

Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Office of LG J&K
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I am deeply anguished by the road accident in Aru, Pahalgam, in which two tourists from Gujarat lost their lives & few others are injured. Directed senior officials to provide all possible support. My condolences to bereaved families. Praying for speedy recovery of the injured.

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LG Sinha Attends 9Th Maati Samman Samaroh In Mumbai

Says Historical, Cultural, Spiritual Bonds Between Purvanchal, Maharashtra Run Deep

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Saturday attended 9th Maati Samman Samaroh, a Purvanchal festival of art, culture, food and tourism. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also felicitated distinguished personalities from Purvanchal. Addressing a gathering, the Lieutenant Governor said that historical, cultural and spiritual bonds between Purvanchal



and Maharashtra run very deep. A glimpse of it seen in Lord Ram's Vanvas, when he visited Panchvati and worship at Kashi Vishwanath and Trimbakeshwar has strengthened spiritual traditions of both the regions. The Lieutenant Governor said that Purvanchal is not just a region

'Decide If You Want...' Army Chief Delivers Strong Warning To Pakistan Over Terror Support

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Army chief Gen. Upendra Dwivedi on Saturday issued a stern warning to Pakistan over cross-border terrorism, saying Islamabad must decide "whether it wants to remain part of geography or become part of history" if it continues to shelter terrorists and support



anti-India activities. Speaking during an interactive session titled "Sena Samwad" at the Manekshaw Centre, organized by Uniform Unveiled, Gen. Dwivedi was asked how the Indian

Army would respond if circumstances similar to those leading to Operation Sindoor emerged again.

In response, he reiterated India's hardline position on terrorism, stating that Pakistan must make a clear choice if it continues to provide safe haven to terror groups and facilitate hostile operations against India.

'Kashmir Feels Complete Again' Sopore Witnesses Emotional Return Of Pandits

WARIS FAYAZ

SOPORE: Emotional scenes were witnessed in North Kashmir's Sopore area on Saturday as Kashmiri Pandits returned to the historic Nandkishwar Ji Maharaja temple in Seer Jagir to offer prayers, reconnect with old neighbours and revive memories of coexistence disrupted by decades of conflict.

The visit, held on the occasion of Jyeshtha Amavasya, saw devotees from the displaced community participating in religious

Self-enumeration for Census-2027 begins in J&K, Ladakh

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: The process of self-enumeration for Census 2027 will officially commenced across the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Director of Census Operations for J&K and Ladakh, Amit Sharma, said that citizens can fill in their household details online through the official portal starting from 12:00 am (Sunday).



"The facility of self-enumeration for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh under Phase I of the Census will be available from May 17 to May 31," he said, adding that details filled through self-enumeration will be verified by enumerators during the Houselisting Operation from

In 1-Year, SMHS Reports Over 17000 Dog, Cat Bite Cases

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: A whopping 17,127 bite victims, mostly from dog and cat bites, sought treatment at the Anti-Rabies Clinic at Sri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) Hospital in the past year.

An official while sharing details said the prevalence of dogs across the valley has contributed to human-dog conflicts, leading to a rise in cases of dog bites



in the region while cats are being reared at home now which leads to cat bite cases.

"In the last one year that is from April 2025 to March 2026 ARC SMHS Hospital received 17,127 including 7,307 dog bites, 9,144 cat exposures and 676 other bite cases," the official said, adding, "The cat exposure is increasing exponentially and have overpassed dog bite cases as many people are keeping them as pets

NRPC Forecasts Over 42% Surplus Power For J&K, Ladakh

RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: For the first time in nearly six months, power regulatory authorities have forecasted more than 42 percent surplus energy availability in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for the ongoing month of May. Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC) in its updated anticipated power supply position for May 2026 has forecasted 42.5 percent surplus

power availability. The committee said that the regions in the ongoing month will likely have availability of

THE FIGURES also reveal that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in the month of January-2026 were relying on nearly 66 percent of imported power.

4310 Megawatts (MWs) of power and a requirement of 3024 MWs. It has

MEA Rejects Indus Waters Court Award, Defends Treaty Suspension



SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: India on Saturday rejected the latest award issued by the Court of Arbitration (CoA) on the Indus Waters Treaty dispute with Pakistan, maintaining that the tribunal had been constituted "illegally" and New Delhi doesn't recognise its author-

ity or jurisdiction. Responding to media queries, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, said India categorically rejects the award issued by the so-called Court of Arbitration on May 15 regarding matters linked to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). He said

OUR CENSUS, OUR DEVELOPMENT

(First Phase of Census 2027)

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Before this, a 15-day special facility is being provided where you can fill in your information online yourself

I am Pragati

SELF-ENUMERATION

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I am Vikas

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- 1 Visit the official portal (se.census.gov.in)
- 2 Login via OTP using your mobile number
- 3 Select your State, District and Local details
- 4 Mark your house location on the Digital Map
- 5 Fill in information related to the house and family
- 6 You will receive an SE ID after submission
- 7 Keep the SE ID safe
- 8 Provide the SE ID to the enumerator when they visit
- 9 The enumerator will confirm the information

It's Benefits

- Time-Saving
- Accurate Information
- Fast Data Processing

Remember: Self-enumeration is a special facility

If you are unable to self-enumerate, do not worry; an enumerator will definitely visit your home during the scheduled period to record the information

All your information will remain completely confidential and secure

Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh

Self-Enumeration
17th - 31st May

Houselisting

1st - 30th June

LET US FULFILL OUR RESPONSIBILITY AND PARTICIPATE IN THE CENSUS

TOLL FREE - 1855

CensusIndia2027

DDC Anantnag reviews progress of PM SGMB Yojana, RRP&MHA Scheme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: District Development Commissioner Anantnag (DDC), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat Saturday chaired a meeting at DC Office to review the implementation and progress achieved under the Scheme for Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Heritage and Architecture, PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli (SGMB) Yojana and Solarization in the district.



which 10 are expected to be completed this year.

Highlighting the significance of the scheme, the DDC issued directions to the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work on all pending projects while ensuring the durability and quality of the buildings and structures. He said the completion of these projects will be instrumental to revive heritage and preserve old architecture in the district.

The meeting was attended by ADC, SEs PWD and KPDCL, CPO, Exens PWD and PDD, representative of JAKEDA, AEEs and other concerned officials.

During the meeting, officers from concerned departments briefed the chair about the physical and financial progress achieved under these schemes in the district so far.

Regarding the Scheme for RRP&MHA, it was informed that out of 21 approved projects, four have been completed while 16 are under execution, of

beneficiary facilitation. He said the scheme is highly beneficial to harness clean and green energy while reducing the electricity bills of the consumers.

The meeting was informed that a total of 5143 applications have been received in the district, out of which feasibility for 4928 cases has been approved. It was given out that 2332 rooftop solar installations have been completed with an installed capacity of 8.63 MW against the applied capacity of 16.95 MW. It was further apprised that subsidy amounting to Rs 17.65 crore has been disbursed among 2393 beneficiaries under the scheme so far.

Regarding the Solarization, details were given that 541 buildings have been allocated under the

programme in the district. Out of these, material has been supplied for 472 buildings with a capacity of 5833 kW, while installation has been completed in 242 buildings with a capacity of 3532 kW. Additionally, material installation is under process for 230 buildings with a capacity of 2301 kW besides smart meter installation has been completed in 172 buildings with a capacity of 1969 kW.

Dr. Bilal impressed upon the concerned executing agencies and officers to work in close coordination for achieving the targets within stipulated timelines. He said the complete solarization of government buildings will lower the burden on power stations besides ensuring sustainable and clean energy to the public institutions.

Central Kashmir Excise Range destroys Poppy cultivation at multiple locations

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Central Kashmir Excise Range intensified its crackdown against the illicit cultivation of Narcotic crops (Poppy) under the Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan and destroyed illegal poppy cultivation at multiple locations across the Srinagar-Budgam-Ganderbal Excise Range in collaboration with Police, Revenue and Agriculture Department.

The FIR was lodged under the relevant sections of NDPS Act at the concerned Police Stations and

all legal formalities including seizure, Sampling and destruction were reportedly completed on spot.

In this regard, Case, FIR no. 39/2026 U/S 8/18 NDPS Act, has been registered at Police Station Soura and investigation has been taken up.

This enforcement action exemplifies the commitment of the Excise Department to curbing illegal activities and upholding the rule of law under the supervision of the Excise Commissioner and the Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive), Kashmir.

BOPEE conducts CET for Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Courses 2026-27

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of Professional Entrance Examinations (J&K BOPEE) Saturday conducted the Common Entrance Test (CET) for Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Courses-2026 for the academic session 2026-27 at the designated Centres within the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The test was conducted at the Government Women College M.A. Road, Srinagar Centre in the Kashmir division and Government SPMR Commerce College Centre in Jammu division, with 1161 appeared in the examination out of 1238 applicants.

To ensure smooth conduct of the Entrance Test, arrangements were made in collaboration with the

respective institution/college administration and law enforcement agencies, under the guidance of Professor Minu Mahajan, Chairperson, J&K BOPEE.

During the examination, under the keen oversight of the staff members from the respective institutions/colleges, no untoward or unfair incident was reported.

The Chairperson, along with the members, the Secretary, the Controller of Examinations and officials of the J&K BOPEE actively monitored conduct of the Entrance Test at Srinagar and Jammu. They thanked the staff members of the respective institutions/Colleges and the staff deployed under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioners in the respective District Headquarters for smooth conduct of the test.

NCDRC Member visits B'a, Reviews functioning of DCDRC

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Members of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), New Delhi, Dr. Inder Jeet Singh and Shashi Nandan Keolary, Saturday visited the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DCDRC) Baramulla to review its functioning and assess the consumer grievance redressal mechanism in the district.

President, DCDRC Baramulla, Peerzada Qousar Husain; Member, Nyla Yaseen; and Registrar National Commission, Iqbal Ahmad accom-

panied the delegation during the visit.

During the visit, the members reviewed the overall functioning of the Commission and held discussions on the timely disposal of consumer cases, strengthening institutional mechanisms, and ensuring the effective implementation of consumer protection laws.

Later, the delegation visited Dak Bungalow Baramulla, where they interacted with members of the Bar Associations Baramulla-Kupwara and exchanged views on consumer rights, legal awareness, and access to justice.

WMDA Organises Sanitation, Anti-Drug Awareness Rallies Around Manasbal Lake

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The Wullar Manasbal Development Authority on Saturday organised a series of sanitation drives and anti-drug awareness rallies in the catchment areas of the famous Manasbal Lake to spread awareness about environmental conservation and the harmful effects of substance abuse.

The programmes were conducted in collaboration with Sainik School Manasbal, local volunteer group QRT and a local educational institution. The initiatives witnessed active participation of students, volunteers, teachers and officials of the Authority.

The rallies and cleanliness drives were organised as part of the ongoing "100 Day Nasha Mukht Abhiyan" launched across Jammu and Kashmir on April 11, 2026, with an aim to eradicate the growing drug menace from society and encourage public participation in awareness campaigns.

During the programme, participants carried placards and raised slogans



highlighting the importance of preserving the ecological balance of Manasbal Lake, which is considered one of the most scenic freshwater lakes of Kashmir. They also stressed the need for maintaining sanitation in and around the lake to protect its natural beauty and biodiversity.

Speakers on the occasion underlined that environmental degradation and drug addiction are serious concerns requiring collective efforts from all sections of society. The students and volunteers appealed to people, especially the youth, to stay away from drugs and contribute towards building a clean and healthy society.

Chief Executive Officer of Wullar Manasbal Development Authority, Ahsanul Haq Chishti, while addressing the participants, said that the Authority has placed cleanliness within and around the lake among its top priorities. He said such awareness programmes with active citizen involvement would continue in the coming days as well.

He also sought cooperation from the public in preserving the fragile ecosystem of Manasbal Lake and supporting the campaign against drug abuse for the betterment of society.

ARTO B'la leads massive traffic enforcement drive across district

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Baramulla launched a massive enforcement drive across various parts of Baramulla district under the supervision of ARTO Baramulla, Mudasar Ahmad Wani to curb traffic violations and strengthen road safety measures.

The special checking campaign was conducted by the MVD enforcement team, including MVI Danish, MVI Abdul Hamid and other officials, targeting violators involved in breaches of transport and traffic regulations.

During the drive, authorities imposed 31 challans against violators for various offences and realised fines amounting to nearly ₹1 lakh. In addition, 19 vehicles were blacklisted for repeated violations



and non-compliance with transport norms.

In a major action, 21 Driving Licences (DLs), Registration Certificates (RCs) and Route Permits (RPs) were recommended for suspension for serious traffic violations and breach of permit conditions.

The enforcement team also seized 14 vehicles during the operation for

offences including overloading, operating without valid documents and other traffic violations.

ARTO stated that the enforcement drives will continue across Baramulla district to ensure strict implementation of traffic laws, promote responsible driving behaviour and enhance road safety for the general public

SKUAST-K under SREP drives social change through school mobilisation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Continuing its grassroots outreach under the newly launched Student Rural Exploration Program (SREP), faculty, staff, and students of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Kashmir Saturday visited dozens of adopted villages across the valley, shifting the focus toward driving holistic social change and institutional mobilisation.

Building upon the framework of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP-20), the university's multidisciplinary cohorts moved beyond traditional agricultural fields to engage deeply with rural educational institutions, marking a significant step in bridging the gap between scientific academia and rural society.

As part of the day's intensive outreach, SKUAST-K teams visited several government schools to conduct institutional sensitization and social mobilisation campaigns. Recognising that young minds are the most effective vectors for societal transformation, the university experts,



scientists, and scholars educated school children, teachers, and local youth about various government welfare schemes, health and hygiene practices, and sustainable livelihood initiatives beneficial to rural society.

These interactive sessions were designed to empower the village communities with vital knowledge on nutrition, climate resilience, and modern rural entrepreneurship opportunities from an early age.

In a practical demonstration of its commitment to the rural ecosystem, SKUAST-K also took direct action to improve the infrastructure and aesthetic environment of the visited government schools. Understanding that school gardens serve as vital interactive learning spaces

for children, the university teams actively helped multiple institutions restore, design, and maintain their campus lawns and gardens.

To ensure the sustainability of these green spaces, the visiting teams were aided with essential gardening tools and maintenance equipment, working hand-in-hand with children to maintain the school gardens.

Commending the teams for their expanded role in rural development, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai while visiting some of the schools in adopted villages, said that the true measure of agricultural education lies in its ability to uplift the entire rural ecosystem. He emphasised that by entering government schools and upgrading their learning

environments, the university is not just gathering data, but actively seeding the minds of the next generation with scientific awareness and environmental stewardship, thereby transforming students into true agents of societal change.

The SREP, which deploys structured teams of undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD scholars across 300 villages, has now firmly established itself as a fortnightly fixture on the SKUAST-K academic calendar.

By documenting local institutional needs alongside agricultural challenges, the university continues to foster a generation of socially empathetic professionals while driving immediate, tangible development at the grassroots level.

PACS CP DLIMC Meeting

17 Additional M-PACS recommended for computerization in Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: To assess and monitor the implementation of the centrally sponsored scheme Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) Computerization Project in the district, the 3rd meeting of the District Level Implementation and Monitoring Committee (DLIMC) of the project was convened Saturday under the chairmanship of the District Development Commissioner Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat at the DC Office.

At the outset, the committee confirmed the minutes of the 2nd DLIMC meeting held earlier, as no objections or observations had been received from any quarter.

Addressing the meeting, the DDC stressed the need to implement the project of computerization and digital transformation of Cooperative Societies in a swift and time bound manner.

He said the digital transformation will allow the PACs to unleash their true potential, making them profitable and sustainable in the long run.

During the meeting, the committee deliberated upon the inclusion of additional Multipurpose PACSs under Phase-II of the PACS Computerization Project launched by the Government of India. It was informed that the concerned Ministry has approved inclusion of additional PACSs under the second phase of the project and accordingly the Registrar Cooperative Societies, J&K has identified eligible PACSs for consideration.

The committee was apprised that 22 PACSs of the district falling under seven blocks and affiliated with eight branches of the Anantnag Central Cooperative Bank have already been computerized and made operational.

Further, 17 additional

audited and non-computerized M-PACSs of the district were placed before the committee for inclusion under Phase-II. After detailed deliberations, the committee recommended the inclusion of 17 eligible PACSs of the district for computerization under the scheme and authorized the Member Secretary, Managing Director, ACCB, to forward the recommendations to the UT Level Implementation and Monitoring Committee (UTLIMC) for approval.

The committee also considered the proposal regarding procurement of essential and preferable hardware items required for the newly identified PACSs. It further recommended for onward submission of the hardware proposal to the UTLIMC for approval so that the process of digital transformation and strengthening of cooperative institutions is expedited in the district.

Awareness activities under Nasha Mukht Abhiyan continue across B'pora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Awareness and outreach activities under the ongoing 100-Day Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan continued across Bandipora district on Saturday with group discussions, pledge ceremonies, counselling sessions, rallies, quiz competitions, lectures and awareness programmes organised at various educational institutions and public platforms.

Group discussions on the theme "Youth and Addiction" were organised at PM SHRI Girls High School, HS Ketson, GHS Hajin, HS Achoora, Government HSS PTL Gurez, High School Ahmisharief, GHS Naidkhai, HSS Quilmuqam, Model Public Secondary School Onagam, PM Shri GHS Odina, HSS Nowgam, HSS Gadakhud, HS Jurniyal Tulai, Government Boys High School Garoora and other institutions to spread awareness among students regarding the harmful effects of substance abuse and the importance of a healthy

lifestyle.

Pledge ceremonies under Nasha Mukht Abhiyan were also organised at HSS Chuntimulla, HSS Gadakhud, HSS Quilmuqam and PM SHRI GHS Odina where students and staff reiterated their commitment towards building a drug-free society.

Under the comprehensive campaign of Nasha Mukht Abhiyan, the NCORD Cell in collaboration with the Youth Club of the Red Ribbon Committee of GDC Bandipora organised a counselling and bag-checking awareness programme for students to promote drug de-addiction awareness on campus.

Under the guidance of Principal Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra, the College Literary Club and Debate and Seminar Committee of GDC Bandipora organised an expert lecture on the theme "Literary Narratives on Addiction and Awareness."

The College Literary Club of GDC Bandipora also organised an interaction-cum-quiz competition, focusing on awareness regarding drug abuse, its

harmful effects and the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Students actively participated in the programme.

Meanwhile, the Youth Club of the Red Ribbon Club in collaboration with the NCORD Cell of GDC Bandipora organised a pledge ceremony, where students pledged to stay away from drugs and contribute towards building a healthy and aware society.

At AHWC Shahgund, meditation yoga sessions, anti-drug awareness activities, a pledge ceremony and an awareness rally were organised under NMBA to spread awareness among the general public regarding the harmful effects of drug addiction and the need for collective efforts to curb substance abuse.

The programmes witnessed active participation of students, teachers, officials, healthcare workers and members of the public, reflecting the continued commitment towards building a drug-free society across Bandipora district.

Lok Bhavan J&K Celebrates Sikkim Statehood Day in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu Kashmir Lok Bhavan celebrated the Statehood Day of Sikkim, in Srinagar. The event brought together students, security personnel and people of Sikkim living in the Union Territory.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha extended his heartfelt greetings to the people of Sikkim on the occasion.

"Sikkim, the sacred land of Guru Padmasambhava, shines like a radiant star among Himalayan states and UTs. It is recognised globally as a model of organic farming, peace and spirituality. The incredible linguistic diversity and rich cultural heritage distinguish Sikkim on the world stage," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasized that under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Sikkim is scaling new heights of development and stands at the



forefront of the nation's vision.

The Lieutenant Governor stated that the emotional bond shared among all Indian states/UTs is deeply rooted in the core values of unity, compassion and brotherhood.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted that the landmark July 2022 J&K-Sikkim horticulture agreement has yielded groundbreaking results in fostering interaction among youth, farmers and researchers from both regions.

"I regard this thriving

collaboration as a prime example of the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. This spirit of mutual partnership will prove instrumental in realizing our collective resolve for a 'Viksit Bharat'.

May Sikkim, known for its breathtaking natural beauty and remarkable achievements in sustainable development and organic farming, continue to scale new heights of growth and development. I pray for the well-being and prosperity of all its citizens," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Equitable, inclusive development across J&K priority of Govt: Sakeena Itoo

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Saturday visited Nihama area of district Kulgam, and held a mega public durbar to listen the grievances, issues and demands of the local residents and other adjoining areas.

During the Darbar, the locals highlighted several issues related to healthcare infrastructure, road connectivity, drinking water supply, electricity, educational facilities, social welfare schemes, irrigation, employment opportunities and other developmental concerns affecting the area.

They also demanded upgradation of PHC Nihama, upgradation of schools, establishment of a Tehsil, macadamization of various roads, augmentation of safe drinking water supply, installation of street lights in the market and other public welfare issues.

While addressing the gathering, Sakeena Itoo reiterated the Omar Abdul-



reach every deserving household of Jammu and Kashmir", she stated.

The Minister added said that the government is continuously strengthening the healthcare sector in all areas, particularly in rural regions, to ensure better medical facilities and improved healthcare services for the people. She further stated that sustained efforts are also being made for the development of roads and infrastructure across J&K to improve connectivity and public amenities.

The Minister assured the people that all genuine issues and demands raised during the durbar would be addressed on priority. She also gave onspot directions to concerned officers for resolution of various

nisms. The Minister also urged the officers to maintain close coordination with the public and work with dedication, accountability and transparency for overall public welfare.

Senior officers from various departments accompanied the Minister during the visit and responded to several grievances on the spot, while many issues were resolved immediately through on-site directions issued by the Minister.

The locals, while interacting with the Minister appreciated her for conducting this massive public Darbar, highlighting that it provided them an opportunity to directly project their concerns and developmental aspirations before the Government.

Omar-led Govt clears ₹72 crore Used Water Management Projects for B'la, Rajouri

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has approved Used Water Management Projects for Baramulla and Rajouri at an estimated cost of ₹37.96 crore and ₹34.43 crore respectively, aimed at strengthening sanitation infrastructure and addressing wastewater management challenges in the two urban areas.

The projects, cleared by Omar Abdullah led Government, are expected to ensure scientific treatment of sewage, prevent pollution of water bodies and significantly improve public health, hygiene and overall living conditions for the residents of Baramulla and Rajouri.

The Housing & Urban Development Department

has formulated Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the Used Water Management Projects for Municipal Council Baramulla and Municipal Council Rajouri under the CAPEX component of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0.

The DPRs have been technically vetted by National Institute of Technology Srinagar. The projects will be executed using Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Technology, which provides high treatment efficiency through a single-step biological treatment process.

The projects have been conceived to improve sanitation facilities and create sustainable wastewater treatment systems in Baramulla and Rajouri. Both projects are scheduled to be completed within a period of 18 months.

UAPA CASE

Police Raid 15 Locations in Sopore, Seize Incriminating Material



BILAL DAR

BARAMULLA: As part of the sustained crackdown on the terror, separatist ecosystem and activities linked with banned organisations, Sopore Police Saturday conducted searches at multiple locations across Police District Sopore in connection with a case registered against the banned organisation Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The searches were conducted in connection with FIR No. 42/2025 registered at Police Station Sopore under Sections 10 and 13 of the UAPA Act.

Search operations were carried out at more than 15 locations including Jamia Qadeem, Naseem Bagh, Krankshivan, Tarzoo, Amargarh, War-

pore, Bomai, Boitingoo and other areas of Sopore.

The searches were conducted after obtaining proper search warrants from the designated UAPA Court and were carried out in accordance with due legal procedure in the presence of Executive Magistrates and independent witnesses.

During the searches, incriminating material including literature linked with the banned organisation was seized and taken into custody for further investigation and examination.

The action forms part of the continued efforts of Sopore Police to identify and take lawful action against individuals involved in activities linked with banned organisations and anti-national networks.

Further investigation in the case is in progress.

Govt approves major cadre review, restructuring of J&K Engineering Service in JSD

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a significant step aimed at enhancing the water supply, quality monitoring and engineering administration across Jammu and Kashmir, the government has approved a comprehensive cadre review and restructuring of the J&K Engineering (Gazetted) Service of the Jal Shakti Department.

The reforms have been sanctioned vide Government Order No. 91-JK(JSD) of 2026 dated 15.05.2026, following concurrence from the Finance Department and approval by the Council of Ministers.

The restructuring exercise was undertaken to enhance the administrative efficiency, improve technical supervision, streamline field operations and address the emerging challenges in the water sector, particularly in remote and underserved regions.

As part of the approved reforms, the government has sanctioned creation of the post of Secretary Technical in the Jal Shakti Department to strengthen technical coordination and policy implementation at the departmental level.

To improve water quality surveillance and monitoring mechanisms, the government has also approved the setting up

of a separate Drinking Water Inspection and Quality Control (DIQC) wing within the department.

Further strengthening the field engineering setup, new offices of Superintending Engineer have been created for Hydraulic Circle Jammu-I and Hydraulic Circle Bandipora to ensure better operational management and supervision of water supply infrastructure.

The government has also approved creation of six new divisions, including Hydraulic Divisions at Gandoh, Gurez and Tangdar, PHE Division Mendhar and two Water Quality and Monitoring Divisions for the Jammu and Kashmir provinces. These divisions are expected to significantly improve the service delivery in geographically challenging and border areas.

In another major reform, Mechanical Sub-Divisions of the department have been restructured to optimize manpower utilization and improve efficiency in mechanical operations and maintenance.

The order also provides for creation of 43 posts through rationalization and corresponding reduction of 62 existing posts besides encadrement of 10 posts and reassignment of 137 posts within the cadre structure.

Additionally, the government has revised deputation and leave reserve provisions across various engineering levels to ensure better human resource management and career progression opportunities within the department.

The cadre review is expected to substantially strengthen the institutional capacity within the Jal Shakti Department and enhance delivery of safe drinking water and allied public utility services across Jammu and Kashmir.

Notably, under the leadership of Jal Shakti Minister Javed Ahmed Rana, the department has witnessed major human resource reforms aimed at revitalizing the engineering and technical workforce while expediting the long-pending promotions and direct recruitment processes.

In a major breakthrough for the sector, nearly 300 engineers were appointed recently, significantly strengthening the human resource capacity of the department.

The latest cadre restructuring and recruitment initiatives are being viewed as transformative measures for improving the governance, efficiency and public service delivery in the Jal Shakti sector across the Union Territory.

Dy CM conducts extensive tour of Akhnoor; inspects colleges, dev projects

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary Saturday conducted an extensive tour of Akhnoor and adjoining areas to review the progress of ongoing developmental works besides assessing the institutional infrastructure across several educational establishments.

During the visit, the Deputy Chief Minister inspected various projects and interacted with the students, faculty members and staff to take first-hand appraisal of the academic facilities, infrastructure development and overall functioning of the institutions.

At the Government College of Engineering and Technology, Chak Bhalwal, Jammu, the Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the ongoing developmental works and inspected the institutional facilities.

He stressed the need for creating quality infrastructure, ensuring timely completion of projects and strengthening the academic environment for the benefit of students. He directed the concerned authorities to maintain high standards in execution of works and ensure that modern educational facilities are made available to the student community.

Later, the Deputy



Chief Minister visited the Government Ayurvedic Medical College, Sangani, Akhnoor, where he reviewed the ongoing hostel construction works along with MLA Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat.

During the visit, he interacted with the students and staff members and sought feedback regarding institutional facilities and accommodation needs.

He emphasized timely completion of the hostel project with quality construction standards so that better facilities are provided to the students.

The Deputy Chief Minister also inspected the ongoing works at Government Nursing College, Akhnoor along with MLA Akhnoor Mohan Lal Bhagat.

During detailed interaction with the faculty members and students regarding the academic activities,

the Deputy Chief Minister called for speedy infrastructure development.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed the concerned officers to ensure speedy execution of all ongoing works while strictly adhering to quality standards and timelines.

"The government is committed towards creating better educational infrastructure, providing a conducive learning environment for the students across Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Later, the Deputy Chief Minister also visited Indrapattin Bridge project site at Pragwal, Akhnoor and reviewed the progress of ongoing works.

Terming the project as vital, he stressed upon timely execution and completion of the bridge to improve the connectivity and public convenience in the area.

Tourist couple killed, two others injured in Pahalgam road mishap



AGENCIES

ANANTNAG: Two people were killed and three others injured after a vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and plunged into a gorge in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday.

Officials said the Tavera (JK21A-0379) met with the accident at Mandlan, Pahalgam, while travelling from Pahalgam to Aru. "One tourist died on the spot, while four

others were injured. One of the injured later succumbed at the hospital," they said.

The deceased have been identified as Bawin Bhavsar and his wife Awin Bhavsar, residents of Gujarat.

The injured — Naina, wife of Ashokbhai; Ashok Naina, both residents of Gujarat; and Rayees Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Pahalgam — have been referred to GMC Anantnag for treatment. Police have registered a case in connection with the incident.

Transport Minister opts for tonga ride to promote fuel conservation

Terms it 'small gesture' towards austerity appeal by PM Modi, CM Omar

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

SRINAGAR: Minister for Transport, Youth Services & Sports, Satish Sharma, on Saturday opted for a traditional horse-drawn tonga ride on Gupkar Road instead of an official vehicle, responding to the nationwide appeal for austerity and fuel conservation amid rising economic pressures linked to the ongoing West Asia crisis.

Accompanied by Kunwarani Ritu Singh - wife of former minister and royal scion Ajatshatru Singh, the minister said the ride aimed to promote the "Save Petrol" campaign while encouraging environmental protection, traditional tourism and reduced fuel consumption.

Speaking during the ride, Sharma, said the initiative was a "small gesture" in response to the austerity appeal by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. "Jai Hind, Jai Mata Di. Save petrol and diesel, enjoy nature and avoid pollution. This is a small gesture towards austerity measures. Instead of using cars everywhere, people should consider economical and environmentally friendly alternatives," he said.

The minister added that the tonga ride reflects Kashmir's cultural heritage and tourism potential during the peak summer season. "We want visitors to experience the traditional charm of Kashmir. These horse carriages were once a common sight in the Valley and are part of our heritage. Promoting such modes also supports tourism and local livelihoods," he said.

Kunwarani Ritu Singh described the experience as nostalgic, saying the initiative carried both environmental and cultural significance. —(KNO)

Police Attach Properties Worth Rs 6 Crore of Drug Peddlers in Srinagar

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Police in Srinagar district on Saturday attached immovable properties and a vehicle worth nearly Rs 6 crore belonging to alleged drug peddlers under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

The action was carried out by Police Station Khanyar under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act against three accused persons reportedly involved in multiple narcotics-related cases.

Officials said the first attachment pertains to Nazir Ahmad Mir alias Nazir Lashkari of Koolipora, Khanyar, involving a double-storeyed residential house along with eight shops constructed on 4.5 marlas of land. The property, valued at around Rs 3.2 crore, is linked to FIR No. 08/2026 under Section 8/20 NDPS Act registered at Police Station Khanyar.

In another case, police attached a Scorpio vehicle bearing registration number JK01AW-8898, valued at about Rs 20 lakh, along with seven marlas of land and a temporary structure at Baghi Roop Singh, Misken Bagh, belonging to Gulzar Ahmad Mir. These assets, collectively valued at approximately Rs 1.8 crore, are connected with FIR No. 08/2026 under Sections 8/21/29 NDPS Act.

In a separate action, a single-storeyed residential house constructed on nine marlas of land at Lone Mohalla, Nowpora Khanyar, belonging to Zahid Manzoor Rather, was also attached. The property is valued at nearly Rs 10 lakh and is linked to FIR No. 96/2020 under Section 8/20 NDPS Act.

Police stated that the assets were identified during investigation as proceeds of narcotics trafficking and illegal drug trade.

BJP's Liquor Ban Protest a 'Farce', Says Tanvir Sadiq

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: National Conference chief spokesperson and Zaidil MLA Tanvir Sadiq on Saturday criticised the BJP over its protest against liquor sales, questioning the party's silence during the 2023 Governor's rule, while asserting that the Omar Abdullah-led government would impose a ban on alcohol "very soon" Srinagar city guide

"It is a good thing that they held a protest. But unfortunately, during Governor's rule, they were nowhere to be seen," Sadiq told reporters in Srinagar.

Referring to the BJP's warning of a hunger strike until prohibition is imposed, the NC leader said the party should instead protest against those responsible for framing the excise policy during Governor's rule in 2023.

"They said they would sit on a hunger strike until liquor is banned. They should go on a hunger strike against those who introduced the policy during Governor's rule. They did nothing at that time," he said.

Sadiq said the National Conference government understood public sentiment on the issue and reiterated that action would be taken soon.



"I will not go into this in detail, but I can assure you of one thing — if liquor is banned, the National Conference will do it, and it will happen very soon," he said.

When asked whether the prohibition move would be introduced during the upcoming autumn session of the Assembly, Sadiq said the government was committed to addressing public concerns.

"We understand the sentiments of the people. People in Kashmir want action on this issue. God willing, Omar Abdullah's government will do its best," he added. Regional craft marketplace

On the issue of cabinet expansion, Sadiq said the matter falls within the Chief Minister's prerogative. Rejecting allegations of corruption against National Conference ministers, he said, "In our government, no minister or MLA is involved in malpractice, irregularities or corruption." (KNS)

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Liquor Ban Debate

The renewed political debate around liquor trade in Jammu and Kashmir has once again exposed the contradictions, selective outrage, and policy confusion that continue to surround the issue. Senior National Conference leader Choudhary Muhammad Ramzan, while speaking in Budgam, asserted that the power to stop liquor trade lies with the Centre and the Lieutenant Governor's administration, claiming that prohibition could be enforced "within 10 minutes" if there was political will. His remarks have reopened a sensitive and long-standing discussion in Jammu and Kashmir — whether the Union Territory genuinely wants prohibition or whether the issue is merely being used as a political slogan whenever public sentiment intensifies.

There is no denying that rising drug abuse has become a serious social challenge across Jammu and Kashmir. Families, religious institutions, civil society groups, and youth organisations have repeatedly expressed concern over addiction and its devastating impact on society. In such a situation, it is natural for people to question why campaigns against drugs are not accompanied by a serious conversation on the expanding liquor trade. Ramzan's statement that anti-drug campaigns should also address liquor consumption reflects a sentiment shared by many sections of society. His remarks questioning the duality of conducting anti-drug awareness drives while allowing liquor outlets to operate openly are likely to resonate with those demanding stricter regulation.

However, the larger issue goes beyond political statements. The truth is that every major political party in Jammu and Kashmir has, at different times, adopted contradictory positions on prohibition. While parties publicly support restrictions in response to public sentiment, successive governments have also continued policies that allowed liquor trade to function through licensing and revenue systems.

That is why attempts to turn the debate into a blame game between the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference and the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party offer little real substance. Ramzan's reference to former Finance Minister Haseeb Drabu and his earlier stand on liquor consumption only highlights how political narratives shift depending on whether a party is in government or opposition.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve clarity instead of selective moral positioning. If political parties genuinely support prohibition, they must present a comprehensive roadmap addressing enforcement, rehabilitation, revenue alternatives, employment concerns, and illegal trade risks. Merely demanding bans without practical planning often pushes such activities underground, creating new law-and-order and public health challenges. Equally important is the role of the administration. Since Jammu and Kashmir is a Union Territory, the Lieutenant Governor's administration undeniably holds significant authority in policy implementation. If there is consensus across political parties and society on restricting liquor trade, the administration must initiate an open and transparent consultation process instead of allowing the matter to remain trapped in periodic political rhetoric. The liquor debate cannot be reduced to headlines or convention speeches. It demands a serious, consistent, and honest policy discussion. Jammu and Kashmir needs a clear social and administrative approach — one that prioritises public welfare over political point-scoring.

The Blind Race For Marks And The Loss Of Childhood



DR. PRIYANKA SAURABH

In a developing country like India, education has always been considered a means of respect and progress. Education not only provides knowledge, but also provides understanding of life, social awareness, and direction for a better future. However, over time, the nature of education has changed, and today, the situation has become such that education is simply about scoring high marks and outdoing the competition. Children are evaluated not on their personality, behavior, creativity, or sensitivity, but on their marksheet percentage. As a result, childhood is groaning under the burden of pressure, stress, and expectations.

Today, every parent wants their child to top the class, score the highest marks, and achieve a prestigious position in society. This desire is natural, as every parent wants a bright future for their children. The problem begins when this desire becomes an expectation, and this expectation gradually turns into pressure. Little attention is paid to the child's interests, abilities, and pursuits. The primary concern becomes marks and rank.

The current education system has made children's lives highly competitive. In addition to schoolwork, coaching, tuition, online classes, and assignments have taken up most of their day. Earlier, children played in the fields in the evenings, climbed trees, and laughed and ran with friends, but today their childhood is confined between books and screens. The playground has been reduced to a mobile screen, and worry about results has replaced free-spirited laughter.

Every year, after exam results are announced, society's behavior further impacts children's mental health. Children who score high marks are often labeled "brilliant" by society, while those who score relatively low are often seen as inferior. This comparison creates a sense of inferiority in children.



Many become overwhelmed with stress, depression, and fear. Sadly, some children even resort to suicide due to exam failure. This situation indicates a failure not only of the education system, but of society as a whole.

Today, the biggest impact on children is "comparison." "Look how much Sharmaji's son studies," "He got 98 percent, why didn't you?" — such statements deeply hurt children's minds. Comparison never inspires; instead, it weakens self-confidence. Every child is unique in their abilities, thinking, and talents. Some may excel in music, some in sports, some in painting, and some in writing. But our education system and social thinking consider success to be limited to becoming a doctor, engineer, or administrative officer.

Another important question is whether simply scoring high marks guarantees success in life. Both history and the present bear witness to the extraordinary achievements of many great individuals despite mediocre educational attainments. Success comes not from mere bookish knowledge, but from courage, patience, creativity, sensitivity, and hard work. If education fails to transform a person into a good human being, it is incomplete.

Today's children are technologically astute, but they are becoming increasingly isolated emotionally. With both parents working, the breakdown of joint

families, and the rise of mobile phone culture, children are receiving less communication and emotional support. They are unable to openly share their problems. Consequently, the pressure of exams and the future breaks them from within. Instead of being a joyful environment, the educational environment is becoming one of fear.

The growing culture of coaching institutes has also exacerbated this problem. Big advertisements showcasing the faces of toppers create the impression in children and parents that success is only achieved through fierce competition and persistent study. Children are being trained like machines. Their creativity and independent thinking are gradually being eroded. Education is no longer a learning process, but rather a marks-making factory.

The most tragic situation is when children feel burdened by their parents' dreams. They fear that if they get low marks, they will disappoint their family. This fear weakens them mentally. Sometimes, parents unwittingly make their children feel that their love depends on their marks. What children need most is unconditional acceptance and emotional security.

We must understand that the true purpose of education is not just to get a job. The goal of education should be to develop humanity, sensitivity, morality, and self-confidence. If a child learns

to help others, respect their parents, become responsible towards society, and remain mentally healthy, that is true education.

Children should be allowed to pursue their interests. If a child enjoys music, they should be allowed to pursue it. If someone is interested in sports, acting, writing, art, or any other field, they should be respected. Every talent is important. Society must understand that the world isn't just run by doctors and engineers, but also by artists, teachers, farmers, writers, scientists, musicians, and athletes.

Parents and teachers have a greater responsibility here. Instead of scolding and scaring children, it's essential to understand and motivate them. If a child fails, they should be reassured that failure isn't the end, but an opportunity to learn. Sometimes, life's greatest successes are born from failures.

Schools should also move beyond exam-centric education and focus on personality development, creative activities, and moral education. Children should be encouraged to think and understand rather than simply memorize. Education should inspire curiosity and joy, not fear and stress.

The government and society must also be serious about children's mental health. Schools should strengthen counseling systems. Parents also need to be periodically educated about the harmful effects of putting unnecessary pressure on children.

Today, we need to redefine education and success. We should see children not just as marks-making machines, but as sensitive and creative human beings. We should make them realize that their value is far greater than their marksheet.

If we truly want to raise the next generation to be happy, healthy, and confident, we must break away from the blind pursuit of grades. Let children play, dream, fail, and then get back up and move on. Because life isn't just about test scores, it's a beautiful amalgamation of experiences, struggles, emotions, and relationships.

Ultimately it would be appropriate to say that: "Good marks are not important, the person who becomes great is important."

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

Bus, Brutality, And Broken Conscience

LALIT GARGA

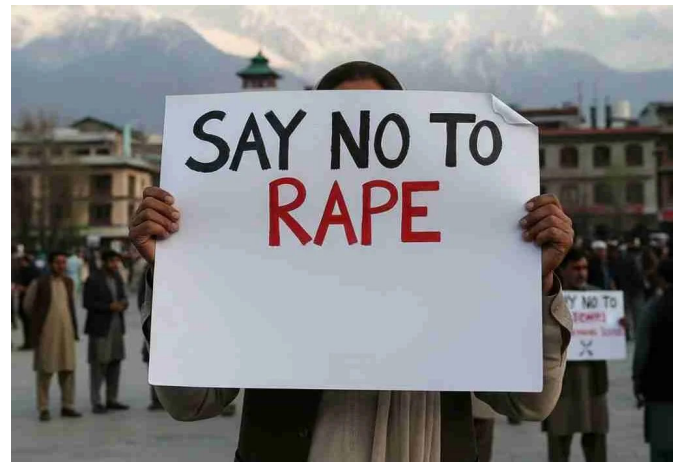
The recent incident in Delhi's Nangloi, where a woman was allegedly gang-raped inside a private bus by the driver and conductor, has once again shaken the conscience of the nation. This is not merely a criminal act; it is a horrifying reflection of the deep-rooted social and administrative failure that has stood exposed before us for years. Fourteen years ago, after the Nirbhaya case, massive public outrage erupted across the country. People believed that the system would change, laws would become stricter, women's safety would be ensured, and society would reform its mindset. Yet, when similar incidents continue to recur, the painful question becomes even sharper: have we truly changed at all?

The biggest question is why such incidents continue to happen repeatedly. The answer lies not only in weak law enforcement, but also in a distorted social mentality where women are still not treated with equal dignity and respect. Despite the glittering claims of modernity, the darkness of patriarchal thinking remains intact. The mindset that views women not as individuals but as objects of consumption continues to exist deeply within many minds. This is why women continue to feel unsafe not only in public spaces and workplaces, but even in schools, colleges, and homes. The tragedy is that even in an era of scientific advancement, technology, and economic progress, society has failed to cultivate the basic values of respect and safety for women. Children are being educated, but they are not being taught sensitivity and humanity. Families continue to impose restrictions on daughters while

granting unchecked freedom to sons. Girls are constantly advised to "remain careful," but very little effort is made to teach boys dignity, restraint, and respect in behavior and attitude. This imbalance eventually becomes fertile ground for crime.

Another critical question is: why has the administration repeatedly failed to prevent such incidents? After the Nirbhaya case, governments made grand promises regarding women's safety. CCTV surveillance, women's helplines, fast-track courts, police patrolling, and various safety measures in public transport were widely announced. However, the reality is that much of this remained confined to paperwork and speeches. Private buses continue to operate without adequate monitoring. In many places, drivers and conductors are not even properly verified. Safety protocols are often reduced to mere formalities. Despite global awareness campaigns and movements for the dignity and safety of girls, atrocities against them continue to rise. India is no exception. Issues such as declining gender ratio, increasing violence against girls, illiteracy among rural girls, malnutrition, exploitation, rape, molestation, female foeticide, and dowry-related crimes demand serious discussion and decisive action. A deep pain arises in the mind: how long will women and girls continue to be treated as objects of pleasure? How long will their lives remain surrounded by fear and danger? How long will they continue to burn in the fires of rape, harassment, female foeticide, and dowry violence? How long will their dignity and identity continue to be torn apart?

The truth is that our system becomes active only after a crime occurs, not before it. Every time an incident takes



place, arrests are made, investigations begin, and political statements are issued, but there is rarely any serious attempt to address the roots of the problem. Political parties indulge in blame games for a few days, media debates dominate headlines, and eventually everything is forgotten. But for the families whose daughters become victims of such brutality, fear, pain, and insecurity leave permanent scars. It is also important to reflect on why women and girls repeatedly become victims of such atrocities. The reason is not merely the cruelty of criminals, but also the insensitivity of society. Public spaces often lack a sense of collective responsibility toward women's safety. People become silent spectators. In many cases, the victim herself is questioned—her clothes, timing, lifestyle, and choices are scrutinized. Such attitudes strengthen criminals because they know society will not stand wholeheartedly with the victim.

How long will women continue to live in fear within their own cities, buses, streets, and workplaces? How long will parents remain anxious until their daughters safely return home? This is not merely a women's issue; it is a question concern-

ing the conscience of society itself. A society in which half the population does not feel safe cannot truly call itself civilized. Today, what is needed is not only stricter laws, but also deep social introspection. Laws can punish criminals, but only society can transform mindsets. Gender sensitivity and respect must become an essential part of education in schools and families. Girls should not be taught to live in fear; instead, boys must be taught to live with dignity and respect toward women. Serious reflection is also needed on the objectification of women in films, social media, and advertisements, because culture and entertainment significantly shape public attitudes.

The administration too must move beyond post-crime reactions. Real-time GPS tracking, CCTV cameras, panic buttons, and strict monitoring in public transport must be implemented rigorously. Thorough background verification of private transport operators and staff should be mandatory. The police system must become more sensitive, accountable, and proactive. Most importantly, society must understand that women's safety is not merely a "women's issue"; it is a question of humanity

and civilization. Until women receive equal respect, freedom, and security, all claims of development will remain incomplete.

The Nangloi incident is not just another news story; it is a warning to society. If we still fail to awaken, tragedies like Nirbhaya will continue to recur, and every such incident will once again expose our insensitivity, administrative failure, and distorted social mindset. The question remains: for how long? Despite awareness campaigns and governmental efforts, the condition of girls in India has not improved as expected. The regressive mindset displayed by some religious leaders, politicians, and social figures toward women and girls is no secret. Their hypocrisy has become evident. Dictating what women should wear, eat, whom they should love or marry, opposing co-education—such patriarchal attitudes continue to deprive girls of their rights and impose endless restrictions upon them.

An ancient Indian saying declares: "Yatra Naryastu Pujyante Ramante Tatra Devatah" — "Where women are worshipped, there the gods reside." Yet today, women are increasingly being humiliated and objectified everywhere. Men continue to treat women as commodities to be used according to their convenience, which is deeply alarming. In countless forms, assaults on women's dignity continue to create dark chapters in society. Even if the number of gang-rape cases may have statistically declined, the recurring emergence of such incidents remains tragic, disturbing, and painful.

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

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Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher
Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editors

Mir Suhail

Sulaiman Muhammed Shah

Legal Advisor

Bashir Sidiq

Bureau Chief Jammu:

Harbans Nagokay

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Regd No: 109555

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Email:

goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com

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■ From Backlog To Breakthrough

How J&K's Land Records Can Be Fixed Faster

MOHD AMIN MIR

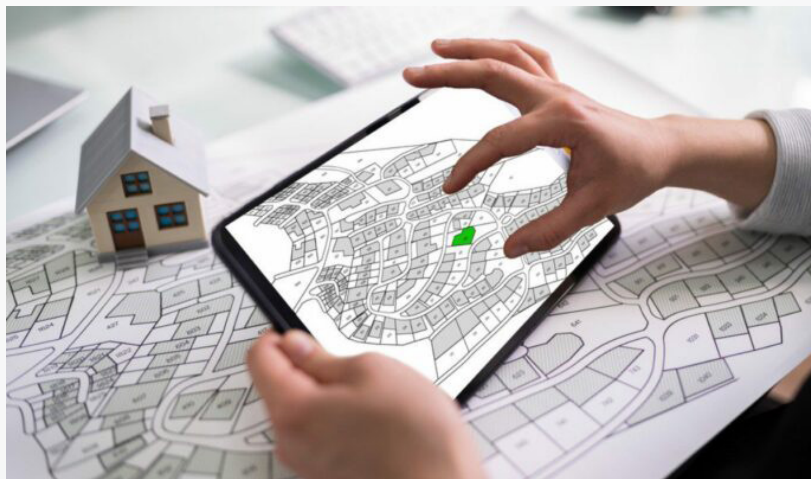
In the complex and often underestimated domain of land revenue administration, progress is rarely dramatic. It is usually incremental, procedural, and buried beneath layers of files, registers, and legacy practices. Yet, occasionally, a quiet revolution unfolds, one that does not make headlines immediately but fundamentally alters governance at the grassroots level. Such a transformation is currently visible in Qazigund tehsil of Jammu & Kashmir, where an extraordinary administrative effort has set a benchmark for the entire Union Territory.

The uploading of backlog mutations into digitised Jamabandies, a task that has lingered unresolved in many regions for years, has been executed in Qazigund with remarkable speed and precision. At the heart of this achievement lies the proactive leadership of Tehsildar Qazigund, Shakeel Ahmed Ganie, whose hands-on approach, technological competence, and unwavering commitment have transformed a daunting administrative burden into a model of efficiency.

This is not merely a story of administrative success. It is a lesson in leadership, accountability, and the power of embracing technology in governance. It is also a call to action for other tehsils across Jammu & Kashmir to replicate this model and accelerate the journey toward fully digitised, transparent, and reliable land records.

Understanding the Problem: Backlog Mutations in Digitised Jamabandies

To appreciate the magnitude of this achievement, one must first understand the nature of the problem. Jamabandi, the backbone of land revenue records, reflects ownership, cultivation, and rights over land. With the advent of digitisation, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir has taken significant steps toward modernising these records. However, a major bottleneck has persisted: the backlog of mutations. Mutations—entries that record changes in ownership or rights due to sale, inheritance, or other legal processes—are crucial for maintaining the accuracy of land records. When these mutations remain unup-



loaded or unincorporated into digitised Jamabandies, the entire system becomes unreliable. Land disputes multiply, transactions are delayed, and public trust erodes.

In many tehsils, this backlog has accumulated over years, sometimes even decades. The reasons are manifold: lack of manpower, inadequate supervision, resistance to technology, and competing administrative priorities.

The Qazigund Intervention: Speed, Strategy, and Supervision

Against this backdrop, the achievement in Qazigund stands out as nothing short of extraordinary. Within just one week, approximately 85% of backlog mutations were uploaded into the digitised system. This is not merely a statistic; it represents the resolution of hundreds, if not thousands, of pending entries that directly impact landowners and stakeholders. What makes this accomplishment even more remarkable is that it was carried out in parallel with ongoing census-related activities across the tehsil—an administrative responsibility that itself demands extensive manpower, coordination, and time.

The key to this success lies in three critical factors:

- **Direct Monitoring by Leadership:** Unlike conventional approaches where tasks are delegated and reviewed periodically, Shakeel Ahmed Ganie personally monitored the entire process. This ensured accountability at every level and eliminated delays

caused by bureaucratic inertia.

- **Extended Working Hours and Personal Commitment:** Working tirelessly from 9 AM to 6 PM daily, the Tehsildar did not treat this as a routine assignment. His personal involvement sent a strong message to the entire revenue staff that this was a priority task demanding immediate attention.
- **Parallel Execution with Other Duties:** Managing digitisation alongside census duties required exceptional administrative skill. It demonstrated that efficiency is not about having fewer tasks, but about managing multiple responsibilities effectively.
- **The Role of Technology: A Tech-Savvy Approach:** One of the defining features of this initiative is the Tehsildar's technological proficiency. In many parts of the administration, digitisation efforts are hindered by a lack of familiarity with digital tools. Officers often rely heavily on subordinate staff for technical tasks, leading to delays and errors.

However, Shakeel Ahmed Ganie is described as tech-savvy, a trait that significantly contributed to the success of the initiative. His ability to:

- Navigate digital platforms
- Verify mutations online
- Identify discrepancies in real time
- Guide staff in using digital tools

- ensured that the process was not only fast but also accurate.

Importantly, he personally verified mutations online, adding a layer of credibility and authenticity to the uploaded data. This step is crucial because digitisation without verification can lead to the perpetuation of errors in digital form.

Leadership by Example: Inspiring the Revenue Machinery

Administrative systems often suffer not from a lack of rules, but from a lack of motivation and leadership. The Qazigund model demonstrates how leadership can transform outcomes.

By taking personal ownership of the task, the Tehsildar created a ripple effect across the revenue staff:

- **Patwaris became more accountable**
 - **Girdawars ensured timely supervision**
 - **Clerical staff worked with greater urgency**
- When a leader is actively involved, it becomes difficult for subordinates to remain indifferent. The result is a collective effort that transcends routine functioning. The benefits of this initiative extend far beyond administrative efficiency. They directly impact the lives of ordinary citizens.

- **Reduction in Land Disputes:** Accurate and updated land records are essential for preventing disputes. By clearing backlog mutations, Qazigund has taken a significant step toward reducing litigation.

- **Faster Transactions:** Property transactions often get delayed due to outdated records. With updated Jamabandies, the process becomes smoother and more reliable.

- **Enhanced Transparency:** Digitised and verified records increase transparency, reducing the scope for manipulation and corruption.

- **Public Trust in Administration:** When people see tangible improvements in service delivery, their trust in government institutions is strengthened.

The Challenge of Replication: Why Other Tehsils Lag Behind

Despite similar directives across the Union Territory, many tehsils

have struggled to achieve comparable progress. The reasons are not structural but behavioral:

- Lack of proactive leadership
- Dependence on outdated manual practices
- Resistance to technology
- Absence of strict monitoring mechanisms

In an era where public institutions often face criticism for inefficiency, examples like this restore faith in the system. They remind us that governance is ultimately driven by individuals who choose to go beyond the minimum requirements of their roles.

The success achieved in Qazigund should not remain an isolated example. It must become a movement. All Tehsildars across Jammu & Kashmir should take inspiration from this model and adopt similar practices. The administration at higher levels must also:

- Recognise and reward such initiatives
- Encourage replication across districts
- Provide necessary resources and training

If replicated across the Union Territory, this approach can lead to the complete digitisation of land records within a short time frame. The work carried out in Qazigund is a testament to what can be achieved when leadership, technology, and dedication come together. The uploading of 85% backlog mutations within a week is not just an administrative milestone—it is a symbol of what is possible when systems are driven by commitment rather than complacency.

As Jammu & Kashmir moves toward a future of digital governance, the Qazigund model should serve as a guiding light. It demonstrates that transformation does not always require new policies or additional resources. Sometimes, it simply requires a change in approach. The challenge now is to ensure that this example does not remain an exception. It must become the norm. Only then can the vision of a transparent, efficient, and citizen-centric revenue administration in Jammu & Kashmir truly be realised.

The author can be mailed at mira-min354@gmail.com

Sanitation Workers: The Real Heroes Of Our Cities

DR. SATYAVAN SAURABH

A city isn't defined by its tall buildings, wide roads, or dazzling lights, but by its cleanliness and orderliness. When a person enters a city, the first thing they notice is its cleanliness, environment, and civic discipline. Clean cities not only look beautiful, but also symbolize better health, a safe life, and a civilized society. But the people who contribute most to this cleanliness often remain outside of society's attention and respect. These are our sanitation workers—the unseen, unheard, and neglected heroes, on whose labor the entire city's order depends.

The recent strike by sanitation workers in various cities forced people to reflect on how quickly urban life can be disrupted if these workers stop working. Within days, streets were piled with garbage, drains clogged, stench spread, and the risk of disease increased. For the first time, people realized that the sanitation workers, whom they considered ordinary employees, were actually the heartbeat of the city.

The irony is that while we make tall claims about modernity and development, we still lag far behind in civic responsibility. A large number of people in our cities consider it normal to throw garbage in public places, leave plastic on the streets, and litter. Even those who maintain cleanliness within their homes consider their responsibility over by dumping their garbage on the streets. This is why, in the absence of sanitation workers, cities quickly turn into garbage heaps.

This situation is not only a testament to administrative weakness, but also to our weak civic sense. In developed countries, citizens are self-conscious about cleanliness. They consider throwing garbage on the streets a social crime. However, in our country, cleanliness is still considered the sole responsibility of sanitation workers and municipal corporations. Unless society itself embraces cleanliness as a part of its culture and habits, the success of any government campaign will remain incomplete.



The lives of sanitation workers are full of struggles. They start work early in the morning when most people are still asleep. They clean roads, streets, and drains in all conditions—scorching heat, harsh cold, rain, or epidemics. Often, they have to work in extremely unhygienic conditions without adequate safety equipment. Every year, many workers die from inhaling toxic gases while cleaning sewers. Yet, society does not give them the respect they truly deserve.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, when the entire country was confined to their homes, doctors, police officers, and sanitation workers risked their lives to keep society safe. People honored them with applause and thali banging, but over time, we have forgotten them again. Even today, many sanitation workers are forced to work in temporary jobs, with low wages and unsafe working conditions.

A large segment of society still looks down upon sanitation work. This mindset is not only wrong but also inhumane. No job is small or large. If sanitation workers stop working for a day, the entire city's system could come to a standstill. Therefore, their work is not just a job, but a duty to protect public health and social life.

The most painful scene in this entire situation is when cows are seen searching for food in the garbage scattered on the streets. In Indian society, cows are given the status of mother, but the reality is that these same cows

are forced to eat plastic, rotten food, and toxic waste. This scene exposes our social insensitivity. Devotion is not just demonstrated by words and slogans, but by action. If we truly consider the cow sacred, we must ensure that it is not forced to search for food in the garbage.

Today, the growing plastic problem in cities has exacerbated the situation. People use plastic thoughtlessly and then throw it away in the open. This plastic clogs drains, pollutes the environment, and poses a life-threatening threat to animals. Sanitation workers grapple with this filth daily, but the root of the problem lies in the negligence of citizens.

Governments periodically launch cleanliness campaigns. The "Clean India Mission" attempted to raise public awareness, but campaigns alone don't bring about lasting change. Unless citizens take responsibility themselves, cleanliness will remain limited to government posters and slogans.

We must understand that cleanliness isn't just the responsibility of the municipal corporation. It's every citizen's duty to maintain cleanliness around them. Segregating waste into different categories, using less plastic, avoiding littering in public places, and raising awareness among others—these small habits can bring about big changes.

Protecting the rights and dignity of sanitation workers is equally

The recent strike by sanitation workers in various cities forced people to reflect on how quickly urban life can be disrupted if these workers stop working. Within days, streets were piled with garbage, drains clogged, stench spread, and the risk of disease increased. For the first time, people realized that the sanitation workers, whom they considered ordinary employees, were actually the heartbeat of the city.

important. Providing them with fair wages, stable employment, health-care, and safety equipment should be the government's primary responsibility. Machines should be used more extensively in hazardous processes like sewer cleaning to avoid putting human lives at risk.

The education system also needs

to incorporate practical aspects of cleanliness and civic responsibility. Teaching children about cleanliness in books alone won't suffice; they must be inspired to practice it in practice. Only when the new generation makes cleanliness a habit will real change in society be possible.

The media and society should also highlight the problems and contributions of sanitation workers. People typically remember them only when there's a strike or the city is filthy. However, their daily struggles, hard work, and contributions are rarely discussed. If society honors them, it will not only boost their self-confidence but also strengthen the collective consciousness about cleanliness.

We must also understand that cleanliness is not just a matter of aesthetics, but a question of health and civilization. Dirt breeds mosquitoes, flies, and many diseases. Unsanitary environments pose the greatest dangers to children, the elderly, and the poor. Therefore, the work of sanitation workers is directly linked to the health of society.

The need today is not just to end the sanitation workers' strike, but to change our mindset. We must recognize that the responsibility for keeping cities clean cannot be placed solely on a few employees. Until citizens themselves become responsible, the problem of filth and disorder will persist.

Sanitation workers are truly the true heroes of our cities. They work every day to improve our lives without expecting any special recognition or fame. Their hard work keeps cities breathing, roads walkable, and communities healthy.

If we truly want to build a civilized, sensitive, and developed society, we must first change our attitude toward sanitation workers. Respecting them, understanding their problems, and making cleanliness our responsibility is true citizenship. This is the path that will make our cities not only sparkling, but also humane and cultured.

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

LG Sinha Attends 9Th

on the map but Purvanchal is a consciousness.

"It is a living energy that has offered humanity a fresh perspective. Purvanchal is an idea. To me Purvanchal is both a celebration of spirituality and an expression of devotion. Purvanchal brings the fragrance of art and the exuberance of culture. It is the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna and Sarasvati, and the restraint of ascetic, selfless sages," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that in modern times, the contributions of Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar, Raghunath Rao and Malhar Rao Holkar were extraordinary. He said when Purvanchal was wounded by invaders and it was struggling to reclaim its spiritual and cultural radiance, Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar took up the mantle. Lieutenant Governor said that from Kashi Vishwanath Temple to Manikarnika, Dashashwamedh and Ahilyabai ghats, many temples and ghats came into being because of Lokmata Ahilyabai's patronage.

The Lieutenant Governor said that saints from Maharashtra and Purvanchal, Sant Tukaram, Sant Gyaneshwar, Sant Namdev, Sant Eknath, Sant Ramdas, Goswami Tulsidas, Sant Kabir and Sant Ravidas awakened social consciousness and showed society a new path.

"I believe Purvanchal, which embodies a heritage from Lord Rama to the Buddha, created ways to reach truth. Several Tirthankaras of Jainism were born in regions of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Places from Ayodhya to Prayagraj, Chitrakoot, Sarnath, Varanasi and Kushinagar continue to guide humanity. In Purvanchal's soil many Upanishads were born, the Ramcharitmanas took shape, Kabir's anthologies and Sant Ravidas's immortal sayings emerged, and numerous Jain and Buddhist texts found their voice. The words of Munshi Premchand and Bharatendu Harishchandra shaped the new ideas. Pandit Ravi Shankar, Bismillah Khan, Girija Devi and Birju Maharaj breathed life into art. Heroes of independence struggle like Mangal Pandey, Chandrashekhar Azad, Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Rani Lakshmbai and Chittu Pandey changed the nation's destiny, and selfless leaders like Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Babu Shiv Prasad Gupta helped shape the new generation through education," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that in its deepest form Purvanchal is humanity's story. He said millions of indentured laborers from Purvanchal carried India's culture to Fiji, Mauritius, Trinidad, Suriname and Guyana, so Purvanchal belongs to every person who stands at the crossroads of global human exchange. He also observed that many districts of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have made significant contributions to Maharashtra's economy, and large numbers of migrant workers have powered its industries. He said today Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh function as two of India's principal economic engines and Maharashtra leads with 15.7% of the nation's GDP, while Uttar Pradesh contributes 9.2% and ranks second in the country. The Lieutenant Governor also emphasized that new generation must be connected to the roots and traditions.

"No tree grows tall by abandoning its roots. It rises because its roots reach deep into the earth. The deeper the roots, the bolder the branches that stretch toward the sky. This nation was shaped by generations who sacrificed, who lived by values, who nurtured society like a family, and who tended the soul of culture. A nation that knows its own spirit never loses its way. The strength of the future will depend on how deeply we honor our roots," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Army Chief Delivers

"If Pakistan continues to harbour terrorists and operate against India, then they must decide whether they want to be part of geography or history," he said.

Though brief, the remarks carried a strong strategic message and underscored India's uncompromising approach toward terrorism.

The comments came days after the country marked the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor.

The operation was launched in the early hours of May 7 last year following the deadly Pahalgam terror attack. Under Operation Sindoor, India carried out precision strikes on multiple terror-related targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Pakistan later launched retaliatory military actions, prompting counter-

strikes by India under the same operation.

The military standoff between the two nuclear-armed neighbours lasted nearly 88 hours before both sides reached an understanding on the evening of May 10, bringing hostilities to an end.

Sopore Witnesses

rituals amid a peaceful atmosphere, with local Muslim residents joining them in a display of brotherhood and shared heritage.

For many attendees, the gathering marked more than a religious occasion. It symbolised a return to roots, identity and relationships that had remained fractured since the mass migration of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley in the 1990s.

"We had once thought returning here would never be possible," said Sanjay Pandith, one of the devotees. "Today the atmosphere is peaceful and normal. The love shown by our Muslim brothers made us emotional. Kashmir is in our veins."

Several devotees recalled childhood memories linked to the area and described the reunion with local families as overwhelming.

Another devotee, Rakesh, said the return to the temple revived old bonds of communal harmony. "Coming here brings back memories of the same brotherhood we grew up with. We are hopeful that next year we will organise a full hawan with even greater participation," he said.

Local Muslim residents said the return of Kashmiri Pandits to the shrine carried deep emotional significance for the entire community.

"Kashmir feels complete again when our Pandit brothers are among us," said Rameez Ahmad, a local resident. "They are part of our society and culture. Seeing them here again strengthens trust and brotherhood."

Younger residents, many of whom had only heard stories about Kashmiri Pandits from their elders, also described the moment as historic.

Umar Fayaz, 24, said his father broke down after meeting a childhood friend after decades. "I had only heard stories about Pandits living here. Today I saw those stories come alive. This is not just their return, it is the return of our shared identity," he said.

Another resident, Mohammad Shafi Lone, said rebuilding trust must remain a collective responsibility. "The administration has created a peaceful environment, but it is now our duty as locals to ensure they always feel safe and welcomed," he said.

It is worth mentioning, Sopore, once considered among the worst militancy affected towns in Kashmir, has in recent years witnessed improving security conditions and increasing inter community participation in religious and cultural events, offering fresh hope for reconciliation and return—(KNO)

Self-enumeration for

June 1 to June 30 in both Union Territories.

Sources said that Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is likely to submit census details today as part of the self-enumeration exercise.

"LG Ladakh Vinay Kumar Saxena is also expected to submit his details tomorrow morning," they said.

The Houselisting Operations (HLO) constitute Phase-I of the Census, while the Population Enumeration forms Phase-II. The latter will be carried out in September 2026 in snow-bound areas of both UTs and in February 2027 in the plains.

The Census 2027 is significant for Jammu and Kashmir for both political and social reasons. It will form the basis for the future delimitation of Assembly seats as well as Parliament, and will help ascertain community-wise beneficiaries of quota in the Union Territory. This is expected to facilitate the government in addressing the issue of reservation, which has become a major concern—(KNO)

In 1-Year, SMHS Reports

while almost all dog bites are reported from stray dogs."

"We receive around 1500 animal bite scratch exposures every month in Anti Rabies and in the last one year around 17,000 cases have been reported," he said.

"This figure of 17,127 cases marks the highest recorded in the past decade, underscoring the urgent need to address the issue immediately."

Details reveal that 14554 bite cases were reported in Srinagar in last one

year followed by 751 in Budgam, 266 in Baramulla, 231 Kupwara, 304 in Baniptora, 235 in Ganderbal, 152 in Pulwama, 96 in Shopian, 99 in Kulgam, 111 in Budgam and 328 from other districts.

An expert said that cats do transmit Rabies similar to dogs and cat bite cases are on rise and people need to take precautions in this regard. "The trend of keeping cats as pets has gone up especially post COVID times but in many instances the owners are not following norms like vaccination, deworming, timely treatment and hygiene practices," he said.

"We have seen many fold increases in the number of cases visiting Anti Rabies Clinic SMHS over the last four years. More than half cases are victims of cat exposures now," he added.

Reviewing the yearly data on bite cases, the official said that from April 2015 to March 2016, 7,061 bite cases were reported to ARC SMHS, followed by 5,832 cases from April 2016 to March 2017, 6,802 from April 2017 to March 2018, 6,397 from April 2018 to March 2019, 6,139 from April 2019 to March 2020, 4,808 from April 2020 to March 2021, 5,469 from April 2021 to March 2022, 6,875 from April 2022 to March 2023, around 8800 from April 2023 to March 2024, around 12000 from April 2024 to March 2025 taking total cases since April 2015 to over 85,000.

"Kashmir is witnessing a surge in pet ownership for the last decade and in contrast to farm animals that provide milk, meat and eggs; pets are companion animals and are kept purely for companionship," he said.

"Adherence to personal hygiene while handling pets is important for keeping Zoonosis at bay. A person who intends to keep a pet must be mentally prepared to take proper care of his pet animal with respect to behavioural requirements, adequate feeding, shelter and healthcare facilities. There is no fun in bringing home an animal without taking due care of it," he added.

They said that regular hygiene practices, such as routine grooming and dental care, help prevent skin infections and dental diseases in pets.

In Kashmir, dog bites pose a serious public health concern, with thousands of people becoming victims of animal bites, particularly dog bites, and some developing rabies.

Rabies is a universally fatal viral disease, resulting in approximately 59,000 human deaths annually worldwide, with 95 percent of cases occurring in Africa and Asia—(KNO)

NRPC Forecasts Over 42%

anticipated 1286 MWs of surplus power for the month of May-2026.

Earlier in April KNO reported that in the peak winters of 2025-2026, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh were utilizing nearly 1,000 Megawatts (MWs) of coal and gas energy amid dip in hydel power generation.

The official figures in this regard had revealed that in the month of January-2026, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh were utilizing 999.21 MWs of thermal energy including 870.14 MWs of coal and 129.7 MWs of gas energy from the allocated shares in joint and central sector utilities.

The figures reveal that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh were allocated with a total of 3767.44 MWs of power from state, private and central share out of which 999.21 MWs were thermal energy and 2673.1 MWs were from the renewable energy.

It also said that out of the total allocated energy, the regions were utilizing 95.13 MWs of nuclear and 1115.88 MWs of hydel energy.

The figures also reveal that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in the month of January-2026 were relying on nearly 66 percent of imported power.

Pertinently, as already reported by this news agency Jammu and Kashmir was importing more than 95 percent of its electricity in the month of December.

The officials earlier in the month had informed that Jammu and Kashmir is importing electricity ranging from 2900 MWs to 3100 MWs during the peak hours.

It also had informed that during the other hours, the region is importing electricity ranging from 2400 MWs to 2800 MWs—(KNO)

MEA Rejects Indus

India has consistently opposed the establishment of the arbitral body and considers all proceedings and decisions issued by it as "null and void".

"The illegally constituted so-called Court of Arbitration has issued what it termed an award concerning maximum pondage supplemental to the award on

issues of general interpretation of the Indus Waters Treaty," Jaiswal said.

He added that India had never recognised the constitution of the tribunal and reiterated that the country's decision to keep the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance would continue.

India had earlier announced that the treaty would remain in abeyance following the April 22, 2025 terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 civilians were killed.

Pertinently, the Indus Waters Treaty, signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 with the mediation of the World Bank, governs the sharing of waters of the Indus river system between the two countries. Under the agreement, the waters of the eastern rivers — Ravi, Beas and Sutlej — were allocated to India, while Pakistan received rights over the western rivers — Indus, Jhelum and Chenab — with certain usage provisions granted to India.

The current dispute relates to hydroelectric projects being developed by India on western rivers, including the Kishanganga and Ratle projects, which Pakistan has challenged under the treaty's dispute resolution mechanism.

India has maintained that disputes under the treaty should first be addressed through the mechanism of a Neutral Expert, as provided under the agreement, and has objected to parallel proceedings before the Court of Arbitration constituted under the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in The Hague.

New Delhi has argued that initiating arbitration proceedings without following the agreed dispute resolution sequence amounted to a violation of the treaty provisions.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration, headquartered in the Netherlands, facilitates arbitration and dispute resolution between states and international entities. India, however, has refused to participate in the proceedings related to the Indus Waters Treaty dispute—(KNO)

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that I have purchased a tipper bearing Registration No. JK03F-5172. If any person has any claim, objection, lien, or any kind of interest regarding the said vehicle, he/she may kindly contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be presumed that the vehicle is free from all encumbrances.

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S/o Bashir Ahmad Rather
R/o Arampora, Ganderbal
Contact No.: 7006889845



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Kashmiri Pandits return to Bandipora after 37 years for Sumbli Mawas festival

'Muslim neighbours took care of temple'; DC Chib hails communal harmony

SAJID RAINA



BANDIPORA: Hundreds of displaced Kashmiri Pandits on Saturday returned to the historic Nand Kishore Temple in Sumbal area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district after 37 years to participate in the annual three-day Sumbli Mawas festival.

The festival, observed on the birth anniversary of Nand Kishore Maharaj, drew devotees from different parts of the country who gathered to offer prayers, reconnect with their roots and meet old neighbours and friends.

The temple premises witnessed emotional scenes as several families reunited during the annual gathering, which members of the community described as a symbol of remembrance and communal harmony.

Authorities had made elaborate security and administrative arrangements for the smooth conduct of the festival. Senior police and civil administration officials remained present during the event.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora Indu Kanwal Chib visited the shrine and participated in special prayers, while Senior Superintendent of Police Bandipora reviewed

security arrangements ahead of the celebrations.

Chib appreciated the participation of residents, saying the involvement of the Muslim community reflected Kashmir's shared traditions and communal harmony. "It is heartening to see the local community actively participating in the event and welcoming the visiting families. Such gatherings strengthen bonds between communities and preserve our collective heritage," she said.

Many visiting devotees said returning to the Valley after decades was an emotional experience. "We are happy to return to our motherland after so many years. Our Muslim neighbours took care of this temple in our absence, and we will always remain thankful to them," said Sunil Kaul, a devotee visiting from outside Kashmir.

Another devotee, Ramesh Bhat, said returning to the ancestral village and meet-

ing old neighbours brought back memories of earlier times. "It is the best feeling to return home after decades. Praying at our ancestral temple fills our hearts with emotion," he said.

Ashok Kumar, another participant in the festival, said the annual gathering helped the displaced community maintain its connection with Kashmir. "No matter where we live, our roots are here. Coming back every year keeps our traditions and memories alive," he said.

Locals welcomed the visiting families and assisted in arrangements for the festival. "Pandits are part of our family. Their return reconnects us with our shared traditions and old memories," said Rather Mehraj, a Sumbal resident.

Community members said the annual festival had now become a symbol of reconciliation and hope for renewed communal harmony in Kashmir—(KNO)

Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan

Vibrant, participative anti-drug awareness programmes held across Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Under the ongoing Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan campaign, a series of awareness and outreach programmes were organised across District Shopian Saturday to educate the people about the ongoing 100 Day Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan.

Yoga sessions, awareness lectures and interactive programmes were conducted in educational institutions of the district where students and staff actively participated and pledged to promote a healthy & drug-free lifestyle.

An inter-school debate competition was also organised at HSS Vehil under the banner of NMJKA, where students highlighted the growing menace of substance abuse and stressed the collective responsibility of society in eradicating it.

Similarly, awareness activities were held at HS Pinjoora and HS Mantribugh Shopian, sensitizing participants about the social, psychological and health-related consequences of drug addiction.

Other departments also organised scheduled activities. GDC Shopian, KPDC, ICDS, Ayush and

Revenue department conducted various awareness events where officials, students, youth and local residents participated enthusiastically.

Speakers highlighted the hazards effects of drug abuse and urged people especially youth to stay away from narcotics and stressed the need for coordinated and committed efforts towards the goal of drug free society.

Participants were also encouraged to proactively spread awareness at the grassroots level and contribute actively towards building a healthy, safe and drug-free Shopian.

DLTFC approves 31 applications under JKREGP in Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: District Development Commissioner (DDC), Anantnag Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat Saturday chaired the meeting of the District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) under J&K Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP) at the DC Office.

CPO, District Officer, KVIB, LBM, FM DIC, officials from Bank and KVIB and others attended the meeting.

During the meeting, 37 applicants appeared before the committee for sanction of loans and establishment of different types of units under the JKREGP. After detailed interaction and assessment, the committee recommended 31 candidates for establishing their units under the scheme. The approved cases involve a total project cost of Rs. 312.05 lakh, with a proposed margin money assistance of Rs 109.375 lakh under the JKREGP scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC stressed that the sanctioned loan amount be swiftly disbursed in favor of the approved cases for establishing their units in a time bound manner adding that proper guidance be provided to the beneficiaries so their units become profitable and sustainable. He said that proper implementation of the self employment and sponsorship schemes is vital to ensure meaningful employment for youth of the district.

The DDC advised the beneficiaries to work hard and make sustained efforts while keeping themselves updated with the market trends for securing the future of their units. Sustainable units will not only generate employment for the unit holders but will also provide livelihood opportunities to others, he remarked

CENSUS-2027

Anantnag set to roll out Self Enumeration Exercise

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: As part of the Census-2027, District Anantnag is all set and ready to roll out the Self Enumeration (Digital Mode) Exercise, scheduled from 17 to 31 May 2026, which shall precede the House Listing Operations scheduled to be held from 01 to 30 June, 2026.

In this regard, the Deputy Commissioner (Principal Census Officer), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, today briefed the media and appealed to the public to participate in the Self Enumeration process through online mode on <https://se.census.gov.in>.

During the press briefing, the DC informed that as part of the Census-2027 Exercise, the Government has scheduled the Self Enumeration Digital Mode Exercise from May 17 to May 31, 2026 which will be followed by House Listing Operations from June 01 to June 30, 2026. He said the census exercise is aimed at collecting accurate demographic and household data for effective planning and policy formulation. He urged the general public to cooperate with the enumerators and ensure timely and correct submission of information during the survey process.

Dr. Bilal also informed that provisions for self-enumeration have been incorporated to facilitate citizens and make the process more transparent and convenient. He stressed upon the importance of public participation in ensuring the successful conduct of the census operations.

The DC further appealed to residents to extend full cooperation to the field staff and abide by the guidelines issued for smooth completion of the exercise.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT WAGOORA

(PUBLIC NOTICE).

Subject:- Tentative Selection List of Sahayakis (Anganwadi Helpers) of Poshan Project Wagoora.

In pursuance to Government Order No.103-JK(SWD) of 2023 Dated: 28-04-2023, and approval conveyed by Mission Director Poshan J&K Srinagar vide No: MD/Poshan/Estt/13281-94 Dated: 08-05-2023, and MD/Poshan/Estt/2023/30680-30821 dated:-27-09-2023, No: SMD/ICDS/2022-23/31250-60 dated:-03-10-2023 (12) posts of Sahayakis (Anganwadi Helpers) had been advertised by this office vide advertisement notice No: 01 of 2026, Dated:-01-01-2026.

Out of (12) posts of (Anganwadi Helpers), the selection has been made against (08) posts of Sahayakis (Anganwadi Helpers) for (08) Anganwadi Centres of Poshan Project Wagoora. In response to the said advertisement notice, 30 application forms were received against (08) posts of Sahayakis (AWHs) on the basis of Wards within cut-off date i.e. 15-01-2026 and due to poor response the said advertisement has been extended by this office vide endorsement No. CDPO/W/ESTT/2025/524-36 Dated 15-01-2026 and merit list of candidates has been prepared as per criteria laid down vide Government Order No.103-JK(SWD) of 2023 Dated: 28-04-2023 and Selection list has been framed on the basis of merit list herewith as Annexure-A, comprising of 08 candidates Tentatively selected as Sahayakis (Anganwadi Helpers). The Merit List for (24) Candidates of Poshan Project Wagoora is annexed herewith as Annexure-B. Both Tentative Selection List and Merit List are hereby published for information of general public and inviting appeal/objections if any. The appeal/objection, if any, against the said Tentative selection list, shall be filed in the office of the Child Development Project Officer, Poshan Project Wagoora within 10 days from the date of publication of merit list against proper receipt up to 4:00 P.M.

Note:- No appeal/objection shall be entertained after expiry of the last date for filing appeal/objections.

Tentative Selection List of Candidates for the post of Sahayakis (Anganwadi Helpers) for Anganwadi Centres of Poshan Project Wagoora advertised vide Notice No 01 OF 2026 dated:-01-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit +
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	5	Ruqia Akhtar	W/o Pervaiz Ahmad Bhat	Vizer	W-01	01-03-1992	10th	207	500	41.4	NO	41.4
2	1	Yasmeena Bano	W/o Javid Ahmad Najar	Muqam	W-01	10-02-1994	10th	180	500	36	NO	36.0
3	24	Rukhsana Bano	D/o Ghulam Ahmad Magray	Kholina	W-04	23-03-2006	10th	253	500	50.6	NO	50.6
4	27	Masrata Bano	D/o Gh Mohi ud Din	Tangwari-Bala	W-07	11-01-2003	10th	277	500	55.4	NO	55.4
5	6	Dilshada Akhter	D/O Wali Mohd Bhat	Suchipora	W-10	01-03-1997	10th	331	500	66.2	NO	66.2
6	20	Aneesa Parvaze	W/o Mehboob Ahmad Chachi	Masjid Agan	W-06	01-08-2003	10th	233	500	46.6	NO	46.6
7	10	Mehnaz Akhter	W/o Mushtaq Ahmad Deadar	Bandibala	W-01	15-02-1994	10th	234	500	46.8	NO	46.8
8	4	Nowsheena Rashid	W/o Javid Ahmad Bhat	Patchar	W-03	02-09-1991	10th	200	500	40	NO	40.0

Note:- As per Government order Married candidates will be given Preference in case of Anganwadi Helpers, where no married candidate in the said ward is not available Unmarried candidates shall be considered.

Sd/-
Child development project officer
Poshan project Wagoora

ANNEXURE-B

Merit List of Candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) in response to advertisement notice as mentioned below:-

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Vizer-A Ward-01 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	5	Ruqia Akhtar	W/o Pervaiz Ahmad Bhat	Vizer	W-01	01-03-1992	10th	207	500	41.4	NO	41.4
2	16	Jameeda Shabir	D/O Shabir Ahmad Ganaie	Vizer	W-01	12-11-2000	10th	236	500	47.2	NO	47.2
3	15	Gulshan Bano	D/O Shabir Ahmad Ganaie	Vizer	W-01	11-11-1991	10th	167	500	33.4	NO	33.4

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Muqam-A Ward 01 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	1	Yasmeena Bano	W/o Javid Ahmad Najar	Muqam	W-01	10-02-1994	10th	180	500	36	NO	36.0
2	2	Gulshana Ara	W/o Nisar Ahmad Najar	Muqam	W-01	15-10-1990	10th	178	500	35.6	NO	35.6
3	2	Zahida Jabbar	D/O Lt. Abdul Jabbar Najar	Muqam	W-01	05-02-2007	10th	308	500	61.6	NO	61.6

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Kholina-A Ward 04 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	24	Rukhsana Bano	D/o Ghulam Ahmad Magray	Kholina	W-04	23-03-2006	10th	253	500	50.6	NO	50.6
2	18	Dilshada Bano	D/o Gh Ahmad Magray	Kholina	W-04	14-02-1992	10th	216	500	43.2	NO	43.2

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Tangwari Bala Ward 07 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	27	Masrata Bano	D/o Gh Mohi ud Din	Tangwari-Bala	W-07	11-01-2003	10th	277	500	55.4	NO	55.4
2	17	Rahila Jan	D/o Abdul Qayoom Khan	Tangwari-Bala	W-07	04-08-2006	10th	241	500	48.2	NO	48.2
3	28	Tasleema Bano	D/o Ghulam Mohi Ud Din	Tangwari-Bala	W-07	15-05-1995	10th	188	500	37.6	NO	37.6
4	14	Mudasira Bano	D/o Muhammad Subhan Sheikh	Tangwari-Bala	W-07	01-03-2000	10th	173	500	34.6	NO	34.6

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Suchipora Ward-10 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	6	Dilshada Akhter	D/O Wali Mohd Bhat	Suchipora	W-10	01-03-1997	10th	331	500	66.2	NO	66.2
2	13	Khushboo Fayaz	D/O Fayaz Ahmad Bhat	Suchipora	W-10	27-02-2006	10th	231	500	46.2	NO	46.2

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Masjid Agan-A Ward 06 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	20	Aneesa Parvaze	W/o Mehboob Ahmad Chachi	Masjid Agan	W-06	01-08-2003	10th	233	500	46.6	NO	46.6
2	26	Rashita Bano	W/o Asif Ahmad Chachi	Masjid Agan	W-06	14-10-2001	10th	187	500	37.4	NO	37.4

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Bandibala-A Ward 01 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	10	Mehnaz Akhter	W/o Mushtaq Ahmad Deadar	Bandibala	W-01	15-02-1994	10th	234	500	46.8	NO	46.8
2	9	Bisma Nazir	D/o Nazir Ahmad Farda	Bandibala	W-01	02-02-2005	10th	293	500	58.6	NO	58.6
3	7	Rukhsana Bano	D/o Nazir Ahmad Farda	Bandibala	W-01	05-03-2003	10th	264	500	52.8	NO	52.8
4	8	Dilshada Banu	D/o Ghulam Mohammad Deadar	Bandibala	W-01	05-03-1995	10th	237	500	47.4	NO	47.4
5	11	Kalsum Rashid	D/o Abdul Rashid Bokda	Bandibala	W-01	20-11-2002	10th	230	500	46	NO	46.0

Merit List of candidates who have applied for the post of Sahayakis (AWHs) against the location of AWC Patchar-B Ward 03 Published Vide No. 01 OF 2026 Dated 01-01-2026 in Brighter Kashmir, Srinagar-e-Jung, New State Reporter Published on 04-01-2026.

S. No.	Index No.	Name of the candidate	Parentage/ W/O	Residence	Ward No.	D.O.B	Qualification	Marks in 10th		%age	Weightage	Total Merit
								Marks Obtained	Max Marks			
1	4	Nowsheena Rashid	W/o Javid Ahmad Bhat	Patchar	W-03	02-09-1991	10th	200	500	40	NO	40
2	12	Nighat Irshad	D/O Irshad Ahmad Bhat	Patchar	W-03	04-03-2006	10th	331	500	66.2	NO	66.2
3	21	Suraiya Bano	D/O Mohammad Maqbool Bhat	Patchar	W-03	27-02-2002	10th	261	500	52.2	NO	52.2

No: CDPO/POSHAN/W/2025-26/91-102
Dated:-16/05/2026

DIPK-1341-26
DT: 16/05/2026

Sd/-
Child Dev. Project Officer
Poshan Wagoora

CM hails Mohammad Yasser's historic gold medal win at Asian Boxing Championship

GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday congratulated Rajouri's young boxer Mohammad Yasser on winning the gold medal at the Asian Boxing Championship held in Uzbekistan. In his congratulatory message, the Chief Minister said that the young athlete's remarkable achievement has brought pride and honour to Jammu & Kashmir and the entire country. He lauded Mohammad Yasser's dedication, hard work and determination, saying that his success on the international stage reflects the immense sporting talent emerging from the region. The Chief Minister extended his best wishes to the boxer for his future endeavours and expressed hope that his achieve-



ment would inspire aspiring sportspersons across Jammu & Kashmir to pursue excellence in sports with commitment and perseverance. He reiterated the Government's commitment towards promoting sports infrastructure and providing opportunities to excel at national and international platforms. Fourteen-year-old Mohammad Yasser scripted history by becoming the

first boxer from Jammu & Kashmir to win a gold medal at the Under-15 Asian Boxing Championship held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. A trainee at the Khelo India Centre in Rajouri, Yasser delivered a dominant performance throughout the tournament. He defeated boxers from Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Iran before overcoming host nation Uzbekistan by 4-1 in the final to clinch the gold medal in the 58-kg category.

YSS Sets Up District-based Monitoring and Participation Framework for Sports Sector

GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: The Department of Youth Services & Sports carried out a comprehensive Union Territory-level review of sports infrastructure, youth engagement programmes and district action plans for 2026-27, while laying down a time-bound and outcome-oriented roadmap for expanding sports access and strengthening youth development initiatives across Jammu & Kashmir.

The review meeting was chaired by Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, and attended by Director General Youth Services & Sports, senior officers of the Department and newly posted District Youth Services & Sports Officers from all 20 districts. The exercise aimed at a structured monitoring and planning framework focused on participation, infrastructure utilisation, inclusion and execution efficiency. The Department outlined a district-driven approach aimed at ensuring that sports infrastructure translates into regular sporting activity, youth engagement and talent development at the grassroots level.

A detailed review of 521 projects involving an investment of over ₹644



crore was undertaken during the meeting. The portfolio includes 344 ongoing works with an estimated cost of ₹396.72 crore and 177 new projects proposed under the Action Plan 2026-27 involving an estimated investment of ₹247.34 crore. During the review, district-wise progress, expenditure patterns, project execution timelines and implementation bottlenecks were examined in detail. Districts were asked to move towards measurable outcomes in terms of participation, outreach and infrastructure usage rather than limiting focus to physical construction alone.

Dr Shahid Iqbal said the Department intends to build a more participatory and inclusive sports ecosystem in which schools, panchayats, local communities, clubs, associations,

federations and youth institutions play an active role in identifying talent and sustaining sporting activity. He said sports infrastructure must function as community assets that promote discipline, fitness, leadership and constructive youth engagement.

The Commissioner Secretary directed all districts to strengthen monitoring mechanisms and ensure faster completion of projects through close coordination with district administrations and executing agencies. A clear implementation timeline was prescribed under which land identification is to be completed within 30 days, parallelly technical sanctions within 45 days, administrative approvals and tendering within 60 days. The Department is presently developing infra-

structure across 16 sports and activity categories including multi-purpose playfields, volleyball, badminton, football, cricket, basketball, athletics, kabaddi, wrestling and indoor sports facilities. Out of the total projects reviewed, 176 relate to multi-purpose playfields while 98 are linked to volleyball infrastructure, reflecting the Department's focus on accessible, community-based sports infrastructure with high youth participation.

Several major initiatives proposed across districts were also reviewed, including Khel Gaons, Khel Bhawans, Border Sports Academies, sports science centres, synthetic courts, indoor stadiums, youth hostels, wrestling akharas and district-level training facilities.

Projects aimed at

improving sports access in border, tribal and far-flung areas were given particular emphasis during the discussions. The meeting also stressed the need for better utilisation of existing infrastructure, regular sporting calendars, coaching support and district-level talent mapping. Officers were directed to ensure that infrastructure development is linked with actual sports participation and athlete progression.

The Commissioner Secretary appreciated districts including Shopian, Anantnag, Budgam and Kulgam for strong utilisation and implementation performance, while directing districts with lower expenditure levels to intensify monitoring and expedite pending works. Institutional strengthening measures were also discussed during the meeting, including efficient cadre management, timely regularisation and promotions, improved coordination between field offices and capacity building of departmental staff. It was decided that district-level review meetings would now follow across Jammu & Kashmir to monitor implementation, remove bottlenecks and ensure that the Department's youth and sports initiatives deliver visible outcomes on the ground.

Nasha Mukt Abhiyaan

Sports Council football trial blitz sweeps Kashmir Valley

GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council is executing a rapid district-by-district football talent hunt across the Kashmir Valley as part of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir's 100 Day Nasha Mukt Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, a campaign leveraging sport as a frontline response to the growing menace of drug abuse among youth. The Kashmir Champions Football League (KCFL) trials were formally launched on May 13 in Ganderbal, with youth from across the district turning out in impressive numbers. The drive extended to two simultaneous venues today in Bandipora and Shopian and is scheduled for Budgam and Srinagar on Sunday, May 17, completing the current phase of a roadmap that ultimately spans every district from Kupwara to Kulgam. At Bandipora, the trials were graced by MLA Bandipora, Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, whose presence reinforced



legislative commitment to grassroots sports development in North Kashmir. Large participation was recorded at registration, with locals turning up in significant numbers as spectators, visibly rallying behind the youth on the ground. At Synthetic Turf Dragad, Shopian, parallel trials drew an equally spirited response, with local spectators thronging the ground throughout the day and encouraging the aspiring footballers participating in the selections. Selected players across all districts of Kashmir will enter the full KCFL competitive structure, a government-backed pathway from grassroots trials to organised league play, offering

youth a sustained sporting direction as a shield against substance abuse. Running concurrently, the Karate Championship 2026 was also inaugurated today at the Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Ground, Srinagar, in the presence of the Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull, drawing karate practitioners from across the Valley. The South Kashmir Volleyball League 2026, organised in association with the Volleyball Association of J&K and running from May 14 to 17 at Batapora Stadium Shopian, entered its second day with six teams competing before packed stands. Senior official of J&K Sports council attended the matches.

National Referee & Jury Course commences at Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Stadium

GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: National Referee & Jury Course organised by the Indian Pencak Silat Federation commenced today at the Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex amidst an enthusiastic gathering of sports officials, coaches, referees, and martial arts enthusiasts from across the country. The four-day course, being held from May 16 to May 19, 2026, is supported by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and aims to strengthen technical standards and officiating excellence in the sport



of Pencak Silat in India. The opening ceremony witnessed the presence of the Secretary, Nuzhat Gul as the Chief Guest, while internationally renowned educator from the Interna-

tional Pencak Silat Federation, Tiith Hayati, attended as the Guest of Honour. The ceremony was also attended by several dignitaries and senior officials associated with martial arts and sports

development. More than 200 coaches, referees, and technical officials from different states and union territories of India are participating in the prestigious course, making it one of the largest technical gatherings of Pencak Silat professionals in the country. The programme is expected to provide participants with updated knowledge of international refereeing standards, jury systems, and modern officiating practices under expert guidance. Addressing the gathering, Nuzhat Gul appreciated the efforts of the organisers

for choosing Srinagar as the host city and emphasised the importance of such national-level technical courses in promoting professionalism and sporting culture among youth. She reiterated the commitment of the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council towards supporting emerging sports and creating opportunities for athletes and officials alike. The event reflects the growing popularity of Pencak Silat in India and highlights Srinagar's emergence as a vibrant destination for national sporting events and martial arts activities.

District Admin Srinagar's Rolling Trophy for Inter-College Cricket Tournament inaugurated at S.P. College

GMK SPORTS DESK

SRINAGAR: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar, Dr. G.V. Sandeep, on Saturday inaugurated the District Administration Srinagar's Rolling Trophy for the Inter-College Cricket Tournament (Men & Women)-2026 at S.P. College Srinagar under the Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme. The inaugural ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including Dr. Seem Naz, Nodal Principal, Kashmir Division Colleges; Elford Thomas, IAS Probationer; Dr. Haris Izhazhar Tantray, Principal, S.P. College Srinagar; Dr. Hudda Gazali, Principal, Government College for Women Nawa Kadal Srinagar; Dr. Tehmeena Yousuf, Principal, Islamia College of Science and Commerce Srinagar; and Dr. Deebea Sarmad, Principal, GDC Eidgah Srinagar, besides SSP Traffic Srinagar, SP East Srinagar, and SHO Kothi Bagh. Officials from the Youth Services and Sports Department Srinagar, the Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Srinagar, Physical Training Instructors (PTIs), Assistant Physi-



cal Training Instructors (APTIs), and other officers were also present on the occasion. The inaugural match of the tournament was played between Amar Singh College and Government Degree College Hyderpora. Amar Singh College won the toss and elected to field first. A total of 18 teams from various Government Degree Colleges have registered for the tournament, including nine men's teams and nine women's teams. The participating men's teams include Government College of Education (IASE) Srinagar, GDC Hyderpora, Amar Singh College, GDC Bemina Srinagar, GDC Women M.A. Road Srinagar, S.P. College Srinagar, GDC Eidgah, Islamia College of Science

and Commerce Srinagar, and Gandhi Memorial College Srinagar. The women's category included teams from GDC Zakura, Vishwa Bharati College, Amar Singh College, GC Women M.A. Road Srinagar, S.P. College Srinagar, Gandhi Memorial College Srinagar, Islamia College of Science and Commerce Srinagar, and GC Women Nawa Kadal Srinagar. Speaking on the occasion, SSP Srinagar highlighted the importance of sports in character building and youth development. He said that tournaments and sporting events not only nurture talent but also channel the energy of young people toward productive and meaningful activities.

Movies Schedule

★★★★

Sunday, 17th May

<p>BHOOTH BANGLA (U/A16+) Hindi - 11:35 AM, 04:05 PM</p>	<p>Michael (U/A 13+) English with English Subtitles 01:15 PM</p>	<p>Dhurandhar: The Revenge (A) Hindi - 02:50 PM</p>	<p>AAKHRI SAWAL (UA 16+) Hindi - 10:45 AM, 07:15 PM</p>
<p>WAR OF SHERA (U/A 16+) PUNJABI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES 07:30 PM</p>	<p>PATNI AUR WOHO DO (UA16+) Hindi Atmos - 11:15 AM, 01:45 PM, 04:15 PM, 06:45 PM</p>		

Call: 95416 13868
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