

Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Srinagar • Tuesday 16, June 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 144 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 1/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paise) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

Narendra Modi
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PM Modi Welcomes West Asia Deal; Hopes Peace Will Be Restored



GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Monday, welcomed the agreement between Iran and the United States to end the conflict in West Asia that has been raging for more than three months, killing and injuring thousands, and disrupting shipping and energy markets.

"I welcome the understanding reached between the United States and Iran on ending the conflict in West Asia, which has caused serious economic disruption across the world and led to loss of life in many countries," Mr. Modi said in a post on social media, from the Slovakian capital of Bratislava. The Prime Minister arrived in the city on Sunday night for a bilateral visit after a day of events and meetings with French President Emmanuel Macron in Nice.

The Prime Minister noted

that the conflict has caused serious economic disruption across the world and led to loss of life in many countries.

The Prime Minister expressed hope that the implementation of this understanding will help restore peace and stability in the region and ensure the freedom of navigation and commerce.

Modi also said that India looks forward to deliberations on the remaining issues reaching a sustainable final agreement.

In a post on X, Shri Modi said; "I welcome the understanding reached between the United States and Iran on ending the conflict in West Asia, which has caused serious economic disruption across the world and led to loss of life in many countries.

India hopes that the implementation of this understanding will help restore peace and stability in the region and ensure

CM Omar Chairs High-Level Meeting To Review Muharram Arrangements Across J&K

Directs Departments To Ensure Seamless Power, Water, Health, Sanitation Facilities

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Monday chaired a high-level meeting to review the arrangements being put in place for the smooth observance of Muharram-2026 across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary; Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Rana, Javid Ahmad Dar and Satish Sharma; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Members of Legislative Assembly Tanvir Sadiq (Zadibal), Ali Mohammad Dar (Chadoora), Aga Muntazir Mehdi (Budgam), Dr Shafi Ahmad Wani (Beerwah), Javed Reyaz Bedar (Pattan), Hilal Akbar Lone (Sonawari), Shamima Firdous (Habba Kadal) and Salman Sagar (Hazratbal).

President of All J&K Shia Association Imran Raza Ansari, representatives of various Shia organizations, clerics, civil society members and community leaders also participated in the meeting.

Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department, Ashwini Kumar,



Additional Chief Secretary Tourism, Ashish Chandra Verma, administrative secretaries, both the Divisional Commissioners, all Deputy Commissioners, heads of departments and other senior officers were also present. Officers from outside Srinagar attended the meeting through virtual mode.

Addressing the meeting, the Chief Minister emphasized that

preparations for Muharram had been underway for considerable time and that today's meeting was aimed at reviewing the progress made so far and identifying any remaining gaps.

"The preparations for Muharram have not started today. Extensive groundwork has already been undertaken at the district, divisional and departmental levels. This meet-

ing provides an opportunity to collectively review the arrangements, assess what has been accomplished and ensure that whatever remains is completed well in time," he said.

The Chief Minister noted that Deputy Commissioners, community representatives, elected representatives and departmental officers had already held extensive consultations at the grassroots level. He said the Government was committed to ensuring that all arrangements are put in place in a coordinated and efficient manner.

"Like every year, the Government will make every possible effort to ensure that there are no shortcomings and that all necessary facilities are provided to the people during Muharram," he added.

During the meeting, special focus was laid on uninterrupted power supply. Referring to concerns raised by public representatives and community leaders, the Chief Minister directed the Power Development Department to ensure regular electricity supply at all major congregation venues and procession routes.

He stressed the need for adequate backup

LIKE EVERY YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO ensure that there are no shortcomings and that all necessary facilities are provided to the people during Muharram,"

LG Releases Amarnathji Yatra Guide Book



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday released the 15th edition of Shri Amarnathji Yatra Guide Book, at Lok Bhavan.

The Lieutenant Governor commended the Tourism Federation of Jammu for its continuous endeavors to enhance the pilgrimage tourism experience.

He also appreciated the collaborative efforts of the Federation and all associated organizations in ensuring that Shri Amarnathji Yatra remains a safe, seamless, and spiritually fulfilling journey for devotees.

This year's edition of the Guide Book serves as an essential informative manual for pilgrims. It provides vital information regarding facilities, safety protocols, Yatra disciplines, registration procedures to medical facilities, accommodation options, and emergency contact details along both routes from Lakhampur to the Holy Cave.

Shri Rajesh Gupta, Chairman, Tourism Federation of Jammu, and President Vishwa Hindu Parishad J&K and Ladakh; informed that, inspired by the resounding success of Jammu Tawi Aarti initiative, regular Aarti

Sakina Itoo Assures Early Resolution Of Ayushman Payment Dispute

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Health Minister Sakina Itoo on Monday assured that the government is actively examining issues raised by private hospitals regarding pending payments under the Ayushman Bharat-SEHAT Scheme and will resolve the matter at the earliest to ensure patients do not suffer.

The minister's assurance comes amid growing concerns over the future of the flagship health insurance scheme in the Union Territory, with private hospitals and dialysis centres warning that they may withdraw from the programme from July 1 over delays in reimbursement of claims and non-release of dues.

Speaking after inaugurating the SKIMS Medical Camp and Blood Centre at Alangari Bazar in Zadibal along with MLA Tanvir Sadiq, Itoo acknowledged



that empanelled private hospitals had expressed concerns regarding delayed payments under the scheme.

She said the government was seized of the matter and expressed confidence that the issues would be addressed soon.

Describing the Ayushman Bharat-SEHAT Scheme as a vital healthcare initiative, the minister said it has provided crucial support to economically weaker sections by enabling access to surgeries, specialised

Kashmiri Pandits Seek Township In Rainawari, Policy Support For Rehabilitation

Call For Dignified Return, Preservation Of Identity, Greater Investment In Valley

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Reiterating their collective desire to return to their ancestral homeland, members of the Kashmiri Pandit community on Monday called for concrete measures to facilitate their rehabilitation, including the establishment of a dedicated township in Rainawari and enhanced opportunities for community-led investment in the Valley.

Addressing a press conference here after the conclusion of the week-long 'Global Kashmiri Pandit Heritage Tour' and the two-day international conclave 'Praagaash' at SKICC, community representative, Dr Surinder Kaul, said the initiative marked a significant step towards reconnecting displaced Kashmiri Pandits, particularly the younger generation, with



their civilisational roots and cultural heritage.

Dr Kaul said the Heritage Tour, conducted from June 6 to 12, covered several temples, shrines, ashrams and historical sites across Kashmir.

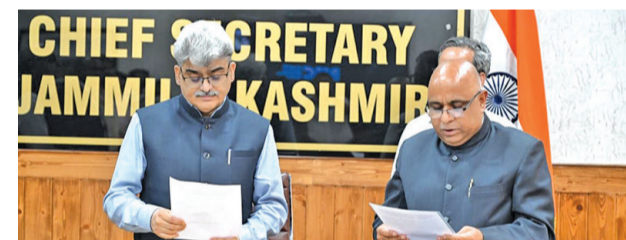
"For the first time in 36 years, members of our community came together to undertake a structured heritage tour across Kashmir. The objective was to reconnect our people, especially

the youth, with their roots, traditions and civilisational heritage," he said.

He said the displacement of Kashmiri Pandits in 1989-90 had scattered the community across different parts of India and the world, creating concerns about preserving its identity and cultural continuity.

"Our biggest challenge over the past three decades has been safeguarding our

CS Administers Oath Of Office To Chairperson, J&K Water Resources Regulatory Authority



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Monday administered the Oath of Office to Suresh Kumar Gupta, who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources Regulatory Authority (JKWRA).

The oath ceremony was held at the Civil Secretariat and was attended by senior officers of the Government and officials associated with the water resources sector.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary extended his congratulations to Shri

Gupta and expressed confidence that his rich administrative experience and deep understanding of natural resource management would further strengthen the Authority's efforts towards ensuring sustainable, equitable and efficient management of water resources across the Union Territory.

The Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources Regulatory Authority is a statutory body mandated to regulate and oversee the development, management and conservation of water resources in the Union Territory. The Authority plays a crucial

Decade Of Decline 'J&K Records 20% Fall In Students Transition From Secondary To Hr Sec'

RIYAZ BHAT

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has recorded its sharpest decline in student progression from secondary to higher secondary in a decade, with the transition rate falling more than 20% between 2014 and 2024.

The official figures available reveal that J&K has recorded the second highest decline in the transition rate across the country during this period.

"The steepest declines in transition from secondary to higher secondary between the years 2014 and 2024 were recorded in Arunachal Pradesh with 81.8 percent to 60.7 percent and Jammu & Kashmir with 93.38 percent to 72.9 percent."



The documents said that despite notable improvements, persistent challenges remain in ensuring retention through the higher secondary stage.

"As participation beyond Grade 10 lies outside the mandate of the RTE Act, financial constraints, early entry

into the workforce, and social pressures continue to impede progression, underscoring the need for sustained policy and institutional support," it reads.

As already reported last year, in Jammu and Kashmir, over 17 percent of students at primary level and 12 percent

learners at senior secondary level quit studies midway.

The news agency had reported that "The retention rate at Primary level in Jammu and Kashmir was 82.70 and 88.42 at senior secondary level."

However, in the previous academic session, nearly 46,000 Out of School Children (OoSC) were mainstreamed.

Furthermore, the figures further reveal that during the year 2024-25, electricity coverage was completed in 87.2 percent of schools in Jammu and Kashmir.

The overall trend highlights sustained policy push, investment in school infrastructure, and greater convergence with rural electrification schemes.

Money Laundering Case ED Summons Mushtaq Chaya, Eight Other Hoteliers

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned nine prominent Gulmarg hoteliers, including Grand Mumtaz and Radisson Group owner Mushtaq Ahmad Ganai alias Chaya, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in connection with an ongoing investigation linked to alleged irregularities in land transactions in Gulmarg.

Besides Chaya, top sources said that those summoned by the Enforcement Directorate include Mushtaq Ahmad Burza and Manzoor Ahmad Burza of the ITC Group, Nazir Ahmad Mir of M and Co, Manzoor Ahmad Khan of Hotel Khalil Palace, Abdul Hamid Dar of Hotel Mama Palace, Syed Musadiq Shah of Hotel Royal Park, Ibrahim Khan of Kolahoi Greens and Sadaf Shah of Hotel Alpine Ridge.

Sources said the hoteliers have been directed to

Amarnath Yatra Opportunity To Defeat Hate, Build Bridges Across India: Mehbooba

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PAHALGAM: Former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said the annual Amarnath Yatra should be seen as an opportunity for the people of Kashmir to counter hate, strengthen bonds with the rest of India and showcase the Valley's centuries-old traditions of hospitality and communal harmony.

Speaking to reporters here, Mufti, said every pilgrim visiting Kashmir for the Amarnath Yatra is not only a guest but also an ambassador who carries back stories about the people, culture and traditions of the Valley to different parts of the country.

She stressed that ensuring the smooth and peaceful

conduct of the pilgrimage is not solely the responsibility of security agencies and the administration but a collective duty of the people of Kashmir as well.

"Every yatri who comes here should return with memories of warmth, compassion and coexistence. The people of Kashmir have always welcomed guests with open hearts, and it is important that this tradition continues," she said.

Mufti said that genuine human interaction and hospitality remain the most effective response to misinformation, prejudice and negative narratives about Kashmir and its people. "Personal experiences of pilgrims often help break stereotypes and foster greater understanding between communities," she said.



Amit Sharma reviews Census-2027 operations in Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: In continuation of ongoing Districts' Review streak, Chief Principal Census Officer (CPCO) and Director Census Operations (DCO), Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Amit Sharma along with Biswajit Das, Deputy Director General, MHA, Office of Registrar General of India, Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the Conference Hall, Anantnag to assess the progress of the ongoing House Listing Operations (HLO) being conducted under Census 2027 in the district.



The meeting was also attended by Principal Census Officer (Deputy Commissioner), Anantnag, Dr Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, Joint Director, DCO J&K, Arun Kumar, Assistant Director DCO J&K, Vijay Kumar, Additional Deputy Commissioner (District Census Officer), Vikas Ahlawat; ACR, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, DSEO (Additional District Census Officer), Charge Officers and other concerned officials associated with the Census exercise.

In his remarks, the CPCO termed Census Data as the founding pillars of future development and prosperity, not only in Kashmir valley but the entire nation.

Reviewing the progress, Amit Sharma appreciated the preparedness of the Anantnag district and emphasized that Census is the country's largest administrative and statistical exercise, forming the basis for planning, resource allocation and socio-economic development for years to come.

He termed Anantnag as one of the oldest districts of J&K with pristine glory and famous tourist spots. Amit Sharma stressed the importance of maintaining the highest standards of accuracy during data collection and directed enumerators and supervisors to ensure that every entry is recorded correctly and verified thoroughly.

He cautioned that even minor errors or conceptual misunderstandings can adversely impact the quality of Census data and affect future policy planning. The CPCO directed Charge Officers to ensure that Supervisors under-

take regular field inspections and conduct random quality checks instructed to intensify monitoring and ensure strict adherence to Census guidelines. He also emphasized verification of household information, coverage of migratory populations, forest areas and other special categories to ensure that no household or individual is left out of the enumeration process.

The district being a peculiar destination for migratory and seasonal populations, special emphasis was laid on ensuring their comprehensive coverage during the ongoing Census exercise.

Deputy Director General, Census, MHA, ORGI, Government of India held a direct interaction session with the present Enumerators and Supervisors, Charge Officers, etc to take first hand feedback which shall help in improvising the upcoming technology based second most impor-

tant phase of Census, which is Population Enumeration (PE), in the coming months of September 2026 and February 2027.

The Principal Census Officer assured full administrative support for the smooth conduct of Census operations and directed all concerned officers to closely monitor field activities to ensure timely completion of Census work, strictly in line with defined timelines and as per guidelines and Circular instructions issued from time to time.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner (District Census Officer) briefed the CPCO on the district profile and the status of preparations for Census-2027. He informed that all House Listing Blocks (HLBs) have been successfully created and demarcated on the CMMS portal, while field operations are progressing smoothly across the district. He also apprised Chair in the meeting about the training imparted to enumerators and supervisors, self-enumeration progress, awareness campaigns undertaken through various IEC activities, and the monitoring mechanisms put in place to ensure quality data collection and comprehensive coverage of all households, including migratory populations. Amit Sharma directed

field functionaries to track migration routes and collect details of all eligible tribal population and individuals to ensure that no person is left out of the enumeration process.

Highlighting the role of technology, Amit Sharma said the digital mode of data collection would enhance efficiency and improve the quality of information gathered.

The meeting also reviewed training activities, awareness campaigns, supervision mechanisms and field-level monitoring arrangements aimed at ensuring comprehensive and error-free Census operations across the district.

Later, the CPCO briefed the media regarding the progress achieved under the ongoing House Listing Operations (HLO) of Census-2027 in the district and highlighted the extensive preparations undertaken to ensure smooth, accurate and timely completion of the exercise.

He appealed to the public of both the UTs of J&K and Ladakh and especially residents of Anantnag district to fully co-operate with Census Enumerators and provide accurate information, stating that reliable Census data serves as the foundation for informed governance, developmental planning and equitable distribution of resources.

Dir Agri Kashmir reviews functioning of Departmental Farms

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the Directorate Hall, Lal Mandi, Srinagar, to review the preparedness and implementation strategy for the Annual Action Plan (AAP) 2026-27 across the Kashmir Division.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Agriculture Inputs and other senior officers of the Agriculture Department. Detailed deliberations were held on district-wise targets, priorities, and implementation modalities under various develop-

mental schemes and programmes envisaged in the Annual Action Plan for the financial year 2026-27.

During the meeting, the Director emphasized the importance of timely and effective execution of all interventions to ensure optimum benefits reach the farming community. He directed the officers to strengthen field-level monitoring, maintain close coordination with stakeholders, and ensure the achievement of both physical and financial targets within the prescribed timelines.

Highlighting the need for sustainable and inclusive agricultural growth, the Director stressed the promotion of modern farming

practices, crop diversification, farm mechanization, efficient resource utilization, and capacity building of farmers. He also reviewed the preparedness of the districts for the implementation of key agricultural initiatives and programmes during the ensuing cropping seasons.

The Director called upon all officers to work with commitment, accountability, and a result-oriented approach to successfully achieve the objectives of the Annual Action Plan 2026-27 and contribute towards enhancing agricultural productivity, profitability, and farmers' welfare across all the departmental farms in Kashmir Division.

DC Kulgam visits Tehsil Office to oversee process of Digitized Jamabandi

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam Monday visited Tehsil Office Kulgam to oversee the process of Jamabandi reading of the latest digitized Jamabandi, prepared after digitization and incorporation of mutations. The Jamabandi reading was conducted in the presence of the public, who had been duly informed about the process.

It was informed that the latest digitized Jamabandi is available on the Zameen Sudhar Portal (jkzameen-



sudhar.jk.gov.in) enabling every estate holder to check their land-related records. The DC stated that the public can verify their land records and identify if any corrections are required.

It was informed that non-quasi-judicial errors can be

corrected at the level of the concerned Tehsildar.

Additionally, schedules have been prepared under which the DC, ADC, and ACR are themselves overseeing the process of digitized Jamabandi reading across the district.

DC Shopian reviews progress under PM Surya Ghar-Muft Bijli Yojana, RDSS

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Shishir Gupta, Monday chaired a review meeting at the Mini Secretariat, Shopian to assess the progress achieved under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana and the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in the district.



During the meeting, the DC undertook a comprehensive review of the physical and financial progress of various components being implemented under the schemes and sought updates from officers of KPDC, Power Grid Corporation, executing agencies, vendors, and other stakeholders.

Reviewing the status of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, the DC emphasized the need for accelerating registrations and installations across the district. He directed the concerned officers and field functionaries to intensify awareness campaigns and ensure that eligible households are informed about the benefits of the scheme.

The DC also directed the concerned agencies to expedite the process of rooftop solar installations and ensure that all pending inspections and technical formalities are completed within the prescribed timelines to avoid delays in execution.

The progress of works being executed under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), including smart metering and power infrastructure augmentation, was reviewed in detail. The DC stressed the importance of ensuring timely installation of smart meters and directed the concerned agencies to address all technical and operational issues on priority. He underscored the need for maintaining quality standards and ensuring seamless functioning of installed meters for improved consumer services and transparency.

Emphasizing the impor-

tance of strengthening the power distribution network in the district, the DC directed the executing agencies to adhere strictly to project timelines and ensure close coordination among all stakeholders for smooth implementation of RDSS components.

During the meeting, issues and concerns raised by vendors and executing agencies were also discussed. The DC assured all possible support from the district administration and directed the concerned departments to facilitate prompt resolution of bottlenecks hindering the progress of works.

The DC further stressed the importance of regular monitoring, effective coordination, and submission of progress reports to ensure the successful implementation of all power sector initiatives in the district.

Prosthetic Aid Distribution Camp organised at Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Social Welfare Department, Anantnag, in collaboration with the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) and J&K Bank, Monday organised a one-day Prosthetic Aid distribution camp at Bondialgam.

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, presided over the function as the Chief Guest. The event was also attended by DSWO, TSWO, Zonal Head of J&K Bank, representatives from ALIMCO, and field officials from Social Welfare Department, among others.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC reiterated that the district administration is committed to the holistic empowerment of Specially Aabled Persons (SAPs). He noted that while significant progress has been made regarding SAPs affected by physical or mobility-related disorders, there must be an equal focus on rehabilitating those suffering from neurological or developmental conditions.

Dr. Bilal asked the Social Welfare Department to explore sustainable initiatives dedicated to the overall betterment

of SAPs especially individuals affected by CNS or developmental disorders such as Autism and Cerebral Palsy, assuring full administrative and financial support.

The DDC also laid strong emphasis on the education and self-employment of

649 Divyangjans (PwDs) were pre-identified with 1124 number of Aids and Assistive Devices through an extensive assessment and registration exercise conducted in the month of July 2025.

The Social Welfare



SAPs as enshrined under the PwD Act, underlining that they are an integral part of society. He stressed that the administration's ultimate goal is to ensure inclusive development and empowerment of the needy sections of the community.

During the camp, quality prosthetic aids and assistive devices provided by ALIMCO were distributed among pre-identified beneficiaries to help enhance their daily mobility and indepen-

dence. Notably, a total of 649 Divyangjans (PwDs) were pre-identified with 1124 number of Aids and Assistive Devices through an extensive assessment and registration exercise conducted in the month of July 2025. The Social Welfare Department has scheduled a series of such camps for distributing assistive aids and appliances including MTCs, Tricycles, Wheel Chairs, Wheelchair with Commode, Walking Sticks, Crutches, Hearing Aids Braille Slates, Smart Phones, Sugamya Canes, Kits for Visually Impaired, Rollators, CP Chairs, Walkers, Knee Braces, LS Belts, Cushions, TLM Kits, Artificial Limbs and Callipers, to Divyangjans under CSR programme of J&K Bank.

Awareness Activities organised across Bandipora under NMBA



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: As part of the ongoing 100-Day Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA), several awareness programmes, speech competitions, debates, and IEC activities were organised across educational institutions of Bandipora district on Monday to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse.

Activities under NMBA were conducted at Higher Secondary Ketson, High School Panar, Turkpora, and Watapora-B to sensitize students and the public about the dangers of substance abuse and the importance of collective efforts in building a drug-free society.

Speech competitions were organised at Higher Secondary School Kanzalwan, HSS Quilmuqam, PM SHRI GHS Odina, HSS

Gadakhud, HSS Aloosa, and PM SHRI Girls High School Sumbal. Students actively participated and delivered speeches highlighting the harmful effects of drug addiction and the role of youth in combating the menace. At PM SHRI GHS Odina, the programme began with an anti-drug pledge, while at HSS Gadakhud, students participated in the competition.

Government High School Naidkhai also organised a debate competition on drug addiction under NMBA, where students stressed the need for awareness and prevention to eradicate substance abuse from society.

The participants reiterated their commitment towards strengthening awareness campaigns and encouraging active youth participation for a healthy and drug-free society.

ADDC Kulgam reviews Education Sector Performance in District

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: A comprehensive review meeting of the Education Sector was held Monday under the chairmanship of Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Kulgam, Altaf Ahmad Khan.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Education Officer (CEO), Kulgam, Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs), and other concerned officers and officials of the Education Department.

During the meeting, a detailed review was conducted regarding the implementation and impact of JOY Classes, status of educational infrastructure, dropout rates, gender-wise

enrolment ratio, and other key educational indicators across the district.

The Chair emphasized the need to strengthen efforts aimed at improving learning outcomes and ensuring access to quality education for all students. He directed the Chief Education Officer and field functionaries to closely monitor academic activities and undertake regular inspections of educational institutions to assess the quality of education being imparted.

The meeting also reviewed the availability of basic infrastructure in schools, including classrooms, laboratories, libraries, smart classrooms, sanitation facilities, and other

essential amenities. Directions were issued to identify infrastructure gaps and submit proposals for their timely redressal.

Special focus was laid on reducing dropout rates and ensuring the re-enrolment of out-of-school children. The Chair stressed the importance of maintaining a balanced gender enrolment ratio and promoting inclusive education across all educational institutions in the district.

Reviewing the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, the ADC directed the concerned officers to ensure strict monitoring of the scheme at every level. He emphasized adherence to prescribed nutritional standards, maintenance

of hygiene, timely supply of food items, and regular inspections to ensure effective implementation of the programme.

The Chair called upon all officers to work in a coordinated manner for achieving the educational goals of the district and reiterated the administration's commitment towards strengthening the education sector and improving academic standards in all schools of Kulgam.

The meeting concluded with directions to the concerned officers to ensure effective implementation of all educational initiatives and submit periodic progress reports for review.

Week-Long Free Medical Camps for Rural Women conclude across B'pora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Week-long series of Free Medical-Cum-Awareness Camps for rural women across Bandipora district concluded successfully Monday.

The initiative was jointly organised by SANKALP Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW), Mission Shakti, Department of Social Welfare Bandipora, NRLM Bandipora and AYUSH Health Department Bandipora with the objective of improving women's access to healthcare services, health awareness and welfare schemes.

During the camps, women beneficiaries

availed free health check-ups, health screenings, medical consultations and free medicines. Awareness sessions on yoga, mental well-being, balanced nutrition, healthy lifestyles, women's health, gender equality, education and empowerment were also conducted. Participants were sensitized about various legal safeguards and government initiatives for the protection and welfare of girls and women.

The camps witnessed active participation from AYUSH doctors including Dr. Riyaz-ur-Rehman, Dr. Iftikhar Hussain, Dr. Tariq Ahmad, Dr. Shabana Khan and Dr.

Wajahat Ahmad, who provided healthcare services and valuable health guidance to the beneficiaries.

Officials of SANKALP HEW Mission Shakti, including the District Mission Coordinator, Gender Specialists and Financial Literacy Specialist, conducted awareness sessions on women-centric schemes, financial inclusion, gender equality and services available through the Social Welfare Department. Women were encouraged to prioritize their health and make full use of the facilities available through various government departments. Officials of NRLM

Bandipora, including Cluster Coordinators and Community Mobilizers, played a vital role in mobilizing beneficiaries and ensuring active participation of rural women throughout the programme.

The successful completion of the week-long outreach initiative reflected the strong coordination and collaborative efforts of SANKALP HEW Mission Shakti, NRLM Bandipora and AYUSH Health Department Bandipora in bringing essential healthcare services, awareness and empowerment interventions to women at the grassroots level across the district.

CM inaugurates Free Breast Cancer Screening Seva in Srinagar



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Monday inaugurated the Free Breast Cancer Screening Seva programme here at Civil Secretariat, a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative aimed at promoting early detection and awareness of breast cancer among women.

The initiative, launched by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in collaboration with India Turns Pink (ITP), seeks to provide free breast cancer screening services at the doorstep of

women across selected villages in Srinagar district. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister appreciated the efforts of the Airports Authority of India and the implementing organisation for undertaking a vital public health initiative focused on women's well-being. He underscored the importance of early detection and timely intervention in reducing the burden of breast cancer and saving lives.

The programme aims to cover ten villages in Srinagar district and benefit around 10,000 women

through free screening, awareness generation and counselling services. The initiative is expected to enhance awareness about breast cancer, encourage regular health check-ups and strengthen preventive healthcare among women.

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakina Itoo, and Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, were also present on the occasion. Founder president ITP PA Anandakumar, representatives of India Turns Pink and other concerned officers attended the event.

Union MoS Ajay Tamta inspects Tawi Riverfront Project in Jammu

Outlines vision for regional connectivity

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways Ajay Tamta Monday visited the Tawi Riverfront project site and inspected the development works underway.

Member of Parliament Jammu Lok Sabha Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha Sat Paul Sharma, MLA

Project Director Sunil Thusoo gave a detailed presentation on the project's progress and future development plans.

Addressing a gathering at the site, Shri Ajay Tamta lauded all stakeholders involved in the development of the riverfront. He observed that the project has definitively aided flood control and described it as a futuristic initiative with

and other aquatic activities planned at the location.

Union MoS shared his vision for the further development of the region through elaborate road connectivity projects, noting that the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is already developing roads and highways equipped with modern amenities in the toughest terrains, right up to the



Vikram Randhawa besides Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation and CEO Jammu Smart City Limited Dr Devansh Yadav and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

significant scope for further growth. "It will be a landmark project, a historic gift to the region," he said. The Minister noted that the riverfront is already emerging as an attraction for Tawi Aarti

frontiers of India's geography. Pointing to tangible results, he said that travel time between Jammu and Srinagar has been reduced to just under five hours owing to recent highway development.

MLA Slathia chairs PAC meeting; emphasizes Committee's role in maintaining financial discipline



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Member Legislative Assembly (MLA), Surjeet Singh Slathia, Monday chaired meeting of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) held today at the Assembly Secretariat here.

The meeting focused on streamlining the committee's review processes and ensuring robust accountability across all government sectors.

Legislators Mubarak Gul, Shamim Firdous, Qaysar Jamshaid Lone, Altaf Ahmad Wani (Kuloo), Abdul Majeed Bhat (Larmi), Ranbir Singh Pathania, Ch. Mohammad Akram, Vikram Randhawa, Tanvir Sadik, besides Auditor General Tsewang Tharchin, Secretary JKLA Manoj Pandita along with officials from the Legislative Assembly were present in the meeting.

During the proceedings, the participating legislators assured full cooperation and commitment towards ensuring smooth and efficient functioning of

the committee.

To expedite accountability, the Committee has strongly urged all government departments to cooperate proactively.

It was discussed that all the government departments are required to submit their detailed Action Taken Reports within a strict timeline of six months under the rule.

The Members of the committee actively apprised the meeting of their specific concerns and offered valuable, constructive suggestions to further improve the administrative oversight.

The Members also suggested to hold meetings on a regular, consistent basis to ensure the thoroughly paced discussion and resolution of all pending audit paragraphs.

Chairman, Surjeet Singh Slathia, emphasized the vital role of the Public Accounts Committee in maintaining the financial discipline. He assured that the panel will work diligently to address all the outstanding matters in a time-bound manner.

Sakeena Itoo inaugurates Medical Camp at Zadibal ahead of Muharram-ul-Haram

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In view of the forthcoming holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, Monday inaugurated a comprehensive medical camp at Zadibal here aimed at ensuring accessible healthcare services and emergency medical preparedness for devotees and the general public during the sacred month.

The medical camp has been established by Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences Soura as part of Government's extensive preparations for Muharram-ul-Haram. The camp will provide a range of healthcare services including general medical consultations, health screening, first-aid assistance, emergency care support, distribution of essential medicines and public health awareness.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister emphasized that the Government is committed to ensuring adequate healthcare facilities and seamless medical services during Muharram. She stated that special arrangements are being put in place across key congregation points and procession routes to cater to the healthcare needs of mourners and visitors.

"The holy month of Muharram holds immense religious and spiritual signifi-



cance. Our priority is to ensure that devotees observe the occasion with complete access to quality healthcare facilities and emergency medical support. The Health Department has been directed to remain fully prepared and responsive throughout the period," the Minister said.

Sakeena Itoo highlighted that dedicated medical teams, ambulances, emergency response units and essential medicines are being deployed at strategic locations across Srinagar and other districts witnessing Muharram gatherings. She also stressed the importance of coordination among various departments to ensure smooth conduct of the religious events. Recent government reviews have focused on deployment of adequate

medical teams, emergency response units and essential medicines at key Muharram locations.

The Minister interacted with healthcare professionals and local representatives at the camp and appreciated their efforts in strengthening public health outreach. She directed the concerned officers to ensure uninterrupted medical services, availability of medicines and round-the-clock readiness of emergency healthcare infrastructure during the holy month.

MLA Zadibal Tanvir Ali Sadiq; Director SKIMS, Dr. Ashraf Ganie; Director Health Services Kashmir, CMO Srinagar, other senior officers of district administration and health department were also present on the occasion.

Div Com visits Baltal, takes spot appraisal of arrangements for SANJY

Chairs review meeting of line departments, assesses level of preparedness

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg Monday visited Baltal and conducted an extensive inspection of the arrangements being put in place for the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2026.

During the visit, he reviewed the progress of various developmental and preparatory works aimed at ensuring a safe, smooth and comfortable pilgrimage experience for devotees.

Accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore; Senior Superintendent of Police Ganderbal, Sudhanshu Dhama and officers of various departments, Garg inspected the Yatri Niwas, RFID registration counters, dormitory facilities, facilities in Baltal base camp as well as the pony stand. He took stock of the facilities being put in place for pilgrims and interacted with officers and field functionaries regarding the status of ongoing works.

During the inspection, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned departments to ensure timely installation of signages, information boards and public awareness banners at all key locations to facilitate better guidance and accessibility for pilgrims.

He also emphasized proper sanitation management, queue regulation, traffic arrangements and availability of



essential services across the Yatra route.

Later, he chaired a high-level review meeting at Baltal to assess the preparedness of all stakeholder departments for the annual pilgrimage.

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, gave a detailed presentation on the overall preparedness for the Yatra and briefed the meeting about infrastructure development, accommodation facilities, registration arrangements, disaster management preparedness and departmental works across various departments.

Reviewing the arrangements department-wise, the Divisional Commissioner directed all concerned agencies to complete the remaining works by June 20th and ensure full operational readiness before commencement of the Yatra. He stressed the importance

of coordinated efforts among departments and directed that officers remain available round the clock for prompt response and coordination.

The Health Department informed that medical aid centres along the track would be made fully functional by June 28, while oxygen booths would be established by June 25. The department also apprised that advance medical teams have already been deployed and adequate emergency response arrangements have been put in place.

The Divisional Commissioner reviewed the status of sanitation, water supply, power supply, telecommunication facilities, disaster management, transportation and fire safety arrangements. He directed the Rural Development Department to maintain sanitation in toilet facilities,

while Jal Shakti and KPDCCL were instructed to ensure uninterrupted water and power supply with adequate backup arrangements.

The meeting was informed that registration of service providers is underway and identity cards shall be issued within the stipulated timeline. Telecom agencies reported that communication infrastructure has been established and are operational.

The meeting was attended by officers from Sonamarg Development Authority, Rural Development, Health, Jal Shakti, KPDCCL, Forest, Tourism, Fire & Emergency Services, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Disaster Management, Police, BRO, BSNL, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board and other concerned departments.

HM Sakeena Itoo inspects Voluntary Blood Donation Camp at Srinagar Airport

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Monday inspected the Voluntary Blood Donation Camp organised by Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, in collaboration with Airport Authority Limited and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at Sheikh-ul-Alam International Airport here.

The Minister appreciated the collective efforts of SKIMS and stakeholders in promoting voluntary blood donation and creating awareness about the life-saving significance of donating blood. She lauded the enthusiastic participation of airport employees, security personnel and volunteers who came forward to contribute to this noble



humanitarian cause.

Interacting with donors and organisers, Sakeena Itoo highlighted the critical role of voluntary blood donation in strengthening healthcare services and ensuring the availability of safe blood for patients in need. She emphasized that regular blood donation is a selfless act that can save countless lives and reflects the spirit of social responsibility and community service.

The Minister commended SKIMS for its continued

initiatives aimed at encouraging voluntary blood donation across Jammu and Kashmir and for fostering partnerships with various institutions and organisations to expand the reach of such awareness programmes.

She also acknowledged the active support of the CISF staff, airport authorities, AAL employees and volunteers whose cooperation contributed significantly to the successful conduct of the camp.

Reiterating the Government's commitment towards strengthening healthcare infrastructure and public health awareness, Sakeena Itoo urged citizens, particularly the youth, to actively participate in blood donation drives and contribute towards building a healthier and more compassionate society.

Legislator, deputations call on Forest Minister; Project developmental issues

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Legislator Qaiser Jamsheed Lone besides several public deputations and individuals Monday called on Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, at Civil Secretariat here and apprised him of various public welfare issues, developmental concerns and other pressing concerns affecting their respective areas.

MLA Lolab discussed several constituency related matters and sought the Minister's intervention for augmentation of public infrastructure, improvement in water supply schemes, irrigation facilities and other developmental works in his area.

During the interaction, the legislator highlighted



the need for timely execution of the ongoing works and early resolution of issues concerning public service delivery. He also projected several demands related to strengthening civic amenities and improving infrastructure.

Besides the legislator, several deputations and individuals from different

areas also met the Minister and projected their grievances and demands.

A delegation from Pir Panjal raised the issues concerning execution of works under the Jal Jeevan Mission and sought timely resolution of matters for smooth implementation of projects. The delegation urged the Minister for

necessary intervention to ensure uninterrupted progress of works being undertaken under the mission.

Another delegation from the area sought the Minister's intervention for blacktopping of roads in their locality and highlighted several other developmental and civic issues for redressal.

Likewise, several delegations and representatives from different parts of Kashmir highlighted the matters related to roads, power supply, health facilities, potable water, pending development projects and other local concerns requiring departmental attention.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to the deputations and assured them that all their genuine issues and demands projected during the meetings would be examined on priority. He reiterated the government's commitment towards ensuring responsive governance and timely redressal of public grievances.

The Minister directed the concerned officers to take appropriate follow-up action on the issues raised by the visiting delegations and individuals for prompt redress.

Good Morning **Kashmir**

EDITORIAL

Hate-Mongers In Religious Garb Must Be Stopped Before It's Too Late

For the last six months, social media has increasingly become a platform for dangerous sectarian propaganda. What should have been a space for dialogue and engagement has instead turned into a breeding ground for hate, division and open provocation.

At the centre of this toxic campaign are some self-styled sectarian leaders who, ironically, claim to speak in the name of religion. Instead of preaching peace, tolerance and brotherhood, they have chosen to spread venom and inflame passions. Every speech, every video and every social media post appears designed to deepen divisions and push communities towards confrontation.

This is not religious discourse; it is a reckless game with public peace and social harmony. The tragedy is that these individuals are exploiting religious sentiments to gain attention and influence, without any regard for the consequences of their words. They seem oblivious to the fact that in a sensitive society, hate-filled rhetoric can quickly translate into violence on the streets. The atmosphere has become increasingly charged, and it would be foolish to ignore the warning signs.

The administration must act now—before it is too late. Waiting for a tragedy to occur and then issuing condemnations will serve no purpose. The responsibility of the government and law-enforcement agencies is to prevent unrest, not merely react to it. Those who repeatedly spread hatred and incite sectarian passions should be dealt with firmly, irrespective of their religious standing or social influence.

No individual should be allowed to hide behind religious attire while poisoning society. A robe or a title cannot become a licence to sow discord and endanger public peace. Equally, society must reject these merchants of hate. Genuine religious leaders, civil society and responsible citizens have a duty to stand up against divisive narratives and reaffirm the values of coexistence, mutual respect and brotherhood.

The signs are clear and the danger is real. The social media onslaught by sectarian elements has reached a point where a single spark could trigger a catastrophe. Preventing that disaster requires courage and decisive action now—not after the damage has been done.

Manoj Sinha's Six Years In J&K

A Data-Driven Journey Of Development And Transformation



DR. RIZWAN RUMI

The story of Jammu and Kashmir over the past six years is, in many ways, a story of transition, transformation, and renewed aspirations. Since assuming office as the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir on August 7, 2020, Manoj Sinha has presided over a period marked by extensive infrastructure development, governance reforms, economic initiatives, digital transformation, and social welfare interventions. His tenure has coincided with one of the most significant phases in the Union Territory's recent history, a period during which development emerged as a central pillar of public policy.

Assessing any administration requires moving beyond political narratives and examining measurable outcomes. Roads, bridges, railways, schools, hospitals, digital services, investment inflows, tourism figures, employment initiatives, and welfare programmes provide tangible indicators of progress. Viewed through this lens, the past six years reveal a landscape that has undergone substantial change across multiple sectors.

Tourism: Reclaiming Kashmir's Economic Lifeline

Tourism remains one of the most important pillars of Jammu and Kashmir's economy. The sector supports thousands of families engaged in hospitality, transport, handicrafts, trade, and allied activities. Under the present administration, tourism has witnessed remarkable growth, with record tourist arrivals being registered in recent years.

The promotion of pilgrimage tourism, winter sports, adventure tourism, ecotourism, and heritage tourism has helped diversify the sector. Destinations that once remained seasonal have increasingly become year-round attractions. The granting of industry status to tourism and investments in tourism infrastructure have further strengthened the sector's economic potential.

Beyond numbers, the tourism resurgence reflects growing confidence among visitors and contributes significantly to employment generation and local livelihoods.

Infrastructure: Building the Foundations of a New Jammu and Kashmir

Infrastructure development has emerged as one of the most visible achievements of the past six years. Massive investments in roads, tunnels, highways, bridges, and railways have transformed connectivity across the Union Territory.

Major highway projects, ring roads, tunnels, and strategic road networks have significantly reduced travel time and improved accessibility to remote regions. Perhaps the most historic achievement has been the completion of the rail link connecting Kashmir with the rest of India, alongside the inauguration of the iconic Chenab Rail Bridge, a marvel of modern engineering and the world's highest railway arch bridge.

These projects are not merely engineering accomplishments; they are catalysts for economic growth, tourism expansion, trade facilitation, and regional integration.

Industrial Growth and Investment

Economic diversification has remained a major focus of the administration. Through industrial policies, investor outreach programmes, and business-friendly reforms, Jammu and Kashmir has sought to position itself as an emerging destination for investment.

The steady rise in industrial investments reflects growing confidence among investors. New industrial estates, manufacturing units, and entrepreneurship initiatives have contributed to economic activity and employment generation. The administration's emphasis on ease of doing business and streamlined approval processes has further strengthened the investment climate.

Digital Governance: Bringing Administration Closer to Citizens

A quiet but profound transformation has taken place in governance through the adoption of digital technologies. Hundreds of government services are



now available online, reducing delays, increasing transparency, and making administration more accessible to citizens.

Digitization of public services, time-bound service delivery mechanisms, and the expansion of Direct Benefit Transfer systems have enhanced efficiency and accountability. Citizens can increasingly access essential services without navigating lengthy bureaucratic procedures.

These reforms represent a broader shift toward citizen-centric governance, where technology serves as a bridge between the administration and the

Public investment in infrastructure has created multiplier effects across sectors, generating demand, employment, and opportunities for local businesses. The emphasis on development-driven growth has contributed to creating a more conducive environment for economic activity.

Power Sector Reforms

Reliable electricity is essential for economic growth, industrial development, and quality of life. Significant efforts have therefore been directed toward strengthening the power sector.

Major hydropower projects under construction are expected to substantially enhance generation capacity in the coming years. Simultaneously, modernization of transmission and distribution systems, installation of smart meters, and efforts to reduce power losses have improved operational efficiency.

These initiatives are laying the groundwork for greater energy security and long-term sustainability.

Employment and Youth Empowerment

With a predominantly young population, employment generation remains one of Jammu and Kashmir's most important priorities. The administration has pursued a multi-dimensional strategy that combines government recruitment, skill development, entrepreneurship promotion, and self-employment initiatives.

Skill development programmes have sought to equip youth with competencies relevant to emerging economic sectors. Startup initiatives and entrepreneurship schemes have encouraged innovation and self-reliance, while recruitment drives have expanded opportunities in the public sector.

The long-term success of these initiatives will play a crucial role in shaping the region's future.

Education and Human Capital Development

Education is the foundation upon which sustainable development is built. During the past six years, considerable emphasis has been placed on strengthening educational infrastructure, promoting digital learning, and implementing reforms aligned with the National Education Policy.

Schools and higher education institutions have witnessed infrastructural improvements, while efforts to integrate technology into teaching and learning have expanded educational opportunities. Such initiatives aim to prepare students for a rapidly evolving global economy and strengthen the region's human capital base.

Healthcare and Social Welfare

The healthcare sector has received substantial attention through investments in hospitals, medical colleges, diagnostic facilities, and public health infrastructure. The lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of strengthening healthcare systems and improving access to quality medical services.

Welfare schemes focused on housing, healthcare, financial inclusion, and social protection have sought to improve living standards and support vulnerable sections of society. These initiatives underscore the administration's emphasis on inclusive development.

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Development

Agriculture and horticulture continue to support a significant propor-

tion of Jammu and Kashmir's population. Efforts to modernize these sectors through improved irrigation, high-density plantations, cold storage infrastructure, and market linkages have sought to enhance productivity and farmer incomes.

Particular attention has been paid to horticulture, which remains a major contributor to the regional economy. Investments in rural infrastructure and agricultural support systems have further strengthened the foundations of rural development.

Women's Empowerment and Inclusive Growth

Women's participation in economic and social development has received increasing attention. Self-help groups, entrepreneurship initiatives, financial inclusion programmes, and livelihood schemes have expanded opportunities for women across the Union Territory.

These efforts reflect a broader commitment to inclusive growth, recognizing that sustainable development must empower all sections of society.

Environmental Sustainability and Urban Transformation

Development in Jammu and Kashmir must necessarily be balanced with environmental conservation. Efforts have been undertaken to improve urban infrastructure, sanitation, waste management, and water conservation while protecting the region's fragile ecological resources.

Smart city initiatives in Jammu and Srinagar, combined with environmental protection programmes, represent attempts to harmonize modernization with sustainability.

Peace, Stability and Public Confidence

Development thrives best in an atmosphere of peace and stability. Increased tourist arrivals, expanding economic activity, and growing investment interest suggest a strengthening sense of public confidence.

While challenges persist, the broader developmental narrative increasingly reflects aspirations for prosperity, opportunity, and social progress. The emphasis on youth engagement, public outreach, and community participation has contributed to fostering a climate conducive to long-term development.

Assessing a Transformative Era Six years after Manoj Sinha assumed office, Jammu and Kashmir presents a picture of expanding infrastructure, rising tourism, growing investment, digital governance reforms, educational advancement, healthcare expansion, and strengthened public service delivery. The scale and scope of developmental initiatives undertaken during this period have left a visible imprint on the Union Territory's landscape.

Challenges undoubtedly remain, and the journey toward sustained prosperity is far from complete. Yet the available indicators suggest that the years between 2020 and 2026 will be remembered as a period of accelerated development, institutional strengthening, and renewed aspirations.

History often judges administrations not by rhetoric but by results. By that measure, the tenure of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha represents a significant chapter in Jammu and Kashmir's ongoing journey toward progress, connectivity, and inclusive growth.

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The sector supports thousands of families engaged in hospitality, transport, handicrafts, trade, and allied activities. Under the present administration, tourism has witnessed remarkable growth, with record tourist arrivals being registered in recent years.

Economic Growth and Fiscal Performance

Economic indicators suggest that Jammu and Kashmir has maintained a positive growth trajectory in recent years. Rising GST collections, increased capital expenditure, expanding infrastructure investment, and growing tourism revenues collectively point toward a strengthening economy.

■ Discharge Certificate

Can We Write It In A Better Way?



DR. FIAZ MAQBOOL FAZILI

When we evaluate a hospital, we often look at its buildings, equipment, operating theatres, intensive care units, advanced imaging facilities, and specialist manpower. We discuss clinical outcomes, surgical success rates, waiting times, and patient satisfaction. Yet one of the most important indicators of quality often escapes scrutiny—the discharge certificate.

A discharge summary is not merely a piece of paper handed over to a patient on the day of discharge. It is perhaps the most enduring record of a patient's interaction with a healthcare institution. Long after the hospital stay is forgotten, after doctors have moved on and departments have changed, the discharge summary remains. It becomes the patient's medical identity, a permanent account of illness, diagnosis, treatment, response, and future care.

In many ways, the discharge certificate is a mirror. It reflects the standards of the hospital, the professionalism of the department, and the diligence of the treating doctor. A meticulously prepared discharge summary inspires confidence. A poorly written one exposes weaknesses that no modern building or sophisticated machine can conceal.

Consider a young cricketer admitted to a tertiary-care hospital with a serious neurological illness. He develops weakness in both lower limbs, bladder dysfunction, sensory disturbances, and difficulty walking. He undergoes extensive investigations. MRI scans reveal abnormalities in the spinal cord and brainstem. Blood tests, cerebrospinal fluid analysis, antibody studies, and specialist consultations are undertaken. The neurology team debates differential diagnoses ranging from atypical Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis (ADEM) to seronegative Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD).

He receives high-dose intravenous steroids and gradually improves. After several days, he is discharged with medications, follow-up advice, and instructions regarding warning symptoms that may indicate a relapse.

Months later, while visiting another city, he develops new neurological symptoms and is taken to a hospital emergency department. The attending neurologist asks for his previous records. His family promptly produces the discharge summary from the tertiary-care centre. What should happen next is straightforward. Within a few minutes, the neurologist should be able to understand the entire clinical journey. Why was he admitted? What were his symptoms? What abnormalities were found on examination? What investigations were performed? What was the working diagnosis? What treatment was administered? How did he respond? What medications was she discharged on? What follow-up was advised?

Instead, the neurologist finds himself struggling to decipher illegible handwriting. Diagnoses are abbreviated and unclear. Important clinical findings are scattered. MRI interpretations are incomplete. Laboratory data are inadequately documented. Medications lack clarity. Follow-up instructions are vague. Critical information is either missing or buried in hastily written notes. The treating doctor spends more time interpreting the discharge summary than understanding the disease itself. At that moment, the document has failed in its primary purpose.

The purpose of a discharge summary is continuity of care. It serves as a communication tool between healthcare providers separated by distance, time, and institutions. It is the bridge between one episode of care and the next. It enables another doctor, anywhere in the world, to understand what happened and what should happen next.

A good discharge summary should answer fundamental questions clearly and concisely. Why was the patient admitted? What was the history and clinical presentation? What significant examination findings were present? What investigations were performed and what were the important results? What diagnosis was established, or what differential diagnoses were considered? What treatment was administered? How did the patient respond? What medications were prescribed at discharge? What warning signs require urgent medical attention? What follow-up plan was advised?

If these questions cannot be answered after reading a discharge summary, then the document is incomplete irrespective of how advanced the institution may be.

Unfortunately, in many healthcare settings, discharge documentation remains one of the most neglected aspects of patient care. The responsibility is frequently del-



egated to the most junior member of the clinical team. Often exhausted after long duty hours, the junior doctor hurriedly completes the document. Sometimes it is never reviewed by a senior resident. In some instances, the consultant may sign it without carefully verifying its contents. In many hospitals there is virtually no systematic audit of discharge summaries.

This practice raises important questions. Who is authorized to prepare a discharge certificate? Who verifies the diagnosis? Who ensures that investigations are accurately documented? Who confirms that medication instructions are correct? Who takes responsibility if critical information is omitted? Most importantly, who is accountable when poor documentation compromises patient care?

A discharge summary is not clerical work. It is clinical work. It carries medico-legal significance. It influences future diagnosis and treatment decisions. It may be reviewed by referral centres, insurance agencies, courts of law, accreditation bodies, and future treating physicians. Such a document deserves the same seriousness that we accord to prescribing medication or performing a procedure.

Documentation itself is a patient-safety intervention. Poor documentation can result in duplicated investigations, delayed diagnoses, medication errors, unnecessary costs, avoidable admissions, and inappropriate treatment decisions. A patient who has already undergone extensive investigations should not have to repeat them because essential information was inadequately recorded.

The quality of documentation also reflects institutional culture. Hospitals that insist on accurate records generally demonstrate excellence in other aspects of care as well. Attention to detail in documentation often mirrors attention to detail

in clinical practice.

Every discharge summary should contain, at a minimum:

- Patient identification details.
- Dates of admission and discharge.
- Presenting complaints.
- Relevant history.
- Important examination findings.
- Key laboratory results.
- Radiological findings.
- Procedures performed.
- Final diagnosis and differential diagnoses.
- Treatment administered during admission.
- Clinical response to treatment.
- Medications with dose, frequency, and duration.
- Follow-up recommendations.
- Warning symptoms requiring urgent review.
- Names, designations, and signatures of responsible clinicians.
- Above all, it should be legible.

In the twenty-first century, illegibility should no longer be accepted as an unavoidable reality. The transition to standardized electronic discharge summaries is both feasible and necessary. Structured templates can ensure completeness. Mandatory fields can prevent omissions. Electronic signatures can improve accountability. Digital records can improve accessibility and continuity of care.

Equally important is the establishment of documentation audits. Just as hospitals monitor infections, mortality rates, medication errors, and patient complaints, they should periodically audit discharge summaries. Random reviews can assess completeness, accuracy, clarity, legibility, and adherence to standards. Departments should receive feedback, and deficiencies should become opportunities for improvement rather than accepted norms. A robust

system would require preparation by a junior resident, verification by a senior resident, and final approval by the consultant responsible for the patient's care. Such a process would significantly enhance quality while promoting accountability.

Medical education must also evolve. Young doctors are extensively trained in diagnosis and treatment but often receive little formal instruction in clinical documentation. Yet documentation is a core clinical competency. A brilliant diagnosis that is poorly documented may ultimately serve the patient less effectively than a well-documented ordinary one.

Patients deserve better. They have the right to know what illness they suffered from, what treatment they received, and what precautions they should observe in the future. A discharge summary should not resemble an undecipherable puzzle understandable only to the person who wrote it. The discharge certificate is far more than paperwork. It is the narrative of a patient's illness, suffering, treatment, recovery, and hope. It is the institution speaking to the future. It is the voice of one doctor communicating with another across time and distance.

Hospitals routinely audit finances, inventories, procurement processes, and infrastructure projects. Yet the one document that accompanies a patient throughout life often escapes scrutiny. This paradox deserves urgent correction. A poorly written discharge certificate is not merely a clerical deficiency; it is a clinical failure. It compromises continuity of care, undermines patient confidence, creates medico-legal vulnerability, and diminishes institutional credibility.

Every discharge certificate handed to a patient should pass a simple test: Can a doctor, anywhere in the world, understand within five minutes what happened to this patient, why it happened, how it was treated, and what should happen next? If the answer is no, the document has failed—regardless of how successful the treatment may have been.

The discharge summary is not a formality. It is the mirror of the hospital, the department, and the doctor. If we truly wish to measure standards, professionalism, accountability, and quality of care, we need look no further than the document that leaves the hospital in the patient's hands.

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Social Media: A Blessing Or A Challenge For Students?

SAYIMA MUHAMMAD

There was a time when learning ended when the school bell rang. Students returned home, completed their homework, and waited for the next school day.

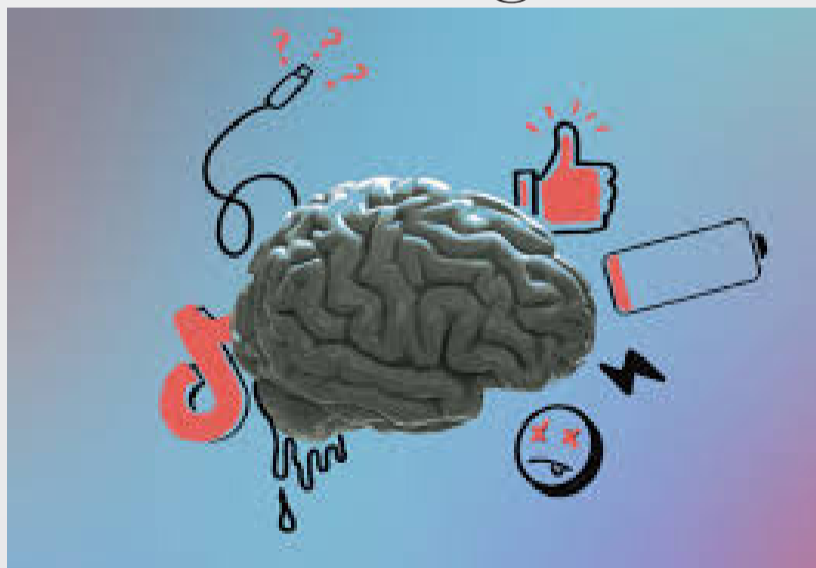
Today, that world has changed dramatically. The classroom no longer ends at the school gate. It follows students home through smartphones, tablets, and laptops. At the centre of this transformation stands social media—one of the most influential forces shaping the lives of young people in the twenty-first century.

For students, social media is not just a source of entertainment. It is a place where they learn, communicate, express themselves, and connect with the wider world. A simple scroll can lead from a funny video to a science lesson, from a friend's update to a discussion about global events. This unique blend of information and interaction has made social media an inseparable part of student life.

Yet, despite its popularity, an important question remains: Is social media a blessing for students, or has it become a challenge that affects their growth and learning? The answer is not as simple as choosing one side. Social media carries both opportunities and risks, and its impact depends largely on how it is used.

One of the strongest arguments in favour of social media is its ability to make information accessible. Students today have access to more knowledge than any generation before them. Educational videos, online lectures, study groups, digital libraries, and academic discussions are available within seconds. A student struggling with a mathematics problem can watch a tutorial. Anyone preparing for an examination can find revision notes and practice questions online. Learning is no longer confined to textbooks alone.

This easy access to information has changed the way students study. Instead of depending entirely on classroom instruction, they can explore topics independently. Curiosity no longer has to wait for the next lesson. Whether it is science, literature, history, technology, or art, educational content is available around the clock. For many stu-



dents, social media has become an extension of the classroom.

Communication is another area where social media has brought significant change. Students can remain connected with classmates, teachers, and educational communities regardless of distance. Group discussions, assignment updates, project collaborations, and academic announcements can be shared instantly. During difficult times, including periods when schools are closed or learning shifts online, social media often becomes an important bridge between students and education.

Beyond academics, social media has created spaces for creativity. Many students use digital platforms to share their writing, artwork, photography, music, and ideas. In previous generations, young talent often remained unnoticed because opportunities to showcase it were limited. Today, a student with a creative passion can reach audiences far beyond their local community.

This ability to express oneself can be empowering. It encourages confidence, helps students discover their strengths, and motivates them to improve their skills. A young writer receives feedback on an article. A student artist gains appreciation for a drawing. A budding musician shares performances

with people who support and encourage growth. Such experiences can play an important role in personal development.

Social media has also expanded awareness of the world. Through digital platforms, students are exposed to conversations about environmental issues, education reforms, health awareness, technological innovation, and social challenges. They learn about events happening beyond their immediate surroundings. This exposure can help young people become informed, responsible, and socially conscious citizens.

In many cases, social media has inspired students to participate in positive initiatives. Campaigns promoting literacy, environmental protection, mental health awareness, and community service often gain momentum online. Students who may never have encountered such movements otherwise can become involved and contribute to meaningful causes.

Career guidance is another valuable benefit. Information about scholarships, competitions, internships, universities, and professional opportunities is frequently shared through social media. Students can learn from professionals, educational institutions, and experts who share advice and experiences. Such exposure can help young people

make informed decisions about their future.

However, the story of social media is not entirely positive. Alongside these opportunities come challenges that cannot be ignored. Perhaps the most obvious concern is distraction. Students often open social media intending to spend a few minutes online, only to discover that hours have passed. Educational content competes with endless streams of entertainment, trends, and notifications designed to capture attention.

This constant distraction can affect academic performance. Homework is delayed. Revision plans are interrupted. Concentration becomes weaker. The ability to focus on a task for an extended period is increasingly difficult in a world where new content appears every few seconds.

Teachers across many educational settings have observed a growing struggle among students to maintain attention during lessons. While several factors contribute to this issue, excessive social media use is frequently identified as one of them. The habit of rapidly moving from one piece of content to another can make sustained learning more challenging.

Another concern is the impact on mental well-being. Social media often presents carefully selected moments from people's lives. Successes are displayed more often than failures. Happiness is shared more frequently than struggle. As students scroll through images and updates, they may begin comparing their lives with unrealistic standards.

These comparisons can create feelings of inadequacy. A student may feel less successful, less attractive, or less accomplished simply because they are comparing their reality to someone else's highlight reel. Over time, such feelings can affect self-confidence and emotional health.

The desire for approval has also become a defining feature of social media culture. Likes, shares, comments, and follower counts can sometimes influence how students view themselves. When online validation becomes closely linked to self-worth, disappointment and anxiety may follow.

Cyberbullying represents another serious challenge. Unlike traditional bullying, online harassment can reach students even in the safety of their homes. Hurtful

comments, rumours, exclusion, and public humiliation can spread quickly through digital platforms. The emotional consequences can be severe and long-lasting.

Victims of cyberbullying often experience stress, fear, loneliness, and reduced confidence. In some cases, their academic performance and social relationships are affected. This reality highlights the importance of creating safe and respectful online environments.

Privacy concerns are equally significant. Many students share personal information without fully understanding the potential risks. Photographs, location details, personal opinions, and private conversations can sometimes become public in ways that were never intended. Once information is shared online, controlling its spread becomes difficult.

The digital world also contains misinformation. Not everything that appears online is accurate. False news, misleading claims, and unverified information can spread rapidly through social media networks. Students who lack critical thinking skills may struggle to distinguish between reliable information and misinformation.

This challenge makes digital literacy more important than ever. Students must learn not only how to access information but also how to evaluate its credibility. The ability to question sources and verify facts has become an essential skill in modern education.

Sleep patterns are another area affected by social media use. Many students remain active online late into the night, responding to messages, watching videos, or browsing content. Unfortunately, sleep is often sacrificed in the process.

The consequences of inadequate sleep extend beyond simple tiredness. Memory, concentration, mood, and academic performance all depend on proper rest. A student who consistently sleeps less due to excessive screen time may struggle to perform at their full potential.

Physical health can also be affected. Time spent online often replaces physical activity...

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PM Modi Welcomes

the freedom of navigation and commerce.

We look forward to deliberations on the remaining issues reaching a sustainable final agreement."

CM Omar Chairs High

arrangements, including generators, battery-inverter systems. He also directed that generators be deployed at major congregation points to prevent any disruption in power supply. CM called on concerned departments to explore the possibility of roof-top solarization of all major Imam Baras in J&K.

Reviewing drinking water arrangements, the Chief Minister directed the Jal Shakti Department to ensure uninterrupted supply of potable water in all affected areas. He emphasized that water tankers deployed during Muharram must provide clean drinking water and that static water distribution points should be established wherever movement of tankers may be difficult or where large gatherings are expected.

The Chief Minister also reviewed sanitation and cleanliness measures and directed Urban Local Bodies to intensify cleaning operations, particularly around Imambaras, procession routes and major congregation venues.

He instructed the concerned authorities to deploy additional manpower wherever required and ensure continuous sanitation services throughout the Muharam period. Referring to earlier directions, he called for close coordination between municipal authorities and the Fire & Emergency Services Department to facilitate effective road washing and cleaning through the use of high-pressure water hose fire tenders, wherever required.

On health preparedness, the Chief Minister directed the Health and Medical Education Department to ensure the deployment of adequate medical personnel, ambulances, critical care ambulances, emergency response teams and medical camps at strategic locations.

He stressed that all arrangements should remain fully operational throughout the Muharram period to provide timely medical assistance wherever required.

The Chief Minister also reviewed traffic management plans and instructed the Traffic Police and Civil Administration to ensure smooth movement of processions while minimizing inconvenience to commuters, tourists and the general public. He called for coordinated planning and effective deployment of traffic personnel at critical junctions and congregation points.

Reviewing road infrastructure, the Chief Minister directed the Roads & Buildings Department to undertake necessary repairs and filling of potholes along procession routes and areas expected to witness large gatherings.

Acknowledging challenges faced in academization works due to prevailing circumstances of disruption in supply chain, he nevertheless stressed that roads should be levelled and made safe wherever full academization is not immediately feasible.

The Chief Minister further emphasized the importance of accountability and responsiveness among nodal officers designated for Muharram arrangements. He directed that all nodal officers to remain accessible to the public and available round-the-clock for prompt grievance redressal.

To strengthen monitoring and coordination, the Chief Minister announced that a Chief Minister's Secretariat shall also oversee Muharram arrangements. He said designated officers would continuously monitor the implementation of departmental responsibilities and review complaints received from the public.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister assured participants that the Government would consider a dedicated allocation in the next year's Budget to strengthen Muharram-related arrangements and infrastructure. He said such a provision would enable departments to undertake preparatory works well in advance and facilitate the smooth and efficient conduct of Muharram across Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, several legislators, representatives of Shia organizations, clerics, civil society members and community leaders highlighted issues relating to electricity supply, drinking water, road connectivity, sanitation, healthcare facilities and other public services.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu gave detailed presentations on the arrangements being made in their respective divisions.

The presentations covered major congregation events and processions, consultations with community leaders and civil society groups, inter-departmental coordination, deployment of district-level and departmental nodal officers, field inspections conducted by Deputy Commissioners and senior officers, security and traffic management plans, identification of park-

ing areas, healthcare preparedness including deployment of doctors, paramedics and ambulances, municipal and civic arrangements, road repairs, power and water supply management, advance distribution of ration and essential commodities in Shia-majority areas, availability of LPG and fuel, positioning of fire tenders at vulnerable locations and comprehensive contingency plans.

The meeting was informed that extensive field visits, public outreach programmes and inter-departmental coordination meetings are already underway to ensure the smooth and peaceful observance of Muharram-2026 across Jammu and Kashmir.

LG Releases

ceremonies have now been expanded to other sacred locations across the region, including Surinsar Nag Mandir, Baba Kailakh Dev Sthan, Purmandal, Ghagwal, Jatwal, and Raghunath Mandir.

The Tourism Federation has geared up comprehensively for the Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2026. Arrangements have been put in place in coordination with Jammu Smart City Limited for the continuation of regular Aarti from 29th June (Jyeshtha Purnima). On the first day of Aarti at Jammu, Poojan will be performed on the morning of 29th June at the venue, continuing the practice from last year. Additionally, Langar will continue to be served at the Current Registration Counter in Jammu from the same date.

The Tourism Federation has also planned to produce a video documentary showcasing upgraded facilities for Shri Amarnathji Yatries, covering the entire area from Lakanpur to the Holy Cave, including both routes. The documentary, to be released before the Yatra begins, will apprise pilgrims of enhanced facilities and educate devotees on Yatra disciplines and safety protocols.

The Guide Book is designed and printed for Tourism Federation of Jammu by Shri Shivang Satya Gupta of ESPA FEE Private Limited for free distribution among Shri Amarnathji Yatries for their welfare and information.

The release ceremony was attended by Shri Shubhankar Pratyush Pathak, Additional Secretary in Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat; Er. Kiran Wattal, President, Shri Amarnathji Yatra Welfare Society and Convenor of Vishwa Kashmiri Samaj; Shri Amrik Singh, President, Jammu Association of Tour Operators; Shri B.B. Kotwal, President, Bhaderwah Patnitop Travel Trade Association; Shri Abhay Bakaya, Vice President, Tourism Federation of Jammu; Mohd. Maqbool Shoda, Vice President, J&K and Ladakh Tourism Stakeholders Association.

Sakina Ito Assures

treatment and hospitalisation without imposing a financial burden on families.

Ito reiterated that the government remains committed to safeguarding the interests of poor and vulnerable patients across Jammu and Kashmir and is working towards an early resolution of the payment dispute to ensure the uninterrupted continuation of services under the scheme.

Kashmiri Pandits Seek

heritage and ensuring that future generations remain connected with their roots," Dr Kaul said, adding that they received an encouraging response from participants across age groups.

Referring to the 'Praagaash' conclave, the speakers said the event provided a platform for meaningful discussions on issues concerning rehabilitation, cultural preservation and the future of the displaced community.

They welcomed Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's remarks during the conclave, particularly his reference to the events of 1989-90 as a "genocide", describing it as an important acknowledgement of the pain and suffering endured by the community.

Calling for a structured rehabilitation policy, the community representatives urged the government to explore the development of a township in Rainawari, one of the historic centres of Kashmiri Pandit habitation in Srinagar.

"A planned township can provide a secure and dignified environment for returning families and serve as a hub for educational, cultural and community institutions that can help revive the community's presence in Kashmir," Dr Kaul said.

The speakers called upon successful entrepreneurs and professionals from the Kashmiri Pandit community to invest in Valley and contribute to its economic growth.

"The time has come for us to give back to our motherland. Investment by mem-

bers of the community can create opportunities, strengthen confidence and contribute to the prosperity of Kashmir," Dr Kaul said, adding that sustainable investment, however, requires an atmosphere of peace, stability and progress.

Expressing optimism about the future, the speakers said that despite the hardships endured over the last 35 years, the community remains committed to preserving its heritage, empowering its younger generations and working towards a peaceful, secure and dignified return to Kashmir—(KNO)

CS Administers Oath

role in promoting integrated water resource management, safeguarding water security and advising the Government on policies and strategies for sustainable utilization of this vital resource.

Gupta was appointed as Chairperson of the JKWRRA by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir vide Notification S.O. 164 dated June 9, 2026, issued under Section 139 of the Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources (Regulation and Management) Act, 2010. His appointment came into effect upon assumption of charge.

A distinguished officer of the 1991 batch of the Indian Forest Service (IFS), Suresh Kumar Gupta brings with him more than three decades of experience in public administration, environmental governance, forest management and natural resource conservation. During his illustrious career, he served in several key positions in Jammu and Kashmir, including Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Head of Forest Force (HoFF), the highest professional position in the Forest Department.

He has also held important assignments as Principal Secretary, Culture, Tribal Affairs and School Education Departments besides serving as Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council, Chief Wildlife Warden; Director, Social Forestry, Director Forest Protection Force, Director J&K Forest Research Institute and Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Forest Development Corporation (JKFDC). His extensive experience in environmental stewardship, watershed conservation and sustainable resource management is expected to greatly benefit the functioning of the Water Resources Regulatory Authority.

On assuming office, Gupta expressed his gratitude to the Government for reposing confidence in him and reaffirmed his commitment to strengthening water governance mechanisms, promoting sustainable water use and ensuring effective regulation of the Union Territory's precious water resources in the larger public interest.

'J&K Records 20%

"Yet, bridging the last-mile gaps in challenging geographies remains critical to achieving true universality," it reads—(KNO)

ED Summons

appear before the agency from Monday (today) onwards, with one hotelier scheduled to appear each day, and furnish financial and property-related documents, including records pertaining to applications filed under the erstwhile JK Roshni Act. Jammu and Kashmir culture

The summons, issued under Sections 50(2) and 50(3) of the PMLA, seek a range of documents, including details of bank accounts, movable and immovable assets, revenue records, lease deeds, income tax returns for the last five years and documents relating to applications filed under the erstwhile JK Roshni Act.

"Every proceeding under sub-section (2) and sub-section (3) of Section 50 of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 shall be deemed to be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of Section 229 and Section 267 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (45 of 2023)," the notice reads.

"It is hereby informed that if you fail to attend to give evidence and/or produce records as mentioned in the Schedule at the place and time as specified in the said summons, you shall be liable to penal proceedings under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 (15 of 2003) and other relevant provisions of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (45 of 2023)," it further reads.

Speaking on the matter, Mushtaq Chaya said he did not appear personally before the ED on Monday but had sent all the documents sought by the agency. "I have furnished all the documents that were asked for. However, I did not appear personally today," Chaya said.

Although the summons do not disclose the specific Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) number or the precise allegations under investigation, the documents sought by the agency, par-

ticularly those relating to Roshni applications, land records and lease deeds, indicate that the probe is linked to the controversial Gulmarg land transfers under the erstwhile Roshni scheme.

The investigation, according to sources, traces its origins to FIR No. 08/2009 of the then Vigilance Organisation Kashmir, now the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), which alleged a criminal conspiracy involving public servants and private beneficiaries in the vesting of ownership rights over prime state land in Gulmarg by allegedly manipulating records and bypassing statutory procedures.

The charge sheets in the case named several beneficiaries who have now been summoned by the ED. Investigators had alleged that ownership rights over around 35 kanals and six marlas of prime land in Gulmarg were conferred upon beneficiaries in violation of the provisions of the JK State Lands (Vesting of Ownership Rights to the Occupants) Act, 2001.

The ED as per sources is examining whether the alleged illegal transfer of prime land in Gulmarg generated illicit wealth and financial gains that may constitute proceeds of crime under the PMLA. (KDC)

Amarnath Yatra

The PDP chief urged residents across the Valley to extend every possible support to pilgrims and ensure that they feel safe, respected and welcomed during their stay.

Referring to the prevailing situation in Jammu and Kashmir, Mehbooba said she had written to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, urging him to lead an all-party delegation to meet the Union Government and raise issues concerning the people of Jammu and Kashmir, on the lines of the engagement process undertaken in Ladakh.

"I had requested the Chief Minister to initiate an all-party effort and take the concerns of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to the Centre. However, as of now, I have not received any response to my letter," she said.

Despite this, Mufti said that dialogue and outreach should not remain confined to political leaders alone. She called upon the people of Jammu and Kashmir to take the initiative at their own level and engage with people across India.

Drawing a parallel with the mass outreach movements led by Mahatma Gandhi, she said meaningful change often begins with ordinary citizens connecting with one another.

"People themselves must reach out, talk to fellow citizens across the country and build understanding. Just as Gandhi started the Satyagraha movement through public participation, efforts to bridge distances and remove misunderstandings should also come from the people," she said.

The former CM reiterated that greater interaction, dialogue and people-to-people contact were essential for strengthening trust and promoting lasting peace, adding that Kashmir's culture of hospitality and inclusiveness can play a significant role in fostering national unity and mutual respect—(KNO)



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CM hands over appointment letters to 132 junior engineers at SKICC

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Monday handed over appointment letters to 132 newly recruited Junior Engineers (Civil) of the Public Works (Roads & Buildings) Department at a function held at Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC), Srinagar.

Addressing the appointees and their families, the Chief Minister described the occasion as a significant milestone in the lives of the young engineers and urged them to view their appointment not merely as a government job but as a solemn responsibility towards the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Congratulating the new recruits across Jammu and Kashmir, Omar Abdullah said that the appointment orders represented the culmination of years of hard work, perseverance and sacrifices made by their families. He emphasized that public expectations and aspirations were attached to every government appointment and called upon the engineers to discharge their duties with honesty, integrity and professional commitment.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir expect us to use public resources responsibly and deliver quality services and infrastructure. Every rupee spent by the government belongs to the people and must be utilised judiciously for their welfare," the Chief Minister said.



Highlighting the crucial role of engineers in development, he said that roads, bridges, hospitals and other public assets created today should stand the test of time and serve future generations. He stressed that quality should never be compromised in the execution of public works.

"If a hospital is built, it should serve people for decades. If a bridge is constructed, it should remain strong and reliable for generations. Citizens have every right to expect durable and quality infrastructure from us," he said.

The Chief Minister urged the newly appointed engineers to remain guided by professional ethics and personal accountability throughout their careers. He said that true satisfaction comes from performing one's duties honestly and efficiently, adding that every public servant must strive to ensure that they can look back at their day's work with a sense of fulfilment and integrity.

CM Omar Abdullah observed that the young engineers would play an important role in shaping the future of Jammu and Kashmir over the next three decades of service. He encouraged them to leave behind a legacy of quality work and meaningful contributions to the region's development.

Referring to the challenges often faced in public service, the Chief Minister said that ideal conditions do not always exist and officers must be prepared to work effectively even in difficult circumstances. He maintained that sincerity of purpose and commitment to public welfare should remain the guiding principles in every situation.

The Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, while congratulating the newly appointed Junior Engineers and their families, said that the appointments carried immense responsibility towards the people and development of Jammu and Kashmir.

He urged the engineers to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, transparency and integrity in their work and stressed that there should be no compromise on quality under any circumstances.

"As Junior Engineers, you will play a vital role in preparation of DPRs, project execution, billing processes, quality testing, monitoring and supervision of developmental works. Ensure that every project entrusted to you is executed with technical excellence and within stipulated timelines," he said.

The Deputy Chief Minister expressed confidence that the newly recruited engineers would contribute significantly towards improving departmental performance and delivering quality infrastructure to the people.

Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, also addressed the gathering and congratulated the appointees. He said that their selection was a recognition of their merit and capabilities and described engineers as the backbone of development and nation-building.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo and Engineer-in-Chief (Secretary Technical), Public Works Department Purshotam Kumar also addressed the gathering and highlighted the important role of engineers in accelerating infrastructure development across Jammu and Kashmir. Senior officers of the Public Works Department, newly appointed engineers and their family members were present on the occasion.

MP Khatana holds Public Darbar at Rakhi Brah Shangus

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Nominated, Ghulam Ali Khatana Monday presided over a Public Darbar/Grievance Redressal Camp at Rakhi Brah Shangus to hear and address the grievances, demands and developmental concerns of the residents of the area.

A large number of residents, public representatives and stakeholders participated in the programme and projected various issues related to infrastructure, education, healthcare, employment, agriculture, horticulture, tourism, social welfare and other essential services.

The participants highlighted various demands and concerns pertaining to road connectivity, power supply, drinking water facilities, healthcare services, education infrastructure, employment opportunities and effective implementation of government schemes.

Addressing the gathering, the MP assured the



public that all genuine demands and grievances would be taken up with the concerned authorities for timely redressal. He emphasised the need for coordinated efforts by all departments to ensure inclusive and people-centric development.

The MP reviewed the developmental works being carried out in the area and sought feedback from the concerned officers on the issues raised by the public. He directed the officers to ensure prompt action and effective delivery of public services at the grassroots level.

He further stressed the importance of engaging local youth in ongoing developmental activities to generate employment opportunities and improve livelihoods.

Several grievances were addressed during the Public Darbar, while necessary directions were issued for timely action on the remaining issues. Among those present were Additional Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Vikas Ahlawat, Tehsildar, Shangus, Block Development Officer, Shangus and officials of various line departments.

DC B'pora reviews Key Education Initiatives; Stresses Technology-Driven Education



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib on Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Education Department Bandipora at the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat Bandipora, to assess the progress of various educational initiatives and technology-driven programmes being implemented across the district.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on APAAR ID generation, UDISE data updation, Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK), ULLAS, CWSN support mechanisms and other educational interventions.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the need for effective use of technology in the education sector and emphasized accurate data capturing, timely updation of records and regular monitoring for better governance and improved learning outcomes.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that real-time data capturing is essential for improving ILM (knowledge) and strengthening academic monitoring. She further directed that various bots and technology-driven interventions in the education sector shall be monitored on a weekly basis to ensure their effective implementation and progress.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to strengthen collaboration with CSC centres to facilitate Aadhaar enrolment and corrections for students facing difficulties.

The meeting also reviewed various UDISE data issues, including dropdown students, infrastructure details and updation of teachers' records. Concerned officials and Heads of Institutions were instructed to take immediate corrective measures to ensure accuracy and completeness of data on the UDISE portal.

augmentation of potable water supply, strengthening of healthcare facilities, sanitation measures, installation and repair of street lights, and traffic management to facilitate devotees during the religious gatherings. The DC directed the concerned departments to take all necessary measures to ensure seamless arrangements during Muharram-ul-Harram.

DC Budgam visits Imambaras at Khandah, Suthsoo, Chattergam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Monday visited Imambara Khandah, Suthsoo and Chattergam to review the arrangements being put in place for the smooth observance of the ensuing holy month of Muharram-ul-Harram.

During the visits, the DC inspected the facilities available at the religious venues and interacted with local residents, members of management committees, and representatives of the Shia community to assess their requirements and concerns ahead of Muharram.

On the occasion, the representatives briefed the DC about the schedule of major Muharram congregations and processions in their respective areas.

They highlighted various issues and demands, including repair and restoration of damaged road stretches, uninterrupted power supply with adequate backup arrangements,

He instructed the R&B Department to identify and address damaged road stretches on priority and emphasized the need for effective traffic management plans to ensure smooth movement of mourners and visitors.

The DC further directed the Power Development Department (PDD) to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply, adequate backup arrangements, and installation and repair of street lights wherever required. The Jal Shakti Department was instructed to maintain regular and sufficient water supply throughout the Muharram days.

DSWO Kulgam observes World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: District Social Welfare Office (DSWO) Kulgam observed World Elder Abuse Awareness Day here at the Auditorium Hall, Mini Secretariat Kulgam.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Riyaz Ahmad Shah attended the programme as the chief guest.

The event witnessed the participation of senior citizens, resource persons from Government Degree College Kulgam and the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA).

The programme was organized to raise awareness among senior citizens and the general public about elder abuse, neglect, and the rights and welfare of older persons.

The awareness sessions focused on the different forms of elder abuse, available welfare schemes for senior citizens, and the collective responsibility of families and society in safeguarding the well-being of older persons.

Participants were encouraged to recognize and report instances of abuse and to support the creation of an age-friendly and inclusive society.

RRU, JKSDRF sign MoU to strengthen Training, Research in Disaster Management

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and the Jammu & Kashmir State Disaster Response Force (JKSDRF) Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate in the fields of training, academics and research aimed at enhancing disaster management and emergency response capabilities in Jammu & Kashmir.

The MoU seeks to foster institutional cooperation through a range of joint initiatives, including certification of academic, research and training programmes, development of specialized training modules for JKSDRF personnel, and provision of technical expertise for strengthening and restructuring State Disaster Management Training Centres as required by JKSDRF.

The collaboration will also facilitate the joint organization of online and offline activities such as lectures, workshops, seminars and short-term training programmes. Additionally, both institutions will work together in designing and undertaking research projects related to disaster management, emergency response and allied fields.

The agreement further provides for exchange of faculty, academic and scholarly information, publications, training materials and other resources to promote knowledge-sharing and professional development.

The MoU signing ceremony was held in the office chamber of A.G. Mir, DGP and Commandant General, Home Guards, Civil Defence and SDRF J&K, Srinagar.

Representing Rashtriya Raksha University, J&K Campus, were Dr. Mahesh A. Tripathi, Director; Dr. Mohammad Akmal Shah, Assistant Director; and Dr. Bilquees Dar, Assistant Professor, Disaster Management.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public and all concerned that I, INAYAT HUSSAIN son of GH MOHD RATHER, resident of Sath Boni, Lal Bazar, Srinagar, am the holder of Bank Account No. 1501040100016660 (Customer ID: 008869692) maintained at Lal Bazar branch of Jammu & Kashmir Bank. There is a spelling mistake in the name recorded in the bank account. Currently, the account stands in the name of "RATHER INAYAT HUSSAIN son of GHULAM MOHAMMAD RATHER". The correct name is "INAYAT HUSSAIN son of GH MOHD RATHER". Now, I have applied to the bank for correction of the above spelling error in the account records. Any person having any objection to the above correction may submit the same in writing to the bank branch (Lal Bazar, Srinagar) within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

INAYAT HUSSAIN
S/o GH MOHD RATHER
Sath Boni, Lal Bazar, Srinagar

Awareness, Sports Activities continue across Pulwama under NMJKA

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan (NMJKA), a series of awareness, counselling and youth engagement activities were conducted across various parts of District Pulwama Monday to strengthen the collective fight against substance abuse and promote a healthy, drug-free society.

Awareness programmes were organised at Gulshpora Aripal, Larkipora Awantipora, Buchoo Dadsara, Hanjipora Kakapora, Chakoora Litter, Kamrazipora Shadimarg, Dhobi Mohalla Khrew and Gangoo Pulwama.

During these programmes, participants were sensitised about the

harmful effects of drug abuse and encouraged to play an active role in preventing substance abuse within their communities. Awareness sessions, counselling interactions, pledge ceremonies, Padyatras and community outreach activities were conducted to reinforce the message of a Nasha Mukta society.

Meanwhile, Self Help Group (SHG) members organised awareness and counselling sessions along with a padyatra at Dadsara. The programme highlighted the importance of community participation, family support and collective responsibility in safeguarding youth from the menace of drug abuse and guiding them towards constructive pursuits.

The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Pulwama, continued its awareness and outreach initiatives under NMBA by organising a series of sports and educational activities across various zones of the district.

As part of the campaign, Zone Pulwama conducted Softball Trials at Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS) Pulwama, witnessing enthusiastic participation from aspiring players.

Meanwhile, Zone Kakapora organised a zonal-level Kabaddi Tournament for AAG Boys at PS Namam. Students from various institutions across the zone participated with great enthusiasm, displaying sportsmanship, teamwork and competitive spirit.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SHEEP HUSBANDRY OFFICER SHOPIAN

Email: - dshshopian-shdk@jk.gov.in

TECHNICAL SECTION

Subject: Invitation of applications for establishment of Sheep units under RKVY and IWT/TSP (Recycled mode) for the year 2026-27.

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

Applications on a prescribed format are invited from interested and eligible candidates of District Shopian for the establishment of sheep units for the below mentioned schemes.

| Scheme | Component | Description | Eligibility criteria |
|---|--|--|---|
| RKVY (Recycled Mode) | Establishment of Recycled Sheep units comprising of 10 Ewes on Participatory Mode. | 1. Ten (10) ewes shall be issued to the selected candidate free of cost. | BPL, EWS, Handicapped, ST, SC, Widows, Orphans and Women only |
| | | 2. The selected beneficiary has to return ten (10) ewes out of the progeny in a phased manner (02 ewes per year), from the third year of the establishment of unit, till the animals are retrieved back. | |
| Infrastructure for Welfare of Tribals (Recycled Mode) | Establishment of Mini Sheep farms comprising of 10 Ewes on participatory mode | 3. The selected candidates have to produce an undertaking in the form of an Affidavit duly signed by the 1st Class Magistrate, that he/she will abide by the terms and conditions of the scheme and shall retrieve back the livestock as per the guidelines of the scheme. | Schedule Tribe only |
| | | 1. Ten (10) Ewes/Does shall be issued to the selected candidate free of cost. | |
| | | 2. The selected beneficiary has to return ten (10) Ewes/Does out of the progeny in a phased manner, from the third year of the establishment of unit, till the animals are retrieved back. | |
| | | 3. The selected candidates have to produce an undertaking in the form of an Affidavit duly signed by the 1st Class Magistrate, that he/she will abide by the terms and conditions of the scheme and shall retrieve back the livestock as per the guidelines of the scheme. | |

IMPORTANT DATES:

- > Date of commencement of the issuance of application forms: 18-06-2026.
- > Last date for submission of applications: 25-06-2026.

HOW TO APPLY:

The application forms can be received and submitted back complete in all respects along with relevant documents on all working days during office hours at the office of the Sheep and Wool Development Officer Shimal Shopian. Documents to be submitted: - Prescribed application form along with xerox copies of Aadhar Card, Ration Card, & Category certificate.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SCHEME:

- > The age of applicant must be above 18 years and below 55 years as on 01-01-2026.
- > Beneficiary family (as per the ration card) that has already availed the benefit from the department under any scheme shall not be entitled to the benefit again.
- > More than one application shall not be entertained from the same household.
- > The allotment and establishment of units shall be subject to the availability of livestock to be retrieved from the already existing established units.
- > Selection of beneficiaries shall be made by designated Selection Committee purely on "First Come First Serve Basis".
- > The same selection list shall be valid for the establishment of fresh units under Infrastructure for Welfare of Tribals as well, strictly as per the guidelines of the scheme, subject to the availability of funds
- > The selection list shall be valid up to 31-03-2030, till the expiry of HADP/ISDS guidelines.
- > The candidates who have applied for the said schemes during the year 2025-26 need not to apply again.

No: - DSHOS/Tech/2026-27/362-68
Dated: - 15-06-2026
DIPK-2138-26
DT: 15/06/2026

Sd./
(Dr. Tariq Ahmad Malik)
District Sheep Husbandry Officer,
Shopian

Sakeena Itoo witnesses Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Cricket Tournament finale

GMK SPORTS DESK

KULGAM: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, Monday witnessed the final match of the prestigious Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Cricket Tournament held at DH Pora in Kulgam district amid enthusiastic participation of local youth and sports lovers.

The tournament, organized in memory of late Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo, saw participation from several talented teams from across the region. It served as a vibrant platform for promoting sportsmanship, discipline and healthy competition among youth.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Minister lauded the organizers for successfully conducting the tournament and providing a constructive avenue for the young talent to showcase their sporting abilities. She said that sports play a pivotal role in shaping character, fostering teamwork and



steering youth towards positive and productive pursuits.

Sakeena Itoo reiterated the Jammu and Kashmir government's commitment towards strengthening the sports infrastructure and creating more opportunities for youth engagement in J&K. She emphasized that focused efforts are being made to encourage sports activities at the grassroots level and identify promising talent from rural and remote areas.

"The government is committed to empower our youth through sports, education and skill development initiatives. Sports not only contribute to physical well-being but also instil values of perseverance, leadership and mutual respect", asserted the Minister.

Highlighting the immense sporting potential of Jammu and Kashmir's youth, she called upon the young players to actively participate in sports and make full use of the facilities and opportunities being extended by the government. She assured continued support for the initiatives aimed at nurturing sporting talent and promoting youth-centric activities throughout the region.

The Minister also appreciated the enthusiasm displayed by the participating teams and spectators, stating that such events strengthen community bonds and inspire the younger generation to pursue excellence in sports.

Later, Sakeena Itoo distributed trophies, medals and certificates among the winning and runner-up teams and congratulated all the participants for their spirited performance. She encouraged the players to continue striving for excellence and represent Jammu and Kashmir at higher levels of competition.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Tilak Varma get into a verbal fight with Sri Lanka A players in Super Over drama



SIANS

DAMBULLA: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and India A captain Tilak Varma found themselves at the centre of ugly scenes as tempers flared during and after their dramatic Super Over defeat to Sri Lanka 'A' in the tri-series clash at the Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium on Monday.

What started as an exciting match ended in controversy, with debates over whether to play a Super Over. There were disagreements about a key no-ball decision and an apparent altercation involving 15-year-old Sooryavanshi after Sri Lanka 'A' won the match.

The match ended in a tie when Sri Lanka A matched India A's score of 265 on the last ball. However, uncertainty arose about whether fading light would permit a Super Over. Tilak quickly approached the on-field umpires and engaged in lengthy discussions, using animated gestures while arguing that the tie-breaker should go ahead.

Several India 'A' players joined in, and members of the Indian support staff also got involved before officials eventually agreed to proceed with the Super Over.

The drama intensified after Sri Lanka A finished their over. Arshad Khan bowled a waist-high full toss on the last ball without any runs coming in. Players had started to leave the field, and Sooryavanshi was padded up and ready to bat when the umpires declared it a no-ball. This decision led

to another heated conversation, with Tilak again seeking clarification from the officials. The India A captain remained in a lengthy discussion, and the delay only raised tensions further.

The situation escalated after the match. Sooryavanshi, who scored five runs from the two balls he faced in the Super Over, looked noticeably frustrated as he walked past the celebrating Sri Lankan players. TV footage seemed to show him making contact with one of the players before being pushed away by others. The young player, who is close to making his senior India debut on the upcoming T20I tour of Ireland, was also seen exchanging words with Sri Lankan players before finally leaving the field.

The controversy overshadowed a thrilling match in which India A made a remarkable recovery earlier in the day. At 143 for seven, India A seemed headed for a low total until Suyansh Shedge and Vipraj Nigam put together a vital 104-run partnership for the eighth wicket. However, India 'A' later lost 10 runs due to a costly mistake by Vipraj during that partnership, a penalty that ultimately impacted the result.

Sri Lanka A, having let a winning position slip against India A in the series opener, were determined not to make the same mistake. Sadeera Samarawickrama led the chase with an impressive 93, and Arshad Khan's great final over ensured Sri Lanka A finished level at 265, forcing the game into a Super Over.

FIFA WC 2026: 'Coming back twice gave us great confidence', says Japan coach after Dutch stalemate

SIANS

DALLAS (US): Japan head coach Hajime Moriyasu said his team gained confidence from a 2-2 draw with the Netherlands in their FIFA World Cup Group F opener, while also admitting disappointment at failing to secure victory.

Japan came from behind twice to earn a point against one of the tournament favourites the Netherlands.

"I am not satisfied with only one point, but I believe this point is worth more than a point," Moriyasu said, as quoted by Xinhua. "The players executed our game plan well and showed strong response under pres-



sure. Coming back twice has given us great confidence."

He praised Japan's resilience against a top-level opponent. "The Netherlands is a very strong side," he said. "Our players stayed united, showed toughness and fighting spirit, and although we are disappointed not to win, this match will help us go forward."

Moriyasu said Japan would continue to improve by learning from elite opposition, noting the growing number of Japanese players competing in Europe and the steady development of youth and coaching systems at home.

Netherlands coach Ronald Koeman said he could accept the result but felt his team could have managed key moments better.

"I can accept the result. Japan also created chances," Koeman said. "It was a high-level match and both teams can take positives."

He said Japan's deeper defensive approach made it difficult for the Netherlands to find space. "They normally press high, but this time they sat deeper, which made it hard to break them down," he said.

Koeman defended his substitutions after the Netherlands lost control late in the match, saying they were aimed at stabilising the midfield and reducing pressure. He also criticised his team's defending for Japan's equalizer, saying they failed to deal with the situation around the ball

while praising Japan's quality and fighting spirit. "Don't underestimate Japan," he said. "After leading twice, we wanted to win, but they kept fighting, and they are a very good side."

Japan midfielder Daichi Kamada, who scored the late equaliser, expressed the team's aim to win the World Cup. "We hope to go further in this World Cup. Of course, there are still many areas we need to improve, but I believe we have the potential," he said.

"Compared with the last World Cup, we are more experienced now. Many players are playing in top European clubs, and we face top players every day. That is the biggest difference from before," Kamada added.

Sri Lanka 'A' clinch Super Over thriller against India 'A' despite fifties from Nigam, Shedge

SIANS

DAMBULLA: Kugathas Mathulan held his nerve to defend 16 runs as Sri Lanka A edged India A in a nail-biting Super Over thriller in the 50-over tri-series at the Rangiri Dambulla International Cricket Stadium on Monday.

Despite fighting half-centuries from Vipraj Nigam and Suryansh Shedge taking India A to 265 in 49.2 overs, the visitors fell short as the hosts equalled the total in their 50 overs and then sealed a victory in dramatic fashion in the Super Over. While Sri Lanka A made 16 runs in their Super Over, Mathulan kept his cool to keep India A to nine runs and get a win by seven runs.

But the contest was marred by heated exchanges and disputes with on-field umpires in deteriorating light. The drama began in the closing stages when India 'A' protested a decision on the final delivery, with skipper Tilak Varma relentlessly pleading his case to the umpires, who were also looking at the light meter.

Questions were raised over whether Chamika Gunasekara had offered a shot, but the officials stood firm, thus forcing the game into a Super Over. India A grew further agitated over subse-



quent wide and no-ball calls, with teenaged batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi briefly returning to prepare for his batting stint before being summoned back to field.

In the Super Over, Arshad Khan immediately struck with a dipping full toss that appeared to have dismissed Avishka Fernando. The on-field umpires adjudged Fernando out, but the third umpire overturned the decision after reviewing the replay. Varma was visibly upset and engaged in a prolonged discussion with the officials, expressing his displeasure at the reversal.

Tempers flared again at the end of the match, with Sooryavanshi visibly upset after missing the shot on the last ball

and engaged in a brief exchange with Vishen Halambage before being pulled away by his batting partner Suryansh Shedge. That was not all after they were separated, Sooryavanshi continued to talk in the direction of the Sri Lanka A huddle while walking back to the pavilion.

The teams eventually shook hands, but the contest ended on a sour note. Earlier, India 'A' had staged a remarkable recovery from 143/7, thanks to a 104-run eighth-wicket stand between Shedge and Vipraj Nigam. Nigam made 51 off 49 balls and Shedge struck 72 off 66 deliveries to lift the total to 265, though the former's two warnings for running on the pitch proved costly as India were docked 10 penalty runs.

Sri Lanka 'A' were kept in the chase by Sadeera Samarawickrama's 93 off 113 balls, while Arshad Khan bowled a brilliant final over that nearly turned the match in India A's favour, though the hosts prevailed at the end to give the visitors their second straight defeat in the competition. India A now must beat Afghanistan A on Wednesday if they are to enter the final of the tri-series.

Brief Scores: India A 265/10 in 49.2 overs (Suryansh Shedge 72, Vipraj Nigam 51; Vijaykanth Vijaykanth 3-26, Mohamed Shiraz 3-33) tied with Sri Lanka A 265/9 in 50 overs (Sadeera Samarawickrama 93, Niroshan Dickwella 37; Ayush Badoni 2-45, Suryansh Shedge 1-13) - Sri Lanka A won the Super Over

2026 FIFA WC: Sweden's Potter hails Isak, Gyokeres partnership after win over Tunisia

SIANS

MONTERREY (MEXICO): Sweden manager Graham Potter praised the growing understanding between Liverpool's Alexander Isak and Arsenal's Viktor Gyokeres after both scored in a 5-1 win over Tunisia in Group F of the 2026 FIFA World Cup in Monterrey, Mexico, on Sunday.

Sweden moved to the top of Group F after Yasin Ayari scored twice and Mattias Svanberg also found the net in Monterrey.

"They haven't played that much together, so it's going to get better," Potter said about the match. "I thought they worked well for each other, worked hard. It's nice for them to score goals; this convinces them that they are on the right path. I thought they were both fantastic."

Potter said he could not



fault his players but noted that his team could improve collectively ahead of its next match against the Netherlands in Houston on Saturday, reports Xinhua.

"It was a fantastic performance," Potter said. "We could have scored more. There's room for improvement, but we will enjoy tonight, then recover and get ready again."

Yasin Ayari, Alexander Isak, and Viktor Gyokeres

bri's glorious delivery for his first international goal.

The second half was all Sweden. Isak robbed Ellyes Skhiri, and Gyokeres buried the loose ball to make it 3-1. Mattias Svanberg amplified the advantage moments after coming on, and Ayari sealed a morale-boosting success.

Notably, this has been one of the highest-scoring matchdays in World Cup history with 19 goals on Monday after Germany scored seven earlier in the day.

Tunisia manager Sabri Lamouchi acknowledged that Sweden was superior but said his team had itself to blame for the lop-sided result.

"It's a big loss, obviously not the best way to start this competition, but we paid for our mistakes," he said. "And the quality of the opponent made the difference. With these kinds of players, simple mistakes make it difficult."

Union Govt constitutes search-cum-selection committee for National Sports Board under NSG Act, 2025

SIANS

NEW DELHI: The Union Government on Monday constituted the Search-cum-Selection Committee for the National Sports Board under the National Sports Board (Search-cum-Selection Committee) Rules, 2026, as per the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.

The Search-cum-Selection Committee will be headed by Dr. T.V. Somanathan, Cabinet Secretary, as

Chairperson and will consist of Hari Ranjan Rao, Secretary (Sports), Lt General (Retd) Harpal Singh (Indian Olympic Association), Sports Administrator, and two National Sports Awardees, namely Gagan Narang and N. Kunjuran Devi.

The aforementioned committee is tasked to recommend a panel of names for the positions of Chairperson and Two Members of the Board, from among persons of ability, integ-

egrity, and standing, having knowledge or practical experience in the field of public administration, sports governance, sports law, and other related fields.

The constitution of Search-cum-Selection Committee by the Ministry will set in motion the process of selection of Chairperson and Members of the National Sports Board, which will act as the central authority responsible for granting board recog-

niton to National Sports Bodies and ensuring compliance with governance, financial, and ethical standards.

The Centre had notified the National Sports Governance (National Sports Board) Rules, 2026, and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Tribunal) Rules, 2026, under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, setting up the framework for regulation and dispute resolution in Indian sports.

Movies Schedule

Tuesday, 16th June

BLOCKBUSTER TUESDAY • TICKETS START AT ₹105

HAI JAWANI TOH ISHQ HONA HAI (HINDI ATMOS) (UA16+)
12:00 PM, 07:35 PM

DISCLOSURE DAY (ENGLISH) (U/A13+)
11:00 AM

OBSSESSION (ENGLISH) (A)
10:30 AM, 02:50 PM, 05:50 PM

BACKROOMS (ENGLISH) (A)
05:10 PM

MAIN VAAPAS AAUNGA (HINDI ATMOS) (U/A16+)
12:50 PM, 02:15 PM, 07:00 PM

HAUNTED ECHOES OF THE PAST (3D HINDI) (A)
04:10 PM

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