

Good Morning

Kashmir

16th
Year Of Publication

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



After years of grief & suffering, terror victim families of Kishtwar, Doda, Ramban Poonch, Rajouri, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur & Reasi get justice. Appointment letters for Govt jobs were handed over to 80 NoKs of victims. I pay homage to civilian martyrs & bow to their loved ones.

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Op Mahadev **Still Underway**

Three Terrorists Killed In Harwan Encounter



REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: Three terrorists were killed in an encounter with the security forces in Lidwas forest area of Harwan in Srinagar outskirts on Monday.

Officials said that a joint anti-terror operation was launched by the Army, CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police under code-name Operation Mahadev in the upper reaches of Harwan.

"Security forces on a tip-off cordoned dense Mulnar forests near Mahadev. The terrorists present there

opened fire which was retaliated to, triggering a gunfight which led to the elimination of three terrorists," they added.

Moreover, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir, Vidhi Kumar Birdi, confirmed the killing of the terrorists. "As per initial reports, three bodies have been spotted, and they appear to be neutralised. However, identification is underway," IGP Birdi told reporters.

However, sources said that one of the slain terrorists has been identified as **P-06**

LG Congratulates Security Forces

YOGESH

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday congratulated the security forces, J&K

Police and all the personnel for eliminating three Pakistan terrorists during the anti-terror operation in Srinagar.

Talking to reporters here, on "Operation Mahadev" LG Sinha said, "It's true that **P-06**

■ End Of A Long Wait

After Years Of Grief And Suffering, Terror Victim Families Get Justice: LG

Hands Over Appointment Letters To 80 NoKs Of Terror Victims In Jammu

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday handed over the appointment letters to 80 Next of Kins (NoKs) of terror victims, at Jammu.

Following the historic event in Baramulla, where 40 terror-victim families received appointment letters, this marks yet another significant step in delivering justice to those who have suffered from terrorism in Jammu Kashmir.

The families of terror victims courageously spoke out, sharing their harrowing experiences and exposing the role of Pakistan-sponsored terrorists and their sympathizers.



The Lieutenant Governor paid homage to civilian martyrs and shared the pain and grief of the families of victims of terrorism.

"Common citizens of J&K endured unspeakable trauma

caused by Pakistan sponsored terrorists and the terror ecosystem that was pulling the strings. Terror victim families were threatened into silence. Their sufferings were ignored to shield the perpetrators and

COMMON citizens of J&K endured unspeakable trauma caused by Pakistan sponsored terrorists

Terror victim families were threatened into silence. Their **SUFFERINGS** were ignored to shield the perpetrators and those aided them

Under the leadership of **PM SHRI** Narendra Modi, we are determined to crush terrorism

those aided them. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister **P-06**

'Navarambh' LG Addresses Inaugural Ceremony To Welcome IIT Jammu Students

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday addressed the inaugural ceremony 'Navarambh' to welcome incoming BTech, MTech, PhD and MSc stu-

dents at Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Jammu.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor congratulated and extended his best wishes to all the students embarking on their new journey.

He lauded the Indian **P-06**

...Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra LG Sinha Flags Off Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra From Jammu

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday flagged off the first batch of devotees for the holy Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra from Bhagwati Nagar Yatri

Niwas. The Lieutenant Governor extended his best wishes to all the pilgrims for a safe and spiritually-fulfilling journey. "The sacred journey to the abode of Mahadev is an enlightening **P-06**

■ Development Must Be Judicious

For Every Tree Uprooted, Hundred Must Be Planted: CM



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Climate change is real, and the signs are all around us. The earth and our environment are a heritage we must pass on to the next generations, if not improved, at least preserved in our lifetime, asserted Chief Minister Omar Abdullah as he inaugurated the Van Mahotsav 2025 celebrations organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department at Abhinav Theatre. Let's find joy in planting

trees and gifting plants, he remarked, calling on people to transform the festival into a vibrant people's movement.

He was joined by Javed Ahmed Rana, Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology and Environment and Tribal Affairs; Advisor to the Chief Minister; Nasir Aslam Wani; Commissioner and Secretary to the Government, Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sheetal Nanda; Secretary Tribal Affairs, **P-06**

Domestic Tourist Visits To J&K During Jan-June Stood At Over 9.5 mn: Govt

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: The figures for domestic tourist visits (DTVs) to Jammu to Kashmir during January-June this year stood at more than 95 lakh, according to data shared by the government.

Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat shared the data in a written response to a query on whether the Centre is aware of the decline in tourist footfall and business losses in Jammu and Kashmir during the peak tourist season following the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi also asked if any assessment was made by the government on its economic impact on local tour-



ism-dependent stakeholders.

"No such assessment has been made by the Ministry of Tourism on economic impact on local tourism-dependent stakeholders in Jammu and Kashmir," Shekhawat said.

In his response, he shared year-wise tabulated data for

domestic tourist visits (DTVs) and foreign tourist visits (FTVs) from 2020 to 2025.

This data is provided by the state tourism department. Based on the latest information received from the Jammu and Kashmir tourism department, the number of DTVs **P-06**

'Operation Sindoor' Changed India Narrative Militarily, Diplomatically: Dr Jitendra

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI : In a powerful and evidence-charged keynote address, as chief guest, commemorating "Kargil Vijay Diwas" with theme "EK Bharat – Shreshtha Bharat – Akhand Bharat" seminar organised at the Delhi University today, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh declared that "Operation Sindoor" had changed India narrative, both militarily as well as diplomatically. The seminar was organised by People's Forum and presided by Vice Chancellor, Delhi University Prof Yogesh Singh.

Dr Jitendra Singh outlined

four major shifts, during the last one decade of the Modi Government, that have redefined India's strategic posture. First, he noted a decisive change in India's narrative—both militarily and diplomatically, where India

now commands respect and influence on the global stage.

Second, Dr Jitendra Singh emphasized that earlier, the enemy chose the time and place to strike, today India chooses the time and place to strike. Third, he pointed out that India has moved from a reactive stance to an active proactive approach. Finally, he stated that while earlier India bought peace at a price quoted by the enemy, **P-06**



...Objectives Of Operation Fully Met

New India Can Go To Any Extent To Uproot Terror: Rajnath Singh

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told Parliament on Monday that India's stance remains firm that terrorism and talks cannot go together. He said Operation Sindoor, launched after the Pahalgam terror attack, has only been paused and will resume with greater force if Pakistan engages in any future "misadventure".

Addressing the Lok Sabha during a discussion on India's response to the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, Singh said Operation Sindoor was a decisive military response that achieved all its stated objectives without targeting civilians.

The operation was launched after a detailed assessment by the Indian armed forces, he said, adding that the purpose of the operation was to target terrorist camps, their support-



ers, and to destroy them.

Operation Sindoor, according to Rajnath, was not a campaign to occupy land or escalate to full-scale war, but a targeted strike. "Our aim was not to occupy territory or start a full-scale war. It was only to locate and destroy terror camps," he said, adding that India's defence systems ensured that no critical assets were harmed during the con-

flict.

The Defence Minister said that coordinated strikes were carried out on nine terror sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). "The operation was completed within 22 minutes," he said, adding that over 100 terrorists were killed.

The strikes on May 10 also targeted key Pakistani air bases, including Nur **P-06**

...No Modi-Trump Call On...

India Following 5-Point Approach To Combat Terrorism: Jaishankar

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: India's military action against Pakistan following the Pahalgam attack marked a "new normal" in combatting cross-border terrorism with a five-point approach that included a firm response to terror acts, not yielding to nuclear blackmail and that blood and water cannot flow together, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said in the Lok Sabha on Monday.

During a special discussion on Operation Sindoor, Jaishankar also vehemently asserted that Washington did not play any role in ending the India-Pakistan conflict in May and said there was no phone call between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump during those crucial weeks.

Though a combative Jaishankar took on the previous Congress governments on a range of issues, including the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack and the policy on China and Pakistan, a major highlight of his nearly-40-minute



address was his articulation of the "new normal" in combatting terrorism emanating from Pakistan. "The challenge of cross-border terrorism continues, but Operation Sindoor marks a new phase. There is now a new normal. The new normal has five points," he said.

Explaining the new normal, he added, "One: terrorists will not be treated as proxies, two: cross-border terrorism will get an appropriate response, three: terror and talks are not possible together and there will only be talks on terror, four: not yielding to nuclear blackmail and finally, **P-06**

...Craft In Crisis

Srinagar's Known Walnut Wood Carver Struggles To Keep Legacy Alive



JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: Mohammad Rafiq Najar, a 65-year-old walnut wood carving artist from Naidboni, Rainawari in Srinagar, has spent over four decades chiselling life into wood. But today, the seasoned artisan says the intricate art that once earned him awards and recognition is no longer enough to earn him a dignified livelihood.

"I started learning this craft from my father, Noor Mohammad Najar, when I was young," Rafiq said. "For the last 40 years, I have been dedicated to walnut wood carving, but the demand for

this work is declining with every passing day."

Once considered a pride of Kashmiri heritage, walnut wood carving is struggling for survival. While Rafiq has received dozens of awards over the years—including the prestigious State Award in 2011—the recognition has not translated into a sustainable income.

"I had applied for the National Award after winning the State Award, but my application was rejected. Still, an artist never gives up," he said.

Rafiq now takes on work wherever it is available—travelling from one **P-06**

Satish Sharma inaugurates stakeholders meet on STI



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Information Technology, and Transport, Satish Sharma, Monday inaugurated a major Stakeholders Meet on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) at IIT Jammu.

The event, jointly organized by the Northern Region S&T Cluster (PI-RAHI) and the Jammu & Kashmir Science, Technology & Innovation Council (JKSTIC), brought together the leading voices from academia, government, industry and the startup ecosystem to strengthen J&K's innovation landscape.

On the occasion, the Minister launched three ambitious initiatives aimed at catalyzing innovation and research in the Union Territory which included GINI, Grassroot Innovators of Northern India, Innovation Ambassadors Program and SPARK-J&K – Strategic Program for Accelerating Research and Knowledge, J&K

Satish Sharma underscored the importance of innovation in governance and sustainable development. "Science and technology are integral to the progress and prosperity of any society. The government of Jammu & Kashmir is fully committed to create an enabling ecosystem that supports innovators,

startups and researchers at every level," he stated.

Highlighting the integration of technology into public service delivery, Sharma pointed out the synergy between science, IT and citizen welfare, especially in sectors like agriculture, health, food security and transport. He stressed that such platforms are critical to build evidence-based policy, sustainable industries and a future-ready workforce.

Scientific Secretary to the Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India, Dr Parvinder Maini, applauded the growing STI capabilities of the region and called for deeper collaboration

among stakeholders.

Technical sessions were held on diverse topics such as AI in governance, waste-to-wealth initiatives, agri-tech and sustainable tourism.

Senior officials including Dr. Nasir Shah (Additional Director, JKSTIC) and Dr. Jatinder Kaur Arora (Advisor, PI-RAHI) spoke on the transformative role of science and innovation in regional development.

Faculty from IIT Jammu, SMVDU, SKUAST-K along with industry experts and policymakers, participated in the deliberations, reaffirming their collective commitment towards advancing J&K's STI mission.

Week-long 'Aakanksha Haat' inaugurated at Gulmarg to promote local artisans

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Member of Legislative Assembly from Gulmarg, Farooq Ahmad Shah and Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa Monday jointly inaugurated, 'Aakanksha Haat,' a week-long exhibition organized by the district administration Baramulla under the national initiative, 'Vocal for Local' campaign at waiting area of Gondola in Gulmarg.

The initiative is part of the countrywide 'Aakanksha' brand launched by NITI Aayog, aimed at promoting local products, artisans, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) from Aspirational Blocks across India with a goal to strengthen the rural economy, support traditional skills, and connect local entrepreneurs to national and global markets.

'Aakanksha Haat' featured a wide array of local products including traditional crafts, Kashmiri carpets, handloom items, organic produce, local delicacies, and herbal goods, among other region-specific offerings. The event also hosted live craft demonstrations, cultural performances, skill-building workshops, and sessions on marketing and entrepreneurship.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by the Chief Planning officer, Baramulla along with other district



officers and saw enthusiastic participation from artisans, SHGs, local entrepreneurs and hundreds of tourists/visitors.

At the outset, MLA and DC Baramulla took a detailed round of the exhibition, inspecting stalls set up by various SHGs, artisans, government departments, and local entrepreneurs. These stalls showcased a wide range of region-specific products, including intricately woven Kashmiri carpets, handloom textiles, organic produce, herbal goods, traditional crafts, and local delicacies.

The week-long exhibition also features a series of

engaging activities such as live craft demonstrations, cultural performances, skill-building workshops, and sessions on marketing and entrepreneurship.

Hundreds of tourists visiting the internationally acclaimed tourist destination of Gulmarg were seen thronging the exhibition stalls, exploring authentic local products and appreciating the craftsmanship on display.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Gulmarg lauded the district administration for organizing the exhibition and emphasized the need for more such initiatives to provide sustained market access to local pro-

ducers thereby enhancing their financial economic conditions.

DC said that the reason for hosting 'Aakanksha Haat,' as part of the 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' (Saturation Campaign) of NITI Aayog's flagship programme at Gulmarg was to showcase the local products of the SHGs, artisans, crafts people and local entrepreneurs to the hundreds of the tourists visiting the international tourist destination which otherwise are only available to the local market.

A vibrant line-up of cultural programs added colour and energy to the event, offering visitors a rich glimpse into Kashmir's cultural heritage while celebrating its artistic diversity.

Later, MLA Gulmarg, DC Baramulla, and MD Cable Car Corporation J&K, Syed Qamar Sajad left their handprints on 'Hunar ki Chap' wall and shared their valuable insights on the feedback wall, honouring craft, culture, and unwavering spirit of local artisans, SHGs and entrepreneurs.

Meanwhile, 'Aakanksha Haat' will continue throughout the week, promising a unique blend of culture, commerce, and community participation and the district administration Baramulla invites all visitors to explore the stalls, interact with the creators, and support the spirit of 'Vocal for Local.'

LG hands over job assurance letter to daughter of official killed in Pak shelling



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday met Mareesa Thapa, daughter and Smt. Meenakshi Kundan Thapa, wife of ADC Rajouri, Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa, who was martyred during unpro-

voked shelling by Pakistan in Rajouri.

The Lieutenant Governor handed over an assurance letter to the daughter of the martyr ADC that she will be appointed as an Assistant Law Officer after completion of her studies.

The Lieutenant Governor

expressed his solidarity with the family of Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa and reaffirmed the commitment of the Administration to providing all possible assistance. Shri Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu was also present on the occasion at Raj Bhawan.

Dy CM conducts public darbar at Rajpur Kamila, Andhrooth

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NOWSHERA: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, Monday held a public darbar in Rajpur Kamila and Andhrooth village of Nowshera to take first hand appraisal of people's grievances and concerns.

The interactive session witnessed a significant turnout of people from various walks of life. They highlighted issues ranging from infrastructure development to basic amenities including road connectivity, water scarcity, irregular power supply, insufficient staff in schools and health centres.

The Dy CM patiently heard the concerns of the attendees and assured them of swift redressal. He instructed the concerned officials to address the genuine issues of public on priority.

Encouraged by the enthusiastic participation



of public in grievances redressal camp, the Dy CM maintained that our mission is inclusive governance that reaches every nook and corner of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that such interactions strengthen our resolve to deliver effective, people-first governance assuring timely resolution of genuine public issues.

In an endeavour to provide basic health facilities to people living in remote areas, the Dy CM laid foundation stone for Block Public Health Unit (under HSCC Ltd.) at Andhrooth. Reaffirming govern-

ment's commitment towards hassle free connectivity to the public, the Dy CM visited the site selected for construction of motorable bridge between Andhrooth bus stand to Nowgram with an estimated cost of around Rs 2 crore. "This bridge is a testament to our government's commitment to provide better connectivity in far flung areas of J&K" he added.

He further said that it was long pending demand of the local residents and expressed satisfaction that government is proficient to fulfil their aspirations.

13 Journalists from Assam Embark on 7 Day Media Tour to Ladakh



GMK NEWS NETWORK

GUWAHATI: The Press Information Bureau (PIB), Guwahati, has organised a seven-day media tour to the Union Territory of Ladakh for a group of 13 journalists from leading media organisations in Assam. The tour, which began Monday, aims to provide media professionals with an immersive experience of Ladakh's unique cultural heritage, breathtaking landscapes, and notable developmental initiatives.

The media team represents a diverse mix of platforms, including print, electronic, digital, and social media, and is accompanied by two officials from PIB Guwahati. The delegation is led by Smita Saikia, Media and Communication Officer, PIB Guwahati. During the tour, the journalists will explore key sites that highlight Ladakh's blend of tradition and innovation.

These include the Indian Astronomical Observatory at Hanle and the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve, where they will gain insights into the region's contributions to astronomical research and environmental preservation. The team will also visit the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa to learn about Ladakh's traditional system of medicine.

In addition, the delegation will be introduced to infrastructure projects under Project HIMANK, an initiative of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) that operates in some of the most challenging terrains of the country. They will also witness Ladakh's model of sustainable waste management under Project Tsangda. The tour includes interactions with local cooperatives involved in the production of pashmina and apricots, offering the journalists a closer look at the region's artisanal economy and livelihood models.

The media group will

call on the Chief Secretary of the Union Territory of Ladakh and engage in discussions with local media professionals in Leh, further fostering cross-regional dialogue and understanding. Journalists in the delegation represent prominent media outlets such as PTI, The Assam Tribune, Dainik Janambhumi, Asomiya Pratidin, Kokrajhar-based Bodosa, DD Assam, NewsLive, News18 Assam, Pratidin Time, NKTV Plus, DY365, and Time8, among others.

This initiative is part of PIB Guwahati's ongoing efforts to promote regional awareness and national integration by enabling journalists to document and share the development stories of diverse regions. The Ladakh tour follows the success of last year's media visit to Tamil Nadu, reinforcing PIB's commitment to fostering informed journalism through direct exposure and field-level engagement.

World Hepatitis Day celebrated across J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: World Hepatitis Day was Monday celebrated in various health Institutions across Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, the World Hepatitis Day is being observed annually on July 28th, a global health day focused on raising awareness about viral hepatitis, which is a serious inflammation of the liver.

This year's theme "Hepatitis: Let's Break It Down," emphasised the need to eliminate the barriers to testing, treatment and prevention. The day serves as a call to action for countries to expand access to testing and treatment and prioritize vaccination, safe injection practices and community engagement to combat this preventable disease.

The medical fraternity has been advised to tackle this grave public health challenge of such huge magnitude with utmost dedication. They have been emphasised for generating mass awareness among the high risk categories like blood/organ donors/recipients, patients on haemodialysis, pregnant women, prisoners, Induced Drug Users (IDUs) and others.

Under the National Health Mission, J&K, 135 camps were organised and 103 rallies conducted across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir on the eve of "World Hepatitis Day -2025". Nearly, 14578 individuals including High Risk Groups and other target groups viz-a-viz pregnant women, patients on haemodialysis and blood donors had been screened for Hepatitis-B & C.

Further, it is pertinent to mention that on the eve of "World Hepatitis Day -2025" Hepatitis-B vaccination was administered to various healthcare workers across the UT for prevention of Hepatitis-B infection and its associated complications among all the healthcare Workers.

Besides, screening camps were organised by the National Health Mission, J&K, in collaboration with Directorate of Health Services, Jammu/Kashmir across various blocks and districts of the UT. These screening camps were inaugurated by the respective District Development Commissioners, Director Health Services, Jammu/Kashmir and Project Director JKACS, J&K.

Preparations for I-Day 2025 reviewed at Sumbal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: In view of the upcoming Independence Day 2025 celebrations, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Sumbal, on Monday chaired a meeting of concerned officers and heads of various departments to review the preparedness for the national event across the sub-division.

During the meeting, key issues including security arrangements, venue readiness, cultural programmes, sanitation, power and water supply, transportation, and healthcare facilities at the venue were discussed. SDM directed the officers to maintain a high level of preparedness and ensure public participation while upholding the dignity and patriotic spirit of the day.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION SRINAGAR
(ERSTWHILE MECHANICAL HOSPITAL & CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR)

Contact No: 0194-2496089, Email Id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in

GIST of e-tender

e-NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2025-26/54/e-tendering, Dated: 26-07-2025

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

Name of Work	Est. Cost (In rupees)	Cost of T/Doc.(In rupees)	Time of completion (in days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No	Earnest Money	Position of Funds
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Replacement of damaged convectors at ward 04 of Govt CD Hospital Srinagar	1,73,000/-	200	30	04 MCS of 2025 Dt:08.05.2025	M&HDS/ TS/32, of 07/2025	2% of the estimated cost	Available with intending Department

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule given below:-

1	Publish date	26-07-2025 (17:00 hrs)
2	Period of downloading of bidding document	26-07-2025 (17:00 hrs)
3	Bid submission start date	26-07-2025 (18:00 hrs)
4	Bid submission end date	07-08-2025 (13:00 hrs)
5	Date and time of opening of bids	07-08-2025 (15:00 hrs)

No: M&HDS/TS/2966-71, Dated: 26-07-2025

DIPK-4412-25
DT:28/07/2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
M&HD, Srinagar

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Restoring Faith In Kashmir's Tourism Amid Adversity

The Kashmir Valley, long cherished for its ethereal beauty and cultural richness, now finds itself in the throes of an unsettling tourist lull. The subdued tourist season this year has sparked palpable anxiety among key stakeholders in the tourism and hospitality sectors, with many fearing a potential unraveling of the region's hard-earned economic gains. Matters were further compounded by the recent attack in Pahalgam—an incident that jolted not only public confidence but also drew attention to the lingering vulnerabilities in the region's security and infrastructure. The symbolism of Pahalgam, a destination that embodies Kashmir's natural allure, being struck by violence, threatened to send a chilling message to prospective travelers. Yet, in the face of this adversity, the response has been both swift and reassuring. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's leadership in the aftermath of the attack stands out as a decisive counter to the prevailing pessimism. Through a series of prompt remedial actions—ranging from bolstering security apparatus to ensuring minimal disruption to local livelihoods—the administration conveyed a clear message: the spirit of Kashmir is unbroken. More importantly, these efforts have rekindled a fragile but vital sense of belief—among locals, tourists, and investors alike—that the valley remains a safe, welcoming haven. Initiatives to reassure visitors, communicate safety measures transparently, and involve local communities in revival plans have gone a long way in containing the fallout. Kashmir's economy, intrinsically tied to tourism, cannot afford extended periods of stagnation. While challenges remain, the resilience shown in recent weeks underscores the importance of proactive governance and community engagement in navigating such crises. The road ahead will demand continued vigilance, sustained promotion, and above all, a reaffirmation that peace and prosperity in the valley are not fleeting aspirations but achievable realities. Kashmir has weathered storms before. With continued resolve and responsible leadership, it can—and must—emerge stronger once again.

Good Morning Kashmir

Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher

Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editor

Sulaiman Muhammad 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

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SKUAST-K JKCIP Startup Cell: Next Level Traction For Young Minds



SAADIYA NAQASH / NAVEED HAMID

In an era where innovation leads to development and entrepreneurship becomes a prominent pillar that contributes towards sustainable development, the Jammu and Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement Programme (JKCIP) has emerged as a transformative force. At the core of this project is Incubation & Start-up Cell, a dynamic initiative of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) under IFAD Sponsored Project JKCIP. This cell is a launchpad for all the aspiring innovators, and entrepreneurs, specifically in the agri-allied sectors offering resources, mentors, and pre and post-incubation handholding. It bridges major gaps in infrastructure access, business sense, financial literacy and market-place visibility, by making entrepreneurship more accessible to the youth in urban and rural belts. Jammu and Kashmir a place, majorly known for its lack of industrial exposure and high unemployment, this initiative is reshaping what entrepreneurship looks like in J&K. Through fostering creativity, promoting innovation-led entrepreneurship and encouraging the spirit of self-reliance, this initiative has turned out to be a divine signal, an inspiration spark and a real ray of hope for the young minds. It's a movement from having things done to us, to doing for ourselves, from problems to possibilities, from ideas to results that make a difference.

Let's take a moment with JKCIP

The Jammu and Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement Programme (JKCIP) is a visionary initiative by government of Jammu and Kashmir that is intended to rejuvenate the rural economy of the union territory (UT) by providing a substantial boost to the agriculture and allied sectors that form the backbone of the UT economy. This project stands in line with IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) guidelines and is intended to improve the competitiveness, productivity, and sustainability of the agriculture and allied sectors in the UT. Ultimately, at the heart of JKCIP is the integration of the old with the new, such that the traditional farming system and modern systems coexist in a synergistic relationship to move towards a more competitive, inclusive and resilient agri-value chain. The



programme, which realises the potential of the region's youth and its natural resources, encourages the adoption of technology, enterprise development, skill building and better marketing network, and thus hopes to change the face of agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir. This complete system centres on more than just productivity and emphasizes on giving a new generation of stakeholders that include young entrepreneurs, futuristic farmers, agri-startups, academics, women, and students an ability to actively engage in the socioeconomic change of the area.

JKCIP adopts a regionally contextualized approach aligned with national development frameworks like Atmanirbhar Bharat, Start-up India, and the National Innovation and Start-up Policy (NISIP). Understanding Jammu and Kashmir's distinct topography, culture, and economic. As the UT's hub for entrepreneurship, this Cell offers a structured and supportive environment for ideation, start-up incubation, mentoring, and scale up. It plays a pivotal role in translating policy vision into actionable, youth-driven innovation on the ground.

Vision of the Incubation and Start-up Cell under JKCIP

The Incubation and Start-up Cell of the JKCIP in collaboration with SKUAST K Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship Centre (SKIEC) functions as a strategic innovation and entrepreneurship hub. With a clear mission to develop, foster, and accelerate entrepreneurial talent throughout the Union Territory, especially in the agriculture and related sectors. It caters the new problem-solving projects as well as a network of support for idea-stage entrepreneurs hoping to create long-lasting companies based on regional advantages. At its core, the JKCIP incubation cell plays a diverse role with a major focus on making entrepreneurship more accessible, orga-

nized, and goal oriented. Considering the corner stone role of the JKCIP start-up cell to facilitate innovation by proactively cultivating a mind-set that institutionalizes creative thinking, problem solving and experimentation in youth, it promotes a culture of innovation by sensitizing the youth, researchers, and critical thinkers to find important problems in the agri-food system and come up with solutions that are viable, tech-enabled, and have a positive social impact. This mission is focused on helping the young agri-preneurs improve their business skills by giving them structured workshops, boot camps, and mentoring programs giving them the tools they need to come up with ideas and build sustainable businesses. This initiative is also aimed at bridging the gap between start-ups and markets by building links between innovators, retailers, FPO's and consumers, ensuring the translation of entrepreneurial ideas into tangible economic entities. The fundamental vision of the incubation and start-up cells lies in building a robust, inclusive and innovation driven start up ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir with a major focus on youth empowerment, rural innovation, promotion is sustainable and impactful business models, adoption of modern technologies such as digital platforms, IoT, climate smart tools and bio-based innovations across the traditional agriculture setup.

What this cell is offering to young Minds: -

This Cell offers end-to-end support for the development of start-ups right from the cradle to the shelves. The whole idea of making an actual sense of the term "unicorns out of the baby corns" is backed by a comprehensive framework of activities that include:

- 1. Ideation and Boot camps: The cell regularly organizes boot camps, hackathons,

and ideathons, engaging youth from across the districts. These platforms facilitate the agri-preneurs and young professionals to brainstorm innovative solutions for real-world challenges in agriculture and food processing.

2. Mentorship and Technical Guidance: with an associated plethora of scientists, business experts, Industry tycoons and seasoned entrepreneurs, the incubation cell is aimed to provide a personalized mentorship to each mentee/incubate over the areas like refinement of business model, product development, regulatory compliance, , Branding and Packaging along with digital and non-digital marketing .

3. Seed Funding and Financial Linkages: The cell has a vertical of selecting the potential Startups, followed by seed funding and capital investment to bridge the crucial financing gap that the start -ups face during the stage of infancy.

4. Capacity Building and Trainings: To foster the major aim of building sustainable and scalable business workshops on business planning, financial literacy, idea pitching technology adoption and export readiness are extensively planned.

5. Market Linkages and Exposure: To make the potential businesses scalable and sustainable, the post incubation support from the cell focuses on giving the founders access to national and international trade fairs, retailers and institutional buyers and giant e-commerce platforms. This exposure is crucial in helping rural and agri-based start-ups go beyond the local market and tap into national or global value chains.

Bottom line: Nurturing a New Generation of Innovators

The JKCIP Incubation and Start-up Cell in collaboration with SKUAST K Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship Centre is not just an initiative, it is a movement en route for inclusive innovation, rural development, and youth empowerment. This initiative aims to create a space for ideas to grow, provide the gears to assess and polish those ideas, and connect young innovators to opportunities. The Cell is building on laying the foundation for a new economy in Jammu and Kashmir. With a mindful scaling and dedicated institutional support, this initiative has a potential to spur a generation of employment creators, change change-makers, and front-runners right from the ordinary masses. As this ecosystem ascends, it propels an unquestionable message to every fresh mind in the valley.

Authors are associated with JKCIP Incubation & Startup Cell SKUAST-K

FROM BRIBES TO BROTHERHOOD

Building A Transparent Revenue System

MOHD AMIN MIR

In an era where cynicism about public institutions runs high, the All Jammu and Kashmir Patwar Association (AJKPA) has emerged with a bold and historic declaration, a total and uncompromising war against corruption within the revenue department. The Association, through a virtual meeting convened on July 26, 2025, has pledged "Zero Tolerance Against Corruption," signalling what many observers believe could be the most significant reformist initiative within Jammu & Kashmir's revenue system in decades.

The meeting, attended by Apex Body members, Provincial leadership, and District Presidents of Jammu Province, was not just a routine gathering. It was a moral reckoning, a confrontation with the systemic rot that has gradually undermined one of the region's most foundational institutions. "Say No to Corruption, Commit to Transparency," declared the UT President of AJKPA, igniting what insiders are now calling a grassroots ethical movement within the state's oldest administrative machinery.

A Department at the Crossroads

The revenue department of Jammu & Kashmir, historically responsible for maintaining land records, overseeing mutations, and ensuring orderly agrarian administration, is at a crossroads. For centuries, the Patwari has been a symbol of authority in village life—respected, even revered. But over time, that image has been tarnished. Reports of bribery, forged mutations, favoritism in entries, and deliberate inspection delays have reduced trust in this once-noble institution. Citizens increasingly view Patwaris not as public servants but as gatekeepers of land justice who must be "persuaded" into performing basic duties.



The leadership of AJKPA now seeks to reverse this perception—and reality. As the UT President put it during the meeting:

"We are standing at a historic crossroads. The dignity of our office and the future of our service lie in our hands. We must rise, reform, and rebuild."

The Core Pillars of the Anti-Corruption Movement

AJKPA's anti-corruption campaign rests on six firm pillars. These are not symbolic gestures but actionable, structured reforms aimed at transforming the moral DNA of the department.

Zero Tolerance Policy

The UT President announced that any Patwari found indulging in corrupt practices will face immediate disciplinary action—no favoritism, no procedural delays, and no cover-ups. District Presidents have been directed to submit quarterly reports on complaints and action taken. This move signals a departure from the usual bureaucratic culture of shielding "insiders" and marks a bold step toward internal accountability.

Integrity Declaration

Every Patwari across Jammu and Kashmir will now be required to sign a sworn Declaration of Honesty. This personal pledge will explicitly forbid bribe-taking, unauthorized favors, and record tampering. The declarations will be digitally stored at the district headquarters and reviewed annually. By formalizing this ethical

commitment, AJKPA is converting moral values into administrative obligations.

Internal Vigilance Cells

To monitor compliance and ensure grievance redressal, the Association will establish Vigilance Cells at provincial and district levels. These bodies will maintain citizen feedback logs, track repeat complaints, and recommend strict punitive action wherever warranted. Each cell will also audit random mutations and land transfers to identify suspicious entries.

Whistleblower Protection Mechanism

Recognizing the culture of fear that discourages internal accountability, AJKPA will now provide a safe and confidential mechanism for whistleblowers within the revenue staff. Those who expose corruption will receive moral, legal, and institutional support. Their identities will be protected, and retaliation against them will be treated as a disciplinary offense. "Silence is complicity. We want our colleagues to feel safe while choosing integrity over fear," said a senior member of the Apex Body.

Monthly Transparency Reviews

Every district unit will now be required to conduct monthly transparency reviews, where citizen complaints, mutation delays, and inspection irregularities will be analyzed. These reports will be submitted to the Provincial Body, creating a structured feedback loop. The focus will be on identifying "red zones"—

offices and officials that generate recurring grievances.

Embracing e-Transparency

The movement places a strong emphasis on digital transparency. All Patwaris have been advised to fully integrate with platforms like Apki Zameen Apki Nigrani, WALHARUS, and digitized Tatima mapping systems.

Field inspections will increasingly rely on GPS tools, time-stamped entries, and QR-coded maps to prevent post-facto manipulation. Mutation records and inspection schedules will be made publicly viewable. "Technology is our ally, not our enemy," said the District President of Rajouri. "It protects honest officers and exposes dishonest ones."

Reviving Honor Through Duty: Salary is Not a Formality, It's a Trust

Throughout the meeting, one message echoed louder than others: the salary paid by the government is not a formality—it is a trust. Bribes, therefore, are not just illegal; they are a betrayal of that trust.

The UT President said: "If we work with the discipline and honesty of European officials, our department can shine again. We were once known as the King Department—let us regain that honor not through fear, but through fairness." He also urged Patwaris to stop treating public interaction as a revenue stream and begin seeing it as a service opportunity.

Accountability Must Rise Up the Ladder Too

The movement is not limited to Patwaris. AJKPA has demanded that Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars, and Girdawars be held accountable through transparent ACR evaluations that reflect their record in supervising, disciplining, or ignoring corrupt subordinates.

A memorandum is being drafted to the Financial Commissioner Rev-

enue and Divisional Commissioners, calling for a 360-degree evaluation framework for supervisory officers—tying promotions to performance, not proximity to power.

The Cultural Shift: From Authority to Service

The most remarkable aspect of this movement is its tone: not defensive, but transformative. Young Patwaris who joined after land record digitization are eager to shed the old reputation and build a new legacy. A Patwari from Rajouri said, "I don't want villagers to lower their gaze when I arrive. I want them to smile, knowing justice has entered their courtyard."

This reflects a generational shift—from wielding authority to delivering service.

What Lies Ahead?

Whether this pledge by AJKPA translates into sustained change depends on multiple factors—support from the Revenue Department, coordination with tehsils, timely disciplinary action, and genuine buy-in from the ground staff. But what is clear is this: a new narrative has begun.

A narrative that does not glorify bribes as "chai-pani," does not normalize delayed files as a "system," and does not accept manipulation as "adjustment." The AJKPA's call is not just administrative—it is ethical. Not just structural—it is cultural. It is an invitation to every Patwari to rise from the burden of past practices and embrace a future of dignity, transparency, and public service.

And perhaps, just perhaps, if this movement succeeds, the next time a villager walks into a Patwar office, he'll carry not fear or frustration—but hope.

Mohd Amin Mir is a columnist focused on rural governance, land administration, and institutional reform in Jammu & Kashmir. He can be mailed at miramin354@gmail.com

Chinese Manjha: The Edge Of Death Sold Openly



DR. SATYAWAN SAURABH

In every city, every street, every locality, when children and teenagers go out to fly kites, their only aim is to touch the sky. But unfortunately, now this kite flight stops only after taking someone's life. The reason for this is not any ordinary thread, but a deadly product - Chinese Manjha. This Manjha is no longer just a string for kites, it has become the enemy of the life of the common man walking on the road. Every day, there are such news in the newspapers that a person's neck was cut by the Manjha, some bird's wings got entangled in the Manjha and got peeled, some school child's neck was badly injured, some bike rider suddenly fell unconscious, because he did not know that death was hanging in his way on a transparent thread.

The biggest irony of today is that we are living in an era where technology has made everything fast, sharp and cheap. The ill-effects of that are this Chinese Manjha. It is made of fine fibres of nylon, plastic and metal which may look like a normal string, but it has a sharp edge like glass. It neither breaks, nor melts nor is it easily visible. It flutters in the air and when it hits someone's neck, face or hand, it tears the skin and leaves a deep wound



in the body. In many cases, this Manjha acts like a sharp weapon and even cuts the veins of the neck, due to which the bleeding does not stop immediately and the victim even dies.

The question is that when this Manjha is so deadly, how is it being traded openly? This Chinese Manjha is still being sold on the roadside, in markets, on online websites. The ban is only on paper, no action is being taken on the ground level, nor any strictness. This silence of the administration is as sharp and dangerous as this Manjha. In a way, this is a silent approval for that product, which is getting red with someone's blood every day. When action is not taken despite the law, the trust of the public breaks and the morale of the wrong traders increases further.

Another problem is that those who use this Manjha do not realize the seriousness of its ill-effects. They think that this Manjha

is strong, they can cut more kites with it and win the competition. But they forget that this victory can become the defeat of someone's life. If they visit the emergency ward of hospitals even once and see the condition of people injured by Chinese Manjha, then perhaps they would never pick it up. Sometimes even children get injured due to this Manjha. This Manjha makes such cuts on their delicate bodies that it makes the heart tremble. Imagine, an innocent child is riding a bicycle and suddenly this Manjha gets wrapped around his face - the wounds on his eyes, cheeks or neck will not heal for the rest of his life.

This Manjha has become a curse not only for humans but also for animals and birds. Every year thousands of birds get injured or die after getting entangled in this Manjha. Especially on occasions like Makar Sankranti and Independence Day when kite flying is at its peak, eagles, pigeons, parrots and

other birds flying in the sky get injured after getting entangled in this Manjha. Wings of many birds get cut, eyes of some burst and some die hanging in the Manjha entangled in trees or roofs. These scenes shake any sensitive person from within, but unfortunately in the game of kites we only see the thrill of our victory, not the pain of someone losing their life.

If the administration wants, immediate action can be taken on this. First of all, a complete ban on the sale of Chinese Manjha will have to be implemented by running special campaigns in all the districts. Shops in the markets should be regularly checked and strict legal action should be taken against any trader found with this Manjha. There should be a provision of not only fine but also jail sentence so that people get scared. Along with this, awareness campaign is also necessary at the level of society. Information about the ill effects of this Manjha should be

given in schools, colonies, panchayats and among the youth. It should be conveyed to the general public through radio, TV and social media.

This responsibility is not just of the administration, but of all of us. If each one of us takes a pledge that we will not use this manjha, then the traders will automatically stop selling it. It should be decided in every house that children will be kept away from this manjha and they will be told that the only true victory is that which is achieved without harming others. After all, there can be no game greater than humanity.

It must also be understood that on our roads this Manjha has become a medium of murder and not just an accident. A bike rider who was going to his work as usual, his neck gets cut and he dies on the spot. The family keeps waiting, but a dead body returns. This incident is no longer rare, it is happening again and again. Calling it an accident is now a crime. It is a moral, legal and human duty to stop it.

The sooner steps are taken to completely ban Chinese Manjha, the sooner we can save countless lives. If we do not wake up now, then in the coming times this Manjha will become a warning by taking the life of someone close to us.

A civilized society is not one that only makes laws, but one that guarantees the safety of every individual. And when death is floating on the roads, on the roofs, in the sky in the form of this manjha (string), then the most important thing is to cut this thread of death. Now the time has come for us to say - 'Fly the kite, but do not drop life.'

Author is a TV panellist. He can be mailed at priyankasaurabh9416@outlook.com

Strengthening Emergency Care In Kashmir

An Urgent Call To Advance Standards And Healthcare Reforms



DR. FIAZ MAQBOOL FAZILI

The recent unfortunate incident/s at the Emergency Department (ED) of teaching hospitals has reignited an urgent conversation about the systemic gaps in our healthcare infrastructure, particularly in emergency care delivery. As someone certified in healthcare quality and patient safety, with experience in clinical auditing and ED performance improvement, this unfortunate incident was not only saddening but also largely preventable, had appropriate Triage system and protocols been in place. Adverse events in high-stress healthcare settings, particularly in overcrowded emergency departments within constrained resources, current structure and processes of mismatch of demand and supply will be making news unless restructuring the system through necessary reforms and review of policy procedures takes place.

As QPS expert such incidents are not treated as isolated occurrences but recognized as symptoms of deeper systemic and procedural gaps—offering a chance to analyze, improve, and prevent future lapses. As quality professionals, we consciously move away from the culture of name, blame, and shame. Instead, we adopt a systems-based approach: not "who's at fault," but "what went wrong? There is scope of further improvement" rather describe them as "opportunities to learn to do better." Healthcare, by nature, is a continuum of improvement. Every error, near miss, sentinel event or adverse outcome must serve as a stepping stone toward safer protocols, better coordination, and more resilient systems. This is the time to move beyond reactive measures and push for comprehensive reforms. This shift is not just semantic—it is foundational to creating safer, more accountable, and learning-oriented health systems. This piece within space constraint outlines high-priority, actionable improvements for the ED and is not intended as a substitute for comprehensive strategic and operational policy reforms and long-term planning.

The discussion is not about rehashing the validity of subsequent reactions—protests, strikes, or debates—which I've addressed elsewhere. The core issue remains every adverse event must be a catalyst for systemic improvement, not just assigning fault only. When lives are on the line, there is zero tolerance for negligence or preventable harm—provided such conclusions are reached through impartial, transparent investigations. Equally, hospital leadership must foster a supportive environment where health-

care workers can deliver their best care without undue strain or fear."

EDs are the face of any healthcare system; they are the first point of contact during acute medical crises and often set the tone for a patient's trust in the system. In India, especially in states like Jammu & Kashmir, tertiary care hospitals are under relentless pressure—catering to a patient load that far exceeds capacity, perfect cases of demand supply mismatch. This surge is not always proportional to the severity of illness. Many EDs in Kashmir, particularly during evening and night hours, are flooded with patients presenting with minor, non-urgent complaints such as routine blood pressure checks, sore throats, or minor headaches. These cases often bypass OPDs and queue systems, driven by convenience or lack of awareness.

Unfortunately, this compromises the care of genuinely critical patients and overstretching staff, leading to potential delays, conflicts, tragic outcomes. Pending strategic planning on structural reforms including referral policy from districts to tertiary care - I have a few professional submissions to make prioritizing "The Pivotal Role of Strict Triage". "The Right Patient, Right Time, Right Resource" whether you follow, the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) and similar acuity-based triage systems like All India Institute of Medical Sciences Triage Protocol (ATP), strict triage of a busy emergency department can help reduce crowding and improve patient satisfaction in emergency departments (EDs) by prioritizing patients based on the severity of their condition when strictly implemented, becomes a clinical sorting mechanism—categorizing patients based on urgency and the level of intervention needed. Triage begins right at the hospital gate, not just inside the emergency department.

It includes visual assessment by trained staff followed by physical evaluation. Patients are categorized into three main triage levels: Red signifies critical cases needing immediate, life-saving intervention—such as cardiac arrest, severe trauma, respiratory failure. Yellow indicates serious but stable patients who require attention within minutes—e.g., fractures, moderate bleeding, or fever with warning signs. Green applies to non-urgent cases that can safely wait—like mild infections or routine check-ups. This structured triage ensures limited resources and clinical attention are directed first to the sickest patients. This approach is critical in LMIC EDs for efficient resource allocation, ensuring these go to the patients who need them most. Structured triage streamlines workflow and reduces chaos and most important benefit of triage is enhanced patient satisfaction. Sick patients and their relatives experience faster, focused care. Sadly, triage in our hospital is a much-misunderstood process and/or incorrectly implemented.

EBM evidence based best practice protocols for the top emergencies—such



as chest pain, stroke, trauma, sepsis, bleeding and asthma—ensures timely, standardised, and evidence-based care, high time to see them implemented in our system. These protocols streamline triage, diagnostics, and interventions, minimizing delays and variability. Clear algorithms guide staff to deliver the right care at the right time, improving patient outcomes, reducing errors, and enhancing team coordination. Timelines for critical steps (e.g., "door-to-needle" in stroke or "golden hour" in trauma) are strictly followed, ensuring consistency across shifts and staff. Such standardization boosts patient trust, safety, and satisfaction while optimizing resource utilization in busy ED. In Kashmir's context, making strict triage a standard operating procedure (SOP) in all teaching hospitals should be the first step toward safe emergency medicine. Triage-trained nurses and designated triage stations must be operational 24x7 to enforce categorization from the moment of arrival.

Preparing for the Unpredictable. "Code Blue" is an internationally recognized hospital emergency code used to alert medical staff to a patient requiring immediate resuscitation by pre-designated "Code Blue" teams typically due to cardiac or respiratory arrest. It is a core pillar of hospital emergency preparedness. Shockingly, Kashmir hospitals lack institutionalized and trained Code Blue Teams. In modern healthcare systems, though many have moved ahead of Code blue with RRT rapid resuscitation teams, these teams are not just critical for clinical intervention but serve as markers of emergency readiness and interdepartmental coordination. They are activated instantly through a hospital-wide paging system and trained in synchronized resuscitation protocols (BLS/ACLS/PALS/NALS). Implementing Code Blue protocols across all teaching and district hospitals in Kashmir is non-negotiable. Training sessions, dry runs, and internal audits should be held regularly to ensure system alertness and competency.

NABH Accreditation: A Game-Changer for Accountability and Patient-Centred Care. NABH is India's benchmark for healthcare quality and patient safety. While private hospitals adopt it widely, most government teaching hospitals—especially in

LMIC regions like Kashmir—remain unaccredited. NABH accreditation enforces standardized care, system accountability, and patient-centred practices. It introduces treatment protocols, adverse event reviews, grievance redressal, clear staff roles (job descriptions), and performance metrics for continuous improvement. Make NABH accreditation mandatory in a phased manner across Jammu & Kashmir. Begin with major tertiary centers followed by all district GMCs. In phase two, extend to district hospitals, then CHCs and PHCs.

Communication Skills Enhancement: While infrastructure and systems matter, human interaction is often the deciding factor in volatile environments like an ED. Poor communication or due to language barrier and a misperceived notion of lack of empathy by doctors—especially non-local or trainee medics—can easily escalate tensions with already distressed patients or their restless attendants. The doctor-patient relationship relies heavily on communication, trust, and compassion for effective healthcare. Physicians must exhibit empathy (ikhlaiyat) and strong communication skills to ensure patient satisfaction. Compassionate care is not only ethically and spiritually significant—"Those who show mercy will be shown mercy by the Most Merciful"—but also enhances therapeutic outcomes by fostering trust and holistic treatment. However, not all doctors naturally possess these skills, highlighting the need for formal training in empathetic communication to improve patient interactions and overall care quality.

Key takeaways: Rebuild Through Reform, Not Reaction. The recent incidents must be remembered not as a stray altercation between individual doctor or patient attendant. It is time to stop depending on ad-hoc, reactive firefighting and instead build resilient, responsive systems. The roadmap ahead is clear; I tried to cover top priorities only the details are beyond scope of this piece. Drawing from personal and professional experience, the need for continuous improvement is stressed—suggesting more doctors (especially seniors), BLS/ALS/PALS/ACLS/NALS certification for ED staff, and enhanced nursing support. CEOs, Directors, Principals, Med-

ical Superintendents or Deputy, and CMOs must routinely conduct Gemba Walks—a Japanese management practice meaning "go to the real place of contact"—especially during night shifts in Emergency Departments, to directly observe ground realities, identify gaps, interact with staff, and ensure accountability in critical care delivery under real-time conditions.

Let this be our turning point. We owe it to our patients, to our healthcare workers, and to the trust that binds them together. While it's essential to hold authorities accountable for maintaining hospital standards, visitors, patients, and patient attendants also have a critical role to play. By avoiding unnecessary overcrowding of emergency departments, maintaining hygiene, using facilities responsibly, and adhering to infection control practices, we can contribute to a better, more efficient healthcare system. Responsible behaviour notably helps the hospital function smoothly but also ensures that every patient receives the best possible care.

For a long time, doctors as a community have been unfairly portrayed in a negative light, leading to deep-rooted public distrust in the medical profession, sadly ignoring bad apples are in every profession and essentially, they don't represent good majority. Unfortunately, the accusations of bad narratives have permeated society to the extent that many now view all medical professionals with suspicion. Trust in character is cumulative and earned over time as when you keep your professional ethics, morality, honor intentions, and meet agreed/implicit expectations. Patients and their attendants often enter hospitals with preconceived expectations, hopes and notions, with bad publicity even assuming the worst, rather than approaching healthcare providers with trust and respect.

My humble request to my friends in the media—many of whom I spend more time with than even my medical colleagues—is to avoid settling for one-sided narratives when reporting adverse events in healthcare. Please strive to present the full picture, including the perspective of healthcare professionals. Please project a good Samaritan-empathetic picture of doctors too. Likewise, I appeal to civil society groups who regularly hold seminars on ethics and morality may also advocate for broader ethical conduct in society at large, which is witnessing a serious moral decline. The whole community needs moral training. Disturbances of the previous decades has made us weak on patience, be it a doctor, a patient, a teacher, a parent, shopkeeper or a customer. It is not one at fault. System building is collective responsibility.

The author is a practicing surgeon and certified expert in healthcare quality improvement has worked extensively as a healthcare auditor and has engaged with both national and international bodies to enhance health systems in resource-constrained environments. He can be mailed at drfiazfazili@gmail.com

Three Terrorists Killed

Suleiman Shah, a top Lashkar-e-Taiba commander and mastermind of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 people, mostly tourists dead.

They said the other two terrorists killed are believed to be Abu Hamza and Jibran, both foreign terrorists and reportedly linked to the same Pahalgam strike.

Moreover, no official confirmation has been received from Army or police regarding the groups link with Pahalgam attack, and they are likely to speak on the details once the operation concludes.

About the recovery, sources also revealed that weapons recovered from the encounter site include Carbine, AK-47 rifles and other arms, indicating the group was preparing for a major strike.

Earlier in the day, the Indian Army’s Chinara Corps confirmed the operation in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

“OP MAHADEV: Contact established in the general area of Lidwas. Three terrorists have been neutralised in an intense firefight. Operation continues. #Kashmir”@ChinarcopsIA”

In a separate development, the GOC, Chinara Corps, along with senior Army and CAPF officers, was scheduled to brief the media on Operation Mahadev at Udaan, Badami Bagh Cantonment, Srinagar, at 5:00 PM today. However, according to an update from PRO Defence Srinagar, the briefing was postponed due to new developments in the operation.

It says, a revised date and time will be communicated.

Meanwhile, the Lidwas area has witnessed a surge in anti-terror operations recently and is considered a hotspot for terrorist activity, given its difficult terrain and forest cover—(KNO)

Lg Congratulates

Three Pakistani terrorists have been eliminated. The police will give full information about this. I congratulate the army, police and all those involved in this operation.”

After Years Of Grief

Shri Narendra Modi, we are determined to crush terrorism and bring those aiding and abetting terror outfits to justice. I assure the terror victim families that the perpetrators will be punished,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor narrated the heart-rending incident of 21st July 2001 when Smt. Tara Devi, a resident of Cherji village, Kishtwar sacrificed her life while protecting her son from the Pakistan-sponsored terrorists.

“On 30th April 1998, Pakistani terrorists slit the throats of Smt Gyan Devi and her one-and-a-half-year-old son Kikar Singh in Balgran village of Kishtwar.

On 5th April 2005, Shri Ashfaq Ahmed, from Doda, a member of the Village Defense Committee was martyred in an encounter with terrorists. His son Shamim Ahmed was only 7 years old at that time.

For decades, countless families and their loved ones lost to Pakistan sponsored terrorism, were reduced to mere statistics, their pain unheard, their tears unwiped. Finally, after all this time, justice has come knocking at their doors.

After years of grief and suffering, terror victim families of Kishtwar, Doda, Ramban Poonch, Rajouri, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur and Reasi get Justice.

Dharma’s victory over Adharma is inevitable. We are committed to ensuring justice for every terror victim family, making their rehabilitation, jobs, financial assistance, and livelihood opportunities our foremost responsibility. This initial step towards justice has already brought a ray of hope to the terror victim families. It is the beginning of a new era of justice in Jammu and Kashmir.

For too long, Pakistan sponsored terrorists and its supporters, conflict entrepreneurs and separatist ecosystem suppressed the voice of thousands of victim families. The fabricated narratives of separatist elements are now crumbling,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that an internal web portal has been launched and a centralized database of terror victim families is being developed to monitor and process all cases, ensuring timely relief. Additionally, helplines are now active in every district of Jammu and Kashmir for victims to register grievances. Further support is available through divisional helplines, staffed by trained employees, at the offices of the Divisional Commissioners.

Deputy Commissioners in every district are now receiving a steady flow of applications, which are being thoroughly scrutinized. We are also integrating a mechanism in the portal for extending self employment assistance to the members of terror victim families. Furthermore, appointment letters and other assistance will be handed over to Terror Victim Families in large numbers on 5th August, in Srinagar. This process will continue till every terror victim family gets justice, the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed gratitude to all the officials for working with sensitivity and readiness to address the issues of Terror victim families.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the unfortunate incident that occurred in Jammu on the 24th July. “Don’t touch the innocent and don’t spare the guilty” is our policy. Police have taken effective action. SIT has been constituted and magisterial investigation has been ordered. Two officials have been suspended. Further action will be taken on the basis of the inquiry report,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also congratulated the Security Forces, J&K Police and all the personnel for eliminating Pakistan sponsored terrorists during the anti-terror operation in Srinagar.

Chief Secretary, Shri Atal Dulloo; DGP, Shri Nalin Prabhat; Principal Secretary Home, Shri Chandrakar Bharti; Commissioner Secretary, GAD Shri M Raju; Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Shri Ramesh Kumar; IGP Jammu, Shri Bhim Sen Tuti, Deputy Commissioners of various districts, senior officials and family members of victims of terrorism were present.

Hon’ble Chairpersons of District Development Councils, Hon’ble Members of Legislative Assembly, and members of various social organisations were also present.

LG Addresses

Institutes of Technology (IITs) for their exemplary contributions to nation-building and for developing remarkable scientific and technological capabilities over the decades, positively impacting lives worldwide.

“Science and Technology are going to be the key drivers for Viksit Bharat and the country expects IITians to make it happen.

Under the leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, continuous efforts are underway to provide facilities and resources to tech-entrepreneurs. Today’s India offers better opportunities to IIT graduates than abroad, and I am confident that with your talent and hard work, India will become a hub of innovation in the future,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the students to develop new solutions for global challenges, prepare for an unpredictable future, and stay at the forefront of technological advancement.

He also entrusted the faculty members of IIT Jammu with the responsibility of expanding research programs of national importance and improving the standard of engineering education to solve real problems faced by industry and the nation.

“Operation Sindoor sent a clear message that India’s defense system is second to none. It was a great victory for armed forces and our engineers and this operation has proved that the era of conventional warfare is over, and we must prepare for future warfare.

We must set new paradigms in the defense sector and encourage innovations in cybersecurity, AI-driven warfare, and modern communication systems,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised on increasing the participation and share of IIT graduates in Tech Startups, Artificial Intelligence, Automobile and Space sectors.

Energy and environment along with artificial intelligence are other important sectors that will require leadership from the brainpower of IIT engineering graduates in the near future, he further added.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor launched four new programs for BTech and MTech students. He also congratulated Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu and all the faculty members for the new courses starting from this academic session and for making necessary changes in the syllabus to promote the idea of innovation and startups.

“The Predictive Analytics program will forecast future outcomes through data analysis. Its algorithms are poised to revolutionize healthcare, risk management, operations, and marketing. This will not only empower industries with better decision-making, but it can also be applied to governance and public services.

The inter-disciplinary approach of the Engineering Physics program will bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical engineering, thereby aiding in the development of new technologies. This program is expected to foster new innovations in product development and pharmaceuticals,” the Lieutenant Governor further said. He observed that the M.Tech programs like Tunnel Engineering and Structural Engineering will offer modern and global standard solutions to the challenges, especially in Jammu Kashmir and other Himalayan regions.

Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu presented a detailed overview of the institution’s Academic Programmes.

Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), senior officials, HoDs, faculty members, and incoming batches of students were present on the occasion.

LG Sinha Flags

experience. I strongly believe this pilgrimage is the greatest alchemy and unveils secrets of life before the devotees,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the meticulous work done by Baba Amarnath and Budha Amarnath Yatiri Nyas, tourism department, district administration, other stakeholders and organisations serving langar.

All the arrangements have been made for the annual pilgrimage and Budha Amarnath Ji Mela, the annual festival.

Interacting with the media persons, the Lieutenant Governor said: “In the first batch, more than 1000 pilgrims from across the country set off for the holy yatra of Shri Budha Amarnath Ji. Till yesterday, 3.77 lakh pilgrims have performed darshan at holy cave of Shri Amarnath ji. I hope that pilgrims from across the country will also arrive to pay their obeisance at Shri Budha Amarnath ji and pray to Bholenath for the peace and progress of J&K and the nation.

Eminent spiritual leaders; heads of religious organizations; public representatives; senior officers of civil administration, Police, security forces, prominent citizens, and devotees in large number were present at the Flag-off ceremony.

Laughter King Of

Kashmiri comedy and folk theatre, with tributes pouring in from across the region.

Bashir Kotur was laid to rest at their graveyard near his residence, where hundreds of people attended the funeral. Many people also visited his family to offer condolences and express their sympathies.

His colleagues from the theatre and entertainment industry termed his death as ‘a very big loss’, saying “no one can fill the space he leaves behind.”

They described him as a legend whose art was admired not just in Kashmir, but across the country—(KNO)

For Every Tree Uprooted,

Prasanna Ramaswamy G; Principal Chief Conservators of Forests; DDC Member (Dansal) Shamma Begum; besides senior officers from various departments.

The event was marked by broad community participation including tribal members, students, and citizens across the Union Territory.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah emphasised that our actions today would have repercussions long afterwards. There needs to be a check on greed; only our needs must be met. Uncontrolled deforestation must stop. Genuine afforestation efforts are required to produce results that matter, not just

statistics. He added that development is a need, but it should be judicious. There must be a balance, development carried out with sincere concern for the environment. For every tree uprooted, a hundred must be planted.

Reaffirming the government’s resolve, the Chief Minister said that the administration will ensure the benefits of the Forest Rights Act and minor forest produce reach every intended beneficiary. Addressing the youth and tribal communities, he celebrated the enduring value of trees and the importance of collective stewardship.

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology and Environment, and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana recognised the unique responsibility of the tribal population in protecting forests. He emphasized that the Tribal Affairs Department must become the nodal agency for implementing the Forest Rights Act. The Minister detailed government initiatives for tribal welfare, with special focus on water conservation in Kandi areas through check dams, rainwater harvesting and percolation pits. He also highlighted youth-focused employment opportunities under the Van Dhan Yojana and spoke of upcoming sustainable tourism plans currently being developed, such as eco trek activities. Referring to holistic empowerment, he mentioned the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, under which several projects have been proposed to support inclusion, infrastructure, and the saturation of government guarantees for tribal communities.

Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, reflected that forests are not just resources—they are living guardians that gift us firewood to warm our homes, fodder to feed our cattle, timber to build our shelters, and the very air we breathe to stay alive. He urged people to reconnect with the age-old traditions of tree planting, which once formed an integral part of rituals. These were not mere customs, he noted, but deeply rooted acts of gratitude and responsibility towards nature. The government, he assured, will make every effort to revive these traditions and ensure that the rights of forest dwellers, as well as the forests themselves, are upheld and protected. Development matters, but never at the cost of nature, he asserted.

The ceremony also witnessed Chief Minister Omar Abdullah handing over appointment letters to newly selected candidates in the Forest Department and felicitating individuals and organizations for their environmental contributions.

Domestic Tourist Visits

and FTVs stood at 95,92,664 and 19,570 respectively for the period January-June of 2025.

DTVs for preceding four years were — 2,35,24,629 (for year 2024); 2,06,79,336 (2023); 1,84,99,332 (2022); 1,13,14,920 (2021) and 25,19,524 (2020).

FTVs for preceding four years were — 65,452 (for year 2024); 55,337 (2023); 19,985 (2022); 1,650 (2021) and 5,317 (2020, and for January-June period of 2025 it stood at 19,570.

Shekhawat said the Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps or initiatives to promote tourism sector in the country, including in Jammu and Kashmir. (PTI)

‘Op Sindoor’ Changed

today India hands down peace on terms and conditions laid down by her.

The day marks the 26th anniversary of India’s victory over Pakistan in the conflict and the successful conclusion of Operation Vijay.

“Earlier the separatists were sought to be wooed by appeasement, today, they too have quietly fallen in line,” Dr. Jitendra Singh remarked confidently.

India’s technological capabilities were put on full display during Operation Sindoor, said the Minister. These capabilities, acquired over the last 11 years, are a testament to the new India,” he added.

“Both the Departments of Atomic Energy and Space, which I have been associated with, have played an important role—and that fills me with certain amount of satisfaction.”

Calling Kargil the first departure from the apologetic approach adopted by former governments, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that for the first time, surgical strikes were executed under clear political and military resolve, which altered India’s stance towards terrorism decisively.

“It is not only important to pay homage to those who sacrificed their lives,” Dr. Jitendra Singh stated, “but also to introspect—whether such evil forces who support enemies from within are still amongst us.”

Dr. Jitendra Singh termed the mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits a unique internal exodus and called Partition one of the biggest blunders in history.

“The idea of “Akhand Bharat” is not a mere slogan or an aspiration—it is inherent to the idea of India, it is the core India’s soul,” Dr Jitendra said passionately.

“26th May 2014—when Prime Minister Narendra Modi took oath—was the moment of departure from pessimism to optimism, and the last 11 years are a living testimony to this transformative journey,” he added.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also launched a dedicated dashboard on Value Addition in Curriculum, aimed at enhancing academic integration with national priorities. The dashboard is envisioned as a dynamic platform to monitor, evaluate, and promote value-based academic initiatives that align with India’s developmental vision and cultural ethos.

The programme was graced by the presence of several distinguished personalities, including Prof. Yogesh Singh, Vice Chancellor of Delhi University; Brigadier (Retd.) Shri Brajesh Pandey; Shri Mahendra Mehta, Convenor of the Jammu and Kashmir People’s Forum; and Prof. Niranj Kumar, Chairman of VACC, Delhi University, along with other senior officials and esteemed faculty members of the University.(PTI)

New India Can

Khan Air Base in Rawalpindi, PAF Base Mushaf in Sargodha, Bholari Air Base, and PAF Base Shahbaz in Jacobabad.

Singh said India informed Pakistan in advance about the nature of the strikes. “On May 7, Indian DGMO called the Pakistan DGMO and informed him about the rationale of the attacks; told him they were non-escalatory,” he said.

Rejecting suggestions that the operation was paused under external pressure, Rajnath said, “This is completely wrong. In my political life, I have tried not to speak untruths.” He said the operation was paused only after achieving the political and military objectives defined before and during the conflict.

He recalled that India had made multiple efforts over the years to build peaceful relations with Pakistan. “Whenever India extended a hand of friendship, the response was war,” he said. “We once spoke the language of the Lahore bus journey, but Pakistan did not understand that. We now respond with the Balakot strike.”

The Defence Minister said the armed forces were granted full operational freedom, including the authority to select targets. He clarified that the objective was not to wage war, but to compel the adversary to back down in the face of India’s military strength.

Referring to previous actions like the 2016 surgical strikes and the 2019 Balakot air strike, Singh said the government had adopted a new approach. “Our government made numerous efforts to establish peace. But later, through these operations and now Operation Sindoor, we have taken a different path.”

“If there is any misadventure in the future, the operation will resume,” he said, adding that the global community had condemned the Pahalgam attack and backed India’s right to respond.

Rajnath also recalled the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, calling it one of the deadliest in India’s history. He said the government in power at the time failed to respond effectively, and noted that no major global platform, including the BRICS joint declaration, even acknowledged the attack.

Singh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced a firm approach to tackling terrorism, including cross-border strikes inside Pakistan, a policy he believes earlier governments should have adopted. He also noted that during the SCO defence ministers’ meeting, no joint statement was released because India refused to soften its position on terrorism.

The Defence Minister said India has shifted its approach to dealing with terrorism under Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership. He said that instead of sending dossiers, India now responds with action aimed at dismantling the source of terrorist activity. According to Singh, this approach is based on the idea that India must directly address the origin of cross-border threats and has the capacity to act when required.

Rajnath said that the current government has adopted a clear and structured policy in response to national security threats. “Under Prime Minister Modi, India does not stop at documentation. It goes to the root of terrorism and has the strength to uproot it,” he said—(KNO)

India Following 5-Point

terror and good neighbourliness cannot coexist, blood and water cannot flow together. This is our position.” The external affairs minister also called for a united approach within India in dealing with terrorism, saying it was best reflected when parliamentary delegations visited various countries to apprise them of Operation Sindoor and India’s policy on terrorism.

“We can only succeed in ensuring zero tolerance against terrorism if we have a united voice in this country against terrorism. There must not be any division of opinion on this matter,” he said.

“The way the parliamentary delegations behaved abroad, I hope the same solidarity will permeate the proceedings in the House,” Jaishankar said.

Another highlight of the external affairs minister’s address was his assertion that Washington had no direct role in ending the military conflict between India and Pakistan.

He said Modi had a phone conversation with Trump on April 22, the day of the Pahalgam attack, and another on June 17, when the prime minister was in Canada. There was no call in between, he noted.

Jaishankar also said trade did not figure in any discussion between India and the United States during that period.

At no stage in any conversation with the US was there any linkage with trade and what was going on, he said.

Trump repeatedly claimed that he used trade to stop the military conflict between the two nuclear powers. (PTI)

Srinagar’s Known Walnut

house to another, carving handmade panels into doors, ceilings, and furniture, just to make ends meet. “It has become extremely difficult to support my family through this art. We are barely able to make ends meet,” he said.

The government, he said, has not offered substantial support at the local level. “The Union Government is giving Rs 8,000 per month to awardee artists, which is some help, but it isn’t enough to live with dignity. The state machinery needs to do more.”

Najar expressed deep concern over the fading respect and recognition for handmade work. “Earlier, artists were treated with great respect. Today, our work is seen as outdated, and people don’t want to pay for quality handcrafted products,” he lamented. “Until and unless handmade work is valued and artists are respected, this craft cannot flourish.”

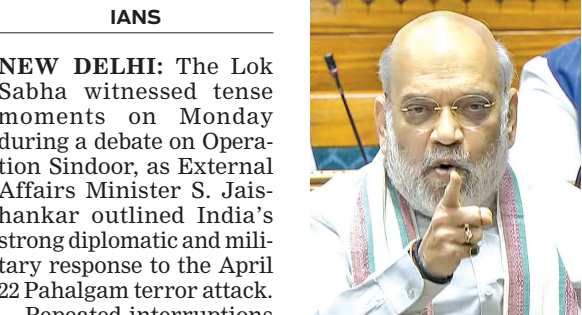
Despite facing hardships, Rafiq has trained dozens of young artisans over the years. But they, too, are struggling. “Even the youth I have trained are unable to earn a decent living. If renowned artists like us are in distress, how can we expect youth to choose this path?” he asked.

The artisan has urged the government to take meaningful steps to revive the dying art. “There must be structured schemes to attract youth, support marketing of handmade items, and ensure artisans can earn decent livelihoods. We need exhibitions, online platforms, and direct market linkages,” he said.

Rafiq’s work has reached countries across the globe, and he has even travelled abroad, where he was welcomed with respect. Yet, at home, his talent struggles for survival. “Abroad, I was respected for my work. But here, even my basic needs remain unfulfilled,” he said.

“I am not happy doing this work anymore—not because I don’t love the art, but because there’s no future in it now. At the very least, an artist should be able to feed their family. That’s not the case today,” he said, his voice tinged with both sadness and resilience—(KNO)

‘You trust foreign narratives over India’s Foreign Minister’: Amit Shah roasts Congress



NEW DELHI: The Lok Sabha witnessed tense moments on Monday during a debate on Operation Sindoor, as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar outlined India’s strong diplomatic and military response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack.

Repeated interruptions by Opposition MPs, including Congress members, during his address led to Home Minister Amit Shah stepping in to defend Jaishankar and call for order in the House.

Amid heckling from the Opposition benches, HM Shah sharply rebuked their conduct. “Do you not trust your own Foreign Minister, who has taken a constitutional oath?” he asked, visibly annoyed.

He went on to accuse the Opposition of undermining national institutions.

“It’s unfortunate that they don’t believe what India’s Foreign Minister is saying but are quick to believe narratives from abroad. I understand that the word ‘foreign’ holds value in their party’s (Congress) name - but that doesn’t mean it should override national interest in this House,” Shah remarked, taking a direct swipe at the Congress.

He further added, “This is exactly why they’re sitting in the Opposition today—and they’ll likely

global platforms.”

He also pointed to broader international backing for India’s counterterrorism stance.

“We’ve seen an extraordinary shift. Even major terror hubs like Bahawalpur and Muridke have come under scrutiny and faced serious action - something many wouldn’t have imagined possible until recently,” he noted, in reference to long-protected terror infrastructure inside Pakistan.

The minister underscored that India is no longer isolated on these matters. “We received clear support from major global groupings like the Quad and BRICS. Even China, as part of BRICS, joined the condemnation of the Pahalgam attack,” he said, emphasising growing global consensus on tackling cross-border terrorism.

Citing statements from world leaders, Jaishankar added, “The German Foreign Minister clearly said that India has every right to defend itself. France and the European Union echoed the same sentiment.”

He said that India’s posture on national security is both firm and globally validated.

“Our actions are not just military - they’re backed by a strong diplomatic consensus. The world is no longer turning a blind eye to terrorism against India,” he asserted.

Panel discussion on Waqf Act held as part of Delhi BJP’s legal internship

NEW DELHI: A panel discussion on the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025 was the highlight of the legal internship programme, organised by Legal Cell of Bharatiya Janata Party, Delhi Pradesh for law students, which culminated on Monday, a party leader said.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the legal internship programme Pravidhika, Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva said its objective was to provide young legal professionals practical exposure to legislative processes, legal research, public interest litigation, and policy-making, thereby instilling a sense of national service and constitutional responsibility in them.

Sachdeva stated that the Legal Cell and the lawyer community hold significant importance in the party today. Just like in other areas of society, the influence of social media and traditional media has greatly

increased in politics as well.

The processes of the Election Commission have also become legally complex. Therefore, the Legal Cell has become integral to the party’s daily functioning. It is a matter of pride that the Legal Cell is actively supporting the smooth operation of party activities, he said.

The event witnessed the presence of legal experts and political figures, including Senior Advocate and MP Mahesh Jethmalani, Constitutional expert Dr. B. Ramaswamy, and legal author and social activist Monika Arora.

All speakers inspired the youth to uphold democratic values and Constitutional principles.

A major highlight of the ceremony was the panel discussion on the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025. Senior Advocate Anil Soni, Senior Advocate Monika Arora, and Advocate Ramaswamy shed light on the historical context of the Act, challenges to transpar-

Cambodia and Thailand agree to ceasefire following talks in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR: Cambodia and Thailand agreed on Monday to an “immediate and unconditional” ceasefire, following talks in Kuala Lumpur that were mediated by Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim.

According to a joint press statement, the special meeting was chaired, hosted, and witnessed by Prime Minister Ibrahim in Putrajaya city of Malaysia. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet and Thailand’s Acting Prime Minister Phumtham

Wechayachai participated in the discussions.

The talks were held amid escalating border clashes between Cambodia and Thailand which disturbed regional peace tremendously.

PM Hun Manet and Acting PM Phumtham Wechayachai expressed their positions and willingness for an immediate ceasefire and return to normalcy.

According to a statement released after the meeting, both Cambodia and Thailand reached a common understanding, including an immediate and unconditional ceasefire, with effect

Cash row: SC questions Justice Varma for challenging in-house proceedings post participation

High Court.

The apex court was dealing with a writ petition filed by Justice Varma to quash the communication forwarded by then Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna to the President and Prime Minister, recommending action based on the in-house committee’s findings.

Sibal argued that the CJI has no authority to write to the President recommending the initiation of impeachment proceedings, as such a motion must be initiated by the Members of Parliament (MPs). “Only if Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha members are satisfied that the conduct is such that it requires his removal, they will move a motion.”

The senior counsel questioned how the alleged discovery of cash in the outhouse of a judge’s residence would constitute

misbehaviour warranting his removal.

Sibal added that the Centre can neither initiate nor recommend impeachment proceedings, and that Parliament was left with no option when the CJI recommended the removal of Justice Varma.

To this, the Justice Datt-led Bench said that the findings of the in-house committee are not considered evidence, and under the Judges Enquiry Act, the motion of removal must be preceded by an inquiry conducted by a three-judge committee. It added that sending the in-house committee report to the President and the Council of Ministers did not imply that the CJI was attempting to influence Parliament.

The apex court will continue to hear the matter on Wednesday.

Then Delhi High Court

justice, Justice Varma, came under scrutiny following the March 14 discovery of burnt cash in an outhouse of his official residence in the national capital after the fire brigade had gone there to douse a blaze.

Following the cash discovery, which sent shockwaves through judicial circles, Justice Varma was repatriated to the Allahabad High Court, and an in-house enquiry was initiated into the allegations.

The in-house enquiry committee found both direct and electronic evidence indicating that the storeroom was under the covert or active control of Justice Varma and his family. It concluded, based on strong inferential evidence, that the burnt cash was removed from the storeroom in the early hours of March 15.

The three-member

enquiry committee – comprising Chief Justice Sheel Nagu of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, CJ G.S. Sandhawalia of the Himachal Pradesh HC and Karnataka HC’s Justice Anu Sivaraman -- found the allegations serious enough to merit impeachment proceedings against Justice Varma. The committee held that Justice Varma’s misconduct was proven and grave, meriting his removal under Article 124(4) of the Constitution.

The apex court is also dealing with a petition filed by advocate Mathews J. Nedumpara, along with other co-petitioners, seeking a direction to the Delhi Police to register an FIR in relation to the incident of alleged discovery of the burnt cash in an outhouse of Justice Varma’s official residence while serving in the Delhi High Court.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER, PULWAMA

2nd Floor Mini secretariat Pulwama, Phone No:01933-242234

Email-Id: ceopgaz@gmail.com / Ceopulplg@gmail.com / Ceopulssa@rediffmail.com / Ceoptn7@gmail.com / cewpulwama@gmail.com/ tngpul@gmail.com / Ceoacpul@gmail.com

Subject: Inviting of objections for the Revised Merit List approved by the District Level Committee for Hiring of Cluster Resource Coordinators for Teaching Supporting.

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Advertisement Notice for hiring of "Cluster Resource Coordinators for Teaching Support" till end of Academic Session 2024-25(Revised) for Government High & Higher Secondary Schools was issued vide Directorate of School Education Kashmir's Notification No. 01 DSEK of 2025 Dated: 09-07-2025, issued vide endorsement No. DSEK/Estt-I/E-7685882/1619-24 Dated: 09-07-2025.

Whereas, this office was in receipt of District wise-Subject wise Merit list, through E-office issued by Directorate of School Education Kashmir for verification of the documents.

Whereas, Merit list has been prepared as per the data/credentials provided in the Application Forms and final selection of the candidates is subject to the verification of the information contained in their submitted applications / documents, by the Committee to be constituted for the purpose.

Whereas, this office vide Order No. CEO/Pul/Gaz/2025/291/3038-41 Dated: 24-07-2025 constituted a committee for scrutinization / verification of the documents submitted by the applicants for hiring of Cluster Resource Coordinators for Teaching Support.

Whereas, after scrutinization of documents by the designated committee, some discrepancies were observed in respect of some of the candidates on the basis of the actual documents uploaded and the information provided by the candidates resulting in framing of revised merit list.

Now therefore, this notification is published for the information of all stakeholders/candidates that the revised/ redrawn merit list approved by the committee constituted for the purpose, as annexure- "A" to this notification, is available on the official website of District Administration Pulwama i.e, Pulwama.gov.in and also available in the office of the undersigned for inviting objections, if any, the same shall be submitted in the office of the undersigned within a period of (03) three days from the date of issuance of this notification with cogent documentary proof, failing which no claim whatsoever shall be entertained after the expiry of the given stipulated time.

No: CEO/Pul/GAZ/2025/294/3102-06

Dated: 28 /07/2025

Chief Education Officer
Pulwama

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER PULWAMA

Sub: Revised merit List for hiring of cluster resource coordinators(CRCs) for the academic session 2024-25 (revised)

Annexure"A" to the Notification No. CEO/Pul/Gaz/2025/294/3102-06

Dated: 28 / 07/2025

S. No	Subject applied for	Name	Parentage	Residential Address	Date of Birth	Name of the University:	Mode of passing PG	Aggregate percentage of marks in PG	Are you MPhil qualified?	Are you PhD qualified?	PG @ 80 POINTS	Mphil @ 02 points	PhD @ 03 Points	Experience @ 7.50 & 15 points	Total Points	Remarks
1	History	Dr Arshad Ahmad Bandh	Mohd Sultan Bandh	Khan Mohallah Payer Pulwama	20-03-85	Barkatullah university Bhopal (M.P)	Regular	81.55	Yes	Yes	65.24	2	3	9.31	79.55	
2	History	Dr. Paryaz Ahmad Bhat	Gh Mohd Bhat	Banderpora Kakapora	05-03-86	Barkatullah University Bhopal	Regular	73.33	Yes	Yes	58.66	2	3	15	78.66	
3	History	Mohd Sejad Dar	Mohd Latief Dar	Dogripora, Awantipora	05-03-88	Jiwaji University Gwalior M.P	Regular	73.1	Yes	Yes	58.48	2	3	15	78.48	
4	History	Jahangir Ahmad Khanday	Ab Salam Khanday	Panzgam Awantipora	01-03-90	University of Kashmir	Regular	63.58	Yes	No	50.86	2	0	15	67.86	
5	History	Muzafar Ahmad Dar	Ali Mohammad Dar	New Colony, Nikloora, Litter, Pulwama.	02-11-89	JIWAJI UNIVERSITY	Regular	75.76	Yes	Yes	60.61	2	3	0	65.61	
1	Education	Yasmeena Salam	Abdul Salam Ahanger	Kachipora Pulwama	08-03-87	UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR	Regular	82.9	No	Yes	66.32	0	3	5.73	75.05	
2	Education	Shahzada Akhter	Mohammad Yousuf Ganie	Wagam Pulwama	27-08-90	University of Kashmir	Regular	80.7	No	Yes	64.56	0	3	3.62	71.18	
3	Education	Nahida Nabi	Gh Nabi Mir	Dussa Pampore, Pulwama	16-07-92	Central University of Kashmir	Regular	76.94	Yes	Yes	61.55	2	3	3.64	70.19	
4	Education	Bisma Shabir	Shabir Ahmad Bhat	Wahibugh Pulwama	09-10-97	University of Kashmir	Regular	87.7	No	No	70.16	0	0	0	70.16	
5	Education	Rifat Manzoor	Manzoor Ahmad Shah	Trichal Pulwama	02-09-97	University of Kashmir	Regular	87	No	No	69.60	0	0	0	69.60	
1	Urdu	Gulzar Ahmad Magray	Ab Ahad Magray	Nikloora Litter Pulwama	15-02-93	UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD	Regular	88	Yes	Yes	70.40	2	3	0	75.40	
2	Urdu	Safoora Tariq	Tariq Ahmad Bhat	Dangerpora Pulwama	07-03-99	KU	Regular	85.6	No	No	68.48	0	0	0	68.48	
3	Urdu	Dr Mohd Younis Dar	Khzar Mohd Dar	Tujan Pulwama	03-01-90	University of Kashmir	Regular	67.87	No	Yes	54.30	0	3	11.18	68.48	
4	Urdu	Rehana Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Bhat	Chewa- Ullar, Tral, Pulwama	21-05-92	CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR	Regular	70.6	Yes	Yes	56.48	2	3	6.12	67.60	
5	Urdu	Zahid Yaseen	Pir Mohammad Yaseen	Rakh Pahoo	20-02-89	KASHMIR UNIVERSITY	Regular	62.5	Yes	Yes	50.00	2	3	9.99	64.99	
1	Maths	Saima Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Parry	Tiken Batpora	07-02-94	Central university of Kashmir	Regular	85.32	No	No	68.26	0	0	15	83.26	
2	Maths	Faisal Yousuf	Mohammad Yousuf Ganaie	Prichoo Pulwama	15-04-98	Central university of kashmir	Regular	86.375	No	No	69.10	0	0	10.42	79.52	
3	Maths	Mohammad Hussain Wani	Ghulam Ahmad Wani	Goosu Pulwama	03-01-90	Barkatullah University	Regular	76.9	Yes	No	61.52	2	0	15	78.52	
4	Maths	Aadil Hafeez	Hafeez Ullah Dar	Awantipora	01-01-94	Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University	Regular	84.55	No	No	67.64	0	0	6.27	73.91	
5	Maths	Faroze Ahmad Malik	Gh Ahmad Malik	Samboora Pampore Pulwama	25-03-85	APSU REWA MP	Regular	72.8	Yes	Yes	58.24	2	3	10.48	73.72	
6	Maths	Uzha Shaan	Mohd Altaf Bhat	Lelhar Kakapora Pulwama	03-04-99	CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR	Regular	86.08	No	No	68.86	0	0	0	68.86	
7	Maths	Zubair Ahmad Ahanger	Ab Ahad Ahanger	Lurgam Aripal Tral Pulwama	02-01-97	UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR, SRINAGAR	Regular	81.6	No	No	65.28	0	0	3.55	68.83	
8	Maths	Sahil Mushtaq	Mushtaq Ahmed Najar	Rahmoo Pulwama	04-04-96	BGSBU RAJOURI	Regular	82.65	No	No	66.12	0	0	0	66.12	
9	Maths	Wasim Yousuf Khanday	Mohd Yousuf Khanday	Draklaran	05-02-98	Jiwaji university Gwalior	Regular	77.29	No	No	61.83	0	0	3.55	65.38	
10	Maths	Aadil Gani Reshi	Ab Gani Reshi	Urichersoo Pulwama	10-04-94	BABA GHULAM SHAH BADSHAH UNIVERSITY RAJOURI	Regular	80.75	No	No	64.60	0	0	0	64.60	

DIPK-4376-25

DT: 28/07/2025

Chief Education Officer
Pulwama

TB Mukht Panchayat award ceremony

DC Budgam felicitates health workers, panchayats

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: A grand felicitation ceremony for the TB Mukht Panchayat Awards was held Monday at Sheikh-ul-Alam Hall, DC office Complex Budgam, to recognize and celebrate the efforts of panchayats and health workers in making Budgam a model district in the fight against tuberculosis (TB).

The felicitation function was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat.

The event marked a significant milestone under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP), as 168 Panchayats across the district were officially recognized as TB-Free for the year 2024. Out of these, 105 Panchayats earned the Silver Status and 63 secured Bronze Status, based on national parameters laid out under the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

On the occasion, DC praised the tireless efforts of grassroots health functionaries, including health workers, Panchayat Secretaries, Community Health Officers (CHOs), and field-level staff, whose dedica-



tion played a vital role in attaining the TB-Free status across Panchayats. He emphasized that this achievement was a result of sustained community participation, robust inter-departmental coordination, and unwavering dedication at all levels.

DC said, "This fight against TB is not yet over, we celebrate the success

today, we must intensify our efforts and ensure that no household in Budgam is left behind in our goal of total TB eradication."

During the event, DC felicitated Panchayat Secretaries and Health staff with Gandhi Emblems and Certificates of Appreciation, acknowledging their pivotal role in this public health success.

The ceremony witnessed the presence of Chief Medical Officer Budgam, District Health Officer, District Tuberculosis Officer, Block Medical Officers, Medical Officers-Tuberculosis Control, NTEP staff of District Tuberculosis Centre Budgam, Panchayat Secretaries, field-level health workers, and CHOs, among others.

CEO J&K reviews District Election Profile in Udhampur

GMK NEWS NETWORK

UDHAMPUR: Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu and Kashmir, Sanjeev Verma, Monday conducted a comprehensive review of the District Election Profile of Udhampur during his visit to the district.

During the meeting, Sanjeev Verma interacted with the Electoral Registration Officers and enquired about the status of Booth Level Officers training and other preparatory measures. He also sought updates on the ERO Net.

The review meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh, SDM Chenani Dr. Ranjeet Kotwal, SDM Ramnagar Rajinder Rana, Deputy District Election Officer Neeraj Bhargava and other concerned officers and officials.

As part of the assessment, the CEO conducted

a detailed review of key aspects including rationalization of polling stations, training of BLOs and availability of Assured Minimum Facilities at all polling stations.

The CEO emphasized the need to provide the essential amenities such as drinking water, electricity, toilets, ramps and proper signage at every polling location to ensure a smooth, inclusive and voter-friendly experience.

Sanjeev Verma stressed the need for increasing the voter turnout in the district. He also instructed the concerned officers to intensify the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation campaign.

Earlier, the Deputy District Election Officer gave a detailed presentation outlining the existing status of polling stations, infrastructural requirements and ongoing rationalization proposals.

Surey Chak incident: Inquiry Office invites information, evidence from any willing person(s)

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Jammu South, the inquiry officer into the Surey Chak incident, through a public notice, has invited any person(s) to submit relevant information, evidence, or statements concerning the events of July 24 that resulted in the death of Parvez Ahmed (alias Bachi).

A Public Notice issued by the SDM stated "It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that a Magisterial Inquiry has been ordered by the competent authority vide endorsement No. DM/JC/Magistrate Inquiry/1367-1372 dated 25.07.2025" into the circumstances that led to the death of one Parvez Ahmed @ Bachi S/o Rehmat Ali R/o Javed Nagar, Beli Charana Jammu.

In order to conduct

a fair and transparent inquiry, any person having knowledge, information, evidence or any other input related to the incident is hereby requested to come forward and submit the same before the undersigned (SDM Jammu South).

Statements, information or evidence (oral or written) may be submitted in person or in writing to the Inquiry Officer (Sub Divisional Magistrate, Jammu South) in his office during office hours by or before 04.08.2025 (04:30 PM). Information can also be shared at email address (sdmsouthjammu@gmail.com) or at contact number 9484002110. The office address of Inquiry Officer is given as below:-

"Office of the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Jammu South, Gadigarh, Tehsil Jammu South, District Jammu — J&K PIN: 181101."

DC Kulgam reviews performance of Health department

Emphasizes on scheme saturation, outreach & preventive care

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: A comprehensive review meeting of the District Health Society (DHS), Kulgam was held today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan to assess the performance and achievements of the health department across various verticals here in the meeting hall of Mini-Secretariat, here.

The meeting focused on evaluating ongoing initiatives, identifying gaps in service delivery and issuing directions to strengthen the district's public health infrastructure.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Altaf Ahmad Khan; ADC, Vigar Ahmed Giri; CPO, Malik Suheel; Chief Medical Officer, DHO, Medical Superintendent DH Kulgam, District Immunization Officer, all BMOs and field officers of health department.

During the meeting, DC was informed that the district, with an estimated population of about 5.0 lakh, is served by a network of 167 health institutions, including a District



Hospital, 3 Community Health Centres (CHCs), 19 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), 26 New Type PHCs, and 118 Sub-Centres.

DC appreciated the encouraging progress in key health indicators such as OPD/IPD footfall, institutional deliveries, NCD and Dialysis and starting of chemotherapy unit at DH Kulgam.

While reviewing the Ayushman Bharat PMJAY scheme, DC noted 92.0% saturation in registration and claims exceeding Rs.18.30 Cr for over 24,903 patients till date. He directed

the concerned officers to ensure 100% saturation in registration across the district.

Reviewing the performance under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme, DC instructed health authorities to intensify X-ray testing, case detection, and prompt treatment of TB cases.

The meeting also discussed the progress under other national health programs, including NVBDCP, NPCBVI, NP-NCD and NMHP. DC emphasized the need to strengthen preventive healthcare and early

intervention measures through community-level awareness and screening activities.

The health department was directed to keep surveillance by doing regular checkups and screening in those villages where last time outbreaks regarding water borne diseases occurred.

It was enjoined upon the health department to cover all the beneficiaries under PMJAY scheme particularly in the upper belts of district by organizing regular health camps and deploy Mobile Medical Units to provide medical services at the doorsteps.

Directions were passed to RBSK wing of health deptt to have an intensive healthcare checkup camps in all 82 High and Higher Secondary Schools of district for screening under Mental Health Programme.

Concluding the meeting, DC directed all doctors and healthcare staff to work with zeal and dedication in serving the people of Kulgam by delivering accessible, equitable, and efficient healthcare services to all sections of society.

District Hospital Bandipora observes 'World Hepatitis Day' with awareness programme

DC stresses on proactive healthcare measures to combat the 'silent epidemic'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: District Hospital Bandipora on Monday observed 'World Hepatitis Day' with a comprehensive awareness programme, drawing attention to the prevention, early diagnosis, and management of viral Hepatitis, particularly types B and C.

The event aimed to mobilize public action and reaffirm healthcare commitment to eradicating the disease.

The programme was formally inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, who stressed the need for proactive healthcare measures to combat the 'silent epidemic'.

On the occasion, DC emphasized that we must move from awareness to action. "Testing and timely treatment are vital. Our administration is committed to strengthening healthcare delivery and



ensuring outreach at the grassroots," he said.

Chief Medical Officer Bandipora, Dr. Ishtiyak Ahmad, emphasized preventive strategies. "Scaling up screening, vaccination, and education is essential. Our health workers are at the forefront, and their efforts must be supported to halt the spread of hepatitis," he said.

The event featured a series of expert-led sessions, highlighting the significance of the day and

guiding its flow.

District Programme Manager (NHM), delivered an overview of World Hepatitis Day and the National Health Mission's response. On the occasion he said that this year's theme 'Hepatitis Can't Wait' reflects the urgency of action. He stressed that NHM is implementing screening and treatment services through the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme.

Epidemiologist, pre-

sented global statistics and trends, revealing that over 325 million people worldwide are living with Hepatitis B or C, often without symptoms.

Medical Officer provided an in-depth presentation on the epidemiology, prevention, and treatment of Hepatitis B and C, emphasizing safe healthcare practices, vaccination, and accessible treatment.

Concluding the event, Medical Superintendent District Hospital Bandipora reiterated the hospital's dedication to hepatitis control and public health education. "Testing is free, treatment is available, now we need public participation. Let us all be ambassadors of hepatitis prevention," he said.

The programme ended with a collective call to action, reinforcing the district's commitment to achieving the World Health Organization's goal of eliminating viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

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+91 1943501600

info@khybercement.com

www.khybercement.com

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