

Good Morning Kashmir

16th Year Of Publication



Deeply saddened by the demise of Dr. Rajagopala Chidambaram. He was one of the key architects of India's nuclear programme and made ground-breaking contributions in strengthening India's scientific and strategic capabilities. He will be remembered with gratitude by the whole nation and his efforts will inspire generations to come.

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4 Soldiers Killed In Bandipora Accident

J&K LG, CM Omar Abdullah, Gandhis Express Grief, Extend Condolences To The Families



AGENCIES

BANDIPORA: Four soldiers lost their lives, and two others sustained critical injuries when an Army vehicle skidded off the Bandipora-Srinagar road and plunged into a deep gorge near Suderkoot-Payeen, close to the Wular sunset point in north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Saturday, officials said.

An official said that the accident occurred due to poor visibility and adverse weather conditions. He said the vehicle veered off the road near SK Payeen and fell into a deep gorge, resulting in serious injuries to six soldiers.

"Police, Army personnel and local residents immediately rushed to the spot to rescue the injured soldiers and evacuate them to the district hospital," the official said. "Two soldiers were declared dead on arrival at the Bandipora Dis-

trict Hospital, while the other four were shifted to a Srinagar hospital for advanced treatment. Tragically, two more soldiers succumbed to their injuries en route to the hospital. The remaining two are in critical condition."

The deceased soldiers have been identified as Lance Naik Jitender, Havildar Hari Ram, Gunner Nitesh and Pawan Kumar. The injured soldiers are Havildar Balappa and Lance Naik Garilli.

The Army said the accident occurred due to inclement weather and poor visibility conditions. In a statement, the Chinar Corps expressed its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and gratitude to the local Kashmiri citizens for their swift assistance during the rescue operations.

"On 04 Jan 2024, while performing duty in Bandipora District, a vehicle of the Indian Army skidded

Kashmir On Alert Over Widespread Snowfall

Surface, Air-Traffic Likely To Get Affected During 3-Day Wet Spell



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: As the MET department forecast moderate to heavy snowfall beginning from Saturday evening, the MET department said. "The main activity would be between January 5 to 6. We are expecting good snowfall as the Western Disturbance (WD) is presently active over J&K."

Meanwhile, Srinagar city was enveloped in a dense fog in the morning and all early flights at Srinagar international airport were delayed due to poor visibility.

Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has assured that the administration was fully

geared up to face the challenge. Forecasting moderate to heavy snowfall beginning from Saturday evening, the MET department said. "The main activity would be between January 5 to 6. We are expecting good snowfall as the Western Disturbance (WD) is presently active over J&K."

"In addition to snowfall in the Valley, there would be rain in the plains and snow in the higher reaches of Jammu division as well", said an official of the MET department.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is camping in Srinagar along with his Cabinet colleagues to supervise the snow clearance operation and address any eventualities that might arise in case there is disruption of services in the Valley.

Srinagar city was enveloped in dense fog in the morning and all morning flights at Srinagar international airport were delayed due to poor visibility.

In Srinagar, the minimum temperature was recorded at minus 1.6 degrees

KU Postpones Exams Scheduled Monday

SRINAGAR: The University of Kashmir has postponed all examinations scheduled on Monday, amidst forecast of moderate to heavy snowfall during the next three days.

A notification issued by the university reads, In view of the holiday on account of Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Birthday on 06.01.2025, it is notified for information of all the concerned that the University examination scheduled for the said date stands

PDD Issues Circular For Swift Action

SRINAGAR: As response to the recent weather advisory, the Chief Engineer (Distribution) Kashmir has issued a circular urging preparedness and swift action to address potential power disruptions caused by snowfall.

According to the Meteorological Department's forecast, snowfall is expected between January 4 and January 6, 2025. The office of the Chief Engineer (Distribution)

PDD Lineman Held For Jammu Shootout

AGENCIES

JAMMU: A man, who shot at and wounded BJP Yuva Morcha Jammu district president Kanav Sharma, was arrested on Saturday, police said.

"The assailant, who fired two bullets at Kanav Sharma from his licensed pistol identified as Ravinder Singh, a Power Development Department (PDD) lineman, was arrested," the police said.

Sharma was attacked by Singh in the area of Bakshi Nagar police station on Friday

MLAs, Delegations Meet LG Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Several legislators and delegations on Saturday called upon the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and discussed various issues.

Among the legislators who met the LG Sinha include MLA from Marh constituency Surinder Kumar, MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi and MLA Jammu West

IN ADDITION TO SNOWFALL IN THE VALLEY, THERE WOULD BE RAIN IN THE plains and snow in the higher reaches of Jammu division as well", said an official of the MET department.

9-Member MLAs Panel To Meet On Tuesday



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The Rules Committee constituted by the Speaker of J&K Legislative Assembly is set to hold its second meeting in Jammu on Tuesday (January 7) for framing Rules of Procedure & Conduct of Business for the House.

According to the meeting notice issued by the Legisla-

tive Assembly secretariat, the panel of MLAs will hold its meeting under the chairmanship of the Speaker in his office chambers at legislature complex, Jammu on Tuesday at 11:30 AM.

The 9-member panel comprises seven members from the ruling alliance and two from BJP. No member from Kashmir-based opposition parties including

Karan Singh Seeks Immediate Statehood To J&K

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: Senior Congress leader and veteran politician Karan Singh has demanded the immediate restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and said that the current status of the region is an "unacceptable" diminution of the "crown of India".

In a recent interview to PTI Videos, Singh, a three-time Rajya Sabha MP and Sadr-i-Riyasat (constitutional head) of the erstwhile state, also voiced his concerns over the changes following the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution.

He noted that before this constitutional change, the entire debate used to revolve around how much autonomy was to be accorded to the state.

"The whole game has changed



after the abrogation of (Article) 370," Singh said.

He said Jammu and Kashmir's transition to a union territory is a diminution of the erstwhile state and it is "unacceptable".

Singh noted that a former

Indian ambassador to the US said that the current status of Jammu and Kashmir has put it behind states like Himachal Pradesh and Haryana in terms of governance efficiency.

"(Hum) toh mukut

Private Schools To Face Tough Action: Sakina Itoo



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Following the hue and cry regarding purchase of textbooks other than those prescribed by JKBOSE, the Minister of Education, Sakina Itoo Saturday said that the government will take prompt action against the private schools who are found guilty.

The minister said, "The complaint of the parents

will have a prompt action. If any school is found guilty, we will make sure that action is taken on the very next day."

"We have already constituted a zonal and district level Committee who will monitor the violations done by the private schools," she said.

About the selling of textbooks by private schools within the institute, the education minister a day before had said that the

Winter Woes For Migratory Birds Ease As Frozen Wetlands Reopen



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: All major wetlands across Kashmir are now flocked with migratory birds, officials said, adding that the freezing water bodies initially posed survival challenges.

The official, however, said the improved weather conditions and light snowfall have started breaking the ice, ensuring better water access for the birds.

A top official from the Wildlife's Wetland Division said the valley wetlands were flocked with a good number of migratory birds but that the freezing of water bodies

initially created difficulties, posing significant challenges for migratory birds in the region.

"Birds rely on open-water pools for survival. However, a slight improvement in weather, accompanied by light snowfall, has started breaking the ice layer, and that is gradually exposing water sources," the top officer said.

The senior officer added that due to the icy layer in water bodies, they have started giving supplementary feeding with paddy grains to support the migratory bird population in the region.

"The situation is improving, and with the thawing of

ice, the birds are flocking back to the water pools," an official said, adding that the valley wetlands, hosting thousands of migratory birds annually, are being closely monitored and that a formal census to estimate the bird population was scheduled for February.

The official, however, assured that all wetlands were currently hosting migratory bird populations.

Anti-Poaching Measures Intensified

The official said amid these efforts, they were also focusing on curbing poaching activities, a persistent challenge that has been exacerbated by the birds'

Kulgam Youth Dies Of Asphyxiation



AGENCIES

KULGAM: A young man died and his mother is in critical condition after they were found unconscious due to inhaling toxic fumes from a charcoal fire used for heating in Guddar village of south Kashmir's Kulgam district, officials said on Saturday.

An official aid that the deceased, identified as Danish Ahmad Khan, and his mother, Fameeda Akhter, residents of Guddar village, were found unconscious on Thursday. They had inhaled toxic fumes emitted from a charcoal fire used for heating.

The duo was rushed to GMC Anantnag and later referred to SKIMS Soura for advanced treatment. Despite medical attention, Danish succumbed to the effects of asphyxiation on Saturday morning, while his mother remains in

MUFASA
MUFASA: THE LION KING (3D HINDI) (U) 11:00AM, 07:15PM

PUSHPA 2
PUSHPA-2 (HINDI) (U/A16+) 11:15AM, 02:50PM, 05:30PM, 06:40PM

YEH JAWAANI HAI DEEWANI
YEH JAWAANI HAI DEEWANI (HINDI) (U/A) 04:05PM

KRAVEN THE HUNTER
KRAVEN THE HUNTER (ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLES) (A) 01:30PM

PYAR MEIN QURBAN
PYAR MEIN QURBAN (HINDI) (U/A16+) 03:05PM

BABY JOHN
BABY JHON (HINDI) (U/A 16+) 11:40AM

INOX SRINAGAR

MOVIES SCHEDULE

Sun, 5th Jan 2025

TICKETS AT:

www.bookmyshow.com
www.inoxmovies.com
Paytm, Inox App or Directly from the booking counter at the cinema.

Call 95416 13868
For assistance with tickets

Gulmarg to host 5th edition of Khelo India winter games

CS for using such opportunities to promote J&K internationally

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today emphasised the need for optimally utilising the events like 'Khelo India Winter Games' for tourism promotion in Jammu and Kashmir at global level.

The Chief Secretary was addressing at a meeting held here to take stock of the preparations being made for successful conduct of 5th edition of 'Khelo India Winter Games' at Gulmarg.

Besides the Secretary, YS&S and Dy DG, SAI the meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Culture Department, ADGP, L&O, DG, F&ES, Commissioner Secretary, GAD, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Secretary, PWD Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla/Budgam, Director, Information and PR besides other concerned officers while out station officers participated online.

Dulloo highlighted the significance of such national level events in promoting brand J&K as one of the prominent



tourist destinations. He maintained that Gulmarg being one of the biggest ski destination in whole of the country should be utilised to attract the international skiers by holding exclusive competitions for them. He asked for exploring the possibility of holding Heliskiing competitions for its professional players at the venue.

Regarding successful commencement of winter games,

the Chief Secretary asked the divisional administration to coordinate with other departments so that the games are held in a befitting manner. He asked each of the concerned department to extend best of the services to the participants and play their role effectively in making this edition successful.

The Chief Secretary enjoined upon the Youth Services & Sports Department to start

their promotional campaigns on their social media handles in order to create necessary buzz about this event. He asked them to use the creatives captured earlier for this purpose. He impressed upon the department to look into holding such events at the tourist destinations of J&K in coordination with the Tourism Department to make year round activity calendar for the adventure lovers

all over the country.

He also reviewed security, sanitation, transportation, health, traffic management besides provisioning of uninterrupted supply of power and water during these days. He directed the departments to make best of the arrangements with adequate back-ups for each of the facility required there.

The Chief Secretary asked

for making suitable arrangements for holding of cultural programmes and demonstrations during night time in view of the cold weather there. He also asked the Information & PR to coordinate with DD and AIR for live telecast of these events besides giving wide publicity to the sporting events.

Secretary, YS&S, Sarmad Hafeez, informed the meeting that J&K is hosting these winter games 5th time straightaway this year. He made out that the Department has gained enough expertise during previous years and is making preparations to hold a great spectacle this time. He further gave out that the sporting competitions like Alpine Skiing, Nordic Skiing, Ski Mountaineering and Snow Boarding would be held in Gulmarg as part of Khelo India Winter Games-2025 this year.

He revealed that 30 teams consisting of about 1000 athletes and officers from different states and sports boards all over India are going to participate in these events scheduled to be held between 22-25 February, 2025.

About the commencement of events, it was divulged that the players would be received on 21st of February at Srinagar Airport and housed in 3-star and 4-star hotels at Gulmarg for their ease and comfort.

In addition, cultural evenings would be part of the programmes for all the days with laser & drone show on the first night itself.

The games are going to be opened in a grand ceremony on 22nd of February with culmination on 25th February with a medal ceremony and gala cultural event.

It was also apprised that the event managers are being hired to professionally manage these events with are going to be telecasted live over Doordarshan.

The meeting was also informed that different committees had been constituted to give final shape to the arrangements. It was revealed that different stalls depicting handicrafts and cuisines would be installed to promote such trades for the overall benefit of the people associated with these industries as well.

MVD organises medical, eye check up camp for drivers at Thathri



GMK NEWS NETWORK

DODA: The Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Doda, in collaboration with the Health Department and District Ayush Department, organized a Medical and Eye Check-up Camp today at Thathri.

The event was held under the direction of Transport Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan and Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh and supervised by ARTO Doda, Rajesh Gupta, in the presence of MVD Inspector Robin Singh and officials from the Motor Vehicle and Health Departments.

A large number of drivers from the region participated in the initiative, which emphasized the importance of maintaining good health for the driving community. Drivers underwent comprehensive eye checkups and general health screenings, ensuring their fitness for

road safety.

Qualified doctors conducted detailed vision tests, providing immediate feedback and recommending corrective measures where necessary. Participants were educated on the critical role of good eyesight in preventing road accidents and ensuring public safety. Doctors gave drivers health tips, highlighting the significance of regular medical checkups for them. After thorough medical check-up the drivers were provided free medicines.

The initiative reflects the commitment of the Motor Vehicle Department and its partners to promote road safety and driver well-being. By prioritizing health and fitness, the event aimed to reduce the risks of accidents caused by impaired vision and poor health among drivers, fostering a safer transportation environment in the district.

Drive intensified against illegal mining in Rajouri

Several vehicles seized, heavy penalties imposed on perpetrators



GMK NEWS NETWORK

RAJOURI: In a concerted effort to curb illegal mining activities and ensure the preservation of the natural environment, a team led by the District Mining Officer (DMO) Rajouri, in coordination with the Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP) Headquarters, on Saturday conducted a series of raids in identified illegal mining zones. The raids resulted in the seizure of multiple vehicles involved in unauthorized mining operations and imposition of fines amounting to several lakhs of rupees on the perpetrators.

This exercise was part of an ongoing and rigorous campaign initiated by the district administration to uphold the law and safeguard the region's ecological balance.

The District Mining Office, in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, is leaving no stone unturned in tackling the menace of illegal mining that poses significant risks to the environment and the sustainable management of natural resources.

Earlier in the day, the

Mining Department issued multiple notices to violators, including stone crushers and leaseholders, who were found in breach of their legal obligations. These notices are a prelude to strict legal action that will be initiated against the offenders in accordance with the relevant provisions of law.

The DMO emphasized that the department is committed to maintaining transparency and accountability in mining operations while enforcing the compliance to the regulations by all stakeholders. He also reiterated that the district administration is determined to take strict punitive actions against individuals and entities involved in illegal mining, without exception.

This joint action by the Mining Department and law enforcement agencies demonstrates the administration's unwavering commitment to upholding the rule of law and protecting the region's natural heritage. Such operations will continue in the future to ensure that the district's resources are utilized responsibly and in adherence to all legal norms.

DC Kupwara emphasizes on upscaling therapeutic management, proper counseling of drug addicts

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: To review the progress made to curb drug abuse in Kupwara district, a meeting of District Level Committee of Narco Coordination (NCORD) was held today under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan at meeting hall of DC Office Complex, here.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed appraisal from concerned members of NCORD Committee regarding the present scenario of drug related occurrences, various issues related to menace of drug addiction, its control and rehabilitation and areas of concern.

The DC meticulously reviewed the implementation of the measures taken

and progress achieved to eliminate drug abuse and its peddling in Kupwara District. She took feedback from the members of the Committee who presented the latest report related to action taken against drug-addiction and drug trafficking in the District.

On the occasion, the DC stressed upon the Officers of all the line Departments to further intensify IEC activities, connecting communities including religious influencers and civil society members.

The DC also emphasized the Officers including Enforcement agencies for identification and close vigil of entry points, hot spots of drugs, public places and abandoned buildings.

Similarly, the DC also laid thrust on further intensifying

IEC campaigns (seminars, rallies and other programmes on the harmful effects of drug menace) at Schools and Colleges levels to sensitize students and common masses about ill-effects of drugs and close coordination between Health, Education and other line departments. She also reviewed the functioning of Drug De-addiction Centre Kupwara and Addiction Treatment Facility Centre (ATFC) Handwara and stressed for upscale the therapeutic management and proper counseling of the drug addicts which can help the addicts to come out of the menace.

The DC said in order to combat this rising societal problem, multi-pronged Rehabilitation, Counseling and Guidance policy is indis-

pensable to be implemented on ground to monitor drug abuse and take remedial measures to curb the menace so that sufferings of the drug-affected persons is mitigated.

The Police department was directed to share details of attached properties of drug peddlers with concerned Tehsildars who will mark red entries of these properties which cannot be sold.

The Medical Superintendent District Hospital Handwara was directed to conduct counselling sessions for families of drug abusers so that they may live a respectful life. Patrolling of police parties around the abandoned buildings shall also be intensified, besides, SHOs and Tehsildars shall conduct joint visits to these places to put strict vigil on drug abusers.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA.

Email Id:icds.wawoora@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This office has made advertisement for selection of Anganwadi Workers (Sanginis) and Anganwadi helpers (Sahayikas) vide this office Advertisement Notice No: 11 of 2024 Dated: 06-12-2024 issued under endorsement No: CDDP/POSHAN/WAW/Adv/2024/921-936 Dated: 06-12-2024, in this regard the merit list of the applied candidates which is annexed as Annexure "A" "B" "C" "D" "E" "F" for inviting objections, if any from the general public within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Aggrieved applied candidates shall be entitled to file their objections, if any within 10 days in the office of Child Development Project Officer Poshan Project Wawoora in all working days from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. After the expiry of date, no objection shall be entertained by this office.

No: CDDP/POSHAN/Waw/25/1014-1024

Dated: 03/01/2025

Sd/-
Child Development Project Officer,
Poshan Project Wawoora

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA

SUBJECT: Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sangini (AWW) against the location AWC Chopan Mohalla Gagaj Name of Panchayat Gagaj (B) advertised vide this Office Advertisement Notice No. 11 of 2024 Dated 06/12/2024 published in Daily Newspaper Rising Kashmir And Nida-i-mashriq on 08/12/2024 for general information of Public.

ANNEXURE - A

Merit Panel of applied candidates of AWC Chopan Mohalla Gagaj (Ward No 05)

| Sno/ Index No | Name of Candidate | Parentage | Residence | Ward No/ Name | D.O.B | Qualification | Marks obtained in 12th / Out of | Percentage | Whether any relation with retired AWW | Additional 2 Points | Total Merit | Remarks |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------|
| 01/04 | SHAHIDA BANO | W/O Farooq Ahmad Phomada | Gagal | 05 | 01-01-2001 | 12th | 237/500 | 47.4 | No | Nil | 47.4 | |

Sd/
Child Development Project Officer
Wawoora(Member Secretary)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA.

SUBJECT: Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sangini (AWW) against the location AWC Mukdom Mohalla Kanthpora Name of Panchayat Kanthpora (B) advertised vide this Office Advertisement Notice No. 11 of 2024 Dated 06/12/2024 published in Daily Newspaper Rising Kashmir And Nida-i-mashriq on 08/12/2024 for general information of Public.

Merit Panel of applied candidates of AWC Mukdom Mohalla Kanthpora (Ward No 05)

ANNEXURE - B

| Sno/ Index No | Name of Candidate | Parentage | Residence | Ward No/ Name | D.O.B | Qualification | Marks obtained in 12th / Out of | Percentage | Whether any relation with retired AWW | Additional 2 Points | Total Merit | Remarks |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------|
| 01/01 | ISHRAT RASHID | D/O Abdul Rashid Bhat | Kanthpora | 05 | 12-02-2002 | 12th | 279/500 | 55.8 | Nil | Nil | 55.8 | |
| 02/02 | RUBEENA AKHTER | D/O Gh Mohammad Bhat | Kanthpora | 05 | 03-11-1993 | 12th | 196/500 | 39.2 | Nil | Nil | 39.2 | |
| 03/03 | BILKEESA AKHTER | W/O Ferooz Ahmad Bhat | Kanthpora | 05 | 01-03-1995 | 12th | 247/500 | 49.4 | Nil | Nil | 49.4 | |

Sd/
Child Development Project Officer
Wawoora(Member Secretary)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA.

SUBJECT: Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahiyika (AWH) against the location AWC Jabdi Rang St. Name of Panchayat Warnow (D) advertised vide this Office Advertisement Notice No. 11 of 2024 Dated 06/12/2024 published in Daily Newspaper Rising Kashmir And Nida-i-mashriq on 08/12/2024 for general information of Public.

Merit Panel of applied candidates of AWC Jabdi Rang ST Warnow D (Ward No 07)

ANNEXURE - C

| Sno/ Index No | Name of Candidate | Parentage | Residence | Ward No/ Name | D.O.B | Qualification | Marks obtained in 10th / Out of | Percentage | Whether any relation with retired AWW | Total Merit | Remarks |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 01/02 | Kulsooma Sediq | D/O Mohd Sediq Gojjer Doond | Warnow | 07 | 02-03-1999 | 10th | 210/500 | 42% | Nil | 42% | Un-married |
| 02/03 | Fareedah Bano | W/O Altaf Ahmad Khan | Warnow | 07 | 07-05-1992 | 10th | 215/500 | 43% | Nil | 43% | |
| 03/10 | Maneera Bano | W/O Muneer Ahmad Pathan | Warnow | 07 | 01-04-1993 | 10th | 219/500 | 43.8% | Nil | 43.8% | |

Sd/
Child Development Project Officer
Wawoora(Member Secretary)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA.

SUBJECT: Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahiyika (AWH) against the location AWC Bhat Mohalla Warnow Name of Panchayat Warnow (A) advertised vide this Office Advertisement Notice No. 11 of 2024 Dated 06/12/2024 published in Daily Newspaper Rising Kashmir And Nida-i-mashriq on 08/12/2024 for general information of Public.

Merit Panel of applied candidates of AWC Bhat Mohalla Warnow A (Ward No 04)

ANNEXURE - D

| Sno/ Index No | Name of Candidate | Parentage | Residence | Ward No/ Name | D.O.B | Qualification | Marks obtained in 10th / Out of | Percentage | Total Merit | Remarks |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 01/01 | Rukhsana Rashid | W/O Sajad Ahmad Bhat | Warnow-A | 04 | 27-12-1987 | 10th | 181/500 | 36.2% | 36.2 | |
| 02/09 | Tahira Rasool Bhat | D/O Gh Rasool Shah | Warnow A | 04 | 07-03-2004 | 10th | 376/500 | 75.2 | 75.2 | Un-married |

Sd/
Child Development Project Officer
Wawoora(Member Secretary)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA.

SUBJECT: Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahiyika (AWH) against the location AWC Chopan Mohalla Dooniwari Name of Panchayat Dooniwari advertised vide this Office Advertisement Notice No. 11 of 2024 Dated 06/12/2024 published in Daily Newspaper Rising Kashmir And Nida-i-mashriq on 08/12/2024 for general information of Public.

Merit Panel of applied candidates of AWC Chopan Mohalla Dooniwari (Ward No 04)

ANNEXURE - E

| Sno/ Index No | Name of Candidate | Parentage | Residence | Ward No/ Name | D.O.B | Qualification | Marks obtained in 10th / Out of | Percentage | Total Merit | Remarks |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 01/05 | SAJMA ASHRAF | W/O Nazir Ahmad Chopan | Dooniwari | 04 | 01-02-1994 | 10th | 197/500 | 39.4% | 39.4 | |
| 02/06 | NAHIDA AKHTER | W/O Ishfaq Ahmad Khan | Dooniwari | 04 | 11-01-1994 | 10th | 273/500 | 54.6% | 54.6 | |
| 03/11 | Shayasta Rasool | D/O Ghulam Rasool Khan | Dooniwari | 04 | 01-12-2003 | 10th | 233/500 | 46.6% | 46.6 | Un-Married |

Sd/
Child Development Project Officer
Wawoora(Member Secretary)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAWOORA.

SUBJECT: Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahiyika (AWH) against the location AWC Bun Maidanpora Name of Panchayat Maidanpora (B) advertised vide this Office Advertisement Notice No. 11 of 2024 Dated 06/12/2024 published in Daily Newspaper Rising Kashmir And Nida-i-mashriq on 08/12/2024 for general information of Public.

Merit Panel of applied candidates of AWC Bun- Maidanpora (Ward No 05)

ANNEXURE - F

| Sno/ Index No | Name of Candidate | Parentage | Residence | Ward No/ Name | D.O.B | Qualification | Marks obtained in 10th / Out of | Percentage | Total Merit | Remarks |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|---------|
| 01/04 | AAZIMA LATEEF | W/O Mohammadarif Khan | Maidanpora B | 05 | 01-01-2005 | 10th | 382/500 | 76.4 | 76.4 | |
| 02/07 | TOUFEEQA BANO | W/O Mohd Rafiq Khan | Maidanpora B | 05 | 01-04-1990 | 10th | 201/500 | 40.2 | 40.2 | |
| 03/08 | FANCY BANO | W/O Qaisar Ahmad Khan | Maidanpora B | 05 | 24-09-1995 | 10th | 245/500 | 49% | 49 | |
| 04/12 | TABASUM AKHTER | W/O Lijakat Majid Bhat | Maidanpora B | 05 | 14-01-1996 | 10th | 261/500 | 52.2% | 52.2 | |

Sd/
Child Development Project Officer
Wawoora(Member Secretary)

DIPK-10454-24
Dt: 04/01/2025

Div Com emphasizes on close coordination & synergy among Engineering Departments during snow clearance ops

Asks SSCL to keep ITMS Cameras in readiness mode for effective service utilization

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: To address some urgent issues at hand including functioning of ITMS Cameras, relocation of KPTCL Towers at Sanatnagar, Snow Clearance and rehabilitation cases, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Saturday chaired a meeting of concerned departments & officers, here.



The meeting was attended by Commissioner SMC/CEO SSCL, Dr Owais Ahmad; ADC Srinagar, Khalid Husain Malik; SSP Traffic Srinagar, Chief Engineers of R&B, MED, SSCL, KPTCL & concerned revenue officer.

While chairing the meeting, Div Com took serious note of software glitches in the functioning of ITMS which affects the seamless implementation of traffic regulations and directed concerned officer to urgently rectify the issue so the services will be effectively utilized by the Traffic Department.

Regarding relocation

of KPTCL Towers at Sanatnagar for smooth movement of traffic over flyover, Div Com directed concerned to expedite the process of land acquisition under 3A National Highway Act for erection of new transmission towers.

In view of weather advisory for snowfall, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir directed operationalization of Divisional Control Room at ICCO to monitor & respond exigencies. He also directed related departments for the deployment

of staff at the Control Room.

For the effective implementation of snow clearance plan, Div Com directed SMC, R&B, MED, ULB & PMGSY to maintain close coordination & synergy while ensuring snow clearance operation and restoration of road connectivity.

He urged them that they shouldn't keep their snow-clearance operation confined to respective demarcated jurisdictions only rather they should act judiciously & respond promptly to nearby areas to assist in

opening of roads.

Div Com instructed CE, MED to coordinate with SMC for providing assistance in view of the priority of restoration of City roads.

Meanwhile the meeting discussed the bottlenecks and acquisition of structures falling in the alignment of road at Habakadal and rehabilitation thereof.

On the occasion, Div Com directed district administration to identify ten plots at the outskirts of the city for the rehabilitation purpose of households.

Negligence by electricity Dept. leaves 25-year-old critical in Kupwara

'Police launch investigation into alleged negligence, probe ongoing'

MUZAFAR BHAT

KUPWARA: A 25-year-old daily wage sustained severe injuries while repairing a power transmission line in the Madmadhoh Kalarus area of Kupwara, allegedly due to negligence by the Electricity Department.

Sources told the news agency JKNS that the man, also a barber by profession, was reportedly instructed by an Electricity Department inspector, to repair the

power line without adequate safety measures in place.

They said locals claim he was forced to perform the repair under unsafe conditions, leading to the accident, and he was identified as Shahid Ahmad (25).

"Following the incident, Kalarus police quickly transported the man to Kupwara Hospital. Due to his critical condition, he was referred to SMHS Hospital in Srinagar, where he is currently receiving treatment and fighting for

his life," they said.

Meanwhile, Shahid's father, speaking to JKNS, expressed his distress saying, my son worked tirelessly to support us, but the negligence of the department has destroyed our family. The inspector, namely Ghulam Nabi was aware of the risks and still forced him to work.

Shahid's mother also demanded justice, stating, he is now fighting for his life, and we demand justice for this inhumane act.

Moreover, when contacted, Inspector Ghulam Nabi denied the allegations, claiming, I did not instruct Shahid to repair the line. The claims are false, and I support a fair investigation to uncover the truth.

It is worth mentioning that police have initiated a probe into the case. "We are investigating all aspects, including the alleged pressure on Shahid to perform the repair," said an officer investigating the case.— (JKNS)

MLA Sonawari inaugurates Cooperative Fruit Parlour at Hajin Bandipora



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: In order to boost the local economy and encourage self-reliance among the farming community, MLA Sonawari, Advocate Hilal Akbar Lone, on Saturday inaugurated a state-of-the-art Cooperative Fruit Parlour in Hajin town of district Bandipora.

The event was attended by SDM Sumbal Mir Murata, Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies Bandipora, Adnan Nazir besides other senior officials, cooperative society members and a large gathering of people.

Speaking at the event, the MLA highlighted the importance of such ventures in transforming the agricultural landscape of the region. He said the parlour will not only provide a platform for farmers/locals to sell their produce but also add value through modern packaging, processing, and branding.

Lone said, the Cooperative Fruit Parlour in Hajin is part of a broader government initiative to promote cooperative models in rural areas, ensuring socio-economic upliftment and rural prosperity besides providing employment opportunities.

He urged locals to actively participate in cooperative initiatives, stressing that such platforms not only ensure economic stability but also contribute to community welfare.

On the occasion, the Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies Bandipora informed that the parlour, established under the aegis of cooperative society, is equipped with modern storage and refrigeration facilities to ensure the freshness of fruits. It will serve as a hub for direct sales, eliminating middlemen and enabling farmers to receive fair prices for their produce, he added.

PMAY-G is a crucial scheme for upliftment of weaker sections in J&K: Javed Dar



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Agriculture Production and Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Departments, Javed Ahmad Dar, today termed Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) as a crucial housing scheme for upliftment of weaker sections of the society.

The Minister remarked this during his address after inaugurating one day workshop on PMAY-G here.

The Minister was accompanied by Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, Secretary RDD&PR, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, and other officers of the department.

During the workshop, the Minister distributed cheques among the PMAY-G beneficiaries. He also launched a booklet on PMAY-G 2.

The Minister stressed the importance of identifying genuine beneficiaries and ensuring inclusivity under PMAY-G, emphasising that "no one should be left out." He called for a sincere, transparent approach in beneficiary selection and resource allocation.

Referring to PMAY-G scheme, the Minister remarked on its transformative impact on rural housing across Jammu and Kashmir.

Acknowledging geographical challenge, the Minister

stressed on importance of meticulous planning and efficient fund utilisation for timely completion of projects. He also highlighted the need for transparency and accountability, emphasising that "public representatives and officers must work in tandem and perform upto the expectations of general public. Only through such accountability can we deliver a better government."

The Minister stressed the significance of engaging directly with grassroots communities and addressing their grievances.

Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani called the scheme a significant initiative aimed at providing dignified housing to economically weaker sections of society. He described a home as "the closest thing to a person's heart, a place to live comfortably and take care of one's family." He commended the officers and field workers for their vital role in transforming lives through their support and dedication, stating that "there is no bigger social work than helping people fulfill their dream of owning a home." He urged the department to streamline the verification process further, ensuring timely identification of beneficiaries before March 31 deadline.

DM Baramulla chairs 16th NCORD meeting



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: District Magistrate Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, chaired the 16th meeting of the District Level Narcotic Coordination Centre (NCORD) Committee meeting, where a comprehensive review of the ongoing efforts to combat drug abuse and trafficking was conducted.

The meeting focused on strengthening inter-departmental coordination and planning further strategies to mitigate the narcotic challenge in Baramulla, ensuring a safer environment for the youth.

Principal GMC Baramulla, Prof. (Dr.) Majid Jehangir, Additional Deputy Commissioner Sopore SA, Raina, Additional Superintendent Police Baramulla, Syed Yasir Qadri, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Arshad Ahmad Khan, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Pattan Gulmarg, Uri, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, Chief Agriculture Officer and other concerned officers were attended the meeting.

The DM emphasized the importance of a unified approach to combat the growing drug menace and ensure a safer, drug-free environment for youth. "Our combined efforts are key to safeguarding the future of our youth from the adverse impact of narcotics," said the DM.

During the meeting, the Principal of Government

Medical College (GMC) Baramulla, Majid Jehangir briefed the DM on the achievements of the Nasha Mukht Bharat (Drug-Free India) initiative. In the first batch, 25 individuals were trained as master trainers, who are now responsible for training others, significantly expanding the reach of the drug awareness and de-addiction campaign.

In addition to anti-drug efforts, the DM addressed initiatives for youth engagement. He directed the Chief Education Officer (CEO) and Youth Services Department to organize an annual sports schedule for the youth in the district.

The DM emphasized that these sports events would focus on promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and providing positive alternatives for young people. The annual sports schedule will offer a variety of competitions and activities, ensuring year-round engagement and opportunities for youth to develop their skills.

The DM also tasked the Principal of Degree College Baramulla with organizing an inter-district college quiz competition to foster academic competition and intellectual engagement among students across Baramulla and neighboring districts. "Academic activities like this quiz competition are essential in developing critical thinking and academic excellence," said the DM.

Sakeena Itoo reviews functioning of H&ME department in Srinagar, Budgam, Ganderbal, Pulwama districts



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting at Civil Secretariat here regarding performance and functioning of Health and Medical Education (HME) department in Srinagar, Budgam, Ganderbal and Pulwama districts.

Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama, Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, ADC Srinagar, Director Health Services Kashmir, Principal GMC Srinagar, Principal Government Dental College Srinagar, Mission Director, NHM, CEO SHA, Director Coordination New GMCs, MD, JKMSCL, Project Director, AIDS Control Society, Medical Superintendents, CMOs of concerned district and other senior officers of health and medical education department attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the Minister assessed medical infrastructure, human resources, medical supplies and equipments as well as emergency preparedness of each district. She also took detailed

appraisal regarding functioning of PHCs, CHCs, SDHs and district hospitals of all these districts.

Addressing the officers in the meeting, Sakeena Itoo stressed upon them for maximising accessibility of healthcare services in rural areas especially during winters. She called upon them for posting of specialists and adequate staff in PHCs and CHCs so that people get best medical care in their vicinities without moving to tertiary care hospitals.

The Minister also stressed upon the officers for enhancing the existing mobile health services for reaching out to remote areas more effectively.

While reviewing progress on ongoing projects in these districts, Sakeena Itoo impressed upon the officers for timely completion of these projects as they are vital for filling the gaps of progressive healthcare services for people. She further encouraged the officers to prioritise establishment of more diagnostic centers and specialty services at district hospitals in order to cater to the increasing health needs of the people and reduce burden on tertiary care hospitals.

QR-based feedback system introduced in tertiary care hospitals, Hazratbal block of GMC Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar has introduced a QR-based feedback system across all its associated hospitals, including eight tertiary care hospitals and the Hazratbal Block.



This innovative system allows patients and their attendants to scan QR codes displayed at prominent hospital locations, redirecting them to a digital feedback form. The form enables users to share their experiences, rate services, and provide suggestions.

The QR-based feedback

system is designed to be user-friendly, allowing patients and attendants to provide feedback easily. The feedback is instantly recorded and accessible to the administration for analysis and prompt action.

The QR-based feedback

system aims to enhance patient experience, promote transparency, and drive operational efficiency. By leveraging feedback, the administration can identify areas for improvement and take prompt action to address concerns.

This initiative demonstrates GMC Srinagar's commitment to integrating technology into healthcare for efficient service delivery and patient satisfaction. By involving patients and their families, the administration aims to set a benchmark for quality healthcare services in the region.

The launch event was attended by Principal and Dean of GMC Srinagar, Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan, Administrator Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, Medical Superintendents, Deputy Medical Superintendents, BMO Hazratbal, Casualty Medical Officers and Nodal officers.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
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E-TENDER NOTICE FOR REPAIR AND SUPPLY OF PARTS OF AUDIO CONFERRING SYSTEM IN ASSOCIATED HOSPITAL, GMC BARAMULLA

E-Tender Notice No: 24-GMGB of 2024-25 Dated: -01-01-2025
 On behalf of Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, e tenders are invited through Principal, Government Medical College Baramulla for Repair and Supply of Parts of Audio Conferencing System in Associated Hospital, GMC Baramulla as per the Annexure "A" to this tender notice from Firms/Companies/Related Dealers for Government Medical College & its Associated Hospital. The tender document can be downloaded from the website www.gmcbaramulla.com and www.jktenders.gov.in w.e.f. 01-01-2025 to 14-01-2025.

The tender details and schedules as per following.

| Item Description | Tender Fee | EMD |
|---|---------------------|----------|
| Repair and Supply of Parts of Audio Conferencing System | 1000 | 10,000/- |
| Date & Time of release of bid | 01/01/2025(05:00PM) | |
| Last date for entertaining any clarification/representation | 02/01/2025(05:00PM) | |
| Online bid submission start date | 02/01/2025(05:00PM) | |
| Last date for submission of online bids | 14/01/2025(11:00AM) | |
| Opening of Technical bids | 16/01/2025(03:30PM) | |

• Any query to clear can be done through email id on principalmedicalcollegebla@gmail.com.
 • The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject the tenders received or cancel the whole tendering process without assigning any reason thereof.
 NO:-GMGB/PO/2024-25/1512/3223-29
 Dated: 01-01-2025

Sd/-
 Principal/Dean
 Govt. Medical College,
 Baramulla

Annexure "A" E-Tender Notice No: 24-GMGB of 2024-25 Dated: 01-01-2025 DETAILS OF THE WORK TO BE DONE

| S. No. | Description | Quantity | Rate to be filled by the bidder including all taxes |
|--------|--|----------|---|
| 1 | Supply, Installation and Commissioning of SMF Battery 42 AH for 2 Kva UPS with buy back option | 06 No's | |
| 2 | Repair of Audio Conferencing controller with replacement of necessary parts | 01 No. | |
| 3 | Re commissioning of Audio conferencing system at site | 01 Job | |

Sd/-
 Principal/Dean
 Govt. Medical College
 Baramulla

DIPK-10440-24
 DT: 04/01/2025

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Heavy Snowfall Prediction

There is a prediction for a strong western disturbance to hit northern India for the next 72 hours. Monday and Tuesday are expected to get a higher precipitation. For Kashmir valley, especially the central and northern districts, a moderate to heavy snowfall is expected during these 72 hours. This would be the second major spell of snowfall for this season. While the Met department had somewhat failed to predict the first spell of snowfall this time round, advisories have been sent to district administration well in advance. For Srinagar the alert is yellow level, however, given the promptness with which district administration has geared up to meet this forecast one would assume that this yellow level is bordering on orange level. The district administration in Bandipora, Kupwara and Baramulla have advised people to take precaution while making movement to offices and other places. Srinagar administration has held a series of high-level meetings as did administration in Budgam, Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam and Anantnag districts. We hope that the district administration in these various districts is ready to tackle any emergencies in the aftermath of this snowfall. Having had our brushes with official misadministration we are looking into these advisories, meetings and press notes with a guarded optimism that this ready-for-any-eventuality attitude will translate on the street as well. The ground situation looked miserable in the immediate aftermath of the first snowfall. The local MLAs in different areas of Srinagar, Budgam and Pulwama were seen making calls to district administrations about snow not being cleared even after two days, or the electricity not being restored. Some of the politicians took to social media handles to exhibit their disappointment at the lukewarm response they got from the administration. We hope that whatever the administration said in those press notes, advisories, notes of meetings would actually be translated into actual action. We hope the snow clearing machines will be ubiquitous on our streets, district roads and lanes. We hope no area has to endure powerless nights in sub-zero temperatures. And water supply is maintained unaltered in all areas. These are the metrics on which the preparedness of the government would be gauged and assessed and not the linguistic parameters of the advisories and official hand-outs.

The Healthcare Accountability Crisis: Why Hospital Visits Are Becoming Scary



DR. FIAZ MAQBOOL FAZILI

Healthcare is a cornerstone of any society, meant to provide relief, hope, and healing. However, recent incidents in the healthcare sector have left people wary of seeking medical assistance. Viral videos showing distressed patients and families accusing hospitals of malpractice and negligence have sparked widespread concern. Allegations, such as patients being taken to the operation theatre while the treating surgeon is out of state, have raised serious questions about the integrity of healthcare systems. In a corporate hospital despite paying hefty sums a patient walks into the operation theatre without support and comes out with paralysed limbs. Coupled with the lack of transparency in inquiry reports following suspicious deaths, or morbidity (adverse events) this crisis underscores a glaring failure in supervisory accountability. This reminder delves into the reasons behind this alarming trend, the implications for patient safety, and the urgent need for supervisory authorities to restore trust and safety in healthcare.

Alarming Incidents and Erosion of Trust: The recent accusations against hospitals highlight a troubling lack of accountability. Viral videos show aggrieved families accusing medical institutions of gross misconduct, such as unauthorized surgeries or negligence leading to deaths. These incidents have gone viral on social media, amplifying public outrage.

One particularly concerning claim involves hospitals performing surgeries when the assigned surgeon is unavailable. Such acts not only breach professional ethics but also jeopardize patient safety. When deaths occur under suspicious circumstances, inquiry reports often fail to provide clarity. These reports are seldom shared with the public, leaving lingering doubts about whether malpractice occurred, or systemic failures were to blame.

The lack of transparency in handling such cases has led to widespread distrust. Patients and their families now question whether hospitals prioritize profits over care, and whether there is adequate oversight to prevent malpractices.

The Lack of Supervisory Oversight: A significant factor contributing to this crisis is the absence of stringent supervision by regulatory authorities. Hospitals are often left to self-regulate, creating opportunities for lapses in ethics and safety protocols. Supervisory bodies rarely conduct regular audits or enforce adherence to standards, allowing negligence to go unchecked. Supervisory failures become evident when:

- Deaths occur without accountability: Inquiries into deaths are often superficial, and findings are not shared publicly.
- Healthcare providers escape scrutiny:



Even when allegations of malpractice arise, legal loopholes and lack of oversight enable perpetrators to evade justice.

- No uniform standards:** Many hospitals operate without adhering to standardized operating procedures (SOPs), leading to inconsistent care.

Without robust oversight mechanisms, healthcare institutions may prioritize financial gains over ethical responsibilities, leaving patients vulnerable to harm.

Systemic Failures in Healthcare - Beyond individual cases of negligence or malpractice, the crisis highlights systemic flaws in healthcare. These include:

- Staffing Issues:** Many hospitals suffer from inadequate staffing, relying on overburdened junior doctors or unsupervised medical personnel.
- Profit-driven motives:** The corporatization of healthcare has led to prioritizing revenue over patient well-being. This includes unnecessary procedures, inflated bills, and aggressive cost-cutting measures.
- Poor risk communication:** Patients are often not informed about the risks of procedures or alternative treatment options, resulting in uninformed consent.
- Inadequate grievance mechanisms:** Patients and families have limited avenues to voice concerns or seek redress, leaving them feeling powerless against large institutions.

These systemic issues create an environment where errors, negligence, and unethical practices thrive.

Impact on Patients and Families: The fallout from these issues is devastating. For patients, the hospital—once seen as a sanctuary of healing—has become a source of anxiety and fear. Families, meanwhile, are left grappling with the emotional and financial toll of medical errors and malpractices.

- Fear of Hospitals:** Incidents of negligence and malpractice create a psychological barrier, deterring people from seeking timely medical attention.
- Financial Ruin:** Many families

incur significant debt to cover medical expenses, only to experience inadequate or harmful care.

- Erosion of Trust:** When hospitals fail to deliver ethical care, they lose public confidence, undermining the entire healthcare system.

These impacts underscore the urgent need for reforms to restore faith in healthcare.

The Role of Supervisory Authorities The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." It's a quote routinely attributed to Edmund Burke that may be relevant to supervisory authorities, Directorate Health or Jk Medical Council play a pivotal role in ensuring the safety, transparency, and accountability of healthcare institutions. Their failure to act decisively in the face of malpractice allegations has exacerbated the current crisis. Authorities must:

- Strengthen Oversight:** Regular inspections and audits of healthcare facilities should be mandatory, focusing on adherence to SOPs and ethical standards.
- Enforce Transparency:** Inquiry reports into deaths or allegations of malpractice must be made public to maintain accountability and trust.
- Implement Standardized Protocols:** All hospitals should follow uniform guidelines for patient care, informed consent, and risk communication.
- Introduce Penalties:** Institutions found guilty of negligence must face stringent penalties, including revocation of licenses or financial sanctions.

Effective supervision can act as a deterrent against unethical practices and foster a culture of safety and accountability.

Recommendations for Making Healthcare Safer - To address the current crisis, systemic reforms are necessary. These include:

- Independent Inquiry Commissions:** Allegations of negligence should be investigated by impartial experts, with findings shared transparently and sharing of reports with the public to increase trust that there is zero tolerance for negligence.
- Patient-Centric Care Models:** Hospitals should prioritize patient safety and well-being over profit motives, ensuring ethical and compassionate care.
- Continuous Training:** Medical staff should undergo regular training on safety protocols, risk management, and patient communication.
- Improved Grievance Redressal:** Establishing robust mechanisms for patients and families to report concerns can enhance trust and accountability.
- Public Awareness Campaigns:** Educating the public about their rights as patients can empower them to demand better care and accountability.

Conclusion: A Call to Action -The healthcare accountability crisis is a wake-up call for supervisory authorities and healthcare institutions. Patients deserve safe, ethical, and transparent care, free from the fear of negligence or malpractice. Restoring trust in the healthcare system requires a collective effort, involving stricter oversight, systemic reforms, and a renewed commitment to patient-centric care.

Supervisory authorities must rise to the occasion, ensuring that hospitals are held accountable for their actions and that inquiry findings are shared with the public. By fostering a culture of safety and transparency, they can rebuild public confidence and make healthcare a source of hope rather than fear.

The time to act is now, for the safety and dignity of patients, families, and the healthcare system as a whole.

(Dr. Fiaz Maqbool Fazili is a distinguished clinical auditor and an expert in healthcare data analysis, with a prolific career spanning over two decades. He has served as the Director of Documentation and Research, contributing extensively to the development of evidence-based practices in healthcare. His insightful analyses and contributions to healthcare policy and practice make him a respected voice in the field can be reached at drfiazfazili@gmail.com.)

Modern Slavery Is Endemic In Global Supply Chains.

Companies Should Be Praised – Not Shamed – For Detecting It

BY MAHMOUD GAD AND STEVEN YOUNG

It's an uncomfortable reality, but modern slavery is endemic in global supply chains. Statistics on the scale of this issue are becoming as well-known as they are shocking. Estimates put the number of modern slavery victims at almost 50 million globally – including those in forced labour or living in forced marriages. Of these, 17.3 million are being forced to work by private businesses, with nearly 4 million in forced labour imposed by state authorities. More than 3.3 million of those in forced labour are children.

The extent of the problem, coupled with the complexity of global supply chains, means that businesses (and consumers) in all sectors face a real risk of supporting modern slavery, knowingly or unknowingly.

And yet the proportion of large firms detecting and reporting modern slavery activity in their supply chains is low. For example, in its recent analysis of a sample of large firms with UK operations, investment company CCLA



found that only 30 companies admitted to detecting modern slavery practices (or indications that it is present) in their supply chains. Conversely, "nothing to see here" disclosures should attract the scepticism and scrutiny they deserve. This is particularly true when the reporting organisation's suppliers operate in high-risk sectors

(for example, agriculture or construction) and high-risk regions. Companies claiming a clean bill of health should be able to show evidence of rigorous due-diligence processes. Companies also need practical tools to improve their detection and reporting practices. To support this shift in expectations, new technologies offer promising solutions.

Our research using large language models (LLMs) demonstrates how artificial intelligence can help transform modern slavery reporting from a box-ticking exercise into a meaningful assessment tool. These models can analyse company statements with accuracy that resembles human expert evaluation. But crucially, instead of simply

naming and shaming poor reporters, our tool provides constructive feedback aligned with best practices. This combination of better incentives and better tools could finally make supply chain reporting work as intended.

The path forward requires a fundamental shift in how we judge corporate behaviour. Modern slavery is endemic, and detecting it should be the norm, not the exception. When a supermarket finds forced labour in its tomato supply chain, this should be seen as evidence of robust due diligence, not corporate failure.

Companies operating in high-risk sectors must be required to demonstrate concrete detection efforts or provide detailed explanations for finding nothing.

Most importantly, investors, media and consumers need to reward rather than punish transparency. Without this shift in incentives, we perpetuate a system where wilful blindness is the rational choice for businesses – and millions of victims remain hidden in plain sight.

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Move Over Side Hustles, 2025 Is About The Joy Of Hobbies

BY THE TEAM OF AMALIAH

A new year always feels like a fresh start and a time to try something new. The one thing we are sure of is that we are done with side hustles and ready to pursue hobbies for the love of it! From gardening to crocheting, jewellery making to bouldering, we asked the Amaliah team what hobbies they're taking into the new year for maximum rest, joy, and creativity. Whether you are a serial hobbyist or a complete novice, this list of activities is sure to help you swap productivity for pure pleasure.

1. Bouldering

Contrary to popular belief, you don't have to be a tech bro to join bouldering. Bouldering involves climbing short, yet challenging rock walls without ropes. For the girls who want to progress their press-ups to pull-ups, it can be a great way to actively build on this as it is an excellent full-body workout, targeting muscles you might not use in everyday life. It also offers a great way to connect with a community of like-minded people like Climb-Muz, a group on a mission to create a safe and welcoming place for Muslim women and minorities to climb and encourage them to try a new sport.

If you're new to climbing, starting at a local climbing gym, like the London Climbing Centres (LCC), is a great way to get involved, especially as many places offer beginner classes and rental equipment, as well as flexible membership and pay-as-you-go plans to suit your schedule.

2. Junk Journaling

This one is for all the hoarders in disguise! As the name implies, a junk journal is simply a book filled with material that is usually thrown away but can serve as a reminder of a special day in your life such as old movie tickets, dinner recipes, old postcards, magazine clippings, train ticket stubs, fabric scraps like lace and ribbons, stamps and more. You can start junk journaling with basic supplies: an old notebook, glue, scissors, and scrap materials.

The best part? There are no rules. Just go with the flow and treat it like a creative thought dump, where instead of words, you're spilling out all the quirky bits and bobs you've collected. Junk journaling can be a really nice way to reflect and preserve memories of a special month that may quickly pass by or even a whole year.

3. Pilates or Barre

On days when you are not in the mood for high-intensity workouts, Pilates and barre are great alternatives. These low-impact exercises are gentle on the body, while still providing a great workout to improve muscle tone and flexibility.

There is a reason all the girls are talking about it, for the benefits on your core, and pelvic floor and it can also help reduce back pain, increase strength, and stability and improve mental clarity. If you're looking to get fit but are not fond of high-intensity workouts, then these are for you.

4. Film Photography

You've probably noticed that nostalgia and capturing moments with intention are major trends. There's something genuinely satisfying about film photography that digital images just can't quite match. This one is for the girls who love to romanticise the small moments of their day, capturing the little fleeting moments on film can also mean that you engage more in the art of noticing the things that can pass us by.

Film photography is all about slowing down and being present in the moment. You've got to take a minute to really think about your shot—paying attention to the light, the vibe, and what's around you. It's a little reminder to notice the world around you instead of just rushing through it. To get started, you'll need a film camera, rolls of film, and a place to develop your photos. Alternatively, you could also try a disposable camera to get started with to see if it is for you.

5. Editing and Making Video Montages

If your goal for 2025 is to live more meaningfully, why not try and capture moments that matter on video to relive and reshare later? Try creating fun video montages using clips from your phone or camera and then edit your footage, add music, and create a cinematic story of your life or special events.

Or why not capture "a day in the life" and wow your friends on girls'



night with a behind-the-scenes look at what you do for a living? You can use free or low-cost editing software like iMovie (for Apple devices) or DaVinci Resolve (for both PC and Mac). If you want to start from scratch, there are plenty of YouTube tutorials that can teach you editing basics for free.

6. Hiking

Hiking is a great way to get active without all the commitment, not to mention perfect for girls who love the outdoors. It is also super budget-friendly—day hikes are free, and all you need is a solid pair of shoes, some snacks and water.

Luckily, the UK is full of scenic hiking trails ranging from beginner to expert levels and offers stunning views that are guaranteed to help you connect with nature and unwind by yourself or with a like-minded company. From the Lake District to the Scottish Highlands, there are trails suited to every level. If you're all about vibing with organised hiking trips, check out Muslim Hikers for their upcoming hikes.

For a breakdown of different hiking trails around London, be sure to read our article The Best Hiking Trails Near London.

7. Reading

It's possible that you were a bookworm as a child, but then life got in the way and you suddenly found yourself drowning in course books, while reading for pleasure became a distant dream. But it's never too late to dive back into it. Reading is a classic hobby that lets you escape to different worlds and see things from fresh perspectives.

liah Book Club for thoughtful discussions and a vibrant space to share your love for books.

8. Kitten Yoga

If you love cats and yoga, we've got the perfect activity for you! Practicing yoga alongside playful kittens will add a dose of happiness to your routine while also increasing mindfulness.

The one-hour sessions are typically filled with plenty of play-time, cat cuddles and a qualified yoga session being led. It's also a wonderful way to support animal charities, as many kitten yoga sessions partner with shelters to encourage adoptions.

9. Cycling

If you've been looking for a way to stay fit and active but don't want to join a gym, why not give cycling a go? It is a low-impact, full-body workout that gets you moving, and can be a fun way to explore your local area or travel further afield.

An eco-friendly way to stay active, cycling is also a great social activity, with groups and clubs across the UK welcoming cyclists of all levels. Look into local cycling clubs like Cycle Sisters, which offer a network of dedicated cycle groups across London specifically for Muslim women.

10. Gardening

Have you ever found yourself mesmerised by countless 'Grow Your Own Veg' videos, dreaming about the joy of harvesting your own fresh produce? Let this year be where you turn those dreams into reality by experimenting with gardening—the ultimate slow-living hobby that requires patience but offers incred-

windowsill gardening?

11. Learning a New Language

Have you ever dreamed of ordering tapas in Spanish or understanding Kdramas without subtitles? Learning a new language is more than just asking for directions on your holiday—it's a doorway to new cultures and a chance to expand your worldview.

While apps like Duolingo or Babbel offer free or affordable lessons to suit busy schedules, they may not provide the wholesome immersive experience that joining a local language exchange group can offer. These groups are a great way to enhance your learning while enjoying fun, interactive practice with peers. To deepen your learning and make it more interesting, you can also watch movies, listen to podcasts, or read books in your chosen language.

12. Handcrafting

This is for the girls who want to unplug and embrace slow living, whether it's creating a bowl at the pottery wheel, a knitted scarf, a painted candle, or a simple crochet coaster, handcrafting offers a satisfying escape from the digital world, helping you focus entirely on the moment. It also makes for thoughtful, one-of-a-kind gifts for loved ones.

For beginners, candle-making sets and easy crochet kits provide all you need to get started and are widely available online or in craft stores. If you'd like a more social experience, check out the multitude of workshops offered by third spaces in your community for crafts like embroidery, pottery, and painting. Many studios

13. Colouring

Who says colouring is just for kids? Adult colouring books have gained popularity for a reason—they offer a simple, screen-free way to unwind and channel your creativity. Whether you're sketching freehand or using the Cosy Girl colouring book, the rhythmic motion of colouring offers a low-pressure, meditative hobby that's perfect for slowing down after a busy day. All you need are some coloured pencils or markers and a quiet corner to turn a blank page into something vibrant and personal. Just put on some music, light a candle, make a cuppa and colour away.

14. Building Model Kits

Not for the faint-hearted, but definitely for the detail-loving, creative girls! If you're into architecture, design, or just love solving puzzles, building model kits is the ultimate way to let those creative juices flow and flex that brain power. Whether it's assembling Lego kits, building model Gundams, or designing characters for a Dungeons & Dragons campaign, get ready to build and design your way through some seriously satisfying projects.

15. Beekeeping

You might think you need a whole farm for this hobby, well think again! Urban beekeeping is buzzing, with rooftop hives popping up all over the city. It's not just about the honey—although that's a major perk—but it's also a chance to help local wildlife thrive and connect with nature in a way you'd never expect.

If you're new to this hobby, organisations like the British Beekeepers Association offer courses and resources to get started. Just a heads up, beekeeping does take some dedication and a little upfront investment in gear, but the reward is sweet—just like the honey you'll harvest!

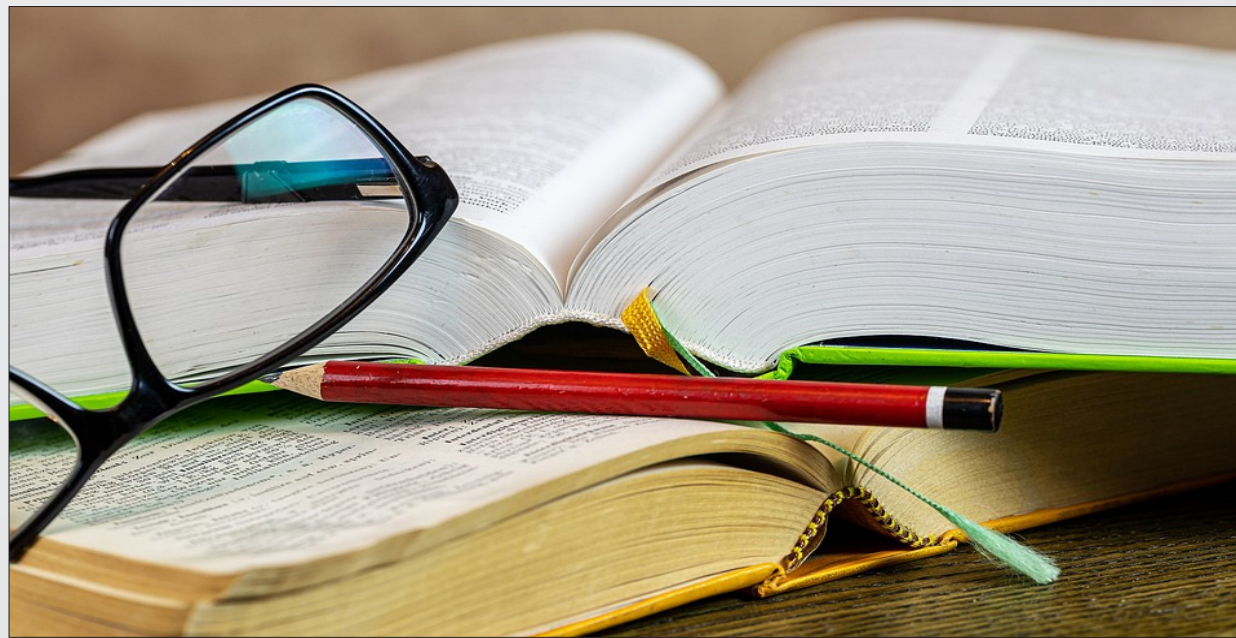
16. Open-Water Swimming

If your algorithm has been serving up intense workout videos and levelling up your stamina is your ultimate health goal this year, open-water swimming may become your new obsession.

Whether you're diving into Hampstead Heath pools, training for a triathlon, or splashing around at a local lido, this hobby is all about challenging yourself and pushing your limits. It's not just a workout; it's a whole vibe—a refreshing reset for both the body and the mind. Once you swim in open waters, you'll find yourself conquering that negative self-talk and overcoming those mental barriers.

Will 2025 be the year you step out of your comfort zone? You could try something just once and move on or surprisingly discover a passion that you had never thought of before. Whatever you do, we hope you embrace hobbies for the joy of it and add a little creativity and fun into your life this year.

(This article was first published in Amaliah.com)



Whether you pick up a good book or listen to an audiobook on your long commute home, reading offers a cost-effective and easy way to relax and unwind. Bonus: it's the perfect conversation starter in those awkward social situations—or the ultimate excuse to dodge small talk!

Looking to connect with a literary community? Come along to our Ama-

libly rewarding results as you watch something you've nurtured grow.

If you don't have a garden, try joining a local community garden. Grow Wild Kew offers a range of free resources to start your own garden. You can also pop over to the Garden Museum and take advantage of their free events and activities. If you are limited by space, why not consider

also offer beginner-friendly pottery classes that include equipment rental. If you're keen to try it at home, pottery and embroidery kits are available online starting from £20, making this a surprisingly accessible hobby.

For an insight into the world of art and creativity, check out our article Four Muslim Makers Share the Magic of Their Art.

Sick Of Winter Myths? Here's Your Dos & Don'ts Guide

Winter health often comes with myths. One common myth is that cold weather causes colds or the flu. However, in reality, these illnesses are caused by viruses, not the cold itself. Although, colder temperatures can weaken the immune system and increase susceptibility. Another myth is that you don't need sunscreen in winter but UV rays are still harmful even on cloudy cold days. Many also believe that heavier meals are necessary to "keep us warm," but overindulgence can lead to weight gain. Myths like avoiding exercise outdoors in winter can also hinder fitness as dressing appropriately allows you for safe and enjoyable workouts

even in the cold. Keep reading as we list some dos and don'ts to keep in mind to stay healthy during winter.

5 Dos to stay fit during winter
Exercise boosts circulation, strengthens immunity and improves mood during darker winter months. Layer up to ensure you stay warm during outdoor activities or opt for indoor workouts to maintain your fitness routine.

Winter vegetables like spinach, carrots, and sweet potatoes are nutrient-dense and help support overall health. These are rich in vitamins and antioxidants that strengthen immunity.

Cold weather reduces thirst signals, but staying hydrated is essential for digestion, energy and skin health. Warm herbal



Teas or soups can help you stay hydrated more easily during winter.

Winter air dries out the skin, so use a good moisturiser. Sunscreen is equally vital to protect against UV damage, especially if you're in snowy or high-altitude areas where UV reflection is stronger.

Shorter daylight hours can disrupt sleep cycles. Aim for 7-8 hours of quality sleep to keep your immune system strong and maintain energy levels.

5 Don'ts to stay fit during winter

Cold muscles are more prone to injury, so skipping warm-ups before exercise can be risky. Stretching and light cardio prepare your body for physical activity.

While hearty meals are tempting, overindulging in rich, calorie-dense foods can lead to weight gain. Balance comfort

foods with nutrient-rich, lower-calorie options.

The reduced sense of thirst in winter can lead to dehydration, which affects energy levels and skin health. Make a conscious effort to drink fluids regularly.

Reduced sun exposure during winter can lead to vitamin D deficiency. Include vitamin D-rich foods like fatty fish, fortified milk, or supplements to maintain bone and immune health.

Overusing heaters can dry out indoor air, leading to respiratory issues and skin dryness. Use humidifiers to maintain optimal indoor humidity levels.

By following these dos and don'ts, you can stay fit, healthy, and energised throughout winter.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

4 Soldiers Killed In

and fell into a gorge due to adverse weather conditions and poor visibility. Injured soldiers were promptly evacuated for medical care with assistance from Kashmiri locals, for which we express our gratitude. Tragically, three bravehearts lost their lives in the unfortunate accident. The Indian Army extends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families," the statement read.

The bodies of the deceased soldiers were handed over to their respective units after completing the necessary legal formalities, a police officer said, adding that an investigation is underway to ascertain the exact cause of the tragic accident.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed deep grief over the loss of lives and extended condolences to the bereaved families. "Deeply grieved by the loss of lives of Indian Army personnel due to a tragic road accident in Bandipora. The nation is deeply grateful for their service and commitment. My condolences to the bereaved families and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," he said in his condolence message.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed profound sorrow. "Deeply pained to hear about the terrible tragedy in Bandipora. We salute the selfless service of the soldiers. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, and I pray for the swift recovery of the injured," he said.

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge mourned the loss of lives and urged authorities to take measures to prevent such incidents. "Deeply saddened by the tragic accident in Bandipora, where soldiers have lost their lives. We salute their selfless service. Authorities must take adequate safety measures to prevent such incidents in the future," he said in a post on 'X.'

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also expressed her condolences. "The news of the martyrdom of our soldiers in Bandipora is deeply saddening. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, and I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured soldiers," she said.

Her brother Rahul Gandhi also expressed grief over the tragic accident.

Rahul taking to his X handle wrote, "The news of martyrdom of our soldiers due to the accident of Army van in Bandipora in Jammu and Kashmir is very sad. I pay tribute to the martyred soldiers and hope for the speedy recovery of the injured. I have deep condolences for the bereaved family."

MLA Bandipora Nizamuddin Bhat expressed grief and extended his sympathies to the families of the deceased soldiers. "Deeply saddened by the loss of lives of brave Army soldiers in this tragic accident. My prayers are with the grieving families, and I hope for the speedy recovery of the injured soldiers," he said.

This tragedy comes just a week after a similar incident in Poonch, where five soldiers lost their lives in a road accident—(KNO)

Kashmir On Alert

celsius, Gulmarg minus 2.2 degrees celsius and Pahalgam minus 2.6 today.

Jammu city had 8.7 degrees celsius, Katra town 11.2, Batote 6.5, Banihal 3 and Baderwah 3 as the night's lowest temperature.

The 40-day-long period of intense winter cold called the 'Chillai Kalan' started on December 21 and will end on January 30.

All water bodies including lakes, streams, springs and wells are partially frozen these days and locals wear the loose tweed overgarment called the 'Pheran' to protect themselves from the bone chilling cold.

An earthen firepot woven in a willow wicker basket called the 'Kangri' is kept under the Pheran for instant warmth. The Pheran and the Kangri remain the Kashmiri's best answer to modern central heating systems that run on electric power, which is in short supply in J&K.

KU Postpones Exams

postponed. Notice further reads that, fresh date for the conduct of postponed papers shall be

notified separately.

PDD Issues Circular

Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited, in a circular issued states that the Chief Engineer stressed the need for proactive measures to ensure a continuous power supply and the quick restoration of electricity during potential outages.

"Subordinate offices have been directed to deploy sufficient field staff in areas that were severely impacted by last year's snowfall. The department has also stressed the importance of adhering to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) during the restoration process," the circular reads.

In addition, all offices must maintain continuous communication with the Nodal Officer, providing hourly updates on the status of power feeders to ensure efficient coordination and response to any disruptions—(KNO)

PDD Lineman

apparently after a scuffle over a parking slot. The pistol used in the attack has also been recovered.

Police said Sharma was parking his vehicle on a street outside the PDD lineman's room, which was objected to leading to an altercation.

"During the arguments, a scuffle broke out between the two. Singh took out his licenced pistol and fired two rounds at Kanav Sharma," the police said.

After the incident, Singh ran away from the crime scene.

Sharma was immediately shifted to Sarwal Hospital where he was provided first aid and later to Government Medical College (GMC) for further treatment.

After getting information, Jammu Police swung into action and immediately called Forensic Science Laboratory teams to the crime scene," the police said.

Jammu Police, using technical as well as human intelligence, nabbed Singh and seized the weapon used in the commission of crime. Singh is a government employee posted at Parade, Jammu and was performing his duties at New Plot.

Bakshi Nagar Police Station has registered case FIR No. 01/2025 under section 109 of BNS and an investigation is going on.

Kanav Sharma is an advocate and son of senior BJP leader Chander Mohan Sharma.

MLAs, Delegations

Arvind Gupta. Also, a delegation of new appointees under PM Package, led by Sanjay Koul, President, All Minority Employees Association of Kashmir called on the Lieutenant Governor, an official spokesperson said.

Subsequently, he said, a delegation of PoJK Displaced Persons from Rajouri led by Rajiv Chunnai, Chairman SOS International, and representatives of Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan Trust also met LG Sinha.

Private Schools

government has constituted a district and zonal level committee. "They have been asked to monitor the violation so that appropriate action is taken against those private schools."

In the meantime, sources informed a local news agency KNO that the government is mulling to cancel the recognition of those private schools immediately after the complaint if found guilty.

"If any private school is found guilty in sale and pursue of non-recommended textbooks it will face the de-recognition very next day," sources said.

Pertinently, Netizens took to different social media platforms to raise their concern regarding sale and purchase of non-recommended textbooks within the educational institutions.

The Netizens have also expressed their concerns regarding the soaring prices of the unnecessary textbooks.

Karan Singh Seeks

hai Hindustan ke (We are the crown of India)," he said.

Asked about statehood restoration, the former Union minister said, "Definitely. Full statehood."

He also advocated for domiciliary laws similar to those in Himachal Pradesh, which restrict land ownership to locals.

"These are the domiciliary laws that we want," he said.

However, Singh feels not everything about the abrogation of Article 370 is negative.

He said the abrogation scrapped a law that took away the property rights of women from the state who married outsiders and also enabled many people who migrated from Pakistan to exercise their franchise.

"So I took a very nuanced view. Some things are positive in it," he said.

Decades ago, Singh had proposed trifurcation of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. He proposed that Jammu should be merged with Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh should be made a union territory and Kashmir should remain a state.

"Everyone jumped at me and the proposal was rejected. Today things are different. Jammu has its own personality now," he said.

Asked if he had any such radical proposal now, he said, "I think that now the only radical suggestion is the reinstatement of statehood plus domiciliary laws to safeguard the people of the state and a genuine attempt to strike a fair balance between Jammu and Kashmir regions."

The only way to do this is to have a peaceful relationship between the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir government, he underlined.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre revoked Article 370 of the Constitution, stripping Jammu and Kashmir of its special status and dividing it into two union territories — J&K and Ladakh. While the former has a legislative assembly with limited authority, Ladakh operates without one.

In December 2023, the apex court upheld the Centre's decision but reiterated the need for the swift restoration of statehood.

During the interview, Singh also reflected on his relationship with the Abdullah family, particularly with Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, the first chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

He described Sheikh Abdullah as a "remarkable" Kashmiri leader who significantly influenced the region's political landscape, but acknowledged the complexities of their interactions given the historical tension between the monarchy and the emerging democratic forces.

Recalling the time when Jammu and Kashmir's first assembly was constituted, Singh said his father Maharaja Hari Singh and many of his loyalists thought that he should not take up the role of 'Sadr-i-Riyasat' because Sheikh Abdullah had insulted the Dogras and the Maharaja.

"So that was where the tension in a way began. I suppose it was an inevitable fallout of politics. You see, I realised that the monarchy had lost its importance. That the future lay in democracy. I wanted to be part of that democracy," he said.

Singh credited National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah for bringing him back into politics after a 12-year hiatus.

"After the four elections that I won from Udhampur, I changed my constituency, went to Jammu and lost. After that I really gave up politics. I was out of politics for 12 years... he got me back into politics," he said.

He also recalled the NC's support in his election to the Rajya Sabha.

Singh described Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, the third generation of the Abdullah family to occupy the office, as a "balanced individual" with the potential for a successful political future.

"I think he'll go far. I hope he will because, you know, he has got a second chance now," the former minister said.

9-Member MLAs

PDP and PC is part of the panel. The panel comprises Mubarak Gul, Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami, Saifullah Nizam-ud-din Bhat, Pawan Kumar Gupta, Hasnain Masoodi, Ranbir Singh pathania, and Muzaffar Iqbal Khan.

The panel held its first meeting on January 3, but its four members were absent due to their different engagements—(KNO)

Kulgam Youth Dies

critical condition and is undergoing intensive care at the hospital.

This is the second such incident reported in Kulgam district within a week. Earlier, a two-year-old girl lost her life, and three family members were hospitalized at District Hospital Kulgam due to suffocation. In another incident, three people died in Baderwah under similar circumstances.

In light of the rising cases of asphyxiation, the Critical Care Department at Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, issued a public advisory, warning about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. "Carbon monoxide is a colourless, odourless, and tasteless gas that can be deadly if inhaled in large amounts," the advisory stated.

The hospital's Critical Care Department has issued safety tips like installing carbon monoxide detectors, especially near sleeping areas, avoiding using charcoal heaters, gas geysers, or generators indoors, ensuring proper ventilation in spaces with fuel-burning appliances, regularly maintaining chimneys, vents and heating systems, and never leaving vehicles running in enclosed spaces like garages.

In case of carbon monoxide poisoning, the persons are advised to evacuate to fresh air immediately, seek emergency medical help and not re-enter the affected area until it is declared safe by professionals—(KNO)

Winter Woes For

tendency to seek alternative water sources outside protected wetlands during freezing conditions.

"Our anti-poaching teams are conducting regular patrolling in wetlands, and we are also creating public awareness about the legal implications of hunting migratory birds," the official stated. "In many cases, offenders claim ignorance of the law, which highlights the need for more outreach."

The official added that they were intensifying awareness campaigns to sensitize the public about the importance of protecting these migratory birds. He said the programs are being planned to educate people, stressing the ecological and cultural significance of these avian visitors—(KNO)

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Transforming villages into vibrant centres of growth is priority: PM Modi at Grameen Bharat Mahotsav

IANS

NEW DELHI : Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Grameen Bharat Mahotsav 2025 at the city's Bharat Mandapam on Saturday, highlighting the need for transforming the villages into vibrant centers of growth and also celebrating the spirit of rural India.



The six-day festival, scheduled from January 4 to 9, will feature workshops, discussions, and cultural performances showcasing India's heritage while promoting sustainable agricultural practices and economic resilience in rural areas. The event, themed "Building a Resilient Rural India for Viksit Bharat 2047" and carrying the motto "Gaon Badhe, Toh Desh Badhe" (If the village progresses, the country progresses), aims to empower rural communities through innovation, infrastructure development, women's empowerment, and financial inclusion, with a special focus on the North-East.

Addressing the gathering, PM Modi emphasised the potential of rural India, stating, "Those of us connected to villages know their immense power. The village lives within those who reside there."

He highlighted his government's efforts over the past decade to uplift rural India, from economic policies to targeted initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and PM Kisan Samman Nidhi.

The Prime Minister acknowledged the challenges farmers face, particularly the rising global prices of DAP fertilizers, and assured them of the government's commitment

to reducing their burden. "Our goal is to ensure maximum economic support for villagers while creating new employment and self-employment opportunities. Over Rs 3 lakh crore has been provided to farmers through PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, and agricultural loan amounts have increased 3.5 times in ten years," he noted.

PM Modi also stressed the role of cooperatives in transforming rural economies, pointing out that 70,000 cooperative societies are being computerised to ensure better prices for farmers. He highlighted the Vishwakarma Yojana, which supports artisans like blacksmiths, carpenters, and potters by training them in new skills, increasing productivity, and providing affordable assistance.

"In the last decade, we have consistently increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various crops. Initiatives like the Svamitva Scheme have also provided property papers to villagers, while policies promoting MSMEs and the Credit Link Guarantee Scheme have spurred local economies," PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister shared findings from a recent survey, stating that

rural consumption has nearly tripled since 2011.

"The purchasing power of rural households has significantly improved. For the first time, rural spending on food has reduced to less than 50 per cent of income, allowing for more expenditure on other essentials," he explained.

Highlighting the narrowing gap between rural and urban areas, PM Modi said, "The disparity in consumption between urban and rural areas is reducing. Efforts over the past ten years have brought tangible results. A recent study by the State Bank of India reveals that rural poverty, which stood at 26 per cent in 2012, has now decreased to less than 5 per cent."

PM Modi underscored the importance of border villages, rebranding them as "first villages" and advocating equal development for tribal areas under the PM JANMAN Yojana.

"For decades, rural SC, ST, and OBC communities faced neglect, leading to migration and poverty. Our efforts are reversing these trends," he said.

Women's empowerment was another key focus, with PM Modi praising the role of "Bank Sakhis" and "Insurance Sakhis" in transforming rural economies.

"We have empowered 1.15 crore women as 'Lakshmi Didis', earning over Rs 1 lakh annually. Our goal is to elevate 3 crore women to this status while implementing special schemes for Dalit and tribal women," he said.

He highlighted the transformation in rural infrastructure, noting the construction of nearly 4 lakh kilometres of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. He also pointed out the digital revolution in villages, with over 94 per cent of rural households now having access to mobile services.

"Banking services and UPI are available in villages, and Common Service Centres have grown from less than 1 lakh in 2014 to over 5 lakh today, providing dozens of government services online," he said.

The Prime Minister also lauded the efforts of NABARD in supporting initiatives like self-help groups and the Kisan Credit Scheme. He called for the creation of more Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and cooperatives like Amul to boost agricultural profitability.

"Milk production is now one of the highest revenue generators for farmers. We are advancing natural farming in mission mode to ensure sustainable practices," he said.

The Grameen Bharat Mahotsav celebrates rural India's entrepreneurial spirit and cultural heritage while promoting economic stability, financial security, and gender equality. With a focus on North-East India, the event aims to ensure rural populations are equipped to contribute to India's progress and realise the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Come out of comfort zone: Amid hunger strike, Kishor calls on netas to lead BPSC aspirants' protest

IANS

NEW DELHI : Jan Suraj Party founder Prashant Kishor, currently on a hunger strike in support of 70th Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) preliminary examination aspirants protesting against alleged irregularities in the conduct of the exams, has issued a sharp critique of political leaders and challenged them to step out of their comfort zones and lead the movement on the ground.

Addressing the media during his hunger strike, Kishor remarked, "All these leaders, whether it is Tejashwi Yadav, Rahul Gandhi, or others, who claim to speak for students and want to be their voice, should come here, join the protest, and lead from the front. We are ready to



ask for votes. When will he come next? During the next elections to ask for votes again. If you don't show up in Bihar, how will you lead?" he added.

Taking a dig at Rahul Gandhi's absence, Kishor sarcastically added, "Should the students here send him an invitation to Vietnam? This movement won't succeed with just a post."

"If Tejashwi Yadav wants to lead, he must step out of his bungalow

under the open sky in this cold. Why? For the students of Bihar. It's sad that some people fail to understand the urgency of this issue. They dismiss youth movements as insignificant."

He criticised the police crackdown on protesters, stating, "In this biting cold, Bihar's students were doused with cold water and beaten with batons. The police chased down boys and girls mercilessly. Meanwhile, over 50 lakh

people in Bihar are struggling on roads, in factories, and in fields just to make ends meet. If we want to change this system, someone must rise above personal comfort, whether it's the cold or the heat. That's why we're here."

Kishor concluded with a call to action, emphasising the need for immediate leadership: "This fight is not just for today but for the future of Bihar's youth. The youth must rise and take charge. We are ready to support anyone who steps up."

Kishor has been on a hunger strike at the Gandhi Maidan in Patna. His protest is aimed at demanding the cancellation of the 70th Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) preliminary examination following allegations of irregularities and a paper leak.

Better future: PM Modi hands over flat keys to Delhi residents, fulfills dreams of pucca house

IANS

NEW DELHI : Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed flat keys to beneficiaries under the "Jahan Jhuggi, Wahan Makaan" scheme at a grand event held at Ramliya Maidan in Ashok Nagar, Delhi.

The initiative aims to provide permanent housing (pucca house) to residents living in slums, transforming their lives with modern amenities.

During the event on Friday, PM Modi interacted with the beneficiaries, listening to their experiences

and aspirations. The recipients expressed immense gratitude, calling the day a life-changing moment. Beneficiaries spoke to IANS and expressed their gratitude towards PM Modi.

Ramcharan, a resident of Rampura Golden Park, shared, "PM Modi asked how we felt. We told him we were overwhelmed with happiness. What he has done for our children is something we couldn't achieve in generations. For us, he is like a god."

Leela Bai, another beneficiary, stated, "I have five children, and this flat has

secured their future. We're extremely thankful to Modi Ji for improving our lives."

Vilas from Jailer Bagh, who lived in a slum for 35 years, said, "I never thought I'd own a home. Today, my lifelong dream has come true."

Sheela, also from Jailer Bagh, expressed her joy, saying, "Living in a clean and well-maintained home feels like a miracle. Earlier, we struggled in unsanitary conditions, but now our children have a brighter future."

Mohammad Manzoor Shah added, "We feel

blessed. PM Modi personally handed us the keys, showing his care for us. Our lives have transformed completely."

Amina Begum echoed similar sentiments, saying, "We were living in filth, but now we have clean, spacious rooms. This has brought immense relief and happiness."

With an aim to provide permanent housing (pucca house) to the residents of Delhi currently living in kutcha houses to improve their quality of life, Delhi BJP is realizing people's dream.

'Delhi desires change, this time', say BJP candidates named in first list

IANS

NEW DELHI : As the BJP announced its first list of candidates for upcoming Delhi Assembly elections, party leaders contesting from various constituencies expressed confidence about their victory and criticised the AAP dispensation. They asserted that the people of Delhi are aware of Kejriwal government's failures and are ready to give BJP a chance, this time.

Talking to IANS, Manjinder Singh Sirsa, BJP's candidate, emphasised 'people's desire for change' in Delhi.

"I want to thank the BJP leadership and workers for showing faith in me. The people of Delhi want to see a change. They want BJP in power in the national capital and they want to see Arvind Kejriwal defeated. His government has seen wide scale corruption and there has been no development under his leadership. People are facing water shortages, and numerous other issues. Now, they want a BJP government," he added.

Sirsa also raised concerns about the condition of Rajouri Garden, citing poor roads and sewage issues. "The condition of Rajouri Garden is really concerning. The roads and sewage systems are in bad shape," he added.

Ashish Sood, contesting from Janakpuri, also exuded confidence about BJP's victory. "I am thankful that the

BJP has chosen me from Janakpuri. The situation here is not good; people have to pay for drinking water, and there has been little development in the last 10 years. Our goal is to improve the lives of the people in Janakpuri and provide them with a comfortable life," Sood stated.

Satish Upadhyay, contesting from Malviya Nagar, criticised the state of the constituency, claiming that basic infrastructure was lacking.

"I want to thank the BJP leadership for choosing me. The situation in Malviya Nagar is dire - roads are in bad condition, there is no fresh water, and people are forced to drink contaminated water. Electricity bills are increasing, and parks and walking tracks are poorly maintained. This year, it is clear that BJP will win, and 'Kamal jarur khilega'," he said.

Upadhyay said that the BJP is working tirelessly to win the Delhi Assembly elections.

"Our workers are putting in a lot of effort. We will meet every resident of Delhi and show them the reality of the Assembly. We will free Delhi from a government that is involved in corruption," he added.

The BJP's first list of 29 candidates features prominent political figures like Parvesh Verma, Ramesh Bidhuri, and Manjinder Singh Sirsa. The party's announcement comes as the election date approaches, with political experts predicting a hotly contested fight.

Maha CID arrests two accused in Beed Sarpanch murder case

IANS

MUMBAI : The Maharashtra Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on Saturday arrested two accused who were absconding after killing the Massajog sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh from Beed district on December 9.

The accused, Sudarshan Ghule and Sudhir Sangle, will be soon produced before the court.

The police recently detained one person, who was helping the accused. Sources said the same person briefed the CID team about the whereabouts of Ghule and Sangle.

The third accused Krishna Andhale is still at large.

The arrests come days after Walmik Karad, a close associate of NCP minister Dhananjay Munde from Beed who was wanted in an extortion case linked to the murder of Santosh Deshmukh, surrendered before CID in Pune on Tuesday.

The case has been registered at Kej Police Station from Beed district against seven persons, including Ghule, Andhale, Sangle, Mahesh Sakharan Kedar, Jayram Manik Chate, Pratik Bhimrao Ghule, Vishnu Mahadev Chate.

Earlier, police arrested Mahesh Kedar, Jayram Chate, Pratik Ghule and Vishnu Chate, who are currently in police custody.

The police also announced a reward for providing information about Ghule, Sangle and Andhale.



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

ANANTNAG MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

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Order No: MC/ANG/293 of 2024
Dated: 26/12/2024

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Subject: inviting Startups, Youth, and Interested Persons for Door-to-Door Waste Collection and Waste Processing in Anantnag Town.

The Municipal Council Anantnag is pleased to announce an opportunity for startups, youth, and interested individuals to actively contribute to the cleanliness and sustainability of Anantnag town by participating in door-to-door waste collection and waste processing initiatives. This initiative aims to improve waste management practices, promote environmental awareness, and foster community involvement.

OBJECTIVE:
To engage enthusiastic and innovative startups, youth, and committed individuals in ensuring effective waste collection and processing in Anantnag town, thereby enhancing cleanliness and contributing to a healthier environment.

SCOPE OF WORK:

- Door-to-door collection of segregated waste (biodegradable and non biodegradable).
- Safe and efficient transportation of collected waste to designated processing centers.
- Active participation in waste processing activities, including composting, recycling, and other sustainable practices.
- Creating awareness among households about waste segregation and eco-friendly practices.
- Objective:
- To engage enthusiastic and innovative startups, youth, and committed individuals in ensuring effective waste collection and processing in Anantnag town, thereby enhancing cleanliness and contributing to a healthier environment.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Applicants must be residents of Anantnag town or nearby areas.
- Preference will be given to startups, youth, and community-based organizations.
- Individuals or entities with prior experience in waste management or community engagement will have an advantage.
- Commitment to work ethically and responsibly in adherence to municipal guidelines.

BENEFITS:

- Opportunity to contribute to the betterment of Anantnag town.
- Training and support provided by the Municipal Council.
- Potential for monetary incentives and recognition for exceptional performance
- Development of skills in waste management, entrepreneurship, and community outreach

HOW TO APPLY:
Interested individuals or startups are requested to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) along with the following details:

- Name, address, and contact information
- Brief profile, including relevant experience or motivation to participate.
- Details of the startup (if applicable), including innovative approaches or solutions for waste management.
- Any supporting documents or references (if available).

SUBMISSION DETAILS:

- Deadline for Submission: 28th of January 2025
- Mode of Submission: In person
- Contact Office: Municipal Council Anantnag.
- Contact Email: eomcanantnag@gmail.com
- Contact Phone Number: 01932-22335.

The Municipal Council Anantnag encourages active participation from startups, youth, and all sections of society to make this initiative a success. Together, let us work towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable Anantnag town.

No: MC/ANG/13053-55/2024
Dated: 26/12/2024.

DIPK-NB-3089-24
DT: 04/01/2025

Chief Executive Officer,
Municipal Council Anantnag.

Rickelton's marathon 259, Verreynne century grind hapless Pakistan into the dust

AGENCIES

Pakistan's horror day in Cape Town was complete after South Africa ripped through their top order to leave them staring down the barrel of a huge defeat. Having posted 615 thanks to a double-hundred from Ryan Rickelton and a century from Kyle Verreynne, South Africa's quicks Kagiso Rabada and Marco Jansen tore through a Pakistan line-up already missing the injured Saim Ayub. So effectively, South Africa are six wickets away from making Pakistan bat again, with the visitors a mammoth 551 runs behind after day two.

Having taken command before lunch, South Africa ground Pakistan into the dust in the afternoon. Rickelton ended up with 259, falling just short of Stephen Fleming's 262 as the highest score at Newlands. Verreynne brought up his fourth Test hundred. Jansen, out of form with the bat all year in 2024, heralded the new year with a whirlwind half-century. Six fours



and three sixes helped him get there in 42 balls. Thus, as many as 137 runs were added in the second session, with South Africa having surged to 566 for 7 by tea, already their highest score at home in four years.

Pakistan gamely battled on, but their efforts never looked like bearing fruit on a wicket that had long since flattened, and batters that had long since settled. Much of the second session became a milestone-mark-

ing exercise. Verreynne continued with the belligerence that had lit up the first session, a boundary off Mohammad Abbas and a single off the next ball bringing up three figures. It brought Newlands to its feet once more; they may have sore legs from the frequency with which they had to do that.

Salman Ali Agha struck next over to prise him out as Verreynne went for a slog sweep, but it did little

to stymie South Africa's momentum. With no scoreboard pressure, Jansen let his natural talent speak for itself, swinging freely and timing it beautifully. He took 11 balls to get off the mark, but once he did, there was no stopping him. Two fours and a six off Khurram Shahzad in two successive overs helped bring up the 50 partnership in 46 balls, while each of Rickelton and Jansen helped themselves to sixes off Salman.

5th Test: Chose to stand down in best interest of the team, reveals Rohit

IANS

SYDNEY : India captain Rohit Sharma cleared all speculation regarding him not playing the ongoing Sydney Test against Australia, saying he chose to "stand down" from the match purely because his batting form hasn't been good and that it was in the best interest of the team to have more in-form players.

He also described his decision as difficult but sensible. Rohit had averaged just 6.2 with the bat in three games, and opted out of playing the match, with Jasprit Bumrah leading the Indian team at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Rohit also revealed he was the one who told about this decision to head coach Gautam Gambhir and chief selector Ajit Agarkar.

"Neither of them (rested, opted out and dropped). I stood down from this Test - if I say a word, there are more than 50 words to describe it. The chat that I had with the coach (Gautam Gambhir) and selector (Ajit Agarkar) was straightforward that I was not able to score runs with the bat, and I am not in form," said Rohit in a freewheeling chat with broadcasters Star Sports during lunch break on day



two's play.

"This is an important match, we needed a win. We couldn't carry many out-of-form players, especially with many not being in great form with the bat. It was a simple thing that was going on in my mind - I told them about it and they backed my decision by saying 'You have been playing for so many years and you are the best person in doing what has to be done'."

"For me, it was a difficult decision for me to take, but it was a sensible one considering all circumstances and what would be in the best

interest of the team. The decision was taken after coming here in Sydney. After Melbourne, there were just a few days and one of them was New Year's Day," said Rohit.

"On that day, I did not want to tell the coach and selector about this. But this thought had been running in my mind for some time - like I was trying but could not score. I had to accept it, as it was important for me to step aside from this match," the India captain added.

Rohit, who also came over to chat with the team during a drinks break in the first session, also cleared the air over speculation of him quitting Test cricket after the Sydney Test, saying that his choosing to sit out of the game doesn't mean that he will be retiring from the format anytime soon. "This decision is not a retirement decision, nor am I going to take myself out of the game. I sat out of this match because runs are not coming off my bat. There is no guarantee that runs won't come two or five months down the line. I have seen a lot in cricket that life changes every second, every minute, every day."

"I have confidence in myself that things can change, but at the same

time I have to be realistic as well. So life won't change based on what people with a mic, pen, or laptop write or say. They can't decide when we should retire, when we should sit out, or when we should captain," he added.

"Sensible aadmi hoon, mature aadmi hoon, do bachon ka baap hoon, mere paas thoda sa dimaag hai, aur pta hai life mei kya chahiye (I am a sensible man, mature man, father of two kids. So I have some brains and I know what I need in life)."

Asked if the Indian team dressing room gets hurt over media reports of unrest in the inner sanctum in the run-up to the Sydney Test, Rohit stated, "All players here are made of steel, and this is our endeavour to make these boys like this. It's because of things which are out of control, nothing is gained by wasting time on it or thinking about what has been said out loud."

"All boys know what happens on the outside, what can we do about it? We focus on how we have to play our game, improve ourselves, and how to win games." After the interview ended, Rohit signed off by saying, "Main kahin ja nahin raha. Idhar hi hoon (I am not going anywhere, I will be staying here)," he added.

Harbhajan Singh to spin magic for Haryana Gladiators in Legend 90 League

IANS

NEW DELHI : Former India spinner and Mumbai Indians captain Harbhajan Singh is all set to represent Haryana Gladiators in the upcoming Legend 90 League, which is scheduled to be played in February 2025. Harbhajan, a veteran of 103 Tests and 236 ODIs, will bring his unmatched experience and skillset to the Gladiators, making them a team to watch in this innovative tournament.

Joining Harbhajan in the Haryana Gladiators lineup will be former Australian cricketer Ben Dunk, Sri Lankan all-rounder Asela Gunaratne, and bowler Pawan Suyal.

Indian players Anureet Singh and Praveen Gupta will also don the Haryana Gladiators colours, making it a formidable unit in the fast-paced 90-ball cricket. The Haryana Gladiators franchise is owned by Shubh Infra a leading real estate firm committed to excellence and innovation.

Speaking about the team, Harish Garg, Director of Shubh Infra said, "The Haryana Gladiators are a team built on the values of courage, determination, and excellence. With Harbhajan Singh leading the charge alongside a talented squad, we are confident of making a strong mark in the Legend 90 League."

Last month, Haryana

Gladiators unveiled the logo of the team, a majestic depiction of a roaring lion symbolizing courage, strength, and resilience.

Legend 90 is an exhilarating cricket tournament that unites former players in an innovative and fast-paced 90-ball format. This unique league is a celebration of cricket's finest icons, bringing them back to the field to relive the glory and excitement they once created.

The League will feature seven franchises and showcase the skills of legendary players. With its dynamic format and participation from iconic cricketers, the Legend 90 League promises to be a spectacular sporting extravaganza.

Scott Boland got a spell on Virat Kohli, says Waugh

IANS

SYDNEY : Australian pacer Scott Boland wrecked havoc on India's top order as he dismissed Yashvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul and Virat Kohli to send the visitors into a tail-spin before Rishabh Pant steadied the innings with his fantastic knock of 61 in the fifth and final Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, here at Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG).

Kohli, who was once again caught flirting with the ball outside the off stump and nicked it behind the stumps, was dismissed by Boland for the fourth time in the series and former Aussie batsman Mark Waugh believes the Tasmanian quick has the Indian great mesmerised.

"It is almost like he has

got a spell on him. He is mesmerising him. He is mesmerising that bat to follow the ball and that could well be the last time that we see Virat Kohli on Australian soil and in Test match cricket," Waugh said on Fox Sports.

Waugh's comments do have weight behind it as across five innings, Kohli has faced 68 balls from Boland, managing just 28 runs with four dismissals. His struggle is evident, with a false shot percentage of 35.2%.

Day two of the fifth Test may have been the last time Kohli played a Test match in Australia and was certainly left disappointed after falling in the same manner. Australia coach Andrew McDonald was asked about the team's strategy to face the all-time great.

We're not surprised by Boland's performances, says McDonald

IANS

SYDNEY : Australia head coach Andrew McDonald is not surprised with his pacer Scott Boland's eight-wicket haul in the ongoing fifth Test against India at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday.

Playing his third Test of the five-match series, Boland returned with the figures of 4-42 after finishing with 4-31 in India's first innings. His performance enabled Australia to restrict India to 141/6 at stumps on Day 2.

"We're not surprised by Scotty's performances. Every time he plays, he does the job well. His ability to just be relentless on a length move the ball both

ways, it's proving difficult, in particular on this (SCG) surface," McDonald said.

"He's always a genuine consideration Scotty, and every time he pitches up in the Australian colours he delivers. We're lucky to have those four quicks in Josh Hazlewood, (Pat) Cummins and (Mitchell) Stark and Boland."

The head coach hailed Boland's ability to execute their plans rightly in the middle especially against Virat Kohli as he dismissed him for the fourth time in the series.

"It's one thing to have a plan, but then to be able to execute that, the way that we have to Virat, (to) put him under immense pressure.

"And look, he's tried some things, he's walked out of his crease, he's tried different tactics as well, but clearly that relentless nature of in particular Scotty Boland in that matchup's been incredibly difficult for him to come back, but he's never an easy wicket," McDonald said.

With the pitch playing a huge role in the series finale, McDonald is aware of the challenge despite a low-scoring chase on the cards on Sunday.

"Low scoring games like this, it just heightens the pressure within it, so a long way still to go, there's going to be plenty of cricket, so we'll see what happens. (The loss of quick wickets are) just a symptom of where Test cricket is at.

MAZBOOTI SE BANI HAR

— DEEWAR SE JHALAKTE HAI —

DIL KE EHSAAAS



KHYBER CEMENT
Dil se banao

