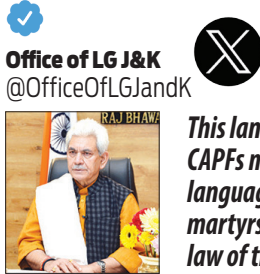


Good Morning

Kashmir

16th
Year Of Publication



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Not Only Terror,

J&K Police Fighting

Drugs Also: DGP



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Tuesday said that Jammu and Kashmir Police are not only combating terrorism and narcotics but also actively engaging youth through sports and rehabilitation initiatives.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the 20th J&K Police Martyr's Memorial Football Tournament 2025 here the DGP, highlighted the measures being taken by the police force, both on the security front and in social engagement.

Referring to the legacy of sacrifice within the force, the DGP said the tournament was held in memory of the 1,614 police personnel who have lost their lives in service. "Four personnel were

killed this year in an operation in Kathua district. The families of the martyrs have received financial assistance, including ex-gratia and other relief through state and central schemes, banks, and police welfare funds," he said.

"As part of the welfare measures," the DGP said, "Each martyr's family receives Rs 1 lakh in direct support and additional assistance for marriage of daughters and education of children, including support for private schooling up to Class 12."

"Martyrs' children also get access to free education in police public schools and scholarships for higher education including postgraduate, medical, and doctoral studies. In 2025, five family members of **●P-06**

Those Who Speak Language Of Separatists,

Terrorists Insult Sacrifices Of Our Martyrs: LG

Addresses Closing Ceremony Of J&K Police Martyr's Memorial Football Tournament At Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: "Those who speak the language of separatists and terrorists insult the sacrifices of our martyrs and hurt their soul and strictest possible action as per law of the land will be taken against such elements," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday. He said the land of UT of Jammu Kashmir is saturated with blood and sacrifice of J&K Police, Army, CAPFs martyrs for the nation's integrity and if anyone disrespects the sovereignty of India and the memories of police martyrs, he will not be spared. The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the Closing Ceremony of 20th J&K Police Martyr's Memorial Football Tournament.

The Lieutenant Governor saluted the self-less service



and supreme sacrifice of J&K Police brave hearts and their crucial role in security, stability and safe environment for progress and prosperity of J&K.

"Jammu Kashmir is a symbol of the tradition of sacrifice of our brave warriors from army, **●P-06**

- Salutes self-less service and supreme sacrifice of J&K Police bravehearts
- Land of J&K is saturated with blood and sacrifice of J&K Police, Army, CAPFs martyrs for the nation
- Strictest possible action as per law of the land will be taken against such elements
- If anyone disrespects the sovereignty of India and the memories of police martyrs, he will not be spared
- Jammu Kashmir is a symbol of the tradition of sacrifice of our brave warriors from army, police and CAPFs
- Our brave hearts gave up their lives to fulfil the dreams of society.

LG Lauds Yuva Shakti Of

J&K, Asks Them To Be A

Catalyst For Change

JAMMU: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, Tuesday attended the valedictory function of 'Viksit Bharat Ke Rang-Kala Ke Sang' at Jammu. During the program, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the

school and college students. The vibrant art workshop was organised by Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) and Divisional Administration Jammu. The Lieutenant Governor began his address by applauding Yuva Shakti of Jammu Kashmir and asked them to be a catalyst for change. He said the event is

unique and special and provides opportunity to youth to imagine and paint Viksit Bharat of their dreams. "The responsibility of creating a developed India not only on canvas but in reality, too is in their hands," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor said, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister,

Shri Narendra Modi, we are committed to harnessing the potential of youth and providing them with the resources they need to achieve their full potential. "Sewa Parv is preparing the young demography to face the future challenges with a positive mindset. The creative and constructive spirit will **●P-06**

...Rajya Sabha Polls

Polling Booth To Set-Up In Assembly

Complex; Secy LA To Be RO

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The Election Commission of India (ECI) will set up a polling booth inside the Assembly complex here for the Rajya Sabha polls.

Officials said that a polling booth would be established in the Assembly complex, where MLAs will cast their votes to elect four representatives to the Upper House of Parliament. "The polling booth will be set up in a lobby of the Assembly complex," they said.

According to the officials, the Secretary Legislative Assembly will be designated as Returning Officer for the polls.

"Besides him, an additional secretary rank officer of the Assembly secretariat will be designated as Assistant Returning Officer," they



said, adding that ECI will also appoint an observer for the polls.

Last week, the ECI announced that elections for four Rajya Sabha seats of J&K are scheduled on October 24.

As per the schedule, the last date for filing nominations is October 13, while scrutiny of nominations will take place on October 14. The last date for withdrawal of candidatures is October 16.

Voting will be **●P-06**

India Won't Bow To Nuclear

Blackmail: CDS Gen Chauhan

Says 'Op Sindoor' Signals India's Resolve Against Nuclear Blackmail, Hostile Deterrence Strategies

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: India won't bow to nuclear blackmail, Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan said on Tuesday, asserting that the military must be ready to respond to nuclear and biological threats.

The Army, he said, must also be ready to respond to "low-probability but high-impact nuclear emergencies".

Speaking at a scientific session held as part of the 100th Raising Day celebrations of the Military Nursing Service (MNS) at the Manekshaw Centre in Delhi Cantt, General Chauhan said that while the possibility of nuclear weapons use in the Indian context remains low, it is necessary to factor it into security planning.

He said radiological contamination would require separate



treatment protocols, and training must include these aspects to ensure operational readiness.

Referring to recent developments, he mentioned that following Operation Sindoor, the Prime Minister had made it clear that nuclear blackmail would not deter India. Preparedness against such threats, he said, is an important element

CS Discusses Education Reforms

With Union Education Secretary



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Tuesday held a meeting with Union Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Sanjay Kumar to review the ongoing education reforms in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The discussions focused on strengthening the education system, accelerating implementation of key initiatives, improving infrastructure and learning outcomes across the UT.

The meeting underscored the need to further raise the

standards of school education in the UT, with a focus on bridging infrastructural gaps, streamlining human resource management and bringing out-of-school children into the mainstream education system.

Detailed deliberations were also held on aligning the education system in J&K with the vision of National Education Policy 2020, which emphasises holistic, inclusive and skill-oriented learning.

Chief Secretary underscored the importance of ensuring that reforms under NEP reach every **●P-06**

Kashmir's Cold Storage Units Choke As

Growers Wait Hours To Unload Produce

Limited Capacity, Understaffing, Low Market Demand Force Farmers, Drivers Into Long Queues

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: Apple growers and truck drivers in Kashmir are expressing deep frustration, saying they continue to face long delays at cold storage facilities while unloading their produce.

With the traditional markets offering poor returns this season, a larger number of orchardists are turning to cold storage units, but the limited infrastructure is now showing cracks.

Several growers said that they are forced to wait for hours—sometimes an entire day—before their turn comes.

"We reach the cold storage units early in the morning, but the unloading takes hours. There are not enough workers to manage the load," said Abdul Rashid,



an orchardist from Shopian. "In the process, both growers and drivers are suffering."

Load carrier drivers too echoed the concerns. "When a truck remains stranded for an entire day at a unit, it not only wastes time but also costs us more in terms of fuel and daily charges," said Manzoor Ahmad, a driver from Pulwama.

According to officials and industry insiders, understaffing is one of the primary rea-

sons behind the delays. "The inflow of apples this year has been extraordinary because growers are unable to sell their produce outside due to very low demand. That is why within just 15 days, nearly 60 per cent of storage space has already been occupied," said a cold storage manager in Lassipora, adding that the remaining space is likely to be filled within days.

Kashmir produces around 22,000-25,000 lakh **●P-06**

'J&K Likely To Require Additional

4600 MW Power In Coming 9 Years'

RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: Amid 'unserved energy' predictions in coming years, Jammu and Kashmir is likely to require more than 4600 Megawatts (MWs) of power other than the planned capacities to meet electricity demands.

According to the official figures available, Jammu and Kashmir will likely require 4625 MWs of power in the coming nine years amid the predictions of 'unserved energy'.

The official documents said, "As J&K is likely to have unserved energy in coming years there is a need to contract non-fossil capacities for meeting energy requirements other than the planned capacities. The additional quantum of capacities required (other than already planned) to be contracted is about 2438 MW from Coal, 1200 MW from solar, 987 MW of DRE till 2034-35."

It also states that the coal

capacity PLF is expected to remain in the range of 46 per cent- 81 per cent for the years till 2035 (reducing from 81 per cent in 2024-25 to 46 per cent in 2034-35) ensuring higher absorption of higher renewable energy.

"In the alternate resilient scenario, coal requirement increases by around 287 MW compared to the base case in terminal year 2034-35. The STOA requirement in 2024-25 increases by around 144 MW in case of Alternate Resilient scenario in comparison to the base case," reads the document.

Besides, the document also states that J&K and Ladakh are likely to have surplus capacity available from April to September (in the range of 230-740 MW for 2027-28) which can be shared with other states.

A day before KNO reported that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is likely to witness an energy deficit **●P-06**



Statehood After Normalcy As

Promised By PM Modi: BJP Chief

WARIS FAYAZ

SRINAGAR: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir president Sat Sharma on Tuesday reiterated that the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, as promised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be ensured once the security situation in the valley reaches normalcy.

Speaking to reporters during his visit to north Kashmir's Bandipora, Sharma, said the BJP remains committed to the assurances given by the Prime Minister. "Once the situation is normal in Kashmir, statehood will surely be restored, as promised by PM Modi, which is a landmark commitment," he said.

Taking a swipe at political rivals, Sharma accused the National Conference (NC) and Congress of contributing to unrest in J&K even

during the period when they were in opposition and the BJP was in power. "Those who were in opposition then and are in power now never wanted Jammu & Kashmir to be peaceful. They always thrived on instability and chaos," he said.

Highlighting the improved environment, the J&K BJP chief said there was a time in Jammu & Kashmir when visiting certain areas or meeting locals was unimaginable. "But today, people are openly supporting Prime Minister Modi's development and peace agenda," he said. "Those trying to disturb peace are under the government's watch. The situation will be normalised by and large."

Sharma called for remaining vigilant against "insider enemies" who, he said, could collaborate with external forces to destabilise the region. "What is **●P-06**



Prasar Bharati Partners with CMN to Showcase India’s First AI Band, Trilok

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Prasar Bharati, India’s public service broadcaster, has entered into a strategic partnership with Collective Media Network to bring the music of Trilok, India’s first AI-powered band, to audiences across Akashvani, Doordarshan channels, and WAVES OTT, the broadcaster’s digital streaming platform. This collaboration will make Trilok’s latest projects accessible to millions of viewers and listeners across India.

Recently, the band released “Rupam Dehi,” a musical tribute to Goddess Durga inspired by the Argalastotra chant. The video features Kolkata’s Durga Puja celebrations, weaving ritual, visual poetry, and AI composition. Trilok has also reimagined the classic Ganesh aarti “Sukh-karta Dukhharta,” layering modern textures over the hymn to connect with



younger listeners while preserving its devotional essence.

The programmes will be broadcast nationwide on Akashvani and Doordarshan channels, ensuring mass reach across India, and will also be available on WAVES OTT for digital audiences in India and abroad.

This marks the first time that Prasar Bharati will showcase large-scale content created using generative AI tools, bringing the fusion of tradition and innovation to millions of viewers and listeners

across its networks.

Speaking on the announcement, Vijay Subramaniam, Founder and Group CEO of Collective Artists Network, said, “Our vision at Collective has always been to build India’s cultural exports for the world, and this partnership with Prasar Bharati takes us closer to that mission. In many ways, this is ‘pragati’ and ‘bhakti’ coming together progress and faith in harmony, shaping how India tells its stories for generations to come. By bringing music from Trilok to every corner of the country, we are combining the power of technology with the depth of Indian culture and traditions.”

Gaurav Dwivedi, CEO, Prasar Bharati added, “Prasar Bharati has always worked to ensure that Indian audiences, no matter where they are, have access to content that is innovative, relevant, and rooted in culture. Partnering with Collective Media Network allows us

to showcase how technology and storytelling can come together in ways that inspire, entertain, and connect communities”

The partnership underscores the growing role of AI in India’s media ecosystem, while highlighting Prasar Bharati’s mandate to both preserve tradition and embrace innovation. For audiences, this partnership is more than just about new music it’s a front-row seat to a bold experiment where India’s timeless spiritual traditions meet the transformative possibilities of AI.

Audiences can experience Trilok’s music and a wide range of cultural, devotional, and entertainment content on WAVES OTT, Prasar Bharati’s digital streaming platform. WAVES offers Live TV, radio channels, on-demand shows, films, magazines, and special event coverage bringing India’s diverse media ecosystem together on one platform.

Chairman DDC Kulgam presides over closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: District Development Council, DDC, Chairman Kulgam, Mohammad Afzal Parrey, Tuesday presided the closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, (JNV), Kulgam.

On the occasion, he distributed sports kits of cricket, badminton, and volleyball equipments along with certificates and prizes among students who excelled in various competitions during the fort-night-long celebrations.

Students who represented the institution at the national level were also honoured, including Bazila Baksh, who represented JNV in the National Volleyball Championship held at JNV Rajkot, Gujarat for the Regional Games.

In his address, Parrey highlighted the importance of Hindi as a language that acts as a bridge between different regions of the country.

He added that Hindi is now being taught across the world, and expressed happiness that the students of JNV are actively learning and promoting it.

At the same time, he underlined the significance of one’s mother tongue, stressing that it should be equally respected and preserved.

Chairman lauded the achievements of the students and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence in academics, sports, and cultural activities.

He further assured his continued support for youth development and extracurricular initiatives in the district.

Responding to a demand, he also assured that a high-mast light would soon be installed in the Vidyalaya premises.

Principal JNV Kulgam, Ratheesh Kumar, expressed his gratitude to the Chief Guest for his encouragement and acknowledged the dedicated efforts of staff and students.

He highlighted that Hindi Pakhwada, celebrated from September 14 to September 29, witnessed enthusiastic participation, making it a remarkable and memorable event.

Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were Station House Officer Kulgam Subzar Ahmad, Inspector Manzor Ahmad, Shabir Ahmad Parry, JSA, and Dr. Samiya Husain, TGT Physical Education & Sports Incharge.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and appreciation for the collective efforts that contributed to the successful celebration of the event.

Seva Parv FCS&CA, Kashmir, BIS organise Stakeholders Conclave 2025



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir along with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office (JKBO), organised the Stakeholders’ Conclave 2025.

Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Dr. Owais Ahmad, was the chief guest at the event. In his address, he emphasised the importance of standards in everyday life, noting that “standards are the backbone of quality, safety and reliability, and their adoption is crucial for the welfare of consumers.”

Pankaj Atri, Joint Director, BIS-JKBO, also addressed the gathering, stressing the vital role of

BIS in creating a culture of standardisation. “BIS is committed to ensuring that consumers get quality products and services, and such initiatives help in building trust between industry and consumers,” he said.

The conclave was also attended by officers of the Food Safety Department and Ashish Kumar Dwivedi, Standard Promotion Officer, BIS-JKBO, who highlighted BIS outreach and awareness initiatives aimed at promoting consumer rights and safe practices.

The event brought together regulators, consumer bodies, and industry stakeholders on a common platform, fostering dialogue on strengthening quality standards and consumer protection in Jammu and Kashmir.

NIT signs MoU with Paras to provide CGHS cash-based healthcare

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Hazratbal, Srinagar, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Plus Medicare Hospitals Pvt. Ltd. (Paras Health, Srinagar branch) to extend quality healthcare services to its employees and their dependents at affordable rates.

The MoU was signed during a formal ceremony attended by key officials from both institutions. From NIT Srinagar, Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman, Deputy Registrar (Accounts) Mrs. Nazia Nazir, Deputy Registrar (Administration) Mr. Faisal Irshad Ganai, Assistant Registrar (Director’s Office | Legal) Mr. Mohammad Hazik, and Assistant Registrar (Academics) Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Dar were present. Paras Health Srinagar was represented by AGM Arun Sharma and Bilal Malik, Manager Cor-

porate/COP.

Under the agreement, NIT Srinagar employees and their families will now be able to avail medical services at Paras Health Srinagar on National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) approved Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) cash rates. However, the arrangement excludes services under the Mother and Child Department, for which a separate package has been outlined in the agreement.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, termed the MoU a landmark step in enhancing institutional welfare.

“The welfare of our faculty, staff, and their families is central to NIT Srinagar’s ethos. This collaboration will provide affordable and quality healthcare, strengthening our institutional commitment to employee welfare,”

he said.

Dr. Murtuza Habib, Facility Director at Paras Health Srinagar, said the tie-up reflects the hospital’s commitment to community health.

“This partnership is designed to strengthen the health benefits available to NIT employees and their dependents, while also contributing to community health across the region. We are confident that this initiative will ensure timely and high-quality medical care for staff and their families,” he said.

Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, welcomed the collaboration, describing it as a crucial welfare initiative for employees.

“Ensuring the health and well-being of our staff is a priority for the institute. This MoU with Paras Health will help reduce the challenges employees face in accessing affordable treatment within Srinagar,” he said.

The collaboration aims to provide comprehensive, affordable, and reliable healthcare for the institute’s employees.

The adoption of CGHS cash rates is expected to reduce the financial burden of medical treatment, while Paras Health’s NABH accreditation will ensure quality standards are maintained.

Paras Health Srinagar is already empanelled with CGHS across departments and is certified under tax exemption (17/28). With advanced infrastructure, modern technology, and a team of experienced professionals, the hospital has established itself as a leading healthcare provider in the region.

The MoU specifies that all procedures will be available to NIT Srinagar employees and their dependents at CGHS cash rates. While the Mother and Child Department is excluded, a special package has been formulated.

‘Viksit Bharat ke Rang, Kala ke Sang’

CUK turns Dal Lake into ‘canvas of dreams’

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) in collaboration with the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) and supported by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), hosted a historic and captivating cultural event “Viksit Bharat ke Rang, Kala ke Sang – Youth Expressions for a Developed India” as part of Seva Parv 2025, on the tranquil banks of Dal Lake here Tuesday.

Set against the serene waters of Dal Lake, students painted their vision of “Akhand Bharat – Unity in Diversity”. The event featured an art exhibition by students from CUKashmir and the University of Kashmir, who displayed their interpretations of a developed India in 2047. The artworks celebrated connectivity and integration through symbols like the newly launched train service to the Valley, highways, the spirit of peace and resilience through education and stability, and the richness of heritage expressed in crafts, music, and Kashmir’s natural beauty.

The event, organised by the Directorate of Students Welfare (DSW) in association with the National Service Scheme (NSS), transformed Dal Lake into a stage of unity, with students, faculty, from both the CUKashmir and University of Kashmir joining to show how Kashmir’s story of resilience and harmony reflects India’s greater journey toward progress and integration.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Shahid Rasool, Registrar, Dr. Nisar



Ahmad Mir, Dean International Affairs, Prof. Sandhya Tiwari, Dean DSW, Prof. Irfan Aalam, faculty members, Youth Welfare Officers, scholars and students were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A. Ravinder Nath, underscored the importance of nurturing creativity and critical thinking among students, as envisaged in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. He stressed that the young generation carries the responsibility of shaping the India of 2047, not only through technological advancement but also through human-centered innovation. “India is moving towards becoming a 30 trillion-dollar economy and a developed nation by 2047. The role of today’s youth is central in realizing this dream,” Prof. Ravinder Nath remarked.

He reminded students that while artificial intelligence and emerging technologies are reshaping industries, “no technology can ever replace human intelligence, sensitivity, and creativity.” He observed, “The artist’s imagination is often the seed of a scientist’s innovation, which then transforms into technology and invention. Whatever we create must be aimed at the betterment

of humanity, guided by human sensitivity.”

Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Shahid Rasool, contextualized the event within the larger vision of Viksit Bharat @2047, reminding participants of former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam’s dream of a developed India. He pointed out that while economic progress and infrastructure growth are important, they must be accompanied by the wellbeing and happiness of citizens. “When we talk of Developed India 2047, it is not only about skyscrapers, bridges, and advanced trains. It is about the happiness index of our people,” Prof. Shahid Rasool stated. He explained that the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s vision for Viksit Bharat provides a concrete action plan where youth participation remains pivotal.

He congratulated students for their creativity and reminded them that national transformation requires collective responsibility. “Viksit Bharat 2047 cannot be achieved by scientists or bureaucrats alone; it requires the participation of all citizens. You, the youth, will witness and enjoy the fruits of this dream,” he affirmed.

In his address, Registrar, Dr. Nisar Ahmad Mir, highlighted the cultural

and educational dimensions of Viksit Bharat ke Rang, Kala ke Sang. He described the initiative as an opportunity for students to express their vision of India through art, thus blending cultural creativity with national development goals. “It is a privilege to be here on the shores of Dal Lake to celebrate this important component of Seva Parv,” Dr. Mir said. He noted that the programme embodies five key objectives: youth expression, leadership through culture, national solidarity, engagement with the Prime Minister, and fostering living aspirations among the youth. He elaborated, “The students’ canvases, whether by artists or first-time painters, beautifully depict development, vision, and hope. This is in line with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s belief that the energy of youth will determine the future of our nation.” Acknowledging the efforts of the faculty and students, Dr. Mir said “CUKashmir has always been committed to fostering creativity and leadership among students, and today’s event is a testimony to that spirit,” he added.

Proposing the vote of thanks, Dean DSW, Prof. Irfan Aalam, said the artworks depicted several important themes and the gathering symbolized a confluence of academia, culture, and vision. “It was not merely an art exhibition, but a reaffirmation of how creativity, leadership, and sensitivity must guide India’s path to development,” he added.

Sr. Asst Prof. Department of Education, Firdous Ahmad Sofal conducted the programme proceedings.

Sewa Parv Book donation drive launched at Girls Hr. Sec. School B'la



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Education Department Baramulla Tuesday organized a Book Donation Drive at Girls Higher Secondary School Baramulla as part of Sewa Parv 2025. The drive was launched by Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa.

The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation as students, teachers and volunteers came forward to donate a large number of books. The drive is aimed at supporting learners from economically weaker backgrounds and promoting the culture of sharing knowledge within the community. The theme “Donate a book, donate a dream” highlighted the spirit of the campaign.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the donated books will be distributed among students belonging to far-flung areas of the district who cannot afford to buy them. He added that such efforts are vital in ensuring that every student, regardless of economic constraints, gets the opportunity to continue their education.

He further expressed hope that such initiatives should not remain confined to Sewa Parv alone but continue as a regular practice in the district, thereby creating sustainable support systems for underprivileged learners.

He appreciated the efforts of the Education Department for organizing the programme and urged the community, especially youth and volunteers, to contribute actively towards such noble causes.

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DC Shopian chairs NCORD meeting

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: District Level Narco Coordination (NCORD) committee meeting was held Tuesday at Mini-Secretariat Shopian under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta.

On the occasion, DC reviewed department-wise action taken reports of

ties, initiating the highest degree of penal action on drug peddlers and keeping close vigil on educational institutions.

DC also reviewed the functioning of the Addiction Treatment Facilities at DH and focused on reaffirming the need to accelerate the action against the abuse.

The alarming situation of substance abuse was



Revenue, Police, Drug Controller, Rural development, Health, Social Welfare and others departments. He stressed on creating deterrence against the drug and substance abuse.

He called for comprehensive enforcement of drug dispensing norms by pharmacies with focus on conducting prescription audit and strengthening the fight against drug abuse by taking more strenuous efforts through conducting IEC activi-

highlighted and stakeholders instructed to take more result oriented action on wild bhung destruction drives, enforcing implementation of norms in scheduled drugs & creating awareness along with other measures.

SSP Anayat Ali, ADC Dr Zakir Hussain, ACR, SDM, ACD, Tehsildars, concerned district officers from Health, Agriculture, Drugs, Excise, ATF, Social Welfare and others attended the meeting.

ADDC Kulgam reviews performance of Banks at DLRC meeting

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam Altaf Ahmad Khan Tuesday chaired the District Level Review Committee (DLRC)-cum-District Consultative Committee (DCC) meeting in the VC Room, DC Office Complex to review the performance of banks for the quarter ending June 2025.

A detailed discussion was held on sector-wise lending in priority and non-priority sectors, bank-wise position

of deposits and advances, and the progress of various financial inclusion schemes in the district.

While reviewing the Credit Deposit (CD) Ratio (90.60%) the ADDC appreciated the improvement made as compared to the national benchmark.

He emphasised that the flow of credit to priority sectors such as agriculture, renewable energy, social security schemes (PMSBY, PMJJBY and APY), Mission Yuwa housing and allied activities must be further enhanced

to promote inclusive growth.

In terms of financial inclusion, the ADDC directed all banks to submit weekly progress reports to the Lead District Manager (LDM), who will also conduct weekly reviews.

He called for launching an intensive campaign at the Gram Panchayat level, with specific targets set for the next six months to ensure a net increase in financial inclusion.

He stressed the need for better coordination between banks and line departments to resolve grievances, ensure

timely case processing and extend maximum benefits to the public.

Highlighting the need to improve banking access in remote areas, he asked banks to explore possibilities for opening new bank branches/ more BC points in uncovered areas.

The meeting was informed that YOY deposits in the district have increased from 2463.16Cr to 2725.40Cr witnessing 10.64% increased while as advances have grown from 2263.72Cr to 2470.81Cr witnessing a growth of 9.23%.

Sakeena Itoo advocates student-friendly model at KU

Reviews academic, administrative functioning of Varsity

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo Tuesday underscored the need for higher education institutions of Jammu and Kashmir to align themselves with aspirations of students and modern academic standards.

The Minister made these remarks while chairing a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review academic and administrative functioning of the Kashmir University (KU).

The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan; Registrar KU, senior officers of KU and Higher Education department.

During the meeting, the Minister took a comprehensive assessment of university's progress across multiple fronts, like teaching and research output, infrastructure development, student welfare measures and other initiatives of the university.

She emphasized that the student community must remain at the core of every policy and reform initiative, as they are the true stakeholders of the education system.



The Minister observed that many challenges faced by students stem from delayed administrative processes, lack of timely communication. She called on the university administration to adopt a student-friendly model that ensures smoother functioning of academic and administrative services.

"Students should be the top priority of all our academic institutions. They should feel that their concerns are heard and addressed promptly," she said.

Stressing the importance of building trust, Minister Sakeena urged the university leadership to

institutionalize transparent systems for examinations, admissions, financial management and research programs. She added that openness in decision-making and clarity in procedures will reduce grievances, prevent delays, and enhance the credibility of the university in the eyes of its students and society.

Highlighting that regular interaction forums between students, faculty, and administrators is necessary to build dialogue and trust, she encouraged the officers to develop dedicated student grievance redressal cells with clear escalation mechanisms.

Acknowledging the rich academic legacy of Kashmir University, Minister Sakeena said that this prestigious institution carries a responsibility to set benchmarks for higher education in the region.

"Kashmir University must aspire to be more than just a centre of higher learning, it should be a hub of opportunity, innovation, and growth, where every student feels empowered to achieve their dreams," she noted.

The Minister urged upon the University authorities to work collaboratively with students and faculty to implement these reforms in a time-bound manner. She assured her continued support in strengthening the institution and making it a beacon of academic excellence and student welfare.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the Minister also took stock of various issues and grievances raised by students of KU who had come to meet the Minister.

While interacting with these students, Sakeena Itoo assured them prompt redressal of grievances and issues raised. She also gave directions for onspot redressal of various grievances raised by the students.

Union Secretary DoSEL reviews Education scenario in J&K

Calls for doing away with Class 11 Board exam, imparting quality education

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Union Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Sanjay Kumar, along with a team of senior officers, today conducted a detailed review of the School Education Department in Jammu and Kashmir.

Union Secretary who chaired a high-level meeting at SKICC Srinagar, stressed the need to improve quality of education throughout government schools in Jammu and Kashmir.

He encouraged for carrying out sustainable infrastructure upgradation to facilitate at all government schools for education.

At the outset, Sanjay Kumar called for a massive increase in student enrolment in government schools and directed the department to ensure quality education through vocational and skill-based learning across all institutions.

The meeting was attended by Secretary School Education J&K Ram Niwas Sharma, Director General School Education Kashmir GN Itoo, Director School Education Jammu Dr. Naseem Choudhary, senior officers from various wings of the Education Department including Samagra Shiksha, JKBOSE, SCERT,



and Directorates of School Education Kashmir and Jammu were present in the meeting.

During the review, Union Secretary issued directions to further strengthen the standards of school education in J&K and laid special stress on addressing infrastructural gaps, efficient human resource management, and mainstreaming out-of-school children.

Sanjay Kumar also underscored the importance of coordinated efforts by all stakeholders to ensure quality education and holistic development of children in Jammu and Kashmir.

During the review, Union Secretary highlighted the issue of student dropouts and directed officials to ensure that no student leaves school before completing Class 12.

He also emphasised the robust functioning of pre-primary schools and called

for large-scale enrolment of children in kindergarten classes.

Importantly, Sanjay Kumar instructed the department to reconsider the board examination of Class 11 and asked JK BoSE doing away with it.

The Secretary expressed concern over the comparatively low enrolment in government schools as against private institutions and directed officers to take measures to make government schools the prime centres of learning and career development.

At the outset, deliberations were held on the proposal for establishing a Regional Office of CBSE in J&K. Among other agendas, adoption of curriculum as per NEP-2020 across all classes, Capacity building of teachers on NCF, CBSE curriculum, assessments, and conduct of board examinations, School education indicators of J&K, presented

by DoSEL were also discussed.

At the outset, detailed review on implementation and progress under Samagra Shiksha & PM SHRI and other schemes was also held.

He also reviews progress under PARAKH and High-Powered Committee (HPC), Digital interventions including DIKSHA, VSK, and PM e-VIDYA channel usage.

Union Secretary reviews functioning of DIET/ITEP institutions in J&K and stressed on capacity building of teachers under various training courses.

Senior Officers accompanying the Secretary included Anand Rao Patil, Union Additional Secretary Digital Education; A Srija, Economic Advisor, DoSEL; Pankaj KP Shreyaskar, DDG Statistics; Hari Kumar Janakiraman, Director Digital Education; Sreekala P. Venugopal, Director, UT; Ram Singh, Deputy Director, DoSEL, Abdul Momin, TSG Consultant J&K, DoSEL.

Dinesh Prasad Saklani, Director, NCERT, Rahul Singh, Chairperson, CBSE, Pankaj Arora, Chairperson, NCTE, Akhilesh Mishra, Chairperson, NIOS, Indrani Bhaduri, CEO & Head, PARAKH were present on the occasion.

Javid Dar chairs consultative meeting with FMAs to boost J&K Horticulture



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperative & Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, Tuesday chaired a consultative meeting with Presidents and office bearers of Fruit & Vegetable Market Associations of Kashmir Division at the Directorate of Horticulture Planning and Marketing, J&K, to review and address key issues pertaining to the horticulture sector.

Director, Horticulture Planning & Marketing, Gh. Jeelani Zargar, along with senior officers of the department, presented an overview of the ongoing activities and initiatives aimed at strengthening post-harvest management, improving market linkages, and enhancing efficiency in the marketing of horticultural produce.

During the interaction,

stakeholders raised issues including the need for additional Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage facilities, availability and standardization of packaging material, smoother transport along the National Highway and Mughal Road, establishment of processing units, crop insurance coverage, strengthening of the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), promotion of e-NAM trading, and improved functioning of mandis.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to the concerns and assured that necessary steps would be taken for their resolution. He emphasized the adoption of modern and high-tech practices in horticulture to boost the economy of J&K.

Javid Dar reiterated the Government's commitment to collaborative efforts to optimize the potential of the horticulture sector.

IT Department, CSC-SPV observe Sewa Parv throughout J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Sewa Parv campaign was formally launched in Jammu & Kashmir on 17th September 2025 by the Chief Secretary, with Digi Vans flagged off by the Secretary, Information Technology Department. The initiative seeks

vices and citizen-centric schemes.

Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) have played a pivotal role in disseminating information and creating awareness on digital literacy, cyber hygiene, e-governance services, G2C services and financial inclusion.



to deepen citizen engagement and ensure last-mile delivery of digital services across the UT.

As part of the campaign, Common Service Centres (CSCs) have undertaken extensive awareness drives, community workshops, and outreach programmes at grassroots level. Between 17th and 30th September 2025, a total of 9,166 awareness programmes were organized across J&K, benefiting more than 1.37 lakh citizens. These included 8,786 VLE Point/Touch Point programmes, 30 Digi Van campaigns in remote and far-flung areas, 269 ASK-BSK campaigns for citizen facilitation, 22 District/Divisional campaigns and 59 District Stall campaigns.

Through these initiatives, more than 1,37,723 beneficiaries were sensitized about digital ser-

Speaking on the occasion, senior officials emphasized that Sewa Parv is not merely a campaign, but a movement aimed at ensuring digital empowerment at the doorstep of every citizen, particularly in rural and remote regions.

The CSC State Head, Jammu & Kashmir Faizan Manzoor, said, "Sewa Parv has created an opportunity to directly connect with citizens and sensitize them about the transformative benefits of digital services. The exemplary efforts of our VLEs in reaching the last mile have been instrumental in ensuring access to government schemes and services. CSC Jammu & Kashmir remains fully committed to sustaining this momentum and advancing the vision of Digital India at the grassroots."

Rana reviews Water Supply, Irrigation issues in Sonawari

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana, Tuesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting at Civil Secretariat here to assess the status of water supply and irrigation infrastructure in the Sonawari area.

The meeting was convened to evaluate ongoing projects, identify bottlenecks and formulate actionable solutions to enhance water accessibility in the area.

MLA Sonawari, Hilal Akbar Lone and senior officers of Jal Shakti Department



were present during the meeting.

Officers presented detailed reports on the implementation of various water supply schemes, functionality of irrigation canals and measures being taken to address seasonal

water scarcity.

The Minister stressed the need for timely execution of all sanctioned works, particularly in vulnerable and underserved areas.

He directed the concerned officers to expedite developmental projects,

ensure equitable distribution of drinking water and promote efficient irrigation practices to support local agriculture.

MLA Hilal Lone raised several constituency-specific issues and urged the department to intensify efforts in addressing public grievances.

The Minister assured full departmental support for improving service delivery and enhancing infrastructure, reaffirming Omar Abdullah-led Government's commitment to sustainable water management in Sumbal-Sonawari.

OFFICE OF THE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION SUMBAL.

Irrigation Colony Sumbal Sonawari, 193501 - Email: gblirr. 00010046@jk.gov.in

ADDENDUM

Reference: This office e-NIT No. 03 of 2025-26, issued vide No. IFCDS/NIT/2064-73, Dated 19-09-2025. This is to inform all prospective bidders that the annexure-A, which was required to be uploaded along with the above referred e-NIT, has inadvertently not been uploaded on the jktenders portal at the time of publication.

All concerned are hereby informed that the missing annexure is now being uploaded separately as part of this addendum.

Bidders are advised to download and upload the filled annexure-A at the time of submission of their bids. The annexure shall be treated as an integral part of the original e-NIT document and all terms and conditions therein shall apply accordingly. All other terms and conditions shall remain the same as laid down in the e-NIT of the work.

No.: IFCDS/2149
Dated: 27-09-2025

Executive Engineer
Irrigation and Flood Control,
Division Sumbal

ANNEXURE - "A"

COMPLETE BIO-DATA OF CONTRACTOR/AGENCY

Name of Contractor/Firm/Agency:	_____
S, D/o, Prop.:	_____
Residential Address:	_____
Office/Company Address:	_____
Contact No. (Office):	_____
(Mobile):	_____
E-Mail ID:	_____
Registration Card No.:	_____
GST No linked with the below mentioned Acct no,	_____
Pan Card No.:	_____
Bank Account No. (16-digits)	_____
Name/Address of Bank Branch:	_____
Seal/Signature of Tenderer/s	_____

DIPK-6694-25
DT: 30/09/2025

C/s
Chartered accountant

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Muheeb Bin Riyaz, son of Riyaz Ahmad Lone want to inform the general public that my mothers name in my school records has been incorrectly written as Mubeena, while as the correct name of my mother as per the Aadhaar card is Mubeena Riyaz. Now I want to correct it, anyone having any objection in this regard, he/she may contact school authorities within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, no objection will be heard after that.

Muheeb Bin Riyaz
Son of Riyaz Ahmad Lone
Mothers name: Mubeena Riyaz
Class: 9th | Admission no: 05
School: Beacon Pulic School, Rangreth

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Faizan Ahmad Khan, S/o Mohammad Farooq Khan, R/o Urdu Bazar, Rafiqee Fateh Kadal, Srinagar lost my Registration Certificate of Vehicle (Scooter Mopped, Scooty) bearing Registration No JK01- AX- 0264. Now I have applied for a duplicate RC, Registration Certificate. Anybody having any objection in this regard may intimate the concerned department within seven days of this publication.

Faizan Ahmad Khan
S/o Mohammad Farooq Khan
R/o Urdu Bazar, Rafiqee Fateh Kadal, Sgr.
Cell No: 8825061925







Navratri: The Importance Of Discernment In Faith



DR. PRIYANKA SAURABH

Navratri is a highly significant festival in Indian culture and religious beliefs. It is not just a nine-day celebration, but also a symbol of devotion, restraint, health, and social responsibility. During Navratri, devotees worship Goddess Durga in their homes and temples, and pay special attention to food and eating habits. Halwa-puri, chana dal, fruits, and other traditional dishes hold special significance for devotees on this occasion. The deliciousness and sacred nature of these dishes make them a part of a religious ritual.

However, amidst this sacred tradition, an important question arises: Are these dishes prepared during Navratri safe only for human consumption, or can they also be given to our sacred friends, such as cows? This question is important not only from a religious perspective, but also from a health and ecological perspective.

The halwa-puri prasad (offering) during Navratri is primarily prepared from wheat flour, ghee, and sugar. Devotees delight in its flavor and aroma, and consider it a symbol of devotion to the Goddess. Enjoying halwa-puri is not only a part of the celebration, but also strengthens family and social bonds. However, it is equally important to consider its health benefits.

Halwa-puri provides a limited amount of energy and satisfaction for humans. However, eating it in excessive amounts can cause digestive problems, weight gain, and other health risks. During Navratri, people often consume fruits, light sattvic foods, and milk to purify both the body and mind. Therefore, Halwa-puri should be consumed in modera-



tion and with caution.

Now the question arises whether halwa-puri can be given to cows. Cows are considered extremely sacred in Hinduism. They are considered a mother, and religious texts emphasize the importance of serving and protecting them. However, cows' digestive systems differ from humans. They primarily rely on green grass, fodder, straw, and grains. Heavy and sweet foods like ghee, sugar, and refined flour can be harmful to them. Excessive ghee and sugar in halwa-puri can adversely affect their health, causing diarrhea, indigestion, and other gastrointestinal problems.

The need for balance becomes clear here. The purpose of Navratri is not only faith and devotion, but also to maintain coexistence with animals and nature. Devotion and protection can coexist. Offering halwa and puri is not good for the health of cows, and the best option is to provide them with natural fodder, green grass, and fruits. From a religious perspective, the true

meaning of devotion is to use discretion while still practicing our faith.

Traditionally, the distribution of prasad during Navratri should be limited to human consumption only. Doing so adheres to religious beliefs and ensures the safety of animals. Many temples and religious sites maintain this balance by offering only fruits, green leaves, and dry grains as prasad. This provides nutrition to cows and protects their health.

This topic is extremely important from a cultural perspective. In Indian tradition, the cow is considered a mother. Religious texts and folk tales specifically mention their protection, respect, and service. If we ignore the health of cows during Navratri out of devotion and tradition, we fail to uphold the principles of their protection and care. This is a matter where a balance between religion and science is essential.

Education and awareness play a crucial role in this regard. Reli-

gious organizers, temples, and families need to understand that every offering they make must be safe not only for humans but also for animals, if any. Awareness campaigns should be conducted through schools, social organizations, and religious organizations to ensure that people understand that halwa-puri is not safe for cows.

Health experts also believe that keeping cows away from human food is essential for their long-term health. Ghee, sugar, and oil-based foods can cause problems in their gastrointestinal system. Therefore, traditional offerings during Navratri should be enjoyed only for humans. This maintains religious values and ensures the safety of the animals.

The significance of Halwa-Puri during Navratri is not limited to taste or tradition. It is also a medium of devotion, collective enthusiasm, and spending time with family. But we must remember that devotion does not simply mean following tradition; it

must also include discretion and prudence. Prasad should be distributed while keeping in mind the health of cows and other domestic animals.

Studies and experiences show that neglecting animals during religious events not only impacts their health but also highlights a lack of awareness in society. Therefore, prioritizing both animal safety and human health during Navratri is essential. This fulfills both our religious beliefs and social responsibility.

Through this tradition, we can also impart an important lesson to children. They can be taught that religious festivals are not just a means of celebration and joy, but also hold messages of wisdom, responsibility, and coexistence. When children learn that halwa-puri is only for humans and that cows are fed natural fodder, they become sensitive and responsible citizens in their own lives.

The message of Navratri is to embrace faith, restraint, and prudence. While enjoying traditional delicacies and offerings, we must remember that the safety and health of our four-legged friends is paramount. If we maintain this balance, the Navratri celebration becomes even more meaningful and enjoyable.

Finally, it must be remembered that the true purpose of Navratri is not merely to indulge in food and drink and festivities. This festival teaches us that faith and wisdom can coexist. It is our religious and social responsibility to take care of the health of both humans and animals. Therefore, during Navratri, halwa-puri should be consumed in moderation for humans, and cows should be given only natural fodder. This is the correct and balanced approach, which integrates faith, culture, and safety.

Through this balance and wisdom, the Navratri festival not only becomes religiously fulfilling but also serves as an inspiring example for our society and animal welfare. In this way, we can adhere to religious faith and cultural tradition while fulfilling our responsibility to our four-legged friends.

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Burning Effigies, Rising Ravana: The Changing Meaning Of Dussehra



DR. SATYAVAN SAURABH

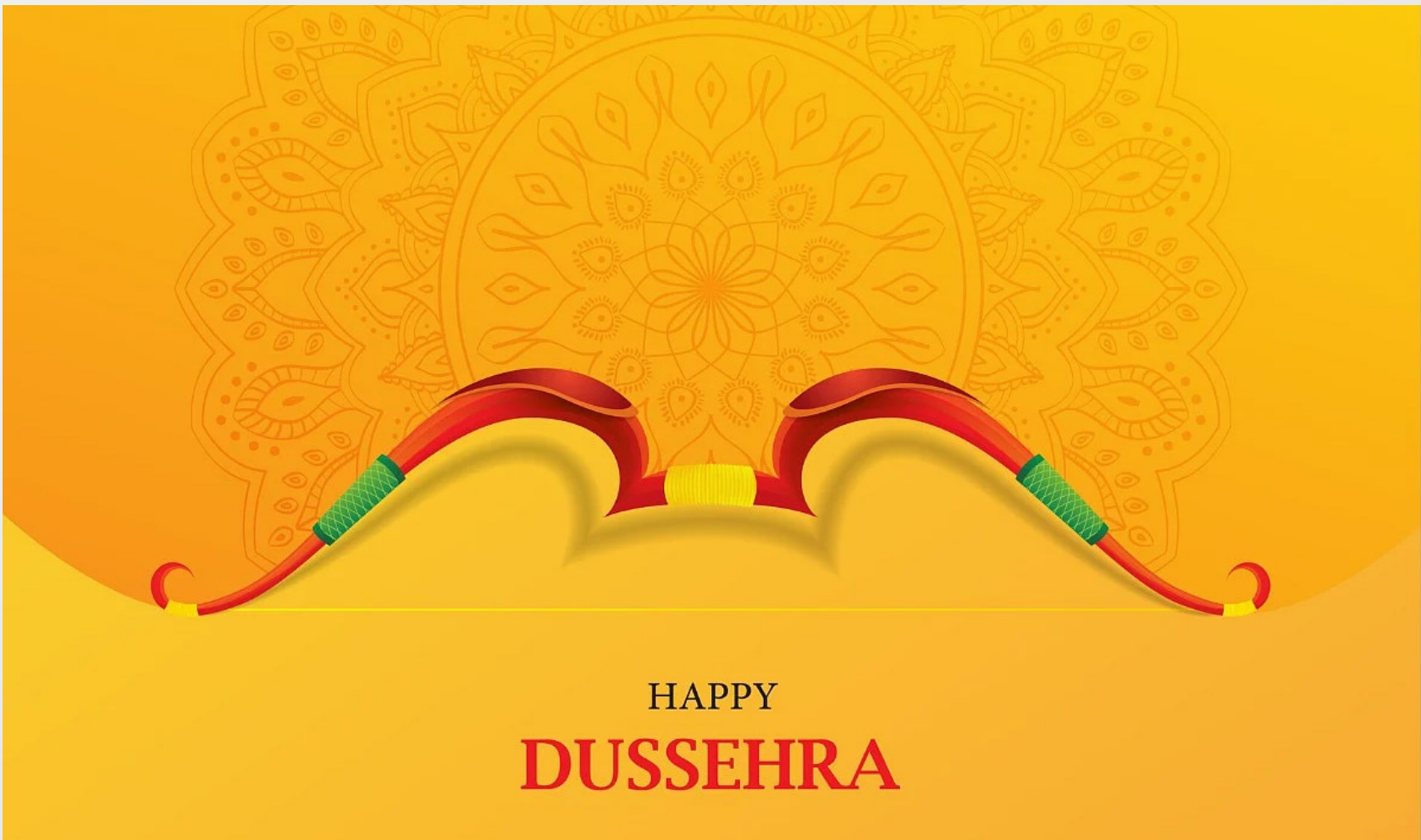
Every year, on the evening of Dussehra, when giant effigies of Ravana are set ablaze, the excitement of celebration is evident in the eyes of onlookers. The thunder of firecrackers, the sparkle of fireworks, and the roar of the crowds transform this festival into a colorful celebration. But the question is: does the message of this entire event—the triumph of good over evil—reach our lives and society?

Today, Dussehra has become a mere entertainment trend. People burn effigies, take photos and videos, and share them on social media. But rarely do they take the time to consider that the burning of Ravana was not merely a ritual, but rather an opportunity for introspection and social reform.

Ravana was not just a character in the Ramayana, but a symbol of the evils that lead humanity to downfall—arrogance, lust, deceit, anger, and unrighteousness. Even Ravana, a great sage, devotee of Shiva, and a valiant warrior, met his doom due to one mistake—lust and arrogance. Dussehra reminds us that no matter how powerful evil may be, its destruction is certain.

But today, Dussehra has transformed. The burning of Ravana has become a commercial and ostentatious celebration. Each year, the effigies are made larger and larger, and lakhs of rupees are spent on firecrackers. Reports indicate that the number of Ravana effigies has increased manifold in recent years, but the graph of crime and social evil has only increased rather than decreased.

In today's times, Ravana isn't confined to effigies. He exists among us, around us, and within us. Crime, rape, murder, dowry violence, bribery, corruption, and drug addiction are on the rise in society. The decline



of relationships is also a matter of concern—reports of the murder of parents, siblings, and even children emerge daily. Today's people are more educated and modern, but evil is also proliferating at an equally rapid pace.

The irony is that the Ravana we burn every year was a loner. He was a scholar, a wise man, and devoted to his family and kingdom. One mistake led to his destruction. But today's Ravana—the criminal and symbol of evil—is far more cruel, cunning, and shameless.

The festival of Dussehra reminds us that no matter how powerful evil may be, it must be eradicated. But simply burning effigies won't eliminate evil. We must understand that today's Ravana is not only external, but also internal. Every human being

possesses demons like ego, anger, lust, jealousy, and greed. Until these are burned, peace and justice in society are impossible.

Along with burning the effigy, we should resolve to eliminate at least one evil from our lives. The message of Dussehra will only be meaningful when society collectively stands up against evils like corruption, violence, drug addiction, dowry, and exploitation of women.

The biggest crisis of today's times is that society is becoming increasingly desensitized to evil. News of rape, murder, and corruption appear daily in newspapers, but we dismiss them as normal. After burning the effigy, we return home peacefully, as if evil has been eradicated. The reality is

that today's Ravana is omnipresent. They live in palaces and huts. They are both educated and uneducated. They permeate politics, business, education, and every sphere of society.

Ram is not merely a historical or religious figure, but a symbol of ideals and values. Ram means adherence to dharma. Ram means the struggle for truth and justice. Ram means dignity and devotion to duty. But today's society, instead of embracing Ram's qualities, is merely using his name for political and religious purposes. The result is that while Ravana burns, the Ravana of the mind and the Ravana of society rise even more powerfully.

Dussehra gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect—are we able to recognize the Ravana within us? Have

we been able to reduce even a single evil from our lives? Are we taking concrete steps to improve society? If the answer to these questions is "no," then we must accept that Ravana Dahan has become merely a ritual.

The most important thing is that we not only perform the ritual of burning effigies, but also recognize the Ravana within us and in society and show the courage to destroy them. Only then will Dussehra truly become Vijayadashami. Whenever we defeat our inner ego, lust, and greed, the Ram within us will come alive. And only then can we say that Ravana is truly dead.

Author is a TV panellist. He can be mailed at laloo.barwa@yahoo.in

CM Omar Inaugurates 15 Water Supply Schemes Worth ₹64 Crore In Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Tuesday reiterated that his government would fulfill the promises made to the people and that all efforts shall be made that citizens' expectations from the government would be met. He said this during his tour of Anantnag district where he inaugurated and dedicated fifteen Water Supply Schemes, constructed at a cost of 63.97 crore, to the people of the area.

The schemes inaugurated include Hardu Shichan, Dawoodpora Tilwanipora Kamad, Achabal Town, Andoo Pushroo, Deethu Khul, Shergund Aho Paisan, Ranipora Chohar, Gadval, Kasana Mohalla, Narsangri Kachwan, Laigripora, Sangam Sethar, Pushkreeri, Bakerwal Basti Chek I and Shalgan GB. These schemes, with an investment of nearly 64 crore, will provide safe and filtered drinking water to twenty-four villages and one town in the district, marking a major step towards strengthening rural water supply infrastructure.

Addressing a large gathering at Achabal after the inauguration, the Chief Minister underscored the significance of the achievement. "Today, we have handed over 15 water supply schemes to the people. Fifteen water supply schemes of four



assembly segments. And clean drinking water, filtered water would be delivered to your homes. The schemes that are left, we will complete those schemes as well," he said.

The Chief Minister further assured the people that development would not be confined to water supply alone. "The work of other departments, whether it is education, health, roads, industry, tourism, social welfare, tribal affairs, wherever you have expectations from the government, I promise you that we will meet those expectations. And we will fulfil the promises made to you. Have faith in us. The rest of the work is our responsibility," he said.

He also highlighted the challenges of governance, stating that sitting outside, many people think it is easy to run a govern-

ment in such difficult circumstances. "I tell some of them, for example, come and sit on my chair for 10 days. If on the 11th day, you do not pull your legs, I'll concede the point," he said.

Referring to the financial liabilities inherited by his government, the Chief Minister noted that thousands of crores of rupees in pending payments had burdened contractors and service providers. "This is not my fault or Mr. Rana's fault. We got this situation in inheritance. But we never made an excuse for this. We did not say that this is not our liability and we will not do anything about it. On the contrary, we tried to solve it quietly. I sat with the minister in charge to find a solution to this. I don't do politics of deceit. I have never used the situation as an excuse despite the fact that I know how

difficult it is to work in these circumstances. But we will present ourselves to you only after we do our work. This is my promise to you," he declared.

Touching upon the political aspirations of the people, Omar Abdullah reiterated his stand on restoration of statehood. "But my colleagues will also have to be courageous. They will have to face the powers that only want destruction in Jammu and Kashmir. We will fight. We will fight in democratic ways. We will fight in peaceful ways. We will get our rights within the realm of Constitution. But I am not ready to bring destruction and destruction in the homes of the people here. But I still believe that there is no despair in Allah's court, we will get it. And we will get our rights. But for now, the work will continue," he said amidst loud applause.

The function was also addressed by Minister for Jal Shakti Javed Ahmed Rana, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, and MLAs Abdul Majeed Bhat (Anantnag West), Dr Bashir Ahmad Veeri (Srigifwara-Bijbehara), Altaf Ahmad Kaloo (Pahalgam), Reyaz Ahmad Khan (Shangus-Anantnag) and Zaffar Ali Khatana (Kokernag), who lauded the inauguration of the water supply schemes as a landmark step for Anantnag.

CS, NITI Aayog Chart Roadmap To Strengthen Dental Healthcare In J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Tuesday held a detailed discussion with Dr. V.K. Paul, Member NITI Aayog, on the measures required to enhance accessibility and availability of dental health services across the districts of J&K.

The meeting was coordinated by Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah. Others who were present includes Principals of Dental Colleges in J&K along with other concerned officers.

During the deliberations, the Chief Secretary highlighted the pressing challenges in the dental health sector, including non-availability of services at New Type Primary Health Centres (NTPHCs), shortage of essential equipment, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of dental specialists. He emphasized that the high burden of oral diseases in J&K often leads to excessive tertiary referrals, creating stress on higher institutions.

Dr. V.K. Paul appreciated the efforts of the UT Government and assured NITI Aayog's support in evolving a comprehensive plan to modernize and strengthen oral healthcare delivery.

The meeting discussed a



multi-pronged strategy to expand services, including enhancing staffing across all levels of healthcare facilities and deployment of mobile dental units in remote and underserved areas.

The meeting also deliberated upon establishment of dental clinics in far-flung areas through Public-Private Partnerships, promotion of tele-consultation and tele-dentistry for pre-operative care, post-operative follow-up, emergency triage, and management of chronic conditions.

It also encompassed strengthening community-level programs such as school oral health initiatives, awareness drives on oral hygiene and tobacco cessation, and integration of dental checkups with general health camps besides encouraging home-

based services and fostering partnerships with professional bodies.

The Chief Secretary underlined that adoption of innovative models like tele-dentistry would greatly reduce patient travel burden, ensure timely expert advice, and help in patient education, especially in hilly and border areas.

Policy and funding recommendations were also deliberated upon, with a focus on creating specialized institutions for dental education in remote areas, bridging skill gaps, and ensuring long-term sustainability of oral health initiatives.

The discussions concluded with a shared commitment to work towards a robust, patient-friendly, and equitable dental health ecosystem in J&K.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Not Only Terror,

martyrs received appointment letters for government service," he added.

The DGP said the police have also been organising sporting events regularly, including the upcoming cricket tournaments in Kathua and Kishtwar. Past initiatives include Jashn-e-Dal, Pedal for Peace, and Marathon Run for Peace, with a "Run for Fun" scheduled in Jammu. National-level tournaments hosted in recent years include All India Police Football, Hockey, and Water Sports Championships.

The police are also running 10 drug de-addiction centres across the Union Territory, treating over 200 inpatients this year alone.

DGP Prabhat said legal action continues against drug traffickers, but the force is equally focused on rehabilitation.

He said 981 students were sent this year on educational and cultural tours across the country, up from 781 last year, as part of efforts to expose youth to national progress and diversity.

Mentioning achievements in sports, he named several police athletes who have won medals in national and international competitions.

The DGP thanked officers involved in organising the tournament and acknowledged the Lieutenant Governor for continued support to the police.

"J&K Police is committed to its responsibilities. We will continue our work," he said—(KNO)

Those Who Speak

police and CAPFs, hence preserving the memories of the martyrs is the responsibility not only of the forces but also of the entire public.

Our brave hearts gave up their lives to fulfil the dreams of society. The peace, progress and prosperity have been made possible by their ultimate sacrifice. Society can never repay the debt of soldiers' immense sacrifices for the country but they must ensure to honour our fallen heroes and their family members," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor commended the J&K Police Force for empowering youth through the Civic Action Program.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the players and handed over trophies and cash prizes to the winning, and other top performing teams and the players who excelled in the tournament.

In the finals, J&K Bank defeated the Kashmir Avengers Football Club and emerged as the winner of 20th J&K Police Martyr's Memorial Football Tournament.

DGP, Shri Nalin Prabhat; Shri S.J.M. Gilani, Special DG Coordination PHQ; ADGP Armed, Shri Anand Jain; senior officials of Police and Civil Administration; members of Football Association and clubs; prominent sports personalities, and youth in large number attended the closing ceremony.

LG Lauds Yuva

make them future leaders, inventors, and builders and they will shape India's growth trajectory," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the Youth to take the leadership role and

set clear goals for nation-building.

"Our youth are key to shaping the prosperous future, preserving cultural values and driving innovation. They have onerous responsibility of contributing to the growth and progress of society to propel the country forward.

He called upon the young generation and all sections of society to remain vigilant and unite against the divisive forces trying to destabilize the country.

The Lieutenant Governor felicitated the students who excelled during the 'Viksit Bharat Ke Rang-Kala Ke Sang' programme. He also called for making this initiative a regular feature.

Shri Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament; Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu; Shri Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Shri Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; Dr Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Ms Shruti Awasthi, Regional Director, IGNCA, senior officials, heads of various educational institutions and youth in large number attended the valedictory function.

Grading Lines Lie

At this stage, we just want to finish harvesting quickly," said Abdul Rashid, an orchardist from Shopian.

Grading line owners, however, say the situation has left them helpless. "We invested crores into setting up these units after being encouraged by the government. For the first two years, things looked promising. But this year, not even 20% of the expected produce has reached our unit. We are sitting idle, paying workers and maintenance costs without any returns," said Bilal Ahmad, who owns a grading line in Pulwama.

Another unit holder, Showkat Hussain, echoed the same concern. "Farmers think grading will not make a difference because rates are low. But they don't realise that if we stop using these facilities, our fruit will never get the recognition in competitive markets. We are being forced into losses as our machines and cold storage remain empty."

The horticulture department had earlier projected that grading lines would bring a paradigm shift in Kashmir's apple industry, making its produce more competitive. Indeed, in previous seasons, growers who adopted the system managed to fetch better returns. But this year's market crash, coupled with high fruit fall and frequent highway disruptions, has discouraged farmers from investing in additional processes.

Farmers said the crisis is beyond their control. "Last year, I graded and packed my apples, and the difference in rates was visible. But this year, when buyers aren't ready to pay even for quality fruit, spending on grading is like adding fuel to the fire," said Nazir Ahmad, a grower from Kulgam.

Industry experts believe that abandoning grading lines, even temporarily, could harm Kashmir's reputation in larger markets. "It took years to establish a culture of standard packaging. If growers step back now, the region risks losing its competitive edge," they said.

For now, grading line owners say they can only hope for government intervention or a revival in demand. "We thought these

machines would not only help farmers but also strengthen Kashmir's economy. But today, we are staring at bankruptcy," said Bilal Ahmad, a grower.

The crisis has once again come to the fore of the volatility of Kashmir's horticulture sector, where every link—from orchard to market—is deeply vulnerable to climate, logistics, and market fluctuations—(KNO)

Polling Booth To Set-

held on October 24 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, the notification states. Counting of votes will take place on the same day at 5:00 PM.

The four Rajya Sabha seats were previously held by Mir Muhammad Fayaz, Shamsher Singh, Ghulam Nabi Azad, and Nazir Ahmed Laway—(KNO)

India Won't Bow

disease outbreaks," he said. The nursing force, according to him, will play a central role in responding to such scenarios and must be trained accordingly.

The Chief of Defence Staff said the Military Nursing Service has been a consistent part of the armed forces' medical infrastructure and has served in various operational and humanitarian environments. The nurses are not only central to delivering medical care but also to providing comfort and support during difficult times, he added.

He also noted that the focus must not only remain on developing professional capabilities, but also on ensuring the psychological well-being of medical staff, including nurses. According to him, those who provide care also require care, and emotional support systems should be part of institutional planning.

General Chauhan said the Military Nursing Service is currently the only organisation in the armed forces structured to function jointly across the Army, Navy, and Air Force. He said nurses can be posted across all three services without administrative or structural hindrance, setting an example of the kind of jointness the armed forces must aim for in other areas as well.

The Military Nursing Service was established in 1926. It is one of the oldest uniformed medical services in the country and continues to serve across operational, maritime, aerial, and humanitarian missions—(KNO)

Cs Discusses Education

classroom, from primary to higher education levels, and stressed on early adoption of digital tools, vocational training, and mother tongue-based foundational learning.

During the meeting, PM SHRI Schools in J&K also came up for discussion and plans were discussed for expediting the process of upgrading identified schools with modern infrastructure, smart classrooms and innovative teaching practices.

These institutions will serve as model schools of excellence, showcasing best practices in pedagogy and student engagement.

Through PM SHRI schools scheme, already existing schools would be selected, strengthened, and upgraded and will

aim towards delivering quality teaching to enhance the cognitive development of the students.

Union Secretary said that idea of the scheme is to create nurturing, holistic and well-rounded individuals equipped with key 21st-century skills and Centre will provide all assistance to the UT of Jammu and Kashmir in this regard.

The Union Education Secretary appreciated the efforts being made in the UT and assured full support from the Centre in implementation of both NEP and PM SHRI. He highlighted the need for capacity building of teachers, integration of technology, and a robust monitoring mechanism to ensure the desired outcomes.

Chief Secretary emphasized that these initiatives would not only enhance quality of education but also equip students from Jammu and Kashmir with skills needed to thrive in a competitive global environment.

Kashmir's Cold Storage

metric tonnes of horticulture produce annually, but cold storage facilities in the valley can accommodate only about 3,000 lakh metric tonnes. The mismatch between production and storage capacity has left growers with limited options.

"This is a season of crisis for us. If the government really wants to save the horticulture sector, it must increase cold storage capacity on war footing and deploy more manpower at existing units," said Ghulam Nabi, another orchardist.

Experts believe the rush to cold storage units this year reflects both a positive shift in post-harvest practices and a warning about the sector's vulnerabilities.

With the harvesting season still underway, industry stakeholders fear that the demand for storage will soon outstrip availability, leaving thousands of growers struggling to preserve their produce.

This leaves us with no option other than to sell our produce at a low price, they said—(KNO)

'J&K Likely To Require

ranging from more than 4,200 Megawatts (MWs) to 10,000 MWs in next ten years. "J&K and Ladakh is likely to witness energy deficit ranging from 4293 MUs to 9929 MUs in different years from 2024-25 to 2034-35 with the existing and planned capacity addition."

Pertinently, in April this year, KNO reported that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is likely to witness around 62 percent of share from non-fossil fuel-based capacity in mixed electricity generation by 2034-35.

The news agency had reported that "The share of non-fossil fuel-based capacity in the generation mix is projected to be around 62% by 2034-35 with higher contribution from non-fossil fuel-based capacities in alignment with Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) trajectory."—(KNO)

Statehood After Normalcy

important to stabilise the country's position is to stay cautious of internal enemies, so that outsiders with ill intentions are given a strong response," he added—(KNO)

Chief Secretary Dulloo reviews functioning of GAD

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo Tuesday reviewed the overall functioning of General Administration Department (GAD) at a meeting held at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting attended by Administrative Secretaries of all departments held threadbare discussions on various issues like accelerating reforms, enhancing transparency and strengthening service delivery across government departments.

While chairing the meeting, Atal Dulloo urged upon the officers to work in a mission-oriented, time-bound manner, with a strong emphasis on innovation, efficiency, and public trust to ensure that citizens must feel the difference through timely services, fair processes, and a clear framework of accountability.

Chief Secretary laid strong emphasis on filling vacancies in a time-bound manner and directed the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) to fill 1500 Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS) posts

within fixed timelines, noting that timely recruitment is vital for improving efficiency at the grassroots level.

Stressing the need to remove bottlenecks and ensuring time-bound and transparent recruitment process, Dulloo called upon the Public Service Commission and JKSSB to fast track recruitment process at all stages.

He said that no unnecessary delays will be tolerated and directed the concerned to adopt a proactive approach in filing vacancies, ensuring that positions are filled efficiently and without administrative lag.

Chief Secretary emphasized that addressing human resource (HR) issues of employees is as critical as other administrative priorities.

Atal Dulloo stressed the importance of leveraging technology, instructing officials to make the process of framing and amending recruitment rules fully online, thereby eliminating delays and ensuring transparency.

He said that digitisation of recruitment rules would allow for smooth, exclusive,



and real-time online operations, ensuring better monitoring and accountability.

Recognizing the need for continuous skill development in governance, Atal Dulloo ordered the creation of a dedicated Capacity Building Unit (CBU) under Mission Karmayogi.

CBU, he said will be responsible for systematic training and upskilling of employees, with the aim of fostering a cul-

ture of innovation, efficiency, and accountability in public administration

Chief Secretary also raised concerns over the non-compliance of employees in registering on the Karmayogi portal, designed to enhance core competencies for effective public service delivery.

Highlighting the importance of transparency and accountability, Chief Secretary reiterated the government's com-

mitment to openness in governance. He directed all departments to ensure proactive disclosure of information within 15 days under relevant norms, so that citizens have easy access to key decisions and policies.

Atal Dulloo also called for the expeditious disposal of pending RTI cases, noting that timely response to information requests is a cornerstone of accountable governance.

Regarding Departmental

Promotions and Service matters, Chief Secretary called upon the Administrative Secretaries to streamline service matters and instructed each department to formulate a concrete action plan detailing how many pending Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) cases will be cleared within fixed timelines. He stressed that promotions are an important aspect of employee morale and organizational effectiveness

and delays in the process must be eliminated.

As part of citizen-centric governance, the Chief Secretary directed the development of the Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA) portal within one week.

He said that the portal will act as a single-window platform to monitor the delivery of public services, reduce delays and provide greater accountability in ensuring time-bound citizen services.

Regarding the Regular Departmental Action Cases, Atal Dulloo called upon the administrative departments to review the progress of pending RDA cases on regular intervals for swift disposal of the cases.

Regarding the compassionate appointments in favour of the kin of deceased employees under SRO-43 and newly christened Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme (RAS), the Chief Secretary underscored the need of further accelerating the process. He directed the concerned to put the cases before the designated committees for their clearances and issuance of orders in favour of the applicants.

Safina Baig inaugurates school building at GMS Kohlin

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Baramulla, Safina Baig, accompanied by Member Legislative Assembly (MLA) Wagoora-Kreeri, Irfan Hafiz Lone Tuesday visited Kohlin, Wagoora and inaugurated the newly constructed elementary school building at Government Middle School (GMS) Kohlin. The project, executed by the R&B Division Baramulla, has been completed under the SAMGRA scheme at an approved cost of ₹45.77 lakh.

On the occasion, Safina Baig said that under the different schemes including District Capex Budget, we have spent nearly ₹160 crore on different developmental projects/Works aimed at improving infrastructure, especially in the sectors of education and connectivity, in Wagoora block during the LG Administration. She said education continues to



remain our foremost priority. With this new school building, we aim to provide children with a conducive learning environment and fulfill a long-pending demand of the local population.

Referring to the issue of drinking water, Safina Baig acknowledged the public concern and assured that the matter will be taken up with the District Development Commissioner for an early redressal. She further said that most of the schemes and developmental works in the area have already been

completed, while several others are at the final stages of completion.

She emphasized that the council will continue to prioritize initiatives that directly benefit the people and improve their quality of life, particularly in sectors like education, connectivity, and basic amenities.

The newly inaugurated facility is expected to significantly benefit students of Kohlin and adjoining villages by creating better learning conditions and supporting the overall academic environment.

Commissioner SMC reviews status of CAPEX 2025-26 works

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb, Tuesday chaired a review meeting to assess the status of Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) works for the financial year 2025-26.

The meeting focused on monitoring the progress of ongoing projects, identifying bottlenecks, and ensuring timely completion of initiatives aimed at improving urban infrastructure and civic amenities across the city.

During the review, the Commissioner examined the progress of key CAPEX projects across sectors including roads, drainage, water supply, sanitation, public parks, and energy-efficient urban infrastructure.

Detailed discussions were held on project implementation timelines, quality standards, fund utilization, and coordination



between departments and implementing agencies.

Commissioner stressed the importance of strict adherence to deadlines, optimal resource utilization, and continuous monitoring to ensure that projects are completed efficiently and deliver maximum benefit to Srinagar residents.

He also directed officials to proactively address challenges affecting project execution and to submit regular status updates for timely decision-making.

Concluding the meeting, the Commissioner reaffirmed SMC's commitment to sustainable and technology-driven urban development.

CBC organises Swachhata Outreach Programme at GHSS Uri

GMK NEWS NETWORK

URI: The Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Field Office Srinagar organised a day long Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme on Swachhata, Mission LiFE and New Criminal Laws at Govt Girls Higher Secondary School, Uri Baramulla. The aim of the programme was to raise awareness about protection of the environment, adopting sustainable development lifestyle practices and New Criminal Laws.

During the programme, Resource Persons from District administration Baramulla, Education, Forest, Municipality, Police and other departments delivered speeches on the programme themes, stressing on ensuring sustainable lifestyle practices.

The Resource Persons highlighted the importance of Swachhata, saying that cleanliness is the basic prerequisite of living a healthy life. They urged the participants to adopt a healthy and sustainable lifestyle practices.

DySP J&K Police Rajat Sambal discussed the New Criminals Laws threadbare and stressed that the new laws are focussed more on public welfare than punishment. He urged the participants, especially the girls to acquaint themselves with the new Criminal Laws,

stressing that reporting any kind of crime is the first crucial step towards ensuring justice delivery on time. He listed various other sections of the BNS focussed on public welfare and justice delivery.

Resource Persons from the Forest Department spoke in detail about the importance of protecting flora and fauna, stressing that sustainable lifestyle practices will help us utilise our natural resources judiciously to ensure sustainable development. They listed various initiatives of the Forest Department in this regard.

Resource Persons from Municipality spoke about the importance of waste segregation at source, further listing various initiatives to reduce pollution from waste and water bodies.

Resource Persons from the Education Department spoke on Mission LiFE, highlighting the need for protecting the environment and adopting clean and green living initiatives. They urged the participants to use resources judiciously and play an active role in environmental protection.

The Resource Persons from Disaster Management Department Uri held live demonstrations regarding handling of natural disasters. They urged the participants to acquaint themselves with useful life saving skills useful during natural disasters and calamities.

SEWA PARV: DIPR organises awareness programmes at Pulwama, Budgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: As part of the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign under Sewa Parv, the Cultural Unit Kashmir, Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Tuesday organised a short play at Government

Higher Secondary School, Aglar Kandi, Pulwama.

Artists of Azad Memorial Foundation performed the play, highlighting the importance of maintaining cleanliness and protecting the environment. Through engaging performances, the artists raised thoughtful

issues connected with hygiene and community responsibility, leaving a strong impact on the audience.

The Principal and staff of GHSS Aglar appreciated the initiative and lauded the efforts of DIPR for spreading awareness on such a vital social cause

through creative and cultural mediums.

Similarly, Cultural Unit Kashmir DIPR organised another awareness program at Government Higher Secondary School, Pakharpora Budgam, under the Nasha Mukta Abhiyan J&K.

On the occasion, artists

of Jubilee Films presented a thought-provoking skit highlighting the ill effects of drug abuse and the need for a collective fight against the menace. The students and staff responded with great enthusiasm and praised the initiative for its powerful social message.

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

