

Good Morning

Kashmir

16th
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CM Reviews Readiness Of Integrated Mining Surveillance System

Calls For Implementation Of A Robust System In Mining Operations



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Wednesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Mining Department at the Civil Secretariat here to assess the department's modernization initiatives, regulatory framework, and ongoing reforms in mineral management and surveillance.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Mining Department Anil Kumar, Director Geology & Mining, all Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police, and other senior officers of the department.

During the meeting, the Additional Chief Secretary, Mining, gave a detailed presentation on the department's performance, highlighting technological advancements, regulatory reforms, exploration projects, and financial outcomes achieved in recent years.

A major highlight of the review was a presentation and live demonstration of the Integrated Mining Surveillance System (IMSS) — a digital initiative developed in collaboration with BISAG (Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics). The IMSS portal and mobile application provide real-time monitoring of mining activities through dashboards integrated with e-Challan and e-Market systems. This innovation aims to enhance transparency, accountability, and regulatory compliance in mineral operations across Jammu and Kashmir.

He informed the meeting that over 243 triggers have already been generated for field verification

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Terrorism Ingrained In Pakistan's DNA: LG

Meets Terror Victim Families In Kupwara, Addresses NoKs Of Terror Victims

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that right from its independence, Pakistan had made terrorism a part of its state policy, adding that the administration would act firmly against all elements of the terror ecosystem in the Union Territory.

LG Manoj Sinha met families of terror victims at Dardpora in Kupwara district, close to the Line of Control (LoC) in north Kashmir.

"I have assured the family members that their decades-long trauma, torment and suffering is over. We will ensure all the support so that they can reclaim their lives," the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing the families of civilian martyrs killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists. He also addressed terror victim families at Government Degree College Kupwara and assured the family members of proper rehabilitation and strictest punishment to the culprits.



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LG Visits Vajr Division's Roshan Mustaqbil In Kupwara

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Wednesday visited 'Roshan Mustaqbil', a youth empowerment centre at Zangli, run by Indian Army's Vajr Division to channelise local talent into education, skills and livelihood. He was accompanied by Maj Gen

K Mohan Nair, YSM, SM, General Officer Commanding, Vajr Division and other senior officers. The centre currently has over 690 youth

Judge This Govt After 5 Years Report Card: Dy CM

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary Wednesday reiterated that the present dispensation is fully committed to the overall development and welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He made these remarks during an extensive tour of Chanpora Constituency in Srinagar.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that the Omar Abdullah-led government is focused on ensuring equitable and sustainable development across all regions of the Jammu and Kashmir.

"People will judge this government after our five-year report card," he asserted.

During his tour, the Deputy Chief Minister, accompanied by local legislator Mushtaq Ahmad Guroo,



inspected several ongoing developmental projects in the constituency.

The projects inspected include Community Centre Hyderpora, Marriage Hall Haranbal Natipora, Bailey Bridge project at Chanpora, as well as widening of Rawalpura-Mocho Road. He also reviewed the progress on the Bund Road project from Chanpora to Natipora Junction and other ongoing works across the constituency.

While inspecting the Community Centre

Cabinet Gives Its Nod For Introduction Of Three Key Bills In Assembly

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The cabinet on Wednesday gave its nod for introduction three key bills in the upcoming session of Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

Sources said that the cabinet gave its nod for amendments to the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 and the Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017, as well as for the enactment of the Jammu and Kashmir Shops and Business Establishment Bill, 2025.

According to sources, the amendment to the Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 proposes to raise the upper age limit for the State Election Commissioner (SEC) from 65 years to 70 years.

With the proposed amendment, the upper age limit would be enhanced to 70 years.

The government also gave its go ahead for the Jammu and Kashmir Shops and Business



Establishment Act-2025.

The proposed legislation mooted by the Labour & Employment Department aims at regulating working conditions, employment practices, and operational standards for shops and other business establishments in the Union Territory.

It also gave go-ahead for introduction of amendments in the Jammu and Kashmir Goods and Services Tax Act 2017.

The cabinet has also given nod for the removal of the qual-

ification requirement under the State Marriage Assistance Scheme. As per existing guidelines, a girl availing benefits of the scheme must be middle pass.

The cabinet has also given nod to in Schedule II of Jammu and Kashmir Engineering (Gazetted) Services Recruitment Rules 1978 which would pave the way for filling the posts of Chief Engineers and other higher-ups in different engineering departments.

It has been learnt that cabinet has given nod to

CS Reviews Roadmap For Mega Youth Engagement Programme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Thursday reviewed a detailed presentation by the Planning, Development & Monitoring Department on "Youth Engagement: Building Tomorrow's Leaders", which outlines an integrated framework aimed at empowering the youth of Jammu and Kashmir through sports, culture, education, entrepreneurship, and digital innovation.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Culture; Commissioner Secretaries of GAD, Youth Services & Sports, and Floriculture; Secretaries of School Education, Health & Medical Education, and Skill Development Departments; besides several other Heads of Departments and senior officers.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary termed the youth engagement programme a significant step towards nurturing creativity, innovation, and leadership among young people across the Union Territory.

He emphasized the need to make the initiative multidisciplinary so that every young person is engaged meaningfully in line with their individual talents and aspirations.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon departments including Youth Services & Sports, Culture, School Education, Higher Education, Health, Rural Development, and others to devise strategic departmental plans for engaging maximum youth across their respective sectors. He also directed the Deputy

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Pressure To Deliver Mounts As Omar-Led Govt Completes One Year In Office

People Await Progress On Manifesto Vows, Opposition Slams NC For 'Failure'

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: The pressure to deliver on the promises has been mounting for the ruling regime in Jammu and Kashmir as the National Conference (NC) government completed one year in office on Wednesday, while all the promises from one lakh jobs to free units of electricity and 12 gas cylinders remain unfulfilled.

On October 16, 2024, the first government in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, led by Omar Abdullah, assumed office here after the NC-Congress alliance secured an absolute majority in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, winning 48 seats. NC carried the alliance to victory by winning 42 seats, while Congress could



win only six seats.

The mood across Jammu and Kashmir is a mix of cautious hope and growing impatience.

Riding a wave of optimism, the NC swept to power last year, pledging 12 flagship promises made on the party's manifesto ahead of the 2024

Assembly elections.

Yet, as the government marks its first anniversary, many of those promises remain in the realm of rhetoric.

The ruling regime after taking over has kept its promise so far only on passing the resolution on

Private Schooling In J&K Costs Parents Over Rs 37,000



RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir, on an average a student of private senior secondary institute bears a cost of over Rs 37,000 on school expenditure during the current academic year.

Besides, the students of government secondary schools also spent over Rs 14,000 on school expenditure during the current academic year.

The official figures available, reveal that on an average, a senior secondary student in both rural and urban areas of Jammu and Kashmir reported spending of Rs 37,291 on school expenditure during the current academic year.

It also states that on an average the student government higher secondary spends at least Rs 14,652 on school expenditure during the current academic year.

Earlier in September, KNO reported that in Jammu and Kashmir, 87 percent of students are paying course fees in schools. However, on the contrary only 57.1 percent students pay such charges at the national level.

The official figures reveal that at least 87 percent of students reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrolment for Jammu and Kashmir including 89.3 percent among the male and 84.3 percent among

India Elected Unopposed To UN Human Rights Council For 2026-28 Term



GMK NEWS NETWORK

UNITED NATIONS: In a significant diplomatic affirmation, India has been elected unopposed to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for the 2026-28 term. This will be India's seventh term on the premier human rights body, underscoring its continued role in global human rights discourse.

The election was conducted Tuesday by the UN General Assembly. Following the announcement, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador P. Harish,

stated that the election is a testament to the country's "unwavering commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms."

In a social media post, Ambassador Harish expressed that India looks forward to serving this objective during its upcoming tenure. He also extended gratitude to all the member states for their "overwhelming support."

The UN Human Rights Council, headquartered in Geneva, is the principal UN body responsible for promoting and protecting human rights worldwide.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Marriage Turning Into A Burden, Not A Blessing

Marriage, once considered a sacred bond and the happiest occasion in Kashmiri life — has sadly turned into an unbearable burden for the average household. What was once a celebration of simplicity, purity, and togetherness has now been transformed into a contest of extravagance, showmanship, and borrowed customs. The rot began when alien trends crept into our society, eroding the modest foundations on which Kashmiri culture once stood proud. Lavish banquets, endless ceremonies, designer attire, and obsession with social media display have taken precedence over the essence of marriage, commitment, companionship, and shared values. The very institution meant to unite families is now dividing them through financial strain and social pressure. In the not-so-distant past, marriages in Kashmir were modest yet full of heart. Community participation and collective joy defined the celebration. Today, the race to outshine others has replaced that warmth. The cost of marriage has skyrocketed to the extent that parents spend their lifetime savings or fall into debt just to keep up appearances. For the middle and lower classes, it is nothing short of an ordeal. This cultural drift is not only draining resources but also striking at the moral fabric of Kashmiri society. The simplicity that once symbolized our identity is being replaced by pretentious extravagance borrowed from alien influences. Our younger generation must introspect before the situation worsens beyond repair. Marriage should not be a financial nightmare; it should remain a sacred, joyous union. Society and religious leaders must rise to the occasion and revive the traditional modesty of Kashmiri marriages — where contentment was valued more than display, and simplicity was a virtue, not a weakness. If corrective measures are not taken soon, this essential social institution may well lose its soul forever.

Nobel For The Power Of Creative Destruction Lacks Novelty



BHABANI SHANKAR NAYAK

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the 2025 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel (also known as the Nobel Prize in Economics) to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt “for having explained innovation-driven economic growth.” One half of the prize is awarded to Professor Joel Mokyr “for having identified the prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress,” and the other half is jointly awarded to Professor Philippe Aghion and Professor Peter Howitt “for the theory of sustained growth through creative destruction,” according to a press release from the Nobel Prize on 13th of October 2025. Ideologically, the three Nobel laureates in economics believe that the modern higher standard of living is a result of innovations made possible by free-market capitalism. They are also opposed to any idea of radical or revolutionary transformation of society, arguing that revolution cannot provide answers to the problems confronting people and the planet today. They contend that a better form of capitalism, grounded in creative destruction, can harness innovation to generate prosperity through technologically driven sustainable economic growth. However, such a myopic understanding of capitalism not only overlooks the inherent contradictions and conflicts within it—arising from its exploitative nature—but also conceals its failures and contemporary predicaments. This is not a case of willful ignorance on the part of the Nobel laureates, but rather a form of intellectual dishonesty based on a selective reading of history designed to promote an ideologically driven agenda that upholds capitalism at the expense of both people and the planet. There is nothing called better capitalism. Technological progress and innovation-driven sustainable and inclusive



economic growth through creative destruction have been shaped by the ideology of planned obsolescence, which breeds profit and plays a crucial role in the evolution from techno-feudalism to platform capitalism. American and European capitalism continue to conceal themselves behind the Schumpeterian notion of “creative destruction,” where new technological innovations replace old and outdated methods of production, thereby increasing productivity and driving economic growth. There is no doubt that technology enhances the productive power of labour, but what is truly creative is labor itself. Technology represents repetitive, lifeless labor that merely assists in the process of innovation, while working people and their creative capacities play the central role in economic growth, development and all forms of technological innovation. Any attempt to undermine labour and its creative power through technology ultimately undermines productivity, growth and all forms of innovation. Therefore, in the history of various stages of technological innovation, the current stage of technological advancement and digitalisation does not appear to be improving productivity as compared to 19th century and 20th century industrial revolution. Diane Coyle’s 2023 study, “Why Isn’t Digitalisation Improv-

ing Productivity Growth”? (Productivity Insights Paper No. 022, The Productivity Institute, Manchester, UK), highlights this digital puzzle. Similarly, a study titled “The Impact of Technology Diffusion on Growth and Productivity: Findings from an AI-Assisted Rapid Evidence Review” by the UK Government’s Department for Science, Innovation & Technology also reports a slowdown in productivity. It is therefore difficult to argue universally that technology diffusion necessarily leads to growth and productivity. In contrast, the Chinese economy does not suffer from the digital productivity puzzle and slowdown in economic growth, as it does not adhere to the ideology of planned obsolescence under the guise of creative destruction for the sake of capitalist economic growth and development. Capitalism and its so-called culture of creative destruction domesticate and exploit labour and its creative abilities through new technologies. Capitalism uses technology to undermine labour, giving rise to the productivity puzzle under digital capitalism. Therefore, the liberation of labour from capitalist structures is crucial to expanding the creative potential of both labor and technology, ensuring sustainable economic growth and development for all beyond the ideology of planned obsolescence in

the name of creative destruction. The humanisation and democratisation of technology—through collective ownership, operation, and management of its outputs—can alone ensure sustainable economic growth, technological progress, and innovation for all. The current form of technological progress and digital advancement benefits a few while marginalising many, giving rise to new forms of capitalism that inherently retain old exploitative characteristics of capitalism. It is impossible to have a truly prosperous society where a few enjoy abundance while the majority struggle to survive. Only if technological progress addresses the needs of all, we can then only imagine a fully flourish society that is free from destitution, exploitation, and inequality. There is no novelty in a Nobel Prize that does not contribute to an egalitarian society grounded in peace and prosperity—something that capitalism cannot provide, yet Nobel laureates continue to endorse it. The notions of “better capitalism” and “sustainable growth” are not only contradictory but also myopic and ahistorical. Therefore, there is no real novelty in awarding the Nobel for creative destruction.

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Racial Hatred: A Tragedy Of A Society Without Reason



DR. PRIYANKA SAURABH

The roots of Indian society go back thousands of years. But these roots also contain many knots that have divided humanity. The concept of caste may have initially served as a framework for social organization, but over time, it became a tool for injustice, discrimination, and exploitation. A hierarchical mentality divided society into classes, and this division shifted a person’s identity from their actions to their caste. When a society loses its moral conscience, it begins to accept injustice as normal. This is the biggest problem today. Casteism is so deeply ingrained in our psyche that people justify even injustice by viewing it as “favoring their own.” If a criminal belongs to one’s own caste, people assume he is innocent; and if the victim belongs to another caste, empathy for their pain vanishes. This is the point where humanity dies and casteism triumphs. Politics has kept casteism alive, and even fueled it. In every election, candidates are judged not on their merits but on their caste identity. Leaders know that caste mobilization is the foundation of their power, so they seek to keep society divided rather than united. Weaponizing caste for votes is a most dangerous trend, as this



division not only weakens the spirit of democracy but also sows distrust and hatred in the minds of generations. Education is the most powerful means to overcome racial prejudices. Unfortunately, even the spread of education often remains incomplete without equal opportunities. Until every class receives equal opportunities, equal platforms, and equal respect, the eradication of caste-based thinking is impossible. True education is that which empowers individuals to think independently and understand the suffering of others. The media is a mirror of society. But when the mirror itself becomes blurred, how

can the truth be seen? News of racial violence or discrimination is often presented from a political perspective, but it lacks human compassion. The media needs to become a medium of dialogue in society, not division. The fundamental duty of journalism is to expose the truth—even if it is against any caste, class, or religion. In every era, there have been cunning and devious individuals who exploit society’s weaknesses. Sometimes in the name of religion, sometimes caste, sometimes language—they divide us to secure their positions and power. We, the public, are spectators to their show. They perform, we clap—and the circus continues. If we truly want change, we must become judges, not spectators. Justice is truly meaningful only when it is administered without prejudice. Justice knows no color, religion, or caste. Society must move beyond the “us versus them” mentality and embrace the spirit of “justice for all.” This is the foundation of democracy. If every individual begins to think beyond caste, this change will be nothing short of a revolution. Casteism is not just a social problem, but a form of mental slavery. It makes us irrational, insensitive, and divided. The greatest demand of our time is

that we look within ourselves and understand that our true identity is not our caste, but our actions and our character. We must begin to break down the walls that have divided us for centuries. Only when society learns to stand up for justice—without regard to the caste of the victim or the perpetrator—can we truly say we have taken steps toward civilization. Otherwise, this caste circus will continue, and we will remain unwitting spectators.

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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

Vulgarity In The Name Of Education And Modernisation

RAQIF MAKHDOOMI

We used to proudly proclaim ourselves as the “Land of Sufis”. But now, look at us: we have become slaves to Western culture. Our Sufi saints are now limited to their anniversaries. We have shamelessly buried their teachings, yet we still claim to be their lovers. We are merely their celebrators, not their followers. Their anniversaries are celebrated, and we forget their teachings as soon as the night falls. What is happening today in the name of “modernisation” is completely against the teachings of the Sufi saints. Can we even imagine that the events unfolding today could ever have been in line with their teachings? No, never, for sure. We are normalizing vulgarity in the name of modernization.

The more educated this society becomes, the more vulgar we are and the more we lose our moral values. Education is meant to make a person disciplined and well-behaved, but we are seeing the opposite. The reason is that education is now a business. We see tuition centers with asset evaluations worth crores, and it has become a race. In that race, education has become the victim. We often see viral videos of professors teaching in online classes. They are nothing more than displays of vulgar gestures by the professors, and that is what has erased the line between teacher and student. The respect that teachers have lost is not because punishment is now considered an offense, but because education has become a business. The owners only want money and to gain subscribers on YouTube and followers on Instagram. In this pursuit, sanity has left, and insanity has become the new normal. We cannot put all the blame on the young generation. They have learned this behavior from somewhere, and it is we who have taught them.

Allama Iqbal [ra] is not only a poet. He was a revolutionary and a philosopher. When decoded, his poetry



proves to be a prediction of the era we are living in. His poetry has covered all spheres of life, and with education being an important part, he wrote: “Allah se kare dur, to taleem bhi fitna, Amal bhi, aulad bhi, jagir bhi fitna. Na-haq ke liye uthe to shamshair bhi fitna, Shamshair hi kya, naara-e-takbeer bhi fitna.”

[If you distance yourself from Allah, then even education is a fitna (trial/tribulation). If you rise up for the unjust, then even the sword is a fitna. Not only the sword, but even the slogan of Takbir is a fitna.]

We must ponder the depth to which Allama Iqbal [ra] went to discredit unjust actions. He did not hesitate to call fighting in the cause of Allah a fitna if it is for an unjust cause.

We often come across leaked call recordings between teachers and students, which only add to the vulgarity and do no good. These things spread like wildfire, with no one knowing where to stop. We do not realize the impact of a single share.

The tuition centers do not want you to be educated; they just want you to be literate and to qualify for exams so they can boast about it and gain more admissions next time.

I have often heard people cursing these tuition centers, but when it is their turn, they send their children to the same centers. They justify their actions by saying, “Education is important. If my child doesn’t study, how will they compete with the world?” When you ask them about the

reservations they had regarding these centers, they say, “My son/daughter won’t be influenced.” But they forget that while they had reservations about these centers because of the environment, they were accusing the other students. Those students are also children of parents who believe the same about their own children. We are very quick to criticize or curse something until we become part of it. The same thing becomes acceptable when we are involved. We close our eyes for our own benefit, but we forget that by doing so, we normalize the issue, leading to its spread and finally making it a part of our lives.

“The society of today is evil” is a very commonly used sentence in our discussions, but we forget that

this society is us. A favorite topic for older men is the “young generation,” but in these discussions, they forget they too have played a part in it. Their children are also part of this young generation.

When we discuss anything, we must introspect and consider the faults we pinpoint. We must ask what role we play, directly or indirectly. Only when we start doing this will our discussions become productive. It is already too late; we must stop normalizing vulgarity in the name of education.

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A Crumbling Education System

LALIT GARG

In India today, thousands of government and private schoolchildren are learning all subjects from a single teacher. According to the official data of the Ministry of Education for 2024–25, there are 1,04,125 schools across the country where only one teacher is responsible for teaching all classes and all subjects. This figure not only exposes the failure of our educational system but also presents an alarming and painful reality. It raises a grave question about the direction of our nation’s educational progress. Swami Vivekananda once said, “Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man. It is the very soul of a nation.” Today, his words echo like a lament across India, for when the soul of education is wounded, the body of the nation cannot remain healthy.

The education Ministry’s recent data reveals that nearly 3.4 million students are studying in these single-teacher schools. Andhra Pradesh tops the list, followed by Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Lakshadweep. India’s education budget is already meagre, and the inefficient utilization of those limited funds has turned into a form of corruption. There is no doubt that the decline in the standard of primary and secondary education is rooted in the neglect and apathy of policymakers. What kind of education are we giving to our children? How can we hope for a better future for them when a single teacher is expected to be an expert in science, mathematics, language, social studies, and English—all at once? Should that teacher spend time marking attendance, doing administrative work, or actually teaching?

The reality of single-teacher

schools exposes the hollowness of our so-called “developing India.” Even though the number of such schools has decreased by about 6 percent compared to last year, the sheer scale of the problem reflects a deep national tragedy. Imagine a teacher who has to manage administrative tasks, supervise the mid-day meal program, and simultaneously teach multiple classes. Can such a person truly remain a teacher—or does he become a burdened laborer under an unjust system? What kind of education can children receive from someone overwhelmed by fatigue, neglect, and lack of resources? This crisis is not limited to rural India. Even in urban and semi-urban areas, hundreds of schools lack subject specialists, laboratories, and basic teaching materials. The National Education Policy 2020 talks about holistic and inclusive education, but when the foundation itself is weak, policies remain mere documents—vision without implementation. We dream of a Developed India by 2047, but can a nation that still depends on single-teacher schools move in that direction? It is ironic that India, the country with the world’s largest youth population, fails to provide proper education to its children. Government spending on education is only 2.9% of GDP, compared to 5–6% in developed nations.

When education itself is not treated as an investment, how can development ever be sustained? The problem is not only about teacher numbers but also about recruitment, training, and resources. Teacher appointments remain pending for years; transfer policies are chaotic; and those already employed rarely receive training in modern pedagogy, digital education, or value-based teaching. This becomes even more paradoxical when we keep chanting slogans like “New



India,” “Developed India,” and “Vishwaguru Bharat.” Education must be recognized as a national priority—equal to defence and healthcare. Recruitment must be transparent and time-bound. Remote schools should be adequately staffed. Digital technology should be leveraged to bridge learning gaps. And most importantly, teachers must be respected not as employees but as nation-builders. Mahatma Gandhi once said, “If India is to attain true greatness, education must become human again.” Today, education has been reduced to a system of exams and employment, whereas its true purpose is character-building and awakening of consciousness.

If 3.4 million children depend on a single teacher, this is not merely an administrative failure—it is proof of our collective moral insensitivity. India will become truly developed only when every child

not just attends school, but also becomes truly educated. Otherwise, the anguish of the lone teacher will become the silent tragedy of India’s future. Teachers are like lamps—they burn themselves to bring light to others. But when the lamp stands alone, darkness becomes inevitable. The time has come to dispel that darkness, to renew our national resolve, and to remember that education is the foundation of the nation, and teachers are its architects.

One must pause to think—how can a single teacher teach every class in a school? What kind of learning can those students possibly achieve? True education aims at holistic development—not only intellectual but also physical, cultural, and emotional growth. But when there aren’t enough teachers, even basic classroom learning becomes a distant dream.

Education is not limited to textbooks; children need sports, cultural activities, yoga, and creative engagement to grow into complete human beings. Without teachers, these vital dimensions of education simply vanish. In truth, we are laying the foundation of a sick future, and on such weak foundations, no nation can stand strong. This neglect of education reflects the insensitivity of those in power. The corruption in teacher recruitment across states exposes the toxic culture prevailing in the education departments. How ironic it is that despite having a large pool of trained teachers, schools remain understaffed. One reason is that many teachers avoid postings in remote or hilly regions. Even when appointed, they quickly manage to get transferred to urban schools—often with political interference or bribery. Thus, city schools end up overstaffed, while rural schools are abandoned.

What a tragic irony—that while millions of unemployed youths stand in long queues looking for jobs, hundreds of thousands of teaching positions remain vacant. It is estimated that there are around 850,000 unfilled posts in primary and secondary schools. Our leaders proudly claim that India is the youngest nation in the world, but one must ask—what have they done for this frustrated, undereducated generation? Recruitment drives are rare, vacancies remain unfilled, and the dreams of our youth are left to rot. For a nation poised to become the world’s third-largest economy, such tragic and shameful realities should shake the conscience of every policymaker and political leader. By

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CM Reviews Readiness

through features such as vehicle tracking, GPS-enabled monitoring, PoS-linked e-challaning (integrated with J&K Bank), and on-the-spot enforcement to curb illegal mining.

While appreciating the initiative, the Chief Minister directed the developers to explore delineating and delegating PoS functions to expand the use of digital monitoring systems. He also called for integration of the department’s existing portal with the IMSS platform to ensure seamless implementation and improved results.

Omar Abdullah further suggested that the application should allow citizens to register complaints through mobile gadgets to be integrated in the system with satellite imagery or other evidence, strengthening public participation and grievance redressal.

The Chief Minister instructed the department to categorize active and non-active mineral vendors or suppliers and establish a dedicated monitoring cell at the Directorate level for continuous data tracking and real-time oversight.

Reviewing ongoing reforms under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) 2025-26, the Chief Minister was informed that the department has initiated a series of key measures aimed at strengthening institutional capacity and ensuring greater transparency in the mining sector. These include a shift towards an auction-based system for allocation of mineral blocks, introduction of mine closure and rehabilitation provisions, and the implementation of advanced survey and mapping mechanisms. The department has also operationalized the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) framework to ensure that mining revenues directly contribute to local area development and welfare initiatives.

Further, the meeting was informed, efforts are underway to revise royalty fee structure and penal provisions to align with current market realities while improving compliance.

The Mining Department has made the use of GPS-enabled transport and PoS-based transactions mandatory to track mineral movement and prevent leakages. Legal enforcement mechanisms have been reinforced through the requirement of royalty clearance certificates, in line with recent directions from the Hon’ble High Court, thereby tightening regulatory oversight and ensuring responsible mineral extraction practices.

The department also presented the status of major and minor mineral blocks, highlighting progress in auctioning and granting of mining leases across districts. The Chief Minister emphasized that all clearances and NoCs must be obtained in advance before blocks are allocated through auction to avoid procedural and operational delays faced by successful allottees & bidders who have to run from pillar to post in obtaining environmental and other clearances.

Speaking on the issue of illegal mining, Omar Abdullah underscored the need to eliminate collusion at lower levels of administration, asserting that illegal operations cannot persist without internal complicity.

“In my previous tenure, illegal mining was never a concern. With the technological tools now available, any such activity is only possible if there’s collusion at the lower level. The department must use these systems effectively to eliminate that possibility. The more we reduce such collusion, the lesser the chances of illegal mining,” the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister also reviewed exploration projects currently being carried out by MECL and GSI, covering sapphire, lithium, lignite, and shallow biogenic gas reserves in various districts. He was informed about ongoing exploration of granite, graphite, gypsum, copper, and base metals, supported by detailed geological mapping, drilling, and feasibility assessments.

He stressed on ensuring strict compliance with environmental regulations, particularly in eco-sensitive zones, while expanding mineral development activities in a sustainable manner.

The Chief Minister commended the Mining Department for adopting digital innovation and institutional reforms and urged continued focus on transparency, efficiency, and environmental responsibility in the sector.

Terrorism Ingrained

system will ensure perpetrators and elements of terror ecosystem are punished, providing a sense of justice and closure for victim’s family and the society.

He also observed that families of civilian martyrs have gone through deep trauma, suffered various challenges including unemployment and education and felt loss of hope in the past three decades.

"Families of civilians who were killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists also suffered systemic barriers which stifled their progress. They were denied their rights and access to resources. All obstacles are now removed and we are ensuring justice and dignity for terror victim families," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor paid homage to the civilians who were mercilessly killed by Pakistan sponsored terrorists in Jammu Kashmir. The families of terror victims also narrated their ordeal.

“It is difficult to articulate the pain and suffering of terror victim families due to their profound emotional and psychological trauma and the administration will handle each case with full sensitivity and responsibility.

So far around 250 terror victim families provided with government jobs. This mission will continue till justice is done to every affected family. This is the beginning of a new era of justice in Jammu Kashmir,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the High-range Rural Development

Society (HRDS India) and Divisional Commissioner Jammu and Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; under which the houses of terror victims having their own land will be constructed. Under the initiative, the HRDS India and Divisional Commissioners of both the divisions will identify terror victim families whose houses were destroyed by the terrorists.

The Lieutenant Governor said the culprit Pakistani terrorists and their support system in the valley ran a false narrative for three decades to absolve terror country Pakistan for its sins.

“Pakistan, breeding ground of terrorism, is exposed now and those involved in peddling a fake narrative on behalf of terrorists will be brought to justice,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Shri Anshul Garg; DIG NKR Baramulla, Shri Maqsood-Ul-Zaman; Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Shri Shrikant Balasaheb Suse; SSP Kupwara, Shri Syed Al-Tahir Gilani; Chairman, Save Youth Save Future Foundation, Shri Wajahat Farooq Bhat and other members of the Foundation, senior officials and family members of victims of terrorism were present.

LG Visits Vajr

enrolled, who are building a better future for themselves and the society.

The centre offers classrooms for competitive exam preparation, digital learning and computer labs, a library and reading room, tourism and hospitality training facility, and also entrepreneurship incubation with market linkages. The youth centre has turned out to be a place for amalgamation of sports, Kashmiri culture and modernity of outlook for a brighter future.

Roshan Mustaqbil has achieved notable success in a very short span of time and youth trained at the centre are getting placement across the country. The Centre has also fostered revenue generating startups, women's digital inclusion and strengthening national integration.

BJP Fields Devyani

jubilant BJP workers and supporters who celebrated the news with traditional dhol beats, she stated, “I would like to continue with my father’s winning streak. I have received a lot of love and blessings from the people, especially the youth, and the party. We are confident of winning. The work done over the past year has been appreciated by people. I intend to take forward the vision of Rana sahib for Nagrota.”

Emphasizing the enduring bond with the electorate, she added, “Nagrota will always remain with BJP. I am sure the voters will bless me with overwhelming support.”

The BJP's Central Election Committee (CEC) cleared Devyani's name alongside Aga Syed Mohsin for the Budgam seat in Kashmir, as confirmed in an official release from the party headquarters in New Delhi.

This decision overrides speculation around other contenders like Nand Kishore Sharma and Anil Sharma, banking instead on the sympathy wave generated by Devender Rana's passing.

The senior Rana had scripted history in the 2024 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections by securing a record 48,113 votes – the highest margin in the Union Territory at 30,472 votes – defeating National Conference (NC) candidate Joginder Singh.

A former NC loyalist, who defected to the BJP in 2021, Devender Rana had previously won the seat in 2014 on an NC ticket, under-scoring the constituency's volatile yet BJP-leaning dynamics since 1996.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Panthers Party (India) Chairman and former Minister Harsh Dev Singh on the same day issued a fervent appeal to the NC and Congress – allies in the ruling INDIA bloc – to back him as their consensus opposition candidate.

Positioning himself as a viable alternative to the BJP's “dynastic politics”, Singh argued that a united front was essential to counter the ruling party's dominance in Nagrota, a seat where the NC-Congress alliance had faltered in 2024 by fielding separate candidates.

In a statement shared via social media and addressed to NC president Farooq Abdullah and Congress leaders, Harsh Dev Singh said, “I make a strong appeal to the National Conference (NC) and Congress to support me as the consensus candidate from the INDIA Alliance in the upcoming Nagrota assembly by-poll elections. The people of Nagrota deserve a united opposition voice against the BJP's machinery, not fragmented efforts that dilute our strength. Let us set aside differences for the greater good of democracy and the aspirations of the youth and marginalized sections in our constituency.”

Singh, a two-time former MLA from the Ramnagar (now reserved post-delimitation), highlighted his grassroots connect with people during the tenure as Education Minister in Mufti Sayeed's government during 2002-2006.

He cautioned that without unity, the bypoll could reinforce BJP's grip, potentially at the expense of the coalition's broader agenda on statehood restoration and regional equity.

The appeal comes amid reported strains within the NC-Congress partnership, which failed to consolidate votes in Nagrota during the last polls – NC's Joginder Singh polled 17,641 votes, while Congress's Balbir Singh managed 5,979.

Neither the NC nor Congress has announced its candidate yet, leaving room for Singh's overture.

Political analysts view this as a tactical bid by the Panthers Party leader to exploit alliance fissures, especially as the bypoll serves as a litmus test for the ruling coalition's cohesion post the 2024 elections.

Nagrota, encompassing parts of Jammu district with a diverse voter base including urban professionals, farmers, and ex-servicemen, remains a prestige battleground.

The BJP's 2024 triumph here was pivotal in

its Jammu sweep, contrasting with the NC's Valley dominance.

With counting slated for November 14, the bypoll – alongside Budgam – is expected to draw national attention, gauging public mood on governance, development, and the push for J&K's full statehood.

As campaigns gear up, Devyani Rana's camp is already mobilizing on themes of continuity and progress, while Harsh Dev Singh's plea underscores the opposition's high-wire act—(KNO)

Judge This Govt

Hyderpora, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the officers to submit a detailed report for early resumption of works so that the facility can be dedicated to the public at the earliest.

He also issued instructions for utility shifting and removal of bottlenecks along the Rawalpura-Mocho Road to expedite work and ensure smooth and enhanced road facility to the general public.

To enhance connectivity and mobility for residents of the Chanpora area, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the concerned departments to initiate work on the construction of the Bailey Bridge at the earliest.

He further instructed officers to ensure that all ongoing works, including the Bund Road, Chanpora-Natipora Junction and other road projects, are completed within the stipulated timeframe.

During his visit to Bagh-e-Mehtab, the Deputy Chief Minister inspected ongoing macadamization works in Baghe Mehtab area and assured strict action against use of sub-standard material or any other negligence are reported.

During tour, various delegations called on the Deputy Chief Minister and appreciated the Deputy CM for taking spot inspections of the ongoing works.

Among others, Chief Engineer R&B Sushil Kumar; SEs from R&B, SMC, Housing, and other senior officers from concerned departments accompanied the Deputy Chief Minister during the tour.

Cabinet Gives Its

e-auctioning of limestone mineral blocks in J&K. Besides, it has also given go-ahead to administrative approval for a sewerage scheme at tourist resort of Gulmarg at a cost of Rs 45.80 crore—(KNO)

CS Reviews Roadmap

Commissioners to prepare district-specific action plans for effective on-ground implementation.

Highlighting the centrality of coordinated efforts, the Chief Secretary designated the Planning Department as the nodal agency for overall implementation and monitoring of the initiative. He instructed it to develop a unified online platform for uploading and tracking all youth engagement activities across departments. The General Administration Department (GAD) was tasked with framing a Steering Committee to ensure smooth inter-departmental coordination and effective execution of the programme.

Underscoring the need to leverage existing national-level initiatives, he called for tapping into schemes and platforms of the Ministry of Youth Affairs such as My Bharat, NSS, Youth Exchange Activities, and Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue, which provide valuable exposure and skill-building opportunities for youth.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary took feedback from Administrative Secretaries and Deputy Commissioners regarding their proposed strategies for maximizing outreach and participation under the programme. He urged all departments and district administrations to adopt a collaborative and convergent approach, pooling resources and expertise for impactful implementation at the grassroots level. He further enjoined upon the Information Department to create necessary awareness among the public about the youth welfare schemes and other orientation programmes for furthering their career pursuits.

Presenting the framework, Director General, Planning, Satvir Kour, highlighted that the initiative seeks to harness the creativity and dynamism of youth recognizing them as key drivers of social transformation and economic progress. She said the programme would equip young people with life skills, values, and self-confidence, steering them away from vulnerabilities such as substance abuse, unemployment, and social evils.

The Strategic Action Plan presented covers multiple dimensions of engagement, including Sports and Cultural Development. Revival of traditional arts, crafts, and cultural festivals such as Sufi festivals, classical arts performances, literary gatherings, and visual arts exhibitions promoting J&K's rich heritage while creating livelihood opportunities is going to be the innate part of this programme.

With respect to furthering the Education and Skill Development the action plan focuses on making education and vocational training more accessible, market-relevant, and skill-oriented to enhance employability and promote sustainable livelihoods.

Another key pillar of the strategy includes entrepreneurship and business development which envisages expanding access to startup ecosystems, incubation centres, and financial assistance through schemes like PMEGP, REGP, NRLM (Lakhpati Didis), and Startup J&K, to nurture a new generation of self-reliant entrepreneurs across agriculture, technology, tourism, and handicrafts.

Encouraging productive digital engagement through webinars, innovation contests, and online learning platforms to connect rural youth with experts and mentors, is another strategic feature of this youth engagement programme.

Further, the District Development Com-

missioners (DDCs) are going to identify two socio-economically backward blocks in each district and prepare targeted plans for youth engagement across education, skilling, cultural activities, sports, and livelihoods. The DDCs were also instructed to ensure extensive awareness among young citizens regarding various government welfare and empowerment schemes to encourage their proactive participation.

The meeting concluded with a resolve to make youth empowerment a collective mission, integrating efforts of all departments to channelize the energy and potential of the young population towards a vibrant, inclusive, and progressive Jammu and Kashmir.

India Elected Unopposed

Comprising 47 member states, its mandates include reviewing the human rights records of all UN members through the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and providing a forum for addressing human rights issues and violations.

The Council was established by the UN General Assembly in 2006, and India was elected to serve its inaugural term, highlighting its long-standing engagement with the body. The upcoming term from 2026 to 2028 will allow India to further contribute to the Council’s critical work on the global stage.

Private Schooling

the female students.

It also said that the national percentage of students reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrollment for each state and UT was 57.1 percent in 2025.

According to the official figures, in the rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir, 85 percent persons including 87.7 percent males and 81.7 percent females enrolled in school reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrolment.

Likewise, in the urban areas of Jammu and Kashmir at least 96.1 percent persons enrolled in school reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrolment. This includes 95.9 percent of male and 96.3 percent female students respectively—(KNO)

Pressure To Deliver

statehood restoration in the first Assembly Session while the other pledges like free 200 units of electricity, 12 gas cylinders to economically weaker sections, Rs 5,000 per month to women belonging to EWS, establishing a medical trust to fight against serious diseases like cancer, reinstating free education up to the university level have remained unfulfilled.

The NC had also promised a comprehensive job package for youth, and redrawing the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, and the Transaction of Business of the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Rules, 2019 have also been overlooked so far.

For many, the past 12 months have felt more like a year of waiting than one of transformation.

One of the key planks of NC was tackling unemployment, promising a comprehensive job package for the youth. However, the unemployment rate, instead of witnessing a decline, has increased further as no major recruitment has taken place in the year, and the policy is nowhere in sight.

“We have been promised employment. But a year has elapsed; it seems nothing is going to happen for the educated youth with no measures in sight over the promised job policy,” Aijaz Ahmad, one of the unemployed youth, said.

As the Omar Abdullah government enters its second year, the pressure to deliver is mounting.

With the government continuing to make promises over delivering their pledges mentioned in the manifesto, the road ahead is far from easy.

The Chief Minister has repeatedly mentioned that they have been given a five-year time to deliver on the promises, insisting that systemic change cannot happen overnight.

But for the people, time is a luxury and a year without making any positive change on the ground, over-delivering on the promises has made them quite disappointed.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National General Secretary and J&K in-charge, Tarun Chugh, slammed CM Abdullah, saying that despite completing one year in office, his government has "failed" to fulfil even a single promise made to the people.

Chugh said the people of Jammu and Kashmir demand accountability from the government, as none of the commitments made during the elections have been honoured.

Accusing the NC government of “not fulfilling” its pre-poll promises, People’s Democratic Party (PDP) president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, a few days ago, drew parallels with the then Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi, saying the latter focused on developmental works despite governing in a Union Territory.

“It has been one year since the government has been in power here, but they haven’t done enough despite promising jobs, free power supply and other incentives. Kejriwal gave free electricity to people, while over here, consumers are being charged heavily. There are even talks of water charges now,” Mehbooba said.

Taking a dig at the NC government, Apni Party president and former minister, Syed Altaf Bukhari, said the party has failed to deliver on its promises.

“The people have lost faith as NC has failed to fulfil its commitments. There is no visible development, no electricity waiver, no social welfare schemes, no free 200 units of power, no release of jailed youth, and rising unemployment,” he said—(KNO)

Chhattisgarh: Maoists likely to surrender en-mass in Kaner, says sources

IAN S

RAIPUR: In a significant setback to Maoist insurgency in Chhattisgarh, sources indicate that as many as 100 more Maoists are likely to surrender in Kanker district, with an official police announcement expected soon.

This comes on the heels of a recent mass surrender in the region, highlighting the growing impact of government initiatives and security operations in eroding Naxalite strongholds.

Speaking to IANS, a senior police officer on anonymity said, “Maoists have come forward in Kanker en-mass but proper information will be released by authentication and due process soon.”

Senior officials could not be reached or contacted as they were in the interior areas of the Bastar region. The effects of increased police camps in the interior areas of Bastar, coupled with the state's new rehabilitation policy and the "Niyad Nellanar" scheme, are becoming evident on the ground.

Following a wave of surrenders in Sukma, Kanker has now emerged as a focal point for defections from Naxal ranks.

On Monday, notorious North Bastar Naxalite leader Raju Salam, along with his entire Company



No. 5 team, surrendered at the Kamteda BSF camp in the Koylibeda police station area of Kanker district. This event is being hailed as one of the largest surrenders in the history of Chhattisgarh's anti-Naxal operations.

Reports suggest it could pave the way for declaring several areas in North Bastar as "Naxal-free." In a parallel development, in Kondagaon district, female Naxalite Geeta alias Kamli Salam, who carried a reward of Rs 5 lakh, also surrendered to the police.

The mass surrender in Kanker has provided substantial relief to security agencies and local administration. According to local sources, more than 100

Maoists arrived in three buses at the Kamteda BSF camp, where they laid down their arms.

Prominent figures among them include Company No. 5 commander Raju Salam, Prasad, Meena, Bhaskar, and Rajman. Notably, Raju Salam and Rajman each had a bounty of Rs 25 lakh on their heads.

However, security forces have yet to come up with an official announcement. The group also includes 30 Maoists with rewards exceeding Rs 5 lakh each, along with dozens of other active members, the source said.

Security forces facilitated their safe passage through a pre-established secret route, escorting

them from Gendabeda village to Kamteda in BSF buses. The operation was spearheaded by the Inspector General of Police, senior security officers, and the BSF team.

Initially planned for October 15, the surrender was executed a day later for security reasons. What stands out in this surrender is the collective bounty on the heads of those who defected, exceeding Rs 2.5 crore. Many had been operating for years in sensitive zones like the Mad Division and the Raaghat Area Committee.

Experts attribute this success not only to the efforts of security forces but also to effective government policies and community cooperation.

Raipur prepares grand welcome for PM Modi ahead of Chhattisgarh silver jubilee celebrations

IAN S

RAIPUR: The capital city of Chhattisgarh is abuzz with preparations as it gears up to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a landmark visit on November 1, marking the state's Silver Jubilee celebrations.

The visit, which coincides with the 25th anniversary of Chhattisgarh's formation, will see the Prime Minister inaugurate a series of high-profile events and infrastructure projects in Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur (New Raipur).

In August this year, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Parliament House, New Delhi, and formally invited him to attend Chhattisgarh's Amrit Rajat Mahotsav on November 1 in Raipur.

CM Sai briefed the PM on key development priorities, including the 'Anjor Vision @2047' roadmap, the Jan Vishwas Bill 2025, and the SCRDA initiative for Nava Raipur.

He emphasised the event's historic significance as Chhattisgarh marks 25 years of statehood and rapid progress.

Prime Minister Modi will be the chief guest at the Chhattisgarh Amrit Rajat Mahotsav, a commemorative festival celebrating the state's journey

since its inception in 2000. The festivities will begin at the National Jyotirlinga Sthal, where the Prime Minister will formally inaugurate the Silver Jubilee Festival.

Among the key highlights of the visit are the inauguration of the newly constructed Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly building, the Shaheed Veernarayan Singh Museum, and the Academy for AP Sufficient World "Peace Summit," a spiritual training centre established by the Prajapati Brahmakumari Ishwariya University.

Prime Minister Modi is also expected to interact with children undergoing heart surgery at Satya Sai Hospital, adding a compassionate dimension to the day's engagements.

Additional Chief Secretary Manoj Pingua reviewed the preparations at the National Jyoti Utsav site and issued directives to ensure seamless coordination.

He confirmed that the Prime Minister will arrive in Rajdhani Nagar on the night of October 31 and participate in the scheduled events the following day.

The visit is expected to be a defining moment in Chhattisgarh's development narrative, symbolising both its achievements and aspirations as it steps into its next chapter.

Ajmer Dargah row: Hindu Sena chief files fresh petition seeking sealing of site



IAN S

JAIPUR: The dispute over the Ajmer Dargah of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti and the Sankat Mochan Mahadev Temple took a new turn on Wednesday.

Vishnu Gupta, National President of the Hindu Sena, has filed a fresh petition in Ajmer Civil Court (West) No. 1, demanding the immediate sealing of the area inside the Dargah complex where a temple is claimed to have existed, along with the installation of CCTV cameras to preserve alleged evidence.

In his petition, Gupta stated that the activities taking place in the disputed area could lead to the destruction or tampering of vital evidence, potentially affecting a fair probe.

He urged the court to ensure the protection of the section of the site where, according to him, a picture of Lord Shiva is engraved on a wall and a Shivalinga is believed to be present.

The next hearing in the case has been scheduled for October 17, 2025.

Making a fresh allegation, Vishnu Gupta has accused the Ajmer Dargah Committee of attempting to erase or damage religious symbols and artefacts under the guise of renovation and repair work.

He claimed that such actions could compromise crucial evidence that might help establish the presence of the Sankat Mochan Mahadev Temple within the Dargah premises. "The court must act quickly to prevent the destruction of evidence and ensure transparency through CCTV surveillance," Gupta said in his plea.

The dispute dates back to September 2024, when Vishnu Gupta initially moved the Ajmer Civil Court, asserting that the Sankat Mochan Mahadev Temple existed within the boundaries of the Ajmer Sharif Dargah, one of India's most revered Sufi shrines.

We defeated BJP in Awadh, Biharis will defeat it in Magadh: Akhilesh Yadav

IAN S

LUCKNOW: Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday launched an attack on the BJP, urging the people of Bihar to vote the saffron party out of power in the November Assembly polls.

Addressing a press conference here, Akhilesh Yadav said: "We have defeated the BJP in Awadh in Uttar Pradesh. Now it is the turn of the people of Bihar to defeat it in Magadh."

Accusing the BJP of pushing Bihar into unemployment and inflation, the

SP chief appealed to voters to support candidates from socialist and alliance parties.

"The BJP has only contributed to joblessness and rising prices in Bihar. People must vote for those who work for social justice and equality," he said.

Taking a jibe at the Uttar Pradesh government, he remarked: "This government tells black lies while sitting at a white table. When it was time for them to leave, they suddenly remembered to clean the Gomti. The SP had already developed a model to clean the Gomti and the Varuna.

The work should continue on that model."

Akhilesh Yadav accused the UP's BJP government of failing to maintain law and order, alleging that atrocities against Dalits, backward classes, and minorities were highest under its rule. Citing NCRB data, he said: "Police are being used for political purposes, while criminals roam freely."

On the government's idea of promoting 'cow tourism', Akhilesh Yadav quipped: "First protect people from wolves before talking about cow tourism."

One of our MLAs has reported 43 incidents where people were attacked by wolves. Serve cows, we have no objection -- but save Uttar Pradesh from bulls first."

Continuing his attack, he said the BJP has no governance model to show. "They talk about encounters to claim law and order, but how could incidents like Banthra happen if that were true? There's no fertiliser available anywhere, sugarcane prices haven't increased, and farmers' lands are being looted," he alleged.

US tariffs not a matter of huge concern for India's growth: RBI Governor

IAN S

WASHINGTON: Reserve Bank of India Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Wednesday asserted that the 50 per cent US tariffs on India are "not a matter of huge concern" for India's growth.

While speaking at an event during the IMF-World Bank meetings in Washington, DC, Malhotra said that India's status as a "domestic-driven economy" negates the negative impact of US tariffs.

"India is mostly domestic-driven economy. So, while we are impacted by the higher tariffs, it's not a matter of huge concern," he noted.

However, he added that "there will be an upside if we are able to have an early resolution to the tariffs."

The Indian trade negotiating team is already in Washington for the next round of trade talks with US officials, and India's chief negotiator Rajesh Agrawal is slated to arrive late Wednesday.



Governor, Reserve Bank of India

The RBI Governor also said that he met members of the Indian negotiating team over breakfast to discuss the issues.

Despite the 50 per cent tariff hike imposed by the Donald Trump administration, India's exports to the US rose to \$45.82 billion in the first half of the current financial year (April-Sep-

tember), which represents a 13.3 per cent increase over the corresponding figure of \$40.42 billion in the same period last year.

On Wednesday, the Commerce Ministry stated that India can import more crude oil and natural gas worth \$12-\$13 billion from the US without altering the configuration of the refin-

eries. The government is keen to diversify the country's energy import portfolio, subject to availability at the "right price."

India is also likely to source more renewable energy technologies from the US as part of the trade package, a step that will help the country fight climate change.

The Commerce Ministry also said the US is in a government shutdown, and with a reduced workforce, the time isn't right for a full-fledged negotiation.

Trade talks resume days after the new US ambassador to India, Sergio Gormet Prime Minister Narendra Modi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval in New Delhi.

Gor also held discussions with Agrawal and later posted on X, "During my visit to India, I met with Commerce Secretary Agrawal and discussed US-India economic ties, including increased investment in the United States."

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION

OFFICE OF THE, WILDLIFE WARDEN, WETLAND DIVISION, KASHMIR.

ZAINAKOOT, SRINAGAR.

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No. 04 OF 2025-26 Dated: 13/10/2025

(Please read the tender document carefully before submission of bid)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders are hereby invited (in two cover system) on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD/MES/Central/State/UT Governments for the works detailed below:

S.No	Range	Detail of Estimate	GPS Location	Estimated Cost in Lakhs	Cost of Tender Document	Earnest Money CDR/FDR	Time of Completion	Class of Contractor
1.	Lakes WLR	Dismantling of old bund and re-enforcement of existing bund at Mirgund WLR	34.130399124 74.636061121	12.00	Nil	2% (two percent) of Advertised Cost at the time of submission of Bid / Tenders online & 5% (five percent) Performance Security of the Allotted Cost to be submitted within 3 (three) days from the date of opening of Financial Bids by successful bidder (L1) pledged to Wildlife Warden Wetlands Division Srinagar. The EMD of 2% (two percent) shall be released thereafter.	40	DEE/CEE/BEE

Position of AA / TS: Accorded/Committed.
Position of Funds: Partly Available.
Major Head of Account: CAMPA.

COMPULSORY NOTE & INSTRUCTIONS: -

The hard copies of the documents shall be obtained only from the bidder declared as the Lowest First (L1) after the opening of Financial Bids. The Lowest First (L1) bidder must submit hard copies of all documents uploaded at the time of bidding within three (03) days from the date of opening of Financial Bids, without fail. These documents shall include a copy of the JKPWDOMS verified Online Registration Card of the required class duly renewed, GST-linked bank account certificate, GST registration/latest return, PAN card, and any other relevant documents uploaded during the time of bidding

a) Only JKPWDOMS online registration contractor cards shall be accepted and the Contractors Name on JKPWDOMS certificate and GTS Registration Certificate should be identical (any difference in trade name or spelling mismatch in JKPWDOMS and GST certificate shall not be entertained and rejected out rightly)

b) All contractors/bidders intending to participate in this tender are advised to inspect the locations and nature of works or contact the O/o Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division, Srinagar in case of any clarification before participating in the tender.

c) All contractors / bidders have to submit Earnest Money Deposit and Performance Security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Wildlife Warden, Wetland Division, Kashmir, Srinagar remitted /pledged between Tender Inviting Date and Tender Closing Date only. The bid/ tender without accompanying Earnest Money Deposit shall be rejected out rightly.

d) The allotment / Lot shall be made strictly & only within or as per the approved, allotted & released budgetary allocation at the time of issuance and shall be valid for the current financial year only.

e) The Advertised Amount shall be deemed as Estimated Amount, difference if any shall be rounded off, the competitive percentage shall be applicable to the Advertised Amount.

f) Bidders quoting Abnormally Low Bid (ALB) Price shall have to pay additional Performance Security applicable under Rule in addition to Performance Security detailed above

g) Works not completed within the stipulated time of completion shall attract fine under rule and no liability shall be accepted / carried forward.

h) All the documents listed below should be scanned in 100 dpi and uploaded with the bid, providing of Aadhar Card and Contact Number with Contractor's Registration Card is mandatory.

The online bids must be accompanied with the following documents: -

Part-I Technical Bid

(Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid)

1. Valid Registration Card of required class duly renewed for the year 2025-26.

2. GST linked Bank Account verification certificate.

3. No Tender Documents Fee (in the shape of Treasury Challan) is required.

4. Submission of Earnest Money Deposit in shape of CDR/ FDR as detailed above is mandatory.

5. The GST Registration Certificate with GST Clearance ending March-2025.

6. PAN Card / Aadhar Card / In use Contact Number.

Part-II Financial Bid

A. Statement of Advertised Quantity & Consideration Rates on Percentage (%age) basis to be offered by the Contractor / Bidder towards Department (single amount (percentage) to be quoted by the bidder/ contractor on estimated amount) of the advertised quantity of BoQ.

B. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria specification, Drawings, bill of quantities, (BOQ), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be downloaded from the website https://jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule of dates given below:

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	13/10/2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	14/10/2025 to 27/10/2025
3	Bid submission start date	14/10/2025 from 06:00 PM
4	Bid submission End date	27/10/2025 upto 06:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of technical bids (online)	28/10/2025 at 03:00 PM
6.	Date & time of opening of financial bids (online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation

1. Clarifications regarding the tendered works will be provided to address any queries raised by contractors/bidders between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM, on any day between the Tender Inviting Date and the Tender Closing Date.

2. Bids must be accompanied by the Earnest Money Deposit in shape of CER/FDR pledged to Wildlife Warden, Wetland Division, Kashmir, Srinagar remitted/pledged between Tender Inviting Date and Tender Closing Date only.

3. The date and time of opening of technical bids shall be notified on website https://jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail address.

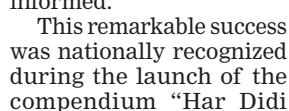
No. WLW(WL)/Accts/2025-26/114-19
Date: 13/10/2025
DIPK-7202-24
DTK: 15/10/2025

Sd/-
Wildlife Warden
Wetland Division, Kashmir
Srinagar

The Committee comprised eminent scientists and academicians, including Dr. Anish Yada (SKUAST-Jammu), Dr. Parvinder Pal Singh (CSIR-IIIM Jammu), Dr. Mudasir Andrabi (SKUAST-Kashmir), Dr. Aabid Hussain Shalla (JUST-Kashmir), Dr. Meena Sharma (University of Jammu), Dr. Kumud Ranjan Jha (SMVDU), Dr. Ambika Prasad (IIT Jammu), and Dr. Anil Bhat (SKUAST-Jammu).

The TAC concluded its deliberations with the finalisation of select high-impact, regionally relevant projects that will be placed before the Government for approval. The selected projects are expected to contribute significantly to scientific advancement, policy innovation, and sustainable development in Jammu & Kashmir.

A dedicated Kudumbashree National Resource Organization (NRO) team has already been positioned to oversee the roll-



Emphasizing the importance of capacity building, Aijaz Asad instructed officials to establish Community-Managed Training Centres (CMTCs), identify local resource persons, and foster a culture of collective learning and participation.

JKRML has also signed an MoU with the National Resource Organisation (OMPLIS) to strengthen Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) and set up Community Managed Training Centres (CMTCs) for training needs assessment, module development, and exposure visits—further accelerating the rural entrepreneurship ecosystem.

In a key decision, the meeting constituted a multi-department committee to conduct market

The Fire & Emergency Department was instructed to have standby Fire Tenders available at the cracker sale venue to promptly address any incidents that may occur during the sale days.

Party spokesmen in a statement issued here, said, Apni Party's Parliamentary Affairs Committee (PAC) held a crucial meeting to discuss the recent statements issued by the party's Chief Spokesperson, Muntazir Mohiuddin. The meeting was presided over by the PAC Chairman Mohammad Dilawar Mir. After thorough discussions and delibera-

ments issued by the party's Chief Spokesperson, Mr. Muntazir Mohiuddin, which were found to be not in the interest of the party. After

thorough deliberations, the PAC unanimously decided to expel Mr. Mintazir Mohiuddin from the basic membership of the party with immediate effect. The party reiterated its commitment to maintaining discipline, unity, and collective responsibility among all its members and office bearers," the statement issued through the party's Additional General Secretary Hilal Ahmad Shah, reads.

Besides Mohammad Dilawar Mir, the prominent party leaders who were present in the meeting included party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Vice President Javid Mustafa Mir, Additional General Secretary Hilal Ahmad Shah, Chief Coordinator and District President Abdul Majeed Padder, Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, President of the party's Youth Wing Yawar Mir, District President Budgam Advocate Owais Ashraf, and others.

The meeting was presided over by the Pr. District & Sessions Judge Pulwama, Secretary DLSA Pulwama, SSP Pulwama, ADC Pulwama, Superintendent of Sub-Jail Pulwama and Chief LADC Pulwama.

A total of 6 cases were taken up and discussed and out of which 2 cases were recommended for consideration by the committee as per the guidelines and remained 4 were recommended for medical examination to the concerned medical board in order to get their present health status and accordingly concerned court will decide their release as per the law.

During the meeting, 10 cases involving under trial prisoners were meticulously reviewed. Each case underwent through discussion and deliberation to understand

The meeting was attended by Sub-Judge/Secretary, DLSA Budgam,, Nusrat Ali Hakak, Senior Superintendent Police, Budgam, Nikhil Borkar; ASI Central Jail Srinagar, Ab Rashid; Public Prosecutor, Budgam, Rajeev Kumar; Senior Medical Officer, Central Jail Srinagar, Dr. Zeenat Hussain and other concerned.

The programme, organ-



The programme, conducted in collaboration with the Zonal Medical Office, Batamalloo, featured hands-on training and demonstrations led by expert medical

The event underscores IRCS-J&K's dedication to community resilience and aligns with national efforts to enhance bystander intervention in cardiac emergencies.



Revenge Never Looked This Festive!

**Sunny
sanskari
ki Tulsi
kumari**

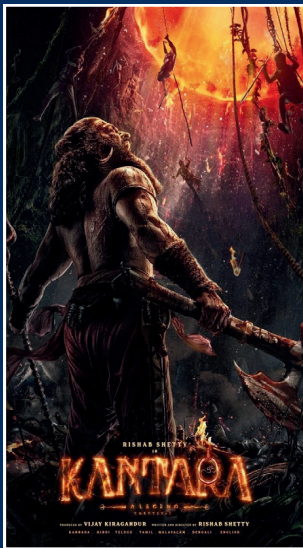
SUNNY SANSKARI KI TULSI KUMARI (UA13+)
HINDI - 02:10 PM, 07:15 PM



COURT ROOM

STAR STUDIOS PRESENTS
**JOLLY
LLB 3**
A KANAK KANTHAR FILM

JOLLY LLB 3 (UA16+)
HINDI - 12:00 PM, 05:05 PM



KANTARA

KANTARA A LEGEND: CHAPTER 1 (UA16+)
HINDI - 11:00 AM, 02:30 PM, 05:40 PM, 06:00 PM



ADITYA CHOPRA PRESENTS
AARON PANDAY & ANEET PADDA

SAYYAARA

SAYYAARA (U/A16+)
HINDI - 11:10 AM



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