizoo Stadium and Bohipora Bridge, were reviewed, with directions to expedite their execution.

Taking note of procedural delays, the DDC directed the Forest Department to ensure timely compliance with online clearance requirements on the PARIVESH portal. He stressed that Essential Details Sought (EDS) should be raised in a single instance rather than through piecemeal queries to avoid unnecessary delays. Executive Engineers were also directed to actively pursue pending cases.

The Forest Department was further asked to expedite clearances under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), while the Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) was directed to resolve pending land-related issues and facilitate the requisite land possession for project execution.

Reviewing road connectivity under the Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) and PMGSY, the DDC highlighted the importance of improved connectivity for remote and border habitations, particularly Keran, Machil and Amroohi. He observed that bridging the infrastructure gap in these areas remains a priority for the administration, ensuring that residents of far-flung border villages have access to essential public utilities and improved connectivity.

He further instructed all Executive Engineers to personally undertake project-wise site inspections, assess the quality of works and submit action-taken reports. Setting a firm timeline, he directed that all pending inter-departmental issues and execution-related bottlenecks be resolved within 14 days.

Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas celebrated in Shopian

■ HT News Network



SHOPIAN, NOVEMBER 02: On the eve of Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas celebrated on the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, a Mega Gram Sabha was organized by the Tribal Affairs Department, District Shopian in collaboration with District Administration Shopian. The Gram Sabha was held for awareness and disposal of claims of ST community including AKs, ASKs, Dajgua and others under Forest Rights Act, 2006, which was presided over by ADDC Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone.

The demands of ST community regarding road connectivity were also discussed. The issues regarding Potato Farm Road and Redh Agri-Bakerwal Check to Sedow Adda Road were highlighted. It was informed that both the roads have been tendered and the work will start within this week.

Nodal Officer, Tribal Affairs Department Shopian, Mohammad Imran Khan, besides other officers and large number of tribal community members were present on the occasion.

Bandipora Farmers depart for Seven-Day Exposure Visit to Punjab under ATMA Scheme

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 02: A group of farmers from Bandipora departed from the Mini Secretariat Bandipora, for a seven-day exposure visit to Ludhiana, Punjab, under the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme of the Agriculture Department. The visit aims to familiarise farmers with modern agricultural technologies, advanced farming practices, improved crop production techniques, farm mechanisation and innovative agricultural interventions. The farmers will gain practical exposure to progressive farming methods and technological advancements in the agricultural sector.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas: Multi-Departmental Awareness Camps held in Tribal Villages of Uri

■ HT News Network



BARAMULLA, NOVEMBER 02: As part of the second-day celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, the District Administration Baramulla organised multi-departmental awareness camps at Churanda, Bandi Brahman and Ladi villages of Tehsil Uri to strengthen awareness among tribal communities about various government welfare schemes and public services.

The camps witnessed active participation from the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Education Department, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Agriculture Department, which disseminated information about their respective schemes, programmes and services.

During the camps, officials from the concerned departments interacted with local residents and briefed them about various initiatives related to child development, nutrition, education, rural development, livelihood generation and agricultural welfare. They also encouraged eligible beneficiaries to avail themselves of the benefits available under different government schemes.

The camps provided an opportunity for residents of these far-flung tribal villages to interact directly with departmental representatives, seek information and understand the process of accessing various welfare services.

The initiative aimed at strengthening grassroots-level awareness, ensuring wider coverage of government schemes and facilitating last-mile delivery of public services to tribal communities.

The celebrations reaffirm the commitment of the District Administration towards inclusive development, community participation and the socio-economic empowerment of tribal populations.

SMC places two Officials under suspension; Orders departmental inquiry

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 02: Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Dr. Basharat Qayoom has placed Ghulam Hassan Sheikh, I/C Ward Officer, SMC, under suspension with immediate effect, pending enquiry into the matter of alleged dereliction of duties, till further orders.

The order further directs Nuzhat Khurshid Qureshi, Joint Commissioner, Administration), SMC, to conduct an in-depth inquiry into the matter concerning supervision and monitoring of unauthorized constructions within the jurisdiction of officer. The Inquiry Officer shall submit a comprehensive report with specific recommendations.

Further, Jameel Mohammad Sheikh, Senior Building Inspector, I/C Ward Officer, SMC, has also been placed under suspension for dereliction of duties as per rules.

DC Kulgam reviews progress on Farmer ID generation

Directs revenue functionaries to improve AgriStack progress

■ Farooq Rather



KULGAM, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, today chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of Farmer ID generation under the AgriStack initiative and review the implementation of the SVAMITVA scheme in the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner undertook a detailed review of the progress achieved in Farmer ID generation and discussed various issues and bottlenecks hampering the implementation process. He emphasised the need to ensure comprehensive coverage of all eligible farmers and directed the concerned revenue functionaries to intensify their field-level efforts to facilitate the timely generation of Farmer IDs.

The DC directed the revenue functionaries to reach out to farmers at the grassroots level, extend necessary assistance in completing the requisite formalities and ensure the smooth and hassle-free generation of Farmer IDs. He also stressed the need to establish contact with migrated families, wherever required, and facilitate the resolution of related issues to ensure that no eligible farmer is left out of the exercise.

The meeting also reviewed the status of village bucketing, which has been completed in 208 villages of the district. The DC took stock of the progress achieved and deliberated upon the issues requiring intervention and resolution to expedite the remaining work.

The Deputy Commissioner further directed the concerned officers to expedite pending mutations and rectify discrepancies in revenue records on priority to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the database. He also emphasised that all Patwar Khanas must remain accessible to the public, with revenue functionaries ensuring their regular availability for the efficient and timely delivery of public services.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kulgam Vikar Ahmad Giri, ACR Kulgam Riyaz Ahmad Shah, besides other revenue officers including Tehsildar and NTs and field functionaries of the district. The Deputy Commissioner further directed the concerned officers to expedite pending mutations and rectify discrepancies in revenue records on priority to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the database. He also emphasised that all Patwar Khanas must remain accessible to the public, with revenue functionaries ensuring their regular availability for the efficient and timely delivery of public services.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kulgam Vikar Ahmad Giri, ACR Kulgam Riyaz Ahmad Shah, besides other revenue officers including Tehsildar and NTs and field functionaries of the district.

DC Pulwama holds maiden interaction with Media Fraternity of District Calls for stronger Media-Administration Coordination

■ HT News Network

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, today held his first formal interaction with the media fraternity of the district after assuming charge, with the interaction focusing on strengthening coordination between the district administration and the media and ensuring effective dissemination of information and public-oriented initiatives.

The interaction was attended by Chief Planning Officer Pulwama, Aashiq Khanday, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Pulwama, Shahbaz Ahmad Bodha, District Information Officer Pulwama, Wajeeza, besides representatives of the print and electronic media, news agencies and social media content creators.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner expressed gratitude to the media fraternity for attending the interaction and appreciated its role in connecting the administration with the people.

Addressing the gathering, the DC emphasized that the media is an integral part of the government-society-administration framework and serves as a vital bridge between the administration and the public.

Describing the media as a mirror of society, he highlighted its important role in reflecting public concerns, disseminating information and creating awareness about government initiatives and social issues.

Emphasizing the wide reach and influence of both print and electronic media, the DC stressed that the information people read, watch and consume has a significant and lasting impact on public perception. He underlined that responsible journalism, accuracy, objectivity and credibility are therefore essential, particularly while reporting on sensitive issues concerning society.

Calling for greater professional learning within the media fraternity, the DC urged senior media persons to share their experience and professional wisdom with younger journalists. He observed that



practical experience and wisdom are acquired through continuous engagement and learning and contribute to greater clarity, balanced reporting and credibility in journalism.

Highlighting the collective responsibility of the administration and media in addressing social challenges, particularly drug abuse, the DC called for sustained and impactful awareness efforts aimed at reaching ordinary citizens and vulnerable sections of society. He said that visual content, in particular, has a strong recall value and can play an important role in creating social awareness.

The DC further emphasized the importance of transparency, accountability and objectivity in public communication, urging all stakeholders to guard against misinformation, bias and any form of malicious intent. He stated that responsible reporting contributes significantly towards strengthening public confidence in institutions and reinforcing trust between the administration and citizens.

Stressing the need to give greater visibility to welfare-oriented initiatives, the DC called for focused coverage of social security schemes and other government programmes so that eligible beneficiaries are adequately informed about the benefits available to them. He also underlined the importance of accuracy in census-related information and other official data, stating that correctness and integrity of data are fundamental to effective planning, governance and informed public discourse.

As part of strengthening institutional coordination, the DC proposed the formulation of a Common Minimum Programme between the district administration and the media fraternity, under which areas of common public interest would be identified and taken up collectively on a regular basis. He said that such coordinated efforts would help highlight developmental achievements, address public concerns and strengthen the support system available to citizens.

The DC also proposed holding media interactions at regular intervals, preferably once every three months, to ensure continuous dialogue, timely exchange of information and stronger coordination between the administration and the media.

Discussing the role of media in strengthening public trust, the DC emphasized that both the administration and media should work together to communicate to people that the system is accessible,

Preserving Rich Spiritual Heritage While Strengthening Infrastructure at Religious Places Will Remain Key Priority of The Waqf Board : Dr Andrabi

Dr Darakhshan inaugurates Sabat Complex, lays foundation stone for developmental works at Khanqah-e-Faiz Panah, Tral

■ SHEIKH MUSHTAQ
HT NEWS NETWORK



Tral, November 2: Chairperson of the Jammu & Kashmir Waqf Board, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi, today visited the historic Khanqah-e-Faiz Panah at Tral, where she laid the foundation stone for various developmental works, including a modern Wudhu Complex and a Conference Hall. She also inaugurated the newly constructed Sabat Complex and unveiled plaques highlighting the history of the shrine and various developmental initiatives undertaken for its upgradation.During the visit Waqf Chairperson was accompanied by the Waqf Board Members Mohammad Hussain Haqqani and Dr Gh. Nabi Haleem and Altaf Thakur, UT Spokesperson of BJP. Andrabi took stock of the ongoing and proposed developmental initiatives aimed at improving facilities for devotees and visitors while preserving the historical, religious and spiritual significance of the shrine. She emphasised that the Waqf Board remains committed to the comprehensive development of religious institutions and the preservation of Kashmir's rich spiritual and cultural heritage.

Addressing the gathering, Dr Andrabi said that the development of shrines and religious institutions is an important part of the Board's mission. She said that modern facilities, improved infrastructure and preservation of historical heritage must go hand in hand to ensure that these sacred places continue to serve society and future generations. She reiterated that the Board would continue its efforts to transform Waqf-managed religious institutions into well-maintained centres of spirituality, faith and community engagement.The programme was attended by Special Officer of the Board Dr Bashir Ahmad (JKAS); Executive Magistrate and Tehsildar, Ishtiyaq Mohiuddin (JKAS); Executive Engineer Er. Qazi Mushtaq, besides other dignitaries, officials and members of the local community. The visit marked another significant step towards strengthening infrastructure and preserving the historical and spiritual legacy of the Khanqah-e-Faiz Panah.

JKAACL Organises Youm-e-Rasul Mir at Dooru, Anantnag

Eminent Kashmiri Poet Rasul Mir Remembered for His Literary Contributions

■ HT News Network



Dooru, Anantnag, November 2, 2026: The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), in collaboration with the Rasul Mir Cultural Foundation, organised a literary and cultural programme to commemorate the renowned Kashmiri romantic poet Rasul Mir at Government Higher Secondary School, Dooru Shahabad, Anantnag, today. The programme was attended by eminent literary and cultural personalities, scholars and local poets, who paid rich tributes to the poet's invaluable contribution to Kashmiri literature. Syed Mir Javed Hussain, son of former Chief Minister Syed Mir Qasim, attended the programme as the Chief Guest, while noted writer and poet Ali Shida presided over the function. The presidium comprised Abdal Mahjoor, Mohammad Abbas Firdousi, Haji Hamidullah Bhawani, Mohammad Iqbal Ganai, President of the Rasul Mir Cultural Foundation, and Jawaid Iqbal Khan, Editor Kashmiri, JKAACL

The programme commenced with a soulful presentation of Rasul Mir's poetry by Nazir Ahmad Ganai and his accompanying artists. Their performance enthralled the audience and created a vibrant literary and cultural atmosphere, highlighting the lyrical beauty, musicality and romantic sensibility of Rasul Mir's poetry.

In his address, Chief Guest Syed Mir Javed Hussain emphasised the importance of promoting Kashmiri language and literature and preserving the region's rich literary heritage. He observed that commemorative programmes dedicated to eminent poets like Rasul Mir serve as an effective means of keeping literary and cultural traditions alive. He also stressed the need to familiarise younger generations with the works of Kashmir's great poets so that they remain connected with their language, culture and literary istory.In his presidential address, noted writer and poet Ali Shida highlighted the artistic excellence of Rasul Mir's poetry and his distinctive position in Kashmiri literature. He observed that the poet's work occupies a prominent place in the Kashmiri poetic tradition owing to its romantic charm, emotional depth and captivating style. He further noted that Rasul Mir's poetry is not merely an expression of romantic emotions but also a fine example of the linguistic elegance, musicality and aesthetic richness of Kashmiri poetry.

Abdal Mahjoor, Mohammad Abbas Firdousi and Haji Hamidullah Bhawani also shared their views on the occasion, emphasising the need to promote Kashmiri literature and preserve the contributions of distinguished literary personalities. They observed that literary programmes provide a common platform for writers and scholars while encouraging meaningful intellectual and creative engagement with the language and its literary traditions.

Mohammad Iqbal Ganai, President of the Rasul Mir Cultural Foundation, highlighted the significance of organising commemorative programmes in honour of Rasul Mir. He observed that such initiatives help introduce younger generations to the literary achievements of Kashmir's eminent poets. He also underlined the importance of collaboration between literary and cultural institutions and organisations for the preservation and promotion of Kashmiri language and literature.Jawaid Iqbal Khan, Editor Kashmiri, JKAACL, emphasised the Academy's continued commitment to promoting Kashmiri language and literature and highlighting the contributions of eminent literary figures.

IUST Conducts AIDS Awareness Outreach Programme at Chandhara

■ HT News Network



Awantipora, Nov 2: As part of a series of outreach initiatives aimed at promoting health awareness, preventive healthcare, and social responsibility among young people, Syed Mantaqui Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology (SMMCON & MT), in collaboration with the office of Dean Outreach, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised an AIDS Awareness Programme at Government High School Chandhara under the Red Ribbon Club. The programme was conducted in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir AIDS Control Society (JKACS), Department of Health and Medical Education, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, and the J&K Paramedical and Nursing Council.The programme aimed to sensitize students about HIV/AIDS, including its modes of transmission, prevention, early detection, and treatment, while addressing common misconceptions and emphasizing the need to eliminate stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS.A key highlight was an educational skit presented by B.Sc. Nursing students, demonstrating preventive measures, the importance of timely testing and counselling, and the need for empathy and support. An interactive question-and-answer session provided students an opportunity to clarify their doubts and discuss.

J&K Tourism bags Best Tourist Destination Award at ITM Goa-2026

■ HT News Network



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 02: Jammu & Kashmir Tourism has added another significant milestone to its achievements by securing the Best Tourist Destination Award at ITM Goa–2026, reaffirming the Union Territory's growing prominence as a preferred tourism destination.

The award was received by Rashid Raina, Deputy Director Tourism Publicity, Kashmir, and Pankaj Sasan, Deputy Director Tourism Publicity, Jammu, on behalf of Jammu & Kashmir Tourism.

The J&K Tourism Pavilion witnessed encouraging footfall and generated considerable interest among members of Goa's travel trade fraternity, with numerous enquiries about the Union Territory's diverse tourism offerings. The visiting officers actively engaged with travel professionals, addressed their queries and highlighted J&K's rich tourism potential, including its scenic landscapes, cultural heritage, adventure activities and emerging tourism experiences.

On the sidelines of ITM Goa–2026, the visiting officers also visited the National Institute of Water Sports, Goa, to explore possibilities for institutional collaboration and identify new avenues for promoting water sports and adventure tourism in Jammu & Kashmir.

Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament, Yuva Samvaad held at GDC Anantnag

■ HT News Network



ANANTNAG, NOVEMBER 02: Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) Anantnag, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, in collaboration with Government Degree College (GDC) Anantnag, today organised the Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament and Yuva Samvaad at the college, with around 200 youth from across the district participating in the event.

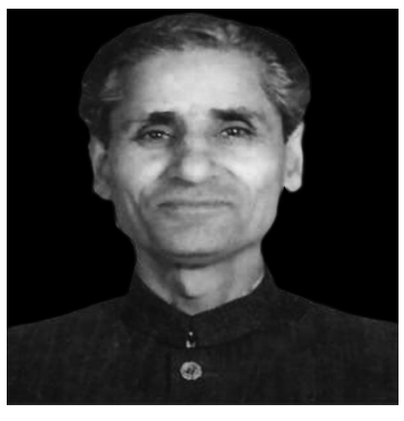
The programme was organised on the theme "One Nation, One Election", providing young participants an opportunity to deliberate on important constitutional, electoral and governance-related issues.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anantnag, Mahima Madan, attended the programme as the Chief Guest, while Principal GDC Anantnag, Dr. Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Malik, was the Guest of Honour.At the outset, Deputy Director MY Bharat Anantnag, Khushal Gupta, in his introductory address, highlighted the objectives of the initiative, emphasising its role in strengthening democratic values, nurturing leadership qualities and encouraging youth participation in the democratic process. He said the platform enables young citizens to develop critical thinking, public speaking and deliberation skills.Dr. Peerzada Yasir Yousuf briefed the participants about the programme format and guidelines, while Principal GDC Anantnag appreciated the initiative and encouraged students to make effective use of such platforms to enhance their knowledge and leadership abilities.Addressing the gathering, Mahima Madan appreciated the efforts of MY Bharat Anantnag and GDC Anantnag in providing youth with an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions on issues of national importance. She stressed the need to organise such programmes regularly to promote democratic awareness and leadership among young citizens.During the Youth Parliament session, participants presented their views and arguments on the theme "One Nation, One Election", reflecting on its various constitutional, electoral and governance-related dimensions.

A Yuva Samvaad session was also organised, during which Youth Icon Vinod Kumar Pandey delivered an informative presentation on Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and "Know Your Vote", sensitising participants.

102nd Birth Anniversary of Late Shaheed Sarwanand Koul Premi Celebrated at GHSS Soaf.

■ HT News Network



SRINAGAR, Nov 02: The 102nd birth anniversary of Late Shri Sarwanand Koul Premi, a renowned Kashmiri poet, freedom fighter, educationist, journalist, scholar and social reformer, was celebrated today at Shaheed Sarwanand Koul Premi Government Higher Secondary School, Soaf Shali, Kokernag. Born on 2 November 1924 in Soaf Shali, Anantnag, Sarwanand Koul Premi dedicated his life to education, literature, social service and the promotion of communal harmony. He was not merely a literary personality but a man of principles who strongly believed in humanity, brotherhood and Kashmir's rich composite culture. A committed participant in India's freedom struggle, Premi was associated with the Quit India Movement from 1942 to 1946 and was reportedly arrested six times for his involvement in the movement. His literary contributions remain equally remarkable. He authored more than two dozen books and translated several significant literary and religious works, including the Bhagavad Gita, Ramayana and Rabindranath Tagore's Gitanjali into Kashmiri and other languages.

As an educationist, he served in the Jammu and Kashmir Education Department for several years, contributing to the development of young minds. His writings reflected his deep understanding of Kashmir's culture, traditions, spirituality and the importance of peaceful coexistence.

His life was tragically cut short on 1 May 1990, when he and his son, Virender Koul, were brutally murdered by militants. His death was not only a loss to his family but also a major loss to Kashmiri literature and the values of communal harmony he stood for.

In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, he received several posthumous honours, including the Jammu and Kashmir Government's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022.

It is particularly significant that the institution where his birth anniversary was celebrated today bears his name. The school was once his own place of learning and later became a place where he served as a teacher.

The celebration was more than a commemorative programme; it was an opportunity to introduce the younger generation to the life, sacrifices, literary achievements and ideals of a personality whose legacy continues to inspire.

Sarwanand Koul Premi may no longer be among us, but his words, work and message of humanity will continue to remain alive in the pages of history. Remembering him means keeping alive the values of education, peace, brotherhood and Kashmiriyat.

WMDA issues Strict Directions on solid, liquid Waste Management

Prohibits Littering and Illegal Dumping around Manasbal Lake

■ HT News Network

GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 2: With a view to maintaining environmental cleanliness, protecting the fragile ecosystem of Manasbal Lake and ensuring effective solid and liquid waste management, the Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority (WMDA) has issued a public notice directing all residents, shopkeepers, restaurant owners, commercial establishments, institutions and other stakeholders to strictly comply with the prescribed waste management and sanitation guidelines within its jurisdiction.

As per the directions issued by the Chief Executive Officer, WMDA, a door-to-door solid waste collection system has been introduced by the Authority. All households and commercial establishments have been directed to hand over their daily generated waste exclusively to designated sanitation staff and authorised collection vehicles of the Rural Development Department, Block Safapora, at the notified time and place.

The Authority has made segregation of waste at source mandatory, directing all waste generators to separate wet/biodegradable waste from dry/non-biodegradable waste. Mixing of segregated waste has been strictly prohibited.

The public notice also imposes a complete prohibition on littering and illegal dumping of garbage, plastic waste, polythene, construction debris and other waste materials on roads, footpaths, open spaces, lake periphery, water bodies, drains, parks and tourist spots. Burning of garbage, plastic and other solid waste in open or public spaces has also been prohibited.

Shopkeepers, restaurant owners, dhabawallas, vendors and other commercial establishments have been directed to maintain cleanliness within their premises and adjoining areas and make adequate arrangements for proper storage, segregation and disposal of waste. Institutions and event organisers have also been asked to ensure proper collection and disposal of waste generated during public functions and activities and restore the premises to a clean condition immediately after completion of events.



Emphasising the protection of Manasbal Lake and its surrounding ecosystem, WMDA has strictly prohibited the discharge of untreated sewage, wastewater, kitchen wastewater and other liquid waste directly into the lake, adjoining drains, water channels, wetlands and public spaces.

All households, hotels, restaurants, commercial establishments and institutions have been directed to ensure proper collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and wastewater. They have also been asked to maintain septic tanks, soak pits and other sanitation facilities properly and ensure that collected sewage and sludge are transported and disposed of only through authorised facilities.

The Authority has warned that any violation of the directions shall invite strict penal action under the applicable provisions of the J&K Development Act, Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, Water(Prevention of Pollution) Act-1974 and other relevant laws and regulations. Action may include imposition of fines and penalties, issuance of notices and initiation of further legal proceedings before the competent authorities.

The concerned officials and sanitation staff have been directed to maintain strict vigilance and report instances of violations for necessary action.

Calling upon the general public to extend full cooperation, WMDA emphasised that maintaining the cleanliness of Manasbal Lake and its surrounding tourist areas is a collective responsibility, adding that any act causing environmental degradation or defacement of the tourist destination shall not be tolerated.

HT EDITORIAL

Children With Disabilities Cannot Afford Administrative Neglect

J&K needs a time-bound, district-level rehabilitation framework to ensure early diagnosis, accessible therapies and equal opportunities for every child

The future of a child with a disability should not depend on geographical location, family income or the availability of specialists at government hospitals. Yet, for many families across Jammu and Kashmir, accessing essential rehabilitation and therapeutic services remains a challenging exercise. The Public Interest Litigation recently filed before the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, seeking a comprehensive district-level framework for early intervention, child development and rehabilitation, has brought this neglected public health concern into focus. Beyond the legal proceedings, the petition highlights the government's responsibility towards children who need timely care, professional support and sustained rehabilitation.

Early intervention is not merely a medical service; it is an investment in a child's future. Occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and psychological interventions can significantly improve the lives of children with developmental delays and disabilities. However, their effectiveness depends on timely identification, regular therapy and continuity of care. Delays during crucial developmental years can have lasting consequences. For families, particularly those living in rural and remote areas, the absence of accessible facilities means repeated journeys, additional expenses and considerable emotional distress.

The concerns raised in the PIL point towards wider institutional deficiencies that require serious government attention. Shortage of qualified professionals, vacant posts, inadequate infrastructure, irregular therapy sessions and insufficient dedicated space cannot be dismissed as routine administrative inconveniences. They directly affect the quality of healthcare available to vulnerable children. Official communications cited in the petition, including references to the non-availability of a Speech Therapist at CRC Srinagar and manpower constraints at other institutions, underline the need for a systematic review of existing facilities.

With 20 districts, Jammu and Kashmir needs a decentralised rehabilitation network rather than an arrangement concentrated in a few urban centres. Families from Kupwara, Handwara, Budgam, Anantnag and other distant areas should not have to travel repeatedly to Srinagar or Jammu for basic therapeutic services. Establishing fully functional Early Intervention, Child Development and Rehabilitation Units in every district is therefore a necessity. Such centres must have qualified multidisciplinary professionals, appropriate diagnostic facilities, modern equipment and arrangements for regular follow-up.

Equally important is standardisation of disability assessment procedures. Alleged discrepancies between psychological assessments and evaluations conducted by Medical Boards raise concerns about consistency and transparency in disability certification. Families should not be subjected to confusion because of conflicting professional opinions. Uniform assessment guidelines and coordinated procedures involving clinical psychologists, rehabilitation specialists and Medical Boards are essential to ensure fairness and credibility.

The petition's concerns regarding referrals to private rehabilitation centres also deserve careful examination. Private institutions can supplement public healthcare, particularly where specialised services are limited. However, referrals from government hospitals must be transparent and professionally justified, with safeguards against potential conflicts of interest. Families should not be unnecessarily directed towards private facilities when comparable services can be made available through the public healthcare system.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, particularly Sections 25 and 27, places important obligations on authorities concerning healthcare, early identification and rehabilitation. These statutory provisions must translate into accessible services rather than remain confined to official documents and assurances. Children with disabilities are entitled to dignity, inclusion and equal opportunities, and public institutions must ensure that these rights are meaningful.

What Jammu and Kashmir needs is a comprehensive, time-bound and accountable action plan. The administration should undertake a district-wise assessment of existing facilities, sanctioned and vacant posts, availability of specialists, equipment, waiting periods and referral mechanisms. Critical vacancies must be filled on priority, while Government Medical Colleges and Composite Regional Centres should be strengthened. Parent counselling, community-level screening, transparent referrals and effective grievance redressal must also become integral components of the system.

The government should not wait for judicial intervention to address deficiencies falling within its administrative and statutory responsibilities. While the High Court may examine the issues and issue appropriate directions, the executive must demonstrate urgency and institutional commitment. The objective should not simply be to establish buildings or announce facilities, but to ensure that every centre functions effectively and delivers tangible benefits.

Children with disabilities need more than sympathy; they need opportunities, professional care and institutional support. Their developmental years are too precious to be lost to administrative delays, vacant posts and inadequate infrastructure. Jammu and Kashmir must move beyond fragmented arrangements and establish an accessible district-wide rehabilitation network. No child should be denied a better future simply because specialised care is unavailable in the district where the child lives.

Silent Tears

Living with the Absence of Someone We Love



Dr. Uzma Naqash

There are some losses in life that words can never fully explain. Losing someone we deeply love is one of the most painful experiences a human heart can endure. The world continues to move forward, people continue with their daily routines, and time keeps passing, but something inside us changes forever. The absence of a loved one creates a silence that cannot be filled, a space that no one else can occupy, and memories that remain alive in every corner of our hearts.

Grief is not always expressed through tears. Sometimes, it hides behind a smile, a busy schedule, a silent conversation, or a moment when an ordinary memory suddenly brings back overwhelming emotions. Many people learn to live with their pain without allowing the world to see what they are going through. These are the silent tears that often remain unnoticed.

The Pain of Someone's Absence

When we lose someone special, we do not simply lose a person; we lose their presence, their guidance, their conversations, their laughter, and the comfort of knowing they are always there. Small things become painful reminders—their favourite chair, familiar belongings, old photographs, or a special occasion that once brought everyone together.

The hardest part of loss is realising that life will never be exactly the same again. We may continue working, meeting people, and fulfilling responsibilities, but deep inside, we carry an emptiness that only memories can temporarily soften.



Grief Has No Timeline

Society often expects people to become strong after a certain period. However, grief does not follow a calendar. Some days feel normal, while others bring back the pain as if the loss happened yesterday.

There is no fixed timeline for healing. A person may cry months or even years after losing someone. This does not mean they are weak; it means the bond was meaningful. Healing does not mean forgetting someone. It means learning to carry their memories with love rather than allowing the pain of their absence to define every moment of life.

The Unspoken Struggles of Those Left Behind

The emotional impact of losing someone can affect mental health in many ways. People may experience loneliness, sadness, anxiety, disturbed sleep, loss of interest, difficulty concentrating, and emotional exhaustion.

Some individuals withdraw from social relationships because they feel that nobody understands their pain. Others hide their emotions to appear strong in front of family members. This is why emotional support is essential. A simple conversation, a patient listener, or a comforting presence can make a significant difference in someone's healing journey.

Memories Become Our Strength

Although death separates people physically, love and memories continue to connect us emotionally. The lessons, values, kindness, and guidance of our loved ones remain part of who we are.

Sometimes, we find ourselves repeating their words, following their advice, or remembering how they encouraged us during difficult moments. In this way, their influence continues to shape our lives. We may not be able to bring them back, but we can honour their presence by living with the values they taught us and keeping their memories alive through our actions.

Learning to Live Again

Moving forward after losing someone does not mean leaving them behind. It means accepting that life has changed while finding the courage to continue.

Spending time with supportive people, expressing emotions, maintaining healthy routines, and seeking professional counselling when grief becomes overwhelming can help individuals cope with loss. We must also create a society where people are allowed to grieve without being judged. Instead of telling someone to forget the past or move on, we should offer understanding, patience, and compassion.

Conclusion: Love Never Truly Disappears

Some people leave this world, but they never leave our hearts. Their absence may create silence in our lives, yet their memories continue to speak through our thoughts, actions, and emotions.

Silent tears are not always a sign of weakness. Sometimes, they are the deepest expression of love that has nowhere to go. Perhaps the greatest lesson of loss is that love does not end with someone's last breath. It remains in memories, in prayers, in unfinished conversations, and in the lives they touched.

"We may learn to live without someone's presence, but we never truly stop carrying their love within us."

The Light of Traditions: The Untold Story of Earthen Lamps



Dr. Vijay Garg

In Indian culture, earthen lamps occupy a special place, not merely as objects that spread light but as symbols of faith, tradition, simplicity and cultural heritage. For centuries, a small clay lamp has served as a means of dispelling darkness, inspiring hope and spreading positivity. Whether it is Diwali, Kartik Purnima, Gurpurab, weddings or religious celebrations, earthen lamps bring alive the beautiful traditions of Indian life.

Our Cultural Identity Connected with the Soil

Earthen lamps have been an integral part of Indian rural life and folk culture. A potter transforms ordinary clay into a beautiful and useful lamp through skill and craftsmanship. Every lamp reflects hard work, artistic ability, experience and a tradition passed down through generations.

There was a time when almost every village had potters working at their spinning wheels. Before festivals, all family members would participate in making, drying and baking earthen lamps. Children also learned this traditional art by observing the process. Thus, earthen lamps were not merely products sold in markets; they were an important part of family livelihoods and cultural heritage.

The Spiritual and Social Message of a Lamp

In Indian philosophy, a lamp holds special significance. Its flame symbolises the journey from ignorance to knowledge, despair to hope and negativity to positivity. Lighting a lamp does not simply mean illuminating a house; it also represents awakening wisdom, compassion and harmony within ourselves.

A small lamp teaches us that even with limited resources, we can spread light in the lives of others. Its glow reminds us that no matter how deep the darkness may be, even a tiny flame has the power to challenge it.



The Challenge to Traditions in the Age of Modernity

With changing times, electric strings, colourful bulbs, LEDs and decorative lights have become increasingly popular. These certainly make festive decorations attractive, but their popularity has reduced the use of traditional earthen lamps in many places.

The potter community has been among the worst affected by this change. Cheap machine-made decorative products and modern alternatives make it difficult for traditional artisans to receive fair prices and access markets.

We must understand that buying an earthen lamp is not merely purchasing an object. It is also a way of respecting the labour, craftsmanship and livelihood of an artisan and supporting the family that depends on this traditional occupation.

The Importance of the Environment and the Indigenous Economy

Earthen lamps are made from naturally available local materials. After use, an unglazed clay lamp can naturally return to the environment. However, to remain environmentally responsible, we should also prefer safe and natural options for oil, cotton wicks and decorations.

Purchasing lamps directly from local potters encourages small businesses and strengthens the rural economy. It is also an effective way to promote self-reliance and preserve traditional handicrafts.

The Need to Connect the Younger Generation with Heritage

Today, there is a need to introduce children to the art of making earthen lamps, their cultural significance and the contribution of potters. Schools can organise activities in which students learn to make clay lamps themselves. During festivals, families should develop the habit of purchasing lamps from local artisans and appreciating their craftsmanship.

Moving forward in the digital age is essential, but forgetting our roots is not desirable. By giving traditional lamps a place alongside modern decorations, we can create a beautiful balance between development and heritage.

An earthen lamp may be small in size, but its cultural and social significance is enormous. Its flame carries the hard work of the potter, the fragrance of our traditions, our connection with nature and the light of human sensitivity.

Let us, this festive season, illuminate not only our homes but also the lives of traditional artisans. By lighting earthen lamps, we can keep our culture, local craftsmanship and centuries-old heritage alive.

Because a true celebration is one in which happiness is accompanied by respect for our traditions and every section of society.

Dr. Vijay Garg Retired Principal | Eminent Scientist Street Kaur Chand, MHR Malout, Punjab – 152107 Mobile:

www.dailyheadlinestoday.com
16TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION HEADLINES TODAY
Voice To The Voiceless
Chief Patron Of Lubaab Publications Group:
SYED SAD UD DIN BUKHARI (SAIDI),
Printer Publisher, Owner And Editor.
SYED JAHANGIR BUKHARI,
Printed At:
LUBAAB PUBLICATIONS,
Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat
Lawaipora Srinagar-190017,
Gen. Manager.
SHEIKH MUSHTAQ AHMAD
Cell No-**9697071471,**
Editorial Section: **7006846797,**
Multimedia Section: **9419008414,**
Advertisement Section: **9697071471**
RNI NO: JKENG/2011/39231
Email:
dailyheadlinestoday@gmail.com
headlinestoday2024@gmail.com

Residential Houses Should Be Built as per Climatic Conditions



Sahil Manzoor Bhatti

Houses in Kashmir Need More Modifications

The Kashmir Valley is unique in the world, and every corner of it has preserved different cultures for centuries. This valley is blessed by Almighty Allah with countless blessings, and every part of Kashmir holds great importance. The waterfalls, water springs, and green, carpet-like grass attract everyone.

One of the great poets beautifully described the Kashmir Valley:

"If there is paradise on earth, it is this, it is this, it is this."

The sky-touching lofty mountains appear completely white during peak winter when snowfall blankets their shoulders. These mountains attract nature lovers and reflect the divine power of Almighty Allah.

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah (SWT) says that every sign in the universe from giant bodies to microscopic organisms is a symbol for those who have strong faith in Allah and believe in the Day of Judgement.

In this article, I want to share my views on how the construction of houses in the Kashmir Valley is not suitable for our climatic conditions. For the last couple of decades, people have preferred constructing "Sheesh Mahal"-type houses with large windows and big glass panels. Kashmir experiences four seasons, and we have scorching heat only for about two months from mid-June to mid-August mainly in cities. In remote villages near forests, people still use earthen fire pots (pots used to keep fire for heating).



Why Do We Follow Trends?

Unfortunately, we follow trends instead of understanding the climatic needs of our region. Kashmir lies in the extreme northern part of the country, so we experience harsh winters. Our houses should be designed in such a way that everyone feels comfortable in all seasons. Sheesh Mahal style houses are not suitable for a healthy lifestyle in Kashmir.

First of all, the government should design building guidelines based on climate. There must be a full-fledged architectural department. No construction should take place without prior permission from the authorities because many people lack awareness about structural safety. Due to ignoring engineering techniques, houses often collapse during harsh weather.

How Construction Usually Happens in Kashmir

People in Kashmir usually follow a simple trend: when constructing a house, we look at someone else's home, get excited, and start building on the same pattern. We do not even consult an engineer, nor do we ask whether a design is suitable for our land or climate.

Recently, I met a friend who is planning to build a house. His idea was lengthy and lacked experience. I advised him to consult an engineer who could suggest the right design based on the area. But he replied,

"Oh dear, I have a mason who is more experienced than any engineer. Why should I give money to an engineer for no reason?"

This mindset is dangerous and leads to unsafe houses.

What Type of Houses Should Be Built in Kashmir

I believe Hammams should be mandatory, especially for elderly people who suffer during harsh winters and are more vulnerable to viral infections, common cold, and cough.

There should be rooms specially designed for winter with fewer windows, no cement layer on the walls, mud layering instead, and wooden panelling in the kitchen and rooms meant for elderly persons.

We must take care of our elders because they have played a vital role in our lives. Whatever we are today is because of them. Their comfort should be our priority. We should also keep ample space inside the house so that children can play indoors and remain healthy during winter.

Sahil Manzoor Bhatti
sahilmanzoor411990@gmail.com

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 assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, completeness, or consequences of the views expressed therein....

A golden moment for Indian wrestling



By M S Nazki

A golden moment for Indian wrestling! Manisha Bhanwala scripts history, becoming the first Indian woman to win a World Championship title! She staged a remarkable fightback from 0-6 down to seal an 8-6 victory over Pan American Champion Abigail Nette in the 59kg final……..The comeback was indeed remarkable……..This was the story which we had in our hands!

-We have tried to dig in deeper!

-Wrestling in India was not started by a single individual; rather, it evolved thousands of years ago from ancient combat traditions and religious epics.

-Ancient and Mythological Roots

• Vedic and Epic Era: Wrestling dates back to around 3100 BCE or earlier, with early hand-to-hand combat (such as Mushti-han) mentioned in the Rig Veda and Atharva Veda.

•Malla-yuddha: The traditional combat sport was famously known as Malla-yuddha. Legendary figures and epic heroes like Bhima, Hanuman, Balarama, and Jarasandha are described in the Mahabharata and Ramayana as master wrestlers.

•The 13th Century: The formal rules and techniques of these early styles were later codified in historical texts like the Malla Purana.

-Evolution into Pehlwani (Kushti)

-• Mughal Era: During the Mughal Empire, Persian and Turko-Mongol wrestling styles blended with traditional Malla-yuddha to create Pehlwani (also called Kushti).

•Royal Patronage: Rulers like the Maratha King Shivaji further expanded local training grounds by ordering akharas (traditional wrestling schools) to be built across his realm to train fighting-fit warriors.

•Modern Icons: Figures like Gama Pehlwan (Ghulam Mohammad Baksh Butt) rose to global fame in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as India's first modern wrestling superstars, while K. D. Jadhav won independent India's first individual Olympic bronze medal in wrestling in 1952

-Wrestling is widely recognized as one of the oldest competitive sports in human history, with origins dating back over 15,000 years.

-Ancient Origins and Early Civilizations (Prehistory – 500 AD)

• Prehistoric Roots: Cave drawings, carvings, and rock art found in France, Mongolia, and other regions depict human figures grappling, dating back 15,000 to 20,000 years.

• Mesopotamia and Egypt: Early reliefs and tomb paintings (such as those at Beni Hasan in Egypt and in Sumerian art around 3,000–2,500 BC) show wrestlers using standard holds and techniques still recognized today.

• Asia: Traditional grappling forms developed independently across the continent, including Shuai Jiao in China, Bokh in Mongolia (used by Genghis Khan to train warriors), Pehlwani (Kushti) in India, and Persian Zurkhaneh traditions.

• Ancient Greece: Wrestling was a cornerstone of Greek education, military training, and myth. It was introduced to the ancient Olympic Games in 708 BC as part of the pentathlon and stood out as a brutal, central combat test.

• Ancient Rome: The Romans adopted Greek wrestling but modified the rules to lower the extreme level of violence, laying early groundwork for what would become Greco-Roman style.

-Medieval and Renaissance Eras

• Across medieval Europe, wrestling was a popular sport and pastime across all social classes, featured widely in local festivals, Celtic games, and royal courts (such as a famous match between King Francis I of France and Henry VIII).

• Regional folk styles branched out globally, including Viking Glima, English catch-and-throw styles, Turkish oil wrestling (Yağlı Güreş), and Japanese Sumo.

-Modern Era: Amateur vs. Professional Split (19th – 20th Century)

• Revival in the 1800s: European gymnasiums and fairs revived formal wrestling. The modern amateur styles—Greco-Roman (prohibiting holds below the waist) and Freestyle (allowing leg holds and trips)—were standardized.

• Olympic Return: Greco-Roman wrestling returned to the modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896, and Freestyle was added at the 1904 St. Louis Olympics. Women's freestyle wrestling later joined the Olympic program at the 2004 Athens Games.

• The Great Split (1920s): Competitive amateur wrestling diverged sharply from professional wrestling, which transitioned into a theatrical, scripted entertainment spectacle promoted through regional territories, cable television, and global organizations like the WWE and AEW

-Women's freestyle wrestling evolved from early grassroots and national exhibitions in the late 20th century into a premier global and Olympic sport.

-Early Roots and Pioneers (1970s–1980s)

• 1975: In the United States, 9-year-old Tricia McNaughton Saunders won a federal court case against the Amateur Athletic Union to earn the right to compete against boys, later becoming a four-time World champion.

• 1960s–1970s: Organized women's freestyle roots began taking shape in countries like France and Norway.

• 1987: The first unofficial/official international momentum culminated when the United World Wrestling (then FILA) environment set the stage for the growth of women's events. The first Women's World Wrestling Championships featured competitors from eight countries.

• 1989: The first official U.S. delegation medaled at the World Championships in Martigny, Switzerland (including silver medalists Asia DeWeese and Leia Kawaii, and bronze medalist Afsoon



Roshanzamir Johnston).

-Expansion and World Dominance (1990s–2000s)

• 1999: The U.S. won its first Senior Women's World Team Championship, led by stars like Tricia Saunders and Sandra Bacher.

• Global Growth: Japan emerged as the sport's powerhouse, collecting a dominant share of world and international titles under legendary coaching and institutional backing. Nations like China, Norway, and later India and post-Soviet states also developed deep competitive programs.

• 2004 Athens Olympics: Women's freestyle wrestling made its official Olympic debut with four weight classes, marking a historic breakthrough for female combat sports.

-Olympic Evolution and Modern Milestones (2012–Present)

• 2012–2016: The Olympic program expanded to six weight classes for women at the London and Rio 2016 Games to match the men's categories. Helen Maroulis won the U.S.'s first women's Olympic gold medal in 2016.

• 2021 Tokyo Olympics: Tricia Mensah-Stock became the first Black woman to win an Olympic gold medal in women's freestyle wrestling (68 kg).

• Collegiate Growth: Freestyle wrestling was added to the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women program, rapidly expanding collegiate varsity programs across the United States.

• Recent History: International depth continues to surge, with historic breakthroughs such as India's Manisha Bhanwala capturing gold at the Senior World Wrestling Championships in Astana, Kazakhstan, and Team USA securing landmark global team titles

-Indian men and youth are drawn to wrestling (including traditional Kushti and modern mat wrestling) due to a combination of deep-rooted cultural pride, economic mobility, and the influence of international and national role models.

-Key Reasons for Wrestling's Appeal

•Deep Cultural and Martial Tradition: Wrestling has ancient roots in India—ranging from Malla-yuddha and epic figures like Bhima and Hanuman to the regional akhara culture in states like Haryana and Punjab. Physical strength and valor have long been core markers of traditional masculinity and community honor.

• A Path Out of Poverty and Upward Mobility: For many young men, particularly from rural or farming backgrounds, wrestling offers a tangible ladder to financial success and stable employment. International medals bring substantial government cash rewards, sports quotas, and prestigious government or police jobs (such as in the railways, army, or state forces).

• Low Barrier to Entry: Unlike sports that require expensive equipment or sprawling commercial infrastructure, traditional wrestling (Kushti) requires little more than a mud pit (akhara), a mentor (guru), and dedication, making it accessible to youth with limited means.

•Inspirational Role Models and Media Visibility: The success of Indian wrestlers on global stages—such as Olympic and Commonwealth medalists like Sushil Kumar, Yogeshwar Dutt, and Ravi Kumar Dahiya, alongside mainstream pop-culture and media visibility—has turned wrestlers into national folk heroes.

•Alignment with Agrarian Lifestyles and Diets: The rigorous physical conditioning of wrestling naturally complements traditional rural, agricultural lifestyles. The emphasis on high-protein diets, physical endurance, and mud-training resonates strongly with regional pride

-Manisha Becomes India's First-Ever Women's World Champion!

-Manisha created history for India after winning its first-ever Women's Wrestling gold medal at the World Championships.

-After two failed attempts to get its first-ever women's world champion at 2026 World Championships in Astana, India finally got its historic gold medal as MANISHA (IND) won gold medal at the 59kg.

-Manisha achieved the historic result in incredible manner, coming back from a 6-0 deficit against Abigail NETTE (USA) in the final, winning 8-6 for the gold medal.

-"Can't feel anything. I've been waiting for a long time for this moment," Manisha said. "From 2022 I've been writing that I would be world champion. This was my dream that I would be the first Indian woman to become a world champion. Today that dream has come true. I want to continue with this dream."

-Earlier in the 2026 World Championships, NEELAM (IND) at 50kg and KAJAL (IND) at 76kg, tried to become world champions but both fell short in the finals. ANSHU (IND) was the only previous Indian to reach a world final in Women's Wrestling when she did that in 2021.

-"When Kajal made the final, everyone was saying that she's winning a gold. Easy gold," she said. "But I think maybe god wanted to make me the first champion. Maybe this is the reward of my tapasya. For me wrestling is like worship. The way I feel about my father. That's how I feel about wrestling."

-Meanwhile, Everest LEYDECKER (USA) provided the victory that eventually gave the United States the team title, scoring a 2-point defensive exposure in the second period of the 55kg final that clinched a 4-1 win over Nataliia KLIVCHUTSKA (UKR).

-The U.S. finished with 137 points, two points ahead of Japan which had 135 points. China was third with 121 points. This is the U.S. first team title in Women's Wrestling since 1999.

-"It just makes it even better knowing that that win pushed Team USA to the team title," Leydecker said. "I was keeping track of it. I was like, OK, one more win and we secure it. And then Japan won the bronze-medal match and they were in the lead. But knowing that I won the title, it's just crazy."

The mobile world and the deteriorating behavior of childhood

Before giving smartphones to children, it is important to instill values, communication and sensitivity.



—Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

The news of alleged brutality against a six-year-old girl by an eighth-grade student at a Panchkula school has shocked society. The events revealed in the news and the details of the violence on school campuses have raised serious questions about the safety of children, their behavior, and our upbringing. How are such violent tendencies developing in childhood? Are children losing sensitivity and empathy? Are the mobile world, violent content available on the internet, and changing family environments having any impact on their behavior? These questions are no longer evasive.



It would be unfair to conclude, based on a single incident, that mobile phones are the sole cause of increasing violence among children. Each incident can be influenced by numerous factors, including personal circumstances, family environment, peer influence, mental state, and social environment. Nevertheless, it is true that the digital world now at the disposal of children has increased the responsibilities of parents more than ever before. Monitoring children can no longer be limited to their behavior after returning from school. It is also essential to know what they watch on their mobile phones, who they interact with, what games they play, and what ideas they are absorbing from the internet.

Smartphones are becoming an integral part of children's lives today. Technology has opened up new learning opportunities through online learning, educational videos, and informative content. However, this same medium also provides easy access to violent images, abusive language, dangerous challenges, and harmful behavior. The problem lies not in the technology itself, but in its uncontrolled use, access to inappropriate content, and a lack of understanding of its effects. Children often view content in the name of entertainment, but are not mentally and emotionally mature enough to understand its consequences.

Childhood is a period of imitation. Children learn language, behavior, and reactions by observing those around them. They are influenced by their parents' conversations, family members' behavior, friends' behavior, and activities seen on digital media. If a child is repeatedly exposed to scenes that normalize violence, humiliation, revenge, and aggression, it is likely to influence their behavior. While not every child becomes violent after viewing such content, it is crucial to select age-appropriate content and discuss its implications.

In this context, the role of parents is paramount. Often, busy schedules lead to children being given mobile phones to keep them quiet. From feeding to keeping them occupied, screens have become a convenient solution. Gradually, this habit becomes a part of children's daily lives, and parents lose sight of what their children are actually watching. A child's sedentary mobile phone isn't a sign of their safety or healthy development. It's essential to stay informed about their activities in the digital world, set age-appropriate limits, and maintain regular communication with them.

Monitoring children doesn't mean constantly suspecting them or completely taking away their privacy. It means being vigilant about their safety and creating a trusting environment where they can talk openly about their problems, curiosities, and mistakes. Parents should ask children what games they play, what new things they see on the Internet, and what their understanding is of a video or event. If a child gets excited by watching a violent scene, talks about hurting someone, or has a sudden change in behavior, instead of simply scolding them to silence them, one should try to understand the reason.

Schools also have a responsibility no less. The purpose of education is not simply to complete the curriculum and achieve good exam scores. Schools also serve as a means to develop children into sensitive, responsible, and socially aware citizens. Teachers should pay attention to unusual changes in student behavior. Schools should promote counseling, emotional well-being, peaceful conflict resolution, and respect for the dignity of others. Dismissing incidents of physical violence, threats, insults, or targeting of vulnerable students as simple pranks can lead to serious problems in the future.

Furthermore, while it is essential to hold a child accountable for their behavior when they commit a serious offense, it is equally important that investigations and actions are based on facts. Rushing to label children as criminals, publicly humiliating them, or exposing their identities on social media is not appropriate. The safety, dignity, and mental health of the victimized child must be a top priority. If a child's behavior shows signs of violence, unusual aggression, or emotional distress, parents and schools should not hesitate to seek the assistance of a qualified child psychologist or counselor.

The role of digital platforms and the government also needs to be considered. Continued efforts are needed to prevent children from accessing inappropriate content, simplify parental control tools, and ensure age-appropriate digital safety. Internet companies should also prioritize child safety. However, relying solely on a single technological feature will not be enough. Digital literacy means more than just learning to use a mobile phone, but also understanding that not everything you see on the internet is accurate, safe, or worth emulating.

The most important thing is that children are taught not only by rules but also by examples. If in the home, abusive language is used during anger, disputes are resolved through violence, and disrespectful behavior toward others is considered normal, it will be difficult to expect children to behave in a completely different way. An environment of communication, patience, empathy, and respect must be fostered in the family. It is also important to spend time with children, providing them with opportunities for sports, reading, creative activities, and social interaction.

The questions raised by the Panchkula incident aren't limited to just one school or one family. They serve as a warning to society as a whole. Instead of keeping children away from technology, we must teach them how to use it safely and responsibly. Besides knowing what they're viewing on their mobile phones, we also need to understand what's going on in their minds. Are they struggling with loneliness, stress, neglect, or some other unspoken problem?

The need of the hour is to empower children with discretion before handing them mobile phones, to teach them responsibility before granting them freedom, and to provide affection along with discipline. The responsibility to ensure a safe childhood lies not only with parents or teachers, but with society as a whole. If we want our children to become sensitive and responsible citizens, we must pay attention to their digital activities as well as their emotional world. After all, children's futures are shaped not just by screens, but by the values they learn from their families and society.

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

Growing Old Is Not A Choice But How We Treat The Old Is



BY-MOOL RAJ

Age may change physical physique but it does not take away feelings, desires and emotions

From a sociological perspective—drawing on Pierre Bourdieu's social capital theory, Emile Durkheim's functionalist theory and symbolic interactionism—elders are not a burden on society but contributors to its social capital. They help a community function, maintain equilibrium and social stability through maintaining cultural norms, providing moral guidance, preserving collective traditions and community relationships, resolving disputes and shaping identity. Yet we have gradually created an environment in our families in which elders are increasingly marginalised: their voices often go unheard, their opinions overlooked, their experience undervalued—physically present within households but emotionally excluded.

Caring for elders is our social responsibility because they are carriers of collective cultural identity, traditional knowledge and intergenerational wisdom—and in a society that increasingly values the individual over the family, their quiet presence is too easily overlooked. The question is not whether we will grow old, but whether we will make that phase meaningful for one another with love, care, patience and compassion. Elders are not a burden on society but contributors to its social capital, and taking care of them is not an act of charity but a responsibility to preserve our cultural identity, maintain social equilibrium and solidarity, and a fulfilment of our religious faith.

Growing old is not a choice but an intricate part of the life cycle. Every one of us will eventually pass through this phase, but what matters is how beautifully we make this phase of life meaningful for one another with love, care, patience, and compassion.

Advancement in globalisation, modernisation, and westernisation has brought many social changes to our society. These changes have degraded our traditional cultural values; families are divided, individuals have been given the highest value, and relationships with elders have gradually declined. But we forget that caring for elders is our social responsibility because they are carriers of collective cultural identity, traditional knowledge, and intergenerational wisdom.

Traditional knowledge is not always documented in books. In Kashmir, much of our indigenous craftsmanship and skills have survived through the lived experience of elders. Neglecting elders will not only alter the cultural legacy we are obliged to pass on to future generations but also threatens the survival of traditional skills and other indigenous knowledge.

From a sociological perspective—drawing on Pierre Bourdieu's Social Capital theory, Emile Durkheim's Functionalist Theory, and Symbolic Interactionism—elders are not a burden on society but contributors to its social capital. They help a community to function, maintain its equilibrium and social stability through maintaining cultural norms, providing moral guidance, preserving collective traditions, customs, community relationships, and social institutions, resolving disputes, and shaping identity.

However, we have gradually created an environment in our families in which elders are increasingly marginalised. Their voices often go unheard, their opinions are overlooked, and their experience is undervalued. They are physically present within households but remain emotionally excluded. Sometimes they choose to suffer in silence and hide their tears behind a smile for our happiness—to show that "Abba" is well even when their own hearts are longing to be understood.

Taking care of our elders is not an act of charity but a responsibility to preserve our cultural identity, maintain social equilibrium, social relationships, and solidarity, and a fulfilment of our religious faith.

Religious teachings across traditions also instruct their believers to treat their elders with kindness and humility—not to express even a word of irritation towards parents, nor to rebuke them (Surah Al-Isra 17:23–24). Similarly, the Manusmriti (2:121) emphasises that "a person who always greets elders with respect and serves them daily—four things increase in their life: longevity, knowledge, fame, and strength."

Their hands may tremble, their footsteps slow, yet countless stories within them flow.

THE AUTHOR IS A REGULAR COLUMNIST AND FREELANCE WRITER

Sagar holds extensive Public interaction in Jammu, Assures Time-Bound Redressal of Grievances

■ HT News Network



JAMMU, NOVEMBER 2: Reaffirming the government's commitment to responsive governance and people-centric administration, Minister for Revenue, Power Development Department (PDD), Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR), and Elections, Ali Mohammad Sagar, today held an extensive public interaction at Jammu, meeting several deputations and individuals who apprised him of issues concerning their respective areas and communities.

During the interaction, various deputations raised a range of public importance issues, seeking the Minister's intervention for addressing their grievances and resolving matters requiring administrative attention. The issues highlighted included developmental concerns, public infrastructure, basic civic amenities, power-related matters, revenue issues and other matters concerning public service delivery.

Giving a patient hearing to the visiting deputations, Sagar underlined that direct engagement with people is essential for understanding ground realities and ensuring that governance remains responsive to their needs and aspirations.

He assured the deputations that all genuine issues brought to his notice would be examined on priority and taken up with the concerned departments for appropriate action. He also emphasised that administrative delays in resolving public grievances must be avoided and that officers need to adopt a proactive approach towards addressing people's concerns.

The Minister stressed that public representatives and government departments must work in close coordination to ensure effective delivery of services and timely resolution of issues confronting the people.

"Government is committed to inclusive development, equitable allocation of resources and strengthening the institutional mechanism for public grievance redressal",the Minsiter reatraited.

Sagar observed that the government's priority is not merely to hear public grievances but to translate people's concerns into concrete action on the ground. He assured the deputations that their representations would receive due consideration and necessary follow-up. Sagar observed that the government's priority is not merely to hear public grievances but to translate people's concerns into concrete action on the ground. He assured the deputations that their representations would receive due consideration and necessary follow-up.

DC Udhampur conducts extensive tour of Chenani, Sudhmahadev, inspects ongoing developmental works

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 02: To assess the progress of ongoing developmental works and review the implementation of the flagship schemes, the Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Ananth Dwivedi today conducted an extensive tour of Chenani and Sudhmahadev areas of the district.During the visit, the DC inspected the ongoing construction work on the Chenani–Sudhmahadev road and reviewed the progress of other developmental projects. He directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work and ensure completion of all projects within the stipulated timelines, maintaining the prescribed quality standards.Later, the Deputy Commissioner visited the BDO Office and CHC, Chenani, where he interacted with the officials and staff and took stock of their functioning.

Emphasising punctuality, discipline and accountability, he stressed that timely attendance in government offices is essential for ensuring efficient public service delivery.

Underscoring the importance of responsive and citizen-centric governance, the DC directed all officers to ensure doorstep delivery of government services and strengthen the existing public service delivery mechanism.

J&K Bharat Scouts &Guides team calls on DC Samba

■ HT News Network



SAMBA, NOVEMBER 02: A team of Jammu and Kashmir Bharat Scouts and Guides District Samba today called on Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rupesh Kumar.

The delegation led by District Organizing Commissioner (DOC) Yash Pal congratulated Dr Rupesh on his new assignment. The visiting delegation also briefed the DC about the functioning, activities and initiatives being undertaken by the Bharat Scouts and Guides in the district.

The District Team highlighted the significant role of the Scout and Guide Movement in nurturing discipline, leadership qualities, self-reliance, patriotism, social responsibility and character building among young people. They also apprised him of the organisation's efforts in engaging students and youth in community service, environmental conservation, disaster preparedness, social awareness campaigns and other constructive activities.

The Deputy Commissioner was also briefed about the organisation's future plans and proposed activities aimed at expanding the reach of scouting and guiding in educational institutions and rural areas of the district.

Rana reviews Jal Shakti works in Mendhar; calls for timely completion, effective monitoring

■ HT News Network



JAMMU, NOVEMBER 2: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Transport, Javed Ahmed Rana, today chaired a review meeting at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu, to assess the progress of Jal Shakti and Irrigation & Flood Control works in Mendhar Constituency of Poonch district.

The Minister had a detailed review of functioning and progress of the Jal Shakti and Irrigation works in Mendhar, with focus on implementation of developmental works, physical and financial progress besides scheme-wise utilisation of funds.

The concerned Executive Engineers apprised the Minister of the latest status of ongoing works, funds released and expenditure incurred under various schemes.

Emphasising the importance of strengthening the public infrastructure and ensuring improved service delivery, Rana called upon the officers to maintain close coordination and adopt a result-oriented approach towards the execution of developmental projects. He stressed that the timely completion of water supply schemes must remain a priority to ensure reliable access to drinking water for people, particularly in areas facing challenges in water availability.

"The government is committed to ensure equitable access to basic amenities and improve the quality of life of people, particularly in far-flung and underserved areas. Developmental works must translate into tangible benefits for the people on ground," asserted the Minister.

Reviewing the progress of irrigation works in Mendhar, Javed Ahmed Rana directed the officers to expedite the ongoing projects, ensure quality execution and adhere to stipulated timelines. He emphasised the need for regular field inspections, effective monitoring and close coordination among the concerned agencies to address implementation-related issues and ensure timely completion of projects for the benefit of the local population.

"Officers must ensure that public funds are utilised judiciously and that every project progresses in accordance with its prescribed timelines. Effective monitoring and timely intervention are essential to overcome the bottlenecks and ensure quality execution of works," he said.

Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas: Health Screening Camp held at Charota, Over 100 beneficiaries avail services

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, OCTOBER 31: The Directorate of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Jammu today observed Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 by administering the Integrity Pledge to officers and officials of the Department.The pledge ceremony was led by Director Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Anil Gupta and attended by Sanjay Anand, Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs), Aman Jyoti Sharma, Joint Director Agriculture (SLUB/Farms), sectoral heads, SMS RL, SDAO Marh, senior officers and other officials of the Department. The pledge was taken under the theme "Probity for Prosperity."

Speaking on the occasion, Anil Gupta emphasized that vigilance is a continuous process and an essential component of good governance. He urged all officers and officials to remain vigilant, adhere to ethical practices in their day-to-day functioning and discharge their duties with honesty, dedication and fairness.

Rana reviews G&B hostels, Tribal Research Institute, FRA implementation; Advocates enhanced facilities, timely delivery of welfare schemes

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 02: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Transport, Javed Ahmed Rana, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu, to assess the functioning of Gujjar and Bakerwal (G&B) hostels, implementation of tribal welfare initiatives and the progress of projects being executed by the Tribal Affairs Department.

The meeting deliberated on the welfare, educational advancement and socio-economic empowerment of tribal communities, with focus on strengthening the institutional facilities and ensuring effective delivery of government initiatives.

Reviewing G&B hostels, the Minister examined the existing diet plan, quality of food served to boarders, posting and stay arrangements of Wardens and other facilities available to the students. He stressed the need to maintain appropriate standards of hygiene, nutrition and accommodation so that students have a safe and supportive environment for their studies.

Shaleen Kabra assumes charge as Director General, J&K IMPA&RD

■ HT News Network



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 2: Shaleen Kabra, a 1992-Batch IAS Officer today assumed charge as Director General, Jammu & Kashmir Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development (J&K IMPA&RD).

Following the assumption of charge, Shaleen Kabra held an introductory meeting with the officers, faculty members and staff of the Institute. He discussed various administrative and institutional matters and sought their feedback on issues and challenges concerning the functioning of the Institute.

The Director General also took stock of the overall functioning and infrastructure of the IMPA&RD campus and discussed measures for addressing the issues identified and ensuring their timely resolution.

Later, Shaleen Kabra interacted with the Officer Trainees of the Jammu & Kashmir Administrative Service, Jammu & Kashmir Accounts (Gazetted) Service and Jammu & Kashmir Police (Gazetted) Service, who are presently undergoing training at the Institute. He exchanged views with the trainees on the ongoing training programmes and sought their feedback on various aspects of the training.

Shaleen Kabra also reviewed the facilities and amenities being provided to the Officer Trainees, including the academic and training-related arrangements.

At the conclusion of the visit, the Director General expressed satisfaction over the facilities and arrangements available to the Officer Trainees under the ongoing training programmes. Later, Shaleen Kabra interacted with the Officer Trainees of the Jammu & Kashmir Administrative Service, Jammu & Kashmir Accounts (Gazetted) Service and Jammu & Kashmir Police (Gazetted) Service, who are presently undergoing training at the Institute. He exchanged views with the trainees on the ongoing training

DC Rajouri inspects development works in Dhangri block; Kickstarts remodelling of GPS Saranoo

■ HT News Network



RAJOURI, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Dr. Devansh Yadav today conducted an extensive tour of Dhangri Block and inspected the progress of developmental works being executed by the Rural Development Department (RDD) and other departments.

The Deputy Commissioner visited PM Shri Higher Secondary School to assess the progress of ongoing infrastructure development works, including the construction of an examination hall and other facilities. He directed the concerned officers to ensure timely completion of the works while maintaining quality standards. He also interacted with students and took feedback about their academic environment and learning experiences.

Emphasising quality education, the DC advised teachers to promote conceptual understanding and practical learning instead of rote memorisation. He also stressed the importance of sports and extracurricular activities for the holistic development of children. He also took stock of the facilities being made available for the pre nursery children. The Deputy Commissioner also kickstarted the remodelling work of Government Primary School Saranoo. He stressed the need for timely execution of the project to provide improved infrastructure and a better learning environment to students.

During his visit to Dalogra village, the DC reviewed the Gobardhan Project and highlighted its considerable potential in view of the sizeable cattle population, including cows and buffaloes in the area. He observed that the project is a model initiative for sustainable waste management and livelihood generation, which can subsequently be replicated in other areas of the district.

Interacting with local residents, he took note of their interest in dairy farming and assured that efforts would be made to facilitate their coverage under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

Sakeena Itoo reviews Health sector scenario in J&K Calls for strengthening food safety, drug testing measures across J&K

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 02: Minister for Health and Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Itoo, today undertook a comprehensive review of the overall health sector scenario across Jammu and Kashmir, taking stock of the functioning of healthcare institutions, availability of medical facilities, manpower position, infrastructure development and delivery of patient-care services across the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary Health and Medical Education, Saugat Biswas; MD NHM, CEO SHA, Managing Director JKMSCL, Commissioner Food and Drugs Administration, Director SKIMS, Special Secretary Health and Medical Education department, Director Health Services Jammu/ Kashmir, Director Family Welfare, Principals of all GMCs, Principals of Dental College Srinagar/Jammu, State Controller Drugs J&K, Director Ayush, Medical Superintendents of various hospitals and other senior officers of health department.

During the meeting, the Minister emphasised on strengthening of food safety measures as well as drug testing across Jammu and Kashmir. She called upon the officers to procure more number of mobile testing vans so that the testing facilities can be increased across J&K.



The Minister emphasized that strengthening the public healthcare delivery system, upgrading medical infrastructure and ensuring accessible, affordable and quality healthcare for every citizen remain the foremost priorities of the Government.

She stressed on the need for a coordinated and result-oriented approach among all concerned departments and healthcare institutions to address existing gaps in service delivery and ensure that the benefits of ongoing healthcare initiatives reach people at the grassroots level.The Minister underscored that healthcare institutions, particularly those operating in far-flung, remote and underserved areas, must be adequately equipped with essential medical facilities, diagnostic services, medicines and qualified healthcare professionals so that patients are not compelled to travel long distances for basic treatment.

The Minister called for optimal utilisation of available human resources, directing the department to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the requirement and deployment of doctors, specialists, nurses, paramedical staff and other supporting personnel across healthcare institutions. She stressed that rational deployment of manpower should be guided by patient load, institutional requirements and the availability of specialised services, with special attention to areas facing staff shortages.

DC Bandipora inspects upcoming Waste Management Facility at Watrina

Stresses effective Waste Segregation and Disposal

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today inspected the upcoming waste management facility of Vendor at Watrina, aimed at strengthening scientific waste management, segregation and disposal mechanisms in the district.

During the inspection, the DC reviewed the proposed arrangements at various sites, including the waste segregation facility and the designated waste dumping and storage site. She also inspected the proposed



operational yard for managing project activities, GPS-enabled vehicles, vehicle parking and related operational arrangements.

The DC directed the establishment of dedicated spaces for an e-waste collection centre, a Reduce, Reuse and Recycle (RRR) Centre, and an office to ensure efficient functioning of the facility. She also instructed the Vendor to install proper signboards for public awareness and identification of designated sites, besides ensuring the construction of a shed for the safe storage of collected waste.

Emphasising the need for a robust supply chain, the DC stressed that effective waste management requires separate collection of different waste categories and their timely transportation to designated facilities through the concerned companies. She directed the concerned officers to schedule a meeting with the companies involved to streamline collection, transportation and processing arrangements and ensure seamless coordination.

The upcoming facility is expected to strengthen waste management operations in Bandipora and contribute towards a cleaner and more sustainable environment.

DC Budgam conducts late evening Visit to District Hospital; Inspects Patient Care Facilities

Interacts with patients, attendants; inspects various wards; reviews availability of essential medicines, healthcare services

■ HT News Network

BUDGAM, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Jatin Kishore, today conducted a late evening visit to District Hospital Budgam to take stock of the healthcare facilities and assess the functioning of various healthcare services, with a particular focus on patient care and the availability of essential amenities.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected various sections of the hospital, including the Emergency Ward, General Surgery Ward, Gynaecology and other facilities, and reviewed the arrangements in place for providing timely and quality healthcare services to patients.

He also inspected the hospital pharmacy and took



stock of the availability of essential medicines, directing the concerned authorities to ensure adequate stocks and their timely availability to patients.

The Deputy Commissioner interacted with patients and their attendants to enquire about the healthcare facilities and services being provided to them. He sought their feedback regarding the quality of treatment, availability of medicines and overall patient care arrangements.

Emphasising the need for a responsive and patient-centric healthcare system, the Deputy Commissioner stressed that ensuring quality medical care, timely attention to patients and proper hospital facilities must remain a priority.

He also underscored the importance of maintaining cleanliness, sanitation and hygiene across all sections of the hospital to provide a safe and comfortable environment for patients and their attendants.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the hospital administration and concerned officials to ensure the smooth and efficient functioning of all hospital services and address any shortcomings in patient care facilities promptly.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Budgam; Medical Superintendent, District Hospital Budgam; and other concerned officers during the visit.

Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwara 2026 commences across Kathua district

Educational institutions, AWCs organise awareness activities to promote tribal heritage, honour tribal freedom fighters

■ HT News Network

KATHUA, NOVEMBER 02: Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwara 2026 commenced across District Kathua with educational institutions, Anganwadi Centres and tribal habitations organising awareness activities to highlight the rich cultural heritage, indigenous traditions and contributions of tribal communities to the nation.

Government Degree Colleges Mahanpur and Bani organised awareness programmes on tribal heritage, indigenous traditions and the role of tribal communities in India's freedom struggle and nation-building.



The Government schools across the educational zones conducted special morning assemblies, lectures, speeches and interactive sessions to sensitise students about tribal identity and the legacy of tribal freedom fighters, particularly Bhagwan Birsa Munda, revered as Dharti Aaba. Anganwadi Centres across the Poshan Projects and tribal habitations also organised awareness programmes and creative activities, including painting competitions, to promote tribal culture and traditions.

The activities witnessed enthusiastic participation of students, teachers and community members, highlighting the importance of preserving indigenous heritage and fostering respect for cultural diversity.

To sustain these efforts, the District Administration Kathua has launched a 15-day calendar of events to sensitise the public about tribal heritage and traditions. The observance will culminate on November 15, 2026, marking the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda.



Bandipora observes Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, Awareness Programmes on Tribal Rights held

■ HT News Network

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 02: The District Administration Bandipora organised awareness programmes at Chandaji and Panchayat Halqa Aragam Gojerpati, Chithay Banday B, to mark Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, commemorating the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and recognising his invaluable contribution to the upliftment and empowerment of tribal communities. At Chandaji, the programme focused on creating awareness about the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006, and educating members of the tribal community about their rights and entitlements under the Act. The participants were also sensitised about the legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and his historic role in championing the rights and dignity of tribal people. Similarly, at Panchayat Halqa Aragam Gojerpati, Chithay Banday B, participants were introduced to the significance of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas and sensitised about the activities planned as part of the 15-day observance programme.

PUBLIC NOTICE

it is notified that the applicant namely Altaf Hussain Khanday Father of Kifayat Hussain Khanday R/o Merchamer Tehsil Singapore District Baramullah applied for the issuance of BIRTH certificate of his Son Kifayat Hussain Khanday S/o Altaf Hussain Khanday
The applicant intends to register the Date of birth of his SON as school records 03 / 03 / 2014
If any one has objection in this regard, he can approach concerned Births and Death authorities within the period of seven days after the publication of said Notice . No objection will be entertained .

03/01 /2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, ABDUL RASHID DAR, Father of MUSAIB AHMAD DAR, resident of Nagbal, District Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir, do hereby declare as under:
That I am the father and legal guardian of my minor child, MUSAIB AHMAD DAR.That the Aadhaar Number of my minor child is 554748331164.That due to an inadvertent error, my child's name has been incorrectly recorded as AZAN RASHID in the Aadhaar Card, whereas the correct name is MUSAIB AHMAD DAR.
That the nameMUSAIB AHMAD DAR is the correct name of my minor child, and I wish to have the same corrected in the Aadhaar records.Any person having any objection regarding the aforesaid name correction may approach the concerned Aadhaar Authority with valid documentary proof.
Place: Nagbal, Baramulla
ABDUL RASHID DAR
Father of MUSAIB AHMAD DAR

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE COURT OF THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS, QAZIGUND

OFFICE OF THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS, QAZIGUND
Coram: Aastik Verma | JOCODE: JK00335

Versus
In the Case of: Zahoori Jan
Versus
Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir through BDO Devsar
Whereas, the applicant, namely Zahoori Jan, has sought a direction against the non-applicant for registration of the birth particulars of her daughter, Aasira Firoz, who was born on 29-04-2013.
Through the medium of this notice, the general public is hereby informed that if any person has any objection regarding the registration of the birth particulars mentioned above, he/she/they may submit the same on or before 30-10-2026, when the matter is listed for further proceedings.
Given under my hand and seal of this Court on 22-10-2026.

Sd/
Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Qazigund

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abdul Satar Malla, hereby give this public notice to inform the general public and concerned authorities that my wards name have been incorrectly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as Mustufa Satar,His correct particulars, as per valid supporting documents, are as follows:Correct Name: Mustafa Satar.I request the concerned authorities to kindly take note of the above-mentioned correct particulars and consider the necessary correction in my wards Aadhaar records as per the applicable rules and prescribed procedure.This notice is being published for public information and official record purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my Brother's name MEHRAJ UD DIN WAZA S/O MUNEER AHMAD WAZA Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0212040011052 wants to be registered on my name RIYAZ AHMAD WAZA S/O MUNAWAR WAZA If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication ofthis notice after that no objection will be entertained

Name.....RIYAZ AHMAD WAZA
S/O...MUNAWAR WAZA
R/O ... FRASTHAR KREERI BLOCK ....WAGOORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Number plate of my vehicle Bike (palsar n169) bearing Number JK05Q4401 now I am applying for its duplicate if anybody Having any objection in this regard he /she may file his/her objection in the office of ARTO BARAMULLA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained
Name....AABID ASHRAF SHAH
M/O..MOHAMMAD ASHRAF SHAH
R/O...KACHWA MUQAM
Dist....BARAMULLA

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written as JAFFAR AHMAD LONE S/O ALI MOHAMMAD MIR on my Adhaar card bearing Adhaar No .. 4208 0280 3625 while my correct name is JAFFAR MAJEED LONE S/L ALI MOHAMMAD MIR 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..JAFFAR MAJEED LONE
D/O..ALI MOHAMMAD MIR
R/O..DALIPORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, BASHIR AHMAD CHOPAN, hereby inform the general public that I seek correction of the name recorded in my minor child's Aadhaar Card.
The details are as follows:
Aadhaar Number of Minor: 595065875992
Incorrect Name: IFAT JAN
Correct Name: IFAT BASHIR
That the name of my child was inadvertently entered incorrectly at the time of Aadhaar enrolment. Therefore, I request the concerned authority to kindly rectify the name in the Aadhaar records as per the correct details mentioned above.
I am enclosing the relevant supporting documents for verification and necessary action.
Any person having any objection regarding the above-mentioned correction may approach the concerned Aadhaar Authority with valid proof and supporting documents.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill) power connection is registered on my Father's name AB AHAD SHEIKH R/O..FRASTAHAR KREERI Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0212040003631 wants to be registered on my name MOHD SHAREEF SHEIKH If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication ofthis notice after that no objection will be entertained
Name.....MOHD SHAREEF SHEIKH
S/O..AB AHAD SHEIKH
R/O ... FRASTAHAR BLOCK ....WAGOORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written as ARVINDER SINGH on my Adhaar card bearing Adhaar No .. 4335 6550 9559 while my correct name is S. ARVINDER SINGH S/O KISHAN SINGH 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...S.ARVINDER SINGH
S/O....KISHAN SINGH
R/O..BERWAH TANGMARG

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ovais Nisar Mir, S/o Nisar Ahmad Mir, hereby declare that my name has been incorrectly recorded as Ovais Nisar in Driving Licence No. JK-1320150037015.
My correct name is Ovais Nisar Mir, as per my valid documents.Any person hving any objection may contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITALS
Telefax:- 0194-2496089, Email ID:- :exen-mechospsgr@jk.gov.in --------

Gist of e-tender
e-NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2026-27/79/e-tendering,
Dated: 02.11.2026
(SHORT TERM)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work: -

Name of Work	Est. Cost (in lacs)	Cost of T/Doc.	Time of completion (in days)	TS No	Earnest Money
1	2	3	4	5	6
Servicing and Repairs of Machinery/Equipment's at Integrated Mushroom Development Centre, Lalmandi.	1.30	200	15	M&HD/TS/59 of 11/2026	2% of the estimated cost

AA Accorded Vide No: MS/Dev/2026-27/510-12, Dated: -23.10.2026
Position of Funds:- Available with intending Department.

1. **Downloading of Bids**:- The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from **02.11.2026 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 02.11.2026 (18.00 hrs)**
2. **Uploading**: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site **02.11.2026 (18.00 hrs) to 11.11.2026 (13:00hrs)** in two (02) covers.
3. **Opening of Bids** :- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on **11.11.2026 at 15.00(hrs)**

DIPK-7299/26
Send Date: Nov 2 20

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
M&HD, Srinagar

DC Ganderbal reviews functioning of Revenue Department, stresses timely disposal of Revenue Matters

■ HT News Network



GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shreya Singhal chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Revenue Department at the VC Room, Mini Secretariat Ganderbal, to take stock of the overall functioning and progress of various revenue-related activities in the district.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Kangan, all Tehsildars and other concerned officials of the Revenue Department.

At the outset, the Assistant Commissioner Revenue presented a detailed overview of the general functioning of the department, highlighting the progress achieved under various schemes and initiatives, besides discussing key issues pertaining to removal of encroachments and other administrative matters.

During the meeting, a detailed review was undertaken of the progress under DILRMP 2.0, SVAMITVA, ULPIN generation and other digitisation initiatives. The status of digitisation of Jamabandis, cadastral maps, missing Mussavies, scanning and uploading of revenue records and issuance of Land Passbooks was also discussed.

Reviewing the progress under Agristack, the DC stressed the need to expedite Farmer ID generation and directed the concerned officers to ensure maximum coverage within the stipulated timelines.

The meeting also reviewed various online services being provided by the Revenue Department. The DC stressed the importance of improving the delivery of basic public services and ensuring timely, transparent and quality disposal of applications in accordance with the prescribed timelines.The disposal of public grievances and complaints received through the JK Samadhan Portal and CPGRAMS was also reviewed during the meeting. The DC directed all concerned officers to ensure prompt and effective redressal of public grievances. She emphasized regular monitoring of grievances, and accountability at all levels to strengthen the grievance redressal mechanism and improve citizen-centric service delivery.

DC Udhampur reviews progress of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana; Stresses accelerated implementation

■ HT News Network



UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Ananth Dwivedi, today chaired a review meeting with officers and representatives from various agencies associated with the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana to assess the progress and implementation of the scheme in the district.

During the meeting, the DC sought detailed feedback from the concerned stakeholders regarding the challenges hindering the effective implementation of the scheme. He stressed the need for an extensive door-to-door awareness campaign to educate the public about the benefits of the scheme and encourage more eligible households to avail its benefits.

The DC also impressed upon the concerned officers to expedite the installation and coverage of smart meters, highlighting their importance in ensuring transparency, improving energy efficiency and enhancing consumer convenience.

He directed the empanelled vendors to accelerate the installation of pending rooftop solar panels and ensure timely completion of all allotted cases, so that the maximum number of eligible households across the district can benefit from the scheme.

DC Samba reviews progress under Mission YUVA

Directs re-verification of cases to expedite loan disbursement

■ HT News Network



SAMBA, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner Samba Dr. Rupesh Kumar today chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) under Mission YUVA to review the progress and implementation of the scheme in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner held a detailed review of the cases processed under Mission YUVA, with emphasis on the status of applications, progress of bank-level verification and the rate of loan disbursement. He stressed the need for close coordination between the concerned departments and banking institutions to ensure timely processing of eligible cases and facilitate greater coverage of beneficiaries under the scheme.Taking note of the need to improve the pace of loan disbursement, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Assistant Director Employment to undertake a comprehensive re-verification of all cases with the respective bank branches and identify the reasons for delays, wherever applicable. He emphasised that all pending issues must be addressed promptly so that eligible beneficiaries do not face unnecessary delays in availing financial assistance.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the Cluster Head, J&K Bank, Samba, to ensure that the entire exercise of verification and scrutiny of cases is completed within a week's time. He further instructed that the verified cases be processed accordingly and placed before the next meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee for timely consideration and necessary action.

Dr. Rupesh Kumar underscored that Mission YUVA is an important initiative aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, generating self-employment opportunities and empowering the youth by facilitating financial assistance for setting up their own ventures.

He called upon all concerned departments and banking institutions to work in close coordination, maintain accountability and adopt a result-oriented approach to ensure effective implementation of the scheme at the grassroots level.

ADC finalises arrangements for Diwali celebration in Bhaderwah

■ HT News Network



BHADERWAH, NOVEMBER 02: The necessary arrangements, including civic amenities and provision of uninterrupted essential services for the Diwali festival were today finalised here at a meeting chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sunil Kumar Bhutyal and attended by officers from Police, Public Works (R&B), Jal Shakti, JPDCL, Municipal Committee, Fire and Emergency Services, Health and Revenue departments.

The meeting decided to conduct a special cleanliness drive and illuminate major markets, temples and public places ahead of Diwali. Instructions were also given to the Municipal Committee to ensure proper disposal of waste and debris, while the Police Department was asked to deploy adequate personnel to maintain law and order and ensure smooth traffic movement.

The ADC also constituted a committee comprising officers from enforcement departments to check the quality and safety of essential food items, including sweets, milk, cheese, fruits and vegetables.

The Fire and Emergency Services Department was asked to station fire tenders at Seri Bazaar, New Bus Stand Kotli and Tehsil Bhalla, while keeping emergency response units on high alert. The Health Department was also instructed to keep ambulances and emergency medical teams available to deal with any untoward incidents.

The meeting was attended by ASP, CEO BDA, Executive Engineer R&B, SDPO, Tehsildar, BDO, BMO, AEE JPDCL, AE PDD, EO Municipal Committee, TSOs, President Beopar Mandal, representatives of Sanatan Dharma Sabha and Fire and Emergency Services Department.

Proposals seeking benefits of HADP, other schemes reviewed at Udhampur

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Ananth Dwivedi today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee to review and consider applications received under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), JKCIP and National Mission on Natural Farming.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Jugal Kishore, Assistant Commissioner Development, Om Parkash and other senior officers from the concerned departments.

The Committee examined a total of 392 proposals received under the three programmes for scrutiny and consideration. These included 347 cases under HADP, 43 cases under JKCIP and 2 cases under NMNF.

The applications were examined scheme-wise and department-wise by the committee as part of the district-level scrutiny and approval process.

JK-Samadhan Portal

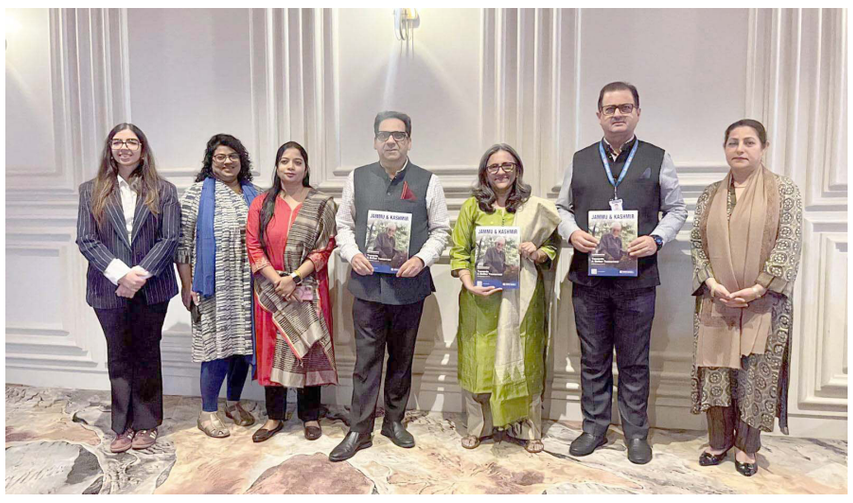
DC Udhampur reviews response of departments to public grievances

■ HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Ananth Dwivedi today chaired a meeting with officers of the line departments to review the status of disposal and pendency of public grievances received through the JK-Samadhan Portal.The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; PO Poshan Subash Dogra; GM DIC Kishore Singh Katoch; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan and other officers of the concerned departments.The DC conducted a detailed review of the grievances redressal mechanism adopted by the departments and assessed the status of the grievances on the portal. He also took stock of the departmental response to the grievances.

HDFC Bank Parivartan Impacts 18,706 Lives Across Jammu and Kashmir

■ HT News Network



Srinagar, Nov 2, KNT: HDFC Bank's corporate social responsibility programme, Parivartan, has impacted 18,706 people across Jammu and Kashmir, with interventions spanning agriculture, education, skill development, healthcare, financial literacy and clean energy, the bank said on Monday.

According to the bank, its programme has been active in Jammu and Kashmir since 2014 and covers 15 of the Union Territory's 20 districts, including 16 border villages in the aspirational districts of Kupwara and Baramulla.

Under its rural development initiatives, the programme has supported 10,128 farmers through capacity-building, farmer collectives, shared machinery, processing facilities and solar-powered infrastructure.

In the education sector, 901 scholarships have been awarded under the bank's Educational Crisis Scholarship Support programme, while 60 smart schools have been established, benefiting approximately 15,000 students.The bank said its skill development and livelihood initiatives have trained 1,057 young people and supported 189 women through employability, entrepreneurship and traditional craft-based activities.

Under its natural resource management initiatives, the programme has supported 104 villages with clean-energy solutions, including solar-powered systems and community lighting. Financial fraud awareness initiatives, including the Vigil Aunty campaign, have reached more than 1.72 lakh people.

The bank also highlighted interventions supporting saffron cultivation in Pampore through solar water pumps and dryers, apple and walnut processing facilities, and Kashmiri red chilli cultivation in Uri through polyhouse farming, drip irrigation and solar dryers.

A shared brand, SAMARKASH, has been established to help participating farmer-producer organisations market processed agricultural products through branding, packaging and market-linkage support.

Nusrat Pathan, Head of CSR at HDFC Bank, said the programme focused on need-based interventions tailored to regional challenges, including sustainable agriculture, education, skills and infrastructure.

The bank said it had spent Rs 1,316 crore on CSR initiatives nationwide as of March 31, 2026, and that its Parivartan programme had impacted more than 10.77 crore lives across India. [KNT]

DC Anantnag conducts extensive Tour of various areas to identify suitable land for Key Developmental Projects

Interacts with Public, listens to their demands

■ HT News Network



ANANTNAG, NOVEMBER 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, today visited various locations, including Lalan, Bumthan and the Rehmat-e-Alam Hospital area to assess and identify suitable land for the establishment of various developmental projects.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected different sites for the proposed establishment of public infrastructure, including Marriage halls, Maternity and Child Care Hospital, playgrounds and other facilities aimed at addressing the developmental needs and aspirations of the local population.

During the field visit, the Deputy Commissioner was apprised by the concerned revenue officials about the availability of State land at the identified locations.

Detailed information regarding the Khasra numbers, revenue maps, extent of land available and other relevant revenue particulars was also presented for examination and consideration.

The DC directed the concerned officers to prepare a comprehensive report of all the locations visited, incorporating complete revenue records, land particulars, maps, Khasra numbers and the exact extent of land available at each site.

He stressed the importance of maintaining proper documentation and ensuring that all necessary details are compiled for further examination and appropriate action regarding the proposed projects.The Deputy Commissioner emphasised that identification of suitable land is an important prerequisite for taking forward developmental projects and reiterated the district administration's commitment to ensuring the creation of essential public infrastructure and facilities in different areas of the district.

During the visit, the DC also interacted with local residents who also brought various developmental issues and demands pertaining to their respective areas to his notice.

The DC gave a patient hearing to the public and directed the concerned officers to ensure the timely resolution of the issues raised.The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), concerned Tehsildars, Patwaris and other field-level officers. The Deputy Commissioner emphasised that identification of suitable land is an important prerequisite for taking forward developmental projects and reiterated the district administration's commitment to ensuring the creation of essential public infrastructure and facilities in different areas of the district.

During the visit, the DC also interacted with local residents who also brought various developmental issues and demands pertaining to their respective areas to his notice.The DC gave a patient hearing to the public and directed the concerned officers to ensure the timely resolution of the issues raised.The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), concerned Tehsildars, Patwaris and other field-level officers.



The Silent Metabolic Crisis

Why India Must Take Biochemical Health Seriously



By Prof. Dr. M. Vijaya Simha

India's health challenge is changing. Alongside infectious diseases, the country is facing a growing burden of diabetes, high blood pressure, abnormal cholesterol, fatty liver disease and other metabolic conditions. These illnesses often develop gradually, sometimes without obvious symptoms, while quietly increasing the risk of heart disease, stroke, kidney damage and other complications. Metabolic health therefore deserves far greater attention not only in hospitals, but also in homes, schools, workplaces and public-health planning.

The danger is not simply that these conditions are common. Many people feel healthy until a routine check-up reveals high blood glucose, elevated triglycerides, abnormal liver enzymes or impaired kidney function. By then, underlying changes may have been developing for years. India must move from a disease-response model to one that values prevention, early detection and informed interpretation of biochemical health.

Metabolic disorders are often described as silent because early changes may not cause pain or visible illness. Insulin resistance, for example, can develop before blood glucose reaches the range used to diagnose diabetes. Lipid abnormalities may go unnoticed, and high blood pressure frequently causes no clear symptoms. A person may continue working and managing family responsibilities while important risk factors remain undetected.

The absence of symptoms should not be mistaken for the absence of risk. At the same time, a single abnormal laboratory result does not automatically mean a person has a disease. Results need to be interpreted in context, considering age, medical history, medicines, recent illness, fasting status and other relevant factors. The goal is neither to create fear nor to encourage indiscriminate testing; it is to identify meaningful risk early and act appropriately.

India's growing metabolic challenge is reflected in a major national analysis from the ICMR-INDIAB study, published in 2023, which estimated that approximately 101 million people in India were living with diabetes and around 136 million with prediabetes. The study also highlighted a substantial burden of other metabolic conditions. These figures underline the scale of the challenge, although they should be understood as estimates from that study rather than as a new count for 2026.

The implications extend beyond individual health. Metabolic diseases can affect family finances, productivity, quality of life and the capacity of health services. Complications may require long-term medication, repeated investigations, hospital care and lifestyle adjustments. Prevention and early management are therefore not merely clinical priorities; they are social and economic necessities.

Medical biochemistry provides important clues about how the body is functioning. Blood glucose and glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c) help assess glucose regulation over different time frames. A lipid profile, including triglycerides, LDL cholesterol and HDL cholesterol helps clinicians evaluate cardiovascular risk. Liver enzymes such as ALT and AST may contribute to the assessment of liver injury, while kidney-related tests can help identify impaired renal function. Depending on the clinical situation, additional measurements may be useful.

No single test tells the whole story. HbA1c can be affected by conditions that alter red blood cells; liver enzymes can be normal even when fatty liver disease is present; and cholesterol values must be interpreted alongside other risk factors. Reference ranges, diagnostic cut-offs and treatment targets are not interchangeable. Laboratory findings should be assessed by qualified healthcare professionals, and unexpected results may need confirmation.

The value of biochemical testing lies in connecting numbers to a person's overall health. A well-interpreted report can prompt timely counselling, further assessment or treatment. A poorly interpreted report can cause unnecessary anxiety, false reassurance or inappropriate self-medication. Laboratory quality, sound clinical judgement and clear communication are essential parts of prevention.

Routine health assessment should be guided by a person's age, family history, weight and waist circumference, blood pressure, activity level, previous results and other risk factors. People with known risk factors should discuss appropriate screening intervals with a healthcare professional. Community health programmes can make reliable screening more accessible, particularly for people who may not seek care until symptoms become severe.

Screening must be linked to follow-up. Testing without counselling, confirmatory assessment or access to care has limited value. A responsible system should explain what a result means, what it does not mean, and what action is recommended next. Public-health programmes should also protect privacy and avoid labelling people on the basis of a single result.

A healthy dietary pattern, regular physical activity, adequate sleep and avoidance of tobacco can help reduce metabolic risk. A balanced diet that includes vegetables, fruits, pulses and whole grains, while limiting excess salt, free sugars and unhealthy fats, supports better health. Practical changes walking regularly, reducing sugary drinks, choosing balanced meals and breaking up long periods of sitting can make a meaningful difference.

Yet it is too simplistic to treat metabolic disease as a failure of personal discipline. Food affordability, work schedules, urban design, safe spaces for exercise, stress, sleep, access to preventive care and health literacy all influence behaviour. Public policy should make healthy choices easier through better food environments, accessible recreation, workplace wellness and affordable primary care. Advice to individuals must be matched by supportive conditions in their communities.

The growing popularity of health information online has created both opportunity and risk. Unverified claims about detox products, miracle diets, supplements and self-directed treatment can distract people from evidence-based care. A biochemical value outside a laboratory's reference interval is not, by itself, a reason to start a medicine or supplement. Conversely, a result within the reference interval does not always rule out disease.

People should avoid interpreting reports through social media posts or using another person's treatment plan. Clinicians and laboratory professionals have a responsibility to communicate results in plain language and correct misconceptions without shaming patients. Trustworthy health communication should be accurate, practical and sensitive to people's circumstances.

Digital health platforms, electronic records, teleconsultations and data-informed risk assessment may help identify people who need follow-up and improve continuity of care. Used responsibly, these tools can support reminders, risk communication and coordination between laboratories, primary-care teams and patients. They should complement not replace clinical expertise.

Technology must be accompanied by safeguards: informed consent, privacy, data security, transparent methods and equitable access. Algorithms should not be treated as infallible, and people without smartphones, reliable connectivity or digital literacy must not be left behind. The most useful innovation is not necessarily the most complicated one; it is the one that improves timely, fair and effective care.

A practical national response should bring together individuals, families, healthcare professionals, laboratories, educational institutions, employers and policymakers. Individuals can seek risk-appropriate check-ups and follow professional advice. Healthcare teams can integrate screening with counselling and long-term follow-up. Laboratories can maintain quality standards and communicate results clearly. Educational institutions and workplaces can support healthier food choices and regular movement. Governments can strengthen primary care and make preventive services accessible and affordable.

Medical laboratory science deserves a visible place in this effort. Reliable biochemical measurements are foundational to diagnosis, risk assessment and monitoring. Investment in laboratory quality, trained personnel, appropriate technology and public understanding can help ensure that testing leads to better decisions not simply more numbers on a report.

India's metabolic challenge cannot be solved by laboratory testing alone, nor by lifestyle advice alone. It requires a balanced approach combining prevention, reliable diagnostics, informed clinical interpretation, sustained follow-up and public policies that support healthier living. Early action can reduce avoidable complications and help people preserve their health and independence.

The most important shift is cultural: health checks should not be reserved for the moment illness becomes impossible to ignore. By taking biochemical health seriously, India can identify risk earlier, respond more effectively and reduce the human and economic burden of preventable disease. We should not wait for the body to become visibly ill before taking its biochemical warnings seriously.

About the author
Prof. Dr. M. Vijaya Simha is Professor and Head, Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, University Institute of Allied Health Sciences (UIAHS), Chandigarh University, Punjab, India.
Email: mvsimha@gmail.com

Manisha credits PWL experience for building mental toughness behind historic gold

United News Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 2 : For Manisha Bhanwala, the Pro Wrestling League (PWL) has been more than just a platform to compete against top wrestlers.

The experience of handling intense contests in quick succession, sharing training space with international stars and learning to recover from setbacks helped shape the mental strength that eventually took her to the top of the podium at the Senior World Wrestling Championships.

The 29-year-old made history in Astana last month by becoming the first Indian woman to win gold at the Senior World Wrestling Championships, claiming the women's 59kg title. Her achievement came shortly after a disappointing Asian Games campaign, but Manisha believes the challenges she faced in the PWL helped her respond positively when it mattered most.

The league's fast-paced format, she said, taught her to deal with pressure, manage her emotions and switch focus quickly between demanding bouts.

"In traditional tournaments, you get weeks between events, but the Pro Wrestling League throwsyou straight into the fire. You wrestle a world-class bout today and have to reset your mindset immediately for another one tomorrow. That routine taught me to control my emotions and stay calm," she said.That ability to move on from disappointment was particularly important after the Asian Games, where she lost in the quarterfinals to Japan's Akari. With little time between the continental event and the World Championships, Manisha chose to get back to work rather than dwell on the defeat."I landed in India on a Monday morning and was back at the training hall by evening. My coach

told me to rest and focus on recovery, but I asked him, 'Did I win a medal that I should sit back

and recover?' In those ten days between the Asian Games and the World Championships, I pushed myself without stopping," she said.

The exposure to international wrestlers in the PWL was another factor that helped her grow. Training and interacting with accomplished opponents gave her a better understanding of their techniques and helped her approach international contests with greater confidence.

"In the PWL, you share the locker room and training mats with them. I spent weeks sparring and analysing holds with world champions like Bilyana Dudova and top wrestlers from Armenia. Once you train together daily, you realise they are human too," she said.

Manisha, who has previously represented the Maharashtra Kesari franchise, is now looking forward to returning to the league for its sixth season in Delhi. With the Olympic qualification cycle beginning next year, she considers the competition an ideal opportunity to improve her match readiness and test her attacking approach against quality opposition.

"My coaches often joke that my attacks do not even have official names because of my attacking style. The season 6 in Delhi is happening at the perfect time because the Olympic qualifiers begin next year. Having real match practice under bright lights against elite foreign opponents will give.

J&K Tennis Ball Cricket Association Announces Selection Trials in Anantnag

Trials for Sub-Junior and Junior Categories on November 6 and 7

Farooq Rather

SRINAGAR, NOV. 2: The Jammu and Kashmir Tennis Ball Cricket Association has announced selection trials for Sub-Junior and Junior categories, scheduled to be held at Sports Stadium Anantnag on November 6 and 7, 2026.

In this regard, the Association has issued a circular directing all District Secretaries to nominate eligible players for participation in the trials. Each district has been asked to depute two boys and three girls in both Sub-Junior and Junior categories.As per the prescribed eligibility criteria, players born after December 1, 2009, are eligible for the Sub-Junior category, while those born after December 20, 2007, can participate in the Junior category.The trials will be conducted from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on both days. All participating players have been instructed to report in proper cricket sports kits and bring photocopies of their Date of Birth (DOB) certificates and Aadhaar cards. The Association has also directed District Secretaries to thoroughly verify the age eligibility of nominated players and ensure strict compliance with the prescribed guidelines.

South Africa coach Prince & player Verreynne reprimanded for breaching ICC Code of Conduct

United News Of India

DUBAI, NOV 2 :South Africa batting coach Ashwell Prince and player Kyle Verreynne have been handed official reprimands for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct on the third day of the third Test against Australia in Cape Town.



Prince and Verreynne were found to have breached Article 2.8 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to "showing dissent at an Umpire's decision during an International Match."

In addition, one demerit point has been added to each of their disciplinary records, as these were their first offences in a 24-month period. Both were reprimanded for the same incident, which occurred after the dismissal of opener Marques Ackerman in South Africa's second innings.

Ackerman tried to review the caught verdict, but the umpires ruled that his appeal for a review did not come within the prescribed 15 seconds and thus could not be taken.

As the batter walked towards the boundary line, Prince shouted repeatedly at the umpires that there was still time left for the appeal to be taken while Verreynne, who was not in the playing eleven, asked Ackerman to remain inside the boundary line, which caused a delay in him leaving the field.

Prince and Verreynne admitted their offences and accepted the sanctions proposed by Javagal Srinath of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees, so there was no need for formal hearings.

Namibia captain Erasmus reprimanded for breaching ICC Code of Conduct

United News Of India

DUBAI, NOV 2 :Namibia captain Gerhard Erasmus has been handed an official reprimand for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct during the fourth ODI against Ireland in Windhoek on Friday.

Erasmus was found to have breached Article 2.8 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to "showing dissent at an Umpire's decision during an International Match."

In addition to this, one demerit point has been added to the disciplinary record of Erasmus, for whom it was the second offence in a 24-month period, taking his tally of demerit points to two.

Erasmus received his earlier demerit point for an offence during an ODI against the Netherlands on March 13, 2025.Friday's incident occurred in the 16th over of Namibia's innings,

when Erasmus, after being adjudged leg-before wicket, gestured to the umpire that he was not out before leaving reluctantly, and continued to gesture even after leaving the field.

Give Gill, Rahul more time for Tests, Nayar tells India management

United News Of India



NEW DELHI, NOV 2 :Former India batting coach Abhishek Nayar feels the team management should have given greater importance to red-ball preparation for players involved in both formats ahead of the two-Test series against New Zealand, which he believes is a significant assignment for head coach Gautam Gambhir and Indian cricket.

Reacting to India's decision to split the squads for the five-match ODI series, Nayar said players such as Shubman Gill and KL Rahul could have used more time to prepare for the Tests after India's earlier series defeat to New Zealand at home.

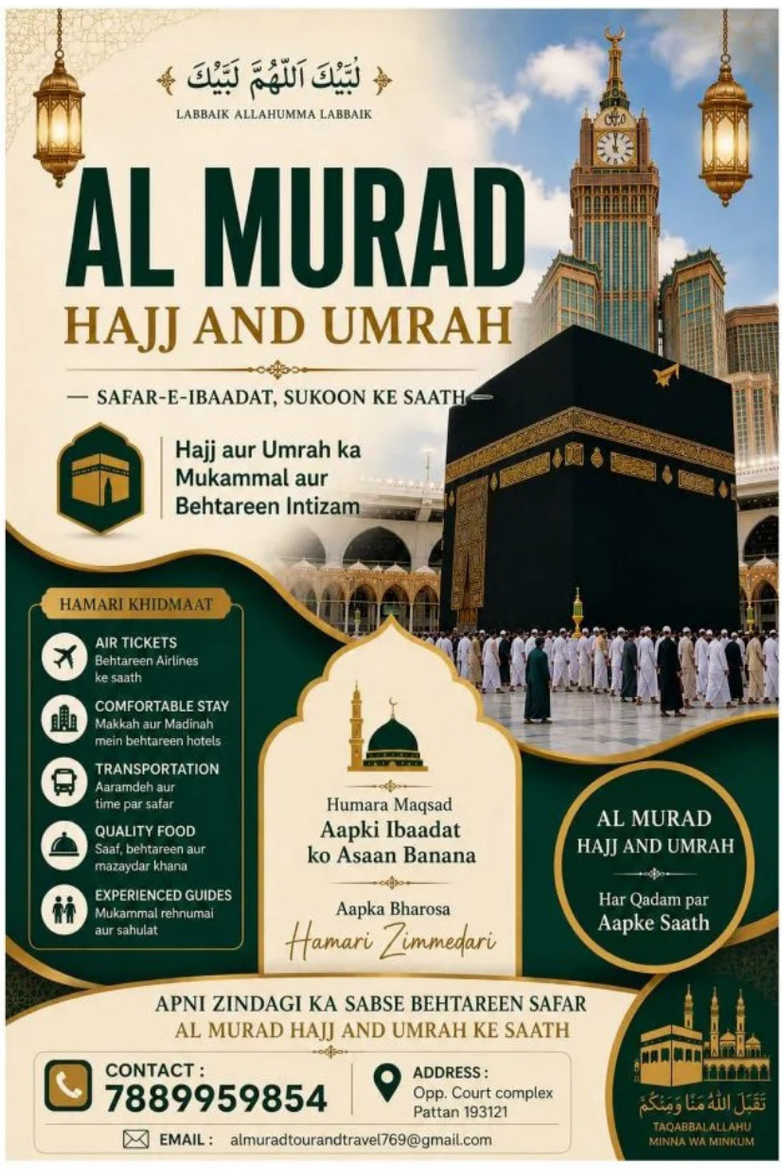
The former batting coach said that loss still rankled with Indian fans and felt the upcoming Test series offered India a chance to respond.

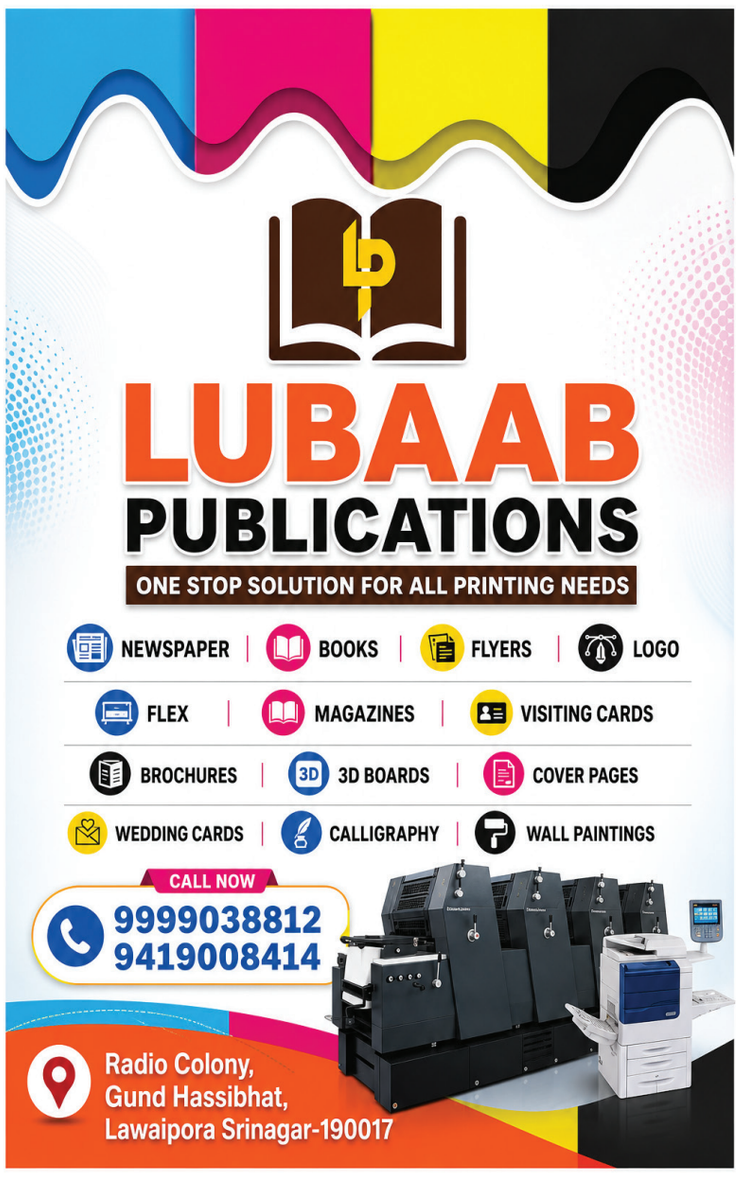
"New Zealand came to India, they beat us in the Test series, and that hurt me a little, as it did the rest of our fans too. So, it's a big series. There should be a balance in life. World Cup is important, but there is some time for that. This Test series, for me, is a decisive one for Gautam Gambhir and Indian fans.

"So, I would have liked players like KL Rahul and Shubman Gill, who are playing both formats, to focus only on Test cricket.

Because now you have to prepare for the ODIs and, after that, the Tests. So, I would rather have given them one or two months to go and practise with the red ball. Just like they beat us here in India, we should beat them there," Nayar told JioStar.

India will have two captains during the ODI series. Gill will lead the side in the first three matches, while Shreyas







LEAGAL DISCLAIMER: The views and Opinions Expressed in Articles, Opinion Pieces, Columns, Interviews, or Other Content Published in Headlines Today are those of the Respective Authors or Contributors and do not Necessarily Reflect the Views or Editorial Policy of Headlines Today, its Publisher, or Management. Headlines Today is not Responsible for the Accuracy, Completeness, or Reliability of Content Sourced or Reproduced from News Agencies, Press Releases, Advertisers, or Other Third-Party Sources. Publication of Such Material Does not imply Endorsement. Advertisements, Sponsored Content, Paid Features, or Promotional Materials Displayed on this Website or Disseminated Through Affiliated Digital Platforms are Commercial Communications and Shall Not be Construedas Editorial Content or Endorsement by Headlines Today. All Content is Published in Good Faith for Informational Purposes Only. Readers are Advised to Exercise Discretion and Independently Verify Information. Headlines Today. All Rights Reserved. Content is Protected Under the Copyright Act, 1957. Unauthorized Use is Prohibited. All disputes shall be subject to the Exclusive Jurisdiction of the Competent Courts in J&K.