

Good Morning

Kashmir

16th
Year Of Publication



Amit Shah
@AmitShah

Reviewed the security of Jammu and Kashmir along with the Lt. Governor and other senior officials. We are committed to cripple the terror ecosystem in J&K. Our security forces will continue to have full freedom to crush any attempt to threaten peace and security in the region. Instructed to further intensify alertness and synergy to accelerate towards Modi Ji's vision of a terror-free Jammu and Kashmir.

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Normalcy Restored In Ladakh; Restrictions Lifted, Internet Services Restored



YOGESH

LEH: Life has returned to normal in Ladakh after the lifting of restrictions in the region.

Officials said that people's cooperation and their responsible conduct has led to restoration of internet services, smooth functioning of educational institutions, and resumption of public transport and other civic activities.

Chairing a high-level security review meeting here on Thursday, Lieutenant Governor, Kavinder Gupta, expressed satisfaction over the prevailing calm and order across the Union Territory. He commended the efforts of the civil and police administration, security forces, and the people of Ladakh for their collective role in maintaining peace

and harmony.

The Lt Governor said that the people of Ladakh have shown exemplary patience and unity during recent challenging times. He stressed that their spirit of cooperation has been instrumental in quickly restoring normal life across the region. "The restoration of normal life is a clear reflection of the people's faith in the administration's commitment to ensuring safety, stability, and inclusive growth," he said. Highlighting the deep-rooted sense of nationalism among the people, the Lt Governor observed, "Ladakhis are among the most patriotic citizens of our nation, who have always stood shoulder to shoulder with the rest of the country in safeguarding national interests."

Urging the people to continue contributing

Amit Shah Reviews J&K Security Arrangements With LG, Officials

Chairs High Level Meet In Delhi To Review J&K Security

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: Reaffirming the PM Modi led government's resolve to achieve a terrorism-free Jammu and Kashmir, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday asserted that security forces will continue to have full operational freedom to eliminate any threat to peace and stability in the region.

Shah, chaired a high-level meeting in New Delhi to review the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

After the meeting ended the Union Home Minister wrote on X: "Reviewed the security of Jammu and Kashmir along with the Lt. Governor and other senior officials. We are committed to cripple the terror ecosystem in J&K."

"Our security forces will continue to have full freedom to crush any attempt to threaten peace and security in the region. Instructed to further



intensify alertness and synergy to accelerate Modi Ji's vision of a terror-free Jammu and Kashmir," he wrote further.

The security review meeting was attended by J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha; the Union Home Secretary; the Director, Intelligence Bureau; the Chief of Army Staff; the J&K Chief Secretary and Director General of Police of Jammu and Kashmir; the Directors General of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs); and senior officers from the Government of India, the Army, and the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

An official said that the meeting discussed J&K situation threadbare and the participants briefed Home Minister Shah about the ground situation.

"Due to the determined efforts of the security agencies, the terrorist network nurtured by the enemies of the nation in J&K have been almost eliminated," the Union Home Minister said.

He asked the security forces to remain fully prepared to ensure that terrorists do not exploit snowfall to infiltrate across the border.

Shah reiterated the Centre's unwavering commitment to

achieving the goal of a terrorism-free Jammu and Kashmir.

"Any attempt to threaten peace and security in the region will be dealt with sternly. Security forces will continue to have full freedom to crush any design which is aimed at creating chaos," Shah said.

The Union Home Minister appreciated the steps taken by the local administration and security agencies following the Pahalgam terror attack. "These initiatives have helped strengthen the overall security landscape of Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Shah underlined

OUR SECURITY FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE FULL FREEDOM TO CRUSH ANY attempt to threaten peace and security in the region. Instructed to further intensify alertness and synergy to accelerate Modi Ji's vision of a terror-free Jammu and Kashmir," he wrote further.

Govt Orders Transfer, Posting Of 108 Officers In J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday ordered the transfer and posting orders for 108 administrative officers across various departments and positions.

According to an order, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, awaiting adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Vice-Chairman, Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA), and will also hold the charge of Chief Executive Officer, WUCMA. Aijaz Abdullah Saraf, CEO/Secretary of the J&K Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, has been transferred and posted as Member, J&K Special Tribunal.

Munir-ul-Islam, Secretary in the Information Department, will additionally hold the charge of CEO/Secretary of the Workers Welfare Board. Mathora Masoom, Managing Director of J&K Financial Corporation, has been posted as Director, Floriculture, Kashmir. Rajesh Kumar Shavan, awaiting adjustment, has been posted as Special

Blitz Over Private Member Bills In J&K Faces Reality Check

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: As political parties in Jammu & Kashmir are blitzing on private member bills submitted by them in the Legislative Assembly, the reality remains that such bills rarely see the light of day.

A Private Member's Bill is a legislative proposal introduced by a member of the Legislative Assembly who is not a minister, and belongs to either the treasury benches or the opposition.

Records available reveal that not a single private member has been passed in Parliament since past 55 years.

According to details, only 14 private member Bills have ever been passed by the Parliament and received Presidential assent, with the last one becoming law in 1970.

The fate of private member also remains similar in J&K Assembly.

Since 1980, only three private member bills have been passed in the House. Two of them- Jammu & Kashmir Resettlement Act-1982 and Jammu & Kashmir Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Applica-

IN A FEW CASES, they had allowed it to be passed-long, long ago. That was in the 1950s and 1960s.

tion Act, 2007- were moved by Abdul Rahim Rather, the incumbent speaker. The first was brought by him as MLA of NC in eighties and second as Leader of Opposition during PDP- Congress rule.

Former Lok Sabha General Secretary and expert on legislative matters, P.D.T. Achary told

Craftsman Manzoor Khan's Dedication To Carpet Weaving Faces An Uncertain Future

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: For around six decades, Manzoor Ahmed Khan has dedicated his life to the intricate and timeless art of carpet weaving.

Known for his exquisite craftsmanship, Khan's creations have been admired by many, culminating in a prestigious award from the government, recognising his artistic excellence.

Khan opened up about his journey, the challenges he faces, and the future of this age-old craft.

Khan's passion for carpet weaving started when he was young, under the tutelage of his late neighbour, Abdul Khaliq Mir. It was from him that Khan learned the delicate art that would become his life's work.

Over the years, he honed his skills and became known for creating carpets that were not only beautifully crafted but also



imbued with memories of the landscapes he had witnessed in his travels.

One of the most significant inspirations for his work came from his frequent visits to the picturesque Kalaroos area in Kupwara, which left a lasting impression on his mind. "The scenery of Kalaroos, with its natural beauty and tranquil landscapes, stayed with me,"

Manzoor said. "I wanted to recreate that beauty in the carpets I wove. That's how I earned the recognition and award from the government for my work."

Khan's carpets are more than just decorative pieces—they are a labour of love and dedication. "It took me around 160 days to complete one carpet, and I made each one using pure silk for which I got

CS For Giving Strategic Push To Boost Milk, Mutton Production In J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Thursday chaired a high-level meeting of the Agriculture Production Department (APD) to review the measures being taken to enhance milk and mutton production across the Union Territory. He emphasized that both sectors hold immense potential for growth, value addition, and entrepreneurship if approached with the right policy interventions and sustained departmental support.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar; Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu; Managing Director,

HADP; Managing Director, Dairy Development; Directors of Agriculture and Sheep Husbandry from both Jammu and Kashmir divisions; and other senior officers of the department.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary underscored the need to create replicable success stories in these sectors to inspire public participation and entrepreneurship.

He observed that the region, being primarily a consumer state, offers a significant market for milk, mutton, and their processed products. Even in catering to local demand there exists vast potential in exploring commercial expansion and export of its value-added products.

He maintained that the UT must move beyond basic packaging

PM Modi, Starmer Agree On Anti-Terror Efforts, Condemn Pahalgam Attack

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: India and the United Kingdom on Thursday strongly condemned the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead.

In a joint statement following talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer in Mumbai, both countries, pledged coordinated efforts to counter terrorism and uphold zero tolerance for terrorism and violent extremism.

The two leaders agreed to work together at bilateral and multilateral levels. They outlined plans to counter radicalisation, disrupt terror financing, prevent the cross-border movement of terrorists, and stop the use of new technologies for ter-



rorist purposes. Measures will also target recruitment efforts and include enhanced information sharing, judicial cooperation, and capacity building.

PM Modi and Starmer

agreed to deepen defence ties, including expanding joint training and military exercises. The UK's Carrier Strike Group and the Royal Navy's participation in Exercise KONKAN with

the Indian Navy were noted as part of ongoing maritime cooperation.

Both sides committed to closer collaboration in the Indo-Pacific region, including the establishment of a Regional Maritime Security Centre of Excellence under the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

Progress was welcomed on integrating Indian Air Force Qualified Flying Instructors into UK Royal Air Force training programmes. An agreement is also under discussion to support broader defence training and education links between the two countries.

Both governments signalled intent to finalise an Inter-Governmental Agreement on developing maritime electric propulsion systems for Indian naval

Operation Warsun Army, J&K Police Recover Huge Cache Of Arms, Ammunition



AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: A joint operation by the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police in North Kashmir's Kupwara District on Thursday led to the recovery of a huge cache of arms and ammunition.

Officials said that the operation (OP WARSUN) was launched based on intelligence input in the general area of Brijthor forest in Warsun, Kupwara.

"Security forces busted a hide-out and recovered two AK series rifles, four rocket launchers, a huge cache of ammunition and other war-like stores," the Chinar Corps — Indian Army said in a post on X—(KNO)

J&K, Ladakh Likely To See 3470 MWs Peak Power Demand In Oct

RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: With the onset of cold weather, the Ministry of Power (MoP) has predicted a peak power requirement of 3470 Megawatts (MWs) for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for the ongoing month.

However, contrary to it the ministry has anticipated that there may be a peak power availability of only 2490 MWs for the month of October.

According to the official figures available, the MoP has predicted that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh may have a shortfall of 980 MWs against the total peak requirement.

Stating the anticipated power supply position in the northern region for October 2025, MoP has said that the representatives of Haryana,

SLDC, Punjab SLDC and J&K SLDC informed that the shortfall in J&K would be met through Real time exchanges.

Earlier, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has said that the Discom is trying hard to improve and supply uninterrupted power supply this winter.

Managing Director (MD) Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), Mahmood Ahmad Shah had said, "This year so far, KPDCL have provided improved power supply to our consumers. Besides a lot of improvement has been made in the discom in comparison to the previous year."

Pertinently, KNO reported that the power demand in Kashmir earlier this week had increased by

Rana, Javid Dar review key issues in B'la, Sopore, Rafiabad Constituencies

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana and Minister for Agriculture Production and Rural Development Javid Ahmad Dar Thursday comprehensively reviewed and addressed developmental challenges and public welfare concerns in the constituencies of Baramulla, Sopore and Rafiabad.

The meeting witnessed participation from key stakeholders including MLA Sopore Irshad Rasool Kar and MLA Baramulla Javed Hassan Baig. District Development Commissioner, Baramulla, Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti and Irrigation & Flood Control, Kashmir, along with their respective Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers, and Assistant Executive Engineers, Conservator of Forests, North Circle Sopore, and other divisional and district-level officers were also present on the occasion.

During the meeting, Minister Javed Rana laid out a roadmap for accelerated and inclusive development in the three constituencies, placing

special emphasis on ensuring that all ongoing and upcoming projects are implemented in a timely, efficient and sustainable manner.

He underscored the need to operationalize all completed Water Supply Schemes without further delay, so that the intended benefits reach the people immediately.

Highlighting the importance of optimal resource utilization, he instructed the Chief Engineer of Jal Shakti to come up with a plan for rationalising manpower and machinery deployment, enabling improved execution on the ground.

Rana also called for the augmentation of existing water supply schemes to improve their long-term viability and service delivery.

He directed the concerned departments to submit Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for proposed upgrades on a priority basis to facilitate timely approvals and planning.

Stressing on the importance of quality control in infrastructure development, he instructed field officers to undertake regular site inspections and ensure all works meet established tech-



nical standards without compromise.

To meet the growing demand for drinking water in several areas facing water shortages, Minister Rana approved the deployment of additional water tankers, particularly targeting water-deficit zones in Baramulla and Sopore.

He further emphasized the critical importance of adopting water conservation practices in

every constituency, underscoring the need to manage water resources sustainably to ensure long-term availability and resilience in the face of changing climatic patterns.

Reflecting the broader vision of the Omar Abdullah-led government for environmentally responsible and inclusive development, Javed Rana called for expediting the process of forest clearances for pending infra-

structure projects.

He stressed that development and ecological preservation must go hand in hand, and bridging infrastructure gaps must be done while adhering to environmental safeguards.

He further directed the Forest Department to ensure the adequate availability of firewood across all of Jammu and Kashmir, especially in view of the approaching winter season,

to cater to the needs of the general population.

In line with the Government's commitment to inclusive development and social justice, the Minister also directed the timely disbursement of sanctioned scholarships to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students.

He emphasised the need to ensure that forest dwellers and tribal communities receive full access to welfare schemes and benefits, reaffirming the Government's focus on improving the socio-economic conditions of marginalised populations.

During the deliberations, Minister Javed Ahmad Dar presented several suggestions aimed at strengthening the water supply infrastructure across the region.

He emphasised the need for technological upgrades and improved management practices to enhance both efficiency and reliability.

He also flagged several operational issues that required urgent administrative attention to ensure seamless public service delivery.

MLA Sopore Irshad Rasool Kar raised several constituency-specific concerns.

He highlighted the urgent need to revive the Nehri Zangeer, which plays a vital role in supplying water to multiple schemes serving Sopore, Rafiabad, and Bandipora. He sought strengthening of local piping network to ensure consistent and efficient water supply, and also called for comprehensive dredging of the canal system in Sopore to prevent blockages and improve water flow.

Meanwhile, MLA Baramulla Javed Hassan Baig drew attention to delays in the approval of infrastructure projects under PMGSY and R&B, attributing the hold-ups to pending forest clearances.

He sought the Minister's intervention in expediting these approvals. He also called for dredging of canals in Baramulla and nearby areas, and stressed the need for replacing or upgrading outdated machinery to maintain the operational efficiency of critical infrastructure.

He also voiced concerns about the status of tribal development in his constituency and called for tailored welfare initiatives aimed at uplifting the socio-economic condition of tribal communities.

Dy. CM conducts extensive tour of Srinagar city, assesses dev works

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary Thursday conducted an extensive tour of Srinagar city to assess ongoing development works and projects.

During the visit, the Deputy CM visited Govt. College of Education, Govt. College for Women, sites of the proposed Barbar Shah Bridge, Old Habba Kadal Bridge and Padshahi Bagh Road.

The Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied with MLA Habba Kadal Shamim Firdous, and MLA Lal Chowk Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed, along with other senior officials of concerned departments.

At the outset of the tour, the Deputy Chief Minister visited Govt. College of Education and Govt. College for Women and inspected the ongoing works there.

The Deputy CM directed the concerned officials to complete the pending works without further delay with adherence to the quality parameters. He also interacted with the students, teachers



and other staff members during the visit.

Later, the Deputy CM inspected the site of the Proposed Barbar Shah Bridge taking up from Rata Rani Nai Sarak to Bund Exchange Road with clear span of 100 meters. The new bridge has been proposed at an civil cost of 15.25 Crores apart from the acquisition cost.

The Deputy CM was apprised that the project involves the construction of a 2-Lane Plate Girder Bridge featuring a 7.50-meter carriageway and 1.50-meter footpaths on either side.

On completion, the bridge connecting Nai Sarak Barbar Shah to MA Road via exchange road

will serve as a vital link over the Chount Khul, significantly decongesting traffic in a crucial part of the city and providing relief to a population of over 500,000 souls.

The Deputy CM reviewed the project proposal and was briefed by officials on the technical specifications and execution plan. Subsequently, he directed the R&B Division Srinagar to proceed with Detailed Project Report (DPR) with considering all the components viz shifting of utilities, land acquisition and the technical feasibility.

The Deputy CM also visited the Habba Kadal area to assess Old Habba Kadal Bridge's motorability while

directing the R&B Division Karan Nagar for repair of damaged decking along with direction of assessing its structural safety following the recent floods.

Later, discussions were held at Padshahi Bagh regarding the works to be executed and prioritized in the coming days.

He also interacted with local residents, community elders, and members of the traders' federation, listening to their concerns and suggestions. He assured them of developmental works aim to preserve the heritage character of the area while providing modern amenities.

The Deputy CM reiterated the government's commitment towards time-bound completion of all vital infrastructure projects in Jammu & Kashmir. He directed the concerned executing agencies to resolve any existing bottlenecks, closely monitor the finishing works, and ensure that these projects are dedicated to the public within the announced timeline to enhance the ease of living for the citizens of Srinagar and preserve its heritage character.

Sakeena Itoo inaugurates two days Annual Sports Meet of GMC Sgr

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo inaugurated two days Annual Sports Meet-2025 of Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar at Boys Hostel Bemina here Thursday.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Minister underscored the crucial link between the physical and mental well-being of healthcare professionals and its impact on overall quality of healthcare delivery.

"Our doctors and medical students are the backbone of healthcare system. Their physical fitness and emotional balance directly influence the care they provide. Initiatives like these help rejuvenate their spirits and foster teamwork and positivity", Minister Sakeena stated.

Commending GMC Srinagar for organizing the



event, the Minister highlighted that sports and recreational activities are essential components of stress management, especially for those in demanding medical professions. She underlined that sports plays a vital role in decreasing the mental stress that medical students face while adhering to their rigorous academic schedule.

The Minister also asked the GMC Srinagar administration to upgrade facilities at this playground of Boys

Hostel so that maximum students are attracted towards extra curricular activities.

Principal GMC Srinagar, Dr. Iffat Hassan expressed gratitude to the Minister for constant support. She said that sports improve confidence, balance, focus and appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee.

Earlier, the Minister interacted with participants, faculty and medical students.

Chairman Sports Committee, GMC Srinagar,

Dr. Salim Iqbal, played a key role in planning and organizing the event.

Pertinently, during the two days Annual Sports Meet sporting events like cricket, volleyball, football, badminton, table tennis, carrom, tug of war, and musical chair are being held, besides track and field events like 100m, 200m, 400m, relay, shot put, javelin throw, and discus throw will also form the part of sports meet. Fun games like matka race, sack race, and spoon and egg race also added energy to the program to celebrate camaraderie and holistic well-being among medical professionals and students.

Principal GMC Srinagar, Dr. Iffat Hassan Shah; Administrator GMC Srinagar, Mohamad Ashraf Hakak; Heads of Departments, Medical Superintendents, faculty members, students and staff were also present on the occasion.

Div Com chairs meeting of Rakhs, Farms Department



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg Thursday chaired a meeting of Rakhs & Farms Department to assess its functioning and other related issues.

The meeting was attended by Director Rakhs and Farms, Assistant Commissioner Central, General Manager Govt Press, Assistant Director Rakhs & Farms, OSD to Div Com, Deputy Director Archives, Archeology & Museums and officers from revenue department.

Addressing the meeting, Div Com enjoined the officers of the department to compile the details of quantum of land under its possession, revenue records of Rakhs & Farms, rules and orders issued from time to time governing the department and the processes followed by the department for utilization and supervision of land besides legal orders, acquisition rules and encroachment issues.

He also directed constitution of the committee to address the issues confronted by the department.

CPO visits Kupwara, reviews progress of KPIs under ADP

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Union Joint Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), and Central Prabhari Officer (CPO) for District Kupwara, Sarita Chauhan Thursday visited district Kupwara to review the performance of the district under the Aspirational District Programme (ADP).

On her arrival, Sarita Chauhan inspected various stalls installed by different departments at DC Office Complex showcasing interventions undertaken to improve Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) under ADP.

Sanction letters under different schemes of Agriculture and allied sectors were distributed to the concerned beneficiaries during the inspection of the stalls.

The Central Prabhari Officer also chaired a high level meeting of district and sectoral officers to review the progress on key performance indicators (KPIs) under the ADP framework.

The DC Kupwara briefed about progress achieved so far under ADP regarding the five core thematic areas of the Aspirational District Programme viz. Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development, and Basic Infrastructure.



Sarita Chauhan took detailed feedback from the concerned officers on the implementation status of various centrally sponsored schemes and initiatives undertaken in the district which are contributing to KPIs improvement. She emphasized the need for data-driven governance and urged departments to intensify focused efforts to bridge the gaps under these thematic areas.

Appreciating the progress made relating to several indicators, she urged all departments to have inter departmental convergence of efforts to improve the performance of district in Health, education, nutrition, skill development as well as financial inclusion sectors. Departments assured to central prabhari officer to intensify focussed initiatives and regular monitoring so that district achieves improved delta ranking in coming quarter.

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo Thursday inaugurated two-day educational workshop organized at PM Shri High School Yaroo, D.H. Pora, under the aegis of PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) initiative.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Sakeena reaffirmed the Government's commitment to enhancing learning outcomes and strengthening

the educational ecosystem across Jammu & Kashmir. She appreciated the efforts of PARAKH and NCERT in building teacher capacity and promoting learner-centric education practices.

Highlighting initiatives like PARAKH, which prepare secondary school students for the World of Work (WoW), the Minister emphasized the importance of developing future-ready learners equipped with skills and competencies.

The Minister acknowledged the sincerity of teachers while urging further efforts to achieve

better results. She added government is working with a strong focus on providing quality education and improved facilities across the Union Territory.

Director General School Education, Kashmir, Dr. G.N. Itoo, in his address highlighted the objectives of PARAKH initiative and the significance of trade and vocational training in enhancing skill development.

During the event, the Minister also inspected various stalls showcasing innovative projects made by students

The workshop was aimed to create aware-

ness among teachers, students and education stakeholders about competency-based learning, assessment reforms, and innovative pedagogical approaches aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The workshop saw participation from teachers, vocational trainers, students and education officers.

On the sidelines of the event, the Minister distributed regularisation orders to newly appointed CPWs, noting that more than 300 CPWs have been regularised under the current government.

Sakeena Itoo addresses Annual Day function at GHSS Nehama

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo Thursday addressed the Annual Day function at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Nehama here.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister emphasized the government's

unwavering commitment towards providing quality education and improving infrastructure and facilities across educational institutions.

She highlighted the importance of holistic development, encouraging students to excel in academics, sports, and extracurricular activities. "The Education Department and teach-

ers have a role to play in shaping the future of society," the Minister remarked.

She further said that the government is taking all necessary steps to strengthen the education system and ensure that every child has access to better learning opportunities and a conducive academic environment.

The event witnessed

enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and parents, featuring a range of cultural performances and presentations showcasing the school's achievements.

Director General, Education Department, Dr. G.N. Itoo, and other officers of district administration were also present on the occasion.

Good Morning

Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Free-For-All In Private Diagnostic Centres

A free-for-all situation continues to prevail in the private diagnostic sector, where commercial greed has overshadowed medical ethics. Every other day, a new diagnostic centre springs up, adding to the unchecked mushroom growth of this profit-driven trade. Instead of providing relief to the sick and needy, many of these centres have turned into money-minting machines, exploiting the helplessness of poor patients.

The situation has become so alarming that a common person feels lost and cheated. Rates vary arbitrarily from one centre to another, and unnecessary tests are often prescribed just to inflate bills. The absence of a proper regulatory mechanism has given these centres a free hand to exploit people in distress.

Healthcare, which should be a noble service, is increasingly becoming a business devoid of compassion. The government’s silence over this unchecked expansion and lack of monitoring only emboldens the exploiters. It is high time the authorities step in to regulate the functioning of private diagnostic centres—fixing rates, ensuring qualified staff, and holding violators accountable.

People’s health cannot be left at the mercy of market forces. A strict and transparent system is the only way to end this exploitation and restore faith in medical services.

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Diwali: The Festival Of Lights And Spiritual Enlightenment



DR. SHIBEN KRISHEN RAINA

India is a vast country where people from diverse religions and backgrounds co-exist. This richness of cultures and traditions has given rise to a number of festivals and celebrations, each with its unique significance. While every festival holds its special place in our society, Diwali, also known as ‘Deepavali’, stands out as a celebration that radiates happiness, enthusiasm, and cultural heritage.

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is a time when we illuminate our surroundings with lamps and candles. Beyond its visual splendor, this festival carries a profound message. It encourages us to dispel the darkness of ignorance and evil that may hang around in our hearts and society. Diwali is a festival for everyone, transcending age, gender, and social status. People of all walks of life come together to celebrate it with great enthusiasm.

On this day, it’s not just about the external lights but also about kindling the virtues and goodness within ourselves. We should make a pledge to not only focus on the external radiance but also to illuminate our hearts with positivity. It’s a time to reflect on the world around us and strive to eliminate poverty, hunger, illiteracy, and other societal evils including religious frenzy and fury. The idea to illuminate our environs on the occasion of Diwali is to spread the light of goodness in a world where darkness still persists.

A meaningful story in the Indian tradition is the tale of the owl and the swan, which serves as a metaphor for how different people perceive knowledge and ignorance. In the story, an owl claims that it is night even when it is midday because its large eyes are blinded by the light. The swan, representing wisdom, argues that it is indeed day, but the owl refuses to believe. This story illustrates that perception is subjective, and what may be light to one may be darkness to another. Shree Krishna, in the Bhagavad



vat Gita (2.69), echoes this sentiment when he says, “That which is day to the enlightened is night to the ignorant.”

This story is a reminder that many people live in a state of ignorance, believing themselves to be wise. Like the people of Ayodhya who welcomed Shree Ram back into their lives, we too must strive to bring the divine light of wisdom and knowledge into our hearts, thus moving from ignorance to truth.

The couplet “Diye jalao par rahe dhyan itna, andhera dharti par kahi rah na paaye” (Light lamps, indeed, but ensure that darkness finds no place on the Earth anywhere) carries a profound message. It urges us to be the beacons of hope and change, not just within ourselves but in the world at large. Diwali is a festival that conveys a message of goodwill, righteousness, and unity. It should be celebrated with unwavering devotion and purity to ensure that no unpleasant incidents mar the festivities.

Let us create an atmosphere of joy

and exuberance all around, spreading happiness and unity. From a spiritual perspective, Diwali symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness. Just as a lamp dispels the darkness around it, the inner light of knowledge can remove the ignorance within us. The lamp represents the flame of self-realization that can awaken the inactive wisdom and consciousness within us. In conclusion, Diwali is more than just a festival of lights; it is a festival of joy, goodwill, and spiritual awakening. It encourages us to embrace the light within and spread positivity and kindness in a world that often grapples with darkness.

Festivals like Diwali are more than mere rituals; they are a celebration of a community’s shared values and beliefs. Culture, in its essence, is a set of common reference points that people regard as excellence in behavior, ethics, morality, arts, and education. When a community passes down these values from one generation to the next, it

enriches its members by uplifting them from base tendencies toward higher human refinement.

The Hindu culture, one of the oldest living cultures in the world, encapsulates this essence of refinement and wisdom. Diwali, with its rich traditions and spiritual symbolism, celebrates not just the return of Shree Ram to Ayodhya but also the inner journey of every individual toward truth, knowledge, and spiritual enlightenment.

Let us celebrate Diwali with deep devotion, purity, and a commitment to make the world a better place for all. As we light our lamps, let us also ignite the light of knowledge and compassion within ourselves, ensuring that the darkness of ignorance, intolerance, rigidity and negativity finds no place around us and on the Earth as a whole.

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The Architect Of Integrity: Lessons In Leadership From Ratan Tata



DR BASANT GOEL

In the hierarchy of global business leaders, there are very few names that stand out, not only for the empires they built, but for the unquestionable values in which they operated. Very much at the top of this small group is Ratan Naval Tata, a man who changed the definition of success to prove that profit and real ethical responsibility with regard to one’s community are one and the same—two sides of the same coin. His legacy is not one of only Market Capitalization and brazen international acquisitions, but rather a quiet story of humility, integrity, and a sincere commitment to nation-building.

The leadership of Ratan Tata was characterized by an exceptional mix of fearlessness and humility. He was among the architects of Tata Group’s transformation to a global conglomerate, fearlessly leading the acquisition of Beacon-like international companies such as Jaguar Land rover and Corus Steel. More than just purchases, the acquisitions were strong statements about Indian enterprise being truly global in marketability, and that a company with majorly Indian roots could compete—and win—against the most estab-

lished international brands while respecting real core ethical values.

The aspect that made his vision exceptional was its root in compassion. A good sample of this is the Tata Nano. The world’s cheapest car did not come from a board meeting with a focus on profit margins; it originated from witnessing a family of four precariously balanced on a scooter during monsoon season. His vision was to change the world through business innovation to confront a real-world problem: safe and affordable mobility for the average person. This spirit of commitment to people is a constant thread throughout all of his work.

This commitment to people was deeply reflected in the way he managed his people and community. The Tata Group’s response to the horrific 26/11 terror attacks in Mumbai when the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel was attacked is perhaps the quintessential example of empathy in a corporate setting. Ratan Tata said, after the terror attacks, that he would take care of every person involved—employees, guests, staff of nearby shops, and vendors. He did this, and his commitment was to compensate and take care of every person for life. This was a commitment to take care of human beings at all costs. Never before had someone laid people over financial loss.

It is his consistent moral core that distinguishes him. For Ratan Tata, business has never been a race to the bottom and he championed and enforced the Tata Code of Conduct, establishing a cul-



ture in which integrity was not merely a suggested policy but rather the backbone of the business. In addition, as a leader, you can feel his impact in his belief in empowering the future. He has been an extraordinary mentor and investor in the success of innumerable Indian start-ups, leveraging his prior professional experience and investments as a means of supporting the dreams of entrepreneurs who are young in age and experience. Ratan understood that the future of the country lies in nurturing innovation and opportunities for the future builders and thinkers. His engagement with entrepreneurs is silent and demonstrates a powerful vote of confidence in the future of India. Outside the boardroom, his character embodies genuineness in simplicity and grace. There are many stories which highlight his personal humility—like personally carrying his own luggage through internation-

al airports and his unsuspecting observations of the world around him. This humility is an example of how the greatest lessons of true power and character can often be reflected in humility and simplicity. He never sought the attention of the media; rather, the attention sought him from his actions and achievements.

His concern for animals—stray dogs in particular—gives further insight into who he is. The mere presence of compassion for the voiceless is an indicator of a leader who cares and recognizes the existence and value of life in all its forms and how human empathy is limitless. Ultimately, the Tata Trusts, which hold the majority of the group and allocate so much of the profits to philanthropy, illustrates his deep devotion to building this nation. The Trusts operates tirelessly in the areas of healthcare, education, and to develop opportunities to allow those who needed sup-

port, to succeed based on the wealth the businesses create on the community that supported their success.

For Ratan Tata, business is a privilege that must be treated with respect, and with responsibility to give back. Ratan Tata’s journey is a symbol of tenacity and conviction. He met with various obstacles, encountered internal disputes and experienced business failures. Still, he faced every storm with grace and a long-term view. He informed us and demonstrated that setbacks were temporary, while integrity was eternal. In his own words, “I don’t believe in taking the right decisions. I take decisions and then make them right,” he reflects his determination and capacity to see something through.

Ratan Tata is more than a successful businessman; he is a national asset and a global icon of ethical leadership. He has exemplified to the world that a company can be tremendously profitable and internationally competitive, while remaining a soul that is very much rooted in human values. His life is an eloquent opinion piece, a simple yet powerful statement that the best indicator of success is the trust one earns and the positive difference made in the lives of others. His quiet strength and lasting values will inspire and inform generations to come.

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

■ Kashmir's Apple Conspiracy

Fact, Fiction, And Fault Lies Within



DR. IPSA PATTANAYAK

Since last five years, or so, during the months of September- October Kashmir has been grumbling with stories of how apple growers and traders are suffering in hands of authorities as apple laden trucks are being made to wait long. This year again the story is back. Apart from apple traders, some politicians have also spoken publicly about the matter. A narrative that is being subtly pushed by some of these traders and politicians is that “there is a conspiracy by centre to arrest popularity of Kashmiri apple, promote Himachali apple and thereby dent Kashmir, economically”. The narrative is surviving and doing good in Kashmir, primarily because of the large appetite in Kashmir for conspiracy theories painting Delhi as villain.

On studying the issue by analysing opinions of various stakeholders, in light of the ground inputs, a completely different picture evolves. Several shades of it can be discussed one by one.

Firstly, lets focus on a new variety of apple called ‘High Density’. Since the last few years this variety is being experimented in Kashmir. This hybrid apple offers full potential produce from third year onwards. It was said, this season happens to be the first season in Kashmir to witness full potential produce from most of High Density apple orchards. Further, they have produced way beyond the expectations of the growers. One apple grower said, “produce from high density apple orchards is at least three times that of from similar size orchards of other jvariety”. This new variety came early, by first week of September, and has provided handsome profit to the growers. However, for apple traders (middlemen) this has created a situation of surplus supply.

Another factor is high temperature



and lack of rain in Valley floor, especially in South Kashmir. Due to this factor, traditional varieties of apples started ripening sooner. Apple collected from ground after falling from trees, are categories as “C type” and fetch very less money. Therefore, growers (especially in South Kashmir) started plucking their apples as soon they gained the desired reddish shade, at least two weeks before their anticipated time of harvest. This batch of apples, over and above the huge produce of ‘high density apples’, made the supply much more than the demand. This made growers sell apples in much low price to traders/ middlemen. Another grower said, apple boxes usually sold for 1200 (each), were even sold as low as 500 by the growers to middlemen to avoid further losses. However, apple growers are not unhappy as they still have made good money.

Coming to the road blockade this time- Due to heavy rains, land/ mud sliding and shooting stones, portions of NH 44 between Banihal and Udhampur

were in state of disuse for couple of days during mid- September. This blockade was due to nature's fury and authorities had no control over it. Despite best efforts, the restoration of the highway through such fragile mountains took days. Further, on opening of the highway, there were number of trapped vehicles with passengers waiting to cross over. This further increased the waiting time for apple laden trucks. But, accusing authorities to have done it deliberately is very unfair and seems vested interest driven.

Now, the aspect of Kashmiri middlemen. Many of these big traders are also owners of cold storage, a scarce infrastructure in Kashmir. These Kashmiri middlemen try to buy apple at the lowest price and sell at highest price to gain maximum profit. So, they very carefully choose the buying and selling time. Some growers even find these Kashmiri traders capable of creating artificial panic by spreading rumours of road blockade to bring the growers to sell their produce at much cheaper price.

The scarcely available infrastruc-

ture, Cold Storage, is the next aspect. During Mufti Syed's term as CM, many reforms were brought in for horticulture sector. Subsidy for cold-storages was one of them. Many influential personalities had subsequently availed the subsidy to construct cold-storage. Few are even suspected to have availed the subsidy without construction of any cold-storage. The total volume of cold-storage available is much below the demand, especially this year. To top it up there is huge mismanagement at such cold-storage facilities. To one's surprise, there are few storages with limited or no air-conditioning facilities. Many of the owners and the managers of these storage's behave like feudals. At the time of crisis, instead of helping apple grower or small traders, they mostly increase their storage charges. Many cold-storages observe two-three days of holiday per week. The loading and unloading speed at these storages is generally very slow, keeping in view the need. All of these cause extra long queue of apple laden trucks outside

each such cold-storage. Some suggest this further creates opportunities for the cold-storage owners to buy the apples from the waiting trucks at relatively cheaper price and store the same in their own storage for a suitable time of sale. Apart from financial losses to the smaller traders, such mismanagement at cold-storages, also leads to serious road traffic violations. Kashmiri businessmen and rich apple growers must realise that there is serious need of establishing more number of cold-storages and making their services more affordable.

Let's talk about fruit processing units in Kashmir. Unlike Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra, business community in Kashmir has not invested much in fruit processing units in Kashmir. As a result there are very few of them functional in Kashmir valley. Therefore, transportation blockade still remains a singular point of failure to the massive horticulture economy.

With modern insurance system, it is quite feasible to insure each truck load of apple moving towards Delhi, suitably including the clauses of perishing due to road blockade. The leaders of various apple growers or traders associations need to come up with suitable win-win insurance policies in this regard.

Finally, let's discuss the Himachal angle. Himachal was badly affected by rain, cloudburst and landslides this time. All form of transportation and communication were badly affected. The loses were much worse than that in Kashmir. Still, no such conspiracy theory came out of Himchal.

The theory of so called “apple conspiracy” is another eye opener for common Kashmiris to get over the Delhi-bashing syndrome and look within for shortcomings with an intent to bring in progressive change to the region. It's time to introspect such conspiracy theories based on ground realities and look at them without any historical, regional or political biases. May the blind appetite in Kashmir for conspiracy theories shrink for good.

The author, a PhD in Anthropology, is with a deep passion for writing. She over the years has developed keen interest in subjects like Armed Forces, National Security and J&K. X Handle: @ipsapat

Book Review

Mystic, Political, And Psychological Odyssey Into Forbidden Heart Of Kashmir

ADIL HUSSAIN

In “Cashmir, Bear's Throne,” acclaimed Kashmiri author Khwaja Farooq Renzushah returns with what can only be described as a monumental and unflinching exploration of Kashmir's mystic soul and tormented history. A literary architect of immense depth, Renzushah constructs not merely a narrative but an intricate labyrinth of memory, mythology, power, illusion, and resistance.

The prologue itself is a spellbinding prelude, T reading less like an introduction and more like an invocation—an incantation that beckons the reader into a world where history is both real and spectral, where tyrants wear the masks of mythical beasts, and where spirituality rises from beneath graves to confront the machinery of cruelty.

Thematic depth; unmasking the “bear's Throne”

The titular “Bear's Throne” is more than a metaphor; it is the axis of power and fear, of a dark seat occupied by shifting dynasties of despots who have, across centuries, subjugated Kashmir's “cattle class.” These “bears” and their “gangs” of centuries old suppressed class, are symbolic embodiments of tyrannical forces—be they local despots, Mongol invaders, ideological oppressors, or modern political structures that seek to control human spirit through fear and manipulation.

Renzushah courageously names and layers these archetypes: Padsha's, Qayed's, Parraihiy's, Kings and other grotesque figures who sit in their “Paap houses” while history burns around them. Through this lens, Kashmir's tragedy is not a single political event but a continuum of cycles—each era merely donning new masks but replaying the same cruelty.

The “broken Prism” metaphor beautifully captures the author's vision: the truth of Kashmir, fragmented and refracted through centu-

ries of violence and suppression, must be pieced together by readers willing to see through illusions.

Myth, History & Illusion: A Unique Literary Fusion

Renzushah's prose is dense, poetic, and fiercely allegorical. He collapses time, merging past and present, myth and fact, faith and brutality, into a single narrative stream. Historical references—Genghis Khan, Hulaqu Khan, Adolf Hitler, and the mystery of Rozabal—are interwoven with fictional characters such as Azeem, Aali Shah, Parraihiy Kingi, and Mumma Jawan.

The result is a hallucinatory realism that blurs the boundary between fiction and history. Renzushah does not present history as a sterile record; he resurrects it—makes it breathe, bleed, and roar. His description of rivers turning “black and red with ink of books and blood of humans,” or vultures hovering over Chattabal Veer as human bones are scattered in the wind, are images that fuse the physical and the symbolic into unforgettable scenes.

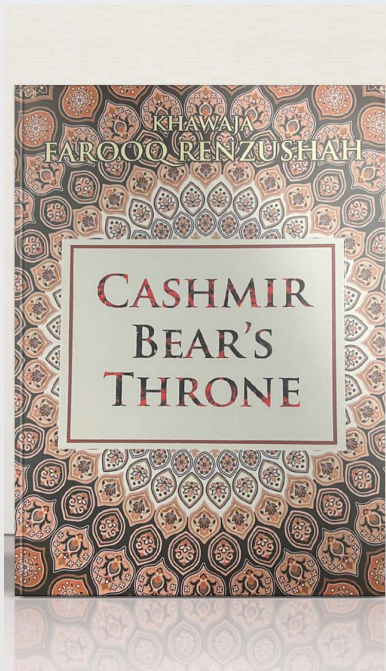
The presence of spiritual forces—voices echoing from Zabarwan Hills, souls emerging from Malkhah Cemetery, the mystic light overpowering the darkness of despots—imbues the work with Sufi mysticism. Spirituality here is not passive but a force of renaissance, confronting the empire of “bears.”

Characters: Shadows, Symbols, and Souls

Each character in this novel seems to wear a double face: one anchored in the brutal realities of political power, and another in the shifting illusions of myth.

Azeem, the elusive hero, emerges as the spiritual counterforce—a figure of conscience, perhaps a collective soul of Kashmir, perhaps an invisible social revolutionary.

The tyrants—Padshah, Qayed, Parraihiy Kingi—are composites of power



structures, their faces flickering like projections from dynastic archives.

Female characters Tarana, Zooni, and Nazneen are striking figures who embody not fragility but the raw, visceral suffering of the valley. Their depiction against the nightmarish imagery of vultures and Jehlum's waters gives the novel some of its most haunting moments.

What makes these characters extraordinary is how intentionally ambiguous they are. Renzushah writes them not as flat personalities but as living metaphors—ghosts of history and witnesses of truth.

Narrative Technique and Language

The language of the prologue itself is richly poetic and evocative, sometimes overwhelming, always deliberate. Renzushah's sentences are long, immersive, and often surge like river currents. The effect is that the reader does not simply read; they are swept into the current of a narrative that

refuses to be simplified.

His fusion of mysticism, historical fact, and imaginative fiction resembles magical realism, but with a distinctly Kashmiri soul. The reference to Hitler's rumored presence, Victor Rozanthal's sapphire footprints, and Moheeti of Xinjing's disappearance—all tied to Kashmir's hidden geography—creates an aura of a geopolitical thriller, wrapped inside a spiritual allegory.

Historical and Political Underpinnings

One of the most striking features of the novel is how it unveils hidden chapters of Kashmir that have been obscured by both oppressors and their native human garbage. The “cattle class” metaphor reflects the dehumanization of ordinary people under successive regimes—invaders, monarchs, and modern powers alike.

By naming Hulaqu Khan, Subuktigin, Czars, and Nazis, Renzushah connects local oppression of Afghan occupation of Kashmir to a wider global history of tyranny, suggesting that what Kashmir endured is part of a larger civilizational pattern.

Spirituality as Renaissance

Perhaps the most powerful undercurrent of Cashmir, Bear's Throne is the triumph of spirituality. The author's personal experiences—hearing voices on Zabarwan, watching vultures, being “bitten by serpents” of power—are not melodramatic flourishes but spiritual confessions.

His faith in mysticism and divine justice leads him to a literary revolt against all forces of darkness. Where history wrote of power, Renzushah writes of souls. Where despots built thrones, he builds memory.

Emotional Impact

Reading this novel is not a casual experience—it is an emotional immersion. Renzushah makes no effort to cushion the reader from horror. He wants you to feel Jehlum's tears, to hear the cracking bones, to see the illusions collapsing like glass walls.

The prologue warns the reader that the story will pierce their soul—and it likely will. Yet, amid this darkness, there's an unmistakable glow of hope, a belief that truth eventually emerges from smoke.

Literary and Cultural Significance

With this work, Renzushah cements his place as one of the few Kashmiri voices who dares to blend fiction with uncomfortable truths of history and politics. His approach is reminiscent of epic storytellers and mystic chroniclers who speak in symbols to bypass the censorship of tyrants.

The book is both a cultural document and a literary rebellion—a contribution to Kashmiri literature that resonates beyond its borders. It invites global readers to witness Kashmir not as a political headline but as a living, wounded, and spiritual landscape.

Conclusion: A Monument of Mystic Realism

“Cashmir, Bear's Throne” is not a simple novel—it is a tempest, a mirror, and a prayer. It reflects the haunted history of Kashmir, exposes the masks of power, and celebrates the indestructible spirit of its people.

Khwaja Farooq Renzushah has given us a work that dares to peel back the shrouds of myth and tyranny. His broken prism shines with painful but necessary light.

For readers who seek literature that challenges, unsettles, and enlightens, this novel is indispensable. It belongs to the category of works that are not just read—they are experienced, remembered, and felt.

Genre: Mystic Realism | Historical Fiction | Political Allegory

Recommended for: Lovers of literary fiction, students of Kashmiri history and culture, political thinkers, mystics, and readers who believe stories can reveal forbidden truths.

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Normalcy Restored In

to the region’s progress, Kavinder Gupta called upon all sections of society to work with renewed energy for the development and prosperity of Ladakh. He reiterated the administration’s commitment to ensuring equitable growth across all sectors — education, health, infrastructure, and employment — with special focus on youth empowerment and sustainable tourism.

The Lt Governor also assured that the administration remains fully committed to addressing public concerns and ensuring that every measure taken is people-centric and transparent.

Kavinder Gupta further urged citizens to remain vigilant, continue supporting law and order, and actively participate in the development initiatives being undertaken by the administration to ensure a prosperous and secure future for Ladakh—(KNO)

Amit Shah Reviews

the critical role of all security agencies in working in close coordination and maintaining utmost vigilance to completely eradicate terrorism from the region.

Pertinently, the Union Home Minister during his visit to Jammu last month chaired a comprehensive security review meeting and had reiterated the Central Government’s unwavering zero-tolerance policy against terrorism under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Shah had arrived in Kashmir soon after the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead, and directed the security agencies to deal with the terrorists and their supporters with a “heavy hand.”

He had visited Baisaran Valley in Pahalgam, a terror attack site, also.

Post Pahalgam terror attack continuous operations have been going on to dismantle the terror network in Jammu and Kashmir and efforts are on to ensure that tourism returns to normal—(KNO)

Govt Orders Transfer,

Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department. Musheer Ahmed, Mission Director, ICDS, J&K, has been posted as Special Secretary, Transport Department. Rakesh Kumar Sran-gal, Managing Director, J&K Road Transport Corporation, has been posted as Special Sec- retary, Finance Department, while Abdul Rashid War, awaiting adjustment, will take over as Managing Director, J&K Road Trans- port Corporation.

Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar, Vice- Chairman, LCMA, and holding additional charge of CEO, WUCMA, has been posted as Director, Hospitality and Protocol. Ravi Shankar Sharma, Special Secretary in the Agriculture Production Department, has been transferred to the Department of Disas- ter Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction as Special Secretary. Man- isha Sarin, Director, Urban Local Bodies, Jammu, has been posted as Special Secre- tary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. Purnima Mittal, Special Secretary in the Cooperatives Department, has been posted as Managing Director, J&K Women’s Devel- opment Corporation.

Haris Ahmad Handoo, Special Secretary in the Chief Minister’s Secretariat, will hold additional charge as Director SKICC and Secretary, Royal Springs Golf Course. Ash- wani Khajuria, Director, Hospitality & Pro- tocol, has been transferred and will await further orders in the General Administra- tion Department. Kapil Sharma, Managing Director, J&K Medical Supplies Corpora- tion, has been posted as Director, Urban Local Bodies, Jammu. Tariq Hussain Ganai, Director General, Estates, Kashmir, with additional charge of Estates Jammu, will also hold the charge of Managing Direc- tor, Medical Supplies Corporation. Rakesh Kumar, Registrar, J&K Special Tribunal, has been posted as Regional Director, Survey and Land Records (Ex-Officio Settlement Officer), Rajouri. Rajinder Singh, Addi- tional District Development Commissioner, Udhampur, is now Special Secretary to the Agriculture Production Department. Ulfat Jabeen, Managing Director, J&K Women’s Development Corporation, is posted as Special Secretary to the Government.

Anju Gupta, Special Secretary in the Hous- ing and Urban Development Department, has been posted as Additional Transport Com- missioner. Naseer Ahmad Wani, Special Secre- tary, Public Works Department, will become Director, School Education Kashmir, after the retirement of Ghulam Nabi Itoo on October 31, 2025. Malikzada Sheraz ul Haq, Special Secre- tary, Culture Department, is now Additional District Development Commissioner, Rajouri.

Ghulam Rasool, awaiting orders in the General Administration Department, is posted as Special Secretary, Revenue Depart- ment. Ranjeet Singh, Managing Director, SC, ST and OBC Development Corporation, is posted as Director, Social Welfare, Jammu, while retaining his previous charge. Jugal Kishore, Secretary, Socially and Education- ally Backward Classes Commission, is posted as Additional District Development Commis- sioner, Udhampur.

Arun Kishore Kotwal, Additional Trans- port Commissioner, is posted as Special Secretary, Finance Department. Basharat Hussain, Additional Secretary, Tourism Department, is now CEO/Secretary, J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board. Devin- der Singh Katoch, CEO, Surinsar-Mansar Tourism Development Authority, is posted as Administrator, Government Medical Col- lege, Udhampur.

Vinod Kumar Behnal, Joint Director, ICDS, Social Welfare Department, is posted as Additional District Development Commis- sioner, Kishtwar, relieving Pawan Kumar of additional charge. Parvez Sajad Ganai, Joint Director, Handicrafts Kashmir, is now Spe-

cial Secretary, Culture Department. Ishfaq Ahmad, Executive Director, J&K Rehabilita- tion Council, has been posted as Managing Director, J&K Projects Construction Corpora- tion Ltd. Jahangir Hashmi, Programme Officer, ICDS Project Ramban, has been posted as Registrar, District Kulgam.

Tazayun Mukhtar, IKAS, Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive), Kashmir, is transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Urban Development Agency, Kash- mir. She shall also hold the charge of Mis- sion Director, DJAY, in addition to her own duties, till further orders. Jagdish Chander, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer/Secretary, J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board, under orders of transfer as Additional Secretary to the Government, Housing and Urban Devel- opment Department, is posted as Joint Direc- tor, Education, Udhampur/Reasi.

Veveik Puri, JKAS, Joint Director, Infor- mation (Hqr) in the Directorate of Infor- mation, J&K, is transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Develop- ment Authority, Surinsar-Mansar. Tabassum Shafat Kamili, IKAS, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Appeals), Srinagar, is trans- ferred and posted as Deputy Excise Com- missioner (Executive), Kashmir. Moham- mad Syed Khan, JKAS, Additional Secre- tary to the Government, Public Works (R&B) Department, is transferred and posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Kathua, against an available vacancy.

Ghulam Nabi That, JKAS, Additional Sec- retary to the Government, Revenue Depart- ment, is transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Agriculture Production Department. Zahoot Ahmad Raina, IKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Anantnag, is transferred and posted as Joint Director, Information (Hqr) in the Directorate of Information, J&K. Navdeep Wazir, IKAS, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Judicial, is transferred and posted as General Manager, DIC, Reasi, against an available vacancy. Dhirender Sharma, JKAS, Joint Director, Education, Udhampur/Reasi, is transferred and posted as Additional Sec- retary to the Government, Housing and Urban Development Department. Jatinder Mishra, IKAS, Deputy Director in the Direc- torate of Youth Services and Sports, J&K, is transferred and posted as Sub-Registrar Akhnoor.

Joginder Singh Jasrotia, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Bhaderwah, is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Enforcement), Kathua, against an available vacancy. Supriya Kohli, JKAS, Deputy Direc- tor, Information (KBI), New Delhi, is trans- ferred and posted as Additional Secretary in the Resident Commission, J&K Government, New Delhi. Naem ul Nisa, JKAS, Project Officer, IWMP, Poonch, is transferred and posted as General Manager, DIC, Poonch. Rakesh Kumar-II, IKAS, Deputy District Election Officer, Reasi, is transferred and posted as Secretary, J&K Socially & Edu- cationally Backward Classes Commission.

Suhail-ul-Islam, IKAS, Secretary, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, is posted as Joint Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Cor- poration. One post from the overall cadre strength of Selection Grade of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Department is transferred to Srinagar Municipal Corpora- tion for drawal of salary of the officer. Sartaj Hussain, JKAS, Joint Director (Administra- tion) in the Directorate of Rural Develop- ment, Kashmir, holding additional charge of Deputy Director, Estates, Kashmir, is trans- ferred and posted as Officer on Special Duty with the Hon’ble Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Science & Technology, Information Tech- nology, Youth Services and Sports, and ARI & Tanveer ul Majid Wani, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Admin- istration Department, is posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Public Works (R&B) Department.

Mohd. Ashfaq, JKAS, Assistant Com- missioner Panchayat, Ramban, is transferred and posted as Joint Director, Education, Doda, against an available vacancy. Vikas Dhar Bagati, JKAS, Registrar, District Kathua, is transferred and posted as Addi- tional Secretary to the Government, Tourism Department. Zahida, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Development Agency, Kash- mir, is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Appeals-I), Srinagar. Shavi, JKAS, Deputy Director, Hand- loom, Jammu, is transferred and posted as Joint Director, ICDS, Social Welfare Depart- ment. Deebah Khalid Peer, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner, Panchayat, Srinagar, is transferred and posted as Joint Director, Handicrafts, Kashmir.

Sanna Khan, JKAS, Deputy Director (Administration) in the Directorate of Social Welfare, Jammu, is transferred and posted as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Judicial. Ahsan-ul-Haq Chisti, JKAS, Deputy Director, Information (PR), Srinagar, is transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tour- ism Development Authority, Wullar-Manas- bal. Sheeba Inayat, JKAS, Deputy Director, District Employment & Counselling Centre, Srinagar, is transferred and posted as Devel- opment Officer, Handicrafts (Textiles), Kash- mir, against an available vacancy. Abid Iqbal Malik, JKAS, Deputy Director, Tourism, Kashmir, is transferred and posted as Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Pulwama.

Peerzada Farhat Ahmed, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Pulwama, is transferred and posted as Assistant Com- missioner (General), Srinagar, against an available vacancy. Muzaffar Ahmad Sheikh, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Kupwara, is transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Shop- ian. He shall also hold the charge of Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Shopian, in addition to his own duties, till further orders. Tariq Ahmad Reshi, JKAS, District Mineral Officer, Anantnag, is transferred and posted as Project Officer, Wage Employ- ment (ACD), Srinagar, against an available

vacancy.

Suheel Ahmad Lone is posted as Deputy Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, while Mohd. Rafiq is posted as Sub-Registrar, Thanamandi. Rafiq Ahmad is transferred as Project Officer, Wage Employment, Samba. Sheraz Ahmad moves to Assistant Commis- sioner Panchayat, Ramban with additional charge. Showkat Ahmad Bhat is posted as Sub-Registrar, Pahalgam with additional charge of Anantnag. Mohd. Hanief is posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Poonch. Shubi Tabassum becomes Deputy Direc- tor, District Employment Centre, Srinagar. Abdul Jabbar is transferred to Associated Hospitals, Jammu. Mushtaq Ahmad Yaq- doomi moves to Directorate of Social Wel- fare, Kashmir. Asif Amin Chandel is posted in Science & Technology Department, while Harvinder Singh is shifted to Handicrafts, Jammu. Babu Pardeep Kumar is posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Udhampur.

Arshad Qadir Bhat, Tej Krishan Koul, Ajit Kumar, Allaz Ali Lone, Neeraj Sharma, Sakhi Mohd. Khan, Mohammad Altaf Rather, and Sunil Dutt are posted in various Panchayat, Tax, and Tribal Affairs roles.

Angel Kotwal is transferred to Youth Services and Sports; Pankaj Sasan to Tour- ism; Shruti Bhardwai to Information, New Delhi. Several private secretaries, including Ghulam Rasool Mir, Ghulam Mohd. Khan, Babeeta Kumari, Mohd. Rafiq Zuilah, Sajid Rashid Bhat, and Arshada Akhter are moved to Panchayat and developmental roles. Raman Kumar and Braham Rai are posted in Social Welfare and Hospitality & Proto- col. Muneer Ahmad Khan becomes Secre- tary, LCMA. Amit Singh Manhas and Sana Khan are posted with Deputy CM and SSB respectively. Mohsin Mushtaq is posted as Haj Officer.

Amil Khateeb and Sahil Bhagotra’s servic- es are placed at the disposal of Employment and Social Welfare Departments.

Other officers including Mohd. Arshad, Alka Misra, Shivani Deonia, Muzammil Hassan Choudhary, Faisal Nazir, Farhat Naz Choudhary, Mohammad Arif Sheikh, Manish Sudan, Mohammad Shafi Lone, Ghulam Rasool Mir, Saroj Khah, and Rajinder Kumar are transferred to various administrative, estates, tribal, aviation, and information roles.

Blitz Over Private

the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the normal attitude of the gov- ernment is that they don’t allow such bills to pass. “In a few cases, they had allowed it to be passed-long, long ago. That was in the 1950s and 1960s. The passage of a bill depends on the attitude of the government, as it holds a majority in the House,” he said.

He said the normal attitude of the gov- ernment is that they advise the members to withdraw the bills. “Normally, the govern- ment doesn’t allow it. The point is that if an opposition member moves a bill and the government allows it to become a law, the member gets all the credit for that, not the government,” he said.

He said the government normally advises the members to withdraw the bill so that the government can bring a comprehensive bill.

“A private member’s bill may not be very comprehensive; there may be very skeletal provisions in it. The private member doesn’t have the technical expertise to draft a very comprehensive bill. It can be done only by the government. That advice is okay, and the government is right in giving it,” he said.

Veteran politician and MLA from Bandipora, Nizamuddin Bhat, said the government always likes laws to be passed through them. “If a private member’s bill is in the public interest and suits their interests, they can allow its passage,” he said. He said such bills have been rarely passed in the House. “A private member is an individual member. He cannot carry the entire House with him,” he said.

The bigger question is whether the bills submitted for the session starting on October 23 will be introduced in the House.

Officials well-versed with the legislative process said that the chances of their intro- duction on October 28-the day reserved for Private Member Bills—are almost impossible given that 33 bills from the budget session are already pending with the Assembly Sec- retariat.

“The Private Member Bills would be listed in business in the order in which the notices were received. Since 33 private member bills are pending, they will get preference in the list of business for that day in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in J&K Legislative Assembly,” he said.

He added that all the bills submitted for during the last budget session, as well as those submitted for the upcoming session, will be listed in the business of the House on that day.

“Given past functioning of the House, only 10 to 12 bills are likely to be taken up for introduction in the House,” he said, adding that the bills which are not taken up will remain active.

He further said that the bills do not lapse with the prorogation of the House; they lapse only upon its dissolution—(KNO)

Craftsman Manzoor Khan’s

an award,” he said. The time-intensive process is not for the faint of heart. The meticulous weaving process demands skill, patience, and unwavering attention to detail, which is why Khan’s work stands out.

Despite his success and talent, Khan is deeply concerned about the future of carpet weaving in the region. Over the years, he has taught the craft to over 100 people, but many have abandoned the art, discouraged by the economic realities of the profession.

“The workers don’t get what they truly deserve,” he lamented. “Even if a carpet worker spends 10 hours a day working, they’ll only earn around Rs 200, which is hardly enough to survive in today’s economy,

especially with inflation at an all-time high.”

According to Khan, the situation is dire for many skilled artisans in the area. “There are some people still working in the Kandi areas, but it’s nearly extinct in Srinagar and the plains,” he explained. “The younger gen- eration is not interested in continuing this work. My own children refuse to learn the craft because they know it won’t provide a sustainable livelihood.”

Manzoor said the government has taken some steps to help, but much more needs to be done urgently. “This craft is dying, and if something isn’t done soon, we could lose it forever,” he said.

He suggested that the government could help revive the industry by providing better compensation to workers and offering train- ing programmes to encourage younger gen- erations to take up the craft.

Despite his advancing age and ongoing health issues, Khan remains dedicated to his craft. He acknowledged that his health pre- vents him from working at the same pace he once did, but he still tries his best to create.

“I’m not able to work like I used to, but I’m doing my best to keep the tradition alive. I am grateful for the recognition I’ve received, and I’m working towards applying for a national award as well,” he added.

Khan’s resilience and passion for his art serve as a reminder of the dedication it takes to preserve cultural heritage. However, with the ongoing struggles he faces, it’s clear that without substantial support, the craft of carpet weaving—once a symbol of Kashmiri artistry—may fade into obscurity—(KNO)

CS For Giving Strategic

and branding. The focus should be on sci- entific processing and value addition that can yield high-demand products and sustain- able livelihoods. He urged local entrepre- neurs to unlock the potential of the region’s dairy and livestock sectors for finding the gainful employment.

While speaking in this meeting the ACS, APD, Shailendra Kumar, gave a compre- hensive overview of the present status and con- sumption patterns of milk and mutton in J&K. He noted that dairy products form part of the daily diet across the UT, while mutton consumption is among the highest in the country, creating steady market demand.

The department, he said, has assessed the existing gaps and devised a roadmap to enhance both production and value addition over the next few years.

As per the presentation given by the depart- ment, J&K produces 28.75 lakh metric tonnes of milk annually, with a per capita availabil- ity of 577 grams per day, which is higher than the national average of 471 grams. However, only about 4% of milk production is cur- rently organized, accounting for just 4% of the local production. The department aims to bring at least 20% of production under the organized sector within the next 5–7 years, the meeting was apprised.

To achieve this target, the department plans to expand Artificial Insemination (AI) coverage, secure High Genetic Merit (HGM) bulls, establish facilities for sexed semen, and address fodder deficit issues through scientific feeding practices.

Moreover around 1,600 “PashuSakhis” (Maitris) have already been engaged to extend AI services at the grassroots level, while two semen stations are being estab- lished in the UT. The department is also in the process of procuring 40 HGM bulls from the USA and setting up milk processing and chilling units in every district.

In terms of mutton production, it was informed that J&K currently has 43.68 lakh sheep and 22.5 lakh goats, producing about 370 lakh kilograms of meat and 80 lakh kilograms of wool annually, against a local demand of around 545 lakh kilograms of meat here.

To bridge this gap, the department is pur- suing advanced breeding interventions such as Embryo Transfer Technology (ETT) and Multiple Ovulation and Embryo Transfer (MOET) to accelerate genetic improvement.

Plans are also underway to establish Embryo Generation Labs with a target of producing 6,000 embryos annually, develop facilities for cryopreservation, and set up ETT laboratories in every district. Capacity- building programmes for veterinarians and para-veterinarians are also being rolled out to ensure effective implementation at the field level.

The Chief Secretary encouraged the Agri- culture Production Department for its pro- active initiatives and directed it to work in mission mode to transform both dairy and sheep husbandry sectors into engines of rural growth and employment generation.

PM Modi, Starmer

platforms.

The leaders also agreed to proceed through a government-to-government route for an initial supply of Lightweight Multirole Mis- sile systems to India. This step is aimed at strengthening India’s air defence capabil- ity and supporting long-term cooperation in complex weapons development between the two countries.

On global issues, the two Prime Ministers affirmed support for peace and a rules-based international order. The UK reiterated its support for India’s bid for permanent mem- bership in a reformed United Nations Secu- rity Council. They expressed support for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Ukraine based on international law and the UN Char- ter—(KNO)

J&K, Ladakh Likely To

nearly 200 Megawatts amid dip in mercury. An official had said that KPDCCL has wit- nessed an additional demand of nearly 200 MW of power in the past two days—(KNO)

NIT launches ABC Program under eminent alumni lecture series

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar has launched a new initiative titled the Alumni Back to Classroom (ABC) Program under the banner of its Eminent Alumni Lecture Series (EALS), aimed at deepening alumni engagement and promoting the exchange of real-world industry knowledge with students and faculty.

The program opens the doors of NIT classrooms to distinguished alumni, encouraging them to share their professional experiences, technical expertise, and global perspectives.

The initiative reflects one of the key objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020—to bridge the gap between academia and industry and foster holistic education.

The first phase of the program has begun with a seminar on “GRIHA Certification for Green Buildings.”

The event was jointly organized by the Indian Building Congress (IBC) J&K Chapter, the Alumni Association, and a group of Civil Engineering students of NIT Srinagar under the coordination of Er. Aamir Ali, Er. Irfan Shafi and Dr. Dasari Karthik.

Two distinguished alumni delivered the inaugural lectures, Er. B. A. Dar, Managing Director, Green Technologies, and Batch Topper (Electrical



Engineering, 1996), and Er. Suhail Qadir, Electrical Engineer (Batch of 1990), is currently associated with Qatar Energy.

Both speakers shared insights into sustainable development, energy efficiency, and the global transition toward green technologies.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, described the initiative as “a significant milestone in nurturing a lifelong bond between alumni and their alma mater.”

“The Alumni Back to Classroom program not only strengthens our connection with accomplished alumni but also brings the latest industry trends and innovations directly to our students. This aligns perfectly with NIT Srinagar’s vision of producing globally competent engineers and innovators,” he said.

Registrar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, called the launch “a step toward experiential and transformative learning.”

“Our alumni carry a wealth of experience from

diverse industries across the globe. Their return to the classroom will create invaluable learning opportunities and inspire students to aim higher. It also builds a strong professional bridge between the institute and the world of practice,” he said.

Dean Alumni and International Affairs, Prof. M.A. Shah, who is spearheading the initiative, said the program embodies the spirit of giving back.

“EALS will be a continuous series throughout the year, featuring lectures, workshops, and mentorship sessions led by our global alumni. The idea is to make the classroom a space for dialogue between experience and aspiration,” he said.

Prof. Shah added that departmental coordinators will host more such sessions during SANGAM 2025, the Global Alumni Meet scheduled for October 10–11, 2025.

“Each lecture or workshop delivered by an alumnus will become part of the

legacy of NIT Srinagar’s growth and excellence,” he added.

The distinguished alumni will interact with students and faculty across departments. Alumni may also deliver one-credit evening courses, integrating their expertise into the academic curriculum. Alumni worldwide are invited to submit lecture proposals to daia@nitsri.ac.in.

Speakers will deliver their lectures at SANGAM 2025, including Mr. Aamir Ali Mir, Mr. Samiullah Beigh, Mr. Malay Chatterjee and Mr. Mir Irfan Ul Islam at Civil Engineering, Mr. Er Ramesh Ramakrishna, Mr. Sayyed Parvez Qalandar, and Mr. Deepesh Kaushish in Chemical Engineering.

Er B M Rao at Mechanical Engineering/Mechanical Engineering Dr. Arun Jaura at Mechanical Engineering, Mr. Saheel Alagband, Dr. Ajit Nair at Metallurgical & Materials Engineering, Mr. B. A. Dar, Mr. Junaid Akhtar, Mr. Mukund Kumar at Electrical Engineering, Mr. Masharib Gul Mufti, Mr. Mohd. Saleem Khan, Mr. Tahir Qazi at Electronics & Communication Engineering.

Prof. A. M. Wani at Computer Science Engineering, Mr. Tajamul Ashraf, Mr. Tahir Javed, Mr. Edgar Monis at Information Technology, Prof. Mr. Faizal at Physics, Prof. M. A. Sofi at Mathematics, Prof. Baskar at Chemistry, and Mr. R. A. Fani at HSS & Management.

Satish Sharma calls on Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma Thursday called on the Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi and held an extensive discussion on measures to strengthen sports infrastructure, enhance youth engagement, and promote athletic excellence in Jammu & Kashmir.

During the meeting, Satish Sharma presented a comprehensive memorandum to the Union Minister, reiterating the J&K Government’s commitment to transforming Jammu & Kashmir into a vibrant hub of sports and youth empowerment.

The memorandum detailed key proposals focusing on infrastructure development, athlete welfare, and grassroots participation aligned with the National Sports Policy 2025 and the J&K Sports Policy 2022.

Highlighting the significance of sports as a



medium for peace, unity, and integration, Satish Sharma said, “Jammu & Kashmir stands at a defining moment in its sporting journey. With the Centre’s continued support, we can channelize the energy of our youth, nurture their talent, and position J&K as a model of sporting excellence and national unity.”

The Minister sought the Union Government’s assistance in accelerating the development of world-class sports infrastructure, including the establishment of a National Winter Sports Centre of Excellence at Gulmarg, modernization of district

stadiums with all-weather facilities, and creation of sports amenities at the panchayat level to ensure equitable access for rural youth.

He also called for expanding Khelo India grassroots programs, enhancing scholarship and financial aid schemes for athletes, integrating sports science and physiotherapy into training systems, and promoting public-private partnerships for the management and maintenance of sports facilities.

To encourage sports-linked tourism and international exposure, Satish Sharma proposed the hosting of international winter

sports events at Gulmarg, which would position Jammu & Kashmir as a leading global destination for winter and adventure sports.

The Minister further requested the early release of ₹103.82 crore as proposed earlier for construction of critical sports infrastructure projects under Khelo India, enabling rapid execution of ongoing and planned initiatives. He also stressed the need for providing funds for promotion of sports in rural areas and funds be placed at each rural Panchayats of Jammu and Kashmir

Reaffirming the Jammu and Kashmir Government’s commitment, Satish Sharma said, “Under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah we are determined to build a robust, inclusive, and self-sustaining sports ecosystem that empowers our youth and strengthens the spirit of national integration.”

The Union Minister assured that soon policy for promoting sports in rural areas will be framed, besides funds for sports equipments will be provided.

AFC Asian Cup 2027 Qualifiers: Rahim Ali’s late strike rescues India in 1-1 draw against Singapore



SINGAPORE: Rahim Ali’s dramatic late equaliser helped India snatch a crucial point against Singapore in a tense 1-1 draw in their third-round clash of the AFC Asian Cup 2027 Qualifiers at the National Stadium in Kallang on Thursday.

The result saw India climb to third in the group standings with two points from three matches, while Singapore maintained their position at the top with five points. It was a contest that ebbed and flowed, defined by two decisive moments - one just before half-time, and another right before the final whistle.

Singapore, roared on by the home crowd, dominated possession early and looked more threatening in attack. Their persistence paid off in first-half stoppage time when Ikhsan Fandi broke the deadlock.

Fandi, who had also scored against India in their previous meeting in 2022, once again proved to be the difference-maker.

Linking up neatly with Shawal Anuar, the striker slotted past Gurpreet Singh Sandhu to give the hosts a deserved 1-0 lead.

Things took a turn for the worse for India soon after the break. Just two minutes into the second half, centre-back Sandesh Jhingan was shown a second yellow card for a late challenge, leaving India to play the remaining 43 minutes with ten men. The setback forced India to sit deeper, absorb pressure, and rely on counterattacks as Singapore pushed to extend their lead.

However, complacency crept into the hosts’ play late in the game, and India capitalised. Substitute Rahim Ali, who had been introduced to add fresh energy up front, kept pressing the Singapore backline and chasing loose balls.

His perseverance paid off in the 90th minute when a misjudged pass from Singapore goalkeeper Izwan Mahbud allowed Rahim to pounce. The forward calmly slotted into an empty net to score his first senior international goal, sparking wild celebrations among the Indian players.

The late equaliser ensured India avoided a second straight defeat in the campaign and kept their qualification hopes alive. The two sides will now renew their rivalry on October 14, when India hosts Singapore at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Goa - a match that could prove decisive in shaping Group C’s final standings.

Women's World Cup: Richa Ghosh's brilliant 94 lifts India to 251 against South Africa



IAN S

VISAKHAPATNAM: Richa Ghosh produced a masterclass in how to build an ODI innings, scoring a 76-ball 94, and with Sneha Rana coming up with a blazing cameo as India posted a challenging 251 all out against South Africa in Match 10 of the ICC Women’s ODI World Cup here on Thursday.

Coming in to bat with India reeling at 102/6, Richa blasted 11 fours and four sixes and raised 88 runs for the eighth wicket with Sneha to help India recover and post a fighting total. Richa scored the highest score by a batter coming at No.8 and gave the bowlers a total they could defend.

With brilliant hitting, wicketkeeper batter Richa and Sneha turned the tide in India’s favour as South Africa made hara-kiri of their bowling and fielding, putting down a few catches as Richa and Sneha fought back brilliantly. Richa virtually lifted India on her shoulders, absorbing the early pressure and then blasting some brilliant shots as India raised 98

runs in the last 10 overs.

Asked to bat first, Smriti Mandhana and Pratika Rawal gave India a good start, posting the best power-play score for the hosts in the World Cup, scoring 55 for no loss in the first 10 overs.

While Smriti was a bit circumspect following her twin failures so far, she managed to hit one four and India’s first six of the match, jumping down the pitch to hoist Ayabonga Khaka over her head. But got out attempting another big one just after the mandatory Power-play.

Her partner Pratika Rawal (37 off 56) added 28 runs with Harleen Deol before she too departed, picked by Tazmin Brits off Tumi Sekhukhune for another soft dismissal.

Harleen (13 off 23), skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (9), Jemimah Rodrigues (0) and Deepti Sharma all departed in quick procession to the dressing room as India slumped from 55 for no loss at the end of the 10th over to 102/6 at the halfway stage of the innings, all failing to apply themselves and adapt as the South Africans cut down on the pace.

Bumrah should be rested for 2nd Test as he is extremely valuable: Nayar

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Former India assistant coach Abhishek Nayar shared his thoughts on managing Jasprit Bumrah’s workload and opined that he should be rested for the second Test against the West Indies, set to begin on Friday in New Delhi.

Nayar also shared his views on KL Rahul’s approach, Dhruv Jurel’s maturity, Kuldeep Yadav’s impact, Yashasvi Jaiswal’s hunger, and the opportunity in the hands of Sai Sudharsan.

Notably, the selectors

rested Bumrah from the ODIs for the forthcoming white-ball tour of Australia and named him only in the T20I squad. Speaking to JioStar on the importance of Bumrah’s workload management and opining on why he shouldn’t play the final Test against the Windies.

“I think Bumrah is going to play this Test. The way the team has been selected without Bumrah for the ODI series against Australia, it seems India wants to win this test against the West Indies with a good margin, which is important for the

WTC. Personally, I believe Bumrah should be rested because he’s extremely valuable. After this series, we have another Test series and then the T20 World Cup. I’d like to see him get some rest, but it looks like he won’t and will play this match,” he said.

Rahul notched up a ton in the first Test at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad and will be eager to make it two in two. Speaking about his approach, Nayar added, “KL Rahul knows the Delhi pitch well and has scored over 500 runs in

the IPL. One of the biggest changes in him isn’t technical, but his approach; he’s playing with more intent now. In the last match, even though he scored a century after nine years, he looked disappointed, knowing he could’ve gone on to make 150–200. That hunger will not stop. Once KL gets going, he doesn’t stop.”

Alongside Rahul, Jurel also notched up a century against the Caribbean side. Nayar believes that the wicketkeeper-batter is ‘born for Test-level cricket’ and praised his style of run-scoring.

Friday
10th Oct.

INOX
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Movies Watch List

JOLLY LLB 3 (UA/6+)
HINDI - 05:05 PM

SUNNY SANSKARI KI TULSI KUMARI (UA/3+)
HINDI - 02:10 PM

KANTARA A LEGEND: CHAPTER I (UA/6+)
HINDI - 02:30 PM, 06:00 PM

TRON: ARES (UA/15+)
3D ENGLISH ATMOs WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
04:20 PM, 07:00 PM
3D HINDI ATMOs - 05:50 PM

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