

Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLGJandK



I'm witnessing a powerful movement across J&K to build a drug-free future. On May 3rd, a Mega Padyatra will take place at TRC Football Stadium, Srinagar. I urge all to join this march, stand together, and help create a safer, healthier Jammu Kashmir for generations to come.

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Srinagar Decked Up, Security Beefed For LG-Led Mega Anti-Drug Padyatra



REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: With the Padyatra led by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha set to take place on Sunday (tomorrow), Srinagar has been fully decked up, while security has been significantly beefed up, with a coordinated effort ensuring foolproof arrangements across the city.

The march, part of the nationwide 'Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan', is expected to witness unprecedented participation, particularly from youth, students, civil society groups, and government officials.

Officials said that a comprehensive security grid has been activated by the Jammu and Kashmir Police in coordination with paramilitary forces. Anti-sabotage checks, area domination, frisking, and heightened surveillance have been put in place,

especially along vulnerable stretches and gathering points.

Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) and emergency units have been deployed strategically to respond to any contingency. The entire route has undergone sanitisation and security clearance.

The traffic department has rolled out a detailed mobility plan, including diversions, designated parking zones, and restricted entry for heavy vehicles in certain areas. Commuters have been advised to plan their travel in advance and adhere to official advisories to avoid inconvenience.

Health services have been put on high alert, with ambulances, mobile medical units, and healthcare personnel stationed at regular intervals. Fire and emergency services, along with disaster response teams, **•P-06**

Money Generated Through Drug Trade Fuels Terrorism, Radicalisation: LG

Warns Traffickers Of Strict NDPS Action, Including Property Attachment, Passport Cancellation

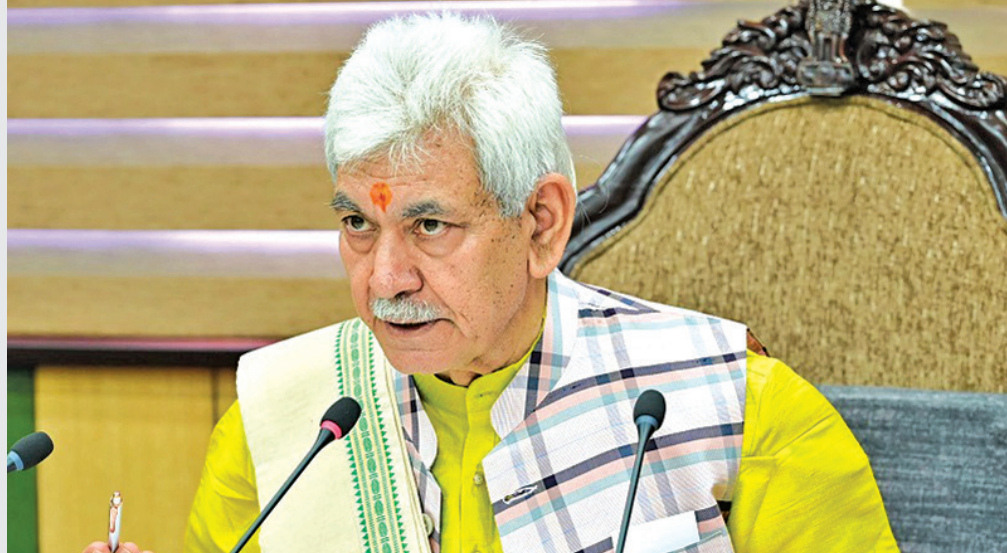
RAJA SYED

SRINAGAR: Asserting that some drug traffickers might be building narco-palaces and becoming economically prosperous, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday reiterated that most of the money generated through this trade ends up fuelling terrorism and radicalisation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Talking to reporters at Lok Bhavan here ahead of a mega 'padyatra' on Sunday as part of the 'Nasha Mukh J-K Abhiyaan', LG Sinha, said, "Narcotics trade in Jammu and Kashmir has a direct link with terrorism. The administration is stepping up efforts to dismantle drug networks and curb rising addiction among youth."

"Narcotics proceeds are often channelled into terror activities. Drug traffickers may appear to prosper, but that money ultimately fuels terrorism, violence and radicalization," he said.

LG Sinha said, "We need to



build more rehabilitation centres. But those cannot be built immediately, so, in the rehabilitation centres that exist, arrangements are being made for their (victims) treatment. The Health Department has been instructed that both OPD and IPD facilities should be sufficiently available for such people in our hospitals."

He said the administration is working on a three-year monitoring programme for the rehabilitation of victims. "We are also creating a detailed rehabilitation plan, so that if someone gets into drug addiction and then gets out, we can track them for three years and make complete arrangements for their rehabilitation," he added.

LG Sinha said, "Despite sustained efforts since 2021 under the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, the scale of drug abuse particularly among young men **•P-06**

“I FEEL THAT IN 21 DAYS, ITS WIDESPREAD IMPACT IS VISIBLE. ROUGHLY, MORE than 50-60 lakh people have participated in various campaigns so far. There has also been a significant increase in the registration of cases in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions, and these actions are also being carried out very effectively,”

...J&K Braces For Rain, Storms
MeT Forecasts Erratic Weather Till May 5
GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Meteorological Department (MeT) on Saturday said that Jammu and Kashmir will witness erratic weather conditions over the next few days, with rain, thunderstorms, hailstorms and strong gusty winds likely in several areas.

MeT Director Mukhtar Ahmad said that the weather is expected to remain generally cloudy on Sunday and Monday, with intermittent rain, strong winds and **•P-06**

Hailstorms Damage Orchards, Crops Across Kashmir Parts
GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A severe hailstorm accompanied by heavy rainfall damaged orchards and standing crops across several parts of Kashmir, including southern Kulgam and northern Kupwara and Baramulla districts, on Saturday, officials and locals said.

Farmers said that the sudden spell, marked by large hailstones and intense showers, struck during the afternoon, damaging apple blossoms and tender fruit **•P-06**



Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K

*Walk for Change,
Walk for a
Drug-Free J&K*

**NASHA MUKT
JAMMU KASHMIR ABHIYAAN**

MEGA PADYATRA

SUNDAY | MAY 3, 2026

From TRC Football Ground via Polo-view
to Gantaghar, Lalchowk

Chief Guest
Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K



**NO TO DRUGS
YES TO LIFE**


*Har Kadam,
Ek Nayi Umeed*

*For a Stronger, Healthier
Jammu Kashmir*

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS, J&K

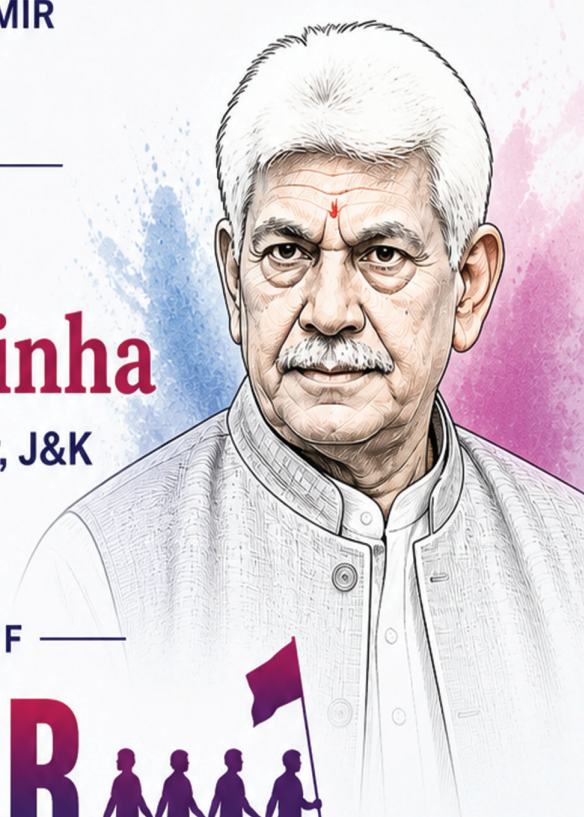
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DJK-988/26 DATE: 02/05/2026



JKPC
JAMMU KASHMIR
PRESS CORPS

WELCOMES



Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K

ON THE OCCASION OF

**SRINAGAR
PADYATRA**

*Walk for Change,
for a Drug Free J&K*

**SUNDAY
MAY 3, 2026** | **TIME
8:00 AM** | **Starting Point:
TRC Football Ground,
Polo-view, Srinagar**

JKPC is proud to support this noble initiative
for a healthier, stronger and drug-free Jammu & Kashmir.

TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

SKUAST-K launches Student Rural Exploration in 300 villages across Kashmir

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a landmark move to redefine the landscape of agricultural education and extension in India, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Kashmir Saturday launched the Student Rural Exploration Program (SREP) under the framework of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP-20).

This pioneering initiative, launched under the leadership of Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, saw a massive grassroots outreach this weekend as more than 3000 students ventured into more than 300 university adopted villages across the Kashmir Valley. By transitioning from the traditional classroom setting to immersive field experiences, the university is bridging the critical gap between advanced scientific techniques and traditional indigenous practices, ensuring that the next generation of agricultural professionals is deeply rooted in the realities of rural livelihoods.

Speaking at the occasion, Prof Ganai said, "The Student Rural Exploration Program is not just an academic initiative—it is a transformational movement. By placing our students directly in villages



for sustained engagement, we are creating a living bridge between science and society. This program will generate real-time rural intelligence, empower communities with knowledge, and shape a new generation of socially committed professionals."

The program is structured as a sophisticated, multidisciplinary engagement where students from various faculties, including Agriculture, Horticulture, Veterinary Sciences, Fisheries, Sericulture, Forestry, and Agriculture Engineering, work in specialized cohorts. Each group typically consists of four undergraduate students, two postgraduate students, and one PhD scholar, all operating under the direct guidance

of a scientist mentor. This collaborative model allows for a tiered level of learning and field execution, marking a historic first in the country as a university-led effort to engage with the farming community at the panchayat level on such a significant scale. These teams are conducting Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)-cum-survey exercises, providing students with hands-on exposure to the complexities of the rural economy in diverse terrains.

The impact of the initiative is designed to be mutually beneficial for both the academic and farming communities. While students collect vital data and gain a firsthand understanding of grassroots challenges, farmers

receive expert technical advisories, diagnostic services, and updated information regarding various government schemes and agricultural interventions.

With this program, SKUAST-K shall strengthen the bonds with the farming community by gaining their trust and enlightening them with the latest technologies, whether in the form of high-quality seeds, improved varieties, resilient rootstocks, or superior breeds.

Furthermore, the initiative acts as a catalyst for entrepreneurship, startups, and innovation within the rural sector. The Vice Chancellor, alongside the university's Deans, Directors, and Associate Deans, actively monitored the rollout across multiple

districts, interacting with students to ensure the internship provides real-time field exposure that translates academic theory into practical solutions.

Hailed as a game-changer for the national agricultural landscape, the Student Rural Exploration Program is now set to become a permanent fixture of the university's academic calendar, with exploration visits scheduled to take place every fortnight. The strategic outreach transforms students into empathetic innovators who can advocate for sustainable and climate-resilient practices.

By documenting local issues and assessing needs as they arise, SKUAST-K is creating a robust feedback loop that ensures university research remains relevant and impactful for the people it serves. By fostering a profound sense of responsibility toward the farming community, SKUAST-K is not only empowering local growers but also equipping its graduates with the practical skills and field exposure necessary to lead the global shift toward sustainable rural development.

The initiative underscores a future where scientific intervention meets the wisdom of the land, ultimately strengthening the bond between the laboratory and the farm.

DC B'pora chairs 'Maa se Guftagu' at Bankoot under Nasha Mukht Abhiyan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Continuing its sustained outreach under the 100-Day Mission Mode Campaign of the Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, the District Administration Bandipora Saturday organised another edition of "Maa se Guftagu" at Bankoot, Bandipora aimed at strengthening community participation in the fight against drug abuse.

The programme was attended by District Programme Officer, ICDS Bandipora, Yaar Ali Khan and witnessed active participation of women, members of Panchayat Samitis, Anganwadi workers, Self Help Groups (SHGs), NRLM representatives, teachers, and local residents, who also interacted with the Deputy Commissioner during the awareness programme.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, stressed the need for collective vigilance and community counselling to curb the growing menace of smoking and substance abuse.

The DC informed that strict directions had already been issued for banning the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products around schools and



directed Principal High School Bankoot to ensure proper implementation of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA).

Highlighting the harmful effects of smoking, the DC urged participants to counsel their family members and neighbours about the dangers associated with smoking and passive smoking. She said that addiction not only destroys the health and future of an individual but also affects the entire family and society.

The DC further noted that women too are increasingly becoming victims of substance abuse and, in some instances, are found involved in peddling activities. She called upon women to play a proactive role in safeguarding families and communities from the drug menace.

Emphasising parental responsibility, the DC advised parents to remain vigilant about behavioural changes in their children and identify early symptoms of substance abuse. She urged families not to remain silent spectators and instead act as well-wishers by guiding and supporting affected individuals.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC also cautioned youth against falling prey to addiction, and appealed to the youth not to waste their lives and potential in substance abuse.

The programme concluded with a collective pledge by participants to strengthen awareness efforts and continue community-based interventions for a drug-free society under the Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan.

DDC Kupwara reviews preparations for conduct of Census 2027



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, Saturday chaired a review meeting of concerned officers to assess the preparedness for the conduct of Census 2027 across the district.

During the meeting, the DDC took a detailed appraisal of the progress achieved under various preparatory components essential for the smooth and accurate execution of the census exercise. Special focus was laid on the status of House Listing Blocks (HLB) operations, which form the foundational stage of the census process. Officers appraised the chair that groundwork for HLB listing is underway, with emphasis on ensuring complete coverage and accuracy of data.

The meeting also reviewed the demarcation of enumeration blocks, a critical step to facilitate systematic data collection. The DDC stressed the importance of precise demarcation to avoid over-

laps or omissions, directing officers to strictly adhere to the prescribed guidelines and timelines.

Further, discussions were held regarding the deployment of enumerators and supervisors.

The DDC emphasized the need for selecting competent and trained personnel to ensure the integrity of the census process. He directed the concerned departments to expedite the nomination process and ensure that adequate training and orientation programs are conducted well in advance.

Highlighting the significance of Census 2027 as a vital national exercise, the DDC called for coordinated efforts among all departments. He urged officers to maintain close monitoring, ensure timely completion of tasks, and address any bottlenecks proactively.

ADC Kupwara, DSEO Kupwara, Charge Officers (Tehsildars), Executive Officers (MCs) Statistical Officers and other concerned officials were present in the meeting.

Zainapora Shopian intensifies Anti Drug Campaign

Vehicle Sticker Drive expands grassroots outreach

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: As part of the ongoing 100-Day Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan and the district-wide campaign spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Shishir Gupta, the Sub-Divisional Administration Zainapora, in coordination with Zainapora Police, intensified its IEC outreach through a large-scale vehicle sticker campaign across the sub-division.

The drive was conducted under the supervision of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Zainapora, Bilal Ahmad with active participation from local police units.

Anti-drug awareness stickers were pasted on hundreds of passenger vehicles, commercial transport, and private cars across Zainapora market and adjoining areas.

The initiative aims to transform every vehicle into a mobile awareness platform, ensuring sustained visibility of the anti drug message at the grassroots level.

This effort aligns with the broader vision of taking the message of a drug-free society to every household.

The administration has emphasized that awareness, enforcement, and rehabilitation will con-



tinue simultaneously to dismantle the narcotics ecosystem.

As part of strict enforcement measures, illegal structures and assets linked to drug peddlers have been demolished and attached in previous actions.

Authorities reiterated a zero-tolerance policy, stating that action against illegal assets and encroachments connected to drug activities will continue without exception.

Over the past two years, more than 800 kanals of land previously under illicit cultivation have been reclaimed and converted into productive agricultural use, including oilseeds and paddy. This shift has significantly improved farmers' income and reduced dependence on narcotics-linked activities.

Enforcement efforts remain consistent, with nearly 60 FIRs registered

under the NDPS Act in the last six months. Multiple properties of drug peddlers have been attached, and illegal constructions, including shops and encroachments on state land, have been removed.

Community participation continues to be a key pillar of the campaign. Ex PRI Members, religious leaders, teachers, and youth volunteers are actively contributing to awareness generation and behavioral change.

Victims of substance abuse are being connected with de-addiction services, counselling, and skill development programs to facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration.

Complementary initiatives such as the "Promote Books, Not Drugs" donation drive and intensified inspections of medical shops by the Drug Control Department are also underway to reinforce preventive measures.

Census 2027

3-day training programme for Field Trainers begins in Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: District Administration Shopian Saturday commenced a three-day training programme for Field Trainers (FTs) in connection with the forthcoming Census 2027 operations.

The training programme is being organized under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Shopian (Principal Census Officer), Shishir Gupta, to strengthen preparedness for Phase I, House Listing and Housing Census (HLO).

As many as 14 Field Trainers drawn from different departments are participating in the programme.

These Field Trainers will further impart training to Supervisors and Enumerators at their respective charge levels to ensure the smooth and efficient conduct of census activities across the district.

The training sessions are being conducted by Master Trainers from the Directorate of Census Operations, J&K and Ladakh, Rohini Pokhryal and Rais Ahmad Dar, along with Naveen Raghav, Dis-



trict Coordinator, Shopian who are providing detailed guidance on the procedures and operational framework of Census 2027.

The participants are being sensitized about house listing and Housing Census schedules, House-listing block definitions, use of Mobile HLO application, Data quality and confidentiality, and practical field exposures.

During the sessions, emphasis is being laid on maintaining data accuracy, adherence to prescribed guidelines, and timely completion of census activities.

Interactive discussions

are also being held to address participants' queries regarding technical and field-level aspects of the census process.

ADDC Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone, while speaking, emphasized the crucial role of Field Trainers in ensuring accurate and smooth Census 2027 operations and urged them to carry out their responsibilities with dedication and professionalism.

Among others, the training programme was attended by ADC Shopian, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, and DSEO Shopian, Bilkeesa Zahoor.

DC Shopian reviews progress of Mission YUVA

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: A review meeting of Mission YUVA was Saturday held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (Chairman, DLIC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta at Mini Secretariat Shopian to assess progress under the scheme and streamline its effective implementation.

Reviewing bank wise performance, it was informed that 2883 cases have been sponsored, of which 1318 have been sanctioned and 1178 disbursed, while 1057



cases are under process at various stages, underscoring the need for faster credit linkage and timely disbursement.

On capacity building, six internal trainers have been taken on board, conducting

48 training batches and benefiting 787 entrepreneurs. It was also informed that four batches involving 120 candidates are currently ongoing.

Under enterprise mentorship, 15 mentors have been verified, of which 14

have initiated batches, while 70 candidates are undergoing mentorship training.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stated that Mission YUVA is a transformative initiative aimed at enabling youth to become self-reliant entrepreneurs through financial assistance, skill development, and sustained mentorship.

He directed all concerned departments, banks, and implementing agencies to ensure time bound sanctioning, hassle free disbursement, and zero unnecessary pendency.

The DC further empha-

sized the need for continuous monitoring, skill enhancement, and improved market access to ensure long term sustainability of the enterprises.

He reiterated that special focus must be given to underprivileged and marginalized youth to strengthen their socio economic conditions.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Shopian (Nodal officer, Mission YUVA) Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone, Assistant Director Employment, Dr. Nida Yousuf, Functional Manager DIC Shopian,

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: District Administration Bandipora Saturday appealed to the general public to actively

participate in Census 2027 and make use of the Self-Enumeration facility for smooth and successful conduct of the nationwide census exercise.

It was informed that the House Listing and Housing Census Operations (HLO), constituting the first phase of Census 2027, shall be conducted across District Bandipora from June 1 to June 30, 2026.

Prior to this, a Self-Enumeration facility shall remain available from May

17 to May 31, 2026 through the official portal <https://se.census.gov.in>.

The Administration has urged the people of all villages, towns, and tehsils of



the district to ensure maximum participation in the census process and extend full cooperation to the designated census officials during the exercise.

The District Administration stated that Census

2027 is an important national exercise which serves as the foundation for planning and implementation of developmental programmes, welfare schemes, infrastructure development, and policy formulation.

Citizens have been advised to provide accurate information during the census and encourage family members, relatives, and neighbours to actively participate in the self-enumeration process.

The Administration has further appealed to support the awareness campaign and motivate people to participate positively in the census exercise.

Nasha Mukht Abhiyaan

J&K Police come hard at smugglers, peddlers during first 15 days

Properties worth crores attached; about 400 FIRs registered; more than 400 booked

REHAN QAYOUM

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Police have intensified its multi-pronged crackdown on drug trafficking and substance abuse under the Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, registering significant achievements across the Union Territory.

Pertinently, the ongoing campaign launched and spearheaded by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to target drug peddlers, dismantle financial networks linked to narcotics, and strengthen public awareness is going on in full vigour.

Sources said that the accelerated action under the abhiyaan is on the top of agenda of the Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat who chaired a number of review meetings and made visits to districts for achieving maxi-



mum results. The campaign, started on April 11, 2026, and up to April 26, 2026, 378 cases were registered under the NDPS Act and related laws, with 431 drug peddlers booked.

“Police seized 478 kg of narcotic drugs, 13,427 tablets, capsules and bottles of psychotropic substances, with a total estimated

value about Rs. seven crore. The authorities disposed of 4,776 kg of narcotic drugs and 6,493 tablets, capsules and bottles of psychotropic substances.

Efforts to curb illicit cultivation leading to the destruction of poppy crops is also in full swing.

Financial investigations resulted in the attachment of 16 movable proper-

ties worth ₹78,32,736 and 17 immovable properties valued at ₹9,13,83,039. Surveillance remains active on 52 kingpins and 2,898 drug peddlers across the UT,” sources said.

“Public outreach has been a key pillar of the campaign, with 994 awareness programmes conducted, reaching thousands of participants. Under the capacity-building initiatives police has trained about 1500 Investigating Officers and 15 Prosecutors to strengthen enforcement and prosecution.

Regulatory enforcement included inspections of 2,274 establishments, leading to corrective actions. 88 driving licences of those involved in drug trade were cancelled, while 19 vehicle registrations were also cancelled. Legal actions included challenging 21 bail orders and 1 acquittal order,” sources added—(KNO)

Govt. committed to bridge developmental gaps: Sakeena Itoo

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Saturday inaugurated a newly constructed primary school building at Zambalnard in DH Pora area of Kulgam district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister emphasized that education remains a top priority for the government and efforts are being intensified to upgrade infrastructure, ensure quality teaching and improve overall learning outcomes in educational institutions across Jammu and Kashmir.

“Access to quality education is the cornerstone of a progressive society. This new school building will not only strengthen the educational framework in the area but also encourage higher enrolment and retention of students,” the Minister said.

The Minister emphasized the government’s commitment towards improving educational facilities and ensuring a conducive learning environment for students, especially in rural and far-flung areas. She highlighted that strengthening primary



education remains a top priority for the administration.

The Minister also interacted with locals, teachers and students, and assured that all necessary steps will be taken to further enhance educational standards and infrastructure in the district. She highlighted that this newly inaugurated school building, equipped with modern facilities, will provide a conducive learning environment for young students.

Later, the Minister also laid the foundation stone for the Zambalnard-Baidjhalan road, reaffirming the government’s commitment to holistic development and improved connectivity in

access to essential services like education, healthcare and others.

During the visit, the Minister also held a Public Darbar at Baidjhalan and interacted directly with local residents.

She listened to various public grievances and other issues on various aspects like education, healthcare, and infrastructure, assuring them timely redressal of genuine concerns.

The Minister directed the concerned officers to take prompt action on the issues highlighted by Public, highlighting on the importance of responsive and accountable governance. She reiterated that public outreach programs like these are vital for strengthening trust between the government and citizens.

“The government is firmly committed to citizen-centric governance. Public Darbars provide an important platform for people to voice their concerns and for the administration to respond effectively,” she said.

Director School Education Kashmir, senior officers of district administration Kulgam, other officers and large number of locals were also present on the occasion.

Dy CM calls for speedy completion New Assembly Complex



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary Saturday conducted inspections of New Assembly Complex and other important ongoing infrastructure works in Jammu.

During inspection the Deputy Chief Minister called for speedy and quality work completion of New Assembly Complex and timely execution of development projects and strengthening public infrastructure in Jammu.

Taking stock of the pace and quality of construction, he directed the con-

cerned officials to ensure adherence to set deadlines and high construction standards, given the significance of the Assembly Complex. Taking stock of the pace and quality of construction, he directed the concerned officials to ensure timely completion of this vital project. He stressed adherence to set deadlines and high construction standards, given the significance of the Assembly Complex.

He also inspected the ongoing slab laying work over the nallah at Mecca Chowk, Bathindi (upstream side).

He said that the project is aimed at improving local connectivity and ensuring safer movement for residents of the area.

He reviewed the progress on the ground and emphasized the need to maintain quality standards while expediting the work to minimize inconvenience to the public.

Reiterating the Government’s focus on development, the Deputy Chief Minister said that strengthening infrastructure and addressing public needs remains a top priority, and all executing agencies must work with dedication and accountability to deliver results efficiently.

Later, Deputy Chief Minister also conducted surprise inspections at the Chief Engineer’s Office, PWD Jammu, as well as the offices of the Deputy Labour Commissioner and Assistant Labour Commissioner Jammu.

Reviewed functioning, the Deputy Chief Minister stressed accountability, and directed officials to ensure efficient service delivery and responsiveness to public grievances.

Senior officers of several departments were also present.

Rana reviews annual action plan 2026-27 for Poonch

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Saturday chaired a meeting to review the annual action plan for the financial year 2026-27 for Poonch district.

The meeting was attended by senior officers from various departments including tourism, plan-



ning, public works, forest, Jal Shakti, health, education, rural development and power.

During the meeting, detailed discussion was held on sector-wise priorities, ongoing projects and proposed new works under the plan.

The Minister stressed the need for realistic planning, timely execution

and optimal utilisation of resources. He directed the officers to ensure that the plan reflects the actual needs of the people, with a focus on improving the basic infrastructure, drinking water supply, road connectivity, healthcare facilities and education services.

Emphasising transparency and accountability, Javed Rana asked the departments to maintain close coordina-

tion and under served areas of the district. He further directed the officers to closely monitor the progress on key projects and resolve the existing bottlenecks in a time-bound manner.

During the meeting, the departments presented their proposed outlays and highlighted the achievements and challenges.

The Minister reviewed the proposals in detail and

Amanjeet Singh appointed district president BJP minority morcha B'la

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: In a key organizational move aimed at strengthening the party’s minority outreach in the Union Territory, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Minority Morcha, Jammu & Kashmir, Saturday appointed Amanjeet Singh as the Working District President of the Baramulla district unit.

The appointment comes following consultations with senior party leaders, including Sat Paul Sharma, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) and State President, BJP J&K; Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), BJP J&K; Anwar Khan, General Secretary, BJP J&K; and Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, State President, BJP Minority Morcha, J&K/UT.

According to an official statement, Amanjeet Singh has been nominated with immediate effect to ensure the smooth and effective functioning of the Morcha in the Baramulla district.

The leadership expressed confidence that Singh’s appointment will further bolster the party’s grassroots connect and organizational activities among minority communities in the region.

CM expresses grief over loss of three workers in Bantalab bridge collapse

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday expressed deep sorrow over the tragic loss of three workers in a bridge collapse incident at Bantalab on the outskirts of Jammu city.

In a message of condolence, the Chief Minister extended heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved families and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls. He also wished a speedy recovery to

those injured in the incident. The Chief Minister has directed that a thorough inquiry be conducted to ascertain the cause of the collapse and to fix responsibility for any lapses.

According to reports, a portion of a small bridge collapsed yesterday in the Bantalab area, trapping the labourers under the debris. The incident occurred when workers were carrying out repair work on a retaining wall near the bridge.

Javed Rana assures action on public issues in Durga Nagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Durga Nagar Welfare Coordination Committee Saturday called on Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, at his official residence to highlight the pressing problems faced by the locals there.

The Minister was apprised of the difficulties being faced by the residents due to irregular water supply, dependence on private water tankers and gaps in sanitation services.

The committee also requested that the Power Development Department (PDD) be directed to classify the MU-9 Feeder at CPS Muthi as an essential services feeder.

The delegation also



informed Javed Rana that a survey for construction of a one lakh gallon water reservoir at Durga Nagar had already been conducted as per earlier directions and an estimate amounting ₹32 lakh had been prepared. However, they informed that the required funds have not been released so far and sought Minister’s intervention for expediting

the same.

Javed Rana acknowledged the hardships faced by the public and emphasised that ensuring easy access to essential facilities, particularly safe drinking water, power and other essentials remains a top priority of the government.

Taking a serious view of the matter, the Minis-

ter directed the concerned departments, particularly Jal Shakti, to take immediate steps to streamline and augment the water supply in the area. He also called for assessment and upgradation of the existing pipeline infrastructure to prevent leakages and ensure equitable distribution.

The Minister further instructed the authorities to strengthen sanitation and waste management mechanisms in Durga Nagar to safeguard the public health and maintain hygiene standards.

Reiterating the government’s commitment to responsive governance, Javed Rana assured that all genuine public grievances will be addressed on priority and directed the officials to ensure visible improvement.

Highway movement slow, several routes closed or partially operational

Shooting stones, construction work between Ramban, Banihal affect movement

SAJID RAINA

JAMMU: Traffic movement remained slow on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and several other routes across Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday due to breakdowns, heavy vehicle load and ongoing road work, officials said.

According to the Traffic Police Headquarters, slow movement was observed on NH-44 owing to single-lane conditions between Marog and Kishtwar Pather and the breakdown of an HMV near Kishtwar Pather. Movement of nomadic herds between Nagrota and Banihal also affected traffic flow.

Officials said that traffic on the highway is likely to remain slow on Sunday as well, and commuters have been advised to follow lane discipline and



avoid overtaking.

No movement of fresh vehicles was allowed on the Jammu-Srinagar highway on Saturday, though stranded vehicles were cleared towards Ramban and Banihal, an official said, adding that traffic on the Srinagar-Jammu stretch was allowed from Qazigund towards Banihal, Ramban and Udhampur, while vehicles also moved from Jammu towards Srinagar after regulation.

The highway remained closed for most of the day on Friday due to shooting stones and landslides, while movement was also affected by construction work between Ramban and Banihal.

Subject to fair weather and road conditions, passenger vehicles and LMVs are expected to ply on Sunday from both sides of the highway, the official said. However, HMVs will be allowed only after assessing road

conditions. Commuters have been advised to travel during the daytime and avoid overloading.

Meanwhile, traffic on the Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road will remain suspended as the stretch is still closed due to snow accumulation and road damage. On the SSG Road, LMVs followed by HMVs will be allowed from Srinagar towards Kargil after assessment of road conditions.

Traffic on the Mughal Road will operate on a regulated basis, with LMVs allowed from Shopian towards Poonch between 5 am and 10 am, subject to weather conditions. Authorities have advised commuters to confirm the status of roads before travel and follow official advisories to avoid inconvenience—(KNO)

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

Demolishing Nasha: Strong Message

The demolition of structures in Anantnag's Waghama area sends out a clear and uncompromising message. It is now visibly entering the realm of enforcement. By targeting properties allegedly linked to those booked under the NDPS Act, the administration has chosen a strategy meant to deter, disrupt, and dismantle the ecosystem that sustains narcotics trade. At one level, such action reflects urgency. The government's 100-day Nasha Mukht programme appears designed to signal zero tolerance, and demolitions like these are meant to show that the cost of involvement in narcotics goes beyond legal cases, it can extend to loss of assets and social standing. However, strong optics must be matched with strong systems. While enforcement is necessary, it cannot be the only pillar of a sustainable anti-drug strategy. Demolitions may remove physical spaces linked to alleged offenders, but they do not automatically dismantle the networks, supply chains, or the demand that fuels the drug trade. Without parallel investment in rehabilitation, counseling, and employment opportunities for vulnerable youth, the problem risks resurfacing in different forms.

There is also a need for transparency and due process. Actions that involve property demolition must be backed by clear legal procedures to avoid perceptions of arbitrariness. Public trust is strengthened when enforcement is seen as fair, consistent, and firmly rooted in law rather than selective or symbolic.

The broader fight against narcotics requires a balanced approach, firm policing, efficient legal processes, community participation, and above all, a compassionate rehabilitation framework. Schools, families, religious institutions, and civil society must all be part of the solution. Awareness campaigns should move beyond slogans to meaningful engagement with youth, addressing the underlying causes of substance abuse such as unemployment, stress, and social alienation.

The Waghama demolitions may serve as a warning shot, but they are only one step in a much larger battle. If the goal is truly a drug-free society, enforcement must walk hand in hand with prevention and recovery. Otherwise, the structures may fall, but the problem may remain standing.

■ Beyond Sports And Jobs

The Real Battle Against Drug Addiction

WASEEM AKHTER DAR

In recent years, a widely held belief has taken root in public discourse: that engaging youth in sports, providing employment, and keeping them busy can effectively prevent them from falling into the trap of drug abuse. While these measures are undeniably beneficial for overall development, the uncomfortable truth is that they are not a guaranteed shield against the menace of drugs. The issue of substance abuse runs far deeper, and addressing it requires a more comprehensive and realistic approach.

It is often argued that a young person who is actively involved in sports or is gainfully employed has little time or inclination to experiment with drugs. To some extent, this is true. Structured routines, discipline, and a sense of purpose can act as protective factors. However, these alone cannot fully prevent addiction.

It is often argued that a young person who is actively involved in sports or is gainfully employed has little time or inclination to experiment with drugs. To some extent, this is true. Structured routines, discipline, and a sense of purpose can act as protective factors. How-



ever, these alone cannot fully prevent addiction. There are numerous cases where individuals, despite having stable jobs or excelling in sports, have succumbed to substance abuse. This highlights a critical point: drug addiction is not merely a problem of idleness; it is a complex psychological, social, and sometimes biological issue.

Addiction, once it takes hold, is not easily reversed. It is often said that a person may choose to experiment with drugs, but quitting them is rarely a matter of simple choice. The initial decision may be voluntary, influenced by peer pressure, curiosity, or stress, but the subsequent dependency traps individuals in a cycle that is extremely difficult to break. This harsh reality underlines the importance of prevention over cure.

The most effective weapon against drug abuse is awareness. Young people must be educated about the devastating consequences of substance use, its impact on physical health, mental well-being, academic performance, family relationships, and future prospects. Awareness must go beyond superficial warnings; it should involve honest, open conversations that address the

reasons why youth turn to drugs in the first place, such as anxiety, depression, societal pressure, or lack of guidance.

In this regard, initiatives like the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan deserve strong appreciation and active support. Such programmes aim to create awareness at the grassroots level by organising campaigns in schools, colleges, and communities. They bring together educators, parents, law enforcement agencies, and civil society to collectively combat the drug menace. These efforts are commendable, but their success depends largely on community participation and sustained engagement.

The role of parents and teachers is particularly crucial. A supportive home environment, open communication, and early identification of behavioural changes can make a significant difference. Similarly, schools must not only focus on academic excellence but also on character building and emotional resilience. Counselling services, peer support groups, and regular awareness sessions should be integral parts of the education system.

Law enforcement agencies, too, have a vital role to play in controlling the supply of drugs and dismantling net-

works that prey on vulnerable youth. However, enforcement alone cannot solve the problem. It must be complemented by rehabilitation facilities and social support systems that help individuals recover and reintegrate into society. Engaging youth in constructive activities like sports, cultural programs, and skill development is certainly important. Providing employment opportunities is equally essential for ensuring financial stability and dignity. But these measures should be seen as part of a broader strategy rather than standalone solutions.

Ultimately, combating drug addiction requires a collective effort. It demands awareness, empathy, vigilance, and sustained action from every section of society. If we are to safeguard our youth, the backbone of our future, we must move beyond simplistic solutions and confront the deeper realities of addiction. Only through a united and informed approach can we hope to build a society that is truly free from the scourge of drugs.

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Why ICU Practices Demand Urgent Reform

LALIT GARGG

When we reflect on the current state of healthcare in India, a deeply troubling and sensitive question arises: has medicine ceased to be a service and instead transformed into a harsh business—and at times, even a tragedy? This concern becomes particularly sharp in the context of Intensive Care Units (ICUs) in private hospitals. Numerous instances have surfaced where patients, despite being medically stable, continue to be kept in ICUs—not due to clinical necessity, but as part of an ongoing cycle of financial gain.

Such practices not only raise serious questions about the ethics and service-oriented spirit of medicine but also shake the very foundations of human compassion. In this context, the recent emphasis by the Supreme Court on the need for uniform ICU guidelines marks both an acknowledgment of the problem and a constructive step toward its resolution. The Court has clearly stated that patients who are medically stable or no longer require intensive monitoring or life-support systems should not be unnecessarily retained in ICUs. This directive is not merely administrative—it is grounded in deep ethical reasoning. It reminds us that the fundamental purpose of medicine is to preserve life and alleviate suffering, not to maximize profits.

In essence, the Supreme Court's guidelines reaffirm a simple yet crucial principle: an ICU is not meant for indefinite patient care. The directives specify that patients who no longer require external organ support or intensive monitoring should be discharged or shifted to appropriate wards. Equally significant is



the Court's emphasis on the urgency of addressing this issue. While upholding the dignity and reputation of medical professionals, it also calls for accountability from healthcare institutions. Undoubtedly, modern healthcare has become expensive, and advanced facilities come at a high cost. However, the growing dominance of a profit-driven mindset over a service-oriented approach is deeply concerning. This shift has led to several distortions and, at times, even cruelty within the system. Ideally, it should have been the responsibility of policymakers and administrators to regulate such practices. Unfortunately, the fact that judicial intervention has become necessary highlights a systemic failure.

The Supreme Court's recent call for standardized ICU guidelines offers a ray of hope for a system grappling with inconsistencies and ethical dilemmas. An ICU is a specialized facility intended exclusively for critically ill patients requiring constant monitoring and advanced medical support. However, when this facility becomes a tool for prof-

it-making, it transforms into a symbol of inhumanity. For poor and middle-class families, ICU expenses are often unbearable—ranging from thousands to lakhs per day. If patients are unnecessarily kept in such units, it constitutes not just financial exploitation but also mental and social harassment. The situation becomes even more complex because the general public lacks in-depth knowledge of medical procedures. Families depend entirely on doctors and hospital management, and this dependence is often misused in the absence of transparency. Frequently, patients' families are not fully informed about the actual condition, and decisions to continue ICU care are presented as unquestionable truths. This creates an environment of opacity, where the line between genuine medical need and financial interest becomes blurred.

A deeper analysis reveals that this issue is not confined to hospitals or doctors alone—it is the result of a broader systemic failure. After independence, sectors like education and healthcare were entrusted

to the state with the expectation that they would serve as models of public welfare. However, over time, economic liberalization and privatization have significantly altered their direction. Education has become an expensive enterprise, and healthcare, too, has gradually evolved into a profit-driven industry. It would not be an exaggeration to say that today, a form of "commercial competition" dominates the medical field, where patients are increasingly treated as customers. The rapid growth of large private hospitals equipped with advanced technologies is, in one sense, a positive development. However, when these facilities are used primarily for financial gain, it becomes a matter of concern. The expansion of healthcare infrastructure is welcome, but it must be accompanied by compassion, ethical conduct, and human sensitivity.

In this light, the Supreme Court's guidelines emerge as a beacon of hope. They not only aim to protect patients' rights but also strive to ensure institutional accountability. By focusing on aspects such as

nurse-to-patient ratios, availability of specialists, infrastructure, and training, these directives pave the way for a more transparent, accountable, and equitable healthcare system. However, it is equally true that the success of any policy depends on its effective implementation. In India, it is often observed that well-intentioned policies remain confined to paper. If these guidelines are implemented half-heartedly, they will fail to achieve their intended purpose. Strong political will, adequate financial resources, and a robust administrative framework are essential for meaningful change. Above all, a humane perspective must remain at the core of this process.

Prolonged ICU stays are not just financially burdensome but also mentally distressing. Patients and their families live in an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear. Transferring patients to appropriate wards once they are stable not only reduces costs but also provides psychological relief. As India aspires to become a developed nation by 2047, it is imperative that our healthcare system evolves not only technologically but also ethically and humanely. The essence of medical care lies in compassion, service, and empathy. Without these, all progress remains incomplete. Ultimately, the ICU guidelines signify not just an administrative reform but a moral awakening. They compel us to reflect on whether we are truly building a healthcare system aligned with the values of humanity. If implemented with sincerity and integrity, this initiative can play a transformative role in making India's healthcare system more sensitive, transparent, and just.

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Turning Development Justice Analysis Into Collective Actions



SHOBHA SHUKLA

Despite growing backlash against women's rights and feminist movements globally, it gives hope to see that world's largest gathering on gender equality this year 'Women Deliver Conference 2026' was attended by around 6000 people from 189 countries globally. The city that hosts this meet - Narm or Melbourne in Australia - has an inspiring history of resistance which runs through its lands and waters, carried by generations of First Nations (indigenous) leaders, feminists, and activists who have fought for justice, self-determination, and collective care.

Melbourne also hosts Asia Pacific regional office of Public Services International (PSI) - an over a century old global union federation for workers in public services, including those who work in social services, healthcare, municipal services, central government and public utilities.

Corporatising care is regressive
Routed in the work PSI does on women's rights and feminist analysis, one of its progressive contributions has been to expose the way in which care has been corporatised. Social protection is so critical for advancing women's rights as well as rights of gender diverse and indigenous peoples, said Kate Lappin, Regional Secretary of Public Services International Asia Pacific.

"We do draw on progressive trade union histories that have shown that the way to achieve change is through trade union power, and quite frankly, through disruption. We have not gained the rights through 'quiet advocacy,' through just 'requesting changes' to law, or even through just deep analysis. It has really been achieved through our capacity to join analysis with action," said Kate Lappin.

Kate was speaking at inaugural session of SHE & Rights Live at Women Deliver Conference in D03 Exhibition Space, co-hosted by Global Center for Health Diplomacy and Inclusion (CeHDI), Women Deliver, International Planned Parenthood Federa-



tion (IPPF), Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW), Asia Pacific Media Alliance for Health, Gender and Development Justice (APCAT Media) and CNS.

Oldest continuously operating trade union building in the world is in Melbourne

"The oldest continuously operating trade union building in the world is in Melbourne which celebrates its history - both feminist history and labour rights history - of being the first place to achieve the eight-hour day in 1856 - 170 years ago!" said Kate Lappin. Melbourne is also the first place globally to achieve a living wage.

"It was a sexist living wage at that time, setting a wage for men and assuming women were dependent on them, but it had established living wage as a principle. Now, Melbourne is among the first places globally leading on pay equity so that wages can be increased for workers in the care sector," said Kate. Pay equity recognised the devaluation of women's care work, not through a male comparative, but through recognising devaluation of majority of care work done by women historically.

Kate also highlighted the work done by PSI and other trade unions in Melbourne and state of Victoria, Australia, on paternity leave as well as looking at reproductive health

through lifecycle to address needs of women, non-binary people and men might need in their reproductive lives - such as accessing in-vitro fertilisation (IVF), menstrual leave, menopause leave, among others.

Community health work is work
Presence of PSI at this meeting became more important because despite historical role of progressive trade unions in advancing rights, there were hardly any unions onsite. PSI as a member of the Global Care Alliance amplified the call to recognise community health work as work.

Kate emphasises on the critical need to collaboratively build enough power to address global problems and impact change for development justice. Progressive local movements and social struggles have built people power. On other hand, there is an unprecedented monopolisation of power which is concentrating in the hands of a tiny minority - whether that be Big Tech companies or the billionaires and the governments that serve them. We need practical ways to disrupt this global power through alliance building. We need to achieve the level of solidarity - the critical threshold - to achieve system change.

So-called 'development' projects violating rights, communities, environment

"Indigenous women, children and

LGBTQIA+ communities alongside Myanmar border area are deeply affected by so-called 'development' projects and extractive industries," said Matcha Phorn-in, Executive Director, Sangsan Anakot Yaowachon, and a proud lesbian feminist, woman human right defenders and trail runner. "We as indigenous communities are resisting upcoming 'development' projects such as hydropower dams in river diversions and rare earth mining operations. Such activities are causing environmental degradation, water contamination in the river, and human rights violations, environmental crises, and exacerbating gender inequalities and injustices."

Countries like Thailand do not recognise indigenous peoples. "When recognition of indigenous peoples and communities is not there, then government and development sector fails to implement the most important principle of free, prior and informed consent," said Matcha. "Indigenous peoples especially women and gender diverse peoples are not included in decision-making processes at all levels." Matcha demands that gender equality and human right to health must be central to all development policies, investments and projects.

She also called for full recognition of indigenous peoples and their rights,

and implementation of free, prior and informed consent in all development projects. There must be accountability for human rights violations and environmental harms caused by these projects and business activities.

Walk the talk on #HealthForAll and #LeavingNoOneBehind

Matcha demands another non-negotiable: an inclusive and non-discriminatory healthcare system and public services, which must include full access to gender-affirming care as well as sexual and reproductive health and right services. We must move beyond symbolism when it comes to legal and policy reforms so that all people in all their diversities can have full access to public health services and social protection - in a rights-based manner. With growing legal and judicial harassments against human rights defenders, Matcha stressed on the dire need of protecting human rights defenders, especially women and LGBTQIA+ human rights defenders. "These development projects must not come at the cost of our bodies, our land and our dignities," said Matcha.

We demand not just reproductive health but sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice

"With the current right-wing uproar, we need to remember that we demand sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice, and not just reproductive health," said Dr Harjot Khosa, a gender justice and global health advocate.

Referring to 70th UN Commission on the Status of Women convened in March 2026, Dr Harjot Khosa said: "Regressive States are attempting to reverse the established and agreed language on bodily autonomy and human rights."

"We need to stop the use of pseudoscience which is being used to wrongly justify these rollbacks. We also need to decolonise development finance. We need to have radical inclusivity," said Dr Harjot Khosa in SHE & Rights Live from Women Deliver Conference 2026. "We need to pivot intersectionality."

Dr Harjot echoed Kate Lappin's call for collective action powered by progressive social movements and people's struggles: "We need to have a unified front against the hierarchical oppression that we are facing today."

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Price Of Silence: When Knowing The Wrong Is Still Not Enough



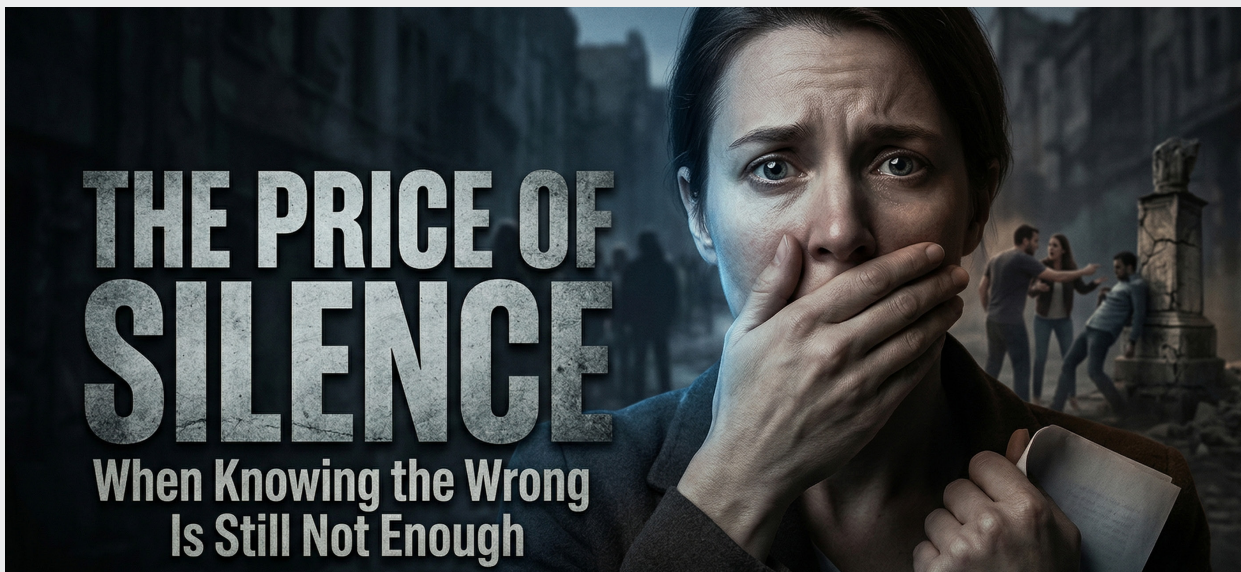
DR. REYAZ AHMAD

There are moments in life when the heart knows something is wrong long before the mouth is willing to say it. A student watches a classmate being humiliated but looks away. An employee notices unsafe practices in the office but stays quiet. A neighbour hears of corruption, injustice, or abuse, yet tells himself that someone else will speak. Silence, in such moments, does not always come from agreement. More often, it comes from fear, confusion, helplessness, and the heavy pressure of social life. That human tendency, to remain silent even when we know something is wrong, reveals a troubling truth about individuals and societies alike.

At first glance, silence may appear harmless. After all, no words were spoken, no action was taken, and no visible harm was done by the silent person himself. But silence is rarely neutral. In many situations, silence becomes a silent partner of wrongdoing. It gives space to injustice, protection to the powerful, and loneliness to the victim. It allows what is wrong to survive longer than it should.

One of the strongest reasons people remain silent is fear. Human beings are social creatures. They want acceptance, belonging, and safety. Speaking up often threatens all three. A person may fear losing friendships, being mocked, damaging career prospects, or facing punishment. In some cases, the fear is even more serious, retaliation, public shaming, or physical danger. Because of this, many people choose silence not because they lack moral sense, but because they feel the cost of truth may be too high.

Consider a workplace example. An engineer notices that safety rules are being ignored to save time and money.



He understands that one day this negligence could cause serious harm. Yet he remains silent. Why? Because he fears being labelled difficult, disloyal, or uncooperative. He worries that his promotion may disappear, that his colleagues may isolate him, or that his supervisor may punish him. So, he says nothing. Days pass. The shortcuts continue. Eventually, an accident happens. What began as silence out of fear ends as harm to many. This example shows that silence often protects short-term comfort while creating long-term disaster.

There is also the power of social conformity. People often look at others to decide how to behave. If everyone else appears calm, silent, or accepting, an individual assumes that perhaps the matter is not serious, or at least not serious enough to challenge. This is one of the most dangerous illusions in group life. Many people may be uncomfortable, but because nobody speaks, each person thinks he is alone in his discomfort.

Imagine a group of friends where harmful jokes about someone's background, appearance, or weakness become normal. Several people feel disturbed, but no one objects. Each assumes the others are fine with it. Over time, the behaviour becomes part

of the group culture. The one who is targeted suffers quietly, and those who are uncomfortable begin to lose their own moral clarity. Yet often it takes just one person to say, "This is not right," for others to admit that they felt the same. Silence creates a false consensus; courage can break it.

Another reason for silence is the diffusion of responsibility. In a crowd, people feel less personally responsible. When many are watching, each individual assumes someone else will act. This happens in offices, classrooms, communities, and even entire nations. The problem is obvious, but responsibility becomes invisible. A neighbourhood may know that a local authority is corrupt. People may complain privately in homes and tea shops, but publicly they do nothing. Each person thinks: "Someone more powerful will deal with it," or "Why should I take the risk alone?" As a result, corruption grows stronger precisely because everyone waits for someone else. Wrongdoing flourishes most easily where responsibility is shared but courage is absent.

Sometimes silence comes from internal conflict. A person may know something is wrong, yet admitting it would force him to confront uncomfortable truths about himself, his group, or his past decisions. It is easier to stay quiet

than to revise one's beliefs, challenge one's loyalties, or accept one's own earlier complicity. This is the psychology of moral discomfort. Silence becomes a shield against self-examination. For example, a teacher may realize that a long-accepted practice in the institution is unfair to weaker students. But to speak up would mean admitting that for years he too went along with the system. Rather than face that uncomfortable reality, he remains silent. In such cases, silence is not only fear of others; it is also fear of oneself.

Hierarchy also plays a major role. People lower in power often hesitate to speak against those above them. An intern remains silent before a manager. A junior staff member stays quiet before a dean. A poor worker fears the word of a wealthy employer. A marginalized voice expects disbelief even before it speaks. In such situations, silence is deeply tied to power. The wrong continues because the person who sees it feels too small to challenge the one who benefits from it.

Yet perhaps the saddest form of silence is learned helplessness. When people repeatedly see that speaking changes nothing, they lose faith in action itself. They stop resisting not because they approve, but because they no longer believe resistance matters.

Silence then becomes habit. It settles into the soul. A person who once felt anger begins to feel resignation. A society that once reacted begins to normalize decay.

The harms of such silence are enormous.

First, silence empowers wrongdoing. When no one objects, the wrongdoer becomes bolder. He begins to believe he is safe, accepted, or untouchable. Second, silence isolates the victim. The person suffering injustice does not only feel the pain of the act itself; he also feels abandoned by those who saw and said nothing. This emotional abandonment can be more painful than the original insult. Third, silence corrupts moral character. Every time a person suppresses truth for convenience, fear, or conformity, a part of his conscience weakens. Over time, silence can turn a morally sensitive person into a morally passive one.

Fourth, silence damages institutions. Families, schools, offices, and governments all weaken when people stop speaking honestly. Problems that could have been corrected early become crises later. Finally, silence harms society as a whole. A culture of silence is a culture where truth becomes expensive, courage becomes rare, and injustice becomes ordinary. Such a society may appear outwardly peaceful, but underneath it is morally unstable.

This is why the conclusion must be clear: the harm of silence is never limited to one moment. It spreads. It protects the wrong, punishes the vulnerable, weakens conscience, and normalizes injustice. What begins as one person's quiet fear can become a community's permanent wound. If wrong is allowed to grow in the shelter of silence, the final cost is paid by everyone. A healthy society is not built only by good laws or powerful leaders; it is built by ordinary people who refuse to let fear become permission for wrong. Speaking up may carry risk, but silence often carries ruin.

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HM Discussed Key Development Issues With Political Leaders: LG Ladakh

RAJA SYED RATHER

LEH: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Vinai Kumar Saxena on Saturday said that Union Home Minister Amit Shah during his recent visit to Leh assured the key political leaders that the Centre is working hard to ensure equitable development of the region.

LG Saxena, said that Amit Shah chaired a meeting with key political leaders of Ladakh on April 30,

stressing sustainable development and environmental resilience in the region.

According to Saxena, the Home Minister, while highlighting the spiritual significance of his visit to Leh on the occasion of Buddha Purnima, called for a focused approach towards large-scale plantation and strengthening water security as core pillars of Ladakh's development.

The Lieutenant Governor said the ongoing efforts



under Project Him Sarovar, including the creation of 50 water bodies across villages, along with recent plantation drives, were shared with the Home Minister, who appreciated the initiatives as positive steps.

During the meeting, Thupstan Chewang emphasized the need to harness water from the Shyok river for drinking and irrigation purposes, while Sonam Wangchuk pointed out that only a fraction of glacial melt in

Ladakh is currently being utilized, underscoring the need for innovative conservation measures.

Saxena said the UT administration has launched a massive programme to boost plantation and water conservation, aiming to ensure climate-resilient development in Ladakh.

He said that over 4,500 native trees have been planted across Leh and Kargil in the past 40 days. Additionally, around 500

saplings, including Bamboos, Amaltas, Gulmohar, Jacaranda, Bougainvillea, Bargad, Pipal and Imli, have been planted in Leh on an experimental basis.

He stated that, as directed by the Home Minister, these efforts will be intensified, with a target to create at least 100 large water bodies in the next year and increase forest cover in Ladakh from less than 1 percent to 5 percent within two years—(KNO)

No fresh hepatitis cases in Khimber, all affected recovering: ZMO

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: Health authorities in Srinagar on Saturday said all children affected in the recent hepatitis cluster in the Reshipora locality of Khimber in Zadibal zone are steadily recovering, with no fresh cases reported since the initial detection.

Zonal Medical Officer (ZMO) Dr Rubina Aziz said the situation is firmly under control, attributing the improvement to swift intervention, coordinated efforts by multiple departments, and sustained ground-level surveillance. "All affected individuals are recovering well, and importantly, no new cases have emerged after the initial cluster," she said.

The health scare surfaced on April 30 when around 18 cases—mostly among school-going children—were reported with symptoms suggestive of acute viral hepatitis, including jaundice, fever,

fatigue, and vomiting. The cluster had initially triggered concern among residents, with suspicion pointing towards a possible waterborne source.

Acting promptly, authorities sealed a suspected community spring in coordination with the local Masjid Committee to prevent further consumption. Water samples from multiple sites, including households and a local school, were collected for laboratory testing, while blood samples of affected patients were sent for serological analysis to determine the exact viral strain, likely Hepatitis A or E.

However, officials said that preliminary water quality monitoring has brought relief. According to a report issued under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), the tested water samples from Khimber—including those from a school and nearby house-

holds—were found to be within "satisfactory" limits based on the Most Probable Number (MPN) coliform count. The samples were classified as fit for human consumption as per bacteriological standards, ruling out any major contamination in the tested supply.

Health officials said that continuous field monitoring, door-to-door surveys, and early case identification played a decisive role in containing the spread. "Our teams remain on the ground, actively monitoring the situation while also educating residents about preventive measures," Dr Aziz said.

An intensified awareness campaign has been launched in the area, with health workers urging residents to strictly follow hygiene practices. People have been advised to consume boiled or properly treated water, maintain hand hygiene, and ensure sanitation to prevent any

recurrence.

The District Surveillance Unit (DSU) noted that the absence of new cases is a positive indicator that containment strategies have worked effectively. However, officials emphasised that vigilance will continue until all laboratory reports are finalised and any residual risk is ruled out.

Meanwhile, the Jal Shakti Department has also been engaged to further assess water safety and ensure the availability of clean and reliable drinking water in the area. Measures are underway to strengthen supply systems and maintain quality standards.

Health authorities reiterated that surveillance and monitoring will continue in the coming days. They stressed that while the situation is under control, sustained public awareness and adherence to preventive practices remain crucial to keeping such outbreaks at bay—(KNO)

...15 Years On Tral Veterinary Hospital Project Remains Unfinished, Residents Face Hardship

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: More than 15 years after it was approved, the construction of a dedicated veterinary hospital in Tral area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district continues to remain incomplete, forcing locals and livestock owners to manage with inadequate and unsafe facilities.

The project was sanctioned around 15 years ago with an estimated cost of Rs 28 lakh. While construction work had initially commenced, it was discontinued midway under unclear circumstances, locals said. Since then, the project has seen no revival, with the half-built structure now standing as a stark reminder of official indifference, they added.

An official aware of the matter said, "People

had high expectations when the project was approved. There was visible progress in the beginning, but suddenly the work stopped and never resumed."

In the absence of a proper hospital building, veterinary services in Tral are currently being provided from an old and deteriorating structure, which residents say lacks even the most basic facilities.

"The existing setup is in a deplorable condition. It is neither safe nor equipped to handle the growing number of cases. Both veterinary staff and livestock owners face serious inconvenience," said a local resident.

Another resident said the neglect comes at a time when animal husbandry has become a key source of livelihood for many families in the area.

"Over the years, more people have taken up

sheep rearing and dairy farming. But without proper veterinary care, we are left struggling. The authorities have failed to address this pressing issue," he said.

Locals said the lack of adequate veterinary infrastructure is directly affecting their income, as delays in treatment often lead to the loss of livestock.

"For us, livestock is our main source of sustenance. When animals fall ill, we are forced to travel to far-off places for treatment, which not only delays care but also increases the risk of losses," another resident said.

The residents have appealed to MLA Tral Rafiq Ahmad Naik and the concerned departments to intervene and ensure that the long-pending project is restarted and completed at the earliest—(KNO)

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Srinagar Decked Up,

will remain on standby throughout the duration of the march.

Municipal teams have carried out extensive cleanliness drives, road repairs, and installation of public facilities such as drinking water stations and mobile toilets. Volunteers and local organisations have been engaged to assist authorities in crowd facilitation and awareness efforts.

Prominent locations, including Lal Chowk and adjoining routes, have been adorned with banners and hoardings carrying anti-drug messages, giving the city a campaign-like atmosphere ahead of the event.

Officials added that educational institutions, sports bodies, and youth clubs have been mobilised to ensure wide participation, turning the Padyatra into a people's movement against the drug menace.

"The administration has urged citizens to actively take part in the march and contribute towards building a drug-free society. Come, join and walk with us in tomorrow's Padyatra," an official appealed, describing the initiative as a united step towards safeguarding the future of Kashmir's youth—(KNO)

Money Generated

and women remains a serious concern."

"We have achieved some success, but not to the extent we had hoped. The increasing addiction among youth is worrying and demands collective action," he said.

The LG said the administration has adopted a three-pronged strategy targeting supply chains, expanding awareness at the grassroots and ensuring treatment and rehabilitation of addicts.

LG Sinha said a 100-day intensified campaign launched across J&K has witnessed large-scale public participation, with lakhs of people, including youth, women, religious leaders, civil society members and political groups, joining the movement.

On enforcement, he said strict Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been put in place, warning that those involved in drug trafficking will face stringent action under the NDPS Act.

Measures include cancellation of driving licences, seizure of vehicles, freezing of bank accounts, attachment of properties and recommendations for passport cancellation.

"Lookout notices are being issued against absconders and the entire network is being targeted to break the supply chain," he added.

The LG also said authorities are monitoring de-addiction and rehabilitation centres to ensure proper facilities, warning that non-compliant centres will face closure. He added that hospitals have been directed to strengthen OPD and IPD services for addiction treatment.

Pertinently, LG Sinha launched a 100-day campaign in J&K on April 11 this year from MA Stadium in Jammu. So far, foot marches have taken place in eight districts of Jammu division. "I feel that in 21 days, its widespread impact is visible. Roughly, more than 50-60 lakh people have participated in various campaigns so far. There has also been a significant increase in the registration of cases in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions, and these actions are also being carried out very effectively," he said.

Stressing awareness, LG Sinha said the campaign is being taken to every district, village and household, encouraging families to come forward and seek help without stigma.

As part of the campaign, the LG would lead a foot march to Lal Chowk stadium at TRC Chowk in Srinagar. "I urge people from all sections of society to participate in large numbers and make this campaign a success," he said.

Calling it a "people's movement," the LG urged media, community leaders and citizens to actively contribute. "When the strength of society, enforcement of law and administrative resolve come together, we can decisively defeat this menace," he said—(KNO)

MeT Forecasts

the possibility of hailstorms at some places.

Similar conditions are likely on May 5, while improvement is expected between May 6 and 9. From May 10 onwards, the weather is expected to

remain largely dry, with brief spells of light rain at isolated places during afternoon hours, he added.

Authorities have advised people to avoid weak structures, electric poles and overhead wires during gusty winds. Farmers have been asked to suspend agricultural activities from May 3 to May 5.

According to MeT data, most places in the Valley recorded above-normal maximum temperatures. Srinagar recorded a maximum of 26.0°C, 3.3°C above normal, while Qazigund settled at 25.2°C, 3.5°C above normal. Kupwara recorded 24.6°C (1.1°C above normal) and Kokernag 24.8°C (3.7°C above normal). Gulmarg, however, recorded 17.2°C.

In the Jammu division, Jammu city recorded 36.0°C, close to normal, while Katra registered 33.0°C and Banihal 25.8°C. Minimum temperatures also stayed slightly above normal at most stations.

Meanwhile, traffic on the Doda-Kishtwar road was suspended following a landslide at Gatsoo near Pul Doda early Saturday, blocking the route completely, officials said—(KNO)

Hailstorms Damage

at a crucial stage of the growing season. The losses are feared to impact overall yield this year, they said.

Residents have urged the administration to carry out an immediate assessment and provide compensation to affected growers.

Meanwhile, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-Kashmir) issued a detailed advisory to help farmers minimise losses and prevent secondary infections in orchards and crops following the hailstorm.

The advisory, issued by its Directorate of Extension, stressed the need for immediate drainage of excess water to prevent waterlogging, which can cause root suffocation and increase the risk of fungal diseases.

Farmers have been asked to gently remove hail deposits and debris from trees to avoid bark injury and branch breakage. It also recommended pruning of damaged branches using clean tools, followed by application of protective pastes on cut surfaces to pre-

vent pathogen entry. Partially uprooted trees should be repositioned and supported, it said.

Highlighting the risk of disease after hail injury, SKUAST-Kashmir advised growers to apply protective fungicide sprays once weather conditions improve. Specific formulations were suggested for apple at the fruitlet stage, as well as for other fruit crops such as cherry, peach, plum, apricot, grapes and pear, and for vegetables.

The advisory also recommended a follow-up nutritional spray, including urea solution after a few days, to promote recovery and new growth, along with micronutrient sprays later to aid tissue repair.

Farmers were advised to carry out spraying during cool and dry periods, avoid water stagnation, and maintain orchard sanitation by removing fallen leaves, fruits and twigs to reduce disease spread—(KNO)

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DC chairs meeting on GIS-Based Master Plan for Kulgam Town

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, Saturday chaired a meeting to review and discuss the GIS-based Master Plan for Kulgam town under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), with a focus on sustainable and planned urban development.

During the meeting, a detailed deliberations were held on key components of the Master Plan, with special emphasis on solid and liquid waste management systems to ensure efficient sanitation and environmental sustainability across the town. A comprehensive transport plan was also discussed, aimed at improving road connectivity, easing traffic congestion, and promoting safe and efficient mobility. The economic development



framework also formed a major area of focus, with discussions centered on identifying growth sectors and enhancing livelihood opportunities.

The meeting further reviewed proposed land use patterns, strengthening of public infrastructure, and strategies for optimal utilization of state land. Future planning aspects were also deliberated upon to ensure

balanced urban expansion in line with projected population growth.

Special attention was given to the development and preservation of green zones to maintain ecological balance, alongside planned industrial activities to boost local economic growth.

The GIS-based Master Plan is expected to provide a structured roadmap

for the sustainable and integrated development of Kulgam town, aligning with the broader objectives of the AMRUT Mission.

The DC emphasized the need for coordinated efforts among departments to ensure effective plan and implementation to transform Kulgam into a well-planned, resilient, and citizen-friendly urban center.

Govt notifies 100 pc FDI in insurance under automatic route

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Union government notified 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) in the insurance sector under the automatic route, paving the way for greater participation by overseas investors, according to a report released on Saturday.

NDTV Profit has reported that foreign investment in insurance companies will be subject to compliance with provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938, and mandatory approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for undertaking insurance and related activities.

"However, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) will continue to operate under a separate framework, with foreign investment capped at 20 per cent under the automatic route," it said.

The report also added that investments in LIC will remain governed by the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, along with applicable provisions of the Insurance Act.

The notification has stipulated that in insurance companies with foreign investment, at least one among the chairperson of the board, managing director or chief executive officer must be an Indian citizen resident.

In addition, 100 per cent FDI under the automatic route has been permitted for insurance intermediaries, including brokers, reinsurance brokers, insurance consultants, corporate agents, third-party administrators, surveyors and loss assessors, managing general agents and insurance repositories, as notified by IRDAI from time to time.

The move follows earlier steps by the Union government to liberalise the sector.

In February, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade had notified allowing 100 per cent FDI in insurance, in line with legislative changes approved by Parliament in December 2025.

The amendments, introduced through the Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Act, revised key provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999, aimed at enhancing capital inflows and expanding insurance penetration in the country.

The latest notification formalised the framework, a step in opening up the insurance sector while retaining safeguards for domestic oversight and regulation.

Operation Sindoor golden chapter of India's military history: Rajnath Singh

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday paid tributes to the Defence Forces, whose unmatched valour and indomitable spirit made Operation Sindoor a golden chapter in India's military history.

Addressing an event 'Shaurya' organised here in the run-up to the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, the Defence Minister said that the operation underscored the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's unwavering resolve to eliminate terrorism through decisive action.

He commended the valour, dedication, and patriotism of the soldiers, and stated that their ethos of Nation First and Service Before Self has defined India's military traditions from ancient times to contemporary operations such as Operation Sindoor.

Rajnath Singh added that the valour of the Defence Forces extends beyond the battlefield as they provide humanitarian assistance as first responders during natural disasters within the country and abroad.

"Our soldiers use weapons to protect their people and deliver food and medicines to those in need during times of crisis. This is the defining characteristic of our Defence Forces," he said.



The event was a unique confluence of art and valour with top defence officials, hundreds of personnel, and noted artists such as Padma Shri awardees Anup Jalota and Kailash Kher, Harshdeep Kaur, and Manoj Muntashir in attendance.

Rajnath Singh highlighted that valour and art are often viewed as opposites, but they, in fact, complement each other. He described them as powerful expressions emanating from human emotions.

The Defence Minister underlined that the marching songs of military bands unify soldiers, transforming individual identity into collective strength.

This sentiment, he said, is deeply embedded in the ethos of the Defence Forces.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, and Vice Chief of the Army Staff Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth attended the event.

Nasha Mukht JK Campaign

District Admin Anantnag intensifies crackdown on drug peddlers

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Intensifying the crackdown and punitive action against Drug Peddlers and NDPS Act violators under the 100 Day intensified Nasha Mukht J&K Campaign, the District Administration Anantnag, in coordination with the Police department, Saturday carried out a significant demolition drive at Waghama, Bijbehara.

During the joint operation, revenue authorities supported by a police team demolished illegal structures including 15 shops raised on State and Kahcharai land falling under Khasra No. 2494 (min) and 2495 (min) in Estate



Waghama. The demolished structures were found to be linked with persons involved in cases under the NDPS Act. The revenue department also ensured the retrieval of

the encroached State and Kahcharai land through this joint action.

Meanwhile, the District Administration has reiterated its firm commitment to maintaining

a zero-tolerance policy against drug peddlers, narcotics networks, and unlawful encroachments. Officials stated that such sustained actions will continue under the 100 Day Campaign with the focus to break supply chain of drugs in the district.

Dismantling the illegal structures raised by the drug peddlers and persons involved in narcotics trade and taking strict punitive action against them is an important facet of this campaign, they emphasized.

The administration has also warned that strict action will be taken against anyone found involved in similar illegal activities in the future.

DC B'la visits Uri; Reviews Vibrant Village Programme



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, S.F Hamid Saturday visited Uri and chaired a comprehensive review meeting at Officers Club Uri regarding the implementation of the Vibrant Village Programme.

The meeting was attended by Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Uri, Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Baramulla, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on the formulation and execution of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) under the programme. The DC stressed the importance of timely preparation and submission of DPRs, ensuring that all proposals are need-based, sustainable, and aligned with the objectives of holistic development in the area. He directed officers to maintain close coordination and adhere strictly to timelines for effective on-ground implementation.

DC Kupwara reviews HPV Vaccination progress

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, chaired a meeting Saturday to review the progress and implementation of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination Programme in the district.

A detailed assessment focused on coverage, awareness, and outreach strategies, with the DC stressing timely vaccination for the targeted age group to prevent cervical cancer.

He directed Health, Education departments to intensify coordinated efforts, enhancing parent and student awareness on vaccine benefits while

prioritizing remote, underserved areas to achieve maximum coverage without leaving any eligible beneficiary behind.

The DC also scrutinized logistical aspects, including vaccine availability, cold chain management, and vaccination team deployment, instructing officials to promptly address bottlenecks and maintain accurate records.

Attendees, including Chief Education Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Planning Officer, District Immunization Officer, Block Medical Officers, and others, briefed on the current status and measures for effective implementation.

KPDCL announces power shutdown in Kashmir parts

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL has informed that the Shutdown of 33 KV Shamsipora Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Shamsipora, Sudsanoo, Turka, Tachloo and adjoining areas will be affected from 10 AM to 03 PM on 04 & 06 May 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 132/33 KV, 100 MVA GIS Khanwar will be observed due to which power supply to Nowshera, Raja Colony, Industrial Estate BAMB, Zaidabal, Hawal, Botakadal, BSNL, Gilkadal, Kathi Darwaza, Rainawari Psychiatric Hospital, PHE, Central Jail, Saída Kadal and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 04

PM on 04 & 06 May 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 KV KP Bagh line and 33 KV Exhibition line will be observed due to which power supply to KP Bagh, Soiteng, PHE, Kursoo Rajbagh, Rajbagh bund, Gogjibagh, Museum, Jawahar Nagar, Mehjoor Nagar, Rambagh, Old Barzullah and adjoining areas will be affected from 10 AM to 3 PM on 05, 11 & 14 May 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 KV Nehalpora Markundal line and 33 KV Nihalpora HMT line will be observed due to which power supply to Markundal, Naidkhai, Sumbal, Gund Boon, Shadipora, Trigam, Mirgund, Singhpora, Kaisari, HMT, SKUAST, SSM college and adjoining areas will be affected from 9:30 to 3:30 PM on 05 May 2026.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER GANDEBAL NOTICE

Whereas, an application for Re-registration/Transfer of Ownership has been received from Mr. AABID HUSSAIN Son of ALI MOHD, Resident of: VILL SISWANA JATKA THE FP JHIRKA MEWAT HR HR in respect of LMV MOTOR CAR Bearing Reg No. HR28F7491, Chassis No: MA3EUA6150066176 Engine No. FSDNS441545 In favour of: SHEIKH OWAIS RASHID Son of: ABDUL RASHID SHEIKH, resident of: SALOORA, GANDEBAL JK 191131 (Transferee). Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general public that the representation/objection, if any in connection with proposed Re-registration/Transfer will be received within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice to the address of undersigned. No representation/objection shall be considered unless it is made in written and shall be submitted within the aforesaid period. No. JK/ARTOG/200/MVD/GBL Sd/- Dated: 02/05/2026 Assistant Regional Transport Officer Ganderbal

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF LITIGATION KASHMIR Old Sadder Court Complex Srinagar. [LAND LINE: 01942473072]

AUCTION NOTICE

Through the medium of this notice all the interested parties are hereby informed that the auction for unserviceable articles/items of the office of Directorate of Litigation, Kashmir scheduled to be held on 06.05.2026 at 12.00 noon is hereby postponed till further orders. Inconvenience caused, if any, is regretted.

No. DLK-Estb/26/2022-02 (Khurshheed Ahmad Bhat) Dated 02.05.2026 DPK-952-26 Director, Litigation Kashmir DT: 02/05/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to the general public that I Subroze Butt intend to correct the name & parentage on my JK Bank Passbook bearing account number 068201400000932 from Subroze Usman Bhat D/o Usman Ali Bhat to Subroze Butt D/o Usman Ali Butt as per my 10th Class Marks Certificate bearing Roll Number 8111252. In this regard if anybody have any kind of objection he/she may file the same with Branch Manager JK Bank Branch Chattabal Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UT OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER SOIBUGH

AUCTION NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the dilapidated / unsafe building structure of BMS C.I.Das Soibugh shall be put to public auction on 12.05.2026 (Tuesday) as is where basis within the school premises is. The auction shall be conducted subject to the following terms and conditions:

- TERMS & CONDITIONS**
- The interested bidders shall deposit an earnest money deposit (EMD) of Rs 5000 (Rupees Five Thousand only) in cash before the commencement of auction.
 - The highest bidder shall be declared successful, subject to approval of the Auction Committee. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount on the spot and the remaining amount within 08 days from the date of auction.
 - The dismantling and removal of auctioned material shall be completed within 07 days at the cost and risk of the successful bidder.
 - In case the successful bidder fails to lift the auctioned items / material the department has right to forfeit deposited amount and to call next successful bidder.
 - No damage shall be caused to adjoining structures or school property during dismantling.
 - The department reserves the right to accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason thereof. All statutory clearances, if required, shall be the responsibility of the successful bidder. Interested persons may inspect the site during working hours before the date of auction.

Issued under the authority of the undersigned. No. ZE0/S/26/117-18 Dated: 02.05.26 DPK-949-26 DT: 02/05/2026 Zonal Education Officer Soibugh.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, KASHMIR GOVT. POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE GOGJI BAGH SRINAGAR.

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TENDER EXTENSION NOTICE

No:KGP/Estt/2026/Canteen/197-198 Dated: 02-05-2026

In continuation of this office Tender Notice No. KGP/Estt/2026/Canteen/20-21 dated 02-04-2026 for running the Canteen of this Institution, it is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the last date for submission of sealed tenders has been extended for a further period of 10 days.

The tenders should now reach the office of the undersigned on or before 11-05-2026 (04:00 PM) along with the required Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Tender Processing Fee and required documents. The sample tender document is also available on the college website: https://kgpsrinagar.edu.in/.

All other terms and conditions of the original tender notice shall remain unchanged.

DIPK-975-26 DT: 02/05/2026 Principal Kashmir Govt.Polytechnic College, Srinagar.

IPL 2026: Bowlers, Gaikwad, Kartik help CSK thrash MI by eight wickets

IAN S

CHENNAI: Chennai Super Kings produced a clinical all-round performance to outclass Mumbai Indians by eight wickets in their IPL 2026 clash at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Saturday. Skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and youngster Kartik Sharma struck unbeaten half-centuries to seal a comfortable chase in CSK's favour after Anshul Kamboj and Noor Ahmad had restricted MI to 159/7.

A target of 160 wasn't a massive one for CSK, and Gaikwad hit 67 not out off 48 balls, laced with five fours and two sixes, his second successive fifty. Kartik, meanwhile, registered his maiden IPL half-century in an unbeaten 40-ball vigil, hitting four boundaries and three sixes, as CSK wrapped up the chase with 11 balls remaining.

At the age of 20 years and 6 days, Kartik became the second youngest CSK batter to score an IPL fifty after Ayush Mhatre (17y 291d). The duo rotated strike wisely and punished the loose deliveries by sending them to the boundary ropes and kept the chase firmly under control through a 98-run stand off 75 balls for the third wicket.

Though Jasprit Bumrah and AM Ghazanfar took a scalp each, CSK were simply too composed in the chase to complete the double over MI and bring their campaign back on track. The eight-wicket win is CSK's biggest victory against MI in the IPL, and this is the third time they have achieved a league double over their arch-rivals after 2014 and 2023.

Right from the word go, CSK's chase was steady. Sanju Samson hit two boundaries and was even



dropped by Ryan Rickelton before the latter took the former's catch off Bumrah. Gaikwad settled in quickly, working through the gaps and ensuring the scoreboard kept ticking. Urvil Patel's cameo of 24 off 12 balls, laced with two fours and as many sixes, injected momentum before being dismissed by Ghazanfar.

Kartik then joined Gaikwad, and the duo stitched together a match-winning stand. Gaikwad's fluency stood out as he pierced the offside field with precision, while Kartik showed maturity beyond his years by mixing caution with aggression.

Their partnership never allowed MI's bowlers to build pressure. By the halfway mark, CSK were well ahead of the required rate, and the chase became a formality. Together, they ensured CSK crossed the line with ease in the 18th over, with MI now clearly staring at an early exit from the competition.

Previously, Kamboj claimed 3-32 while Ahmad chipped in with 2-26 as CSK

produced a disciplined bowling performance to restrict MI to a below-par total. On a two-paced pitch, CSK pulled things back after a brisk start from MI, who were 90/2 at the halfway mark, but then faltered in the last ten overs, making 69/5.

CSK's pacers were clinical in bowling hard lengths and yorkers. For MI, Naman Dhir top-scored with 57 off 37 balls, but did get stuck in the later stages alongside Hardik Pandya, whose timing deserted him big time. From the word go, CSK were on the money, despite Shivam Dube being out of sorts in his fielding.

MI were jolted early when Will Jacks fell to Kamboj in the second over. Ryan Rickelton counter-attacked by smashing five to race to 37 before Noor Ahmad dismissed him in the seventh over. Dhir joined forces with Suryakumar Yadav to keep the scoreboard ticking before the latter perished to debutant Ramakrishna Ghosh for 21.

At 90/2 after 10 overs,

MI looked set for a big total until CSK bounced back. Tilak Varma's scratchy stay ended on five against Noor, while Dhir's stand-out knock was cut short by Jamie Overton's sharp off-cutter and miscued to extra cover. Kamboj came in to remove Pandya and Robin Minz to complete a three-wicket haul.

Trent Boult struck a six late on, but MI's innings fizzled out, as Kamboj and Noor ensured MI managed to reach a total that looked underwhelming given the start they had in the first ten overs, which CSK easily surpassed, and gave lots of delight to their faithful fans.

Brief scores:

Mumbai Indians 159/7 in 20 overs (Naman Dhir 57, Ryan Rickelton 37; Anshul Kamboj 3-32, Noor Ahmad 2-26) lost to Chennai Super Kings 160/2 in 18.1 overs (Ruturaj Gaikwad 67 not out, Kartik Sharma 54 not out; Jasprit Bumrah 1-20, AM Ghazanfar 1-40) by eight wickets

IPL 2025-26: Diamond Harbour FC eye decisive stride; Sreenidi Deccan FC test title credentials

IAN S

KALYANI: League leaders Diamond Harbour FC will look to move within touching distance of the title when they host Sreenidi Deccan FC in a Championship Phase fixture of the Indian Football League (IFL) 2025-26 at the Kalyani Stadium on Sunday.

With the league stage concluded, the competition has entered its decisive Championship Phase, a round-robin involving the top six, where the side finishing with the highest points tally will be crowned champions. Diamond Harbour's campaign to date has been defined by control and consistency, reflected in their position atop the standings with 25 points, while Sreenidi sit third on 18 points from the same number of matches.

Both sides arrive in form. Diamond Harbour registered a composed 2-0 win over Chanmari in their previous outing, with Antonio Moyano Carrasquilla and R. Ramdinthara on the scoresheet. Sreenidi, meanwhile, edged Rajasthan United FC 2-1, courtesy of goals from Hadi Idrissou and David Castaneda Munoz.

From a title-race perspective, the equation is clearer and more urgent for Sreenidi. A victory would lift them to 21 points and potentially into second place, trimming the gap to four points with three matches remaining. For Diamond Harbour, the incentives are even more immediate: a win would take them to 28 points and could mathematically secure the title, contingent on Shillong Lajong FC dropping points against Chanmari FC.

Despite Diamond Harbour's dominance, this fixture carries a compelling sub-plot. Their only league defeat this season came against Sreenidi in the reverse meeting on February 28, when Fabrice Kah Nkwoh struck the decisive



goal, offering the visitors both belief and a working template.

Diamond Harbour head coach Kibu Vicuna, however, has stressed the importance of staying grounded despite his side's position at the summit. "We didn't win the Championship yet. We still have points to play. We have to respect every team. And also, we know how football is. It's very unpredictable. So, we are only focused on the next game. We are in a good moment, but we know that it was very costly. We worked hard to be in this situation, and we have to keep going. Nothing more."

That outlook reflects a side aware that, despite a seven-point cushion and just one defeat all season, the margins in the Championship Phase remain fine, particularly against an opponent that has already beaten them once.

Goalkeeper Dheeraj Singh echoed a similar sentiment, highlighting the psychological dynamic of leading the table. "For us, to be honest, we are seven points ahead. Whichever team we're going to play, even [Sreenidi], [Rajasthan], [Shillong], they will come up with all of us because they have nothing to lose, but we have something to lose. And most importantly, we have to be humble and keep our

feet on the ground; we're not yet the champions. So, same preparation, same approach. Hopefully, we deliver the same result."

The contest is likely to be shaped by a classic strength-versus-strength dynamic. Diamond Harbour boast the most potent attack in the league, having scored 24 goals, but there remains a degree of uncertainty around their attacking spearhead. Luka Majcen is recovering from a knock sustained in the previous game and will be assessed closer to kick-off, meaning his involvement may depend on late fitness clearance.

Sreenidi, however, countered with one of the most resilient defensive units in the Championship Phase, having conceded just nine goals across the campaign. Their structure is compact and disciplined, but they are also preparing for the tactical complexity of Diamond Harbour's approach.

Sreenidi head coach Carlos Vaz Pinto outlined the scale of the challenge. "Confidence alone is not enough; we must bring commitment to compete against the team leading the table. With the right commitment and confidence, we believe we can get the three points. They are an offensive team

with a clear style—they try to dominate and play positively. They haven't changed much in personnel, but tactically, they now use more than one system. Even when they change systems, their playing style remains the same. When they lose the ball, they press aggressively. If they have space, they attack fast. Defensively, they are strong, but we feel we can score against them."

Sreenidi will also draw confidence from their previous meeting, but remain cautious about reading too much into that result.

Sreenidi Deccan player Labiakliana emphasised the need for a complete performance. "It will be a very tough match—they are a very good team with strong structure and quality players. We beat them before, but that doesn't mean anything for tomorrow. We need to bring our top game, mentally and physically. Preparation has been very good; training sessions have been intense and focused. We've worked on how the coach wants us to play, and we hope to deliver."

That perspective reflects a measured approach from Sreenidi, acknowledging past success while reinforcing the need for tactical discipline and execution against a side that has otherwise dominated the league.

ISL 2025-26: Parthib Gogoi's late strike helps NorthEast United edge Inter Kashi

IAN S

GUWAHATI: NorthEast United FC secured a dramatic 3-2 victory against Inter Kashi in Indian Super League (ISL) 2025-26, with Parthib Gogoi's late strike sealing all three points in a pulsating contest at the Indra Gandhi Athletic Stadium on Saturday.

Jithin MS had given the Highlanders the lead on the stroke of half-time, while Andy Rodriguez doubled the advantage from the penalty spot, before Inter Kashi staged a spirited comeback through Sergio Llamas and Mohammed Asif.

The result sees NorthEast United FC move up to 10th in the standings with 10 points from 11 matches, while Inter Kashi remain eighth with 11 points from 10 outings. Jairo Samperio was named the Man of the Match for his influential display, playing a key role in two of the three goals.

Inter Kashi made the brighter start, dominating possession in the opening exchanges and testing the NorthEast defence with a series of long-range efforts. Midfielders Asif and Tomba Singh both went close early on, while striker Alfred Planas Moya and full-back Rohit Danu combined well down the right, though the visitors lacked precision in the final third.



threat. The Spaniard came close on multiple occasions, striking the post in the 38th minute before being denied in a one-on-one by Inter Kashi keeper Shubham Dhas. Just as the first half appeared destined to end goalless, Jairo produced a brilliant run down the right, beating two defenders before cutting the ball back for Jithin MS, who finished emphatically into the top corner to hand the hosts the lead in stoppage time.

The Highlanders carried that momentum into the second half, controlling possession and dictating the tempo. Their pressure paid off in the 61st minute when Jairo once again broke into the box, drawing a foul from centre back Wayne Vaz, who was shown a red card. Andy Rodriguez stepped up and calmly converted the resulting penalty to make it 2-0.

Despite being reduced to ten men, Inter Kashi

responded with resilience. Sergio Llamas pulled one back in the 71st minute with a well-struck free-kick that curled into the bottom corner, shifting the momentum in the visitors' favour. They continued to push forward and were rewarded in the 82nd minute when Mohammed Asif capitalised on a loose ball inside the box to slot home the equaliser.

With the game finely poised, both sides searched for a decisive goal. NorthEast United found it in the 90th minute, as substitute Parthib Gogoi drove into the box from the right and produced a composed finish into the bottom corner to restore the lead and spark celebrations among the home supporters.

Inter Kashi threw bodies forward in the closing stages but were unable to find another breakthrough, as NorthEast United held firm to secure a crucial win.

Movies Schedule

Sunday, 3rd May

<p>Raja Shivaji (U/A16+) Hindi - 10:45 AM</p>	<p>Ek Din (U/A13+) Hindi - 01:35 PM, 04:10 PM</p>	<p>Dhurandhar: The Revenge (A) Hindi - 10:35 AM, 06:15 PM</p>
<p>Michael (U/A 13+) English with English Subtitles 05:00 PM</p>	<p>BHOOTH BANGLA (U/A16+) Hindi - 03:00 PM, 06:45 PM</p>	<p>The Devil Wears Prada 2 (A) English with English Subtitles 11:05 AM, 02:30 PM, 07:40 PM</p>

INOX SRINAGAR

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