

Good Morning

16th
Year Of Publication

Kashmir

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



A robust storage, logistics and warehouse ecosystem is need of the hour to propel our economy towards self-reliance, directly link the producers to consumers and to fulfil the aspiration of our traders, industrialists, farmers, artisans and MSMEs.

Srinagar • Friday 21, November 2025 • Vol: 16 • Issue No: 268 • Page: 08 • Price: ₹ 1/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

CM Omar meets FM; seeks stronger Dev support for J&K



GMK NEWS NETWORK
NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday called on Union Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman and held an extensive discussion on a wide range of developmental matters concerning Jammu and Kashmir. ●P-06

DELHI BLAST AFTERMATH Police, Health Deptt inspect lockers in Sgr, Anantnag hospitals

REHAN QAYOOM
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police along with the officials of the Health Department on Thursday inspected lockers of the doctors and medical staff at hospitals in Srinagar and Anantnag districts. According to the details available, the exercise was a part of the enhanced security measures after the recent Delhi terror blast and ●P-06

J&K Logistics Policy 2025 will be unveiled soon: LG Sinha

Addresses Jammu Trade & Logistics Conclave-2025

Jammu is rapidly emerging as trade and logistics hub connecting Ladakh, Kashmir valley with country's trade corridors

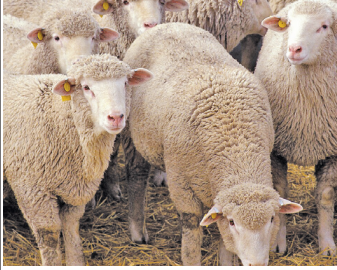
A robust storage, logistics and warehouse ecosystem is need of the hour to propel our economy towards self-reliance

New policy intervention will introduce a comprehensive framework focusing on multimodal connectivity



GMK NEWS NETWORK
JAMMU: "Jammu is rapidly emerging as trade and logistics hub connecting Ladakh and Kashmir valley with country's trade corridors," the Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha said on Thursday. He said the significant boost in road and rail connectivity in the last five years has unlocked the region's immense potential. The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the Jammu Trade and Logistics Conclave-2025, organised by Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC). In his address, the Lieutenant Governor highlighted that, the National Logistics Policy, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has accelerated reforms in the logistics ecosystem and revolutionized digital integration, skill development and infrastructure planning. "Storage, multimodal connectivity, logistics capability, and last-mile connectivity have ensured that remote areas remain connected to the mainstream of development. Penetration of e-commerce and the growing retail sector is also playing a significant role in expanding the footprint of the warehousing and logistics sector. Jammu Kashmir Union Territory is a living example of this extraordinary transformation," the Lieutenant Governor said. He called for fulfilling developmental needs of Jammu Kashmir through smart logistics infrastructure and improved logistics operations. "A robust storage, logistics and warehouse ecosystem is the need of the hour to propel our economy towards self-reliance, directly link the producers to consumers and to fulfil the aspiration of our traders, industrialists, ●P-06

PUNJAB 'EXTORTION' Mutton dealers warn of "fresh price hike"



REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: The Kashmir Wholesale Mutton Dealers Association on Thursday sounded alarm again over the high costs and harassment imposed on livestock trucks at Punjab checkpoints, warning of a "mutton price hike" in the Valley if the issue is not resolved by November 27. Mehraj-ud-Din Ganai, the Association's General Secretary, said dealers face alleged excess charges of over Rs 10,000 per truck, a continuation of previously reported "extortion" practices. He added that truckers have been forced to pay between Rs 10,000 and Rs 15,000 at the Shambhu and Madhopur checkpoints. Earlier this year, the Association even suspended the import of live animals from ●P-06

Muntazir, Devyani to be administered oath today



AGENCIES
SRINAGAR: Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather will administer the oath to two newly elected MLAs on today (Friday) morning, sources disclosed. Sources said that the Speaker will administer the oath to Peoples Democratic Party's Muntazir Mehdi and Bharatiya Janata Party's Devyani Rana at 11:00 am in the Assembly complex. As per section 24 of Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act-2019, every member of the Legislative Assembly shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Lieutenant Governor of the said Union territory, or some person appointed in that behalf by him, an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Fourth Schedule of this Act. While Mehdi was elected from the Budgam Assembly segment, Devyani ●P-06

4 more prime accused arrested in Delhi blast case, handed over to NIA

AHMAD TAIMUR

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday arrested four more prime accused involved in the Delhi blast case. The blast that ripped through a car near the iconic Red Fort last Monday claimed 15 lives and injured many others last week. A total of six accused have been arrested so far in the case, with four arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir police and two arrested by the Anti-Terror Agency. All the six accused persons are now under the NIA custody. An official said that the four accused, who were arrested by J&K police, were handed over to the Anti-Terror Agency today for further investigation into the blast case.



He said that the four accused were taken into custody by NIA in Srinagar on production orders from the District Sessions Judge, Patiala House Court. The accused have been identified as Dr Muzammil Shakeel Ganai of Pulwama, Dr Adeel Ahmed Rather of Anantnag, Dr Shaheen Saeed of Lucknow and Mufti Irfan Ahmad Wagay of Shopian. Earlier, the NIA had arrested two associates of the Delhi suicide bomber - Dr Umar - who investigators believe triggered the blast that ●P-06

CS reviews progress of major highways, tunnels across J&K



GMK NEWS NETWORK
JAMMU: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo Thursday chaired a high-level meeting to review the status of major highway and road development projects being executed across Jammu & Kashmir by Project Beacon, Project Sampark, NHAI, NHIDCL, and the Public Works (R&B) Department. The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Public Works Department; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; Secretary Transport; Engineer-in-Chief (Works); Regional Officer, NHAI; Chief Engineers of Project Beacon and Project Sampark and other senior officers. All Deputy Commissioners participated through video conferencing. The Chief Secretary took a project-wise and package-wise assessment of progress on all major highways under execution across the UT. He sought detailed timelines for completion and enquired about bottlenecks faced by the executing agencies. He directed that permissions for extraction of construction material must be strictly ensured and used only for the designated projects. Deputy Commissioners were instructed to expedite compensation cases and ensure timely disbursement to facilitate ●P-06

Peak hour electricity charges likely to rise in Kashmir Valley

KPDCL proposes 20% surcharge on electricity consumption during peak hours



RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: Close on the heels of a massive controversy in Kashmir over the installation of smart meters, the Power Development Department (PDD) has proposed an extra 20 percent charge on electricity consumption during morning and evening hours in the Valley. The Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDC) has sought approval from Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) to impose a 20 percent surcharge on all categories of consumers except for the agriculture sector during peak hours, when demand is at its highest due to the bone-chilling cold in the Valley. According to a petition filed before the JERC for J&K and Ladakh, KPDC has proposed the surcharge for different consumer categories, including domestic households. The JERC, a quasi-judicial body, is empowered to approve or reject tariff proposals. Confirming the development, Managing Director KPDC, Mahmood Ahmad Shah told KNO that "KPDC has proposed a 20 percent surcharge on tariff for the peak hours of the day. As of now, no decision has been taken by the regulatory commission."

The proposal is part of the Time of Day (ToD) tariff system, under which electricity costs vary depending on the time of consumption. However, the proposal has been vehemently opposed by the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) during ●P-06

AK-series cartridges recovered SIA raids Kashmir Times office in Jammu

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The State Investigation Agency on Thursday conducted raids and searches at the head office of a daily newspaper, Kashmir Times at Residency Road in Jammu and recovered arms and ammunition, while digital devices were also seized. In a statement, issued, a spokesperson said that the searches were carried in continuation of the investigation into the case registered against the media house for their involvement in criminal conspiracy with secessionist and anti-national entities operating within ●P-06



J&K Police continue widespread security, compliance operations

Officials say operations aimed at preventing misuse of chemicals, explosives



SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir have launched an extensive security and compliance drive across multiple districts, focusing on sensitive installations, commercial establishments, and public safety measures, officials said on Thursday. Officials said that the initiative, launched following the recent Delhi blast and the recovery of arms linked to the "white collar" terror module, seeks to enhance security, enforce regulatory compliance, and ensure proper use of public and private infrastructure.

In Anantnag district, officials conducted a thorough inspection of lockers belonging to doctors and medical staff at the government medical college. "The exercise ensures accountability in hospital operations and verifies that critical areas are properly secured," an official said. The inspections, carried out in coordination with the hospital administration, also aim to check for misuse of any restricted items or access points. A similar operation was conducted in Bandipora district in north Kashmir, where police and civil administration teams ●P-06

Speaker JKLA receives Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Award

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly (JKLA), Abdul Rahim Rather, Thursday received Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Award 2025 at a function organised at Jammu University by Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society Jammu.

The Speaker also released a book titled "RASA FAHMI" which was authored by Dr Shahnaz Qadri, Assistant Professor GDC, Sidhra Jammu. The award consisted of a turban, a shawl, a memento and a citation.

The function was presided over by Professor Mohammad Zaman, former HoD Urdu, University of Kashmir while the Speaker, JKLA was the chief guest and Canadian scholar, Dr Taqi Abidi was the guest of honour.

The Book release function was organized by the Department of Urdu, University of Jammu in collaboration with Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society.

While speaking on the occasion, Rather critically analysed the personality and poetry of Rasa Javedani and described him as one of the towering Literary figures of India who



is still being remembered even after 47 years of his death. He extended his gratitude to the organisers for giving him a prestigious Literary Award 2025.

The Speaker congratulated the author for compiling the book on the life and works of legendary poet of J&K late Rasa Javedani. He described Rasa Javedani not only a popular poet of Urdu but also among the top Kashmiri poets who projected the realities of life in his poetry.

Dr Taqi Abedi, Canadian Scholar, quoted various verses of Rasa Javedani's urdu poetry which depict his

love for mutual understanding and communal harmony. Professor, in his presidential address described, Rasa Javedani as one of the most popular Urdu and Kashmiri poets of Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, Professor Shohab Inayat Malik, HOD Urdu and President Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society, Jammu presented the welcome address while Wali Mohammad Aseer Kishtwari, General Secretary Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society Jammu read out the text of the Award citation.

Dr Mohd Asif Malik Alimee Assistant Professor Baba Ghulam Shah Budshah University, Rajouri and Dr Shahnawaz, Cultural Officer, Culture Academy Jammu presented their papers and appreciated the Book of Dr Shahnaz Qadri released n the function.

The program was attended by a large number of poets, writers, artists, teachers, students and prominent citizens.

The program was conducted by Dr Chaman Lal, Assistant Professor Urdu Department, University of Jammu.

Div Com Inaugurates 3-Day 'Know Your Artisan' Craft Carnival

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Riding high on the resounding success of the first three 'Know Your Artisan' (KYA) events in October, which captivated crowds at iconic venues like Polo View Market, Jhelum Riverfront, and Ghanta Ghar with live demonstrations and direct artisan engagements; the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir (DOHHK) today unveiled the 'Know Your Artisan' Craft Carnival.

The 3-day extravaganza commenced at the picturesque Sher-e-Kashmir Park on Residency Road, under the aggressive branding campaign 'Soulful Kashmir'.

The event was inaugurated by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, who lauded the department's endeavors in spotlighting the Valley's timeless crafts.

Speaking on the occasion, the Div Com highlighted the transformative potential of such exhibitions. He commended the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir for organizing this carnival.

He said Initiatives like 'Know Your Artisan' are essential to bring our master artisans to the forefront, providing them a deserving platform to showcase Kashmir's rich craft and heritage to both locals and global audiences. "These programs not only revive our traditions but also empower our arti-



sans economically, ensuring their skills endure for generations", he added.

He stated that exports of Handicrafts & Handlooms has doubled since last four years which has increased the income of artisans.

This carnival arrives in the triumphant aftermath of Srinagar's dual global accolades including its designation as a UNESCO Creative City of Crafts and Folk Art in 2021 and as the 63rd World Craft City under the World Crafts Council (WCC) network in 2024.

These honors underscore the city's unparalleled heritage in handicrafts from intricate Pashmina weaving and hand-knotted carpets to papier-mache and walnut wood carvings, positioning Srinagar as a beacon for cultural preservation and innovation on the world stage.

The event witnessed a huge gathering of top-level officers, alongside key Department officials, all witnessing the unveiling of 36

meticulously curated stalls. These feature an exhaustive array of GI-registered crafts, such as authentic Pashmina, Kani shawls, and Kashmiri carpets, alongside products notified under the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme and the District Export Hub (DEH) initiative.

Complementing the displays are immersive live demonstration sections, where artisans unveil the labor-intensive secrets of their trades, and interactive 'Try Your Hand' zones inviting the public to engage hands-on with techniques like chain-stitch embroidery, Pashmina weaving and walnut wood carving.

Enthusiastic visitors, locals, tourists, families, and craft enthusiasts, flocked to the venue, infusing the autumnal canopy of Chinar trees with palpable energy.

The carnival aligns with the Hon'ble Prime Minis-

ter's visionary initiatives of Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat, fostering self-reliance by promoting indigenous crafts as engines of economic growth, sustainable tourism, and global exports.

By bridging artisans directly with consumers through fair-priced stalls, it champions 'Vocal for Local,' creating viable market linkages and countering counterfeit threats while celebrating the human stories behind each creation.

Mussarat Islam, Director of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir on the occasion said, "This carnival is a pivotal chapter in our aggressive push to revive and commercialize Kashmir's handicrafts, empowering over 3.80 lakh artisans through GI enforcement, skill training, and branding workshops. In the wake of Srinagar's UNESCO and WCC recognitions, we are not just showcasing crafts but weaving a narrative of harmony, innovation, and cultural co-existence that resonates with the 'Vocal for Local' spirit."

The Department urged the public to visit the venue over the next two days, immerse in the artistry, and make purchases that directly uplift our artisans.

As the event unfolds, it promises a soul-stirring display of diverse crafts, traditional Kashmiri folk music, storytelling sessions sharing generational lore, and workshops blending heritage with contemporary design.

Satish Sharma lays foundation stones for Indoor Stadium, TSO Office in Uri

GMK NEWS NETWORK

URI: In a major push to infrastructure development in the border region of Uri, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Transport, Science & Technology, Information Technology, Youth Services & Sports, and ARI & Trainings Departments, Satish Sharma, Thursday laid the foundation stones for two pivotal public development projects "Indoor Stadium and TSO Office Building" at Uri.

Present on the occasion were MLA Uri, Dr. Sajad Shafi, senior district officials, officers of PWD (R&B), Division Uri, representatives of local bodies and locals.

The Minister highlighted the government's commitment towards strengthening the sports infrastructure in far-flung and border regions of the Union Territory. "The Indoor Stadium will include modern facilities such as multi-purpose indoor courts, seating galleries, changing rooms and rest areas besides facilities for indoor training and coaching for the youth and aspiring sportspersons", he maintained.

The Minister stated that



the project marks a significant milestone for the youth of Uri, who have consistently shown talent and enthusiasm in various sports disciplines. He emphasized that the government is taking concrete steps to ensure that sports infrastructure in remote areas is at par with the urban centres. "Our youth deserve the best opportunities, irrespective of geography. This Indoor Stadium will not only boost the sports activities but will also nurture discipline, teamwork and fitness among the young people," he said.

Later, Satish Sharma laid the foundation stone for Tehsil Supply Office (TSO) Building, a long-pending requirement that will stream-

line the functioning of the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department.

The Minister asserted that creation of a dedicated TSO Office will significantly ease the public access to essential services and enhance transparency and efficiency in departmental operations.

While interacting with the people, the Minister emphasized that border areas like Uri are receiving focused attention from the government both in terms of infrastructure development and social empowerment.

He emphasised the need for exploring possibilities of developing Uri as an all weather sports destination on account of its climatic

advantage. He assured the public that both projects would be executed within the stipulated time frame.

"Quality standards will be strictly monitored and the departments will work in close coordination to avoid delays in project execution and completion as well. Besides, additional developmental works for Uri are under active consideration," maintained the Minister.

MLA Uri, Dr. Sajjad Shafi, appreciated the Minister for his continued focus on Uri's development. He said, "These projects will address the critical gaps in sports infrastructure and administrative facilities. Uri's youth and citizens will benefit immensely from these developments."

KU's annual youth festival Sonzal-2025 begins

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The University of Kashmir (KU) on Thursday inaugurated its annual youth festival Sonzal 2025 at the Main Campus.

The week-long festival is being organised by the varsity's Division of Youth Affairs under the aegis of Department of Students Welfare (DSW).

The intra-university festival scheduled from November 20-27, brings students from various affiliated colleges and departments of the University to participate in a series of literary, cultural and fine-arts competitions. It features events including quiz, debate, elocution, collage-making, poster-making, painting, rangoli competition, cartoon-making, clay-modelling, Indian and Western vocals and other activities to be held over the next seven days.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, said "Sonzal represents the creative and intellectual aspirations of our students. The University is committed to strengthening platforms that enable young people to express themselves, learn from one



another and take pride in their abilities."

She added that the festival encourages participation, teamwork and confidence-building among students from diverse academic backgrounds, stating "such events supplement academic learning and help students develop broader life skills."

Dean Academic Affairs KU, Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada; Dean Research KU, Prof. Mohammad Sultan Bhat, Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, and Controller of Examinations KU, Prof. Majid Zaman Baba, in their remarks, said that Sonzal provides a space for students to engage with new

ideas and explore their talents beyond the classroom.

They said that the University continues to expand student-centric platforms and that Sonzal remains one of its most anticipated annual events.

Earlier, Dean DSW KU, Prof. Pervez Ahmed, welcomed the participants and highlighted the aims and objectives of the festival.

The inaugural ceremony began with a soul-stirring musical performances by artists from 'Sufi Brothers' band of J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and University's 'Pashmina Band.'

The session was attended by, deans of various schools, heads of depart-

ments, officers of the University administration, directors, faculty members, scholars and hundreds of students from the campus as well as from various affiliated colleges of the University.

The first day of the festival featured a painting competition where students showcased their creativity and artistic expression on canvas.

The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Shahid Ali Khan, Cultural Officer DSW KU and organising secretary of the event. The festival is sponsored by J&K Bank, J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, and Cemtac Cements.

DC Srinagar reviews status of Mandatory Biometric Updates for Aadhaar



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In order to review the status of Mandatory Biometric Updates (BMU), implementation Civil Registration System(CRS) and establishment of Centre of Excellence in district, a meeting of all stakeholder departments was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner(DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo at meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, here Thursday.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed; Programme Officer ICDS, Bureeda Majeed; SDM East, Zubair Ahmad; SDM West, Irfan Baha-

dur; Chief Education Officer, Ghulam Mohidin; District Social Welfare Officer, District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, Medical Superintendent Lal Ded Hospital, District health Officer, all Tehsildars, All BDOs, District Informatics Officer, State Project Manager, Srinagar from UIDAI, District Lead Bank Manager, Health Officer, SMC, District Coordinator CSC E-Governance and other concerned.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of the progress on Mandatory Biometric Updates for Aadhaar and need for time-bound disposal of pendency in Aadhaar enrolment.

He also reviewed the implementation status of the CRS focusing on the Birth Registration-Based Aadhaar Enrolment (BRBAE) initiative for new born to be enrolled for Aadhaar in hospitals, aligning with the goal of transforming the CRS for real-time digital registration of births and deaths.

Underlining the need for a targeted approach to achieve full Aadhaar saturation, particularly among children aged 0-5 years, the DC emphasised time bound disposal of Aadhaar enrolment pendency. He asked the Chief Education Officer to expedite the process of the Aadhaar based initiative by the end of November. He

also directed Tehsildars to regularly monitor and clear Aadhaar-related cases in their respective jurisdictions.

The DC further stressed the importance of proper coordination between line departments and UIDAI to ensure seamless functioning of Aadhaar enrolment gadgets and their effective handling so that the process can be expedited.

Reviewing progress on the establishment of the Centre of Excellence (CSC), the Deputy Commissioner instructed the concerned departments to complete all requirements within the stipulated timeline to ensure that the centre becomes operational at the earliest.

NOTIFICATION

Below is given the name parentage and the address of the managing committee members of New Convent Global Girls School, Hyderpora, Srinagar. If any one has any objection the same may be communicated to the director school education, Kashmir with in seven days from the date of Publication of the notice.

MEMBERS OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

S.NO.	NAME	PARENTAGE	RESIDENCE	DESIGN.
01	BASIL UR REHMAN	MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL KHAN	DOCTOR BAGH NAIK BAGH NOWGAM, SRINAGAR	PRESIDENT
02	SHAFIQA ARIF	QAZI M ARIF	SHAH ASRAR COLONY BONE AND JOINT HOSPITAL BARZULLA, SRINAGAR	MEMBER
03	MIRZA TAHA IQBAL BEG	IQBAL HANIEF BEG	19, NEAR BONE AND JOINT HOSPITAL BARZULLA, SRINAGAR	PRINCIPAL
04	ANIS UL HAMID	WALEED AHMAD QURESHI	ABI GUZAR, LAL CHOWK, SRINAGAR	MEMBER
05	ZAFFAR ULLAH KHAN	MOHAMMAD YAQOOB KHAN	ASTANPORA, RAWALPORA, SRINAGAR	MEMBER
06	AASIYA YAQOOB	SUHAIB ASHRAF ALLAQABAND	CHANAPORA, SRINAGAR	MEMBER
07	BASHIR AHMAD PANDIT	GHULAM AHMAD PANDITH	FAIZABAD COLONY NAIKBAGH SRINAGAR	MEMBER
08	MOHAMMAD LATEEF KHAN	GHULAM QADIR KHAN	SHEIKHPORA BUDGAM	MEMBER

Good Morning
Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Social media
needs check, real
accountability

Alarm has been sounded once again regarding imminent threat that is no longer futuristic, but frighteningly present: the misuse of social media to spread deepfakes, synthetic content, and lightning-fast rumours. His warning underscores a disturbing reality, digital manipulation is steadily eroding the foundation of public trust.

In a world where any video can be faked, any voice cloned, and any image fabricated, the very relationship between citizens and institutions is under strain. The Minister is right to flag that this is not merely a technological issue but a societal challenge. The volume of manipulated content online has grown to such proportions that it now distorts public opinion, fuels unrest, and undermines democratic processes. What once seemed like isolated mischief has evolved into a systemic threat.

Vaishnav's emphasis on a "techno-legal approach" is both timely and necessary. Traditional laws are too rigid to keep pace with technologies that evolve in months, not decades. India's principles-based Data Protection Act recognises this fluidity: it aims to regulate without suffocating innovation, to encourage technological progress while keeping malicious elements in check. This is a delicate balance, and policymakers, industry, and civil society must work hand-in-hand to maintain it.

But the Minister's most important point concerns responsibility. Social media platforms—despite their enormous influence—continue to act as if they are mere conduits, not active publishers. That era of neutral posturing must end. If platforms profit from the traffic created by manipulated content, they cannot shirk accountability for the harm it causes. They must build stronger safeguards, invest in detection technologies, and show genuine commitment to India's laws and constitutional values.

India's diversity, social sensitivities, and unique cultural landscape demand platforms that understand the context in which they operate. A one-size-fits-all global approach is no longer acceptable. Responsible behaviour must be embedded not just in policy documents but in everyday operations.

Deepfakes and synthetic media are not just a technological inconvenience—they are a direct attack on truth. To defend society from this new-age disruption, all stakeholders must act decisively. The government has outlined the direction; now it is up to the platforms to prove they are willing partners in protecting public trust.

DR. MANOJ KUMAR MISHRA

By sentencing former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to death, the judicial system in Bangladesh has exposed its long-standing vulnerability to practices of political targeting and recrimination. The International Crimes Tribunal-Bangladesh (ICT-BD) in its indictment of Hasina, revealed her direct involvement in the brutal suppression of student protests in the Summer of 2024. The chief judge highlighted Hasina's orders to deploy helicopters, drones, and lethal weapons against unarmed civilians, as evidenced by her conversation with the South Dhaka Municipal Corporation mayor and the authenticity of the recording confirmed by forensic analysis as a justification for the imposition of the death sentence. As per the report released by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), around 1,400 people lost their lives in the students' protest spanning over a period of 46-days in the Summer of 2024.

However, there are ample reasons to believe that the judicial proceedings and judgments have been politically motivated and evidences have been selectively chosen to magnify the gravity of the crime and intensify the degree of punishment on Hasina and a few others of her aides whereas many crimes committed by the perpetrators from the other side of the political spectrum have been deliberately kept outside the definition of crimes against humanity. The judicial structure underpinning the ICT since its inception in 1973 as well as during the reactivation in 2009 has been deliberately designed to be politically vulnerable.

Although originally instituted in 1973 to deliver justice to the victims of the horrendous conflict between the West and East Pakistan (Bangladesh) that resulted in a humanitarian disaster by its sheer statistics—two lakh and four lakh women and children being raped leading to an estimated 25,000 war

babies being born and approximately, three million people lost their lives, thirty million people were displaced and ten million people were forced to migrate from the country according to credible estimates was a right step in a right direction but the entire process was marred by imputations of political motives and political hijacking of judicial architecture, proceedings and judgments.

The Tribunal deliberately ignored the crimes committed against the collaborators siding with the authorities of West Pakistan. For instance, it failed to charge the Bangladeshis who indiscriminately executed East Pakistani Biharis. It focussed primarily on the collaborators who assisted and sided with the West Pakistan and committed crimes against humanity according to its vague definition.

The factors that undergirded reactivation of the Tribunal which remained defunct for so many years in 2009 by the Awami League government carried political undertones that they were geared more to subdue the political opponents and dissenters than deliver justice in the true sense of the term and hence remained sub-

jected to political headwinds.

WBangladesh government instituted the ICT through a domestic act, appointing its own judges and following its own judicial procedures and criminal laws. Because of its domestic nature, the judicial architecture provided by the ICT became politically more vulnerable and it operated without international oversight. The weaknesses and flaws of the Tribunal represented the institutional and systemic weaknesses of the larger political system. However, many international crimes tribunals instituted globally including for Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, East Timor, Sierra Leone, Cambodia, and Lebanon to hold the perpetrators of such crimes against humanity and their collaborators accountable represented international judicial luminaries as mandated by the UN apart from the local judges and followed international customary laws. Unlike other Tribunals functioning under international supervision, the ICT of Bangladesh has been viewed sceptically for its imposition of death sentences, trials in absentia, cases of victimhood to

double jeopardy, manufactured evidences, vague definitions of crimes and skirting of due process of law. For example, the ICT Statute chose to selectively define crimes against humanity that excluded from its purview "widespread or systematic attack against a civilian population", which is not only part of the widely accepted definition but a significant element of the crimes against humanity under the traditional interpretation of international law. These deliberate omissions and deviations from widely-acclaimed definition were intended to allow the Tribunal overblown authority to flexibly and politically decide the nature of crimes.

The Tribunal's glaring bias towards targeting opposition leaders since its inception raised serious concerns regarding its independence and neutrality. Furthermore, the Tribunal's egregious refusal to grant defendants fundamental rights, such as access to their counsel, material evidence, and timely notice of charges, gravely undermined the very fabric of due process, rendering the proceedings a hollow mockery of justice. Many defendants became victims of double jeopardy being tried twice for the

same charges.

Beyond the veil of ICT's ostensibly impartial facade, a disturbing narrative emerged, as chronicled by numerous news agencies and human rights organizations. These accounts revealed a troubling landscape of witness intimidation, impermissible collusion between the Tribunal's justices and prosecutors, and a disquieting sense of preordained outcomes, all of which have sullied the integrity of the ICT's proceedings. Contesting the judgements of the ICT was not allowed and the tribunal included the provision of death sentence under political pressure.

Former Prime Minister Hasina, the very architect of the ICT reactivating it in 2009, now finds herself ensnared in its web of justice. The irony is palpable, with Jamaat-e-Islami, a party often at odds with Hasina, now advocating for the ICT's verdict to be carried out.

A disturbing echo of the past reverberates through the proceedings of the ICT, as credible reports allege that the trial of Hasina was marred by a litany of constitutional transgressions. The appointment of judges, it is claimed, was shrouded in controversy, while prosecutorial zeal seemed to overshadow impartiality. The defence, it is alleged, was shackled by restrictive rights, as the tribunal rushed to judgement, bogged down by a staggering caseload of politically-charged cases.

The trial, meant to be a beacon of justice, was instead reduced to a mere formality, its legitimacy undermined by an atmosphere antithetical to fairness and due process. The spectre of a kangaroo court looms large, casting a shadow of doubt over the verdict and threatening to undermine the very fabric of Bangladesh's nascent democracy.

Author is a Senior Lecturer in Political Science, SVM Autonomous College, Jagatsinghpur, Odisha. He can be mailed at manojhyderabad@gmail.com

Selective Memory Is Not Statesmanship

PDP Cannot Outrun Its Own History

TAWHEED SHEIKH

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) is once again trying to present itself as the conscience-keeper of Jammu and Kashmir. Today, its leaders speak with dramatic intensity about land laws, constitutional identity and people's rights. But the people have not forgotten how deeply PDP itself shaped the very political reality it now claims to resist. No amount of emotional speeches can erase the record of their own decisions.

It was during the tenure of the late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed that Jammu and Kashmir witnessed the first political use of bulldozers against its own citizens, a dangerous precedent that others later amplified. That moment altered the relationship between the state and its people in a way that cannot be brushed aside. These were not accidental administrative decisions; they were deliberate political choices that cracked open the constitutional framework long before anyone else touched it.

Yet today, PDP suddenly wakes up with a heightened sensitivity toward the land bill, a bill they fully knew carries no constitutional validity in a Union Territory. The intention was not protection of the people but construction of a narrative, an attempt to play victim after helping engineer the very vulnerability they now lament. If there had been



genuine political conviction, it would have surfaced at the crucial moments, not after the damage had already been made irreversible.

Mehbooba Mufti's own public statements are a reminder of this moral inconsistency. When innocent youth lost their lives, she casually remarked that they had simply gone out to "collect milk and coffee," reducing a tragedy to an explanation that shocked the conscience of the people. Today the same leadership positions itself as the ultimate protector of the populace, a performance that collapses under the weight of its own history.

PDP's political journey has been defined by a pattern of contradiction: speaking one

language in Delhi and another in Srinagar, softening or hardening its stance depending on what kept them in power. Their alliance with the BJP was not forced upon them; it was embraced, even celebrated, at a time when the social fabric of Jammu and Kashmir was fraying. They gave political legitimacy to forces that later dismantled every constitutional safeguard of the state. And when the consequences of those decisions unfolded, they retreated into emotional rhetoric, hoping the people would forget who opened the door in the first place.

Today, when PDP talks about land, identity or the rights of the people, the public listens but without trust. The memory

of the last two decades is too vivid and too painful. Kashmir has learnt the cost of leaders who change positions like costumes, who practise selective outrage and who enter alliances not for the people but for power.

This moment in Jammu and Kashmir's history demands sincerity, clarity and courage, qualities that cannot be performed or manufactured. What the people need is principled consistency, not theatrics from those who helped sow the seeds of the very crisis they now pretend to mourn.

Author is a political analyst. He can be mailed at mlabandipora@gmail.com



Their alliance with the BJP was not forced upon them; it was embraced, even celebrated, at a time when the social fabric of Jammu and Kashmir was fraying. They gave political legitimacy to forces that later dismantled every constitutional safeguard of the state.

Good Morning
Kashmir

Editor , Owner, Printer, Publisher,
Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editors

Mir Suhail

Sulaiman Muhammed Shah

Legal Advisor

Bashir Sidiq

Bureau Chief Jammu:

Harbans Nagokay

R.N.I No: JKENG/2010/36998

Regd No: 109555

Office No: 0194-3593724

Email:

goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com

Office Address:

B-11, Budshah Flats, Jehangir
Chowk, Srinagar - 190001

Printed at:

Khidmat Offset Printing
Press, The Bund, Srinagar

Published From:

Main Bus Stand, Near Masjid Rehmat,
Lal Bazar, Srinagar, 190023

Layout Designer

Aijaz Ahmad Dar

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



Blow to Naxalism The Dawn of a New Era

LALIT GARG

Naxalism is now in its final phase, and this significant achievement and transformation is neither accidental nor sudden. It is the result of the well-planned, firm, and comprehensive strategies implemented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The menace that had bled the heartland of India for decades, the ideology that held development, security, and human sensitivity hostage, now stands on the verge of complete extinction. The most recent and striking evidence of this is the elimination of the country's most dangerous, ruthless, and strategically powerful Maoist commander—Madvi Hidma. His very name had long instilled fear not only among security forces but also within the entire administrative system. Born in the Sukma region, Hidma was a member of the CPI (Maoist) Central Committee and the head of the Battalion-1 of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA). Almost every major Naxal attack in the past two decades—from the 2010 Dantewada massacre to the 2013 Jhiram Ghati attack—was believed to have been masterminded by him. For years, he ruled the Dandakaranya region with terror and was responsible for several deadly ambushes, including the Darbha Ghati massacre. Such was his infamy that a reward of ₹50 lakh to ₹1 crore had been announced on his head.

On 18 November 2025, in a precisely executed and exceptionally brave operation by security forces, Hidma, his wife Raje, and six other Maoists were neutralised. The recovery of AK-47



rifles, pistols, and other weapons from the spot confirms that this operation was a decisive strike on the backbone of Naxalism. Hidma's end is not merely symbolic—it is a strategic turning point that has shaken the Naxal network at its core. Activities in what was once known as the 'Red Corridor' have significantly shrunk, indicating that the dual strategy of security and development adopted by the central government has begun producing real results on the ground. Under the "Naxal-Mukt Bharat" campaign, 300 Naxalites were killed this year, while hundreds surrendered or were arrested. These figures clearly show that Naxalism has now lost its ideological and organisational strength. The recent mass surrenders in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra within just two days reveal that Naxal groups are losing ground even in their traditional strongholds, while

tribal communities are gradually moving toward the benefits of government development schemes. The elimination of Hidma has created an irreplaceable vacuum within the Maoist leadership.

Like terrorism, Naxalism has long been one of India's most complex internal security challenges. Just as cross-border terrorism threatens national peace and stability, Naxalism—born within—has consistently obstructed the nation-building process. For decades, it was not only a concern for a few states but for the entire country. Today, however, India stands at a turning point indicating that Naxalism is indeed nearing its end. The persistent successes of recent years—the elimination of top commanders, large-scale surrenders, and rapid development in affected areas—prove that the nation is moving toward a new dawn. It is a dawn that

promises freedom from fear, violence, and backwardness, and paves the way for enduring peace and accelerated progress.

The roots of Naxalism lay in the social and economic inequalities that emerged after independence—land disputes, exploitation, and the neglect of tribal regions. Development never reached several remote areas; government schemes remained on paper, and local communities deeply distrusted the administration. This environment provided fertile ground for Naxal groups to propagate their ideology. They embraced the path of violence in the name of class struggle and armed revolution, using the forests as shields and drawing tribal youth into their fold. Over time, the movement drifted from ideology to a nexus of terror, extortion, exploitation, and bloodshed. Attacks on security forces, obstruction of development work, blowing up

schools and bridges, using tribals as human shields, and their hunger for power—this became the true face of Naxalism.

Through the efforts of Modi and Shah, not only has the fight against Naxalism been intensified, but development projects in these regions have also been implemented on an unprecedented scale. Significant progress has been made in building roads, establishing electricity connections, and expanding mobile networks, weakening the hold of Naxal groups. According to government data, since 2014 more than 12,000 km of roads have been constructed in Naxal-affected areas, over a thousand new bank branches have been opened, and extensive work has been done in skill development. These coordinated efforts have uprooted Naxalism from its foundation.

The killing of Madvi Hidma—a ruthless and strategically vital leader—is equivalent to breaking the spine of the Naxal movement. He was the chief brain behind their military strategies, and his image had long posed a psychological challenge to security forces. The diminishing of Naxalism is not only due to well-executed security operations but also because of strong political will. When the government declared its resolve to create a "Naxal-Free India," a multilayered strategy was adopted. On one hand, security forces were strengthened with modern technology, better training, and accurate intelligence; on the other, development was accelerated through roads, schools, hospitals, telecom connectivity, and livelihood programmes. The combined force of development and security proved decisive in weakening the roots of Naxalism.

The new dawn emerging

before the nation signifies far more than the silencing of guns. It means that regions left behind for decades will now join the national mainstream. Investments will increase; education and healthcare will strengthen; tourism and local industries will flourish; and people will finally live without fear. The decline of Naxalism sends a powerful message: India's democratic system is stronger than any violent ideology. Attempts to seize power through weapons, terror, and intimidation are ultimately doomed to failure. The ongoing collapse of the Naxal movement makes this truth even clearer. However, the complete eradication of Naxalism cannot rely solely on military action. It is necessary that development efforts continue consistently, tribal communities are empowered, local culture and resources are respected, and the administrative system becomes transparent and sensitive. With such continuity, the resurgence of Naxalism becomes impossible.

The near-end of Naxalism is not just a security triumph for India—it is a historic turning point. It marks the conclusion of a struggle in which thousands of soldiers sacrificed their lives, millions of citizens endured decades of fear, and the nation paused its development to prioritize security. Today, as Naxalism collapses, this is not merely a government victory—it is the collective victory of India. It is the dawn of a new nation—peaceful, secure, progressive, and self-confident. A dawn that will illuminate the future of generations to come.

The author can be mailed at
lalitgarg11@gmail.com

PRICE OF POLLUTION

Does India Need a Comprehensive Pollution Tax

DR. SATYAVAN SAURABH

India today stands at a juncture where striking a balance between rapid economic growth and a worsening environmental crisis has become a daunting challenge. The air in cities is becoming increasingly toxic, rivers are choking with industrial waste, groundwater levels are declining, mountains of solid waste are becoming the hallmark of metropolitan areas, while the impact of climate change is becoming evident on agriculture, health, and the economy. In such a situation, it's natural to ask whether India now needs to impose direct financial penalties on polluters—that is, implement a comprehensive "pollution tax"?

The idea of a pollution tax isn't new, but it's needed today more than ever. Economics recognizes that when an industry, vehicle, or activity pollutes, the consequences are borne by society as a whole, not just the polluter. This is a serious market failure known as "external cost"—that is, society suffers losses, but the cost is neither added to the price of the product nor borne by the polluter. A "pollution tax" attempts to correct this imbalance, where the more pollution one causes, the greater the economic cost one pays.

In India, the "clean energy cess" imposed on coal was an early example of this. However, today, the country faces such a complex crisis of air, water, noise, solid waste, and indus-



trial emissions that taxing just one sector is insufficient. What is needed is a comprehensive and scientifically designed pollution tax that helps reduce pollution and promote cleaner alternatives.

The biggest advantage of a pollution tax is that it makes pollution expensive and clean-up cheap. When an industry is required to pay a tax per unit of emissions, it will naturally be inclined to adopt technologies that pollute less. This trend is evident in regions like Europe,

where carbon-based penalties have led to a significant increase in energy conservation and green technology. This change is also possible in India, provided the policy is long-term, transparent, and goal-oriented.

Another important aspect is that India will need massive investments in environmental protection and clean energy in the coming years. River cleaning, clean transportation, renewable energy, pollution control equipment, scientific management of solid waste, and

the development of green buildings will require significant financial resources. In this context, pollution taxes can become a sustainable and predictable revenue source, which can be spent solely on environmental protection through an independent "green fund."

Pollution taxes are also gaining importance globally. Many developed countries are now imposing additional duties on imported goods that are produced from more polluting sources. If India implements

appropriate pollution taxes domestically, Indian exporters could be relieved of these additional duties in foreign markets. Thus, pollution taxes could prove to be not only environmentally beneficial but also helpful in protecting India's export competitiveness.

But the biggest question that arises is whether pollution taxes will burden the poor? This concern is quite real. If fuel and electricity costs rise, so too will the prices of transportation, food, and essential com-

modities. This directly impacts lower-income groups, whose options are limited. Therefore, to make pollution taxes fair, it will be essential to provide relief to low-income families through direct cash assistance, energy subsidies, and necessities like cooking gas.

The concerns of the industry are no less. Micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, in particular, are energy-intensive, and any additional tax impacts their costs. Therefore, pollution taxes should be implemented in a phased manner—first on large industries, then gradually expanding to smaller ones, with technical and financial support. Subsidies on green machinery, interest-free loans, and guidance on technological upgrading can facilitate this transition.

India's administrative capacity is also a key factor. Accurate pollution measurement, data reliability, and transparency of monitoring systems will be crucial. Monitoring small industries and uncertified sources remains challenging. If emission measurements themselves are not reliable, the tax system cannot be trusted. Therefore, India must strengthen modern sensor technology, artificial intelligence-based monitoring, digital emission registration, and real-time monitoring systems.

Furthermore, the success of a pollution tax will depend on how the government uses its revenue. If this money were merged into the general budget, it would increase public distrust

and undermine the policy's purpose. This requires the establishment of an independent "green fund," which would be spent solely on pollution control, clean energy, green transportation, and environmental protection, and whose annual audits would be publicly available.

This would be a politically bold move. Any price increase could generate public discontent. But it's also true that the environmental crisis has become so severe that drastic, long-term, and visionary economic reforms are necessary to address it. India's young generation is demanding safe water, clean air, and a healthy life. This demand is no longer possible to ignore.

Ultimately, it can be said that a pollution tax is not merely a revenue-generating tool for India, but a necessary step towards a comprehensive green transition. Implementing it in a fair, transparent, phased, and scientific manner will not only enable India to reduce pollution but also transform its development model into a sustainable, healthy, and environmentally sound one.

If implemented in the right policy manner, it could prove to be a turning point in India's history where the country proved that economic development and environmental protection are not contradictory but complementary to each other.

The author can be mailed at
DrSatywanWriter@outlook
saurabh.onmicrosoft.com

GMC Srinagar Hosts Awareness Programme on NABL Accreditation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Department of Biochemistry, Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar, and its associated SMHS Hospital, in collaboration with the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and the Quality Council of India (QCI), organised a day-long Awareness Programme on “NABL Accreditation for Medical Laboratories” Thursday.

This significant event marked a crucial step toward strengthening quality healthcare in Jammu & Kashmir.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by guests, including Principal/Dean, GMC Srinagar, Prof. Iffat Hassan; Deputy Director, Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Nighat; Administrator, GMC & Associated Hospitals Mohammad Ashraf Hakak and other officers.

Principal/Dean, GMC Srinagar, emphasized the importance of accreditation in ensuring quality healthcare. He stated, “Accredita-

tion is a hallmark of excellence in healthcare, and I commend the Department of Biochemistry for taking the lead in pursuing NABL accreditation. This initiative will not only enhance the credibility of our laboratory services but also foster a culture of quality and excellence in our institution.”

Director NABL, Malika Gope, delivered the keynote address, outlining the national vision for strengthening laboratory quality systems. She stated, “NABL accreditation is a mark of excellence that ensures laboratories adhere to international standards of quality and competence. I am confident that this initiative will have a ripple effect in promoting quality laboratory services across the region.”

Joint Director NABL, led detailed technical sessions on ISO 15189:2022 requirements, documentation, M(EL)T Lab processes, and the online accreditation workflow. These sessions provided valuable insights to the participants on the accreditation process and the importance of

adhering to international standards.

Head of the Department of Biochemistry, GMC Srinagar, emphasized the significance of NABL accreditation, stating, “NABL accreditation is not just a certificate; it is a commitment to excellence”. She highlighted the need for continuous quality improvement, structured training, and professional accountability to motivate more laboratories across J&K to adopt accreditation standards.

The event aimed to accelerate the adoption of accreditation practices across healthcare institutions, paving the way for more standardized, accurate, and patient-centric laboratory services in the years ahead.

By organizing this awareness programme, GMC Srinagar and its partners sought to promote a culture of quality and excellence in laboratory services, ultimately benefiting patients and the broader healthcare community in Jammu & Kashmir.

Secy RDD visits Samba, reviews key development projects

Inspects DDC Building, Gobardhan Plant; Inaugurates DEWAT

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SAMBA: Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RD&PR), Mohammad Aijaz Asad, Thursday conducted an extensive tour of Samba district to review the progress of major developmental works and issued firm directions for their timely and high-quality execution.

During his inspection of the under-construction District Development Council (DDC) building, the Secretary instructed officials to expedite the pace of work while strictly adhering to quality parameters. He emphasized that the project must be completed within the stipulated timeline, preferably before March next year.

Officials briefed him that nearly 85% of the construction has been completed. The project, initially approved at a cost of Rs 257 lakh, now carries a revised estimate of Rs 292.72 lakh.

The Secretary also visited the Gobardhan Bio-Gas Plant at Badhori in Block Bari Brahmana, built at a cost of Rs 29 lakh. Officials informed him that both civil and mechanical works



have been completed and the commissioning process will begin shortly.

Calling for the asset to be developed as a model project, Secretary Asad directed officers to ensure robust systems for its long-term operation, maintenance, and sustainability. He noted that the plant will not only cater to local energy needs but also create livelihood opportunities for the community.

Later, the Secretary inaugurated the Decentralized Wastewater Treatment System (DEWAT) at Supwal in Block Samba, constructed at a cost of Rs 12.42 lakh. He said the DEWAT system is effectively treating wastewater at

the local level, significantly reducing environmental impact.

Commending the efforts of field teams, he described the initiative as a noteworthy step in scientific wastewater management and stressed that similar projects should be replicated in other areas lacking drainage or treatment infrastructure.

Aijaz Asad also inspected several other ongoing works in the district and directed officials to complete them within the defined timelines.

He was accompanied during the visit by DG Rural Sanitation, Anoo Malhotra; ACD Samba, ACP Samba, and the BDOs of the district.

Affiliation of 4 schools suspended, 8 imposed fine

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (J&K BOSE) has put affiliation of 4 schools under suspension following confirmation of reports about adoption of non- J&K BOSE prescribed textbooks in their institutions.

These schools are being issued show- cause notices as to why their affiliation cannot be cancelled for open defiance of terms and conditions of affiliation and violation of J&K BOSE Act.

In a press note issued here today, J&K BOSE while giving details revealed that affiliation of Radiant Public School, Anantnag, Solace International School, Pulwama, Holy Mission School, Narbal, Budgam and Pioneer Educational Institute, Hanjiwara, Pattan, Baramulla was put under suspension and their Board related facilities were withheld forthwith.

The schools which were imposed fine include Candid Higher Secondary School, Nowgam, Fayaz Educational Institute,

Chanapora, Nowgam, Al-Fajr Institute, Chanapora, Nowgam, Al- Huda Public School, Pattan, Baramulla, Shamas Memorial School, Khansahib, Budgam, Hanfia High School, Frisal, Kulgam, Future Vision School, Bandipora and Linton Hall School, Rajbagh, Srinagar.

The institutions were directed to deposit the penalty amount within a week in default of which disaffiliation proceedings will be initiated.

Meanwhile, the Board has issued stern instructions to private schools to ensure adoption of prescribed curriculum including textbooks, which it said are aligned with NEP- 2020 involving age appropriate content of NCERT.

The textbooks, BOSE said are affordable and cost effective with focus on competency-based learning in sync with physical and mental development of children. Adoption of these books ensures academic growth without bringing mental pressure to the children in their formative stages of development, it added.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

CM Omar meets

During the meeting, the two leaders deliberated on key developmental priorities of Jammu and Kashmir. The interaction focused on strengthening core infrastructure, enhancing investment opportunities, and ensuring continued financial support for welfare-centric initiatives aimed at improving public services and overall socio-economic growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

Police, Health Deptt

recovery of arms and ammunition from a terror module comprising of doctors.

“Lockers used by doctors and other staff members were inspected in private hospitals, medical colleges, PHCs and health facilities across Srinagar,” said an official.

“The exercises were aimed at preventing misuse of lockers for unauthorised storage of illegal or hazardous materials and strengthening internal security within medical institutions,” he added.

The administrations of the various hospitals have been asked to maintain proper records and ensure that lockers are used strictly for official purposes. “Such inspections will be conducted regularly as part of routine vigilance to maintain a safe and secure environment in hospitals,” the official added.

Meanwhile, in South Kashmir’s Anantnag district the lockers were inspected at the Government Medical College (GMC), from where an AK-47 rifle was recovered earlier this month from Dr Adeel Rather’s locker, said an official.

Pertinently, the arrest of the doctor led to the busting of the terror module, involving several doctors, and the recovery of around 2900 kg of explosive material.

“Anantnag police, in coordination with the hospital administration, conducted a thorough inspection of the lockers at the GMC hospital. During the inspection, unclaimed lockers were identified, and the hospital authorities were instructed to update records to prevent any misuse,” said an official—(KNO)

J&K Logistics Policy

farmers, artisans and MSMEs,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also shared key initiatives aimed at making the J&K UT a more competitive and investment-ready destination.

“Jammu & Kashmir Logistics Policy 2025 will be unveiled soon. The new policy intervention will introduce a comprehensive framework focusing on multimodal connectivity, development of dry ports and warehousing zones, and promotion of private sector participation. It will also grant the Logistic sector the industry status, ensuring that it receives all the benefits of industrial policy,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

He observed that, under the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP), 49 major logistics and connectivity projects worth Rs 3,000 crore have already been mapped, supporting real-time coordination and faster execution. He said the integrated planning approach is helping J&K identify logistics gaps, improve last-mile connectivity to industrial estates, optimize freight movement, and significantly reduce logistics costs and transit times.

The Lieutenant Governor further said that a Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in

Vijaypur, Jammu, will be developed through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, under a Build-Develop-Finance-Operate-Transfer (DBFOT) approach.

The park will offer modern facilities such as Inland Container Depot (ICD), Warehousing, Cold Storage, Truck Terminal and Container Freight Station aimed at boosting trade and logistic efficiency.

Shri Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce Department; Shri Rahul Sahai, Chairman, ICC Jammu Chapter; Shri Debmalya Banerjee, Regional Director, Indian Chamber of Commerce; Shri Vishesh Paul Mahajan, Transport Commissioner J&K; business leaders, members of Indian Chamber of Commerce, representatives of various trade and business organisations and senior officials were present.

Mutton dealers

outside states in protest, citing repeated harassment and bribes.

As reported by KNO at the time, more than 50 sheep died during one such incident due to delays and heat stress.

Adding to concerns, Kashmir dealers have also accused “goons” in Punjab of physically assaulting drivers and conductors when they refuse to pay these illegal “taxes” under the guise of the Punjab Cattle Fair Act.

Mehraj warned that if the government fails to deliver on its promise to resolve the issue by the end of this month, the resulting losses may force dealers to hike mutton rates in Kashmir and they will not take responsibility for the fallout.

Sources within the association said that if the issue is not resolved promptly, mutton prices could reach Rs 800 per kg and the situation could worsen further—(KNO)

Muntazir, Devyani

Rana won from Nagrota -a constituency earlier represented twice by her late father, Devinder Singh Rana.

Post abrogation of Article 370 and repeal of J&K Constitution, all MLAs have to be administered oath under the Constitution of India.

With the filling of these two vacancies, the strength of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly has risen to 90 members.

In the House, the National Conference holds 41 MLAs, the BJP 29, Congress six, PDP four, while the Peoples Conference, CPI (M) and Aam Aadmi Party have one MLA each. Besides, there are seven independent MLAs.

The Lieutenant Governor is also empowered to nominate five members to the Assembly -two women, two representatives of migrants, and one member representing refugees from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir—(KNO)

4 more prime accused

killed at least 15 people and injured many others on November 10 near Delhi’s iconic Red Fort. The two accused were identified as Amir Ali and Jasir Bilal - arrested on November 16 and 17 respectively.

Mufti Irfan Ahmad Wagay was arrested on 21 October, while Dr Muzammil Shakeel Ganai, Dr Adeel Ahmed Rather and Dr Shaheen Saeed were arrested on October 22 and 23 by the J&K police.

The NIA said that they all had played a key role in the terror attack. It also said that

Amir Rashid Ali was arrested after probe revealed that the car used in the blast was registered in his name, Jasir Bilal Wani alias Danish had provided technical support to the suicide bomber.

“Their interrogation is on as part of NIA’s efforts to unravel the complete terror conspiracy in the case,” it said

The investigation of case was handed over to the NIA by the Home Ministry, soon after the attack. It said that agency is working closely with various state police forces to track and arrest every member of the terrorist module involved in the carnage.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir police said that a high level committee has already been constituted to probe the “accidental” Nowgam police station blast while dismissing reports raising doubts and speculations. The committee, it said? is being headed by Principal Secretary, Home Department, with IG Kashmir Zone, District Magistrate Srinagar and a senior scientist from the Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory its members.

At least 13 people, including a State Investigating Officer, a Naib Tehsildar, and a tailor were killed and 32 others were injured after a stockpile of explosives seized from Faridabad went off “accidentally” inside the Nowgam police station on November 14.

“Various reports and items have been appearing in the social media, regarding the unfortunate accidental explosion. It is clarified that these are conjectures and efforts to mislead the public,” the police said.

It said that the accidental explosion occurred on November 14, while the process of sample collection, from the large cache of recovered explosive, for forensic examination, was being done by experts from Forensic Science Laboratory.

“It is informed that a high level committee has already been constituted on 16 Nov 2025, by the Govt, regarding this incident, under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Home Department, comprising of IG Kashmir Zone, District Magistrate Srinagar and a senior Scientist from Central Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Govt of India,” it said—(KNO)

CS reviews progress

immediate handover of land to executing agencies for simultaneous work on all project packages. He also called for prompt grant of forest clearances wherever required.

Both Divisional Commissioners were asked to regularly engage with the implementing agencies to resolve issues without delay and maintain the momentum of work. The Chief Secretary emphasised that while the administration would facilitate all necessary support, the agencies must adhere strictly to the prescribed timelines.

The Public Works Department was asked to finalise and follow the new DPRs under formulation so that these crucial projects can move swiftly to the tendering and execution stages.

A comprehensive review was held on several flagship road corridors, including Srinagar–Baramulla–Uri Road, Khanabal–Baltal Road, Alignment fixing for Peer ki Gali and Sadhna Tunnels, Akhnoor–Poonch Road (completion status), Dredging permissions for NH-144A, Mangam–Doodhpathri–Shopian–Poonch Road, Delhi–Amritsar–Katra Expressway, Kaluchak–Purmandal–Domel Road, Fourth Tawi Bridge, Jammu.

The Chief Secretary laid special emphasis on expediting works along NH-44, including Tunnel projects. He reviewed the progress of Nashri–Chenani road via Patnitop, Marog–

Digdol Tunnel, Digdol to Khuni Nallah Tunnel, Makarkot to Sherbibi Tunnel, Black topping of Banihal to Ramban stretch before December end was specially being emphasis upon. The Divisional Commissioner Jammu was directed to monitor these works closely and furnish regular progress reports.

The meeting noted the progress on both metropolitan ring roads including that of Jammu and Srinagar Ring Road projects. Review covered land issues, construction progress, and connectivity requirements. Detailed discussions were held on the completion of tunnel in Jammu and connectivity of Srinagar Ring Road to the Airport and from Sumbal to Wayil, with directions for accelerating the pace of execution.

The Chief Secretary assessed multiple NHIDCL projects including Highway works on Jammu–Akhnoor Road, Improvement of riding surface from Bhagwati Chowk to Canal Head (Jammu), Chenani–Sudhmahadev Road, Goha–Khellani Road, Khellani–Khanabal stretch, Zojila Tunnel and revised DPRs under consideration

The meeting also reviewed new DPRs under consideration in NHAI, including New Fourth Tawi Bridge, Phase-II of Jammu Ring Road, Six-laning of Chenani–Nashri Tunnel, Srinagar Ring Road Phase III, Sumbal–Bandipora–Gurez Road, Service road on Srinagar–Qazigund Highway, Kathua–Basholi–Bani–Bafliaz–Doda Road and many others in the length and breadth of J&K.

Progress of key R&B projects was also assessed, including Bypasses for Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian towns, Sanat Nagar Flyover, Service road at Tenggpora, Bridges at Chanapora and Tenggpora. New projects discussed included Parimpora–Shalteng Flyover, Old Padshahibagh Bridge, Lal Chowk–Parimpora Flyover and dozens of other connectivity projects.

The Chief Secretary reiterated that all these projects are vital for improving mobility, economic growth, and regional connectivity across Jammu & Kashmir. He directed all departments and agencies to work in close coordination to ensure timely completion of every package and removal of all impediments at the earliest.

Peak hour

the hearing on KPDCL petition on Thursday.

The KCCI, represented by Secretary General Faiz Ahmad Bakshi argued that it was misleading for KPDCL to claim it had not raised tariffs while simultaneously proposing a surcharge during peak hours.

“Since electricity consumption during these hours is a necessity and not a discretionary choice, treating it as an additional charge is fundamentally unfair,” the KCCI said.

Citing figures, the KCCI said Kashmir has the worst power reliability in India.

“As per Central Electricity Authority figures for 2022, the System Average Interruption Duration Index(SAIDI) for Kashmir stands at a shocking 889, while the System Average Interruption Frequency Index(SAIFI) stands at 723.95. These numbers are several times higher than the national averages of 116.12 and 171.64. Even Jammu, despite its own problems, performs significantly better with a SAIDI of 489 and SAIFI of 442,” the business body said—(KNO)

SIA raids

and outside Jammu & Kashmir.

WORLD BOXING CUP FINALS

Jaismine, Nikhat win as India script history with 9 gold medals

IAN S

GREATER NOIDA: Jaismine Lamboria stunned Olympic Medallist Wu Shih Yi while Nikhat Zareen, Parveen, Minakshi, Preeti, Arundhati & Nupur won gold medals as India delivered its greatest-ever performance on the global stage, clinching nine gold medals on a landmark final day of the World Boxing Cup Finals 2025 at the Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex here on Thursday.

In front of a roaring home crowd, India produced a statement of dominance across key Olympic-class divisions, with the women leading the charge with a historic sweep.

Two gold-medal wins in the men's section added to a defining campaign for the host nation as India finished their campaign with nine gold, six silver, and five bronze medals, with each of the 20 participating pugilists securing a podium finish.

The day belonged to India's women pugilists, who produced a golden rush with Minakshi (48kg), Preeti (54kg), Arundhati Choudhary (70kg), and Nupur (80+kg) securing the yellow metal each in the afternoon session.

Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) was the star of the evening session with a stunning victory, while World Champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg) and Parveen (60kg) also climbed to the top of the podium. With the Los Angeles Olympics set to introduce gender parity across weight categories, Indian women's dominance on the final day further highlighted the nation's rising stature in world boxing.

The evening's high-



light was reigning World Champion Jaismine, who stunned Paris Olympic medalist Wu Shih Yi 4:1 in a blockbuster final. Fighting with swagger and composure, she imposed her rhythm early with flowing combinations and absorbed late pressure with poise to claim one of India's biggest wins of the event.

Nikhat Zareen dismantled Chinese Taipei's Guo Yi Xuan 5:0 with vintage precision and ring control, while Parveen delivered a gritty 3:2 triumph over Japan's Ayaka Taguchi with sharp counters and superior movement.

Earlier in the day, Minakshi opened the medal rush with a commanding 5:0 win over reigning Asian Champion Farzona Fozilova, showcasing blistering pace, razor-sharp accuracy, and airtight defence, including a stunning left-right combination that set the tone for Round 1. Preeti followed with another emphatic 5:0

sweep, overpowering Italy's World Championships medalist Sirine Charrabi through constant pressure and clean scoring blows.

Arundhati Choudhary—on a remarkable comeback after 18 months—dominated Uzbekistan's Aziza Zokirova with a decisive 5:0 win built on precise jabs, disciplined defence, and complete tactical control. Nupur edged a cagey 3:2 battle against Uzbekistan's Sotimboeva Oltinoy, sealing her maiden World Boxing Cup Finals title with clutch shot-making in the final round.

Men win two gold medals

India's male pugilists added two more gold medals to cap a dominant home campaign. Sachin (60kg) produced a flawless 5:0 win over Kyrgyzstan's Munarbek uulu Seitbek, blending accuracy, momentum control, and clean punching. The most dramatic victory of the finals came from Hitesh (70kg), who overturned an early

deficit to edge Kazakhstan's Nurbek Mursal 3:2 in a thrilling bout, roaring back in Rounds 2 and 3 with heavy counters and a composed finish.

India added six silver medals through Jadumani Singh (50kg), Pawan Bartwal (55kg), Abhinash Jamwal (65kg), and Ankush Phangal (80kg), all of whom produced commendable runs in one of the strongest fields ever assembled in World Boxing Cup history. Narender Berwal (90+kg) battled hard but settled for silver after a 5:0 loss to Uzbekistan's powerful Khalimjon Mamasoliev, while Pooja Rani went down fighting to World Boxing Cup medalist Agata Kaczmarek in the women's 80kg final.

Beyond India's historic gold rush, the remaining finals delivered standout performances from several global powerhouses. Australia's Emma-Sue Greentree impressed with a dominant 5:0 win over Italy's Melissa Gemini in the women's 75kg final, while Olympic medalist Chen Nien-Chin of Chinese Taipei produced a clinical 4:1 victory in the women's 65kg division.

Uzbekistan dominated multiple divisions, with Asilbek Jalilov (50kg), Samandar Olimov (55kg), Javokhir Abdurakhimov (75kg), and Mamasoliev (90+kg) all clinching gold through commanding displays. England celebrated two champions—Shittu Oladimeji, who overpowered Ankush at 80kg, and Isaac Okoh, who secured the 90kg crown—while Japan's Shion Nishiyama prevailed 4:1 in the men's 65kg final and Kazakhstan's Sultanbek Aibaruly topped the 85kg men's section.

Chopra backs Indian team to adapt quicker to Guwahati pitch despite many unknowns

IAN S

NEW DELHI: There are many vital elements of intrigue with the ACA Stadium in Guwahati becoming India's 28th Test venue when the second India-South Africa game begins on Saturday. With India having a 30-run humbling loss on a spin-friendly pitch inside three days at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata, how the surface would behave in Guwahati is the cynosure of everyone's eyes.

The stadium had been one of the five venues for the 2025 Women's ODI World Cup and aided the batters to make runs, as well as offer a lot of turn to spinners. But when it comes to red-ball cricket, an early morning start means moisture in the air will be there for an extended period and could make batting more difficult, thus helping the seamers.

Former India opener Aakash Chopra has backed the hosts to adapt to the conditions quicker than South Africa, while admitting the unusually early start, danger of losing overs in the final session and the pitch's nature having an element of unknown makes things far more interesting in deciding the game's result.

"Yes, it is interesting actually because this is having a start time of 9 am. When we used to play in Assam in November-December, then we used to look for start at 8:30 because it gets dark very early in the evening. So, in the end, the overs would be lost. I feel that no matter how much we try, we will lose overs. So, that will be a challenge for both teams, as they would want to get all the overs done for the day."

"It would also be on their mind because if the pitch is good to play on, where there is an equal contest for the bat and ball, like we saw in Delhi that it took 5 days to win a match and if you keep losing 10-15 overs every day, then by



the end of the 4th day, you have lost more than half a day, which is 60% of the overs. So, I think that will be a challenge for both the teams in terms of how they go through their overs," said Chopra, a JioStar expert, while replying to an IANS query, during a virtual media day on Thursday.

With Guwahati having both red and black soil pitches on offer, it adds to the mystery of the pitch's behaviour. "Plus, it is a new pitch. No one has any idea how Test cricket will be played in Guwahati because it is a new Test venue. Of course, first-class cricket has already happened here. But how the Test will unfold will be a question in everyone's mind because we often say that home conditions are beneficial when the conditions are familiar to you."

"But if you are playing there for the first time, be it Shubman Gill or Sai Sudharsan or Rishabh Pant or Dhruv Jurel, and the pitch is not as good for them as it is for Temba Bavuma or Ryan Rickelton, then it feels like there is no home advantage. But perhaps it is not as good as it can be in other venues."

"So, it is a challenge and a slightly uncharted territory for both teams. While it is correct that we are still playing in India and that advantage cannot be taken away from us, as we grew up playing on these kinds of surfaces. But Guwahati might be a

different one, though the red and black soil for the pitches there must have come from somewhere in India," he added.

In a rare adjustment, the lunch and tea breaks will swap positions, forcing players to rethink their dietary intake and normal routine. Despite all this, Chopra has backed India to bounce back and level the series 1-1.

"We would like to believe and back ourselves to know these conditions or adapt a lot faster even if we find them slightly different as compared to, say, somebody who is brought up in Johannesburg and has played all his cricket at the Wanderers ground."

"For him to come here and adapt will be tough. So we would like to assume and believe that it is going to be a lot tougher. So, yes, it is a new challenge for both teams. But you need to back the Indian players to get the most out of it and adapt to it relatively quicker than the opposition," he said.

With moisture in the air and on the pitch during the early morning session, it can make life difficult for anyone who loses the toss. It would mean the losing side at the toss will need to negotiate tricky conditions longer than usual before the surface settles, thus adding another layer of complexity to the contest.

Though Chopra said in jest that talking about the

toss's importance won't have any change in India's bad luck with the toss result, he also felt that if the losing side at the toss survives the opening session unscathed, then it might be a blessing in disguise.

"See, again, it could be a blessing in disguise if what you are saying is true and it can't be a better thing. It's because when you win the toss in India, no one gives you bowling. No matter how much data is available historically, but when you see there is no grass or no live grass on the pitch, and there is no or limited moisture, it is very difficult to actually win the toss and bowl first."

"Because if the first session goes well, then the batting will be good later on and maybe the fourth innings is going to be the toughest part of the game. So, since we lose tosses more than we win far more, it might actually be a blessing in disguise."

"You lose the toss, allow them to bat and if there is early swing available, you can knock out 4-5 of them in the first session itself, and that will give you a fairly, like an upper hand. So, I have stopped thinking about tosses, because the Indian team doesn't win tosses."

Catch all the action from the second Test of South Africa's tour of India 2025, from November 22, 9 am IST onwards, live on JioHotstar and Star Sports Network.

Steve Smith warns Australia must 'keep Stokes quiet' as Ashes begins in Perth

IAN S

PERTH: Australia's stand-in captain Steve Smith has identified England captain Ben Stokes as the "man to keep quiet" as his side gears up for the opening Test of the Ashes at Perth Stadium on Friday. With regular skipper Pat Cummins injured, Smith will lead Australia for the 41st time in Test cricket and is acutely aware of the threat England's talisman poses.

"He (Stokes) has done a terrific job with England over the last couple of years," Smith said on the eve of the first Test. "Potentially, he's someone who you don't want to get riled up. He has had a few performances against us where he's either taken the game away from us or pulled it back (for England). He's a quality performer, whether it's bat, ball, or in the field. He's always in the game, giving his 110%. Hopefully, we can keep him quiet."

England enter the series with growing confidence under the Stokes-Brendon McCullum leadership, known for its aggressive cricketing philosophy. Smith acknowledged the challenges of countering England's high-tempo approach.

"I think it's just playing the tempo of the game that needs to be played at each certain time," he said. "I've no doubt throughout this series, there's going to be periods of the game where a few of their batters get



off and they score some runs quickly. And for us, it might be about being a little bit defensive in those moments. And then finding the moments where we can attack a bit more and just playing the game, really, that's in front of us, and not letting it drift too far."

Australia will also hand debuts to Jake Weatherald and Brendan Doggett in the series opener, with Weatherald set to partner Usman Khawaja at the top. Smith said the 31-year-old left-hander has earned his Baggy Green through outstanding domestic form.

"I watched him bat in the nets pretty closely the last few days. They are pretty tricky nets – fast, bouncy, and a lot of seam," Smith noted. "The guys were charging in and bowling really fast (in the nets). He took it on and got in really good positions... He has been selected for his performances in the last 18 months in particular. He has batted exceptionally well at the top

of the order for Tasmania, and hopefully he can bring that to the Test arena."

"I'm really excited for him, and he has worked hard for a long period of time, and he is going to complement Usman Khawaja pretty well up top," he added.

Australia have won four of their five Tests at the Perth Stadium but suffered a defeat to India in their last appearance. Smith believes conditions will be favourable but insists adaptability will be crucial.

"It looks like a good wicket. Looks pretty similar to last summer. It's going to have some decent pace and bounce in it. It's probably not as hot as it was last year, so potentially may not crack up as much as it did," he said.

"We have got to adapt quickly to try and find the top of the stumps as early as possible. But these guys (our bowlers) are quality bowlers and I hope we do that," said Smith.

Movies Schedule

Friday, 21st November

TICKETS AT

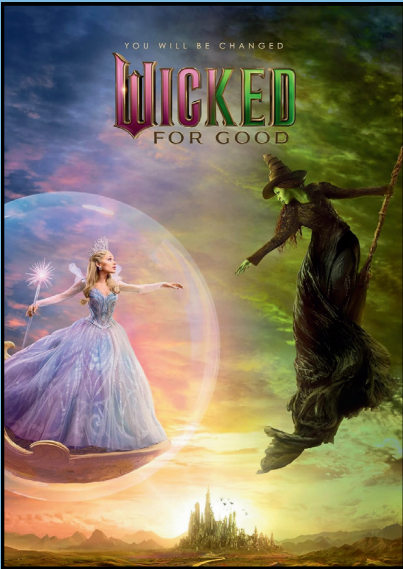
www.bookmyshow.com

www.inoxmovies.com

Paytm, Inox App or
Directly from the booking
counter at the cinema.



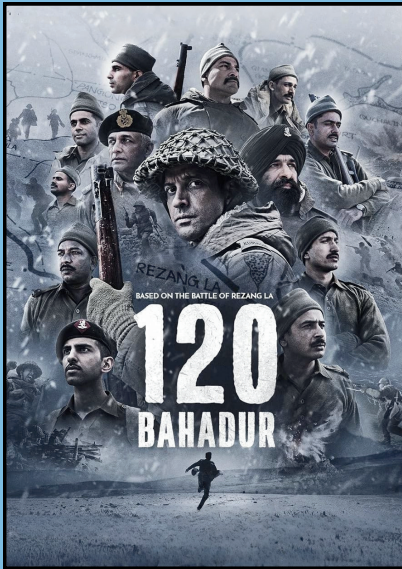
CALL 95416 13868
FOR ASSISTANCE WITH TICKETS



WICKED: FOR GOOD (UA 16+)
3D ENGLISH ATMOS WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
02:45 PM



MASTI 4 (A)
HINDI - 01:50 PM, 06:45 PM



120 BAHADUR (UA 13+)
HINDI ATMOS - 05:45 PM
HINDI - 03:15 PM



SISUR ROAD TO REVENGE (A)
ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
04:45 PM



DE DE PYAAR DE 2 (U/A13+)
HINDI - 06:15 PM