

Good Morning Kashmir

16th Year Of Publication

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



Felicitated the daughters after completion of their Vocational Training at Army Goodwill School Shopian & five other Centres in South Kashmir. Congratulations to Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Vikas evam Sewa Sansthan & Indian Army for this wonderful initiative of women empowerment.

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Amarnath Yatra Pilgrim Count Set To Cross 2 Lakh Mark Today



UMAISAR GULL

SRINAGAR: As the annual Amarnath Yatra continues smoothly amid tight security and favourable weather, a total of 19,020 pilgrims performed the holy darshan at the sacred cave shrine on Saturday, taking the cumulative figure to 1,82,746, officials said.

According to the figures accessed, Saturday's darshan count included 13,980 males, 4,272 females, 225 children, 103 sadhus, 20 sadhvis, and 420 personnel from security forces.

The pilgrimage entered its tenth day on Saturday and continues to witness a huge influx of devotees from across the country. Officials said the yatra is progressing smoothly, with all necessary arrangements in place to ensure the safety and comfort of the pilgrims.

"Given the current

trend, the cumulative pilgrim count is expected to cross the two lakh mark by Sunday. This year, the yatra has not been halted due to rains or any other reason," an official told KNO.

Authorities have also deployed additional teams for medical aid, sanitation, and route clearance, especially in light of recent weather fluctuations along the Pahalgam and Baltal routes.

Ambika Soni, a devotee from Jaipur, expressed her deep satisfaction with the ongoing arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra.

"The government has made very good arrangements this year. Everything from security to basic facilities like food and medical support is well-managed. It feels safe and spiritually uplifting to be part of this sacred journey. I will offer prayers at the holy cave for peace, prosperity, •P-06

J&K Witnessing New Dawn Of Empowerment: LG Sinha

Attends Valedictory Function Of Women Vocational Training Course In Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Saturday said that Jammu and Kashmir is undergoing a remarkable transformation, particularly in education, women empowerment, and economic sectors.

Speaking in Shopian, the valedictory function of Women vocational training course at Army Goodwill School Balapur, Shopian, LG underlined shifting mindsets and dismantling of false narratives that once discouraged community engagement with initiatives like the Army Goodwill Schools.

"The social and economic upliftment of women has been our top priority. I strongly believe that women-led development will lead us to overcoming challenges like terrorism, drug addiction, other social evils, and to build a peaceful and prosperous J&K.

Nari Shakti has brought a tremendous change to the rural economy. Our multi-



pronged approach and women centric initiatives have empowered the women in Jammu Kashmir with training and financial support. It is being ensured that the women are not just beneficiaries of development but a key partner in J&K's growth journey," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor felicitated the women trainees who have completed their Vocational Training and Life

Enhancement Skills Courses at Army Goodwill School Shopian, and five other Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Enhancement Centres at Pulwama, Kulgam, Budgam, Anantnag and Pampore.

He lauded Ms Monica Pal Bharti, her entire team of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Vikas evam Sewa Sansthan, Project Toha Social, and Indian Army for the wonderful initiative of women empowerment •P-06

'Women-Led Development Key To Eradicating Terrorism'

SHOPIAN: Asserting that "women-led development is key to eradicating terrorism and ushering in lasting peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday reiterated the government's firm commitment to empowering women and promoting their leadership in the developmental journey of the Union Territory.

Addressing the valedictory function of women vocational training course at Army Goodwill School Balapur here in South Kashmir, LG Sinha, said, "Under PM Modi's guidance women's empowerment has been transformed into a mass movement in Jammu and Kashmir. The social and economic upliftment of women has been our top priority. I strongly believe •P-06

THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC UPLIFTMENT OF WOMEN HAS BEEN OUR TOP priority. I strongly believe that women-led development will lead us to overcoming challenges like terrorism, drug addiction, other social evils, and to build a peaceful and prosperous J&K.

Govt Orders Change In School Timings Across Kashmir



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has announced a change in school timings across the Kashmir Division, citing improvement in weather conditions and the academic interest of students. The revised schedule will come into effect from Monday, July 14, 2025, and applies to all Government and recognized Private Schools.

As per Order No. 182-DSEK of 2025, issued on July 12, 2025, the new school timings are divided based on geographical location:

Schools within Srinagar Municipal limits: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Schools outside the Municipal limits of Srinagar and in other areas of the Kashmir Province: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The order further emphasizes that "The classes shall be conducted in offline mode only."

The Director of School Education Kashmir has directed all •P-06

Admin Denies Permission For July 13 March

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Srinagar district administration has denied permission to all individuals and groups intending to march towards Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta, on July 13, 2025 (Sunday), citing law and order concerns.

According to a post shared by Srinagar Police on micro-blogging platform X, all applications requesting clearance to proceed towards the area on the occasion have been rejected.

"The District Administration Srinagar has denied permission to all applicants intending to proceed towards Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta on 13th July 2025 (Sunday)," read the statement.

The general public has been advised to comply strictly with the instructions and refrain from violating

Srinagar Police
@SrinagarPolice



Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta on 13th July 2025 (Sunday). The General Public is hereby advised to strictly comply with these instructions and refrain from violating the orders issued by District Administration. Any violation of these orders shall invite strict legal action under relevant provisions of law.

the prohibitory orders.

"Any violation of these orders shall invite strict legal action under relevant provisions of law," the statement warned. •P-06

Illegal Construction In Gulmarg Will Invite FIR, Demolition, Warns GDA

WARIS FAYAZ

SRINAGAR: Illegal constructions and unauthorized de-sealing of sealed structures in Gulmarg and adjoining areas will invite strict legal action, including FIRs and demolitions, warns GDA CEO.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Tariq Naik said that no construction will be allowed without proper documentation as per the master plan, while several violators have been identified.

He reiterated that "nobody is above the law" and violators will be "taught a lesson" in the coming days.

"There is a proper legal procedure for de-sealing a property that has been previously sealed. No individual has the author-



ity to do it on their own. Such actions are clear violations of the law," Naik said.

The enforcement wing, he added, is acting on the basis of multiple complaints and monitoring ongoing construction activities closely. Several sites have already been visited where

illegal work was stopped immediately and legal proceedings are underway.

"There is a master plan in place for Tangmarg, Gulmarg, Qazipora, Drung and adjoining areas. Until and unless proper documentation and permissions are in place, no •P-06

CS Reviews Implementation Of Welfare Schemes For Marginalized Sections

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Saturday chaired a meeting to review the implementation of various welfare schemes meant for marginalized and vulnerable sections of the society across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department (SWD), Anil Kumar Singh; Secretary in SWD; Mission Director, ICDS/ICPS/Mission Vatsalya; Chairperson, Juvenile Justice Board (JJB); Director, Social Welfare, Jammu/Kashmir; District Social Welfare Officers (DSWOs) and other senior officials of the department.

The Chief Secretary



underscored the urgent need to upgrade all the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) with basic facilities such as electricity, drinking water, toilets and other utilities.

He directed for according priority to those centres housed in government-owned buildings through convergence with departments like Rural Development. He also asked for shifting of centres operating from private premises lacking such infrastructure.

Reviewing the outreach and impact of various flagship programmes, Dulloo laid emphasis on monitoring the outcomes of nutrition-based interventions targeting the children, adolescent girls and lactating mothers under the •P-06

Every Terror Attack, From Uri To Pahalgam Given Befitting Reply: Shah

SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: Stating that the Government of India responded to the Uri terrorist attack with a surgical strike and to the Pulwama attack with air strikes, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that 'Operation Sindoor' was another example of decisive cross-border action.

Speaking at a public meeting in Kerala, Shah, referred to the 2016 Uri attack and the 2019 Pulwama attack as examples of how the government responded with military action. "We responded to the Uri attack with a surgical strike and to the Pulwama attack with air strikes," Shah said.

He also cited "Operation Sindoor" as another example of decisive cross-border action, describing it as an instance where Indian forces entered terrorist hideouts and carried targeted operations. "Terrorism has no place anywhere. The BJP-led



government will eliminate it wherever it exists," he added.

He said that terrorism cannot be countered by anyone other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP, and pointed to past operations in Jammu and Kashmir as evidence of that stance.

He also said the government is working toward

making India free of Naxalism by March 31, 2026. "This goal is part of a broader national security strategy aimed at addressing internal threats," he added.

The Home Minister criticised opposition-led state governments for what he called a lack of effective action against extremist groups. •P-06

...Amarnath Yatra

SDRF Personnel Saves Ill Pilgrim By Carrying Him 3 Km On Back



UMAISAR GULL GANIE

QAZIGUND: Ashiq Hussain, a State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel from Qazigund, became a real-life hero during the Amarnath Yatra by saving the life of an ill pilgrim, carrying him on his back for nearly 3 kilometres through treacherous terrain from Pissu Top to Chandanwari.

A devotee from Gujarat was reportedly experiencing severe breathlessness and was on the verge of collapse. Unable to walk further through the steep and rugged path, his situation turned critical.

"I was at Sheshnag along with DSP to inspect the arrangements

when we received information about the pilgrim in distress," Ashiq said. "We immediately rushed to the spot. I lifted him from Pissu Top and carried him all the way to Chandanwari, around 3 kilometres, despite heavy rains and the tough, slippery trail."

Ashiq said the man had a relative with him who was in tears, overwhelmed by the situation. "We administered preliminary care (PCR), and thankfully, he showed signs of recovery. I then shifted him to the hospital at Chandanwari for further treatment," he added.

The emotional moment was captured on video by the pilgrim's relative, who can be •P-06

'Bharat Sanrachna 2025' Exhibition Concludes In Srinagar



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The three-day mega exhibition 'Bharat Sanrachana - J&K 2025' concluded today at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC), Srinagar, drawing an enthusiastic response from the public, especially students and young citizens.

The closing ceremony was attended by Rajya Sabha MP Ghulam Ali Khatana, who commended the initiative and its impact on youth engagement. "Such platforms are helping to give our young generation a new direction and inspiring them to contribute to nation-building," he said, calling

the exhibition a meaningful effort in connecting people with India's progress.

Organized by Tarmeh Events, the national-level exhibition was held from July 10 to 12 and attracted over 15,000 students from more than 60 educational institutions. Through interactive displays, young visitors explored key government schemes, scientific innovations, and structural development projects.

Prominent participants included DRDO, ISRO, Powergrid, NHPC, Geological Survey of India (GSI), CSIR, ICAR, ICMR, APEDA, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Jute Board, Ministry of Textiles, DST, •P-06

Javid Dar visits Fruit Mandi Kanispora

Reviews irrigation facilities in Baramulla, rain-fed areas of Bomai

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production Department and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, Saturday visited Fruit Mandi Kanispora in Baramulla, where he interacted with members of the Fruit Growers Association, progressive orchardists and farmers to understand their issues and seek suggestions.

He was accompanied by MLA Baramulla Javid Ahmad Beigh, MLA Sopore Irshad Rasool Kar, MLA Wagoora Irfan Hafeez Lone, Director Agriculture Kashmir, Director Horticulture Kashmir, Director Command Area Development, Director Horticulture (Planning & Marketing) and other senior officers.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to farmers' welfare, the Minister assured that all concerns raised by the fruit growers would be addressed in a time-bound manner. He stated that the Agriculture Production Department is actively working to rationalize the rules and ensure strict enforcement of agricultural regulations. He added that strict penalties would be imposed on the violators to ensure accountability.

The Minister also announced that a state of the art testing laboratory is being established in Baramulla, which will



serve as a key facility for testing and research in the interest of the farming community. He further informed that cold storage infrastructure is being developed to reduce the post-harvest losses and improve the shelf life and marketability of horticultural produce.

Highlighting the government's broader support mechanisms, he said that Weather based Crop Insurance Scheme for fruit growers is also expected to be launched soon. This initiative aims to protect growers against natural disasters and crop failures, thereby ensuring sustainable income and resilience

for the agricultural sector, he added.

Later, the Minister visited various areas of Baramulla district including Tujar Sharif, Harwan, Zaingeer, Zalloora and the rainfed areas of Bomai to assess the status of irrigation facilities.

During the field tour, he instructed the concerned departments to identify feasible locations and prepare DPRs for borewells to augment irrigation facilities in the areas.

Pertinently, the Agriculture department has rolled out a new NABARD funded scheme for setting up community borewells in rainfed areas to improve irrigation

facilities. Similarly, 6200 borewells in rain-fed areas are being targeted under HADP for overall improvement of irrigation in rain-fed areas across J&K.

He emphasized the need for focused interventions in rain-fed and water-stressed areas and called for better coordination between allied departments to address gaps in irrigation and water management.

The Minister reiterated that the government is fully committed towards enhancing the irrigation infrastructure, increasing farm productivity and improving rural livelihoods across Jammu and Kashmir.

Legal Metrology cracks whip on cement manufacturer, seizes 550 bags

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Acting swiftly on the directions of Controller Legal Metrology Department, Rajinder Singh Tara, the teams of Legal Metrology Department carried out special surprise inspection of trade establishments dealing with hardware and building materials.

The team seized 550 bags of cement for violation of provisions of Legal Metrology laws like non-declaration of month and date of manufacture and MRP.

As part of the initiative, a team headed by Legal Metrology Officers conducted major enforcement

drives and unearthed serious violations at two separate locations in Jammu and Udhampur.

During the inspection, cement bags of a prominent brand found lacking mandatory information like month and year of packaging. The team registered cases against the cement manufacturer and seized 300 cement bags at Jammu.

In another surprise inspection at Udhampur, the team conducted raid on manufacturing premises at Battal Ballian. The team found that cement

bags ready for retail dispatch were without the mandatory declaration for which the company was booked under Section 18(1) of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and around 250 cement bags were seized.

As per a communique issued here in this regard, the Controller Legal Metrology reaffirmed the department's commitment to consumer protection and fair trade practices. He further highlighted that the department will continue its rigorous inspections in days to come.

The Controller urged

upon the consumers to remain vigilant and report any irregularity found in pre-packaged goods. Proper labelling helps ensure transparency and provide consumers with accurate product information of pre-packaged commodities which discourages deceptive or fraudulent practices, he added.

The Legal Metrology Department advised the consumers to be vigilant while making the purchases and in case of any consumer related grievance, they can approach the department for redress of their issues.

Inter-Zonal Handball, Volleyball competitions conclude in B'la

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The thrilling inter-zonal district level Handball and Volleyball competition for boys under 14 and 17 concluded Saturday with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship at GDC Boys Ground Khawaja Bagh and Indoor Stadium Khawaja Bagh.

The event was organized by the Youth Services and Sports department, district Baramulla.

In the Under-14 Handball final, Zone Sopore emerged victorious after a spirited contest against Zone Wagoora. Meanwhile, in the Under-17 Handball final, Zone Wagoora turned the tables and clinched the title after defeating Zone Sopore in an intense match.

On the Volleyball side,

the Under-14 final saw Zone Wagoora claim the championship by overcoming Zone Dangiawacha in a competitive game. In the Under-17 category, Zone Dangerpora outplayed Zone Tangmarg in a match that drew applause for its skillful display of teamwork and resilience.

DYSSO Baramulla congratulated all the winning and participating teams, emphasizing the importance of such competitions in nurturing sports talent and encouraging healthy competition among youth.

The spotlight now shifts to the Under-19 boys' Handball and Volleyball competitions, scheduled to begin on 14th July at the same venues, where new champions will be crowned in the senior category.

Nasha Mukht JK Abhiyan

DC Kishtwar reviews progress of IEC campaign against drugs

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KISHTWAR: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma, chaired a review meeting on the ongoing IEC campaign against drugs under Nasha Mukht JK Abhiyan.

The meeting assessed awareness activities conducted in educational institutions, panchayats and urban areas. Issues such as inadequate display of IEC materials, limited video screenings, incomplete event documentation and absenteeism of resource persons were noted.

DC directed nodal officers to ensure broader public participation, including SMCs, Biodiversity Committees and youth volunteers. Officers were asked to upload event details promptly and ensure visibility of content.

Officers will attend a training workshop on July 14, 2025, at the DC Office, Kishtwar, to strengthen campaign implementation.

DC also chaired a District NCORD Committee meeting to review anti-drug measures and enforcement performance.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Kishtwar Rishi Sharma, ACD Kaiser Bhawani, SDM Paddar Amit Kumar, SDM Chattro Naem Ur Rehman, District Social Welfare Officer Zubair Ahmed and other officers.

DC Srinagar chairs DLRC, DCC meet

Reviews performance of Banks in implementation of Govt sponsored schemes



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A meeting of District Level Review Committee/District Consultative Committee (DLRC/DCC) was Saturday held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, here to review the performance of the Banks and sponsoring Departments under various Government initiatives and flagship schemes for financial year 2024-25.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner/Chairman DLRC/DCC took a detailed review and sector wise performance of the Banks in implementation of different Government schemes. He also reviewed the achievements of Banks in lending to Priority/Non Priority sectors under Annual Credit Plan.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC urged Banks and sponsoring agencies to prioritize achieving targets under Priority Sector Lending. He also impressed upon the banks to improve the ease of availing banking facilities in favour of general public.

The DC stressed all the line Departments and Banks operating in the District to ensure effective implementation of self employment schemes viz Mission YUVA, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), etc with proper hand hold-

ing of the beneficiaries to further improve the credit facilities.

The DC asked Banks operating in the District to ensure self employment cases approved by DLIC including Mission YUVA are swiftly scrutinized and sanctioned with timely disbursement of the loan to beneficiaries. He also urged upon speedy processing of HADP cases so that the target population is benefitted under the scheme without any hindrance.

The DC emphasized utmost coordination between Banks and sponsoring agencies for better implementation of self-employment schemes so that beneficiaries set up their income generating units in a seamless manner.

It was apprised that Banks operating in Srinagar have provided a total credit of Rs 10505 crore among 157616 beneficiaries of District under different schemes achieving 213% of the target during financial year 2024-25.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Rifat Aftab Qureshi, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, General Manager DIC, Hamida Akhtar, Lead District Manager(Banks), Nilofer Jan, LDO RBI, DDM NABARD, all District Officers, Cluster Heads of J&K Bank, representatives of Banks and financial institutions operating in Srinagar.

Amarnath Ji Yatra

Nukkad Natak organised to promote cleanliness, safety awareness among pilgrims



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: A Nukkad Natak was organised at the Amarnath Ji Yatra Token Centre, Railway Road, Jammu, to promote cleanliness and safety among pilgrims.

The event was organised by the Cultural Unit, Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Jammu in collaboration with District Administration Jammu.

The play conveyed messages on cleanliness, biodegradable waste use, disposal practices and following safety guidelines.

The initiative was held under the directions of Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey and under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu, Mukesh Kumar Sharma.

DC B'pora inspects Transit Camp Shadipora for Amarnath Yatris



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: As the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025 continues in full swing, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, on Saturday visited the Transit Camp Shadipora at Sumbal to take stock of arrangements for the pilgrims.

During the visit, DC interacted with officers on duty and reviewed the facilities being provided to the pilgrims, including accommodation, sanitation, drinking water, and medical services. Officers briefed the

DC that all arrangements were functioning smoothly and pilgrims were being provided with every necessary facility.

Meanwhile, DC also visited adjoining areas of Shadipora to address local issues. Responding to concerns raised by residents regarding irrigation problems affecting their agricultural activities, DC assured that the administration is actively working to resolve issues flagged-off, especially in the Shadipora belt. DC was accompanied by SDM Sumbal and other concerned officers during the visit.

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION

Ph. No. 0194-2458118 Email: lrwdsmc@gmail.com

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE INVITING E- TENDERS

NIET NO: 20 e-Tendering/2025-26 Dated: 09-July-2025

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the following work:-

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Earnest Money (CDR)	Time of Completion in days/ Weeks	Class of Contractor (Civil)	Technical Sanction/ Dated	Head of Account
1.	Construction of Retaining Wall from House of Abdul Hamid Mir to House of Abdul Latif Mir at Check i Methan, Chanapora	Rs. 10.13/-	Rs. 601/-	Rs. 20260/-	15 Days Strictly	BEE/ CEE/ DEE	190 Dated:- 09-07-2025	MPLADS
2.	Raising of mainholes at various locations within the Chanapora Constituency specifically covering ward no 9 to 15	Rs. 8.00/-	Rs. 600/-	Rs. 16000/-	15 Days Strictly	BEE/ CEE/ DEE	189 Dated:- 09-07-2025	

● Accord of Administrative Approval: ›Available

Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

CRITICAL DATE SHEET			
1	Publish date	09-07-2025	
2	Document download date	09-07-2025 06:00 PM To 28-07-2025 06:00 PM	
3	Bid submission/uploading date	09-07-2025 06:00 PM To 28-07-2025 06:00 PM	
4	Bid Opening date	29-07-2025 11:00 AM	
5.	Submission of hard copy for successful bidder	30-07-2025 10:00 AM To 04:00 PM	

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The Earnest Money (EMD) in respect of the advertised Cost of the work should be 2% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC.EMD2% of the successful bidder will be discharged when the bidder has signed the Agreement & furnished the required Performance Security
- The L-1 contractor shall have to furnish the performance security @5% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC of the value of contract valid till DLP before issuance of LOA / LOI. In case of L-1 failing to provide performance security @5% for the works within 7 days after being notified, his bid shall be cancelled and work shall be executed through other sources U/R at the risk , cost and responsibility of L1.
- In Case of Holidays/office happens to be closed on the date of opening of bids. Bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The intending tenderer /bidder should attach sales tax clearance certificate with upto date Validation without which no tenders/ bids will be entertained.
- The bid shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer LRWD, SMC at Old Funds office Building Karan Nagar near National School Municipal Park on 15-07-2025 at 11:00 AM.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/ e- Challan pledged in favour of Chief Accounts Officer SMC in the Municipal Account No: 0216010200000007 payable at J&K Bank Brach. Scanned copy of the same with mention of NIET No. & Serial no. to be uploaded along with all other documents. The bidder shall be barred / black list as per law for tender fee in form of Bank Receipt, tender fee receipt and other relevant documents including Bid Security (CDR/FDR/ BG) fully filled up, if found with any ambiguity or unattested, correction / overwriting for any work, such tender / bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action U/R shall be initiated. The Bid shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the Bid due date.

- Name of the Bank:- Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
- Branch:- Balgarden, Srinagar
- Bank Account No:- 0216010200000007
- IFSC Code:- JAKA0GARDEN
- MICR Code: 190051008

6(a). Any payment for Tenders fees through online mode shall necessarily mention the following information. (Sender Name, Account No of Sender/Beneficiary, Transaction ID, Reference ID, Transaction date and time, The Remarks should necessarily mention NIT No, SNO and LRWD). Further use of pencil in writing (NIT No and S. No) on tender fees and EMD must be avoided.

No.SMC/EELRWD/798-807
Dated: 09-July-2025.

DIPK-NB-1115-25
DT: 12/07/2025

Executive Engineer,
Left River Works Division, Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

Sakeena Itoo addresses 'Triple Milestone Moment-25' of JLNLM Hospital



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, Saturday addressed the Triple Milestone Moment-2025 of Jawahar Lal Nehru Memorial Hospital (JLNMH) Rainawari here, organised to celebrate knowledge, care and clinical advancement of the hospital.

MLA Zadibal, Tanvir Sadiq; Director Health Services Kashmir, Medical Superintendent JLNMH, doctors, researchers and medical students were present on the occasion.

The milestones being celebrated included 'Allergy

Alert-2025'-a conference-cum-workshop, launch of JLNLM Journal and PG Research presentation.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister emphasized the importance of early diagnosis and community-based education on allergies, especially in light of environmental changes and lifestyle factors contributing to their surge. "Awareness and timely intervention are key to managing allergies effectively. Initiatives like 'Allergy Alert 2025' reflect our commitment towards equipping the healthcare providers and the public with essential tools to combat this growing health concern", she stated.

The Minister further said that the medical science is evolving day by day and doctors need to keep themselves abreast with the growing advancements in the medical care and research. She also spoke in length about the recent efforts of government for amplifying the healthcare infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister also praised the hospital staff for their tireless efforts and appreciated them for making JLNLM a top-notch tertiary care setup in the valley. She also spoke about the hospital's historic significance and the ongoing efforts to equip it with the best facilities for

patients.

On the occasion, the Minister released JLNLM Journal titled 'Asian Journal of Clinical Practice and Research'. She also distributed awards among the postgraduate researchers for outstanding work in medical field.

The hospital administration expressed gratitude to the Minister and the government for reviving the hospital and establishing advanced healthcare facilities for patients.

Pertinently, the Allergy Alert 2025 conference aimed to explore new frontiers in allergy and immunology, bringing together experts and researchers in the field.

Sakeena Itoo inaugurates CRWM for Water Supply Schemes at Noorabad

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, inaugurated the Common Raw Water Main (CRWM) for three major water supply schemes including Dranbal Waripora, H N Guri and C S Rather at Dadran, Noorabad, D H Pora here Saturday.

The project, completed with at a cost of Rs. 7.42 crore, Rs. 1.71 crore and Rs. 1.22 crore respectively, will tap raw water from two alpine lakes of Pir Panchal, Bramha Sar and Chir Sar and carry it to a water treatment plant.

Addressing a huge gathering on the occasion, the Minister said that the Omar Abdullah government is committed towards fulfilling the promises made to the people and is working tirelessly to ensure the prosperity, welfare and holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir. She added that the government

is focused on delivering quality infrastructure and public services for people to improve their lives.

She also raised serious concern over the growing drug menace, terming it as a grave issue that poses a threat to the fabric of society.

Highlighting the development journey over the past months, the Minister also shared various works and initiatives undertaken across sectors including education, social welfare and public infrastructure.

Sakeena said that commissioning of this vital infrastructure is expected to significantly improve the drinking water supply to the beneficiary areas and strengthen the region's water management network.

On the occasion, several locals and public delegations interacted with the Minister and apprised her of several issues and problems of public importance.

Sakeena Itoo assured them that their genuine issues and problems will be addressed promptly.

Massive Fire Damages 3 Residential Houses in Budgam, 3 Firefighters Injured

NAVEED UL HAQ

BUDGAM: A massive fire broke out on Saturday afternoon in the Surasyar area of Chadoora in central Kashmir's Budgam district, damaging three residential houses and injuring three firefighters.

Locals said that the fire initially started in one residential house and quickly spread to two adjacent houses. The houses belonged to Manzoor Ahmad Dar, Parvaiz Ahmad Lone, and Abdul Khalique—all of whom live next to each other.

"These families are financially weak, and the fire has left them with nothing. They are in urgent need of assistance from the administration," locals added.

Locals said that by the time Fire and Emergency Services personnel reached the scene, the fire had already caused significant damage to all three houses.

"If the Hanjura-Surasyar road had been repaired and macadamized, the fire tenders could have reached much earlier. The poor condition of the road causes immense hardships to locals—ambulances and fire services often take hours to arrive," said a local resident.

A police party headed by

Mohammad Shaban Rather incharge police component Surasyar, CRPF personnel from E/ Coy 181 BN, and local residents rushed to the spot to help control the blaze.

However, three firefighters—one each from the Chadoora, Khansahib, and Budgam fire stations—were injured while battling the flames. They were evacuated for treatment.

The cause of the fire is being ascertained, officials said.

Rana asks for upgrades in Gujjar-Bakerwal Hostels



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Saturday called for upgrading the Gujjar-Bakerwal hostels with provision of all modern facilities to address the existing gaps and foster a conducive environment that supports both academic and personal growth of the students.

He underscored the commitment of government to enhance the living conditions and educational environment for the tribal students.

He made these observations during his visit to Gujjar-Bakerwal hostels in Bemina and Tulsi Bagh where he conducted a thorough inspection of the facilities and had an in-depth interaction with the students.

In line with this vision for enhancing the quality of facilities for the students, Rana instructed the Director Tribal Affairs to take concrete steps to improve hostels' management and implement upgrades to the hostel facilities.

"These upgrades are expected to address the existing shortcomings and provide students with a nurturing environment that supports their overall development," Rana said.

He also undertook a comprehensive review of

DPR of the under construction buildings and directed for expedited completion by PWD.

During the visit, Rana evaluated the quality of facilities being provided to the inmates, assessing the infrastructure to identify areas that require improvement.

The Minister's inspection of the hostel's infrastructure was comprehensive, covering key areas such as classrooms, mess facilities, library services and recreational spaces.

He had a first-hand understanding of the challenges faced by the students and the scope for improvement in the existing facilities.

Rana also engaged with the students, gathering valuable feedback on hostel management and facilities.

The Minister's emphasis on creating a supportive environment highlights the importance of enabling the students to excel academically and reach their full potential.

"We are taking proactive steps to address the students' concerns and improve hostel facilities", the Minister said.

He further assured that Government aims to bridge the gaps in the existing system and promote an environment that fosters growth and development.

VC KU inaugurates SOCACON-2025 at GMC Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar Saturday witnessed the grand inauguration of the 13th International Conference of the Society of Clinical Anatomists (SOCACON 2025).

The conference, being held in hybrid mode from July 10-12, 2025, has attracted over 300 delegates from across India and abroad.

The inaugural session was graced by Prof. (Dr.) Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir, who in her inaugural address, said that today, we gather to celebrate the confluence of visionary leadership, innovation, and global collaboration in clinical anatomy.

The 13th International Conference of the SOCACON 2025 is a testament to the unwavering commitment of our medical fraternity towards excellence in anatomical sciences. "I commend the organizing team led by Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan

Shah, Principal of GMC Srinagar, for orchestrating an event of such national and international significance. I wish the conference all success and hope it will provide a platform for meaningful dialogue and collaboration among participants," added the Vice Chancellor.

Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Shah, Patron of SOCACON-2025 and Principal/Dean Government Medical College Srinagar, delivered the welcome address, stating "It is my privilege to welcome all to SOCACON 2025. This conference is a celebration of anatomical excellence, collaborative spirit, and the rich academic tradition of Kashmir. I praise the department's efforts in hosting a global academic platform in Srinagar and look forward to fruitful deliberations and outcomes."

Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, Head, Department of Anatomy, GMC Srinagar, stated that the department of

Anatomy is committed to academic excellence and interdisciplinary research in anatomical sciences. "SOCACON-2025 is a significant milestone in our journey, and I am confident that it will foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration among participants," he added.

The 13th International Conference of the Society of Clinical Anatomists (SOCACON 2025) is a premier academic event that brings together leading anatomists, clinicians, and researchers from across the globe to discuss the latest advancements in anatomical sciences. The conference aims to foster collaboration, innovation, and excellence in the field of anatomy.

The conference features keynote speakers from renowned institutions, including Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Nabi (University of Dundee, UK); Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Ashraf Ganie (SKIMS, Srinagar); Dr. Mohammad Sultan Khuroo; Prof. (Dr.) P. Vat-

sala Swamy (D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune); Prof. (Dr.) Bashir Ahmad Shah, Organizing Secretary; Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Saleem Itoo, Co-Organizing Secretary; Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, Administrator, Associated Hospitals, GMC Srinagar.

Dr. Kumar Satish Ravi, Vice Principal of NIMS Jaipur, added, "SOCACON-2025 has raised the bar with its intellectual rigor, scientific innovation, and emotional resonance. It has set a benchmark for future anatomical conferences."

The event culminated with a valedictory ceremony, where the Head of the Department extended heartfelt thanks to all national and international delegates, faculty members, administrative staff, senior residents, postgraduate and undergraduate students, and technical teams. Their dedicated efforts and collective spirit played a crucial role in making SOCACON-2025 a resounding success.

Speaker not rejected Resolution on declaration of Holiday on 13th July

'Mehbooba's statement on social media is misleading and not based on facts'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In response to Mehbooba Mufti's post on social media platform regarding Resolution by PDP on declaration of holiday on 13th July, Speaker, Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather categorically denied the statement made by Mehbooba Mufti on social media and said that the said statement is misleading and not based on facts. Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather stated that the said Resolution submitted by Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra was admitted during the Budget Session 2025-26 held in the month of March at Jammu.

Rather, said that Assembly Secretariat received total 111 Resolutions from 25th of March 2025 and 34 Hon'ble Members and out of which 87 resolutions were admitted for balloting and rest were disallowed as per rules. Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra, Hon'ble Member also submitted four Resolutions and out of which two Resolutions were admitted which includes the Resolution "Declaring 13th July as official holiday to remember the sacrifices of the protestors against autocratic monarch forces".

Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra was accordingly informed through Assembly Secretariat Bulletin



No.LA1353/Legn/2025 dated 14/03/2025.

As per prescribed Rules relative precedence of the Private Members' Resolutions was determined by separate Balloting in terms of Rule-28 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in J&K Legislative Assembly in presence of 7 Hon'ble Members on 25th of March 2025 and 14 Resolutions secured place in balloting which were listed in the House on 7th & 9th of April, 2025. The Resolution submitted by Mr. Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra, Hon'ble MLA, though admitted, did not secure place during Balloting process. So process was completed as per the Rules of procedure.

He further said that the post of Speaker is the epitome of impartiality and in no case it can be construed that the Resolution has been rejected out rightly by the Speaker, which is not factually correct.

Amarnath Yatra FSD intensifies efforts to ensure safe, quality food for pilgrims



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Food Safety Department, Jammu & Kashmir, has intensified its surveillance and enforcement activities to ensure food safety during the ongoing Amarnath Yatra 2025.

The exercise is being conducted under the directions of Minister for Health & Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, and Secretary, Health & Medical Education, J&K, Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, whose guidance has supported field mobilization and monitoring.

Commissioner, Food & Drugs Administration, Smita Sethi, inspected hygienic conditions of langars and food service areas at key base and transit camps in Jammu Division, reaffirming the department's commitment to serving pilgrims safe and hygienic food.

In view of the increased footfall and operation of food business operators (FBOs), the department

deployed Food Safety Officers, Food Analysts, and Mobile Food Testing Vans from Lakhnampur to Baltal and Pahalgam. These vans equipped with testing kits, conduct daily on-spot food analysis and raise awareness among langar operators and food handlers.

During the first week of the Yatra, the department achieved 215 registrations issued to langar operators and vendors, 171 inspections conducted, 910 food samples tested via mobile vans, 77 training and awareness sessions conducted, and 30 kg of sub-standard food items seized and destroyed.

Advisories outlining hygiene, storage, preparation and waste management protocols have been issued. The department has appealed to all FBOs to cooperate fully. For grievances, the toll-free helpline 104 is available.

The department reiterates its commitment to maintaining food safety throughout the Yatra.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION TANGMARG.

FRESH NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (CIVIL WORKS)

Fresh NIT No: 17/ R&B of 2025-26 Dated: 10-07-2025

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Time of Completion (In days)	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor	Project Authority
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Strengthening and Modernization of Anglers Recreational Park Gulmarg.	19.64	800/-	39280/-	30	UT Capex	C/B	Fisheries Department

Position Of AAA: Accorded

Position of T.S: Accorded

Position of funds: Assured

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10-07-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	11-07-2025
3	Bid submission Start Date	11-07-2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	18-07-2025 4:00 PM
5	Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online)	19-07-2025 11:00 AM

38. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (Dated between bid submission start date and bid submission end date) with NIT No. , Serial No. and name of work to be deposited in M.H. 0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender inviting authority).

4. All the bidders must upload Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Tangmarg (tender receiving authority) (The Date of earnest money/Bid security should be between the Bid Submission start date and Bid submission End date, otherwise bids shall be rejected).

38. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25(Double agreement Form), NIT, GFR 2017 & JK PWD Engineering Manual 2020.

No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/2217-27
Dated : 10-07-2025

sd/-
Technical Officer

DIPK-3616-25
DT: 12/07/2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Tangmarg.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

New Dawn In Valley

The arrival of tourists and Amarnath Yatris in large numbers once again has breathed new life into the Valley. Bustling markets, reawakened hospitality businesses, and the vibrant smiles of locals welcoming visitors paint a picture of renewed hope in Kashmir, a region long overshadowed by conflict and political uncertainty. This year, more than in previous ones, the influx of pilgrims and tourists is not just a sign of economic revival, but a deeper, more significant shift in public consciousness. There is an emerging realization among the common people of the Valley that politics, especially the brand that thrives on division and unrest, has yielded little but hardship. Decades of instability, missed opportunities, and stifled growth have led to a reevaluation of priorities, especially among the youth and working class. The Amarnath Yatra, beyond its spiritual importance, has become a symbol of national integration. When Kashmiris extend their warmth and support to yatris from every corner of the country, they are not just hosting guests, they are engaging in a profound act of unity. It is this spirit of shared humanity and mutual respect that is redefining what it means to be a part of the Indian nation. The political leadership, both local and national, would do well to recognize this change and nurture it with policies focused on inclusive development, infrastructure, education, and jobs. Kashmir does not need further polarization; it needs bridges, both literal and metaphorical, that connect its people to opportunity, security, and dignity. For years, the narrative around Kashmir has been dominated by conflict and alienation. But the true story now unfolding is one of resilience, pragmatism, and a desire to move forward. The people of Kashmir are choosing peace, not because they are forgetting the past, but because they are envisioning a better future. The sound of laughter in Pahalgam, the sight of pilgrims trekking peacefully through snow-laden paths, and the hustle of shikara rides on Dal Lake are all telling us the same thing: Kashmir is ready. Ready to reclaim its place, not just as a destination, but as an integral part of India's journey forward. Let us not miss this moment.

Good Morning Kashmir

Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher
Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editor

Sulaiman Muhammed Shah

Legal Advisor

Bashir Sidiq

Bureau Chief Jammu:

Harbans Nagokay

R.N.I No: JKENG/2010/36998

Regd No: 109555

Office No: 0194-3593724

Email:

goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com

Office Address:

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Aijaz Ahmad Dar

Train To Kashmir Offers Growth After Decades Of Wait



RAYEES AHMAD KUMAR

The two specially designed Vande Bharat trains between Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra and Srinagar were flagged off on 06-06-2025 by Honorable Prime Minister. The inauguration of a direct rail link to the Valley is a historic milestone that is likely to have a far-reaching impact on the development, trade, and tourism of Kashmir, and its closer all-round integration with the rest of the country. This was the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Project, which was approved in March 1995 at an estimated cost of Rs 2,500 crore. In 2002, the USBRL was declared a national project, and sections of the line became operational over the years that followed. The USBRL is finally complete now —272 km of tracks built at a cost of Rs 43,780 crore, passing through 36 tunnels and over 943 bridges, bringing Katra and Srinagar within 3 hours of each other. Among the several firsts of this remarkable achievement of railway engineering are the world's highest railway arch bridge, its arch rising 359 metres above the bed of the Chenab in Reasi district; the first cable-stayed bridge of the Railways on the Anji Khad, also in Reasi district; and the country's longest transport tunnel, 12.77 km long, in Ramban district. The Vande Bharat trains in each direction will cover the distance between Katra and Srinagar in about three hours, halving the time taken by the road journey. The trains will run even in deep winter, providing round-the-year all-weather connectivity to the Valley. The train will be extended soon to Jammu Tawi, which will make it possible to roll into Srinagar directly from almost anywhere in the country. Over time, the USBRL is expected to have a major impact on the economy of the Union Territory, facilitating hassle-free transport of goods such as apples, dry fruits, pashmina shawls, handicrafts etc., to other parts of the country in



the shortest possible time and at lower costs. The cost of transporting items of daily use to the Valley from elsewhere in the country is also expected to go down significantly. Few days before the formal launch of the train service, cherry packs laden express moved from Katra towards Mumbai, and at the time I am writing this piece, I have learnt from social media that a big consignment of cherries have reached the land of Saudi Arabia. It reminds me of the winter time, when highways would close for week's together in view of heavy snowfall and prices of essential goods would sour all time high. Not only this, our trading community would engage in stockpiling and hoarding essential food and other items to gain illegitimate maximum profits. Air tickets would sell at exorbitant rates and impoverished patients and other downtrodden classes who can't afford these unreasonable rates of tickets suffer most at critical and crucial times. Students and other aspirants of various competitive exams, who generally opt their exam centers outside the valley experience bitter times, when the lone lifeline of the valley remains blocked for weeks together.

Though the traditional Dogra time's Darbar Move practices have been abolished a few years back, yet some offices of administrative level remain headquartered and stationed at Jammu during winter months, posing serious concern among travellers wishing to get their works done, given the frequent closure of the road. Life saving drugs and other surgical items, either get delayed or get stuck at Jammu and other cities, when the highway doesn't permit normal vehicular movement due to erratic weather conditions during winter. Now, when the rail service has been finally green signalled upto Katra section, it is imperative to extend it to Jammu and then to other cities of the country. It will connect the North Pole of the country with its South, minimizing both distance as well as travel time. The nuisances of frequent highway closure, will no longer haunt travellers, patients, students and other businessmen. The all weather rail connectivity will truly prove a blessing both for local and non-local people. In the education sector, it will boost both career options and learning opportunities because moving to outside the state will no longer be hectic. In the past,

parents would show reluctance to send their children outside the state, only a handful of them remained optimistic, as frequent highway closures often added to their desperation. Given the huge linguistic, cultural and religious diversity of the country, flow of ideas and cultures will be easier from now on. Given the enhanced connectivity with the rest of the country, both parents and students are seen as optimistic about the career prospects and bright future of their children, as Kashmir to Kanyakumari is a dream come true now. Within a week, after the inauguration of the prestigious express, all the tickets of the VandeBharat train were booked for the next fifteen days. At a time when it is simmering outside, tourists and other nature lovers find Kashmir as the only option to relax and enjoy these summer days. With improved connectivity, we hope that the train service proves a major relief to the majority of the people who earlier have suffered a lot in the past.

Writer is a columnist based in Qazigund Kashmir. He can be mailed at rayeeskumar31@gmail.com

Why Early School Hours Make Sense Now

DR. RIZWAN ROOMI

As the summer sun rises faster and fiercer across the Indian subcontinent, the picturesque valleys of Kashmir, long known for their temperate climate, are now bearing the brunt of an unfamiliar adversary—extreme heat. With temperatures in Kashmir reaching alarming highs of 35-37°C this summer—unusual and record-breaking by historical standards—educational institutions have been forced to reconsider their traditional schedules. In response, the School Education Department of Jammu and Kashmir recently advanced school timings: 7:30 AM in urban areas and 8:00 AM in rural zones, effective from July. While some parents and educators have expressed reservations, claiming that the move disrupts children's sleep and routines, a deeper look into scientific research and climatic realities reveals that this may, in fact, be a life-saving and learning-saving intervention. Traditionally, Kashmir's summers have been mild, with daily highs rarely exceeding 30°C. However, climate change has altered this pattern dramatically. According to a 2023 report by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Jammu and Kashmir has seen a 1.45°C rise in average summer temperatures over the last two decades, with the frequency of heatwave-like conditions increasing significantly, especially in the plains of South Kashmir like Anantnag, Pulwama and parts of the Jammu region. These temperature spikes are not just uncomfortable—they're dangerous. Children, due to their underdeveloped thermoregulation systems and



high metabolic rates, are especially vulnerable to heat stress. Symptoms ranging from dizziness, nausea, fatigue and dehydration to more serious conditions like heat exhaustion and heatstroke have been reported in several schools during mid-day hours. A landmark study by Harvard University found that for every 1°C increase in classroom temperature, students' cognitive performance decreased by up to 2%, especially in mathematics and reading tasks. Children subjected to morning classes, when temperatures are 4-5°C cooler, were more alert and better performing than their afternoon counterparts. The Indian Journal of Com-

munity Medicine reported that in Northern Indian schools, classes held after 11 AM during May-July led to a 40% increase in reported cases of dehydration and fatigue among students, compared to those held in morning hours. While adolescent sleep cycles do lean towards later wake-up times, younger children (ages 5-13) naturally wake earlier and show higher alertness levels before noon, according to the National Sleep Foundation. Thus, early morning schedules are developmentally appropriate for the majority of students enrolled in Kashmir's government schools. Data from the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultur-

al Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) in 2024 revealed that the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT)—a measure of heat stress—often crosses 28°C by 11:30 AM during summer, the threshold beyond which outdoor physical activity is considered unsafe for children. Early school timings help bypass this danger window entirely. Early school schedules in Kashmir have already shown positive effects in preliminary surveys conducted by the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir (DSEK). Attendance has improved, classroom disruptions have decreased and teachers have reported more effective curriculum coverage

with fewer midday breaks or health-related interruptions. Critics argue that early timings interfere with sleep schedules, especially for students in remote areas who walk long distances. While this is a valid concern, it must be weighed against the immediate and growing threat of heat exposure. The solution lies not in reversing the shift, but in supportive adaptation—such as providing transportation, issuing sleep hygiene guidelines to parents and ensuring hydration and shaded waiting areas for students. Ultimately, early school timings must be seen as part of a larger climate resilience strategy. The government must invest in passive cooling infrastructure, such as reflective roofs, cross-ventilation, and tree plantations. Schools should also have water stations, shaded compounds and heat action plans with clear protocols for schedule changes, partial closures, or remote learning in case of extreme weather. Kashmir is no longer insulated from the heatwave crises sweeping the Indian plains. What was once a land of cool breezes and snow-fed rivers is now increasingly vulnerable to climate volatility. In this evolving reality, early school timings offer a scientifically grounded, practically effective, and urgently needed adaptation. This is not just a question of when children go to school—it's a question of whether they can learn, thrive and stay safe in a changing world. Let us not resist change out of habit. Instead, let us embrace it with foresight, evidence, and compassion—for the sake of our children, our schools, and our future.

The author can be mailed at rizwanroomi2012@gmail.com

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

■ Trapped In Yemen

Nimisha Priya Deserves Sympathy, Not The Gallows



SANJAY SAXENA

The story of Nimisha Priya, a resident of Kollengode in the Palakkad district of Kerala, begins with dreams nurtured amidst poverty and compulsion. At the age of 19, in 2008, Nimisha dreamt of improving her family's financial condition. Her mother, Prema Kumari, worked as a domestic help in Kochi, and the family was so financially weak that even affording Nimisha's education was difficult. After completing a nursing course, Nimisha came to know about better opportunities for nurses in Yemen. At that time, Yemen was not engulfed in civil war, and job prospects there were promising. With hopes for a bright future, Nimisha set off for Sana'a, the capital of Yemen.

Nimisha got a job as a nurse in a government hospital in Sana'a. Through hard work and dedication, she earned her place. In 2011, she returned to India and married Tommy Thomas, an auto driver. After the marriage, Nimisha and Tommy went back to Yemen. While Nimisha continued her nursing career, Tommy got a job as an assistant to an electrician. In 2012, they had a daughter. Everything was going well until 2014 when a civil war broke out in Yemen. Due to financial difficulties and visa restrictions, Tommy returned to India with their daughter, but Nimisha stayed back in Yemen to support the family financially.

While living in Yemen, Nimisha dreamed of opening her own clinic. According to Yemeni law, a foreign national needs a local partner to open a clinic. This is when Talal Abdo Mahdi entered her life. Talal was a Yemeni citizen who frequently visited Nimisha's hospital. He prom-



ised to help her. Nimisha gave him 600,000 Yemeni Riyals to arrange for permits and a place for the clinic. Initially, everything seemed fine. The clinic started running, and Nimisha began earning well. But soon, Talal's behavior changed.

With the worsening civil war in Yemen in 2015, Talal began harassing Nimisha. He listed himself as a shareholder in the clinic and tried to usurp a large share of the income. Nimisha alleged that Talal started claiming to be her husband through forged documents. He confiscated her passport, threatened her, and subjected her to physical and mental abuse. Nimisha reported that Talal would beat her while drunk, humiliate her in front of clinic staff, and bring his friends home at night, forcing her to have sexual relations with them. Many times, Nimisha had to spend nights on the streets of Yemen, where it

is considered highly unusual for women to be outside alone at night.

In 2016, Nimisha gathered courage and lodged a complaint against Talal at the Sana'a police station. But instead, the police jailed her for six days. After her release, a prison warden advised her that she could get her passport back by injecting Talal with a sedative. In July 2017, Nimisha followed this advice. Her intention was not to kill Talal; she only wanted her passport back so she could leave Yemen and return to India. But unfortunately, the dose of the sedative turned out to be too strong, and Talal died.

Under stress, Nimisha sought help from a local woman named Hanan. Hanan suggested that they dismember the body and dispose of it in a water tank. In August 2017, the police arrested both Nimisha and Hanan. In 2018, a Yemeni court found Nimisha guilty of murder

and sentenced her to death in 2020. Hanan was sentenced to life imprisonment. In 2023, the Supreme Judicial Council of the Houthi rebels upheld the sentence. Yemen's President Rashad Al-Alimi approved the execution in 2024, although some reports claim the decision was taken by the Houthi rebels.

After the sentence, Nimisha's family and the "Save Nimisha Priya International Action Council" made every possible effort to save her. Under Sharia law in Yemen, there is a provision for "blood money" (diyah), where compensation can be paid to the victim's family in exchange for a pardon. Talal's family demanded 5 million Yemeni Riyals (about 1.52 crore), but negotiations failed. The Indian government also reached out to Yemeni authorities, but the lack of formal diplomatic relations with the Houthi rebels and the ongoing civil war in Yemen complicated matters

further.

Nimisha's mother, Prema Kumari, has been in Yemen for the past year trying to save her daughter. On July 14, 2025, the Indian Supreme Court is scheduled to hear a petition demanding that the central government intervene. However, Nimisha is scheduled to be executed on July 16, 2025. In Yemen, the method of execution is by firing squad, where the convict is wrapped in a blanket and shot in the back.

Nimisha's story is not just about a murder—it's about a woman who set out to fulfill her dreams but got trapped in a web of deceit, exploitation, and unfortunate circumstances. Her family, human rights activists, and the Indian government are still making last-ditch efforts to save her life.

Author is a Senior Journalist. He can be mailed at sks1ko28@gmail.com

Replacing The Date Sheet With Readiness: Re-Visiting Assessments In The Age Of AI

DR. SHEIKH IRFAN AHMED

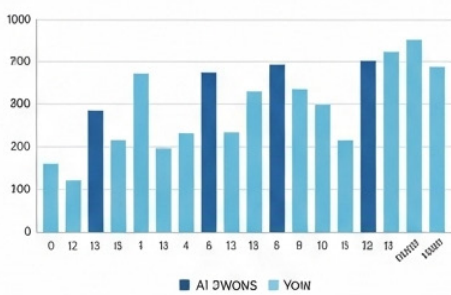
In today's academic landscape, where Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, and QuillBot have become integral to students' routines, educators face a new and urgent challenge: how to accurately evaluate a student's genuine understanding, critical thinking, and originality. While AI presents remarkable opportunities for enhancing learning, it also raises serious concerns about intellectual dependency and the erosion of critical thinking skills. As educators, we must now revisit our traditional assessment methods. The critical question is: Are students using AI to support their learning, or are they outsourcing their thinking entirely? The integrity of the educational process hinges on this distinction. Evaluating students' true capabilities requires a shift in how we design and deliver assessments. One of the most concerning trends is the increasing reliance on scheduled exams and lengthy preparation windows—periods in which students may rely on AI tools to generate responses instead of engaging with the subject matter authentically. While the objective of education is to nurture cognitive development and independent thinking, AI-generated content often undermines this goal by enabling superficial or automated submissions that lack originality and depth.

One of the most effective ways to assess a student's capability is through examinations. However, in the age of AI, examinations must be redesigned to be more spontaneous and less predictable. Instant, unannounced assessments compel students to stay engaged and be consistently prepared, rather than relying on short-term memorization or AI-generated answers. When students know that evaluation could happen at any moment, they are more likely to develop the habit of continuous study

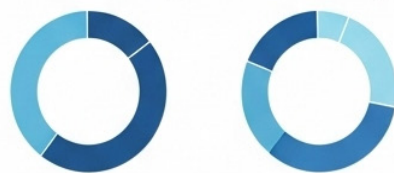
Replacing the Date Sheet with Readiness: Re-visiting Assessments in the Age of AI

AI changes the purpose of assessment from in simply "measuring" also "preparing."

Changes the Date Sheet eadoest



AI seamless integration tive seamless Com tools with learningdrl and Teaching practices.



AI seamless integration tive seamless Com tools with learningdrl and Teaching practices.

and active learning. This approach fosters not just academic discipline but also mental agility and real-time application of knowledge—essential skills in the modern world. In light of these developments, I propose a radical yet necessary shift in our evaluation approach: "surprise testing" or unannounced assessments. Instead of fixed date sheets that inadvertently encourage last-minute

cramming or over-reliance on AI, we must adopt assessment methods that reward consistent learning, critical engagement, and honest effort. By introducing unpredictability into the timing of evaluations, students are encouraged to remain academically active throughout the term. A well-prepared student should be able to demonstrate their understanding at any time—not just on a pre-scheduled

date.

Surprise testing helps educators distinguish between students who use AI as a supportive tool and those who misuse it to replace their thinking. It cultivates habits of regular study and fosters a learning culture built on integrity, originality, and responsibility. Moreover, it reintroduces the human dimension to education by valuing creativity, intuition,

and real-time problem-solving over machine-enhanced perfection.

Let us be clear: this is not an attempt to create anxiety among learners. Rather, it is a call to guide them toward becoming thoughtful, self-reliant individuals who can engage with AI tools ethically and meaningfully. Used responsibly, AI can augment the learning process. However, when it becomes a crutch, it deprives students of the opportunity to build essential skills and intellectual resilience. The real challenge for educators today is not just marking correct answers, but discerning whether those answers represent genuine comprehension or machine-generated content. If we continue to ignore this shift, we risk producing a generation of learners who are intellectually handicapped—dependent on machines rather than empowered by them.

To address this, we must build assessment systems that are less predictable and more reflective of real-world expectations—where readiness, adaptability, and originality are key. Surprise assessments not only challenge students to engage continuously but also enable teachers to more accurately evaluate their progress and potential.

In conclusion, the evolving educational environment demands an equally evolving approach to student evaluation. Scheduled exams and polished, AI-enhanced assignments no longer suffice to reflect true learning. By implementing unannounced assessments, we can safeguard academic integrity and promote lifelong learning habits. This strategy empowers students to use AI responsibly—as a tool to enhance, not replace, their own thinking. In doing so, we preserve the core values of education: creativity, intellectual development, and the pursuit of authentic knowledge.

Author is Associate Professor, ECSU

Rouble Nagi Calls on LG Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A public delegation led by Rouble Nagi, social activist and Founder Rouble Nagi Art Foundation Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Saturday.

The delegation apprised the Lieutenant Governor of various welfare issues of Non-Migrant Sikh community members living in Kashmir.

Nagi submitted a detailed memorandum to His Excellency, the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, at Raj Bhavan, Srinagar, highlighting the longstanding concerns and pressing demands of the Non-Migrant Sikh community residing in the Kashmir Valley.

The memorandum, submit-

ted under the banner of Rouble Nagi Art Foundation (RNAF), was presented on behalf of the resilient Sikh population who, despite enduring decades of terrorism and marginalization, never left their homeland and have remained steadfast contributors to Kashmir's social fabric.

“The Sikh community in Kashmir stayed back not because it was easy, but because it was right. They chose faith over fear, and inclusion over exodus,” said Ms. Nagi after the meeting. “Now it's time their courage is acknowledged and their contributions are supported through concrete policies.”

The State Co-ordinator Rouble Nagi Art Foundation RNAF, Amanjeetsingh empha-



sized that these demands are not about special treatment but about basic justice, representation, and dignity for a com-

munity that has shown unwavering faith in the Union and constitutional values of India.

RNAF and Nagi called upon the UT administration to act with urgency, compassion, and fairness to uplift a community that has, for too long, remained on the periphery of policy attention.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor gave a patient hearing to the delegation and assured appropriate consideration of the issues raised.

This initiative marks a significant step in amplifying the voice of Non-Migrant Sikhs in Kashmir, aligning with the broader vision of a peaceful, inclusive, and development-oriented Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Amarnath Yatra Pilgrim

and happiness for everyone,” she said.

Another devotee, Nilesh Upadhyay, who is undertaking the pilgrimage, said that he had come for the 13th time.

"I have come here for the 13th time, and I must say the arrangements have continuously improved over the years. There is a sense of peace and divine energy all around. The yatris are being taken care of at every step of the way. The environment is calm, the people are cooperative, and the security forces are doing a commendable job," he said.

Meanwhile, the 11th batch of 6,639 pilgrims set out from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Saturday morning to undertake the sacred journey to the Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir.

The group included 1,462 women, 41 children, and 181 sadhus and sadhvis. As per officials, the pilgrims left in two separate convoys amid tight security arrangements, heading towards the twin base camps of Nunwan in Pahalgam and Baltal in Ganderbal district.

Out of the total, 4,302 pilgrims opted for the traditional Pahalgam route, travelling in 159 vehicles, while 2,337 pilgrims preferred the Baltal route and were accommodated in 116 vehicles.

The 32-day yatra, which commenced on July 3, is scheduled to conclude on August 9—(KNO)

J&K Witnessing

and providing vocational training to 1481 women, including 125 women trainees of the recently concluded training course.

Paying homage to Baba Saheb Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar, the Lieutenant Governor said that Baba Saheb was the pioneer of women's rights and women's empowerment and his timeless values and resolve for selfless service, equality, and social justice continues to guide the nation.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, women's empowerment has been transformed into a mass movement in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Lieutenant Governor called for annual follow up after the participants completed the training and started their businesses. He emphasised on a planned approach to close the gap between the number of women and men entrepreneurs, especially in rural areas, and encourage the women workforce to scale-up their businesses.

We must wholeheartedly recognize and respect women's inherent abilities and invaluable contributions, and make continuous efforts to promote their leadership role across the sectors, ensuring they have every opportunity to excel and inspire, he further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also lauded the Army's community engagements and development programme. He said the Indian Army is not only ensuring the unity and integrity of India with full alertness, but also continuously performing virtuous work of transforming the society.

GOC 15 Corps, Lieutenant General Prashant Srivastava; GOC Victor Force Major General Dhananjay Joshi; Shri Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; DIG SKR Shri Javid Iqbal Matoo, Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Shri Shishir Gupta; senior officials of Police, Civil Administration and Army; members of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Vikas evam Sewa Sansthan, and youth in large number were present.

'Women-Led

that women-led development will lead us to overcoming challenges like terrorism, drug addiction, other social evils, and to build a peaceful and prosperous J&K.”

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that initiatives like homestay programs launched five years ago have seen remarkable participation by women. “Today, 58% of homestays are being run by women. This is not just entrepreneurship—it is empowerment in action,” he said.

He emphasized the urgent need to bridge the gender gap across sectors. “We must fill in the gaps between men and women in all spheres—economic, social, and administra-

tive. Promoting the women workforce is not optional; it is essential,” LG Sinha said, as per KNO.

Calling women the true symbols of Atmab-alidaan (self-sacrifice) and Sahas (courage), he said women have often demonstrated greater capabilities than men. “If one woman is empowered, she uplifts an entire family and, by extension, society. That is why women's empowerment remains a top priority of our administration.”

He also referred to flagship governance programs like Back to Village, under which women have been provided 40% reservation and access to loans up to Rs 20 lakh without the need for guarantees. “Such progressive measures have ensured that more women can now dream big and turn their aspirations into enterprises,” he said.

Underlining the role of Nari Shakti in grassroots development, LG Sinha revealed that “in university convocations across J&K, 75% of the gold medals have been bagged by girl students—a clear indication of the changing dynamics and the rise of women in every field.”

“Our villages are progressing because of the contributions of women. They are not just beneficiaries of change—they are the catalysts,” he said, adding that women-led growth is crucial for dismantling the ideological and social roots of terrorism.

The Lieutenant Governor assured that the administration would continue to create policies and platforms to unlock the full potential of women in J&K. “Our development story will only be complete when women stand equally in every sector—empowered, respected, and leading the way forward.

He felicitated the women trainees who completed their vocational training and life enhancement skill courses at the school and five other entrepreneurship and livelihood enhancement centres at Pulwama, Kulgam, Budgam, Anantnag and Pampore.

Citing flagship schemes like the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), Umeed, and Tejaswini, the Lieutenant Governor said these programs are not just financial tools but platforms of transformation. “Through these initiatives, women are receiving skill-based training, financial assistance, and mentoring. This has enabled them to set up their own businesses and gain social and economic independence,” he said.

“Local SHGs, especially in rural belts like Shopian, have been active in sectors such as horticulture, food processing, tailoring, and agri-business. The confidence on their faces says it all—they believe in themselves, and they believe in the future,” the LG added.

He said that the UT's economy has doubled in the past five years, a feat made possible by good governance, improved law and order, and increased public participation in developmental processes.

“This growth is not just in numbers—it reflects in better roads, schools, digital infrastructure, and livelihoods. We are hopeful that this trend will continue this year as well,” he said

LG Sinha lauded Monica Pal Bharti, her entire team of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Vikas evam Sewa Sansthan, Project Toha Social, and the Indian Army for the initiative of women empowerment and providing vocational training to 1,481 women, including 125 women trainees of the recently concluded training course.

Paying homage to Bhim Rao Ambedkar, the LG said Baba Saheb was the pioneer of women's rights and women's empowerment, and his timeless values and resolve for selfless service, equality, and social justice continue to guide the nation—(KNO)

Govt Orders Change

institutions to comply strictly with the new timing guidelines. Any deviation from the order will be viewed seriously.

This adjustment comes as a welcome move for students and parents following the recent shift in weather, which now allows for extended school hours without discomfort.

Admin Denies

July 13 holds symbolic significance in Kashmir as Martyrs' Day, traditionally observed in memory of those killed in 1931 during protests against the Dogra regime. In recent years, however, authorities have

imposed restrictions to prevent public gatherings and processions related to the day.

Illegal Construction

construction activity will be allowed,” the CEO stressed.

He also warned that in the coming days, the enforcement drive will become even more rigorous and violators will face severe consequences. “The GDA is currently identifying key violators and initiating appropriate legal steps.”—(KNO)

CS Reviews

Poshan Scheme. He stressed that tracking measurable outcomes is critical for ensuring real progress at the grassroots level.

The Chief Secretary also called upon the Programme Officers and DSWOs to frequently conduct field visits to assess on-ground realities and align their actions with actual needs. He remarked that all decisions should stem from field-level insights and reflect the actual realities of our people.

In a forward-looking suggestion, Dulloo asked the department to explore the concept of Composite Homes in districts to house the orphaned children, elderly citizens and the destitute women together, providing them with a sense of community and shared care, reducing isolation.

Providing an overview of the department's scope and responsibilities, Principal Secretary Anil Kumar Singh informed that the Social Welfare Department is currently implementing 37 Centrally Sponsored Schemes and 9 UT schemes, backed by a budgetary allocation of Rs 4,361 crore for the year 2025-26. He highlighted the presence of around 28,000 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) across the UT, which cater to nearly 9 lakh beneficiaries, ensuring last-mile delivery of services.

The Principal Secretary also presented a detailed account of the current status, outcomes and future roadmap of various schemes under the department's ambit. Mission Directors and Directors briefed the Chief Secretary on the functioning and implementation status of their respective schemes and programmes.

The meeting comprehensively reviewed key initiatives under Mission Poshan (7 schemes), focusing on improving the nutritional levels among children and others. Mission Shakti (6 schemes) aimed at empowering the women ensuring their safety, empowerment and protection. Mission Vatsalya (7 schemes) focuses on institutional care and protection for different sections of the society in need.

Other centrally sponsored schemes discussed included SMILE (Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise), Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana (AVYAY) and SAPSrC, PM-AJAY (Prime Minister's Anusuchit Jaati Abhiyan Yojana), PM-YASASVI Scholarships, NAPDDR (Drug Demand Reduction), NSAP (National Social Assistance Programme), Scholarships for Minority, SC and OBC communities, ALIM-CO-supported Prosthetic Aids, implementation of SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act, NAMASTE (Sanitation Workers' Welfare), PMJVK (Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram) besides others.

The review also covered UT government schemes like ISSS (Integrated Social Security Scheme), Ladli Beti, Marriage Assistance Scheme, SC Scholarship, Homes for those in distress, Pahari Hostels, Mobility Support to Specially-abled (scooties/prosthetics), Pensions for the needy and assistance to militancy-affected families.

As part of the ongoing efforts for the upcoming fiscal year 2025-26, the Department revealed that consolidated proposals under various centrally sponsored schemes, amounting a total of Rs 1088.75 crore stands submitted. Out of these, major schemes such as Mission Poshan and ICDS (Rs 759.67 Cr), Mission Shakti (Rs 40.79 Cr) and Mission Vatsalya (Rs 126.54 Cr) have already received approval. Additionally, proposals for PMMVY (Rs 64.39 Cr) and BBBP (Rs 6.20 Cr) have also been approved.

Several proposals have been submitted and are currently awaiting approval. These included financial allocations for the implementation of schemes under the Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989, Senior Citizen

Homes, Saksham Anganwadi Centres, Creche (Palna), Pre- and Post-matric Scholarships for SC students, NAPDDR including NMBA and PM-YASASVI, the meeting was apprised.

Every Terror Attack,

Without naming specific parties, he questioned their silence on the activities of banned outfits and called for a national consensus on security issues—(KNO)

SDRF Personnel Saves

heard saying with deep gratitude, “You helped us a lot...”

The 38-day annual Amarnath Yatra to the 3,880-metre high cave shrine started from the two routes on July 3 and is scheduled to end on August 9.

Over 1.80 lakh pilgrims have so far visited the shrine, which houses a naturally formed Shivlingam—(KNO)

‘Bharat Sanrachna

and Ministry of Science and Technology, among others.

Based on public engagement and presentation quality, DRDO was recognised for having the most impactful stall, followed by GSI and BIS. Their exhibits attracted a high level of student interest and interaction.

Representatives of Tarmeh Events, Tarun Jain and Mehak Jain, were present during the ceremony and thanked all stakeholders for making the event a success.

Certificates were distributed to all participating departments. Visitors and students described the exhibition as inspiring, informative, and a rare opportunity to directly engage with national institutions. The event was widely hailed as a significant step toward public outreach and awareness in Jammu and Kashmir.

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PM Modi committed to promoting Ayurveda and Yoga globally: Prataprao Jadhav

JAMNAGAR: The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, is the country's first Ayurvedic institute to be declared an Institution of National Importance. On Saturday, ITRA in Jamnagar, Gujarat, held its first-ever convocation ceremony. Union Minister of State for AYUSH, Prataprao Jadhav, chaired the function.

Speaking to IANS, Jadhav said, "In 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the initiative to bring all Ayurveda-related institutions under one platform and announced the establishment of this dedicated Ayurveda teaching and research institute. The work being done here is commendable. Four students from this institution have been honoured with the Padma Shri award. Graduates from here are holding top positions in major Ayurveda institutes across India. Currently, students from around 68 countries are studying here and are eager to be part of this institution. Many unique works are being carried out here that are rarely seen elsewhere. PM Modi has taken



a pledge to promote Yoga and Ayurveda not only in India but across the globe." The Union Minister also shared moments from the convocation on the social media platform X, stating: "It was a matter of immense pride to attend the first convocation of the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar, as the chief guest. This historic event marks the beginning of a new era in Ayurvedic education and research in India. It was truly inspiring to interact with newly graduated students, dedicated researchers, and committed faculty members, and to witness their passion and dedication. ITRA has become a centre of national excellence by beautifully integrating tra-

ditional Ayurvedic wisdom with modern science. Such institutions play a crucial role in building a prosperous AYUSH-led India. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to all graduating students for a bright future."

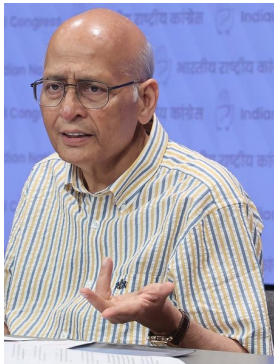
The convocation was also attended by Dr Shekhar Mande, National Vice President of Vijnana Bharati, and members of the ITRA governing body. The event was the result of extensive efforts led by Prof. Dr Tanuja Nesari, Director of ITRA, along with her team. A total of 234 students were awarded degrees, which included: 143 MD/MS (Ayurveda) doctors 35 M.Pharm (Ayurveda) graduates

2 M.Sc. (Medicinal Plant) students 33 Diploma holders in Ayurvedic Pharmacy 18 Diploma holders in Naturopathy 3 Postgraduate Diploma (Yoga and Naturopathy) students Foreign students pursuing Ayurvedic studies at the institute were also conferred degrees during the ceremony. Outstanding students across five academic categories were awarded medals. In addition, two special medals were presented for best research and best research publication.

The convocation also saw the signing of two MoUs with national research institutions: CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), Ghaziabad These collaborations aim to foster new research and public health initiatives by integrating modern science, technology, and traditional medicine systems. The event marked a significant step forward in strengthening global Ayurveda education and research.

Congress welcomes SC order on Bihar voter roll review, slams BJP for 'disinformation'

NEW DELHI: The Congress on Saturday expressed satisfaction over the Supreme Court's order on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, while hitting out at the BJP for "spreading disinformation and distorting facts." Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters in New Delhi, senior Congress leader and CWC member Abhishek Manu Singhvi clarified that the Opposition never demanded a stay on the SIR process, contrary to the BJP's claims. Singhvi welcomed the court's directive to the Election Commission of India



(ECI) to accept Aadhaar, voter ID, and ration cards as valid identity documents, noting that these collectively cover about 90 per cent of voters who could otherwise be excluded. He warned that around 2 crore voters, out of the

4.9 crore registered after 2003, risk disenfranchisement due to the requirement of furnishing proof of citizenship. He questioned the timing of the ECI's move, asking why another round of voter list revision was needed just ahead of the upcoming Bihar elections. "Since 2003, ten elections have been held. Why the sudden urgency now?" he asked, pointing out that the last such exercise was conducted a year ahead of the 2004 Lok Sabha poll and about two years before the Assembly elections. The Congress leader said the ECI's process disproportionately affects marginalised groups --

labourers, the poor, and minorities -- many of whom migrate for work during the sowing season or face challenges due to monsoon floods. Criticising the exclusion of Aadhaar as a citizenship proof, Singhvi quipped, "India lives on Aadhaar -- from rations to rail -- but for elections, it's suddenly a fairy tale?" He accused the government of hypocrisy, saying, "You amended the law to embrace Aadhaar, then kicked it out of the main bazaar." The Congress reiterated its commitment to protecting voting rights and urged the poll panel to ensure inclusivity in the electoral roll revision.

Rozgar Mela symbolises the rise of 'New India': Union Minister Harsh Malhotra

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Harsh Malhotra on Saturday addressed the media at the National Media Centre during the Rozgar Mela event, highlighting the Modi government's efforts in transforming employment generation in India. He announced that 210 individuals received appointment letters at the Delhi venue, while across the country, 51,000 youth were handed job letters in 47 locations.

"Since the launch of Rozgar Melas in October 2022, more than 10.26 lakh youth have received appointment letters over the past four years. This is not merely a ceremonial event -- it is a symbol of the rise of a new India," Malhotra said. He emphasised that recruitments are being



conducted in 13 different Indian languages to ensure inclusivity. Drawing a contrast with the pre-2014 era, he said that earlier recruitment processes were plagued by delays and corruption, where middlemen had a significant role. "Today, under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, we have seen a transparent, corruption-free process. No middlemen, no manipulation," he stressed. Malhotra added

that under PM Modi's 11-year tenure, government recruitments have increased by 1.5 times compared to previous governments. He credited policies like PM Gati Shakti Yojana, PM Mudra Yojana among several others, for empowering small traders, boosting employment and transforming the economy. "Over Rs 52 crore worth of low-interest loans have been disbursed to small traders, especially post-

COVID," he said. Citing infrastructure development, Malhotra said that 60,000 km of national highways have been built in the past year alone -- a stark comparison to the 52,000 km constructed between 1947 and 2014. "These efforts have created large-scale employment opportunities," he added. On the broader economic front, Malhotra said India now ranks as the world's fourth-largest economy, ahead of Japan. "Past governments spoke of removing poverty, but removed the poor instead. In the last 11 years, over 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty under PM Modi's governance," he asserted. He concluded by stating that the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat by 2047' is heavily dependent on the strength and energy of India's youth.

IDF: Struck 250 terror targets in Gaza in last 48 hours



JERUSALEM: The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) on Saturday said that it has been striking "terrorists" and their infrastructure in the Gaza Strip since the past two days. Taking on X, the IDF said, "IDF forces continue to strike terrorist infrastructure and terrorists throughout the Gaza Strip: approximately 250 terrorist targets were attacked in the last 48 hours." "IDF forces from Divisions 98, 36, 162, 143, and 99 continue to operate under the guidance of Military Intelligence and the Shin Bet against terrorist organisations throughout the Gaza Strip," it added. Division 98 forces are still active in Gaza City's Zaytoon and Shuja'iyya neighbourhoods, the security forces stated. The IDF reportedly found and destroyed Hamas' and Islamic Jihad's explosive devices and observation positions that were used to ambush Israeli soldiers in since Thursday. IDF mentioned that their Air Force troops under the direction of the division's fire control centre killed dozens of

"terrorists" who were allegedly waging war against the people of Israel in the region. In the last 24 hours, Division 162 forces have destroyed terrorists and attacked terrorist infrastructure, the IDF detailed. "As part of the activities of Brigade 401, the forces identified two Hamas terrorists; immediately after identification, an aircraft struck and eliminated the terrorists," IDF said. Over the course of the last day, the combat unit of the Givati Brigade conducted operations in the Beit Hanoun region of the northern Gaza Strip. The IDF is reportedly killing a large number of 'terrorists' and destroying weaponry, infrastructure, and underground routes as part of the operation. "In the last 48 hours, the Air Force struck approximately 250 terrorist targets throughout the Gaza Strip. Among the targets attacked in support of ground forces: terrorists, booby-trapped buildings, weapons storage facilities, anti-tank launch positions, sniper positions, combat tunnels, and additional terrorist infrastructure," said the IDF.

Trump slaps 30 pc tariffs on EU, Mexico starting August 1



NEW DELHI: US President Donald Trump on Saturday issued 30 per cent tariffs on imports from Mexico and the European Union (EU), to renegotiate trade terms before the August 1 deadline. The European Union will allow complete, open Market Access to the United States, Trump said in its letter posted on Truth Social, or "whatever the number you choose to raise them by, will be added on the 30 per cent that we charge." The 27-country EU bloc is under pressures as Germany urged a quick deal to safeguard its industry. In his letter to Mexico, Trump said the country has been "helping me secure the border," but added that it wasn't enough. "Mexico still has not stopped the Cartels who are trying to turn all of North America into a Narco-Trafficking Playground. Obviously I cannot let that happen!" Trump said in the letter to Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum. Earlier, the US President advised countries in ongoing trade talks with

his administration to "just keep working hard" ahead of the August 1 negotiation deadline, repeating his claim that America has been taken advantage of by "both friend and foe" for many years. Trump made the remarks before departing for a flood-ravaged area in Texas, as South Korea, Japan and other countries strive to reach deals with the United States to avoid or minimize the impact of steep "reciprocal" tariffs that are set to take effect on August 1. "I think just keep working hard. You know, we've been taken advantage of for many, many years by countries, both friend and foe. And frankly, the friends have been worse than the foes in many cases," he said during a press availability at the White House. On Monday, Trump sent a letter addressed to South Korean President Lee Jae Myung, saying that the U.S. will start imposing 25 per cent tariffs on South Korean products on August 1 -- rather than Wednesday, when the reciprocal tariffs were initially set to take effect following a 90-day pause.

India's strong resolve builds global resilience against terrorism

NEW DELHI: India continued to engage partners in cooperation on counter terrorism through Joint Working Groups on Counter Terrorism (JWG-CT) with 26 countries, the latest annual report (2024) released by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) detailed while highlighting the country's strong resolve in initiating collective action against terrorism. India has been engag-

ing with regional and multilateral bodies such as BIMSTEC, G20, ASEAN Regional Forum, SCO, BRICS, EU, FATF and the QUAD Forum on Counter Terrorism. Joint Working Group meetings on Counter Terrorism (JWG-CT) were held with the US, Kazakhstan, France, European Union, United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and Russia. India participated in the meeting of the Group of Legal Experts (GLE) of

Regional Anti Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (RATS SCO) Council held in Beijing, China. At the ASEAN level, the 11th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC)+India Consultation was held in Vientiane, Laos. The 9th Annual BRICS Counter Terrorism Working Group Plenary and its Sub-Groups' Meetings were held in July 2024 in Moscow while India also hosted the 8th Meeting of

the BIMSTEC SubGroup on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals held in New Delhi. On the multilateral front, India engaged with various bodies during the year, participating in the regional workshop on sharing good practices for enhancing rehabilitation and reintegration strategies which was organised by UNODC in association with the Government of Sri Lanka in Colombo.

0194-2310283

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

exenrajbaghsgr@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION RAJBAGH SRINAGAR.

LAL MANDI, NEAR L.D HOSPITAL SRINAGAR-190008.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No.18/R&B/RAJ of 2025-26 issued under Endorsement No:3576-86Dated:10.07.2025.

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

S.No.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rupees in Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc.	Earnest Money	Time of completion	Major Head	Class of Contractor/Agency
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Upgradation/Beautification of Directorate of Horticulture Building Rajbagh Srinagar	19.11	₹800/-	₹38,220/-	45 Days	Capex Budget 2025-26 Horticulture	"BEE/CEE"
2.	Upgradation/Renovation of HIPO Building and Guest House Buildings at Rajbagh Srinagar (Horticulture).	21.55		₹43,100/-			07 Days
3.	Upgradation of Drivers/Chowkidars rooms at Rajbagh Srinagar (Horticulture)	5.84	₹300/-	₹11,680/-	"DEE"		
4.	Upgradation of Library at Directorate of Horticulture Rajbagh Srinagar	4.63	₹200/-	₹9260/-			
5.	Upgradation of Bathroom (02No,s) at Directorate of Horticulture Rajbagh Srinagar.	3.94		₹7880/-			
6.	Upgradation of Directorate of horticulture Complex Building Rajbagh Srinagar.	3.85		₹7700/-			
7.	Construction of Store Room and Maintenance & Repair work at Divisional Fund Office, Kashmir	20.20	₹800/-	₹40,400/-	45 Days	Plan	"BEE/CEE"

Position of AAA:

Accorded Vide Order No. 268/Plan of 2025 Dated: 01.07.2025 (S.No.1) 257-Plan of 2025 Dated:-25.06.2025.(S.No.2 to 6) 101-DGF of 2025 Dated:-26.06.2025 (S.No.7)

Position of TS :-

Accorded vide Order No.13,14,15,16 17, 18& 19-TS of 2025-2026 Dated: 07-2025, RESPECTIVELY.

Position of Funds:

Committed/ Demanded.

1.

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10.07.2025.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	11.07.2025 from 10:00 AM
3	Bid submission Start Date	11.07.2025 from 10:00 AM
4	Bid Submission End Date	11.07.2025 Up to 02:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	18.07.2025 at 03:00 PM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Rajbagh Srinagar.

2.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan under M.H-0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B DivisionRajbaghSrinagar(tender inviting authority)(The Date of Treasury Challanshould be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date)pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division RajbaghSrinagar (Tender Receiving Authority).

3.

At the time of tendering, all the bidders must upload Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/Bid Security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/TDR/BG pledged to the Tender Receiving Authority i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Rajbagh Srinagar (The date of Earnest money should be between Date of start of bid and bid submission End date). The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% of allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/TDR/BG at the time of contract award. The Earnest Money/Bid Security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security of 5% of the total allotted cost which will be released under rules aftersuccessful completion of the DLP, However incase of unbalanced bid, Additional Performance Security is required asdetailed below which shall be released after successful completion of work: All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double Agreement Form).

4.

No.3576-86

Dated:10.07.2025

DIPK-3603-25

DT: 12/07/2025

Sd/-

Executive Engineer,

R&B Rajbagh Division Srinagar.

CMYK

