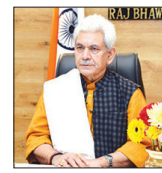


Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Lok Bhavan Jammu & Kashmir
@LokBhavanJandK



This championship carries with it a responsibility to uphold and renew the essential spirit of sport that transcends competition and connects us to our highest aspirations as human beings. Let the Inter-University Wushu Championship at Kashmir University be remembered not only for the brilliance of the contests but for the bonds of friendship it forged, the barriers it broke, and the sense of one united, determined, compassionate Indian family it renewed. May every athlete continue to light the path forward for generations to come," the Lieutenant Governor said.

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Darbar Move Reopens In Srinagar, CM Receives Warm Reception

CM Reviews Functioning, Facilities For Employees, Public



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah received a warm reception at the Civil Secretariat Srinagar Monday as offices reopened in the summer capital. He was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour on the occasion.

The Darbar Move, which was resumed last year in Jammu, marks the restoration of a key governance tradition in Jammu and Kashmir, with the Civil Secretariat shifting in full to the summer capital after several years.

On his arrival, the Chief

Minister inspected the parade and received his first Guard of Honour in Srinagar following the resumption of the Darbar Move in October last year under his leadership.

He was received by his cabinet colleagues, the Deputy Chief Minister, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo and other senior civil and police officers.

The reopening of offices in the summer capital signifies the formal commencement of the administration's functioning in Srinagar for the season, underscoring continuity in governance and institutional tradition. **•P-06**

CM Chairs Meeting As Darbar Move Offices Open In Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: On the first day of the reopening of the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar after Darbar

Move, marking the first full return to the summer capital in several years, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Monday chaired a high-level **•P-06**

Athletes Must Inspire Youth To Shun Drugs: LG

Calls Athletes To Act As Ambassadors Of Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyaan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

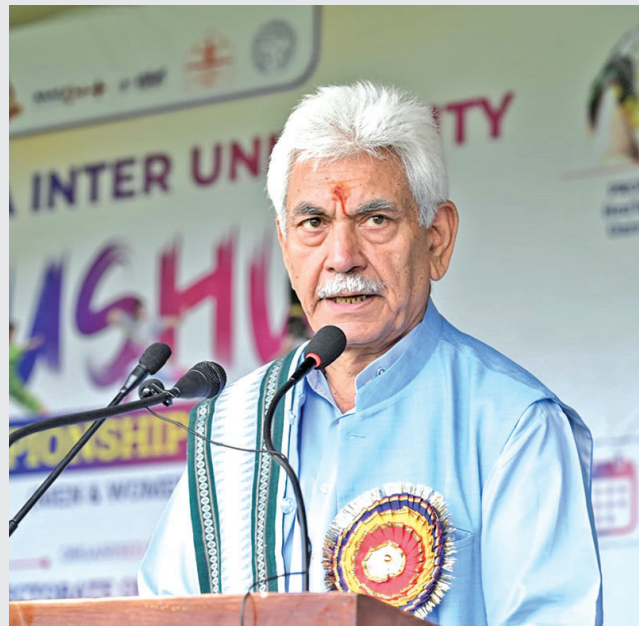
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called upon the Athletes to act as the Ambassadors of Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyaan and inspire the youth to shun drugs and embrace sports.

The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of All India Inter-University Wushu Championship at University of Kashmir.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor reiterated that the Administration is committed to building a robust sporting culture across Higher Educational Institutions, ensuring equal opportunities for every student to lead an active and healthy lifestyle.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the All-India Inter-University Wushu Championship is more than a sporting contest; it is a vibrant celebration of Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat and serves as a powerful platform to promote unity in diversity, discipline, excellence, and national integration.

"This championship carries with it a responsibility to uphold and renew the essential spirit of sport that transcends competition and connects us to our highest aspirations as human beings. Let the Inter-University Wushu Championship at Kashmir University be remembered not only for the brilliance of the contests but for the bonds of friendship it forged, the barriers it broke, and the sense of one united, determined, compassionate Indian family it renewed. May every athlete continue to light the path forward for generations to come,"



the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that the rigorous discipline of Wushu reflects the resilience of our youth. He stated that the championship serves as a platform for cultural exchange, where rivals become friends and mentors shape the future "heartbeat of India." The Lieutenant Governor encouraged each athlete to create a short video **•P-06**

LG Chairs 7th J&K UT Wildlife Board Meeting

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday chaired the 7th meeting of the Wildlife Board for the Union Territory of J&K, at Lok Bhavan, Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by Shri Javed Ahmed Rana, Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment, and Tribal Affairs Departments; Dr. Devinder Kumar Mandyal and Shri Mian Mehar Ali, Members of the Legislative Assembly; Shri Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dr. Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; Ms. Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department; Shri Sarvesh Rai, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force; Shri Chaturbhuj Behera, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K, along with eminent conservationists, ecologists, environmentalists, representatives of the Army, NGOs working in the wildlife sector, and other members of the Board.

The Board deliberated on key conservation and development matters and **•P-06**

J&K Faces Sharp Voltage Slump

Power Voltages Hit Severe Lows: NRPC



RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: In a stark admission before the Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC), authorities have revealed that power voltages in Jammu and Kashmir have slumped to severe low levels.

The authorities have revealed that key 400kV and 220kV bus voltages across have slumped to severe low levels at 347kV and 178kV respectively—thus raising serious concerns of the power supply.

NRPC in a recent meeting stated that the 400kV as well as 220kV bus voltages at various stations in Kashmir valley are remaining critically low, also reaching 347kV and 178kV respectively.

"The low voltage is a perennial issue, and it has been deliberated in various meetings as well as in the recent meeting held in 2025," it reads.

It also said, "Further Grid-India in quarterly operational feedback 2025 also highlighted low voltages at 400kV Amargarh, Wagoora and Wanpoh S/S, 400kV voltages are reaching **•P-06**

'Insult To Democracy'

LoP Sharma Slams CM Over 'Bloody Hell' Remark, Seeks Apology

REHAN QAYOOM

JAMMU: Calling Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's "bloody hell" remark an "insult to democracy" and a reflection of disregard for the people's mandate, Leader of Opposition and BJP leader Sunil Sharma on Monday demanded a public apology from him.

He said the remark undermines democratic values and insults voters' choices across states, accusing the Chief Minister of questioning electoral verdicts and urging him to withdraw his statement immediately.

Talking to reporters in Jammu, LoP Sharma said the remark reflects a disregard for the democratic will of the people. "In any election, in any state, whichever party wins, we congratulate it. It is the mandate of the people. Who are we to say 'bloody hell' to that mandate?" he said. LoP Sharma alleged that



the statement amounted to disrespecting voters across multiple states. "Somewhere, the people of these states have been abused. They exercised their franchise with their intellect and their rights. Such language is an insult to democracy and democratic values. He must apologise," Sharma said.

Stressing that citizens are free to support any political party, Sharma said no leader has the authority to question people's verdict. "People have the right to **•P-06**

Kashmir Upper Reaches Receive Fresh Snowfall, Rains Lash Plains

Gurez-Bandipora, Mughal Road, SSG Route Closed Due To Snow

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Fresh snowfall in upper reaches, coupled with rain and gusty winds in the plains led to temperatures plummeting across Kashmir on Monday and disrupted traffic on several key routes.

According to the details available, upper reaches including Gurez, Gulmarg and Sonamarg received light to moderate snowfall, leading to fall in temperatures.

The Gurez-Bandipora Road was closed due to accumulation of snow, while the Mughal Road was shut after fresh snowfall at Peer Ki Gali, leaving around 200 vehicles stranded at different locations.

Officials said stranded passengers, including women, children and some patients, have sought assistance, while the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is



mobilising men and machinery to clear the road and launch a rescue operation.

Meanwhile, BRO rescued around 20 vehicles at Razdan Pass after fresh snowfall and moved them to safer locations, officials said.

Traffic authorities said the Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri (SSG) road has also been closed due to fresh snowfall, while only one-way traffic is being allowed on the Srinagar-Leh highway between Sonamarg and Kargil, subject to weather conditions and clearance.

They added that the Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road remains closed due to snow **•P-06**

Over 13,000 MSMEs Assessed By JKMHC Across J&K

CS Calls For Scaling Up Interactions, AI-Driven Interventions

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the functioning and progress of the Jammu & Kashmir MSME Health Clinic (JKMHC), a digital initiative aimed at diagnosing, reviving and strengthening micro, small and medium enterprises across the Union Territory.

The meeting besides Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce and Director, IIM Jammu was attended by Executive Director, JKEDI; Director, Industries Jammu; Director, Employment and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, Chief

Secretary issued a series of strategic directions aimed at strengthening the effectiveness and institutional capacity of the MSME Health Clinic.

He emphasized the adoption of an advanced, Large Language Model (LLM)-based solution for conducting root cause analysis of stressed units, with a mature agentic AI framework backed by appropriate guardrails.

He also directed that the system be trained on local datasets to enhance contextual relevance and explore development on indigenous platforms such as BharatGenetec.

Highlighting the importance of evidence-based interventions, the Chief Secretary called **•P-06**

Railway Push Set To Boost Kashmir Cherry Trade

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: With the cherry harvest season around the corner, fruit growers across Kashmir are looking forward to a significant shift in how their produce reaches markets outside the Valley. Improved railway logistics and expanded parcel services are expected to enable the transportation of an estimated 10,000 metric tonnes of cherries this year—marking a notable rise compared to previous seasons.

Officials associated with the horticulture and railway sectors said that the enhanced availability of parcel trains, along with plans to introduce air-conditioned cargo facilities, could streamline the supply chain for one of Kashmir's most delicate and high-value fruits.

The initiative is aimed at ensuring faster delivery while minimising spoilage during transit.

A railway official **•P-06**

West Bengal Election Results

'Hats Off To The People Of Bhabanipur': Amit Shah

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday described the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s performance in the West Bengal Assembly elections as a "historic win," attributing it to the sustained efforts of party workers.

In a post on X, Shah said the party's rise in the state reflected the perseverance and commitment of its grassroots cadre.

"This historic victory for the BJP in Bengal is the result of the sacrifices, struggles and dedication of countless workers," he said.

He further stated that the mandate reflected public support for the party's political approach and leadership.

"Hats off to the people of Bhabanipur. Their mandate has made it clear what fate awaits an anarchic ruler,"



HM posted. In another post, Shah said the verdict demonstrated the electorate's expectations for governance and development.

He also referred to the party's commitment to the state's development and to fulfilling public aspirations.

"Lotus has bloomed in Bengal," was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message on the BJP's stunning performance in West Bengal.

"Today is a historic day. It is unprecedented. **•P-06**

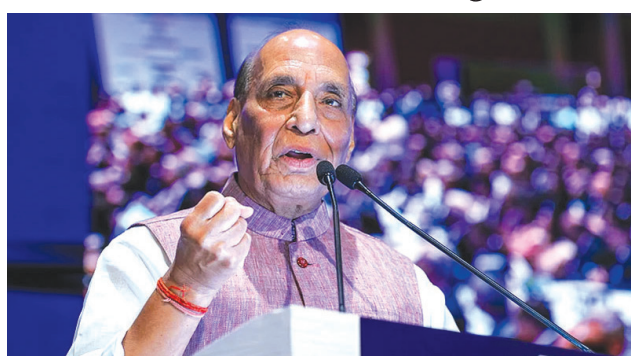
'Operation Sindoor' Reflects India's Technological Edge In Modern Warfare: Rajnath Singh

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: Asserting that the country is prepared to deal with rapidly evolving security challenges, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said 'Operation Sindoor' demonstrated India's growing capability to integrate advanced technology into modern warfare.

Addressing a defence symposium in Prayagraj, Singh, said, "The operation showcased the effectiveness of indigenous systems and reflected the armed forces' readiness to adapt to new forms of combat."

He said modern conflicts are undergoing rapid transformation, with technologies such as drones, sensors and artificial intelligence increasingly shaping battlefield out-



comes. Referring to recent global conflicts, Singh noted that warfare has shifted significantly in a short span of time, underlining the need for constant adaptation.

The Minister said India must maintain a proactive approach and build capabilities that ensure preparedness for any future scenario, including the ability to respond decisively when required.

He stressed that the element of surprise remains a critical factor in warfare and said efforts are underway to further strengthen operational readiness in this regard. Highlighting the govern-

ment's focus on defence innovation, Singh said research and development have been placed at the centre of policy priorities. He said initiatives led by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) are aimed at boosting indigenous capabilities and reducing dependence on imports.

He said the government has eased technology transfer norms to support collaboration with industry. Over 2,200 technologies have been transferred to private and public sector players so far, he added.

Singh said Indian industries have been given access to DRDO patents, a step aimed at enhancing their technological base and competitiveness. Testing facilities under DRDO have also been **•P-06**

DC Ganderbal reviews arrangements for Kheer Bhawani Mela 2026

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: A high-level preparatory meeting was Monday convened here under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore to review and finalise arrangements for the annual Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela 2026, scheduled for 22nd June, 2026.

Reviewing the preparedness, the DC noted that the mela witnessed a footfall of more than 15000 devotees in 2025 and said that adequate arrangements should be put in place this year to cater large gatherings. Devotees are expected to start arriving from 21st June, with the main congregation on 22nd June.

It was informed that the Mata Kheer Bhawani Temple premises and the Central University of Kashmir campus at Tulmulla have been designated as the main accommodation sites. Adequate tents, bedding and essential facilities will be put in place well in advance.

The DC directed the R&B department to ensure timely completion of all tendering processes so that transit camps are fully equipped before the arrival of pilgrims.

The Irrigation and Flood Control department were directed to expedite desilting and cleaning of



the Tulmulla Nallah, particularly in areas requiring manual intervention. Sanitation arrangements will be jointly managed by the Municipal Council and Rural Development department, with strict measures in place to maintain cleanliness across the area.

KPDCL was directed to ensure uninterrupted power supply with sufficient backup at all venues and along approach roads. Street lighting and mobile charging facilities are to be made fully operational ahead of the mela.

Reviewing security and medical preparedness, the DC was informed that comprehensive arrangements are being put in place by the district police, SDRF and traffic authorities. A joint control room will be established for effective coordination. The Health Department will deploy ambulances, specialist doctors and set up a dedicated medical

camp at the shrine and other designated venues.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer and District Traffic Police were directed to prepare a comprehensive transport and traffic management plan to ensure hassle free movement of pilgrims during the Mela.

The Floriculture department was directed to ensure beautification of the temple surroundings, while the Social Welfare department was directed to provide facilities for differently-abled pilgrims, including wheelchairs. BSNL and other telecom agencies were asked to strengthen network connectivity in and around the Mela area.

The Food Safety Department was directed to ensure availability of adequate ration, along with availability of LPG within the premises. Food Safety department was tasked

with Market checking and monitoring throughout the Mela period.

Issues raised by the Dharmarath Trust and Samaj Sudhar Committee as well as representatives of Kashmiri Pandit community were taken up during the meeting, and concerned officers were directed to resolve them on priority.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police, Sudhanshu Dhama; Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Syed Faheem Bihaqi; Superintendent Engineer PWD (R&B), Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Chief Planning Officer, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer and other officers and officials of district administration besides representatives of the Dharmarath Trust and Samaj Sudhar Committee.

Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyaan

DC B'pora interacts with 'Mahila Samitis' during 'Maa se Guftagu' Series

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: As part of the ongoing 100-Day Mission Mode Campaign under the Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, District Administration Bandipora organised an interaction and awareness programme with Panchayat-level Mahila Samitis under the "Maa se Guftagu" initiative, aimed at strengthening grassroots efforts against drug abuse.

The programme witnessed participation from District Programme Officer ICDS Bandipora, Yash Ali Khan; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Shabir Ahmad Wani; CDPOs, Mahila Samitis, ICDS Supervisors, Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs), NRLM representatives and other stakeholders.

During the programme, the functioning of Mahila Samitis across all 151 Panchayats and 43 Municipal Wards of the district was reviewed, with special focus on their role in strengthening grassroots implementation of the anti-drug campaign.

District Programme



Officer ICDS Bandipora, presented a detailed strategy and action plan outlining the responsibilities of Panchayat Mahila Samitis. The presentation highlighted six core mandates, including awareness generation, counselling support, community vigilance, convergence, rehabilitation, and reporting mechanisms at the Panchayat level.

A comprehensive 100-day action plan focusing on training programmes, awareness drives, identification of addicts, home visits, and follow-up assessments was also shared.

Addressing the gathering, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, underscored

the vital role of women in building a drug-free society and called upon Mahila Samitis to serve as "change agents" at the village and ward levels.

She stressed the need for intensified door-to-door awareness campaigns, mohalla meetings, community vigilance, and timely identification of vulnerable youth.

The Deputy Commissioner observed that parents have a crucial role in safeguarding children from addiction and noted that substance abuse often contributes to domestic violence cases. She urged participants to counsel affected individuals while strengthening preventive

awareness at the grassroots.

The meeting also deliberated on a multi-pronged strategy involving ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, Self Help Groups (SHGs), and PRI institutions. Directions were issued to organise awareness drives, school rallies, and nukkad natak, besides facilitating counselling and rehabilitation support through the District De-addiction Centre.

Representatives of Mahila Samitis also shared challenges related to social stigma and increasing peer pressure among adolescents.

Emphasising a compassionate approach, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to support rehabilitation and reintegration of drug addicts into society to help them lead dignified lives.

The programme concluded with a pledge administered by the Deputy Commissioner, wherein participants resolved to continue collective efforts toward building a drug-free society under the Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, reaffirming that "change begins at home."

PCCF felicitates Winners of Forest Photography Competition

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Principal Chief Conservator Forests (PCCF)/ Head of Forest Force (HoFF), J&K, Sarvesh Rai felicitated the participants of Inaugural Forest Photography Competition organized by the Planning and Publicity Division of Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department.

Launched by the J&K Forest Department, the initiative was designed to document the rich ecological heritage of the region and encourage field staff to actively record biodiversity, landscapes, People and forest sceneries.

Speaking at the event, Sarvesh Rai emphasized that the competition serves a dual purpose: showcasing the unparalleled beauty of Jammu and Kashmir's forests to the world and fostering a culture of conservation and observation among forest frontline staff.

The competition saw enthusiastic participation from across the departments. Top honors were awarded to Abdul Qayoom Sofi (Birds), Amir Shafi Rather (Landscape), and Hilal Ahmad Malik (Wildlife, People and Forest-life) for their exceptional photographic documentation of the region's diverse ecosystem.

KPDCL announces power shutdown in Kashmir parts

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC Monday informed that the Shutdown of 33 KV Nowpora-Achabal Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Achabal, Ferozpora, Doabagh and adjoining areas will be affected from 09:30 AM to 03:30 PM on 09 May 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 KV Wanganpora SH Pora line and 33 KV Wanganpora Kawdara line will be observed due to which power supply to MR Gunj, Nawabzara, Mughal Masjid, Zaidibal, Sazgiripora, Nowhatta, Jamia Masjid, Rajouri Kadal, Gojwara, Nawakadal, Shreen Bagh, Nawakadal, Narwara and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 03:30 PM on 05 & 07 May 2026.

JDA carried out demolition drive along Ring Road

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: In a significant enforcement action undertaken Monday, the Jammu Development Authority (JDA) carried out a major demolition drive along the Ring Road corridor to curb unauthorized constructions and ensure planned urban development.

During the drive, more than 15 illegal structures, which had been raised without obtaining the requisite building permissions from the competent authority, were demolished. These structures were found to be in clear violation of approved land use norms and building regulations.

Preliminary assessments indicated that the unauthorized constructions posed a serious threat to public safety. Many of these structures were either structurally unsound or had encroached upon critical areas, thereby increasing the risk of damage to life



and property, particularly to nearby residential and commercial establishments.

The demolition operation was conducted by the Enforcement Wing of JDA with the assistance of local administration and law enforcement agencies, ensuring that the drive was carried out smoothly and without any untoward incident. Prior notices, as per due legal procedure, had been served to the violators, providing them adequate opportunity to comply with the regulations. The Authority reiterates its commitment to maintaining planned development in Jammu and urges the general public to strictly adhere to building norms and obtain necessary permissions before undertaking any construction activity. Unauthorized constructions not only violate the law but also endanger public safety and disrupt orderly urban growth.

JDA further emphasizes that similar enforcement actions will continue in the future against all such violations, without exception.

DMD NABARD reviews RBIC progress at SKUAST-K



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Deputy Managing Director (DMD), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Dr AK Sood, Monday visited Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Shalimar campus to conduct a review of the Rural Business Incubation Centre (RBIC).

The visit was aimed to assess the progress of infrastructure creation under RBIC for fostering agri-business and rural entrepreneurship across the region. RBIC at SKUAST-K has been created with the support and funding of NABARD to foster rural entrepreneurship in Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

At the outset of the visit, Dr Sood held a meeting with Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, who detailed the university's approach for modernising agriculture with the help of new age technologies.

Prof Ganai briefed the visiting dignitary about the RBIC's hub and spoke model with Shalimar campus acting as a central hub, while the university's specialized technical units, including the dairy processing facility, biofertilizer production centre, fur processing unit, and mushroom production wing, serve as practical spokes that provide incubatees with essential support.

Dr Sood lauded these efforts, noting that the integration of academic facilities with business incubation is vital for advancing the agriculture sector and modernising the technological landscape of Jammu and Kashmir. He offered full support from NABARD for further

strengthening the incubation framework to ensure the long-term success of the startup ecosystem.

The occasion was marked by the official release of Ruralpreneur, the inaugural newsletter of the RBIC. Launched jointly by Dr Sood and Prof Ganai, the publication provides a detailed account of the centre's achievements over its first six months, highlighting the growth of its startup portfolio and its impact on rural communities.

Meanwhile, Dr. Sood was accompanied by a senior delegation from NABARD, including General Manager and Office Incharge for J&K Vikas Mittal, Deputy General Manager Surinder Singh, and Assistant General Manager Kanav Sharma, for an interactive session with the RBIC management team at the Discovery Building.

During this session, Dr Jameel Ahmad Khan, CEO, RBIC, delivered a presentation on the centre's operational pipeline and its extensive outreach activities.

Prof Haroon Naik emphasized the RBIC's mission to extend its reach into the most remote areas of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh to identify untapped talent. He also shared insights into future infrastructure plans, specifically the development of a dedicated Techno Park aimed at providing world-class facilities for emerging ventures.

The visit concluded with a tour of the Innovation Building, where Dr Sood inspected the newly developed co-working pods, conference halls, and dedicated offices designed to provide a professional environment for the region's next generation of agri-entrepreneurs.

DDC reviews progress of Heritage Restoration Projects in Kishtwar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KISHTWAR: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of ongoing works and discuss new project proposals for Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Conservation of Architecture & Heritage of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Scheme.

The Deputy Commissioner undertook a detailed review of the physical and financial progress of ongoing heritage restoration projects under the



J&K Architecture & Heritage Scheme works under the UT CAPEX and CSS schemes.

These schemes included the development and beautification of Shri Sarthal Mata Temple; construction of Ghonkhan at Gampa Guldharpatti, Padder; development of Shri Machail Mata Ji Temple Padder and beautification works at Astan Bala Shah Farid-Din Sahib Bagdadi and Astan Pain (Shah Asrar-Din Sahib Bagdadi) in Kishtwar town. The DC emphasized the timely completion of these works while ensuring quality and adherence to approved plans.

The meeting also deliberated on new heritage and religious infrastructure projects submitted to the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K, for sanction and approval. These

include preservation of Sai Draman Heritage Site at Bhaguna Panchayat, Block Nagensi; preservation of Bhatani Dimji Buddhist Site at Nagensi; renovation and restoration of Devigol Jwala Mata Temple along with the holy spring at Bunjwah; revival and restoration of Raghunathji Temple at Kishtwar; construction of a Dharmashala at Haloti (Machail), Padder and construction of Shiv Mandir at Sranwan with installation of a marble idol in Block Thakraie.

Further, the DC reviewed the proposal for

development and beautification of Hud Mata, Dachhan, which is being revisited for refinement of the Detailed Project Report (DPR). He also directed to submit DPR for the preservation, development and beautification of Shiv Mandir Sranwan Thakrie.

The DC directed the concerned departments, particularly PWD (R&B) to ensure that tenders are floated with appropriate eligibility conditions, including prior experience in executing similar nature of works. He stressed that all projects must strictly adhere to traditional architectural patterns and historical aesthetics to preserve the authenticity and cultural significance of the heritage sites.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Vinod Kumar Behnal; CPO Akhil Thakur; Executive Engineers besides other officers and concerned staff.

Handwritten text in Urdu/Hindi, likely a legal notice or official communication. It includes a date '05/05/2026' and a signature 'Jamil Khan'. The text discusses a power shutdown and mentions 'JDA' and 'NABARD'.

Srinagar MLAs call on CM; express gratitude for resumption of Darbar Move

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Several Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) from Srinagar city Monday called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at the Civil Secretariat here and expressed their gratitude for the resumption of the traditional Darbar Move after a gap of several years.



Those who met the Chief Minister included MLA Eidgah Mubarak Gul, MLA Habba Kadal Shamim Firdous, MLA Hazratbal Salman Sagar, MLA Zaidal Tanvir Sadiq, MLA Lal Chowk Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed Paresi and MLA Channapora Mush-

taq Guru. Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani was also present on the occasion. The legislators appreciated the restoration of the traditional Darbar Move, which was resumed last year in Jammu, and the subsequent reopening of offices in Srinagar. They observed that the revival of the Darbar Move is expected to boost economic activity, particularly in the hospitality sector, and enhance overall market vibrancy in the region.

Bank of Baroda delegation calls on CM, discusses expansion plans in J&K

CM assures full support; urges focus on agri, handicrafts, tourism sectors

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A deputation from Bank of Baroda, led by its Executive Director Beena Vaheed, Monday called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and discussed plans for expanding the bank's operations across Jammu and Kashmir.



During the meeting, the delegation outlined its strategy to strengthen its presence in various parts of Srinagar and other regions, with a focus on enhancing banking outreach and contributing more actively to Jammu and Kashmir's economic growth.

support in facilitating the bank's expansion plans. He said the administration would extend all possible assistance to enable a greater banking footprint in the region.

He expressed hope that the proposed expansion would significantly contribute to the growth of Jammu and Kashmir's economy, which is largely driven by agriculture and

allied sectors, along with handicrafts, handloom and tourism and also help in generating employment opportunities for local youth.

The Chief Minister also advised the bank to design and promote financial products tailored to these key sectors, enabling wider access to credit and strengthening livelihoods.

Several MLAs call on CM Omar, raise constituency issues

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Several MLAs of Kashmir valley Monday called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah here at Civil Secretariat to appraise him of several issues related to their constituencies.



Those who met the chief minister include MLA Chadoora Ali Mohammad Dar, MLA Beerwah Dr Shafi Ahmed Wani, MLA Khan Sahib Saifuddin Bhat of Budgam district, MLA Pattan Javid Riyaz Bedar and MLA Pampore Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi and flagged different issues related their constituencies.

and demands pertaining to development works, civic amenities and public service delivery in their respective areas.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the concerns raised by the MLAs and assured them that all genuine issues flagged during the meet-

ing would be addressed on priority.

He reiterated the government's commitment to responsive and people-centric governance, emphasizing that coordination with elected representatives remains key to ensuring effective and timely resolution of public grievances.

CIK Executes Court Proclamation Against Absconding Accused in B'la Case

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) Monday executed a proclamation order issued by the Hon'ble Court of Additional Sessions Judge (Special Judge designated under the NIA Act), Srinagar, against an absconding accused involved in a criminal case, officials said.

The order under Section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC) was issued against Showkat Ahmad Sheikh @ Showkat Mochi, son of Gh. Nabi Sheikh, a resident of Ganai Hamam, Baramulla. He is an accused in case FIR No. 07/2023 registered at Police Station CIK.

During the course of investigation, the accused was found to be evading arrest and deliberately avoiding legal proceedings. Subsequently, proclamation proceedings were initiated by the Hon'ble

Court, directing the accused to appear before the court within the stipulated timeframe.

In compliance with the court orders, a CIK team today executed the proclamation order against the accused in strict adherence to all legal procedures. The publication of the proclamation was both photographed and video-graphed as part of the official record.

The accused has been directed to surrender before the Hon'ble Court within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of the proclamation. Officials warned that failure to comply will lead to further legal action, including attachment of property under Section 83 Cr.PC.

CIK reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring the presence of absconding accused and conducting thorough investigations in cases involving serious offences, the spokesperson added.

Illegal Structures Case: 4 SMC Officials, 7 Beneficiaries Chargesheeted by ACB

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has filed a chargesheet against 11 accused persons, including officials of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), in connection with an alleged illegal construction case in Srinagar, officials said on Monday.

The chargesheet was presented before the Court of Additional Special Judge Anti-Corruption Srinagar in FIR No. 24/2020, involving offences under Section 5(1)(d) read with 5(2) of the J&K Prevention of Corruption Act, Svt. 2006, and Section 120-B RPC.

According to the ACB, four accused are public servants from SMC, while seven others are private beneficiaries.



The case pertains to the construction of six illegal structures at Jawahar Nagar, Gonikhan, Hari Singh High Street, and Wazir Bagh areas of Srinagar without obtaining valid building permission from the competent authority.

Officials said the constructions were allegedly carried out in connivance with SMC officers and officials, facilitating violations of building norms.

The investigation conducted by Police Station ACB Srinagar,

based on oral and documentary evidence, substantiated the charges against the accused, with authorities alleging a conspiracy between government functionaries and private beneficiaries.

The ACB said that after obtaining the requisite sanction for prosecution of public servants from the government, the chargesheet was filed before the court for judicial determination.

The next date of hearing in the case has been fixed for June 16, 2026. [KNT]

Dy CM visits Shopian; reviews development works, stresses expeditious completion

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, Monday conducted an extensive tour of Zainapora Constituency in Shopian district to assess the progress of ongoing development projects across Chitragram, Zainapora and adjoining areas.

During the visit, the Deputy Chief Minister inspected the ongoing construction of a vital 45-meter span bridge on the Suga-Chitragram-Zainapora road.

The Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied by Chief Engineer PMGSY Ashwani Kumar, Additional District Development Commissioner Dr. Nasir Lone, SDM Zainapora, Tehsildar, DMO and senior officers from PWD, PMGSY and Mechanical Engineering departments.

Emphasizing strict adherence to quality standards, he directed the concerned authorities to ensure timely completion of the bridge to enhance connectivity and facilitate



smooth movement for the local population.

"Ensure use of quality material including cement and iron and dedicate the bridge to the public at the earliest," he said.

The Deputy Chief Minister also assessed the progress on the under-construction Health Care Centre at Chitragram.

Stressing the importance of strengthening healthcare infrastructure, he directed for expeditious completion of ground lev-

elling works and called for immediate initiation of construction activities. He reiterated the government's commitment towards ensuring seamless delivery of essential healthcare services to the people.

"This government is focused on accelerated development and ensure seamless service delivery to the public," he said.

Reviewing the pace and quality of work on the other road bridge projects,

the Deputy Chief Minister instructed the officials to maintain efficiency, transparency and quality in the execution of all projects to meet the public expectations and ensure holistic growth across the district.

Stressing on labour welfare, he called for organising the awareness-cum-registration camps to facilitate workers' enrolment for labour cards and enable them to avail benefits under various government schemes. He

further directed the Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) Shopian to ensure strict adherence to SOPs by workers during project execution for safety of life.

The Deputy Chief Minister reviewed ongoing road and bridge projects across Shopian district and underscored the need for timely and quality execution. He also directed that the local representatives be actively involved in project implementation to ensure smooth and effective execution on the ground.

Taking stock of mining operations in the district, he instructed the officials to ensure uninterrupted supply of construction material while strictly adhering to mining regulations.

Earlier, the Deputy Chief Minister visited the residence of MLA Zainapora, Showkat Hussain Ganai, at Chitragram and expressed heartfelt condolences on the demise of his mother. He prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the bereaved family in this hour of grief.

Nasha Mukht J&K Campaign: DC Anantnag reviews preparations for Mega Padyatra

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat Monday chaired a high-level meeting at Dak Bungalow, Khanabal, to review the arrangements and preparations for upcoming VVIP Mega Padyatra to be held in the district on 09 May under 100 Day Nasha Mukht J&K Campaign.

ADC, SEs PWD & Hydraulics, GM DIC, ACR, ACD, SDMs, DFOs, College Principals, CMO, CAO, CAHO, district and sectoral officers and other officials attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the DC issued strict instructions to all heads of departments to execute their assigned tasks seamlessly with the highest level of synergy and coordination so the event is organised in a smooth and successful manner. He directed for streamlining the Padyatra route with robust security protocol besides ensuring mass stakeholder and public participation to make the event a major success.

The DC said that the Padyatra is an important facet of the 100-day intensive campaign in which the top dignitaries will visit the district, encouraging all stakeholders and amplifying the message of the campaign. He emphasized the need for making the



rally inclusive and vibrant through broad-based participation from all sections of the society.

Dr. Bilal on the occasion underscored the importance of involving social organizations, NGOs, professionals, youth, students and volunteers, progressive farmers, SHGs, civil society members, associations, public representatives, government institutions, and other stakeholders to deliver a strong and unified message against substance abuse. He asked the departments to meticulously plan and finalize the mobilisation and deinduction plans for a systematic culmination of the event.

The DC instructed the concerned officers that the requisite facilities and logistics be installed in advance to ensure seamless conduct of the event. He directed the ULBs to install adequate number

of mobile toilets for the convenience of the participants. Instructions were also issued to the concerned agencies to ensure provision of drinking water, medical care and other essential facilities at the venue as well as along the route.

The concerned departments were directed to ensure proper preparation of the venue and the route in conformity with the SOPs. All departments were asked to immediately designate nodal officers to coordinate and complete their respective ground-level arrangements.

The high profile event marks a major milestone in the district's ongoing 100-Day Nasha Mukht Abhiyaan and will serve as a catalyst to mobilize the youth and local communities, further bolstering the district's fight against drug abuse.

'Lotus Blooms in Bengal' Mohd Amin Shah Hails BJP's 4-State Sweep; Vows Repeat in J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Following the declaration of results for the high-stakes 2026 Assembly elections, Mohammad Amin Shah, BJP J&K State Executive Member and District Panchayat Election Incharge, has hailed the party's performance as a "dawn of a new political era" in India.

Congratulating the central leadership, Shah credited the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the strategic brilliance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the BJP's historic sweep. With the party securing victories in 4 out of the 5 states that went to polls including a monumental, first-ever breakthrough in West Bengal Shah described the mandate as a definitive stamp of approval on the "Modi Guarantee."

The BJP's surge in West Bengal has been the centerpiece of the results, with the party crossing the 200-seat mark to unseat the Trinamool Congress. Prime Minister Modi hailed the victory as one that "will be remembered forever," while Amin Shah described it as a tribute to the sacrifices and struggles of party karyakartas.

Echoing these sentiments, Mohammad Amin Shah stated: "The victory in West Bengal is a triumph of democratic values over years of fear and misuse. Under the guidance of PM Modi and the meticulous planning of Amit Shah, the people of Bengal have chosen development over appeasement. This historic mandate proves that



no fortress is impregnable when the vision is Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas."

Drawing a parallel to the political climate in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah who is currently spearheading the party's Panchayat election strategy expressed immense confidence that the "safron wave" would soon reach the Union Territory.

"The results today have sent a clear message from every corner of the country. Jammu and Kashmir is no different," Shah added. "The people here have seen the transformation of Bengal and other states under the Modi-Shah leadership. We will recreate these historic results in Jammu and Kashmir. Our grassroots workers are energized, and we are ready to emerge as the single largest force to provide a stable, peaceful, and prosperous future for J&K."

The mood at the BJP headquarters in Jammu and Srinagar remained electric late into the evening, with party workers celebrating the "Bengal Miracle" as a precursor to their own regional electoral goals in the upcoming polls.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER GANDERBAL NOTICE

Whereas, an application for Re-registration / Transfer of Ownership has been received from Mr. Lateef Ahmad Shah resident of N.No 2396-98 Tilak Street, Chuna Man DL New Delhi DL 110055 in Respect of LMV Motor CAR Bearing Reg No. DL10CJ1553, Chassis No MALCC381ULHM260409, Engine No D4FBHM339803 in favor of: Mohd Shabir Sheikh Son of Gaffar Sheikh Resident of: Chiner Kangan Ganderbal Kashmir - 191202 (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/505
Dated: 28/03/2026

Authorized Signatory
Assistant Regional Transport Officer,
Ganderbal

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Solid Punch Against Drug Abuse

The "iron fist" is finally hitting where it hurts. For the first time, the pressure on the drug mafia's "iron curtain" is so intense that the trafficking networks are genuinely trembling. The message is clear: the violators are finally on the back foot.

Amidst this crackdown, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has issued a heartfelt challenge to the next generation. Speaking at the Wushu Championship at the University of Kashmir, he didn't just give a formal speech; he made a personal appeal to young athletes to step up and lead the charge for change. Why Athletes? The LG is betting on the people who already live and breathe discipline. Athletes are the natural heroes of our communities. When a local champion speaks, people, especially kids, actually listen. That kind of influence is more than just "star power"; it's a force for good. His suggestion to use social media is incredibly grounded. In a world of endless scrolling, a 30-second video from a student-athlete can hit harder than a thousand government billboards. It's authentic, relatable, and speaks the language of the youth.

To make this vision a reality, we have to meet these young people halfway. If we want them to choose sports over drugs, the "better path" needs to be accessible. This means, better facilities: Upgrading local gyms and fields. Quality Training: Ensuring every kid has a coach who cares. Possible Opportunities: Making sure talent is recognized and rewarded.

What's most refreshing about the LG's stance is the reminder that sports aren't just about trophies. They are about character, focus, and purpose. These are the exact tools a young person needs to navigate a world full of harmful distractions. As the anti-drug campaign gains momentum across Jammu and Kashmir, bringing athletes into the fold adds a layer of raw sincerity that traditional campaigns lack. If our young sports persons take this call to heart, they won't just be winning matches—they'll be winning back the future of an entire generation.

When Silence Becomes Fatal

The Mental Health Crisis Among Kashmir's Youth



HEENA FAROOQ

In recent years, suicide has become a growing concern among young people in Kashmir. One of the most significant reasons behind this trend is the neglect of mental health during its early warning stages.

Many people ignore emotional and psychological symptoms when they first appear. At the same time, others begin labeling themselves with mental

The youth of Kashmir have lived through repeated crises. Broken relationships, fractured families, academic pressure, unemployment, and uncertainty about the future have all contributed to rising emotional distress. These pressures are not temporary.

health conditions without professional guidance. This confusion has created a dangerous divide in society, where some dismiss mental health struggles, believing that not everyone can be suffering, while those who truly need help often remain unheard.



The youth of Kashmir have lived through repeated crises. Broken relationships, fractured families, academic pressure, unemployment, and uncertainty about the future have all contributed to rising emotional distress. These pressures are not temporary. They accumulate silently and often push vulnerable individuals toward hopelessness.

One of the most concerning realities is how many families respond when children show signs of distress. Instead of seeking professional psychological or medical help, some parents turn to faith healers without understanding the underlying causes. Despite modernization, mental health awareness still lags behind. In many cases, young people receive remedies that fail to address the real problem, allowing conditions such as chronic depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, mania, psychotic disorders, and borderline personality disorder to worsen over time.

In several households, when children try to speak openly about their struggles, they are dismissed with

phrases such as "it's drama," "it's the evil eye," or "it's black magic." Cultural beliefs deserve respect, but not every emotional or behavioral change has a supernatural cause. Mental health is a medical and psychological reality that requires understanding, compassion, and professional support.

At the same time, another concern is rising. Some young individuals begin self diagnosing after exposure to online content. This creates confusion and reduces the seriousness of real mental health conditions. As a result, those who are genuinely suffering are sometimes ignored or accused of exaggeration.

We should never ignore mental health. Ignoring it today can ruin lives in the future. It can lead to family breakdowns, severe disorders, suicide, drug addiction, and even accidental deaths caused by stress and emotional exhaustion. Early awareness and timely intervention can prevent many tragedies.

Parents and teachers play a crucial role in shaping the mental well being of children and adolescents. If you notice changes in behavior, mood, or

communication, start a conversation. Ask what is troubling them. Listen without judgment. Offer reassurance. Seek professional help when needed. A supportive home and educational environment can act as a strong shield against despair.

Children do not only need material comfort. They need time, attention, emotional safety, and meaningful connection. Giving phones as a substitute for presence may provide temporary relief, but it cannot replace genuine care and guidance. A child's emotional foundation determines their future, and that future depends on parental attention, understanding, and love.

Preventing youth suicide is not the responsibility of one family or one institution. It is a collective responsibility of society. By prioritizing mental health today, we can save countless lives tomorrow.

Author is a Social Activist and Psychology Student, Government College for Women, MA Road, Srinagar. She can be mailed at contact.distconve-norsrinagar@gmail.com

Mamata's Fort Collapses, Saffron Wave Rises

BJP's Historic Victory In Bengal, Political Implications And The Crisis For The Opposition



DR. PRIYANKA SAURABH

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s historic victory in the 2026 West Bengal Assembly elections not only ended the 15-year rule of Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress (TMC) but also forever changed the landscape of Indian politics. BJP secured a clear majority, while the TMC was reduced to around 100 seats. Traditional opposition parties like the Congress and CPI(M) were limited to 2-3 and 1-2 seats, respectively. This result is a stark contrast to the 2021 elections, when the TMC won a landslide majority with 213 seats. The BJP's vote share increased from a mere 10% in 2016 to 39% in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, and it has now become a force to reckon with.

Several multifaceted factors were at play behind this victory. First, the anti-incumbency wave was strongly evident. The Mamata Banerjee government faced serious allegations of corruption, bribery, infiltration, and political violence. The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) campaign removed 2.7 million allegedly fake names from voter lists, bringing the issue of Bangladeshi infiltration to the forefront. The Matua community—the largest vote bank of Bangladeshis Hindu refugees—fully supported the BJP after the implementation of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). Furthermore, the deteriorating law and order situation, especially violence by TMC workers in rural areas, mobilized non-TMC voters. The record turnout of 92.88% in the first phase was a testament to this dissatisfaction.

Aggressive campaigning by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah further fueled this wave. Modi



championed BJP rule in "Ang-Bang-Kalinga" (Bengal, Bihar, Odisha), while Shah claimed a lead in 110 of the 152 seats. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath mobilized Hindu voters with Hindutva, development, and the image of "Bulldozer Baba." The BJP countered opposition claims that the Women's Reservation Bill was a failure of the central government, linking it to the TMC's misgovernance. The high voter turnout brought out suppressed voters—especially women and youth—who were not swayed by the TMC's "Khela Hoga" slogan.

Mamata Banerjee's image as "invincible Didi" was completely shattered with this defeat. The TMC, which has held power in Bengal since 2011, will now have to assume the role of opposition, an unfamiliar challenge for it. Fears of internal strife within the party have increased, as former TMC leaders like Suwendu Adhikari have proven successful in the BJP. Mamata termed the exit polls as "paid narrative by the BJP" and accused the central government of misusing government machinery, but the trends clearly pointed to losing the government. The TMC also questioned the Election Commission, but evidence of fairness—such as record voter

turnout—undermined these claims. Reorganizing the TMC in the future will be difficult, as its grassroots organization has been tainted by corruption.

This victory has profound implications at the national level. Bengal provided a strong base for the Modi 2.0 government, which had a narrow majority, to form a full state government in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The BJP's expansion in eastern India—now Bengal, along with Assam and Bihar—is a testament to the immense success of the Hindutva and development model. The INDIA alliance will be weakened as the TMC's national stature will diminish. This will have a direct impact on the Uttar Pradesh 2027 and Bihar elections, where the BJP will be in a strong position. The Sangh Parivar's organizational strength provided a tough fight to regional parties, which will influence future electoral strategies.

The opposition is now in a state of limbo. The insignificant role of the Congress and the Left Front continued into 2021, raising questions about the unity of the national opposition. Mamata Banerjee's political career is now uncertain—will she become the leader of

the opposition, or will a new generation emerge within the party? The opposition will have to adopt a new strategy: either a strong Congress-Left alliance, or a new regional front. Bengal has now become a stronghold of the BJP, further dimming the opposition's voice on the national stage.

From a socio-economic perspective, the new BJP government will focus on development, law and order, and prevention of infiltration. The Matua community will benefit from the CAA, while Bengal's faltering economy—which suffered under the TMC's misrule—may receive a new direction. However, ending political violence and balancing the saffron wave with Bengali identity will be key challenges. Issues related to women, youth, and minorities—such as reservation, employment, and education—will remain on the new government's agenda. A development model must be implemented while preserving Bengal's cultural diversity.

The future prospects are interesting. The BJP must avoid internal strife, a longstanding weakness of its Bengal organization. The opposition needs regeneration—perhaps a new aggressive stance under Mamata Banerjee's leadership

The BJP swept the 2026 West Bengal Assembly elections, winning 165+ seats and ousting the TMC's 15-year rule. Anti-incumbency, infiltration, corruption, and the CAA consolidated the Matua vote. Mamata Banerjee's "invincible" image shattered, weakening the opposition. The National India Alliance suffered, and the BJP expanded in eastern India. The new government will focus on development and law and order, but curbing violence remains a challenge. This victory marks a shift in democracy.

or a revival of the Congress. This election proves that local issues define the national agenda. Bengal has proven that change is inevitable, and in a democracy, the will of the people is supreme. This victory is not only a strategic triumph for the BJP, but also marks the beginning of a new era in Indian politics.

(Dr. Priyanka Saurabh, PhD (Political Science), is a poet and social thinker.)

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Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher
Javed Ashraf Shah

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Mir Suhail

Sulaiman Muhammed Shah

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Bashir Sidiq

Bureau Chief Jammu:

Harbans Nagokay

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Email:

goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com

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The Art Of Balance In A Modern Novel



NAVEED QAZI

There is something quietly intriguing about a novelist trying to explain how novels work. In *The Naive and Sentimental Novelist*, Orhan Pamuk takes up this challenge with humility rather than authority. Based on his lectures at Harvard, the book is not a rigid guide or a strict theory of fiction. Instead, it is a thoughtful and personal reflection on how novels are written and read. Pamuk writes with clarity and care, offering insight without oversimplifying the complexity of storytelling. He does not try to solve the mystery of the novel; rather, he helps us see it more clearly.

At the centre of Pamuk's argument is a distinction he borrows from Friedrich Schiller: the 'naive' and the 'sentimental'. Pamuk reshapes these ideas to describe two different states of mind in both writers and readers. The naive novelist writes as if the story is unfolding naturally, almost without effort, fully absorbed in the world of the characters. The sentimental novelist, on the other hand, is always aware of the craft behind the story. This writer thinks about structure, language, and how the reader will respond. Pamuk's key point is not that one is better than the other. Instead, he argues that great novels come from the balance between these two modes.

What makes this idea powerful is the way Pamuk explains it as something fluid rather than fixed. A writer does not remain naive or sentimental all the time. Instead, they move between the two. At one moment, the writer may be deeply lost in the story, feeling it as if it were real. At another moment, they may step back and think carefully about how a sentence should be shaped or where a detail should be placed. This shifting between immersion and awareness is what gives a novel both life and structure. It allows the story to

feel real while still being carefully designed.

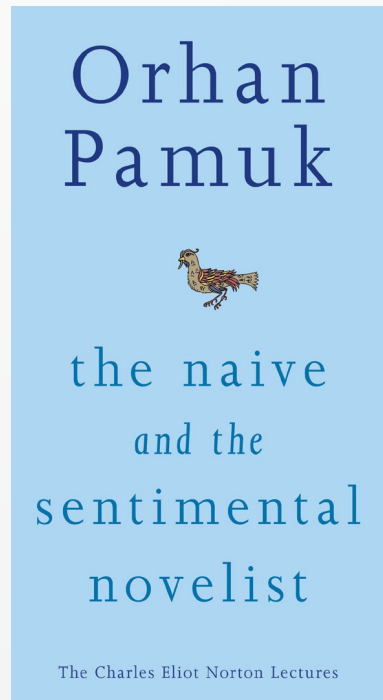
Pamuk also introduces the idea of the 'centre' of the novel, which is one of the most important concepts in the book. The centre is not a physical point in the story. It is something deeper and more abstract. It could be an idea, an image, a feeling, or a question that gives the novel its meaning. According to Pamuk, every strong novel has such a centre, even if it is not immediately obvious. The process of writing a novel often involves searching for this centre and understanding it fully. Once found, it quietly shapes everything in the story.

This idea is especially useful for new writers. Many beginners focus too much on plot, trying to create events that keep the reader interested. Pamuk suggests that without a centre, a novel can feel empty, even if many things happen in it. The centre gives the story depth and purpose. It connects different parts of the narrative and gives them emotional weight. For anyone learning to write, this is a valuable lesson. It encourages a deeper approach to storytelling, one that goes beyond surface-level action.

Pamuk's thoughts on reading are just as important as his thoughts on writing. He explains that readers also experience novels in both naive and sentimental ways. A naive reader becomes completely absorbed in the story, imagining the characters and events as if they were real. A sentimental reader, however, notices how the story is constructed. This reader pays attention to patterns, symbols, and techniques used by the writer. According to Pamuk, the best reading experience comes from a balance between these two approaches.

This idea helps us understand why some novels feel so powerful. When we are fully absorbed, we care about the characters and their lives. When we are also aware of the craft, we appreciate the skill behind the story. Pamuk shows that reading is not a passive activity. It is something active and thoughtful. Readers, like writers, move between feeling and thinking, between immersion and awareness.

Another important theme in the book is the visual nature of novels. Pamuk often compares writing to painting. He explains how novelists



create images in the reader's mind using words. These images do not exist physically, but they feel real because of how they are described. This connection between writing and visual art reflects Pamuk's own background, as he once wanted to be a painter. His sensitivity to detail comes through clearly in his analysis.

For writers, this idea offers practical guidance. It shows the importance of describing scenes in a way that allows readers to imagine them clearly. At the same time, Pamuk warns against too much description. If a writer focuses only on detail without thinking about structure, the story can lose its direction. Once again, the balance between naive and sentimental thinking becomes important. Writers must both imagine freely and control their expression.

Pamuk also discusses how novels deal with time. He explains that stories do not always follow time in a simple, linear way. Instead, writers often move back and forth, slowing down or speeding up events. This reflects how people actually experience time in real life. Memories, emotions, and thoughts do not follow a straight line. By shaping time carefully, novelists can create a deeper

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and more realistic experience for the reader.

This insight is particularly helpful for those learning to write fiction. It shows that storytelling is not just about what happens, but also about how it is presented. The way time is handled can change the meaning of a story. A moment described in detail can feel more important than years that are quickly summarised. Pamuk encourages writers to think carefully about these choices.

Throughout the book, Pamuk's tone remains calm and thoughtful. He does not try to impose strict rules on writing. Instead, he shares his observations and invites readers to reflect on them. This makes the book feel open and engaging. It respects the complexity of the novel as a form and avoids reducing it to simple formulas.

However, this approach may not satisfy everyone. Some readers may expect clear instructions or direct advice. Pamuk does not offer this. His ideas are often abstract and require careful thought. For some, this may

feel difficult. For others, it is precisely what makes the book valuable. It encourages independent thinking rather than dependence on rules.

Pamuk's ideas also connect with the work of many great novelists. Some of the writers who he has included are Leo Tolstoy and Marcel Proust who show the same balance between immersion and awareness in their work. They create worlds that feel real while also shaping them with great care. Pamuk's framework helps us understand how such writing works.

For aspiring writers, *The Naive and Sentimental Novelist* can act as a quiet guide. It does not tell them exactly what to do, but it changes how they think about writing. It encourages them to trust their imagination while also developing their sense of craft. It shows that writing is both an emotional and an intellectual process.

In the end, Pamuk's book is about understanding the inner life of the novel. It explores how stories are created and experienced, how they move between reality and imagination. It shows that the novel is not a simple form, but a complex and flexible one. This complexity is what gives it its power.

Perhaps the most important lesson in the book is the idea of balance. The novel exists between different forces: between naive and sentimental thinking, between feeling and analysis, between freedom and control. Recognising this balance can change the way we read and write. It allows us to appreciate the novel more deeply.

In a time when many stories follow predictable patterns, Pamuk's reflections remind us of what makes the novel special. It is a form that allows for depth, complexity, and freedom. It does not have to follow strict rules. Instead, it grows from the interaction of different ways of thinking.

By exploring these ideas, *The Naive and Sentimental Novelist* becomes a way of seeing literature itself. It invites us to engage more deeply with stories, to think about how they are made and how they affect us. In doing so, it keeps alive the sense of wonder that lies at the heart of every great novel.

The writer is an author of fifteen books. For feedback, he can be mailed at naveedqazi@live.com

Not Rented Children, But A Renaissance Of Belonging



LALIT GARG

When the evening of life descends into its full expanse, what a person needs most is not medicine or wealth, but the presence and warmth of loved ones. This is the phase when one longs to share a lifetime of memories, experiences, and emotions. Yet, the harsh reality today is that many elderly people have become strangers in their own homes. Echoing silences in large houses, deserted courtyards, and eyes fixed on the door in endless—*together*—compose a tragedy that is not merely personal but indicative of a deeper social disintegration. Globalization, the compulsions of livelihood, and the pursuit of a better future have scattered the younger generation across countries and continents. This is understandable. However, the greatest price being paid in this process is the erosion of familial sensitivity. Many children settle abroad and become so absorbed in their lives that their parents are reduced to occasional phone calls and formal messages. Some even live in the same city but fail to visit their parents for years. This is not just a problem of physical distance, but a crisis of emotional disconnect.

Amid this atmosphere of insensitivity, a disturbing new trend has emerged—'rented children.' Some companies and institutions now provide young people who spend time with the elderly, talk to them, accompany them on walks, and attempt to ease their loneliness. At first glance, this arrangement may seem comforting. But on deeper reflection, it reveals a profound failure of our social struc-



ture. It raises troubling questions: Will affection and belonging now be packaged into contracts? Will the warmth of relationships be available for a fee? This phenomenon is not just ironic—it is a serious social warning of how far we have drifted from our core values. The concept of "rented children" stands as a glaring contradiction and tragedy of modern social organization. It is also true that not all families are the same. Sometimes, children face genuine constraints that prevent them from living with their parents. Likewise, some elderly individuals may struggle to adjust with the younger generation due to differences in temperament or outlook. However, beyond these exceptions, the broader trend reflects an increasingly self-centered lifestyle and a decline in emotional depth.

Even more concerning is the fact that such services are accessible only to those elderly individuals who have sufficient financial resources. Middle-class and lower-income seniors, whose sources of income have diminished, cannot afford such arrangements. The situation is particularly difficult for retirees from the private sector, where pensions are minimal and medical

expenses continue to rise. Their lives often oscillate between financial insecurity and emotional distress. Undeniably, society today is moving rapidly toward consumerism and materialism, where the warmth of relationships and emotional depth are steadily fading. Life's priorities have shifted away from human values toward consumption, competition, and economic success. As a result, relationships are increasingly measured by utility and self-interest. The family, once a center of affection, support, and values, now appears fragmented under the pressures of ambition and busyness.

In this changing environment, the elderly are the most neglected. They neither participate in the race of the market nor fulfill the material expectations of the younger generation. Their experience, sacrifice, and affection are often seen as burdens rather than assets. The breakdown of joint families and the rise of nuclear families have further weakened their social and emotional security. The digital world has made communication more superficial, replacing intimacy with formality. Consequently, loneliness, insecurity, and neglect among the elderly are increasing—clear indi-

It is also true that not all families are the same. Sometimes, children face genuine constraints that prevent them from living with their parents. Likewise, some elderly individuals may struggle to adjust with the younger generation due to differences in temperament or outlook.

cators of a moral decline in society. In developed countries, strong systems of social security exist for the elderly. Governments take responsibility for healthcare, pensions, and caregiving. In contrast, in India—where the family was once considered the greatest source of security—that very structure is weakening. Governments collect taxes, yet adequate welfare systems for the elderly remain insufficient.

In such circumstances, solutions cannot remain limited to emotional appeals. A multidimensional and constructive approach is essential. First and foremost, there must be a serious effort to revive family values. From early childhood, children must be nurtured with a sense of duty, respect, and sensitivity toward their parents. Education should not merely

be a means of employment, but a carrier of life values—this is the need of the hour. A second important step is the integration of old-age homes and orphanages. This is not just an imaginative idea, but a deeply practical and humane solution. If elderly individuals and orphaned children are housed within the same environment, both can benefit. Children would receive affection and guidance, while the elderly would experience companionship and a renewed sense of belonging. This bond would not be artificial, but natural and heartfelt. Governments must take policy initiatives in this direction.

At the same time, there is a need to establish well-equipped, dignified, and humane old-age homes—not merely as care facilities, but as centers of social and cultural engagement. Private institutions should also be encouraged, but with safeguards to ensure that service remains rooted in compassion rather than becoming purely commercial. The elderly themselves must also accept that this stage of life demands self-reliance and inner strength. Practices such as yoga, meditation, pranayama, spiritual gatherings, and social participation can bring positivity to their lives. Digital literacy can also help them stay connected with their children and society.

In essence, a society is not defined solely by economic progress, but by the richness of its compassion. If we fail to provide our elderly with respect, affection, and security, all our achievements remain incomplete. The concept of "rented children" compels us to reflect—are we turning relationships into commodities, weighing them on the scales of materialism? This is a moment for introspection—for looking within and deciding what kind of society we wish to build. If we truly envision a healthy, sensitive, and balanced society, we must rekindle the lamp of belonging, so that every elderly person can live the twilight of life with dignity, warmth, and peace.

Author is a Journalist. He can be mailed at lalitgarg11@gmail.com

Darbar Move Reopens In

Later, the Chief Minister toured various floors and sections of the Civil Secretariat to take stock of functioning and facilities. He inspected the chambers of ministers and administrative secretaries, clerical halls, and the renovated public waiting hall at the main gate.

During the visit, he was accompanied by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Additional Chief Secretary Estates Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Director Estates Kashmir Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, SP Security Civil Secretariat and other concerned officers.

On the occasion, the Chief Minister also interacted with officers, staff and members of the public, assuring them of improved facilities to further streamline and enhance public service delivery.

CM Chairs Meeting

meeting to outline the governance roadmap for the next six months.

The meeting, held at the Civil Secretariat, was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Rana, Javid Ahmad Dar and Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta, Administrative Secretaries of key departments including Jal Shakti, PWD, Finance, Tourism and Mining, along with all Administrative Secretaries, Inspector General of Police Kashmir and senior officers.

Addressing the meeting, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah described the occasion as a significant milestone, noting that this was the first full-fledged Darbar Move to Srinagar after a prolonged gap. He acknowledged the logistical challenges involved but commended departments for successfully managing the transition.

"This is the first full Darbar Move in Srinagar after a number of years. The departments navigated the transition in Jammu effectively. This time, we were better prepared, having anticipated the move six months in advance," the Chief Minister said.

He emphasized that the coming six months represent the most productive period of the year, with favorable weather conditions enabling maximum execution of development works. He lauded the Finance Department for ensuring timely completion of procedural formalities, including release of funds and approvals ahead of the working season.

"Now it is our responsibility to execute. Whether departments are under my charge or that of my colleagues, delivery will only happen if we work together. We all sit here with a shared mandate to meet the expectations of the people," he asserted.

Calling for synergy between elected representatives and the administrative machinery, the Chief Minister urged officers to prioritize coordination.

"Within our resource constraints, we also have new avenues of funding, and support from the Government of India has enabled us to expand our delivery potential. The key takeaway from this meeting should be to find common ground and work collectively towards our goals," he said.

Highlighting key priorities for the upcoming months, the Chief Minister said that the Darbar period in Srinagar coincides with critical events, including the annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra and the peak tourism season. He stressed that both require coordinated efforts beyond security arrangements, involving robust civil administration support.

"This is not just a working season; it is also a period that defines our governance outcomes. From tourism to pilgrimage management, we must put our best foot forward," he said.

Referring to the recently concluded Budget session, the Chief Minister said the government now has a clear roadmap of commitments to fulfil. He called for efficient utilization of resources, timely execution of projects, and minimizing lapses in funds utilization.

"If we work with focus and coordination, we can end these six months with far greater optimism and satisfaction than we began with," he added, extending his best wishes to officers for the months ahead.

During the meeting, the Deputy Chief Minister, Ministers and Advisor to the Chief Minister also shared valuable inputs, feedback and flagged key issues requiring attention particularly in respect of issuing new Industrial Policy and Mining Policy for J&K. Earlier, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo welcomed the Chief Minister, Council of Ministers and senior officers back to Srinagar and briefed the meeting on administrative preparedness.

He informed that most officers would remain stationed in Srinagar, while a roster system would ensure availability in Jammu as required. He stressed the need for proper arrangements for accommodation of Move employees, food supplies and essential services for people.

The Chief Secretary also highlighted preparedness for flood management, particularly in view of the approaching monsoon season, urging district administrations and the Irrigation & Flood Control Department to remain on high alert. He called for focused disaster mitigation efforts, especially in landslide-prone areas.

On infrastructure and services, he said that restoration works be expedited and that electricity and water supply be ensured across both Kashmir and Jammu regions. He further emphasized the need for speedy implementation of decisions taken by the Council of Ministers over the past one and a half years.

He also urged departments to strictly implement Budget announcements and proactively flag any requirements. Highlighting upcoming administrative priorities, he informed that the Census process will commence with self-enumeration from May 17 to May 30, followed by subsequent phases, and called upon Deputy Commissioners and the Planning Department to play a pivotal role.

Additionally, he stressed the importance of digitization of land records as a key governance reform measure and for implementation of agristatproject.

The Chief Secretary concluded by reaffirming the administration's commitment, under the guidance of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, to efficient governance, seamless coordination and effective delivery during the crucial six-month Darbar period in Srinagar.

Athletes Must Inspire

on their mobile phones and share it on social media to spread awareness against substance abuse and inspire others to adopt sports and creative activities for a positive lifestyle.

"You are the role models for India's new generation. Your appeal will inspire the youth to walk on the right path," he added.

The championship has drawn an impressive participation of more than 150 Universities and over 1000 athletes, bringing together top Wushu talent from across the country. The event showcases both men's and women's competitions, reflecting the growing popularity and inclusivity of the sport at the University level.

The championship, being conducted under the aegis of the Association of Indian Universities will continue for 6 days, featuring multiple bouts and categories in Wushu, a martial art that combines agility, strength and precision.

Prof. Nilofar Khan, Vice Chancellor Kashmir University, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Commissioner Secretary Youth Services & Sports, Shri Ram Niwas Sharma, Commissioner Secretary Higher Education, Shri Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, Registrar Kashmir University along with senior University Officials, prominent sports personalities, coaches and sports enthusiasts attended the inaugural event organized by the Directorate of Physical Education & Sports, University of Kashmir.

LG Chairs 7th J&K UT

accorded approval for the construction of the Asha-Cheema-Gurdaligali-Aphrawat-Sarson-Anita Road at Gulmarg Wildlife Sanctuary, Baramulla. Now, the proposal will be recommended to the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SCNBWL) for grant of wildlife clearance.

During the meeting, the Lieutenant Governor underscored the importance of balancing developmental needs with ecological sustainability. He emphasized the need to safeguard and strengthen the unique biodiversity of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Board was also apprised of various initiatives undertaken by the Department for the conservation and protection of wildlife resources across the Union Territory.

J&K Faces Sharp

360kV at Amargarh, Wagoora and Wanpoh substations.

NRPC also said that due to inadequate compensation in J&K STU network, severe low voltages have been observed in J&K grid.

In last week of April-2026, this news agency reported that from 17,489 Million Units (MUs) in 2020-21 to just 14,660 MUs in 2025-26, Jammu and Kashmir in nearly past five years has recorded a decline in hydel power generation by over 16 percent—reflecting an average annual fall of nearly 3-5 percent.

The official figures in this regard revealing the power generation of J&K in MUs from 2020-21 to January 2026 states that there has been a power generation fall by 16.18 percent.

The figures reveal that in the year 2020-21, J&K had generated a total of 17,489.83 MUs of power followed by 17,170.62 MUs in the year 2022-23.

It also said that during the year 2023-24, Jammu and Kashmir was able to generate only 16,282.93 MUs of energy followed by 15,595.82 MUs in 2024-25.

The figures further states that in the year 2025-2026: upto January-2026, J&K had generated only 14,659.92 MUs of power.

Stating the source and state wise generation data from various sources including thermal, hydro, nuclear and renewable energy for 2025-26 (upto January, 2026), the official figures reveal that a total of 14,659.92 MUs from renewable sources were generated by J&K including 375.01 MUs by the small hydro projects and 14,284.91 MUs from large hydro projects.

As already reported by KNO, Jammu and Kashmir has indicated that a power load requirement of up to 7 Gigawatts (GWs) by the coming five years needs to be considered in the winter season—signalling major infrastructure upgrades to avoid seasonal blackouts—(KNO)

LoP Sharma Slams CM

their opinion and vote. If they choose BJP or any other party, it is their decision. Insulting that choice is unacceptable," he added.

LoP also accused CM Omar and his party of promoting controversial narratives in the past. "Sometimes Yasin Malik was projected as a hero, sometimes Syed Ali Shah Geelani, sometimes there was praise for Pakistan and sometimes for China. That kind of politics will not work anymore," he said, adding that people are now demanding accountability and development.

"Jammu and Kashmir needed a Chief Minister, but what it got is a marathon runner and a part-time Chief Minister," he said, adding that governance requires seriousness and full-time attention.

He said that the region deserved leadership that listens to the poor and works at the grassroots level. "If the Chief Minister had come from an ordinary background, whether from places like Bandipora, Baramulla or Pulwama, people would have felt represented. But what we see instead is a leadership disconnected from ground realities," he said.

LoP Sharma alleged that past years in Jammu and Kashmir were marked by appeasement, corruption and cultural exploitation and that the political discourse has now shifted towards development, peace and security.

Referring to electoral trends across the country, Sharma pointed to developments in West Bengal and said that when a secure environment is ensured, people vote freely. Taking a dig at Mamata Banerjee, he said people are rejecting certain styles of politics and that trends indicate a shift in mandate.

He also defended the revision of electoral rolls, stating that removal of ineligible names strengthens democracy. "If deceased persons or illegal entrants are removed from voter lists, it is the duty of the Election Commission. Why should anyone object?" he said.

LoP Sharma further said BJP's political footprint is growing in southern states as well. "In Kerala, our vote share is increasing. In Tamil Nadu, traditional parties like DMK and AIADMK are being challenged. Their monopoly is breaking," he said.

On speculation about government formation in Jammu and Kashmir, Sharma categorically ruled out any attempt by BJP to engineer defections. "We will not break any party to form a government. We respect the mandate. We are in opposition and will play the role of a responsible opposition," he said.

He asserted that BJP remains focused on forming the government in the future. "Whenever the next elections are held, BJP's target will be Jammu and Kashmir," Sharma said.

Reiterating his demand, Sharma said the Chief Minister must withdraw his remark and apologise. "Democracy rests on respect for the people's voice. Any statement that undermines it must be corrected," he said—(KNO)

Kashmir Upper Reaches

accumulation.

Intermittent rain lashed plains including Srinagar and other districts, while gusty winds were reported from Bandipora and adjoining areas of Sumbal and

Hajin.

A man was injured after a tree fell on him along the Sumbal-Bandipora road amid strong winds. He was shifted to a hospital in Sumbal for treatment, officials said.

According to the Meteorological Department, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 20.5 degrees Celsius, 2.2 degrees below normal, while the minimum settled at 10.2 degrees Celsius. Gulmarg recorded a maximum of 11.0 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 2.0 degrees Celsius.

The MeT office said rainfall activity is expected to remain fairly widespread over the next 36 hours with intermittent breaks.

"Generally cloudy conditions with spells of light to moderate rain or thundershowers are likely at most places on May 3 and 4, with possibility of thunder, hailstorm and gusty winds reaching 40-50 kmph at a few locations," an official said.

An advisory has been issued warning of thunder, lightning and gusty winds, with people asked to avoid travel on vulnerable routes and stay away from weak structures and power lines. Farmers have also been advised to suspend agricultural operations till May 5, officials added—(KNO)

Over 13,000 MSMEs

for the preparation of detailed case studies based on field-level diagnostics, citing the need for grassroots-driven analysis to inform policy and rehabilitation strategies.

He further stressed that capacity building should be a continuous process rather than a one-time exercise, directing that structured training programmes be conducted at least once every two months to build sustained expertise at the district level.

To strengthen institutional convergence, the Chief Secretary directed that experts from the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU) established under Mission YUVA be formally integrated into the MSME Health Clinic framework, with dedicated personnel deployed for implementation support.

He also called for inclusion of representatives from key institutions such as banks, NABARD and allied departments including agriculture, positioning SBDU as a nodal platform for coordinated guidance and execution at the grassroots level.

Clarifying institutional roles, the Chief Secretary underlined that IIM Jammu should primarily focus on training and capacity building, while implementation responsibilities should rest with field-level institutions. He further stressed the need to develop a robust pool of trained human resources at the district level through repeated and structured capacity-building interventions.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Industries & Commerce Department to convene joint meetings with the Labour Department and other stakeholders, while actively seeking inputs from leading financial institutions including J&K Bank, SBI and NABARD, as well as industry bodies such as FICCI, ASSOCHAM and CII. He called for greater stakeholder engagement to incorporate sector-specific expertise into the functioning of the MSME Health Clinic.

Additionally, Dulloo instructed that a one-day comprehensive workshop be organized, preferably in July, after completion of a round of assessments in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions. The workshop, he said, should serve as a platform to gather structured feedback and suggestions from stakeholders across sectors to further refine the initiative.

The Chief Secretary further reviewed the implementation of key directions issued during the previous meeting held on March 30, 2026, including development of an interactive chatbot, acceleration of health analysis, automation of health certificates, expansion of daily interactions and constitution of district-level committees.

The meeting was apprised by the Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Vikramjit Singh that the MSME Health Clinic has been conceptualized as an end-to-end mechanism to evaluate the financial and operational health of industrial units using real-time data sources such as GST filings, banking records, power consumption and EPFO statements.

Based on this analysis, enterprises are classified into stable, stressed (recoverable) and sick categories, enabling targeted interventions, expert advisory and structured rehabilitation plans, he added.

Highlighting the scale of progress achieved so far, he informed that 13,357 enterprises have been digitally assessed so far by the MSME Health Clinic, out of which 86.26 percent have been categorized as stable, 13.36 percent as recoverable and a small fraction identified as prone to sickness. The initiative is focused on early identification of stress signals and timely hand-holding to prevent units from slipping into irrecoverable stages.

Giving details about the implementation of previous directions the Director, I&C Jammu, Arun Manhas informed that a responsive chatbot has already been integrated into the portal to enable enterprises to assess their health status and receive recommendations, while work is underway to upgrade it into an AI-enabled system for enhanced user experience.

He further divulged that district-level committees have been constituted across 10 districts to oversee implementation and enhance outreach. These committees, comprising representatives from the Industries & Commerce Department, JKEDI and Mission Yuva, have been trained extensively and will begin large-scale interactions from May 10 with a target of scaling up engagements from 20 to 200 interactions per day.

Reviewing field-level interventions, the Chief Secretary was apprised that 56 industrial units across Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur and Kashmir divisions have been surveyed in detail, covering 29 sectors. The survey identified critical, stressed and healthy units and highlighted key challenges such as high input costs, market competition, logistics constraints and working capital issues. These findings are being used to design data-driven policy interventions and rehabilitation strategies.

It was also revealed that over 60 industrial visits have been completed, with diagnostic reports prepared for several units and strategic rehabilitation plans finalized for critically stressed enterprises. Additional reports are in the pipeline and are expected to be completed by the end of May, while further field visits are planned to expand coverage.

On the certification front, more than 1,000 MSME Health Certificates have already been generated and issued to stable units, with full automation of the certification process targeted by May 10. The system also provides an option for re-evaluation to ensure continuous monitoring and support.

The meeting also reviewed convergence with Mission Yuva, under which all enterprises are being onboarded onto the UDYAM portal and subsequently integrated with the MSME Health Clinic platform. API integration between the systems is expected to be completed by early June, enabling seamless data exchange and streamlined registration processes for the times to come.

'Op Sindoor' Reflects

opened to industry to support research activities.

The minister called upon industry stakeholders to invest in emerging domains such as artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, hypersonic systems and advanced weapons platforms.

He said infrastructure development linked to the defence sector is also being prioritised, including projects under the defence industrial corridor.

Referring to his recent visit abroad, Singh said foreign companies are showing interest in partnering with Indian firms, indicating growing confidence in the domestic defence ecosystem.

Senior Army officials present at the event highlighted the need for greater synergy between the armed forces, industry and research institutions to address operational challenges through indigenous technological solutions.

They said capabilities such as unmanned systems, precision strike platforms and AI-driven tools are becoming essential in establishing an advantage in future conflicts—(KNO)

Railway Push Set

involved in freight operations said that last year's response to cherry transport by train was encouraging, prompting authorities to scale up services this season.

"With increased frequency of parcel trains and improved handling systems, we expect a substantial rise in the volume of cherries being transported by rail," the official said.

Kashmir is known for producing premium-quality cherries, particularly in districts such as Srinagar, Ganderbal, Shopian, and Baramulla. However, due to their short shelf life, cherries have long posed logistical challenges for growers, who traditionally relied on road transport to send their produce to markets in cities like Delhi, Mumbai, and Chandigarh.

Farmers often faced issues such as delays, high transportation costs, and losses due to spoilage during long journeys.

The shift towards rail transport is now being seen as a potential turning point.

Local growers expressed optimism about the development, saying that faster and more reliable transport could help them fetch better prices. "Cherries are extremely sensitive, and even slight delays affect quality. If trains ensure quicker delivery, it will directly benefit us," said a grower from Shopian.

Another orchardist from Ganderbal noted that reduced transportation costs could also improve profit margins. "Road transport is expensive and unpredictable. Railways can offer a more stable alternative, especially during peak harvest," he said.

The proposed introduction of temperature-controlled cargo trains is also being welcomed, as it would help preserve the freshness and quality of cherries over longer distances.

Experts believe this could open up new markets and enhance the competitiveness of Kashmiri cherries at the national level.

Officials said coordination between the horticulture department, railway authorities, and fruit traders is being strengthened to ensure smooth operations throughout the season.

Loading points, packaging standards, and scheduling are being fine-tuned to handle the anticipated surge in shipments.

If successful, the expanded rail network could not only reduce post-harvest losses but also mark a major step forward in modernising Kashmir's fruit supply chain—bringing tangible benefits to thousands of growers dependent on the cherry trade—(KNO)

'Hats Off To The

When years of efforts turn into success, the happiness that is seen on the faces of people is the same happiness that I see on the faces of BJP workers across the country today," said PM Modi on BJP's exemplary performance in West Bengal and Assam elections.

The BJP has crossed the halfway mark of 148 in Bengal, according to trends from the Election Commission. The party is ahead in 207 seats while Trinamool Congress is leading in 80 seats.

In Tamil Nadu, actor-turned-politician Vijay is set for a big win. His party, Tamilaga Vetttri Kazhagam (TVK), is leading in over 100 seats, and the ruling DMK - which is in alliance with the Congress and DMDK - has leads in nearly 60 seats. The AIADMK-led alliance is leading in over 45 seats.



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Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyaan

Mass Counselling Sessions on Mental Health held across G'bal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Under the vision of Nasha Mukt Abhiyaan @ 100 Days, schools across District Ganderbal Monday transformed into centres of awareness, reflection and collective awakening through a series of counselling sessions on mental health and emotional well-being.

The initiative witnessed the active participation of nearly 37,000 students, teachers and parents, sending a strong message that a healthy mind forms the cornerstone of a progressive and harmonious society.

During the sessions, resource persons and educators sensitised participants about the importance of mental health, encouraging young minds to overcome negativity, anxiety and substance abuse. The programmes emphasized the values of hope, resilience, empathy and moral responsibility, guiding students towards a balanced and purposeful life.



Speakers highlighted that education goes beyond academic learning and must also focus on character building, inner strength and responsible citizenship. They stressed the need for a supportive ecosystem where families, teachers and society work

in unison to nurture emotionally strong and socially responsible individuals. The district-wide initiative was widely appreciated for fostering awareness and promoting a culture of compassion and mindfulness among the youth. It reinforced the commitment of the administration

towards building a drug-free, mentally resilient and enlightened society. The programme concluded with a collective resolve to carry forward the message of mental well-being and continue sustained efforts under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan.

Anti-Polythene Drive conducted around GMC Baramulla



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: To ensure a polythene-free zone and strengthen regulatory measures around Government Medical College (GMC) Baramulla, a joint team of officers conducted an extensive anti-polythene drive in the surrounding areas Monday.

The team, headed by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Baramulla, Arshad Ahmad Khan, comprised the Principal GMC Baramulla, Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Medical Superintendent (MS) Associated Hospital GMC Baramulla, along with officials from the Civil Administration and Police.

During the drive, the team visited various establishments, with a special

focus on medical shops operating in and around the GMC area. The inspection aimed to curb the use of banned polythene, ensure adherence to environmental norms, and maintain hygiene standards in the hospital vicinity.

The officers stressed strict compliance with government regulations and warned shopkeepers against the use of polythene bags. They also sensitized traders about the harmful environmental impact of polythene and urged them to adopt eco-friendly alternatives.

The team reiterated that such drives will continue in the future to ensure a clean, safe, and environmentally sustainable zone around GMC Baramulla.

Speaker receives rousing welcome on re-opening of Assembly Secretariat



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly was accorded a rousing welcome by the staff on the first day of the re-opening of the Assembly Secretariat in the summer capital.

On his arrival, the Speaker interacted with the officers and staff members, enquiring about their

presence and overall well-being. He appreciated their dedication and emphasized the importance of teamwork and commitment in ensuring smooth functioning of the Assembly Secretariat.

The Speaker also encouraged the staff to continue working with sincerity and professionalism to uphold the sanctity of the institution.

Nasha Mukt Abhiyaan

Counselling Sessions, Awareness Drives held across Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Continuing the ongoing Nasha Mukt Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyaan, a series of awareness and outreach activities were organized across district Shopian to discourage substance abuse and promote a healthy lifestyle among youth.

Counselling sessions on mental well-being were conducted in various schools and institutions, including Govt Polytechnic College Shopian and several higher secondary schools. The sessions focused on stress management, building self-confidence, and adopting positive life choices. Students actively participated and interacted with resource persons.

Awareness events were held at multiple locations, including Fantaliz Educa-



tional Institute Alishapora and High School Gatipora, where participants carried placards and raised slogans advocating a drug-free society.

In Zone Harman, Poshan Project Shopian organized awareness activities at AWC Gagran, involving community interaction and poster displays to sen-

sitize the public. Additionally, Tourism Development Authority, Dubjan- Peer Ki Gali conducted awareness events at Tourism Park Bohrihlan and Shirmal Shopian, further extending the campaign's outreach.

As part of youth engagement initiatives, the Mental Health & Well-being Committee of GDC Shopian organized a badminton match within the college campus, encouraging students to adopt sports and constructive activities as a means to stay away from substance abuse.

The activities witnessed active participation of students, Anganwadi workers, and local residents, reflecting increased awareness and community involvement towards building a drug-free and healthy society in the district.

DC Kulgam inaugurates Grocery Mart at Yaripora under Mission YUVA



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Promoting entrepreneurship and strengthening grassroots economic development, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, today inaugurated a Grocery Mart at Yaripora.

The unit has been established by beneficiary, Asif Amin Bhat with an investment of Rs 35 lakh, under the ambitious Mission YUVA (MSME), aimed at fostering self-employment and empowering local youth.

Further enhancing its market outreach, the business has also been registered on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) platform, enabling digital access and wider customer connectivity. The Deputy Commis-

sioner appreciated the entrepreneurial initiative of the beneficiary and emphasized the importance of integrating traditional businesses with digital platforms like ONDC to expand market opportunities and ensure sustainable growth.

Speaking on the occasion, he added that the administration's commitment to providing continuous handholding support to entrepreneurs under Mission YUVA and other government initiatives.

He encouraged youth to avail such schemes and actively contribute towards building a self-reliant economy.

The event was attended by officers from the district administration, officials associated with Mission YUVA, and members of the local community.

Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan HKM GDC B'pora organizes Awareness Programme on Drug De-addiction

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: NCORD Cell of HKM Degree College Bandipora on Monday organised a one-day awareness programme on drug de-addiction under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan to sensitise students about the harmful effects of substance abuse and pro-

delivered a detailed lecture on the harmful effects of drug addiction on physical and mental health, social relationships and overall well-being. The importance of early intervention, awareness and adoption of a disciplined and healthy lifestyle to combat substance abuse was stressed.

The resource person also interacted with stu-



delivered a detailed lecture on the harmful effects of drug addiction on physical and mental health, social relationships and overall well-being. The importance of early intervention, awareness and adoption of a disciplined and healthy lifestyle to combat substance abuse was stressed.

The programme was organised under the guidance of Principal of the college, Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra, and witnessed active participation of faculty members and students.

Resource person from the Health Department

delivered a detailed lecture on the harmful effects of drug addiction on physical and mental health, social relationships and overall well-being. The importance of early intervention, awareness and adoption of a disciplined and healthy lifestyle to combat substance abuse was stressed.

A pledge-taking ceremony was also held during the programme wherein faculty members and students collectively resolved to stay away from drugs and contribute towards creating a drug-free society.

Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

Yoga Awareness event held at Polo Ground Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A Yoga Awareness Event was Monday organized at Polo Ground Srinagar under the aegis of the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan, aiming to promote a healthy and drug-free lifestyle among youth.

The programme was conducted in collaboration with the Directorate of School Education Kashmir under the directions of District Administration Srinagar and was coordinated by the District AYUSH Office Srinagar.

On the occasion, speakers emphasized the importance of yoga as a holistic discipline that significantly contributes to physical and mental well-being. They highlighted its role as an effective tool in preventing substance abuse and fostering a balanced lifestyle.

The event was organized with the objective of raising awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and encouraging the adoption of healthy and disciplined living through



yoga practices. Participants were sensitized about preventive approaches to addiction and the importance of building a drug-free society.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and staff of various government schools, along with officials from the AYUSH and Education Departments.

Among those present were Chief Education Officer Srinagar, Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din; District AYUSH Officer Srinagar, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Payer; Nodal Officer (Yoga & Naturopathy), Dr. Seema Mustafa; and District Coor-

dinator (CEO Srinagar), Hina Amin.

A mass yoga demonstration by participating students, an awareness session on drug abuse prevention, and interactive engagements promoting healthy lifestyle practices were key highlights of the event.

Participants actively performed yoga exercises and reinforced the message: "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life."

The event served as a significant initiative in spreading awareness and encouraging youth to embrace a healthy, disciplined, and drug-free lifestyle.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Want To Correct My Name From Jabeena Bano To Mehjabeen On My Aadhar Card. The Present Name Or Correct Name Is After My Marriage As Per My Nikkah And Other Official Documents. If Anybody May Have Any Objection In This Regard, He Or She May Contact My Husband (Mohammad Akram Sofi) Within 7 Days After That No Objection Will Be Entertained Or Accepted.

MEHJABEEN W/O MOHAMMAD AKRAM SOFI
R/O NOWSHAD, HANDALBAGH, KRALPORA BUGAM,
KASHMIR (6005142175)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to the general public that I Altaf Hussain Akhoun R/o Meer Behri Dal Lati Mohalla Akhoun Mohalla Srinagar intend to correct the name of my son in his aadhar card from Haider Riza to Hazik Ali Akhoun as per his Date of Birth Certificate issued by Srinagar Municipal Corporation. In this regard if anybody have any kind of objection he/she may file the same with concerned authorities within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

District Police Hqrs, Bandipora.

Phone No 01957225870(F) 01957226551 (O) Email- dpobandipore@jkpolice.gov.in

HUE AND CRY NOTICE

As intimated by SHO P/S sumbal vide communication No. PS-SBL/5-A/2026/743 dated 02-05-2026, that accused namely Rayees Ahmad Dar S/o Mohd Yousf Dar R/o Shahgund Hajin is involved in case FIR No. 95/2016 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act of P/S Sumbal and is absconding after commission of crime. The Photograph along-with description roll of the said Absconder is as under:-

Name	Rayees Ahmad Dar
W/o	Mohd Yousf Dar
Residence	Shah Gund Hajin
Tehsil	Tehsil
District	Bandipora
Pin code	193502
Age	35 years approximately
Height	5 ft, 7 inch
Hair	Black
Build	Normal
Complexion	Whitish
Identification mark	Mole on left side of face

It is therefore requested that a sharp lookout may please be maintained and if traced out or any clue leading to the whereabouts of the said absconding accused, Please contact any one of the below mentioned email/Phone Nos:-

Email	dpobandipore@jkpolice.gov.in
PCR Bandipora	9596767430 or 01957225278
SHO P/S Sumbal	9596767441
PS Sumbal	9596767447

NO: CRB/L-O/2026/34203-365
Dated: 02/05/2026
DIPK-1011-26
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Sr. Superintendent Of Police,
District Bandipora

IPL 2026: Bowlers showed character to pull things back from 90/1, says SKY after MI win



SIANS

MUMBAI: Leading the side in the absence of Hardik Pandya, Suryakumar Yadav gave credit to his bowlers for pulling things back and helping them romp to a six-wicket victory with eight balls to spare in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2006 on Monday.

Having blazed to 90/1 at the end of the sixth over, Lucknow Super Giants were threatening to reach a 250-plus score in their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 clash at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Monday.

But the Mumbai Indians did not panic, and with a double-strike by Corbin Bosch in his second over to remove Nicholas Pooran

(63 off 21) and Mitchell Marsh (44), they fought back to restrict them to 228/5, which they chased easily with former captain Rohit Sharma smashing 84 off 44 balls and Ryan Rickelton hammering 83 off 32. They shared a 143-run partnership for the opening wicket -- their third century partnership this season, laying the foundation for an easy win.

Surya said being at 90/1 in six overs did not set panic in the camp, as they have been in such situations in earlier matches this season. He gave credit to his bowlers for pulling things back.

"To be very frank, it was nothing new to be honest (90/1 at the end of power-play) (Overs) 7-10 is the best time to pull

the game off. The way all the bowlers responded showed a lot of character," said Surya in the post-match presentation.

He said he did not have to give much input to turn things around, as everyone had their own plans. "Everyone had that belief, clear plans. It was just a little/little attacking. Even though we scored 244 a few days back, SRH chased this down.

He also gave credit to the start provided by Rohit and Rickelton. "Want to have a good start when chasing 220-225. They were always in control. In the end, the way Naman Dhir and everyone batted, it was nice," said Surya as the Mumbai Indians romped to their third win in 10 matches this season.

IPL 2026: Vintage Rohit, smashing Rickelton guide MI to six-wicket win over LSG

SIANS

MUMBAI: Rohit Sharma made a grand return to action after recovering from an injury, smashing a half-century and adding 143 runs with Ryan Rickelton as the Mumbai Indians defeated Lucknow Super Giants by six wickets in Match 47 of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 at the Wankhede Stadium on Monday.

As part of a brilliant duopoly, Rohit top-scored with 84, and Rickelton, who struck some powerful shots, added 83 runs as the Mumbai Indians scripted the highest run-chase at the Wankhede as the five-time champions secured their third win in 10 matches. They move to six points but remain rooted at the second-last spot in the points table, hanging on to their slim chances.

Put into bat, Nicholas Pooran blazed to a 16-ball half-century as he smashed 63 runs off 21 balls, and Mitchell Marsh blasted 44 off 25 as LSG survived a middle-order collapse to post a challenging 228/5 in what is a must-win match for both sides.

In reply, the Mumbai Indians capitalised on brilliant batting by half-centuries by Rohit and Rickelton and reached 229/4 in 18.4 overs to win with eight balls to spare. LSG slumped to their sixth defeat on the trot and remain at the bottom of the table with four points.

Chasing 229, MI made a cautious start as Rohit and Rickelton took them to fifty in 30 balls. Rohit, who came into the side to loud cheers after recovering from a hamstring injury, hammered 21 runs in the sixth over, smashing Avesh Khan's attempted Yorkers for two fours and two sixes in successive balls. He had a close shave when the ball fell just short of the fielder



on the last delivery of Power-play as Mumbai reached 71 for no loss.

The Hitman smashed Prince Yadav for a couple of sixes in the sixth over and, with Rickelton, who struck two sixes and a four, hammered 23 runs off Impact Substitute Manimaran Siddharth. Rohit raced to his fifty off 27 balls, studied with three fours and five sixes after Rickelton raised his half-century a couple of deliveries before off 22 balls (4x4, 4x6) as they took Mumbai past the 100-run mark.

Rohit and Rickelton raised 143 runs for the opening partnership as the South African smashed a four and six off Mohsin Khan off successive balls and followed that up with a six in the 11th over before he fell for 83. Mohsin Khan had the last laugh by getting caught by Josh Inglis at cover.

Rohit, who had scored a majestic century at the same venue a few weeks back, added 34 runs for the second wicket with Tilak Varma before he departed, missing out on a well-deserved century. He blasted 84 off 44 balls (6x4, 7x6) before he fell, trying

to force the pace against Manimaran Siddharth, but only managing to offer an easy catch to Mohammed Shami in the deep. It was a superb innings by the six-time IPL winner as he played some exquisite shots, pulling, flicking, lofting, and driving for boundaries as the crowd roared in appreciation.

Mumbai remained on course for their third victory of the season as they reached 187/2 at the end of the 15th over. But Varma departed for 11 off 13 balls, splicing it straight to Aiden Markram off

Siddharth. Naman Dhir was dropped at cover by Inglis off Siddharth in the 16th over.

Dhir struck back-to-back fours off Prince Yadav in the 17th over as Mumbai went past 200 and then smashed Mohammed Shami for a superb six. Suryakumar Yadav dispatched a short and wide one from Shami to the boundary with a late cut but fell on the next ball, whipping one straight to Nicholas Pooran for 12 off 7 balls.

Dhir remained unbeaten on 23 off 12 balls, and Will Jacks scored 10 off four,

trying to pull a short ball, and then sent back Marsh for a 25-ball 44 (25 balls, 4x4, 3x6).

LSG's troubles continued as skipper Pant edged back to Rickelton off Will Jacks for a 10-ball 15 (1x4, 1x6) and Akshat Raghuvanshi was caught by leggie Ragu Sharma off his own bowling for a 7-ball 11. Lucknow Super Giants, who were cruising at 123/1 at the end of the eighth over, slumped to 160/5 in the 13th over.

Bumrah had Himmat Singh caught behind off a no-ball, and MI followed up with a couple of quiet overs. However, Aiden Markram, who lost his top-order slot to Pooran, held the innings together with Himmat Singh, who was put down by Suryakumar Yadav. They broke the shackles with the former smashing Ghazanfar for a four in the first ball of the 16th over before Himmat stepped down to wallop him for a six and followed it up with a four off the next delivery.

Markram and Himmat took LSG past the 200-run mark as they raised fifty of their partnership in 32 balls. They stayed together till the end, with Himmat Singh hitting some brave shots on his way to 40 not out (31 balls, 2x4, 2x6) and Markram staying unbeaten on 31 off 25 (1x4, 1x6), and raised 68 runs for the unfinished sixth wicket partnership as LSG posted a challenging total.

Brief scores: Lucknow Super Giants 228/5 in 20 overs (Nicholas Pooran 63, Mitchell Marsh 44, Himmat Singh 40 not out, Aiden Markram 31 not out; Corbin Bosch 2-20, Ragu Sharma 1-36) lost to Mumbai Indians 229/4 in 18.4 overs (Rohit Sharma 84, Ryan Rickelton 83, Naman Dhir 23 not out; Manimaran Siddharth 2-47) by six wickets

ISL 2025-26: Sanchez penalty rescues point for dominant Blues in seesaw battle against Odisha

SIANS

BENGALURU: Bengaluru FC's clash against Odisha FC was a tale of territorial dominance punctuated by moments of clinical opportunism and agonizing near-misses.

Forced to adapt due to injuries to Ashique Kuruniyan and Nikhil Poojary, head coach Pep Muñoz handed starts to Sivasakthi Narayanan and Ricky Meetei, and the reshuffled Blues immediately took control. The opening 20 minutes was a masterclass in possession, with Bengaluru hogging over 80% of the ball, yet the breakthrough remained elusive as Braian Sanchez miscued a Ryan Williams lay-off and Sivasakthi fired a promising effort over the crossbar.

As the half progressed, Odisha began to find their teeth on the counterattack. A goal-saving intervention arrived in the 23rd minute when Siroj Kuziev pro-

duced a stunning recovery run and tackle to deny Thoiba in a dangerous position.

Moments later, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu proved why he remains indispensable, diving full-stretch to keep out a thunderous near-post strike from Thoiba. Despite Gurpreet's heroics, which included a sharp save from a Rahim Ali long-range effort, a momentary lapse in concentration proved costly. In the 34th minute, an errant throw-in from Naorem Roshan Singh resulted in a turnover that allowed Rahim Ali to pounce and fire Odisha into a lead that ran contrary to the early run of play.

The complexion of the game shifted again at the interval with the introduction of Soham Varshneya for Sunil Chhetri. The substitution paid immediate dividends; Soham's energetic burst into the box drew a foul within minutes of the restart, earn-

ing a penalty that Braian Sanchez calmly converted to restore parity. This ignited a frantic period of Bengaluru pressure where the woodwork became Odisha's best defender. A 55th-minute scramble saw Soham's effort parried into the path of Sivasakthi, who could only watch in frustration as his shot rattled the post.

The frame of the goal denied the Blues once more in the 64th minute when Rahul Beke rose highest to meet a Siroj set-piece, only to see his header bounce off the upright. While Gurpreet was called upon once more to deny Kartik from point-blank range, the final whistle blew following a barrage of late attempts from Kelvin, Sanchez, and Roshan. Despite Bengaluru's relentless pursuit of a winner, Odisha FC's resolute backline held firm to ensure a high-octane encounter ended in a 1-1 stalemate.

Public servants shine as GST & Customs Amateur team defeat Mumbai Heroes in 'Fit India Hit India' friendly cricket match

SIANS

MUMBAI: The Sports Authority of India and the Fit India Movement successfully hosted the "Fit India Hit India" Friendly Cricket Match at the Air India Ground, Vankar, bringing together public servants, film personalities, fitness enthusiasts, and sports lovers for an evening dedicated to promoting fitness, active living, and community participation.

The friendly encounter featured the GST & Customs Amateur Team taking on the Mumbai

Heroes team in front of an enthusiastic crowd in Mumbai.

Organised under the Government of India's Fit India Movement initiative, the match aimed to encourage physical and mental well-being through sports and active lifestyles.

The event was graced by Prachi Saroop, Principal Chief Commissioner (CGST), Mumbai, as the Chief Guest, while BB Gupta, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone, attended as the Guest of Honour.

Pankaj Singh, Commissioner CGST, said, "Initiatives like 'Fit India Hit

India' play a crucial role in encouraging a culture of fitness and well-being among citizens. It is inspiring to see public servants and artists come together on one platform to promote healthy living through sport."

The Mumbai Heroes squad featured several prominent personalities including Suniel Shetty, Sohail Khan, Sharad Kelkar, Shabir Ahluwalia and Freddy Daruwala, along with actors, singers, and fitness influencers who came together to spread awareness about the importance of physical and mental health.

Movies Schedule

Tuesday, 5th May







Raja Shivaji (U/A16+)
Hindi - 05:00 PM

BHOOTH BANGLA (U/A16+)
Hindi - 04:10 PM, 07:40 PM

Ek Din (U/A13+)
Hindi - 01:30 PM

Michael (U/A 13+)
English with English Subtitles
11:30 AM, 05:10 PM

The Devil Wears Prada 2 (A)
English with English Subtitles
11:00 AM, 02:10 PM, 07:30 PM

Dhurandhar: The Revenge (A)
Hindi - 12:00 PM



Call: 95416 13868 For assistance with tickets