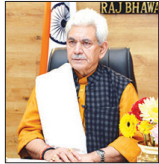


Good Morning

Kashmir

16th
Year Of Publication

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



Seven tourist spots in Kashmir Division including Aru Valley, Rafting Point Yanner, Akkad Park, Padshahi Park, Kaman Post and five in Jammu Division including Dagan Top, Ramban, Dhaggar in Kathua, Shiv Cave in Salal, Reasi to be reopened from Monday, 29th September.

GMK

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MiG-21 Added Many Proud Moments To Military Aviation Journey: Rajnath



AGENCIES

CHANDIGARH: As the MiG-21 fighter jet formally retired after nearly six decades of service on Friday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the aircraft had provided critical strength to the Indian Air Force in conflicts ranging from the 1971 war to 'Operation Sindoor'.

Speaking at a de-commissioning ceremony here, Singh, said the MiG-21 was not confined to a single battle or event but had shaped India's military operations across several decades. "For a long time, the MiG-21 has been a witness to numerous deeds. Its contribution has not been limited to a single war," he said.

He noted the aircraft's role in the 1971 conflict, recalling the strike on the Governor's House in Dhaka which, according to him, influenced the outcome of the war. He also referred to its use in the Kargil conflict, the Balakot airstrike, and in Operation

Sindoor. "There has not been a moment when the MiG-21 did not provide strength to our armed forces," Singh said.

The Defence Minister described the farewell as marking not just the end of a fleet but also the closing of a chapter in India's military history. He said the aircraft had repeatedly enhanced the honour of the national flag during historic missions, and its record represented a story of courage, sacrifice and professionalism.

Tracing its history, Singh said the MiG-21 was inducted in 1962 and went on to become India's first supersonic fighter. For over sixty years, it shaped operational confidence and strategy, he said, and contributed to India's standing on the global stage. "For all of us, this is not just a fighter jet but something we have had a deep association with," Singh said.

Responding to criticism of its age, Singh

War Against Terrorism Not Over Yet: LG

Chairs Unified Headquarters (UHQ) Meeting

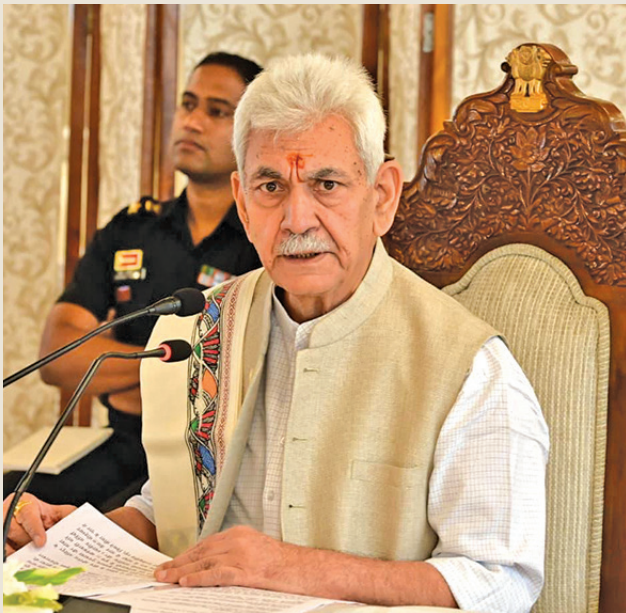
GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha declared Friday that the war against terrorism is "not over yet," calling for a continuation of both kinetic and non-kinetic operations to maintain momentum and take "stringent action" against the entire ecosystem of terrorism.

"War against terrorism is not over yet. Kinetic and non-Kinetic operations must continue. We must maintain the momentum and take stringent action against terrorism and its entire ecosystem," the Lieutenant Governor told the officers while chairing Unified Headquarters (UHQ) meeting at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar to review the current security scenario in Jammu Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, Chief Secretary Shri Atal Dulloo, DGP Shri Nalin Prabhat, GoC 15 Corps Lt Gen

Prashant Srivastava, GoC 16 Corps Lt Gen P K Mishra, GoC 9 Corps Lt Gen Rajan Sharawat, Air Vice Marshal Vikas Sharma, AOC J&K, Shri S.J.M. Gillani, Special DG Coordination PHQ, Principal Secretary Home Shri Chandraker Bharti, ADGP CID Shri Nitish Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, senior officials of Armed Forces, CAPFs, J&K



Police, Intelligence Agencies and civil administration.

The Lieutenant Governor congratulated Security Forces, J&K Police and Intelligence agencies for the recent successful anti-terror operations in the Union Territory.

He directed the security apparatus for continuous improvement and to proactively adapt to evolving threats. The

LG Orders Reopening Of 12 More Tourist Spots In J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: After a thorough security review and discussion in UHQ meeting, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday announced reopening of 12 tourist destinations across Jammu Kashmir, which were temporarily closed as precautionary measures after heinous Pahalgam terror attack on

LG Launches Lieutenant Governor's Sainik Sahayta Kendra Portal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday launched a web portal of Lieutenant Governor's Sainik Sahayta Kendra, at Raj Bhawan.

Lieutenant Governor's Sainik Sahayta Kendra (LGSSK) is a landmark initiative dedicated to the welfare of serving

NIA Attaches Property Of HM Terror Operative In Kashmir



NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday attached the immovable properties of a Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) terror operative involved in the supply of arms and ammunition to active militants of the banned outfit for promoting terrorist activities in Kashmir.

"On the orders of the NIA Special Court, Jammu, the agency has attached the immovable properties of Tariq Ahmad Mir, a chargesheeted accused who was arrested in April 2025 in the case RC-01/2020/NIA/JMU," a spokesman said in a statement issued.

The attached properties included a concrete, single-storey residential building built on land measuring 780 sq. ft. under Survey No. 82 Min, recorded as Shamilat (Khahcharai) in Village Maldera, District Shopian, and a piece

After Nedous, GDA Takes Over Royal Park Hotel After Lease Expiry



WARIS FAYAZ

SRINAGAR: After reclaiming the historic Nedous Hotel in August, the Gulmarg Development Authority (GDA) on Friday took possession of the Royal Park Hotel after the expiry of its rent agreement.

Officials confirming the development informed that the GDA-owned property (Royal Park) had been rented out to a local businessman

several decades ago, but the lease period ended in June this year and was not renewed.

Following the lapse, the authority moved to reclaim the hotel to prevent any unauthorised occupation.

The takeover was carried out smoothly in the presence of officials to ensure a peaceful handover.

The action comes close on the heels of GDA's high-profile eviction of

Committee On Privileges Discusses Legislators' Privileges, Protocols

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Committee on Privileges of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Friday convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex, Srinagar, to deliberate on matters related to the constitutional privileges and entitlements of legislators.

The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman, Nizamud-Din Bhat, and attended by members Riyaz Ahmad Khan, Salman Sagar, Javaid Riyaz (Bedar), Javaid Iqbal, and Bharat Bhushan.

Also present were Commissioner Secretary GAD, M Raju; Secretary Hospitality & Protocol, Bhupinder Kumar; Secretary Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs, Achal Sethi; and Secretary Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandita.

The Committee emphasized



the need to ensure proper protocol and privileges to legislators and directed for greater cooperation to facilitate the smooth functioning of the legislature.

At the outset, the Chairman underscored the importance of legislators asserting their constitutional rights and privileges on all appropriate platforms. He expressed confidence in the collective commitment of members to uphold the integrity of the institution and assured that the Committee would continue to perform within its mandate in the larger interest of public welfare.

Members also offered valuable suggestions and stressed maintaining protocols to safeguard the dignity, autonomy, and effective functioning of elected representatives.

CS Reviews PM Vishwakarma Yojana Implementation In J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday chaired a meeting to review the implementation of PM Vishwakarma Yojana in Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on enhancing credit linkage for the registered beneficiaries.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce (I&C), Vikramjit Singh; Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan; Executive Director, J&K Bank; Directors, I&C Jammu/Kashmir; and other senior officers.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary emphasized that at least 70,000-80,000 beneficiaries should be brought under the ambit of

credit linkage with financial institutions to enable them to expand their enterprises on commercial lines.

He directed the concerned departments and banks to work in close coordination to ensure smooth loan sanctions and timely disbursements.

Highlighting the need for robust outreach, the Chief Secretary instructed the officers to launch a mass awareness campaign across every nook and corner of the UT, educating artisans and craftspeople about the full benefits of the scheme.

He said that Common Service Centres (CSCs) at the block level must be leveraged to organize orientation programmes for those who have received toolkits, ensuring that they are well-informed about the



Low Demand, Mismanagement
Apple Growers Face Deepening Crisis Due To Cold Storage Shortage

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: Kashmir's apple industry - often described as the backbone of the valley's economy - continues to reel under crisis this year. While highway blockades and low demand have already dented the season, the shortage of cold storage space has now left small and medium-scale growers in despair, forcing many to sell their produce at throwaway prices.

Small growers from Shopian, Pulwama, and adjoining districts said that while the government often advises them to make use of cold storage facilities during market slowdowns, the ground reality is very different.

"Tell us, what is the benefit of cold storage units

when we can't even store our produce in them?" asked Abdul Rashid, an orchardist from Pulwama. "We were waiting for better market rates by storing our apples, but when we approached the units, they said all slots were booked months ago.



This facility only secures the position of big traders, while small and middle-class growers like us are left helpless."

Another grower, Ghulam Ahmad from Shopian, urged immediate government action. "In every crisis, we are told to rely

Sorry State Of Education....
1371 Schools In JK Run By 'Single Teachers'

RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir, over 32,000 school students are being taught by single teachers in 1371 educational institutions—thus raising a question on quality of education and availability of staff.

According to the official figures available, Jammu and Kashmir has at least 1371 schools wherein single teachers have been posted or deployed.

On the contrary, the government as well as the management of private schools claim that they have a sufficient availability of human resources and infrastructure but the official figures reveal a different story.

The figures reveal that there is an enrolment of 32,303 students enrolled in those schools where only single teachers are posted or deployed.

Pertinently, in previous

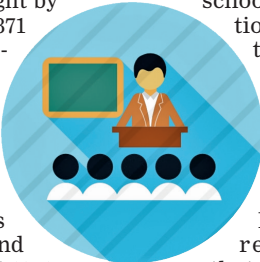
report, the official figures have revealed that in Jammu and Kashmir more than 31,054 students were enrolled in those schools that were functioning with a single teacher.

In the previous report, there were only 1330 schools that were functioning with only a single teacher. However, the recent report suggests that the numbers have increased by at least 41 schools.

In 2024, KNO first broke the news of closure of over 4400 government run schools owing to 'zero or extremely low' enrolment of students.

In July-2024, the news agency reported that there were a total of 23,117 government run schools in Jammu and Kashmir out of which 4394 have been deleted from the UDISE data.

Principal Secretary, School Education Department and Project Director



...Pak's Cross-Border Terrorism 'Main Problem'
MEA Rejects Third-Party Mediation On Kashmir

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday reiterated New Delhi's position on Jammu and Kashmir, saying the issue is strictly bilateral between India and Pakistan and does not require third-party intervention.

The clarification came after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan referred to Kashmir during the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

In his address at UNGA, Erdogan said Turkey welcomed the ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan and called for resolving the Kashmir matter "on the basis of UN resolutions" through dialogue. India rejected these remarks as interference in its internal affairs.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, said India's



stance on Kashmir remains unchanged. "Our stand on the Kashmir issue is very clear; there has been no change in it. As far as mediation is concerned, there is no need for any third party to mediate on the bilateral issues between India and Pakistan," he said.

"We reject such objectionable comments on matters that are internal to India. We have lodged a strong protest with the Turkish ambassador. Such

JKESIS organises “Swasthya Mela” under Swasth Nari, Shashakt Parivar Abhiyaan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: As a part of Sewa Parv 2025, J&K Employees State Insurance Society (JKESIS) Friday organised a “Swasthya Mela” in Kashmir under “Swasth Nari, Shashakt Parivar Abhiyaan”.

Labour Commissioner and Director JKESIS, S. Charandeep Singh, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event also witnessed active participation of FA/CAO JKESIS, Insurance Medical Officer BAMK, and dedicated staff of JKESIS, who played a pivotal role in organising the camp and ensuring seamless delivery of ser-



vices to the beneficiaries. Speaking on the occasion, the Labour Commissioner underlined the need to adopt healthy lifestyle practices for long-term well-being. He further appealed to insured persons (IPs) to submit their medical claims timely so that reimbursements can be processed speedily.

The Mela brought together a team of specialists from multiple disciplines who provided consultations, awareness talks, and preventive health check-ups. More than 200 insured persons (IPs) participated in the camp, availed health check-ups from the doctors' teams, and actively interacted with

them on health and lifestyle issues.

The medical team included Dr. Deeba, Consultant Psychiatrist from TELEMANAS IMHANS; Nida Nazir, Counsellor at TELEMANAS IMHANS; Sumaiya, Counsellor from DME, 500-bedded Govt. Children Hospital; Dt. Jay-

anti Divedi, Clinical Dietitian & Consultant Nutritionist at Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Superspeciality Hospital; Dr.Lopa Mudra, Surgical Oncologist (Consultant) at Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Superspeciality Hospital; and Mehreen, Medical Social Worker from DME, 500-bedded Govt. Children Hospital.

The “SwasthyaMela,” organised under SewaParv 2025, is part of JKESIS's ongoing outreach efforts to ensure accessible healthcare, awareness creation, and empowerment of insured workers and their families, thereby contributing to a healthier and stronger workforce in J&K.

Erfan Rashid Honoured with Prestigious Chanakya Award

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GOA: Erfan Rashid, a Corporate Communications Professional at REC Limited, was honoured with the Chanakya Jury Special Award, Promising Corporate Communicator of the Year at the 19th PRCI Global Communication Conclave. The award ceremony was held in Goa on Thursday.

The award, presented by the Public Relations Council of India (PRCI), is bestowed upon young communication professionals who demonstrate exceptional promise, creativity, and a strong commitment to advancing the field of corporate communications.



This accolade serves as a testament to both Mr. Rashid's individual excellence and REC Limited's Corporate Communications Division's strategic focus on nurturing young talent. The division is recognized for its efforts in fostering innovation and strengthening stakeholder relationships through transparent and effective

communication practices. REC Limited, a 'Maharatna' Central Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Power, is India's largest government-owned Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) on a standalone basis. The company plays a pivotal role in financing and promoting the power infrastructure sector across the country.

NIT’s Rajbhasha Cell organizes seminar on ‘Rozgaar Ke Kshetra Mein Hindi’

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Rajbhasha Cell of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar organized a seminar on “Rozgaar Ke Kshetra Mein Hindi” as part of the ongoing Hindi Pakhwada celebrations.

Mr. Prakash Chandra Mishra, Hindi Officer at MNNIT Allahabad, presided over the session as the main resource person and delivered a detailed lecture on the relevance of Hindi in the employment sector. He emphasized the importance of language in enhancing accessibility, inclusivity, and efficiency in official and professional contexts.

The workshop was primarily attended by the non-teaching ministerial staff of NIT Srinagar in online mode and was aimed at sensitizing employees about the importance of using Hindi in official work.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, appreciated the efforts of the Rajbhasha Cell for organizing the seminar and assured that the administration will continue to extend full support to such programs.

Speaking on the occasion, Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, lauded the Rajbhasha Cell's consistent efforts to promote the official language within the campus.

He emphasized that Rajbhasha plays a vital role in ensuring effective communication and inclusivity across government institutions.

Prof. Rehman also encouraged staff members to actively participate in such programs, noting that “promoting Hindi in official work is not just a policy matter; it is a step towards cultural and administrative cohesion.”

Adding to the deliberations, Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Dar, Assistant Registrar (Academics) and Hindi Teaching & Training Supervisor of the Rajbhasha Cell, highlighted the need for continuous training to build confidence among staff in using Hindi for administrative tasks.

He said there is a need of practical workshops in bridging gaps between policy and practice.

Earlier, in his welcome address, In-Charge Hindi Officer Dr. R.P. Shukla

(Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering Department) briefed the participants about the various activities of the Rajbhasha Cell.

He mentioned that significant efforts have been made in recent years to promote the use of Hindi on the campus, with several initiatives being successfully implemented.

Dr. Shukla also expressed his gratitude to Director Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia and Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman for their continued support to Rajbhasha-related initiatives.

Hindi Anuvadak, Dr. Sabzar Gani, who coordinated the workshop, delivered a vote of thanks. He expressed gratitude to the resource person, participants, coordinators, and staff members for their contributions to the success of the program.

The seminar concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where participants raised practical queries related to the use of Hindi in drafting official letters, note-taking, documentation processes, and ways to overcome hesitation in using the language.

DC Srinagar chairs meeting to devise action plan on decongesting traffic in Sgr

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In order to address traffic congestion and ensure smooth movement of traffic in Srinagar City, a meeting was held on Friday under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo here at the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority (SDA), Mohammad Rafi; Vice Chairman Lake Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA), Mohammad Shahid Saleem; SSP Traffic Police, Aijaz Ahmad; Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz; GM SRTC, Showkat Ahmad; Joint Commissioner SMC, Syed Abul Qasim; Joint Director Tourism, Waseem Raja; Superintending Engineers of R&B & SMC, ARTO Srinagar and concerned.

At the outset, stakeholder departments were brainstormed to come up with the actionable points to decongest the Srinagar City and ensure smooth plying of vehicles and better



traffic management system particularly at heavy traffic junctions to overcome traffic jam on City roads.

A threadbare deliberation was also held with regard to reducing congestion, increasing road capacity and road infrastructure, encroachment removal, tackling instances of wrong parking and addressing bottlenecks at different parts of the City, besides safety and accident reduction measures and enforcement of traffic rules & regulations.

On the occasion, DC sought comprehensive feedback from all stakeholder departments to devise and develop an effective, practical and sustainable traffic management system for Srinagar City. He asked the Traffic Police, RTO, LCMA,

SMC, and SDA to jointly identify congestion points and propose concrete measures for their resolution.

Stressing the need for coordinated efforts, DC asked concerned departments to take all necessary steps to decongest City roads and ensure smooth movement.

DC emphasized the need for adequate parking facilities in busy areas.

Calling the resolution of this emerging challenge as a multi-agency effort, DC urged the departments including SMC, R&B, ARTO, SRTC, and Traffic Police to work in close coordination and come up with an actionable, practical blueprint to decongest the City and build a reliable and efficient public transport system.

Sewa Parv

DCPU Bandipora organises community outreach programme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: As part of Sewa Parv campaign, District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Mission Vatsalya Bandipora on Friday conducted a community outreach programme at multiple locations, including

the Main Market, Nasoo Bus Stand, and Kaloosa Bus Stand, Bandipora.

During the programme, traders, drivers associations, and the general public were sensitized and provided awareness about child rights and the role of different stakeholders

in ensuring a safe and secure environment for children in vulnerable situations.

Officials from DCPU, CWC, JJB, CHL, and CHD actively participated in the event and distributed IEC material among the participants.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD

MUTHI, AKHNOOR ROAD, JAMMU/ZAMZAM COMPLEX, RAMBAGH, SRINAGAR | (www.jkssb.nic.in)

Subject: -

Provisional Selection List for the posts of Laboratory Assistant, UT Cadre under Item No. 568, Laboratory Assistant, Division Cadre Jammu under Item No. 569, Laboratory Assistant, Division Cadre Kashmir under Item No. 570 advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 03 of 2021 dated. 04.06.2021.

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, vide Indent No. FST/Ser/49/2020 dated 22.03.2020 forwarded the requisition for making direct recruitment to the 10 posts of Laboratory Assistant, Level 6-(35400-112400) as per the following break up:

Cadre	Item No.	OM	SC	ST	OSC	ALC	RBA	PSP	EWS	Total
UT	568	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Division Jammu	569	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
Division Kashmir	570	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
Total										10

Whereas, the qualification for selection against the post, as per the Indent/Advt. is/was as under:

"Bachelor's Degree in Science from a recognized University with Chemistry/Botany / Zoology /Environmental Science with at least 60% marks in aggregate."

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), advertised the aforesaid posts as per the category-wise break up given herein above, vide Notification No. 03 of 2021 dated 04.06.2021 under Item No. 568, 569 & 570 for seeking applications from the eligible candidates; and

Whereas, the JKSSB vide Notification No. JKSSB-COEEXAM/UT/10/2023-04 (7055504) Dated. 03.01.2025, issued an Advance Notice for holding the OMR based written Examination for these posts to be held on 06.03.2025 and after holding the exams, the Result/Score-sheet of the candidates was notified vide notification No. JKSSB-COEEXAM(UT)/11/2025-03 (7655961) dated: 20.05.2025; and

Whereas, the schedule of the Documents Verification (DV) of the candidates falling under the consideration zone was notified vide notification No. JKSSB-COEEXAM(UT)/11/2025-03 (7655961) dated: 30.05.2025, followed by Supplementary Document Verification (DV) vide No. JKSSB-COEEXAM(UT)/11/2025-03 (7655961) dated: 15.06.2025; and

Whereas, the Board vide office Order No. 221-SSB of 2025 dated 14.07.2025 constituted a Selection Committee, for preparing the Selection List for the aforementioned posts; and

The Selection Committee so constituted prepared the Provisional Selection List in accordance with the Merit/Eligibility of the candidates and on the basis of principle of merit-cum-preference and the same was placed before the Board in its 312th Board Meeting held on 05.08.2025, which after deliberations and having regard to all the aspects of the selection, approved its notification; and

Now, after taking into consideration all the aforementioned factors, the Provisional Selection List for the posts of Laboratory Assistant, UT Cadre under Item No. 568, Laboratory Assistant, Division Cadre Jammu under Item No. 569, Laboratory Assistant, Division Cadre Kashmir under Item No. 570 advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 03 of 2021 dated. 04.06.2021, is hereby notified as per "Annexure-A" to this notification. It is further notified that:

I. The Provisional Selection List shall be subject to the outcome of OAs/Writ petition(s), if any, pending in the competent court of law.

II. The Provisional List shall also be subject to the outcome of pending inquiry, if any, involving candidate(s), figuring in this Provisional Selection List.

III. This is a Provisional List and shall be subject to the change(s) as warranted necessary as per the objections which may be received against it and mere figuring in it shall not confer any right to selection, which shall be finalized after examination of the objections based on merit.

IV. In case any candidate/s is/are aggrieved with this Provisional Selection List, or intends to furnish any document/clarification regarding his/her withheld candidature, he/she may represent through the e-mail address Usselection-jkssb@jk.gov.in within Ten (10) days from the date of its Notification, beyond which no representations shall be entertained. The representations in this regard shall necessarily include complete details of the candidate including Name, Address, Roll Number and Contact Number.

By Order.

(Atul Kumar) JKAS
Secretary
J&K Services Selection Board.

PROVISIONAL SELECTION FOR THE POST OF LABORATORY ASSISTANT, FOREST, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, UT CADRE ADVERTISED VIDE NOTIFICATION NO. 03 OF 2021 DATED 04.06.2021 UNDER ITEM NOS. 568

S.NO.	D.Y. S.NO.	APPL. NO.	ROLL NO.	CANDIDATE'S NAME	FATHER'S NAME	DOB	SELECTION CATEGORY	TOTAL MARKS	PERMANENT ADDRESS	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION/UNIVERSITY	QUALIFICATION	YEAR OF PASSING	REMARKS
SELECTION LIST UNDER OPEN MERIT (OM)													
1	4-KMR	715982	2170088	JAMEEL HUSSAIN BHAT	MOHD IBRAHIM BHAT	15/12/1993	OM	85.25	145 KHUSHIPORA, HMT, SRINAGAR CENTRAL, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR, 190012	KASHMIR UNIVERSITY	B.SC WITH ZOOLOGY	2016	

PROVISIONAL SELECTION FOR THE POST OF LABORATORY ASSISTANT, FOREST, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, DIVISION CADRE JAMMU ADVERTISED VIDE NOTIFICATION NO. 03 OF 2021 DATED 04.06.2021 UNDER ITEM NOS. 569

S.NO.	D.Y. S.NO.	APPL. NO.	ROLL NO.	CANDIDATE'S NAME	FATHER'S NAME	DOB	SELECTION CATEGORY	TOTAL MARKS	PERMANENT ADDRESS	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION/UNIVERSITY	QUALIFICATION	YEAR OF PASSING	REMARKS
SELECTION LIST UNDER OPEN MERIT (OM)													
1	1-JMU	718690	1180029	VARSHA SHARMA	VED PARKASH	07/05/1997	OM/RBA	86.75	SUNGLI, SUNGLI, SUNGLI, BHADERWA H, DODA, JAMMU, 182222	Jammu University	B.SC WITH BOTONY	2018	
2	5-KMR	984242	2170075	JAVAJD AHMAD SOFI	GHULAM MOHAMMAD SOFI	01/01/1999	OM/RBA	84.75	38A, CHECKPORA, WUSSAN, KANGANG, ANDERBAH, KASHMIR, 191201	Kashmir University	B.SC WITH ZOOLOGY	2021	
3	6-KMR	934092	2170089	FIRDOS AHMAD DAR	AB HAMID DAR	02/02/1994	OM	83.75	6, MIR MOHALLA, NASRULLAH PORA, BUDGAM, BUDGAM, KASHMIR, 191111	University of Kashmir	B.SC WITH CHEMISTRY	2015	

SELECTION LIST UNDER RBA CATEGORY

1	2-JMU	969371	1170108	VAKESH KUMAR	DEEP KUMAR	20/03/1994	RBA	81.75	KAHRI, SERI, KAHRI, BHALLA, DODA, JAMMU, 182221	Jammu University	B.SC WITH ZOOLOGY	2016	
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SELECTION LIST UNDER SC CATEGORY

1	16-JMU	835808	1170469	KANCHAN KUMARI	MADAN LAL	14/02/1992	SC	65.00	54,2, KROWA, UDHAAMPUR, UDHAAMPUR, JAMMU, 182124	UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU	B.SC WITH CHEMISTRY	2012	
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PROVISIONAL SELECTION FOR THE POST OF LABORATORY ASSISTANT, FOREST, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, DIVISION CADRE KASHMIR, ADVERTISED VIDE NOTIFICATION NO. 03 OF 2021 DATED 04.06.2021 UNDER ITEM NOS. 570

S.NO.	D.Y. S.NO.	APPL. NO.	ROLL NO.	CANDIDATE'S NAME	FATHER'S NAME	DOB	SELECTION CATEGORY	TOTAL MARKS	PERMANENT ADDRESS	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION/UNIVERSITY	QUALIFICATION	YEAR OF PASSING	REMARKS
SELECTION LIST UNDER OPEN MERIT (OM)													
1	1-KMR	932359	2170026	BILAL AHMAD BHAT	GULAM MOHAMMAD BHAT	05/07/1995	OM	89.75	11, GARIEND KHURD, GARIEND KHURD, BUDGAM, BUDGAM, BUDGAM, KASHMIR, 191111	UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR	B.SC WITH CHEMISTRY	2017	
2	2-KMR	972108	2170273	FASAIL SHOWKAT	SHOWKAT AHMAD BEIGH	04/02/1998	OM	88.25	95, KUMAR MOHALLA, DREYAGAM BUDGAM, KHANSAHIB, BUDGAM, KASHMIR, 191111	UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR	B.SC WITH ZOOLOGY	2020	

SELECTION LIST UNDER SC CATEGORY

1	17-JMU	946321	1180037	SNEH LATA	RAM PAUL	20/02/1995	SC	62.00	THALORI CAMP, THALORI CAMP P.O VIJAYPUR, THALORI CAMP, VIJAYPUR, SAMBA, JAMMU, 184120	JAMMU UNIVERSITY	B.SC WITH ZOOLOGY	2015	
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SELECTION LIST UNDER RBA CATEGORY

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CM Omar meets public delegations at Raabita Office, assures resolution of issues



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Friday continued his ongoing public outreach initiative, meeting several delegations and individuals at his Public Outreach Office Raabita here, to address and resolve people's issues.

Among the visiting delegations, a team led by the Vice President of Jammu & Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF) presented key suggestions on education reforms in J&K, while also highlighting the recent developments and con-

cerns of the teaching community.

A deputation headed by the Chairman of Civil Society Baramulla raised important developmental matters concerning the welfare and progress of district Baramulla. Similarly, a delegation of SRO-43 candidates of JKPCO apprised the Chief Minister of their demands regarding settlement of their pending compassionate appointment cases.

In another interaction, the President of the Jammu & Kashmir Employees Coordination

Committee, along with his team, discussed several issues related to employee welfare, service conditions and broader concerns of the workforce.

They expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister for the pro-employee initiatives undertaken by his government since assuming office..

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to all the deputations and assured them that their genuine grievances and demands would be examined and taken up with the concerned authorities for

appropriate redressal.

He reiterated that his government is committed to responsive governance and remains focused on addressing the aspirations of the people across all sectors.

Among others, Deepak Bali, Advisor, Punjab Heritage & Tourism Promotion Board, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs, Government of Punjab, called on the Chief Minister and discussed various tourism-related initiatives and avenues of cooperation between the two governments.

Sewa Parv 2025 Budgam witnesses series of community service, awareness activities

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: As part of the ongoing nationwide Sewa Parv 2025, district Budgam Friday witnessed a vibrant series of community-oriented activities, organised across different zones, schools, municipal bodies and panchayats.

The programmes reflected the collective spirit of service, social responsibility and public participation, bringing together students, citizens, and officials under one banner of seva.

Key Activities held included book distribution & donation drives. At MS Tangnar, Zone Nagam, a book distribution camp was organised to encourage reading habits and support underprivileged students. Similar book donation drive was held at BHSS Ichigam, mobilising students and teachers to contribute books for a noble cause.

Special cleanliness drives were carried out at Panchayat offices of Block S.K. Pora, ensuring neat and hygienic public spaces. Community participa-

tion was witnessed in the cleanliness of canals and streams across Budgam, aimed at improving water quality and environmental hygiene.

A separate cleanliness drive was also conducted at HSS Khag, where students actively engaged in Shramdaan to maintain the campus and surroundings.

At Higher Secondary School Narbal (Block Narbal), a health awareness programme for adolescent girls was organised, covering personal hygiene, nutrition, and wellbeing.

In addition, a rally was taken out by the Municipal Committee Budgam in Ompora, raising awareness among citizens on cleanliness and community responsibility.

Essay and painting competitions were held at HSS Hayatpora, Zone Nagam, where students showcased their creativity on themes of service, environment, and social responsibility. At PM Shri HSS Kandoora, Beerwah, a painting competition was also organised, with enthusiastic student participation.

SKUAST-K takes improved vegetable tech to remote tribal communities of Kupwara

AGENCIES

KUPWARA: The Division of Vegetable Science, Faculty of Horticulture, SKUAST-Kashmir on Friday organized a mega outreach Programme aimed at promoting vegetable cultivation and strengthening community-based seed systems in the tribal belts of district Kupwara.

The programme, was held at Hachmarg, Kalaroos Serkauli Mohalla and the Gujar & Bakarwal Hostel, focusing on improved production techniques, quality seed distribution and sustainable farming models.

The event was graced by DDC Kalaroos Member Mustafa Rahi, who praised SKUAST-K's efforts to extend modern agricultural technologies to the grassroots. Iqbal Choudhary, CEO of Seed Company Shalimar, also attended and elaborated on various initiatives designed to boost vegetable productivity and quality across the region.

Scientists including Professor Shahnaz Mufti, Dr. Rizwan Rashid, Dr. Asima Amin and Dr. Berjes Zehra, under the leadership of Professor and Head Dr. Ishfaq Abidi, conducted interactive technical sessions, with farmers receiving guidance on scientific methods of vegetable

cultivation, varietal selection, integrated nutrient and pest management and seed production techniques tailored to the local climate.

At village Hachmarg, special emphasis was laid on introducing high-yielding, region-specific vegetable varieties to improve productivity and ensure nutritional security. Farmers were sensitized on the importance of seed sovereignty and the development of community-based seed systems. In Kalaroos, newly released pea varieties were distributed to tribal farmers along with demonstrations on sustainable farming practices.

The outreach also extended to the Tribal School in Kupwara, where students were educated on nutrition gardening and the role of household-level vegetable production in enhancing dietary diversity and self-reliance.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 300 progressive farmers, tribal youth, women self-help groups and local stakeholders, who engaged in demonstrations, knowledge-sharing sessions, and the distribution of quality seed kits. Experts also highlighted market linkages and value addition opportunities to help farmers increase their income—(KNO)

Veteran artisan from Budgam to receive Handicrafts Award for ‘preserving Kashmiri musical heritage’

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: Khazir Mohammad Dar, a 65-year-old master artisan from Wandakpora Narbal in central Kashmir's Budgam district, is set to be honoured with an award by the Handicrafts Department for his lifelong contribution to the preservation of traditional Kashmiri musical instruments.

For more than five decades, Dar has been handcrafting instruments like the Rabab, Santoor, Sarang, and Saitaar, carrying forward a cultural legacy that has been part of Kashmir's identity for centuries. Despite his recognition, the veteran craftsman continues to express concern over the diminishing interest of the younger generation in learning the intricate skills required to keep the

art alive.

Dar grew up surrounded by music—his father, Mohammad Shaban Dar, was a renowned singer who inspired him to explore instrument-making at a young age. "I learned the trade locally and have been associated with it for the last 50 years," Khazir said.

Over the years, he set up his own workshop where dozens of apprentices trained under him. Today, around 10 artisans, including his son Mush-taq Ahmad, work alongside him.

"We have earned a livelihood through this craft, and my children, too are carrying it forward. I always encourage the younger generation to take an interest, and I am ready to teach anyone who wants to learn," he said.

Even with his long-standing dedication, Dar

laments the challenges that threaten this traditional art. The shortage of quality raw materials and the lack of interest among youth remain major hurdles. "This craft requires immense patience, but sadly, very few young people are willing to invest the time and effort it demands," he added.

Dar said the Handicrafts Department recently recognised his efforts, but feels other government bodies have not extended adequate backing to artisans. "It often seems that recognition is given to those with influence rather than to people who are actually preserving heritage," he said.

Despite these challenges, Khazir's hand-made instruments have travelled far beyond Kashmir, reaching customers across India. The demand

for these traditional items remains steady, but the community of skilled artisans has been shrinking with each passing year.

"There is still good demand, and people associated have been earning their livelihood very well," he said.

Dar acknowledged that the government has begun to show more attention to this art, and initiatives by the Handicrafts Department have been helpful. "Now there is more recognition, but concrete steps are still needed to safeguard this cultural treasure," he added.

He urged authorities to create opportunities and platforms that encourage young people to learn. "If the present situation continues, this centuries-old tradition may disappear. It is our duty to ensure that doesn't happen," he said—(KNO)

Chief Secretary reviews progress of Single Window Portal

Directs to make it fully faceless and seamless by October 31

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday chaired a meeting to review the functioning and progress of the Single Window Portal of the Industries & Commerce Department, aimed at providing time-bound, transparent, and hassle-free services to entrepreneurs and businesses across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Secretary, IT, Dr. Piyush Singla; MD, JaKeGA; State Informatics Officer, NIC; and other concerned officers.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary stressed upon the need to make the Single Window Portal a completely faceless and seamless mechanism, ensuring that applicants can obtain all permissions and NoCs without physically visiting any government office. He directed the NIC to extend all necessary support to plug existing gaps and set



October 31, 2025, as the deadline for achieving this goal. He also underlined that his office will independently verify the system's effectiveness on ground.

Commissioner Secretary, I&C, Vikramjit Singh, informed the meeting that 185 services from 21 departments have already been onboarded onto the portal. He further highlighted that the platform has been integrated with Digilocker, e-Abgari, Auto-Appeal,

e-Unnat, and UMANG, NGDRS to enhance transparency, accountability, and user convenience.

Secretary IT, Dr. Piyush Singla, apprised the Chief Secretary that the portal has successfully migrated to the State Data Centre (SDC) and will be made fully functional and live shortly as the mandatory security audit has been completed. He also shared a roadmap for transitioning the portal into a total

faceless system, including the development of revised workflows with departments to enable desk-wise monitoring of applications.

It was informed that these measures will significantly strengthen the ease of doing business framework in J&K by establishing an efficient, corruption-free, and technology-driven mechanism for service delivery across departments.

Ensure students have access to career-orientated opportunities: Sakeena to BOPEE Chairperson

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Friday held a brief meeting with Chairperson Jammu and Kashmir Board of Professional Entrance Examination (JKBOPEE), Prof. Minu Mahajan to discuss ways and means for strengthening of professional education opportunities across J&K.

During the interaction, the Education Minister took detailed appraisal from the Chairperson about the functioning and other related aspects of the JKBOPEE. She also took stock of the functioning of Composite Regional Centre (CRC) Srinagar.

The Minister directed the Chairperson to study the feasibility for creating



additional seats at CRC in special B.Ed course as there has been significant demand for trained special educators in J&K both in main stream and specialized institutions who can cater to the requirements of specially enabled students.

While discussing other issues of JKBOSE, the Education Minister directed the Chairperson to estab-

lish a standard grievance redressal mechanism for the facilitation of students and applicants.

Minister Sakeena also appreciated the role of JKBOPEE in ensuring transparent and merit-based admissions. She assured the Chairperson full support from the Government in creating more opportunities for students from J&K to pursue profes-

sional and technical education at par with the rest of the country.

The Minister asked the Chairperson to keep working on various initiatives which will strengthen professional education ecosystem and ensure that the desiring students of J&K have access to quality, diverse and career oriented opportunities.

During the interaction, the Chairperson JKBOPEE expressed gratitude to Education Minister for securing additional 290 MBBS seats for students of J&K, highlighting that this significant step will provide aspiring students a greater opportunity to shine in the field of medicine and strengthen the collective resolve of Omar Abdullah led Government to establish J&K as a hub of academic excellence.

Dy. CM attends closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada celebrations at Akashwani Jammu



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary attended the closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada celebrations, a month long event dedicated to promoting Hindi in official communications, at Akashwani here Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy CM emphasised on optimal use of Hindi in common masses besides increase of awareness for Hindi among employees also. He said that Hindi is third largest spoken language which shows the universal impact of this language.

Terming Hindi language as an ocean which has ingested many changes with time, the Deputy CM said that Hindi language has absorbed many words of different languages which are now easily used and under-

stood by the people.

Choudhary remarked that Hindi is the language that can unite the vast boundaries of India. "It has a great potential to remove language barriers everywhere in the country," he said.

During the event, the Deputy CM also participated in plantation drive "Ek Paudha Maa Ke Naam". He also distributed prizes to winners of competition in various categories.

The nationwide Hindi Pakhwada celebrations celebrated from 02 September to 26 September 2025, showcased a variety of events like essay competitions, letter writing, typing, general knowledge competitions, and inauspicious pronouns and translation competitions, which aimed at enhancing the understanding and use of Hindi among employees.

JKPCC organizes Workshop on Biomedical Waste Management

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee Friday organised a sensitization workshop on the rules and legislations governing the Biomedical Waste Management at the Health Care Facilities.

The representatives from government as well as private healthcare facilities participated in the interactive workshop held here at the Convention Centre. The participants were provided resource material.

The welcome and keynote addresses were delivered by the Member Secretary Ghansham Singh and Principal Scientific Officer, JKPCC Neelu Sharma respectively, followed by a series of presentations.

The guest speakers included experts from Central Pollution Control Board Delhi Runa Orion Scientist E and Dr Beena Jad, Assistant Professor, Microbiology certified Infection Control

Professional Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence and Associated Hospital (SMVDNSH).

The Principal Scientific Officer JKPCC gave an in house presentation on legal framework, while Dr Anju Sida I/c BMWM Cell, JKPCC explained the procedure for online applications and mechanism.

The Treatment and Disposal being followed by the Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facility (CBWTF) Samba was also presented by its representative.

In his address, Chairman JKPCC Vasu Yadav highlighted the mandatory compliances prescribed for the health care facilities, as enshrined in the BMW Management Rules, 2016. He further elaborated on the procedure prescribed under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to seek necessary consent to establish and operate such facilities.

NAME CORRECTION

I, Mehraj Ud Din Bhat, father of Azim Ahmad Bhat, resident of Hayatpora, Tangmarg, Baramulla, hereby state that the name of my son has been wrongly mentioned as Azim Mehraj Bhat on Aadhar Card. Now, I want to correct his name on Aadhar card as per school records from Azim Mehraj Bhat to Azim Ahmad Bhat.

Anybody (if) having any kind of objection in this regard may file the same on UIDAI, within 7 days of period from the date of publication of this notice in this newspaper. After passage of time no objections shall be entertained.

Name: Azim Ahmad Bhat
S/O: Mehraj Ud Din Bhat

Good Morning
Kashmir

EDITORIAL

When Healing Turns Into Butchery

There was a time when the medical profession was revered as a noble calling, when doctors were considered nothing less than saviours of life and dignity. But in today's grim reality, this noble profession has itself become akin to the scandal of rotten, unhygienic mutton being fed to unsuspecting people. The very torchbearers of humanity—our so-called healers—are increasingly behaving like butchers of another kind.

In place of compassion, there is commerce. In place of healing, there is a heartless trade. What should be a moral duty has been converted into a money-making racket where the vulnerable and innocent are the first prey. It is a grotesque betrayal when a poor man, desperate for relief, is advised to undergo surgery—often unnecessary—just because the prescriber himself will wield the knife and pocket the price. This is not treatment, it is exploitation under the guise of medical care.

The tragedy is not confined to isolated cases. Across hospitals and clinics, stories abound of patients being pushed into expensive procedures, costly tests and surgeries they may not even need. The Hippocratic oath is now only a decoration on a plaque, forgotten in the rush for profits. There are no emotions, no humanity, no moral boundaries—only cold calculations of how much money a patient's misery can fetch.

This rot in the system erodes the very foundation of trust between doctor and patient. When the healer himself becomes the hunter, where can the helpless go? A society that allows its medical profession to descend into such moral decay must introspect deeply. Health is not a luxury, it is a right. Doctors are not traders, they are entrusted with life. If this trust is broken, the consequences will be catastrophic—not only for individuals, but for the collective conscience of our people.

It is high time regulators act, institutions clean their stables, and the profession reclaims its lost honour. Otherwise, the very people once seen as angels of mercy will remain branded as butchers in white coats.

■ Ladakh's Protests

Democracy, Orchestration, And The Foreign Hand



RISHI SURI

The recent flare-up of violence in Ladakh has surprised and saddened many across the country. The region, known for its breathtaking landscapes and its people's deep patriotism, rarely witnesses the kind of unrest that unfolded over the past days. Ladakhis have long been admired for their peaceful temperament, their devotion to the nation, and their resilience in the face of harsh geography and difficult living conditions. Which is precisely why the sudden burst of violence is not just uncharacteristic, but points to deeper orchestration.

Democracy and the Right to Demand
India is a vibrant democracy where dissent and demands for greater representation are not only tolerated but guaranteed. Ladakhis, since the reorganization of Jammu & Kashmir in 2019, have raised concerns over political representation, Sixth Schedule protections, and environmental safeguards. Any demand that enjoys popular backing is, by definition, a reasonable one in a democracy. The government in New Delhi has shown willingness to engage: talks were already scheduled with the High-Powered Committee on October 6, and informal consultations were even being considered for late September. Far from ignoring Ladakhi voices, the Centre had opened the door to dialogue.

It is in this context that the violence appears all the more misplaced. When talks are on the horizon, the logical democratic path is to present arguments, negotiate terms, and build consensus, not to set fire to offices and create chaos. Dialogue was underway, and a framework existed to address grievances. Why then did the situation suddenly spiral?

The Peaceful Character of Ladakhis
Ladakhis are among India's most patriotic citizens. They live on the nation's frontier,



shoulder to shoulder with the armed forces that defend the borders. Their identity is rooted in both faith and nationalism; their festivals, schools, and local governance often emphasize service to the nation. In past decades, when militancy wracked the Kashmir Valley or when agitation swept other parts of the Himalayas, Ladakhis largely remained peaceful and constructive. Even in times of deprivation and neglect, they chose the ballot and dialogue over the bullet and the stone. To imagine that the same community would suddenly turn to violence is implausible—unless external forces are pushing them in that direction.

The Foreign Hand Theory
India is no stranger to the “foreign hand” in internal unrest. From Punjab in the 1980s to Kashmir in the 1990s, foreign powers and their intelligence agencies have repeatedly sought to exploit local grievances, funding agitators and amplifying separatist rhetoric. Ladakh, strategically located between China and Pakistan, is of immense geopolitical interest. It is not inconceivable that foreign actors see value in stoking instability here, distracting India from pressing challenges, and undermining New Delhi's control over a borderland where national security is paramount.

The timing of the violence, just days

before talks with the government strengthen this suspicion. It seems designed not to achieve resolution but to derail dialogue. By creating mayhem now, those behind the unrest seek to push Ladakh into a spiral of mistrust, eroding faith in the democratic process and painting the Centre as unresponsive. This is precisely the modus operandi of external destabilization campaigns.

The Role of Sonam Wangchuk

The figure who has emerged at the center of these protests is Sonam Wangchuk, an engineer-activist who has long enjoyed national media visibility. For months, Wangchuk has used hunger strikes and emotional appeals to draw attention to Ladakh's demands. But what has raised eyebrows is his repeated invocation of “Arab Spring”-style uprisings and his open calls for youth-driven agitation. These references suggest not just organic discontent but a conscious attempt to model Ladakh's movement on global protest blueprints that often end in chaos, not constructive reform.

Even more troubling are the revelations regarding Wangchuk's organizations and their foreign funding. Reports indicate that some of his outfits have received grants and support from overseas entities, raising legitimate concerns about whether external money is underwriting Ladakh's agitation.

The Ministry of Home Affairs recently moved to scrutinize and, in some cases, cancel foreign contribution permissions, precisely to prevent domestic unrest from being fueled by international interests. In a border region like Ladakh, such vigilance is not only justified but essential. Wangchuk's role in channeling these funds, whether directly or indirectly, demands full transparency.

Orchestrated Unrest, Not Popular Uprising

What unfolded in Leh, the burning of the BJP office, the sudden escalation from peaceful slogans to violence bears all the hallmarks of orchestration. Videos from just hours earlier show local leaders discussing their planned delegation to Delhi for talks. In fact, consensus seemed to exist around dialogue. How then did the atmosphere flip so suddenly? It defies logic to assume that Ladakhis themselves, with their historic record of peace, engineered this shift overnight. The far more plausible explanation is that vested interests, political or external, provoked and organized the violence, hoping to use it as leverage or to internationalize the issue.

The Path Ahead

For Ladakh, the path forward must be clear: dialogue, trust, and national unity. The government should continue to engage with genuine representatives of the people, hear their concerns on Sixth Schedule protections, and address developmental and ecological anxieties. At the same time, strict action must be taken against those who incited or orchestrated violence, including any entities that misused foreign funds to destabilize the region. Ladakh deserves solutions, not manipulation.

Above all, the narrative must not be allowed to shift. The overwhelming majority of Ladakhis remain peace-loving and patriotic. They understand that national security is paramount and that their future is bound with India's rise. The violence of the past days does not represent them; it represents the designs of those who would rather see Ladakh burn than progress.

Rishi Suri is a senior editor covering international affairs at The Daily Milap, India's oldest and largest circulated Urdu daily newspaper. He can be mailed at rishisuri@dailygoodmorningkashmir.com

CHECKS AND BALANCES!

Importance Of Mortality And Morbidity Committees In Hospitals



DR. FIAZ MAQBOOL FAZILI

With zero tolerance for negligence all mortalities morbidities must be discussed in professional forums as a continuous medical education to address a Q , Could we have done better?.. in this process if someone is proved negligent must be dealt as per law.

Hospitals are not only places of healing; they are institutions of learning, accountability, and constant improvement. Every death in a hospital carries a story. Some are inevitable outcomes of disease, some are tragic but expected, and some force us to ask difficult questions: Could this have been prevented? Did we miss a step, a sign, or a safeguard? It is here that the role of Mortality and Morbidity Committees (MMCs) becomes indispensable. These committees, if transparent, unbiased, and systematic, hold the potential to transform hospitals into safer, smarter, and more accountable spaces of care.

A mortality review is not about blame. A morbidity review is not about shame. Both are about learning. When a patient dies on the operating table, or in an interventional bay, or collapses within twenty-four hours of admission despite appearing stable, the hospital must pause, reflect, and review. Not in whispers in corridors, not in selective “case presentations” for academic convenience, but in structured, transparent meetings that ask the tough questions. Why did this patient die? Was the system prepared? Were protocols followed? Was the communication adequate? Was the handover complete? Did fatigue, infrastructure gaps, or resource shortages play a role?

The cases that merit Mortality and Morbidity review are clear and need to be institutionalized. Deaths on the operating table should always be discussed,

for surgery is never just about the surgeon's hand but about anesthesia safety, nursing readiness, blood bank preparedness, and equipment reliability. Deaths in interventional bays—catheterization labs, dialysis units, radiological suites—must be dissected, because these are high-risk, high-stakes zones where seconds make the difference between survival and tragedy. Deaths within twenty-four hours of admission demand scrutiny, for they often reveal whether triage, emergency management, and rapid response protocols are functioning as they should. Equally important are deaths of patients who were admitted as stable, not critically ill, and were not expected to deteriorate. These cases expose gaps in monitoring, escalation of care, or failure to recognize subtle danger signs. Sentinel events—wrong-site surgery, retained instruments, medication overdoses, hospital-acquired infections leading to sepsis, falls, or sudden unexplained cardiac arrests—deserve no less than full transparency in MMC discussions.

The purpose is not to witch-hunt, nor to humiliate professionals already burdened by stress and workload. The purpose is to find where the system faltered. Was there a missing checklist? Was there a miscommunication between junior and senior staff? Did overburdened infrastructure, power failure, or delayed diagnostics play a role? These are system flaws, not individual negligence. Malpractice and gross medical negligence are separate matters to be dealt with legally and ethically. But system flaws—those silent cracks in the wall of care—must be studied by MMCs, because only when they are identified can they be repaired.

Sadly, in many institutions, Mortality and Morbidity Committees are more ritual than reform. They pick “safe cases” to discuss, often focusing on exotic diseases or textbook complications, while avoiding uncomfortable truths about preventable deaths or sentinel events. The committee becomes a stage for academic posturing rather than a workshop of improvement. Worse, favoritism creeps in: deaths from certain departments are ignored, politically sensitive cases are left out, and critical incidents vanish into files that no one opens. This is malpractice of another kind—the



malpractice of silence.

If MMCs are to serve their true function, they must be mandated to review all relevant deaths and morbidities based on defined criteria, not selective convenience. An institution serious about improvement should begin by reviewing deaths, morbidities, and sentinel adverse events of the past two years. Not to point fingers, but to establish a baseline of institutional learning. Only by mapping where and why patients have been lost can hospitals set measurable targets for safer care. Such retrospective reviews also highlight trends—recurring equipment failures, repeated delays in blood availability, or patterns of late referrals—that no individual clinician may notice in isolation.

Why should mortality remain a mystery? The Ministry of Health and the Secretary of Health and Medical Education must direct every government and private hospital to empower their Mortality and Morbidity Committees to conduct Root Cause Analyses (RCA) of deaths and place their reports, with clear recommendations, before leadership and management. Yet, time and again, inquiries are ordered, as we observed in deaths in a private hospital and then quietly buried. Why are these reports never shared with the public? What is there to hide—systemic flaws, administrative failures, or worse? Silence only breeds rumour and mistrust. Transparency, not secrecy, is what builds accountability in healthcare.

Transparency is key. MMC meetings must have clear minutes, documented recommendations, and timelines for corrective action.

These must feed into hospital Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for self-assessment. Did we reduce deaths within twenty-four hours of admission this year compared to last? Did the number of sentinel events decline after we introduced a double-check medication policy? Did the purchase of new monitors reduce deaths among “stable” patients who suddenly collapsed? These are the yardsticks that matter. A hospital that hides its mistakes hides its progress as well.

Teaching institutions carry a greater responsibility. For medical students, residents, and young faculty, the MMC is not only a forum of learning clinical medicine but also a classroom of humility, ethics, and accountability. They must see their seniors admit mistakes, acknowledge flaws, and commit to improvement. That culture of honesty is more important than any lecture. Tomorrow's doctors must not learn that errors are to be buried; they must learn that errors are to be studied, understood, and prevented.

The decision by the Director of SKIMS to constitute various committees, including the crucial Mortality and Morbidity Committee, is a step in the right direction. It signals that self-assessment is not optional but essential. SKIMS, as a premier tertiary care institute, can set an example for all hospitals in the region. But this will only happen if the committee functions transparently, fearlessly, and consistently. Not by choosing easy cases, not by shielding powerful departments, but by setting standards for

honest institutional introspection. If SKIMS demonstrates this rigor, other teaching hospitals, district hospitals, and private institutions will have to follow.

The challenges are not small. There will be resistance. Professionals often fear that MMC discussions will damage reputations or careers. Administrators fear exposure of institutional weaknesses. But the reality is the opposite: an institution that reviews itself transparently builds trust with patients, regulators, and its own staff. A doctor who participates honestly in MMCs earns more respect, not less, for showing courage to learn. A hospital that documents and shares its improvements attracts more patients because it signals safety, not secrecy.

The time has come for hospitals in Kashmir, and across India, to adopt MMCs as more than rituals. The committee must be backed by administrative will, given legal protection from witch-hunts, and empowered to enforce corrective actions. The community, too, must recognize that not every hospital death is negligence. But every hospital death is a chance to learn. To waste that chance is to dishonour the patient who died.

Accountability in healthcare is not about punishment; it is about prevention. Transparency is not about weakness; it is about strength. Mortality and Morbidity Committees embody both, if allowed to function as intended. They are the mirrors in which hospitals must look, however uncomfortable the reflection. If we avoid them, we risk repeating the same tragedies. If we embrace them, we move closer to the promise of safer, more reliable, and more humane healthcare.

Hospitals owe it to their patients, their staff, and their own mission of healing to make Mortality and Morbidity Committees a non-negotiable pillar of governance. In the end, lives lost should not be lessons lost. Every death must teach, every error must improve, and every committee must speak the truth. That is how we do better.

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.....Blinking **Truth**

How A Trend In Headlights Is Shattering Families



DR. SATYAVAN SAURABH

Night travel is always challenging. Darkness, fog, rain—all these factors increase road risks. But today, a new and unseen danger is spreading on our roads—the bright white headlights of vehicles. This glare not only hurts the eyes but also often causes road accidents.

Every year, nearly 150,000 people die in road accidents in India, and millions are injured. The vast majority of these accidents occur at night. Road safety experts believe that the bright glare of white headlights plays a major role in these accidents. This isn't just a technical issue. It causes the breakdown of families, the helplessness of children, and the anguish of parents.

White headlights are much brighter than traditional yellow headlights. Human eyes are sensitive to blue-white light. When this bright light comes from directly ahead, both drivers and pedestrians are blinded for a few seconds. In that instant, accidents occur. Bike riders fall, truck or bus drivers lose control, and pedestrians are trapped in life-and-death situations. The elderly and children are most affected, as their eyes are already sensitive.

A road accident isn't just a personal tragedy. It changes the lives of entire families. Children are separated from their parents, and parents lose their children. Many families are left incomplete forever. The economic impact of accidents is also significant. India loses approximately three percent of its GDP every year due to road accidents. This isn't just a personal loss; it also poses a serious threat to the country's economy.

Many developed countries around



the world have already recognized this problem. Europe, Japan, the United States, and Australia have strict regulations on the brightness and color of headlights. Yellow headlights are preferred there. This is not only safer for the eyes, but also makes the road clearer in rain and fog. In India, regulations exist, but enforcement is lax. Vehicle manufacturers install bright headlights on vehicles, and the public is often unaware of this danger.

The factors contributing to the problem in India are rampant after-market fittings, meaning people blindly install LED headlights; lack of enforcement of laws and disregard for road safety; and lack of awareness, where most people are unaware that their white headlights can be a danger to others.

The solution to this problem is not

difficult. The government, vehicle manufacturers, and the public need to work together. The government must set clear standards for headlight brightness and color temperature. White headlights with color temperatures higher than 4300K should be banned. The Road Transport Department must conduct regular inspections and take strict action. Vehicle manufacturers should install safe, yellow headlights by default, prioritizing safety over brightness.

Additionally, awareness campaigns are crucial. Campaigns like Janjan Gupta's should be expanded nationally. Messages like "Use Yellow Headlights - Save Lives" should be widely shared on TV, radio, and social media. People should take the initiative, make their vehicle headlights safer, and raise awareness among their family

and friends.

The message of the Jan Jan Gupta campaign is simple and powerful – "We want yellow friendship, not white glitter." This isn't just a slogan, it's a movement. If we all embrace it together, roads will be safer, families will be more protected from accidents, and night travel will be free of fear.

Road safety isn't just about following the rules; it's about protecting human life. Even something as small as a white headlight can cause massive death and suffering. Every accident is a tragedy not just for one person, but for the entire society.

This problem has now become serious in India. Every day, accidents occur on the roads due to bright white lights. Many of these accidents are fatal. The elderly, children, and pedestrians are the most vulnerable. The

bright white light does not give them time to make decisions, and accidents become inevitable. The lives of many families are forever changed because of this.

A road accident is not just a road accident; it is a social tragedy. Children are separated from their parents, and parents from their children. Many families are never truly happy again. Furthermore, accidents result in significant medical and recovery costs, impacting both families and society.

Many countries around the world have already taken action. Yellow headlights are preferred in Europe, Japan, and the United States. Bright white headlights are banned. India has regulations, but enforcement is weak. Automakers promote bright headlights for fashion or marketing purposes, and people are unaware.

The solution is simple. The government should enact regulations and enforce them. Vehicle manufacturers should install safer, yellow headlights. The public should take action and raise awareness. Campaigns like Janjan Gupta can play a vital role in this direction.

Road safety isn't just about following the rules; it's about protecting lives. Something as simple as white headlights can endanger lives. A moment of bright light can cause eternal darkness for many families. If we all work together to spread awareness and adopt safer headlights, roads will be safer, families will be saved from accidents, and night travel will be free of fear.

Today is the time for us all to speak out, urge the government to tighten regulations, for vehicle manufacturers to understand their responsibility, and for ordinary people to become aware and bring about change. If a moment of light can transform life into darkness, why not transform that moment into the light of life and safety? Roads should be safe, families protected from accidents, and night travel free from fear – this should be our goal.

The author is a TV panellist. He can be mailed at kavitaniketn333@gmail.com

Hospitals Are Not Parks

Rethinking Visitor Entry Fees In Srinagar



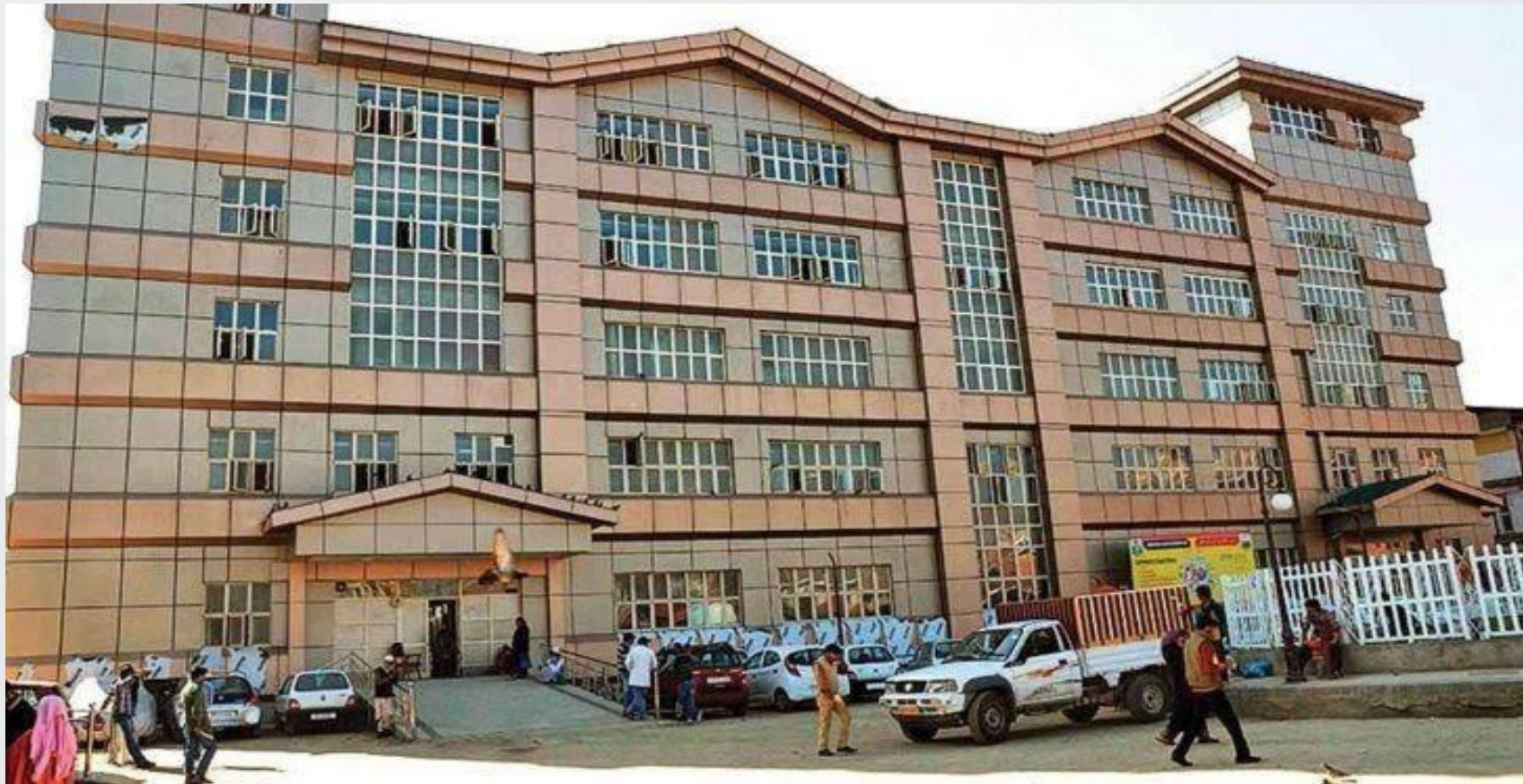
AYAAN SAROORI

On 5th of September, I had an unprecedented experience on my visit to Government Lalla Ded Hospital (LD), an associate hospital of Government Medical College, Srinagar. Upon the entry to an emergency block along with my family members was stopped by on-duty personnel, who asked me for entry slip. Being my first visit to, I was unaware of this new system, where the relatives of hospitalized patients are required to obtain a 'Visitor's pass' for accessing entry in the hospital premises.

"Counter se phle pass lawo", one of the personnel directed me while pointing his finger towards the pass counter. However, I obtained the entry pass, each costing 5 and we were allowed to visit the maternity ward, where a relative of mine was being treated.

The Government Lalla Ded hospital is one among the associate hospitals of GMC, Srinagar with a speciality of maternity care, along with surgeries,OPD services, and other related operations. Numerous maternity and labor cases from the different parts of the Kashmir division are treated here.However, currently,the question is not about the quality of medical care but about the basis of "visitors entry pass".A person, whose relative or friend is hospitalized must pay 5 to inquire about the patient's health-without this pass, they are not allowed to enter the premises.

Meanwhile, it raises a question concerning whether a relative or a friend of a patient is visiting a park or to a hospital? While entering the hospital building we have to prove our payment



by showing our pass with scribes as 'Visistor's Pass'. And people think of the collection as the maintenance funds for the hospital or a step to prevent crowds and rush inside the premises.

Firstly, we must understand this fact that a government institute has different means to receive abundant funds,whether for the operation of uninterrupted services or maintenance of institutes. Sometimes, these institutes receive grant-aid from the central government.For instance,the budget of J&K allocates 8,814 crores to Health and Family welfare for the session 2025-26, which is the third highest allocation among all the sectors.Secondly, the fact is that no one enters a hospital for enjoyment or

to interrupt the hospital operations, except for some miscreants. Perhaps, for that reason it becomes mandatory for genuine visitors to obtain a pass by paying 5.

However,the official website was found to have no order or notice uploaded in the public interest to justify the basis of mandatory Visitors'entry pass. Besides this,those who, perhaps,create disturbances in the hospital by roaming or crowding the premises can also gain entry by simply paying the fee, and then continue to interrupt the services as before.In that case, how is such a system justified and not it proves effective for the cause to abstain a miscreant ?

Should Hospitals Charge Visi-

tors for Entry?

From a judicial and fundamental rights perspective, the imposition of such a fee is debatable. Article 21 of the constitution guarantees 'right to life' and several judicial verdicts have interpreted several times to not refuse the essential medical services due to the lack of documentation, identity proof and financial barriers. Moreover, hospitals are spaces of anxiety, urgency and distress and relatives already concerned about the patient's health are further burdened when stopped at the gate to pay a fee or to show visitors pass.In that moment, an uncertain stimulus with vague justifications surround the mind-making one wonder whether they are outside an emergency

block or a park? The concern is not about the amount of fee but about its collection outside an emergency block which restricts anxious relatives from accessing the condition of the patient—who, at that moment, is far more important to them than obtaining a visitor's pass. Moreover, even if authorities allow only one attendant with the patient, that lone attendant often requires support and help from other family members and closer ones.Now question remains for authorities: should medical institutes continue to collect 5 from each visitor or should restore their focus on what truly matters ?

The author can be mailed at ayaansaroori8@gmail.com

NCW, CWS JU Organise Day Long Awareness Workshop ‘Gender Sensitivity, Cyber Security’

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Centre for Women’s Studies (CWS), University of Jammu, in collaboration with National Commission for Women (NCW) Friday organized a one-day awareness workshop “Campus Calling” on the theme “Gender Sensitivity, POSH and Cyber Security” at University campus here.

Chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW), Vijaya Rahatkar was the chief guest on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the NCW Chairperson emphasized on the critical role of youth engagement in fostering gender sensitivity and women’s empowerment on campuses across India. She highlighted the importance of leadership training and awareness among university students in building an inclusive,



and equitable society.

Prof. Sangeeta Gupta, Dean Planning and Development, University of Jammu in her Presidential address highlighted that gender sensitivity is the conscious effort to recognize and respect the differences, challenges, and inequalities faced by individuals based on their gender. She also appreciated the efforts of the Centre for Women’s Studies for

committing to the cause of gender equality and women empowerment.

Prof. Savita Nayyar, Director, Centre for Women’s Studies, University of Jammu, welcomed the guests and provided an overview of the gender sensitivity, POSH and cyber security. She expressed that as our world rapidly digitises and diversifies, the assurance of dignity, quality and

safety becomes an imperative responsibility. She added that this workshop under the campus calling initiative of NCW is an important step towards awareness, dialogue and capacity building, guiding us all to become not just professionals but also responsible citizens who uphold the values of respect and inclusion.

She also expressed gratitude to Vice Chancellor,

Prof. Umesh Rai, under whose leadership the university is fostering platforms for dialogue and skill-building for youth, especially women and today’s workshop is initiative in the same direction.

Prof. Naresh Padha, Senior Professor from Department of Physics also graced the programme as a special Guest. Advocate Kiran Thakur, founder and Director of Navridhi Welfare Foundation was the resource person for the technical sessions. At the end, various Heads of Departments, faculty, staff, and students stood together and repeated the pledge with collective resolve to create safe, inclusive and gender just environment.

Heads of Departments, Faculty members and more than 250 students from various departments of the University enthusiastically attended the workshop.

ACB Chargesheets Ex-VC JDA, Others In Illegal Plot Allotment Case

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Anti-Corruption Bureau, Jammu & Kashmir, has produced a chargesheet before the Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Jammu against Vinod Sharma, Ex-Vice Chairman, JDA and others in illegal plot allotment case.

As per a statement issued, the spokesman said that the ACB has produced a chargesheet in a case under FIR number 18/2014 PS VOJ (now ACB), registered under Section 5(1)(d) read with Section 5(2) of the J&K Prevention of Corruption Act, Svt. 2006, and Section 120-B RPC, before the Hon’ble Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Jammu.

The chargesheet has been filed against Vinod Sharma, Ex-Vice Chairman, JDA, Mamta Sharma wife of Vinod Sharma, Ghany Sham, then Naib

Tehsildar, JDA (now retired and expired) and Rishi Kumar, then Patwari, JDA (now retired and expired), the statement added.

The instant case was registered on the basis of a verification conducted by the then Vigilance Organization (now ACB) into allegations of illegal allotment of Plot No. 42, Sector-1A, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, and illegal possession of an additional 4,300 sq. ft. of land by Mamta Sharma, wife of the then Vice Chairman, JDA.

Investigations revealed that the accused persons, in connivance with officers/officials of JDA, by abusing their official position, facilitated the illegal allotment of the plot and encroachment of the adjoining land at Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

The Court has fixed 15.12.2025 as the next date of hearing in the matter.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

MiG-21 Added Many

said the aircraft flown in recent years were not from the 1960s but were at most four decades old. He said such a lifespan was common in fighter fleets around the world. “The MiG-21 aircraft that came in the 1960s and 1970s were retired long ago. The ones in use now were not older than 40 years,” he said.

On its operational life, Singh said the aircraft had been modernised repeatedly, with radars and avionics upgraded to meet new requirements. He credited Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for carrying out these updates, noting that the MiG-21 had flown under names such as Trishul, Vikram, Badal and Bison during different phases of service.

✚ The retirement formally closes the MiG-21’s chapter in the Air Force. Known for its speed and agility, it served as the backbone of the fleet for decades. The IAF is now looking to replace it with modern indigenous aircraft, including the Light Combat Aircraft Tejas—(KNO)

War Against Terrorism

Lieutenant Governor called for ‘Whole of Government Approach’ for effectively tackling radicalization and drug menace.

LG Orders Reopening

tourists on 22nd April. Of these tourist spots and religious places, 5 are in Jammu Division and 7 in Kashmir Division.

Aru Valley, Rafting Point Yanner, Akkad Park, Padshahi Park Bijbehara, Dara Shikoh Garden in Anantnag, Kaman Post, Eco-Park Khadniyar in Baramulla, Dagan Top in Ramban, Dhaggar in Kathua, Chinkah in Reasi, Shiv Cave in Salal, Reasi, and Padri in Doda to be reopened from Monday, 29th September.

LG Launches

personnel of the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

To further strengthen its functioning, the administration has introduced the portal - lgssk.jk.gov.in. Developed by BIS-AG-N, the portal is a support tool for the Kendra, designed to log each grievance, record action taken, and provide tracking access to both authorities and applicants. While the Kendra remains the institutional platform for soldier welfare facilitation, the portal ensures structured follow-up and transparent monitoring of every case.

Lieutenant Governor’s Sainik Sahayta Kendra is a bridge between serving personnel and the civil administration, ensuring that matters submitted are taken up promptly, guided through the right channels, and resolved in a time-bound manner. By coordinating directly with government offices, arranging facilitation where required, and monitoring progress, the Kendra assures soldiers that their families’ needs will be looked after while they focus fully on their duty to the nation.

With its offices now functional at the Civil Secretariats in Jammu and Srinagar, the Kendra will serve as a single-window facilitation centre to resolve civil issues of all serving personnel belonging to J&K, as well as those currently deployed in the Union Territory.

Shri Prasanna Ramaswamy G, Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department, and In-charge Lieutenant Governor’s Sainik Sahayta Kendra, under the supervision of J&K Home Department, gave a detailed presentation on the Sainik Sahayta Kendra.

Applications to the Kendra will be accepted only when routed through the respective Commanding Officers, in order

to maintain authenticity and integrity. Submissions may be made via email at lgssk-jk@jk.gov.in, or by post to:

LG’s Sainik Sahayta Kendra, Room No. 56, Ground Floor, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar – 190001

LG’s Sainik Sahayta Kendra, Near Secretariat Treasury, Civil Secretariat, Jammu – 180001

NIA Attaches

of land measuring 08 Marlas, classified as Abi-Soum under Survey No. 74 Min at Village Maldera, District Shopian, UT of J&K, in the form of an orchard.

An associate of HM terrorist Syed Naveed Mushtaq, Tariq was chargesheeted in October 2024 before the NIA Special Court, Jammu, under various sections of IPC, Arms Act, and UA(P)Act, the statement added.

“Today’s property attachment was part of NIA’s ongoing action against terror networks operating in Kashmir with the aim of disrupting India’s peace, stability and harmony,” the spokesman said—(KNO)

After Nedous, GDA

the 137-year-old Nedous Hotel earlier on August 04, as part of a wider drive to retrieve government assets in Gulmarg whose leases have expired.

Authorities said the property will remain under the GDA’s control until a fresh decision is taken regarding its future use—(KNO)

Committee On Privileges

The Committee resolved to compile a detailed report on issues related to privileges and protocols of legislators and submit the same to the concerned quarters for appropriate action.

CS Reviews PM

scheme’s potential to help them become successful entrepreneurs.

The Chief Secretary underscored that mere distribution of toolkits and training was not enough, and stressed the need for continuous handholding and motivation of beneficiaries.

He suggested showcasing local success stories to inspire artisans to establish viable business ventures and generate employment for others.

Presenting the progress under the scheme, Commissioner Secretary, I&C, Vikramjit Singh informed that J&K ranks 1st among Union Territories and 9th overall among all States/UTs, with 1,54,881 successful registrations. He further revealed that the UT secured the 8th rank nationally, with 1,42,175 toolkits selected and 64,936 delivered to beneficiaries, equipping artisans with modern tools to enhance their trades.

With respect to Skill Training the Secretary, L&E, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan divulged that the UT ranks 7th in the country with 1,32,571 completed skill trainings, reflecting a strong skill development ecosystem.

About the credit linkage, the meeting was apprised that J&K ranks 11th nationally in loan sanctions, with 13,787 cases sanctioned and 8,867 cases disbursed, injecting more than Rs 83 Cr into artisan enterprises.

The Chief Secretary lauded these achievements but reiterated the importance of further strengthening credit penetration and ensuring that artisans transition into self-sustaining entrepreneurs.

The PM Vishwakarma Yojana is a flagship Central Sector Scheme designed to provide end-to-end support to artisans and

craftspeople working across 18 traditional trades. The scheme offers recognition through a PM Vishwakarma Certificate and ID Card, Skill Upgradation, a Toolkit Incentive of Rs 15,000, and collateral-free credit support of up to Rs 3 lakh to facilitate enterprise establishment and growth.

Apple Growers Face

on cold storage. But capacity is far less than demand. Unless new units are established, this problem will haunt growers every year,” he said.

Growers also complained about the skyrocketing freight charges and low demand.

Bashir Ahmad, a dealer at Jabli Pora Mandi, highlighted their dilemma: “Imagine the plight of a grower; he can neither send produce outside due to high freight costs and low demand nor store them in cold storage due to advance bookings. What option is left except to sell apples at a loss?”

“Without immediate intervention, lakhs of families dependent on the apple trade will continue to suffer,” he said.

Adding to the discontent, former MLA Zainapora and current DDC member Aijaz Ahmad Mir accused certain cold storage units of mismanagement. “There are growing complaints regarding the functioning of units in Aglar Shopian and Lassipora. I urge the management to address these concerns with fairness. Do not exploit orchardists or cancel agreements that have already been finalised. Our farmers deserve dignity and justice for their toil,” he said.

Mir further pointed to chaotic scenes outside units: “Long queues of Tata mobiles loaded with apples can be seen waiting at Lassipora. The mismanagement has created traffic jams and inconvenience for the public. To make matters worse, some units shut down for three days a week. This is unacceptable, and authorities must intervene immediately.”

Meanwhile, cold storage owners said the existing infrastructure is far below the valley’s actual requirement. “Kashmir produces 22–25 lakh metric tonnes of apples annually. But all 70 cold storage units in Shopian and Pulwama combined have a capacity of only 3 lakh tonnes. People expect us to accommodate everything, which is simply impossible,” they said.

They added that an unusual rush this year has worsened the problem. “Normally, produce arrives gradually over two months, but this time bulk quantities came all at once due to highway closures and poor demand outside. Over 50% capacity was filled within just a few days. We are trying our best to accommodate more growers, but we too have limitations,” a cold store manager said.

Owners said that while cold storage units are meant for ‘A-grade’ apples, many growers are now bringing ‘B-grade’ produce due to weak markets, further adding pressure. “We appeal to growers to cooperate. Every possible effort is being made to maximise capacity use, but unrealistic expectations will only deepen the crisis.”

As Kashmir’s apple season progresses, growers and traders remain caught between poor market demand, high freight costs, and insufficient storage facilities. Unless immediate measures are taken, experts warn, the valley’s fruit economy could face long-term damage—(KNO)

1371 Schools In

of Jammu and Kashmir Samagra Shiksha were not available to comment on the issue—(KNO)

MEA Rejects Third

statements on India’s territorial integrity and sovereignty are unacceptable,” he added.

Jaiswal said the main problem in Jammu and Kashmir stems from Pakistan’s actions. “It would have been appropriate if Pakistan’s policy of using cross-border terrorism against India, which remains the biggest threat to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, had been addressed,” he said.

The MEA further said that over 2,400 Indian citizens have been sent back from the United States since January. Jaiswal said India does not support unauthorised migration while encouraging lawful movement abroad. He explained that when individuals lacking proper legal status in foreign countries are referred to Indian authorities, their nationality is verified before arrangements are made for their return.

“We verify the citizenship of any person without legal status and facilitate their repatriation once confirmed. This process has been applied in cases involving Indian nationals in the US,” Jaiswal said.

The MEA spokesperson added that authorities are coordinating with state governments to tackle visa fraud and other irregularities connected to unlawful migration.

"Strengthening legal pathways while checking illegal migration is part of the government's approach," Jaiswal said, adding that these steps help safeguard the credibility of lawful international mobility for Indian citizens—(KNO)

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SEWA PARV DAY-10

Mega public outreach camp held at Tral

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations, a mega public outreach camp was organised Friday at Town Hall Tral, witnessing enthusiastic participation of local residents, civil society members, and leaders of diverse communities and officials from line departments.

The event was attended by Member of Legislative Assembly Tral, Rafiq Ahmad Naik, and Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, along with DDC Member Dadsara Avtar Singh, DDC Member Tral Dr. Harbaksh Singh, and DDC Member Aripal Manzoor Ahmad Ganie.

On the occasion, stalls were set up by departments including Agriculture, Horticulture, Social Welfare, Sheep Husbandry, Rural Development, Education, FCS&CA, ICDS, and Social Forestry providing awareness about schemes and services.

The progress of service delivery was reviewed and officials were directed to ensure maxi-

mum outreach and saturation of beneficiaries under various government schemes during the Sewa Parv campaign.

A medical camp was also organised under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, where officials were instructed to bridge gaps in ABHA and Golden Card coverage and intensify screening for anaemia, tuberculosis, and Diabetes and hypertension in addition to other ailments.

Speaking at the event, MLA Tral emphasised the importance of cleanliness and environmental responsibility, urging locals to actively contribute towards creating clean surroundings. He called upon people to make full use of the services and entitlements being extended during the Sewa Parv campaign for their overall welfare.

He further urged citizens to contribute voluntarily to the ongoing Sewa Parv activities by taking part in cleanliness drives, plantation campaigns, awareness rallies, and blood donation camps. He emphasised



that the true essence of Sewa Parv lies in collective action, where every individual plays a role in building a cleaner, healthier, and more responsible society.

Addressing the gathering, DC Pulwama highlighted the wide range of activities undertaken across the district as part of Sewa Parv. He stressed that even though the government is working continuously in areas like hygiene and sanitation through programmes like the Swachh Bharat Mission, real and lasting change will only happen when people join hands with administration and bring positive changes in their habits. He urged citizens to practice source segregation of waste, join local sanitation committees, and transform cleanliness into a citizen-led movement.

Dr. Qayoom also laid emphasis on self-employment and livelihood schemes such as Mission Yuva, encouraging youth to enrol in flagship programmes to realise their entrepreneurial aspirations. He further drew attention to the free medical

camps organised under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, urging women in particular to undergo anaemia screening, blood pressure checks, and other preventive health tests for early detection of lifestyle and nutritional disorders.

The event also witnessed addresses by DDC members, who urged locals to actively participate in activities such as cleanliness drives, plantation drives, blood donation camps, and awareness programmes, ensuring the spirit of Sewa Parv reaches every household.

As part of the programme, students from various schools presented speeches on themes of Sewa Parv including the spirit of service, cleanliness, waste segregation, and social responsibility.

Later, DC Pulwama distributed prize money among students as a token of appreciation for their efforts.

Earlier in the day, a plantation drive was also organised and various entitlements among beneficiaries of welfare

schemes were also distributed.

The outreach camp also provided a platform for local citizens, community leaders, and civil society representatives to put forth their issues and demands related to development, welfare schemes, and public services. The officers assured that their concerns would be addressed in a time-bound manner through coordination with concerned departments.

Meanwhile, as part of Sewa Parv activities across Pulwama, RDD and Housing & Urban Development Department organised extensive cleanliness drives with special focus on garbage removal from SBM assets and water bodies. Education Department led donation drives of books, clothes, and toys for underprivileged students. In addition, medical camps were held at PHCs, CHCs, and Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, providing screening and awareness on maternal, child, and adolescent health, nutrition, menstrual hygiene, and lifestyle-related diseases.

CUK Observes ‘world lung day’, holds pulmonology camp

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Health Centre and Directorate of Students Welfare (DSW), Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) in association with the Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Government Chest Disease Hospital, organised a one-day Pulmonology camp under the theme “Healthy Lungs, Healthy Life” to observe the “World Lung Day” under the aegis of Sewa Parv-2025 here on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, said the Day is observed to raise awareness about the burden of respiratory diseases, including lung cancer, tuberculosis, asthma, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Highlighting the significance of the Day, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, described it as a timely reminder of the critical importance of lung health, particularly for students. “Academic success and professional excellence are deeply linked with sound physical and mental well-being of the students—a vision strongly echoed in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Education cannot exist in isolation from health. Unless our students enjoy good health and mental balance, their academic and professional journeys will remain incom-



plete,” he remarked.

Prof. Ravinder Nath praised the collaboration of Health Centre, DSW and the Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Government Chest Disease Hospital for organising such an impactful programme and described it as “a fine example of academia and healthcare working hand in hand for the welfare of society.”

Head of Department, Pulmonary Medicine, Government Chest Disease Hospital, and noted Pulmonologist, Prof. (Dr.) Naveed Nazir Shah, sounded alarm about the health crisis unfolding in Jammu and Kashmir due to the rampant use of tobacco, particularly cigarette smoking. He described tobacco consumption as the primary culprit behind not just the surge in lung-related ailments but also a wide spectrum of other diseases, including hypertension, cardiac arrests, urological complications, and multiple systemic disorders. “Every cigarette is a step closer to disability or death,” he warned, urging urgent collective action from all the

stakeholders. He appealed to the religious leaders, parents, teachers, and community heads to take a stand, stressing that society can no longer afford to remain silent as tobacco usage has reached alarming levels in the J&K.

Prof. (Dr) Naveed Nazir Shah also shed detailed light on the seasonal health challenges that Kashmiris face, particularly during harsh winters and with the onset of spring. He observed that cases of COPD and other lung disorders tend to spike during the cold season due to several reasons. In this regard, he advised people to stay hydrated, avoid unnecessary outdoor exposure during peak cold hours, and adopt preventive measures. “Hydration is crucial, and people must take the advice of doctors seriously and follow it in letter and spirit. This will enable even those with chronic conditions to lead a near-normal life despite the challenges posed by lung-related ailments,” he further added. Prof. (Dr) Naveed Nazir Shah also

planted saplings along with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, inside the varsity campus.

The camp became a platform of learning and awareness for the participating students and the faculty members. The Pulmonology experts interacted with participants, answering queries and offering guidance on maintaining lung health through lifestyle changes, early diagnosis, and preventive care. Dr. Arshad Sofi, M.D Anesthesia and Pulmonology accompanied the expert.

Dean DSW, Prof. Irfan Aalam, in his address, said, the participants benefited from the awareness programme that sensitised them about the dangers of tobacco, environmental hazards, and unhealthy dietary practices. He further said that several students, faculty members and administrative staff members availed the consultation services of Prof. Dr. Naveed Nazir.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Dr. Abid Ahmad, Medical Officer, described lungs as the engine of our existence, which are the most neglected organs. “The alarming rise of lung cancer and other respiratory illnesses, particularly in younger populations, early detection and preventive care are no longer optional—they are essential,” he remarked.

DLSA Budgam organizes awareness programme on drug abuse

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam, under the aegis of the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKLSA), organized an awareness programme on drug abuse and solid waste management (SWM) in collaboration with TLSC Chadoora at Sogam Chadoora.

The programme was conducted under the supervision of O.P. Bhagat, Chairman, DLSA Budgam, and the active guidance of Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary, DLSA Budgam.

The awareness programme was aimed at sensitizing the public about two critical issues viz. drug abuse and solid waste management.

The objective of solid waste management is to protect public health and the environment by



ensuring scientific and systematic waste disposal, while promoting reduction, reuse, and recycling to conserve resources and minimize pollution.

Similarly, the drug abuse awareness component sought to educate people about the dangers of substance abuse, its social consequences, harmful effects of different drugs, and the legal framework governing them.

Deputy LADC Budgam, Nazir Ahmad Wagay, deputised by DLSA Budgam as the resource person delivered an insightful pre-

sentation, raising awareness among participants.

Wagay highlighted the legal protections available to minors, harmful consequences of drug abuse, and its alarming impact on society, particularly on the younger generation. He emphasized the urgent need for vigilance to prevent children and youth from falling prey to this menace.

He also spoke extensively on solid waste management, underlining its direct impact on public health and the environment. He highlighted the importance of proper waste segregation, dispos-

al, and recycling practices, stressing that reduction, reuse, and recycling are key to sustainable waste management.

He further elaborated on the legal framework and regulations related to waste management that must be followed by all stakeholders.

Wagay urged everyone to adopt responsible practices, including segregation of waste at the source, minimizing waste generation, maximizing resource recovery through recycling and composting, and ensuring safe disposal of residual waste. The ultimate goal, he said, is to safeguard natural resources, improve public health, and enhance the quality of life for both present and future generations.

The programme witnessed active and enthusiastic participation from marginalized communities.

KVK Shopian organises Animal Clinical Camp at Cooler Meadows, Keller

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Shopian Friday organized an Animal Clinical Camp at Cooler Meadows, Chowan Keller, Shopian.

Prof. Rehana Habib Kant, Director Extension, SKUAST-K was the chief guest on the occasion.

The camp recorded active participation

of more than 80 tribal farmers.

Director Extension (SKUAST-K) in her address highlighted the significant role of KVKs in making such programmes more meaningful and beneficial for tribal farmers by treating sick and diseased animals.

During the health camp, experts provided on-spot

treatment to around 200 animals including sheep, goats, cattle and horses. Free medicines and dosing material were also distributed among the tribal farmers and nomadic communities.

The camp reported common animal health issues such as foot rot in sheep, secondary infections following controlled FMD, deficiency

diseases and parasitic problems, which were promptly diagnosed and treated by the expert team.

CAHO, DSHO, Head KVK Malangpora, Head KVK Shopian, Scientists of KVK Shopian and Veterinary Assistant Surgeons from the Animal and Sheep Husbandry Departments were present.

MAZBOOTI SE BANI HAR
— DEEWAR SE JHALAKTE HAI —
DIL KE EHSAAAS

