

Good Morning

Kashmir

17th
Year Of Publication

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Amid Inclement Weather

Amarnath Yatra To Remain Suspended From Today

Chadi Mubarak To Mark Culmination On 28Th August



UMAISAR GULL

SRINAGAR: The Amarnath Yatra-2026 will remain suspended from August 9 on both the Pahalgam and Baltal routes in view of recent rains, vulnerable stretches of the pilgrimage tracks requiring repairs and maintenance, and the forecast of adverse weather conditions over the next few days.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, said, the decision had been taken keeping in view the condition of the Yatra tracks as well as the weather forecast issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

SKIMS SFC Meeting

CS Sets Vision To Transform SKIMS Into Quaternary Care Hub

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Marking a significant administrative milestone and providing a fresh impetus to long-pending developmental initiatives, the Standing Finance Committee

(SFC) of Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, met after a gap of over five years under Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, setting a clear vision for transforming the premier medical institution

Generations Unite At Makhdoom Sahib (RA) Urs

Srinagar's Old-City Lanes Fill With Devotees Heading To Koh-E-Maran



REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: All roads lead towards Koh-e-Maran on Saturday as thousands of devotees gathered at the historic Makhdoom Sahib Shrine in Srinagar to mark the Urs Mubarak of revered Sufi

saint, "Sultan-ul-Arifeen" Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom (RA), popularly known as Makhdoom Sahib (RA). The city wore a different rhythm through the day, as men, women, children and elderly devotees made their way towards the shrine.

Future Of India Rests On Young Leadership: LG Sinha

Addresses Convocation Of 9th Batch, Induction Ceremony Of 10th Batch Of IIDL, Mumbai

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday attended the convocation ceremony of the 9th batch and the induction of the 10th batch of the Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership (IIDL), an initiative of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, Mumbai. Addressing the graduating youth, faculty members, mentors, administrators, distinguished guests, and parents, the Lieutenant Governor said the event is a convergence of two important journeys, one reaching completion, and another beginning with new energy and hopes.

He congratulated the graduating students of the 9th batch, who now step into diverse fields of public life, and warmly welcomed the 10th batch, who begin their journey of learning with enthusiasm and aspirations. The Lieutenant Governor expressed confidence that the Institute would continue to enrich young leaders with constitutional values, discipline and



wisdom. Highlighting the journey of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini since its establishment in 1982, the Lieutenant Governor said it made immense contributions to leadership training and capacity building.

"With over 60,000 parliamentarians, legislators, panchayat

representatives, entrepreneurs, and youth trained, the institution has played a pivotal role in strengthening governance and entrepreneurship. The creation of IIDL further ensured that India's democratic institutions continue to receive young leadership infused with energy and resolve for nation-building," the

Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor said that India's future depends on addressing seven key challenges: sustaining long-term economic growth; eliminating terrorism, separatism and divisive forces while strengthening national unity; promoting transparent, accountable and technology-driven governance to curb corruption; ensuring merit-based opportunities in politics; fostering national integration through shared cultural initiatives; achieving global leadership in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and semiconductors; and building a world-class education system driven by quality, research, innovation and skills. He emphasized that overcoming these challenges requires the collective commitment of all Indians, especially the youth, to secure a prosperous, united and globally competitive India.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor also reminded the youth that leadership is about responsibility, ethics,

Rain Lashes Kashmir Parts, More Showers Till Aug 17



SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: Rain lashed parts of Kashmir on Saturday as the Meteorological Centre here forecast light to moderate showers and thundershowers at many places in Jammu and Kashmir over the coming days.

According to the daily weather bulletin issued by the India Meteorological Department, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 26.1 degrees Celsius and received 1.6 mm of rainfall in the 24 hours ending 8:30 am on Saturday.

Qazigund received 3.6 mm of rainfall, while Pahalgam, Kokernag, Gulmarg and Jammu recorded 1.4 mm, 3.8 mm, nil and 3.6 mm, respectively. Banihal recorded 4.3 mm, Batote 2.8 mm, Katra 4.8 mm and Bhaderwah 8.2 mm during the period.

The weather office, said one or two spells of light to moderate rain or thundershowers are likely at many places on August 9, with brief intense showers possible at a few places.

From August 9 to 11, a few spells of light to moderate rain or

WITH OVER 60,000 PARLIAMENTARIANS, LEGISLATORS, PANCHAYAT representatives, entrepreneurs, and youth trained, the institution has played a pivotal role in strengthening governance and entrepreneurship. The creation of IIDL further ensured that India's democratic institutions continue to receive young leadership infused with energy and resolve for nation-building,"

J&K Food Safety Enforcement

Over 4,000 Samples Found Non-Conforming In Five Years

RAJA SYED RATHER

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir authorities analysed 54,169 food samples during the five-year period from 2021-22 to 2025-26, of which 4,995 were found non-conforming, while thousands of civil cases were decided with penalties, according to data furnished by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the Lok Sabha.

As per the State/UT-wise data provided by the Ministry, states that J&K analysed 6,546 food samples during 2025-26, of which 664 were found non-conforming. During the period, 1,368 civil cases were decided with penalty, while 14 convictions were recorded. The ministry noted that the 2025-26 data is provisional and subject to revision based on further laboratory testing and court



proceedings. In 2024-25, J&K analysed 6,955 samples, of which 651 were found non-conforming. As many as 1,239 civil cases were decided with penalty, while 29 convictions were recorded.

The data further shows that

9,057 samples were analysed in J&K during 2023-24, with 750 found non-conforming. During the year, 1,612 civil cases were decided with penalty and 22 convictions were recorded.

In 2022-23, authorities analysed 13,502 food samples

J&K Gets Rs 173.44 Crore For TB Elimination In 5 Years

RAJA SYED RATHER

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has been allocated Rs 173.44 crore under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) during the last five years, while Ladakh received Rs 21.81 crore during the same period, according to data furnished by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the Lok Sabha.

As per the reply by Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel to an unstarred question, the allocations for Jammu and Kashmir stood at Rs 23 crore in 2021-22, Rs 23.64 crore in 2022-23, Rs 26 crore in 2023-24, Rs 35.33 crore in 2024-25 and Rs 65.47 crore in 2025-26.

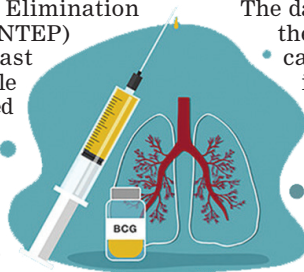
For Ladakh, the allocation

stood at Rs 3.90 crore in 2021-22, Rs 4.10 crore in 2022-23, Rs 4.51 crore in 2023-24, Rs 4.14 crore in 2024-25 and Rs 5.16 crore in 2025-26.

The data, shows that the annual allocation for J&K increased by more than two-and-a-half times over the five-year period, from Rs 23 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 65.47 crore in 2025-26.

Similarly, Ladakh's annual allocation increased from Rs 3.90 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 5.16 crore in 2025-26.

The Ministry said the government has implemented the National TB Elimination Programme under the aegis of the National Health Mission. It said India contributed 26 per cent of total TB deaths globally in 2023 as per the WHO Global



Sewage, Waste Threaten Manasbal Lake; CPCB Confirms Severe Water Pollution

RAJA SYED

SRINAGAR: The picturesque Manasbal Lake in Ganderbal district is witnessing serious pollution, with all seven water samples collected by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) failing to meet the prescribed Class-B standards and high levels of faecal and total coliform detected at several locations.

The findings, submitted before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) have raised fresh concerns over the deteriorating health of one of Kashmir's important freshwater wetlands and a source of drinking water for thousands of people in adjoining areas.

The CPCB conducted the assessment on April 4, 2026, along with officials of the J&K Pollution Control Committee and the Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority (WMDA), following directions



from the NGT in a case filed by environmental activist Raja Muzaffar Bhat. Seven samples were collected from four locations in Manasbal Lake, two natural springs along its periphery and the Lar Canal, which flows into the lake.

According to the CPCB report, none of the samples met Class-B criteria prescribed for organised outdoor bathing.

Five locations -- four in the lake and one in the Lar Canal -- were categorised under Class-D, which denotes water suitable for propagation of wildlife and fisheries.

Only one of the spring samples met Class-C criteria, under which water can be used as a drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection. The other

spring sample did not qualify under Classes A, B, C or D. The results have highlighted particularly high levels of microbiological contamination. At the southern portion of the lake near Kondabal, faecal coliform was recorded at 780 MPN per 100 ml, while total coliform stood at 35,000 MPN per 100 ml.

The Lar Canal recorded the

highest faecal-coliform concentration among the seven samples at 2,200 MPN per 100 ml, along with total coliform of 22,000 MPN per 100 ml.

The temple spring recorded faecal coliform of 1,100 MPN per 100 ml and total coliform of 1,700 MPN per 100 ml, while the second spring recorded faecal coliform of 400 MPN per 100 ml and total coliform of 17,000 MPN per 100 ml.

At the lake's municipal water-extraction point, faecal coliform was recorded at 45 MPN per 100 ml and total coliform at 330 MPN per 100 ml.

The CPCB said the presence of faecal and total coliform indicated microbiological contamination of the water.

The inspection also painted a grim picture of waste management around the wetland, with plastic bags, bottles and other municipal waste found dumped along portions of the lake shore.

Terror Recruitment Case

CIK Raids Multiple Locations Across Kashmir



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) on Saturday conducted raids at multiple locations across the Kashmir Valley in connection with a terror-related case involving the alleged online glorification of terrorism and recruitment of individuals into terrorist ranks, officials said.

Officials said that the searches were carried out in Baramulla, Shopian, Anantnag, Kupwara, Bandipora and other districts.

They said the raids are linked to FIR No. 03/2023, registered at Police Station CIK Srinagar under Sections 505 and 153-A of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 13 and 18 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The case pertains to the alleged misuse of online platforms to glorify terrorism and influence individuals to join terrorist organisations, officials said.

The searches were underway when this report was filed, and further details were awaited. (KNO)

Govt Notifies Rules to Promote Ease of Doing Business in J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Another major reform has been brought in by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in Legal Metrology by notifying the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Metrology Government Approved Test Centre (GATC) Rules, 2026. These rules are aimed at promoting Ease of Doing Business in J&K. Government of Jammu & Kashmir introduced a landmark reform by notifying the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2026. Government Approved Test Centres (GATC) are private entities who will be authorized by the Department to verify 12 specified categories of weights and measures. The verification fee for each of these categories of weights and measures is prescribed under the said rules.

Procedure for establishment of GATCs and qualification for being eligible to establish a GATC are also



provided in these rules. GATCs and the UT Government will share the revenue @ 80 : 20 basis. GATCs are aimed at enhancing the outreach of the Department to cover untapped weights and measures and provide traders an option of private laboratories for getting the specified weights and measures verified from them.

These reforms build upon the recently launched initiatives including the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2026, increasing periodicity for re-verification of specified weights and measures

through amendments in the Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011, business de-regulation in certain key areas and online service delivery mechanism through J&K Single Window System. Pertinently, these measures address the key issues which have been pending from years. A strong legal foundation is expected to help the Department in enforcing the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the rules made there under in a fare and fearless manner thereby gaining trust of both business community as well as the consumers.

Arrangements finalized in Kulgam for 3rd phase of 'Vande Mataram'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: With the district gearing up to celebrate 80th Independence Day this year, District Administration Kulgam Saturday finalized arrangements for the 3rd phase of Vande Mataram Campaign and Har Ghar Tiranga in a meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam with officers of line departments at Mini Secretariat, Kulgam.

Addressing the meeting, the DC emphasized the need for meticulous execution of the campaign at all levels.

The DC fixed department wise responsibilities and directed all departments to organize a specified, diverse range of activities during the campaign, starting from 09th of August and culminating on 17th August.

Special assemblies, patriotic song competitions, essay & painting competitions, Tiranga rallies by students, hoisting of National Flag under 'Har Ghar Tiranga', cycle rallies, and sports events themed on national integration, Tiranga corners, exhibitions and other commemorative activities shall be organised during the campaign.

The DC further directed that iconic locations, government offices, and public spaces in the district be decorated with tricolor and that the campaign be documented through photographs and videos for wider dissemination.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kulgam, Vikar Ahmad Giri; ACR, Reyaz Ahmad Shah; DIO, Tehsilidar Kulgam, EO MC Kulgam, and other district and sectoral officers.

Acting CJ chairs awareness programme on NALSA's SAMVAD Scheme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Acting Chief Justice High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Sanjeev Kumar and Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority, in presence of M.K. Sharma, Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh Saturday presided over an awareness programme on NALSA's SAMVAD (Strengthening Access to Justice for Marginalized, Vulnerable Adivasis and De notified/ Nomadical Tribes) Scheme at Imtiyaz Memorial Government Degree College, Shopian.

The programme was organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Shopian under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority.

On arrival, the Acting Chief Justice and other dignitaries inspected various stalls presented by the different government departments of district Shopian.

In his presidential address, the Acting Chief Justice lauded the efforts of DLSA Shopian and J&K



LSA for organizing such programmes. He highlighted the constitutional and legal rights of tribal communities and emphasized the role of Legal Services Authorities in ensuring access to justice at the grassroots level. He stressed that NALSA's SAMVAD Scheme, 2025" is aimed at bridging the gap between tribal people and legal aid services.

Delivering the welcome address, Mehmoond Ahmad Chowdhary, Principal District & Sessions Judge & Chairman, DLSA Shopian highlighted the importance of spreading legal awareness and community outreach among the tribal populations.

MLA Shopian, Deputy Commissioner Shopian

and SSP Shopian were also present.

Later, the dignitaries released the publication "Sabeel", prepared by District Legal Services Authority, Shopian.

A vibrant cultural programme was presented by the tribal boys and girls which showcased the rich culture and heritage of the tribal community of Shopian.

The event was attended by more than two thousand Tribal people of every nook and corner of Shopian who were made aware about the Samvad Scheme 2025.

During the programme, felicitation certificates were distributed among the achievers of tribal community of the district. Apart from that beneficiaries of various government

schemes from the tribal community were awarded the benefits on the spot by the Acting Chief Justice and other dignitaries.

The members of Bar, representatives of tribal communities and officers of various departments also spoke on the occasion and shared their views regarding implementation of tribal welfare schemes.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Principal Magistrate, JJB Shopian.

Later, the Acting Chief Justice and Registrar General visited and inspected the newly constructed District Court Complex, Shopian. This was followed by an interaction with the Judicial Officers of District Shopian and an interaction with the Members of the Bar Association, Shopian where issues relating to legal aid and access to justice were discussed.

Registrar Vigilance, Registrar Judicial, Registrar IT and Joint Registrar Protocol from the High Court of J&K and Ladakh and other officers of Shopian district were also present.

DC Bandipora reviews preparations for 'Har Ghar Tiranga 2026'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, Saturday chaired a meeting at the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat Bandipora, to review preparations for Har Ghar Tiranga 2026, scheduled to be observed across the district from August 09 to August 17.

The Deputy Commissioner discussed an expanded programme for this year, with greater participation from various departments and sections of society. The celebrations, dedicated to the 150-year commemoration of "Vande Mataram," would feature a range of patriotic and public-participation activities across the district, aimed at honouring its enduring place in the country's national spirit and encouraging people to participate in the celebrations.

During the meeting, it was informed that the campaign would feature a wide range of activities, including Tiranga rallies, cultural programmes, patriotic song and quiz competitions, painting and wall-painting activities, exhibitions and "Selfie with Tiranga" initiatives. Exhibitions would be organised by schools and colleges, ITIs and Polytechnics, while sub-divisional and tehsil-level Tiranga rallies would also be conducted across the district.

The Deputy Commis-



sioner laid particular emphasis on wider participation from the Education, Sports, Health and ICDS sectors. Separate rallies involving ASHA workers and Anganwadi workers would also be organised.

It was informed that a major Tiranga Rally would be held on August 12, jointly by the Police and District Administration, from Mini Secretariat Bandipora to the Stadium.

The DC directed all concerned departments to ensure that all necessary arrangements are put in place well in advance, with adequate attention to the safety and convenience of participants. Participants from JNV, KV, NCC, tribal communities, national achievers and others would also take part in colourful traditional attire.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for event creation and timely uploading of activities on the designated portal. The DC directed all departments to designate nodal officers for their respective activities and ensure close coordination for the smooth conduct of the campaign.

During the meeting,

the Deputy Commissioner directed the District Information Officer, Bandipora, to facilitate Public Address System and banners and undertake a dedicated social media campaign to highlight the district's activities under Har Ghar Tiranga 2026.

The Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 campaign, from August 09 to 17, would provide an opportunity for people across Bandipora to participate in activities dedicated to the spirit of patriotism and the 150-year commemoration of "Vande Mataram." A Swachhta campaign along with Tiranga rallies would also form part of the celebrations.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Bandipora, Nazir Ahmad Mir; Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl; Additional Superintendent of Police Bandipora; Assistant Commissioner Revenue; Assistant Commissioner Development; Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, and district officers from various departments.

59 Stolen Smartphones Seized at Mazhama Railway Station

GMK NEWS NETWORK

Srinagar: Railway Police on Saturday foiled a suspected stolen mobile phone trafficking racket by recovering 59 smartphones from two persons at Mazhama Railway Station.

Officials said alert personnel intercepted two bike-borne individuals carrying a polythene bag during morning hours. A search of the bag led to the recovery of smartphones of various brands, including Samsung, OnePlus, Redmi, Vivo, Oppo, Motorola and Realme.

The arrested persons have been identified as Shahnawaz Ahmad Rather (25) and Mehboob Hussain Rather (18), both residents of Mattipora, Pattan, Baramulla.

During preliminary questioning, Shahnawaz allegedly disclosed that the consignment was sent to him through a courier from Bengaluru in November 2025 by Showkat Ali Rather, also a resident of Mattipora, Pattan. Police said Showkat has reportedly been missing since November 2025.

In this connection, FIR No. 3 of 2026 has been registered at Railway Police Station Srinagar under Sections 317 BNS and 147 Railway Act.

Railway Police have launched further investigation to trace the interstate courier trail and ascertain the source of the recovered phones and the involvement of others in the suspected racket. (KNS).

Training on Digital Literacy for Artisans conducted in Budgam



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Saturday said that the digital integration of artisans including specially-abled craftsmen is opening new economic opportunities for craftsmen and is strengthening the handicrafts sector in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said this while appreciating the "Training on Digital Literacy & Market Readiness" programme organised at Town Hall, Budgam, describing it as an inspiring example of convergence aimed at empowering the artisan community.

The training was organised in collaboration with Special Hands of Kashmir under Artisan 2.0, a Conserve initiative for Artisans of Kashmir.

Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner said the future of handicrafts is bright, asserting traditional craftsmanship is effectively integrated with technology and modern market practices.

"The digital integration will ensure artisans and weavers get better and rightful economic opportunities for their dedication and hard work against growing demand and value for quality hand-made products," the DC

observed.

He said digital platforms have enabled artisans to showcase their products from their homes along with its information, interact directly with customers and access markets beyond geographical boundaries.

Appreciating digital handicraft platforms, the Deputy Commissioner said, "digital tools can help craftsmen understand market trends, emerging designs, production techniques and changing consumer preferences while retaining the authenticity of their traditional work." He also appreciated buyer-seller meets, interactive market programmes and quality awareness initiatives to bring artisans closer to buyers and help them respond to evolving market requirements.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner also appreciated the participation and achievements of specially-abled artisans, he said their creativity, skills and determination demonstrate the potential of handicrafts to create meaningful economic opportunities and promote social empowerment.

The DC said District Administration is committed to support initiatives that enhance artisans' skills, livelihoods and market access, while promoting sustainable growth of the handicrafts sector.

'Classes of Joy-TaRL' Capacity Building Programme for Teachers Continues in Budgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: The district-level teachers' capacity-building programme under 'Classes of Joy-Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) Approach' continued successfully for the second consecutive day at training centres across Budgam, Soibug, Narbal



and Khansahib.

Organised by the District Administration Budgam in collaboration with the Pratham Education Foundation and the School Education Department, the initiative aims to address learning gaps among children and strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy skills.

The programme is being conducted for around 4,500 teachers from all 859 primary and middle schools across the district. The second-day sessions featured interactive activities, practical demonstrations, group exercises and peer-learning techniques to enhance classroom teaching practices.

Teachers were oriented on the TaRL and Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) approaches, with emphasis on assessing children's learning levels and adopting appropriate, child-centred teaching strategies.

The sessions also highlighted the importance of

creating joyful, inclusive and engaging classrooms where children participate actively and develop strong foundational skills.

The initiative reflects the District Administration's commitment to improving the quality of school education through sustained teacher capacity building, innovative teaching practices and collaborative interventions.

Pertinently, the training programme was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, at Sheikh-ul-Alam Hall, Budgam, on August 07, marking the commencement of the district-level capacity building programme.

ADC Handwara chairs meeting to finalize arrangements for I-Day

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, on Saturday chaired a meeting in the ADC Office Chamber, Handwara, to review and finalize arrangements for the upcoming Independence Day Celebrations 2026.

It was informed that the main Independence Day function will be held at District Police Lines (DPL), Handwara, where a colourful and patriotic programme will be organized. In addition, Independence Day functions will also be organized at all Tehsil and Block Headquarters, as well as at educational institutions across Sub-Division Handwara.

The ADC reviewed

arrangements pertaining to venue management, sanitation and cleanliness, security, traffic regulation, power and water supply, seating arrangements, decoration, Public Address System, cultural programmes and other essential facilities.

The parade and ceremonial proceedings at the main function will witness the participation of contingents from the Jammu and Kashmir Police (JKP), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Indian Reserve Police (IRP), Frontier Police Force (FPF), Home Guards, NCC cadets and school children. A Police Band will also participate in the celebrations, adding to the patriotic spirit of the occasion.

The ADC directed all officers and officials of

concerned departments to ensure their participation in the Independence Day function and remain present as per the approved programme. He emphasized that active participation by officers and officials would further contribute to the successful and befitting conduct of the national celebration.

The ADC further directed all concerned departments to ensure the timely completion of their assigned responsibilities and maintain close coordination to avoid any last-minute inconvenience. He stressed that all arrangements should be put in place well in advance to ensure that the celebrations are conducted in a befitting, disciplined and patriotic atmosphere.

Cultural Unit Sgr organises multiple programmes to mark I-Day Celebrations



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Cultural Unit Srinagar of Information Department organised various programmes in different schools of Srinagar to mark the Independence Day Celebrations, 2026.

The activities, held at GHS Harwan, GBHSS Jawaharnagar and GBHS Brane, included competitions in Painting, Speech, Quiz and Singing, providing young students a meaningful platform to express their patriotism, creativity and reverence for the nation and the sacrifices of its freedom fighters. The students participat-

ed with remarkable enthusiasm and wholehearted involvement, adding vibrant patriotic fervour to the celebrations.

The initiatives aimed at nurturing patriotic consciousness among young minds and acquainting them with the values of freedom, unity, sacrifice and national integrity.

The Cultural Officer Kashmir and AECO appreciated the spirited involvement of the students and expressed gratitude to the school authorities for their valuable cooperation and support, which contributed to the successful conduct of the programmes.

DC Kupwara chairs meeting to finalize preparations for 'Har Ghar Tiranga 2026'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, Saturday chaired a meeting of concerned officers to finalize preparations for the successful conduct of the Har Ghar Tiranga 2026 campaign across the district, with emphasis on ensuring maximum public participation from all sections of society, particularly students and youth.

The Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, an initiative of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, was launched as part of the 75th anniversary of India's independence under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and has since evolved into an annual nationwide movement encouraging citizens to hoist the National Flag at their homes. The campaign is aimed at invoking a sense of



patriotism among citizens and strengthening their personal connect with the Tiranga.

During the meeting, the DC reviewed the proposed activities and directed all concerned departments to ensure enthusiastic participation of students, youth and the general public through schools, colleges, ITIs and other institutions across the district.

The meeting discussed the organization of Tiranga rallies, walkathons and Tiranga Yatras across all blocks, including rallies featuring long Tiranga fabric, aimed at generating greater public participation and reinforcing the spirit of

patriotism, national unity and the vision of a Viksit Bharat @2047.

The DC stressed the need to ensure flag-hoisting ceremonies along with Tiranga-themed illumination and decoration at government buildings and offices, educational institutions, hotels, dams, bridges, airports, railway stations, bus stands and other prominent public places across the district.

The meeting also reviewed plans for Tiranga-inspired art and decoration of school walls and display boards, besides organizing Tiranga exhibitions and mass singing of the national song, Vande Mataram.

Prez confers National Handloom Award on 2 Master Weavers from Kanihama

Joint entry wins citation, cash prize of ₹2.5 lakh

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, has extended heartfelt congratulations to two outstanding weavers, Manzoor Ahmad Hajam and Fayaz Ahmad Wani, from Kanihama, Budgam, who have been conferred with the prestigious National Handloom Award, in recognition for their contribution in the field of Kani weaving.

They were conferred with the National Award for their joint entry – Chand-Daar Kani Shawl – by the President of India, Draupadi Murmu, during a glittering function held at New Delhi, to commemorate the National Handloom Day.

In a press release issued here today, a spokesman of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, stated that this honour is a fitting tribute to invaluable



contribution of Manzoor Ahmad Hajam and Fayaz Ahmad Wani, who have distinguished themselves in the indigenous art of Kani weaving. “By winning such prestigious award, the master weavers have brought the Kani weaving technique on the forefront of the crafts sector, which will surely open up new vistas

of business opportunities for the high value craft,” the spokesman added.

The award, which carries a citation and cash prize of ₹2.5 lakh, is for a rare form of Kani weaving technique guided by coded Talim scripts to ensure absolute precision, featuring nearly 20 distinct hues to recreate an antique masterpiece.

The spokesman further stated said their exquisite craftsmanship has not only kept our centuries-old tradition alive but has also earned global admiration. “They have become role models for thousands of weavers in Kashmir and the entire craft community celebrates this joyous moment with great pride,” he added.

J&K wins “Best Adventure Tourism Destination’ award At TTF Ahmedabad



GMK NEWS NETWORK

AHMEDABAD: The Jammu and Kashmir Tourism concluded its vibrant three-day participation at the Travel and Tourism Fair (TTF) Ahmedabad, emerging as one of the major attractions for travel trade, tourism stakeholders and the visitors at the prestigious event.

The participation of Jammu and Kashmir received a significant recognition with J&K being honoured with the best adventure tourism destination award, reaffirming its growing position as one of India’s most diverse and exciting adventure tourism destinations.

During the three-day event, J&K Tourism showcased the region not merely as a destination of breathtaking landscapes, snow-capped mountains and pristine lakes but as a place where the visitors can experience its culture,

traditions, hospitality, cuisine and way of life.

The J&K Tourism delegation extended an open invitation to the travellers from Gujarat and across India to move beyond conventional sightseeing and come to J&K to live the life of the Himalayas.

“Come to Jammu and Kashmir not only to see its scenic beauty but to experience it, live its culture, connect with its people and discover the adventure that lies in every corner of the Himalayas,” was the message conveyed by J&K Tourism at the fair.

From trekking, rafting, skiing, mountaineering and paragliding to homestays, village tourism, heritage experiences and immersive cultural journeys, J&K offers a wide spectrum of experiences for the new-age traveller, particularly the younger generation seeking authentic, experiential and adventure-led holidays.

Min Itoo, Advisor Wani review progress on Dev activities of KU’s Wayan campus

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Education, Health & Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Itoo, along with Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, Saturday reviewed the progress on strengthening the academic profile and development activities of Kashmir University’s campus at Wayan Kupwara.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University, Prof. Nilofer Khan; Commissioner Secretary, Higher Education, Ram Niwas Sharma; Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse; Registrar Kashmir University, senior officers of education department and other concerned officers of district administration Kupwara, either in person or through video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Minister and the Advisor took a detailed review of the ongoing works, academic infrastructure, institutional requirements and other issues related for the development of the campus.

The meeting also discussed measures for strengthening the campus

as a prominent centre of higher education in the north Kashmir region, with emphasis on providing quality and accessible academic opportunities to students of Kupwara and adjoining areas.

The Minister stressed on the need for expediting all pending works and ensuring coordinated efforts among the concerned departments and university authorities for timely completion of the required infrastructure. She underscored that the campus should be equipped with adequate academic, administrative and student-support facilities to cater effectively to the growing educational needs of the region.

The Minister also directed the stakeholder departments to remove all kind of bottlenecks regarding further development and expansion of the campus. She also directed the VC Kashmir to conduct on-field visit of the campus and take stock of ongoing development works. The Minister also directed the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara to sort out the issue of land allotment in synergy with DFO Kupwara.



Sakina Itoo reviews welfare measures for Leprosy patients

Says Govt committed for compassionate healthcare, dignified rehabilitation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo chaired a comprehensive review meeting at Civil Secretariat here on the welfare and rehabilitation of leprosy patients, with emphasis on dignified healthcare and social security.

The meeting was attended by MLA Zadibal, Tanvir Ali Sadiq; Commissioner SMC, Fazlul Haseeb; Director SKIMS, Prof. M.Ashraf Ganie; Principal GMC Srinagar, Dr. Iffat Hassan Shah;

Director Health Services Kashmir, CMO Srinagar and representatives of Leprosy patients and Leper Hospital, Bharar.

During the meeting, the Health Minister took review of various issues including allotment of government quarters for leprosy-affected families, assessment of reconstructive surgeries conducted over the past two years, and provision of caretakers for patients without family support.

Speaking during the meeting, Sakeena Itoo reiterated that the Omar Abdullah-led Government is committed for compassionate healthcare and dignified rehabilitation for every vulnerable section of society. She directed all concerned departments to work in close coordination and timely rehabilitation of Leprosy patients.

She directed the concerned officers to ensure

immediate allotment of residential quarters to eligible residents without any further delay as well as provision of a dedicated ambulance for the hospital to ensure timely access to medical care.

The Minister also directed to provide free medicines, investigations and treatment for all leprosy patients requiring medical care at any government hospital in Srinagar, ensuring they receive quality healthcare without financial burden.

Speaking during the meeting, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Ali Sadiq expressed gratitude to Health Minister for taking prompt decisions for welfare for the Leprosy patients. He said that these decisions will go a long way in improving the quality of life, dignity and healthcare of the residents of the Leper Hospital, Bharar.

CS sets in motion PEP of Census-2027 in snow-bound areas of J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Saturday chaired a meeting of the Union Territory Level Census Coordination Committee (UTLCCC) to review and finalize preparations for the second phase of Census-2027, involving Population Enumeration in snow-bound and otherwise inaccessible areas of J&K.

The meeting besides Director, Census Operations, J&K and Ladakh, Amit Sharma was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; Secretary, Rural Development Department; Director, School Education, Kashmir; Senior functionaries of the Directorate of Census Operations, besides Deputy Commissioners from the concerned districts through virtual mode.

The Chief Secretary directed the concerned district administrations to ensure timely appointment of Enumerators and Supervisors against the additional charges created for Phase-II, with preference given to personnel having the requisite



technological proficiency for smooth execution of the digital enumeration process.

He called for vigorous and comprehensive training of all Enumerators and Supervisors, emphasizing that the field-level workforce must be fully conversant with the prescribed questionnaire, digital applications and protocols so that the exercise is completed efficiently and without errors or omissions.

The Chief Secretary further stressed the need for intensive publicity and public awareness campaigns in all areas being covered under the second phase, particularly in remote and snow-bound pockets, so that residents are well informed about the enumeration schedule, self-enumeration facility and their role in ensuring accurate and quality data collection.

He also called for timely disbursement of honorari-

um to personnel for the work completed during the first phase and upon successful culmination of the second phase, besides putting in place an effective monitoring mechanism.

He directed the Directorate of Census Operations and the respective District Administrations to maintain close coordination and undertake regular monitoring of field progress to ensure timely completion of the exercise.

At the outset, Director, Census Operations, J&K and Ladakh, Amit Sharma, presented a comprehensive operational blueprint for Phase-II of the Census, outlining the timelines, deployment strategy, training framework, technological arrangements and public outreach measures for ensuring accurate and inclusive population enumeration in the designated snow-bound pockets.

Crime Branch Jammu registers FIR in overseas visa, job fraud case

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Special Crime Wing (SCW) of Jammu’s Crime Branch registered an FIR on Saturday in connection with an alleged overseas visa and employment fraud involving multiple accused persons, an official said.

The case stems from a joint written complaint filed by several residents of Doda district.

They alleged that Bilal Ahmad, a resident of Kishtwar’s Dachhan area currently based in Dubai, induced them with promises of arranging visas and employment in Dubai, a SCW spokesperson said.

Acting on these assurances, he said the complainants transferred substantial sums of money into the bank accounts of different individuals as instructed by the accused. During the preliminary enquiry, it surfaced that the funds were routed through the bank accounts of Yasir Arafat, Ashiq Hussain, and Moin Khan, who allegedly acted in coordination with the main accused, the spokesperson said.

He said the evidence prima facie indicated a well-planned criminal conspiracy involving multiple people to cheat innocent job aspirants under the guise of providing overseas employment.

Accordingly, the spokesperson said a formal case was registered on Friday against the accused persons under the relevant provisions of law, adding that the investigation will focus on tracing the money trail, identifying the role of each accused, and securing justice for the victims.

The SCW advised the public to exercise utmost caution while dealing with individuals or agencies offering overseas jobs or visa services. It urged people to verify the credentials of such entities through authorised government channels before making any payments and to promptly report any suspicious activity to the nearest police station or helpline.

Javid Dar meets North Kashmir delegations



Visits Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom (RA) Dargah

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, Saturday met various public delegations from North Kashmir and assured time-bound redressal of their grievances.

During the interaction, residents and representatives projected issues related to roads, civic amenities, basic infrastructure and other developmental requirements in their respective areas.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to the delegations and said that

their genuine concerns would be examined on priority and taken up with the concerned departments for early resolution. He reiterated the government’s commitment to equitable and people-centric development across Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, the Minister paid obeisance at the revered Dargah of Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom (RA) at Tujjar Sharief, Sopore and prayed for peace, prosperity and well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

During his visit to the shrine, the Minister bowed in reverence and sought the blessings of the revered Sufi saint, popularly known as Sultan-ul-Arifeen and Mehboob-ul-Alam. He offered prayers for peace, harmony and continued progress of J&K.

Health Min dedicates 50-bedded SDH Qaimoh to public

Lays foundation for road restoration, school building works at Chimmer

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Minister for Education, Health & Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakeena Itoo, Saturday inaugurated new campus of 50 bedded Sub-District Hospital, Qaimoh and dedicated to the public in a ceremonial function.

MLA Devsar, Peerzada Feroze Ahmad, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, officers and officials of Health Department and locals were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister congratulated the people of Qaimoh and adjoining areas and reaffirmed the department’s commitment to upgrade the hospital with additional staff and enhanced facilities in a phased manner.

“The government is according special focus on upgrading the healthcare services across Jammu and Kashmir. All measures are being taken to strengthen the hospi-



tals and health centres, including recruitment of staff and upgradation of both clinical and non-clinical facilities,” asserted Sakeena Itoo.

Emphasizing added accountability and responsiveness to healthcare issues, she urged the hospital administration and staff to address the genuine public demands promptly and ensure delivery of good governance at the grassroots.

MLA Devsar expressed gratitude to the government for dedicating the long-awaited hospital to the public. He termed it a major milestone for healthcare access in the area.

Constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 1932.65 lakh by the R&B Division,

vices closer to home.

Later, Minister laid foundation stone for road restoration and school construction projects including permanent restoration of road from Kounserbal to Nandimarg; road from Batpora to Chimmer and school building at Chimmer in the DH sub division.

A mega public outreach camp was also held at Chimmer village where Sakeena Itoo listened to public on their development and welfare demands and suggestions for improved public service delivery. She assured action on the demands raised by the public.

While addressing the gathering, the Minister highlighted the ongoing government interventions and initiatives designed for public welfare in all sectors of governance, ranging from creating infrastructure of roads, school and higher education projects or extending better healthcare and social welfare services.

IFAD Project Partners' Learning Forum

Day 2 focuses on field-based learning, women-led FPOs

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The second day of the IFAD Project Partners’ Learning Forum 2026, organised by the Mission Directorate, HADP/JKIP under the Agriculture Production Department, was dedicated to field-based learning and first-hand exposure to successful models of farmer collectivisation, women-led agricultural enterprises and modern horticulture.

The field visit programme provided an opportunity to delegates from IFAD-assisted projects across the country to experience the implementation of agricultural interventions on the ground and interact directly with the farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and other stakeholders.

The delegation’s first visit was to Umeed Women Fresh Vegetables Kolina Producer Company Limited at Nilsar, Sultanpooora, Baramulla, an all-women FPO with 617 members. The participants interacted with the Board of

Directors, Chief Executive Officer and FPO members and visited the production and aggregation facilities.

The interaction focused on the FPO’s business operations, marketing, value addition and future growth plans. The visit provided an important opportunity to understand how women-led farmer collectives can evolve into viable and market-oriented rural enterprises. The FPO deals primarily in commodities including garlic, red chilli, basil seed and shallot.

The delegates, later, visited a High-Density Horticulture Farm at Khonmoh, Srinagar, where they interacted with the beneficiary farmer and witnessed high-density apple plantation and fruit-picking activities. The farm, spread over 12 kanals with around 1,920 plants, offered the participants a practical insight into modern orchard systems and the potential of high-density horticulture to enhance productivity and improve the commercial viability of apple cultivation.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

When The Forecast Warns, Administration Must Act

The Meteorological Department's forecast of heavy to very heavy rainfall across Jammu and Kashmir from August 9 to 11 should not be treated as just another routine weather advisory. It is a warning that demands preparation, coordination and visible action, especially when the Union Territory has already witnessed flash floods, landslides, waterlogging and repeated disruptions to road connectivity in recent weeks. The real danger is not rainfall alone. It is the vulnerability that rainfall exposes.

Mountain slopes weakened by repeated precipitation, overloaded drainage systems, swollen streams, unstable roads and vulnerable settlements can quickly turn heavy rain into a serious disaster. The experience of recent weeks has already demonstrated how rapidly conditions can deteriorate. The Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, Mughal Road and other strategically important routes require particular attention. A single landslide or flash flood can bring traffic to a standstill, leaving passengers, fruit-laden trucks, tourists and essential supplies stranded for hours or even days. At a time when the movement of horticultural produce is becoming increasingly important, prolonged road disruption can have consequences far beyond inconvenience.

This is precisely why preparedness must begin before the first major shower, not after roads are blocked and rivers begin to rise. District administrations in vulnerable areas must identify high-risk locations, inspect drainage channels, monitor water levels and ensure that machinery and emergency teams are positioned where they can respond quickly. Road agencies should keep men and equipment ready at known landslide and shooting-stone zones rather than waiting for debris to block the carriageway.

There must also be effective communication. People living near rivers, nallahs and unstable slopes should receive timely warnings in language they understand. Schools, hospitals, transport operators, tourists and communities in vulnerable areas should know what precautions to take and whom to contact in an emergency. Advisories that remain confined to official social media handles are not enough when the people most at risk may not be watching them.

The administration must also avoid a familiar mistake: confusing meetings with preparedness. Review meetings, advisories and instructions have value only when they translate into equipment on the ground, personnel at vulnerable points and rapid decision-making when conditions worsen. The recent weather incidents should serve as a lesson. Every flash flood, every washed-out road and every stranded traveller is also a test of the system.

Jammu and Kashmir cannot prevent heavy rainfall. It can, however, reduce the damage caused by it. The coming three days therefore require a unified response from the administration, disaster-management agencies, police, road authorities, health departments and local bodies. Real-time monitoring, rapid information-sharing and immediate deployment of resources should be the priority. Citizens, too, have a responsibility. People should avoid unnecessary travel during periods of intense rainfall, stay away from swollen streams and rivers, and take official warnings seriously. In mountainous terrain, conditions can change within minutes.

But the greater responsibility rests with those entrusted with public safety. A weather forecast is useful only if it changes what we do before the disaster arrives. The forecast for August 9-11 should therefore be treated as an opportunity for preparedness, not a headline to be followed by another post-disaster review. Jammu and Kashmir has seen enough disruption this season. The next test should be whether lessons have been learned, whether vulnerable points have been identified, and whether the administration is ready to act before nature forces it to react.

■ Atmanirbhar MedTech

The Foundation For Affordable Healthcare And Viksit Bharat



JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA

India has witnessed unprecedented expansion of healthcare infrastructure over the last decade. Rapid increase in the numbers of hospitals in both government and private sector, PHCs, diagnostic centres, medical colleges in both urban and rural areas is testament to Government of India's citizen centric policy towards ensuring health security. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi ji , the Government has worked to make quality health care accessible to every citizen. This untiring commitment has led to a significant decline of Out of Pocket Expenses in the country from as high as 65% to 43% in the last few years.

From a newborn in a district hospital to a cancer patient in a tertiary care centre, reliable, high-quality yet affordable medical devices have become indispensable to modern healthcare. The Government is strengthening public health systems in both rural and urban areas through investments in upgradation of laboratories, critical care infrastructure, disease surveillance systems, and emergency response mechanisms under Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM). As India advances towards Viksit Bharat 2047, the focus is now on building an Atmanirbhar MedTech ecosystem to make healthcare more affordable, accessible and resilient.

Historically, India relied heavily on imports for many sophisticated medical devices. While these technologies improved healthcare, they also contributed to higher costs, supply chain vulnerabilities and limited accessibility. Recognizing this, the National Medical Devices Policy



2023 mandated to enhance domestic manufacturing capacity and capability for newer technologies so as to make the medical devices affordable and thereby reduce diagnostics cost. Government adopted a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the medical devices ecosystem through initiatives such as, the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme, Medical Device Parks and the Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma-MedTech (PRIIP) Scheme. These initiatives are creating an enabling ecosystem for manufacturing, innovation, investment and global competitiveness.

The results are encouraging. Manufacturing of more than 50 high-end medical devices has commenced under the PLI Scheme. Equally significant is the growing confidence of global investors, reflected in sustained foreign direct investment into the sector. These achievements demonstrate that India is steadily emerging as a trusted partner in the global MedTech value chain.

Beyond becoming a manufacturing hub, India is also quickly adopting medical technology advancements to improve the lives of citizens. Affordable access to advanced diagnostics, imaging systems, implants,

intensive care equipment and digital health solutions significantly reduce the financial burden on patients while improving the quality and timeliness of care. Domestic manufacturing contributes directly to this objective by reducing import dependence, strengthening supply chain resilience and creating opportunities for cost efficiencies.

India's globally recognized pharmaceutical industry, robust engineering capabilities, rapidly expanding digital public infrastructure, vibrant start-up ecosystem and skilled human resources provide a strong foundation for developing next-generation medical technologies. Emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Software as a Medical Device (SaMD), connected medical devices, robotics and remote diagnostics present opportunities for India to innovate for both domestic and global healthcare needs.

As Indian manufacturers expand globally, quality is also becoming the defining characteristic of Brand India MedTech. Government is focusing on strengthening regulatory systems, expanding accredited testing infrastructure, promoting clinical evidence generation and aligning with international standards to enhance both patient safety and global competitiveness.

Building a globally competitive MedTech

ecosystem also requires close collaboration among Government, industry, academia, healthcare providers, start-ups and investors. Innovation flourishes when ideas move seamlessly from laboratories to manufacturing facilities and finally to patients. The Government remains committed to providing a stable and transparent policy environment that encourages research, investment, technology partnerships and ease of doing business.

As India advances towards becoming a developed nation, healthcare and economic growth will increasingly reinforce each other. A strong medical devices sector creates high-value manufacturing, skilled employment, exports and technological capability while simultaneously making healthcare more affordable, accessible and resilient.

India's MedTech Sector, is the fourth-largest market in Asia and ranks among the top 20 globally. Presently at \$15-16 Billion, the market is growing at almost 12% CAGR, making it one of the fastest growing manufacturing sector in the country. The vision of Viksit Bharat stresses on building global leadership rooted in quality, innovation and inclusivity. Government is working to ensure that technologies address India's public health priorities—from maternal and child health to non-communicable diseases, emergency care, cancer, cardiovascular diseases and rural healthcare delivery. Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, India is steadily building an Atmanirbhar MedTech ecosystem that is not merely about manufacturing devices in India; it is about empowering every citizen with timely access to quality healthcare, strengthening health security, and positioning India as a trusted global partner in advancing better health for humanity. (PIB)

(The author is Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India.)

UNEMPLOYMENT

The Silent Echo Of Unfulfilled Dreams



NAZRANA MUSHTAQ

Every sunrise arrives carrying the quiet promise of hope. It reminds us that every new day has the potential to transform dreams into reality. Yet, for millions of people around the world, dawn brings not opportunity but uncertainty. They awaken with education, determination, and ambition, only to encounter closed doors and unanswered aspirations. This silent struggle is known as unemployment, a challenge that extends far beyond economics and reaches the very essence of human dignity.

Unemployment is often described as the inability of willing and capable individuals to secure suitable employment. However, such a definition barely captures its true meaning. It is not merely the absence of work; it is the absence of recognition, purpose, and the opportunity to contribute one's abilities to society. Behind every unemployment statistic lies a deeply personal story, a graduate waiting for a first opportunity, a parent struggling to provide for a family, or a skilled worker whose experience has been overshadowed by technological change.

Employment provides more than financial security. It instills confidence, nurtures independence, and allows individuals to participate meaningfully in the progress of their communities. When meaningful work is absent, people often experience not only economic hardship but also emotional and psychological distress. Thus, unemployment must be understood as a humanitarian issue as much as an economic one.

Unemployment manifests itself in several forms. Frictional unemployment occurs when individuals are temporarily searching for better opportunities or entering the labour market for the first time. Structural



and replaces hope with uncertainty. Individuals begin to question their abilities despite possessing remarkable talent and determination.

Families, too, bear the burden. Parents struggle to provide quality education for their children, healthcare becomes increasingly difficult to afford, and ordinary comforts slowly disappear. Communities affected by widespread unemployment often experience rising poverty, migration, social unrest, and crime. Thus, unemployment is not merely an individual tragedy; it is a societal concern that weakens the foundations of national progress. The greatest loss is perhaps not financial but emotional. Every rejected application, every postponed dream, and every unanswered interview quietly diminish a person's faith in tomorrow. Yet the desire to contribute never truly disappears; it simply waits for an opportunity to bloom.

Young people represent the greatest strength of any nation. They possess imagination, courage, creativity, and the determination to shape a better future. However, when opportunities remain scarce, these very qualities begin to fade beneath the weight of disappointment. Across the world, countless graduates leave universities carrying degrees filled with promise, only to discover that qualifications alone cannot guarantee employment. Many spend years searching for meaningful work, while others reluctantly accept positions far below their capabilities. Some even leave their homeland in pursuit

of opportunities elsewhere, contributing to the growing challenge of brain drain.

A nation that neglects the aspirations of its youth risks losing not only its workforce but also its innovators, thinkers, and future leaders. Every dream left unrealised is a loss not only for the individual but for society as a whole.

Education remains one of the most powerful instruments for reducing unemployment. However, education must evolve alongside the changing demands of the modern world. Academic excellence alone is no longer sufficient; practical skills, digital literacy, communication, critical thinking, and creativity have become equally important. Educational institutions should encourage innovation, research, entrepreneurship, and vocational training alongside traditional learning. Students should graduate not merely with degrees but with confidence, adaptability, and the ability to solve real-world problems. Lifelong learning has become essential in an era where industries continue to transform with extraordinary speed.

When education and opportunity move hand in hand, societies create citizens who are not only employable but capable of creating employment for others. Reducing unemployment requires collective responsibility. Governments must encourage investment, strengthen industries, improve infrastructure, and create policies that promote entrepreneurship and innovation. Small and medium-sized enterprises deserve greater support because they

generate substantial employment opportunities and stimulate economic growth. Likewise, private organisations should invest in developing human potential rather than merely seeking experience. Individuals must remain resilient, continue learning, embrace technological change, and view challenges as opportunities for growth rather than obstacles to success.

A prosperous nation is built not simply through economic wealth but through the meaningful participation of every citizen. When opportunity reaches every capable hand, prosperity becomes both inclusive and sustainable. Unemployment is more than an economic condition; it is a silent conversation between hope and hardship. It reminds us that behind every statistic stands a human being with aspirations, responsibilities, and dreams waiting to be fulfilled.

Yet history teaches us that every challenge carries within it the possibility of transformation. Through visionary leadership, quality education, innovation, and collective determination, societies can create opportunities that restore dignity and inspire confidence.

Nevertheless, hope must never remain silent forever. Every job created rekindles a dream, every opportunity strengthens a family, and every empowered individual enriches an entire nation. The true wealth of a country lies not beneath its soil nor within its monuments, but in the hearts, minds, and abilities of its people. Let us therefore strive to build a world where no dream is buried beneath unemployment, where talent is recognised without prejudice, and where every willing hand is given the chance to create, contribute, and flourish. Only then will the silent echo of unfulfilled dreams transform into a timeless melody of dignity, purpose, and hope.

Nazrana Mushtaq is a published author known for her poignant and evocative storytelling, which explores themes of identity, resilience, and the often-unheard voices of women. She can be mailed at nazranamushtaq430@gmail.com

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The Men We Never Talk About

“A Person’s Character Should Be Judged By The Choices They Make, Not By The Actions Of Those Who Share Their Identity.”



IMRAN MAQBOOL WANI

Certain statements have become so common in contemporary conversations that we rarely pause to examine their implications. “All men are the same,” “Men are trash,” and “Men are cheaters” are phrases that frequently appear in social media discussions, personal conversations and public debates, often emerging from experiences of betrayal, abuse, disappointment or emotional hurt. For many women, such expressions may represent genuine frustration arising from painful experiences, and those experiences deserve to be heard and taken seriously. Yet, while acknowledging the reality of such pain, there is also a need to ask whether it is fair to transform the actions of some individuals into a judgement against an entire gender. When one person causes harm, should millions of people who had no connection to that act be expected to carry its burden?

There is no question that men who engage in abuse, manipulation, dishonesty or violence should be held accountable. Their gender should neither excuse their behaviour nor protect them from consequences. At the same time, accountability must remain individual. If one man betrays someone’s trust, the responsibility for that betrayal belongs to him. If another man lies, the lie belongs to him. If a man abuses another person, he must answer for that abuse. It is difficult to understand, therefore, why the actions of one individual should become evidence against every other man. We would consider such reasoning unfair in almost every other circumstance. We do not regard all women as dishonest because one woman lies, nor do we condemn an entire community because one individual commits a crime. Human beings are individuals before they are members of any social category, and their choices, values and conduct shape their character.

The phrase “all men are the same” may sometimes be spoken in a moment of anger or emotional pain, but understandable emotions do not automatically make generalisations accurate. A woman who a man has betrayed may

understandably find it difficult to trust again, but her experience with one person cannot tell her everything about another person she has never met. Similarly, a man who has been hurt by a woman may struggle with trust, but it would be unfair for him to conclude that all women are dishonest or incapable of loyalty. Pain can influence the way we see the world, but it should not permanently determine how we judge people we have not yet known.

There is another side of this conversation that receives considerably less attention: the experiences of men who suffer quietly. Society has traditionally placed a particular expectation upon men to remain strong, responsible and emotionally controlled. From childhood, many boys are told not to cry, not to complain and not to show vulnerability. As they grow older, these expectations often become responsibilities to provide, protect, solve problems and remain composed even when circumstances become overwhelming. A man may experience financial pressure, relationship difficulties, family responsibilities, loneliness or personal failure, yet continue with his daily life without speaking openly about what he is experiencing. His silence is sometimes interpreted as strength, but it can also be a sign that he has never been given a safe space in which to express his vulnerability. Some fathers spend years working to provide for their children while quietly setting aside their own aspirations. Some sons take responsibility for their families during difficult circumstances without expecting recognition. Some husbands remain committed to their relationships even when nobody is watching, brothers who become dependable sources of support during family crises, and friends who remain available for others while dealing with struggles of their own. Their contributions may not always be celebrated because responsibility is often considered an expected part of being a man. Yet being expected to carry responsibility does not mean that a man does not feel its weight.

Men experience heartbreak, rejection, loneliness, grief and disappointment just as women do. They can be betrayed by people they trusted, abandoned by people they loved, and deeply affected by the loss of relationships. Yet many hesitate to speak about these experiences because they fear being ridiculed or considered weak. A man who says that he is emotionally exhausted may be told to “be strong.” A man who expresses grief may be expected to recover quickly. A man



who seeks emotional support may sometimes feel that he is failing to meet society’s expectations of masculinity. In such an environment, silence can become a habit, and the habit of silence can eventually become isolation. Recognising the emotional struggles of men does not mean diminishing the struggles of women. The two should never be presented as competing claims for sympathy. A society capable of empathy should be able to acknowledge the suffering of different groups without turning their experiences into a competition. Women have legitimate reasons to speak about violence, discrimination, harassment and betrayal, just as men have legitimate reasons to speak about loneliness, emotional isolation, social expectations and experiences of being unfairly judged. Listening to one does not require silencing the other.

The real issue, therefore, should be accountability without collective condemnation. Men who engage in harmful behaviour should be challenged, and men themselves have a responsibility to challenge harmful behaviour among other men. Silence should not become a shield for wrongdoing, and friendship should never be used as a reason to ignore abuse, harassment or violence. At the same time, men who have done nothing wrong should not be expected to carry collective guilt for the actions of strangers. A fair society must be capable of making both distinctions at the same time. This becomes particularly important when we consider the messages young boys receive while growing up. If a boy repeatedly hears that men are inherently dishonest, dangerous, emotionally incapable or untrustworthy, he may eventually begin to associate his identity with characteristics he has never personally demonstrated. Instead of teaching boys that masculinity itself is a

problem, society should teach them what responsible masculinity looks like. Boys should learn that strength includes compassion, that confidence does not require dominance, that protecting someone does not mean controlling them, that apologising is not weakness and that asking for help is not a failure. They should also learn that being a good man does not mean being perfect; it means being willing to recognise mistakes, accept responsibility and make an honest effort to become better.

At the same time, men must not use discussions about unfair stereotypes as an excuse to avoid self-reflection. Being unfairly judged does not mean that a person is incapable of doing wrong. Men must be willing to examine their own behaviour, accept criticism when it is justified, apologise when they have caused harm and change when change is necessary. A mature discussion about men must therefore include both compassion and accountability. It should recognise men as human beings capable of goodness and wrongdoing, rather than portraying them as inherently one or the other. Perhaps the greatest problem with phrases such as “all men are the same” is that they erase individuality. They prevent us from seeing the difference between the man who betrays trust and the man who spends years earning it; between the man who causes harm and the man who stands against it, between the man who abandons responsibility and the man who quietly carries responsibilities that nobody sees. They may share a gender, but they do not necessarily share a character.

Some men have been hurt by relationships but have refused to become cruel. There are men who have been betrayed but have remained loyal. There are men who have experienced humiliation but have chosen dignity rather than revenge. Some men have

struggled with loneliness and still found the courage to care for others. There are men who have made mistakes, accepted them, and genuinely changed. Their stories may not receive the same attention as stories of wrongdoing, but their existence is equally real.

To the men who have suffered silently because of labels they never deserved, there should be no shame in acknowledging that pain. They do not need to apologise for actions they did not commit, nor should they be required to prove their innocence simply because someone else failed to live by the values they hold. Their responsibility is not to defend every man, nor to become bitter towards those who have hurt them, but to remain accountable for their own choices and faithful to their own principles. Ultimately, the conversation should not be about whether men are better than women or whether women are better than men. Such comparisons only deepen divisions that society should be trying to overcome. The more meaningful conversation is about what kind of human beings we want to become and what kind of society we want to create. A society that genuinely values equality must be able to condemn wrongdoing without condemning an entire gender, listen to victims without creating new stereotypes, and acknowledge suffering wherever it occurs.

A person’s gender may tell us whether that person is a man or a woman, but it tells us very little about the person’s character. Character is revealed through conduct, especially when nobody is watching. One man may betray while another remains loyal. One may cause pain while another spends his life trying to prevent it. One may misuse trust while another spends years earning it. They are men, but they are not the same. And perhaps it is time we became mature enough to recognise that distinction.

The men who have suffered quietly do not need special treatment, nor do they need to be placed above anyone else. They simply deserve the same dignity that every human being deserves: to be seen as individuals, to be judged by their own actions, to be allowed to acknowledge their pain and to be respected for the person they choose to become. In a world increasingly divided by labels, perhaps the most meaningful form of equality is to look beyond the label and see the human being.

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Medicine – Still A Noble Profession?

If Medicine Is A Noble Profession, Why Is There Such Discontentment Among Patients?



DR. FIAZ FAZILI

Webster’s Third New International Dictionary defines the word ‘noble’: 1) possessing outstanding qualities such as eminence and dignity; 2) having power of transmitting by inheritance; 3) indicating superiority or commanding excellence of mind, character, or high ideals or morals. These three attributes befit the profession of Medicine, and regulations relating to the Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners that time NMC was MCI (Published in Part III, Section 4 of the Gazette of India, 2002).

Over centuries, the Medical fraternity has maintained the standards of ethical and humane practice. Their magnificent contributions and landmark discoveries in medical science and innovations in diagnostic and therapeutic techniques have revolutionised patient care, saved countless lives, and significantly improved longevity and the quality of human life. Generations of Doctors have developed and improvised their professional skills and passed them on to succeeding generations, as they have to me and to each one of you, to take into the future. Beyond its scientific and technical contributions, medicine is uniquely fulfilling as a ‘Noble profession’.

In return, it has been accorded the respect of society and of other professions as a noble profession imbued with eminence, dignity, high ideals, and ethical

values. It has a rich and proud heritage. Its altruistic stance has served it well and has been the reason for its constancy and consistency. In the recent past, unfortunately, there has been a sharp decline in the ethical conduct of some of the medical practitioners. Materialistic influence has produced a highly selfish mentality in some practitioners, and while engaged in professional activities at times, they lose sight of the ethical, human, and noble values of their profession. They try to attain gain, name, fame and wealth by resorting to unethical practices which in turn may result in the exploitation of the patients. Say something nice about someone nobody will listen to; make it mean and malicious publicity is mercilessly focused on the story. To what extent do viewers/readers place faith in the media’s portrayal of social issues? ... “Lifting a profession up to ridicule and defaming their character.”

Most of the doctors complain by generalisation of the issue that “malpractice such developments can seriously hamper the doctor-patient relationship, and a delicate mutual trust which existed in this noble profession is lost.” How early it can be reclaimed depends on how soon we all realise our collective and individual responsibility on this issue. The fact that patients are not feeling entirely satisfied with the care is not breaking news, as there are a lot of misperceptions involved on both sides. Whether these are genuine doubts or unfounded fears created out of vested personal or professional vendetta or rivalry with the hype of ugly incidents of malpractices in the media, unfortunately our focus has been mostly on managing the crisis “du jour”: “Name, blame and shame”. As a result, physicians find it increasingly difficult to meet their responsibilities to patients.

Always bear in mind that “Healthcare” is a sickness treatment system. Neither the



Government nor the providers can deliver a ‘cure’ to the public; a cure lies with the Creator. A doctor is just a conduit. Swami Vivekananda says, ‘Money does not pay, nor name; fame does not pay, nor learning. It is dedication that pays; it is character and morality that cleaves its way through adamant walls of difficulties. The principles and responsibilities of medical professionalism must be clearly understood by both the profession and society. Essential to this contract is public trust in the doctor, which depends on the integrity of both individual physicians and the whole profession. I know, and many people in society will acknowledge that most physicians are good physicians, and the scared relationship between patient and doctor which has existed for ages will not perish with certain aberrations here or there. This doesn’t mean all the doctors are noble. As with any profession, we do have many bad apples who need appropriate treatment – some physicians are greedy, but most physicians are altruistic.’

We all agree medicine arose out of the primary sympathy of humankind with other creations out of desire to help those in distress, need and sickness. This relationship arises out of the pain and suffering of

one person and an offer of hope by another, and factually, most doctors are fulfilling this obligation. It is unfortunate we have begun calling the Medical professionals “businessmen in an industry” – it somehow undermines and discourages the dedication of the majority of medical professionals involved in the care of the patients and denigrates the “noble profession”. Society in general and patients in particular may also play a part in this discontent; Physicians are constantly faced with patients and their relatives who have begun to respond in high-tech ways. Amidst the menace of the dangerous practice of self-medication prevailing in the valley, some patients, after going through web, acquire some knowledge of disease and required tests, and feel that if a practitioner does not order a fancy new test, he or she is not at the cutting edge of medicine.

The fact is that tests are ancillary and not a panacea. At present, the Medical profession is confronted by an explosion of ‘technicalisation’, specialisation and commercialisation, changing market forces and problems in the quality of health care delivery. Despite initiatives by authorities, it remains an over-promised, Over-burdened, over-spent but not overhauled’ sector. At times we are facing a shortage of resources due to a shortage of beds or care providers (specialists and paramedics) or modern machinery. As a result of deficiencies in Healthcare policies and procedures on Accountability, in such an atmosphere dedicated physicians find it increasingly difficult to meet the expectations of patients from giving the standard care they need. These challenges centre on increasing disparities among the legitimate needs of patients, the available resources to meet those needs, the increasing dependence on market forces to transform health care systems, and the temptation for physicians to forsake their traditional commitment to the primacy of patients’ interests. In these circumstances, reaffirming the fundamental and universal

principles of primacy of patient welfare and values of medical professionalism, which remain ideals to be pursued by all physicians, becomes all the more important. This principle is based on a dedication to serving the interest of the patient.

The medical profession everywhere is embedded in diverse cultures and local constraints. Market forces, societal pressures, and administrative exigencies must not compromise this principle. I am confident that the medical profession is still a noble profession and the sacred bond between patients and practitioners will endure despite new storms. Altruism contributes to the trust that is central to the physician-patient relationship; its members continue to share the role of healer, which has roots extending back to Hippocrates to the Oath of a Muslim Physician. Even in these uncertain times, I am proud of my daughter choosing a giving profession – and in a moment like this, I continue to believe in the innate moral strength and humanity of my profession. I quote Thomas Macaulay, “The highest intellects, like the tops of mountains, are the first to catch and reflect the dawn.”

MAY Allah Give us the fortitude to admit our mistakes, to amend our ways – Give us the understanding that ours is a profession sacred that deals with your most precious gifts of life and intellect. Therefore, make us worthy of this favoured station with honour, dignity and piety so that we may devote our lives to serving mankind, irrespective of caste, colour and faith, with patience and tolerance with virtue and reverence, with knowledge and vigilance, with Thy love in our hearts and compassion for Thy servants, Thy most precious creation. Aameen

Dr. Fiaz Fazili is a quality assurance expert on healthcare and Surgery Chapter leader for the joint commission for Accreditation of hospitals. He can be mailed at drfiazfazili@gmail.com

US Vice President Vance dials PM Modi, discusses strategic partnership



IAN S

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday received a phone call from the US Vice-President JD Vance; both discussed ways to further deepen India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership across key areas. PM Modi also congratulated JD Vance and his wife, Usha Vance, on the birth of their son and conveyed best wishes to the family.

"Received a phone call from US Vice-President JD Vance. We discussed ways to further deepen India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership across key areas. Warmly congratulated him and the Second Lady on the birth of their son and conveyed best wishes to the entire family," PM Modi said on social media platform X.

According to a statement by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), PM Modi and J.D. Vance noted the sustained momentum in the high-level engagements and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening cooperation in various sectors.

"They noted the sustained momentum in the high-level engagements and reaffirmed their commitment to further

strengthening cooperation in trade, defence, critical and emerging technologies, energy security and critical minerals. They also exchanged views on regional and global developments of mutual interest," the PMO said.

In July this year, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar agreed to accelerate work on key defence agreements and conclude an interim bilateral trade deal that Washington said is "almost complete", signalling fresh momentum in the strategic partnership between the two countries.

The two leaders met in Manila on the sidelines of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meetings, where they also reviewed developments in the Middle East and the Indo-Pacific, according to a US State Department readout.

"Secretary Rubio met today with Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in Manila. The Secretary (Rubio) and Minister Jaishankar discussed recent developments in the Middle East and the Indo-Pacific," State Department Spokesperson Tommy Pigott said in the official readout.

The two sides also reviewed progress on defence cooperation.

NUCFDC's headquarters to shift to Maharashtra, says HM Amit Shah

IAN S

MUMBAI: Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday that the 'Umbrella Organisation' will play a crucial role in making the

urban co-operative banking sector modern, transparent, trustworthy, and technology-driven. This initiative will significantly boost the expansion of urban co-operative banking networks to

every tehsil across the country. Making a major announcement for the nation's urban co-operative banking sector, the Union Home Minister added that the headquarters of the National Urban

Co-operative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC) will be shifted from Delhi to Maharashtra. "Maharashtra alone accounts for 449 co-operative banks and contributes immensely to India's

co-operative banking landscape. States, including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, and Karnataka, host a substantial concentration of the country's urban co-operative banks. Therefore, locating the umbrella

organisation's headquarters in Maharashtra is both practical and advantageous. The ultimate objective is to bring all urban co-operative banks under a single umbrella," Union Minister Shah said.

NIT Srinagar to host AI Challenge for Kashmiri Translation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar has announced KATHE 2026: AI Challenge for Kashmiri Language Translation, a national-level competition that aims to harness Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) for the preservation and advancement of the Kashmiri language.

The initiative is being organised by Gaash Lab, NIT Srinagar, in collaboration with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), with the University of Kashmir serving as the academic collaborator and GitHub as the primary sponsor.

Envisioned as a nationwide platform for students, the challenge seeks to promote the application of AI and NLP to one of India's low-resource languages.

The competition focuses on developing English-to-Kashmiri machine translation models and will be hosted on the Kaggle platform, allowing participants to build, test, and evaluate computational models for a language that remains significantly underrepresented in modern AI systems.

The organisers said

KATHE 2026 is intended to encourage students, researchers and technology enthusiasts from across the country to contribute to the development of language technologies for Kashmiri while showcasing the broader role of AI in supporting regional languages.

The initiative aims to bring together academia, researchers and technology stakeholders to create a collaborative ecosystem where innovation can contribute to technological advancement as well as the preservation of linguistic heritage.

Online submissions for the competition are now open on Kaggle, where participants can register, access the competition dataset, evaluation framework and other learning resources before submitting their machine translation models. The competition is open to students from across India, and the last date for online submissions is August 17, 2026.

The competition will conclude with an offline finale on August 21, 2026, at NIT Srinagar, where shortlisted teams will demonstrate their AI models during a live evaluation.

The event will also feature expert lectures and interactive sessions focusing on Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, language technology, and the unique challenges involved in developing AI systems for low-resource languages such as Kashmiri.

The organisers said the finale will conclude with the felicitation of the winning teams in recognition of their innovative and technically strong contributions to English-to-Kashmiri machine translation.

They added that the competition is expected to inspire the next generation of AI researchers to develop inclusive language technologies that reflect India's linguistic diversity while creating new opportunities for Kashmiri to become an active part of the country's rapidly evolving digital and artificial intelligence ecosystem.

KATHE 2026 is a significant AI initiative focused on the Kashmiri language. It will give participants hands-on experience with AI-driven language technologies and strengthen research and innovation in regional language computing.

Sad Demise



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you about the sad demise of **Mst. Sundri**, wife of Haji Habibullah Sofi, R/o Rathpora Eidgah, Srinagar, who passed away on **7th August 2026.**

Rasm-e-Chaharum will be held on **Monday, 10th August 2026**, at the Ancestral Graveyard, Gulshanabad, Noorbagh, Hospital Road, near Al-Noor School, Srinagar.

May Allah (SWT) forgive her, grant her Jannat-ul-Firdous, elevate her ranks in the hereafter, and give Sabr-e-Jameel to the bereaved family.

Ameen.

Please remember the departed soul in your prayers.

Bereaved

 **7006455234**

 **6005543879**

Rafiq Ahmad
Mohammad Saleem, (Sons)

GOVERNMENT OF (U.T) JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPTT. GROUND WATER DIVISION SRINAGAR

BAGHI-ALI-MARDAN, NOWSHARA SRINAGAR.

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

EXTENSION NOTICE 6TH.

Subject: AMC for the 550-200 and 575-225 Diesel Powered Screw Air (Elgi) Compressors.

Reference: This office Fresh e-NIT No. 17-JS-PHE/GWDS/Mech. of 2026-27, issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/26-27/Camp./ 1875-85-20, dated: 25-05-2026. Bearing Tender ID No. 2026_PHE_310884_2.

Due to "NO Response" for the above mentioned works advertised videe-NIT No. and Tender ID No's under reference. Which was scheduled to be downloaded till 07-08-2026 Up-to 01:00 PM are extended as per the details given below: -

S.No.	Item	Fresh Date
1.	Period of submission of bids	18-08-2026 Up-to 11:00 AM
2.	Date of opening of tenders	19-08-2026 at 11:00 AM

NOTE:

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

No: -JS-PHE/GWDS/26-27/Camp./ 6600-09

Dated: 07-08-2026.

DIPK-4326-26

DT: 08/08/2026

Sd/= Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt. Ground Water Division Srinagar.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION PULWAMA.

e-NIT No : 02 of 2026-27, Dated 08-08-2026. (Scheme: CAPEX District Pulwama)

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

Name of Works:

S.NO	Name of Work	Adv. Cost in Lacs	EMD Percentage of Adv. Cost	Tender Document Cost	Class Of Contractor	Time of Completion in Days
1	PART I DISTRICT: PULWAMA Scheme : CAPEX District Pulwama 2026-27. Maintenance and Upgradation of Guard Hut at Arigam Nursery Scheme:CAPEX Location Arigam Nursery Range: SF Range Awantipora 2nd Details of Work To be Executed: strictly as per the estimate and Uploaded BOQ against the work published vide this E-NIT.	2.40	2%	200	"D"	30
2.	Maintenance and Upgradation of Guard Hut at Divisional Office Arigam Scheme:CAPEX Location Arigam Range: SF Range Awantipora 2nd Details of Work To be Executed: strictly as per the estimate and Uploaded BOQ against the work published vide this E-NIT.	2.185	2%	200	"D"	30

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:-www.jktenders.gov.in

Position of Funds: Budgeted	
Position of AA: Accorded.	Position of TS:Accorded.
Publishing Date :-	08-08-2026 at 1.00 PM
Download StartDate :-	08-08-2026 at 1.00 PM
Bid submission StartDate :-	08-08-2026 at 1.00 PM
Bid submission End Date :-	17-08-2026 Till 6.55 Pm
Date of Opening of Technical Bid (online) :-	18-08-2026 in the Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry Division Pulwama
Date of Opening of Financial Bid (online) :-	To be notified separately after opening of technical cover.

No:-SF/PUL/Plg/390-94, Dated: 08-08-2026

DIPK-4311-26 DT: 08/08/2026

Divisional Forest Officer Social Forestry Division Pulwama

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION KAKAPORA (I & F C DEPARTMENT)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

e-NIT No:-06 of 2026-27

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (in single Cover System) on percentage (%) basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with the J & K Government for the following Work to be opened by the Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Kakapora.

S No	Name of work	Estt. Cost (₹. in lakh)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Cost of T/ Doc. (in₹.)	M.H of Account	Time of Completion	Class of contract
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
1	Construction of F.P work by way of crate on left side Trichal branch of Sasara Nallah at village Koil RD 5850m at spots.	3.75	7500/	400/	2711 M&R	25 days	DEE
2	Construction of flood protection anti erosion work by way of crates on right side of Tongri Nallah down stream Zainpora bridge near hospital at Zainpora.	2.91	5820/	300/	2711 M&R	25 days	DEE
3	Construction of Anti erosion work by way of laying of crates over existing crate wall on right side of watalAra near house of mohd Ramzan wani and others.	4.05	8100/	400/	2711 M&R	30 days	DEE
4	Construction of flood protection, Anti erosion work by way of crates on Right side of Tongri Nallah at village Sofipora.	2.63	5260/	300/	2711 M&R	25 days	DEE
5	Removal of slit/Mulba from choked tributaries at spots of khrew Nallah from Gousia Colony to Qalib Kadil Pampore	1.50	3000/	200/	2711 M&R	15 days	DEE
6	Flood protection bund on left side of Sasara Nallah at Kathuhallan opposite PS Kathuhallan at RD 700m	3.34	6680/	300/	2711 M&R	30 days	DEE
7	Flood protection on right side of Lar Nallah at village Nae-wa RD 2600m at spots	3.26	6520/	300/	2711 M&R	30 days	DEE
8	Construction of flood protection work by way of toe crates on right side of River Jhelum at LIS Iethpora RD 39.85 km..	2.895	5790/	300/	2711 M&R	25 days	DEE
9	Construction of F.P Work by way of laying of Concrete wall on both side of F.P Bund of River Jhelum at Lethpora upstream Hajibal Bridge.	2.95	5900/	300/	2711 M&R	20 days	DEE
10	Repairment of damaged Ghat left side of River Jhelum at Kadizal	4.013	8026/	400/	2711 M&R	30 days	DEE

No of works:- 10 No's

Position of AAA:- Accorded by Superintending Engineer Hydl. Circle Pulwama HQ.Shopain vide order SE/HYD/SPN/DB/27 of 06/2026-27 dt.27-06-2026

Technical Sanction: Sanctioned by Superintending Engineer Hydl. Circle Pulwama HQ.Shopain vide order T.S No.07 of 06/2026-27 dt.10-07-2026 and vide this office Order No.02 of 08/2026 dated 01-08-2026.

Position of funds: 50% available (Committed)

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be seen/ downloaded on e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below: -

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	07/08/2026 from 1800 Hrs
2.	Date of start of downloading	07/08/2026 from 1800 Hrs.
3.	Bid submission start Date Technical/Financial Cover	07/08/2026 from 1800 Hrs.
4.	Bid Submission end date	28/08/2026 up to 1800 Hrs.
5.	Date & Time of opening of Tenders	29/08/2026 at 1200 Hrs.

I. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document fee(Non- Refundable/ Non- transferrable) and Earnest Money Deposit (2% of the Advertised cost) to be deposited into Bank Account No.0367010200000608 IFSC code:JAKATANKEE,Account Name:Chief Engineer Kashmir Irrigation and Flood Control (mentioning therein NIT No, Sr. No of work and Adv. Cost of work) & date on it must not be prior to date of issuance of this tender Notice,

II. The Bidders/Tenderers should mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission No payments shall be released by the Government to any other Bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number. As per JK Finance Departments' Circular No. 01 (Adm) FD of 2025 dated 08-07-2025.

III. The bidders/tenderers shall have to upload Self attested undertaking to the effect that the registered card of the contractor has not been blacklisted/Debarred by any department nor the contractor has been declared insolvent by any court of Law.

IV. The L1 has to deposit 3% of Project Cost as Performance Security as per the above prescribed mechanism given in para 01 part I. All other terms and conditions as laid down in the PWD Form 25 Double shall also remain in force.

No. FCDK/CS/3719-3730

Dated:- 07-08-2026

DIPK-4299-26

DT: 08/08/2026

Sd/- (Er. Farooq Ahmad Ganie) Executive Engineer Flood Control Division Kakapora

