

Thathri Cloudburst

LG directs DC Doda for immediate relief to affected families



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is closely monitoring the situation following a cloudburst in Thathri, Doda. He spoke to Deputy Commissioner Doda, Krishan Lal and directed him to ensure immedi-

ate relief and assistance to the affected families and expedite restoration work.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor has said: "Spoke with the DC, Doda to assess the situation following the cloudburst in the Thathri region. While several houses and shops

have suffered damage, fortunately, no casualties or injuries have been reported.

I have directed the DC to ensure immediate relief and assistance to the affected families and expedite restoration work, including the clearance of NH-244".

Mandeep Kaur reviews green campus initiatives at SKUAST-K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a strategic move to foster sustainable development and urban ecological balance, Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, Tuesday visited the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) to evaluate the University's pioneering Green Campus initiatives.

The Commissioner Secretary was accompanied by Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb. The delegation conducted an on-site inspection of the university's comprehensive sustainability ecosystem. The visit highlighted SKUAST-K's successful implementation of a zero-waste campus model, which included advanced rainwater harvesting systems, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and plastic waste management protocols.

Following the tour, an exclusive meeting was convened by Commissioner Secretary with Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Professor Nazir



Ahmad Ganai, alongside senior officers from the university. The discussions centered on finalizing a comprehensive roadmap to further strengthen and scale these green campus objectives, ensuring that the integration of nature, resource conservation and technology remains at the forefront of the institution's growth.

During the session, Mandeep Kaur appreciated university's proactive approach towards environmental stewardship. She highlighted the intent to replicate the successful green models, particularly water conservation and waste recycling mechanisms, established at SKUAST-K across various other government initiatives and public sector projects.

"The work being done here at SKUAST-K serves as a vital, replicable blueprint

for our future urban planning. By integrating these scalable green practices such as effective STP management and comprehensive plastic waste reduction into wider government projects, we aim to create more resilient, energy-efficient and environmentally conscious public spaces across the region", maintained the Commissioner Secretary.

The University leadership reaffirmed its commitment towards providing technical expertise and knowledge support to the Urban Development Department, ensuring a collaborative effort in achieving long-term sustainability goals. The roadmap discussed today marks a significant step towards institutionalizing green governance and promoting sustainable development as a core pillar of public infrastructure.

MLA Sonawari, DC B'pora review PMJVK implementation in district

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: MLA Sonawari, Hilal Akbar Lone, and Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, Tuesday reviewed the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (PMJVK) in the district and discussed the proposal for construction of a new Community Health Centre (CHC) building at Sumbal under the scheme.

During the meeting, MLA Sonawari, emphasized the need for establishing a new Community Health Centre building at Sumbal to strengthen healthcare infrastructure and improve access to quality medical services for the people of the area. He urged that the proposal be considered under PMJVK in view of the growing healthcare requirements of the Sub-Division.

It was informed that land for the proposed CHC building has already been identified. The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to examine the feasibility of the proj-



ect and verify that all prescribed conditions under PMJVK are fulfilled.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Chief Medical Officer to get a preliminary land feasibility assessment conducted in coordination with the concerned engineering departments so that the proposal meets all required parameters before being taken forward under the scheme.

Among others, the meeting was attended by District Programme Officer Poshan ICDS Bandipora, Chief Planning Officer Bandipora, Chief Medical Officer Bandipora, Chief Education Officer Bandipora, nominated members of the PMJVK District Level Committee, and other concerned officers.

DC Kupwara inaugurates PMV Awareness Programme on Branding, Marketing

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: The MSME Development & Facilitation Office (DFO), Srinagar, under the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, in collaboration with the District Administration Kupwara, Tuesday organized a PM Vishwakarma Awareness Programme on Branding and Marketing at the Meeting Hall of the D.C Office, Kupwara.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, inaugurated the programme and was the chief guest on the occasion. The programme witnessed the participation of officers from various departments, banking institutions, technical experts, and a large number of artisans and beneficiaries under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme.

In his address, the DC appreciated the initiative of the Ministry of MSME and emphasized the importance of empowering local artisans through capacity



building, financial inclusion, and modern marketing practices. He urged artisans to make full use of government schemes and adopt innovative technologies to improve the competitiveness of their products in national and international markets.

Joint Director, MSME DFO Jammu & Kashmir, Amit Kumar Tamaria, presented a comprehensive overview of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme and highlighted its implementation and progress in Jammu & Kashmir. He elaborated on the various benefits available under the scheme, including skill upgradation, toolkit incentives, concessional credit, digital transactions, and marketing support for tra-

ditional artisans.

Earlier, Assistant Director, Saheel Alaqband, highlighted the aims and objectives of the awareness programme. He emphasized that the initiative was aimed at equipping traditional artisans and craftspeople with the knowledge and skills required for effective branding, marketing, product packaging, and business development to enhance their income and market reach.

During the technical session, Lead District Manager (LDM), Kupwara, delivered a detailed presentation on credit facilitation and banking awareness, informing participants about financial assistance, loan facilities, and banking services available for

artisans and micro enterprises.

Experts from various departments and institutions conducted technical sessions on entrepreneurship development and capacity building, product packaging and branding, digital marketing and e-commerce, schemes available through the District Industries Centre for artisans, the importance of Udyam Registration, and the use of artificial intelligence for product branding and market promotion.

The programme concluded with an interactive session during which participants raised queries regarding various aspects of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme and related government initiatives. The experts responded to the queries and encouraged artisans to take advantage of the available support mechanisms for strengthening their enterprises and improving market access.

13,300+ ACCOMMODATION PROPERTIES

MakeMyTrip Launches OneCircle, a Global Rewards Program

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GURUGRAM: MakeMyTrip Tuesday announced the launch of OneCircle, a global rewards program built around the Indian traveller, bringing together a collaborative network of 13,376 accommodation properties including hotels and alternate accommodations across 1,002 cities worldwide (as of June 30, 2026) onto a single platform.

OneCircle launches at significant scale, covering 868 cities across India, with over 12,330 accommodation properties in India under one rewards program. Internationally, the program extends to 1046 properties

across 39 countries covering 134 destinations, chosen for their salience to outbound Indian travel. Properties have been onboarded based on consumer ratings, on-ground assessment by MakeMyTrip's supply team, and their interest in joining the program.

OneCircle brings together a diverse mix of accommodation partners, ranging from independent hotels to homestays and villas, across luxury, premium, and budget segments. It offers travellers the flexibility to choose from a wide variety of stays tailored to their preferences and budgets. Travellers stand to earn a minimum of 10% of their accommodation

spend back as reward points on every booking, redeemable on their next stay anywhere in the network.

The program is weighted towards the non-metro markets driving India's domestic travel growth: three in four participating properties sit in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. Gurugram, Bengaluru, and Jaipur have emerged as the top cities by number of properties, while Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Kerala lead by state footprint. The program covers a wide range of destinations, from metros and business hubs to hill stations, beaches, spiritual centres, and offbeat getaways, across every price point from affordable stays

to luxury hotels catering to both leisure and business travellers

Rajesh Magow, Executive Director & Group CEO, MakeMyTrip, said, "OneCircle is built on a simple idea: every trip should be more rewarding for the traveller, and every accommodation partner should have a way to turn that into lasting business. For travellers, that means earning real value on every stay at home or abroad. For our partners, it opens a new channel of demand and a way to build relationships with returning guests." Since its phased rollout, OneCircle has seen encouraging early traction with travellers.(PR)

DC Budgam reviews progress of Transit Accommodation Project for PM Package Employees

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Tuesday visited kakanmaran Budgam and conducted a comprehensive review of the progress of the Transit Accommodation Project for PM Package/Migrant Employees of District Budgam.

The project is aimed at providing modern residential accommodation for PM Package employees. The infrastructure comprises 12 residential blocks with a total of 192 flats, along with one community hall and one dormitory, besides other essential amenities.

During his visit, the DC was accompanied by the Joint Director Planning, Budgam, Superintending Engineer, R&B and Hydraulic Circle Budgam, Executive Engineers of the Roads & Buildings (R&B), Public Health Engineering (PHE) and Power Development Department (PDD), representatives from the Relief Department, and other concerned officers.

During the inspection, the officers briefed the DC about the physical progress of the project and informed him that construction work is progressing at an accelerated pace.

On-site the DC inspected various components of the project and reviewed the quality

and pace of execution.

The DC was also briefed that project also includes a range of allied works such as land levelling, security infrastructure, internal roads, approach roads, drainage network and protection works. The fencing wall of transit accommodation has been completed.

During the visit, the DC also reviewed the progress of the water supply infrastructure for the entire transit accommodation complex and directed the Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic Circle Budgam, to complete all pending water supply requirements within the shortest possible time to facilitate timely commissioning of the project.

The DC further directed the Mechanical Engineering Department to commence work on the proposed Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at the earliest so that the required sanitation infrastructure is established well before the completion of the project.

The DC instructed all executing agencies to strictly adhere to the prescribed timelines while maintaining the highest standards of quality. He stressed the need for close coordination among all departments to remove bottlenecks and ensure seamless execution of the project.

DC Kulgam reviews implementation of SWM across District



GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, Tuesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the implementation and progress of Solid Waste Management (SWM) across the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of key components of the Solid Waste Management programme, including door-to-door waste collection, segregation of waste at source, collection of user charges, generation of bills, and the overall operational status of waste management infrastructure across the district.

The Chair stressed the need to ensure 100% door-to-door collection of municipal solid waste, timely realization of user charges, and systematic generation of bills to improve the financial sustainability of the Solid Waste Management system.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the functioning of trommel

machines and Plastic Waste Management Plants established in the district. He directed the concerned officers to ensure that all facilities remain fully functional and are operated efficiently for scientific processing and disposal of solid waste.

Emphasizing coordinated efforts, the Deputy Commissioner instructed all BDOs and Executive Officers to strengthen monitoring mechanisms, address operational bottlenecks on priority, and ensure effective implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules in their respective jurisdictions. He further directed that regular field inspections be conducted and progress be monitored to achieve improved sanitation and environmental sustainability across the district.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Altaf Ahmad Khan; Assistant Commissioner Development Kulgam, Bilal Ahmad Kamgar; all Block Development Officers, Executive Officers of the Municipal Committees, and other concerned officers.

सरकार जम्मू काश्मीर

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE LABOUR COMMISSIONER, J&K

Shram Bhawan-Railway Road, Jammu/Near General Bus Stand, Batamaloo Srinagar

(Website: jklabourcomm.jk.gov.in | E-mail: lab.comm@jk.gov.in)

Subject: Appointment of Supervisors in the Labour Department.

Ref: I) Administrative Department's letter No. LE-Genl/63/2022-11 (7023733) dated 01.04.2026.
II) J&K Services Selection Board's Notification No. 09-Selection of 2026 dated 16.02.2026 issued vide endorsement No.JKSSB-Scry/20/2025-06 (7731559) dated 16.02.2026.

Order No. 119-LC of 2026 Dated: 02 .07.2026

As recommended by the J&K Services Selection Board vide JKSSB-Scry/20/2025-06 (7731559) dated 16.02.2026 and its approval conveyed by the Labour & Employment Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K vide letter No. LE-Genl/63/2022-11 (7023733) dated 01.04.2026, sanction is hereby accorded to the temporary appointment of following candidates as Supervisors, with immediate effect, in the Pay Level 2 (19900-63200), in whose favour satisfactory verification of Character and Antecedents report has been received from the Criminal Investigation Department vide Form numbers indicated against each:

S.No.	Name of the Candidate	Parentage	Address	Category	Form No. (CID)
1	Nishant Raina	Bansi Lai Raina	Poonch City, Sher Khas- 185101	OM	155147 Dt: 19.05.2026
2	Anwar Sadat	Qazi Mohd Azam	Chanipora Payeen, Kamah, Kupwara-193225	OM/RBA	155154 Dt: 22.05.2026
3	Suhail Hassan	Ghulam Hassan Sheikh	Khapora, Khansahib, Budgam-191111	RBA	155693 Dt: 28.04.2026
4	Sanjeev Kumar Bhagat	Bansilal Bhagat	Keran Bantalab, Jammu-North-181123	SC	155158 Dt: 21.05.2026

The appointee(s) shall report to the office of Labour Commissioner, J&K Srinagar within a period of 21 days from the date of issuance of this appointment order. In case of failure of appointee(s) to join within the stipulated period, the appointment shall be deemed to have been cancelled without any further notice.

The appointee(s) shall be allowed to join only on the production of following certificates in original:
1. Academic Qualification Certificates. Matriculation/ Date of Birth Certificate.
2. Health Certificate issued by concerned Chief Medical Officer (Physical Fitness Certificate).
3. Domicile Certificate issued by the Competent Authority.
4. Certificates from the concerned authorities to the effect that no loan under Self Employment Scheme has been taken by the appointee(s).
5. Relevant Category Certificates (in case of candidates belonging to reserved categories).

The appointment of the above candidates as Supervisors shall further be subjected to the following terms and conditions:
1. The appointee(s) shall furnish an undertaking in the shape of an affidavit to the effect that if on verification of the qualification certificates/DoB Certificate and other documents (whichever is applicable) from the concerned issuing authority are proved forged, false or fake, the appointee(s) shall have no claim for his appointment as Supervisor and the appointment shall be deemed to have been cancelled abinitio and the legal action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against him/her.
2. If the candidate(s) has taken loan for self-employment from DIC/Employment Department, to be ascertained from the District Industries Centre (DIC) and District Employment and Counselling Centre of the Domicile District, he shall relinquish the proprietorship of unit/enterprise and also stakes, if any, in such self-employment unit/enterprise before joining the Government Service. He shall be required to repay the entire loan liability/in suitable EMIs to be worked out by the DDO concerned from his salary. DDO concerned shall obtain an affidavit from the concerned appointee(s) regarding both relinquishment of proprietorship and stakes, if any, in such a self-employment unit enterprise and recovery to be made and also personally monitor its recovery in terms of Circular No. 06-JK (GAD) of 2023 dated 06-02-2023 issued by the General Administration Department.
3. Salary of the appointee(s) shall not be drawn and disbursed to him/her unless satisfactory report in respect of genuineness of the Qualification/DoB Certificates is received from the concerned issuing authority.
4. The appointee(s) shall be on probation for a period of 02 years.
5. The appointment of the above candidate(s) shall be governed by the "New Pension Scheme" as per SRO-400 of 2009 dated 24th December, 2009.
6. The Inter-seniority of the appointee(s) shall be determined in accordance with the merit secured by the appointee(s) in the selection list prepared by the Services Selection Board.
7. The appointment of the candidate(s) shall be subject to the outcome of the writ petition(s), if any, pending before any competent court.

No. LC/ESTT/14/2026-7 (E-7878279)
Dated: 02.07.2026

DIPK-2955-26
DT: 07/07/2026

Sd/-
Charandeep Singh, JKAS
Labour Commissioner, J&K

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CMYK

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Chief of Army Staff calls on LG Manoj Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief of Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth on Tuesday called on Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and reviewed the prevailing security situation in the Union Territory.

The meeting was held at Lok Bhavan here, an official spokesperson said.

The Lieutenant Governor and the Army Chief discussed the overall security scenario in the region and reviewed the prevailing situation, the spokesperson said.

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Our WhatsApp Channel General Seth was accompanied by Balbir Singh, General Officer

Commanding (GOC) of the Chinara Corps, during the meeting, the spokesperson added.

Dy CM inaugurates Rs 2.49 cr conference hall at PWD Dak Bungalow, Nowshera

Assesses development works, holds public outreach programme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NOWSHERA: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary Tuesday inaugurated the newly constructed conference hall at the PWD Dak Bungalow in Nowshera, built at a cost of Rs 2.49 crore.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the new facility will strengthen the administrative infrastructure of the area by providing a modern venue for official meetings, conferences and public interactions. He reiterated the government's commitment towards creating quality public assets that enhance governance and improve the public service delivery.

Addressing the gathering of local residents, the Deputy Chief Minister highlighted the government's focus on inclusive and people-centric development. He said that infrastructure development remains a key priority and every effort is being made to ensure that developmental projects are completed within the stipulated time-



frame while maintaining the highest standards of quality.

Earlier, the Deputy Chief Minister undertook an extensive inspection of various ongoing developmental works across the Nowshera constituency, including road, bridge and other infrastructure projects. He reviewed the progress of the works and directed the concerned officers to expedite execution while ensuring transparency, quality and adherence to the prescribed timelines.

He emphasized that timely completion of public projects is essential to provide better connectivity, improved civic

amenities and enhanced quality of life to the people.

The Deputy Chief Minister also held a detailed public outreach programme during which he interacted with the local residents, public representatives and various delegations. He assured them that all their genuine issues would be addressed on priority through coordinated efforts of the concerned departments.

Among those present were Additional Deputy Commissioner Nowshera, Superintending Engineer PWD, Executive Engineers and other senior officers of the district administration and line departments.

Min Rana listens to public grievances, assures swift disposal of representations

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Tuesday met several public delegations and individuals at Srinagar and listened to their issues and demands pertaining to the Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs departments.

The delegations, representing different areas, apprised the Minister of various public issues requiring immediate attention. They also projected several developmental demands and sought timely intervention

for the resolution of matters.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to all the deputations and individuals, assuring them that every genuine issue would be examined on merit and addressed in a transparent and time-bound manner. He reiterated that the government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, remains steadfast in its commitment to provide efficient public services and ensuring that developmental benefits reach every section of society.

Javed Rana directed the concerned officers to promptly process the representations received during

the interaction and ensure their swift disposal. He stressed the need for maintaining close coordination with the field functionaries so that public grievances are resolved efficiently and without unnecessary delay.

The Minister emphasized that regular interaction with the people is vital for responsible governance and enables the Government to identify local issues, assess developmental priorities and deliver effective solutions at the grassroots level. He reaffirmed that public outreach and timely grievance redressal will continue to remain among the government's key priorities.

CM reviews roadmap for revival of J&K Overseas Employment Corporation

Directs Employment deptt to unlock overseas employment opportunities for J&K youth

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the roadmap for the revival and operationalisation of the Jammu & Kashmir Overseas Employment Corporation Limited (JKOEC) and reviewed J&K's overseas recruitment facilitation infrastructure, with a focus on creating a robust institutional framework to connect J&K's skilled youth with global employment opportunities.

The meeting reviewed the proposed strategy for reviving JKOEC as the government's nodal recruitment agency for facilitating safe, transparent and market-driven overseas employment. Discussions centred on strengthening institutional mechanisms, expanding international partnerships, enhancing skill development aligned with global standards, and establishing an integrated ecosystem to prepare youth



for overseas careers.

A detailed presentation by Director Employment J&K Harvinder Singh outlined a phased roadmap for operationalising JKOEC, including the creation of a digital overseas employment portal, partnerships with licensed recruiting agencies, foreign languages and international certification programmes, employer engagement, counselling, pre-departure orientation and post-placement support. The proposed framework seeks to position JKOEC as the nodal agency coordinating with the Ministry of External Affairs, the Protector of Emigration, Indian Missions abroad, skill institutions and

licensed recruiting agencies to ensure ethical, transparent and legally compliant overseas recruitment.

Protector of Emigration, Chandigarh, Ministry of External Affairs, Yashu Deep Singh, also made a presentation on emigration trends from Jammu & Kashmir, the region's contribution to overseas remittances, and employment opportunities available through India's labour mobility agreements with several countries. He highlighted sector-wise demand for workers, emerging job roles in global markets, and key challenges affecting overseas migration from J&K, including lim-

ited public awareness of legal migration channels, inadequate institutional outreach, dependence on unverified social media information, and the need to develop skills that meet international standards.

Reviewing the proposals, the Chief Minister emphasised that the objective should not merely be to facilitate migration but to prepare a globally competitive workforce.

"We should not only send people abroad; we should send skilled people there. Our focus should be on skilling," he said.

The Chief Minister directed the concerned departments to prepare a time-bound implementation plan and convert the proposed pillars into clearly defined, actionable outcomes. He also called for adopting best practices from states such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu, which have successfully institutionalised overseas employment facilitation.

Emphasising long-term sustainability, Omar

Abdullah directed that the forthcoming Industrial Policy should provide for the establishment of skill development and training institutes to nurture an ecosystem capable of meeting international workforce requirements. He also stressed the need for a complementary industrial policy that encourages greater private sector participation in skill development and employment generation.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Education Sakina Itoo, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary Finance Shailendra Kumar, Commissioner Secretary School Education Ram Niwas Sharma, Secretary Labour & Employment Rajiv Ranjan, Protector of Emigration, Chandigarh, Ministry of External Affairs, Yashu Deep Singh, Director Employment, Director Skill Development and other senior officers.

Javid Dar Reviews Land Acquisition Cases for Rohama-Ladoora Road Project

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, Tuesday chaired a review meeting at Baramulla, to assess the cases of 26 families whose residential and commercial structures are likely to be affected by the alignment of the Rohama-Ladoora road project.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Tehsildars, concerned Executive Engineer and other senior officers.

The Minister conducted a detailed review of the status of the affected structures and the progress made in the assessment process. Stressing the need for a fair, transparent and time-bound approach,



Javid Ahmad Dar directed the concerned officers to conduct an on-the-spot inspection and complete the valuation of all affected structures at the earliest.

The Minister further instructed the Revenue authorities to verify the land status of each affected property to ensure that all eligible families receive adequate compensation strictly in accordance with the established rules and provisions.

Emphasising the government's commitment to safeguard the interests of the affected families, the Minister said that developmental projects should be implemented in a manner that balances infrastructure development with

the welfare and rights of the people. He directed the district administration to expedite the necessary formalities so that compensation cases are processed without unnecessary delay.

The Deputy Commissioner Baramulla assured the Minister that the district administration is taking all necessary measures to complete the required assessments and procedural formalities promptly. He further assured that every genuine case will be dealt with fairly and that all eligible beneficiaries will receive compensation in accordance with the applicable norms, ensuring that no affected family suffers undue hardship.

Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth calls on CM Omar in Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief of Army Staff, General Dhiraj Seth, Tuesday called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at his residence here.

General Seth was accompanied by General Officer Commanding (GOC), Chinara Corps, Lieutenant General Balbir Singh, along with other senior Army officers.

The meeting was held



as a courtesy call following General Seth's assumption of charge as the Chief of the Army Staff on June 30.

The Chief Minister

extended his best wishes to General Seth on taking over the prestigious appointment and wished him success in his new responsibilities.

Petitions Committee reviews food adulteration cases, calls for stringent enforcement

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Committee on Petitions of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, under the Chairmanship of Peerzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, Tuesday examined the petitions pertaining to the adulteration of essential food commodities in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Action Taken Report thereof.

The Committee also



reviewed a petition regarding the appointment and confirmation of a Lumberdar in Porwara, Chadoora.

Legislators Mir Mohammad Fayaz, Javid Riyaz (Bedar), Dr Sajjad Shakil along with Secretary JKLA Manoj Kumar Pandit, Commissioner FDA J&K Khalid Jahangir, Joint Commissioner Food Safety, State Drug Controller, ADCs Srinagar, Budgam and Baramulla along with other senior officers from the concerned departments were present in the meeting.

During the meeting, the officers of the Drug and Food Control Organization presented a detailed briefing on the functioning of the department, its mandate under the relevant laws and rules, inspection drives conducted across the Union Territory, enforcement measures, action taken against violators and penalties imposed to curb the sale of adulterated food and substandard drugs.

concerned with the protection of human life and public health, the Chairman called for stringent enforcement of the law to eliminate the adulteration of essential food commodities. He directed the department to take strict and effective action against all violators and ensure that no compromise is made with public safety.

The Chairman instructed the department to maintain strict vigilance over the sale of medicinal drugs without valid medical prescriptions and to strengthen monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to prevent their unauthorized sale.

While discussing the petition regarding the appointment and confirmation of a Lumberdar in Porwara (Chadoora), the Committee directed the concerned officers to complete the appointment process within one week and submit a compliance report to the Committee positively.

Amarnath Yatra

Div Com Jammu inspects facilities for the Pilgrims for comfortable, safe stay

GMK NEWS NETWORK

UDHAMPUR: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar Tuesday reviewed the arrangements for pilgrims undertaking Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026 at Yatra camp Chanderkote in Ramban and different Lodgement centres in Udhampur.

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Minga Sherpa and Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan accompanied the Divisional Commissioner during the visit.

At Ramban, Divisional Commissioner conducted a thorough tour at the Chanderkote Yatra Camp. He inspected vari-

ous facilities and services being provided to the pilgrims during their stay at the camp including food, sanitation, drinking water supply, power supply, medical facilities and security arrangements. He also reviewed food safety measures at the langar sites.

The Div Com directed the concerned officers for providing the best quality of services to all the Yatrists.

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan, briefed the Divisional Commissioner about the comprehensive arrangements put in place for the convenience, safety, and welfare of pilgrims undertaking the annual holy pilgrimage.

At Udhampur, the Divisional Commissioner visited various lodgement centres and Langar sites established along the National Highway to review the facilities and essential services being provided to the pilgrims.

The Div Com assessed the accommodation facilities and other basic amenities being extended to the Yatrists while inspecting sanitation, drinking water, electricity, healthcare, security and overall cleanliness to ensure the comfort, safety and well-being of the pilgrims.

He also interacted with the Yatrists to obtain firsthand feedback on the services being provided. The pilgrims expressed satis-

faction with the arrangements made by the District Administration and appreciated the well-maintained lodgement centres, efficient civic services and the warm hospitality extended to them during their stay.

The Divisional Commissioner directed the District Administrations to ensure the uninterrupted availability of all essential services at the lodgement centres and larger sites throughout the Yatra period. He emphasized the need to maintain high standards of cleanliness, prompt service delivery and effective coordination among all stakeholder departments to facilitate a safe, smooth and hassle-free pilgrimage.

GOVERNMENT OF (U.T) JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPTT.

GROUND WATER DIVISION SRINAGAR

BAGHI-ALI-MARDAN, NOWSHARA SRINAGAR.

E-mail:- hakeemmushtaq.75316@jk.gov.in | Tel./FaxNo:-0194-2411285

EXTENSION NOTICE 2ND

OF RE-TENDER NOTICE/ CORRIGENDUM.

Subject:

Annual Maintenance Contract for Solar Based Pumping Unit With Allied Accessories installed by the PHE Ground Water Division, Srinagar in Different Districts of Kashmir Valley.

Reference:

1. This office Re-Tender Corrigendum Notice 1st issued vide endorsement No: JS- PHE/GWDS/26-27/Camp/2576-87, dated: 16-06-2026, Bearing Tender ID No. 2026_PHE_310539_2

2. This office e-NIT No. 16/JS-PHE/GWDS/Mech. of 2026-27, issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/26-27/Camp/1680-90, dated: 19-05-2026, Bearing Tender ID No. 2026_PHE_310539_1.

Due to "POOR Response" for the above mentioned works advertised vide e-NIT No. and Tender ID No's under reference. Which was scheduled to be downloaded till 07-07-2026 Up-to 02:00 PM are extended as per the details given below: -

S.No.	Item	Fresh Date
1.	Period of submission of bids	15-07-2026 Up-to 01:00 PM
2.	Date of opening of tenders	16-07-2026 01:00 PM

NOTE:

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid e-NIT issued vide above referred endstt: nos.

No: -JS-PHE/GWDS/26-27/Camp./3896-907

Dated: 07-07-2026.

DIPK-2980-26

DT: 07/07/2026

Sd/=

Executive Engineer

Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt.

Ground Water Division Srinagar.

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CMYK

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Good Morning

Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Why Getting It Right In The Classroom Matters

The recent decision by the Directorate of School Education Jammu to audit books and learning materials across government schools, private academies, and coaching centers is a breath of fresh air. To be honest, it's a move that probably should have happened a long time ago. Classrooms are supposed to be safe, inspiring spaces where kids learn to ask big questions, explore new ideas, and figure out the world. The books we hand them should spark curiosity, bring people together, and build a sense of community, not drive a wedge between us.

The recent backlash over controversial and divisive content in school textbooks pulled back the curtain on some pretty serious flaws in how we approve educational materials. Whether this was a case of rushed deadlines, pure oversight, or people just not paying attention, it's a loud wake-up call. We absolutely need stricter, smarter checks before any publication ever makes it onto a student's desk or a library shelf.

The Directorate's new timeline for schools to review their shelves and report back is a solid start. By making it clear that dragging their feet or being careless won't fly, leadership is finally sending the right message: our kids' education isn't something to take lightly. But let's be real, reacting only after people get upset isn't a long-term strategy. What we actually need is a reliable, permanent system that stops these mistakes before they happen. The Big Shift: We need to move away from putting out fires and start focusing on genuine, long-term quality control. To build a system that actually lasts, we should bring the right people to the table, On-the-ground teachers who actually know what clicks in a real classroom. Subject-matter experts who can double-check the facts and ensure a balanced view. Child development pros who understand what is actually age-appropriate. It's great that the government moved fast to pull the books, suspend the responsible officials, and start an investigation. But true progress isn't just about handing out penalties. It's about building a better safety net for our students moving forward.

At the end of the day, education is about so much more than just acing exams and getting good grades. It shapes who our kids become, what they value, and how they view the world around them. Every single book a student opens should inspire them to learn, teach them to think critically, and foster respect for the values that hold our communities together.

This review shouldn't be treated as just another boring piece of administrative paperwork to file away. It is a golden opportunity to build an education system that is transparent, dependable, and genuinely trusted by parents, teachers, and students alike.

Death Of Universities – A Very Old Story

BHABANI SHANKAR NAYAK

Human beings and their societies established universities and institutions of higher learning to challenge orthodox knowledge, advance new discoveries, and overcome the pressing challenges of their time. Social, economic, and political necessities, along with human curiosity, formed the foundations upon which these centers of higher learning were built. They were designed to produce knowledge and skills tailored to the specific needs of their people, places, and historical contexts.

The production of new, secular, and scientific knowledge has frequently challenged both ruling and non-ruling elites. It has called into question reactionary traditional and religious values and exposed the blind beliefs prevalent across different societies worldwide. At its core, the pursuit of secular and scientific knowledge—achieved by questioning established doctrines and power structures—has been central to deepening democratization and promoting the decolonization of minds and the body politic.

In their daily operations, universities have pursued the twin objectives of education for essence (self-realisation with everyday needs) and education for emancipation (social, economic and political liberation from conditions of feudalism, patriarchy, colonialism, capitalism and imperialism, conditions of poverty, exploitation and inequalities). Students and staff engage in producing knowledge and skills that are essential not only for individual flourishing but also for societal progress. Simultaneously, they cultivate radical ideas that generate critical consciousness, enabling people to overcome predatory ideologies perpetuated by religious and governing elites. Thus, universities function as open spaces for creating, developing, and disseminating knowledge to empower people and their societies. The freedoms to learn, read, research, teach, write, publish, and reject or advance diverse ideas are crucial activities. These freedoms shape young minds, steer the state and societies toward scientific progress, and ultimately threaten the dominance of all ruling and non ruling elites.

Collective foundation, collective purpose, and collective search for new knowledge are the three core tenets of every university and institution of higher learning. There can be no individual pursuit of knowledge without its collective foundations, whether



it is in the natural sciences, social sciences, or humanities. However, this collective foundation—and the institutions that produce knowledge—has begun to erode. With the growth of institutions established by religious denominations, monasteries, private corporations, and their funding agencies, and as states and governments have increasingly shaped universities, research, researchers, and the research environment have been domesticated to serve the interests of governing elites.

The marketisation of research, education, learning, and teaching delivers the final blow to the idea of the university as a free space for producing ideas, skills, and knowledge with a genuine social purpose. The rise and consolidation of managerialism in higher education has sealed the fate—and the very purpose—of higher education. The majority of universities now function as teaching factories, disseminating more information than producing new ideas and skills for the greater social good. There is a lack of research-led teaching and of teachers who practice it, alongside a deficit of critical curricula capable of developing critical scholars and citizens who can question power to bring about emancipatory social and political transformation. Mickey-Mouse employability schemes and hubs have replaced the critical skills essential for innovation in the workplace and in life. This profit-seeking marketisation and managerialism has ruined higher education, where profit now overrides the true purpose of education, learning, and teaching. Moreover, marketisation and managerialism are central to the commodification of education—reducing it to a product sold for profit at the expense of people and the planet.

Such standardisation of higher education has led managers to create a culture of compliance tailored to the needs and requirements of the ruling and non ruling elites. There is no space for questioning within standardised and compliant practices, carried out in the name of quality control, which ultimately serves as a means of domesticating higher education in the name of pursuing 'self' learning and 'quality control'. Self learning is no learning. One only learns with peers which makes learning a collective activity and create collective foundations of knowledge that the managers are working overtime to dismantle it.

The managers, who have never taught a class or written a page of research, now preach about quality teaching and quality research. In reality, this translates into running a standardised product—a standardised curriculum—like a machine. It lacks creativity, innovation, and any radical teaching or learning approach that promotes critical thinking, which is essential for producing new knowledge to overcome the multiple crises confronting contemporary societies worldwide. People are made to believe in education for employability, yet the tick-box exercise of employability and its standardisation actively destroys the critical skills necessary for new discoveries and innovation with a social purpose—skills that enable individuals and their communities to flourish.

Vice Chancellors, their deputies, associates and assistants, principals, deans, and heads of departments have become predatory managers, sucking the remaining life and blood out of educational systems. These overpaid visionless predators can award themselves professorial titles and inflate the volume and size of their salaries and

bonuses, yet they lack any credentials to lead higher education toward a social, political, and economic purpose of change and transformation—one that upholds individual freedom and dignity while promoting democratic, diverse, decolonial and decarbonised knowledge traditions that questions every form of domination and its praxis.

These predatory managers of higher education are agents of both ruling and non ruling elites, working overtime to destroy higher education and its collective foundations in their pursuit of profit, operating universities and institutions of higher learning like sausage factories. These anti social, arrogant managers, along with their culture of marketisation, managerialism, and standardisation of education, need to be exposed and defeated. This is a basic necessity for the survival of universities and their collective foundations, so that they can once again produce and disseminate new knowledge in pursuit of peace, progress, and prosperity of human civilisation, the animal world, and the planet.

Therefore, the present crisis facing universities and institutions of higher learning has a longer history, and it can be resolved only if we understand the roots of these crises confronting teachers and students in their endeavour to produce and disseminate new knowledge with social purpose. Addressing the symptoms will not work and will not change anything; it would provide only temporary relief which continues the slow death of universities.

The only way to revive the idea of the university is to revive the collective foundations of education and knowledge, where freedom to read, research, and write without any form of control is central to producing new knowledge. The market, the state, governments, corporations, religious forces, and their managers should not decide the nature and character of higher education or its everyday operations within and beyond universities. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that higher education and its collective foundations will flourish if working people can fight for a collective foundation of educational system. This is the only short-term and long-term solution. There is no other alternative to rely upon. Collective education, a collective educational system, and collective knowledge for a collective purpose: that is the only alternative.

Bhabani Shankar Nayak works as Professor of Business Management, Guildhall School of Business and Law, London Metropolitan University, UK.

Kashmir's Premium Fruits Are Winning Global Markets

The maiden export of premium Areko cherries and Scentrose plums from Kashmir to the UAE marks a shift in India's horticulture landscape—where Kashmir's orchards are steadily finding space in premium global retail chains, driven by scientific farming, better logistics, and sustained institutional support.

SEHREENA MAQBOOL

On a crisp summer morning in the orchards of Shopian and Pulwama, rows of cherry and plum trees glisten under the Himalayan sun. For generations, these fruits have been part of Kashmir's agricultural identity—harvested, packed, and sold in nearby mandis or transported to metropolitan markets across India.

This year, a consignment quietly marked a shift in that long-standing pattern. Premium Areko cherries and Scentrose plums, sourced from orchards in South Kashmir, were airlifted to the United Arab Emirates, destined for the shelves of Lulu Hypermarket in Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

The shipment, facilitated by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), was dispatched on July 4. For the first time, these specific premium fruit varieties from Kashmir entered a structured export channel into one of the most competitive and quality-sensitive fresh produce markets in the world.

Changing Landscape

Jammu & Kashmir has long been known as India's fruit bowl for temperate horticulture, with apples traditionally dominating its agricultural economy. But beneath that familiar identity, a quiet transformation has been underway.

Over the past decade, farmers in districts such as Shopian, Pulwama, Baramulla, and Budgam have increasingly adopted high-density plantation systems, scientific pruning, controlled irrigation, and integrated nutrient management practices. These changes have not only improved yields but have also significantly enhanced fruit quality.

Areko cherries is a new generation of European sweet cherry varieties cultivated under Kashmir's unique agro-climatic conditions. The variety is known for its deep red colour, large size, firm texture, and high sweetness levels, making it suitable for long-distance air freight.

Similarly, Scentrose plums have an aromatic profile, and balanced sweet-tart flavour. Their ability to retain firmness during transport makes them particularly suitable for export-oriented cultivation.

Together, these fruits reflect a shift from volume-based horticulture to quality-driven, value-oriented production systems.

Gradual Transformation

For decades, Kashmir's horticulture sector has been largely dependent on domestic markets, with limited exposure to structured exports of fresh fruits. High perishability, fragmented supply chains, and lack of export-grade infrastructure often restricted global competitiveness.

The recent shipment indicates that this gap is beginning to narrow.

If the recent shipment to the UAE signals a turning point, a key driver of this transformation has been the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), which established its Regional Office in Srinagar in 2021. APEDA has worked closely with the authorities and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), exporters, and logistics partners to strengthen the entire value chain from orchard to overseas market.

Many growers in the region, despite producing high-quality fruits, had limited exposure to international standards such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), phytosanitary requirements, and export-grade grading and packaging protocols.

APEDA's interventions included training programs for farmers and FPOs, workshops on post-harvest management, and guidance on export documentation and compliance.

A key attention was given to filling infrastructure gaps. Packhouses, cold-chain facilities, and pre-cooling systems are critical for perishable commodities like cherries and plums.

A Series of Early Export Milestones

In recent years, shipments of fresh cherries, apples, walnuts, saffron, and other horticultural



products have reached destinations in the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, and the UK.

These early consignments played an important role in establishing buyer confidence and demonstrating Kashmir's produce. APEDA also organized buyer-seller meets, reverse buyer-seller delegations, and participation in international trade fairs.

According to Abhishek Dev, Chairman, APEDA, strengthening India's fresh produce exports requires sustained investment in quality, infrastructure, and market development, especially for Jammu & Kashmir.

APEDA's focus remains on enabling farmers to access premium markets through improved production practices, efficient logistics, and better integration with global supply chains, Dev added.

Adding to this, Ms. Sehreena Maqbool, Regional Head, APEDA, Jammu and Kashmir said the latest shipment reflects the steady progress on how transformation underway in Kashmir's horticulture sector is not limited to a single export event but is the result of continuous engagement with growers and stakeholders.

The focus has been on building an ecosystem where farmers can consistently produce export-quality fruits by adopting scientific cultivation practices, improving post-harvest handling, and ensuring strict adherence to international standards, she added.

The Challenge

Experts suggest the challenge

in Kashmir's horticultural exports lies in maintaining an uninterrupted cold chain. Cherries and plums are highly perishable, and even minor delays or temperature fluctuations during handling, storage, or transportation can significantly impact quality. This makes coordination between growers, packhouses, transporters, and air cargo operators essential.

APEDA's role in coordination becomes critical in ensuring export consignments reach their destination without any possible damage.

The export of Areko cherries and Scentrose plums to the United Arab Emirates is more than a standalone trade event as it reflects a gradual but meaningful shift in how Jammu & Kashmir's horticulture sector is positioning itself in global markets.

For thousands of orchardists across Shopian, Pulwama, Baramulla, and other fruit-growing belts, the transition reflects that the premium export markets can significantly improve price realization.

Impact for Growers

The export initiative is expected to significantly benefit farmers by providing access to premium international markets and ensuring better price realisation. Growers associated with the export supply chain realised nearly 60 per cent higher returns for cherries and 120 per cent higher returns for plums compared to prevailing domestic market prices.

For growers, the most immediate benefit of export-led horticulture is better price discovery. Premium cherries and plums that meet export standards often fetch higher and

more stable returns compared to domestic wholesale markets.

The UAE: A Strategic Gateway

The United Arab Emirates plays a particularly important role in this evolving export story. Beyond being a consumption market, it functions as a regional distribution hub for fresh produce across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

For Kashmir's fruits, this market offers a combination of proximity, premium pricing potential, and established retail networks. Supermarket chains such as Lulu Hypermarket provide structured entry points where quality produce can reach a diverse and discerning consumer base.

Success in such markets also enhances credibility, paving the way for entry into other high-value destinations in Europe and Southeast Asia.

A Sector in Transition

Jammu & Kashmir's horticulture sector is steadily moving from a production-driven model to a market-integrated, export-oriented system.

APEDA's sustained engagement has played a catalytic role in this transition. By focusing on capacity building, market linkage, infrastructure support, and global buyer engagement, it has helped create early pathways for exports that were previously limited or fragmented.

With expanding adoption of high-density orchards, improved post-harvest systems, and deeper integration with global supply chains, the region's premium fruits are likely to see increasing presence in international retail markets.

The journey from Himalayan orchards to supermarket shelves in the Gulf is still evolving but it is now firmly underway. For growers, exporters, and institutions alike, the message is clear: Kashmir is no longer just a fruit-producing region, it is becoming a serious contender in the global market for premium temperate fruits. (PIB)

Author is Regional Head, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Jammu and Kashmir

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Good Morning

Kashmir

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R.N.I No: JKENG/2010/36998

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Office Address:

B-11, Budshah Flats, Jehangir Chowk, Srinagar-190001

Printed at:

Khidmat Offset Printing Press, The Bund, Srinagar

Published From:

Main Bus Stand, Near Masjid Rehmat, Lal Bazar, Srinagar - 190023

Layout Designer

Aijaz Ahmad Dar

When Charity Becomes A Weapon

An Analysis Of Online Donation In Kashmir

MUNTAHA KHAN

In Srinagar, on an ordinary day in 2026, a man received a WhatsApp message from a stranger. The message was simple but urgent: a person was in a medical emergency. The donation was desperately needed. Within minutes, through a series of carefully constructed deceptions involving fake payment screenshots and proxy transfers, the man lost money to a scammer who never intended to help anyone. He was one of millions. This is not an isolated incident. Ground research conducted across the Kashmir Valley reveals a systematic and sophisticated fraud ecosystem that exploits the region's deep cultural commitment to charity. Of the respondents surveyed, 42.4% reported losing money through online donation platforms. Yet 84.8% of those interviewed believe very few victims actually report these crimes. The gap between the scale of fraud and formal reporting is staggering and it is by design.

The Kashmir Valley has become a testing ground for a new kind of cybercrime: one that weaponizes human compassion. Unlike traditional theft, donation fraud is silent and deeply stigmatized. Victims remain invisible, their losses absorbed in shame and frustration.

Research findings paint a sobering picture:

- 93.9% of respondents perceive online donation fraud as "very common" in Kashmir
- 70% of people actively donate money online, making them potential targets
- 59.4% of fake donation requests target vulnerable donors with medical emergency claims
- 66.7% of respondents cite "fear of fraud" as the biggest challenge in online giving
- 37% of potential victims do not report fraud because they do not know where to report it

These are not numbers in a vacuum. Each statistic represents a rupee lost, trust broken, and a donor's faith in digital philanthropy shaken. For a region where charity is bound to Islamic principles of Zakat and Sadaqah spiritual obligations that carry deep moral weight the weaponization of these values through online fraud represents a particular kind of violation.

During field visits to religious sites in Anantnag places where pilgrims gather with inherent trust in community researchers discovered a systematic distribution mechanism for donation fraud: fake Android applications. These malicious APK (Android Package Kit) files are not found on legitimate app stores like Google Play. Instead, they are distributed through messaging platforms like WhatsApp, with links embedded in seemingly trustworthy contexts. When installed, they serve a single purpose: generating fake payment confirmation screens that scammers then screenshot and share as proof of transaction. Most people, when receiving a payment screenshot, assume it is genuine. Few verify the actual bank balance or check official transaction records. This gap between visual proof and actual verification is where fraud thrives.

Fieldwork in Anantnag revealed that digitally active and literate individuals can be more vulnerable to online donation fraud because their familiarity with digital platforms often leads to greater trust in online transactions. In contrast, less digitally literate individuals tend to avoid such transactions, reducing their exposure to fraud despite having lower technological knowledge.

The research reveals that 54.5% of respondents fall victim to online donation scams because of emotions specifically, sympathy, kindness, mercy, compassion, and the motivational appeal of charitable causes. In contrast, 45.5% cited lack of awareness about identifying fraudulent requests as the primary vulnerability factor. Notably, these are not mutually exclusive. The scammer activates both pathways simultaneously: emotional appeal (the medical emergency) combined with technical deception (the fake payment screenshot). Online donation scams exploit several psychological mechanisms, including emotional manipulation through fake emergencies, false social proof via fabricated donor screenshots, urgency that discourages careful thinking, reciprocity that creates a sense of obligation, and trust displacement by operating on familiar platforms like WhatsApp. Together, these tactics increase the likelihood that victims will act without verification.

Perhaps the most damaging aspect of online donation fraud in Kashmir is not the fraud itself, but the silence that follows. **Research findings on why victims do not report fraud are striking:**

- 37% do not report because they are unaware of where or how to report
- 30.9% avoid reporting due to lengthy and complicated legal procedures
- 12.1% cite reputational fear the shame of having been deceived
- 12.1% believe the fraud was "not serious enough" to report

- 7.9% do not report due to the small financial amount lost

The first two categories lack of awareness about reporting mechanisms and fear of bureaucratic complexity are systemic failures. These are not failures of victims; they are failures of institutions.

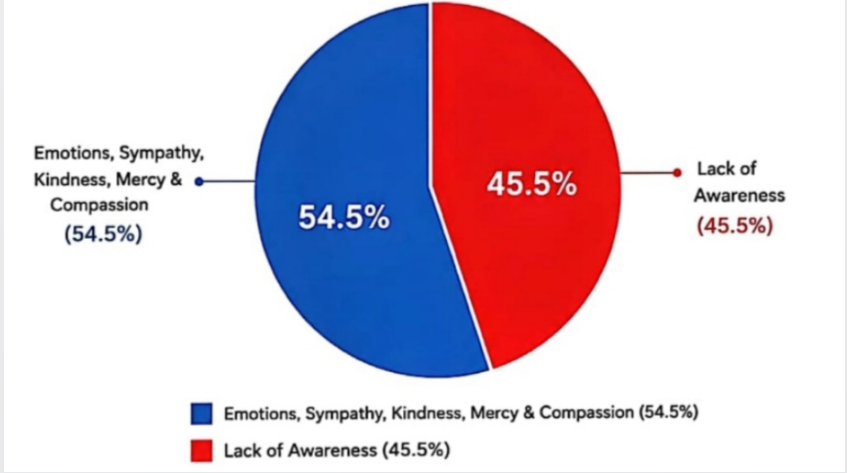
When 37% of victims do not know where to report a cybercrime, it reveals that law enforcement outreach has not reached the communities most affected by it. When 63.3% of respondents are unaware of the National Cyber Crime Number, it indicates that awareness campaigns have failed to penetrate public consciousness.

Online donation fraud is a global phenomenon, but it takes specific forms in Kashmir. Understanding these forms requires understanding the region's particular context. Kashmir Valley has experienced decades of conflict and economic uncertainty. In this context, community support and charity have taken on heightened importance. NGOs operate to fill gaps that formal institutions cannot. Religious institutions provide social safety nets. Digital platforms have made it easier to mobilize aid across distances. Simultaneously, digital payment adoption in Kashmir has been rapid. UPI penetration has grown significantly. WhatsApp is ubiquitous. This combination high reliance on charity combined with rapid digital adoption creates a perfect environment for donation-based fraud. Scammers understand this context intimately. They know that Kashmiri donors are responsive to appeals involving medical emergencies, religious causes (Zakat, Sadaqah), and disaster relief. They know that trust in community is high. They weaponize this trust. The fact that 23.6% of fake donation requests impersonate NGOs or charities (compared to 59.4% claiming medical emergencies) suggests that scammers are not merely random criminals. They are conducting reconnaissance on the types of causes that trigger response in Kashmir specifically. They are targeting local vulnerabilities.

Despite 93.9% of respondents perceiving donation fraud as "very common" in Kashmir, law enforcement responses remain limited. This is not because police lack capability, but because systems are overwhelmed and under resourced. The Cyber Police have documented cases of donation fraud, but the volume of unreported incidents means that visible caseloads represent only a fraction of actual incidents. Without comprehensive reporting, authorities cannot accurately assess the scope of the problem, allocate resources appropriately, or develop targeted prevention strategies. Additionally, victim recovery is low. Even when cases are reported and investigated, the money is often already moved through multiple accounts. Prosecution is complicated by jurisdictional issues (scammers may operate across state lines or internationally) and by the technical complexity of digital crime investigation.

Based on 15 years of ground analysis of cybercrime and charitable behaviour in South Asian contexts, combined with the specific findings from this Kashmir Valley fieldwork, the following recommendations are offered:

FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT: Establish



a Kashmir-specific Cyber Crime Reporting Portal A simple, accessible online system dedicated to donation fraud reports would remove the barrier of not knowing where to report. The system should provide immediate guidance, not require extensive documentation upfront, and provide victims with case numbers and expected timelines.

Public Awareness Campaign on Cyber Crime Reporting Given that 63.3% of respondents do not know the National Cyber Crime Number, a sustained public awareness campaign is essential. This should use local languages, religious institutions, and trusted community networks.

Fast-Track Investigation Protocol for Small-Value Cases Many victims do not report because the amount lost is "too small" to justify the effort. Creating a streamlined investigation path for aggregated small cases could increase reporting and provide data on overall patterns.

FOR DIGITAL PLATFORMS: Mandatory Verification Badges for Legitimate NGOs WhatsApp, Google Pay, and other payment platforms should work with authorities to create verified badges for legitimate charita-

ble organizations. This would provide visual authentication that users can immediately recognize.

Real-Time Fraud Detection Alerts Platforms should implement systems that flag suspicious patterns (e.g., multiple accounts making identical charity appeals, QR codes from accounts with no transaction history) and alert users.

FOR THE COMMUNITY: Donation Verification Workshops at Religious Institutions Mosques, temples, and community centers should host workshops on verifying donation authenticity, using actual examples and interactive demonstrations.

Peer Education Programs Digital-savvy young people should be trained as "fraud ambassadors" in their communities, educating family and neighbors on safe donation practices.

FOR THE RESEARCH AND POLICY COMMUNITY: Establish a Kashmir-Specific Cybercrime Research Center Ongoing research is essential to track evolving fraud techniques and inform prevention strategies. A dedicated research unit at universities could monitor trends and publish regular threat assessments.

Integrate Cybercrime into Public Administration Curriculum As this research was conducted by Public Administration students, there is an opportunity to formalize cybercrime education within PA programs across Kashmir, creating a pipeline of future professionals equipped to address these issues.

Kashmir's strong tradition of charity is being threatened by a growing ecosystem of online donation fraud that exploits compassion and trust. While digital platforms can expand charitable giving, addressing this challenge requires more than individual vigilance. Stronger reporting mechanisms, platform safeguards, public awareness, and effective law enforcement are essential. The problem is significant: 42.4% of donors reported experiencing fraud, while 84.8% believe such incidents go largely unreported. Breaking this culture of silence is crucial to restoring trust in digital philanthropy. By sharing their experiences, victims can help expose fraud and support collective action against it. The issue is no longer hidden it is simply being ignored, and urgent action is needed to address it.

Public Opinion on Whether Victims Report Online Donation Fraud

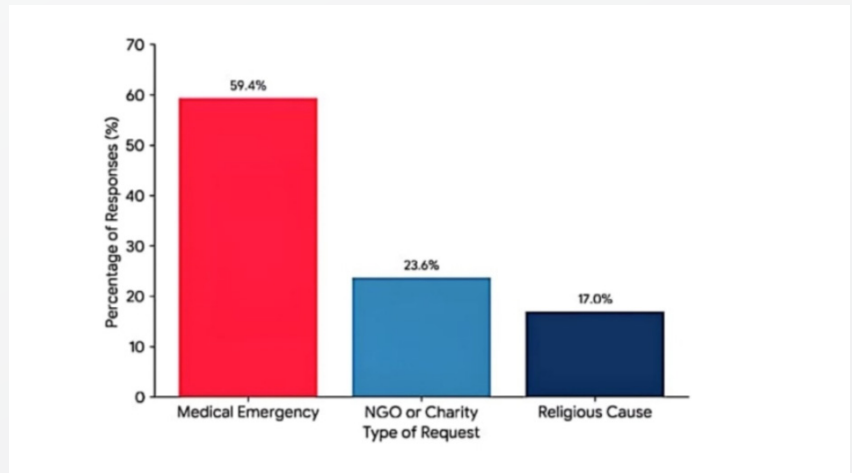
This report analysis shows public opinion on whether victims report online donation fraud

KEY FINDINGS:

84.8% of respondents believe that very few victims report online donation fraud, indicating a significant gap between experiencing such scams and formally reporting them. 12.1% of respondents believe that no victims report these incidents, reflecting a perception of near-total silence in reporting. Only 3.0% of respondents feel that most victims report online donation fraud, showing that very few people perceive reporting to be common.

INTERPRETATION: The data suggests a widespread perception of underreporting of online donation fraud among victims. This may be due to factors such as lack of awareness about reporting mechanisms,

preferences. Enhancing trust, security, and awareness can encourage more people to contribute confidently through online donation



platforms.

Types of fake donation requests received

This report analysis shows types of fake donation requests received

KEY FINDINGS

Medical emergency scams are the most frequently received fake donation requests, Fake NGO or charity requests are the second most common type of fake donation request, Religious cause-related fake donation requests are the least reported among the categories.

INTERPRETATION: The bar graph shows that medical emergency requests are the most common type of fake donation request received by people. Fake NGO or charity requests are also frequently encountered, while religious cause-related requests are comparatively less common.

Reasons People Fall for Online Donation Scams

This report analysis shows the key reasons that make individuals vulnerable to online donation scams.

KEY FINDINGS:

54.5% of respondents fall for online donation scams due to emotions, sympathy, kindness, mercy, compassion, and the motivational appeal of NGOs. These emotional factors are the leading reasons that make people vulnerable to fraudulent donation requests.

45.5% of respondents fall victim to such scams because of lack of awareness. Limited knowledge about identifying fake donation requests and verifying campaigns contributes significantly to the risk of being deceived.

INTERPRETATION: The data suggests that scammers often take advantage of people's emotional nature, compassion, and the inspiring messages or appeals associated with NGOs and charitable causes. At the same time, limited awareness about identifying fake donation requests increases the risk of being deceived.

Therefore, strengthening digital awareness and encouraging proper verification of donation campaigns can help prevent online donation scams.

Biggest Challenges People Face While Donating Online

- Fear of fraud 66.7%
- Lack of info about genuine NGOs 19.4%
- Don't trust online payments 13.3%

Do People Check Whether an NGO or Person is Genuine Before Making a Donation

This report analysis that do People Check Whether an NGO or Person is Genuine Before Making a Donation

Key Insights:

- Most respondents verify the authenticity of an NGO or person before donating.
- A considerable number of respondents do not verify authenticity before making a donation.
- Some respondents check authenticity only occasionally.

INTERPRETATION: The above pie chart represents the responses of people regarding whether they check the authenticity of an NGO or person before making a donation. It is observed that 54.5% of respondents check the authenticity of an NGO or person before donating, 36.4% of respondents do not check the authenticity of an NGO or person before donating, while 9.1% of respondents sometimes check the authenticity of an NGO or person before making a donation.

How Many People Know National Cyber Security Number

This report analysis shows people who know National Cyber Crime Number.

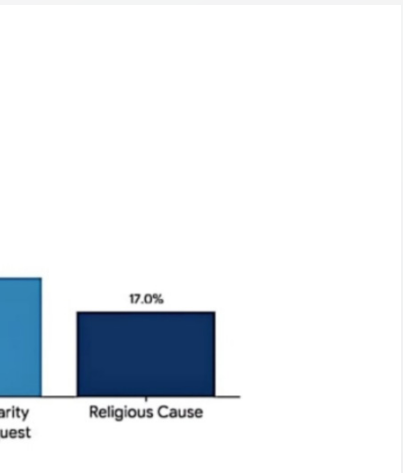
KEY FINDINGS:

- 63.3% of people do not know about the National Cyber Crime Number, indicating a low level of awareness among the majority.
- 26% of people are aware of the National Cyber Crime Number.
- 10.3% of people have heard about the National Cyber Crime Number but are not sure about its details.

INTERPRETATION: The pie chart shows the awareness of people about the National Cyber Crime Number. A majority of respondents do not know about the number, indicating a significant lack of awareness. A smaller proportion of people are aware of it, while a few have heard

about it but are not sure about the details.

Reasons People Do Not Report Online Donation Fraud in Kashmir



This report analysis shows the major reasons why people do not report cases of online donation fraud in Kashmir.

KEY FINDINGS:

- 37% of respondents do not report online donation fraud because they are unaware of where to report such incidents, making it the most significant barrier to reporting.
- 30.9% of respondents avoid reporting due to lengthy legal procedures, indicating that complicated and time-consuming processes discourage victims from taking legal action.
- 12.1% of respondents cite reputational fear, while another 12.1% believe the fraud was not serious enough to report.

The least common reason for not reporting is low financial loss (7.9%), suggesting that some victims feel the amount lost does not justify filing a complaint

INTERPRETATION: The findings reveal that a lack of awareness about reporting channels and concerns regarding lengthy legal procedures are the major obstacles preventing people from reporting online donation fraud in Kashmir. These results emphasize the need for stronger public awareness initiatives, simplified complaint mechanisms, and accessible reporting systems. Enhancing public knowledge and reducing procedural difficulties can encourage more victims to report such incidents and contribute to more effective prevention of cyber-related financial crimes.

People Who Lost Their Money Through Online Donation

This report analysis shows people losing money through online donations.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Majority Safe Outcome: The majority of individuals completed their online donations without experiencing any financial loss, representing 57.6% of the group.
- Substantial Incidence of Loss: A significant segment of individuals
- Reported losing money through the donation process, accounting for 42.4% of the total.

INTERPRETATION: A 42.4% loss rate indicates an exceptionally high exposure to financial risk within online donation channels. This critical vulnerability, likely driven by fraudulent campaigns or insecure platforms, severely undermines donor confidence. To safeguard digital philanthropy and maintain donor trust, organizations must urgently deploy rigorous platform vetting protocols and enhanced transaction security measures.

Perception of Online Donation Fraud Prevalence in Kashmir

This report analysis shows public perception regarding the prevalence of online donation fraud in Kashmir.

KEY FINDINGS

- 93.9% of respondents perceive online donation fraud as a very common issue in Kashmir, indicating a strong belief that such fraudulent activities are widespread.
- 6.1% of respondents consider online donation fraud to be somewhat common, reflecting a smaller segment that views the issue as moderately prevalent.
- Overall, the results highlight a high level of public perception regarding the widespread occurrence of online donation fraud in Kashmir.

INTERPRETATION: The data suggests a high level of public concern and awareness about the prevalence of online donation fraud in Kashmir. The overwhelming perception that these scams are very common may be influenced by increasing exposure to fraudulent donation requests, social media scams, and reported cases of online deception. This highlights the importance of strengthening digital literacy,

***Note:** This research was conducted by a group of students from Amar Singh College, Srinagar, working under Team Neuro Nine*

RESEARCH TEAM: Muntaha Khan, Ruba Bilal, Reeva Chaula, Zainab Nisar, Rutbah Showkat, Sajid Ali Khan, Sarwar Shafi, Unzil Gulzar Sofal, Shahzad Sultan

Tourism Key Driver, Govt

Ghani, Secretary General, Kashmir Chamber of Commerce, also called on the Chief Minister and discussed a range of issues pertaining to business, trade and tourism.

LG Sinha Chairs

we can ensure that the pilgrimage becomes not only a profound spiritual experience but also a meaningful celebration of the local economy, culture, and heritage," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also reviewed the operations of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board's 24x7 Control Room, established at Lok Bhavan, for the smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

He took stock of arrangements at various sections along the routes, deployment of security personnel, the functioning of langars, queue management systems at different junctions as well as the Holy Cave.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Ashwani Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department; Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary, Home Department; Dr. Mandeep K Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor and CEO Amarnathji Shrine Board and other senior officers. So far, more than 1.13 lakh devotees have performed Darshan at the holy cave.

LG Orders Crackdown On

private educational institutions. In one of the strongest directives issued on the issue, the Lieutenant Governor ordered all educational institutions to undertake a comprehensive audit and inspection of their libraries and academic resources. Heads of institutions will also be required to certify within a stipulated timeframe that no such material is available on their campuses.

Officials informed the meeting that books allegedly glorifying separatism had been recovered and said those responsible for procuring, approving or circulating the material would face strict legal action.

The Lieutenant Governor also directed authorities to examine the websites and digital repositories of universities and higher educational institutions and immediately remove any objectionable content, if found.

To prevent similar incidents in future, Sinha ordered the formulation of a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) governing the procurement of books and academic material for educational institutions across Jammu and Kashmir.

The proposed SOP will include a multi-layer screening mechanism with periodic random scrutiny of books and publications by a panel comprising eminent educationists, intellectuals and senior government officers before they are introduced into educational institutions.

Warning against any laxity, the Lieutenant Governor said accountability would be fixed in every case of violation, making it clear that the head of the concerned institution would be held personally responsible for any lapse.

Emphasising the role of educational institutions in shaping future generations, Sinha said schools, colleges and universities must remain centres of learning, constitutional values and nation-building, adding that there would be zero tolerance for any attempt to mislead or radicalise students through objectionable literature.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Principal Secretary Home Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor Mandeep K. Bhandari, Additional Director, Intelligence Bureau Pankaj Thakur, ADGP CID Nitish Kumar, Commissioner Secretary School Education Ram Niwas Sharma and other senior officials.

This marks one of the administration's most sweeping interventions in the education sector in recent years, with the government expanding its scrutiny beyond physical libraries to digital academic repositories while introducing institutional accountability for the procurement and circulation of educational material.

Centre Posts Seven

has directed all the officers to join their new places of posting immediately and submit their joining reports, with a copy to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Search For Two LeT

official security records, both terrorists are residents of the neighbouring Kulgam district in south Kashmir. Zakir has been reportedly associated with the LeT since 2024, while Latif is believed

to have joined the outfit in the previous year.

J&K Now Known For

we are committed to strengthening the people of Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring their development, and preserving and promoting the region's rich culture and heritage," he said.

Nabin, who arrived here on his maiden two-day visit on Monday, said it was a privilege to visit Jammu and Kashmir on the 125th birth anniversary of Bharatiya Jana Sangh leader Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

"We held discussions and reviewed various organisational matters. The Jammu and Kashmir unit has been continuously working to implement the schemes and programmes of the Modi government, while also ensuring that the party's organisational activities remain active and dynamic," he said.

He said the people of Jammu and Kashmir have blessed the BJP with their support, asserting that the party workers will continue to serve the people with complete dedication and a spirit of public service.

"As the opposition in Jammu and Kashmir, our legislators and party workers will remain vigilant and continue to raise issues concerning the people," he said.(PTI)

CS Assesses Infra Projects

expedite the preparation of detailed project reports and complete all requisite formalities so that Jammu and Kashmir is able to effectively leverage the opportunities offered under the Urban Challenge Fund.

During this meeting the Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Mandeep Kaur informed that the Urban Challenge Fund has been conceived by the Government of India as a paradigm shift in urban financing by encouraging cities and Union Territories to undertake bankable, revenue-generating infrastructure projects through a combination of Central assistance, market-based financing and contributions from the States and UTs.

She further apprised the meeting that, following the first round of discussions with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Jammu and Kashmir has shortlisted four major urban development projects having an aggregate estimated cost of 1,990.37 Cr. Against this, the proposed Central assistance amounts to 495.86 Cr, the UT share to 486.12 Cr, while nearly 1,008.38 Cr are proposed to be mobilized through market-based financing.

The concerned Municipal Commissioners divulged the details of the shortlisted projects from their respective areas. It was given out that the initially the shortlisted projects include Walled City and Nigeen Lakefront Revitalization aimed at conserving heritage assets while enhancing tourism infrastructure and improving the urban environment.

The meeting also reviewed the TARANG – Tawi Area Regeneration and Green Growth Project. It envisages comprehensive regeneration of the Tawi riverfront and surrounding urban areas through sustainable, environment-friendly and economically vibrant development interventions.

Another proposal pertains to the Lidder Riverfront Development, which seeks to develop the riverfront as a catalyst for planned urban growth and position Anantnag as a counter-magnet city through integrated public infrastructure and improved urban amenities.

The fourth project discussed was KRIPA – Katra Revitalisation through Integrated Pilgrimage Amenities (Transit-Oriented Development). The proposal aims at strengthening civic infrastructure, enhancing mobility and creating integrated pilgrimage facilities to improve the overall experience of pilgrims visiting the holy town of Katra.

Concluding the Chief Secretary maintained that the successful implementation of these transformative projects would significantly enhance urban infrastructure, improve public services, boost tourism, attract private investment and contribute towards making the cities of Jammu and Kashmir more vibrant, resilient and economically competitive for the times to come.

Nature's Fury Hits

blocked for at least the next two days," he added.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said he had spoken to Doda Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal soon after receiving information about the cloudburst.

"I am keeping in regular touch with the Deputy Commissioner after receiving reports of the cloudburst in the Thathri region, which has caused substantial damage to property and road connectivity. However, there has been

no loss of life. The administration has promptly swung into action and is taking all possible measures to provide relief and restore damaged infrastructure. My office remains in constant touch," Singh said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also reviewed the situation with the Deputy Commissioner and directed the district administration to ensure immediate relief to affected families.

"While several houses and shops have suffered damage, fortunately no casualties or injuries have been reported. I have directed the Deputy Commissioner to ensure immediate relief and assistance to the affected families and expedite restoration work, including clearance of NH-244," Sinha said.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said no rainfall was recorded at most weather stations between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm on Tuesday, though Gulmarg received 0.4 mm rainfall.

During the previous 24 hours ending at 8.30 am, Katra recorded the highest rainfall at 39.6 mm, followed by Gulmarg (8.8 mm), Banihal (5.5 mm), Kukernag (2.8 mm), Pahalgam (2.2 mm), Qazigund (2 mm), Batote (1.7 mm), Jammu (0.2 mm), while Srinagar and Bhaderwah recorded only trace rainfall.

According to the IMD, Jammu was the hottest place in the Union Territory on Tuesday with a maximum temperature of 37.9 degrees Celsius, 2.5 degrees above normal. Katra recorded 33.6 degrees Celsius, Kupwara 32 degrees, Srinagar 30.6 degrees, Banihal 30.8 degrees, Qazigund 30.4 degrees, Kukernag 29.6 degrees, Batote 29.5 degrees, Bhaderwah 29.2 degrees, Pahalgam 25.5 degrees and Gulmarg 22 degrees Celsius.

Night temperatures settled at 26.1 degrees Celsius in Jammu, 20.4 degrees in Srinagar and Katra, 19.1 degrees in Batote, 18.3 degrees in Kupwara, 17.8 degrees in Bhaderwah, 17.5 degrees each in Qazigund and Banihal, 16.7 degrees in Kukernag, 15.1 degrees in Pahalgam and 11 degrees Celsius in Gulmarg.

The Meteorological Centre, Srinagar, has forecast light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places across Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, with heavy rain and brief intense showers expected at a few places in the Jammu division, particularly during late night and early morning hours.

Many areas of Kashmir division are also likely to receive light to moderate rainfall with brief intense showers at isolated places during the afternoon and early morning hours.

The weather office has predicted light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places on July 9 and 10, accompanied by brief intense heavy showers at a few locations. Similar conditions are expected on July 11 and 12, with isolated heavy rainfall.

The MeT department has warned of heavy rainfall and brief intense showers at a few places on July 7-8 and again on July 11.

It also cautioned about the possibility of flash floods, landslides and mudslides at vulnerable locations in the Chenab Valley and Pir Panjal range, advising people to stay away from streams, nallahs and landslide-prone areas—(KNO)

‘J&K Schools Run On A

posted in such schools that are having zero enrolments and 188 schools are without any student enrolled.

As already reported by KNO, MoE in a meeting of Project Approval Board (PAB) for considering the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) 2026-27 has said that in Jammu and Kashmir at least 146 schools have reported functioning without any student enrolled and over 1355 other schools are functioning with single teachers.

"141 primary schools and five upper primary schools were reported with zero enrolment," MoE said.

It also said that 1,762 primary schools and 135 upper primary schools had enrolment of less than 15 students, while 5175 primary schools and 748 upper primary schools had enrolment of less than 30 students.

The Ministry has said that a large number of schools with low or zero enrolment was highlighted as a matter of concern.

The MoE advised the Jammu and Kashmir authorities to undertake a detailed analysis of these schools and adopt strategies to improve enrolment.

MoE has urged the Jammu and Kashmir authorities to undertake a detailed review and appropriate corrective measures, and ensure compliance with RTF norms at all levels.

Earlier in March, the Jammu and Kashmir government had said that over the past four years, nearly 3200 schools in the UT were either functioning with less than ten or zero student enrolment—leaving over 2500 teachers deployed in empty schools.

The figures were revealed in the Legislative Assembly that said 3192 schools in

Jammu and Kashmir reported less than ten or zero enrolment since 2022 including 1494 schools in Jammu and 1698 in Kashmir region respectively—(KNO)

Over 1 Lakh Devotees

and the shorter Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

Meanwhile, a record 8,815 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu early Tuesday as part of the sixth batch of the yatra, officials said.

They said pilgrims departed under elaborate security arrangements in a convoy of 363 vehicles.

Of them, 3,989 pilgrims travelling in 181 vehicles left for the Baltal base camp at 3:35 am, while 4,826 pilgrims in 182 vehicles departed for the Nunwan base camp via the traditional Pahalgam route at 4:08 am.

The batch comprised 5,831 men, 2,193 women, 30 children, 598 sadhus, 131 sadhvis, one child sadhu and 31 foreign male pilgrims. The convoy included 172 buses, 58 medium motor vehicles (MMVs), 130 light motor vehicles (LMVs) and three two-wheelers.

Officials said the pilgrimage is progressing smoothly under multi-layered security arrangements, with extensive measures in place to ensure seamless movement of pilgrims, besides adequate medical care, accommodation and other essential facilities.

Meanwhile, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Tuesday said that more than one lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the holy Amarnath cave shrine since July 3, when the annual pilgrimage commenced.

Talking to reporters, Garg, said the Amarnath Yatra has witnessed a huge influx of pilgrims during the first five days.

He said a huge number of devotees who had not registered online turned up during the initial days of the Yatra, creating logistical challenges for the administration. "We appeal to all pilgrims to register themselves online before undertaking the Yatra," he said.

The Divisional Commissioner said the situation has now been streamlined with the augmentation of transit accommodation facilities on the directions of the Lieutenant Governor. He added that the on-the-spot registration facility has also been expanded to ensure that pilgrims do not face any inconvenience.

"More than one lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine, and the darshan process is continuing smoothly," Garg said.

He said senior officers have been deployed at both the Nunwan and Baltal Base Camps, while regular reviews are being conducted by the Amarnath Shrine Board and the civil administration to ensure all necessary facilities are extended to pilgrims and that the Yatra continues smoothly.

The 57-day annual pilgrimage began on July 3 and is scheduled to conclude on August 28, coinciding with Shravan Purnima (Raksha Bandhan)—(KNO)

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SWD Srinagar organises registration drive under PMMVY

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Social Welfare Department (SWD), SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, organised a special registration and awareness drive under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) at SKIMS Medical College & Hospital, Bemina, with the objective of facilitating enrolment of eligible pregnant women and lactating mothers under the flagship maternity benefit scheme. The drive witnessed active participation from officials of SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, healthcare professionals, and benefi-

ciaries visiting the hospital. Dedicated registration counters and awareness desks were established to assist eligible women with on-the-spot registration, verification of documents, and dissemination of information regarding the benefits and eligibility criteria of PMMVY. During the programme, beneficiaries were sensitised about the importance of early registration of pregnancy, regular antenatal care, institutional delivery, child immunisation, and timely availing of maternity benefits under the scheme. The officials also guided beneficiaries

on the application process and addressed their queries to ensure hassle-free enrolment. Speaking on the occasion, the officials of SANKALP-HEW Srinagar emphasised that the PMMVY aims to provide financial assistance to eligible pregnant women and lactating mothers, thereby promoting improved maternal and child health, encouraging positive health-seeking behaviour, and supporting nutritional needs during pregnancy and after child birth. The Department reiterated its commitment

to extending the benefits of welfare schemes to every eligible beneficiary through sustained awareness campaigns and outreach programmes across the district. Similar registration and awareness drives will continue to be organised at healthcare institutions and community centres to ensure maximum coverage under PMMVY. The Department expressed gratitude to the administration and staff of SKIMS Medical College & Hospital, Bemina, for their support and cooperation in the successful conduct of the drive.

DC Kulgam chairs Training Programme on AgriStack Module

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam Tuesday chaired a meeting-cum-training programme at the Auditorium-cum-New Conference Hall, Kulgam, to review the implementation of the AgriStack Module and to build the capacity of the field functionaries associated with the programme. The training programme was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Kulgam, Girdawars, Patwaris, and other concerned field functionaries from across the district. During the programme, the nominated Master



Trainer, Qaimoh, Mohd. Zakir Mir, imparted detailed training on the AgriStack Module. He explained the entire process of data entry and verification, particularly the Khewat-wise workflow, through practical demonstrations. The Master Trainer also screened instructional videos and

elaborated on the various features and functionalities of the module to ensure that all field functionaries acquire a clear understanding of the application and its effective implementation. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of maintain-

ing accuracy, transparency, and timely completion of all activities under the AgriStack initiative. He directed all field functionaries to work in close coordination and ensure that the assigned tasks are completed meticulously within the stipulated timeline. He further stressed that no laxity or delay would be tolerated and instructed the officers and officials to extend full cooperation for the successful implementation of the programme. The participants also interacted with the Master Trainer and clarified their queries regarding different aspects of the module, making the training programme informative and productive.

DC B'pora reviews MPLADS Works, directs officers to expedite process

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib Tuesday reviewed the progress of works being executed under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) at a meeting held at the VC Room, Mini Secretariat, Bandipora. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took a department-wise review of the works being implemented under the scheme and directed the executing agencies to speed up the pace of work and ensure timely completion of all projects. The Deputy Commissioner stressed the need for close coordination among the concerned departments so that the works are completed without unnecessary delay for the benefit of the public. It was informed in the meeting that a total of 30 works were taken up under the 2025-26 MPLADS. Of these, 15 works are being

executed by the Rural Development Department (RDD), six by the Public Works Department (R&B), three by the Youth Services & Sports Department, and one by the Municipal Council. It was further informed that work on most projects is either ongoing or has already been completed, while five works remain pending. The Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned officers to closely monitor the progress of the remaining works and ensure their completion within the stipulated timeframe. She emphasized that timely execution of development works is essential for improving public infrastructure and delivering the intended benefits to the people. Among others, the meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development Bandipora, Chief Planning Officer Bandipora, Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Sub Division Bandipora and other concerned officers.

DC Kulgam visits PHC Bugam, Mohammadpora; reviews Healthcare, infrastructure upgrades

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam Tuesday conducted an inspection visit to Primary Health Centres (PHC) of Bugam and Mohammadpora to take stock of patient care services and availability of essential medicines and other healthcare supplies. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected various sections of both health institutions including OPD, IPD, laboratory, and pharmacy units. He reviewed the attendance of medical and paramedical staff and emphasized the importance of punctuality, discipline, and patient-friendly service delivery. The DC interacted with patients and attendants

to assess the quality of healthcare services being provided. He directed the concerned medical officials to ensure proper diagnosis, timely treatment, and compassionate care to all patients. A detailed review of the stock position of essential drugs, medical equipment, and other healthcare logistics was also undertaken. The authorities were instructed to maintain adequate inventory at all times and ensure that no inconvenience is caused to patients due to shortage of medicines or supplies. The DC further stressed upon maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in and around the health institutions and directed for regular monitoring of sanitation practices.

SKUAST-K brings Scientific Farming Solutions to Tribal Communities

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The Division of Silviculture & Agroforestry, Faculty of Forestry, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), in collaboration with the Regional Fodder Station, Shuhama, organized an awareness-cum-distribution program at Wangath, Ganderbal under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) project aimed at promoting sustainable livelihoods among Scheduled Tribe communities. The program, held under the project "Outreach of Technologies and Distribution of Agriculture Implements for Economic Upliftment of Low-Income ST Groups," focused on raising awareness of improved agricultural technologies and providing essential farm inputs to tribal households to enhance productivity and income. Chairing the program, Dr. Vaishnu Dutt, Head, Division of Silviculture & Agroforestry, Faculty of Forestry, underscored the importance of taking scientific knowledge and technology-driven inter-

ventions to tribal communities for sustainable socio-economic development. Principal Investigator, TSP Project, Dr. Meraju-Din Dar, said the initiative goes beyond distributing agricultural implements by promoting technology dissemination, raising awareness, and building capacity among tribal farmers. He noted that adopting improved farming practices and more efficient use of resources can significantly enhance livelihood security and income for low-income Scheduled Tribe families. Ashish Verma, In-charge Head, Regional Fodder Station, Shuhama, interacted with farmers and demonstrated practical technologies suited to local conditions. Tarpaulins and fodder seed were distributed to selected tribal beneficiaries to encourage the adoption of improved, sustainable agricultural practices. The program concluded with reaffirming SKUAST-K's commitment to strengthening tribal livelihoods through technology outreach, capacity building and inclusive rural development.

WMDA issues Public Notice for Strict Compliance with SWM Rules at Manasbal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: The Wular-Manasbal Development Authority (WMDA) has issued a second public notice directing all shopkeepers, hoteliers, restaurant owners, vendors and other commercial establishments operating at Manasbal Tourist Destination to strictly comply with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/2026. The Authority observed that despite an earlier notice, some establishments continue to violate waste management norms by littering, dumping waste in open spaces and using banned single-use plastic items. All commercial establishments have been instructed to ensure proper segregation, storage and disposal of solid waste through authorised agencies, maintain cleanliness in and around their premises and cooperate with inspection teams. The Authority has also directed all commercial

establishments to obtain Police Verification (Character Certificate) and produce valid registration/trade licences within 15 days for verification. Establishments have been asked to submit details of their waste management mechanism, including installation of separate bins for biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste, daily collection and safe storage of waste, and disposal only through authorised agencies. WMDA has warned that failure to comply within the stipulated time will invite strict legal action, including environmental compensation, sealing or closure of establishments, cancellation of permissions/registrations and prosecution under the relevant provisions of law. The Authority urged all stakeholders to treat the matter as urgent in the interest of environmental protection, preservation of Manasbal Lake and promotion of sustainable tourism.

Mission Shakti Shopian strengthens grassroots awareness on women empowerment

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW), Mission Shakti Shopian Tuesday organised an interactive awareness programme at Chanchmarg under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative to promote the rights, protection, education and empowerment of the girl child. The programme focused on creating awareness about the objectives of BBBP, women-centric government schemes, legal safeguards and the services available through the



Women Helpline. Resource persons encouraged participants to seek assistance whenever required and to spread awareness about these services within their communities. Awareness pamphlets containing information on women-centric schemes,

legal provisions and helpline numbers were distributed among the participants to ensure wider dissemination of information. The speakers underscored the importance of girl's education, gender equality and collective community responsibility

in safeguarding the rights and dignity of every girl. They appealed to parents, youth and community members to support girl's education, promote equal opportunities and contribute towards building a safe, inclusive and empowered society. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, who actively interacted with the resource persons, raised queries and appreciated the efforts of Mission Shakti in promoting awareness and empowering women and girls at the grassroots level.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT H S BUGH

Phone/Fax No: +91-1931-465044 Email Id: cdpo-poshanshugh@jk.gov.in

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE NO:- 04 CDPO HSB OF 2026.

DATED:- 06/07/2026

Subject: - Re-Advertisement for Recruitment of Sahayika (AWHs) in Anganwadi Centre of Poshan Project H S BUGH.

Reference: 1. Government order No 222-JK (SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022

2. Government Order No.103-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated: 28.04.2023.

Applications are invited in the Prescribed Performa as per Annexure "A" from the eligible female candidates for engagement as Anganwadi Helper on Honorary basis against the post of AWH at AWC Frisal-C as per the below mentioned detail: - one post of as per the details given below:

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Name of Post	No. of Post
	Poshan Project H S Bugh	Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers)	01

a) Date of commencement for submission of application forms is from the date of publication of this Notice iv-c f 07-07-2026 ten (10) days from the date of publication of this Notice i,e (17-07-2026).

b) Annexure B- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Qualification and Criteria for selection

c) Annexure C- Affidavit

ANNEXURE 'A'
Format of Application

1. Name of POSHAN Project: - POSHAN H S BUGH

2. Name of Anganwadi Centre _____

3. Post applied for _____

4. Name of the Candidate _____

5. Father's Name _____

6. Husband's Name _____

7. Residence _____

8. Ward. No. _____

9. Contact No. _____

10. Address for Correspondence _____

11. Date of Birth _____

12. Age as on 01.01.2026 _____

Academic Qualification:

Sr. No.	Examination passed	Board	Year of Passing	Marks Obtained	Total Marks	Percentage

13. Do the candidate belong to Retiring AWW/AWH (YES/NO)

14. Documents Attached: _____

Signature of the candidate

Detail of Vacant Posts (AWH) along with name and location of AWC.

S. No	NAME OF ANGANWADI CENTRE	WARD NO.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1	Frisal-C	02 (Two) MC	Sahayika (Anganwadi Helper)	01

B. Anganwadi Helpers

1. The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.

2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible; candidates should not be born before 01-01-1989 and not after 01-01-2008.

3. The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Where ever, there is any dispute with respect to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying of the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.

4. Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Helper shall be matriculation (10th).

5. In case no matriculate candidate available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered from the concerned ward were AWC is advertised.

6. The committee shall select the meritorious married woman of the ward as helper from those who fulfil the qualification criteria and if no married candidate is available then only unmarried candidate shall be considered.

Document Verification

1. The candidate who is shortlisted will be required to appear for Document Verification along-with the original documents as well as self-attested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile Certificate on or before the last date of submission of application form.

a) Marks sheet(s)/Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notification.

b) Date of Birth/Matriculate Certificate.

c) Domicile Certificate.

d) Unmarried Certificate (where required)

2. Candidates have to bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be: i) Aadhaar Card

ii) Voter ID card.

3. The candidate, who is supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

ANNEXURE-C

All applicants to submit affidavit from Judicial Magistrate stating following facts:

1. All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.

2. All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.

3. Maximum qualification is Graduation for vacancy of Anganwadi worker and Minimum qualification of Class 10th for Anganwadi Helper and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.

4. The deponent has read the HR policy no. 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Anganwadi worker/ Anganwadi Helper.

No.-: CDPO/RECT-HSB/POSHAN/287-92 DIPK-2935-26 Child Development Project Officer

Dated:- 06/07/2026 DT: 07/07/2026 Poshan Project H S Bugh

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CMYK

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3rd T20I: England crush India by 125 runs to take commanding 2-0 lead in five-match series



IAN S

NOTTINGHAM: England produced a clinical all-round performance to thrash Team India by 125 runs in the third T20I at Trent Bridge, taking a commanding 2-0 lead in the five-match series after the opening game was washed out.

With two more matches to go, England can't lose this series against the reigning T20 World Cup winner.

Asked to bat first, England piled up an imposing 201/7 in their 20 overs, riding on a fluent 70 off 44 balls from Phil Salt. The opener struck aggressively at the top before Sam Curran's late cameo of 41 off

just 24 deliveries ensured the hosts crossed the 200-run mark. Jos Buttler chipped in with 36, while England recovered well despite losing a couple of quick wickets in the middle overs.

For India, debutant Prince Yadav was the stand-out bowler, claiming 2-30 and making an immediate impact by dismissing Harry Brook and later removing the dangerous Salt. The visitors also effected three run-outs but failed to contain England's scoring rate in the death overs.

In reply, India's batting crumbled under sustained pressure from England's pace attack. Chasing 202, the visitors were bundled

out for just 76 in 11.4 overs, suffering one of their heaviest defeats in T20I cricket. England's bowlers struck regularly, leaving India with no opportunity to build partnerships as wickets fell in clusters throughout the innings.

The comprehensive victory gives England complete control of the series, while India must win the remaining two matches to avoid a series defeat.

Brief scores:
England 201/7 in 20 overs (Phil Salt 70, Sam Curran 41*, Jos Buttler 36; Prince Yadav 2-30) beat India 76 all out in 11.4 overs (Josh Tongue 4-28, Jofra Archer 3-29, Adil Rashid 2-14) by 125 runs.

Hitaashee returns to take on Vani, Ridhima, and youngsters in 9th leg of WPGT

IAN S

HOSUR (TN): Hitaashee Bakshi makes a return to Leg-9 of the domestic Women's Professional Golf Tour at the Clover Greens in the hope of trying to recover the form that made her one of the stars of the local golfing scene.

Hitaashee, who has been finding the going tough on the Ladies European Tour, has decided to get back to her home Tour, as she locks horns with Vani Kapoor, Ridhima Dilawari, and Amandeep Drall. She will also get to play with the young and fresh lot that includes the likes of Anvitha Narender, Mannat Brar, Riya, Lavanya Jadon, and amateur Mahreen Bhatia.

This is Hitaashee's first start on the domestic Tour this season, as she has been playing on the Ladies European Tour.

The field has become the norm of late, and it is strong, with the numbers consistently above 50, including the amateurs. This week, there are 58 players, including 10 amateurs, and the purse at Clover Greens, Hosur in Tamil Nadu, is Rs.17 lakh.

With the competition having become tight, not even the top stars like Vani, Ridhima, or Hitaashee can have it easy with the



younger lot pushing them and often beating them.

This season, of the eight events held so far, Ridhima has been most successful with three wins, while Jasmine Shekar, Tvesa Malik, amateur Lavanya Gupta, Anvitha Narender, and Mannat Brar have won once each.

The current WPGT Order of Merit leader is Ridhima Dilawari, with Jasmine Shekar and Amandeep Drall trailing her in second and third places.

A few days back, Ridhima Dilawari rallied from a bogey-bogey start to fire her third straight round of 71 and sneak ahead of Jasmine Shekar in the sixth leg of the Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Jaypee Wishtown Golf Course.

Playing at the Par-71 layout, Ridhima, starting the final round three shots behind Jasmine, was five behind after just two holes.

Ridhima then staged a superb recovery with two birdies and no bogeys for the rest of the 16 holes, while Jasmine carded a 4-over 75 that ended with a bogey. Jasmine and Ridhima were tied at even par when they came to the 18th tee. Ridhima parred, but Jasmine bogeyed, giving Ridhima her third win in the last five events. Ridhima won the second and fourth legs and has now added the sixth leg as she continues to lead the Hero Order of Merit. For Jasmine, who won the first leg this season, this was her second straight second-place finish.

'Sooryavanshi needs to be ready for bowlers' plans': Pathan

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan believes the real test for teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi begins now, saying the 15-year-old must prepare for the tactical plans opposition bowlers will use against him following his eye-catching start to international cricket.

Speaking ahead of the third T20I against England, Pathan said Sooryavanshi's fearless approach should remain intact but stressed that adapting to opponents' strategies would be crucial for his continued success.

"He is a special talent, no doubt, but he needs to make sure he is ready for the plans bowlers will come up with against him," Pathan told Jio Hotstar. "Like in the first game, if you want to step out against the spinners in England, it's not a bad option since the ball doesn't turn that much there, but you need to maintain your balance and not move too far away from the ball," he added.

Sooryavanshi managed 14 off 10 balls in the second T20I before falling to spin, but Pathan backed the youngster's intent, saying he was pleased that the

teenager did not abandon his natural attacking game.

"He will be disappointed that he got out for 14 after facing 10 balls, so even in terms of strike rate, he fell a bit short of the standards he has set for himself. But I liked that he didn't shy away from playing his natural game. A 15-year-old boy playing international cricket is not just the biggest takeaway for the Indian team from that game, but for world cricket. He is inspiring a whole new generation of young boys and girls by saying, 'If I can do it, you can do it too,'" he said.

FIFA WC: Epic comeback sees Argentina beat Egypt 3-2, reach quarters

IAN S

ATLANTA: Lionel Messi assisted and scored a goal while Enzo Fernández struck the winner in stoppage time as defending champions Argentina produced a comeback for the ages for a sensational 3-2 win over Egypt and sealed a place in the quarterfinals in the FIFA World Cup 2026 in Atlanta on Tuesday.

Argentina fought back from 0-2 down in the round of 16 match after Yasser Ibrahim (15th min) and Mostafa Zico (62nd min) had scored for Egypt and created the possibility of the defending champions ending their campaign early, joining the five-time winner Brazil and Germany on the scrap heap.

But Messi weaved his magic, first launching the attack and providing the assist to Cristian Romero's goal in the 79th minute and then getting onto the scoresheet himself in the 83rd minute as Lautaro



hooked a deep ball into the area, which dropped favourably for the Argentine captain, who laced it towards goal. Goalkeeper Shobair gets a hand on it, but it hits the bar and goes in to make it 2-2.

Enzo Fernandez then sealed victory for Argentina by scoring an incredible goal in the third minute

of stoppage time, making it 3-2 for Argentina. Lautaro swung a deep cross to the back post, and Enzo Fernandez met it and sent the ball back from where it came and into the far corner.

Earlier, Argentina conceded a goal in the first half of a World Cup match for the first time since their

2018 Round of 16 tie against France. They had not conceded in the first half in their last 11 matches before this match.

Yasser Ibrahim headed Egypt into a shock lead, before Mostafa Shoubir protected it magnificently. The goalkeeper dived south-west to save a Messi penalty, which Nicolas

Tagliafico had craftily earned, and made superb stops from Alexis Mac Allister and Julian Alvarez.

Egypt thought they had made it two just before the hour. Haissem Hassan made an imperial dash down the right and fed Salah, who enabled Zico to ripple the net. The goal was, however, ruled out for a foul in the build-up. It merely delayed the Al Ahly man doubling the lead, though, as he finished off a rapid counter-attack involving Salah and Hassan.

It left Egypt on the cusp of victory, but Argentina were not done yet. They missed many chances but did not lose patience as they attacked repeatedly and created opportunities, and scripted a great comeback.

Christian Romero pulled one back, Messi's brilliant finish equalised, and Fernandez completed an epic survival story.

La Liga faces fixture reshuffle as World Cup reaches decisive stage

IAN S

MADRID: Spain's victory over Portugal in the World Cup Round of 16 has increased the likelihood that several opening-weekend matches in the upcoming 2026-27 season of La Liga will be postponed.

La Liga is scheduled to begin on the weekend of August 15-16, but an agreement provides that clubs with players involved in the World Cup semifinals will not be required to begin their domestic campaign until a week later. Any postponed fixtures are expected to be rescheduled between the second and third rounds of the season.

Real Madrid's opening match against Real Sociedad has already been affected. Real Madrid has players representing both France and Morocco, including Kylian Mbappé, Aurelien Tchouameni, and Brahim Diaz. With France and Morocco meeting in the quarterfinals, at least one Madrid player is guaranteed to reach the semifinals, reports Xinhua.

Spain's progression has further complicated the situation, with more La Liga clubs now certain to



have players involved in the latter stages of the tournament.

Spain's football players' union maintains that players are entitled to a minimum of three weeks' vacation each summer. With the World Cup ending on July 19, finalists would not have sufficient recovery time before the start of the

new domestic season if they were required to play on the opening weekend.

Other major European leagues have largely avoided the issue by delaying the start of their seasons. The Premier League is set to begin its 2026-27 campaign on the weekend of August 22-23.

Meanwhile, Spain remains the only team yet to concede a goal in the FIFA World Cup 2026, allowing goalkeeper Unai Simon to extend his World Cup finals record for consecutive minutes without conceding to 609.

Aymeric Laporte has also been influential in possession, completing around 90 percent of his passes overall and 85 percent of those played in the opposition half, helping Spain build attacks from the back while maintaining defensive stability.

Against Portugal, Laporte and Cubarsi gave Ronaldo little room to operate. The veteran forward managed just 19 touches throughout the match, only three of them inside the penalty area, as Spain's defenders kept the five-time Ballon d'Or winner largely anonymous.

Spain's defensive record has been built on a collective effort, but the balance provided by Cubarsi's athleticism and Laporte's experience has been central to the team's success. As Ronaldo's World Cup came to an end, Laporte's revival continued with Spain still firmly in the hunt for the title.

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE
(HINDI) U/A 16+
11:00 AM | 03:00 PM | 07:10 PM

ALPHA
Hindi Atmos U/A 16+
10:45 AM | 01:35 PM
04:25 PM | 07:15 PM

MAIN VAAPAS AAUNGA
(HINDI) U/A 16+
06:15 PM

COCKTAIL 2
(HINDI) A
12:00 PM

MINIONS AND MONSTERS
English with English Subtitles
U/A 7+
02:20 PM

BABY DO DIE DO
(HINDI) A
04:30 PM

WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY

INOX

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