

Good Morning

Kashmir

17th  
Year Of Publication



I spoke with DGP Shri Nalin Prabhat to review the situation following the terror attack in Anantnag. My heartfelt condolences to the family of Head Constable Ashiq Hussain Qureshi, who sacrificed his life in the line of duty. The whole country stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the family of martyr. I strongly condemn this cowardly attack. This heinous act will not go unpunished. J&K Police and our security forces are on the ground and will bring those responsible to justice.

Srinagar • Thursday 23, July 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 175 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

# J&K Police head constable killed in Anantnag terror attack

LG, CM condemn attack; express solidarity with bereaved family



JAHANGEER GANAIE

**ANANTNAG:** A Head Constable of the Jammu and Kashmir Police was killed in a terrorist attack in the Lal Chowk area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Wednesday, triggering a massive security crackdown across the Valley, with over 2500 suspected Over Ground Workers (OGWs) picked up for questioning and search operations intensified at multiple locations.

An official said that terrorists appeared at busy Lal Chowk the attack took place around 12:30 pm and fired upon a policeman from a close range. He sustained critical injuries and was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead.

The slain policeman was identified as Head Constable Ashiq Hussain of the 3rd Battalion of the India

## History Repeats For Beerwah Family

30-years after losing father on duty, policeman son falls to terror

NAVEED UL HAQ

**BUDGAM:** Three decades ago, the Qureshi family of Lolipora in Beerwah lost its head when Head Constable Ghulam Mohiuddin Qureshi died while on official duty. On Wednesday, tragedy returned to the same doorstep after terrorists killed his son, Head Constable Ashiq Hussain Qureshi, leaving behind another grieving generation.

According to the details available, the 45-year-old policeman, who

# 5 killed, roads shut, rivers in spate as heavy rain lashes J&K

NH-244 closed; Chenab, Lidder, Sheshnag cross critical levels

SAJID RAINA

**SRINAGAR:** At least five people were killed, several major roads were closed, rivers and nullahs swelled to dangerous levels, and widespread damage was reported across Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday as incessant rainfall triggered flash floods, landslides and waterlogging, prompting authorities to issue fresh advisories and intensify rescue operations.

According to details obtained, two people were killed after a Tempo Traveller was hit by falling stones at Gangroo in Ramban district, while three others lost their lives after being swept away by floodwaters in separate incidents in Bandipora and Budgam districts, officials said.

In Bandipora, the bodies of 14-year-old Amir Khatana, son of late Mehboob Khatana and his mother were recovered from Guzarbal nullah after they were swept away by flooded Nullah while trying to retrieve firewood being carried downstream by the swollen nullah.

In Budgam district, a man identified as Shabir Ahmad Poswal of Drang died after



being swept away by a flooded nullah. His body was later retrieved by rescue teams.

Heavy rainfall also forced the temporary closure of the Batote-Kishtwar National Highway (NH-244), while traffic movement remained affected at several vulnerable stretches due to landslides and shooting stones, officials said.

Meanwhile, a massive search operation entered the fourth day in Rajouri district to trace Abdul Ghani, a Jal Shakti Department employee who went missing after floodwaters washed away a pumping station at Plangarh village in Thanamandi. Teams of the

SDRF, NDRF, police and the Army are participating in the rescue operation.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rajouri Abhishek Sharma said preliminary assessments indicate that nearly 100 vehicles suffered extensive damage in the recent floods. "About 50 damaged vehicles have been recovered, while another 50, including passenger vehicles and heavy machinery, were washed away and are yet to be traced," he said.

The DC said 15 relief and lodging centres have been established across the district, two of which are already operational. He said government and private

schools will reopen only after detailed safety audits, citing the continued risk of landslides even after rainfall subsides.

The administration has also prohibited commercial use of building basements, including libraries and gyms, in vulnerable low-lying areas, Sharma added.

Amid the continuing rains, authorities issued flood alerts after water levels in several rivers and streams crossed or touched critical thresholds.

The Chenab river at Akhnoor crossed the danger mark during the afternoon, touching 35.8 feet against the danger level of 35 feet before receding to 35 feet by evening. The alert level stands at 32 feet and the evacuation level at 42 feet.

The Sheshnag nullah in Pahalgam's Betaab Valley crossed the flood declaration mark, with the water level reaching 1.46 metres against the warning level of 1.40 metres.

The Lidder river, a major tributary of the Jhelum, also reached the flood declaration mark, with its water level touching 1.55 metres against the flood declaration level of 1.50 metres.

## Heavy rain keeps temperatures below normal across J&K



SAJID RAINA

**SRINAGAR:** Widespread moderate to heavy rainfall lashed Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, with Kathua recording the highest rainfall of 153.4 mm in the past 24 hours, while Katra witnessed its coldest July day on record as persistent cloud cover kept daytime temperatures significantly below normal.

According to weather data shared by Kashmir Weather, the heaviest rainfall in the Jammu region during the 24-hour period ending at 8:30 am was recorded in Kathua (153.4 mm), followed by Samba (133 mm), Udhampur (132.6 mm), Jammu Airport (67.7 mm), Jammu city (62.1 mm), Katra (58.5 mm), Poonch (51 mm), Ramban (49 mm), Batote (46.1 mm), Reasi (44.5 mm) and Rajouri (40.8 mm).

In the Kashmir valley, Gulmarg received the highest rainfall at 55 mm, followed by Baramulla (37.5 mm), Tangmarg (28.2 mm),

## INCESSANT RAINS

### CM continues high-level reviews to intensify relief, restoration efforts



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah Wednesday chaired another review meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the restoration works, relief measures and overall flood preparedness across Jammu & Kashmir that has arisen due to incessant rains and flash floods.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Health, Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Ito, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Administrative Secretaries, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and other senior officers.

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Minister for Youth Services & Sports, Transport, Information Technology, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Science & Technology, ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, all Deputy Commissioners attended the meeting through Video Conferencing.

While chairing the meeting, Chief Minister stressed the need for maintaining a high state of preparedness to effectively deal with flood-like situations

## Jammu Kashmir to Strengthen Support for Para Athletes, Says LG

Visits Voluntary Medicare Society, Interacts with Para Athletes

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday reaffirmed the Jammu and Kashmir administration's commitment to strengthening infrastructure and support for persons with disabilities (PwDs), particularly para athletes, during a visit to the Voluntary Medicare Society (VMS) in Srinagar.

"In recent years, para-athletes from Jammu Kashmir have brought immense pride to the region on national and global stages. The administration reaffirms its commitment to providing world-class infrastructure and support to nurture the potential of UT's specially-abled youth," the Lieutenant Governor said while visiting the Voluntary Medicare Society (VMS) today, which has been tirelessly serv-



ing Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) across Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh for over five decades through healthcare, education, livelihood, and community inclusion.

During his visit, the Lieuten-

ant Governor held key discussions with officials of the organisation and Para Athletes regarding the holistic empowerment, rehabilitation, and sports development for Divyangjan across Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh.

The VMS office bearers and its President/ Founder Dr. Mir Mohammad Maqbool and Vice President Prof Masooda Yasin, urged the Lieutenant Governor for building a robust and structured ecosystem for adaptive sports. Several key initiatives and requirements including Robotic appliances for Physiotherapy, healthcare and skill development facility, setting up a J&K Para Sports Association to facilitate talent from the district level up to international competitions, developing an Indoor Para Sports Hall to ensure an accessible, all-weather environment

## CS reviews measures to strengthen cybercrime prevention framework

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Home Department to review the measures undertaken for prevention of cybercrimes in the Union Territory, with particular focus on safeguarding citizens against emerging cyber threats, including Digital Arrest scams, phishing, online financial frauds, cyber slavery, identity theft and other cyber-enabled offences.

The meeting also reviewed the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the directions issued during the previous review and assessed the progress achieved in strengthening the institutional framework, investigative capacity, public awareness and inter-agency coordination for combating cybercrime in Jammu and Kashmir.

Those who attended the



meeting includes Principal Secretary, Home; Commissioner Secretary, IT; Commissioner Secretary, GAD; Commissioner Secretary, Law; Scientists from NIC and officers from the Department of Public Grievances.

Chief Secretary while chairing this meeting observed that while the Government has created a comprehensive institutional framework to combat cybercrime in the Union Territory, its success would lie in its effective implementation and its ability to provide timely relief to citizens affected by cyber frauds.

## 'Jhelum well below warning mark despite rains, no need to panic'

REHAN QAYOOM

**SRINAGAR:** Amid continuous rainfall across Kashmir, the Irrigation & Flood Control (I&FC) Department on Wednesday said there is no cause for panic as the Jhelum river and its major tributaries are flowing well below the warning and

danger levels across the Valley. Chief Engineer, I&FC Kashmir, Showkat Hussain, said that there is "absolutely no need to panic".

"The water level in the Jhelum is well below the warning and danger levels at all major gauge stations," he said. "We are monitoring the

situation round the clock, and people should not pay heed to rumours."

According to the gauge readings, the Jhelum was flowing at 6.78 feet at Sangam against the warning and danger levels of 21 feet and 25 feet, respectively. At Ram Munshi Bagh, the water level was 8.24 feet,

## India AI Data, AI Labs operational in J&K: GoI

RAJA SYED

**SRINAGAR:** Two IndiaAI Data & AI Labs are currently operational in Jammu and Kashmir, with hundreds of students enrolled, trained and certified under Artificial Intelligence-related skill development programmes, the Government of India (GoI) informed the Lok Sabha.

Replying to an unstarred question in the Lok Sabha, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said that 27 IndiaAI Data & AI Labs have been established at NIELIT centres across the country, while work is underway to set up another 188 labs in ITIs and Polytechnics.

According to the state-wise data, Jammu and Kashmir has two operational IndiaAI Data & AI Labs, while neighbouring Ladakh has one operational lab.

The ministry said that under the 'Fundamentals

of Data Annotation using Python' course in Jammu and Kashmir, 171 students have registered, 20 are undergoing training, 151 have completed training, 48 have been certified, and no dropouts have been reported.

Similarly, under the 'Fundamentals of Data Curation using Python' course, 183 students have registered, 32 are undergoing training, 151 have completed training, 73 have received certification, while no dropouts have been reported in the Union Territory.

For Ladakh, the government said 89 students registered for the Data Annotation course, with 59 completing training and 20 receiving certification. Under the Data Curation course, 120 students registered, 61 completed training, and 21 were certified.

The Centre said the IndiaAI Data & AI Labs have been established under the IndiaAI FutureSkills

## Active ration cards in J&K stand at 16.57 lakh; 3,036 cards deleted in 2025: Centre



RAJA SYED

**SRINAGAR:** The Union Government informed the Lok Sabha that Jammu and Kashmir has 16,57,861 active ration cards as of July 2026, while 3,036 ration cards were deleted in 2025 and 4,767 were deleted in 2024, according to data placed before Parliament.

Replying to an unstarred question in the Lok Sabha, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, as reported,

said the country has a total of 20,57,81,055 active ration cards. Jammu and Kashmir accounts for 16.57 lakh of these, while neighbouring Ladakh has 28,105 active ration cards.

The Ministry further stated that 4,767 ration cards were deleted in Jammu and Kashmir during 2024, while the figure declined to 3,036 in 2025. In Ladakh, 615 ration cards were deleted in 2024 and 764 in 2025.

The Centre said that under the National Food



# JKLFC extends relief to Borrowers under Settlement Scheme-2026

Six NPA Accounts settled, ₹3.36 crore interest waived

## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** The Settlement Committee of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Finance Corporation (JKLFC) met under the chairmanship of the Managing Director to consider settlement of seven Non-Performing Asset (NPA) loan accounts under the Settlement Scheme-2026 (SS-2026). The Committee approved settlement proposals in respect of six NPA loan accounts involving a total settlement amount of approximately ₹84.43 lakh, subject to the borrowers

depositing the approved settlement amounts within the stipulated period and fulfilling all the provisions of the scheme. One settlement proposal was deferred pending submission of an updated legal status report and legal opinion. The Board of Directors, in its 247th meeting held on 31st December 2025, had approved the introduction of the Settlement Scheme-2026 (SS-2026). The scheme came into force with immediate effect and shall remain in operation up to 30th September 2026. The scheme has been

introduced as a One-Time Settlement (OTS) mechanism to facilitate recovery of long-pending Non-Performing Assets by providing eligible borrowers an opportunity to liquidate their outstanding loan liabilities on concessional terms, thereby improving recoveries and reducing the Corporation's NPA portfolio. The Managing Director emphasized that the scheme is an important initiative to recover long-pending dues, facilitate closure of stressed loan accounts, and safeguard the financial interests of

the Corporation. He directed all Branch Heads and District Officers to expedite identification of eligible cases and ensure prompt processing and submission of settlement proposals. The Corporation reiterated its commitment to strengthening its recovery mechanism and improving the quality of its loan portfolio through effective implementation of the Settlement Scheme-2026. Eligible borrowers have been advised to avail the benefits of the scheme before its expiry on 30th September 2026.

# DC Pulwama chairs District Level Telecom Committee Meeting

Reviews Telecom Infrastructure, 4G Saturation and BharatNet progress in district

## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**PULWAMA:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom Wednesday chaired a meeting of the District Level Telecom Committee (DLTC) at the Administrative Complex here to review the status of telecom infrastructure, mobile network coverage, BharatNet implementation and other connectivity-related issues across the district. During the meeting, a detailed presentation highlighting the progress achieved under various telecom connectivity initiatives being implemented in the district was presented. Discussions focused on mobile tower saturation, augmentation of signals, phase-wise coverage network status, Right of Way (RoW) issues



and the progress of the BharatNet project. The Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the project-wise status of mobile tower installations and the progress of BharatNet & BSNL 4G Saturation Project across the district. He also reviewed the status of signal augmentation, coverage in underserved and shadow areas, and issues related to pending sites,

including power connectivity, land availability and other logistical requirements necessary for their timely completion. Dr. Qayoom directed all stakeholder departments and telecom service providers to work in close coordination for the timely completion of ongoing projects and resolution of pending issues. He emphasized the importance of strengthening digital connectivity,

particularly in remote and underserved areas, to facilitate improved access to communication services, online platforms and digital governance initiatives. The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Pulwama; Officers from R&B, KPDCL, Rural Development, PMGSY; SDO BSNL, Pulwama and representatives of various telecom service providers.

# Director Agriculture reviews flood preparedness of department

Directs all field functionaries to remain on high alert



## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, Wednesday chaired a virtual review meeting with all Chief Agriculture Officers (CAOs) of the Kashmir Division to assess the prevailing flood situation and review the preparedness of the Agriculture Department in view of the inclement weather conditions. During the meeting, the Director took a detailed district-wise assessment of the situation, including reports on waterlogging, crop damage, and the preparedness of field staff to respond promptly to any eventuality. He instructed

ed all Chief Agriculture Officers to maintain close coordination with the district administrations and ensure continuous monitoring of vulnerable agricultural areas. Sartaj Ahmad Shah directed all Chief Agriculture Officers to keep the entire field machinery on high alert and ensure that all officers and officials remain available in the field for timely response. He emphasized that immediate assessments should be carried out wherever agricultural land or standing crops are affected, and that all necessary measures should be taken to minimize losses to the farming community.

# DC Kulgam visits Qaimoh, Kudwani areas

Takes on-ground assessment of rainfall scenario



## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**KULGAM:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, Wednesday visited Qaimoh and Kudwani areas to take an on-ground assessment of the prevailing rainfall scenario and review the preparedness of the flood management authorities. During the visit, the DC inspected vulnerable locations, including flood-prone low lying areas, river banks and reviewed precautionary measures being taken by the concerned departments. The Deputy Commissioner interacted with the local residents and also informed that men and machinery have been deployed across the vulnerable locations to keep check on water levels. The DC also directed the concerned departments to supervise the working of

beat teams deployed to keep round the clock vigil over the flood gauge levels and extend assistance to vulnerable populations. The DC appealed to the public to avoid venturing near rivers, streams and other water bodies during the ongoing spell of rainfall and to strictly follow advisories issued by the administration. He further directed the concerned officers to ensure the timely shifting of nomadic families from vulnerable locations to safer rescue centers and to remain prepared for any emergency response. The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Tehsildar Qaimoh, Executive Engineers of Irrigation & Flood Control Departments, and officers of other concerned departments, who briefed him about the preparedness measures and the ground situation.

# Pre-Potential Linked Plan for FY 2027-28 discussed in Shopian

## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SHOPAIN:** A meeting of officers was held Wednesday to discuss the Pre-Potential Linked Plan (PLP) for the financial year 2027-28, here at Mini-Secretariat Shopian. During the meeting, CPO, Mudasir Ahmad Dar emphasized the crucial need for all line departments to provide timely, accurate information and to conduct extensive public awareness drives regarding the plan. Speaking on the occasion, District Development Manager (DDM) NABARD, Zubair Ahmad, briefed participants on the objectives of the potential plan and highlighted its role in strengthening the district's agriculture and allied sectors. The plan aims to promote sustainable agriculture, improve livelihoods and facilitate better access to institutional credit for farmers and allied activities. He also highlighted key aspects and strategic directions of the Potential Linked Plan, stressing its role in boosting sector-wise growth and rural credit flow across the district. GM, DIC, Sharjeel Ali Naik, LDM, Farooq Ahmad Dar, CHO, CAO, and other concerned officers were present.

## CONTINUOUS RAINFALL

# DDM teams intensify field monitoring across Baramulla

## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BARAMULLA:** In view of the continuous rainfall across Baramulla district, the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Baramulla is on high alert and conducting field inspections to assess the situation in their respective jurisdictions. Various sectoral officers visited vulnerable locations, monitored water levels in rivers and nallahs, reviewed flood preparedness measures, and assessed the availability of essential resources to ensure prompt response in case of any emergency. At Sopore, Additional Deputy Commissioner, S.A. Raina, accompanied by a team of officers, visited Mahrajpora, Tarzoo, Ningli and Sheer Colony to monitor the water level of the River Jhelum and inspect the vulnerable points along the embankments. He informed that adequate sandbags are available to strengthen the bunds, if required, and stated that the situation is presently under control. At Uri, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Prince Kumar, accompanied by a team of officers, inspected



Nambal, Bela Salamabad, Machikrand, Bandi, Trikanjan, Boniyar, Mayan, Hapat Nallah and Hajipeer Nallah. The inspection revealed that water levels at all locations were within the normal range and no untoward incident was reported. At Pattan, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Gulzar Ahmad visited Matipora, Singhpora, Hanjiveera and other vulnerable spots to monitor water levels in the River Jhelum and local nallahs. During the inspection, engineers from the Flood Irrigation Division, Narbal, apprised the SDM about the availability of adequate sandbags for emergency response. The SDM also inspected various health institutions to review the availability of medical staff, essential medicines and emergency

preparedness, besides interacting with attendants to obtain feedback on healthcare services. At Tangmarg, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Mir Jaleel, accompanied by a team of officers, inspected Nallah Ferozpora to monitor the water level and review flood preparedness in the area. DDMA Baramulla is maintaining close surveillance across all subdivisions. All concerned departments have been directed to remain fully prepared, ensure round-the-clock monitoring of vulnerable locations, and respond promptly to any emergency. The public has been advised to remain vigilant, avoid venturing near rivers and nallahs, and strictly follow advisories issued by the district administration.

# DC Budgam visits Magam, Beerwah Hospitals; inspects restoration work

## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BUDGAM:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Wednesday visited the Sub-District Hospitals (SDHs) at Magam and Beerwah to review healthcare facilities and ensure uninterrupted medical services in the wake of the recent inclement weather. During the visit, the DC inspected hospital wards, treatment facilities and other healthcare services being provided to patients. Stressing the need for seamless functioning of all health institutions across the district, he directed the Health Department to remain fully prepared to respond to any emergency. He also interacted with doctors, healthcare staff and patients to obtain first-hand feedback on the quality of patient care and the availability of essential medical services. Later, the Deputy Commissioner visited Beerwah to inspect the ongoing restoration work on the damaged diversion bridge over Nallah Sukhnag, where efforts are underway to restore vehicular movement at the earliest. He directed the concerned departments to expedite restoration of all damaged roads and bridges to ensure uninterrupted connectivity.



He further instructed the concerned departments to ensure prompt restoration of damaged water supply schemes and electricity lines so that scheduled drinking water and power supply to the affected areas remains uninterrupted. During his visit to the damaged shopping complex at Beerwah, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with affected shopkeepers and assured them that their concerns would be taken up with the Government for appropriate rehabilitation measures. He also inspected the under-construction bridge at Chewdara and directed the executing agency to expedite the work for its early completion, ensuring improved connectivity for the local population. Subsequently, the Deputy Commissioner chaired a review meeting

at the Town Hall, Beerwah, to assess the flood-like situation and review the progress of restoration works in Beerwah, Khag, Magam and other affected areas of the district. He reiterated that all departments have been fully mobilized and that restoration of damaged infrastructure is progressing on a war footing to restore normalcy at the earliest. Among others, Additional District Development Commissioner Budgam, Vivek Agarwal; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Taufeeq Ahmad Gazi; Chief Planning Officer; Assistant Commissioner Development; Superintending Engineers; Executive Engineers of various engineering departments; the concerned Tehsildar; and other district officers accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during the visit.

# SKUAST-K Researchers secure prestigious ANRF National Post-Doctoral Fellowships

## GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Two researchers from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) have secured the coveted Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) National Post-Doctoral Fellowships, among India's most competitive funding programmes for early-career scientists, for pioneering research on crop disease resistance and next-generation diabetic wound care. The fellowships have been awarded to Dr. Aasiya Nabi and Dr. Sofi Imtiyaz Ali for high-impact translational research in plant pathology and regenerative medicine, respectively, further strengthening SKUAST-K's growing research footprint across agricultural and biomedical sciences. Dr. Aasiya Nabi, an alumna of the Division of Plant Pathology, Faculty of Horticulture, and a former Nehru-Fulbright Doctoral Fellow at Kansas State University, USA, received the fellowship for her project, "Dissection of Race-Specific Resistance in the Phaseolus vulgaris-Colletotrichum lindemuthianum Pathosystem: Insights from Race 73 and Co-12 Interaction." She will investigate the molecular mechanisms of bean anthracnose resistance. The study aims to identify

race-73-specific effector proteins and validate their interaction with the Co-12 resistance gene, generating insights that could accelerate the development of disease-resistant bean varieties. In biomedical engineering, Dr. Sofi Imtiyaz Ali secured the two-year ANRF fellowship for his project, "Smart Bioactive Wound Dressing Engineered from Earthworm Granulation Scaffold and Multifunctional Therapeutic Cocktail for Diabetic Ulcer Healing." The project seeks to develop an indigenous bioengineered wound dressing that combines an earthworm-derived tissue scaffold with multifunctional therapeutics to promote tissue regeneration, prevent infections and provide a cost-effective, clinically scalable solution for chronic diabetic wounds. Congratulating the awardees and their mentors, Vice Chancellor Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai described the twin achievement as a testament to SKUAST-K's vibrant research ecosystem and growing national standing in scientific innovation. "Securing two prestigious ANRF National Post-Doctoral Fellowships across distinct scientific disciplines reflects SKUAST-K's growing national prominence and our commitment to nurturing talent capable of solving complex challenges in agriculture, veterinary science and human healthcare," he said.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

**DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS, J&K**

127-AD, Opposite Police Residential Qtrs. Gandhi Nagar Jammu Pin Code No. 180004

Suleiman Complex Dalgate Srinagar 190001 | Email: director@jktad@jk.gov.in

Subject: Inviting Application for Admission to Scheduled Tribe (Gujjar & Bakerwal) Postgraduate (PG) Hostels of Jammu and Kashmir for the Academic Session 2026-27.

EXTENSION NOTICE

On the basis requests received from the ST Students, the last date for receipt of applications for Admission in ST/G&B Post graduate (PG) Hostels, of J&K called for vide Notice/Notification issued under endorsement No. DTA/ESTB/2026/3760 Dated: 06.07.2026 read with Addendum to Admission Notice issued vide No.DTA/ESTB/2026/3855-59 Dated: 09.07.2026 is hereby extended till 31.07.2026.

No.DTA/Estb/184/2026/4155-62

Dated:22.07.2026

DIPK-3595-26

DT: 22/07/2026

Director

Tribal Affairs J&K

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

**PUBLIC WORKS (R&B) DIVISION AWANTIPORA**

Email: Email: rb-awantipora@jk.gov.in

NO: T-1/EEA/3412-16 | Dated: 22/07/2026

**EXTENSION NOTICE**

Subject: -

- Macadamization of Gamraz Arigam Road.
- Macadamization of Road from Jamia Masjid to Panchayat Ghar at Lalpora Kahlil.
- Macadamization of Panner Kathwar Gujjar Basti Road.
- Construction of RAMP at Primary School Bathnoor Payeen .(S.No.1396).

Reference: -

- This office e-NIT No.21/EEA/R&B of 2026-27/1563-73 Dated: 02-06-2026.
- This office e-NIT No. 41/EEA/RNB of 2026-27/2524-34 Dated 30-06-2026.

The critical dates for the above noted Works are hereby extended as under:

|   |                                                   |                            |
|---|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Bid Submission End Date                           | 27-07-2026 up to 4. 00 P.M |
| 2 | Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) | 28-07-2026 up to 12.00 P.M |

All other terms & Conditions shall remain same as per above mentioned NIT.

Sd/-

Technical officer

DIPK-3577-26

DT: 22/07/2026

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

R&B Division Awantipora



# LG Attends Rotary Club of Kashmir's Installation Ceremony



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, attended the Rotary Club of Kashmir's installation ceremony Wednesday. He extended his heartfelt congratulations to the new President and team and best wishes to the outgoing President. The Lieutenant Governor said that for over 100 years, Rotary has put humanity first through dedicated, selfless service and today it stands as a global force for human welfare, driving positive change across our country through thousands of active clubs.

"Since 2019, as Jammu Kashmir advances with unified momentum, we have also seen the Rotary Club's spirit of service in action, notably through their selfless medical initiatives across North, South Kashmir and Jammu

Division. I want to tell the incoming President and executive team that they are entrusted with a vital torch, and carrying it forward with tangible impact is a profound duty placed upon their shoulders," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted three specific areas which require Rotary Club's attention. "I appeal to the Rotary Club of Kashmir not to limit itself to scholarships or book distribution alone, but to create a professional guidance chain, a network that connects young talents living in remote areas with experienced professionals. I want the Rotary Club of Kashmir to provide opportunities in digital education and skill development that prepare young people for a changing world," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He observed that second important area is environ-

ment protection and urged the members of Rotary Club of Kashmir to act as guardians of nature.

"We can no longer confine ourselves to tree-planting drives. We must develop an environmental protection model based on scientific methods, long-term planning and the participation of local communities, which will inspire future generations. I want the Rotary Club of Kashmir to involve youth in this campaign and to partner with educational and research institutions. I wish to see the Rotary Club of Kashmir remembered for conserving rivers and lakes and for restoring forests to life," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said the third and most important area concerns the campaign for a drug-free Jammu Kashmir. He highlighted the achieve-

ments of 100-day drug-free J&K campaign and called upon Rotary Club of Kashmir to become an active and full partner in this public campaign, because this is a fight for the future of coming generations.

"The Rotary Club possesses medical expertise and enjoys public trust. It can launch de-addiction camps, awareness drives in colleges and universities, and livelihood and skill-development programs for youth. I know Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self," is a pledge to a better public life, and contributions in these three areas will bring real change. Your work over the past two decades has proved that Rotarians in Kashmir are dedicated to selfless service. Now, as this responsibility passes into new hands, I entrust to you the task of working for a prosperous, peaceful and drug-free Jammu Kashmir," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Rtn. Anil Kumar Singhal, District Governor; Rtn. Dr Touseef Bhatt, President, Rotary Club Kashmir; Rtn. Jagjit Singh, Outgoing President; Rtn. Adil Shah, Secretary; other office bearers of the Rotary Club Kashmir, Rotarians were present.

# CM visits Beerwah to assess flood damages, assures relief to affected shopkeepers



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**BUDGAM:** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Wednesday visited Beerwah in Budgam district to take stock of the damage caused by incessant rainfall and the overflowing of Nallah Sukhnag.

During the visit, the Chief Minister inspected the site at Beerwah Bus Stand where a shopping complex was washed away after the flood protection wall collapsed due to the flash floods. He interacted with the affected shopkeepers and expressed solidarity with them, assuring that the Government would extend all possible assistance to those whose shops had been constructed with valid government permission.

He directed the Deputy Commissioner Budgam to

receive and scrutinise all relevant documents submitted by the affected shopkeepers so that genuine cases could be processed for compensation and rehabilitation in accordance with the rules.

Addressing the affected traders, the Chief Minister said the Government would examine all eligible cases sympathetically and provide every possible support. He also took note of the demand raised by the shopkeepers for temporary rehabilitation and said that, subject to safety clearance, the newly constructed Municipal Committee shopping complex could be considered for their temporary relocation.

The Chief Minister directed the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department to conduct a compre-

hensive structural safety audit of the Municipal Committee shopping complex and other government infrastructure located along Nallah Sukhnag. He said no commercial activity should be allowed in any structure unless it is declared safe by the concerned authorities.

Later, the Chief Minister inspected the ongoing restoration work on the damaged diversion bridge over Nallah Sukhnag, which was washed away by floodwaters. He instructed the concerned departments to expedite the restoration work to ensure early resumption of vehicular connectivity between Beerwah and Budgam.

He also reviewed the progress on the construction of the main motorable bridge over Nallah Sukhnag and stressed the need

for maintaining quality standards while ensuring timely completion of the project.

The Chief Minister further directed the district administration and line departments to ensure prompt restoration of damaged roads, bridges, power supply, drinking water facilities and other essential public services affected by the recent floods. He emphasized that all departments must remain on high alert and respond swiftly to any emergency arising due to the prevailing weather conditions.

MLA Beerwah, Dr. Shafi Ahmad Wani, Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, and senior officers of the district administration and various line departments accompanied the Chief Minister during the visit.

# Dy CM visits flood hit Bella, reviews restoration works in Rajouri

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**RAJOURI:** Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, Wednesday visited the flood-affected area of Bella in Rajouri to assess the ground situation following the recent flash floods.

During the visit, the Deputy Chief Minister interacted with the officers and field functionaries deployed on the spot. He directed them to expedite restoration works, including clearance of damaged road stretches and restoration of essential services, so that normalcy is restored at the earliest.

Later, the Deputy Chief Minister chaired a review meeting in Rajouri to review the progress of restoration works and emergency response measures following the recent flash floods. He reviewed the preparedness and response of all concerned departments and directed officers to ensure speedy restoration of essential services and effective relief measures for the affected population.

The meeting was informed that the district administration, along with all line departments, has been undertaking rescue, relief and restoration works on war footing. It



was informed that four persons were initially reported missing in the flash flood incident, of whom three bodies have been recovered, while search operations are continuing to trace the remaining missing persons. Besides, multi-agency rescue operations involving the SDRF, NDRF, Police, Indian Army and other departments are being carried out in close coordination, while the administration continues to work round the clock for the safety and welfare of the affected people.

Reviewing the status of infrastructure restoration, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to ensure proper drainage along NH-144A and expedite road works wherever progress is slow. He

stressed that scientific drainage management is essential to prevent future damage.

The meeting was informed that 157 PMGSY roads were damaged due to the flash floods. Officers of PWD, PMGSY and BRO were directed to restore connectivity on priority and ensure that all damaged public infrastructure is repaired at the earliest.

Reviewing the Jal Shakti Department, the officers informed that 131 water supply schemes had been affected. Drinking water is presently being supplied through water tankers in affected areas until normal services are restored. It was further informed that of the 150 power feeders affected, all except 30 had been restored and the remaining feeders would be made func-

tional by the evening.

The Deputy Chief Minister also reviewed the availability of essential commodities and directed the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department to ensure there is no black marketing or hoarding. He instructed the officers to maintain an uninterrupted supply of ration and other essentials, particularly for stranded labourers and vulnerable families. He was informed that dry ration kits and packed food are being distributed in the affected areas.

The meeting was further informed that 76 schemes of the Irrigation and Flood Control Department have suffered damage.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed the department to prepare a comprehensive proposal for flood protection works in the Bella area to minimise the risk of such incidents in the future.

Taking serious note of delays in repairing roads within the defect liability period, the Deputy Chief Minister directed that contractors who failed to fulfil their contractual obligations be identified and blacklisted in accordance with the rules.

He also reviewed the assessment of losses in the

Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and other sectors. He directed the concerned departments to conduct a comprehensive and transparent assessment so that relief and rehabilitation measures are implemented without delay.

Appreciating the prompt response of the district administration and the coordinated efforts of all rescue agencies, the Deputy Chief Minister commended the officers and field teams for their dedication during the crisis. He called for continued coordination among all departments to ensure early restoration of normalcy and effective rehabilitation of the affected population.

The meeting was attended by MLA Rajouri Iftikhar Ahmed, MLA Thanamandi Muzaffar Iqbal Khan, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma, Chief Engineer PWD (R&B), ADDC Malikzada Sheraz-ul-Haq, PO ICDS Harpal Singh, ACR Mohammad Jahangir Khan, SE PWD (R&B) Manzoor Ahmed, CPO Maqsood Ahmed, SE Jal Shakti Sunil Kumar Bhat, ACD Auqil Nuvaid, ACP Mohammad Rafeeq, DSEO Sandeep Sharma; DDE, Mohammad Nawaz Choudhary, ARTO, Ashiq Rafiq Malik and other officers

# Javed Rana, Satish Sharma assess flood damage in Rajouri

Asks for speedy restoration of essential services, timely relief for affected families

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**RAJOURI:** Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology, Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, along with Minister for Youth Services & Sports, Transport, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Science & Technology, Satish Sharma, Wednesday visited the flood-affected areas of Rajouri district to assess the damage caused by the recent flash floods and review the ongoing relief, rescue and restoration operations.

MLA Thanamandi Muzaffar Iqbal Khan, MLA Rajouri Iftikhar Ahmed and other officers accompanied the Ministers during their visit.

The Ministers visited the worst-affected localities, interacted with the affected families and took stock of the damage to houses, public infrastructure, drinking water supply and other essential services.

They visited Bella Colony, Darhali which witnessed flash floods following incessant rainfall, causing the Darhali, Khandli, Suktoh and Jamola streams



to overflow and inundate several low-lying areas. The Darhali river has breached the flood protection wall near Bela Colony, resulting in severe flooding of the new bus stand causing extensive damage to dozens of vehicles.

Javed Rana said the flash floods have caused extensive damage to public infrastructure, including roads, water supply and power supply systems, necessitating collective and immediate action for restoration. He said several rural areas have been cut off due to the damage while irrigation schemes, flood protection bunds and residential houses have also suffered significant losses, underscoring the need for swift restoration measures and timely assistance to the affected families.

Javed Rana directed the district administration

and line departments to work in close coordination to expedite restoration of essential services, particularly drinking water supply, road connectivity and other public utilities, on war footing. He stressed the need for a time-bound assessment of damage to houses, agricultural land and public infrastructure to facilitate prompt disbursement of relief and compensation.

Javed Rana also stressed the need to restore power supply expeditiously, stating that several water supply schemes have been severely affected due to the non-availability of electricity. He directed the Power Development Department to ensure the earliest possible restoration of electricity so that drinking water supply to the affected areas is resumed without delay.

# Secy RDD asks for assessment of infrastructure damage in calamity-affected areas

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Muhammad Aijaz Asad, Wednesday directed the concerned districts to assess the damage caused to Rural Development Department infrastructure by the recent flash floods, landslides and heavy rainfall, stating that restoration of damaged public assets should receive the highest priority under the available allocations of the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-GRAM-G).

Chairing a review meeting on the implementation of the VB-GRAM-G Scheme, the Secretary said that the Department would approach the MoRD for additional financial assistance, enhanced person-

day allocation and suitable operational relaxations to support restoration works and generate supplementary employment in calamity-affected areas.

Referring to the provisions of the newly launched VB-GRAM-G Act, Asad said the legislation provides for supporting employment generation and restoration of rural assets in the aftermath of natural calamities. He directed the Assistant Commissioners Development to undertake a comprehensive assessment of damage to Rural Development Department assets, including rural roads, culverts, cross-drainage structures, drainage systems, crossing points and public buildings, particularly in the worst-affected districts of Poonch, Rajouri, Doda, Kishtwar, Bandipora and Budgam.

# Chief Secy reviews implementation strategy for BHAVYA Scheme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Wednesday chaired a high-level meeting to review the implementation strategy for the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA), a flagship Government of India initiative aimed at developing next-generation Plug-and-Play Industrial Parks across the country and positioning Jammu & Kashmir as a preferred investment destination.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), PDD; ACS, Finance; Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Managing Director, SIDCO; besides other senior officers of the concerned departments.

Reviewing the proposals in detail, the Chief Secretary undertook an assessment of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared for the proposed Plug-and-Play Indus-



trial Parks at Pekhari, Samba and Nowgam, Srinagar.

Stressing the need for meticulous planning and technical robustness, he directed that the DPRs be thoroughly vetted by the Power Development Department and the Public Works (R&B) Department to ensure their technical feasibility, engineering soundness and conformity with the prescribed standards before their submission to the Government of India for consideration under the BHAVYA Scheme.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the status of the

land identified for establishment of the proposed industrial parks and sought details regarding the process of transfer and vesting of the land in favour of the implementing agency in accordance with the applicable legal and administrative provisions. He instructed the concerned departments to expedite all necessary procedural formalities so that the projects are taken forward without avoidable delays.

Dulloo further examined the proposed institutional and implementation framework envisaged for

execution of the projects. He deliberated upon the mechanism proposed for establishment, execution and long-term management of these industrial parks, including the constitution of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), project implementation arrangements and the administrative structure that would oversee their timely grounding, monitoring and successful completion in strict adherence to the operational guidelines of the BHAVYA Scheme.

Emphasising coordinated action, the Chief Secretary directed all stakeholder

departments to work in close synergy to ensure that all statutory clearances, technical approvals are sought well in time, enabling the Union Territory to submit comprehensive and technically robust proposals capable of securing approval and financial assistance from the Government of India.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary was apprised by the Commissioner Secretary, I&C, Vikramjit Singh about the broad contours of the BHAVYA Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, envisaging the development of 100 state-of-the-art Plug-and-Play Industrial Parks across the country during the period 2026-27 to 2031-32, with the first phase covering 50 industrial parks.

He added that the UT is well on the way to submit two proposals for the two divisions before the set deadline of 31st July so that

both of them are considered and approved by the Ministry there. The scheme provides central assistance of up to ₹1 crore per acre for eligible projects, subject to prescribed norms and approvals.

During the meeting, the MD, SIDCO, Mohammad Shahid Saleem made a comprehensive presentation on the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared for two proposed Plug-and-Play Industrial Parks under the BHAVYA Scheme.

He further elaborated that the projects have been conceptualised to create fully integrated industrial ecosystems equipped with modern infrastructure, digital governance, reliable utilities, logistics support, worker amenities and environmentally sustainable facilities to significantly enhance ease of doing business and reduce the time required by investors to establish industrial units.



Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

## Rivers Don't Kill People, Our Negligence Does

The devastating flash floods in Rajouri and Poonch, which claimed at least 21 precious lives and left hundreds homeless, were not merely a natural calamity. They were the outcome of years of official apathy, illegal encroachments, poor urban planning, and reckless environmental destruction. Nature may have brought the rain, but it was human negligence that turned it into a catastrophe.

Every year, the same script unfolds. Torrential rains lash Jammu and Kashmir, rivers overflow, houses collapse, roads disappear under water, and families mourn their loved ones. Every year, governments announce compensation, hold review meetings, promise stricter action, and then conveniently move on, until the next disaster strikes. The truth is uncomfortable but undeniable: Jammu and Kashmir is losing its rivers to greed. Riverbanks and floodplains have been converted into residential colonies, commercial establishments, and illegal settlements with the silent approval, or deliberate ignorance, of those responsible for enforcing the law. Rivers that once had enough space to carry floodwaters are today trapped between concrete walls built by human hands.

Illegal construction is not merely a violation of planning laws, it is a death warrant for innocent people. When authorities allow encroachments on riverbeds, they are effectively signing future disaster reports. Every unauthorised building erected on a floodplain is another family waiting to become a headline.

Equally alarming is the criminal neglect of river management. Rivers and drainage channels remain clogged with silt, debris, plastic waste, and unchecked vegetation. Desilting exercises are often reduced to paperwork or symbolic photo opportunities instead of scientific, sustained interventions. Flood control infrastructure is either outdated, poorly maintained, or simply absent where it is needed most.

The administration cannot continue hiding behind the excuse of "extreme weather events." Climate change may be increasing the intensity of rainfall, but climate change did not approve illegal colonies, ignore repeated warnings from experts, or allow flood channels to disappear under concrete. Those failures belong entirely to human institutions.

What makes this tragedy even more painful is that the warning signs have existed for years. Experts have repeatedly flagged rampant encroachments, shrinking river channels, disappearing wetlands, and deteriorating drainage systems. Study after study has documented the risks. Yet recommendations remain buried in government files while rivers continue to bury lives.

Accountability in Jammu and Kashmir has become an endangered species. After every disaster, inquiries are ordered but rarely completed. No official is held responsible for permitting illegal construction. No department explains why flood mitigation projects remain incomplete. No one answers why disaster preparedness remains so inadequate despite repeated tragedies.

The people deserve more than compensation cheques and condolence messages. They deserve safe cities, protected rivers, effective drainage systems, and a government willing to enforce the law without fear or favour. Illegal structures on riverbanks must be demolished irrespective of who owns them. River channels must be scientifically restored. Floodplain zoning laws must be implemented with zero tolerance. Environmental violations must invite criminal liability, not political patronage.

Rajouri and Poonch should not become another forgotten chapter in Jammu and Kashmir's long history of preventable disasters. If these deaths fail to trigger decisive action, then the next flood will not be a surprise, it will be a planned tragedy authored by collective negligence. The rivers have issued yet another warning. The question is whether those in power are finally prepared to listen—or whether more innocent lives must be sacrificed before governance rises above empty promises.

Before The Deluge

# The Forgotten Voices Of Rajouri's Vulnerable



RASHITA KOSSER

Rajouri lies in the foothills of the Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas, drained mainly by the Munawar Tawi and its tributaries, which ultimately join the Chenab River. Rajouri is characterised by rugged mountains, valleys, agricultural land and receives rainfall from both the south-west monsoon and western disturbances. The heavy overnight rainfall on the 19th of July, 2026, has triggered devastating flash floods across district Rajouri, which has caused widespread destruction & disruptions. The overflowing rivers and streams inundated low-lying areas, particularly the new bus stand area of Bela colony, where several vehicles were swept away & homes, shops & public infrastructure suffered extensive damage. This flood has raised many questions in the minds of today's rational beings.

As we know, the river meanders along its path, and it never flows in a straight line, & during heavy rainfalls, cloudbursts, etc., it finds its way to run off. We human beings are in full competition & war with nature, where we want to win by exploiting mother nature. As far as the Bela colony of the district of Rajouri is concerned, it is exactly on the bank of the river, which by default was once the place of the mighty river Munawar Tawi. With decreasing water flow & a receding, meandering area of the river, People illegally encroached on the riverbank, & now it has been a commercial hub of district Rajouri.

Although floods are a natural disaster, the factors contributing to their aggravation are mainly anthropogenic, & it has proved a Turkish proverb which says, "The river is a serpent & stones are its eggs; even after centuries, the serpent returns to hatch its egg." Is it logical to have a bus stand on the bank of a river? A bus stand accommodates the most important asset of people, that is, various kinds of commercial and private



vehicles, & if the asset of people washes away in the blink of an eye, then the bus stand is of no use at a place which is actually a place of a river. Sometimes we invest in places without taking into consideration their history, geography & polity. We hardly take care of the environmental impact assessment while starting something new near water bodies or any vulnerable area.

Although the district administration did well in removing certain illegal encroachments across the area of Bela colony a few years back, making a bus stand in such a sensitive area was not a good idea, & now our district is facing the brunt of loss of both public & private properties. The whole area of the bus stand is made of concrete, & it's very poor at absorbing water. If a different material had been used, the water wouldn't have gushed through the area & entered the houses of the colony. Soil is very good at absorbing water, & when the river meanders, it cuts through the soil & flows with the flow. Humans have covered the soil with concrete, which seems something good & modern for us. If we compare the adjoining area, which is a little children's park, the intensity of damage is less as compared to the bus stand. If there had been a public park or a playground at the place of the bus stand, the damage would have been less.

As I talk of an area under Abdullah Bridge, several families live under plastic jhuggis, & these families have been living there for a very long period of time. For many years, they have borne the loss of their personal belongings & even loss of lives when the flow of the river is high. If they could have been relocated to a safe place a few years back, they wouldn't face what they are facing today.

As the matter of IMD's early warnings is concerned, I think they are for elite & educated people. Warnings are confined only to Facebook & WhatsApp handles. Practically, there is no warning or alert for poor and vulnerable people. If warnings had been communicated one day earlier on loudspeakers, then the damage would have been much less. We often see IMD's warning notices in English & their circulation on digital media platforms.

How could those citizens who are not educated or do not use any social media platforms know about the warnings & red alerts? The devastating damage in district Rajouri could have been controlled if people had been persuaded one day before the havoc. Keeping in view the IMD's guidelines, citizens & administration came into action after the damage had done its work.

We focus less on prevention, mitigation & preparedness & more on recovery, rehabilitation & reconstruction.

My sympathies with the families who have lost their loved ones & their important assets in the devastating floods. One thing we have to keep in mind is that we should leave the stubbornness of competition with nature, & we should follow IMD's guidelines beforehand, not when it's too late. There is a grave need for public participation & sensitisation of those people who are living near flood-prone areas. They should be given awareness about IMD guidelines, & they should be persuaded for early evacuation with love & compassion because it is always the poor & vulnerable who are residing along these areas. They have no option to go anywhere else, and they have year-long emotional attachments to these places, no matter how risky these places are. District administration is doing its job, but there is more to be done, and we should not let any disaster go to waste. We should learn from it so that we never lose our precious lives & assets in the near future.

The author can be mailed at [ratherrashita86@gmail.com](mailto:ratherrashita86@gmail.com)

### DROWNING VERDICT

## Guilty Of Aesthetics, Acquitted Of Engineering



DR. RIZWAN RUMI

It takes less than 120 minutes of summer rainfall to completely dismantle the multi-billion-rupee illusion of urban modernisation in Kashmir. In July 2026, an ordinary monsoon spell delivered approximately 45 millimetres of rain over the summer capital. Within hours, Srinagar's central commercial zones, hospital access corridors, government centres, and residential colonies were transformed into stagnant waterways.

From the newly cobblestoned pedestrian promenades of Ghanta Ghar at Lal Chowk to the ground floor of the J&K Civil Secretariat, civic life ground to an absolute halt. Electronic stores in Baba Demb suffered losses as rainwater surged over thresholds. Key healthcare institutions like SMHS and JVC Bemina became virtually inaccessible. Commuters were stranded on submerged arterial routes from Downtown's Saraf Kadal to Uptown's Boulevard Road.

The scene was as frustrating as it was familiar. As frustrated immediate outrage from trade bodies, civil society, and political leaders, prompting official calls for an independent third-party technical audit. However, this recurring crisis requires more than temporary indignation; it demands an honest, scientific, and administrative critique: Why does a city that has absorbed thousands of crores under urban development schemes continue to drown under routine precipitation?

The answer lies in a fundamental civil engineering failure: a persistent administrative bias toward high-visibility, surface-level cosmetics at the direct expense of basic hydraulic design.

**1. The Financial & Engineering Disconnect**

To understand the depth of

Srinagar's urban crisis, one must trace the flow of public money against the reality on the ground. Under the flagship Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) portfolio—implemented via a Special Purpose Vehicle—projects worth over 3,600 crore were proposed, with hundreds of crores spent across surface upgrades. Yet, the city's fundamental stormwater resilience remains utterly compromised.

- **Misdirected Recovery Capital:** Following the catastrophic 2014 deluge, over 300 crore was allocated under the World Bank-assisted Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) for urban flood mitigation. From this fund, 103 crore was directed to the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) specifically to build and upgrade 49 specialised stormwater pumping stations designed to flush rainwater out of low-lying neighbourhoods.
- **Regulatory & Engineering Violations:** Rather than building dedicated, closed-loop stormwater evacuation lines, several upgraded stations were illegally connected



identified waterlogging hotspots. Relying on diesel-driven emergency pumps during every routine shower proves that the city's primary underground static drainage network fails by default.

**2. Suffocating the Natural Buffers**

Srinagar was historically shaped by geography as an ecological sponge. A delicate network of natural streams (khol), spillways, and expansive

- **Choking the Spill Corridors:** Linear development projects, including highway expansions like NH-44 and the Srinagar Semi-Ring Road corridor, have dumped thousands of tons of fill dirt directly into low-lying agricultural depressions and wetland fringes near Gallander, Khanda, and Pampore.
- **Interrupted Irrigation Networks:** These highway embankments severed traditional

nowhere to go.

**3. The Smart City Paradox: Aesthetics Over Hydraulics**

The primary operational flaw of Srinagar's recent urban transformation has been the prioritization of high-visibility, surface-level aesthetics over the invisible, essential infrastructure below the pavement.

**4. Establishing Engineering & Executive Accountability**

When multi-billion-rupee urban hubs collapse under ordinary monsoon showers, it cannot be written off as an unavoidable natural calamity. It represents a clear failure of planning, execution, and oversight. The third-party technical and financial audit ordered by the UT administration must mark a turning point toward structural accountability.

**To build long-term urban resilience, responsibility must be established across three distinct lines:**

- **Forensic Technical Auditing of DPRs:** Audits must verify whether ground execution matches approved Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). Chief engineers, consulting hydrologists, and agency directors who signed off on civil designs that bypassed, choked, or buried established natural drainage lines must be held answerable for design negligence.
- **Penalizing Civil & Environmental Malpractice:** Interconnecting stormwater infrastructure with raw sewage networks violates basic sanitary engineering standards and environmental regulations. Executing agencies responsible for approving or building these improper connections must face direct administrative penalties and recovery of wasted public funds.
- **Creating a Unified Drainage Authority:** The routine shifting of responsibility between Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department, and the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) must end. Srinagar requires a single, empowered Urban Drainage Authority with complete jurisdiction over the catchment area, mandatory pre-monsoon capacity certifications, and public accountability for every kilometer of drain.

The author can be mailed at [rizwanroomi2012@gmail.com](mailto:rizwanroomi2012@gmail.com)

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Good Morning Kashmir

Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher  
Javed Ashraf Shah  
Associate Editors  
Mir Suhail  
Sulaiman Muhammad Shah  
Legal Advisor  
Bashir Sidiq  
Bureau Chief Jammu:  
Harbans Nagokay  
R.N.I No: JKENG/2010/36998  
Regd No: 109555  
Office No: 0194-3593724  
Email:  
goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com  
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



# Amarnath Yatra: More Than A Pilgrimage

JAZIB JAHANGIR

The Amarnath Yatra is one of the most important annual pilgrimages in India, attracting thousands of devotees to the holy Amarnath Cave Shrine in the Himalayan region of Jammu and Kashmir. While the Yatra is substantially a spiritual trip concentrated on Lord Shiva, it also plays a major role in the economic development of the area. Every time, the Yatra creates job openings, boosts tourism, supports local businesses, and helps develop infrastructure. The benefits generated during this time give a significant source of income for numerous families in Jammu and Kashmir.

One of the major profitable benefits of the Amarnath Yatra is the generation of livelihoods: Thousands of local people earn income by working as pony possessors, janitors, palki carriers, attendants, roof drivers, culinarians, shopkeepers, and sanitation workers. These jobs are especially important for people living in pastoral and mountainous areas where regular income sources are limited. For several families, the earnings from the Yatra help cover daily expenses and ameliorate their quality of life.

The transport sector also experiences a big increase during the passage: Hack motorists, machine drivers, busgharry motorists, and private transport providers face a swell in demand as pilgrims travel from Jammu to Srinagar and also to Pahalgam or Baltal, the two main routes leading to the cave. Local transport services profit from the high volume of passengers, while copter services give a redundant option for senior and physically challenged pilgrims, thereby stimulating further profitable exertion.

Tourism sees a significant boost as numerous pilgrims combine their spiritual trip with visits to other sightseeing spots in Kashmir: Popular locales such as Srinagar, Pahalgam, Sonmarg, and Gulmarg attract callers who spend money on hospices, cafes, shopping, and sightseeing. This extended tourism brings in income for the hospitality industry and promotes Jammu and Kashmir as a des-



tinuation for both religious and rest trips. Small businesses and original entrepreneurs also profit a great deal from the Yatra: Temporary stalls are set up along the passage routes where merchandisers vend food, drinks, mackintoshes, walking sticks, drugs, and other necessary items. Local crafters see increased demand for Kashmiri crafts, carpets, roquelaures, saffron, dry fruits, and souvenirs. The increased deals during the past season significantly contribute to the income of small dealers and tradesmen, helping save traditional diligence and support original profitable growth.

Women also take part in the profitable openings created by the Yatra: Numerous women operate food booths, prepare traditional refectations, manage homestays, or vend locally made crafts and other products. Self-help groups and small-scale enterprises frequently profit from increased demand due to visiting pilgrims. These conditions contribute to women's fiscal independence and promote community-grounded entrepreneurship.

The Yatra also leads to infrastruc-

ture development in Jammu and Kashmir: Government agencies invest in perfecting roads, islands, health-care installations, sanitation, communication systems, and emergency services to ensure the safe movement of pilgrims. Although these installations are primarily developed for the passage, original communities continue to profit from better transportation, healthcare, and public services throughout the year. Improved infrastructure also supports tourism and profitable conditioning beyond the Yatra season.

The hospitality sector sees substantial growth during the passage. Hotels, guest houses, lodges, and homestays operate at high capacity, while cafes and food vendors witness increased business. The demand for accommodation encourages investment in tourism infrastructure and creates fresh jobs. This seasonal profitable exertion contributes to the overall growth of the original economy. The Amarnath Yatra contributes significantly to government revenue through fees, transportation services, permits, and commercial activities tied to the pil-

grimage. Such profits may be used for the purposes of infrastructure maintenance, tourist attractions, environmental protection, and social welfare projects. Economic stimulation caused by pilgrims impacts different spheres positively, causing a chain reaction resulting in the economic growth of the area.

There are, however, some problems associated with this pilgrimage. The massive presence of people negatively affects the fragile Himalayan environment, thus raising the issue of waste management and environmental protection. As many jobs related to Yatra are temporary, a great number of people earn money only during this period. Moreover, the organisation of safety measures and health care provision require certain expenses. To develop sustainably, it is important to strike a balance between economic success and environmental preservation. Promotion of eco-friendly tourism, proper waste management, improved hygiene standards and rational use of natural resources are essential. Development of local entrepreneurship, professional training programmes, women's entre-

Every time, the Yatra creates job openings, boosts tourism, supports local businesses, and helps develop infrastructure. The benefits generated during this time give a significant source of income for numerous families in Jammu and Kashmir.

preneurship and tourism infrastructure will help to gain economic advantages without harming the natural environment.

To sum up, Amarnath Yatra is both a very spiritual event and an important factor in the economic development of the area. It creates employment, develops tourism, stimulates the local economy, improves infrastructure, etc. Provided that proper planning is done and there is active participation from local communities, the pilgrimage will ensure development while at the same time preserving the cultural and natural heritage of the area.

The importance of the pilgrimage economically highlights the contribution religion can make towards the development of an area. Provided that proper planning is done and there is active participation from local communities, the pilgrimage will ensure development while at the same time preserving the cultural and natural heritage of the area. The importance of the pilgrimage economically highlights the contribution religion can make towards the development of an area.

The author can be mailed at telijazib33@gmail.com

## Advancing Brain Health

# How Technology Is Transforming Brain Tumor Treatment

DR. ADITYA GUPTA

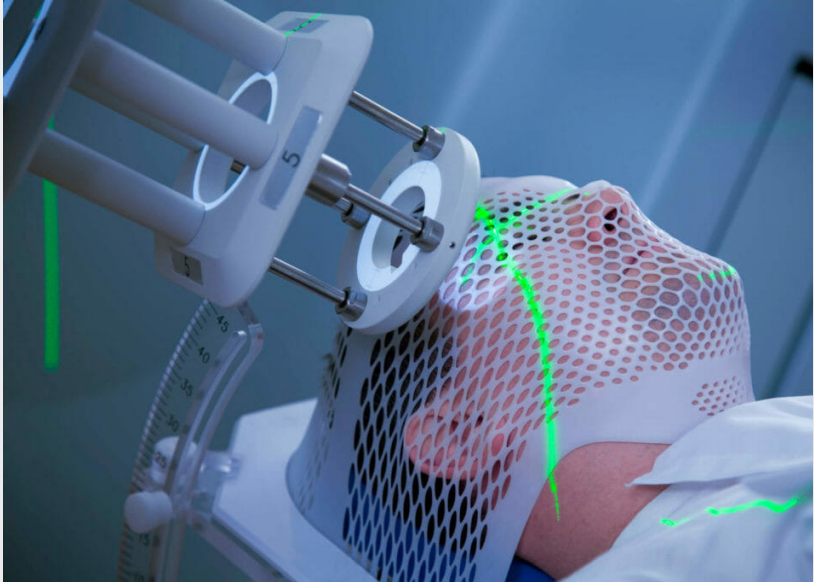
World Brain Day, is an important occasion dedicated to raising awareness about neurological disorders and promoting brain health across all age groups. The day serves as a reminder that the brain is the command centre of the human body, influencing everything from movement and memory to emotions and decision-making. While significant progress has been made in understanding and treating neurological diseases, conditions such as brain tumors continue to pose serious health challenges, often affecting patients physically, emotionally, and socially.

Among the many disorders that impact brain health, brain tumors remain one of the most complex conditions requiring timely diagnosis and specialized treatment. Fortunately, rapid advancements in medical technology are transforming the way these tumors are managed, making treatment safer, more precise, and less invasive than ever before.

**Understanding Brain Tumors:** Brain tumors are abnormal growths of cells that develop within the brain or its surrounding tissues. They may be benign (non-cancerous) or malignant (cancerous). Regardless of their nature, brain tumors can significantly affect an individual's health depending on their size, location, and growth rate. Common symptoms include persistent headaches, seizures, memory problems, balance disturbances, vision changes, and alterations in behaviour or personality.

Because the brain controls virtually every function of the body, the presence of a tumor can have a profound impact on both physical and cognitive well-being.

**The Impact of Brain Tumors:** Brain tumors can affect a person's quality of life in multiple ways. They may impair memory, concentration, speech, mobility, and other neurological functions while also causing considerable emotional and psychological distress. As a tumor grows, it can exert pressure on surrounding brain tissue, disrupting normal brain



activity and potentially causing irreversible damage.

If left untreated, brain tumors may lead to severe neurological deficits and long-term disability, limiting an individual's ability to perform everyday activities and maintain independence.

**The Evolution of Brain Tumor Treatment:** For decades, conventional open surgery has been the cornerstone of brain tumor treatment. These procedures involve creating an opening in the skull to access and remove the tumor. While highly effective in many situations, open surgery is associated with certain risks, including infection, bleeding, damage to healthy brain tissue, and prolonged recovery periods that may require extensive rehabilitation.

Today, remarkable advancements in medical technology have transformed the way brain tumors are diagnosed and treated. Innovations such as endoscopic neurosurgery, navigation-guided surgery, and non-invasive CyberKnife radiosurgery are helping neurosurgeons achieve better precision while reducing treatment-related complications.

**Endoscopic Brain Tumour Surgery:** Endoscopic brain surgery is a minimally invasive technique that enables neurosurgeons to access and treat tumors located deep within the brain,

often through small openings or natural pathways such as the nasal cavity.

The procedure utilises a thin instrument known as an endoscope, equipped with a miniature camera that provides highly detailed visualisation of the surgical field. Through one or two small incisions in the skull, or, in selected cases, through the nose—the endoscope transmits real-time images that guide the surgeon throughout the procedure.

The primary objective is to remove the tumour while preserving healthy brain tissue. The exceptional visual clarity offered by endoscopic systems has significantly enhanced the accuracy and safety of brain tumour surgery.

Endoscopic approaches are particularly useful in the management of pituitary tumours, skull-base tumours, and selected deep-seated lesions. In cases where complete tumor removal is not feasible, endoscopic surgery can be combined with robotic CyberKnife radiosurgery to treat residual disease and improve outcomes.

**Navigation-Guided Neurosurgery:** Navigation-guided surgery has revolutionised modern neurosurgery by bringing GPS-like precision into the operating room.

Using advanced imaging scans and specialised tracking technology, surgeons can create a highly detailed

three-dimensional virtual model of the patient's anatomy. This digital roadmap allows real-time guidance during surgery, helping neurosurgeons navigate complex structures with exceptional accuracy.

Much like GPS transformed geographic navigation, image-guided technology has fundamentally changed the practice of neurosurgery

If left untreated, brain tumors may lead to severe neurological deficits and long-term disability, limiting an individual's ability to perform everyday activities and maintain independence.

by enhancing precision, improving safety, and reducing the risk of injury to critical neurological structures.

**Non-Invasive CyberKnife Radiosurgery:** Among the most significant technological advances in brain tumour treatment is the CyberKnife System, a non-invasive robotic radiosurgery platform that offers an alternative to conventional open surgery for selected patients.

CyberKnife combines advanced robotics, sophisticated imaging technology, and computer-controlled

radiation delivery to precisely target tumours with high-dose radiation while minimizing exposure to surrounding healthy tissue.

**Advantages of CyberKnife Treatment: Non-Invasive Approach:** CyberKnife treatment does not require surgical incisions or general anaesthesia, significantly reducing many of the risks associated with traditional surgery.

**Exceptional Precision:** The system continuously tracks tumour movement through real-time imaging and automatically adjusts radiation delivery. This pinpoint accuracy helps protect healthy brain tissue and enhances treatment effectiveness.

**Faster Recovery:** Most patients experience minimal interruption to their daily routine and can return to normal activities within a short period, unlike the extended recovery often associated with open surgery.

**Versatility:** CyberKnife can be used to treat both benign and malignant brain tumours, as well as tumours located in other parts of the body, making it an important component of modern cancer care.

**A Future Driven by Innovation:** On World Brain Day, it is important to recognise that protecting brain health requires not only awareness and early diagnosis but also access to advanced treatment options. Brain tumours remain a significant challenge, but technological innovations are changing the outlook for patients across the world.

From endoscopic and navigation-guided neurosurgery to highly precise CyberKnife radiosurgery, modern treatment approaches are enabling doctors to treat complex brain tumors with greater accuracy and fewer complications. As we mark World Brain Day 2026, let us reaffirm our commitment to advancing brain health through innovation, education, and equitable access to care, ensuring that patients receive the best possible chance at a healthier and more fulfilling life.

Author is Director – Neurosurgery and Cyberknife, Artemis Hospital, Gurugram. He can be mailed at rkraisamp@gmail.com



J&K Police

Reserve Police (IRP), who was deployed for security duties related to the ongoing Amarnath Yatra.

The attack sent shockwaves across the district, prompting security forces and police to launch a large-scale cordon and search operation. The entire Anantnag town was sealed, with additional reinforcements rushed to the area as forces began a massive manhunt to track down the attackers.

A senior official told KNO that following the incident, Jammu and Kashmir Police, along with other security agencies, launched coordinated raids across several districts of the Valley.

"More than 2500 suspected OGWs have been picked up for questioning during the ongoing operations. Searches and verification drives are continuing, particularly in South Kashmir, to identify and apprehend those involved in the attack or providing logistical support to terrorists," the official said.

Senior police officers, including Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat, Special DGP, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir V.K. Birdi, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) South Kashmir, SSP Anantnag, and officers from various security forces visited the attack site to assess the situation and review the ongoing anti-terror operations.

Later in the day, a solemn wreath-laying ceremony was held at the District Police Lines (DPL) Anantnag, where senior officers paid floral tributes to the slain policeman and offered a Guard of Honour in recognition of his supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha strongly condemned the terror attack and said those responsible would be brought to justice.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said he spoke to DGP Nalin Prabhat to review the security situation following the attack and expressed his deepest condolences to the bereaved family. "I strongly condemn this cowardly attack. This heinous act will not go unpunished. J&K Police and our security forces are on the ground and will bring those responsible to justice. The entire nation stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the family of the martyr," the LG wrote.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also condemned the killing, describing it as a cowardly act of terror. "Deeply saddened by the death in the line of duty of Head Constable Ashiq Hussain of IRP 3rd Battalion J&K Police. HC Hussain made the ultimate sacrifice in a cowardly terror attack in Anantnag area of South Kashmir. I unequivocally condemn this attack and send my heartfelt condolences to the members of his family. May Allah grant him the highest place in Jannat," Omar Abdullah wrote on X.

The killing comes amid heightened security arrangements across Jammu and Kashmir due to the ongoing annual Amarnath Yatra. Security agencies have further strengthened deployment at vulnerable locations while intelligence-based operations have been stepped up to prevent any further terror incidents.

Police have registered a case and initiated a detailed investigation into the attack, while efforts are underway to identify and neutralise the terrorists involved—(KNO)

History Repeats

had joined the Jammu and Kashmir Police under the SRO-43 compassionate appointment scheme after his father's death, was shot dead in a terror attack near Lal Chowk in South Kashmir's Anantnag district while performing his duties.

For the people of Lolipora, Ashiq was not merely a policeman. He was the son who carried forward his father's legacy, the man who supported his widowed mother, cared for his family and quietly fulfilled every responsibility placed upon his shoulders.

As his mortal remains reached the village late Wednesday evening, silence gave way to grief. Women broke down in tears while men struggled to hold back emotions as hundreds lined both sides of the road to receive the coffin draped in the Tricolour.

The entire village reverberated with emotional slogans of "Ashiq Tere Khoon Se Inquilab Aayega" and "Shaheed Ki Jo Maunt Hai, Woh Qaum Ki Hayat Hai," as mourners bid a final farewell to one of their own sons.

Thousands of people from Beerwah and adjoining areas attended the funeral prayers with moist eyes, making it one of the largest gatherings the village has witnessed in recent years.

Senior police officers, led by DIG Central Kashmir Range Rajiv Omprakash Pandey and SSP Budgam Hariprasad K.K., besides several other officers, reached Lolipora to shoulder the coffin and express solidarity with the bereaved family.

According to officials, Ashiq was critically injured after suspected terrorists opened fire on a police party in Anantnag on Wednesday afternoon. He was shifted to Government Medical College (GMC), Anantnag, where doctors declared him brought dead.

Family members said Ashiq had spoken to them over the phone barely an hour before the attack. None imagined it would be their last conversation.

His father, Head Constable Ghulam Mohi-uddin Qureshi, had lost his life in 1990's after coming under a landslide in Ramban District while on official duty. Following his father's death, Ashiq joined the police force under the SRO-43 compassionate appointment policy and continued serving for years with dedication.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, a daughter, his widowed mother, a brother and three married sisters.

Remembering him, Zubair Ahmad, a resident of Lolipora, said Ashiq lived with honesty and humility despite wearing the uniform.

"He was a brave and noble soul. Everyone in the village respected him because he was honest, kind-hearted and always ready to help others. We have lost not just a policeman but a brother," Zubair told KNO.

Another villager, Rafiq Ahmad, said Ashiq's death has devastated the entire village. "He was the breadwinner of his family and fulfilled every responsibility with dignity. The government should stand firmly with his family and ensure they receive all possible support. It is impossible to compensate such a loss, but justice should be done to those he left behind," he said.

As darkness fell over Lolipora, the echoes of mourning slowly faded, but the grief remained. For the Qureshi family, history has painfully repeated itself—first a father lost in service, and now a son martyred in the line of duty.

In one home in Budgam, two generations have now paid the ultimate price while serving the nation—(KNO)

5 killed, roads shut

Authorities said water levels in the Arin and Madhumati nallahs in Bandipora have also risen sharply over the past few days due to continuous rainfall.

The district administration urged residents, particularly those living near rivers and nallahs, to stay away from water bodies and strictly follow official advisories.

According to the Meteorological Department, several areas received heavy rainfall during the day, with Bhawan (SMVD) recording 109 mm, Reasi 94.5 mm, Katra 91.4 mm, Jammu 47 mm, Ramban 43.5 mm, Banihal 37.2 mm, Rajouri 36 mm, Gulmarg 35 mm, Qazigund 33.2 mm, Kokernag 32.2 mm and Baramulla 30 mm between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm.

The day also witnessed unusually low maximum temperatures due to persistent cloud cover and rainfall.

Srinagar recorded a maximum of 20 degrees Celsius, nearly 10 degrees below normal, while Jammu settled at 24.8 degrees Celsius, around 8.7 degrees below normal.

Katra recorded a maximum temperature of just 22.6 degrees Celsius, the lowest ever recorded in the month of July, with the minimum and maximum temperatures differing by only 1.6 degrees, indicating persistent cloud cover throughout the day.

The Meteorological Department said moderate to heavy rain continued at many places across the Union Territory on Wednesday.

It forecast another spell of rain and thundershowers, accompanied by heavy rainfall and brief intense showers, during the early morning and forenoon on Thursday.

From July 24 to 29, light to moderate rain and thundershowers are expected at scattered places, with isolated intense showers.

The MeT Department warned of the possibility of flash floods, landslides, mudslides, a rise in water levels in rivers and local streams, and waterlogging in low-lying areas over the next 24 to 48 hours, advising people to remain alert and follow official advisories—(KNO)

Heavy rain keeps

Pahalgam (23.8 mm), Lolab (22.4 mm), Nowgam Handwara (21.2 mm), Awantipora (21 mm), Bumhama Kupwara (19.8 mm), Qazigund (19.6 mm) and Kokernag (17 mm), among other stations.

The rain continued through the day, with fresh precipitation recorded between 8:30 am and 5:30 pm. Bhawan (Shri Mata Vaishno Devi) received the highest rainfall at 109 mm, followed by Reasi (94.5 mm), Katra (91.4 mm), Bakore (50.5 mm), Jammu (47 mm), Ramban (43.5 mm), Banihal (37.2 mm), Rajouri (36 mm), Gulmarg (35 mm), Qazigund (33.2 mm), Kokernag (32.2 mm) and Baramulla (30 mm).

The prolonged rainfall led to a sharp drop in maximum temperatures across the Union Territory.

Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 20 degrees Celsius, 9.9 degrees below normal, while Jammu settled at 24.8 degrees Celsius, 8.7 degrees below normal.

Kupwara recorded 20.2 degrees Celsius, Gulmarg 14.5 degrees Celsius, Pahalgam 17.6 degrees Celsius, Kokernag 19.4 degrees Celsius and Baramulla 19.8 degrees Celsius.

In the Jammu division, Banihal recorded 19 degrees Celsius, Batote 19.8 degrees Celsius, Bhaderwah 20.2 degrees Celsius, Rajouri 19.4 degrees Celsius, Poonch 23 degrees Celsius and Kathua 26.9 degrees

Celsius.

Katra recorded a maximum temperature of just 22.6 degrees Celsius, 8.1 degrees below normal, making it the coldest July day on record for the pilgrim town.

Weather observers said the day's minimum temperature in Katra was 21 degrees Celsius, only 1.6 degrees lower than the maximum, reflecting an unusually narrow diurnal temperature range caused by persistent cloud cover and continuous rainfall—(KNO)

CM continues

arising from erratic weather patterns.

The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of adopting long-term flood mitigation measures, noting that recurring flood-like events necessitate sustained planning and resilient infrastructure. He instructed the concerned departments to take all necessary steps to minimise loss of life and property, ensure restoration of essential services, particularly drinking water and electricity, within 24 hours, prioritise vulnerable locations, and intensify efforts to trace and retrieve missing persons.

The Chief Minister directed the Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu to undertake an immediate assessment of the flood situation and identify the worst-affected districts. He further directed that adequate funds, on the pattern followed during 2025–26, be placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioners of these districts to facilitate immediate relief, rehabilitation and restoration of damaged infrastructure.

The Chief Minister also reviewed the rescue and relief operations in the flood-affected districts of Poonch and Rajouri. He directed the district administrations to ensure that all relief camps are adequately equipped with essential food, drinking water and medical facilities for the affected population. The meeting was informed that joint rescue and relief operations involving the Civil Administration, Police, SDRF, NDRF, Army, BRO and other line departments were launched immediately after the flash floods and are continuing in the affected areas.

The Chief Minister directed the concerned officers to intensify efforts for the restoration of electricity supply in the worst-affected districts of Poonch and Rajouri, observing that the restoration of drinking water supply schemes is largely dependent on the timely restoration of power. He instructed the Power Development Department to complete the restoration works within the stipulated timeline and ensure that any remaining issues are resolved without delay so that essential public services, particularly water supply, are fully restored at the earliest.

The Chief Minister also reviewed the district-wise status of relief disbursement and damage assessment, directing the Deputy Commissioners to ensure timely assistance to all affected families in accordance with the prescribed norms. He also reviewed the damage to houses, livestock, public infrastructure and agricultural land, and instructed the concerned departments to expedite assessment, restoration and compensation without delay.

During the meeting detailed presentation was made by Divisional Commissioners Jammu/Kashmir of their respective regions highlighting the flood preparation and relief measures undertaken.

The Chief Minister was informed that the Kashmir Division has put in place a comprehensive flood preparedness mechanism, with all Deputy Commissioners, district administrations and line departments on high alert. Rescue teams, evacuation centres, emergency equipment and essential services have been positioned to ensure a prompt and coordinated response to any eventuality.

The meeting was informed that 654 vulnerable villages with an estimated 7.22 lakh population at risk have been identified across the Valley. As a precautionary measure, 1,505 people from vulnerable areas have already been shifted to designated rescue centres, while evacuation plans remain in place for other vulnerable locations.

Officials informed that 744 rescue centres, 108 SDRF boats, 25 Army boats, 98 satellite phones, 102 identified helipads and adequate emergency response funds have been kept ready to strengthen rescue and relief operations. District Emergency Operations Centres and the State Emergency Operations Centre are functioning round the clock to monitor the situation and coordinate response measures.

The meeting was also informed that water levels in the River Jhelum continue to remain well below the warning level at all monitoring stations, while Irrigation and Flood Control teams deployed across the Valley are maintaining continuous surveillance of rivers and flood channels. Essential services, including healthcare, drinking water supply and telecommunications, are functioning normally, with contingency arrangements kept in place.

Regarding flood preparedness in Jammu, Divisional Commissioner Jammu informed that comprehensive preparedness measures

have been put in place across the Jammu Division to deal with adverse weather conditions and flash floods. District administrations have activated 24x7 Emergency Operation Centres, contingency and flood response plans are in place, and weather advisories are being disseminated regularly. He also informed that a total of 363 vulnerable locations have been identified, 142 mock drills conducted, and 138 functional helipads earmarked for emergency operations. Adequate SDRF funds, trained volunteers and emergency response equipment have also been kept in readiness.

The meeting was apprised that restoration machinery has been pre-positioned at vulnerable locations, while district administrations and line departments remain on high alert to ensure prompt response to any emergency.

Jammu Kashmir to

for year-round training and rehabilitation, addressing core athlete needs and including specialized sports wheelchairs, modern equipment, coaching camps, exposure programs, and travel assistance were deliberated.

The Lieutenant Governor said that under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Government of India remains steadfast in its mission to uplift Divyangian and ensure equal opportunities for all.

The Lieutenant Governor lauded the extraordinary dedication and selfless service of the entire team of Voluntary Medicare Society and the organisations associated with the society for transforming countless lives. He also toured the rehabilitation units, wards and other facilities and interacted with the children with special needs.

"Whenever meaningful social change occurs, it is driven by passionate individuals like Dr. Mir Mohammad Maqbool and all those serving here.

Today, I connect myself with the Voluntary Medicare Society; just as its office bearers and volunteers give their hearts to this noble cause," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Dr. Mir Mohammad Maqbool, President / Founder, Voluntary Medicare Society; Prof Masooda Yasin, Vice President; Dr Farooq Ahmad Kaloo, Secretary; Er. Majid Ahmad Bala, Executive Board Member, staff, coaches, trainers and other officer bearers of the Society were present on the occasion.

Dr. GV Sundeep Chakravarthy, SSP Srinagar; Shri Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar and senior officers also accompanied the Lieutenant Governor.

CS reviews measures

Emphasising the need for sustained oversight, the Chief Secretary directed the Principal Secretary, Home, to undertake regular and comprehensive reviews of the functioning of the cybercrime prevention and response framework to ensure that all stakeholder departments and agencies work in close coordination. He stressed the importance of fostering seamless synergy among the Police, banks, financial institutions, telecom service providers, Information Technology Department and other concerned agencies to strengthen preventive mechanisms, expedite response to cyber incidents and safeguard citizens' hard-earned money from organised cyber fraudsters.

Referring to the recently established Jammu & Kashmir Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (JK4C), the Chief Secretary said that the institution has been envisioned as the nodal mechanism for coordinated action against cybercrime in the Union Territory and should emerge as a robust, technology-driven platform for prevention, intelligence sharing, investigation, capacity building and inter-agency coordination.

He directed that the JK4C, headed by an Inspector General of Police and supported by senior police officers and technical experts, be provided with the requisite space and support to enable it to function to its fullest potential and effectively discharge its mandate in the service of the people.

Emphasising continuous capacity building, the Chief Secretary directed all Law Enforcement Agencies to ensure time-bound completion of CyTraincourses by police personnel and expedite the exposure visits of officers to States having established best practices in cybercrime prevention and investigation.

He observed that continuous upskilling of investigators and adoption of modern investigative techniques would significantly enhance the effectiveness of cybercrime investigations.

He expressed confidence that a well-equipped and efficiently functioning JK4C, working in close coordination with all stakeholders, would significantly strengthen the Union Territory's capacity to prevent cybercrime, improve investigation and recovery of defrauded amounts, and instil greater public confidence in the Government's ability to protect citizens in the digital domain.

Reviewing the awareness initiatives undertaken across the Union Territory, the Chief Secretary was informed by Principal

Secretary, Home, Chandraker Bharti that cyber safety awareness programmes have been integrated into Police-Public meetings at the police station level, with awareness campaigns being continuously redesigned on the basis of analysis of cybercrime complaint trends.

Additionally the meeting was informed that twenty-three Cyber Police Stations have been established across all police districts in Jammu and Kashmir, significantly strengthening the cybercrime investigation network in the Union Territory.

Reviewing the progress made in strengthening institutional mechanisms, the Chief Secretary was apprised that the Government has notified the establishment of the Jammu & Kashmir Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (JK4C) to provide an integrated framework for prevention, investigation and coordination in cybercrime cases.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the implementation of the e-Zero FIR mechanism for cyber financial frauds involving amounts of ₹1 lakh and above. He observed that prompt registration of complaints coupled with seamless integration of the mechanism with the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) would considerably improve the capacity of law enforcement agencies to initiate immediate action for freezing fraudulent transactions and recovering defrauded amounts.

The meeting also reviewed the utilisation of advanced cyber investigation platforms including Sahyog, Samanvaya and Pratibimb for interstate coordination, hotspot mapping, content takedown and investigation of organised cybercrime networks.

Reiterating that prevention through awareness remains the most effective strategy against cybercrime, the Chief Secretary called upon all departments to work in close coordination and adopt a whole-of-government approach to protect citizens from cyber threats. He further stressed the need to strengthen institutional mechanisms, improve intelligence sharing, leverage technological innovations and maintain sustained public outreach to build a resilient cyber security ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jhelum well below

well below the warning level of 18 feet and the danger level of 21 feet.

The river level at Asham was recorded at 6.15 feet against the warning and danger levels of 14 feet and 16.5 feet, respectively, while the Wullar Lake level stood at 1575.40 metres, below the reference level of 1578.00 metres.

According to data, all major tributaries were also flowing within safe limits. Vishow Nallah at Khudwani was recorded at 4.88 metres against the warning and danger levels of 7.75 metres and 8.50 metres; Rambiyara Nallah at Wachi stood at 0.24 metres against 5.4 metres and 5.7 metres; Lidder Nallah at Batkoot was at 1.55 metres against 1.5 metres and 1.65 metres; Doodhganga Nallah at Barzulla measured 1.45 metres against 3.65 metres and 3.8 metres; while Sindh Nallah at Doderhama stood at 3.10 metres against 3.65 metres and 3.9 metres.

The Chief Engineer people not to believe rumours or unverified social media posts and advised them to rely only on official information.

"People should download the Kashmir Flood Watch application for real-time updates on water levels and flood-related advisories. There is no alarming situation at present," he said.

Meanwhile, Independent weather forecaster Faizan Arif Keng said rainfall has largely stopped across most parts of Jammu and Kashmir, bringing temporary relief.

"There is going to be temporary relief, at least for now. This break will allow rivers to recede. However, forecasts suggest another spell of rain may develop in some areas towards late tonight," Keng said—(KNO)

India AI Data

initiative to build AI-ready talent by providing hands-on training in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science and emerging technologies, particularly in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. The labs currently offer NCVET-recognised certification courses in Data Annotation and Data Curation using Python—(KNO)

Active ration cards

Security Act (NFSA), the responsibility for identifying beneficiaries and maintaining beneficiary lists rests with the respective States and Union Territories.

"Ration cards are generally cancelled due to duplicate or ineligible beneficiaries, e-KYC mismatches, deaths and permanent migration of households. However, no ration cards have been reported to have been cancelled solely for failure to complete e-KYC or Aadhaar authentication," it said.

The government also informed Parliament that no specific reports or complaints of wrongful cancellation of ration cards have been received—(KNO)

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INCESSANT RAINFALL

# Sakeena Itoo conducts extensive tour of South Kashmir districts, reviews situation following

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**SRINAGAR:** On the directions of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Wednesday visited various South Kashmir districts and took stock of the prevailing situation following incessant rainfall.

During her visit, the Minister chaired separate review meetings at the district headquarters with the respective Deputy Commissioners and senior officers from the line departments to assess the preparedness and response measures being undertaken in view of the adverse weather conditions.

The Minister took a comprehensive review of the situation, including flood preparedness, functioning of emergency response mechanisms, restoration of essential services, availability of healthcare facilities, road connectivity, power and water supply, and arrangements for evacuation and relief, wherever required.

At Kulgam, the Minister chaired a comprehensive review meeting to evaluate the readiness of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) for potential weather induced emergencies.

MLA Devsar, Peerzada Feroze Ahmad Shah; Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam; ADC, Kulgam, Vikar Ahmad Giri, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Assistant Commissioner Development and other district and sectoral officers of concerned departments were present in the

meeting.

Reviewing the flood protection and mitigation measures undertaken by various departments and agencies, the Minister directed all concerned officers to maintain a high level of preparedness and ensure the close monitoring of water levels in rivers to effectively respond to any emergency. She stressed on early identification of weaker spots and strengthening the flood protection and mitigation measures along the vulnerable areas of Veshow, Vethyatrau and other streams.

Sakeena Itoo underscored the need for taking up immediate flood mitigation works as well as long term proposals of flood mitigation in low lying and vulnerable areas of the district.

MLA Devsar also put forth vital observations and suggestions on the weather conditions and preparations for flood mitigation.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam and ADC, Kulgam presented a detailed overview of the district's preparedness, highlighting department-wise mitigation strategies and the operational readiness of relief, rescue, and rehabilitation mechanisms.

At Shopian, Sakeena Itoo chaired a review meeting with the district administration and concerned officers to take stock of the prevailing weather conditions and the preparedness of various departments to deal with any eventuality at the Mini-Secretariat.

During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the availability of essential commodities, the status of power and drinking water supply, availability of



medicines and other emergency stocks, and the preparedness of the concerned departments. She stressed the need to ensure uninterrupted essential services and directed officers to remain vigilant, particularly in vulnerable areas.

The Minister said that the government is closely monitoring the situation and is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of the people. She directed all departments to remain on high alert, maintain close coordination and ensure prompt response in case of any emergency.

The Minister also urged the public to follow official advisories, avoid unnecessary travel to vulnerable locations, and cooperate with the administration during the prevailing weather conditions.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta; Additional District Development Commissioner, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Zakir Husain Paaz, Chief Planning Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti and KPDCI, Irrigation, besides officers

from the Revenue, Police, Health, R&B, Municipal, Food, Disaster Management and other concerned departments.

At Pulwama, Sakeena Itoo also chaired a meeting to review the district's preparedness for any flood-like situation in view of the ongoing rainfall across Jammu and Kashmir.

MLA Pampore Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi; Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom; other senior officers of Health Department, Food & Civil Supplies, R&B, Irrigation & Flood Control and KPDCI were present during the meeting.

During the meeting, the Minister conducted a comprehensive review of the district's disaster preparedness, including the functioning of emergency response mechanisms, deployment of rescue teams, availability of rescue equipment, identification of vulnerable areas, flood mitigation measures, status of embankments, dewatering arrangements, stock of essential commodities, uninterrupted drinking water and power supply, healthcare preparedness,

road connectivity, communication systems and functioning of designated relief and rescue centres.

Addressing the officers, Minister Sakeena Itoo said that the months of July, August and September remain crucial from the disaster management perspective. She directed all departments to remain in a state of complete readiness and ensure close coordination for an effective response to any eventuality.

The Minister emphasised the timely identification and relocation of vulnerable families, particularly nomadic communities and those living in low-lying areas, to safer locations whenever required. She directed the concerned departments to strengthen vulnerable embankments, maintain adequate stocks of essential medicines, ensure availability of doctors and paramedical staff, keep ambulances and emergency medical teams on standby and ensure uninterrupted healthcare services.

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, apprised the Minister about the overall preparedness of the district. He informed that the District Emergency Operations Centre has been made operational round the clock, while Tehsil and Zonal Level Control Rooms have also been activated for prompt response. He added that weather advisories are being issued regularly, inter-departmental coordination has been strengthened and adequate arrangements have been put in place to ensure uninterrupted essential services, including power and drinking water supply.

## Div Com, IGP Jammu review arrangements for Budha Amarnath Yatra in Poonch



GMK NEWS NETWORK

**POONCH:** Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police, Jammu Division Bhim Sen Tuti reviewed arrangements for the upcoming annual Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026.

The Divisional Commissioner reviewed arrangements related to security, transportation, langar facilities, medical services, Public Address System (PAS), sanitation, fire safety, accommodation of yatrins, registration, water and power supply, traffic management and lodging and boarding facilities for pilgrims.

The Div Com directed departments concerned to ensure necessary facilities are in place well in advance to provide a safe pilgrimage experience to yatrins and instructed the Health Department to ensure adequate medical facilities and deployment of ambulances throughout the Yatra period. He further instructed agencies concerned to undertake immediate maintenance of the road surface from Bhimber Gali to Poonch to facilitate smooth transportation of pilgrims.

Speaking on the occasion, IGP Jammu Bhim Sen Tuti directed SSP Poonch to ensure foolproof security arrangements along the entire Yatra route and at all important locations.

Later, the Divisional Commissioner and IGP Jammu chaired an interaction with civil society members and religious heads to discuss issues and suggestions for the smooth conduct of the Yatra.

The representatives highlighted various demands, including beautification of Eidgah Chowk and Bagh Deodi to enhance Poonch's appearance and attract pilgrims from across the country, besides other issues related to Yatra arrangements.

The Divisional Commissioner and IGP assured the participants that all genuine issues would be examined and addressed on priority.

The Divisional Commissioner stressed the need for effective traffic management, advance planning for sanitation and toilet facilities at identified locations from Bhimber Gali to Poonch and timely identification and establishment of suitable langar sites. He also directed the Fire and Emergency Services

Department to ensure adequate fire-safety arrangements at all langar sites, accommodation centres and other vulnerable locations to prevent any untoward incident.

Among those present were Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma, DIG Rajouri-Poonch Sandeep Wazir, SSP Poonch Shafket Husain Bhat, Additional Deputy Commissioner Tahir Mustafa Malik, ACR, SDMs, Tehsildars and senior officers of the administration, police and line departments, besides members of civil society and representatives of religious organisations.

The first batch of yatrins is scheduled to reach Poonch on August 17, 2026, while the Chhari Yatra will be held on August 26, 2026.

A two-minute silence was also observed during the meeting in memory of those who lost their lives in the recent flash floods.

The Divisional Commissioner further appealed to all to adhere to public advisories and weather forecast advisories over the next couple of days, during which the region may receive continuous rain.

## Ministers review flood damage, restoration works in Poonch

Direct PDD, JSD, PWD to expedite restoration, relief measures

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**POONCH:** Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology, Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, along with Minister for Youth Services & Sports, Transport, Information Technology, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Science & Technology and ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, Wednesday chaired a review meeting at Surankote to assess the damage caused by incessant rainfall and flash floods in the district and took stock of the relief and restoration measures being undertaken by the administration.

The meeting was attended by MLA Surankote, Choudhary Mohammed Akram, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Ashok Kumar Sharma and senior officers of the district administration.

It is pertinent to mention

that on the instructions of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Ministers Javed Ahmed Rana and Satish Sharma are on ground in the flood-affected areas of Rajouri and Poonch, assessing the damage, meeting affected families and overseeing restoration works and relief measures.

The Ministers reviewed the impact on roads, water supply, power infrastructure, irrigation facilities and residential areas. They directed the concerned departments to expedite the restoration works and ensure timely relief and rehabilitation for the affected families.

Javed Rana directed the Chief Engineer, Irrigation and Flood Control Jammu, to immediately prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the flood-affected areas to facilitate restoration and long-term mitigation measures. He also instructed the department

to identify all vulnerable locations and breach-prone spots on priority and undertake necessary protective and restoration works without delay to prevent further damage.

The Ministers emphasised that there should be no complacency in view of the prevailing weather situation. They directed the officers to remain on high alert, maintain constant vigil and ensure round-the-clock preparedness to effectively respond to any eventuality arising from adverse weather conditions.

They further instructed the district administration to maintain close surveillance in flood and landslide-prone areas, identify the vulnerable locations based on historical flood data and field assessments. They asked them to ensure timely evacuation of the people from high-risk areas whenever the situation warrants.

## Sakeena Itoo conducts surprise inspection of GMC Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

**ANANTNAG:** Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Wednesday conducted a surprise inspection of Government Medical College (GMC) and Associated Hospital, Anantnag, to assess the institution's preparedness and response mechanism in view of the prevailing weather situation caused by incessant rainfall.

During the visit, the Minister inspected the Emergency ward, medical and surgical wards, diagnostic facilities and other critical care units. She reviewed the availability of essential medicines, emergency equipment, oxygen supply, power backup, ambulance services and other health-



care facilities to ensure that the hospital is fully equipped to meet any weather-related exigency.

Interacting with doctors, patients and attendants, Sakeena Itoo took first-hand appraisal of the functioning of the hospital and directed the administration to ensure uninterrupted healthcare services, particularly emergency and trauma care. She stressed the need for maintaining optimum manpower, adequate medical supplies and seamless

coordination among all departments to effectively respond to any emergency.

The Minister instructed the hospital authorities to remain on high alert and ensure that all emergency response systems remain fully operational. She emphasised that no patient should face inconvenience due to the prevailing weather conditions and directed the administration to strengthen monitoring mechanisms for prompt and efficient delivery of healthcare services.

SECTION 1

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PMGSY (JKRRDA) CIRCLE SRINAGAR KASHMIR

(Name of Authority inviting tenders)

List of Important Dates of Bids for Maintenance of roads including Initial Rectification, periodic Renewal, Emergency Maintenance and 5 year Routine maintenance after completion of Last Renewal

Superintending Engineer PMGSY Circle Srinagar , on behalf of J.K State Rural Road Development Authority invites online percentage rate tenders on e-procurement portal <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in> from the Contractors registered in appropriate class/category with J.K. P.W.D. or Contractors of equivalent categories registered with other States/ Central Government, Departments, Institutions, Undertakings and Authorities on standard schedule of rate given below for the packages shown in the column 2 of table, for Initial Rectification (IR) / Periodic Renewal (PR) / Routine Maintenance (RM) of the Rural Roads/CDs for five years after completion of Renewal Work on roads, constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Contractors not registered with State PWD will have to get themselves registered with them before signing the agreement.

Name of Work :

1. Kanidajan to Nowgam, Package No JK02-68 PIU Budgam

2. Pinglana to Mohriadpora, Package No JK10-161 PIU Pulwama

3. Duderhama-Tulamulla, Package No JK13-126 PIU Ganderbal including initial Rectification, periodic Renewal, Emergency Maintenance and 5 year Routine Maintenance after completion of Last Renewal.

| S. NO. | Package Number | Name of District | Name of PIU   | No. of Roads            | Total length of Roads (In Kms.) | Estimated Cost( in Rs.) LACS      |                     |                               |                 | Total Estimated Cost (In Rs.) Lacs | Completion Period of Initial rectification (IR), Periodic Renewal (PR), Routine Maintenance (RM) and Emergency Repairs (in Days) |          |                     |                      | Cost of Tender Document including 18% GST RS. | Tender call |
|--------|----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------|
|        |                |                  |               |                         |                                 | Initial Rehabilitation works (IR) | Routine Maintenance | Renewal of Bituminous Surface | Emergency Works |                                    | IR                                                                                                                               | PR       | RM                  | Emergency Repairs    |                                               |             |
|        |                |                  |               |                         |                                 | Part-I                            | Part-II             | Part-III                      | Part-IV         |                                    |                                                                                                                                  |          |                     |                      |                                               |             |
| 01     | JK02-68        | Budgam           | PIU Budgam    | Kanidajan to Nowgam     | 9.00                            | 19.26                             | 32.04               | 141.55                        | -               | 192.85                             | 90 days (3 Months)                                                                                                               | 2 Years* | 5 years (60 months) | As and when required | 2600                                          | 1st         |
| 02     | JK10-161       | Pulwama          | PIU Pulwama   | Pinglana to Mohriadpora | 5.80                            | 82.61                             | 22.36               | 104.62                        | -               | 209.59                             | 90 days (3 Months)                                                                                                               | 2 Years* | 5 years (60 months) | As and when required | 5500                                          | 1st         |
| 03     | JK13-126       | Ganderbal        | PIU Ganderbal | Duderhama- ullanulla,   | 4.83                            | 10.98                             | 20.27               | 136.69                        | -               | 167.95                             | 90 days (3 Months)                                                                                                               | 2 Years* | 5 years (60 months) | As and when required | 2600                                          | 1st         |

1. Maintenance Period is 5 years from the date of completion of last Renewal

\*\* All Periodic Renewal shall be completed as per date of start and date of completion mentioned in the strip chart of the roads as per attached drawings (stretch wise). However, all renewals shall be completed within two years of start of this contract i.e. from the start of work order.

\*\* Routine maintenance on Performance based Maintenance concept shall be carried out on any stretch of road for period not less than 5 years. The time period of this contract is 7 years i.e. within two years, all the Periodic Renewal are to be completed as specified & thereafter all roads shall be maintained as Routine maintenance for 5 years

3. Date of Issue of Notice Inviting Bid , 22.07.2026

4. Period of availability of Bidding Documents on website 25www.pmgsytenders.gov.in 22.07.2026 To 05.08.2026 10.00 AM To 05.08.2026 10.00AM

5. Time, Date and Place of Pre-bid Meeting, Date-Month-Year 25.07-2026 Time: 11:30 AM

Time-Hours, Place, (if so required) Place: Office of Superintending Engineer PMGSY Circle Srinagar Kashmir, Engineering Complex Rajbagh,

6.1 Deadline for receiving Bids online, including on line payment of bid, security and cost of bid document from a scheduled, commercial bank and scanned copy of affidavits. The online payment of Bid security and cost of Bid document is to be done simultaneously on e- tendering website along with the submission of Bids

Date-Month-Year 05.08.2026 Time 9.00AM

Note: Wherever in the Bid document reference to Bid Security and Cost of Bid document is made the meaning is online payment only instead of demand draft or any other instruments mentioned anywhere in the bid document. The word demand draft or other forms of submission, is deemed to be amended to on line payment only along with the on line submission of bid document.

6.2 Date of submission of original affidavit. (This Date should be no later than three working days after the submission of Technical Qualification part of the bid).The cost of bid document and Bid security is to be paid on line along with bid submission as mentioned in clause 6.1 above. As such no other document is required to be submitted. Date-Month-Year, 09.08.2026

Or

Till the online payment system is made functional, following Clauses shall be applicable for off- line submission, clause 6.1, 6.2 is deemed to be replaced as 6.1 (a), 6.2 (a)

6.1 (a) Deadline J or Receiving Bids online, including Scanned copy of demand draft of Bid Security and of Demand Draft towards cost of Bid Document from a Scheduled Commercial Bank and scanned copy of Affidavit.

Date-Month-Year 05.08.2026

Time Upto, Hours: 9.00 AM

6.2 (a) Date of Submission of original documents such as Bid Security, Cost of Bid document and Affidavit (this date should be no later than three working days after the submission of Technical Qualification part of the bid)

Date-Month-Year 09.08-2026

7. Opening of Bids: The Bids will be opened online by the authorized officer at the appointed time

7.1 Time and Date for opening of Part-I of the Bid (The Technical Qualification Part) Date-Month-Year Date: 06.-08-2026 Time: 10:30 AM Time Hours

7.2 Time and Date of opening of Part-II of the Bid (The Technical Financial Part) of the Bidders who Qualify in Part I of the Bid.

Date-Month-Year To be Notified Online on e-Tendering Portal

Time Hours

8. Last Date of Bid Validity Date 19.10-2026.

9. Officer inviting Bids

DIPK-3553-26

DT: 22/07/2026

Superintending Engineer PMGSY

Cirice Srinagar, Engineering Complex

Rajbagh, Srinagar Kashmirir

CMYK

CMYK



# Spain midfielder Fabian Ruiz targets Betis comeback to finish career

IAN S

MADRID: FIFA World Cup 2026 Champions Spain midfielder Fabian Ruiz has admitted he would like to return to his hometown region to play for Real Betis before ending his career.

The 30-year-old, who currently plays for Paris Saint-Germain, began his professional career at Betis and said he hopes to one day wear the club's colors again.

Ruiz made his comments at an event in Los Palacios, near Seville, where he and fellow Spain international Gavi were honored by the local city government. Both players were born in the town and received a warm reception from residents.

While Gavi remains at FC Barcelona, Ruiz is coming off a remarkable season, winning the Champions League, Ligue 1, FIFA Intercontinental Cup and UEFA Super Cup with PSG, and lifting the FIFA World Cup with Spain after La Roja beat Argentina 1-0 in Monday's final.

Despite being less prominent in the spot-



light than some of his teammates, Ruiz is considered a contender for this year's Ballon d'Or after his success at club and international level. "Who wouldn't be happy with a season where I have won the Champions League and World Cup? I can't ask for more. Everyone would like to win the Ballon d'Or, and it is an honor to

be a candidate," Ruiz said as quoted by Xinhua.

Ruiz was also asked about a possible return to Betis, where he made his senior debut before leaving for Napoli in 2018.

"The truth is yes. I have always said that and never hidden it. I would like to come back, and that day is getting closer. I am a Betis fan, and one

day, I hope to return to Betis," he added.

Ruiz played a starring role in Spain's victory at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, anchoring the midfield to help his team defeat Argentina in the final. He scored a crucial opening goal in a 2-1 quarter-final win over Belgium and reached his 50th cap without ever losing an international match.

# China Open: Sindhu beats Unnati, Ayush topples World No. 11

IAN S

CHANGZHOU: P.V. Sindhu carried her winning momentum into the China Open with a hard-fought opening-round victory over fellow Indian Unnati Hooda, while Ayush Shetty produced one of the biggest upsets of the day by knocking out Indonesia's World No. 11 Alwi Farhan to storm into the men's singles pre-quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Just days after ending her title drought with a triumph at the Japan Open, Sindhu overcame a spirited challenge from 18-year-old Hooda, prevailing 21-14, 9-21, 21-10 in a contest that lasted 56 minutes.

The victory also settled unfinished business for the two-time Olympic medallist, who had been eliminated by Hooda at the same tournament last year. This time, the experienced Indian ensured history did not repeat itself, recover-



ing impressively after surrendering the second game. Sindhu's reward is a high-profile second-round clash against fourth seed and former Olympic champion Chen Yufei of China. The Indian will head into that encounter with confidence after defeating the Chinese star during her title-winning campaign at last week's Japan Open.

Ayush Shetty also enjoyed a memorable

the second. The Indian, however, regrouped impressively in the decider, producing a composed display in the closing stages to complete one of the stand-out victories of his senior career.

India, however, endured a disappointing day in the doubles events. Mixed doubles pair Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde went down to top seeds Yan Zhe Feng and Dong Ping Huang in straight games, while Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto also exited after losing to China's Xin Wa Guo and Fang Hui Chen.

In men's doubles, M.R. Arjun and Hariharan Amsakarunan were beaten by fourth seeds Wei Keng Liang and Chang Wang, ending India's challenge in the discipline.

Later in the day, Lakshya Sen is scheduled to open his men's singles campaign against Japan's Yushi Tanaka.

## England to host Australia for first-ever Mixed Disability Ashes in 2027



IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Ashes rivalry is set to enter a new chapter in 2027 with England and Australia scheduled to contest the first-ever Mixed Disability Ashes, marking a landmark moment in the continued evolution of disability cricket.

Australia's Men's Mixed Disability team will travel to England for a T20I series, with the inaugural contest forming part of England's 2027 Ashes summer. While the schedule and venues are yet to be announced, the series will ensure that the men's, women's and mixed disability teams from England all compete in Ashes contests during the same season.

The announcement reflects the rapid growth of mixed disability cricket, which has gained momentum through bilateral series in recent years. England have already faced India in the format and are set to host another series this summer, while Australia will now become the latest nation to join the expanding international calendar.

The historic series is expected to provide elite

cricketers with disabilities an opportunity to compete in one of the sport's most celebrated rivalries, further strengthening efforts to integrate disability cricket into the mainstream international landscape.

Head of Disability Cricket Ian Martin said, "It really signals the next step of Mixed Disability Cricket to be able to introduce an Ashes, it's a hugely meaningful progression for the game. All cricket fans understand the importance of an Ashes series. England v Australia is for so many the peak of the game and I'm delighted that our Men's Mixed Disability squad will get a chance to compete in such a series."

"We've had a fantastic series against India, with another one due this summer, and we're keen to continue growing this format. I'm delighted we'll be able to welcome Australia to the UK next summer and I can't wait for our first Mixed Disability Ashes series."

Cricket Australia Chief of Cricket James Allsopp believes the new competition represents another important milestone in the sport's inclusivity journey.

## ICC rankings: Gill closes in on No.1 spot; Kohli, Rohit among top four



IAN S

DUBAI: Shubman Gill has moved to within touching distance of the top spot in the ICC Men's ODI batter rankings after his prolific run against England, while Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma have also strengthened India's presence at the top of the charts in the latest update.

New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell continues to occupy the No.1 position with 802 rating points, but Gill is now just one point behind after amassing 188 runs during India's three-match ODI series against England. Kohli remains third with 767 rating points, while Rohit is fourth with 758, keeping three Indian batters firmly in contention for the top ranking.

Despite India's batting exploits, England clinched the series 2-1, with Joe Root emerging as the standout performer. The experienced right-hander, who remained unbeaten throughout the series while scoring 249 runs, climbed four places to eighth in the ODI batter rankings.

England also saw gains for Ben Duckett, who jumped 11 places to joint 19th, while Jacob Bethell rose five spots to 64th. New Zealand pair Michael

Bracewell and Mark Chapman also progressed after strong performances in the ODI series against the West Indies, moving up to 54th and 62nd, respectively.

In the ODI bowling rankings, Afghanistan leg-spinner Rashid Khan retained his place at the summit. England fast bowler Jofra Archer climbed one position to third after claiming five wickets against India and now sits just behind Pakistan spinner Abrar Ahmed.

West Indies left-arm spinner Gudakesh Motie entered the top 10 after rising seven places to joint ninth. His teammate Alzarri Joseph gained 10 places to reach 26th, while New Zealand all-rounder Michael Bracewell climbed 14 spots to 29th. India's Axar Patel also made significant progress, jumping 10 places to joint 32nd.

Bracewell's all-round performances were reflected in the ODI all-rounders' rankings, where he climbed two places to a career-best third. Afghanistan's Azmatullah Omarzai continues to lead the category, with Bangladesh captain Mehidy Hasan Miraz occupying second place.

The latest ICC update also featured notable movement in the T20I rankings following Bangladesh's series victory over Zimbabwe.

## Malaga re-sign midfielder Dotor on loan from Celta Vigo

IAN S

MADRID: Newly-promoted Malaga continued preparations for their return to La Liga by signing midfielder Carlos Dotor on loan from Celta Vigo for a second consecutive season, the club announced on Tuesday.

Dotor returns to Malaga after helping the southern Spanish club end its top-flight exile by winning promotion from the second division last season.

The 25-year-old made 40 appearances for Malaga last season, scoring one goal and providing four assists. He became increasingly influential after Juanfran Funes was appointed first-team coach in November, prompting Funes to bring him back for the club's return to the top flight.

"The footballer will immediately join in the pre-season training sessions," the report said, adding that Dotor "arrived at Malaga a year ago and gave excellent performances last season and was vital in the historic promotion to La Liga."

Earlier, Argentine-born winger Juan Cruz also returned to Malaga as the southern Spanish club strengthened their side ahead of the upcoming La Liga season.

The 26-year-old moved to Spain as a child and came through Malaga's youth academy, making four first-team appearances before joining Real Betis and later Leganes, where he spent the past two seasons.

Malaga officially confirmed his return on Sunday, with Cruz joining



on an initial one-season loan deal that includes an option to make the move permanent at the end of the campaign.

Cruz can play on either wing and impressed during Leganes' 2024-25 La Liga campaign. However, a disagreement with the Madrid-based club saw him fall out of favour as Leganes struggled in Spain's second division last season.

He is Malaga's second signing of the summer after centre-back Fernando Calero arrived from Espanyol earlier this week.

The club also extended the contracts of coach Juanfran Funes and attacking midfielder Dani Lorenzo. Malaga booked its ticket back to the elite with a thrilling 2-1 win away to Almeria nine days ago, returning to Spain's top flight for the first time since relegation in 2018 and ending a period in which the club dropped as low as the third tier of the Spanish game.

## Stokes returns to 50-over action with gritty century in Durham's win

IAN S

LONDON: Playing his first competitive match since retiring from Test cricket, Ben Stokes defied severe cramps to score a fighting unbeaten century to help Durham beat Derbyshire in the One-Day Cup on Tuesday.

The all-rounder, who led England in the 50-over format, displayed all his usual grit as he battled repeated bouts of cramps to score 108 not out and helped his side chase a target of 257 and secure

victory.

Stokes was playing his first List A game for his county in nearly 12 years and suffered cramps early in his knock, collapsing in pain as he reached his fifty.

Stokes could not weave magic with the ball as he went wicketless in his nine overs, as Derbyshire Falcons rode on Martin Andersson's well-paced century to post 256/9 in their 50 overs.

Durham were off to a poor start as Ben Aitchison's two early wickets pegged them back before

Stokes came to their rescue. The former England captain got good support from Will Rhodes (45), Colin Ackermann and Ollie Robinson, as he hobbled past three figures to complete a stunning domestic return and seal a five-wicket win for his county.

The 35-year-old all-rounder, who surprised everyone with his retirement from international cricket during England's third Test against New Zealand, returned to domestic one-day cricket on the same day the new version

of The Hundred started.

Stokes missed the second Test against New Zealand while an investigation took place into an incident at a London nightclub. During that time away from the England team, he played for Durham in the County Championship against Northamptonshire. He later admitted that this experience reignited his love for the game.

After his One-Day Cup return, Stokes could play again for Durham in the County Championship before the season ends.

## CWG 2026: Indian contingent's Day 1 schedule in Glasgow

IAN S

GLASGOW: Around 3,000 athletes from 74 nations and territories are all set to compete across 10 sports at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow, Scotland, which will get underway from Thursday, with 215 gold medals on offer.

For India, it will mark the nation's 19th appearance at the Commonwealth Games, having made its debut in the 1934 edition. A 124-member Indian contingent will be in action at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow, Scotland,

Lawn Bowls Team created history at the Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham when Lovely Choubey, Pinki, Nayanmoni Saikia and Rupa Rani Tirkey defeated the South African team to win the historic gold in the final of the women's fours event.

This is India's first-ever medal in lawn bowls, a sport which has been a fixture in the CWG itinerary since 1930, barring the 1966 edition in Jamaica.

Moreover, the Men's Fours of Sunil Bahadur, Chandan Singh, Navneet Singh and Dinesh Kuma



as athletes across eight able-bodied sports and five para-sports compete for medals.

India will begin their campaign with lawn bowl events across men's and women's disciplines.

After creating history with unforgettable medal-winning performances in 2022 edition, the Indian lawn bowls team heads to Glasgow, Scotland, determined to challenge the world's best once again at the Commonwealth Games 2026.

The Indian Women's

claimed a silver. India also came close to winning a medal in the men's pairs event.

The opening ceremony will take place in Glasgow's Hydro, an iconic venue that has supported some of the world's biggest music stars and acts.

India's Day 1 (July 23) schedule

Lawn Bowls:  
2:00 PM IST - Men's Singles Group Stage (Day 1)  
2:00 PM IST - Women's Pairs Group Stage (Day 1)  
Opening Ceremony: 10:30 PM IST onwards

INOX

SRINAGAR

Movies

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

23<sup>RD</sup>

JULY

TICKET ASSISTANCE

95416 13868

JAN NETA

HINDI

(A)

02:00 PM, 06:45 PM

DHAMAAL 4

HINDI

(U/A 13+)

11:00 AM

THE ODYSSEY

ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLE

(A)

10:45 AM, 12:25 PM, 02:10 PM, 03:50 PM, 05:35 PM, 07:15 PM

EVIL DEAD BURN

ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

(A)

10:00 AM