

Good Morning

Kashmir

17th
Year Of Publication

GMK

Srinagar • Sunday 13, September 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 219 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

LeT-Linked Terror Case

NIA Searches 10 Locations Across J&K



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday conducted searches at 10 locations across Kupwara, Kulgam, Bandipora, Baramulla and Sopore in connection with a cross-border terror conspiracy involving Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) handlers and their alleged network of local Over Ground Workers (OGWs).

In a statement issued, an NIA spokesperson said the searches were conducted to unearth further evidence related to the conspiracy and ascertain the roles of individuals providing logistical and other support to infiltrated terrorists.

The spokesperson said the case, initially registered as FIR No. 0024/2026 at Police Station Zakoor, Srinagar, was subsequently

re-registered by the NIA as RC-02/2026/NIA/JMU under Section 23 of the UA(P) Act, 1967, Sections 7 and 25 of the Arms Act, 1959, and Section 4 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908.

He said the investigation commenced following the arrest of an OGW associated with LeT during the late-night hours of March 31, 2026, at a naka point, from whose possession a hand grenade and live ammunition were recovered.

“Further investigation subsequently led to the arrest of Pakistani nationals linked to the conspiracy and revealed the identities and suspected roles of members of the local support network,” he said.

The spokesperson said the investigation had so far revealed linkages between Pakistan-based LeT handlers and their local

BRICS Condemns Pahalgam Attack 'In Strongest Terms' In Delhi Declaration

Calls For Zero Tolerance Towards Terrorism, Action Against Cross-Border Movement Of Terrorists

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: BRICS leaders on Friday strongly condemned the April 22, 2025 terrorist attack in south Kashmir's Pahalgam that killed 26 people and injured several others, while reaffirming their commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

In the New Delhi Declaration adopted at the BRICS Summit, the grouping, described acts of terrorism as "criminal and unjustifiable" regardless of their motivation and asserted that such acts must be condemned wherever and by whomever they are committed.

The leaders specifically denounced the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, 2025, in which 26 people lost their lives, and expressed solidarity with the victims and those affected.

Reaffirming their resolve to fight terrorism, BRICS coun-



tries stressed the need to combat the cross-border movement of terrorists, terror financing networks and the provision of safe havens to extremist groups.

The declaration underlined that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilisation or

ethnic group, and called for all individuals and entities involved in terrorist activities or support networks to be held accountable and brought to justice in accordance with national and international law.

The bloc urged the international community to adopt

a policy of "zero tolerance" towards terrorism and reject double standards in counter-terrorism efforts.

BRICS leaders also emphasised that states bear the primary responsibility for preventing and combating terrorism, adding that global

BRICS nations urge 'restraint' in Middle East

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: BRICS nations on Saturday unanimously adopted a joint declaration expressing "deep concern" over the escalating conflict in the Middle East and called

for maximum restraint, while stressing the need for a multilateral approach that takes into account the perspectives of individual countries.

The New Delhi Declaration, approved on the opening day of the BRICS leaders'

annual summit, comes amid renewed exchanges of strikes between the United States and Iran following a relative lull in hostilities during much of August.

With Iran among the BRICS members

Autumn Session

Speaker Constitutes Business Advisory Committee

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Ahead of the upcoming autumn session of the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather has constituted the Business Advisory Committee (BAC).

According to a notification, the committee comprises legislators from different political parties and has been constituted under Rule 317 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Legislative Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir.

The BAC includes Leader of Opposition Sunil Kumar Sharma (BJP), Ali Muhammad Sagar (NC), Mubarak Gul (NC), Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami (CPI-M), Ghulam Ahmad Mir (Congress), Sajad Gani Lone (PC), and Choudhary Muhammad Akram (Independent).

The Business Advisory Committee is entrusted with



recommending the allocation of time for discussion on Government Bills and other business referred to it by the Speaker. As per the Rules, the BAC may also frame a timetable indicating the hours by which different stages of such business shall be completed, along with any other functions assigned by the Speaker.

Sources disclosed that the Speaker is likely to convene an all-party meeting next week to ensure the smooth functioning of the

J&K launches UT-Wide Apprenticeship Campaign Under NAPS

Over 15,000 Youth Register, 2000+ Establishments Onboarded In One Week

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a major push to enhance youth employability and strengthen industrial productivity, the Department of Skill Development, Jammu & Kashmir, has launched a Union Territory-wide awareness-cum-registration campaign under the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), aimed at creating stronger linkages between classroom learning and the evolving requirements of industry.

The campaign has received an overwhelming response, with more than 15,000 youth registering on the official apprenticeship portal across all 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir in the last few days alone. At the same time, over 2000 MSMEs, industrial



establishments and other organisations have onboarded onto the apprenticeship ecosystem, offering structured apprenticeship opportunities with stipend support.

The initiative is based on the principle of 'Earn while You Learn', under which apprentices receive on-the-job training along with a stipend and an opportunity to gain practical workplace experience. Apprenticeships

generally range from one to two years, enabling young people to acquire industry-relevant skills, workplace discipline and practical exposure while working in real industrial environments.

The District Skill Committees are working closely with the Government ITIs, Polytechnics, industrial establishments, MSMEs and other stakeholders to identify apprenticeship opportunities and facilitate registration of eligible youth. The Deputy Commissioners are also monitoring the progress of the campaign at the district level and ensuring convergence among the various departments and field-level institutions.

The Department of Skill Development is working in close coordination with the departments including

Intensify Action Against Narco-Terror Modules: DGP To Officers



YOGESH

JAMMU: Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhakar on Saturday called for intensifying action against narco-terror modules in Jammu region and directed the officers to enhance intelligence-led operations to counter emerging security threats.

Chairing a high-level security review meeting with officers of Jammu Police to assess the prevailing security scenario, DGP Prabhakar, said, "Dismantling the entire ecosystem of narco-terror networks—including financiers, handlers and logistical

support—must remain a top priority."

He directed officers to maintain a high operational tempo through area domination, night patrolling, intelligence-based interventions and close coordination among all security agencies to ensure that terror outfits and their support structures find no operational space.

"Intensify action against narco-terror modules through enhanced intelligence-led operations and stronger inter-agency coordination to counter emerging security threats in the Jammu region," the DGP added.

The review also

Saffron Replanting Picks Up Pace In Pampore As Farmers Avail JKCIP Support

Govt Provides Rs 28,735 Per Kanal For Replanting, Rs 9,000 Labour Assistance

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: Saffron replanting has gained considerable momentum across the major saffron-growing areas of Pampore as farmers have begun actively rejuvenating their fields under the Jammu and Kashmir Comprehensive Investment Plan (JKCIP).

The ongoing exercise aims to revive saffron cultivation, improve crop productivity, and restore the health of fields that have seen declining yields over the years. Farmers in several villages of Pampore Tehsil, popularly known as the Saffron Town of Kashmir, are participating in the replanting programme with



support from the Agriculture Department.

Under the initiative, financial assistance of Rs 28,735 per kanal is being provided to eligible farmers for saffron replanting, while an additional Rs 9,000 per kanal

is being extended towards labour costs, providing an important financial cushion to growers undertaking the labour-intensive process.

Agriculture Department teams from Zone Pampore are closely monitoring the ongoing

field activities and visiting saffron-growing areas to ensure that the replanting is carried out according to the prescribed technical guidelines.

Officials are also guiding farmers on various aspects of saffron cultivation, including selection of healthy and quality corms, appropriate planting depth, spacing, land preparation and other agronomic practices considered essential for better crop establishment and productivity.

An Agriculture Department official said that around 610 kanals were covered under the replanting programme last year and expressed confidence that the area would increase substantially

SIA Raids 3 Locations In Poonch, Udhampur



AGENCIES

POONCH: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Saturday conducted searches at three locations in Poonch and Udhampur districts of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

An official said that SIA teams carried out searches in Mandi and Surankote areas of Poonch district and Ramnagar in Udhampur district.

The official said that in Mandi, the SIA team searched the residential premises at Cheela Dhangri.

Further details about the searches and the case in connection with which they were conducted are awaited—(KNO)

J&K Govt Not Going To Run For Long, NC A Broken Party: LoP Sharma

SAJID RAINA

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Leader of Opposition (LoP) Sunil Sharma on Saturday claimed that the Omar Abdullah-led government would not complete its five-year term, alleging there was growing dissatisfaction within the ruling National Conference (NC).

Sharma, who was speaking during a visit to Reasi, described the NC as a "broken party" and said the government had failed to fill three vacant ministerial positions despite nearly two years in office.

"The National Conference is currently a broken party," Sharma, said, alleging that only five ministers were running the government despite three vacancies.

He claimed that there was "something wrong" within the government and the



party and said dissatisfaction among ministers could eventually lead to the collapse of the ruling party.

"This government is not going to run for a long time," the BJP leader said when asked whether the National Conference would complete its five-year term.

The LoP also criticised the government over issues raised by people during his visit to Reasi, including water shortages, electricity curtailment and protests

CJ, Executive Chairman inaugurate 3rd National Lok Adalat in Srinagar

23213 cases settled across UT of J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Continuing its endeavor to promote access to justice through swift, cost-effective and amicable resolution of disputes, the J&K Legal Services Authority, under the patronage of Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority and under the dynamic leadership of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority and with the guidance of Justice Sanjay Dhar, Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee, organised the 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026 across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Lok Adalat covered a wide range of matters, including MACT claims, matrimonial disputes, cheque dishonour cases under the Negotiable Instruments Act, money recovery matters, commercial disputes and compoundable criminal offences.

AT SRINAGAR, Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, along with Justice Sanjeev



Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority, jointly inaugurated the 3rd National Lok Adalat at the District Court Complex, Srinagar.

The occasion assumed special significance as it marked the first National Lok Adalat after Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati assumed office as Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh. Upon their arrival, the dignitaries were received by Haq Nawaz Zargar, Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairperson, DLSA Srinagar) and Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and other Judicial Officers of the District Judiciary.

A ceremonial Guard of Honour was also accorded to the Chief Justice. Thereafter, the Chief Justice and

Executive Chairman visited different Lok Adalat Benches and interacted with the Presiding Officers, members of the Benches, Advocates and litigants.

They appreciated the arrangements made for the smooth conduct of the Lok Adalat and witnessed the settlement of cases at the Benches. MACT compensation cheques were also distributed among eligible claimants on the occasion, extending timely relief to the beneficiaries.

As per the information received from various Legal Services Institutions across the UT of J&K, a total of 32908 cases were taken up by 163 Benches during the day-long National Lok Adalat, out of which 23213 cases were amicably settled and disposed of, involving a total

settlement/compensation amount of Rs. 176,22,29,397.

The settled matters included Motor Accident Claims, civil and criminal matters, labour disputes, electricity and water bill disputes, land acquisition matters, family disputes, cheque dishonor cases and bank recovery matters, among others.

Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, while interacting with media persons, expressed his gratitude and appreciated the efforts of the Judicial Officers, Secretaries of DLSAs, Advocates, Para Legal Volunteers, staff of the District and Tehsil Courts and the litigants for their wholehearted participation in the 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar while welcoming the Chief

Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh emphasized the significance of Lok Adalats and observed that they provide an effective mechanism for speedy, amicable and final resolution of disputes without the burden of prolonged litigation.

He urged the public to make greater use of Lok Adalats and encouraged all stakeholders to continue their efforts towards strengthening consensual dispute resolution.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal, High Court of J&K and Ladakh inaugurated the National Lok Adalat at District Court Complex, Jammu. On the occasion, the Principal District & Sessions Judge, Tahir Khurshid Raina received the Justice along with other judicial officers of district Jammu.

Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, informed that the 4th and final National Lok Adalat of the current calendar year is scheduled to be held on December 12, 2026. She urged litigants whose cases could not be listed or settled in the present Lok Adalat to avail themselves of the opportunity in the forthcoming National Lok Adalat.

Div Com reviews implementation of National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, Saturday chaired a meeting to review the implementation of the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) across Kashmir Division.

The meeting was attended by Director, Department of Skill Development; Deputy Commissioners of Kashmir Division; Director, Airport Authority of India; and senior officers from NHPD, BEACON, KPDC, Industries & Commerce, Excise and other concerned departments and agencies.

During the meeting, Director Skill Development, Dr. Owais Ahmad, gave a detailed presentation on the contours of the NAPS, covering eligibility criteria, benefits, registration of establishments, trades covered, registration of apprentices, training components, and the potential for engagement by Central and State PSUs, Corporations and Banks.

It was informed that NAPS aims to enhance apprenticeship engage-



ment, support establishments, and promote skilling across 12 strategic domains comprising 261 designated trades, by organizing specialized vocational training into structured industrial pipelines.

Addressing the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner stated that department-wise targets have already been fixed to enhance workforce engagement under the scheme.

He urged all departments, PSUs, MSMEs and contracting agencies to register their establishments on the NAPS portal and engage apprentices in the prescribed band of 2.5% to 15% of their total workforce.

He further instructed corporations and executing agencies to ensure project-wise registration

on the portal.

The Divisional Commissioner directed Deputy Commissioners to facilitate registration of apprentices from colleges and schools and to monitor progress on a daily basis.

To ensure effective coordination, the Divisional Commissioner appointed Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Zahoor Ahmad Magray, as the Divisional Nodal Officer for NAPS to facilitate inter-departmental coordination and achievement of targets.

Emphasizing time-bound achievement, the Divisional Commissioner said there is no scope for slippage as goalposts have been clearly defined, and called upon all officers to make concerted efforts to surpass the assigned targets within the stipulated timeframe.

DC Budgam review progress of ongoing works at Campus site Rakh Arath



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, along with Director Kashmir Campus, University of Jammu, Dr. Guneet Singh Sudan Saturday visited Kashmir Campus at Rakh Arath, Bemina, to review the progress of ongoing infrastructure works.

During visit, the Deputy Commissioner instructed expediting work on the installation of High Tension (HT) line to ensure power connectivity to the campus at the earliest.

The Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department was directed to extend water supply to the campus on priority. Besides, other works, the Deputy Commissioner asserted on speedy construction of approach road for easy accessibility.

During inspection, the Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the progress of the boundary wall, protective fencing and prefabricated structures, including the mini-office and Chowkidar room. He directed the concerned departments and executing agencies to work in coordination, maintain the required quality standards and complete the remaining works within the prescribed timelines.

The DC said that timely completion of the ongoing works is important for making the campus functional and accessible.

Among others, Director, University of Jammu, Joint Director Planning Budgam, Tehsildar Budgam, Executive Engineer R&B and representatives of the concerned departments were present.

DC Bandipora reviews NAPS Implementation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, Saturday chaired a meeting to review the status of implementation of the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) in the district and deliberate on measures for ensuring registration of eligible establishments on the NAPS portal.

The meeting focused on expediting registration of eligible establishments, particularly major establishments, contractors, vendors, hotels, private institutions and other organisations, besides ensuring greater apprenticeship opportunities for local youth.

The DC directed all concerned officers to undertake establishment-wise mapping in their respective areas and ensure timely registration of eligible establishments on the NAPS portal. She stressed close coordination among departments and establishments to facilitate workplace-based training and employment opportunities for local youth.

DC Kulgam chairs awareness program on NAPS

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: An awareness program under the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) was held Saturday at Kulgam under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam.

The awareness program was organised to sensitize local construction firms and contractors about the scheme's benefits and implementation framework.

Superintendent ITI Kulgam gave a comprehensive briefing on the NAPS scheme, highlighting the critical role, the construction establishments play in onboarding apprentices to

bridge the local skill gap.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized that registration on the NAPS portal is mandatory for all eligible establishments and urged contractors and construction firms to actively engage for nourishing industry-ready talent. He called upon local firms to register promptly, noting that industry participation in apprenticeship programs directly enhances the district's skilled manpower pool.

During the program, a detailed presentation was delivered to guide participants through the step-by-step registration process

on the NAPS portal for both establishments and aspiring students/trainees. The session concluded with an interactive Q&A where officials addressed queries from contractors regarding portal navigation, stipends, and engagement guidelines.

The event was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Superintending Engineer (SE) R&B, Executive Engineer (Exen) R&B, Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) Kulgam, and Superintendent ITI Kulgam, alongside a large gathering of local contractors and representatives from construction firms.

District-Level Seminar on 'Nasha Mukht Vidhyalaya' organized at GDC Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: In a major push toward creating a substance-free educational ecosystem, the Education Department conducted a District Level Seminar on the theme "Nasha Mukht Vidhyalaya" Saturday at the Auditorium Hall of Government Degree College (GDC) Shopian.

The event was graced by the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone as the Chief Guest, while the Principal of GDC Shopian, Tariq Ahmed attended as the Guest of Honour.

The ADDC appreciated the students for their enthusiastic participation in the Nasha Mukht programme and lauded their efforts towards creating awareness against drug abuse. He



urged the students to actively channelize their energy towards positive activities play the role of responsible ambassadors in society. He emphasized that the message of a drug-free life should reach every section of society and called upon the students to become role models in this regard and inspire others to stay away from drugs.

The ADDC praised the initiative, emphasizing that schools must serve as the primary defensive line against substance abuse by fostering positive guidance, vigilant monitoring and healthy engagement.

He highlighted the institution's role in guiding youth toward holistic development and academic excellence, urging students to direct their energy into constructive pursuits.

The ADDC stressed for regularly hosting educational seminars, counseling sessions and youth engagement drives across all schools in the district.

Later, a felicitation ceremony was held during which students and participants were felicitated and mementos and awards were presented in recognition of their participation and contribution to the programme.

3rd National Lok Adalat held at District Anantnag

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: Under the directions of Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice of High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Patron in Chief JKLSA and Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority, 3rd National Lok Adalat was organized Saturday, in District Court Complex Anantnag and Taluka Courts of District Anantnag.

The National Lok Adalat was inaugurated by Masarat Roohi Incharge Principal



District & Sessions Judge (Chairperson District Legal Services Authority), Anantnag, at District Court Complex Anantnag.

Each Court had identified cases for Lok Adalat before-

hand and same were placed before eight different benches constituted by DLSA Anantnag for their settlement in National Lok Adalat.

The first Bench comprised of Masarat Roohi, I/C

Pr. Distt. & Sessions Judge Anantnag and Adv. Raja Mohammad Maqbool, while the second Bench Comprised of Sajad Ur Rehman, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Anantnag and Ahtaz Ahmed, Principal Magistrate JJB, Anantnag.

The third Bench comprised of Lubna Sultan, Special Mobile Magistrate, Anantnag and Anuraj Khajuria, District Mobile Magistrate, Anantnag. The fourth Bench comprised of Rajeev Kumar Tedyal, Sub Judge Bijbehara and Advocate Imam Khurshid Ahmad Shah.

Likewise, the fifth Bench comprised of Altaf Ahmad Mir, Sub Judge Vailoo and Advocate Showkat Ali Khan. The sixth Bench comprised of Arshad Aziz Qureshi, Munsiff/ JMJC Anantnag and Advocate Bilal Ahmad Dar at Aishmuqam.

The seventh Bench comprised of Faza ul Haq, Munsiff Shangus and Advocate Showkat Ahmad Rather and the eighth Bench comprised of Faza ul Haq, Munsiff Shangus and Advocate Bashir Ahmad Rather at Musiff Court Dooru.

Awareness Programme on "Know Your Water" held at Oho Paisan Shangus

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: An educational and awareness programme under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), titled "Know Your Water," was organised at Oho Paisan, Shangus, for students by the Jal Shakti PHE Division Bijbehara.

As part of the programme, students were taken on an exposure visit to the Water Treatment Plant at Oho Paisan, where they were familiarised with various stages involved in making water safe for consumption and supplying it to households.

The students were briefed about the source of raw water and the processes of treatment, filtration, disinfection, testing and distribution. The visit provided them an opportunity to understand how water travels from its natural source through treat-



ment infrastructure before reaching a household tap.

The programme aimed to create awareness among the younger generation about the importance of safe drinking water, water conservation and the achievements made under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Students thanked the Jal Shakti PHE Division Bijbehara for organising the exposure tour. They said the visit helped them understand the process of water treatment and made them realise the importance of preserving and conserving water for future generations. The programme also provided them with an opportunity

to learn about the efforts being made under the Jal Jeevan Mission to improve rural drinking-water infrastructure and provide functional household tap connections.

The students were also sensitised about the need to prevent water wastage, protect water sources and use drinking water responsibly.

The programme highlighted that a water treatment plant is more than just infrastructure, as the journey involves source collection, treatment, filtration, disinfection, quality testing and distribution before water reaches the household tap.

CM Omar led Govt approves ₹49.34 cr parking projects in Jammu

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government, led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, has accorded administrative approval for two major parking infrastructure projects in Jammu, aimed at easing traffic congestion and strengthening planned urban infrastructure in the city.

The approved projects include a Parking-cum-Commercial Complex at Parade and a Multilevel Car Parking facility at SMGS Hospital, Jammu, with a combined estimated cost of ₹49.34 crore.

The projects are envisaged to provide modern and organised parking facilities at key locations,



helping decongest busy areas and improve traffic management. The facilities will also contribute to more efficient utilisation of available urban space and support the broader objective of planned and sustainable urban development.

The new parking infrastructure is expected to significantly improve convenience for commuters, visitors and residents, particularly in areas witnessing high vehicular movement and parking pressure.

Sakeena Itoo visits Nehama, interacts with public

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Minister for Social Welfare, Education, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, Saturday visited Nehama and laid the foundation stone for a Volleyball Academy being established at an estimated cost of Rs 1.00 crore.

The proposed Volleyball Academy is aimed at strengthening the sports infrastructure in the area and providing local youth with modern and better facilities to hone their sporting skills. The initiative is expected to encourage greater participation of young people in sports and promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

During her visit, the Minister interacted with the local residents and listened to their grievances, developmental concerns and demands. People from Nehama and adjoining villages projected various issues related to development and sought timely intervention for their resolution.

Sakeena Itoo assured the people that their genuine



concerns would be examined and taken up with the concerned departments for appropriate action.

Emphasizing the need for quality and timely execution of developmental works, the Minister directed the engineering and concerned departments to maintain strict focus on the quality of works and ensure their completion within the stipulated timelines.

Sakeena Itoo stressed that every rupee allocated by the government for public welfare is valuable and must be utilized judiciously, transparently and effectively.

The Minister also called upon the Youth Services and Sports Department to ensure proper upkeep and systematic development of all playgrounds and sports facilities in the district. She

emphasized the need for adequate fencing and other essential infrastructure so that playgrounds remain functional, safe and accessible to young people.

Sakeena Itoo underscored the importance of providing youth with adequate opportunities and facilities to participate in sports. She stated that investment in sports infrastructure contributes not only to sporting excellence but also to the overall physical and social development of the younger generation.

On the occasion, the Minister also distributed appointment orders among newly selected Anganwadi Workers, appreciating role of frontline staff in strengthening the community-based services and women and child welfare initiatives.

Satish Sharma tours Chhamb Constituency, reviews development works



GMK NEWS NETWORK

CHHAMB: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Youth Services & Sports, Science & Technology and ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, Saturday undertook an extensive tour of the Chhamb Assembly Constituency and took stock of ongoing developmental activities besides laying foundation stones for a number of new projects aimed at strengthening civic infrastructure and improving public amenities.

During the tour, the Minister interacted with local residents, public representatives and officers and reviewed the pace of development works in different areas. He directed the concerned departments to ensure timely execution of projects while maintaining quality and transparency.

At Khour Town, the Minister laid the foundation stone for the construction of storm-water drains in different wards of Khour Town, being executed at an estimated cost of ₹4.50 crore. The project is aimed

at improving drainage infrastructure and addressing water logging and related problems faced by residents.

Satish Sharma also laid the foundation stone for construction of lanes and drains in all wards of Municipal Committee Khour, at a cost of ₹99.06 lakh, with the objective of improving local connectivity, sanitation and civic infrastructure across the town.

At Rakh Malal, the Minister laid the foundation stone for a Multipurpose Hall and creation of facilities for a Reading Room, estimated to cost ₹19.43 lakh. He also laid the foundation stone for construction of a Tin Shed at Baba Badbachaig Dev Sathan, Rakh Malal, at a cost of ₹5 lakh, aimed at improving facilities for devotees and visitors.

At Nikkia, Tehsil Khour, the Minister laid the foundation stone for improvement of the existing Devsthan/religious site, including augmentation of the shed, development of public amenities, provision of a ramp and washroom for specially-abled persons, tile work and allied works. The project has an estimated cost of ₹60

lakh.

Another important project taken up during the tour was the construction of a 16-metre vented crossway connecting Romali to Thun Naryani, for which the foundation stone was laid at an estimated cost of ₹70 lakh. The project is expected to improve connectivity and facilitate movement of people between the adjoining areas.

The developmental projects for which foundation stones were laid during the tour have a combined estimated cost of approximately ₹7.03 crore, covering drainage, roads and lanes, public amenities, religious site infrastructure and connectivity.

The Minister emphasised that development must reach every habitation and that civic infrastructure, connectivity and basic amenities remain among the government's key priorities. He called upon the executing agencies to work in close coordination with local communities and ensure that the benefits of developmental projects reach the people in a timely manner.

Speaker directs accelerated execution of new Legislative Assembly Complex

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, Saturday visited the new Legislative Assembly Complex and reviewed the progress of ongoing works, taking detailed stock of the physical and infrastructural development achieved so far.

During the visit, the concerned officers briefed the Speaker about the status of various components of the prestigious project, including the works completed, those nearing completion and the activities presently in progress. A detailed assessment was also made of the works pending and the pace of execution of different components.

It was informed that several important works have already been completed in full. These include internal plumbing, granite work on service stairs, door and window frames, and plastering, which have achieved 100 per cent completion. The Speaker was further apprised that work on other components of the project is also progressing at a brisk pace and is pres-



ently in full swing.

Taking note of the progress achieved, Speaker Rather emphasised that the New Assembly Complex is a prestigious and important institutional project, which is expected to provide modern and comprehensive facilities for the effective functioning of the Legislature. He underscored the need for maintaining sustained momentum in the execution of the project so that all components are completed within the prescribed timeframe.

The Speaker directed the concerned officers and executing agencies to expedite the pace of work and gear up men and machin-

ery to ensure timely completion of the remaining components. He called for close and continuous monitoring of the progress at every stage and directed that any bottlenecks affecting the pace of execution be identified and resolved promptly.

Speaker Rather stressed that the stipulated timeline for completion of the project must be adhered to in letter and spirit. He directed the concerned agencies to put in place an effective execution and monitoring mechanism so that the remaining works are taken up simultaneously, wherever feasible, without compromising on

the quality and prescribed standards.

Later, during the review meeting, the Speaker specifically directed that the entire project be completed within the stipulated deadline of October 2027, stating that timely completion of the New Assembly Complex should remain a priority for all concerned.

He further called upon the executing agencies to ensure effective coordination and sustained supervision of the works, with particular emphasis on quality, workmanship and adherence to approved specifications and timelines.

The Speaker reiterated

that the New Assembly Complex carries significant institutional importance and expressed the expectation that concerted efforts by all stakeholders would ensure its timely completion and operationalisation as planned.

Secretary JKLA Manoj Kumar Pandit besides CE Mechanical, SE R&B and others senior officers from concerned departments were present in the meeting.

Later, Speaker Rather convened a meeting with the Director Estates and officers of the concerned departments to review the preparedness of the Old Assembly Complex and associated facilities ahead of the Darbar Move.

During the meeting, the Speaker took stock of the overall condition of the premises and directed the concerned authorities to undertake necessary repairs, renovation and maintenance works wherever required well before the Darbar Move, so that the complex remains fully functional and adequately equipped for the ensuing legislative requirements.

Rana lays foundation stone for ₹1.86 cr Water Supply Augmentation Scheme

GMK NEWS NETWORK

POONCH: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Saturday inaugurated the newly constructed Rest House at Jaran Wali Gali and laid the foundation stone for a major Water Supply Augmentation Scheme aimed at strengthening the drinking water infrastructure in the area.

The Minister was accompanied by MLA Surankote, Choudhary Mohammad Akram along with senior officers and officials of the concerned departments.

The newly constructed Rest House, completed at a cost of ₹45 lakh under UT CAPEX 2025-26, marks an important addition to the field infrastructure in the challenging area. The facility is expected to provide essential support to the departmental officers and field staff, enabling them to undertake field visits, inspections and monitoring of developmental works more efficiently.

The Rest House will also facilitate better coordination among the field functionaries and contribute towards strengthening the government's administrative outreach in remote and difficult-to-access areas.

The Minister appreciated the efforts of the



concerned departments in completing the facility and stressed the importance of creating adequate infrastructure for personnel working in far-flung areas.

On the occasion, the Minister also laid the foundation stone for the ₹185.58 lakh Water Supply Augmentation Scheme at Jaran Wali Gali. The scheme is aimed at augmenting the existing drinking water infrastructure and improving the availability, adequacy and reliability of potable water in the area. The project, once completed, will benefit the residents of Jaran Wali Gali and adjoining habitations, augmenting their drinking water requirements and strengthening the local water supply network.

Later, the Minister laid the foundation stone for the PMGSY road connectivity project from Sanghiote Road to Hattan Ferozalan, covering 4.702 km. The project will provide all-weather connectiv-

ity to remote habitations, easing the movement of residents and improving access to healthcare, education, markets and other essential services.

The Minister said that it will strengthen the local connectivity and support socio-economic development in the hilly and far-flung areas of the region. He reiterated the government's commitment to ensure equitable, inclusive and balanced development across the Pir Panjal region, with special emphasis on remote and geographically challenging pockets.

The Minister said that strengthening basic infrastructure and ensuring reliable access to essential public services remain among the foremost priorities of the government. He emphasized the need for timely completion of ongoing and newly sanctioned projects while maintaining quality standards and ensuring optimal utilization of public funds.

Javid Dar inaugurates Fashion Designing Centre at GDC Hadipora

Terms skill education essential for youth empowerment

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, Saturday inaugurated a Fashion Designing Centre for cutting, tailoring and sozni work at Government Degree College Hadipora, Rafiabab, here.

The initiative marks a significant step towards strengthening the skill-based education and creating avenues for vocational training, self-employment and livelihood generation among students and local youth.

The newly established centre will provide practical training in cutting, tailoring, fashion designing and traditional Sozni embroidery, enabling participants to acquire market-oriented skills and explore opportunities in entrepreneurship and



income generation.

The initiative is expected to particularly benefit young women by equipping them with employable skills, fostering self-reliance and encouraging their participation in economic activities.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister emphasized the importance of skill-based education in enhancing employability and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for the younger generation. He said that educational institutions have a crucial role in preparing students not only for academic pursuits but also for the changing demands of the employment and entrepreneurial landscape.

The Minister stressed the need to promote vocational training alongside formal education so that students can develop practical expertise, build confidence and pursue self-employment opportunities.

Highlighting the importance of traditional crafts, Javid Dar said that initiatives promoting Sozni embroidery can help preserve the region's rich cultural heritage while creating new avenues of livelihood for skilled artisans and aspiring entrepreneurs. He appreciated the college administration for establishing the centre and encouraged the students and local youth to make the best use of the facilities being provided.

Anil Kumar inspects Transit accommodation at Kulangam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Public Works (R&B) Department, Anil Kumar Singh, Saturday conducted an on-site inspection of the Transit Accommodation at Kulangam and reviewed the ongoing development works being executed in the area.

The ACS was accompanied by the Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Shrikant



Suse and officers of the concerned departments and executing agencies.

During the inspection, Anil Kumar took a detailed assessment of the ongoing works and reviewed the progress of various developmental projects at the Transit Accommodation. The concerned officers briefed him about the status of the works, execution timelines and the facilities being provided to the residents.

The ACS appreciated the quality and overall execution of the works there,

describing it as one of the best-developed migrant colonies in Kashmir. He directed the concerned officers and executing agencies to ensure that all the remaining buildings are completed in a similar manner, maintaining the same standards of quality, planning and aesthetics. He stressed upon the need for proper plantation, landscaping and development of small parks and green spaces within the colony to

further enhance its overall appearance and provide a pleasant and healthy environment for the residents.

He directed the officers to maintain close coordination and ensure that all necessary civic and basic facilities are made available at the Transit Accommodation at the earliest. He reiterated the administration's commitment towards timely completion of development projects and provision of better facilities and a conducive living environment to the residents.

Div Com reviews removal of bottlenecks for Srinagar Ring Road Phase-II, II-A



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, Saturday chaired a meeting to review the clearance of impediments for Srinagar Ring Road (SRR) Phase-II and II-A to expedite the completion of the project.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, SSP Traffic Rural, Project Director NHA, and officers from R&B, PHE and KPDC.

On the occasion, officers of NHA gave a detailed presentation on the project, highlighting the impediments faced by the executing agency, including land acquisition status, compensation disbursed, demolition of Government and private structures, shifting/alteration of establishment structures, utility shifting, court cases and tree felling.

During the meeting, the Div Com directed the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal to depute a joint team comprising ADC Ganderbal, Tehsildar, NHA and the contractor to hand over possession of acquired land to the executing agency by Tuesday. He further directed NHA to take possession of the greenfield land parcels as there is no issues faced by the agency. He also directed documentation of private structures and demolition of all such structures by Saturday to remove black spots and bottlenecks.

The Div Com further directed phased felling of Chinara and Walnut trees falling within the road alignment, as per due procedure. He also impressed upon the NHA officers to undertake immediate maintenance of existing roads in Ganderbal damaged due to movement of their project vehicles.

Good Morning

Kashmir

EDITORIAL

When Nature Strikes, Relief Cannot Wait

For a farmer, an orchard is not merely a piece of land. It is months of labour, investment, hope and often the only dependable source of a family's annual income. When a sudden hailstorm tears through standing crops and fruit trees in a matter of minutes, it can wipe out months of hard work in the blink of an eye. The sudden hailstorm accompanied by strong winds in parts of Beerwah in Budgam is therefore not just a weather event. For the affected farming families, it is an economic setback that demands an equally swift administrative response. Farmers had spent months cultivating their fields and tending their orchards, waiting for the season when their labour would translate into income. Instead, nature has left damaged fruit-bearing trees, battered crops and uncertainty about what remains of their expected earnings. The immediate requirement is simple: go to the ground, assess the damage and document it without delay. Government departments cannot accurately understand the extent of agricultural losses from offices and files alone. Teams must visit the affected villages, inspect orchards and fields, record the damage and prepare a credible assessment. Every passing day matters, particularly when damaged crops and fruit can deteriorate further. For farmers, an assessment is not merely a bureaucratic exercise. It is the first step towards relief. The administration has mechanisms for dealing with weather-related agricultural losses. What farmers reasonably expect is that these mechanisms should work when they are actually needed. If a family loses a substantial portion of its seasonal income because of an extreme weather event, assistance delayed for months can lose much of its meaning. There is also a larger lesson here. Kashmir's agriculture and horticulture remain highly vulnerable to sudden weather fluctuations. Hailstorms, unseasonal rainfall, high winds, heatwaves and other extreme weather events are increasingly becoming serious risks to farm livelihoods. Climate vulnerability is no longer an abstract environmental concern; it is directly affecting household incomes. This makes preparedness as important as post-disaster relief. Crop insurance coverage, timely weather advisories, protective infrastructure, scientific orchard management and accessible compensation mechanisms need greater attention. Farmers should not be left to face every climatic shock alone after investing their savings and labour into the land. At the same time, relief must be based on transparent assessment. Genuine losses should be identified fairly, assistance should reach those actually affected, and the entire process should remain free from unnecessary delays and discretion. Beerwah's farmers are not asking for charity. They are asking for the damage they suffered to be recognised and for the support available under government provisions to reach them. When a storm takes only minutes to destroy a season's labour, administration should not take months to respond. The hailstorm has already passed. The test for the administration begins now.

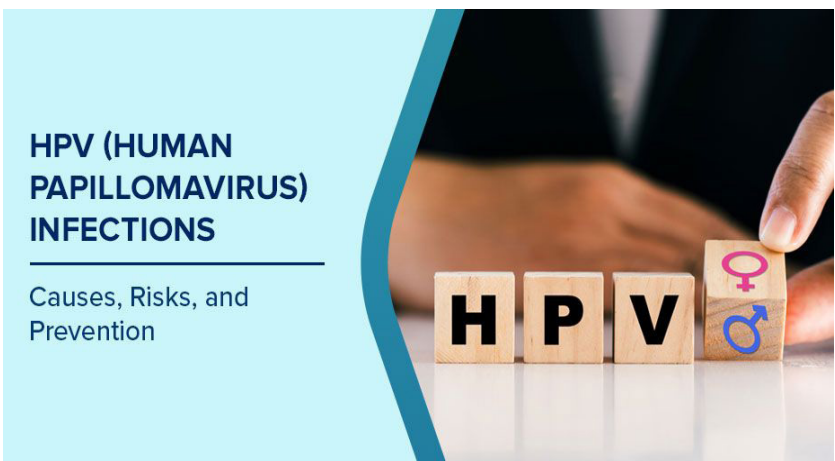
HPV: The Silent Threat We Can Prevent

Prevention Is Not Simply About Avoiding Disease; It Is About Protecting The Possibility Of A Healthier Tomorrow.



JASEERA REHMAN

Some of the most effective health measures are not elaborate treatments or costly procedures, but basic steps such as raising awareness, getting vaccinated, getting screened, and seeking timely treatment. Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a clear example. Human papillomavirus (HPV) is among the most common viral infections around the world, and although most human papillomavirus infections clear on their own, persistence of certain high-risk types leads to cervical cancer and other cancers. The good news about all this is that many HPV-related diseases can be prevented. HPV refers to a group of more than 200 related viruses. Because most HPV infections are asymptomatic, a person may never know that they are infected. In the majority of infections, the body naturally eliminates the virus on its own. Nevertheless, in some situations, persistent high-risk HPV infections can cause changes to the cells of the cervix. If these changes are not detected and treated, the changes will gradually evolve into cancer of the cervix. That is why HPV infections matter so much from a public health point of view. While women affected by the virus might be completely healthy and unaware of the changes occurring in their body, symptoms such as unusual bleeding and pelvic pain may develop. That is why prevention and detection are extremely crucial in the case of HPV infections. This potential has been noted by the global health community. In their strategy to eliminate cervical cancer globally, the WHO emphasizes three primary pillars: HPV vaccination, screening for cervical cancer, and treatment of precancerous lesions and invasive cervical cancer. The aim is quite ambitious, but it is a good reflection of a crucial fact: when prevention is implemented at the right time, lives could be saved. This is especially relevant to India. With a vast and diverse population with significant geographical, cultural, and socioeconomic. Access to healthcare is not uniform across the country, even between urban and rural areas. The same goes for awareness about certain health issues that depend on people's education level, social standing, and health



information sources. Hence, prevention of cervical cancer cannot be provided exclusively by specialized hospitals; it needs to be integrated into community healthcare. This is equally relevant to Kashmir. Although considerable progress has been made in education and healthcare awareness in the Valley, discussions about sexual and reproductive health can still be taboo in many families. But even if there is some embarrassment or misinformation, it doesn't mean that there should be no discussion. One respectful and informed conversation can be enough to begin the journey towards prevention. That is how health education goes beyond mere information and turns into a tool of empowerment. Women need to know that HPV is very common, and getting an HPV infection does not mean that you have cancer. They should know the importance of the recommended cervical screening and consultations. Parents need access to reliable information about HPV vaccination, as this will allow them to make the right decision regarding their children's health. Children themselves deserve to receive scientific information without being threatened, embarrassed, and stigmatized. HPV vaccination is one of the best ways to prevent HPV-related diseases. HPV vaccines can prevent most HPV cancers and other conditions caused by HPV. It is especially beneficial if the vaccine is taken at the recommended age, preferably before exposure to the virus. Individuals should follow national vaccination recommendations and consult a healthcare professional when needed. Cervical screening is the second tool of prevention. Depending on national guidelines and personal situations, cervical screening can include testing for HPV or a Pap test and other kinds of screenings. Screening aims to detect HPV infection and abnormal cervical cell changes before the development of cancer. A nurse's responsibilities extend far beyond providing direct care. A nurse is an educator, counselor, advocate, and mediator between healthcare information and the general public. Nursing students and practitioners may be helpful in spreading information about HPV, as they can explain the infection using simple language, remove myths, promote appropriate vaccinations and screenings, maintain confidentiality, and guide patients towards seeking medical assistance. We also need to confront the stigma around HPV infections. Having an HPV infection should never be a basis for judging a person's moral values or character. An infection does not define a person's mortality, personality, or worth. People living with HPV infections deserve dignity, privacy, and compassionate care like any other person. Judgment-free healthcare discussions motivate people to seek medical assistance. Social media and technology can also become our allies in this process. Youth obtain more and more of their health information from the Internet; however, everything that young people see on the Internet might not be credible. Credible healthcare providers, educational establishments, and responsible content creators can take advantage of technology and disseminate credible information in simple and culturally sensitive language. Sometimes, one small awareness message can be seen by hundreds of people who will never attend a healthcare program otherwise. At the community level, prevention needs to go beyond the cities. Schools, colleges, PHC facilities, community health workers, and local awareness programs can help here too. Information should be produced in languages that people understand and use in their daily lives. Prevention becomes real when there is access to both information and healthcare services.

In the majority of infections, the body naturally eliminates the virus on its own. Nevertheless, in some situations, persistent high-risk HPV infections can cause changes to the cells of the cervix. If these changes are not detected and treated, the changes will gradually evolve into cancer of the cervix.

In my opinion, as a student of nursing, HPV awareness is one of the most important lessons in preventive healthcare because we shouldn't wait until disease becomes apparent before taking action. Every vaccination given at the right age, every screening test performed at the right time, every myth challenged, and every woman encouraged to seek medical advice can contribute to a healthier community. The conversation around HPV should not be based on fear but on opportunity. We have enough means to minimize risks, detect the disease early, and prevent its negative consequences. The main thing we need is to apply these means. Indeed, while HPV may be silent, our reaction towards HPV mustn't be silent either. From global initiatives to villages and communities in Kashmir, prevention starts with making sure that education precedes disease. The path towards preventing cervical cancer in the future will require not just the efforts of hospitals and medical treatment alone, but also awareness, trust, accessibility, and caring health care practitioners. In the face of replacing silence with communication, myths with education, and fear with action, we can save not only ourselves but our loved ones too. Prevention starts now, before disease strikes.

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BRICS: India's New Roar

A New Platform Of Opportunities And Challenges For India



DR. SATYAWAN SAURABH

Today, BRICS is not just an economic grouping of emerging economies, but has also become an important platform for amplifying the voice of the global South in the changing world order. Originally composed of Brazil, Russia, India, and China, BRICS was renamed BRICS after South Africa joined in 2011. Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates became full members in 2024, and Indonesia also joined as a full member in January 2025. With this expansion, BRICS now comprises 11 major emerging economies. The year 2026 holds special significance for India, as it assumes the BRICS Chairmanship from January 1, 2026, and New Delhi is scheduled to host the 18th BRICS Summit. The central vision of India's Chairmanship is focused on resilience, innovation, cooperation, and sustainable development. This Chairmanship not only gives India the role of a convener, but also provides an opportunity to influence the group's priorities and future direction. The greatest significance of BRICS lies in strengthening India's strategic autonomy. India has long advocated a foreign policy that builds relationships with diverse countries and forums in accordance with its national interests, rather than relying solely on a single power bloc. While India's partnerships with countries like China and Russia are part of BRICS, India also



cooperates with the United States, Europe, Japan, and other powers in parallel. BRICS thus provides a practical basis for India's multi-alignment foreign policy. Another important aspect of BRICS is strengthening the voice of the Global South. Even today, many decisions in international institutions are made within structures where the representation of developing countries is not commensurate with their economic and demographic roles. India has consistently raised the need for reform of institutions such as the United Nations Security Council, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank. Through BRICS, developing countries can collectively strengthen their demand for a more representative and equitable global governance system. BRICS is also important for India from an economic perspective. Expanded membership means new opportunities for cooperation in larger markets, investment, energy, trade, technology, and supply chains. This opportunity

is particularly significant for India as the global economy is facing increasing trends of protectionism, trade tensions, and supply chain restructuring. Cooperation within BRICS to reduce trade barriers and facilitate payment systems can benefit India's economic interests. The possibilities of cooperation on trade in local currencies and cross-border payment systems are also important in this direction. The New Development Bank is a significant achievement of BRICS in the field of development finance. Its objective is to provide financing for infrastructure and sustainable development projects. Such institutions are important for developing countries because they can serve as both an alternative and a complement to traditional global financial institutions. For India, this offers vast potential for cooperation in projects related to transport, energy, urban development, climate, and green infrastructure. But BRICS faces challenges. The most significant challenge is the diverse and sometimes conflicting strategic interests

of its member states. Border disputes and broader strategic competition between India and China could impact any deeper political or security cooperation. Global developments such as the Russia-West conflict, the situation in West Asia, and the US-China rivalry could also create divisions within BRICS. The second challenge is the complexity of coordination after expansion. When the group was smaller, building a common approach was relatively easy. Now, with 11 full members and partner countries of varying levels, decision-making has become more complex. Each country has a different economic structure, political priorities, and foreign policy. Therefore, simply increasing its numbers is not enough; a common agenda and effective institutional mechanisms are also essential. Another serious challenge is the growing tendency to view BRICS as an anti-Western alliance. If the grouping is presented solely as an alternative or rival to the US and the West, its developmental

and economic objectives could be harmed. It would be in India's interest to develop BRICS as a multipolar and inclusive cooperation platform rather than a bloc pitted against anyone. India's 2026 presidency is a significant opportunity in this regard. India should move beyond mere announcements and focus on practical results. Concrete projects can be launched in areas such as trade and investment, digital public infrastructure, artificial intelligence, health, agriculture, energy, climate change, disaster management, and sustainable development. Strengthening the New Development Bank's functionality and project finance capacity should also be a priority. Ultimately, the success of BRICS will be determined by how influential its statements are in global politics; more importantly, by how much practical cooperation it generates. For India, BRICS is an important platform for strategic autonomy, economic opportunities, the collective power of the global South, and a more representative world order. Its diversity is certainly a challenge, but it can also be its strength. During its presidency, India should center consensus, dialogue, and development, making BRICS a platform that stands not against any power, but in favor of equality, cooperation, and a balanced multipolar world order. BRICS is not just a diplomatic platform for India, but an opportunity to shape its independent and influential role in the changing world order. If India succeeds in combining its presidency with practical cooperation, solidarity with the global South, and balanced diplomacy, it could play a decisive role in shaping BRICS's new direction.

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

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Good Morning

Kashmir

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Office Address:

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

Printed at:

Khidmat Offset Printing Press, The Bund, Srinagar

Published From:

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

Layout Designer

Aijaz Ahmad Dar

The Secret Of A Contented Life



OMKAR DATTATRAY

Contentment is one of the greatest treasures a human being can possess. It is not measured by wealth, fame, or material possessions, but by the peace of mind and satisfaction one experiences from within. A contented life does not mean the absence of ambition or challenges; rather, it means finding joy, gratitude, and balance while striving for a better future. Different religions talk and favour contentment for their followers. So an individual should feel contentment, and it is possible only if one is the owner of a contented and satisfied life. One should be thankful to the Almighty for giving his life and bestowing all the essential needs for a good life.

Contentment cannot be measured in monetary terms or material things, but it is a state of mind when the individual is satisfied and does not curse his luck for any untoward incident but takes everything as the Gods' making and remains grateful to the supreme master of the universe. A contented life does not depend on possessing everything one desires. Rather, it arises from appreciating what one has, maintaining inner peace, and living with purpose and integrity.

Contentment is a state of mind that allows a person to remain calm and joyful despite life's inevitable challenges. One of the greatest secrets of contentment is gratitude. People who count their blessings instead of constantly comparing themselves with others experience greater happiness. Gratitude shifts our focus from what is lacking to what is already abundant in our lives—our family, health, friendships, and opportunities. Contentment is one of humanity's greatest aspirations and real wealth. Every individual



seeks happiness, peace, and fulfilment, yet may fail to achieve lasting satisfaction because they confuse contentment with material success. Wealth, fame, power, and luxury can provide comfort, but they do not necessarily guarantee inner peace. A truly contented life is one in which a person enjoys harmony with oneself, with others, and with the world.

Understanding Contentment—Contentment is a state of mind characterised by satisfaction, gratitude, and tranquillity. It does not imply a lack of ambition or the absence of goals. Rather, it means pursuing one's aspirations without becoming enslaved by endless desires. A contented person strives for excellence but remains emotionally balanced whether success or failure comes. As the Greek philosopher Socrates observed, 'He is richest who is content with the least.' Similarly, Indian philosophers have long emphasised that true happiness comes from mastering one's desires rather than multiplying them.

Gratitude – The Foundation of Contentment – Gratitude is perhaps the greatest secret of a contented life.

Instead of dwelling on what is missing, grateful people appreciate the blessings they already possess – health, family, education, friendship, and opportunities. Another key to contentment is simplicity. Modern life often encourages endless consumption and competition, creating dissatisfaction. A simple lifestyle, guided by genuine needs rather than endless wants, brings peace and reduces stress. As the saying goes, "Simple living and high thinking" remain relevant today and are one of the cornerstones of contented life. Healthy relationships are equally important. Love, trust, compassion, and mutual respect within families and communities provide emotional security and lasting happiness. Material wealth may bring comfort, but it cannot replace the warmth of meaningful human relationships.

A contented person also develops self-discipline and emotional balance. Accepting success with humility and failure with courage helps maintain inner stability. Instead of being consumed by anger, jealousy, or greed, such a person cultivates patience, forgiveness, and kindness.

Good physical and mental health are indispensable for a contented life. Regular exercise, a balanced diet, adequate rest, and practices such as Yoga and meditation promote physical fitness and mental peace. They help reduce anxiety and improve overall well-being.

Living with a sense of purpose gives life meaning. Whether through honest work, service to society, or devotion to one's family, contributing to something larger than oneself brings deep satisfaction. Acts of generosity and helping those in need often produce greater happiness than the pursuit of personal gain alone.

Contentment also grows through acceptance. Life is a mixture of joy and sorrow, success and failure. Accepting circumstances that cannot be changed while striving to improve those that can is a mark of wisdom. This balanced outlook prevents frustration and builds resilience.

Spiritual values play a significant role in nurturing contentment. Faith, moral living, self-reflection, and compassion help individuals rise above material concerns and discover lasting peace. The secret of a contented

life lies not in accumulating wealth or chasing endless ambitions, but in cultivating gratitude, simplicity, good health, meaningful relationships, self-discipline, and a sense of purpose. A contented person is not one who has everything but one who values what he has, serves others with sincerity, and faces life with hope and balance. Inner peace. Such contentment is the foundation of genuine happiness and a fulfilling life.

A society built on contentment is more peaceful and harmonious. Citizens who value honesty, moderation, and cooperation contribute to social stability. Contented people are less likely to engage in corruption, exploitation, or violence.

Indian spiritual traditions have long emphasised contentment as a supreme value. Ancient scriptures such as the Bhagavad Gita teach the importance of performing one's duties without attachment to the fruits of action. The philosophy of Nishkama Karma—selfless action without selfish expectations—leads to mental peace and contentment. The practice of yoga, meditation, and self-discipline has also been central to Indian culture. These practices help individuals master their minds, reduce stress, and develop equanimity in all situations.

The secret of a contented life lies not in accumulating more possessions but in cultivating a peaceful mind, grateful heart, and compassionate spirit. It comes from balancing ambition with acceptance, achievement with humility, and personal success with service to others. By practising gratitude, controlling desires, nurturing relationships, living ethically, and remaining mindful, anyone can experience genuine and lasting happiness. As the Philosopher Socrates is often credited with saying, 'He who is not contented with what he has would not be contented with what he would like to have.' True contentment is therefore not found outside us—it is a state of mind that transforms ordinary life into an extraordinary journey.

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When Chemistry Meets Chinar A Story Of Survival, Sacrifice, And Spring

SADAFIYA AMIN

Every year in October my college road changes. For eleven months it is just a road, but for fifteen days in Harud it becomes a red carpet. The sky is blue, the air smells of burning leaves, and the giant Chinar trees near our main gate start bleeding colour. Tourists stop their cars just to click a photo. We Kashmiris call it 'Booune falling', but for me as a chemistry student, it was a question that would not let me sleep. Why does it have to turn blood-red before it falls?

There are many Chinar trees near the main gate of my college. This is my favourite place to sit. I remember one day my friend said to me, "Look, the tree is dying." I replied, "No, it is not dying; it is saving itself." She laughed. From that day on I wanted to prove it. So this autumn I collected some of those red leaves for my lab.

What I found is that the Chinar is not dying in autumn. It is fighting to survive with brilliant chemistry. The tree we lovingly call Chinar is actually *Platanus orientalis* or the Oriental Plane. The Mughals brought it to Kashmir 400 years ago, but today it is our identity. According to the J&K Forest Department, there were more than 40000 Chinars in the Valley in the 1970s. Today, after road widening and urbanisation, less than 18000 remain. Every tree is now geo-tagged by the government. Its life is legally protected. Cutting it is a crime because a Chinar does not live for 50 years like an apple tree. It lives for 1000 years. So what happens inside the leaf?

In summer the leaf is green because of chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is a molecule with magnesium at its centre. It helps the tree make food from sunlight. It is so intensely green that it hides all the other colours inside the leaf like a loud voice hiding two whispers. But inside the same leaf two other colours lie dormant from birth. Carotenoid, which gives a yellow and orange colour like in carrots. This colour is already there from May itself. Anthocyanin, which gives a blood-red colour like in Kashmiri apples, blueberries and Anardana. This colour is not there



in summer. The tree makes it only in autumn. In summer we cannot see them because chlorophyll is too dominant.

When autumn comes, the days become short and the night temperature falls to 5 degrees Celsius. The Chinar knows winter is coming. To save energy it forms a separation layer called the abscission layer at the stem of the leaf. Then it breaks down the chlorophyll and takes back the precious nitrogen and magnesium into its branches to store for next spring. As the green disappears, the yellow of carotenoid appears. That is why in the first week of October all Chinars become a bright golden yellow.

But why does it turn blood-red? This is the most interesting part and my favourite experiment. The red colour is not old. The tree creates

it freshly at a cost. Scientists call it the Sunscreen Theory or the Light Screen Hypothesis. When the leaf is about to fall, the tree still wants to suck the last bit of sugar from it. But the bright autumn sun can burn that sugar and cause photo-oxidative damage. So the tree produces anthocyanin, a red chemical that works like sunscreen. It covers the leaf and protects the sugar, giving the tree time to pull it back into its trunk for winter. It is the tree's final selfless act.

In the lab I tested this. I crushed a red Chinar leaf and made a red solution. When I added a few drops of lemon juice, which is acidic it became even more blood-red. When I added baking soda, which is basic, it turned bluish-green. So the red you see is actually a natural pH indica-

tor. The same chemical that makes a blueberry blue in a neutral pH turns blood-red when the sap of the Chinar becomes acidic due to cold. That is why Kashmiri Chinars are redder than Delhi's Chinars. Our nights are colder and more acidic.

There is also an Islamic and spiritual side to this colour that science cannot measure. In Islam the changing of seasons is called an 'Ayah', which means a sign of Allah. In the Holy Quran Allah says in Surah Ar-Rum 30:51, "And if we send a wind and they see it turn yellow, they would still remain ungrateful." And in Surah Al-An'am 6:59, "Not a leaf falls but that He knows it." The falling of a red Chinar leaf in Harud reminds me of our own life. Green youth, yellow old age and finally returning to the soil. Whenever I see

a leaf fall in my college, I remember Allah.

Our Sufi saints knew this secret of life and death. That is why they planted Chinars as Sadaqah Jariya so that travellers can rest in their shade for centuries. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad PBUH said "If the Day of Judgement comes and one of you has a sapling in his hand let him plant it" [Musnad Ahmad]. The oldest Chinar of Kashmir is in Chattergam Budgam. It is 700 years old, its trunk is 60 feet wide and it was planted by the Sufi saint Syed Qasim Shah. A tree planted 700 years ago is still giving shade today. What bigger Sadaqah Jariya can there be?

The word 'Chinar' itself is Persian. It is said that when Emperor Jahangir saw a full red Chinar in Kashmir, he shouted, "Chee-naar ast?" which means "What a blaze is this!" In Kashmiri we call it Booune. A single leaf is bigger than your face. It is up to 25 cm wide. It lives for only 6 months, but the tree lives for 1000 years. It sees our grandfathers die and our grandchildren born. In my college when exams come, we all sit under these Chinars and study. The red leaves fall on our books, and we do not even remove them. It feels like nature is studying with us, blessing us.

But now Harud is coming late. Due to climate change our autumn is shifting from October to November. The Chinar is confused, and we are losing it. We click photos for Instagram, but who will plant a new one? So next time you see those red Chinar leaves falling like fire, do not think it is the end. It is a lesson for all of us. The Chinar teaches us that even in its last days it gives its food back to the tree to live again in spring. It teaches us about sacrifice, survival and hope. It is not just chemistry happening between the leaves. It is also a message from Allah that after every autumn there is always a new spring waiting. We should not just click photos of this beauty. We should protect it, plant more Chinars and remember the Creator who painted our valley red.

The Author is a student from the Department of Chemistry. She can be mailed at dmuthair21@gmail.com

Hajin Observes 5th Death Anniversary of Dr. Aziz Hajini with Tributes, Quiz Competition



GMK NEWS NETWORK

HAJIN: The fifth death anniversary of renowned literary figure, critic, and former Secretary of the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), Dr. Aziz Hajini, was observed here on Saturday with profound reverence.

The commemorative event, organized by the Wahab Cultural Society (WCS) in collaboration with the Department of School Education Bandipora, brought together hundreds of school children, teachers, educationists, and prominent civil society members to pay tribute to

the visionary leader.

Dr. Hajini is remembered for his monumental contributions to the preservation and promotion of the Kashmiri language. His legacy includes leadership roles as former president of Adbi Markaz Kamraz, as well as impactful associations with the J&K Board of School Education, the University of Kashmir, and the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.

The program commenced with a welcome address by Nazir Javed, Patron of the WCS, followed by a keynote address by noted writer and poet Shabbaz Haqbari, who highlighted Dr. Hajini's

contributions to education and literature.

The event was presided over by Shakit Shafi, President of Halqa-e-Adab Sonawari. Arshid Ahmad Lone, Senior JKAS Officer and Chief Accounts Officer of the Kashmir Power Development Corporation, attended as the Chief Guest. The gathering also saw the distinguished presence of Engineer Farhan Manzoor Shah and Azhar Hajini, son of the late literary icon.

A major highlight of the observance was the "Dr. Aziz Hajini Quiz," designed to connect the younger generation with their literary

roots. Students from five schools participated with great enthusiasm. Majeed Majazi, General Secretary of the WCS, served as Quiz Master.

The quiz results were as follows, First Position (Shared): Middle School Shahigund and MS Gulshan Abad Hajin, Second Position: MS Parray Mohallah, Third Position: MS Balshibal.

The program concluded with a renewed pledge by local literary bodies and education circles to carry forward Dr. Hajini's mission of safeguarding the Kashmiri language and empowering the youth.

Mission Shakti Budgam organizes Awareness Programme on Cyber Safety

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: SANKALP – Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti, Budgam, under the guidance of DSWO Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad Dar, Saturday organized an awareness programme on Cyber Safety and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, at Spring Buds Higher Secondary School, Ompora, Budgam.

The programme aimed to sensitize students and participants about online safety, responsible use of digital platforms, and the legal safeguards available for the protection of children.

During the programme, an awareness session on Cyber Safety was conducted by Raies Ahmad, Cyber Safety Commando, Cyber Police Station, Budgam. He sensitized the participants about various cyber threats, safe use of social media and digital platforms, protection of

personal information, online fraud, cyberbullying, and the importance of reporting suspicious online activities to the appropriate authorities.

The participants were also apprised of the key provisions of the POCSO Act, 2012 by Advocate Yawar Ahmad, Assistant LADS, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam. He explained the legal provisions relating to the protection of children from sexual offences and emphasized the importance of awareness, timely reporting, confidentiality, and the role of parents, teachers, and educational institutions in ensuring a safe and secure environment for children.

The speakers stressed the need for collective responsibility among educational institutions, parents, students, law-enforcement agencies, and other stakeholders to prevent cyber offences and protect children from exploitation and abuse.

3rd National Lok Adalat held across Kupwara

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: The 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026 was successfully held across District Kupwara, providing a platform for the amicable, speedy, and low-cost resolution of disputes.

The National Lok Adalat was formally inaugurated by Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Manjeet Singh Manhas in the presence of judicial officers. The inaugural session was also attended by the President and members of the Bar Association, Kupwara, Legal Aid Defence Counsels (LADCS), Panel Lawyers, court staff, and Para-Legal Volunteers associated with DLSA Kupwara.

The primary objective of the National Lok Adalat was to ensure expeditious disposal of cases in a cost-effective and amicable manner while simultaneously reducing the pendency of cases in regular courts.

A total of 268 cases were identified and listed

for settlement, covering a wide range of disputes, including civil matters, compoundable criminal cases, family disputes, recovery matters, motor accident claim cases, and pre-litigation as well as post-litigation disputes across District Kupwara.

To facilitate smooth functioning, nine benches were constituted including four at District Headquarters Kupwara, two at Handwara, and one each at Sogam, Kralpora, and Trehgam. With the efforts of judicial officers, lawyers, and parties to the disputes, a total of 105 cases were amicably settled, resulting in the realization of a settlement amount of Rs 57,89,417.

The successful conduct of 3rd National Lok Adalat once again reaffirmed the commitment of the judiciary towards providing accessible, affordable, and speedy justice to the people. It highlighted the significance of Lok Adalats as an effective alternative dispute resolution mechanism, ensuring justice in its true spirit.

CJ inaugurates 3rd National Lok Adalat at District Court Complex Srinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a significant stride towards delivering timely and amicable justice, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar, successfully organized the 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026 at the District Court Complex Mominabad, Srinagar and Court of the Additional Special Mobile Magistrate/JMIC Pantha chowk.

The National Lok Adalat was inaugurated by Dr. Pushpendra Singh Bhati Chief Justice of High Court of J&K and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority) in presence of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by M.K Sharma Registrar General High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and. Haq Nawaz Zargar, Principal District & Sessions Judge/ Chairman, DLSA Srinagar, along with Secretary, DLSA Srinagar and other Judicial Officers of District Court Complex Srinagar.



Moreover, ceremonial Guard of Honour was presented by the Jammu & Kashmir Police, marking a dignified and respectful beginning to the proceedings. Following the guard of honour, a Chinar sapling and a yellow maple sapling was planted by the Chief Guest and Executive Chairman J&K Legal Services Authority, within the court premises, as a gesture towards environmental protection and promotion of a greener and cleaner environment.

The dignitaries visited and observed the functioning of various benches at the District Court Srinagar, offering encouragement to litigants and reinforcing the ethos of participatory justice.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Justice emphasized the transformative role of Lok Adalats in the justice delivery

system, stated "Lok Adalat is not just a mechanism for resolving disputes, it is a platform that creates a win-win situation for all parties involved. It saves time, reduces litigation costs, and fosters goodwill. I encourage the public to actively participate in this initiative for peaceful, timely, and amicable settlements. Justice through Lok Adalats strengthens the very foundation of participatory and compassionate justice."

The Lok Adalat received an enthusiastic response from litigants, a testament to the growing public trust in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. A wide range of cases, including civil matters, matrimonial disputes, criminal compoundable offences, bank recoveries and pre-litigation issues were taken up, with a significant number being resolved

on the spot.

To facilitate the amicable settlement of cases, 11 benches were constituted in the district. The Bench where MACT claims were settled was presided over by Mr. Farooq Ahmad Bhat (Add. District & Sessions Judge Sgr) and Mr. Dinesh Gupta 3rd Add. District & Sessions Judge Sgr) in which 85 cases were taken, out of which, 33 cases were amicably settled and Rs 6,72,35,000 were awarded as settlement amount and cheques amounting Rs 3,42,45,000 were on-spot distributed among the claimants by the Chief Justice in presence of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh (Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority), Haq Nawaz Zargar Principal District & Sessions Judge Srinagar, Ms. Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority and other Ld. Judicial Officers of District Court Srinagar.

The Bench No 05 was presided over by Fida Hussain Nayak (Municipal Magistrate Srinagar) and comprised of Junaid Imtiyaz Mir (Sub-Judge, Srinagar). Out of the 63 cases 19 cases were settled with an amount of Rs. 1,01,24,17,752.

3rd National Lok Adalat

DLSA Budgam facilitates amicable settlement of 260 Cases

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (J&K LSA), District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam successfully organized 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2026 at the District Court Complex Budgam and at the Taluka Courts across the district today.

The National Lok Adalat was inaugurated by O.P. Baghat, Principal District & Sessions Judge, ?Chairman, District Legal Services Authority), Budgam, in the presence of Judicial Officers posted at the District Headquarters, members of the Bar, panel advocates, staff of DLSA Budgam and other stakeholders.

The Lok Adalat was conducted under the overall



supervision of the Chairman and under the guidance of Tabassum Qadir Parray, Secretary DLSA Budgam with the objective of providing litigants with an effective, expeditious and accessible mechanism for resolution of disputes through mutual settlement and compromise.

For ensuring smooth and effective disposal of cases matters amenable to settlement were identified in advance by the respective courts and placed before seven dedicated Lok Adalat Benches constituted by DLSA Budgam.

The Lok Adalat provided

a comprehensive forum for settlement of a wide range of disputes, including civil disputes, compoundable criminal cases, cheque bounce cases, bank recovery matters, Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) claims, land compensation matters, matrimonial and family disputes, pre-litigation matters, social welfare disputes, labour disputes, revenue matters, BSNL-related issues, municipal matters and cases concerning various government schemes, besides other matters amenable to settlement in accordance

with law.

During the Lok Adalat, a total of 439 cases were taken up before the seven benches, out of which 260 cases were amicably settled through mutual consent and compromise.

A total settlement amount of ₹24036591 was awarded/realized by way of compensation, recovery and settlement during the Lok Adalat.

The successful conduct of the National Lok Adalat reflects the continued commitment of DLSA Budgam towards strengthening access to justice and providing a people-centric platform for amicable resolution of disputes. Lok Adalats provide litigants with an opportunity to resolve disputes in a less formal, expeditious and cost-effective manner while also reducing the burden of prolonged litigation on the parties as well as the courts.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION, SRINAGAR

(ERSTWHILE MECHANICAL HOSPITAL & CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR)

Contact No: 0194-2496089, Email Id: exen-mechospssgr@jk.gov.in,

Sub:-

1. Annual Rate Contract and operation of the Booster Pump (Cylinder filling Station) at JLNMRainawari, Srinagar

2. Providing Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) for One (01) Year (12 Calendar Months) Of 20 Passenger (G+4) OTIS Make Lift Installed At MRI Building, Opposite Staircase, Govt. Super specialty Hospital, Srinagar

3. Providing Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) for One (01) Year (12 Calendar Months) Of (G+3) 26 Passenger Staircase OTIS Make Lift Installed At Govt. Super Specialty hospital, Srinagar

Ref: -

1. This office NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2026-27/41/e-tendering, Dated: -01.08.2026.

2. This office NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2026-27/47/e-tendering, Dated: -12.08.2026.

EXTENSION

In view of No response, the critical dates of above subject work(s) tendered vide above referred e-NIT(s) are extended as follows: -

S.No	Description	Date and Time
1.	Last Date of Bid Submission	19.09.2026 (13:00 hrs)
2.	Date of Bid Opening	19.09.2026 (15:00 hrs)

All other Terms and Conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.

No: M&HDS/TS/ 3767-71

Date: - 12-09-2026

DIPK-5635-26

DT: 12/09/2026

Sd/-

Executive Engineer,

M&HD, Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (HQ), I/C SHTO BEMINA, SRINAGAR.

GIST OF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

NIT No: DD/SHTO/Batteries/ e-NIT/2026-27/03; Dated: 11.09.2026

Tender ID:	2026_HME_324374_1
Tender Reference No:	04_SHTO_2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT of J&K, e-tenders are invited from OEM/Authorized Dealers/Registered Suppliers & firms for the below mentioned work in two (02) cover system:-

Name of Work	Estimated Cost (In lakhs of INR)	Cost of Tender Document. (In INR)	Earnest Money (In INR)
Supply of Automotive Batteries of various capacities for Ambulances and Vehicles of Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir	3.0	1000/-	6000/-

1.

The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in from 12.09.2026 (01:00PM).

2.

The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 12.09.2026 (01:00PM) to 19.09.2026 (02.30 PM) in two covers.

3.

The bid uploaded on the Web Site up to due date and time will be opened online on 19.09.2026 (03:30 PM) in the Office of the Dy. Director (HQ), I/C SHTO, Bemina, Srinagar.

No: DD/SHTO/e-Tender/Batteries/427-028

Dated: 11.09.2026

DIPK-5620-26

DT: 12/09/2026

Sd/-

Deputy Director (HQ)

I/C SHTO, Bemina, Srinagar

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 1ST OF

RE-TENDER NOTICE/ CORRIGENDUM.

Subject:

Construction of Production Bore Well at Madina Sanzwatroo District Pulwama.

Reference:

1. This office Corrigendum Notice 1st issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/ 26-27/Camp./ 7835-47 Dated: 20-08-202 bearing Tender ID No: 2026_PHE_315512_2

2. This office Extension Notice 2nd issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/ 26-27/Camp/2377-93, dated: 11-05-2026.

3. This office e-NIT No. 29/JS-PHE/GWDS/Mech. of 2026-27, issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/26-27/ Camp/4044-56, dated: 09-07-2026 Bearing Tender ID No. 2026_PHE_315512_1.

Due to "NO Response" for the above mentioned work's advertised vide e-NIT No. and Tender ID No's under reference. Which was scheduled to be downloaded till 11-09-2026 Up-to 11:00 AM.

S.No.	Item	Fresh Date
1.	Last date & Time of submission of bids	21-09-2026 Up-to 11:00 AM
2.	Date & Time of opening of tenders	22-09-2026 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/9669-80

Dated: 11-09-2026.

DIPK-5645-26

DT: 12/09/2026

Sd/=

Executive Engineer

Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt.

Ground Water Division Srinagar.

●●●●●

CMYK

●●●●●

Nepal qualify for Asia Cup 2027 after winning Premier Cup final



IAN S

KUALA LUMPUR: Nepal have earned their place in the 2027 ODI Asia Cup after winning the ACC Men's Premier Cup on Saturday in Kuala Lumpur.

Nepal defeated the United Arab Emirates (UAE) by 44 runs to win the Premier Cup for the second time, as opener Aasif Sheikh starred with a century before the bowlers backed him to register a comfortable win.

This will be Nepal's second appearance in the Asia Cup, after they were also part of the 2023 ODI Asia Cup. The 2027 edition of the tournament is set to take place in Bangladesh in the middle of 2027. The winners of the Premier Cup are guaranteed a place

in the Asia Cup.

Nepal posted a strong total of 313/9 in their 50 overs against UAE in the final. Aasif was the star with the bat as he made 102 off 106 balls, with his knock laced with eight fours and four sixes.

Nepal were off to a strong start when Aasif and Arjun Kumal put up 97 runs for the opening wicket before Kumal was run out on 43. Aasif then put up another strong stand of 68 runs for the third wicket with Rohit Paudel after Ishan Pandey was dismissed for just 13, as Paudel made an impressive 40.

Gulsan Jha played a blistering knock of 52 from 38 balls and gave the fireworks needed for a strong target as he hit four sixes

and three fours. Basir Ahamad gave the final touches with a four-ball 15 to push the target beyond 300.

In reply, UAE lost early wickets in a heap as they were 56/3 in 8.3 overs. Rahul Chopra smashed an unbeaten century; Sohaib Khan also hit 52, opener Tanish Suri made 52, and captain Harpreet Singh scored 33, but there were not many big knocks to chase the target down.

Karan KC was the pick of the bowlers as he scalped three wickets for 49 in his nine overs. Lalit Rajbanshi also picked up a couple of wickets, while Sandeep Lamichhane, Dipendra Singh Airee, Paudel, Jha and Ahamad all picked one wicket each in a strong victory.

Mandhana must avoid imitating Shafali in Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka, says Razdan

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Former India men's cricketer Vivek Razdan said that vice-captain Smriti Mandhana must anchor the innings and play to her natural strengths rather than trying to emulate the high-risk aggression of her partner Shafali Verma in the upcoming Women's Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka.

Seven-time champions India enter Sunday's final to be played at the Dubai International Stadium as favourites to win the title, though they did lose to Sri Lanka in the 2024 edition final in Dambulla. Razdan warned against taking defending champions Sri Lanka lightly following their hard-fought victory over Pakistan in the semi-final on Friday.

"The Indian team is a very strong team. But you can't underestimate Sri Lanka, especially the way they played against Pakistan. After being 33/4, they chased down the required target. Despite Athapaththu being out early, you can see how much bat-

ting depth the team has," Razdan told IANS in a virtual interaction organised by Sony Sports Network.

He also commended the recent form of India's bowling attack, noting key contributions from Sree Charni, Shafali Verma, Prema Rawat and Deepti Sharma, with the spinners taking 26 wickets in all. But Razdan highlighted that Smriti must play her own game rather than replicate what Shafali does.

So far, Shafali (168 runs) and Smriti (154 runs) have done the bulk of the scoring, with the rest of the order misfiring so far. "The Indian team bowling lineup is very strong. You can talk about N Sree Charni, Shafali, or Deepti. All of

them have been very strong in these games. But there is one thing that needs to be worked on - how do you bat in powerplay?"

"In the last game, Shafali scored a fifty against Bangladesh, but she survived three dropped catches and one run-out chance. Regarding Smriti Mandhana, it is very important for her to play for a long time. I don't know why, but I feel that Smriti sometimes tries to be Shafali. That's not her game."

Razdan signed off by saying that establishing a solid platform without losing early wickets will allow India's middle and lower order to finish strongly and set an insurmountable target for Sri Lanka on Dubai's slow pitches.

'Hunger remains the same': Shami after special 100 FC matches as 'circle comes around'



IAN S

NEW DELHI: India's veteran fast bowler Mohammed Shami reflected on his recent accomplishment of competing in 100 first-class matches during the Duleep Trophy 2026 final for East Zone.

Shami, who has been out of the Indian team for quite some time now, called playing 100 matches "always special" and highlighted

that his hunger remains the same as before.

"100th match is always special, whether you score a hundred and raise your bat for the first time or you play in 100 matches, it is a very long journey, a long sacrifice and a goal of your life," Shami said in a video shared by BCCI Domestic.

"It's a dream to play 100 first-class matches, make your state proud,

play matches in different places, in different conditions and pick wickets; it's a big thing, it's a dream," he added.

Shami's 100th FC game coincided with East Zone playing the Duleep Trophy final against South Zone, and East Zone went on to beat them. Shami was 21 when East won their maiden Duleep Trophy title in 2012, and he was a vital cog in their third title 14 years later.

"This is very special because it's your 100th match and you have the Duleep Trophy final, and if you win that, it's like a lifetime memory in your life. Last time the East Zone won, I was there, and now, after those years, I am still present here as the circle comes full. 100th match and the Duleep Trophy final win, it's really special for me."

Abundance of top-order options a luxury for India ahead of opening game against Afghanistan, says Iyer



IAN S

NEW DELHI: India captain Shreyas Iyer faces a tight selection decision in the make-up of the top order ahead of Sunday's first T20I against Afghanistan at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi, adding that the depth of talent is more of a luxury for him rather than a headache.

India face a tight selection call for their top-order options between teenage batting prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson and Ishan Kishan. After Samson had low scores in Ireland and England, Sooryavanshi opened the batting with Abhishek, including in three straight games against Zimbabwe in July.

"As you rightly said, all three of them, having them in the team is a luxury first of all, and they are flawless in their own departments. Well, it is going to be a tight call because they have been performing consistently. "See, whoever gets the opportunity, definitely it's for the team's benefit, and for the player sitting out-

side, it's important that I have an interaction with him along with the coach and give them that confidence - that, no matter what, you will get your opportunity when the day comes," said Iyer in the pre-match press conference on Saturday.

Addressing the fitness of Ishan Kishan, who pulled

up his back at the practice session on Friday, Iyer said the wicketkeeper-batter should be fine. "Well, I feel that he is comfortable at the moment. I interacted with him after the practice session.

"It was just a small niggle, and he has been playing continuous cricket. We all know the knock he played. So, definitely a bit fatigued. But today he got that rest, and I am sure that he will be fine for tomorrow," he said.

Asked about his preferred playing eleven combination, especially in terms of all-rounders, Iyer revealed he likes players picked for performing roles at specific positions. "Talking about what combination I love is that to be having a specific player in the right position, and each

and every individual. "Rather than knowing the role, it's important that they should have that awareness of what the team requires of you because when you say that this is your role in the team, that puts immense pressure on the player. If you could probably phrase it in a better way, saying that your team requires you in this particular role. You feel needed and wanted for the team."

Iyer also touched upon the physical demands placed on international players, especially with the CoE becoming crowded with injured men's team personnel. "See, I feel it's not frustrating. We need to understand, first of all, the number of matches a player is playing continuously, rigorously.

'It means a lot to me': Kobbie Mainoo excited for another Manchester derby

IAN S

MANCHESTER: Manchester United midfielder Kobbie Mainoo said the Manchester derby has always been a special fixture for him, with the England international having faced Manchester City regularly since his days in the club's academy.

United and City have traditionally been among the strongest teams at the youth level, making the derby an important fixture for Mainoo from a young age. The upcoming meeting will be the 199th between the two sides.

"It means a lot to me. I mean, coming up in the Academy, you play City twice a season, and it's always the biggest game," Mainoo told United Review.

"You know that being a fan, but where the coaches would bring it up, it's always been a big rivalry for us, and so yeah, I'm really excited."

Mainoo has already produced one of the biggest moments of his United career against City. He was named Player of the Match after scoring in United's 2-1 victory over Pep Guardiola's side in the 2024 FA Cup final at Wembley.

like at Wembley, against your rivals, to win a trophy. It's unbelievable," he said.

Mainoo also revealed that he has kept some of the memorabilia from that memorable day. "I've still got the bucket hat, still got some of the scarves from the game. Yeah, I'll keep them forever!" he said.

United will enter Sunday's derby looking to continue their strong home form under manager Michael Carrick. Mainoo believes the 2-0 win over City in January played an important role in building momentum for the season.

"It definitely got the ball rolling for us and was a big booster in building momentum, going to Arsenal after that and winning again," he said.

Mainoo also praised Carrick, saying the former United midfielder's experience has helped him develop.

"Anything that he tells you or any instruction that he gives you is gold, really. So it's been good to learn under him and play for him. Any time you beat City, it's positive, and it's big for the season. Hopefully we come out winners," he added.

The midfielder said scoring against City in a final made the occasion even more memorable.

"It was a great day. I mean, scoring in the derby any time is unbelievable, but in an FA Cup final, it's just that much sweeter, and to go on and to win, yeah, it's a day I'll never forget. The moment you dream of,

Have made plans for countering Bumrah; hopefully we play better cricket against him, says Zadran

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Afghanistan captain Ibrahim Zadran said his team has devised specific tactical plans to counter returning fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah and hopes to handle him effectively in Sunday's opening T20I game, to be played at the Arun Jaitley Stadium.

Bumrah is set to return to international action following a layoff due to a left knee injury sustained while fielding in the second ODI against England in Cardiff in July. His return adds the much-needed cutting edge to the Indian bowling attack, but Zadran insisted his side is keeping their approach simple rather than overcomplicating the challenge posed by the ace fast bowler.

"If you look at Jasprit Bumrah, he is one of the best, and he is my favourite fast bowler. We as a group never think things in a complicated way for ourselves. So we have a very good plan for him, and we just thought about him, how to play against him, and hopefully we are going to play better cricket against Jasprit Bumrah or the Indian

Cricket Team," Zadran told reporters in a press conference on Saturday.

He also highlighted the research done on India's teenage batting prodigy, left-handed opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, by using IPL intelligence gathered from teammates who have faced him in IPL 2025 and 2026.

"He is an amazing talent. Recently, he played great cricket in the Indian Premier League (IPL), and he has been performing well at a different level in cricket events. We have thought about him, and we have gained that knowledge from those guys who have played against him in the IPL.

"We have already watched his videos, and we just try to keep it very simple for ourselves, just to execute the right plans at the right time against him. We are just trying to make things simple for us, not complicated," he stated.

Addressing the overall squad preparation, which also involved preparing at the Yamuna Sports Complex, Zadran noted that maintaining physical fitness across continuous assignments has been a major strength for Afghanistan.

GREAT MOVIES
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