

Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Office of LG J&K
@OfficeOfLJandK



I also announced an informal 'Parents Brigade' in every village & city wherever possible. Our aim is to create a voluntary network of parents who will be trained & empowered to identify early signs of drug use in villages or wards and immediately connect families with resources.

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J&K Bank Hits Record High, Posts Highest-Ever Profit Of ₹2,363 Crore



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Bank has delivered its strongest financial performance yet, reporting a record annual profit of ₹2,363.47 crore for the financial year 2025-26. This marks the fourth consecutive year of rising profits, with a growth of over 13% compared to the previous year.

Despite challenges, including a one-time provision of ₹179 crore related to its investment in J&K Grameen Bank, the bank maintained its upward momentum. The final quarter also saw an impressive surge, with net profit touching nearly ₹800 crore—significantly higher than the same period last year.

The results were approved by the Board of Directors at a meeting held at the bank's corporate office in Srinagar.

'Op Sindoore' Success Proves Indigenous Weapons' Effectiveness: MoS Defence

SAJID RAINA

NEW DELHI: Stating that the success of 'Operation Sindoore' reflected effectiveness of indigenously developed weapons and systems, Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth on Tuesday said India's military

strength is increasingly being driven by its domestic defence manufacturing ecosystem.

Addressing the North Tech Symposium 2026 in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, Seth, credited the armed forces for their "courage and determination" in executing 'Op Sindoore'.

Drug Trafficking, Terror Funding Two Hands Of Same Enemy: LG Sinha

Joins Mega Padyatra In Budgam, Pledges Sweeping Action Against Drug Smugglers

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Likening drug trafficking with terror funding, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that these are two hands of the same enemy and the war against narcotics can only be won by putting collective efforts.

"The entire world knows that our neighbour, a major patron of terrorism smuggling drugs into Jammu Kashmir. Drug trafficking and terror funding are no longer separate issues—they are two hands of the same enemy. We must remember that when we fight against drugs, we are also fighting against terror. When we protect our youth, we protect our nation," the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing a large people's movement in Budgam as part of drug-free J&K campaign.

The Lieutenant Governor appealed to every family, social organization, spiritual and political leaders in Budgam to intensify drug-free J&K campaign across the district and assured them that the administration and its full strength is committed to eradicating drugs.



The Lieutenant Governor also announced an informal 'Parents Brigade' in every village and city, wherever possible. He said the aim is to

create a voluntary network of parents, women and youth who will be trained and empowered to identify early signs of drug use in villages or wards, and to immediately connect families with resources.

The Lieutenant Governor said the entire district of Budgam must stand against drug use.

1

Our aim is to create a voluntary network of parents, women, youth who will be trained to identify early signs of drug use

Entire district of Budgam must stand against the poison of drugs that is destroying souls of our youth

I believe that every young person lost to addiction is a loss of strength for our future workforce

Every family broken by addiction is a crack in the foundation of our society

In this war against drugs, society must accept the truth that many boys and girls are in the grip of narcotics.

There is no harm in accepting this, as they are our own children; they are victims, not criminals

1

FURTHERMORE, THE PUBLIC MUST ELIMINATE THE STIGMA, SO THAT IF A family is suffering, they do not have to endure the pain in silence. This tradition must change because today's circumstances are such that silence will not defeat this; the public must raise its voice," the Lieutenant Governor said.

3,952 Pilgrims Airlifted In 28 Flights
Haj 2026 Departures Conclude From Srinagar

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: The outbound Haj movement from Srinagar for Haj 2026 concluded on Tuesday with the final flight taking off, marking the successful completion of a coordinated and smooth airlift operation that saw thousands of pilgrims depart for the holy journey.

Executive Officer of J&K Haj Committee, Dr Shujaat Ahmad Qureshi said that a total of 3,952 pilgrims departed from the Srinagar Haj.

In 3 days

'Vande Bharat Express' Ferries 16,349 Passengers

YOGESH

JAMMU: The 'Vande Bharat Express,' recently launched between Jammu and Srinagar, continues to be a major attraction among passengers—not only for its speed but also for its premium services.

This semi-high-speed train, has set new records of popularity within just the initial days of its operation, thereby instilling unwavering confidence among travellers.

A tremendous surge in daily passenger volume has been observed.

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FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2026

KEY RATIOS (YOY)	Net Profit Growth 36.48%	Return on Assets 1.78%	Gross NPA 2.50%	Net NPA 0.64%	Capital Adequacy Ratio 16.55%	Provision Coverage Ratio 90.33%
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S.No	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE					CONSOLIDATED				
		QUARTER ENDED			YEAR ENDED		QUARTER ENDED			YEAR ENDED	
		31.03.2026 (AUDITED)	31.12.2025 (REVIEWED)	31.03.2025 (AUDITED)	31.03.2026 (AUDITED)	31.03.2025 (AUDITED)	31.03.2026 (AUDITED)	31.12.2025 (REVIEWED)	31.03.2025 (AUDITED)	31.03.2026 (AUDITED)	31.03.2025 (AUDITED)
1	Total income from operations (net)	3,53,106	3,59,135	3,61,353	14,08,505	13,66,622	3,53,579	3,59,532	3,61,659	14,10,138	13,68,157
2	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	86,052	80,606	80,918	2,95,788	2,93,370	86,233	80,720	80,967	2,96,358	2,93,868
3	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before Tax, (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	86,052	80,606	80,918	2,95,788	2,93,370	86,233	80,720	80,967	2,96,358	2,93,868
4	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after Tax, (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	79,780	58,673	58,454	2,36,348	2,08,246	79,856	58,149	58,191	2,35,951	2,08,179
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period {Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)}	Refer Note No. 2					Refer Note No. 2				
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013	11,013
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of previous year					12,90,312					12,85,949
8	Securities Premium Account	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950	2,91,950
9	Net Worth (excl. intangible assets, revaluation reserve & DTA*)	1504586*	14,52,547	13,01,326	1504586*	13,01,326	1479550*	14,27,462	12,96,962	1479550*	12,96,962
10	Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	2,38,100	2,38,100	2,38,100	2,38,100	2,38,100					
11	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-	-	-					
12	Debt Equity Ratio	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.16	0.18					
13	Total Debts to total assets	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01					
14	Operating Margin (%)	25.79%	21.73%	22.14%	21.20%	21.44%					
15	Net Profit Margin (%)	22.59%	16.34%	16.18%	16.78%	15.24%					
16	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items) (₹ 1/- each) for continuing and discontinued operations										
	Basic : (* not annualized)	7.24*	5.33*	5.31*	21.46	18.91	7.25*	5.28*	5.28*	21.42	18.91
	Diluted : (* not annualized)	7.24*	5.33*	5.31*	21.46	18.91	7.25*	5.28*	5.28*	21.42	18.91
17	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-					
18	Debt Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-					

Note:
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarter and year ended Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarter and year ended Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites. www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on Bank's website https://jkb.bank.in/Investor/financial-information/financial-results
2. Information relating to Total comprehensive Income and Other Comprehensive Income is not furnished as Ind AS is not yet made applicable to Banks.

Place : Srinagar
Dated : 5th May, 2026

DIPK-NB-388/26
DATED:05/05/2026

For and on behalf of the Board
AMITAVA CHATTERJEE
Managing Director & CEO
DIN : 07082989

Workshop Empowers Seasonal Mobile School Teachers in Alpine Pastures

ZUBAIR QURESHI

SRINAGAR: In a first-of-its-kind effort to improve educational access for children of nomadic pastoral communities, the Himalayan Pastoral Trust (HPT) organised a two-day residential workshop on May 4-5 for Seasonal Mobile School teachers in collaboration with Bengaluru-based NGO Nature Classrooms.

Held under HPT's flagship Grasslands to Classrooms initiative, the workshop aimed to equip teachers with low-cost, innovative, and context-sensitive teaching methods suited to the unique challenges of mobile schooling in remote alpine pastures.

Twenty-five teachers associated with the Samagra Shiksha Seasonal Centres from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir participated actively. These educators spend several months each year teaching children of



nomadic families in high-altitude grasslands and alpine meadows, navigating difficult terrain, harsh weather, and multi-grade classroom settings.

The workshop provided a rare platform for teachers to share firsthand experiences, discuss constraints of running classrooms in temporary migratory settlements, and reflect on learning levels and attendance patterns of children in seasonal settings.

Mr. Asif Mehraj Shah, Coordinator of Samagra Shiksha Kashmir, graced the event and praised the initiative, stressing the need for nature-based, innovative, and context-

sensitive educational practices for children in migratory and remote regions.

"Children in pastoral landscapes live amidst a vibrant natural classroom. The aim is to help teachers recognise that nature itself can become a powerful source of literacy, curiosity and critical thinking," said Mr. Arif Hussain, initiative coordinator at HPT.

Teachers described the workshop as highly enriching, noting that the practical strategies offered affordable and easy ways to make seasonal schooling more engaging, despite short academic windows and difficult conditions. The workshop concluded

with a shared commitment from organisers, teachers, and government representatives to work together for improving foundational learning among nomadic children and making Seasonal Mobile Schools more joyful, meaningful, and connected to community life.

The Seasonal Mobile Schools have been established in the upper reaches of Jammu and Kashmir under the Samagra Shiksha initiative, a centrally sponsored programme focused on inclusive and quality education for children from geographically isolated and socially marginalised communities.

AA&M takes custody of rare artifacts recovered from Lolab

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A team of the Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museums (AA&M), J&K led by Dr. Javed Ahmad Mantoo, Surveyor Cum Excavation Assistant of the Department has taken over the possession of the recovered artifacts from the SDM Lolab and Police officials for their detailed examination, preservation, identification as per established procedures.

District Administration Kupwara recently reported the recovery of rare Artifacts which includes a stone sculpture stela, from the bed of the local nallah in village Sever at Khurhama in Lolab District Kupwara and a stone slab with rare tubular impressions.

Preliminary observations suggest that the sculpted stone may represent a memorial Stela,



tentatively attributable to the late medieval period (circa 12th-14th centuries CE), and bearing features consistent

with regional folk artistic traditions. Traces of possible Sharada script inscriptions have also been noticed; how-

ever, their reading and authentication are presently under examination.

In addition, a stone slab displaying tubular impressions has been reported, which may be of paleontological interest. Initial assessment indicates the possibility of these being traces, fossils associated with the geological formations of the Lolab Valley. Their precise identification and scientific evaluation are also under process.

The Department extends its gratitude and appreciation to the District Administration Kupwara and District Police Kupwara for their cooperation, facilitation, and coordination.

Further, the Department appeals to the citizens to report any such findings to the District Authorities or to the nearest Police Authorities for their preservation, restoration and reference.

Hilal Malik wins inaugural forestry, wildlife photography competition

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Hilal Malik has emerged as the winner of the inaugural Forestry and Wildlife Photography Competition organised by the Planning and Publicity Division of the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department, with his evocative captures of the region's rich biodiversity and scenic landscapes earning wide appreciation from the jury.

Malik was awarded for his documentation of wildlife, people and forest-life across the region.

Minister for Forests, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, congratulated Hilal Malik on his remarkable achievement and lauded his contribution towards promoting environmental awareness through the art of photography.

The Minister underscored the importance of such initiatives in inspir-

ing the youth to forge a deeper connect with nature and take an active role in conservation efforts.

In recognition of his accomplishment, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), J&K, felicitated Hilal Malik at a function held at the Forest Complex, Srinagar. Senior officers and officials of the department were present on the occasion and commended the participant for showcasing the natural splendour and wildlife of Jammu and Kashmir through their lenses.

Notably, Hilal Malik has been working behind the lens for more than two decades since joining the forest department, passionately capturing the region's wildlife, forest-life, and its people.

Others adjudged winners in their respective categories included Abdul Qayoom Sofi (Birds) and Amir Shafi Rather (Landscape).

GCOE Srinagar announces admissions for FYUG Honours in Education

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government College of Education Srinagar, functioning under Cluster University Srinagar, has announced admissions to its four-year undergraduate programme (FYUG Honours in Education) for the academic session 2026-27.

According to an official notification, candidates who have completed their 10+2 from recognized boards, including JKBOSE and CBSE, are eligible to apply. Admissions will be granted strictly on a merit basis, determined by Class 12 examination scores.

The registration process will be conducted through the centralized admission portal: <https://jkadmissions.in> from May 9 to May 27, 2026. Applicants have been advised to select Government College of Education, M.A. Road, Srinagar as their top preference while filling out the online form.

The FYUG programme offers Education as the major subject, with minors available in Psychology, Geography, English, and History.

Notably, the college claims to be the only institution in Srinagar offering the FYUG Honours programme in Education with both research and non-research tracks.

In addition to the FYUG Honours programme, the institution offers a range of courses including PG Diploma in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), B.Ed., M.Ed., Integrated B.Ed.-M.Ed., M.A. Education, Ph.D. in Education, and the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), comprising B.Sc. B.Ed. and B.A. B.Ed.

To assist applicants, the college has set up a Counselling and Facilitation Centre on campus. Aspirants are encouraged to seek guidance for form submission and preference filling to avoid errors during the application process.

Awareness programme under Nasha Mukht Abhiyaan held at Hathbura

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: An awareness programme under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) was Tuesday organised at Government Boys High School Hathbura by Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti Ganderbal, Department of Social Welfare, in collaboration with REACHA (Research and Extension Association for Conservation Horticulture and Agro Forestry) and the Department of Education.

The programme witnessed active participation from students and staff, and featured a series of well-structured activities aimed at maximizing outreach and impact.

The event commenced with an interactive awareness session, wherein students were sensitized about the ill effects of substance abuse, its adverse social and health consequences, and the importance of making informed and responsible life choices.

An awareness rally was also organized, marked

by enthusiastic participation of students and staff, who carried placards and raised slogans advocating for a drug-free society. The rally served as an effective medium to disseminate the message of Nasha Mukht Bharat among the local community, fostering a sense of collective responsibility.

Adding an environmental dimension to the initiative, a plantation drive was also conducted within the school premises. Participants actively planted saplings, symbolizing growth, sustainability, and a shared commitment towards building a healthy and drug-free future. The activity highlighted the intrinsic link between a clean environment and a healthy society.

Speakers on the occasion underscored the significance of such integrated initiatives, stating that these not only raise awareness but also instill a sense of ownership and accountability among the youth towards societal well-being.

GDC B'pora organises Awareness Rallies under Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyaan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyaan, HKM Degree College Bandipora on Tuesday organised a series of awareness rallies aimed at promoting a drug-free society and spreading awareness on road safety among the general public.

The programmes were conducted under the guidance of the Principal, Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra. The NSS Units in collaboration with the NCORD Cell, and the Road Safety Club of the college organised separate rallies involving active participation of students and faculty members.

Students carried banners and placards displaying messages against drug abuse, rash driving, and intoxicated driving, while advocating healthy and responsible lifestyles.

College coordinators for the 100-day campaign, Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Parey and Dr. Wasia Hamid, addressed the participants and interacted with shopkeepers,

chemists, drivers, and commuters during the rallies. They sensitised the public about the harmful effects of drug abuse, the importance of road safety, adherence to traffic rules, and the collective responsibility of society in curbing substance abuse.

The Road Safety Club rally, organised under the mentorship of Convener Dr. Mubashir Hamid Mir, also focused on discouraging negligent driving and promoting the use of safety gear. During the outreach, faculty members counselled pillion riders found without helmets and distributed helmets to some riders as part of the awareness initiative.

The programmes witnessed active cooperation from the District Police Department, which ensured the smooth conduct of the rallies.

The events served as an effective outreach initiative, extending awareness beyond the college campus into the wider community and reinforcing the message that a united effort is essential to build a safe, healthy, and drug-free society.

Suzuki Motorcycle Inaugurates its First Dealership in Leh

GMK NEWS NETWORK

LEH: Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt. Ltd. (SMIPL), the two-wheeler subsidiary of Suzuki Motor Corporation, Japan, has entered the Union Territory of Ladakh with the inauguration of its first dealership, Mentokling Suzuki in Leh. This marks its presence in one of India's most challenging and strategically important regions.

With this dealership, SMIPL has now established its presence across all states & union territories of India through a network of 1,242 outlets, marking a significant milestone in its nationwide expansion journey.

The new dealership was inaugurated by Mr. Deepak Mutreja, (Vice-President, Sales & Marketing, Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt. Ltd.) along with other officials from SMIPL and Mentokling Suzuki, in the presence of customers.

Located at Choglamsar, Leh, Mentokling Suzuki has been designed to offer customers a seamless 3S (Sales, Service and Spare Parts) solution under one roof. The new outlet reflects SMIPL's focus on



providing customers with a convenient and premium experience across its growing retail network.

Welcoming the new business partner to Suzuki family, Mr. Deepak Mutreja, Vice-President, Sales & Marketing, Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt. Ltd. said, "Ladakh holds a special place in India's motorcycling landscape, attracting riders from across the country. Its unique terrain and demanding riding conditions make it an important market for us, where consistent performance and reliability are critical - qualities that Suzuki two-wheelers are known for. With the inauguration of Mentokling Suzuki in Leh, customers & riders will now have easier access to our two-wheelers along with dependable after-sales support. This step brings

us closer to customers in remote regions, offering them a trusted ownership experience. We sincerely thank our dealer partner, Mentokling Suzuki, for their collaboration in making this possible."

About the newly inaugurated Suzuki Dealership in Leh, Ladakh

Mentokling Suzuki showcases Suzuki's complete range of domestic two-wheelers. This includes scooters like Access, Avenis, and newly launched Burgman Street, Suzuki's first electric scooter e-ACCESS as well as motorcycles such as the G1XXER & G1XXER SF, G1XXER 250 & G1XXER SF 250 and V-STROM SX. Customers can also experience the entire product lineup first-hand, with test rides available across models including the recently

launched Access with ABS variants.

The dealership also houses a fully equipped service workshop with advanced tools to provide expert maintenance & after-sales support through a team of trained professionals. This dedicated service facility will also support V-Strom riders travelling to Ladakh, by offering authorised service backup and genuine spare parts in the region. Additionally, Mentokling Suzuki offers Suzuki's latest range of genuine accessories, apparel, and merchandise, making it a one-stop destination for customers to experience the complete world of Suzuki.

About Suzuki Motorcycle India Private Limited (SMIPL), a subsidiary of Suzuki Motor Corporation, Japan, started its India operations in February 2006 from its manufacturing plant at Kherki Daula, Gurugram, Haryana. The company manufactures scooters (125cc), electric scooter, premium motorcycles (150cc and above) and the Big-Bikes best suited for Indian customers.(PR)

CM Omar condoles with Dir Finance on demise of his son

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has expressed deep sorrow over the untimely demise

of Amaan Zahoor, son of Zahoor Ahmad Wani, Director Finance.

In his condolence message, the Chief Minister conveyed heartfelt sympathy

to the bereaved family and prayed for strength and fortitude to them in this hour of grief. He also prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

Amaan Zahoor Wani, 25, son of Director Finance Zahoor Ahmad Wani, passed away in Delhi on Monday following a sudden and massive cardiac arrest.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Javid Ahmad Sheikh, son of Mohd Sadiq Sheikh, resident of Gundi Jehangir, Bandipora, Jammu and Kashmir -193501, want to inform the general public that I lost my driving license bearing registration no: JK16-20250002937. Now I intend to apply for its duplicate. If any person has any objection in this regard, he/she may contact office of ARTO Ganderbal within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No claims or objections shall be entertained after the expiry of the said period.

Public Notice

I Javid Ahmad Magray, son of Ghulam Qadir Magray, father of Faisal Javid and Arjuman, resident of Kachan, district Ganderbal want to inform the public that due to clerical mistake my name in the school records of my wards has been wrongly recorded as Javid Ahmad instead of my correct name Javid Ahmad Magray in the records of Government Boys Middle School, Hakingund, Ganderbal. Now that my correct and actual name is Javid Ahmad Magray as per my valid official records, I want to update the records in Government Boys Middle School, Hakingund, Ganderbal. Before the same may proceed, if any person has any objection in this regard, they may contact office of the principal Government Boys Middle School, Hakingund, Ganderbal within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No claims or objections shall be entertained after the expiry of the said period.

Javid Ahmad Magray
Son of Ghulam Qadir Magray
R/o: Kachan, Ganderbal

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the following propose to re-register a non-profitable society under the name and style Haseena Folk Performing Arts, Wakura, Ganderbal with the registrar of societies, Kashmir under society registration Act 1860.

Name: Haseena Akhtar
Resident of: Wakura, Ganderbal
Occupation: Singer
Status in the society: President
Mobile No: 9906771994

Any objection in this regard may be reported to the office of the Registrar of Societies, Kashmir within a period of 21 days.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Jahangir Nabi Mir, son of Gh Nabi Mir, resident of Dolipora, Kreeri, Baramulla, hereby inform the general public that the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID No. 0212040003510 is currently registered in the name of my grandfather, Late Ab Rahim Mir, son of Late Ab Khaliq Mir, resident of Dolipora, Kreeri, Baramulla. Now, I intend to transfer the said electricity connection into my own name, i.e., Jahangir Nabi Mir, son of Gh Nabi Mir, resident of Dolipora, Kreeri, Baramulla. Upon transfer, all future rights, responsibilities, and liabilities related to the above connection shall rest solely with me. If any person has any objection to this proposed transfer, they may contact concerned department (PDD, Sub Division Wagora) within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No claims or objections shall be entertained after the expiry of the said period.

Jahangir Nabi Mir
S/o Gh Nabi Mir
Dolipora, Kreeri, Baramulla

CM Omar reviews status of implementation of Budget announcements

Directs time-bound achievement of targets and key initiatives

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: As a follow-up to the Budget Announcements for implementation during 2026-27, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting at the Civil Secretariat here to fast-track implementation of key Budget initiatives, with a focus on timely delivery of welfare measures for the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary; Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Rana, Javid Dar and Satish Sharma; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretaries of Jal Shakti, Public Works and Finance, besides all Administrative Secretaries, senior officers of the Finance Department, heads of departments and other concerned officials.



At the outset, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Shaileendra Kumar, briefed the Chief Minister, outlining the status of various Budget announcements across departments under different grants and status submitted by the departments.

Administrative Secretaries briefed the Chief Minister on the progress achieved so far and the action taken by their respective departments in implementing the Budget proposals.

Departments reviewed during the meeting included General Administration, Planning, Develop-

ment & Monitoring, Information, Science & Technology, Power Development, School Education, Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs, Finance, Agriculture Production, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Culture, Public Works, Jal Shakti, and Housing & Urban Development.

During the deliberations, the Chief Minister issued a series of directions aimed at expediting implementation, strengthening inter-departmental coordination, and ensuring strict adherence to timelines. He stressed the

importance of translating Budget announcements into tangible outcomes on the ground, with a focus on efficiency, transparency and public welfare. He also called for equitable development across all regions in terms of funding and resource allocation.

Reiterating the government's commitment to development and good governance, the Chief Minister directed all departments to closely monitor progress and remove bottlenecks to ensure that the benefits of Budget provisions reach the people in a timely manner.

Sakeena Itoo inaugurates Digital X-Ray unit, Thyroid Analyser at PHC Parigam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Tuesday undertook an extensive visit of the Pampore constituency of Pulwama district and took stock of works on various public utility projects as well as reviewed healthcare facilities.

MLA Pampore, Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi; Director School Education Kashmir, Naseer Ahmad Wani; Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Jehangir Bhakshi; CEO/CMO Kulgam senior officers of district administration and other sectoral officers also accompanied the Minister.

During her visit, the Minister inaugurated state-of-art Digital X-Ray unit and a Thyroid Analyser at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Parigam.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, the Minister highlighted that the Government led by Omar Abdullah is committed to strengthen the medical infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on rural and underserved areas. She underlined that the introduction of these advanced diagnostic facilities will



greatly enhance early detection and timely treatment of diseases, reducing the need for patients to travel to tertiary care hospitals.

She emphasized the government's commitment to equipping rural healthcare institutions with modern technology to ensure accessible and affordable healthcare for all.

The Minister also took round of the PHC Parigam and took stock of medical facilities available. She also interacted with medical staff and local residents.

The Minister outlined the government's commitment to equipping peripheral health institutions

with modern technology and adequate manpower.

Later, the Minister also inspected the under-construction 50-bedded hospital at Kakapora. She reviewed the progress of ongoing works and directed the executing agencies to expedite construction while maintaining quality standards.

Stressing the importance of timely completion, she noted that the hospital will play a crucial role in providing accessible and affordable healthcare services to the people of the area.

Meanwhile, Sakeena Itoo also visited the site for 50-bedded Integrated AYUSH Hospital and Yoga

Training Centre at Ratnipora. She highlighted the growing importance of traditional systems of medicine and holistic wellness, stating that the proposed facility will promote preventive healthcare, wellness tourism, and community well-being through AYUSH practices and yoga.

The Minister reiterated the government's resolve to strengthen healthcare infrastructure across all regions, with a special focus on rural and underserved areas. She assured that all necessary measures will be taken to ensure that people receive quality healthcare services closer to their homes.

Stringent Enforcement, Robust Rehabilitation Key to Curb Drug Menace: CS

Chairs 17th UT-Level NCORD meeting to review the measures

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The 17th Union Territory-level meeting of the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) was Tuesday chaired by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, who undertook a comprehensive review of the Union Territory's performance in stringent enforcement of drug laws, prosecution of offenders, and treatment and rehabilitation of victims affected by substance abuse.

The meeting was attended by the Director General, Police; Director General, Prosecution; Principal Secretary, Home; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; and other senior civil and police officers, while Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police from all districts participated through video conferencing.

During the deliberations, the Chief Secretary laid emphasis on strengthening the legal framework and plugging procedural gaps in handling NDPS cases. He directed the Law Department to explore the feasibility of record-

ing statements of in-service witnesses through video conferencing, particularly in cases where officials are transferred outside their districts, to ensure continuity and avoid delays in trials. Stressing accountability, he called for a thorough analysis of acquittals in NDPS cases and fixing responsibility wherever investigative or procedural lacunae are identified.

Highlighting the need for a more impactful enforcement strategy, the Chief Secretary underscored the importance of investigating both backward and forward linkages in drug trafficking cases and actively challenging bail orders to enhance deterrence. He called for a well-defined strategy to dismantle drug peddling networks, with strict action against identified offenders by law enforcement agencies.

Advocating a broader approach, he stressed the use of non-kinetic measures against violators, including cancellation of driving licences, passports, and vehicle registrations, besides scrutiny of financial transac-



tions through bank accounts to choke illicit proceeds.

He also emphasized capacity building in the rehabilitation ecosystem, directing for the training of a large pool of counsellors to be made available across schools, colleges, Primary Health Centres, and at the block level through trained Self-Help Group members.

The Chief Secretary further directed the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) to create a pool of master trainers, ensuring at least three to four trained resource

persons per district, supplemented with periodic refresher courses to continuously upgrade their skills.

The Chief Secretary also enjoined upon Deputy Commissioners to ensure the functionality of inpatient (IPD) facilities in drug de-addiction centres in all district hospitals and asked the Health Department to strictly adhere to protocols for the availability of essential medicines at all health institutions.

Additionally, he called for strict action in cases involving seizure of vehicles under Section

52A of the NDPS Act to ensure effective enforcement of legal provisions.

On the occasion, Commissioner Secretary, Law, Achal Sethi, gave a detailed presentation on the incidence and categorization of NDPS cases across districts, highlighting trends in intermediate and commercial quantity cases. He elaborated on delays in disposal of such cases, the ratio of cases instituted versus those disposed of in special NDPS courts, and the stages at which these cases are pending. He also suggested

a series of remedial measures aimed at reducing backlog and ensuring expeditious disposal of cases.

Earlier, IGP Crime, Sarah Rizvi presented a comprehensive overview of enforcement efforts, acquittals, and actions taken by law enforcement agencies to combat the drug menace in Jammu and Kashmir.

She informed that during 2026 so far, 542 NDPS cases have been registered across police stations, leading to the arrest of 716 individuals and seizure of 640 kilograms of narcotics valued at approximately ₹18.49 Cr.

She further highlighted that the current year has witnessed a significant rise in cases involving commercial quantities, with 31 such cases registered compared to 19 during the corresponding period last year. Details of major FIRs and seizures linked to interstate drug cartels were also shared during the meeting.

The meeting was informed that a total of 10,956 NDPS cases are pending across various courts, including 6,156 cases in five Special NDPS Courts. In

2025, 1,991 cases were instituted while 483 were disposed of. It was further revealed that prosecution had challenged 91 bail orders in 2025 and 57 in 2026 so far in intermediate and commercial quantity cases.

Regarding convictions, the figures stood at 135 in 2024, 140 in 2025, and 23 in 2026 till date. Out of 1,435 prosecution witnesses who attended court proceedings, 839 were examined, while 596 returned without examination due to various reasons, indicating areas needing procedural improvement, the meeting was apprised.

The meeting also noted that in 24 cases, backward and forward linkages were successfully established, leading to attachment of properties worth ₹53.77 lakh and freezing of bank accounts amounting to ₹22.63 lakh. Non-kinetic measures were also actively pursued, with 489 driving licences recommended for cancellation and 700 vehicle registrations for suspension between January and March this year due to their involvement in illicit activities.

Dy CM reviews progress on PWD works

Sets deadline for completion of restoration works

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting to review progress on the ongoing Public Works Department (PWD) projects being executed across Jammu and Kashmir.

While reviewing the division-wise status of works, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the officers to ensure timely completion of projects under R&B, PMGSY, Cities and Towns, Potholes, Mechanical and NABARD, with zero tolerance for delays, spill overs, lapses or quality standards.

Emphasizing quality and efficiency, the Deputy Chief Minister called for strict adherence to timelines in execution of all PWD works, including those related to health and education sectors. He warned that contractors causing undue delays would face strict action. He directed for expediting the renovation and upgradation works of PWD Guest Houses, ensuring completion within the set timelines. He also stressed the timely execution of blacktopping works across J&K.

Highlighting the need for

faster implementation of major infrastructure projects, he directed for taking up the big road projects under SASCI for smooth and prompt initiation.

The Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the progress under various sectors, including R&B, PMGSY, Cities & Towns, CRIF, RIDF, Pothole and other infrastructure components. He instructed the senior officers, including Superintending Engineers and Executive Engineers, to conduct regular site visits to ensure quality and pace of work.

During the comprehensive review, he underscored strict adherence to quality benchmarks in all ongoing and upcoming projects, asserting that there would be no tolerance for sub-standard execution, delays or administrative lapses. "There is no room for quality compromise. Accountability must be visible at every level," he stated, directing the officers to ensure close supervision and timely completion of works.

He also emphasized expeditious resolution of land, Forest and compensation cases to avoid project delays and directed that bar charts be prominently displayed at

all the project sites for monitoring progress.

The Deputy Chief Minister specifically called for acceleration of work on key projects, including Ramban Bridge, Majalta Bridge, PWD Guest House Udhampur, New Assembly Complex Jammu, Pragwal-Inderpati Bridge, PWD Guest House Hyderpora, Boulevard Road and other major road and bridge projects across J&K.

He further directed for removal of bottlenecks hindering the road widening projects. He stressed that all procedural requirements, including technical sanctions, tendering and allotments, be completed in the shortest possible time to ensure timely execution.

He directed the concerned officials to submit a detailed report on the Ramban accident and instructed immediate replacement of poorly constructed parapets at identified locations to enhance public safety.

The meeting was attended by Chief Engineers, Director Finance, Planning officials, Superintending Engineers, and Executive Engineers from all engineering wings of Jammu and Kashmir.

LG interacts with students, faculty of JU's Design Your Degree Programme



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Tuesday interacted with achiever students and faculty of Jammu University's Design Your Degree (DYD) programme at Lok Bhavan and reviewed the initiative's impact on academic growth and innovation.

During the interaction, the students from different semesters presented a detailed overview of their learning experiences, pedagogy of DYD, and shared their major achievements secured on national platforms and landmark competitions.

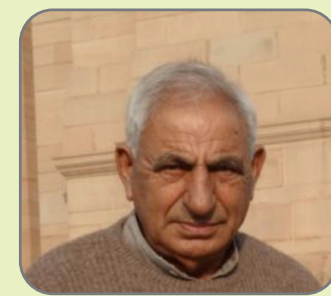
They also briefed the Lieutenant Governor of the technology-driven projects aimed at solving real-world

challenges, including Agri Vimaan for providing drones to farmers for spraying in farms, Ru-stay for sustainable tourism in rural areas, Arpan-waste to wealth, Bloomify for turning waste paper into high quality biodegradable products.

The Lieutenant Governor commended the students for their practical approach to learning and their focus on social impact. He encouraged them to develop an effective mechanism for temple waste management in Jammu.

Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, along with department heads and faculty members, were present during the interaction.

REMEMBRANCE



Late Abdul Gani Reshi

On the 2nd death anniversary of Late Abdul Gani Reshi, beloved son of Late Haji Abdul Aziz Reshi and resident of Watlab, family members, relatives and well-wishers remembered his life and legacy with deep respect and affection.

Late Abdul Gani Rashi, who passed away on 02 May 2024, is remembered as a humble, honest and compassionate man whose life reflected simplicity, dedication and service to humanity. He was widely known for his warm-hearted nature and for treating everyone with dignity and respect.

A committed social activist, he devoted much of his life to helping the poor, needy and underprivileged. His quiet acts of generosity and readiness to stand by people in difficult times left a lasting impact on the community.

Professionally, he was regarded as one of the respected contractors of the region. Through his dedication and vision, he made a significant contribution to the development of roads and public infrastructure in and around Sopore. His work continues to serve the community and stands as a lasting reminder of his commitment to public welfare.

Late Abdul Gani Rashi will always be remembered as a man of integrity, compassion and purpose. His legacy lives on in the lives he touched, the paths he helped build and the values he upheld. Special prayers were offered on the occasion.

May Almighty Allah grant him the highest place in Jannah and give strength and patience to the bereaved family.

**Nargis Gani, Social Activist
Zaingeer, Sopore**

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

Breaking The Cartel's Grip

For years, drug trafficking and narco-terrorism have quietly chipped away at the social fabric of Jammu and Kashmir. Now, there are signs that things may finally be changing. Under Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the administration's "zero-tolerance" policy is no longer just words, it's being seen and felt on the ground.

What feels different this time is the shift in focus. Earlier, action often stopped at arresting small-time peddlers, while the bigger players stayed out of reach. Now, the effort is clearly aimed at going deeper, breaking the system, not just trimming its edges. One of the strongest moves has been targeting the money behind the trade. By using tough laws like the PIT-NDPS Act, authorities are seizing properties, freezing bank accounts, and going after wealth built through drug networks. It sends a simple message: this business is no longer safe or profitable.

There's also better coordination now. Agencies like the Jammu and Kashmir Police and the Narcotics Control Bureau are working more closely with intelligence units, helping uncover the bigger picture, especially the links between drug money and activities that threaten peace in the region. This kind of teamwork is making it harder for networks to slip through the cracks. Accountability has also improved. With closer monitoring at the top, officials are being pushed to act faster and more carefully, leaving less room for the kind of gaps that were once exploited.

But perhaps the biggest change is something less visible, it's psychological. For a long time, drug networks operated with a sense of untouchability. That image is now starting to break. When properties are seized and influential figures are brought into the spotlight, it sends a clear message that no one is beyond reach. The fear that once existed in communities is slowly shifting back towards those running these networks.

Still, enforcement alone won't fix everything. Drug abuse is not just a law-and-order issue, it's also a social challenge. Real change will depend on helping those struggling with addiction, spreading awareness among young people, and involving communities in the fight. The current crackdown has definitely shaken things up. But its real success will depend on what comes next, whether this momentum leads to lasting change, where fewer lives are lost to addiction and communities can finally breathe easier.

Nasha Mukht Abhiyaan - A Public Health Movement

TAWHEED SHEIKH

Jammu and Kashmir's fight against substance abuse is undergoing a significant transformation from a purely enforcement-driven response to a structured public health approach. The Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA), launched in 2020, reflects this shift by recognising addiction as a multifaceted condition influenced by biological, psychological and social determinants rather than merely a criminal issue.

In Jammu & Kashmir, this national mission has gained renewed momentum through a focused 100-day initiative in April 2026 under the leadership of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. The campaign follows an integrated strategy combining awareness, early identification, treatment access, rehabilitation and strict supply-side enforcement aligned with globally accepted public health models that aim to reduce both demand and availability of drugs.

Within this broader effort, the Mega Pad Yatra held on 3rd May in Srinagar, led by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, witnessed the participation of nearly 30,000 people, reflecting an unprecedented public response against substance abuse. The march brought together students, civil society, officials and a wide spectrum of public representatives, highlighting a united and collective resolve to combat the drug menace. This collective momentum reinforced a growing shift from awareness to action, strengthening the vision of a drug-free Jammu & Kashmir.

Within this evolving framework, Baniptora district stands out as a model of effective localised implementation. What distinguishes Baniptora is not just the scale of its activities but also the consistency, coordination and community-centred approach adopted on the ground.

District Administration Baniptora has operationalised the campaign through a series of structured initiatives, including the 100-Day Mission Mode Campaign, War on Drugs Campaign, Nasha Mukht Pledge Campaign, Dosti Discussions, Run for Life Campaign, IEC (Information, Education & Communication) and Maa se Guftagu outreach programmes. In addition, school and college awareness drives, sports engagement activities and cultural interventions such as street plays have been systematically deployed to reach diverse sections of society.

These interventions are grounded in one key principle: community participation. Unlike conventional awareness campaigns that rely on one-way messaging, Baniptora's approach fosters dialogue. Students, teachers, parents,



youth groups, civil society members and community leaders are engaged collectively, creating a shared sense of responsibility.

This participatory model strengthens social resilience and builds a protective environment for young people. Administrative leadership has played a critical role in sustaining this momentum. Under the stewardship of worthy Deputy Commissioner Indu Kanwal Chib, regular field visits, institutional interaction and grassroots engagement have ensured that awareness efforts translate into measurable behavioural change. These engagements also facilitate early identification of at-risk individuals, enabling timely intervention.

At the same time, the involvement of public representatives has added depth to the campaign. Outreach by the honourable MLA of Baniptora, Nizamuddin Bhat, particularly in educational institutions, has reinforced discipline, youth engagement and institutional development, further strengthening the district's response framework.

Equally crucial is the role of law enforcement. The district police, under respected SSP Ajaz Ahmed Zargar, have intensified operations against drug trafficking networks. Sustained surveillance, coordinated intelligence inputs and targeted crackdowns have significantly disrupted local supply chains. This dual approach, treatment for users and strict action against suppliers, is essential for long-term success.

It is important to reflect on certain broader concerns and suggestions emerging from the ongoing discourse. It has been reported that some individuals associated with political circles may be involved in substance abuse or related activities. While such concerns

require proper verification and should not be generalised, they underline the importance of maintaining transparency and accountability in institutional processes. In this context, it is a valuable suggestion that all individuals, including political figures or those being considered for security cover, may undergo appropriate narcotics screening as part of a comprehensive background verification before such protection is granted. This would help strengthen institutional integrity and ensure responsible decision-making. At the same time, individuals found to be struggling with substance dependence should be guided towards proper treatment and rehabilitation in line with the broader public health approach.

However, despite visible progress, certain gaps require urgent attention. First, there must be a clear and consistent distinction between drug users and drug traffickers. Addiction is a health condition that demands treatment, counselling and rehabilitation, not stigma or criminalisation. Conversely, those involved in the supply and distribution of narcotics must face uncompromising legal action.

Second, de-addiction and rehabilitation infrastructure needs expansion. Access to treatment facilities remains uneven, and recovery systems must go beyond detoxification to include psychological support, skill development, employment opportunities and social reintegration. Without this continuum of care, the risk of relapse remains high.

Third, early intervention mechanisms must be strengthened. Scientific evidence highlights warning signs such as behavioural changes, sleep disturbances, declining academic performance and social withdrawal. Schools,

families and communities must be trained to recognise these indicators and respond promptly. Mental health support is another critical pillar. A significant proportion of substance abuse cases are linked to stress, anxiety and emotional distress. Integrating counselling services into awareness and treatment programmes is essential to address root causes rather than symptoms alone.

Preventive strategies must also emphasise healthy lifestyle practices. Regular physical activity, balanced nutrition, proper sleep and engagement in constructive activities such as sports, education and creative pursuits serve as protective factors against substance abuse. Finally, the supply chain must be systematically dismantled. Continuous intelligence gathering, inter-agency coordination and strict enforcement are indispensable. Without curbing availability, demand reduction efforts alone cannot succeed.

Progress witnessed in Jammu & Kashmir, particularly in Baniptora, demonstrates that a coordinated, evidence-based and community-driven approach can yield appreciable results. The convergence of administration, public representatives, law enforcement and civil society has created a sustainable model of intervention. The path ahead requires persistence, scale and institutional strengthening. But the direction is clear. A drug-free society is not an abstract ideal; it is an achievable goal, provided awareness, treatment, prevention and enforcement continue to operate in synergy.

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MICROPHONES, MOBILES, AND MORALITY

Rethinking Journalism In The Digital Age

Factless Reporting In The Game Of Views Weakens Public Trust



DR. PRIYANKA SAURABH

In today's digital age, the flow of information has become faster and more widespread than ever before. Smartphones and cheap internet have given everyone a platform for expression. While this is a positive sign for democracy, it also poses serious challenges. Especially when some people, armed with a microphone and camera costing just 100-200 rupees, declare themselves "journalists" and begin disseminating information without any responsibility. This problem isn't just about individuals, but about the mindset that transforms journalism into a game of views and likes rather than a responsible social obligation.

Digital media has democratized journalism. Large media houses are no longer the sole purveyors of information; ordinary citizens can also record events and bring them to public attention. Often, this citizen journalism highlights issues that mainstream media ignores. This shift is also a source of strength for democracy, as it increases the diversity of voices and strengthens the demand for accountability at all levels of power. However, when this openness is used



recklessly, this very strength turns into a weakness.

Today, going "viral" on social media has become the yardstick for success. In this race, some people try to gain popularity through controversy, sensationalism, and incomplete information. They know that harsh language, accusations, and provocation attract attention, so they focus more on inciting emotions than on facts. The biggest downside is that confusion spreads in society and the line between truth and falsehood becomes blurred. People accept any information as true without verifying it, causing rumors to spread rapidly and their impact to deepen.

This also directly impacts government institutions. Government institutions are the administrative backbone of any nation, and their purpose is public service. If false or misleading information spreads about them, public trust is undermined. This

trust is eroded not by a single news item, but by the continuous spread of incomplete or misleading information. As a result, people begin to doubt the system, which can lead to unnecessary conflict and discontent. It is equally true that government institutions are not infallible, but the approach to exposing their shortcomings must be factual and responsible, not merely sensational.

Calling every person with a small microphone a "fake journalist" is as wrong as assuming every viral news is true. The value of journalism is determined not by equipment, but by perspective, honesty, and responsibility. Often, it's small and independent journalists who uncover the ground truth, while even large organizations sometimes err under pressure. Therefore, it's more appropriate to understand the problem as "responsible versus irresponsible" rather than "small versus big." The real crisis is the decline in journalistic

Today, going "viral" on social media has become the yardstick for success. In this race, some people try to gain popularity through controversy, sensationalism, and incomplete information.

values, where haste and popularity have replaced ethics and fact-checking.

The solution doesn't lie in a single step; it's only possible through collective effort. First, society must become media literate, so that people don't accept every piece of information without verifying it. They must understand that the credibility of a news story is determined by its source, evidence, and context, not by its virality. Furthermore, strict and impartial action is essential against those spreading fake news, so that a clear message is sent that freedom of expression does not mean anarchy. Digital platforms must also understand their responsibility and develop effective mechanisms

to control misleading content. The need for training and ethical standards in journalism is felt more than ever. While a formal degree may not be mandatory to become a journalist, a basic understanding, a grasp of fact-checking procedures, and a sense of responsibility to society are essential. It is equally important to encourage those who work with integrity and balance to set positive examples.

The greatest need today is balance. It's not right to dismiss every small journalist, nor to blindly believe every news story. We must recognize that this new age of information brings both opportunities and dangers. It cannot be stopped, but it can certainly be channelled—and this direction is possible only when society, media, and government understand their respective responsibilities.

Ultimately, journalism isn't just about the microphone or the camera, but rather a commitment to truth. If this commitment weakens, the entire system is affected. Criticism of government institutions is necessary, but it must be based on facts and balance. At the same time, society must understand that not every voice can be viewed with the same perspective. The real struggle is not "fake versus real," but "truth versus sensation"—and in this struggle, only those who base their efforts on responsibility, honesty, and discretion will thrive.

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

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

A Trap Of Technology Or Consumer Compulsion?



DR. SATYAVAN SAURABH

Buying a new mobile phone every two or three years, this isn't just an individual experience, but a widespread reality in today's digital age. Technology was once considered a means of making life simpler, faster, and more convenient, but today, that same technology often causes financial and psychological stress for consumers. The question isn't whether technology is wrong, but rather where its use and business structure are headed.

Mobile companies release new models every year, promising better cameras, faster processors, and attractive designs. Simultaneously, software updates are released for older mobile phones. In theory, these updates are meant to improve security and performance, but in practice, many users find that their phones slow down, the battery drains faster, and apps don't run as smoothly as before. This situation has given rise to the debate about "planned obsolescence" a strategy in which a product is designed to become ineffective over time, forcing consumers to purchase a new product.

It wouldn't be entirely accurate to say that companies do this intentionally every time. Technically, every new software is more advanced and requires more resources. It's natural for it to impact older hardware. But when this process consistently degrades the consumer experience, it's natural to question whether companies are being honest enough about the long-term usability of their products. Consumers are increasingly left with limited options either to settle for a slower phone or to buy a new one.

The situation is no different in the telecom sector. While recharge plans used to be for 30 days, most compa-



nies now have a 28-day cycle. At first glance, this difference seems small, but over the course of a year, it translates into an additional recharge. This means the consumer has to pay 13 times instead of 12. This is a subtle but effective business strategy that increases companies' profits while putting an additional burden on consumers' pockets. This system is especially difficult for those with limited incomes, for whom every additional expense matters.

With the increasing proliferation of digital services, the use of OTPs (One-Time Passwords) has also increased significantly. OTPs have become mandatory for banking, online shopping, social media, and even many government services. This is a necessary security measure, given the rapid rise in cybercrimes. However, the downside is that it complicates the user experience. Requiring an OTP for every small task makes the process slow and sometimes frustrating. Furthermore, it poses an additional obstacle for those without stable networks or modern devices.

The most serious issue is the necessity of data. Today, the internet is no longer just a means of entertainment; it has become the primary means of accessing education, employment,

healthcare, and government schemes. Online classes, digital payments, e-governance services—all rely on the internet. Purchasing data is no longer an option, but a necessity. But when data prices continually rise or plans become increasingly complex, it directly impacts vulnerable sections of society. The digital divide deepens, with one segment rapidly advancing while the other is left behind.

This raises an important question, is it possible to control this situation? The answer is not simple, but it's not impossible. First, regulatory bodies play a crucial role. They must ensure that companies maintain transparency with consumers and avoid policies that indirectly lead to exploitation. For example, clear guidelines could be established regarding the duration and structure of recharge plans, so as not to mislead consumers.

Second, consumer protection laws need to be more effectively enforced. If a company intentionally reduces the functionality of its product, action should be taken against it. Furthermore, consumers should have the right to easily repair their devices. Ideas like the "Right to Repair" are a positive step in this direction, giving consumers greater control over their products and preventing them from

having to constantly purchase new products.

Third, consumer awareness is crucial. Sometimes, we ourselves are drawn to new products without thinking. Advertising, social media, and peer influence make us feel that a new phone or plan is necessary, when in reality, it's not. This cycle can be broken to some extent if consumers make informed decisions, avoid unnecessary updates, and use their devices for longer.

Furthermore, the government and society must work together to ensure that digital services are accessible and affordable to all. Public Wi-Fi, affordable data plans, and digital literacy programs can play a vital role in this direction. Unless everyone has equal opportunities, the benefits of technology will not fully reach society.

Ultimately, technology itself is neither good nor bad—it depends on how it is used. If technology's purpose becomes solely profit-making, it can become a burden to consumers. But if it is used to improve human life, it can become a powerful tool.

The need today is to strike a balance between technology and business. Companies must understand their responsibilities, regulatory bodies must be proactive, and consumers

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must become aware. Only then can we envision a digital future where technology truly simplifies and enriches human life, rather than trapping it in a web of economic pressure and dependency.

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

Guardians, Not Owners: Answering The Call Of Dying Planet

AQIB UL AHAD WANI

The global environmental crisis stands among the most urgent issues facing humanity today and future generations. From whales found dead with bellies full of plastic to rainfall contaminated with microplastics, from widespread water scarcity to what many scientists deem the

Water holds both a physical and spiritual significance in Islam. Ritual purification (wudu) can only be performed with clean water, and cleanliness is a prerequisite for prayer. Practices like urinating or bathing in stagnant water are strictly prohibited. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) emphasized not to waste water—even if using a flowing river—highlighting the preciousness of this resource.

sixth mass extinction, our planet is in peril. Studies suggest that one in five species becomes extinct annually, with extinction rates now estimated at 1,000 to 10,000 times above natural



averages. Every day, multiple species disappear, and the rich biodiversity of Earth is rapidly declining.

The Islamic Perspective on Environmental Protection

Islam offers a deeply rooted framework to address modern environmental issues. Its teachings emphasize the sanctity of nature and the shared responsibility of all living beings toward its preservation. The religion regards the fundamental elements of nature—earth, water, fire, forests, and light—as collective assets meant for all creation, not just humans. Islam stresses the rights of all beings, including animals, plants, and natural resources. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), renowned for his commitment to justice and mercy, advocated for the well-being and rights of all living entities.

Environmental Teachings in the Qur'an

The Qur'an contains numerous verses that highlight the importance of environmental ethics. One of the core concepts is that of Khilafah (stewardship), which positions humans as guardians of the Earth, entrusted to preserve its purity for future generations. This trusteeship calls on Mus-

lims to coexist peacefully with nature and other species.

Environmental degradation—such as pollution, exploitation, and deforestation—is explicitly condemned. Allah (SWT) disapproves of any form of corruption or abuse of the Earth:

- "And do not commit abuse on the earth, spreading corruption." (Qur'an 2:60)
- "Eat and drink but waste not by excess, for Allah loves not the wasters." (Surah Al-Araf 7:31)
- "And do not desire corruption in the land. Indeed, Allah does not like corruptors." (Qur'an 28:77)

These verses make it clear that environmental care is not optional but a religious obligation, on par with social responsibility.

Waste Reduction in Islam
Islam advocates for sustainable consumption and discourages wastefulness. Overuse and mismanagement of resources are equated with moral failure:

- "Do not follow the bidding of those who are extravagant, who cause corruption on the Earth." (Ash-Shu'ara 26:151-152)

- "Do not cause corruption in the Earth after it has been set in order." (Al-Araf 7:56)

Water Conservation and Purity

Water holds both a physical and spiritual significance in Islam. Ritual purification (wudu) can only be performed with clean water, and cleanliness is a prerequisite for prayer. Practices like urinating or bathing in stagnant water are strictly prohibited. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) emphasized not to waste water—even if using a flowing river—highlighting the preciousness of this resource.

Protection of Forests and Tree

Islam encourages the planting and nurturing of trees. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "Whoever plants a tree and takes care of it until it bears fruit, will be rewarded." Even if the Day of Judgment is imminent, Muslims are urged to plant a tree if they can. Historical Islamic leaders, including Caliph Abu Bakr, advised against cutting trees or harming animals even during war—an early recognition of environmental ethics.

Preservation of Wildlife

Islamic law promotes the establishment of Hima, protected zones where development, excessive grazing, and

deforestation are prohibited. These zones safeguard wildlife and natural habitats. The Prophet (PBUH) and the caliphs established such reserves to ensure sustainable resource use.

Land Reclamation and Agriculture

Reviving barren land is highly encouraged in Islam. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Whoever revives dead land, he is rewarded, and whatever creatures eat from it is counted as charity." This underlines Islam's holistic vision of nature as a shared space, where all creatures have equal rights to resources.

The Prophet's Legacy of Environmentalism

Throughout his life, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) embodied ecological consciousness. He cared for animals, preserved trees, and upheld cleanliness. A remarkable symbol of his commitment is the lone tree under which he once rested in Syria—still standing over 1,400 years later in the Jordanian desert. His example serves as a timeless call to ecological stewardship.

Prophetic Sayings on Environmental Responsibility

- "If a Muslim plants a tree or sows seeds, and a bird, person, or animal eats from it, it is considered charity." (Bukhari)
- "Do not waste water, even if you are beside a flowing river." (Ibn Majah)
- "Removing harmful things from the road is an act of charity." (Riyadh As Saliheen)
- "Avoid relieving yourself in shaded areas, on walkways, or near water sources."—a reminder of the importance of sanitation.

Islam offers a complete, spiritually rooted vision for environmental care. Its teachings, found in the Qur'an and the Sunnah—call for moderation, respect for nature, and a commitment to preserving the Earth for all creatures. In a world dominated by greed and overconsumption, these principles remain as vital and urgent as ever.

(The writer is an environmentalist and advocate at JK&L High Court. The views expressed are exclusively his own and can be reached at advocatequib08@gmail.com)

...From 70 Flops To One Hit
Kashmir Teen Age Boy's Breakthrough Reel Draws Nationwide Attention

WARIS FAYAZ

SRINAGAR: A teenage student from North Kashmir's Rafiaband in Baramulla district has emerged as a major social media sensation after his singing reel crossed 42.7 million views within nine days, drawing attention from established artists and digital influencers.

Rasik Ahmad Meer, 15, from Hachepora village, shot to fame after uploading a cover of a Bollywood track that rapidly went viral on Instagram. The video, recorded on a smartphone without professional setup, has now placed the young singer in the spotlight.

The reel caught the attention of Punjabi singer Jasmine Sandlas, who reacted to the performance online. It also drew engagement from digital personalities such as Aly Goni and Simmi Chahal, amplifying its reach further.

Rasik had been consistently posting singing reels despite limited response. His earlier uploads failed to gain traction, but persistence paid off when

his latest performance struck a chord with viewers.

"I did not expect this response. I was just posting regularly and learning," Rasik said, adding that the support from his family, especially his elder brother, played a key role in keeping him motivated.

Despite the sudden fame, Rasik says his focus remains on studies while he continues to nurture his interest in music. He aspires to perform on a national platform like Indian Idol and represent Kashmir.

His rise comes at a time when Kashmir's cultural link with the entertainment industry is witnessing renewed momentum. Over the past few years, film shoots have resumed in the Valley and cinema infrastructure has seen revival.

Earlier, Faheem Abdullah and Arslan Nizami made a mark with film projects, indicating a growing presence of Kashmiri talent in mainstream music, now, Rasik's viral success adds another chapter to this trend.

No drug peddler will be spared, 4 lakh join awareness drives: DC Budgam
'20 FIRs, 14 arrests in 25 days; 850 pharmacies under CCTV'

NAVEED UL HAQ

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner Budgam Athar Aamir Khan on Tuesday said the administration has adopted a zero-tolerance approach against drug abuse, with massive public participation and intensified enforcement measures underway across the district.

Speaking during the anti-drug padyatra led by Manoj Sinha, which was held from New Bus Stand to Old Bus Stand in Budgam, the Deputy Commissioner, said that around 4 lakh people have participated in awareness programmes conducted across the district.

"Awareness programmes were conducted in which approximately 400,000 people participated. Our commitment is that no individual and no household in Budgam will remain untouched by this campaign," he said.

Highlighting enforcement actions, Khan said that in the last 25 days, 20 FIRs have been registered and 14 arrests made in connection with drug-related offences.

"A zero-tolerance approach is being adopted. No drug peddler will be spared, and all will be dealt with strictly under the law," he said.

He added that poppy cultivation in the district has been brought down to zero, while strict regulatory mechanisms have been put in place to monitor pharmaceutical distribution. "Approximately 850 pharmacies have been equipped with CCTV cameras and computerised billing systems to ensure transparency and prevent misuse," he said.

The DC said strict action has also been taken against erring drug shops. "Licenses of 11 such shops have been revoked, 22 suspended and six sealed," he said.

He said action has also been

taken against vehicles and individuals linked to drug activities. "Registration Certificates of 24 vehicles and 27 driving licences have been cancelled," he added.

On rehabilitation, Khan said the administration has strengthened treatment facilities in the district. "Addiction treatment facilities are operational round-the-clock at the District Hospital. A drug de-addiction centre is functional, and from April 11, a 15-bed IPD facility has also been made operational," he said.

Reaffirming the administration's commitment, the DC said, "No drug peddler will go unchecked, and no youth or child who has fallen victim to drugs will remain without rehabilitation or treatment."

The padyatra witnessed massive participation from officials, students, youth and civil society members, reflecting a strong public resolve against drug abuse—(KNO)

In 18 Months, Govt Filled Numerous Vacancies In Health Deptt: Sakeena Itoo

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo on Tuesday said that CM Omar Abdullah led Government has filled in numerous vacancies in the Health Department during the past 18 months.

Talking to reporters here in South Kashmir, Minister Itoo, said, "The government has made significant progress over the past 18 months by filling numerous vacancies in the Health Department and initiating key reforms aimed at improving service delivery."

The Minister said that several posts have already been filled, while many more have been referred for recruitment. She added that infrastructure gaps are being systematically addressed, with a focus on ensuring that people can access quality healthcare within their own areas instead of travelling out-

side for treatment.

Accompanied by MLA Pampore, Hasnain Masoodi, the Minister toured several areas including Parigam, Kakapora, and Ratnipora to review ongoing developmental works in the health sector. During the visit, she inaugurated a digital X-ray facility and a thyroid analyzer at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Parigam in the presence of Director Health Services Kashmir Jehangir Bakshi. These new diagnostic facilities are expected to significantly enhance early detection and treatment capabilities for the local population.

The Minister also inspected the proposed site for a 50-bedded Integrated AYUSH Hospital and Yoga Training Centre in Ratnipora. Stressing the importance of integrating traditional and modern systems of medicine, she said such institutions are essential to promote alternative healing practices alongside advanced medical care.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

J&K Bank Hits Record

headquarters in Srinagar. The bank's financial health showed steady improvement across multiple parameters. Net Interest Margin (NIM) stood at 3.60%, while Return on Assets (RoA) improved to 1.37% for the year. Operational efficiency also strengthened, with the cost-to-income ratio improving to 56.18%—continuing a positive trend for the fourth straight year.

Return on Equity (RoE) was recorded at 16.85%, reflecting solid returns for stakeholders. However, net interest income saw only marginal growth, mainly due to lower interest rates following policy cuts by the Reserve Bank of India.

Managing Director and CEO Amitava Chatterjee described the results as a reflection of the bank's resilience and disciplined approach.

"Despite global uncertainties and local challenges, we have delivered record profits for the fourth consecutive year. At the same time, we have improved asset quality, maintained strong capital levels, and enhanced operational efficiency," he said.

He added that with key indicators like Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) at 2.5%, Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR) above 90%, and Capital Adequacy (CRAR) over 16.5%, the bank is well-prepared for its next phase of growth.

The bank also recorded robust growth in its overall business. Total business rose by over 13% to 2.9 lakh crore by the end of March 2026. Deposits increased by more than 11% to 1.65 lakh crore, while advances saw a sharp 18% jump to 1.22 lakh crore.

CASA (Current and Savings Account) deposits continued to grow steadily, with the ratio improving to 45.65%, indicating a stable and low-cost deposit base.

While competition in the banking sector and lower lending rates impacted income growth to some extent, the overall performance signals a strong and stable trajectory.

With consistent profits, improved asset quality, and steady business expansion, Jammu and Kashmir Bank appears firmly on track to build on its growth story in the coming years.

'Op Sindoor' Success

the operation, stating that their efforts were bolstered by advanced Made-in-India equipment.

"India's military might is forged in the factories of our defence industries," he said, adding that the combined efforts of the government, defence public sector undertakings, private industry, start-ups and MSMEs have strengthened national security.

Referring to 'Operation Sindoor,' the Minister said the forces dismantled terror hideouts and countered adversarial designs, underlining the role of indigenous technology in enhancing operational capability.

He said India's defence manufacturing sector has recorded significant growth, with rising production and export figures pointing to the country's emergence as a capable player in the global defence market. This progress, he said, reflects the government's push towards self-reliance in defence.

Highlighting the role of innovation, Seth described MSMEs as the backbone of the economy and start-ups as key drivers of future growth. He said they will play a pivotal role in achieving the government's vision of a developed India by 2047.

He also emphasised the need for continuous technological advancement, noting that

rapidly evolving global security challenges require the industry to stay ahead of the curve. He urged stakeholders to invest in research and development and explore emerging domains.

The minister referred to initiatives such as the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, stating that they have strengthened the defence ecosystem and created opportunities for industry participation.

Speaking on the occasion, Lieutenant General Anindya Sengupta, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Central Command, as per KNO, called for closer collaboration between the armed forces and industry to meet evolving operational requirements. He said self-reliance would enable strategic autonomy and technological sovereignty.

The three-day symposium, organised by the Indian Army's Northern and Central Commands along with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers, is themed "Raksha Triveni Sangam - Where Technology, Industry and Soldiering Converge".

The event features participation from private defence manufacturers, start-ups and academia, showcasing technologies such as unmanned aerial vehicles, drones, counter-UAV systems and surveillance equipment—(KNO)

Drug Trafficking,

against the poison of drugs that is destroying the souls of our youth.

"I believe that every young person lost to addiction is a loss of strength for our future workforce, and a lost soldier for our police and army. Every family broken by addiction is a crack in the foundation of our society," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that in this war against drugs, society must accept the truth that many boys and girls are in the grip of narcotics. He said there is no harm in accepting this, as they are our own children. They are victims, not criminals, and they need our embrace, compassion and care.

"Furthermore, the public must eliminate the stigma, so that if a family is suffering, they do not have to endure the pain in silence. This tradition must change because today's circumstances are such that silence will not defeat this; the public must raise its voice," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor further stated that drug addiction is not just a health issue; it is also a crisis of national security. He said drugs entering into our society do not only hollow out the aspirations of our youth and damage their self-confidence, but the drug trade is also funding terrorism and radicalization.

The Lieutenant Governor said that he launched the Drug-Free Jammu & Kashmir campaign 24 days ago on 11th April in Jammu with the faith that no enemy, no matter how conspiratorial, can stand before a united society.

"The law enforcement agencies alone cannot win this war; the administration alone cannot win it. But together, every teacher, parent, spiritual leader, elder, doctor, youth and woman becomes an invincible force, and I have full faith that Budgam will carry this campaign forward with this spirit," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said in this 100-days campaign, people have 76 days left and in these 76 days, we must prove that when society decides to fight against a social evil, every citizen wins.

"I have directed every police station in the Kashmir Valley to gather full information on active drug smugglers and peddlers in their

jurisdiction and take decisive action within 30 days. We are monitoring every financial transaction of drug cartels, and action will be ensured not just against small-time peddlers but against major smugglers. The palaces built with drug money will be razed to the ground," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also urged every citizen to participate actively in the awareness campaign and become the eyes and ears of the police and administration.

"If you see any suspicious activity in any corner of Budgam, report it immediately. With your cooperation, it will be ensured that no drug peddler can remain around any village, neighbourhood, or college in Budgam. I want to tell the drug smugglers, elements linked to the narco-terror network, and drug peddlers active in Budgam that your time on the soil of Budgam has ended. Our agencies know who you are. Our administration is coming after you, and today I promise every resident of Budgam that not a single drug smuggler will escape accountability," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Haj 2026 Departures

Embarkation Point in 28 flights to Madina. He said the departing pilgrims included 2,201 males and 1,751 females, while the overall number of pilgrims from Jammu & Kashmir scheduled to perform Haj this year stands at 4,692.

"Remaining pilgrims are using Delhi and Mumbai embarkation points," Dr Qureshi said, adding that 12 pilgrims had to cancel their journey at the final stage due to health issues.

With the last flight taking off today, the embarkation process from Srinagar has officially closed.

Srinagar International Airport confirmed the successful culmination of the Haj operations, stating that all 28 flights carrying 3,952 pilgrims departed smoothly as part of a well-coordinated effort involving multiple agencies.

In a message, the airport authorities extended prayers and best wishes to the pilgrims for a safe and spiritually fulfilling journey, while thanking all stakeholders and staff for ensuring seamless operations.

The Haj departure process from Srinagar had commenced on April 18, with arrangements reviewed earlier by Haj Committee of India CEO Shanavas C. (IAS), who inspected facilities at Haj House Bemina and the airport, directing officials to ensure smooth, hygienic and pilgrim-friendly services.

Officials had earlier informed that around 4,700 pilgrims from J&K would undertake the pilgrimage this year, with departures conducted in phases.

Meanwhile, Dr Qureshi said that refunds ranging between Rs 17,000 and Rs 31,000 have been credited to Haj 2025 pilgrims, depending on deficiencies in facilities such as accommodation in the Markazia area of Madina and availability of transport services in the Mashair region—(KNO)

'Vande Bharat Express'

on the Vande Bharat Express operating on this route.

On May 4th, the train recorded an occupancy rate of 82 percent, with approximately 4,680 passengers traveling across the two pairs of Vande Bharat services.

This figure rose to 96% the very next day, i.e., May 5th. (Note: On Tuesdays, only a single pair of Vande Bharat trains—Nos. 26404 and 26403—remains operational.)

On this day, approximately 2,744 passengers undertook their journey.

Overall, analyzing the occupancy statistics for the four-day period of successful operations from May 2nd to May 5th, approximately 16,349 passengers enjoyed their journey, and the average occupancy rate for these four days stood at approximately 82 percent. This massive volume of passengers clearly demonstrates that pilgrims and tourists are now prioritizing the modern travel experience offered by the Vande Bharat Express over traditional trains.

During their journey, passengers expressed their delight regarding the train's state-of-the-art amenities. In their feedback, passengers lauded the following features and offered positive responses; notably, several passengers specifically highlighted the train's smooth and jerk-free ride, even while navigating through winding tracks. Passengers praised the quality of the pure and nutritious food being served on the Vande Bharat train, noting that officials from the Jammu Division are conducting continuous inspections on board to ensure that passengers experience no deficiencies whatsoever in the amenities provided.

Speaking on the Jammu-Srinagar Vande Bharat train—which is helping to realize the dreams of the people of Jammu and Kashmir—Uchit Singhal, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, stated: "The operation of the Vande Bharat Express on the Jammu-Katra route symbolizes the modern transformation of Indian Railways. The fact that occupancy levels have surged from 82% to 96% in just two days is a matter of immense pride for us. We are delighted that passengers are not only satisfied with the services but are also viewing this train as the most reliable option for their travel needs. We are continuously analyzing the feedback received from passengers to ensure that their journey becomes even more memorable. In the coming times, as the tourism season gains momentum, we anticipate that this train will operate at 100% occupancy."—(KNO)

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DAR MATTING SHOP

DEALS IN:- BLANKETS, BED SHEETS, BED COVERS, PILLOW COVERS, DOOR MATS, ROOM SHEETS, GRAPHICS, LINING, ROTTERY & MUCH MORE

US launches mission to break Gulf blockade

WASHINGTON: The United States has launched a military mission to break what it calls Iran's blockade of commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz, deploying warships and aircraft to escort vessels through one of the world's most critical oil routes.

US Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth said the operation, dubbed "Project Freedom", was ordered by President Donald Trump to "restart the free flow of commerce through the Strait of Hormuz."

He described the mission as "defensive in nature, focused in scope, and temporary in duration, with one mission, protecting innocent commercial shipping from Iranian aggression."

He described the mission as "defensive in nature, focused in scope, and temporary in duration, with one mission, protecting innocent commercial shipping from Iranian aggression."

Hegseth said US forces would avoid entering Iranian waters or airspace, adding, "We're not looking for a fight." But he stressed that Iran "cannot be allowed to block innocent countries and their goods from an international waterway."

He accused Tehran of "harassing civilian vessels, threatening mariners from every nation indiscriminately and weaponising a critical choke point," calling it "a form of international extortion."

Two US-flagged commercial ships, escorted by American destroyers, have already passed through the strait, demonstrating that "the lane is clear," he said, adding that "hundreds more ships from nations around the world are lining up to transit."

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According to the Pentagon, more than 22,500 mariners aboard over 1,550 commercial vessels remain stranded in the region as a result of Iranian actions.



Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Dan Caine said Iran had "repeatedly threatened and attacked commercial shipping"

over the past seven weeks to "effectively cut off commercial traffic and damage the global economy."

He noted that the strait carries "approximately one fifth of the global oil consumption," underscoring its importance to global markets.

According to the Pentagon, more than 22,500 mariners aboard over 1,550 commercial vessels remain stranded in the region as a result of Iranian actions.

actions.

Caine said Iran has fired at commercial vessels nine times since a ceasefire was announced, seized two container ships and attacked US forces more than ten times, though "all below the threshold of restarting major combat operations."

The US has deployed over 15,000 personnel, along with guided-missile destroyers, helicopters and more than 100 aircraft, to establish a protected corridor for shipping.

Hegseth said the US had

created a "red, white and blue dome" over the strait, providing round-the-clock protection for vessels, and warned that any attack would trigger "overwhelming and devastating American firepower."

Despite recent exchanges of fire, he said "the ceasefire is not over" and urged Iran to act "prudently" to avoid escalation.

He also called on US allies to step in, saying, "The world needs this waterway a lot more than we do," and that Washington expects partners to assume responsibility over time.

GOVT. OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER, KUPWARA

Phone: 01955-253335; Fax: 01955-252130; Email: kupwara@nic.in

Subject: Re- Advertisement Notice for Engagement of Krishi Udyami (KU)/Agricultural Entrepreneur in District Kupwara (Phase 1st & 2nd) 18 vacant positions.

Reference:- No:- CAO/Kup/Dev/2026-27/161-63 Dated:- 04-05-2026 from Chief Agriculture Officer Kupwara.

ADVERTISEMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 03-DDCK OF 2026 DATED: 04-05-2026

Applications in the prescribed format are invited from eligible candidates for engagement as Krishi Udyamis (KUs) on a contractual basis for a period of two years (extendable), subject to the terms and conditions laid down in the contract agreement.

A. KEY DETAILS

S. No.	Details	Description
1	Position	Krishi Udyami (KU) - Agricultural Entrepreneur
2	Number of Positions	18 across pre-identified Panchayat-level Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) of District Kupwara (List enclosed as Annexure I)
3	Engagement Duration	Initially for 2 years, extendable annually subject to satisfactory performance
4	Qualification	-Diploma* in Agriculture & Allied Fields OR Graduation in Science (BSc) OR Graduation in Agriculture & Allied Fields (BSc/BVSc). -Preference: Post-graduation (Science/Agri & Allied) and Computer Diploma/Certification. - Diploma Courses: Agriculture, Horticulture, Veterinary Sciences, Forestry, Fisheries, Sericulture. Agricultural Engineering, BHT, BAT (Govt.-recognized institutions). -Allied Graduation Courses: BSc in Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Fisheries, Sericulture; B. Tech in Agri. Engineering; B.V.Sc & AH (Govt.-recognized institutions). Computer Certification: 3+ months from Govt.-recognized institution. (Full selection criteria at Annexure II)
5	Job Profile	To operate Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) as per Annexure III.
6	Remuneration	Self-earning/entrepreneurship-based engagement. Detailed norms at Annexure IV.
7	Last Date for Online Submission	20th May 2026

B. GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Detailed information including the application form can be downloaded from the official websites of: District Administration Kupwara [Agriculture Production Department1(https://jkapd.nic.in / https://hadp.jk.gov.in)
- Candidates must possess the requisite qualification for the post applied.
- Age limit: 21-45 years as of the last date of submission.
- Self-attested photocopies of the following documents must be uploaded with the application form: Date of Birth certificate (Matriculation) Marks certificates of all qualifying examinations Domicile certificate Character certificate issued by a competent authority
- Completed applications must be submitted online via District Administration Kupwara website.
- Additional details, application forms, and clarifications may also be obtained from the Office of the Chief Agriculture Officer Kupwara or via e-mail: plgcaokupwara@gmail.com
- Postal delay, if any, shall not be the responsibility of APD/advertising authority.
- Incomplete applications will be summarily rejected.
- Original documents must be produced at the time of verification.

C. OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR KRISHI UDYAMIS (KUs)

- Security Deposit:** Selected KUs shall enter into an agreement with APD and deposit a refundable security amount of ₹ 10,000 in the form of FDR from a scheduled commercial bank.
- Nature of Engagement:** The engagement will operate on a franchise-franchisee model. KUs will run Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) with departmental support, promoting entrepreneurship, local empowerment, and effective delivery of agricultural services in J&K.
- No Right to Regular Appointment:** The engagement shall not confer any right to regular appointment in government service.
- Asset Custodianship:** Department-owned assets at KKGs shall remain the property of the department. KUs will act as custodians and ensure proper maintenance.
- Supervision:** KKGs will be managed by KUs under the supervision of a designated APD officer to ensure adherence to departmental goals and guidelines.
- Training & Fees:** KUs shall receive training and will be entitled to training participation fees from contingency funds.
- Input License:** The Directorate of Agriculture shall facilitate issuance of input licenses to KUs, ensuring regulatory compliance.
- Nodal Agency:** The Mission Director, HADP shall act as the nodal agency for establishment, administration, and monitoring of KKGs.
- Technology Support:** KUs will receive continuous technical support from Development Departments, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and SKUAST cyber extension hubs integrated with KKG software.
- Linkages:** APD/HADP shall facilitate linkage of KKGs with input companies and financial institutions through MoUs.
- Extension Services:** Panchayat-level functionaries of Agriculture & Allied Departments shall extend their services through KKGs.
- Service Charges & Reporting:** KUs may charge nominal service fees as per the approved rate card issued by the Mission Director, HADP. Weekly reporting to Panchayat, Block, and Line Departments is mandatory.
- Succession on Disengagement:** If a KU exits or is disengaged, the KKG will be taken over by the designated APD Officer until a replacement KU is engaged.
- Agreement Termination:** Either party (KU/APD) may terminate the agreement with 3 months' prior notice. KUs must provide an undertaking to serve for at least 2 years. In case of premature exit, the ₹10,000 security deposit will be forfeited, in addition to the 3-month notice requirement. For all purposes, the designated APD Officer shall act as the custodian of KKG assets and services.
- Flexibility of Terms:** APD reserves the right to modify/add conditions at the time of agreement signing.

Note: Candidates are advised to carefully go through all annexures before applying.

Annexure-I

List of Vacant KKG Centers (1st and 2nd Phase)

S.No	District	Name of KKG	Panchayats	Block	Phase
1	Kupwara	KKG Chamkoot	Chamkoot A	Tanghdar	1st Phase
2	Kupwara	KKG Dapal	Dapal, Dudi, Katwari	Machil	1st Phase
3	Kupwara	KKG Machil	Machil, Pushwari	Machil	1st Phase
4	Kupwara	KKG Sogam	Sogam A, B, C, D	Sogam	1st Phase
5	Kupwara	KKG Tanghdar	Tanghdar A, B, C	Tanghdar	1st Phase
6	Kupwara	KKG Zangli	Zangli, Kashira	Kupwara	1st Phase
7	Kupwara	KKG Amroohi	Amroohi	Tanghdar	2nd Phase
8	Kupwara	KKG Chanipora A	Chanipora A	Tanghdar	2nd Phase
9	Kupwara	KKG Chountwari A & B	Chountwari A & B	Machil	2nd Phase
10	Kupwara	KKG Hangnikoot, Hafrada	Hangnikoot, Hafrada	Tarathpora	2nd Phase
11	Kupwara	KKG Khawarpara A, B	Khawarpara A, B	Tanghdar	2nd Phase
12	Kupwara	KKG Monabal, Bandi	Monabal, Bandi	Qalamabad	2nd Phase
13	Kupwara	KKG Mundian A, Mandian B	Mundian A, Mandian B	Keran	2nd Phase
14	Kupwara	KKG Nachiyon Dildar A	Nachiyon, Dildar A	Tanghdar	2nd Phase
15	Kupwara	KKG Nagsari, Ladah, Narikoot, Moori	Nagsari, Ladah, Narikoot, Moori	Kalarooch	2nd Phase
16	Kupwara	KKG Riddi	Riddi	Reddi Chokibal	2nd Phase
17	Kupwara	KKG Ring Bala, Ring Payeen	Ring Bala, Ring Payeen	Teetwal	2nd Phase
18	Kupwara	KKG Darpora	Darpora A, B, C	Sogam	2nd Phase

Annexure II;

PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF KU/ AE

The following procedure and criteria shall be adopted for the recruitment of Krishi Udyamis(KUs):

- Application Submission:** Interested candidates are required to submit their applications as per prescribed format (Annexure A). Applications must be submitted on or before the specified deadline. Any postal delay shall not be the responsibility of the APD/recruitment authority.
- Eligibility Criteria:** Candidates must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the official notification, including educational qualifications, age limits, and any other specified requirements.
- Selection Process:** The selection of KUs will be based entirely on a point-based system, as detailed below:

Description	Maximum Points
Domicile of Local Panchayat	25 Points
Female candidates	05 points
Educational Qualification	45 Points
Diploma in Agri./BHT/BAT etc*	15 Points
General Graduation (Science)	25 Points

Graduation in Agri. & Allied Courses**	45 Points
Post-Graduation (Science/Agri & Allied)	10 Points
Diploma/Certification in computers***	15 Points
TOTAL Marks	100

* Diploma courses: Diploma in Agriculture, Horticulture, Veterinary Sciences, Forestry, Fisheries, Sericulture, Agri. Engineering, BHT, BAT from government recognized institution **Agri Allied courses: BSc in Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Fisheries, Sericulture; 13. Tech in Agriculture Engineering, BVSc & AH from a Government recognized institution *** Diploma/Certification course in computers of 3 or more months duration from a government recognized institution The highest-scoring candidates meeting the eligibility criteria will be considered for the position.

4. **Document Verification:** Shortlisted candidates will be required to undergo document verification. Original certificates, mark sheets, and other essential documents must be presented for verification.

5. **Publication of List of Selected Candidates:** The list of selected candidates, subject to document verification, will be published on the official websites of the District and the Agriculture Production Department.

6. **Engagement Duration:** Successful candidates will be engaged initially for a period of two years, with the possibility of annual extensions based on satisfactory performance and continuation of scheme.

7. **Agreement Signing:** Selected candidates will be required to sign a Agreement with the Agriculture Production Department, outlining the terms of engagement and responsibilities.

8. **Declaration:** Applicants must submit a declaration (Annexure B) affirming the accuracy of the information provided in the application.

Annexure III; JOB PROFILE

a) **Job Summary:** The role of establishing and managing Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) at the panchayat level is undertaken by the Krishi Udyami (PU) in collaboration with APD. Responsibilities encompass the provision of agricultural services, dissemination of information, and serving as a liaison between farmers and various government departments.

b) **Key Responsibilities:** Kisan Khidmat Ghars Establishment: KUs are responsible for establishing and managing KKGs in the designated panchayat, ensuring the availability of operational facilities.

ii. **Agri-Input Sales Handling:** KUs oversee the sale of recommended agricultural inputs, including seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides, ensuring farmers have access to quality inputs.

iii. **Development Departments Liaison:** KUs facilitate communication between farmers and relevant development departments, fostering collaboration and ensuring seamless delivery of services.

iv. **Application Processes Facilitation:** KUs assist farmers in the application processes for various schemes and services, including schemes under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP), Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), and crop insurance.

v. **Advisory Services Provision:** KUs provide interactive advisory services to farmers on crops, diseases, inputs, and weather through multi-functional kiosks, enhancing farmers' knowledge and decision-making.

vi. **Utilization of Digital Portals:** KUs manage the utilization of digital portals created by the Agriculture Production Department, facilitating processes such as booking inputs & custom hiring services and connecting with marketing channels to streamline agricultural activities. They shall also help in enrollment & training of farmers on the Daksh Kisan portal.

vii. **B2B and B2C Marketing Management:** KUs play a crucial role in facilitating the marketing of farmers' produce through business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) channels, contributing to the economic well-being of farmers.

viii. **Infrastructure Maintenance:** KUs maintain an inventory of KKG infrastructure, ensuring the proper functioning of facilities and equipment.

ix. **Record Keeping and Reporting:** KUs are responsible for maintaining functional records of KKG activities and submitting regular reports, contributing to effective monitoring and evaluation.

c) **Expected Skills:**

- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Basic knowledge of agriculture and allied services.
- Familiarity with computer applications and digital platforms.

Annexure IV REMUNERATIVE MODEL FOR KRISHI UDYAMIS (KUs):

The Krishi Udyamis (KUs) engaged in the Holistic Agriculture Development Program will have a structured earning model designed to ensure fair compensation for their efforts and contributions. The primary sources of income for KUs are as follows:

a) **Service Charges:** KUs are entitled to earn by charging a fee for the various services they provide through the KKGs. These service charges may include facilitating applications, providing advisory services, assisting in marketing farmers' produce, and other services outlined in the program. The rates for these services shall be notified by Mission Director HADP from time to time.

b) **Input Sales Commission:** KUs will receive a commission for the sale of recommended agricultural inputs, such as seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides. This commission is a percentage of the sales made through the KKGs. Necessary licenses for the same shall be provided/facilitated by the APD.

c) **Business-to-Business (B2B) and Business-to-Consumer (B2C) Marketing Commission:** KUs involved in facilitating the marketing of farmers' produce through B2B and B2C channels will receive a commission based on the successful transactions.

d) **Contingency Fee for Training:** KUs will be entitled to payment of a contingency fee for any training sessions or programs they undergo as part of their professional development.

It is essential to note that the earning potential of KUs is directly linked to the efficient and effective operation of KKGs. The volume of services provided, and the successful facilitation of various agricultural processes. The program aims to create a sustainable and rewarding income structure for KUs, aligning their success with the overall progress of agricultural development in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Annexure-VI

(Declaration on Notarized Affidavit)

I, [Your Full Name], Son/Daughter of [Your Father's Full Name], Resident of [Your Complete Address], hereby solemnly affirm and declare that the entries made herein in the application form for engagement as a Krishi Udyami (Agricultural Entrepreneur) for Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG), are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and nothing has been concealed therein. I undertake that if any misrepresentation of facts or concealment of any information in the above application is found at any stage, my candidature/selection shall be liable to be canceled ab initio, without giving any notice to me.

Signature of candidate;
Date;
Place

ANNEXURE V- APPLICATION FORM

Application Form for Krishi Udyami (Agricultural Entrepreneur)

- Name of the applicant: _____
- Parentage: _____
- Panchayat applied for: _____
- Present address: _____
- Permanent address (Domicile): _____
- Aadhaar no: _____
- Contact no.: _____
- Email: _____
- Date of Birth: _____
- Highest Education Qualification: _____
- Gender: _____
- Age as on last date of submission (years, months & days): _____
- Qualification Details: _____

Affix latest passport size photograph with white background

S.No	Qualification	Year of passing	Board / University	Subjects	Marks & Percentage
A					
B					
C					
D					
E	ICT know how (Degree/ Diploma/ certificate course)				

14. Any other Qualification/ Experience/ achievement relevant to job

No: DDCK/2026/HADP/400-3 Dated: 04-05-2026 **DIPK-1045-26 DT: 05/05/2026** District Dev. Commissioner, Kupwara

Rohit, Rickelton Lead MI to Six-Wicket Win Over LSG

AGENCIES

MUMBAI: Rohit Sharma (84) made a gratifying return from an injury-enforced layoff and Ryan Rickelton (83) gave another account of his hitting prowess as Mumbai Indians crushed Lucknow Super Giants by six wickets in their Indian Premier League match here on Monday.

Openers Rohit and Rickelton put on their third century partnership in the IPL -- this time 143 runs -- and laid the foundation for the much-needed win. MI overhauled LSG's 228/5 with 229/4 in 18.4 overs.

The win swelled MI's tally to six from 10 matches and stayed afloat in the IPL but LSG, who have just 4 points from 9 matches to be placed 10th, are now dangerously close to getting knocked out of the race to playoffs.

After Nicholas Pooran made the most of some ordinary bowling from MI with a 21-ball 63, Rohit and Rickelton made merry during their 65-ball stand.

The former Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit had missed five matches due to a hamstring injury which he sustained while batting against Royal Challengers Bengaluru here on April 12.

But the 39-year-old showed

no discomfort while clobbering seven sixes and six fours during his 44-ball knock, and Rickelton continued his rich vein of form with commanding stroke play around the park.

But Rickelton fell to Mohsin Khan in the 11th over, playing one straight to cover after a two towering sixes previously.

Rohit looked set for his third IPL ton but he top-edged impact sub Manimaran Sidharth (2/47) to be caught at short fine leg in the 14th over.

Tilak Varma (11) failed to make a dent, while MI stand-in skipper Suryakumar Yadav (12) was once again caught near the ropes, instilling some nerves in the hosts.

But Naman Dhir (23 not out) and Will Jacks (10 not out) completed the task.

In the Power Play, MI weren't off to a flier but 50 odd runs came off in first five overs. The hosts found the launchpad in the sixth when Avesh Khan was pulverised for 21 runs by Rohit.

The LSG seamer constantly missed his lengths and Rohit followed a couple of fours with as many sixes.

Rickelton, who began with a six off Mohsin over deep square leg, lit up the chase with compelling shot-making against pace and spin alike.



Earlier, Lucknow Super Giants rode on a whirlwind 20-ball 63 from Pooran to survive a mid-inning slowdown and post a par 228 for five.

Pooran cashed in on poor line and lengths from MI bowlers to pepper the on-side with

eight sixes and a four in his minute-a-mile knock, which gave LSG the impetus along with Mitchell Marsh's 44 (25 balls; 4x4s, 3x6s) at the top.

While Jasprit Bumrah (0/45) remained wicketless and overstepped thrice, Corbin Bosch

(2/20) applied the brakes on LSG's charge in the middle-overs as they looked set for a total in excess of 240 at one stage.

Perhaps, jaded after months of T20 cricket, an off-colour Bumrah not only missed nail-

ing his yorkers twice but also overstepped on one and Marsh smacked fours on both the occasions.

As many as 21 runs came off the fourth over from Bumrah and there was further misery in store for MI in the powerplay.

Will Jacks fed Pooran with deliveries in his zone and the former West Indies skipper obliged with three massive sixes to race to 22 off eight from 3 off three.

Pooran then tore into AM Ghazanfar, clobbering two sixes and a four off the sixth over to fire LSG to 90 for one in the powerplay, which is now the joint second-highest score in that phase for any visiting side against Mumbai Indians here.

Pooran had gone without a half-century for 17 innings but he was certainly aided by MI's poor execution. He completed his 16-ball fifty with a six off Chahar in the eighth over and hit one more.

Pooran and Marsh put on 94 for the second wicket off only 35 balls and at 123 for one after eight overs, LSG had the game firmly in their control.

But Bosch derailed LSG's charge with a double-wicket over in which he dismissed both Pooran and Marsh.

From 123/1, LSG slipped to 160/4 after 12 overs and it might have been 160/5 had Bumrah not overstepped when he had Himmat Singh (40 not out) caught behind. Himmat did well to put on 68 runs unbeaten with Aiden Markram (31 not out).

Wushu Waves at Peak

Record-Breaking Participation Marks a New Era in University Sports



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The ongoing All India Inter-University Wushu Championship (Men & Women), organized by the University of Kashmir's Directorate of Physical Education and Sports under the aegis of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi, is witnessing an unprecedented enthusiasm and participation, setting new benchmarks in university-level sports across the country.

The men's division bouts are being conducted at the Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex, Wazir Bagh, with great enthusiasm and exuberance. The championship was earlier thrown open by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha, marking the commencement of this grand

sporting extravaganza.

The championship has attracted a record-breaking participation of over 1,500 athletes from more than 195 universities, making it one of the largest university-level martial arts events ever hosted in Kashmir. This remarkable turnout reflects the growing popularity and competitive spirit of Wushu among university athletes nationwide, thereby serving as a dynamic platform, the championship enables young sportspersons to showcase their martial arts excellence, demonstrating exceptional strength, agility, and technical finesse.

The week-long event is witnessing intense bouts across both men's and women's categories. On the second day of the championship, a total of 220 bouts were conducted in the men's Sanda division across 12 weight categories,

namely: below 48 kg, 52 kg, 56 kg, 60 kg, 65 kg, 70 kg, 75 kg, 80 kg, 85 kg, 90 kg, 100 kg, and above 100 kg.

The competitions were marked by fierce contests, tactical brilliance, and outstanding athletic performance throughout the day. The women's division bouts are scheduled to commence from tomorrow morning, while the advancing men athletes will continue their bout into the subsequent rounds, promising even more intense and thrilling contests in the days ahead.

The University of Kashmir is emerging as a premier hub for national-level sporting events, setting new standards in sports management and infrastructure. The championship is not only elevating the profile of Wushu, but also positioning the University as a vibrant launchpad for sporting excellence in India.

IPL 2026: CSK ride on Samson's unbeaten 87, bowlers' impressive show, beat DC by eight wickets

IAN S

NEW DELHI: A crowd of 32,160 turned up for the Delhi Capitals-Chennai Super Kings clash in Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026, but the Arun Jaitley Stadium felt like a fortress painted yellow. The chants of "CSK, CSK" rolled across the stands as Sanju Samson delivered a knock worthy of that backdrop - a commanding 87 not out off 52 balls, blending timing and power impressively to steer CSK to a big eight-wicket win with 15 balls to spare.

The victory keeps the

five-time champions in sixth place, but crucially just two points adrift of the crowded playoff zone. On a sticky pitch offering grip and turn, Akeal Hosein (1-19) and Noor Ahmad (2-22) set the tone to restrict DC to 155/7. Samson then unfurled strokes of authority by hitting seven fours and six maximums to take CSK home.

What stood out was not just Samson's authority on pitch easing out, but also the way he played sensibly and took the chase deep in a classic CSK style. He also shared an unbroken 114-run stand off 66 balls with

Kartik Sharma, who hit an impressive 41 not out off 31 balls, to keep DC's bowlers under pressure and pick two crucial points for CSK and spread happiness in the sea of yellow jerseys in the stands.

CSK began their chase of 156 with patience, as Samson exquisitely lofted Axar Patel for six, while Rituraj Gaikwad was lucky to have an outside edge off Mitchell Starc to get a four. DC brought in their big guns - Axar, Mitchell Starc, and Lungi Ngidi - quickly in a bid to get wickets, but didn't get any breakthrough. The

breakthrough eventually came in the fourth over when a struggling Gaikwad flicked to deep square leg off Ngidi.

Boundaries were scarce until Urvil Patel lit up the innings with two towering sixes off Ngidi before closing Power-play at 44/1. But Urvil's aggression was ended by Axar, who got one to grip and turn, which the batter missed and was stumped swiftly by KL Rahul.

With Kartik Sharma joining Samson, CSK's chase began to move into calmer waters, as signs emerged of the pitch easing. After Kartik pulled Axar

for four, Samson whacked a poor short ball from Kuldeep Yadav for six. When T Natarajan came in, Samson used his wrists and feet well to club him for fours over long-off and extra cover.

After Kartik lofted Kuldeep inside out over deep extra cover for six, Samson unleashed carnage on him - a floaty leg-break launched high to the second tier at long-on and then pulling a short ball disdainfully over deep midwicket. With pressure mounting, Kuldeep went flatter and quicker down leg, only for Samson to paddle him fine for four.

IFL 2025-26: Aizawl avoid relegation after draw with Gokulam Kerala

IAN S

HYDERABAD: Gokulam Kerala FC twice came from behind to hold Aizawl FC in a 2-2 draw in a Relegation Stage fixture of Indian Football League (IFL) 2025-26 at the Deccan Arena in Hyderabad, on Tuesday. Aizawl FC have thus secured their safety from relegation with 13 points from 11 matches, while Gokulam Kerala FC remain in the relegation spot with nine points, making their final game against Namdhari FC a relegation decider. By dint of this result, Real Kashmir FC too are now safe from relegation.

Zomuansanga gave Aizawl the lead in the 10th

minute, which was equalised by Mirjalol Kasimov in the 17th. The former then converted a penalty in the 32nd minute, but Gursimrat Singh equalised again in the 43rd to give Gokulam the crucial point.

The match began at a frantic pace, with the first quarter providing end-to-end action as Gokulam Kerala FC repeatedly fell into Aizawl's offside traps. Aizawl FC broke the deadlock from a swift counter-attack in the 10th minute when Zomuansanga sold goalkeeper Shibinraj Kunniyil with a clever shoulder dummy, disguising his shot towards the far post before executing a powerful finish to record his fifth goal of the season.

However, Gokulam Kerala FC responded swiftly, delivering a killer blow just seven minutes later. Mirjalol Kasimov stepped up to a free-kick in the 17th minute and unleashed an absolute thunderbolt to draw his side level.

The flow of the match became erratic and stop-start, but the People's Club remained highly organised in their transitions and deservedly reclaimed the lead. A push by Gokulam Kerala FC defender Lalbiakhlua inside the box in the 32nd minute resulted in a penalty. Zomuansanga confidently converted the ensuing spot-kick to complete his brace and put Aizawl FC 2-1 ahead.

Movies Schedule

Wednesday, 6th May

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

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

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

Michael (U/A 13+)
English with English Subtitles - 11:30 AM, 04:35 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

Tickets at flat ₹92 & ₹199 (Recliner & Royale Club)

INOX SRINAGAR

Call 95416 13868
For assistance with tickets