

Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Lok Bhavan Jammu & Kashmir
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Success in the next 85 days will not be measured by marches or slogans, but by how deeply the drug menace is cleaned out from villages and city neighborhoods. Weekly outcomes must be clear—how many people were rehabilitated, how many smugglers prosecuted, how many fake centers shut down, how many cases registered, how much contraband seized, and how many women's committees formed in Panchayat's and city wards: Lieutenant Governor

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CM Pitches J&K As Premier Filming Destination During Bengaluru Outreach

Engages Leading Film Producers, Assures Policy Support, Ease Of Filmmaking



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BENGALURU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday interacted with filmmakers in Bengaluru, showcasing Jammu & Kashmir's scenic beauty and rich cultural heritage as an ideal destination for cinema.

A delegation of leading film producers and representatives of major production houses met the Chief Minister to explore opportunities for film production and collaboration.

The Chief Minister assured full support and a friendly, enabling environment for artists, reiterating the Government's commitment to making filmmaking in Jammu & Kashmir easier and more accessible.

The interaction formed part of the Jammu & Kashmir Government's focused outreach in South India,

aimed at building stronger connections with key stakeholders in the region's tourism and film industries. Recognising South India as a major hub of cinema, creativity, and outbound tourism, the initiative seeks to position J&K as a preferred destination for both filmmakers and travellers.

During the engagement, the Chief Minister highlighted J&K's unparalleled natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and rich cultural heritage, ranging from serene valleys and snow-clad mountains to vibrant traditions and local craftsmanship.

He also underlined recent policy measures introduced to facilitate film production in J&K, including streamlined permission processes, logistical support, and incentives for production houses.

Assuring full cooperation, the Chief Minister

United Fight Inevitable For Drug-Free J&K: LG Manoj Sinha

Joins People's Movement In Samba, Spearheading Drug-Free J&K Campaign

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: "I assure citizens that we will strike hard against drug networks. Yet this fight cannot be won by law alone, it must be won within society, through awareness, cooperation, and collective effort. We are building a Jammu Kashmir where drugs have no place," Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Saturday. He said the 100-day drug-free J&K movement will inspire future generations and stand as proof that when people rise together, they can change history.

The Lieutenant Governor was addressing a large gathering at Samba as part of 100-days drug-free J&K movement. He said that every Panchayat must be drug-free, and every police station must be free of drug traffickers.

"Success in the next 85 days will not be measured by



marches or slogans, but by how deeply the drug menace is cleaned out from villages and city neighborhoods. Weekly outcomes must be clear—how many people were rehabilitated, how many smugglers prosecuted, how many fake centers shut down, how many cases registered, how much contra-

band seized, and how many women's committees formed in Panchayat's and city wards," the Lieutenant Governor said.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor observed that continuous auditing of drug-free J&K campaign is essential. He said Deputy Commissioners, SSPs and other enforce-

ment agencies must review weekly marches and programs to ensure this movement builds a complete chain of care—from identification and counseling to treatment, recovery, and rehabilitation.

The Lieutenant Governor said that this grave crisis of drug was systematically

LG Attends Chintan Shivir On Sports

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Saturday addressed national 'Chintan Shivir' on Sports at

Srinagar. The three-day event organised by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports focuses on key policy challenges in sports, strengthening Centre-States/UTs coordination and charting a comprehensive roadmap to transform India into a global sporting superpower. The event

is being attended by Sports Ministers from various states, sports administrators, Principal Secretaries from states and representatives from National Sports Federations.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized the importance of nurtur-

ing a sports culture at the grassroots, beginning in villages and local communities.

"True champions rarely emerge solely from elite academies; they are discovered in small towns, neighbourhoods, and local clubs, where academies later refine

Jammu Sizzles Above 39°C As Kashmir Records Intermittent Rainfall



SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: The Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Saturday said Jammu and Kashmir recorded uncertain weather conditions on Saturday with light rain at scattered places and a rising temperature trend in Jammu division.

A MeT official said predicted generally cloudy conditions with intermittent light rain and thunderstorms over the coming days.

According to the daily weather parameters, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 21.2°C, which was 0.8°C below normal, and a minimum of 13.5°C, above normal by 4.8°C.

The city received 1.4 mm of rainfall during the last 24 hours ending 0830 hrs. Relative humidity stood at 92 percent in the morning and 71 percent in the evening.

In South Kashmir, Qazigund recorded a maximum of 20.0°C and a minimum of 10.0°C, while Pahalgam

Final Electoral Rolls Likely By May 10-15: J&K CEC

NAVEED UL HAQ

BUDGAM: Jammu and Kashmir State Election Commissioner (SEC) Shantmanu on Saturday said that final electoral rolls for the Union Territory are likely to be ready between May 10 and 15, with voter enrolment witnessing an improvement of around 4-5 per cent during the ongoing revision exercise.



Speaking to the media in Budgam, Shantmanu, said the revision process, which began on March 27, is in its concluding phase. He noted that continuous monitoring through meetings and field inspections has ensured steady progress. "On-ground visits help us understand the actual situation, and I am satisfied with the way the process is being carried out," he said.

The CEC said the current exercise includes enrolling

newly eligible voters who have attained the age of 18, while removing the names of deceased individuals and those who have shifted from their original locations. "Necessary corrections in voter details are also being undertaken simultaneously to enhance the accuracy of electoral rolls so that whenever in the future panchayat elections happen, our electoral rolls are ready," he said.

He said that Panchayat Secretaries and Booth Level Officers are actively conducting door-to-door verification across the district. "Teams are reaching every household, assisting people in filling out forms, and ensuring that no eligible voter is left out. The response from the public has been encouraging," he added.

Shantmanu

CIK Searches Central Jail, Seizes Digital Devices In Terror Case

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police conducted searches at Central Jail Srinagar in connection with a terror-linked case and seized digital communication devices, officials said on Saturday.

An official said that the searches were carried out on April 25 following a warrant issued by a special court designated under the NIA Act in a case registered as FIR No. 06/2023 at Police Station CI Kashmir.

He said the case was registered under Sections 153-A, 505, 121 and 120-B of the IPC, along with Sections 13 and 39 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

"Acting on technical inputs about the presence of suspicious digital signatures inside the jail premises, search operations were



conducted across multiple barracks and blocks in coordination with jail authorities," he added.

The official said that during the operation, digital communication devices and other

incriminating material were recovered and seized.

The seized devices will be sent for forensic examination to establish possible links and identify any wider network

CS Reviews Progress, Implementation Of HADP

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Saturday chaired a review meeting to assess the progress and performance of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) in Jammu and Kashmir in the presence of senior officers of the Agriculture Production Department and other concerned stakeholders.

The meeting besides ACS, Agriculture Production Department and MD, J&K Bank was attended by the MD, HADP; HoDs of the Department along with Representatives from Agricultural Universities here.

The meeting had an in depth review of the programme covering establishment status, key performance indicators, financial returns, employment gen-

eration and district-wise outcomes.

The Chief Secretary noted that the programme reflects strong financial viability, with a government subsidy of around 450 crore

expected to be recovered within approximately 2.6 years through enhanced farm incomes.

He directed the department to intensify outreach efforts and ensure greater inclusion of eligible farmers, particularly in districts with lower coverage.

The Chief Secretary laid strong emphasis on the importance of adopting a data-driven, district-specific approach to improve conversion from approvals to unit establishment, which currently stands at around 25 percent. The Chief Secretary emphasized the need to further improve



Price Gouging Or Cost Recovery? The Post-Crackdown Dining Dilemma

JAVED SHAH

SRINAGAR: In the aftermath of the massive "Operation Rotten Meat" crackdown, which led to the closure of several eateries over hygiene violations, the city's restaurant scene is now facing a different kind of controversy, rising food prices and growing customer frustration.

While authorities hailed the drive as a necessary step to improve food safety and cleanliness, many diners now feel they are paying the price for it.

Restaurants Recovering Losses? Customers across the city are reporting sudden and uneven price hikes, with the same dish costing vastly different amounts from one restaurant to another. In some

cases, prices have reportedly increased by as much as 40 percent between neighboring establishments.

Many in the industry believe that restaurant owners, after suffering losses during the crackdown, are now trying to recover those costs by raising prices without clear justification.

Some restaurants are also accused of charging extra during peak hours, adding "convenience premiums" depending on timing and demand. Others are said to be informally passing on the cost of new refrigeration units, hygiene upgrades, and fines by quietly increasing menu rates — what some customers are calling a "cleanliness tax."

Customers Facing Hostil-

ity More troubling than the rising prices is the attitude some customers say they are facing when they question their bills.

Several diners have shared experiences of being dismissed or even insulted for asking

about sudden price increases.

"I asked why a regular platter had gone up by 300 overnight," said Sarah Manzoor, a frequent customer at a downtown restaurant. "Instead of explaining, the manager told me that if I couldn't afford the new standards, I shouldn't be eating out. It was embarrassing."

Such incidents have sparked anger among the public, with many saying customers are being treated unfairly for simply asking for transparency.

Higher Prices, Same Quality? Despite the promises of improved hygiene after the crackdown, many customers feel the quality of food has not improved



PM Modi Led Regime Expanded Railway Network In J&K: Dr Jitendra

UMAISAR GULL

JAMMU: Stating that the expansion of the railway network in Jammu and Kashmir has been made possible under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Saturday said that while train services reached Jammu in 1972, it took nearly five to six decades for the rail line to be extended to Katra and Kashmir.

Speaking to reporters, Dr Singh said, "Today, a vast railway network is being laid across Jammu and Kashmir. Before 2014, the extension of the railway line towards Kashmir had almost come to a halt due to alignment issues in Reasi, where the world's highest Chenab bridge now stands."

He said that after 2014, the



project gained momentum. "The train had reached Jammu in 1972, but it took nearly 50-60 years to reach Katra," Singh said, adding that it was under the present dispensation that the tracks moved ahead towards the Kashmir Valley.

Singh said the Vande Bharat Express was initially planned to operate between Jammu and Srinagar, but due to renovation and upgradation works at Jammu Railway Station, the service was flagged off from Katra. "From

TODAY, A VAST RAILWAY NETWORK IS BEING LAID ACROSS Jammu and Kashmir. Before 2014, the extension of the railway line towards Kashmir had almost come to a halt due to alignment issues in Reasi, where the world's highest Chenab bridge now stands."

Div Com reviews preparations for Mega NMBA Pad Yatra in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, chaired a high-level meeting to review arrangements for the upcoming Mega Nasha Mukta Pad Yatra, scheduled to be held on May 3 in Srinagar.

The event will be flagged off by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners and Heads of Departments of Kashmir Division.

During the review, the Divisional Commissioner emphasized the need for broad-based participation from all sections of society to ensure the success of the rally and to effectively raise awareness



participation, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned authorities, including SRTC, Transport Department, and Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), to make adequate transportation arrangements for participants. He also instructed the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department to ensure the availability of drinking water facilities along the route and at the venue.

Further, the Hospitality and Protocol Department was tasked with arranging refreshments for participants.

Deputy Commissioners and Heads of Departments were directed to designate nodal officers to coordinate and ensure active participation of employees and the public in the event.

representatives, institutions, government departments, sportspersons, and other stakeholders to deliver a strong and unified message against substance abuse.

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participation, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned authorities, including SRTC, Transport Department, and Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), to make adequate transportation arrangements for participants. He also instructed the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department to ensure the availability of drinking water facilities along the route and at the venue.

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DLSA Srinagar conducts Legal Awareness Programme at Mujgund

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar Saturday organized an awareness program under the guidance of Haq Nawaz Zargar, Chairman DLSA (Pr. Distt. & Sessions Judge), Srinagar and overall supervision of Secretary DLSA, Srinagar at the Legal Literacy Club, Mujgund, aimed at sensitizing students and the local community on important legal and social issues.

The program featured informative sessions delivered by learned panelists. Zeenat Nazir, Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC) addressed the gathering on the growing menace of drug abuse, highlighting its harmful impact on individuals, families, and society.

Emphasis was laid on preventive measures, early intervention, and the role of youth in combating substance abuse.

Adv. Sabiya Kaunsar, Pro

Bono lawyer delivered an insightful talk on the Motor Vehicles Act and road safety rules. The speaker stressed the importance of responsible driving, adherence to traffic regulations, use of helmets and seat belts, and the legal consequences of violations.

Further Safa, Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC) spoke on the rights of the third gender, focusing on legal recognition, protection against discrimination, and various

welfare measures available under the law. The session aimed to promote inclusivity, equality, and respect for all individuals irrespective of gender identity.

The program witnessed active participation from students and faculty members, who appreciated the initiative and engaged in interactive discussions with the speakers. DLSA Srinagar reiterated its commitment to spreading legal awareness and empowering citizens through such outreach programs.

PW Students Rank Among Top Performers in JKBOSE Class 10, 12 Results

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Education Company, Physics Wallah (PW)'s JKBOSE Wallah announced that 194 students have delivered strong performances in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) Summer Zone Results 2026. 49 students from class 12 secured 90% and above, while 145 Class 10 students scored 90% and above. The students emerged among the top performers across the Union Territory, following the result announcement this week.

Among Class 12 students, Ayushi Sharma (99.40%) secured Rank 1, followed by Chitvan Mahajan (99.20%) and Rajveer Singh (99.20%) at Rank 2 among other students that secured ranks under 10.

In Class 10, top scorers included Niyati Dutta (99.80%), Aliya Malik



(99.40%), Mohit Kumar (99.40%), Pari Sharma (99.40%), and Mehak Pathan (99.20%), among others.

Sharing her experience, Ayushi Sharma (Class 12th) said, "This achievement feels very special. There were moments of pressure during preparation, but staying disciplined and focused made a difference. PW's JKBOSE Wallah lectures helped simplify concepts, and consistent revision kept me exam-ready. The support from teachers and my

family kept me motivated throughout."

Speaking about her journey, Niyati Dutta (Class 10th) said, "Preparing for board exams felt challenging at times, but staying consistent really helped me. Studying through PW's JKBOSE Wallah's Kohinoor batch helped me build conceptual clarity, and the faculty was always supportive whenever I had doubts. I credit my success to my entire family and my teachers, who played a crucial role in my performance."

Speaking on the results,

Alakh Pandey, Founder and CEO, Physics Wallah (PW) said, "We are proud of our students for their performance in the JKBOSE Class 10th and 12th results. Their results truly reflect their sincere efforts and commitment. For students who may not have scored as expected, it's important to remember that one exam does not define your journey; what matters is how you move forward."

The results showcase a strong performance by the students and highlight the impact of structured preparation, continuous assessment and timely academic support in driving positive student outcomes. PW's JKBOSE Wallah continues to support students through video lectures, practice sessions, revision modules, and mentorship, aimed at providing a comprehensive and effective learning experience. (PR)

Legal Awareness Programme on Drug Menace held at GDC Tangdhar



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: In line with the Plan of Action and Calendar of Activities for July 2025 issued by the District Legal Services Authority Kupwara, the Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Tangdhar Karnah in collaboration with the District Police Kupwara and Sub District Hospital Tangdhar organized a comprehensive awareness programme on Victims of Drug Abuse and Eradication of Drug Menace at the auditorium of Government Degree College (GDC) Tangdhar.

The programme was held under the guidance of Mansoor Ahmed Mir, Munsiff/Chairman, TLSC Tangdhar Karnah and witnessed the participation of various stakeholders including the staff of TLSC Tangdhar, members of Bar Association Tangdhar, Panel Lawyers, PLVs, faculty of GDC Tangdhar, health officials, police officers, and around 100 students of the college.

Key speakers included Adv. Qazi Mehboob Allahi, President Bar Association Tangdhar; Adv. Abdul Majeed Bandy Adv. Farooq Ahmed Qureshi and Adv. Waqar Ahmad, who highlighted critical legal and social issues pertaining to drug abuse.

They elaborated on the legal framework available to combat drug menace and emphasized the role of NALSA in promoting a Drug-Free India.

Dr. Mukhtyar Ahmad, Medical Officer, SDH Tangdhar, representing the Health Department, spoke on the psychological and physical impacts of drug addiction and emphasized the crucial role of civil society in supporting rehabilitation efforts and fostering a healthy lifestyle.

Among the dignitaries present were Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, Principal of GDC Tangdhar, who underscored the importance of awareness, education, and collective societal action. He stressed the role of communities in socially boycotting drug peddlers as a deterrent strategy.

Police officers also addressed the gathering, reaffirming law enforcement's commitment to fighting the drug menace and extending full cooperation in community-driven efforts.

The event concluded with a powerful message advocating a drug-free, healthy, and socially responsible society, reflecting the shared commitment of legal, medical, academic, and enforcement bodies towards this critical cause.

Unity March under Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyan held in B'pora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Department of Youth Services and Sports Bandipora Saturday organized a large-scale Unity March under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, aimed at spreading awareness against substance abuse and promoting a drug-free society.

The march commenced from Mini Secretariat Bandipora and culminated at S.K. Stadium, witnessing enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, Rehbar-e-Khel (REKs), and officials from various departments. Participants marched carrying placards and banners highlighting the ill effects of drug abuse and the importance of collective responsibility in eradicating the menace.

On the occasion, a pledge was administered to the participants, wherein

they resolved to actively contribute towards building a drug-free Bandipora and to spread awareness within their communities.

Among others, the march was joined by the Assistant Commissioner Development Bandipora, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat Bandipora, Assistant Regional Transport Officer Bandipora, Chief Medical Officer Bandipora and Padma Shri awardee, Faisal Ali Dar.

Addressing the gathering, the officers emphasized the need for sustained awareness campaigns and community participation to tackle substance abuse effectively.

The event concluded at S.K. Stadium with a renewed commitment from all stakeholders to continue efforts under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan and ensure a healthier, safer future for the district.

Animal Husbandry Kashmir observes World Veterinary Day

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Department of Animal Husbandry, Kashmir observed World Veterinary Day, 2026 themed "Veterinarians: Guardians of Food and Health," with the main event held at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry Srinagar.

The programme focused on the vital role veterinarians play in ensuring food safety, animal health, and public health, and sustainable food systems from production to consumption (from farm to fork). Alongside, an awareness programme was organized on

modern animal husbandry practices, zoonotic diseases, departmental schemes, programs, and initiatives in the interest of dairy farmers, pet owners, and unemployed youth.

The event was attended by senior departmental officers, dairy farmers, pet owners, and unemployed youth from different districts of Kashmir Division.

Moreover, on the occasion, six departmental officers were felicitated for their crucial role in food safety, animal health, public health, rural development, and sustainable food systems.

Shantmanu visits Budgam, reviews process of ongoing SSR

Emphasizes on maintaining transparency, timely completion of SSR in district

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: State Election Commissioner (SEC), Shantmanu Saturday conducted an extensive visit of district Budgam to oversee process of the ongoing Special Summary Revision (SSR) of Electoral Rolls.

During his visit, the SEC participated in special awareness camps on SSR at Sheikhpura and Razwen areas of the district.

The SEC personally monitored the registration process at these special camps, ensuring that no eligible citizen is left behind in the updated rolls. He assessed the progress of the revision process and took stock of various measures being

implemented to ensure the preparation of accurate, inclusive, and error-free electoral rolls. He emphasized on the importance of maintaining transparency, fairness, and timely completion of the revision exercise to strengthen the democratic process at the grassroots level.

Shantmanu interacted with officials associated with the electoral process and stressed the need for maximum public participation, especially encouraging the enrolment of eligible young voters, women, and members of marginalized sections of society. He also underlined the importance of removing duplications, correcting discrepancies, and ensuring that no eligible voter is left out of

the electoral rolls.

Interacting directly with a gathering of first-time voters (18+), the Commissioner emphasized on the importance of their participation in democratic process and encouraged the youth to take the lead in the electoral process.

Later, the SEC also chaired a high-level review meeting and held detailed evaluation of the current progress of the summary revision across various constituencies of the district as well as status of voter registration, verification drives, awareness campaigns, and field-level coordination.

Deputy Commissioner Budgam (District Panchayat Officer Budgam)

Athar Aamir Khan; Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs), Block Development Officers (BDOs), and all key election-related officers were present in the meeting.

Shantmanu directed the officers to adopt a proactive approach in door-to-door verification and utilize digital platforms effectively to streamline the registration process, ensuring an error-free and inclusive voter list for the district.

He directed the officers to intensify awareness efforts so that citizens are fully informed about the SSR process and can actively participate in updating their electoral details.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION BIJBEHARA

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NITNO.STB/06 of 2026-27; Dated: 22/04/2026

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-Tenders (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from "A" Class Electrical Contractors issued by the Electrical Inspectorate of Govt of Central Inspectorial organization of Govt. of India/ other state Govt. In case bid submitted joint venture firm, any of partner should possess "A" class electrical license for "Renovation of 33kV Ashajipora Line by way of replacement of 20 No. ST Poles, 11kV VCB Panel Set and 11kV Cables at Ashajipora Receiving Station and 33kV Isolator Set at 1X10+1X6.3MVA Dialgam Receiving Station under SASCI" as per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document. Intending bidders are requested to submit their offer along with terms, conditions, technical specifications and annexure forming part of this tender document. The details are as under:

#	Name of Work	Adv. Cost. (IN Rs.)	Cost of e-Bid/ tender document (Rs)	EMD (Rs)
1.	Renovation of 33kV Ashajipora Line by way of replacement of 20 No. ST Poles, 11kV VCB Panel Set and 11kV Cables at Ashajipora Receiving Station and 33kV Isolator Set at 1X10+1X6.3MVA Dialgam Receiving Station under SASCI	3777293.00	1000	75546.00
2	Publishing Date & Time	22.04.2026 (1700 Hrs)		
3	Document Download / Sale Start Date & Time	22.04.2026 (1700 Hrs)		
4	Seek Clarification Start Date & Time	22.04.2026 (1700 Hrs)		
5	Seek Clarification End Date & Time	11.05.2026 (1700 Hrs)		
6	Bid Submission Start Date & Time	22.04.2026 (1700 Hrs)		
7	Bid Submission End Date & Time	12.05.2026 (1500 Hrs)		
8	Bid opening date & Time	13.05.2026 (1500 Hrs)		
9	Venue of opening Bids	STD Bijbehara		

Please Read Standard Bidding Document Carefully

1. The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification if required and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below.
2. There is no need of furnishing of hard copies of bids after submission of e-tenders. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bid as per the instructions of Finance Department issued vide O.M. No. A/24(2017)-651; Dated: 07-06-2018
3. All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of cost of tender document. The cost of tender document should be paid through e- challan/ treasury challan /receipt only.
4. All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/ FDR/ TD, pledged to the Executive Engineer Sub transmission Division Bijbehara. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department. However the bidder who is declared L1 after opening of financial bid has to submit the original EMD to the office of the Executive Engineer Sub transmission Division Bijbehara through speed post, Courier or by hand.
5. The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the venue, date and time mentioned in the above table or any subsequent day to the convenience of the Tender Opening Committee. An authority letter of bidder's/OEM representative will be required to be produced.
6. The Department reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of department will be final and binding.
7. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.
8. All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.
9. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' class III(b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.
10. The tender document is available on website. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table above. The Quoted rates shall be Firm, inclusive of all taxes and duties, WCT, freight, transportation up to working sites. The rates shall include costs, if any attracted towards mandatory inspections / testing by the designated agencies and the department will not be required to pay / reimburse anything over and above the price quoted. All the bids must be supported by the Instrument of EMD of the exact amount as mentioned in the above table and shall have been issued post tender publication date. Moreover, any deviation in the EMD amount is liable for rejection.
11. In case the bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the bidder has to submit additional performance security deposit in the shape of CDR/ FDR as per the breakup given below:

S.No	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz Quoted percentage of NIT	Additional performance security
01	Upto and including 10% below	Nil
02	>10% up to and including 25% below	05% of the bid cost
03	>25%	10% of the bid cost.

NO:STB/Ts/etender/277-80
Dated: 22.04.2026
DIPK-NB-262-26
DT: 25/04/2026

Sd/= Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Bijbehara

Mandaviya chairs Chintan Shivir of Ministers of Youth Affairs & Sports in Srinagar

Says Khelo Bharat Mission reflection of energy of our youth

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Chintan Shivir of the Ministers of Youth Affairs & Sports of States and Union Territories commenced in Srinagar Saturday with focused deliberations on strengthening India's sports ecosystem through coordinated action, systemic reforms, policy convergence, and grassroots execution.

Addressing the inaugural session, Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, set the tone for the deliberations by emphasising that India's sporting ambitions will be realised through execution on the ground.

"Our 10-year roadmap to becoming a global sporting powerhouse must not remain on paper, it must come alive in every playground, every district, and every young dream." — Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya said.

The Honourable Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, also

attended the Chintan Shivir and applauded the vision of making India a powerhouse of sports.

The Union Sports Minister called upon states to move from policy adoption to active implementation, stressing that real progress will be measured by outcomes visible across districts, training systems, and grassroots sporting ecosystems.

"Khelo Bharat Mission is not just a statistic, it is a reflection of the energy of our youth and the commitment of the nation," he added.

Dr. Mandaviya called for bridging the long-standing disconnect between State Governments and Sports Federations, urging closer alignment to build a strong and unified talent pipeline.

Underscoring the importance of convergence, he highlighted that coordination with the education system is essential for early talent identification and that physical education teachers form the backbone of the grassroots sports ecosystem.

"If even one talented child is left behind due to lack of oppor-



tunity, it is not just a personal loss, it is a loss for the entire nation," he added.

He further noted that sports serve as a transformative tool, particularly in regions such as Jammu & Kashmir and other challenging areas, contributing to social harmony and national integration.

Addressing systemic gaps, the Minister Dr. Mandaviya called for regular certification and upgradation of coaches, scientific training of athletes,

and capacity building in sports administration.

Emphasising the importance of a seamless ecosystem, Dr. Mandaviya stated, "When infrastructure, talent identification, and trained manpower come together as one unbroken chain, Olympic podiums will follow," highlighting the need to connect grassroots participation with elite performance through a structured pathway.

Dr Mandaviya also launched the YES-PE (Young Engage-

ment in Sports & Physical Education) programme by Lakshmbai National Institute of Physical Education, Gwalior, for students between 9-12 standard for promoting sports participation, sportsmanship and leadership.

Addressing the gathering, Secretary (Sports), Shri Hari Ranjan Rao, who welcomed participants and highlighted the significance of the Shivir as a platform for collective reflection and action.

Outlining the importance of the Chintan Shivir, he said, "This gathering is not merely a conference, it is a collective moment of reflection, resolve, and renewed commitment."

The Chintan Shivir saw thematic sessions focusing on medal strategy, policy coordination, clean and safe sport, and talent identification and development.

Over 15 State Sports Ministers, along with eminent sports personalities including Adille Sumariwalla, Abhinav Bindra, Pullela Gopichand and Gagan Narang, attended the Chintan Shivir and shared their ideas with the stakeholders, reflecting a collective commitment towards strengthening India's sports ecosystem and advancing collaborative policy dialogue.

Sports Ministers from various states appreciated the initiative to build a consensus around an athlete- and player-centric approach. They emphasised that this model can be replicated across different regions of the country to strengthen and develop a robust sporting ecosystem in India.

The deliberations emphasised strengthening infrastructure, enhancing coaching systems, improving Centre-State convergence, ensuring ethical and safe sporting environments, and building a scientific, technology-driven talent pipeline integrated across schools, academies, and elite training centres.

These sessions also underscored the importance of structured pathways and institutional convergence to ensure continuity in athlete development, from identification to high-performance training.

Participants also highlighted the need for consistent monitoring, evaluation, and sharing of best practices across states to ensure that policy intent translates into measurable, on-ground impact.

The deliberations reaffirmed the importance of a unified and coordinated approach involving the Centre, States, and all stakeholders to build a robust, inclusive, and future-ready sporting ecosystem, aligned with India's long-term vision of emerging as a global sporting powerhouse.

CM Omar approves ₹9.60 cr multi-level car parking project for G'bal

Project to ease traffic congestion and strengthen urban infrastructure



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has accorded administrative approval for the construction of a Multi-Level Car Parking facility at Ganderbal at an estimated cost of ₹9.60 crore. The project is aimed at addressing increasing traffic congestion and enhancing urban infrastructure in the fast-growing town.

The approval has been

granted under the Capex Budget 2026-27 in favour of the Director, Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir. The project will be executed in accordance with approved technical specifications and codal procedures to ensure quality, efficiency and timely completion.

The proposed facility is expected to significantly decongest the busy market areas of Ganderbal, providing organized parking space and improving overall traf-

fic management. It will also contribute to better urban planning and public convenience in the area.

The Chief Minister emphasized adherence to strict quality standards, transparent tendering processes and timely execution of the project. He directed the concerned departments to ensure that all necessary approvals and regulatory clearances are obtained prior to the commencement of work.

Reiterating the Omar Abdullah-led Government's commitment to inclusive development and tribal welfare, the Minister directed the administration to identify suitable land for the establishment of Gujjar & Bakerwal and Gaddi & Sippi hostels in Bhandarwah.

He also called for the preparation of a comprehensive DPR for a modern drainage system to address urban infrastructure needs in the town.

MLA Bhandarwah, Daleep Singh Parihar, who was present in the meeting, raised several public concerns and developmental demands, urging their prompt resolution in the larger interest of public welfare.

He directed the concerned departments to expedite forest clearances for PMGSY Phase-IV (Batch-II).

Further, he instructed all departments to ensure the timely preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and estimates for works proposed in the financial year 2026-27.

Govt committed to public welfare, empowerment of every section: Sakeena Itoo

Inaugurates newly constructed Science Block at GDC Women Baramulla

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Minister for Health & Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Saturday visited Baramulla and laid foundation stone of various important projects and also inaugurated key college building of Government Degree College (Women) Baramulla.

The Minister was accompanied by MLA Baramulla, Javid Hassan Baig; MLA Uri, Dr. Sajad Shafi; Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, S.F Hamid; Director Higher Education and other senior officers from the district.

At Government Degree College (Women) Baramulla, the Minister inaugurated newly constructed Science Block.

Addressing a large gathering on the occasion, Sakeena Itoo said that the Omar Abdullah-led Government remains firmly committed to public welfare, equitable development and empowerment of every section of society through quality education and improved institutional infrastructure.

She stated that education is the strongest pillar for building a progressive and prosperous society, and the Government is focused on ensuring that students, particularly girls

and those from marginalized communities, receive better opportunities, facilities, and academic support.

Highlighting the importance of the newly inaugurated Science Block, the Minister said that it will significantly enhance the academic capacity of the college by providing modern laboratory facilities, improved classroom space, and a stronger platform for science education among female students.

"The inauguration of the Science Block is expected to significantly enhance academic infrastructure and provide improved laboratory and learning facilities to students, particularly encouraging greater participation of women in science education. Our Government remains committed towards creating an enabling educational environment where every student can thrive. We are determined to bridge gaps in access, infrastructure, and opportunity," the Minister stated.

Speaking regarding the importance of women's education, Sakeena Itoo described women as the true torchbearers of society and said they are less than none in any field of life.

"Women are the backbone of families and communities. They are lead-



ers, creators, educators, and changemakers. When we educate and empower women, we strengthen the entire society. Our daughters are capable of achieving the highest milestones, and it is our responsibility to provide them with every possible support," she added.

Acknowledging that women are facing difficulties in society, Sakeena Itoo called upon all the girl students to come forward and choose field as per their wishes and whims, adding the women have proven their mettle by occupying high positions and taking decisions at higher levels on most important matters of Jammu and Kashmir for the welfare of people.

The Minister, in her address, also condemned the use of abusive language on social media against women, saying it reflected the failure and weakness of those indulging in it.

"I am open to discus-

sions and criticism but use of foul language on platforms like Facebook is unacceptable. If you want to have a discussion, you can do it with me. You can discuss it with the MLAs of the government," she said.

MLA Baramulla, Javid Hassan Baig also spoke on the occasion and reflected on various achievements of the government.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal GDC Women Baramulla, Prof. Neelofar Bhat presented the brief report on the college.

On the occasion, the Minister also released the Annual College Magazine 'SONZAL' of GDC Women Baramulla.

Later, the Minister laid the foundation stone for a Drug De-addiction Centre at Government Medical College (GMC) Baramulla which will provide specialized treatment, counseling, and rehabilitation services to individuals affected by substance abuse,

aligning with the government's ongoing efforts to combat drug addiction under Nasha Mukh Jammu and Kashmir.

She also laid the foundation stone for Autopsy/Mortuary Centre at GMC Baramulla. The facility will help streamline medico-legal procedures and improve the overall efficiency of healthcare services in the region.

In the meanwhile, the Education Minister also laid the foundation stone for ST-PG Hostel at Government Degree College Boys Baramulla, which will provide residential facilities to students belonging to Scheduled Tribe, ensuring better access to higher education.

She also laid foundation stone for 100-bedded Girls Hostel at Government Degree College (Boys) Baramulla, built with an aim to address accommodation challenges and promoting women's education by creating a safe and supportive environment for female students pursuing higher studies.

Speaking on the occasion, Sakeena Itoo reiterated the government's commitment to strengthening infrastructure in both education and healthcare sectors, emphasizing inclusive growth and improved service delivery.

Rana reviews Dev works at Bhandarwah; emphasises timely execution of projects

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BHANDARWAH: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana Saturday chaired a comprehensive review meeting at Dak Bungalow, Bhandarwah, to assess the status and progress of ongoing developmental works across departments in the subdivision.

During the meeting, the Minister laid strong emphasis on inter-departmental coordination, transparency in execution, adherence to timelines and robust grievance redressal mechanisms.

He called upon officers to adopt a proactive and accountable approach to ensure that projects are completed efficiently and without unnecessary delays.

Highlighting the need for balanced growth, the Minister underscored environmental sustainability and inclusive development, particularly in tribal and remote areas. He directed officials to fast-track pending works so that the benefits of government schemes reach the grass-

roots in a timely and effective manner.

While reviewing the performance of the Jal Shakti Department, the Minister laid focus on achieving 100 percent coverage under Har Ghar Jal and stressed the importance of regular water quality monitoring.

He instructed officials to expedite retrofitting works under the Jal Jeevan Mission and reviewed the progress of sand filtration plants, water lifting schemes and urban water supply projects under AMRUT 2.0 in Bhandarwah town.

The Minister also reviewed flood protection measures, projects under District Capex and UT Capex and road connectivity initiatives under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and allied schemes.

He directed the concerned departments to expedite forest clearances for PMGSY Phase-IV (Batch-II).

Further, he instructed all departments to ensure the timely preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and estimates for works proposed in the financial year 2026-27.

Among others who attended the meeting were ADC Bhandarwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutiyal, Chief Engineer Jal Shakti, Hanief Choudhary, CEO Bhandarwah Development Authority, Sanjeev Sharma, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, PWD (R&B) and PMGSY, officials from Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited, BMO Bhandarwah, Principal GDC Bhandarwah, and officers from various departments.

Following the meeting, the Minister interacted with several public delegations, attentively listening to their grievances and issuing on-the-spot directions for their swift resolution.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to the general public that I Sajad Ahmad Hakeem intend to correct the parentage in my Driving License bearing no. JK15-20210002313 from Mohammad Yousuf to Mohamad Yousuf Hakeem as per my school records. In this regard if anybody have any kind of objection he/she may file the same with RTO KASHMIR within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA DISTRICT CONSUMER DISPUTES REDRESSAL COMMISSION

COLLECTOR OFFICE COMPOUND, NEAR CBS, OLD AGRA ROAD, NASHIK 422002
Email: confo-ns-mh@nic.in | Tel: 0253-2580142

O/w. No. DCDRC/NSK/CC/PUBNOTICE/2026/771 Date: 24-4-2026
Consumer Compliant No CC/417/2025
Next Date: 27 Aug 2026
Complainant : Captain JV Avadhanulu Plot 3, Sainik Society, Devlali, Nashik 422401
VS
Opponent/ Respondent: Lebresco Feeds Pvt Ltd New Airport Road Parray Pora, Srinagar 190005

PUBLIC NOTICE (Under Consumer Protection Act 2019)

To: Lebresco Feeds Pvt Ltd
New Airport Road Parray Pora, Srinagar 190005
TAKE NOTICE THAT the complainant above named has filed a consumer complaint against you before District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, Nashik (Maharashtra)
WHEREAS, the complaint above mentioned was listed before the commission for the hearing/ submission but as it is not possible to serve the notice by regular service to opponent, hence, the Hon'ble Commission ordered the service by substituted service i.e. Public Notice.
Notice is hereby given to opponent, that if you wish to contest the consumer complaint, you are requested to remain present on 27 Aug 2026 at 10:30 a.m. in person or by pleader duly instructed and produce the documents in your defence on which you desire to rely upon.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, in default of your appearance on the date and time above mentioned, the complaint will be processed for determination in your absence and no further Notice in relation thereto shall be given.

Given in my hand on this 24 Day of April 2026.
Issued as per order of Hon'ble Commission,

Sd/
Bhushan Satish Panchbhai
Registrar, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission,
Nashik

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Collective Fight Key To Tackling Drug Menace

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday stressed that the battle against drug abuse in Jammu and Kashmir cannot be left to law enforcement agencies alone, calling for a united effort from society at large. He was addressing a gathering in Samba as part of the ongoing 100-day anti-drug campaign. Sinha said the initiative aims to make every panchayat drug-free and ensure police stations are cleared of drug traffickers. He added that the campaign's success would be measured through concrete outcomes such as the number of people rehabilitated, action taken against smugglers, and the seizure of illegal substances. Reassuring the public, he said the administration would act firmly against drug networks, but emphasized that lasting success depends on awareness, cooperation, and active public participation. "This fight must be won within society," he said, urging communities to come forward and play their part. He expressed hope that the campaign would inspire future generations and show that collective action can bring meaningful change. Calling for accountability, the Lieutenant Governor directed officials to closely monitor the campaign on a weekly basis. He said deputy commissioners, senior police officers, and other agencies must regularly review progress, ensuring a comprehensive approach that includes identification of addicts, counselling, treatment, and rehabilitation. Sinha also raised concerns that the drug problem is being fuelled from across the border to fund terrorism and disrupt society. He warned that strict action would be taken against those involved in such activities.

Good Morning Kashmir

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World Book Day And The Timeless Power Of Books

SHOIBAH MOHAMMAD BHAT

World Book Day carries deep cultural significance because it connects literature with historical figures who have shaped global writing traditions and storytelling. Books remain one of the most powerful tools the humanities have created; they bridge generations and cross borders without ever needing a passport. More than just bound pages, books are windows into new worlds. Through them, readers encounter new people, explore diverse cultures, and engage with ideas that influence both thoughts and future.

It is natural to ask ourselves why April 23 has been chosen for the celebration of World Book Day. The choice of this date is not accidental. It was on this day that the world bid farewell to three of its greatest literary figures – William Shakespeare, Miguel de Cervantes, and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega. Although they left this earth, they left behind their eternal message through literature. This is the essence of books: they allow conversations with the past while inspiring the future.

The celebration of this festival is further boosted by the cultural impact of the Catalan festival of 'La Diada de Sant Jordi', wherein there is an encouragement among the people to give roses and books as gifts to each other. These represent the concept of knowledge and love. One may take this cultural phenomenon as evidence of the nourishment of the mind that comes from literature. The concept of World Book Day was conceived in 1996.

To further promote reading, UNESCO introduced the World Book Capital programme, selecting one city each year to champion literacy and education. Cities such as Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, and Rabat have carried this responsibility, spreading the message that reading is a universal right, not a privilege. Books have the capacity to challenge poverty, reduce inequality, and contribute to sustainable peace.

When I talk about Kashmir's present situation, I realize that most people, whether students or teachers, do not read books as they did in earlier years. There was a time when electronic devices like smartphones and laptops were not widely accessible, and reading was a natural and essential part of daily life. Mornings would begin calmly, often with a



cup of tea and a newspaper in hand. People would spend time reading articles, editorials, and stories, while books and magazines were read not out of obligation, but out of genuine interest and habit. Reading was not limited to academics; it shaped thinking, language, and awareness, quietly influencing how individuals understood the world around them.

The reading culture was a phenomenon embedded in daily life. There were rooms set aside for books, which were systematically organized and safeguarded. The value of these books lies not only in their presence within homes but rather in the fact that they held information and ideas that people needed to think about. The reading of books promoted thoughtfulness in society.

Now, the situation has noticeably changed. The first interaction of the day for many people is no longer with a book or a newspaper, but with a mobile phone. Once we wake up, the first thing we do is go through notifications, messaging apps, and news on social networking sites. We have been slowly drifting away from the habit of reading because now, instead of spending quality time with books and stories, we consume a lot of short-lived content, which does not even leave much

of an impact on us. Our identities and personalities are increasingly shaped by the digital world. The effects that social media often replaces the reflective process that reading once encouraged. While technology has undoubtedly made information more accessible, it has also altered how that information is absorbed, often at the cost of depth and critical thinking.

As we think about what used to be in the past, books used to have decorations on them and be preserved in certain reading rooms or parts of our homes, as they held significance. This is no longer the case today. There are only a few books left for us, and there are fewer still who read them with the dedication that was once present in us. This goes completely against the philosophy behind World Book Day.

There is always an author behind each book. This creates the need for copyrighting because of the legal and moral basis of the literary world. It allows the writer or publisher to be acknowledged for their efforts and be compensated accordingly in order to keep contributing to the world.

Despite these initiatives, another question still needs to be raised: are books actually accessible to all? In many countries across the globe, including our very own, books are

The choice of this date is not accidental. It was on this day that the world bid farewell to three of its greatest literary figures – William Shakespeare, Miguel de Cervantes, and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega. Although they left this earth, they left behind their eternal message through literature.

still not accessible enough. This shows the difference between celebrating and being realistic about it. Celebrating World Book Day must be more than just a token gesture; it should lead to something concrete.

Living in a divided world, one finds that books are one of the most powerful sources of unity. Books enable us to have empathy and understand that, regardless of how different we are from each other, our aspirations remain the same as humans.

Just one small act can make a big difference: grab a new book, help out a writer, and give your story to another person. Reading a book does not simply involve flipping pages; rather, it opens up an unlimited number of doors. Through this act, literature continues to build understanding and strengthen the foundations of peace in human minds.

The author is a writer and Social Educator. He can be mailed at shoibhat2018@gmail.com

The Myth Of Overnight Success: What We Refuse To See

DR. REYAZ AHMAD

In an age dominated by social media highlights and viral fame, success has been dangerously simplified into a moment—an award, a breakthrough, a sudden rise. We scroll through curated feeds and assume that achievement is instantaneous, almost accidental. But this perception is not just misleading; it is fundamentally flawed. What we often celebrate as "overnight success" is, in reality, the visible tip of a long, invisible iceberg of effort, discipline, and persistence.

A recent video circulating online captures this truth with striking clarity: "No one sees the hard work and time that goes on behind the scenes—only the outcome." This single statement dismantles one of the most pervasive myths of modern culture.

The Illusion of Instant Achievement

Consider the case of a young entrepreneur who launches a startup that suddenly attracts millions in investment. Headlines describe the venture as a "meteoric rise," and social media labels the founder a genius. What remains untold is the decade of failed prototypes, rejected pitches, financial instability, and emotional exhaustion that preceded this moment.

Similarly, in academia, a student who tops a national examination is often perceived as naturally brilliant. What is rarely acknowledged are the years of disciplined study, missed social events, repeated practice, and strategic learning that made that success possible.

The pattern is consistent across domains: society glorifies outcomes while ignoring processes.

Behind Every Visible Success: A Hidden Timeline

To understand success accurately, one must shift focus from moments to timelines.



Achievement is rarely a single event; it is an accumulation of sustained effort over time.

Take the example of a content creator who suddenly "goes viral." To an outsider, it appears that one video changed everything. In reality, that one video is often the result of hundreds of unnoticed attempts—videos with low engagement, content that failed to resonate, and continuous refinement of skills.

In professional settings, the same principle applies. A manager who delivers an exceptional presentation is applauded for confidence and clarity. Yet, what remains unseen are the hours of preparation, revisions, rehearsals, and prior failures that shaped that performance.

This disconnect between perception and reality creates unrealistic expectations, particularly among young individuals who begin to question their own progress when immediate results do not materialize.

The Cost of Misunderstanding Success

The danger of believing in "overnight success" is not merely intellectual—it has practical consequences.

1. Impatience and Early Withdrawal

When individuals expect quick results, they are more likely to abandon efforts prematurely. A student who does not see immediate improvement in mathematics may conclude a lack of ability, rather

than recognizing the need for sustained practice.

2. Misplaced Comparison

Comparing one's early-stage efforts to someone else's peak outcome leads to discouragement. This is particularly evident in social media culture, where curated success stories dominate narratives.

3. Devaluation of Effort

If outcomes are perceived as instantaneous, the value of hard work diminishes. This undermines the very foundation of skill development and long-term growth.

Real-World Scenario: The Silent Struggles of Professionals

Consider a mid-career professional working in a corporate environment. After years of consistent performance, they are finally promoted to a leadership position. Colleagues may attribute this advancement to favoritism or luck, overlooking the individual's history of late nights, continuous skill development, and resilience in handling setbacks.

Or take the example of a teacher who gains recognition for innovative classroom methods. What is not visible is the experimentation, the initial failures, the feedback cycles, and the emotional investment required to refine those methods.

In both cases, the visible success is merely the final chapter of a much longer story.

The Principle of Compounding Effort

Success operates on a principle similar to compound

interest: small, consistent efforts accumulate over time to produce significant outcomes. This principle is often underestimated because its effects are not immediately visible.

A student studying one hour daily may not notice substantial improvement in the first week. However, over months and years, this consistent effort results in deep understanding and mastery. The same applies to physical fitness, professional development, and creative pursuits.

The challenge lies in sustaining effort during periods when progress appears stagnant. This is where most individuals falter—not due to lack of ability, but due to lack of patience.

Psychological Resilience: The Real Differentiator

If talent and opportunity are variables, then resilience is the constant that determines long-term success. The ability to continue working without immediate validation is what separates those who achieve from those who withdraw.

This resilience is not innate; it is cultivated through mindset. Individuals who view challenges as part of the process are more likely to persist. In contrast, those who interpret setbacks as indicators of failure are more likely to disengage.

A practical example can be seen in competitive examinations. Many candidates fail multiple times before succeeding. The difference lies not in intelligence, but in the willingness to learn from failure and continue.

A Necessary Counterpoint: Effort Is Not the Only Factor

While the emphasis on hard work is essential, it is equally important to acknowledge that success is not purely meritocratic. Structural factors such as access to education, financial resources, and social networks play a significant role.

Two individuals may exert equal effort but achieve different outcomes due to differences in opportunity. Recognizing this does not diminish the value of hard work; rather, it provides a more nuanced understanding of success.

Effort is a necessary condition, but not always a sufficient one.

Reframing Success: From Outcome to Process

To correct the prevailing misconception, society must redefine success—not as a moment of achievement, but as a process of continuous growth.

This shift has practical implications:

- For students: Focus on consistent study habits rather than immediate grades.

- For professionals: Prioritize skill development over short-term recognition.

- For entrepreneurs: Embrace failure as a component of innovation.

By valuing the process, individuals are more likely to sustain effort and achieve meaningful outcomes.

Conclusion: Seeing the Unseen

The most powerful message from the video is deceptively simple: what we see is not the full story. Every visible success carries with it an invisible history of effort, discipline, and persistence.

The responsibility, therefore, lies with both individuals and society. Individuals must resist the temptation of instant gratification and commit to long-term effort. Society, in turn, must shift its narrative—celebrating not just outcomes, but the journeys that lead to them.

Because in the end, success is not built in moments. It is built in days, months, and years—quietly, consistently, and often unnoticed.

And perhaps the real achievement is not the outcome itself, but the ability to continue when no one is watching.

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■ Earth Day 2026

Collective Action In Focus As Environmental Challenges Intensify

MOHAMMAD HANIEF

The observance of Earth Day this year witnessed widespread participation, reflecting a growing global awareness of environmental issues. From large-scale marches in cities to grassroots campaigns in smaller towns and rural communities, the day brought together governments, institutions, and citizens in a collective expression of concern.

In India, schools, universities, and civil society organizations played an active role in mobilizing youth through eco-clubs, awareness drives, and community outreach programmes. In ecologically sensitive regions, including parts of the Himalayan belt, plantation drives and conservation efforts highlighted the urgency of protecting fragile ecosystems.

Record-breaking heatwaves, rapidly melting glaciers, worsening air quality, and increasingly erratic weather patterns are defining the global environmental landscape in 2026. Across continents, the effects of climate change and ecological degradation are no longer distant warnings but immediate, lived realities affecting millions. It is against this backdrop of intensifying crises that Earth Day 2026 was observed on April 22, with its theme of collective action and shared responsibility serving less as a symbolic message and more as an urgent call to confront a deepening planetary emergency.

The central message of Earth Day 2026—collective responsibility—resonated strongly across platforms. It emphasized that environmental challenges transcend national boundaries and require coordinated global action.

Digital platforms further amplified this call, enabling millions to participate virtually by sharing ideas, pledges, and sustainable practices. However, even as the world united in purpose, the stark reality remained that environmental degradation continues to outpace global efforts to contain it.

Air pollution remains one of the most immediate and visible threats, particularly in South Asia. Many urban centers



EARTH DAY
OUR POWER, OUR PLANET

continue to experience dangerously high levels of particulate matter, with PM_{2.5} concentrations frequently exceeding safe limits. Rapid urbanization, rising vehicular emissions, industrial activity, and construction dust have significantly degraded air quality. Seasonal agricultural burning further exacerbates the situation, often resulting in dense smog that disrupts daily life. The health consequences are severe and far-reaching, contributing to respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular diseases, and a growing number of premature deaths.

Climate change, driven by persistent greenhouse gas emissions, continues to intensify despite global commitments to reduce carbon footprints. Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels remain at record highs, reinforcing the greenhouse effect and accelerating global warming. The early months of 2026 have already witnessed extreme weather events across various regions, underscoring the escalating instability of the Earth's climate system.

Prolonged heatwaves have affected large parts of Asia and Europe, pushing temperatures to dangerous levels and placing immense strain on public health systems and energy infrastructure. At the same time, unseasonal rainfall and flash floods have caused widespread destruction

in several regions, displacing communities and damaging critical infrastructure. In contrast, drought conditions in other parts of the world have disrupted agricultural cycles, threatening food security and livelihoods. These contrasting extremes highlight the unpredictable and increasingly volatile nature of climate patterns.

The Himalayan region offers one of the most alarming indicators of climate change. Glaciers, often referred to as the "water towers of Asia," are retreating at an accelerated pace. This poses significant risks for millions of people who depend on glacial-fed rivers for water. In the short term, the melting increases the risk of glacial lake outburst floods, while in the long term it threatens water availability. The consequences of this dual risk are particularly concerning for countries like India, where large populations rely on these critical water sources.

Water stress is emerging as a defining challenge of the current decade. Groundwater levels in many regions are declining rapidly due to over-extraction, while surface water bodies are increasingly polluted by industrial discharge, untreated sewage, and agricultural runoff. This combination of scarcity and contamination is limiting access to safe drinking water and placing additional pressure on

already stressed ecosystems.

Plastic pollution continues to escalate, particularly in marine environments. Despite increased awareness and policy measures, millions of tonnes of plastic waste still enter oceans every year. Marine life is severely impacted, with many species ingesting plastic or becoming entangled in debris. Over time, plastics degrade into microplastics, which have now been detected in food chains, drinking water, and even human tissues. The long-term implications of this widespread contamination remain uncertain but deeply concerning.

Deforestation and land degradation further compound the environmental crisis. Forests, which play a critical role in carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation, are being cleared at an alarming rate to accommodate agriculture, infrastructure, and urban expansion. This not only contributes to climate change but also results in habitat loss and declining biodiversity. Soil degradation, driven by unsustainable agricultural practices and excessive chemical use, threatens long-term agricultural productivity and food security.

Despite the scale of these challenges, Earth Day 2026 also highlighted areas of progress and cautious optimism. Renewable energy continues to expand rapidly, with solar and wind power emerging as viable alternatives to fossil fuels. Several countries have announced ambitious climate targets, including commitments to achieve carbon neutrality in the coming decades. Advances in green technologies, sustainable agriculture, and waste management are providing practical solutions to reduce environmental impact.

At the community level, a gradual shift toward sustainable living is becoming increasingly evident. Individuals are adopting eco-friendly practices such as waste segregation, recycling, and reducing the use of single-use plastics. Educational institutions are integrating environmental awareness into their curricula, while youth-led movements continue to play a pivotal role in advocating for cli-

mate action and holding decision-makers accountable.

However, experts caution that these efforts, while encouraging, are not sufficient to match the scale and urgency of the crisis. The gap between commitments and implementation remains significant. What is needed is not incremental change but systemic transformation—rethinking economic models, altering consumption patterns, and embedding sustainability into every aspect of governance and development.

For developing nations like India, the challenge lies in balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability. Development remains essential for improving living standards, but it must be pursued in a manner that does not compromise ecological integrity. This requires innovative policy approaches, effective governance, and enhanced international cooperation to ensure access to resources, technology, and financial support.

As the world reflects on Earth Day 2026, the message is clear and uncompromising. Environmental degradation is no longer a distant threat; it is a present reality shaping the future of humanity. The interconnected nature of these challenges demands coordinated, sustained, and collective action at all levels.

Earth Day must therefore be seen not as a symbolic observance, but as a continuous call to action. The responsibility to protect the planet lies with governments, institutions, and individuals alike. Every decision—whether related to energy use, consumption, or lifestyle—has consequences for the environment.

The planet continues to sustain life, but its capacity is not limitless. The defining challenge of our time is to ensure that collective intent is translated into meaningful and lasting change. In the face of escalating environmental crises, one truth stands above all: the future of the Earth depends on what humanity chooses to do next.

(The author is a senior analyst and can be mailed at m.hanief@gmail.com, Twitter/X: @haniefmha)

■ Drug-Free Jammu & Kashmir

From Fields Of Illicit Cultivation To Fields Of Hope

MOHD AMIN MIR

In a region long celebrated for its breathtaking landscapes, rich cultural heritage, and resilient people, Jammu & Kashmir today stands at a decisive crossroads. While its mountains echo with stories of endurance and beauty, a silent and insidious threat has, over the past decade, crept into its villages and towns, the menace of drug abuse. Against this backdrop, a remarkable and resolute action undertaken in Village Vessu by the revenue officials of Qazigund offers not only a glimmer of hope but also a blueprint for governance rooted in accountability, courage, and commitment.

At the heart of this initiative lies a powerful administrative message delivered by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, who has repeatedly emphasized the urgency of making the Union Territory 100 percent drug-free. His directive was not merely rhetorical, it was a call to action, a challenge to every government functionary to rise beyond routine duties and become active participants in a transformative social mission.

In Tehsil Qazigund, this call was not ignored. It was acted upon with precision and purpose. A team comprising one Tehsildar, two Girdawars, two Patwaris, and village-level functionaries including Lumberdars and Chowkidars undertook an extensive field inspection in Village Vessu. Their mission was clear: identify and eliminate illicit poppy cultivation, a key raw material in the drug supply chain.

What followed was not a symbolic exercise but a determined and systematic operation. More than fifty vegetable gardens were inspected. These were not random checks but targeted interventions based on ground intelligence and administrative vigilance. Wherever poppy plants were found, they were destroyed on the spot—without delay and without hesitation.

This act of immediate enforcement sends a strong signal: the era of passive observation is over. The administration is now actively intervening at the grassroots level to dismantle the very foundations of drug production.

Perhaps one of the most striking aspects of this initiative was the voluntary decision by the officers and officials

involved to dedicate one day's salary as a symbolic gesture of commitment to the anti-drug campaign. In a bureaucratic culture often criticized for inertia, such an act stands out as a rare and commendable example of personal accountability.

This gesture is not merely financial; it is deeply moral. It reflects an understanding that the fight against drugs is not just a policy issue—it is a societal responsibility. By contributing their own earnings, these officials have demonstrated that they are not detached enforcers but engaged stakeholders in the welfare of society.

Traditionally, the role of revenue officials such as Tehsildars, Girdawars, and Patwaris has been associated with land administration—maintaining records, conducting surveys, and facilitating mutations. However, the Qazigund initiative redefines this role. It positions these officials as frontline defenders of social order.

Their intimate knowledge of land use patterns, village layouts, and local dynamics makes them uniquely suited to identify illicit cultivation. In many cases, poppy is grown under the guise of legitimate agriculture, often interspersed with vegetable crops. Detecting such cultivation requires not just authority but familiarity—and this is where revenue officials excel.

By stepping into this expanded role, the Qazigund team has demonstrated that governance is not confined to files and offices. It extends into fields, into communities, and into the very fabric of rural life.

Equally important in this operation were the contributions of village-level functionaries—Lumberdars and Chowkidars. Often overlooked in discussions of governance, these individuals serve as the eyes and ears of the administration at the grassroots level.

Their involvement ensured that the operation was not perceived as an external imposition but as a community-driven effort. They provided local intelligence, facilitated access, and helped in mobilizing awareness among villagers. Their presence also lent legitimacy to the operation, reinforcing the idea that the fight against drugs is a collective endeavor.

The success of the Vessu operation raises an important question: can this model be replicated across Jammu & Kashmir? The answer is a resounding yes—but with certain caveats. First, there must be clear and consistent direction



from the top. The role of the Lieutenant Governor in setting the tone cannot be overstated. His unwavering stance against drug abuse provides the necessary impetus for administrative action.

Second, there must be coordination among departments. While the revenue department has taken the lead in this instance, the fight against drugs requires the involvement of multiple agencies—police, health, education, and social welfare. Each department brings a unique perspective and set of tools to the table.

Third, there must be community engagement. Enforcement alone cannot solve the problem. There must be parallel efforts to educate, rehabilitate, and empower. Villagers must be made aware of the legal consequences of illicit cultivation as well as the social and health implications of drug abuse.

The destruction of poppy cultivation is not merely an administrative act; it is grounded in legal authority. Under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, the cultivation of poppy without authorization is a punishable offense. The law provides for stringent penalties, including imprisonment and fines.

However, the ethical dimension is equally important. Many farmers who engage in such cultivation do so out of economic desperation or lack of awareness. Therefore, while enforcement is necessary, it must be accompanied by empathy and support. Alternative livelihood options must be provided. Agricultural

extension services should guide farmers toward legal and profitable crops. Financial assistance and market access should be ensured. Only then can the cycle of illicit cultivation be broken sustainably.

The ultimate goal of these efforts is not merely the eradication of poppy plants but the creation of a drug-free society. This is an ambitious vision—one that requires sustained effort, political will, and social awareness. Drug abuse is not an isolated issue. It is linked to unemployment, mental health challenges, social alienation, and even cross-border trafficking. Addressing it requires a holistic approach.

Schools must become centers of awareness. Teachers must be trained to identify early signs of substance abuse. Parents must be sensitized to the changing realities faced by their children. Religious and community leaders must use their influence to promote healthy lifestyles.

Media, too, has a crucial role to play. Positive stories like the Qazigund initiative must be highlighted. They serve as inspiration and as reminders that change is possible.

While the Qazigund operation is commendable, it is not without challenges. Illicit cultivation is often hidden, adaptive, and resilient. As enforcement increases, cultivators may shift to more remote areas or adopt more sophisticated methods. There is also the risk of backlash. Enforcement actions can sometimes create tension between the administration and local communities. This must be managed through dialogue, transparency, and fairness.

Moreover, the sustainability of such initiatives depends on institutionalization. One-time operations, however successful, must evolve into regular practices. Monitoring mechanisms must be established. Data must be collected and analyzed. Accountability must be enforced.

The success of the revenue officials in Qazigund should serve as a wake-up call to other departments. The fight against drugs is not the responsibility of one department alone. It requires a whole-of-government approach. The police must intensify efforts to dismantle trafficking networks. The health department must expand de-addiction services. The education department must integrate drug awareness into curricula. The social welfare department must support affected families. Each department must identify its role and act with urgency. The path shown by the Qazigund team is not difficult—it is simply committed.

The events in Village Vessu are more than a local success story. They are a testament to what can be achieved when administration aligns with purpose, when officials act with integrity, and when leadership inspires action. The destruction of poppy plants in fifty gardens may seem like a small step in the larger battle against drugs. But it is precisely such steps that pave the way for transformation. Each field cleared of illicit cultivation is a step toward a healthier society. Each official who goes beyond duty is a beacon of hope. The vision of a 100 percent drug-free Jammu & Kashmir is not a distant dream. It is an achievable goal—provided the momentum generated in places like Qazigund is sustained and scaled.

As the fields of Vessu return to legitimate cultivation, they stand as symbols—not just of agricultural renewal, but of moral rejuvenation. The message is clear: when governance is driven by commitment, even the most entrenched challenges can be overcome. The time has come for every department, every officer, and every citizen to join this mission. The path has been shown. The responsibility now lies with all of us to walk it.

The author can be mailed at miramin354@gmail.com

'Stadiums, Not Substances'

Awami-E-Tehreek Intensifies Anti-Drug Drive in Rajouri

GMK NEWS NETWORK

RAJOURI: Stepping up its fight against substance abuse, Awami-E-Tehreek Saturday organised a major awareness programme under the flagship "Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir" campaign in Saj, Rajouri. The event witnessed an overwhelming turnout of local youth, civil society members, and officials, signalling a strong community resolve to combat the drug menace.

The programme was led by party President Waqar H. Bhatti and hosted by Roohi Bhatti. Key attendees included SDM Thana- mandi, Abid Hussain (KAS); Executive Officer of the J&K Waqf Board, Ab Qayoom Mir; a representative of the 43 RR of the Indian Army; Naib Tehsildar of Saj; Principal of Govt. Higher Secondary School Saj, Ms. Saira Choudhary; and Dr. Khalid, Assistant Professor at GMC Rajouri.



Addressing the gathering, Bhatti lauded the Union Territory administration's ongoing efforts against narcotics. "We highly appreciate and fully support the anti-drug crusade initiated by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha. It is a visionary step toward saving our future

generations, and our organisation stands firmly with the administration in this fight," he said.

While commending the government's resolve, Bhatti underscored that enforcement alone was insufficient without constructive engagement for the youth. He placed a key demand before the

Lieutenant Governor-led administration: a strategic investment in rural sports infrastructure.

"To ensure our youth stay permanently away from drugs, we must provide them with constructive outlets. I earnestly request the government to sanction one major sports stadium for every cluster of eight to ten Panchayats. If we provide our children with playgrounds and sports facilities, they will naturally gravitate toward athletics instead of falling into the trap of addiction," Bhatti emphasised. "We want our children in the stadiums, not in the grip of drugs."

The event concluded with a collective pledge by the local youth of Saj to work toward a drug-free society. Awami-E-Tehreek reiterated its commitment to advocating for better education, health, and sports infrastructure across the district to secure a brighter future for the region.

DDC Kupwara chairs DLIC meeting to review Mission YUVA cases

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse Saturday chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) to review the applications received on the Mission YUVA portal.

During the meeting, a detailed assessment of the applications submitted by aspiring youth entrepreneurs from across the district was carried out. The DDC stressed the importance of timely scrutiny and transparent processing of applications to ensure that eligible candidates are extended the benefits of the scheme without delay.

Highlighting the objectives of Mission YUVA, the DDC underscored the need to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among the youth by facilitating access to financial assistance, skill development,

and handholding support. He directed the concerned officers to adopt a proactive approach in verifying applications and ensuring that all formalities are completed within the stipulated timeframe.

The Committee undertook a review of pending loan applications at Bank Level. It was observed that the proportion of cases sanctioned by Jammu & Kashmir Bank remains significantly low in comparison to the number of cases approved by the DLIC.

The DDC also emphasized the importance of awareness generation at the grassroots level so that more youth, especially from remote and underserved areas, can avail the benefits of the programme. He instructed departments to organize outreach activities and assist applicants in overcoming procedural challenges while applying through the portal. Reviewing the sector-

wise distribution of applications, the meeting discussed opportunities in agriculture, allied sectors, small-scale industries, and service-based enterprises.

The DDC encouraged officers to guide applicants towards viable and sustainable business models that can generate long-term employment and contribute to the local economy.

He further called for close coordination among line departments, financial institutions, and implementing agencies to ensure seamless convergence and effective implementation of the scheme.

The meeting was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner, Kupwara, Mufti Fareed ud Din, Lead District Manager, Cluster Head of Jammu & Kashmir Bank, Assistant Director Employment, Branch Managers of various banks, and other concerned officers.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

CM Pitches J&K

said that the Government is committed to providing a safe, supportive and enabling environment for artists and filmmakers. He added that continuous engagement with the film fraternity will help address their requirements and strengthen collaboration.

The Chief Minister also emphasised the role of cinema in boosting tourism, noting that films shot in Jammu & Kashmir can significantly enhance its visibility and inspire travel, thereby generating economic opportunities for local communities.

The interaction was also attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq, Director Tourism Jammu Vikas Gupta, and other concerned officials.

"We must establish systems that identify and propel rural youth talent, supported by scientific, accessible, and unbiased mechanisms. Sports infrastructure must be fully and efficiently utilized," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also called upon the corporate sector to support in building a sustainable and inclusive sports ecosystem, which the government alone cannot achieve. He said Corporates, with their resources and social responsibility, must step forward not merely as sponsors but as architects of this national mission.

"I urge sports councils, federations, administrators, experts, industry leaders, and officials from across the country to craft a strategic development plan aligned with international events. India is rich with gifted athletes. Our responsibility is to bridge the gap between gifted talent and opportunity. Strengthening grassroots sports ecosystems is not merely an aspiration but a duty," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Jammu Sizzles Above

registered 16.4°C and 10.0°C respectively with 5.8 mm rainfall. Gulmarg recorded a maximum of 11.8°C and a minimum of 6.2°C with 0.2 mm rainfall.

Kupwara reported a maximum of 21.8°C, while Kokernag recorded 19.8°C with 3.4 mm rainfall. Banihal recorded a maximum of 22.0°C and a minimum of 13.4°C with 3.0 mm rainfall.

In Jammu division, temperatures remained significantly higher. Jammu recorded a maximum of 39.5°C, which was 5.1°C above normal, and a minimum of 22.8°C. Katra recorded 36.0°C, Batote 27.1°C, and Bhadarwah 26.5°C. Trace rainfall was reported at a few stations including Katra and Bhadarwah.

The weather forecast issued by the MET Centre said that on April 25, parts of Jammu and Kashmir are likely to witness partly to generally cloudy conditions with one or two spells of light rain or thundershowers at scattered to many places, accompanied by gusty winds in the afternoon or evening hours.

For April 26, generally dry weather has been predicted, while from April 27-28, light rain and thundershower activity is expected at scattered to many places, mainly during afternoon and evening hours.

Between April 29 and May 2, partly cloudy to generally dry conditions are likely, with brief spells of light rain or thunder at isolated places.

The advisory warned that hot and dry weather is likely to persist over Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Reasi, and Udhampur districts for the next three days, with heat wave conditions at isolated locations on April 25 and 26.

It advised the public to avoid heat exposure during peak afternoon hours and maintain hydration by consuming sufficient fluids, ORS, and traditional drinks—(KNO)

Final Electoral Rolls

further said that once the final rolls are published, the remaining preparations for Panchayat elections are expected to be completed by May or June. The final decision regarding poll dates, he added, will be taken jointly by the Government of India and the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

He reiterated that all necessary steps will be taken to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections under the supervision of the Election Commission of India.

The State Election Commissioner was accompanied by District Development Commissioner Budgam Athar Aamir Khan during the visit—(KNO)

CIK Searches Central

connected with the case, he said, adding that an inquiry has also been initiated into how the devices were brought inside the high-security prison and the role of any facilitators involved.

The official said the operation is part of

ongoing efforts to curb misuse of communication devices in sensitive establishments, including prisons, and to investigate terror-related activities in the Union Territory—(KNO)

CS Reviews Progress,

training coverage and capacity building to enhance productivity and sustainability.

He reiterated that HADP has the potential to transform the agricultural landscape of J&K by enhancing farmer incomes, generating employment and promoting sustainable agriculture here. He called for ensuring sustained momentum, effective convergence and focused interventions to maximize its impact across the length and breadth of the UT.

Moreover he issued directions for faster conversion of approved applications into established units. He enjoined upon the concerned to lay focus on improvement in farmer registration and eKYC completion, strengthening of district-level monitoring and accountability, time-bound grievance redressal and scaling up of high-value agricultural activities to make this programme a success.

Regarding the functioning of Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs), he directed for strengthening them further by improving licensing and expanding service delivery, including onboarding of banking and digital services at these centres.

On this occasion the ACS, Agriculture Production Department, Dr Ashish Chandra Verma gave the overall preview of the performance of this programme here. He apprised the meeting that HADP has so far facilitated the establishment of more than 1.11 lakh units across all 20 districts, benefiting 74,589 unique farming families.

He further observed that while the programme has achieved full geographic coverage, the overall coverage remains around 8.1 percent of the PM-Kisan beneficiary base, thereby leaving a substantial scope for the department to work for its expansion and optimal utilization to meet our targets on time.

The Managing Director, J&K Bank, Amitava Chatterjee also presented a detailed roadmap aimed at maximizing benefits for farmers under HADP. He highlighted key suggestions pertaining to digital interventions, including integration and onboarding of various stakeholder platforms onto the HADP portal to enhance efficiency and outreach.

He further assured full support and closer institutional synergy with the Agriculture Production Department to ensure seamless implementation of the programme and achievement of its envisaged objectives across all districts of J&K.

The MD HADP, Dr. Sagar Doifode Dattatray elucidated that the programme has generated an estimated annual revenue of 368 Cr and annual profit of 173 Cr at the beneficiary level, translating into an average income enhancement of about 25,000 per family per year, besides creating over 2.45 crore man-days of employment across 287 blocks and more than 5,100 villages and wards.

Revealing about the implementation quality, the MD gave out that about 92.9 percent of the units are functional and nearly 99 percent units are verified as existing, while 68.3 percent beneficiaries have undergone training under various components.

The meeting also reviewed district-wise performance, wherein districts such as Kulgam, Ganderbal and Shopian have recorded higher coverage, while districts like Poonch, Kishtwar and Reasi were identified as needing focused intervention.

It was further observed that large-scale projects such as Integrated Farming Systems, farm mechanization and fodder development are driving scale under HADP, while high-value sectors like dairy and agri-marketing offer higher returns and require scaling up through improved approval mechanisms.

The progress of the Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) network was also reviewed. It was informed that 1,807 KKGs are functional across the Union Territory, serving over 8 lakh farmers with 96 percent fund utilization, and generating a combined monthly revenue of

about 43.52 lakh.

It is pertinent to mention that HADP encompasses a comprehensive portfolio of 29 integrated projects spanning the sectors of horticulture, agriculture and livestock husbandry, each strategically designed to unlock the full potential of these domains and steer the sector towards enhanced sustainability, profitability and resilience.

With access to over 171 schemes and activities, the programme seeks to empower farmers, agri-entrepreneurs and rural youth through a structured framework of financial incentives, skill development, infrastructure creation and strengthened market linkages.

Price Gouging Or

enough to justify the higher prices. Food reviewers say that while kitchens may be cleaner, the ingredients and overall standards often remain average, even as restaurants continue to market themselves as "premium."

Consumer rights groups are now demanding government intervention, arguing that unchecked pricing in the restaurant sector is hurting ordinary people.

Unlike fuel or essential goods, restaurants have significant freedom in setting prices. However, activists warn that this freedom is now being misused.

"What we are witnessing is not normal inflation, but recovery of private losses at public expense," said a representative of the National Consumers Forum. "If people are being charged more simply because a restaurant paid fines last month, then fairness in the market is gone."

As the dust settles after "Operation Rotten Meat," many residents are left wondering whether the city has truly gained cleaner dining spaces — or simply more expensive meals served with resentment.

PM Modi Led Regime

April 30, the train will run between Jammu and Srinagar and vice versa," he said.

He also said that the number of coaches has been increased to enhance passenger convenience—(KNO)

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J&K integrates 17,500 Migrant Ration Cards into NFSA: Pr Secy DDMRR&R

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction, Chandrakar Bharti, Saturday convened a meeting to review implementation of the ration distribution in terms of the Special Relief Ration Scheme for Kashmiri/Jammu Migrants and extension of benefits of social sector schemes to the eligible migrants.

The meeting was attended by Saurabh Bhagat, Commissioner Secretary Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Directors Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Jammu/Kashmir, Director Social Welfare Jammu, Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner(M), J&K, Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu and senior officers of the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction.

It was observed that more than 17,500 migrant ration cards have already been punched into NFSA database and the process of integration of about 8,000 migrant ration cards is in pipeline. Besides, the ration distribution in terms of the Special Relief Ration Scheme for Kashmiri/Jammu Migrants has been started on 18-04-2026, from the migrant camps and the directions have been issued



for ration distribution from all the designated 32 ration depots in Jammu district in a hassle free manner and that migrants can avail ration from any nearest ration depot. Similarly, the ration distribution shall be done from the designated ration depots in other districts of Jammu Province.

Worthwhile to mention here that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, in-terms of S.O 392 and S.O. 393 of 2024, both dated 13.08.2024, has made necessary amendments in the Jammu & Kashmir Food Security Rules, 2021 and the Targeted Public Distribution (Control) Order 2023 for integration of the Migrant Ration Cards into National Food Security Act(NFSA) database, to enable the migrants to avail the benefits of various government schemes. Further, the administration in terms of Government Order No. 27-JK(DMRRR)

of 2025 dated 16.05.2025, has clarified that the existing scale of ration distribution to the migrants registered under the relief category and norms/procedures for inclusion, deletion, bifurcation, conversion and corrections etc will continue as per the norms of Relief Organisation.

This has also been clarified through number of public notices and jingles issued through Department of Information & Public Relations. It was also conveyed that all relief ration card holders(irrespective of categorization into PHH, NPHH or Special category) will continue to receive 11 Kg free ration per person per month and 1Kg sugar as per the extant scale of ration distribution. Besides, those registered with the Relief Organisation under the non relief category (Pensioners etc) and categorized into NPHH category will also receive

ration on the government approved rates as per their entitlement under NFSA.

It was decided that a one time extension in the distribution period of ration against the migrant ration cards for the month of April 2026 into May 2026 (in addition to ration of May 2026), shall be given, since the extension is imperative to ensure that migrant beneficiaries are not deprived of their entitled ration.

It was also decided that the officers of FCS&CA and Relief Organization shall ensure close supervision of integration of migration ration cards and more special camps shall be organized by the Social Welfare Department in coordination with the Relief Organization to reach out to the eligible potential beneficiaries. The move is facilitate them in filling various online applications for availing benefits of different social sector schemes like Old Age Pension, Widow Pension, Disability Pension, Marriage Assistance, Ayushman Bharat besides scholarships. About 450 families have, so far, availed benefit of various social sector schemes after integration of migrant ration cards into NFSA database.

The department is committed to fully operationalize the new scheme for all the migrants within the shortest time period.

SEC visits Ganderbal, reviews Panchayat Electoral Roll Revision

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The State Election Commissioner Jammu and Kashmir, Shantamanu, Saturday visited District Ganderbal as part of his field inspection of the ongoing Annual Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll (PER) 2026, with April 1, 2026 as the qualifying date.

During the visit, the Commissioner inspected several polling locations across the district where Special Camps are being organized every Saturday and Sunday to facilitate the revision exercise.

Shantamanu interacted with general public, urging

eligible citizens to make use of the ongoing process by enrolling themselves in the electoral roll. He also encouraged existing voters to verify their details and get any errors or discrepancies corrected at the earliest.

The Commissioner held a focused interaction with young people present at the camps and stressed the importance of youth participation in the democratic process. He called upon first-time voters to come forward and register themselves, emphasizing that electoral participation begins with enrollment.

On his arrival, the Commissioner was received

by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Dr. Syed Fahim Ahmad Bihagi. He was accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner Ganderbal and Roll Observer for Blocks Ganderbal, Wakura, Sherpathri, and Safapora, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat; Chief Executive Officer SDA and Roll Observer for Blocks Kangan, Gund, and Lar, Bilal Mukhtar Dar; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Ganderbal, Dr. Sheikh Salahuddin; Deputy District Election Officer Ganderbal, Abdul Rahman Bhat, along with other members of the district election team.

Shantamanu also held a detailed review meeting with senior district officials, during which he was apprised of the progress of the revision exercise. District Ganderbal has enrolled 5,888 new electors so far, achieving 3.05 percent of its target. The draft Panchayat Electoral Roll of the district currently stands at 1,93,017 electors.

The State Election Commissioner expressed satisfaction over the functioning of the ground-level election machinery and appreciated the dedication and efforts of the field staff engaged in ensuring the smooth and effective conduct of the revision exercise.

Veterinarians play crucial role in strengthening rural livelihoods: Javid Dar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, Saturday extended greetings on the occasion of World Veterinary Day, acknowledging the unwavering dedication and vital contribution of veterinary professionals towards the farmers and the livestock sector.

Highlighting this year's theme, "Veterinarians: Guardians of Food and Health", the Minister emphasized that veterinarians play a pivotal role in ensuring safe and sustainable food systems while safeguarding the public health.

He said their expertise and commitment are indispensable in strengthening the rural livelihoods and enhancing agricultural resilience.

The Minister stated that sustained efforts are

being made to improve the animal health services, strengthen disease control mechanisms and promote breed improvement programmes in Jammu and Kashmir. He added that significant strides are also being taken towards expansion of dairy, sheep rearing, poultry and fisheries sectors, which are steadily contributing to the overall growth and transformation of the livestock economy.

Reaffirming the government's commitment, the

Minister said that focused interventions and farmer-centric policies will continue to boost the productivity, ensure better market linkages and uplift the socio-economic conditions of people associated with the livestock sector.

He also lauded the relentless service of veterinary professionals working across the Union Territory. He encouraged them to continue their efforts in building a healthier and more sustainable future.

NITI Aayog report presents roadmap to boost urban governance reforms

IANs

NEW DELHI: NITI Aayog on Saturday launched a report that presents a focused roadmap to address structural urban challenges such as fragmented institutional arrangements, limited devolution of powers, weak financial autonomy, and diffused accountability.

Strengthening urban governance is, therefore, critical to enabling cities to perform effectively, said the report which emphasises the importance of strengthening institutional foundations alongside

sectoral improvements and prioritises India's million-plus cities as key economic centres contributing significantly to national growth.

Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar released the report at an event attended by Urban Development Ministers from more than 10 states, reflecting broad-based participation and commitment to advancing urban governance reforms.

India's urbanisation is central to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047 and progressing towards a \$30 trillion economy.

Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan 11 Licenses suspended in Kulgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Continuing its intensified enforcement drive under the 100-day Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, the Drug Control Authority Kulgam carried out extensive raids and inspections across the district, including Kulgam town, Pahloo, Devsar, and far-flung areas such as D.K. Marg, Qazigund, Frisal, Kadder, Behibagh, and Tenganj.

During the inspections, 11 licenses were suspended, while several establishments were issued show-cause notices and some sealed for violating

provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

The enforcement drive was conducted in close coordination with the police, including PS Behibagh, PS Kulgam, PS Qaimoh, PS Qazigund, and PS Devsar, to ensure strict monitoring and prevent misuse of scheduled drugs.

In addition to enforcement, awareness programmes were also conducted, wherein chemists were sensitized about maintaining proper records of scheduled drugs and ensuring that such medicines are sold strictly on the prescription of registered medical practitioners.

JKAACL Hosts Literary Programme on Dr. Rafeeq Masoodi's Inspiring Journey

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) on Friday successfully organised "Meet the Eminent," a special literary programme dedicated to Dr. Rafeeq Masoodi (IBS Retd.), former Secretary of the Academy, under the title "Main Aur Meri Sahityik Yatra" (Me and My Literary Journey) at Abhinav Theatre, Jammu.

The event brought together noted literary personalities, scholars, writers, and literature enthusiasts to celebrate the remarkable literary and professional journey of Dr. Rafeeq Masoodi, a renowned broadcaster, poet, and writer from Srinagar.

Dr. Masoodi, a former Additional Director General of Doordarshan who retired from Prasar Bharati and the Cultural Academy of J&K, is currently serving as Patron of Adbi Markaz Kamraz, a prominent literary and linguistic organisation in Jammu and Kashmir.

At the beginning of the programme, Secretary JKAACL Harvinder Kaur warmly welcomed the guests and participants. In



her address, she highlighted the Academy's continuous efforts to promote literary culture, meaningful discussions, and provide a strong platform for writers and scholars.

She stressed the importance of documenting and honouring the literary journeys of distinguished personalities like Dr. Masoodi, whose work has greatly contributed to the cultural and intellectual richness of Jammu and Kashmir.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr. Agnishekhar shared a thoughtful and engaging reflection on his long association with Dr. Masoodi. Recalling personal memories, he spoke about Dr. Masoodi's intellectual depth, literary

guistic and cultural diversity.

He said institutions like the Academy play a vital role in encouraging creativity, supporting young writers, and protecting the literary heritage of the region.

The programme was presided over by Khalid Hussain, who in his presidential remarks highlighted the power of literature in shaping society and promoting critical thinking. He said such events provide an important platform for intellectual exchange and cultural continuity.

Among those present on the occasion were Jitender Udhamपुरi, Lalit Mangotra, Professor Rajkumar, Naseeb Singh Manhas, Sonali Arun Gupta (Additional Secretary, JKAACL), and Dr. Javid Rahi (Chief Editor, Gojri), whose presence added significance to the event.

The proceedings were smoothly conducted by Dr. Chanchal Sharma, while Lal Chand delivered the formal vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all speakers, participants, and attendees for making the event meaningful and memorable.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR (UT)
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER GANDERBAL
 OLD HOSPITAL BUILDING DUDERHAMA GANDERBAL J&K UT
 Tel:-0194-2416244

Sub: - Revised Final Seniority List of District cadre / Divisional Cadre of Non- Gazetted employees of District Ganderbal.

Ref: - Administrative Department Health & Medical Education Circular No: -15- HME of 2024 Dated: -24.06.2024 duly endorsed by Director Health Services Kashmir under No: -DHSK/Est/NG/E-7509487/5814-48 Dated: -27.06.2024 Est-5th/DHSK/NG/7248-55 Dated: -12-11-2025 and also, Est-5th/DHSK/NG/ 1475-1507 Dated: -21-04-2026.

C I R C U L A R

With regard to above quoted subject and references and On the basis of information received from subordinate Offices and as per the available records of this office Ist, 2nd and 3rd Tentative seniority list of District Cadre Non Gazetted employees of District Ganderbal was issued vide this office letter No: - CMO/Gbl/2026/69-45 dated 12.01.2026, CMO/Gbl/2026/703-709 dated: -10.02.2026(Reminder-I), CMO/Gbl/2026/1081-87 dated: -05.03.2026(Reminder-II), and followed by letter No: - CMO/Gbl/2026/1613-14 dated: -15.04.2026 which was circulated amongst all concerned through their DDOs for inviting objections.

Whereas, in response to repeated representations received by this office in respect of spelling error, seniority No., D.O.B and after examinations/, verification of the documents.

Now, the Revised Final seniority list of District and Divisional Cadre Non-Gazetted Employees of District Ganderbal has been prepared and is circulated among all concerned for information.

No: -CMO/Gbl/2026/1763-69 DIPK-766-26
 Dated: - 25.04.2026 DT: 25/04/2026 Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION HANDWARA
 RAJWAR ROAD, HANDWARA - 193221

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
 e-NIT No: 05-IFCD/HND/2026-27 Dated: 25/04/2026.

For and on behalf of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, e-Tenders on percentage basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with Jammu and Kashmir UT Government for the following work:

S. No.	Name of work	Advertised cost	Earnest Money	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head	Cost of Tender document	Tender ID No.
1.	Construction of Steel flume on Kukroosa Khul at Kenyal.	₹ 461981	₹ 9500/=	30 Days	DEE	CDF	₹ 200/-	

Position of AAA: Sanctioned vide District Development Commissioner Kupwara's Order No. 15-DDCK of 2026 Dated: 22/04/2026.

Position of T.S.: Accorded vide This Office T.S. No. 02/TS/HND of 2026-27 Dated: 25/04/2026.

Position of funds: Assured.

Authorization by: District Development Commissioner Kupwara's No. DDCK/CDF/452-54 Dated: 22-04-2026.

The NIT consisting of Qualifying information, eligibility criteria specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from website www.jktenders.gov.in from:

1	Publishing Date	25-04-2026 1600 Hours
2	Download Date Start	25-04-2026 1700 Hours
3	Tender Submission date Start	25-04-2026 1700 Hours
4	Tender Submission date Ends	06-05-2026 1500 Hours
5	Date of Opening	07-05-2026 1200 Hours

Note: Following points shall be kept in view while filling up the BOQ in financial bid.

1. Item for which no rate or price has been entered in will not be paid for by the Employer when executed and shall be deemed covered by the other rates and prices in the Bill of Quantities Unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder in Indian Rupees.

No: - IFCDH/Camp/385-94
 Dated:25/04/2026.
 DIPK-777-26
 DT: 25/04/2026

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer,
 Irrigation & FC Division
 Handwara.

IPL 2026: Ishan Kishan's explosive 74 guides SRH to five-wicket win over RR

IAN S

JAIPUR: Vice-captain Ishan Kishan played a brilliant knock of 74 runs as Sunrisers Hyderabad chased down 229 runs target in 18.3 overs and registered a dominant five-wicket win against Rajasthan Royals (RR) in the 36th match of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Saturday.

Earlier, 15-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi smashed a brilliant century, followed by a half-century by Dhruv Jurel as the Rajasthan Royals posted 228/6 in 20 overs.

Chasing a massive target, Sunrisers Hyderabad had a shaky start as opener Travis Head was dismissed in the first over. He failed to make use of an early chance after being dropped by Dhruv Jurel off the first ball of Jofra Archer's over, and scored just six off five balls.

However, the pressure didn't last long as Nandre Burger's next over released it, conceding 10 runs with a wide and a boundary. SRH vice-captain Ishan Kishan then counterattacked brilliantly, taking on Archer with three boundaries in the third over. Abhishek Sharma joined the charge, hitting three fours off



Burger in the following over.

Abhishek also got a lifeline in the fifth over when Ravindra Jadeja dropped a simple catch. Kishan made full use of the momentum, smashing 19 runs in the final over of the powerplay as SRH raced to 89 runs in six overs.

Both batters brought up their fifties quickly, Abhishek off 24 balls and Kishan off 25, putting RR bowlers under immense pressure. Their 132-run partnership was finally broken on the last ball of the 10th over when Archer took a fine catch to dismiss Abhishek for 57 off 29 balls.

Kishan continued his aggressive batting alongside Heinrich Klaasen, keeping SRH firmly in

control. He eventually fell for a match-winning 74 off 31 balls, edging a short ball from Archer.

After his dismissal, Nitish Kumar Reddy and Klaasen steadied the chase with smart running. Klaasen later hit a big six in the 17th over, with Nitish also clearing the ropes. Nitish scored 36 off 18 before getting out, while Klaasen made 29 off 24.

Saif Arora sealed the chase with a six as SRH reached the target with nine balls to spare.

Rajasthan Royals made a blazing start after being asked to bat first, led by young opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who dominated from the outset. He smashed four sixes in the opening over off Praful

Hinge, collecting 25 runs and setting the tone. The momentum continued as Sooryavanshi and Yashasvi Jaiswal hit a six each off Pat Cummins in the next over.

Sunrisers Hyderabad got an early breakthrough when Eshan Malinga dismissed Jaiswal for 10, but RR kept up the scoring rate. Sooryavanshi brought up a rapid half-century in just 15 balls as RR reached 73/1 at the end of the powerplay.

He then built a strong partnership with Dhruv Jurel, who played a composed yet impactful knock. Jurel accelerated in the middle overs, including a 101-metre six, and reached his fifty before falling to Nitish Kumar Reddy for 51 off 25 balls.

Sooryavanshi continued his aggressive approach and raced to a stunning century in just 36 balls, eventually scoring 103 off 37 deliveries before being dismissed. RR lost Riyan Parag cheaply, but Donovan Ferreira's quick 33 off 16 balls ensured a strong finish, with Shimron Hetmyer adding 11 runs.

For SRH, Malinga picked up 2/38, while Cummins, Hinge, Sakib Hussain and Nitish Kumar Reddy took one wicket each.

IPL 2026: 'Dropped catches cost us the game,' says Parag after RR lost to SRH

IAN S

JAIPUR: Rajasthan Royals (RR) captain Riyan Parag admitted that dropped chances proved costly as his side went down to Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) by five wickets in Match 36 of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Saturday.

Reflecting on the defeat, Parag said that while the team executed well in patches, lapses in the field hurt them badly. "Skill-wise, we executed pretty nicely. But we dropped catches. Quality players like Abhishek can't be dropped. That will be a sight to behold. It is one part of the game. We have to be clinical, and fielding plays a major part," he said after the match.

After being asked to bat first, Rajasthan Royals posted a strong 228/6, riding on a sensational 103 off 37 balls by young opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and a quickfire 51 from Dhruv Jurel. Late contributions from Donovan Ferreira and Shimron Hetmyer pushed the total past the 220-mark, putting RR in a commanding position at the innings break.

However, SRH chased down the target comfortably with nine balls to spare, thanks to a blistering 74 off 31 balls from Ishan Kishan and a rapid 57 from Abhishek Sharma, who shared a match-defining 132-run partnership. Parag also felt that RR fell slightly short with the bat despite the big total. "We left like 10-15 on the table, to be honest. They bowled well in the 18th and 19th over, executed the yorkers. We would have liked 10-15 more runs,"



he admitted.

Speaking about his bowling decisions, Parag explained the reasoning behind turning to part-time options in the middle overs. "They were two lefties, and I thought Don and I had a better chance of getting a wicket. The wicket was not spin-friendly. It didn't really go to plan, but I would do the same thing next time as well," he said.

He also acknowledged the impact of in-form opposition players and the challenges of adapting to different conditions throughout the tournament. "He has been sensational this season, unlucky as well, with a few top-edges falling safely. Different venues every day, different ways to approach. I don't know how it will be in Chandigarh. But again, it is another day's thought," Parag concluded.

Meanwhile, after this defeat, RR have moved down to the fourth position in the points table with 10 points in 8 matches. They will next face the Punjab Kings (PBKS) on April 28.

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Shillong Lajong FC eye strong start in Championship phase as Dempo SC face uphill task

IAN S

SHILLONG: Shillong Lajong FC will host Dempo SC in a Championship phase fixture of the Star Cement Indian Football League 2025-26 at the SSA Stadium in Shillong on Sunday as kick-off is scheduled at 18:30 IST.

With the league stage concluded, the Championship phase brings together the top six teams in a decisive round-robin format. Each side will play five matches, with the team finishing with the highest points tally at the end of the

phase crowned champions.

In head-to-head encounters in the Indian Football League (formerly the I-League), Shillong Lajong and Dempo SC have faced each other 13 times. Dempo hold the upper hand with seven victories, while Shillong have won four matches, with two encounters ending in draws. In terms of goals scored, Dempo have netted 24 times compared to Shillong's 13.

The most recent meeting between the two sides came on April 7, when Dempo registered a comprehensive 3-0 victory. Marcus

Joseph, Kapil Hoble, and Richmond Kwasi Owusu were on the scoresheet in that contest.

Shillong Lajong enter the decisive phase placed third in the standings with 17 points, one behind second-placed Sreenidi Deccan FC and five adrift of leaders Diamond Harbour FC. With a maximum attainable tally of 32 points, the Reds are likely to require at least four wins from their remaining fixtures to sustain a credible title challenge, leaving them with little margin for error. Consequently, securing all three points in the opener assumes

paramount importance. Shillong Lajong head coach Birendra Thapa reflected on the lessons from their previous meeting against Dempo and emphasised the improvements made since then. "In the first 30 minutes, we were very poor defensively; everyone was poor. Two or three crucial mistakes cost us the game. It was a good lesson for us—our second defeat in an away match—and we bounced back. We learned a lot and worked on the two or three things we did poorly. We are doing well now."

Brazil's Militao FIFA World Cup hopes end after hamstring operation

IAN S

MADRID: Eder Militao has been ruled out of the FIFA World Cup 2026 after the Real Madrid defender was advised to undergo surgery for a hamstring injury sustained earlier this week.

According to a report by Xinhua, the Brazilian international picked up the injury during Real Madrid's 2-1 win over Deportivo Alaves on Tuesday. Militao was hurt

while jumping for a header, and although the issue did not initially appear serious, further medical examinations on Saturday revealed the extent of the damage.

Real Madrid confirmed on Thursday that tests conducted by the club's medical team diagnosed Militao with a muscle injury in the biceps femoris of his left leg. While the club initially stated that his return would depend on how the injury progressed,

early expectations suggested a recovery period of around a month, which would have ruled him out for the remainder of the La Liga season but kept him in contention for international duty.

However, the decision to proceed with surgery has significantly extended his recovery timeline. Militao is now expected to be sidelined for approximately four months, effectively ending his chances of participating

in the upcoming World Cup and potentially impacting his availability at the start of next season.

The 28-year-old defender has endured a difficult spell with injuries over the past few years. He has suffered two anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tears and also dealt with a hamstring injury in December, which kept him out of action for nearly four months before returning to fitness at the end of March.

IPL 2026: Chahal credits Iyer's positivity, Arya and Prabhsimran for fearless start in record chase

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Punjab Kings leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal said the team's record chase against Delhi Capitals was built on the fearless batting of openers Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh, while praising captain Shreyas Iyer's positivity aiding them in hunting down 265 with seven balls to spare.

At the Arun Jaitley Stadium, Prabhsimran Singh top-scored with 76, as he and Priyansh Arya hit 116 runs in power-play. Iyer then came in to smash a composed 71 not out to ensure PBKS maintained their unbeaten run in the competition.

"Definitely, we are playing well. Every match we are playing like we always forget about the past. We are playing one match at a time. Definitely, everyone is doing well. Still, we have to play seven more matches. So, we are focused on that only."

"Prabhsimran and Priyansh gave us the momentum needed in the first 6 overs to chase such a big total. This helped our batters in the middle overs and put the bowlers under pressure. It will be hard for any team to face our batting line-up," Chahal said in the post-match press conference.

On the mindset in the dressing room before the chase began, Chahal revealed, "We accepted the total and we were all feeling very positive before the innings. We know the quality we possess with the bat. It was a batting friendly wicket. We needed an excellent start if we wanted to chase this total, and we got

just that and more from Prabhsimran and Priyansh. After the first 6 overs, we knew we were in the driving seat."

Chahal also pointed to the influence of Ricky Ponting on Prabhsimran's development since last year. "Ricky has had a massive influence on him. I've faced him in the nets and it is really difficult to bowl to him. People take names of Klaasen and Pooran, but especially in the powerplay because of his fearless batting. Before the innings, he was thinking: if they can score 264, why can't we do the same."

"The performances you see today are the result of the hard work he has put into his batting over the past few years. I am happy that he is on my team so that I don't have to bowl to him in a competitive setting."

The 35-year-old spinner also spoke about the challenges of dealing with the impact sub rule. "I can understand why dealing with the impact sub rule can be a bit challenging, but you simply have to adapt because that is what the tournament requires. This is the direction that the format is headed in and we have to find solutions because we cannot change it. Today, it was even more challenging than usual because of how small the ground is."

Since IPL 2025, PBKS have been on a roll as a line-up and Chahal explained how the messages of positivity from Iyer have rejuvenated the side. "I think from last year, we are the runners-up. When we came to the camp last year, everyone is talking about the positive things only. Before the main camp, we would say

that we don't have to think too much.

"Shreyas had said one thing that no matter what, everyone will think positively, there is no problem, no one will even think once in their mind that this can be done or not. When the environment is so good and positive thoughts are going on, that thing happens and the way the team plays, especially I want to give credit to Prabhsimran and Priyansh."

"So whenever you chase 220 or even 200+, the way you bat in 6 overs, that becomes a momentum. In middle overs, there is no pressure and today it was 6 over 116 and then the pressure comes on the bowlers because it is a small ground and it is not that easy to bowl here. According to our batting line-up, sometimes it is hard to bowl."

On Iyer's bowling captaincy, Chahal said, "I don't think there is much pressure because I think he is a bowler's captain. He talks a lot. He gives us an idea of what our planning is. We adjust our field accordingly. But there is nothing much from his side because he knows that we have to bowl 4 overs. We get complete confidence. From last season till now, we didn't feel that there is any pressure from the captain. Even if we feel bad, we talk about only positive things."

Quizzed on changes in Iyer's batting based on his observations, Chahal said, "I think his confidence has gone up. Last year, he did a great batting. We played the final as well. This year, he has shown a different level of confidence. When he was with the Indian team before the injury, he played well.

Show Timings

Sunday 26th April

Dhurandhar: The Revenge (A)
(Hindi)
11:05 AM, 06:15 PM

BHOOTH BANGLA (U/A16+)
HINDI ATMOS - 12:00 PM, 03:15 PM, 06:30 PM
HINDI - 10:30 AM

LEE CRONINS THE MUMMY (A)
(ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)
07:05 PM

GINNY WEDSS SUNNY 2 (U/A16+)
(Hindi)
03:30 PM

MICHAEL (U/A 13+)
(ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)
01:45 PM, 04:25 PM