


# Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

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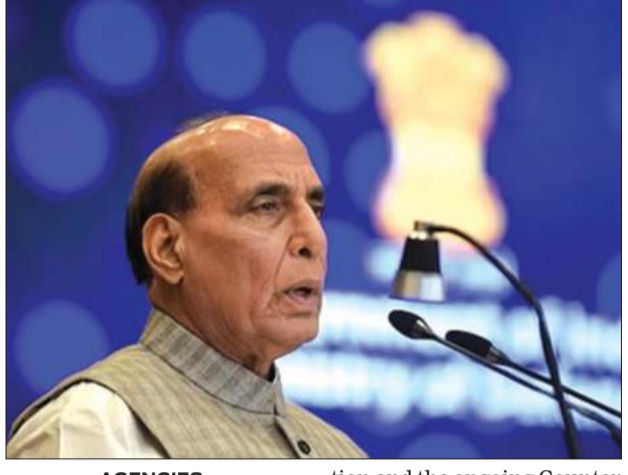
**Office of LG J&K**  
@OfficeOfLGJandK



*I am deeply anguished to learn about the cowardly attack on our Army soldiers and JKP personnel in Doda district. Tributes to brave soldiers who made supreme sacrifice protecting our nation. My deepest condolences to members of the bereaved families.*

## Doda Encounter

### Soldiers Committed To Eliminate Scourge Of Terrorism: Rajnath Singh



**AGENCIES**

**NEW DELHI:** Defence minister Rajnath Singh Monday said that the soldiers remain committed to eliminate the scourge of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir after four army men, including an officer were killed in an encounter with terrorists in Dhari Gote Urrabagi area of Doda district.

The defence minister also spoke with Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, who apprised him of the ground situation and ongoing counter terrorist operation in Doda.

"Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh spoke to COAS General Upendra Dwivedi this morning. RM was apprised of the ground situa-

tion and the ongoing Counter Terrorist Op in Doda by the Army Chief," defence ministry said in a post on X.

Singh also mourned the loss of lives and paid tributes

**DEEPLY** saddened by the loss of our brave and courageous Indian Army Soldiers in a counter terrorist operation in Urrar Baggi, Doda (J&K).

to army soldiers killed in action in the Doda encounter.

"Deeply saddened by the loss of our brave and courageous Indian Army Soldiers in a counter terrorist operation in Urrar Baggi, Doda (J&K). My heart

## Captain Among Four Soldiers Martyred In Doda Encounter



**YOGESH**

**JAMMU:** An Army officer and three soldiers were martyred in an encounter in Uran Baggi in Dessa forests Doda district on Monday, defence officials said.

They said that a contact was established with terrorists in the Uran Baggi forests in the general area of Dessa in district Doda in which a captain rank Army officer and three soldiers were martyred in the incident.

"The firing continued for around 30 minutes and terrorists probably fled away into the forest area by taking advantage of darkness. Army and J&K police cordoned off the area and searches were going on," officials said.

The source said that bodies of the Army officer and three soldiers have been airlifted to northern command headquarters at Udhampur.

Army's 16 Corps spokesman in a post on X last night wrote, "Based on specific intelligence inputs, a joint operation by #IndianArmy and JKP was in progress in the General Area north of #Doda. Contact with terrorists was established tonight at about 2100h in which a heavy firefight ensued. Initial reports suggest injuries to our brave hearts.

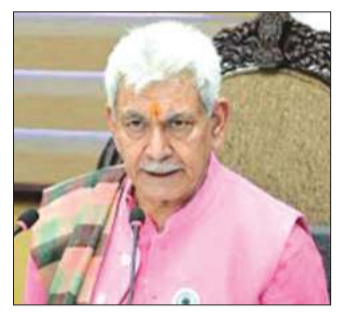
Additional troops have been moved into the area. Operations are continuing." However, later sources confirmed that all four soldiers succumbed.

Meanwhile, defence minister Rajnath Singh said that the soldiers remain committed to eliminate the scourge of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir after four army men, including an officer were

### 'Will Avenge Death Of Our Soldiers...'

#### LG Sinha Pays Tributes To Slain Soldiers

GMK NEWS NETWORK



**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Tuesday vowed to avenge the death of the soldiers martyred in an encounter with terrorists in Doda district.

Four army personnel, including an officer, died after being injured in a gunfight with heavily armed terrorists in Doda district, officials said on Tuesday.

In a post on X, Sinha said, "We will avenge death of our soldiers & thwart the evil designs of terrorists and their associates. I call upon the people to unite in the fight against terrorism & provide us accurate information

### Timeline Of Major Attacks

- July 15:** Four Army soldiers were martyred in action in Desa Doda.
- July 8:** Five Army personnel were martyred in action and five others injured after terrorists attacked a military convoy in Machedi forest area of Billawar, Kathua district.
- June 26:** Three foreign terrorists were killed in a gunfight in a forested area of the Doda district.
- June 12:** A policeman was injured in a terrorist attack in Doda district.
- June 11/12:** Two foreign terrorists and a CRPF jawan were killed in a gunfight after terrorists attacked a joint checkpoint in the Kathua district. Five Rashtriya Rifles personnel and a Special Police Officer were also injured in a terrorist attack in Doda district.
- June 9:** Nine pilgrims were martyred and 42 were injured in a terrorist attack on a bus in the Reasi district.
- May 4:** One IAF personnel was martyred and five were injured in a terrorist attack in Poonch district.
- April 28:** A village defence guard was killed in an encounter with terrorists in Basantghar, Udhampur district.

## In Jammu

### 50 Security Personnel Martyred By Terrorists In 32 Months



**YOGESH**

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir region has been experiencing a spike in terror attacks since the beginning of 2024.

Four Indian Army soldiers, including an officer, have been killed in action in an encounter with terrorists in Jammu

and Kashmir's Doda district on Monday, taking the total number of Army personnel and other security forces killed in the past 32 months to 50 in the Jammu region.

Moreover twelve security personnel, including an Army major, 10 civilians killed in terrorist attacks since January 1, 2024.

## Boost To Aatmanirbharta

### Govt Releases New List Of 346 Indigenous Defence Items

**IANIS**

**NEW DELHI:** The Ministry of Defence has notified the fifth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) consisting 346 defence items in a major boost to Aatmanirbharta in defence production.

The items include strategically important Line Replacement Units/Systems/Sub-Systems/Assemblies/Sub-Assemblies/Spares & Components and raw materials, with import substitution value worth Rs 1,048 crore, according to a Ministry of Defence statement issued on Monday.

These items will only be procured from the Indian Industry after the timelines of indigenisation as indicated in the list available on the Srijan portal (<https://srijandefence>).



## No Extension In Summer Vacation: SED

**AGENCIES**

**SRINAGAR:** School Education Department Tuesday clarified that there will be no extension in summer vacation and subsequently ordered students to resume classes from July-18.

SED on micro-blogging site X said, "All Schools (Govt. & Private recognized) shall be re-opened on 18.7.2024, after summer vacations across the UT." (SIC)

It also ordered the Chief Education Officers, Zonal Education Officers and Hols to follow the cleanliness advisory.

Advisory to HOIs...:

**Cleanliness:** Ensure that all premises, including classrooms, corridors, and common areas, are thoroughly cleaned.

Pay special attention towards clean toilets, ensuring these are hygienic and well-maintained.

Clean and disinfect water tanks to ensure safe drinking water.

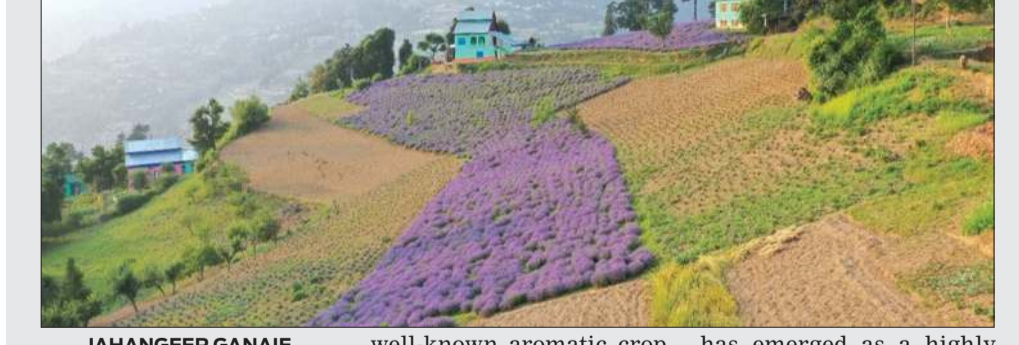
Ensure rooftops are free of debris and dirt.

Grass Cutting: Trim and maintain lawns and grounds to provide a neat and safe environment to students.

Removal of Junks and Debris: Clear any junk, waste, or debris from the school premises

## Aroma Mission

### Over 1200 Hectares Brought Under Lavender Cultivation In J&K



**JAHANGEER GANAIE**

**SRINAGAR:** Over 1200 hectares of land have been brought under Aroma cultivation in Jammu & Kashmir as hundreds of farmers have switched to lavender cultivation.

A top official working with the CSIR-Aroma Mission in J&K said that under the mission, CSIR-IIIM initiated a revolutionary journey aimed at providing an alternative to traditional crops and improving farmers' income.

He said that lavender, a

well-known aromatic crop known for its fragrant flowers, essential oils and numerous uses, is one of the selected aromatic crops under the CSIR-Aroma Mission.

Lavender, renowned for its aromatic flowers and essential oils, has been introduced beyond its traditional confines in the Kashmir valley to temperate regions across Jammu division, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Ladakh.

The cultivation of lavender in Doda district of Jammu

## Musical Extravaganza Mesmerizes Tourists In Gulmarg



**GMK NEWS NETWORK**

**BARAMULLA:** The Lupins Festival Musical Extravaganza, organized by the Gulmarg Development Authority under the supervision of CEO Waseem Raja, turned the scenic Gulmarg Golf Club into a hub of musical delight.

In collaboration with Hotel Vintage Gulmarg, the event showcased the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir through performances by local artists from Bandipora. The tourists present in the event were mesmerized and thanked GDA for organizing such colorful cultural events which make evenings vibrant in Gulmarg.

The evening was brought to life with the enchanting melodies of Kashmiri Sufi songs and folk music, supervised by Faisal Ali Dar, the founder of Ali's Sports Academy. The soulful performances captured the hearts of both locals and tourists, creating

**INOX SRINAGAR** MOVIES LINED UP FOR RELEASE 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> JULY



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# DDC B'la chairs DLIC meeting, approves 43 cases

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BARAMULLA:** The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa on Tuesday chaired the District Level Implementation Committee meeting at the meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, here to review the implementation of MUMKIN, Tejaswini and SEI schemes in the district.

At the outset, the chair was comprehensively briefed about the current status of the cases that were approved in previous DLIC meetings, and several new cases of unemployed eligible youth in the district were presented to the Committee for approval under MUMKIN, Tejaswini and SEI schemes.

After thoroughly reviewing the cases, the DDC approved 20 new cases under MUMKIN,



20 Tejaswini cases and 03 cases under SEI schemes, thereby enabling them to explore self-employment avenues to significantly improve their livelihoods.

During the meeting, DDC directed the Lead District Manager to sanction all pending cases under Mission Youth schemes by or

before 31st July, 2024 and instructed the officers to diligently prepare and gear up for various activities aimed at empowering unemployed youth of the District.

Chief Planning Officer, Javed Ahmad; Assistant Regional Transport Officer Baramulla, Muazzam Ali; Functional Manager

District Industries Centre, Lead District Manager besides other concerned officers and Officials were present in the meeting.

Later, the DDC handed over the keys of highly subsidized small commercial vehicles among 07 young eligible beneficiaries under the MUMKIN scheme thereby empowering them to earn a sustainable livelihood for themselves and their families in a dignified manner.

Interacting directly with the beneficiaries, the DDC congratulated them and encouraged them to utilize the vehicles effectively to sustain their livelihoods. Minga Sherpa further urged the youth to step forward and avail the benefits of similar government-run beneficiary schemes, highlighting the potential for positive impact on their lives and communities.

# Independence Day-2024 preparations reviewed in Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**ANANTNAG:** A preparatory meeting for smooth celebration of Independence Day, 2024 was Tuesday held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid at Dak Bungalow, Anantnag.

At the outset, the DC reviewed the state of preparedness for the Independence day 2024 celebrations, department wise.

The DC emphasised the significance of Independence Day and its importance in commemorating the nation's freedom struggle. He highlighted the need for meticulous planning and seamless execution of all arrangements to ensure a grand and memorable celebration.

It was decided that the main function in the district shall be held at the Shaheed Humayun Muza-



mil Government Degree College Khanabal. The celebration will involve march past, cultural events and programmes by educational institutes.

The DC instructed that proper arrangements shall be made by various depart-

ments keeping in view the national importance of the day. These include arrangements pertaining to various cultural activities, seating, security, drinking water, sanitation, medical aid centres, public address systems, cultural

events and traffic management besides transportation etc.

The DC instructed that adequate sensitisation of staff pertaining to the significance and protocol of the day, particularly the flag code, be imparted to their staff by various district officers.

The meeting was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner, Additional Superintendent of Police, Sub Divisional Magistrates, Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, General Manager DIC, Assistant Director Food and Consumer Affairs, Chief Medical Officer, Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Executive Engineers of R&B, Jal Shakti, District Information Officer, representatives of various CAPFs and other departments.

# DDC Baramulla reviews implementation of AMRUT 2.0

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BARAMULLA:** With an aim to enhance urban infrastructure and quality of life, the District Development Commissioner (DDC), Baramulla, Minga Sherpa Tuesday chaired a meeting of the District Level Advisory and Monitoring Committee focused on the implementation of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 scheme in urban areas of the district.

At the outset, the DDC was provided with a comprehensive briefing about the current status of various projects under AMRUT 2.0 and the strategies for the wholesome implementation of the scheme.

The meeting covered a wide range of aspects towards urban development with water supply projects a primary focus, along with strategies for improving sewerage and septage management. The

committee also discussed initiatives for storm water drainage to reduce flooding in urban areas.

During the meeting, the DDC emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts in realizing the objectives of AMRUT 2.0 and directed all concerned departments and agencies to work in tandem to ensure the smooth execution of the scheme.

Minga Sherpa further directed the officers present to ensure all the projects under AMRUT 2.0 are completed in a time bound manner and commissioned for the public benefit.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer Baramulla, Javed Ahmad Superintending Engineer Hydraulic, Executive Engineer Jal Jeevan Mission, other concerned officers overseeing the implementation of AMRUT 2.0, flagship program of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

# DDC Shopian chairs Banker's Review Committee meet



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SHOPIAN:** The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Fazlul Haseeb Tuesday chaired a meeting of District Level Banker's Review Committee Meet (DLBRC) at Mini Secretariat, here to review the performance of Banks and other financial institutions under various government initiatives and sponsored schemes of self-employment.

At the outset, DDC reviewed performance of the Banks in implementation of different govt. schemes and took appraisal of achievements of Banks in lending to pri-

ority/non-priority sectors. The meeting was apprised about credit disbursement under various self-employment schemes including Mumkin, Tejaswini, KCC, NULM, PMFME, etc.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC stressed all the line departments and Banks operating in the district to further improve the credit facilities, and emphasised on the improvement of progress of schemes and flagship programmes of the government.

He asked for removing the bottleneck in the implementation of schemes in vogue and taking required

measures to improve the performance and reach of the schemes to cover maximum youth under its ambit.

The DDC directed all sponsoring agencies and Banks to spread awareness among the people about various self-employment schemes and motivate them to avail the benefits of these schemes for generating self-employment opportunities in the district.

The meeting was attended by GM, DIC, AD, Employment; AD Handicrafts and Handloom; Cluster Head, J&K Bank, Branch Heads and representatives of Banks and financial institutions.

# DC G'bl reviews progress of schemes under Mission Youth

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**GANDERBAL:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir Tuesday convened a meeting at DC office, here to review the progress of Mission Youth schemes, Sanklap and Skill Courses in the district.

During the meeting, the DC reviewed the progress of several initiatives under the Mission Youth programme viz. Mumkin, Tejaswini, and the Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative.

The discussion also covered various Skill Development courses, awareness camps, and other relevant parameters of the scheme.

Emphasizing the importance of youth engagement, the DC directed the Assistant Director of Employment to expedite progress under Mission Youth by conducting awareness and registration camps involving local youth across the district. This initiative aims to ensure that maximum



youth benefit from the self-employment opportunities provided.

The DC also highlighted the necessity of imparting skilled training to the youth, enabling them to become proficient in various trades. He stressed the importance of collaborative efforts to engage youth under different schemes.

Furthermore, the DC instructed all line depart-

ments to prepare a comprehensive skill development training chart. This chart is intended to offer ample opportunities to the youth in both manufacturing and service sectors.

Among others, the meeting was attended by GM DIC, CPO, Assistant Director Employment, District Lead Bank, District Heads of JKEDI, KVK and other concerned officers.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION SHOPIAN**  
 e-mail:- rmbdivisionshopian@gmail.com (Phone/Fax No: 01933-26022)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**CIVIL WORKS**  
**SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs. 2.50 Crores)**  
**NIT No:15/2349-57/SPN/RnB/e-Tendering/2024-25 Dated:-15-07-2024**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Item rate/Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Major Head of Account	Adv Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Earnest Money Deposit	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion	Cost of T/Doc (Rs.)	AAA No. Date	TS No. Date
1	Development of Fruit and vegetable market Aglar Shopian (Phase-III), by way of Construction of Administrative Block (Balance work)	NABARD	14.554	29108/-	DEE/C EE/ BEE	30 Days	600/-	33-Horti of 2018 Dated 15-03-2018	CE(R&B) KTS/460 of 2022-23 Dated 23-07-2022

Position of funds:- Approved  
 Project Authority:- Horticulture Department, J&K

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Date of Issue of Tender Notice	15-07-2024					
Document downloading Start Date.	16-07-2024	From 10.00 A.M				
Document Downloading End Date.	24-07-2024	upto 2:00 P.M				
Bid submission Start Date.	16-07-2024	From 10.00 A.M				
Bid Submission End Date.	24-07-2024	upto 2:00 P.M				
Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	25-07-2024	at 10:00 A.M				

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of e-Challan/treasury challan under Major Head 0059 Revenue in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

2.1 At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/ FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the Bid cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period. (The Date of EMD (CDR/ FDR/ BG) should be between the date of start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date and the validity at the time of opening of bids shall be for a period of 45 days beyond bid validity of 120 days).

3. The date and time of opening of Financial Bids of a responsive bidder shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

5. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-

a) Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

c) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

NOTE: The "sum in dispute" shall refer to the aggregate of all the disputed amounts, both the claim(s) amount plus the counter claim(s) amount.

Sd/- Head Draftsman      Sd/- Head Assistant      Sd/- Technical Officer      Sd/- Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Shopian

No: NIT/2349-57      Dt: 15-07-2024      DPK-3039-24      Dt: 16/07/2024

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY / JKRRDA DIVISION KUPWARA**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
 NIT No. EE/PMGSY/KUP/eNIT/2024-25/06      Dated: 15-July-2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:

S.No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Lakhs)	Cost of Tender Document. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Khurhama Kawari road Package No. JK0816	8.38	600	16800	15-days	D
2.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Chowkibal Zoonreshi road Package No. JK0845	39.63	1100	79300	20-days	A & B
3.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Laderwan Lademag road Package No. JK0853	54.06	1600	108200	30-days	A
4.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Thayan-Shundi road, Package No. JK0884	36.64	1100	73300	20-days	A & B
5.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Chowkibal Budnambal road Package No. JK08105	20.43	800	40900	20-days	B & C
6.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Drugmulla Kandi road Package No. JK08129	68.35	1600	136700	30-days	A
7.	Installation of Crash Barriers on Gonipora Batpora road Package No. JK08131	35.18	1100	70400	20-days	A & B

Position of AAA : Accorded  
 Position of T.S : Accorded  
 Major Head of Account : SH-2181 of Capex Budget 2024-25.

1. The important dates and time are as under:

	1	2	3	4	5
Date of issue of tender notice	15-July-2024				
Bid submission start date	16-July-2024 from 10:00 am				
Bid submission end date	31-July-2024 till 4:00 pm				
Submission of Hard Copies (EMD / TV)	31-July-2024 till 4:00 pm				
Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	01-Aug-2024 at 1:00 PM				

1. Cost of Bid Form (non-refundable) should be submitted only in form of e-challan/treasury challan/receipt.  
 2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and bids should be submitted online on website [www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in). The bidders are required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: [www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in) Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.  
 3. Bids must be uploaded along with Scanned copy of cost of Tender Document as mentioned in column 4 in shape of e-challan/treasury challan to MH 0059-PWD (Revenue) and scanned copy of Bid Security/Earnest Money both favouring Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Kupwara. The bid security/earnest money in the form of CDR/ FDR shall be valid for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
 4. The original documents, viz. the cost of tender document, Bid Security submitted by L1 should be same as uploaded online (scanned copies) otherwise the allotment will not be issued. The tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to Participate in any further/future tendering process in PMGSY for a period of one year.  
 5. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website [www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersjk.gov.in).  
 6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission. The bids of such bidders shall be out rightly rejected whose record of performance is poor such as abandoning the works, not properly completing the contract, inordinate delays in completion, litigation history or financial failure etc.  
 11. Any damage caused to the private/public property during execution of works shall be the liability of the contractor and no claim on account of any such restoration to be carried or disposal of mulba / excavated earth to the suitable dumping spot by the contractor shall not be entertained by the department.  
 13. The Bidder shall quote Percentage rates for the items excluding of GST (18%). The GST of 18% will be added while fixing of contract with the first-lowest (L1) bidder.

No: PMGSY / KUP / 498-503      Dated: 15-07-2023      DPK-3084-24      Dt: 16/07/2024      Executive Engineer PMGSY / JKRRDA Division Kupwara

# Jammu unitedly stands against anti-national forces: Rana

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**NAGROTA:** BJP leader Devender Singh Rana Tuesday asserted that Jammu has always and will unitedly stand up against anti-national forces, saying national integrity and sovereignty is DNA of the land of warriors. "Jammu is committed to national unity and security," Rana said in an informal interaction with the media persons at the sidelines of the flagging off of e-bus from Bus stand to Ban toll Plaza via Nagrota, Panjgrian here this afternoon.

Rana said that Jammu has all along remained on the forefront in isolating anti-national forces, maintaining sovereignty and combating threats to national integrity. He referred to sinister machinations of Pakistan and its patronized ecosystem to destabilize Jammu and Kashmir, saying they will not succeed on the face of people's firm resolve



to maintain inclusivity and strategized operations of the security forces and police to combat terrorism with iron fists. The priority of Jammu people is to effectively counter external interference by way of unleashing terrorism besides maintaining peace and stability in the region.

Rana pitched for collective action to meet the challenge of terrorism while highlighting the importance of cooperation among all sections of society and government to effectively

combat terrorism and ensure security and peace.

The Senior BJP leader condemned the Doda terror act, leading to martyrdom of an officer and three soldiers, saying the perpetrators will not go unpunished as the decisive government under Yashaswi Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi has zero tolerance against terrorism. He said the people of Jammu are in solidarity with the families of brave hearts, who have offered supreme sacrifice in line of

duty. Their sacrifice will not go waste as the nation is further firming up its resolve to eliminate the scourge of terrorism, raising its monstrous head in the Jammu region, he added.

"My heart goes to the families, who have lost their valiant sons in the dastardly act", Mr Rana said, adding that terrorism has no place in a civilized world and those indulging in such barbaric acts were the enemies of humanity. He exuded confidence that terrorists cannot succeed in breaking the will and determination of the compatriots by such dastardly acts, saying the country sees through the nefarious game plan and remains vigilant against their mechanizations. He conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families, prayed for peace to the departed souls and wished speedy recovery to the valiant injured personnel.

## ZERO-LANDFILL PILGRIMAGE

# 200 tonnes of waste generated in 20 days of Amarnath Yatra

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** In a concerted effort to ensure a sustainable Amarnath Ji Yatra-2024, the government has adopted comprehensive measures aimed at achieving zero landfill and zero waste while maintaining cleanliness throughout the pilgrimage.

The Directorate of Rural Sanitation under Department of Panchayati Raj, Jammu and Kashmir has launched various initiatives to make the annual Yatra a zero-landfill pilgrimage.

The initial 20 days of the yatra have seen a significant amount of waste generated by devotees and service providers. The cumulative figure of waste on both axes remains 200 tonnes. Total quantity of waste processed in tonnes is 162.40, and total inert waste generated in tonnes is 34.30.

Out of total 200 tonnes of waste, the wet waste collection is 85.15 tonnes in which 80.31 tonnes of wet waste was processed and a little quantity of wet waste 0.07 tonnes was sent to EFL.

The dry waste collection is 80.31 tonnes, out of which 77.38 tonnes was processed and only 3 tonnes of waste is yet to be processed.

Similarly, out of 34.30 tonnes of inert, 25 tonnes are sent to Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC).

These figures highlighted the effectiveness of the waste management strategy, which emphasizes the separate collection and processing of wet and dry waste to minimize environmental impact.

The waste management strategy involves the careful segregation and process-



ing of wet and dry waste, and it also includes the use of eco-friendly bags, a ban on plastic, mass awareness programs, proper disposal of waste, Water ATMs, Mascots for awareness and other measures transforming the yatra into an environmentally conscious pilgrimage.

Secretary Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, J&K Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary and Director Rural Sanitation, Anoo Malhotra have been regularly reviewing the sanitation facilities and progress.

Several initiatives with services providers have been taken to ensure a clean and waste-free yatra. Eco-friendly bags were being provided in place of plastic and polythene bags. Water ATMs have been installed at Yatra basecamps and enroute to holy cave to reduce the PET bottles consumption.

15 Waste processing facilities had been established on both Baltal and Pahalgam axis to deal with huge quantities of wet and dry waste collected from different camp locations and enroute.

More than 7000 sanitation workers are working in 3-shifts to clean the basecamps, roads, routes, and other resting places.

Eight processing facilities

have been set up at the Baltal axis starting from Neelgrath to Amarnath cave shrine and seven processing facilities set up at Pahalgam axis starting from Nunwan till Panchnarni.

Similarly, the wet waste is processed using the conventional composting methods and the dry waste is processed through segregating into different types of recyclable and non-recyclable waste and further processing it using the baling machines.

Eight vehicles – five at the Baltal axis and three at the Pahalgam axis – had been deployed for collection and transportation of waste at the base camp locations.

Apart from 7000 sanitation workers, more than 600 trained workers and 25 management and supervisory staff have been deployed on both axes combined to handle day-to-day waste collection from primary and secondary sources, its transportation, and processing and scientific disposal.

Apart from men and machinery, robust Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategies have been put in place to maintain the yatra sites and ensure complete waste collection.

Director General Rural

Sanitation, J&K, Anoo Malhotra said that the concerted efforts of waste management teams yielded impressive results in managing plastic, wet, and inert waste along the routes. "The waste generated on Baltal axis and Pahalgam axis had been processed after segregating into various recyclable and non-recyclable streams like PET, HDPE, LDPE, cardboard, multilayered plastic, and metals," she added.

The collaborative efforts of the service providers, volunteers, and Yatris have been instrumental in maintaining the sanctity and cleanliness of the yatra routes.

Furthermore, about 2245 toilet units and 235 bathing points had been installed and maintained along the Pahalgam axis while 1660 toilet points and 490 bathing units had been installed along the Baltal route to improve sanitation.

Additionally, 250 toilet units have been installed along the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway for the convenience of the travelers.

Moreover, initiatives like the procurement and distribution of cloth bags to Yatris for plastic waste collection, and provision of water ATMs for free potable water have been taken.

The implementation of these measures has also included a robust system for addressing complaints and gathering feedback. Over the past 20 days, only 9 complaints were received, all of which have been resolved swiftly. Additionally, 1061 feedback responses from pilgrims have been recorded, providing valuable insights for further improving the yatra experience.

## CJ unveils Mahatma Gandhi bust inside High Court Complex

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice N Kotiswar Singh, Tuesday unveiled the bust of Mahatma Gandhi inside the High Court Complex, Srinagar.



Justice Tashi Rabastan, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Justice Sanjay Dhar, Justice Javid Iqbal Wani, Justice Mohd Akram Chowdhary and Justice Moksha Khajuria Qazmi graced the occasion in-person while Justice Atul Shreedharan, Justice Sindhu Sharma, Justice

Vinod Chatterje Koul, Justice Puneet Gupta, Justice Rajesh Sehri and Justice Mohd Yousf Wani, joined the ceremony virtually from Jammu Wing of the High Court.

D.C Raina Advocate General and Tahir Majid Shamsi, Deputy Solicitor General of India were also present on the occasion.

Following unveiling of the Bust, the Chief Justice and other Judges paid rich tributes to the father of Nation.

The event was also attended by the officers and officials of Registry including Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General, Yas-

hpaul Bournay, Director Judicial Academy, M.K Sharma, Principal Secretary Chief Justice, Tasleem Arief, Registrar Vigilance, Rajinder Sapru, Registrar Rules, Amit Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Anoop Sharma, Registrar Computers, Farooq Ahmed, Registrar Judicial Srinagar, Prem Sagar, Secretary High Court Legal Services Committee, Abdul Bari, Joint Registrar Judicial, Srinagar, Shaista Nazir, Munisiff Leave Reserve, senior and junior members of Bar, High Court staff and Litigants.

## Secy Cooperatives held public outreach program in Sunderbani

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**RAJOURI:** Secretary Cooperatives, Babila Rakwal, held a public outreach program at Bajabain in Sunderbani block.

She was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat besides others.

The event served as a platform for direct interaction between the government and the public, addressing an array of critical issues. Several issues of public importance were brought to the forefront during this engaging session.

The Secretary conveyed commitment towards addressing the pressing issues brought forward by the local community. She emphasized that the top priority of the government is to ensure that basic facilities and services are delivered to the general public in an efficient, time bound

and transparent manner.

Babila Rakwal assured the attendees that their concerns would be redressed at the priority. She affirmed that the Government would take concrete action to address the raised issues and work towards fulfilling the demands of the community. She underscored the commitment towards transparency and accountability within government institutions, highlighting the significant strides made in ensuring these principles.

Emphasizing the significance of the cooperative movement in raising the socio-economic status of public, the Secretary also highlighted the crucial role cooperative societies in promoting economic growth and social welfare. She stressed the importance of computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)

and urged upon the public to form cooperatives, as the Ministry of Cooperation is taking new initiatives in the sector.

Later, as a gesture of respect and to raise awareness under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign, the Secretary distributed baby care kits among the mothers of newborn infants.

The event was attended by DDC Member Sunderbani, Rajinder Sharma, ADC Sunderbani, Rajeev Magotra; GM DIC, Fareed Kohli; CPO, Maqsood Ahmed; CMO, Dr Manohar Rana; LDM, Sanjeev Bhasin; DSWO, Abdul Raheem; Dy Registrar Cooperatives, Adnan Rathar; AD FCS&CA, Rohit Kumar; EXEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid; EXEN PWD(R&B) Nowshera, VK Raina; Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Nowshera, Bipin Kumar and other concerned district and sectoral officers.

## J&K Real Estate Regulatory Authority launches Portal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (JKRERA), on Tuesday, launched its official portal, a significant milestone in regulation of the real estate sector in Jammu



and Kashmir.

The portal, rera.jk.gov.in, which is developed and hosted by National Informatics Centre, J&K, aims to promote transparency, accountability and efficiency in the real estate industry. It also envisages safeguarding the interests of homebuyers and ensuring fair business practices among developers, promoters, and real estate agents.

Pursuant to the Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, all unauthorized colonies intended for sale purposes with an area exceeding 500 square meters or comprising more than 8 units are required to register with JKRERA. Failure to comply will result in penalties for promoters and builders, including a monetary penalty of up to 10% of the estimated project cost.

If any promoter does not comply with the directions of the Authority and continues to violate the provision of the Act, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term. The term may be extended up to three years or with fine which may extend up

to a further ten percent of the estimated cost of the real estate project, or with both.

Furthermore, real estate agents are mandated to register with JKRERA. Non-compliance will result in a daily penalty of ₹10,000, cumulatively extending up to 5% of the project cost.

"We encourage all stakeholders to utilize this platform and contribute to a transparent and regulated real estate ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir", asserted the Chairperson. He added that the official portal of Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority is now live for registration of promoters/builders.

The portal will facilitate online registrations, complaints and queries ensuring a seamless user experience.

### Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION BANDIPORA.

#### CANCELTION OF TENDER.

Subject:- 1. Construction of Elementary Boys Toilet at Govt Primary School Dakhi Ketson, Zone Quil Muqam, District Bandipora

Ref:- Fresh e-NIT No.36/ET/R&B/Bandipora of 2024-25 Dated:- 13-07-2024.

Due to Technical Reason, the above subjected work advertised vide this office Fresh e-NIT No in reference is hereby cancelled.

No.:-EE/R&B/Bandi/1844-51  
Dated:-15-07-2024.

DIPK-3068-24  
DT: 16/07/2024

Sd/= Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Bandipora.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SHOPIAN

Fax No/ Tell No: 01933-260226 | Email: rmbdivisonshopian@gmail.com

### EXTENSION CORRIGENDUM

It is notified for the information of all concerned that due to zero tender response for the work advertised vide this office e-AUCTION NOTICE: AUC/1269-75 of 2024-25 Dated: 10-06-2024 accordingly, the Critical Dates are hereby :

#### Extended as

1	Bid Submission End Date	22-07-2024 up to 2:00 PM
2	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	23-07-2024 at 10:00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian.

#### Instead of

1	Bid Submission End Date	15-07-2024 up to 2:00 PM
2	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	16-07-2024 at 10:00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian.

No: NIT/2358-60  
Dt: 15-07-2024

DIPK-3040-24  
DT: 16/07/2024

sd/- Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Shopian

## Panner dam emerges as popular picnic spot in Tral, lacks facilities

JAHANGEER GANAIE

**PULWAMA:** A picturesque dam known as Panner dam in Tral area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district is awaiting attention of authorities. The dam surrounded by lush green forests is emerging as a popular tourist destination.

Besides, the dam is a source of irrigation for paddy fields of Panner Jager, Mandoora and its adjacent areas.

But locals said that it lacks basic facilities as it has been neglected by the government.

"A road was developed recently, which is now waiting for government attention to make further development," a local said.

He said that Panner dam lacks cleanliness. Also there is no parking facility for vehicles prompting



people to park their vehicles haphazardly.

Headed that no residential quarters besides other facilities are available due to which tourists are suffering.

Locals said that they have brought this issue in notice of higher ups several times to no avail.

According to people, if this area is brought on a tourism map, it will help in generation of employment opportunities for locals

and the government can generate revenue as well.

They said that this can help locals to get out of poverty as tourism flow can help in generation of employment opportunities for locals where most people are economically weak.

Locals requested concerned authorities to look into the matter at an earliest and take immediate steps in this regard—(KNO)

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

## Loud Silences

**T**hey were young and energetic. At some point, they had dreams in their eyes and a spark to chase those dreams. But due to the socio-economic conditions of the last two decades, these adolescents are now middle-aged men and women, still trying to figure out what to do with their lives, whether to get married or not or to think of a career or not. A majority of these men and women are from the city of Srinagar and other urban areas of Kashmir like Anantnag, Shopian, Sopore and Baramulla. Since urban life comes with its set of challenges and opportunities it is always a fine tightrope walk. When political conditions go south the challenges of a city life remain the same while as the opportunities go through the window. Then life becomes a lifelong wait for a miracle, an opportunity that may fly in from the window – in most cases those opportunities and miracles never happen. The very thought of never being able to get married and never being able to produce children can be maddening. It would take a hell lot of courage for these middle-aged men and women to convey their spiritual and mental pain to anyone. They fear people may laugh. Even though the current establishment has from time to time been running almost half a dozen counseling programs for the general populace this segment of the population never ends up being receivers of such counseling. The pain they are suffering from is a pain that is a phantom, it is there and is not there. They eat, drink and sleep but they know they will die unmarried without leaving a progeny. Now that the situation in the valley has improved and economic conditions are on a constant upward mobility curve but still the damage that the socio-economic conditions of the last two decades have done to the youth of this valley cannot be reversed. Urban poverty is a truth we cannot afford to lose sight of. Especially for those unmarried men in women now in their forties. The administration needs to think it over and come up with a rehabilitation plan for these middle-aged men and women of urban areas of Kashmir valley. Since a good majority of these are over-aged, they may not find a job in a mainstream corporate culture but some life skills coupled with a high-earning vocational skill can do these thousands of young men and women a world of good. Besides, we need to encourage social institutions willing to help over-aged people find life partners. We must hear the loud silence of these thousands of innocent souls!

# The Legacy Of Imam Hussain (AS)



M AHMAD

*“Death with dignity is better than a life of humiliation.”*

**I**mam Hussain, also known as Hussain ibn Ali, holds a significant place in Islamic history and is revered by millions of Muslims around the world. He was the grandson of Prophet Muhammad and the son of Imam Ali, the fourth caliph of Islam. Imam Hussain's life and martyrdom serve as a beacon of inspiration for believers, highlighting the values of justice, righteousness, and standing up against oppression.

Imam Hussain's Battle of Karbala in 680 AD was not simply a historical occurrence but a revolutionary moment that continues to motivate millions around the globe. The motto "Labaik Ya Imaam Hussain" has become a potent manifestation of allegiance and dedication, symbolizing a pledge to the ideals of fairness, virtue, and resistance to tyranny. Imam Hussain's transcends time and boundaries, striking a chord with individuals from all backgrounds. The motto transforms into a united appeal for fairness, a call to firmly oppose tyranny, and a dedication to uphold human honor and empathy. In a world where unfairness and disparity endure, the of Imam Hussain remains a guiding light of optimism, motivating individuals to earnestly strive towards constructive transformation in their communities. Imam Hussain's ultimate sacrifice and martyrdom at Karbala left an indelible mark on the collective consciousness of Muslims worldwide. His willingness to sacrifice his life, along with the lives of his family members, underscored the importance of upholding principles of righteousness and resisting oppres-



sion, even in the face of extreme adversity. The tragedy of Karbala became a symbol of courage, resilience, and unwavering faith.

Imam Hussain's martyrdom had a profound impact on the Islamic world. His sacrifice galvanized a movement of resistance against oppressive regimes, encouraging people to question authority and stand up against injustice. His example continues to inspire millions, fostering a sense of empathy, compassion, and social responsibility.

The life of Imam Hussain offers numerous valuable lessons for humanity. His unwavering determination, commitment to justice, and refusal to compromise on principles serve as a timeless reminder of the importance of standing up against injustice. His life teaches us the significance of upholding truth, defending the rights of the oppressed, and striving for a just and compassionate society. Imam Hussain's life and sacrifice symbolize the timeless struggle for justice, righteousness, and the pursuit of truth. His stand at Karbala serves as a reminder of the importance of resisting oppression and upholding principles of justice, even in the face of extreme adversity. Imam Hussain's legacy continues to inspire millions, and his story will forever remain an

integral part of Islamic history.

Imam Hussain's life epitomized the qualities of bravery, altruism, and the readiness to sacrifice for the greater good. His stance at Karbala was not guided by personal aspirations but by a profound dedication to the values of Islam and the well-being of mankind. He opted to challenge oppression and dictatorship, understanding that the cost would be his life, yet never faltering from his dedication to fairness. His message remains as applicable today as it was centuries ago. By reciting the motto with earnestness and endeavoring to abide by its doctrines, individuals can be motivated to become instigators of favorable metamorphosis, contributing to a world where equity, respect, and liberty flourish.

Let's pay attention to the summons of Imam Hussain, not only in speech but in deeds, to construct a world that mirrors the dignified principles he gave his life for. As we commemorate his legacy during Muharram, let us recall that every day is a chance to advocate for fairness and walk in the path of the cherished descendant of Prophet Muhammad. His stand at Karbala was not merely a fight for power or personal gain. It was a principled strug-

gle against tyranny, injustice, and the distortion of Islamic principles. He refused to pledge allegiance to a ruler who showed no regard for the values and teachings of Islam. Imam Hussain's unwavering commitment to justice and truth inspires people to this day.

Taking into account the present condition of the globe, even though not all individuals may have the ability to join the battleground and personify the Husayni persona, the realm of peace and activity is still accessible to all. Everyone can essentially display Husayni traits if they wish, in fact, it is imperative for everyone to do so because it is the necessity of the time as well as a stipulation of the faith.

*“I have risen to seek reform in the nation of my grandfather. I would like to bid the good and forbid the evil.”*

- Imam Hussain (AS)

M Ahmad is a regular writer for this newspaper. He can be mailed at specialchivers78@gmail.com

## Declining Groundwater Levels And The Increasing Water Crisis

VIKAS PARASHRAM MESHAM

**T**he data indicating a reduction in India's groundwater levels by 450 cubic kilometers is alarming.

This decline over the past two decades could lead to severe water shortages for agriculture and livelihood in the future. A study conducted by the Vikram Sarabhai Chair of Civil Engineering and Earth Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar states that this reduction in groundwater is 37 times the total water storage capacity of the Indira Sagar Dam, India's largest reservoir. One major reason for the decline is an 8.5% reduction in monsoon rainfall between 1951 and 2021. Additionally, the increase in winter temperatures by 0.3 degrees Celsius in North India has exacerbated the situation, as confirmed by researchers from the National Geophysical Research Institute in Hyderabad.

Reduced rainfall during the monsoon and increased temperatures during winter will undoubtedly increase the demand for irrigation water in the coming years. This increased demand, coupled with reduced groundwater recharge, will place additional pressure on the already water-stressed regions of North India. The Hyderabad-based NGRI study warns that due to the impacts of climate change, monsoon rainfall will decrease, and higher winter temperatures will reduce groundwater recharge by 6 to 12 percent. Another aspect of the crisis is the decreased soil moisture in recent years, which implies that irrigation water demand will rise.

This situation is undoubtedly concerning for the security of our agriculture and food supply chain. Researchers have found that due to the reduced percentage of monsoon rainfall and relatively warmer winters, crop damage occurs, necessitating more groundwater for irrigation. Warmer winter temperatures lead to drier soil



in fields, which can only be mitigated by longer periods of light rain. Policymakers need to seriously consider how to maintain groundwater levels. Along with initiating rainwater harvesting projects on a war footing in rural and urban areas, there is a need to rotate water-intensive crops.

In light of this crisis, there is a need to reconsider the politics of providing free electricity and water to farmers. The easy and cheap availability of groundwater encourages its overuse. Agricultural scientists need to focus on research for crops that can yield higher production in high temperatures and with less water, despite the effects of global warming. The government must not forget its primary responsibility to provide food for 1.4 billion people. A reduction in food production over time leads to increased inflation, which can lead to public discontent.

Policymakers need to seriously consider how to make agriculture economically viable, especially when facing economic crises. If this groundwater crisis deepens in the future, it will lead to increased

public discontent. We must develop our practices and policies according to changing climate conditions. Additionally, water usage discipline must be enforced across the country.

Groundwater levels in the country are continuously declining. If groundwater levels continue to drop, it could lead to a major problem in the future, as water is essential for life. The depletion of groundwater imposes limits on biodiversity, which we must recognize. Developing alternative methods for groundwater extraction requires more resource investment, which increases costs. Due to the reduction in groundwater, large water sources like lakes, rivers, and seas are becoming shallow, impacting food supply extensively.

India frequently experiences droughts during summer. Even during the monsoon, rainfall distribution is uneven. In the future, the availability of water will become more critical. Climate change is causing this situation, as it alters weather and water patterns globally, leading to shortages and droughts in some regions and floods in others. Deforestation affects

rainfall in forested areas. Poor water management, decreasing water sources, and lack of investment are major reasons for groundwater depletion.

The primary reason for declining groundwater is that traditional water sources in our country are diminishing due to low rainfall and irreversible extraction, leading to lower groundwater levels. The number of borewells is steadily increasing. Annually, 230 billion liters of water are used for irrigation in India's farmlands, with 90 percent of the available groundwater being used for agriculture and the remaining 10 percent for domestic and industrial purposes combined. In reality, reduced rainfall and increased winter temperatures raise irrigation water demand, thus reducing groundwater recharge. Today, the heavy reliance on groundwater for purposes such as irrigation, drinking water, and industrial development is a serious problem. However, collecting rainwater on the surface is a highly effective and traditional technique for increasing groundwater levels. Water conservation can be achieved using small ponds, underground tanks, bunds, etc.

To prevent the decline in groundwater levels, the Water Authority should conduct large-scale awareness campaigns and educate people about water conservation methods. Ignoring this could lead to a third world war over water. We must remember that 97 percent of Earth's water is saline, with only three percent being freshwater. Of this, more than two-thirds exist as glaciers and polar ice caps. Water is a limited and precious resource, essential for all living beings, and must be managed properly to ensure adequate availability for our needs and to protect our environment.

To truly secure the future of India's population, the country must reform its policies and adopt a water-centric approach. As responsible citizens, whether in industry or other sectors, efficient water use can save us from the impending groundwater crisis. This is a serious issue requiring active participation from both the government and society to overcome this challenge. (C-Counter Currents)

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IDEAS, OPINIONS AND VIEWS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLES PUBLISHED ARE WRITERS' OWN AND MAY NOT BE FOUND IN ACCORD WITH THOSE OF GOOD MORNING KASHMIR

## Typewriter **Revolution**

# A Personal Journey Through Technological Change



DR. SHIBHEN KRISHEN RAINA

In 1967, the landscape of writing and publishing in India was vastly different from what we see today. The digital revolution was decades away. For most writers, especially those working in regional languages like Hindi, the options were limited. You either wrote by hand or sought out professional typists in the market to prepare your manuscripts. This was particularly challenging for those living in smaller cities or towns, where such services might not be readily available.

As a Lecturer posted at a government college in Nathdwara (Rajasthan), after my selection by Rajasthan Public Service Commission, Ajmer in 1966, a city known for its religious significance, I found myself constantly writing-preparing lectures, drafting articles, and working on literary pieces with my hand. The idea of owning a portable Hindi typewriter struck me as both practical and innovative. It promised greater independence in my writing process and the potential to produce cleaner, more professional-looking manuscripts. The portability aspect was particularly appealing, as it meant I could work from anywhere, not just at a fixed desk.

Once I made the decision, I embarked on a journey to Udaipur, a larger city known for its better-stocked markets. There, after some searching, I found a portable typewriter manufactured by JK, a reputable Indian brand at that time. The purchase was a significant investment, both financially and in terms of my commitment to improving my writing process.

Owning the typewriter was just the first step; learning to use it efficiently was a challenge in itself. I dedicated an entire month to mastering the skill of typing in Hindi. This involved learning the keyboard layout, which was quite different from English typewriters, and developing the dexterity to type quickly and accurately. It was a time-consuming process, but I saw it as an essential investment in my future productivity.

The impact was profound. Once I became proficient, I began typing all



my work myself - letters, compositions, academic papers, and even my first book. This newfound ability gave me a sense of independence and control over my writing that I had never experienced before. The satisfaction of producing a clean, typed manuscript of my own work was unparalleled. It also sped up my writing process considerably, allowing me to be more productive and self-reliant.

Needless to recall here that typing my first book on the portable Hindi typewriter was a memorable experience. It was a labor of love, combining the creative process of writing with the mechanical act of typing. Each click of the keys felt like a step closer to realizing my dream of being a published author. The process was time-consuming and sometimes frustrating, especially when corrections were needed, but the end result - a neatly typed manuscript - was incredibly rewarding. It gave my work a professional appearance that I believe contributed to its eventual publication. My first book, "Kashmiri Bhasha Aur Sahitya" (Kashmiri Language and Literature), was a labor of love that I vividly remember creating on my lovely and cute typewriter. The process of typing approximately two

hundred pages was both arduous and time-consuming, spanning nearly two months. Despite the challenges, each completed page fueled my determination to press on.

As already said, the physical act of typing was cumbersome and painstaking. When errors inevitably occurred, I resorted to using correction fluid, meticulously applying it to mask mistakes before retyping the corrected text. This meticulous attention to detail, though tedious, ensured a polished final product.

Upon completion, Sanmarg Prakashan in Delhi published the book, which garnered significant acclaim in literary circles. The culmination of my efforts came in 1972 when the Ministry of Education honored me with its first prize for the work. It was particularly gratifying to receive this recognition from Prof. Noor-ul-Hasan, who was serving as the Union Minister of Education at that time.

This experience not only marked my debut as an author but also instilled in me a deep appreciation for the craft of writing and the evolving technologies that support it. The transition from typewriter to modern word processors has certain-

ly streamlined the writing process, but the sense of accomplishment I felt upon completing that first manuscript remains unparalleled.

Looking back from our current era of computers, smartphones, and advanced printing technology, my journey with the portable Hindi typewriter seems almost old-fashioned. What once took significant effort and time can now be accomplished with a few clicks. However, I don't view this contrast with regret. Instead, I see it as a testament to human progress and adaptability. My experience with the typewriter taught me valuable lessons about dedication, skill acquisition, and the importance of embracing new tools to enhance one's craft.

The experience of learning to use and working with the portable Hindi typewriter had a lasting impact on my career and personal growth. It instilled in me a willingness to adapt to new technologies, a trait that has served me well throughout my life. It also gave me a deep appreciation for the tools of writing and how they shape the writing process. Even today, in the age of digital word processors, I carry with me the discipline and

attention to detail that I learned from those days of manual typing.

To aspiring writers, I would say: embrace the tools available to you, but never forget that they are just that - tools. The essence of good writing lies in your ideas, your voice, and your dedication to the craft. Whether you're using a typewriter, a computer, or pen and paper, what matters most is your commitment to expressing yourself clearly and effectively. Also, don't be afraid to invest time in learning new skills or technologies that can enhance your writing process. The time I spent learning to type paid dividends throughout my career.

In conclusion, my journey with the portable Hindi typewriter is a reminder of how far we've come in terms of writing technology. It's a story of adaptation, perseverance, and the timeless pursuit of self-expression through the written word. As we continue to see advancements in technology, it's worth remembering that each new tool opens up new possibilities for creativity and communication.

Author is a Former Fellow, IIAS, Shimla (H.P), Currently in Bengaluru (Karnataka). He can be mailed at skraina123@gmail.com

## MIT Revolutionize Colon Cancer Treatment



DR. NEERAJ CHAUDHARY

Colon cancer, also known as colorectal cancer, is a prevalent form of cancer affecting the large intestine. It arises when abnormal cells in the colon or rectum multiply uncontrollably, forming tumours. Awareness of risk factors, early diagnostic methods, and modern treatment options, including minimally invasive surgeries, can significantly improve outcomes for patients.

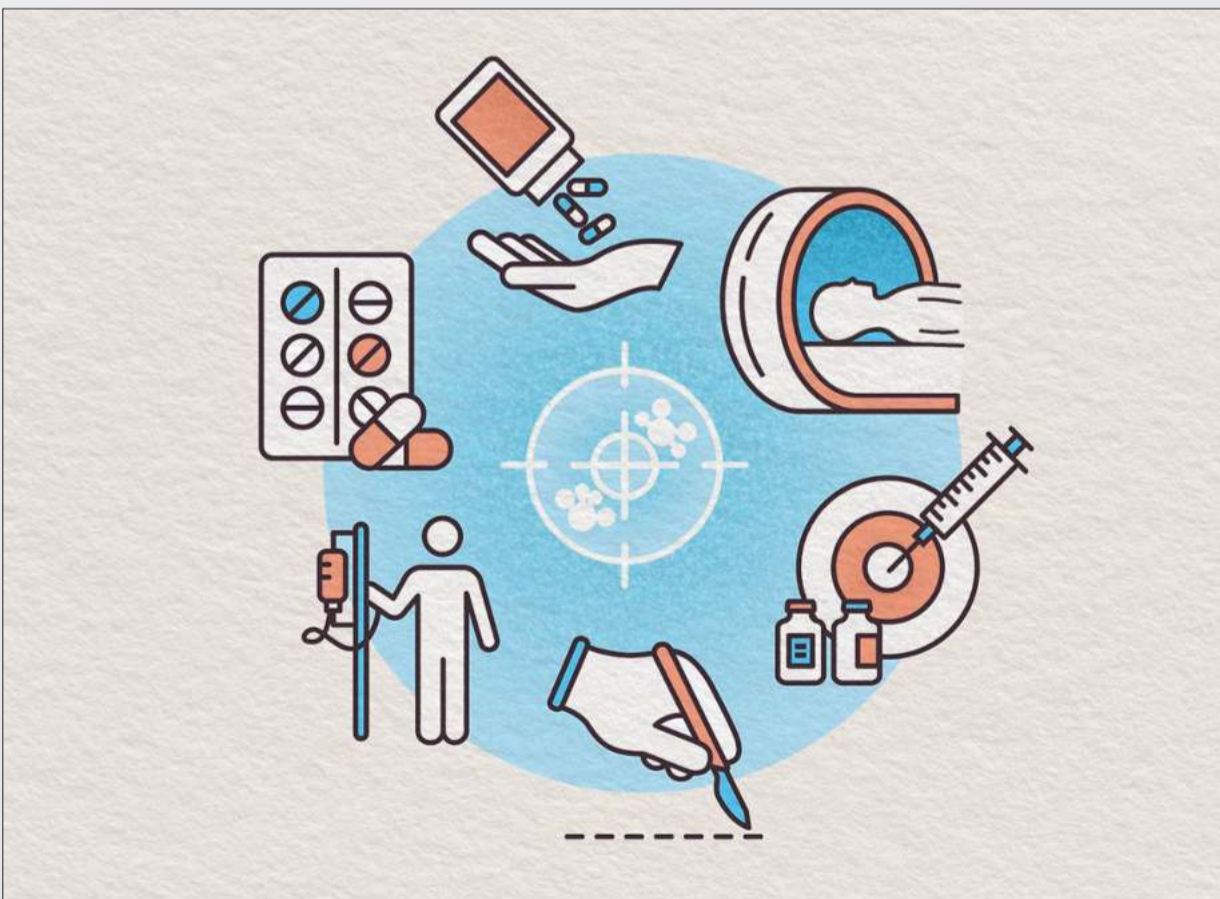
### Risk Factors

Several factors can elevate the risk of developing colon cancer. Age is a significant factor, with individuals over 50 being more susceptible. A family history of colon cancer or polyps also increases the risk. Dietary habits, particularly a diet high in red and processed meats and low in fibre, are contributors. Chronic inflammatory bowel diseases like Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis heighten the risk, as do genetic conditions such as Lynch syndrome and familial adenomatous polyposis. Lifestyle factors like smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, obesity, and a sedentary lifestyle further amplify the risk.

### Diagnostic Modalities

Early detection of colon cancer is critical for effective treatment. Several diagnostic tools and procedures are available:

Colonoscopy is the most common and effective screening tool for



colorectal cancer, involving the insertion of a long, flexible tube with a camera into the rectum to examine the entire colon. The Faecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT) is a non-invasive method that detects hidden blood in stool, serving as an early indicator of cancer. Sigmoidoscopy, similar to a colonoscopy but focused on the rectum and lower colon, provides a targeted examination. CT Colonography, or Virtual Colonoscopy, employs

CT scanning to produce detailed images of the colon and rectum, aiding in the detection of abnormalities.

### Role of Screening

Screening is a powerful tool in the fight against colon cancer. Regular screening can detect polyps before they become cancerous and catch cancer at an early stage when treatment is more likely to be successful. The American Cancer Society rec-

ommends that individuals at average risk begin regular screening at age 45. Those with a family history or other risk factors may need to start earlier. Options for screening include colonoscopies, stool tests, and CT colonography.

### Minimally Invasive Surgery

Advancements in surgical techniques have made minimally invasive surgeries like laparoscopic and robotic surgery viable options for

treating colon cancer. These methods offer several benefits over traditional open surgery:

**Laparoscopic Surgery:** This involves small incisions through which a camera and surgical instruments are inserted. The surgeon views the procedure on a monitor, allowing precise movements. Benefits include reduced pain, shorter hospital stays, and quicker recovery times.

**Robotic Surgery:** Similar to laparoscopic surgery, robotic surgery uses a robotic system controlled by the surgeon. The robot's precision allows for even finer movements than laparoscopic surgery, potentially improving outcomes. Patients often experience less pain, minimal scarring, and a faster return to normal activities.

Minimally invasive techniques are particularly beneficial for patients as they reduce the trauma associated with surgery, lower the risk of complications, and promote quicker healing. These approaches are becoming increasingly common as technology and surgical expertise advance.

Colon cancer remains a significant health concern, but understanding the risk factors, utilizing early diagnostic modalities, and embracing modern surgical techniques can greatly enhance patient outcomes. Regular screening is vital for early detection and prevention, and minimally invasive surgeries offer promising advancements in treatment. With ongoing research and technological progress, the fight against colon cancer continues to evolve, offering hope and improved quality of life for those affected.

Author is Director Robotic and Laparoscopic GI-HPB Surgery and GI-HPB Oncology, Yatharth Hospital, Greater Noida

## V.C DDC Kupwara inaugurates NTPHC Khurhama, Sub Centre

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**KUPWARA:** To improve health care scenario in far flung areas of district Kupwara, Vice Chairman DDC Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir Tuesday inaugurated two Health Centres in Kuligam block of Lolab Sub Division.

At Khurhama, the Vice Chairman inaugurated New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) in presence of ADC Kupwara, M Rouf Rahman; Chief Medical Officer, CPO, BMO and large number of people.

On the occasion, the Vice Chairman said that it was a long



pending demand of the people of Khurhama village which has got fulfilled after much efforts by District Administration and Health department.

He congratulated the people for getting the newly upgraded NTPHC which will cater their healthcare needs.

Later, the VC inaugurated newly constructed building

of Sub Centre at Saiwan in presence of ADC, CMO, CPO, BMO and concerned officers. Huge number of people were also present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, people living in these areas expressed their gratitude and expressed hope that these newly inaugurated healthcare centres will cater to their needs.

## DC Ganderbal Reviews Functioning Of SWD, Mission Shakti

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**GANDERBAL:** In order to review the progress, implementation and extension of benefits of various Government schemes under Social Welfare Department (SWD), the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyamir Tuesday chaired a meeting of officers at V.C Room, here.

The DC held a threadbare deliberation on implementation of beneficiary-oriented schemes and took comprehensive review of schemes including National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS), Marriage Assistance Scheme (MAS), Mis-

sion Shakti and One Stop Centre. At the outset, a detailed Powerpoint presentation was given by the District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) and apprised the DC about the functioning of the Department and targets achieved so far.

While giving Statistics of schemes, DSWO informed that 33477 beneficiaries are registered under ISSS and NSAP including Widow pension and Physically Challenged Persons in the district besides 925 cases have been sanctioned during 2023-24 under Marriage Assistance Scheme and 94 cases of 2024-25 have been forwarded for accord of sanction.

Furthermore, he informed

that 55 motorized tricycles have been distributed among eligible beneficiaries.

The DC also took a detailed review of services both institutional and non-institutional provided under Mission Vatsalya and functioning of Child Helpline (1098).

The DC stressed upon the officers to take comprehensive measures to reach out to all eligible beneficiaries, besides making the Welfare schemes easily accessible to the people so that maximum beneficiaries of the district can reap the benefits.

Meanwhile the DC reviewed the functioning of Mission Shakti and One Stop Centre to assess

the effectiveness and impact of these initiatives in supporting and empowering women in the district.

The DC urged for intensifying awareness campaigns to inform women about the services available through Mission Shakti and the One Stop Centre. This would help in reaching out to more women in need and encouraging them to take advantage of these initiatives.

The DC reaffirmed the commitment of the District Administration to empower women and address issues of violence against women through proactive measures and robust support systems.

### FROM THE FRONT PAGE .....

## Soldiers Committed

goes out to the bereaved families. The Nation stands firmly with the families of our soldiers who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. The Counter Terrorist operations are underway, and our soldiers remain committed to eliminate the scourge of terrorism and restore peace and order in the region," Rajnath Singh posted on X.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also expressed grief over the loss of lives in the ongoing encounter.

"I am deeply anguished to learn about the cowardly attack on our Army soldiers and JKP personnel in Doda district. Tributes to brave soldiers who made supreme sacrifice protecting our nation. My deepest condolences to members of the bereaved families. We will avenge death of our soldiers & thwart the evil designs of terrorists and their associates. I call upon the people to unite in the fight against terrorism & provide us accurate information so that we can intensify anti-terror operations & neutralise the terror ecosystem," he posted on X.

Earlier, The Additional Directorate General of Public Information (ADGPI) of the Army confirmed the casualties in a post on X.

"General Upendra Dwivedi COAS (Chief of Armed Staff) and all ranks of Indian Army convey their deepest condolences to the Bravehearts Major Brijesh Thapa, Naik D Rajesh, Sepoy Bijendra and Sepoy Ajay, who laid down their lives in the line of duty, while undertaking a counter terrorist operation in Doda in order to ensure peace in the region. Army stands firm with the bereaved families in this hour of grief," ADG-PI post reads.

Reacting to the death of four soldiers, leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi said India's soldiers and their families have been bearing the brunt of the BJP's wrong policies.

"Today, our soldiers were martyred in another terrorist encounter in Jammu and Kashmir. I pay my humble tribute to the martyrs and express my deepest condolences to the bereaved families. Such horrific incidents one after the other are extremely sad and worrying. These continuous terrorist attacks are reflecting the dilapidated condition of Jammu and Kashmir," Rahul Gandhi wrote on X in Hindi.

The Congress leader demanded that the government must take the responsibility for "repeated security lapses".

"Our soldiers and their families are bearing the brunt of the BJP's wrong policies. Every patriotic Indian demand that the government should take full responsibility for the repeated security lapses and take strict action against the culprits of the country and the soldiers. In this hour of grief, the entire country stands united against terrorism," he added.

Four soldiers, including a major rank officer Major Brijesh Thappa of 10 RR sustained grievous injuries during initial exchange of fire between terrorists and security forces late last evening in the forest area of Doda.

The encounter started after the troops of Rashtriya Rifles and Special Operations Group of J&K Police launched a joint cordon and search operation at Dhari Gote Urarbagi in the Desa forest area around 7.45pm.

Officials said Major Thappa along with four soldiers and police personnel were injured in the exchange of fire with terrorists which initially lasted for over 20 minutes.

The injured were evacuated to hospital and their condition was stated to be "critical". They later succumbed to injuries, the officials said, adding that additional troops were rushed to the spot and the operation is underway.

Officials added that after a brief exchange of fire, the terrorists tried to escape but were chased by the troops led by an officer, despite challenging terrain and thick foliage, leading to another firefight in the woods around 9.00 pm.

This is the third encounter in Doda in the past three weeks. The latest incident follows a terrorist ambush on an Army patrol in the remote Machedi forest area of Kathua district in which five soldiers were killed.

The Jammu region, which remained relatively peaceful between 2005 and 2020, has been witnessing a spike in terror attacks over the past month. It included an attack on a pilgrim bus that left nine persons dead and 40 injured.

## Captain Among

killed in an encounter with terrorists in Dhari Gote Urarbagi area of Doda district.

The defence minister also spoke with Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, who apprised him of the ground situation and ongoing counter terrorist operation in Doda.

"Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh spoke to COAS General Upendra Dwivedi this morning. RM was apprised of the ground situation and the ongoing Counter Terrorist Op in Doda by the Army Chief," defence ministry said in a post on X.

Singh also mourned the loss of lives and paid tributes to army soldiers killed in action in the Doda encounter.

"Deeply saddened by the loss of our brave and courageous Indian Army soldiers in a counter terrorist operation in Urrar Baggi, Doda (J&K). My heart goes out to the bereaved families. The Nation stands firmly with the families of our soldiers who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. The Counter Terrorist operations are underway, and our soldiers remain committed to eliminate the scourge

of terrorism and restore peace and order in the region," Rajnath Singh posted on X.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also expressed grief over the loss of lives in the ongoing encounter.

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The injured were evacuated to hospital and their condition was stated to be "critical". They later succumbed to injuries, the officials said, adding that additional troops were rushed to the spot and the operation is underway.

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The Jammu region, which remained relatively peaceful between 2005 and 2020, has been witnessing a spike in terror attacks over the past month. It included an attack on a pilgrim bus that left nine persons dead and 40 injured—(KNO)

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Soldiers of the Rashtriya Rifles and Special Operations Group of Jammu and Kashmir Police launched a joint cordon and search operation at Dhari Gote Urarbagi in the Desa forest belt, some 55 km from Doda town, late on Monday evening when the encounter took place, the officials said.

After a brief exchange of fire, the terrorists tried to escape but were chased by the troops led by an officer despite the challenging terrain and thick foliage, they said, adding this led to another firefight around 9 pm on Monday.

Five soldiers were critically injured in the encounter. Four of them, including the officer, later succumbed to injuries, the officials said.

## Timeline Of

**April 22:** A government employee was shot dead by terrorists in Rajouri district.

**December 21, 2023:** Four soldiers martyred in action and three others were wounded in an ambush by terrorists after they fired at two army vehicles in southern Poonch district.

**November 22, 2023:** Five soldiers, including two captains, were martyred in action.

**April-May 2023:** 10 soldiers martyred in twin attacks.

**May 13, 2022:** Four persons were martyred after a pilgrim bus was attacked in Katra.

**December 14, 2021:** Four soldiers were killed in action.

There has been a recent surge in terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir with terrorists changing tactics to target the peaceful Jammu region in place of heavily secured Kashmir—(KNO)

## Govt Releases

gov.in).

The Ministry of Defence had launched Srijan portal in 2020. On this portal, defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs) and Service Headquarters (SHQs) offer defence items to domestic industries, including MSMEs and start-ups, for indigenisation.

The DPSUs will undertake indigenisation of the items mentioned in the fifth PIL through various routes including 'Make' procedure or in-house development involving the industry, including MSMEs. This will provide impetus to the growth in the economy, enhanced investment in defence and lead to reduced import dependence. In addition, this will augment the design capabilities of domestic defence industry due to the involvement of academia and research institutions, the Ministry said.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), BEML Limited, India Optel Limited (IOL), Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE) and Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) are the DPSUs involved in defence items of the fifth PIL.

The companies have initiated the process for issuing Expressions of Interest/Requests for Proposal on their respective websites with a link on the 'Srijan Portal Dashboard (srijandefence.gov.in/DashboardForPublic) specifically designed for this purpose, and Industry/MSMEs/start-ups may come forward to participate in large numbers, according to the official statement.

Earlier, four PILs comprising 4,666 items were notified by the Department of Defence Production for DPSUs, of which 2,972, having import substitution value worth Rs 3,400 crore, have already been indigenised. These five lists for DPSUs are in addition to the five positive indigenisation lists of 509 items notified by the Department of Military Affairs (DMA). These lists include highly complex systems, sensors, weapons and ammunition.

Till June 2024, over 36,000 defence items were offered to domestic industry for indigenisation by the DPSUs and SHQs. Of them, more than 12,300 items have been indigenised in the last three years. As a result, the DPSUs have placed orders on domestic vendors to the tune of Rs 7,572 crore.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's push for Aatmanirbhar Bharat has led to indigenisation in the defence sector scaling a record high of Rs 1.27 lakh crore for the financial year ended on March 31, 2024. India's exports of defence items during the

financial year have crossed the Rs 21,000 crore mark.

## No Extension In

to maintain a clean and clutter-free environment.

**Removal of Stagnant Water:** Identity and remove any stagnant water to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes and other pests.

**Plugging of Water Leakages:** Inspect the premises for any water leakages and ensure they are promptly repaired to avoid water wastage and potential damage to the infrastructure.

SED said in an advisory said, "These measures are crucial to provide a safe, clean, and conducive environment for students as they return to school."

Earlier on June 30, SED announced summer break for all schools falling in winter zones from July-08 to July-17—(KNO)

## Musical Extravaganza

an unforgettable atmosphere. Such events not only make evenings vibrant but also provide a platform to local artists to perform in the world famous tourist destination.

EO MC Gulmarg, Tehsildar Gulmarg, and SHO Gulmarg and senior officers from the Army, CRPF graced the event with their presence. The event also saw a diverse audience of tourists, locals, and hoteliers, all reveling in the musical celebrations.

The Chief Executive Officer of Gulmarg Development Authority, extended his heartfelt gratitude to all the artists, guests, tourists, hoteliers, and locals for their participation and support. He also honored the standout performers of the evening and said that in coming days more such musical evenings will be organised in Gulmarg.

## Over 1200 Hectares

awareness campaigns and training sessions for farmers on cultivation techniques and utilisation of lavender crops.

Under the CSIR-Aroma Mission, CSIR-IIIM has distributed over 45 lakh units of free, high-quality lavender planting material, facilitating its widespread adoption among farmers, he said, adding that this initiative has significantly boosted farmers' incomes, increasing from Rs 20,000 to over Rs 2,00,000 per acre.

Giving further details, the official said that during the first phase of the Aroma Mission, 164.92 hectares of land area were covered, with around 600 farmers adopting lavender cultivation.

"In the second phase of CSIR-Aroma Mission (2017-22), the cultivated area expanded to 910.71 hectares, attracting 2,500 more farmers. The third phase, which is currently ongoing, has already covered 317.11 hectares in its first year," he said.

With the initiative of CSIR-IIIM, about 150 nurseries of lavender quality planting material worth Rs 80 lakhs have been generated. Switching from conventional crops to lavender cultivation has significantly increased farmers' net annual income from Rs 20,000 per acre to more than Rs 200,000 per acre, he added.

To enable farmers to distill the oil from the harvested crop of lavender, distillation units were installed in the clusters of villages, the official said, adding that installation of the distillation unit has been a very vital component of the CSIR-Aroma Mission, with a total of 61 distillation units been installed under the mission in both phases.

"It is the availability of such distillation facilities, which instills a sense of confidence amongst the farmers about ensuring returns from the cultivation of aromatic plants," he said, adding that the farmers in the Doda district alone have distilled 2,800 litres of lavender oil, earning more than Rs 5 crore between 2018 and 2022.

Additionally, out of 50 entrepreneurs generated under the CSIR-Aroma Mission so far, 30 are women, which is a significant accomplishment in itself, he added.

The success of lavender farming, particularly in Baderwah tehsil of Doda district, has been noteworthy, leading to improved living standards and creating employment opportunities, especially for women.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted CSIR-IIIM's efforts in supporting lavender cultivation during the 99th Edition of Mann ki Baat, underscoring its impact on the local economy. The achievements of lavender cultivation were also showcased during the Republic Day Parade in 2024, symbolising its transformative impact on the region's agricultural landscape—(KNO)

# SC seeks CBI, ED's reply on bail pleas filed by Manish Sisodia

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday issued notice on bail pleas of senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia in the alleged liquor policy scam. A bench presided over by Justice BR Gavai asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) to file their reply in the matter by July 29.



Deputy CM's pleas seeking bail in corruption and money laundering cases after Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta, the second-highest law officer of the Centre, made an undertaking that the final charge sheet/complaint in the liquor policy case would be filed by July 3.

Recently, SC judge, Justice Sanjay Kumar withdrew himself from hearing Sisodia's bail pleas. A bench led by Justice Sanjiv Khanna directed the matter to be listed in the week commencing July 15 before a different Bench after obtaining the directions of the Chief Justice of India (CJI), who is the master of the roster.

Meanwhile, a Delhi court on Monday extended the judicial custody of Sisodia till July 22. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of the Rouse Avenue Court passed the order upon the expiry of the previously granted judicial custody.

trial proceeds slowly in the next three months, he may apply for bail afresh.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of Rouse Avenue Court had on April 30, refused to grant bail to Sisodia who was seeking regular bail a second time. Denying bail, the trial court order noted that delays in the case proceedings were largely due to actions attributable to Sisodia himself, dismissing his claims of undue delay.

Subsequently, the Delhi High Court denied bail to Sisodia, saying that he failed to pass the triple test for grant of bail in the corruption case and the twin conditions required under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

Challenging this, the former Deputy CM filed special leave petitions before the Supreme Court. Last month, the apex court had disposed of the former

"Issue notice returnable on July 29. We will have this on Monday after two weeks," ordered the Bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Karol and KV Viswanathan.

Sisodia's counsel argued that the senior AAP leader has been incarcerated for 16 months and the trial remained at the same stage as it was in October 2023.

In its judgment delivered on October 30 last year, the SC had denied bail to the former Deputy CM but said that if the

## Centre clears appointment of two new judges in SC

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** Acting swiftly on the recommendations made by the Supreme Court Collegium, the Centre on Tuesday cleared the appointment of Justices N Kotiwar Singh and R Mahadevan to the apex court.

In a post on X, Union Minister for Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal, announced that the President, in exercise of the power conferred by the Constitution of India, was pleased to appoint the two judges after consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

The names were cleared by the Union government within five days after the Supreme Court Collegium, headed by CJI DY

Chandrachud, on July 11 recommended for elevation of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court's Chief Justice N Kotiwar Singh and Madras High Court's Acting Chief Justice R Mahadevan to the apex court.

Following the swearing in of Justices Singh and Mahadevan, the Supreme Court will continue to function with a full sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

In a statement released on the top court's website, the SC Collegium had said that it took factors like seniority, merit, integrity, diversity of region, gender and community, and inclusion of marginalised and backward sections of society, etc. while making recommendations for appointment to the top court.

## Record 40% higher pre-bookings received for new foldables: Samsung

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** Samsung on Tuesday announced record pre-orders for its sixth-generation foldable smartphones - Galaxy Z Fold6 and Galaxy Z Flip6.

In the first 24 hours, pre-orders for Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6 jumped 40 per cent higher as compared to the previous generation foldables, making the new Z series the most successful in India.

"We are delighted with the consumer response for our new foldables - Galaxy Z Fold6 and Galaxy Z Flip6 in India. The 1.4x growth in pre-orders for the new foldable smartphones shows that Indian consumers are among the fastest adopters of new technology," said Raju Pullan, Senior Vice President, MX Business, Samsung India.

"Our new foldable smartphones, now in their sixth generation, open the next chapter of Galaxy AI and elevate the user experience to new heights, enabling a range of unique mobile experiences across communications, productivity and creativity. The success of Galaxy Z Fold6 and Galaxy Z Flip6 will help us consolidate our premium segment leadership in India," said Raju Pullan, Senior Vice President, MX Business, Samsung India.

For Indian consumers, Galaxy Z Fold6 and Z Flip6 are being manufactured at Samsung's Noida factory. The new foldables are the slimmest and lightest Galaxy Z series devices ever, and come with perfectly symmetrical design with straight edges. The Galaxy Z series is also equipped with enhanced Armor Aluminum and Corning Gorilla Glass Victus 2, making this the most durable Galaxy Z series yet.

# Bihar Dy CM assures of strict action in murder of Mukesh Sahani's father

IAN S

**NEW DELHI:** The brutal murder of Vikasheel Insaan Party (VIP) chief Mukesh Sahani's father inside the family's ancestral home in Bihar's Darbhanga district has elicited all-round condemnation by political parties cutting across party lines, with all of them demanding strictest punishment for the perpetrators.

The mutilated body of Mukesh Sahani's father Jitan Sahani was found on his bed, this morning. The chilling murder has left locals shocked and panicked. A team of top police officials are currently on the spot.

Meanwhile, Bihar

Deputy CM and BJP leader Samrat Choudhary has assured of swift and strict action against the perpetrators and said that those involved in heinous crimes will not be spared and put behind bars soon.

Describing the incident as 'unfortunate and painful', he said, "I want to assure everyone that the government will take strict action. The government stands with the family of Mukesh Sahani in this hour of grief."

Union Minister Chirag Paswan condemned the cold-blooded murder of the VIP chief's father and said that the murderers will be identified and action will be taken.

"Me and my party stand

with the family of Mukesh Sahani in this hour of grief," he said on X.

Meanwhile, Neeraj Kumar of JD (U) informed that senior police officers are at the spot and a thorough investigation is underway.

"Whoever has committed this crime, they will be hunted down and brought to justice," he said.

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), the main Opposition party in Bihar, hit out at the Nitish Kumar government over the brutal murder of the VIP chief's father at the latter's home.

RJD spokesperson Shakti Yadav said that the system has collapsed in Bihar and the 'mindless government' is to blame for

the spate of rising crimes in the state.

"What is happening in Bihar? Not a single day passes without news of murder or other crime. A mindless government is in power. The system has collapsed," said the RJD leader while expressing condolences for the family.

Notably, Mukesh Sahani's VIP is an ally of the INDIA bloc and currently remains in alliance with Congress and RJD. The VIP chief holds strong support of the OBC community in the state.

Earlier, when he was in NDA, he served as Minister of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries in the Nitish government but later parted ways, due to differences.

## Gautam Adani amazed at US envoy Eric Garcetti's love for kadak chai

IAN S

**AHMEDABAD:** Gautam Adani, Chairman of the Adani Group, on Tuesday said he is amazed to see the adoption of Indian culture by Eric Garcetti, the United States Ambassador to India -- from drinking kadak chai to savouring chole bhature.

Earlier in the day, Garcetti visited the Adani Group's Khavda Renewal Energy Facility in Gujarat, saying it was a learning experience on how the company is helping India advance towards its zero-emissions goals.

In a post on social media platform X, Gautam Adani said he is grateful for the US envoy's visit to Adani's 30 GW Renewable Energy site at Khavda, as well as the flagship Mundra Port.

"Invaluable insights on geopolitics, energy transition and India-US relations in an open and candid Q&A with Adanians," said Gautam Adani.

"Amazing to see his adoption of Indian culture, from kadak chai to celebrating holi, to playing cricket to speaking in Hindi and eating chole bhature every day," he added.

The Adani Group is developing the world's largest renewable energy project of 30,000 MW on barren land at Khavda in Kutch, Gujarat. Built across 538 sq km, it is five times the size of Paris and almost as large as Mumbai city.

"Inspired by my visit to the Khavda Renewal Energy Facility in Gujarat, where I learned about @Adani-Green's innovative projects advancing India's zero-emissions goals," Garcetti earlier posted on X.

He said that sustainable energy is a cornerstone of environmental stewardship. "Our bilateral partnership is key to shaping the solutions for a cleaner and greener future for the region and the world," Garcetti noted.

## Malviya slams Mamata govt for 'failing' to accord financial support to sports personalities

IAN S

**KOLKATA:** BJP IT cell chief Amit Malviya on Tuesday slammed the Mamata government for allegedly failing to accord recognition and financial support to sports personalities in West Bengal.

In a message on social media platform X, Malviya, who is BJP's central observer for the state, named seven sports personalities who had been allegedly denied recognition and financial support from the state government.

He said that the seven personalities are archers Atanu Das and Ankita Bhakat, gymnast Pranati Nayek, table tennis player Sutirtha Mukherjee, golfer Anirban Lahiri, shot-putter Abha Khutua and equestrian Anush Agarwalla.

"These are sons and daughters of West Bengal, who have proudly repre-

sented Bharat on the global stage, from Paris to the Tokyo Olympics, and have brought immense glory to our nation and the Bengali community. Despite their extraordinary accomplishments and the prestige they have conferred upon our country and Bengal, it is profoundly disheartening to witness that Mamata Banerjee's Govt has failed to accord them the recognition and financial support necessary for their future endeavours," Malviya posted.

According to him, the denial of financial assistance from the state government comes amid "all-pervasive dole politics and multifaceted corruption" in the state.

He also accused the state government of diverting funds to serve political aspirations rather than celebrating the triumphs and ambitions of the diligent athletes.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION GANDEBAL

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

**CIVIL WORKS**  
**SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs.2.50 Crores)**  
**EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-Tender NIT-NO.27of2024-25 issued under endorsement No. 2858-63 Dated:15-07-2024**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No	Name of the Work	Adv. Cost (Rs In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of Completion	Class Of Contractor
01	Construction of lane from H/o Habib-ullahBhat to H/o FayazahmadTantray at CheckiDuderhama beautification thereof.	Rs.05.28Lacs	Rs.300/=	Rs.10,560/=	45-Days	DEE/CEE
02	Development/ Renovation of ZiyaratShariefHazrat Haji Mir AlamNaqashbandi (RA) at Gutlibagh Ganderbal(Phase II.)	Rs.21.47Lacs	Rs.800/=	Rs.42,940/=	180-Days	CEE/BEE

Position of AA: AA Accorded by Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Ganderbal vide Order No. MC/Gbl/32 of 2024 Dated: 13-07-2024.  
Position of AA: AA Accorded by Director Tourism Kashmir vide Order No. 37-DTK/PLN of 2023 Dated: 17-07-2024  
Project Authority: Municipal Council Ganderbal & Director Tourism Kashmir.

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

S.No	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	15-07-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	15-07-2024 from 04:00PM.
3	Bid submission Start Date	16-07-2024 from 12.00 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	22-07-2024 upto 04.00PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids(Online)	23-07-2024 at 10:30 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal.

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date.

Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

1.1 The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division.

2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened Online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal (tender receiving authority).

3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical

4. The earnest money shall be forfeited if-

a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

c) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

5(A). Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

5.1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on web-site www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

5.2 To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.

5.3 The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

5.4 Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

5.5 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically I by registered post /through courier before the date specified in Para-1..

6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies and all other documents required as per NIT with technical bid. No document (s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained for technical evaluation in the form of hard copy. However in case of any clarification the bidders all have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

6.1 (B) Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are forged/fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bidder shall be recommended for blacklisting and debarred from taking part in tendering which the PWD/Other Departments for a period of one year in the first instance, besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.

9. The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.

10. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

No.:2858-63  
Date: - 15-07-2024

DIPK-3073-24  
DT: 16/07/2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Ganderbal

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION PAHALGAM.

### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (Short term)

**eNIT NO 31 OF R&B/Pahalgam/2024-25 DATED 16-07-2024**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc (In Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion (Days)	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of double storey shopping complex at town hall at Ward no 01 MC Seer Hamdan	62.25	1600	124500	120	A only

Project Authority:- MC Seer Position of AA/TS:- Accorded Position of Funds:- Committed

1. 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/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	16-07-2024
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 17-07-2024 (10:00AM) To 23-07-2024 (04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 17-07-2024 (10:00AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 23-07-2024 (04:00PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	24-07-2024 (11:00AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam.

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pahalgam(Tender Inviting Authority)(NIT No. and Name of Work/ Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)(As per format) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam(Tender receiving Authority).(The Date of EMD(CDR/FDR) should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date and the validity at the time of opening of bids shall be for a period of 45 days beyond bid validity of 120 days)

3. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

4. The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pahalgam (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period(DLP) of the work.The Date of Performance Security should be after the date of issuance of Letter of Intent.Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debaring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.

5. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance Security @5% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR and same shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work The rates quoted in the BOQ are inclusive of all applicable taxes with 18% GST.

7. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Pahalgam.

8. The tenders shall be opened only after proper authorization/administrative approval received from concerned authorities.

36. All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

Executive Engineer,  
PWD (R&B) Division Pahalgam

DIPK-3095-24  
DT: 16/07/2024

9TH MUHARRAM

# Sunni-Shia unity on display again in Srinagar

Sunni groups actively participating in processions, serve refreshments

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

**SRINAGAR:** Amidst the processions in Srinagar, a touching display of unity was witnessed in the Babademb area here, as Sunni groups have been actively participating in serving refreshments to Shia mourners.

As per the details available, on the occasion of 9th Muharram, a stall named "Sabeel E Hussain" was set up at Babdem, Srinagar, by Sunni volunteers.

The initiative was led by Zahoor Ahmad Malik and Burhan Nazir, who were joined by other dedicated volunteers including Ubaid Mukhtar, Aqib Nazir, and Younis Nazir.

Zahoor Ahmad Malik, expressed his sentiments, saying that their aim is to foster unity and compassion among all communities.

"Muharram is a time for reflection and solidar-



ity, and we are here to support our Shia brothers and sisters in their time of mourning. Hussain (AS) does not belong to one particular community but to

all. Karbala has taught us not to submit to an oppressor," he added.

Meanwhile, as a gesture of community support, the Jammu and Kashmir Police

also set up a stall at Babademb, providing refreshments to the mourners. This act further emphasized the spirit of harmony and cooperation within the region—(KNO)

# Hold training workshops with transporters: Transport Comm to ARTOs

'Motive behind is to safeguard lives, enhance road safety'

WARIS FAYAZ

**SRINAGAR:** In a bid to enhance road safety and protect lives, the Transport Commissioner Jammu and Kashmir, Rajinder Singh Tara has instructed Assistant Regional Transport Officers (ARTOs) to conduct training workshops for transporters to sensitize them on the latest technological gear to avoid e-challans and blacklisting instances.

Singh, who was on his maiden visit to North Kashmir's Kupwara to review the efficiency of transport services in the district, said that their primary objective is to ensure road safety and safeguard lives.

"In order to make transporters aware of their mistakes leading to challans and blacklisting of vehicles, they will be equipped with information so as to avoid the instances of e-challans and blacklisting like situations. These workshops aim to reduce traffic related accidents and safeguard human

lives," the Transport Commissioner said.

Regarding vehicle fitness, Singh said that the only Automated Fitness Test (AFT) center [Automated Inspection and Certification Centre] at Samba is all set to function and will conduct vehicle fitness checks using automated processes instead of manual methods.

"I am pleased to inform you that the Samba center is complete and within a month or two, machinery from Germany will be installed," he said, adding

methods to determine fitness status of vehicles.

Singh said that in Kashmir, one SRTC has been given a license for the Automated Testing Station at Pampore and one at Jammu. Apart from this, two more private individuals from the valley have applied for the same and have completed the formalities. "Hopefully, the Kashmir valley alone will have 3-4 stations, so that transporters may not have to go outside," he said.

"With road safety as our top priority, we want our



the project commissioning will help the department to bring more transparency in the system, by adopting modernised scientific

drivers to be well-equipped and well-trained. For this purpose, Jammu and Kashmir will soon have its centrally sponsored driving

# ACB arrests Patwari for accepting bribe in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday said to have trapped and arrested Patwari Halqa Chanapora, Srinagar while demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 40,000 for issuance of Revenue extracts.

A spokesman in a statement issued, said that Jammu and Kashmir Anti Corruption Bureau received a written complaint wherein it was alleged that Patwari Halqa Chanapora Srinagar, Farooq Ahmad Bhat, resident of Bugam Chadoora is demanding Rs 40,000 as bribe for issuance of revenue extracts in respect of his residential house alongwith 15 marlas land

situated at Ghurdawara Lane Chanapora Srinagar which he has sold out, for which he had applied Online at Patwari Halqa Chanapora Srinagar before 15 days.

"The complainant stated that he is against the bribe and approached before Anti Corruption Bureau ACB Srinagar for taking legal action against the accused public servants under law. On receipt of the complaint the discreet verification was conducted, which confirms the demand by the public servant concerned and accordingly, a case under FIR number 17/2024 under section 7 PC Act 1988 was registered in this Bureau and investigation was taken up," the statement

said. During the course of investigation a trap team constituted, the statement reads, adding that the team laid a successful trap and caught the accused public servant Farooq Ahmad Bhat R/o Bugam Chadoora, Patwari Halqa Chanapora re-handled while demanding and accepting the bribe amount of Rs 40,000 from the complainant at Patwar Halqa Chanapora.

During personal search of the accused Patwari including other items, cash amount of Rs 35,000 was also recovered and seized in the instant case. He was arrested on the spot, the statement reads, adding that further investigation of the instant case is going on.

# SSCL rebuts news item questioning Smart e-Bus Initiative



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR City:** The Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) is to address recent statements circulated in the print media that misrepresent the groundbreaking achievements of Smart e-Bus initiative. Contrary to these unfounded claims, the e-Bus service has not only succeeded but has exceeded all expectations in transforming public transportation in Srinagar City.

Since its launch on November 1st, 2023, the Smart e-Bus service has been emerged as a beacon of innovation and progress, revolutionizing the way commuters travel within and beyond the city. The overwhelming response from over 800,000 passengers in just nine months this underscores the popularity and effectiveness of futuristic mode

of transport. SSCL takes immense pride in offering unparalleled comfort, reliability, and connectivity through the Smart e-Buses, which operate seamlessly from 6 am to 1:15 am. With cutting-edge heating and air conditioning technology, passengers enjoy a comfortable journey regardless of the season, setting a new standard for public transportation in the Srinagar and inter districts.

Furthermore, the Smart e-Buses cover 15 designated routes, including inter-district services to key areas like Ganderbal and Budgam, ensuring comprehensive connectivity for citizens round the clock. The decision to extend operational hours beyond 9 pm showcases SSCL's unwavering commitment to serve the city and to enhance mobility for residents and tourists

alike. SSCL remains dedicated to sustainability and efficiency, as evidenced by the innovative charging system at the Pantha-Chowk depot, supporting all e-Buses currently in operation. Plans to introduce Opportunity Charging facilities at strategic locations further underscore our proactive approach to expand the e-Bus network and minimizing operational disruptions.

In conclusion, the resounding success of the Smart e-Bus initiative speaks volumes about its positive impact on Srinagar City's transportation landscape. SSCL reaffirms its steadfast commitment to revolutionize public transportation and looks forward to continued support from the passengers as we strive for a more sustainable and connected future.

# Transport Commissioner visits Kupwara, reviews transport services

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**KUPWARA:** Transport Commissioner, Rajinder Singh Tara, during his two day visit to Kupwara district, reviewed the status of transport services in the district.

The Commissioner visited Tangdar where he participated in a road safety road show. He administered the road safety pledge to hundreds of participants.

Highlighting the road safety measures, the Commissioner urged upon all stakeholders to play their roles in minimizing the road accidents.

The Commissioner also visited the first village of the country, Seemari Teetwal located on Zero Line, and assessed transport facilities there. He interacted with the locals and sought their feedback on transport services.

Earlier on reaching Kupwara, the Transport Commissioner inspected the ARTO Kupwara's Office and took on-spot appraisal of online services "Vahan" and "Saarthi".

On the occasion, he emphasized the importance of timely service

delivery to ensure smooth and effective operations for the general public.

The Transport Commissioner also engaged with the staff members of the ARTO office, reviewing their work assignments and directing them to resolve any pending tasks swiftly. He emphasized the importance of addressing public grievances in a timely manner.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner participated in a blood donation camp at Kupwara Bus Stand, organized by ARTO Kupwara in collaboration with transporters of Kupwara district.

The Commissioner held a meeting with transport associations from the district, during which he was apprised of various issues affecting the transport sector. He assured the representatives that their genuine demands would be addressed promptly, reinforcing the department's commitment towards supporting the transport community.

The Commissioner was accompanied by RTO Kashmir, Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari and ARTO Kupwara, Bilal Ahmed Mir besides other officers.

# J&K, Ladakh HC accords Farewell Reference to Justice Kotiswar Singh



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** A Full Court Farewell Reference was held Tuesday in the court room of Chief Justice at Srinagar wing of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to bid farewell to Justice N Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice, on his appointment as Judge of Supreme Court of India.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, Justice Atul Sreedharan, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Justice Sindhu Sharma, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul, Justice Sanjay Dhar, Justice Puneet Gupta, Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Justice Mohd. Akram Chowdhary, Justice Rahul Bharti, Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Justice Rajesh Sekhri and Justice Mohammad Yousuf Wani were present on the occasion.

D.C Raina, Advocate General; Deputy Solicitor General of India; Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary Home; R.R Swain, Director General of Police; Vijay

Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Sr. Additional Advocate General, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar; Senior Advocates and other members of the Bar, Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, staff including officers of Registry of the High Court besides Civil and Police officers were also present on the occasion.

Advocate General, in his farewell address, described Justice N Kotiswar Singh a gentleman par excellence and lauded the role of His Lordship for his dedication and commitment to his professional responsibilities. He said that Justice N Kotiswar Singh was endeared by all in the UT of J&K and Ladakh because of his polite conduct and behaviour.

Advocate General emphasized that Justice N Kotiswar Singh has a great quality of making the environment of the Court comfortable and easy which enabled the lawyers especially the younger ones to put across their cases in a proper manner. I feel proud

of Justice N Kotiswar Singh for his appointment as Judge of the Supreme Court of India, he maintained.

Justice N Kotiswar Singh, in his address, thanked everyone including Judges of High Court of J&K and Ladakh, officers of the Registry and Judicial Officers for their undaunted professional commitment and the support extended to him during his tenure. He said that no Judge can dispense real justice without the cooperation from the Bar and the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh is full of young and energetic lawyers. He emphasized upon the young lawyers to display patience and work hard to ensure success in their noble profession.

He also appreciated the talent of the Advocates of UTs of J&K and Ladakh for their aptitude and knowledge of Law. I am overwhelmed by the warmth and affection shown by one and all, he added. He also thanked his personal staff for their support and cooperation.

# Prof Romshoo gets 2-year extension as VC IUST

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir Government has extended the term of the incumbent Vice Chancellor of IUST Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoo for a period of two years.

Prof Romshoo was appointed as Vice Chancellor of IUST in 2021 as the fourth Vice Chancellor and the order issued by Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat on July 8, states that the extension shall be effective from August 15, 2024 when his first term completes.

IUST spokesperson in a statement said that the university under the leadership of Prof Romshoo has achieved remarkable milestones particularly with regard to the Implementation of NEP 2020, fostering a research-oriented and student-centric educational environment, promoting interdisciplinary research, encouraging entrepreneurship and a start-up culture, strengthening industry-academia collaborations besides prioritising upgradation

of the university's infrastructure.

Professor Romshoo has served as Dean of Research at the University and is an eminent academic and distinguished researcher, with an illustrious career spanning over 35 years.

His extensive research in the field of Earth Sciences, particularly focusing on climate change, water resources, and glaciology, has earned him national and international recognition.

Prof Romshoo also espouses social and environmental causes engaging actively in community outreach programs particularly related to climate change impacts, disaster management, and sustainable development in the Kashmir region.

IUST community congratulated Prof Romshoo, and expressed confidence that the university will further its mission of providing quality education, advancing research, and contributing to the socio-economic development of the region under his leadership—(KNO)

# Muharram procession taken out in boats in Dal Lake



REHAN QAYOOM MIR

**SRINAGAR:** The ninth day of Muharram saw a long line of Shikaras in the interiors of Dal Lake carrying mourners to commemorate the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) and his followers at Karbala.

Mourners gathered at Sand Mohalla in Rainawari before embarking across

the water traveling from one mohalla to another in traditional Shikaras.

As per the details, the procession saw a large number of people dressed in black, reciting eulogies and beating their chests.

One of the participants, Sahil Ali, said this procession is not just a tradition, it is a reflection of their unwavering faith and resilience. "Despite the challenges,

we come together every year to honour the sacrifices of Karbala. The journey on Shikaras through Dal Lake adds a unique dimension to our mourning, connecting us with our heritage and each other," he said.

The chants of mourners echoed across the lake with onlookers gazed to the long procession of Shikaras—(KNO)