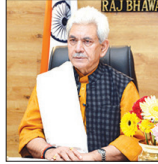


Good Morning

Kashmir

17th
Year Of Publication

Manoj Sinha
@manojsinha_



Felicitated the winners of Jammu & Kashmir Police's Kashmir Marathon- Run for Unity in Srinagar. Every step taken today by runners echoed India's strength in diversity and unity. I congratulate all participants and winners for running for a peaceful, united Jammu Kashmir and a developed India@2047.

GMK

Srinagar • Friday 02, October 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 234 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

J&K Unveils Ambitious Electric Vehicle Policy



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has formally notified the J&K Electric Vehicle Policy-2026, following its approval by the Council of Ministers chaired by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah.

"This landmark policy lays out a six-year, territory-wide roadmap (2026-2032) to expand clean, affordable and climate-resilient electric mobility across all 20 districts of the Union Territory," a statement issued here on Thursday said.

The policy, covering the period 2026-32, aims to accelerate EV adoption, strengthen charging infrastructure and create an enabling ecosystem for electric mobility across all 20 districts of J&K. It targets 1.40 lakh electric vehicles by 2032, supported by demand incentives, climate-specific

•P-06

Kashmir Marathon

Youth Ran For India's Soul, Spirit Of New J&K: LG

Says Youth Have Sent Message That No Goal Is Too Distant For United India

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said the more than 6,000 participants in the Kashmir Marathon-Run for Unity had run not merely for speed or endurance, but for the "soul of India" and for a peaceful, united and progressive Jammu and Kashmir.

"Run for Unity race is not merely the speed of our steps. It is the speed of our resolve and it is the speed of that faith which tells us that when people walk together, no destination remains impossible," Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said while gracing the closing ceremony of the Kashmir Marathon- Run for Unity.

He commended the enthusiasm and energy of the youth



who participated in the event and congratulated all the runners and lauded the Jammu Kashmir Police for organizing the marathon, which has become a symbol of peace, unity and progress in the Union Territory.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized

that the Run for Unity was not merely about speed or endurance, but about the strength of collective resolve and faith. He said that when people walk together, no destination remains impossible and underlined the importance of determination and unity in overcoming challenges.

Highlighting India's diversity as its greatest identity, the Lieutenant Governor noted that despite differences in language, tradition, food, and attire, the heartbeat of India remains one. He stressed that unity is India's strength, and when millions of steps move in one direction, even the highest mountains can be crossed.

"Through the Kashmir Marathon- Run for Unity, youth have sent a message that no goal is

Drug-Free Campaign

Over 4,000 Arrested In J&K Since April

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR- Over 4,000 people involved in the drug trade have been arrested in Jammu and Kashmir as part of the 'Nasha Mukta Abhiyan' launched in April this year, Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat said on Thursday.

Addressing the participants of 'Run for Unity' here, Prabhat said police have registered 3,257 cases under the NDPS Act since April 11 when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched the campaign from Jammu.

"Around 4,000

•P-06

New Rice Varieties

Double Yields In Kashmir, Farmers Rejoice

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: New rice varieties introduced and distributed by the Agriculture Department in Kashmir are yielding encouraging results, with farmers reporting a significant increase in production and reduced incidence of crop diseases compared to traditional varieties.

Farmers from different parts of the Valley SAID that the newly introduced varieties, particularly SR3 and SR4, have helped them achieve higher yields this season, with some reporting nearly double

•P-06

'Human Trafficking, Cyber Fraud'

SIA Searches Houses In South Kashmir

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The State Investigation Agency (SIA), Kashmir, on Thursday conducted searches at two residential premises in Kulgam and Qazigund as part of an ongoing investigation

into an alleged transnational human trafficking and cyber fraud network. According to an SIA spokesperson, searches were carried out at the residences of Gulam Nabi Khanday alias Charlie, Mohsin and Jerry Khan of

•P-06

Youth Participation Helping Foil

Neighbour's Nefarious Designs: DGP

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Wednesday said the increasing participation of children and youth in sports and constructive activities is helping Jammu and

Kashmir move towards peace and prosperity while thwarting the "nefarious designs" of the neighbouring country.

Addressing the flag-in ceremony of the 'Run for Unity' marathon, Prabhat, said the growing turnout reflected the younger

generation's commitment to a peaceful and prosperous future.

"The increase in participation every year shows that our children and youth are working towards a peaceful and prosperous future," he said, according to KNO.

The DGP said J&K's youth

were increasingly choosing "peace over violence and progress over destruction," adding that the police were supporting them through sports tournaments and the Civic Action Programme.

"The energy of J&K's youth is being channelled

•P-06



Government of India

Nation salutes Gandhi ji and Shastri ji on their birth anniversaries

2 October, 2026

On the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, the nation pays tribute to these two great leaders who dedicated their lives to the service of the nation.

"Gandhi ji demonstrated the way of courage, simplicity, service, and power of compassion, while Shastri ji continues to motivate us in the endeavour of building a strong and self-reliant India."

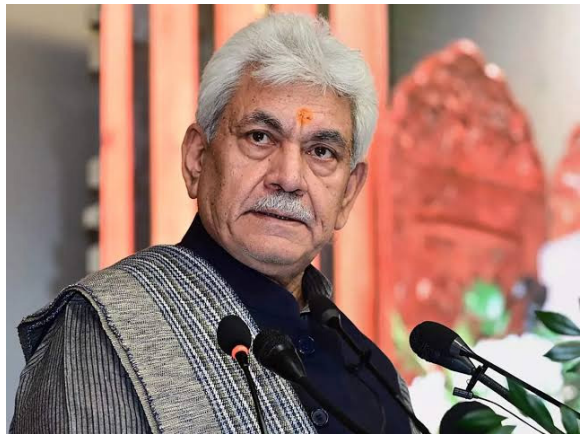
- Narendra Modi



CBC 63101/13/0015/2627

CMYK

LG Sinha Greets People on Gandhi Jayanti



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Thursday greeted the people on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, which will be celebrated tomorrow on 2nd October, 2026.

In a message, the Lieutenant Governor has said, "On the occasion of the 157th birth anniversary of our Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, I extend my heartiest greetings to the people of Jammu Kashmir.

"Pujya Babu showed the

Lal Bahadur Shastri was epitome of simplicity, honesty, integrity: LG Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid tributes to the former Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri on the eve of his birth anniversary.

In a message, the Lieutenant Governor has said: "Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was the epitome of simplicity, honesty, integrity and patriotism. A strong and visionary leader, he guided India toward self-reliance. His famous call, 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan', will always echo in our hearts and inspire future generations.

On his birth anniversary, let us rededicate ourselves to his noble ideals and serve the motherland with the selfless spirit".

world that truth, non-violence and self-reliance are eternal paths to peace. His timeless ideals of Satya, Ahimsa, Swadeshi, Swachhata and Sarvodaya continue to guide humanity and inspire us to dedicate ourselves to the country's continuous growth and prosperity.

On this sacred occasion, let us pay heartfelt tribute to Pujya Babu by pledging to live by his noble principles. Together, let us build a peaceful and prosperous Jammu Kashmir and developed India".

No Proposal to Increase Honorarium of Lumberdars, Chowkidars: Govt

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has said there is currently no proposal to increase the monthly honorarium of Lumberdars and Chowkidars, whose rates were last revised in 2016.

According to a Revenue Department reply in the Legislative Assembly, Lumberdars receive a monthly honorarium of

Rs 1,501, while Chowkidars are paid Rs 1,500.

The existing rates were fixed through Government Order No. 59-Rev of 2016 dated April 29, 2016, following Cabinet Decision No. 15/02/2016 of April 27, 2016.

Before the 2016 revision, the monthly honorarium for Lumberdars was Rs 751 and for Chowkidars Rs 750.

The government was also asked whether it

intended to formulate a comprehensive policy or introduce legislation providing service security, pension or retirement benefits and financial security for the two categories.

The department stated that no such proposal was under consideration at present.

The reply was furnished in response to a question raised in the Legislative Assembly. [KNT]

JKEDI B'la hosts Second Boot Camp under Startup Idea Challenge 2.0

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), District Centre Baramulla, organized its second Boot Camp under Startup Idea Challenge 2.0 at Government Degree College (GDC) Pattan, Baramulla.

Around 60 students and 10 faculty members participated in the Boot Camp, which focused on pitching innovative ideas before an expert panel. After detailed presentations, four ideas were shortlisted for further submission and evaluation.

The pitched ideas covered diverse themes including Kashmiri culture and heritage, tourism, healthcare products, rural tourism infrastructure, and improving tourist access and connectivity.



The shortlisted ideas will now proceed to the next stage of Startup Idea Challenge 2.0 for further evaluation and refinement, with opportunities for mentorship and subsequent pitching as per the JKEDI process.

The expert panel comprised of Dr. Naseer Ahmad Najar, AP, GDC Pattan; Imtiyaz Ahad Malla, DNO, JKEDI Baramulla; Dr. Navreen

Tariq, AP, JKEDI; Dr. Rouf Ahmad Bhat, GDC Baramulla; Dr. Basharat Hussain, GDC Baramulla; Manzoor Ahmad, Manager, J&K Bank; Irfan Ahmad, FLCC Coordinator; and Bashir Bhat, Local Entrepreneur.

Principal, GDC Pattan, Prof. (Dr.) Abdul Wahid Makhdhoomi appreciated the initiative of JKEDI and assured full cooperation for future collaborations.

KPDCL announces power shutdown in Kashmir parts

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL Thursday informed that the Shutdown of 33 kV GIS Theed-Shallmar line will be observed due to which power supply to Dewan Colony, SKUAST, Shallmar, Arabal, Taibal and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 03 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Awantipora-Tral-I line and 33 kV Awantipora-Tral-II line will be observed

due to which power supply to Chewa, Tral Bala, Bajwani, Kahlil, Bathnoor, Hayina, Batagund, Lurgam, Wagad/Satoora, Pastona, Nanar, Taki, Lam, Jawaharpura, Aripal, Khangund, Satura, Nargistan and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 03 PM on 04 & 06 October 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Shadipora-HMT line will be observed due to which power supply to



Shadipora, Trigam, Diver, Ganastan, Singhpura, Odina Migrant Colony and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 03 October 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Gadoora Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Fethapora, Gadoora, Tulbagh, Shairpathri, Kachan and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 03 & 06 October 2026.

CM Omar greets people on Gandhi Jayanti

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday extended his greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, being observed on October 2.

Paying tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, the Chief Minister said his enduring message of truth, non-violence, peace and communal harmony continues to inspire generations and remains relevant in the contemporary world.

"Gandhi Ji showed the world the strength of truth, non-violence and compassion. His life and ideals continue to inspire us to work for peace, harmony, equality and human dignity," the Chief Minister said.



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said Gandhi Ji's vision of India was rooted in unity, tolerance and respect for all, adding that his teachings offer enduring guidance for building a peaceful and inclusive society.

The Chief Minister called upon people to draw inspiration from Mahatma Gandhi's life and reaffirm their commitment to the values of peace, harmony and social solidarity.

DC Budgam felicitates CMO Dr. Gulzar Ahmad on Superannuation



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan Thursday felicitated Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Budgam, Dr. Gulzar Ahmad, on attaining superannuation.

On the occasion, the DC congratulated Dr. Gulzar Ahmad on the completion of his 27 years of dedicated service and appreciated his valuable contributions

and sincere efforts towards strengthening and improving healthcare services in Budgam district.

The Deputy Commissioner acknowledged Dr. Gulzar Ahmad's commitment to public service and his role in enhancing the delivery of healthcare services to the people of the district. He extended his best wishes to Dr. Gulzar Ahmad for a happy, healthy and fulfilling post-retirement life.

ADDC Shopian presides over Workshop on Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone Thursday presided over a workshop on the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan (VGPP) under VB-G RAM G here at Mini-Secretariat Shopian.

The workshop aimed at strengthening participatory and integrated planning for inclusive, resilient and prosperous rural development.

On the occasion, the ADDC highlighted the importance of preparing comprehensive Gram Panchayat Plans by identifying local needs and priorities and translating them into actionable development plans. He also stressed on convergence of various schemes and departments to ensure effective utilization of resources and better outcomes at the grassroots level.

During the workshop, the ADDC sensitized the participants about integrated planning under VB-G RAM G, covering key areas including local needs, people's participation, environment, technology, data and infrastructure.

The process of transforming planning into

action through preparation of annual action plans, implementation and real-time tracking was also discussed.

On the occasion, the ADDC felicitated the Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Shopian, Muzaffar Ahmad, in recognition of target achievement in the 1st Quarter.

On the occasion ACD Shopian, stressed the need for active participation of Panchayati Raj Institutions and local communities in the planning process, saying that development plans should be need-based, inclusive and aligned with the aspirations of the people. He called for close coordination among concerned departments and effective monitoring of developmental works to ensure timely implementation and tangible benefits to rural communities.

The workshop also highlighted the importance of data-driven planning, convergence, and transparency in achieving sustainable and people-centric rural development.

The officers and officials of concerned departments, besides Block Development Officers (BDOs), AEEs, AEs, and Panchayat Secretaries attended the workshop.

DDC Kulgam reviews progress of VB-G RAM G implementation

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, Thursday chaired a meeting at Mini-Secretariat, Kulgam to review the progress and implementation of Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G) in the district.

The meeting reviewed key indicators including persondays generation, wage and material release vis-a-vis expenditure, Master Roll status, physical progress of works, delay monitoring, skilled employment and social audit issues.

It was informed that against an annual target of 14 lakh Mandays, 4,60,781 Mandays have been gen-



erated, achieving 32.91% of the annual target and 98.74% of the Q1 target.

The DDC stressed upon timely wage payments, expeditious processing of FTOs and Master Rolls, proper utilisation of funds and speedy completion of works, besides ensuring transparency and accountability in implementation.

The meeting also reviewed preparations for People's Plan Campaign and Reform Utsav,

scheduled from October 2 to December 31, with special Gram Sabhas to be held in every Halqa Panchayat. The DDC directed the concerned officers to ensure maximum public participation and effective awareness on key reforms, scheme convergence, institutional readiness and citizen awareness, besides facilitating participatory planning and identification of local development priorities.

FDA intensifies Food Safety Enforcement across UT

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Continuing its food safety surveillance and enforcement activities, FDA, J&K conducted inspections in the last couple of days across the Union Territory to ensure compliance with the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the regulations framed thereunder.

During the enforcement drive, Food Safety teams conducted 348 inspections of Food Business Operators (FBOs) across various districts and lifted 180 food samples covering major commodities, including edible oils, ghee, milk and milk products, spices and other food products. The samples have been forwarded to NABL-accredited food testing laboratories for analysis against the prescribed safety and quality parameters. The establishments inspected during this round of inspections belonged to various categories which included Hotels, Restaurants and canteens.

As part of the enforcement action, six Improvement Notices were issued



to FBOs found deficient in complying with prescribed food safety requirements and the Food business operators have been directed to report compliance within the stipulated timeline failing which legal action as necessary shall be initiated.

Further, 31 complaint cases were initiated under Sections 56 and 58 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 against violations detected during inspections and filed before the Adjudicating Officers (Additional Deputy Commissioners) of the respective districts.

In addition, 17 cases were compounded under Section 69 of the FSSA, 2006, involving a cumulative fine of ₹37,000. Two

cases were also dealt with under Section 52 in respect of misbranding and labelling-related violations, wherein a cumulative fine of ₹55,000 was imposed.

The FDA, J&K, reiterated that all Food Business Operators are required to strictly adhere to statutory requirements relating to licensing/registration, hygiene and sanitation, food handling and processing, storage, labelling and other prescribed food safety standards. The field enforcement authorities have been directed to maintain regular inspections and sampling and to initiate appropriate regulatory and penal action against violations in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

DLSA G'bal observes International Day of Older Persons

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ganderbal, observed the International Day of Older Persons Thursday, by organising a series of legal awareness and outreach programmes aimed at sensitising senior citizens about their legal rights and entitlements, dignity, safety and access to free legal services.

The series of programmes were organised under the chairmanship of Abdul Nasir, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Ganderbal, and under the guidance of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, in pursuance of the directions of the J&K Legal Services Authority and in accordance with the calendar of activities issued for the observance of the programme.

As part of the observance, DLSA Ganderbal organised a legal awareness programme in collaboration with Ahata Waqar (Old Age Home, Wayil), Hope Society, Ganderbal.

Advocate Bilal Ahmed Bhat, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Ganderbal, acted as the Resource Person and sensitised the senior citizens about their legal rights and entitlements, particularly under the NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016 and the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. He also apprised the participants about the availability of free legal aid and the assistance that can be availed through the Legal Services Authorities, including NALSA Helpline No. 15100.

The programme further highlighted the importance of safeguarding the dignity, safety and welfare of senior citizens and ensuring their meaningful access to justice for all especially Senior Citizens.

Another awareness programme was organised in collaboration with the District Social Welfare Officer, Ganderbal, at the Auditorium Hall of Government Boys' Higher Secondary School, Ganderbal. Advocate Irfan Rashid, Panel Lawyer, DLSA

Ganderbal, acted as the Resource Person and sensitised the participants regarding their rights, welfare measures and legal protections available to them. He also highlighted the role of Legal Services Institutions and concerned stakeholders in ensuring that senior citizens are able to access available legal and welfare services.

In another series of programme, a door-to-door legal awareness activities were also undertaken by the Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of DLSA Ganderbal/TLSC Ganderbal in their respective areas and Legal Aid Clinics. The PLVs reached out to senior citizens and their family members and created awareness regarding the NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016, the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, availability of free legal services and NALSA Helpline No. 15100 as well as other welfare schemes of the Government for old age persons including old age pension, Golden Card, etc.

CM Omar-led Govt approves ₹15 Cr restoration of traditional SMVD pilgrimage route



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led Government has accorded administrative approval for restoration of the traditional Shri Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage route at an estimated cost of ₹15 crore.

The Chief Minister said the restoration of the traditional route is aimed at preserving its heritage while strength-

ening infrastructure and improving facilities for pilgrims undertaking the revered journey.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine is among the major pilgrimage destinations in Jammu and Kashmir, attracting millions of devotees from across the country and abroad every year.

The project will focus on restoration and improvement of the traditional route, with the

objective of ensuring a smoother, safer and more convenient pilgrimage experience for devotees while preserving its historical and cultural significance.

The Chief Minister emphasised that development of pilgrimage infrastructure must go hand in hand with preservation of the heritage and traditional character of important religious sites in Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K moves to build a Multiversity for future-ready education

CS consults Academics, Officers to workout the framework

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Thursday held a detailed consultation with Vice Chancellors of Universities and senior functionaries of the Higher Education Department to explore the creation of a Multiversity ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, leveraging the collective academic, research, technological and infrastructural strengths of the region's universities and premier institutions.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellors of the universities of J&K, Commissioner Secretary, Higher Education Department, Director Colleges, J&K, and other concerned officers.

The consultation focused on developing an institutional framework for greater inter-university collaboration, shared academic resources, multidisciplinary learning, student and faculty mobility,

research partnerships and stronger industry linkages, in keeping with the emerging requirements of higher education as per the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Speaking during the deliberations, the Chief Secretary observed that the world is changing rapidly, with technological innovations continuously transforming lifestyles, workplaces and human situations. He noted that while technology is taking over certain conventional jobs, it is simultaneously creating newer and more complex challenges requiring multidisciplinary knowledge and skills.

He further maintained that the future will belong to those who can continuously upgrade their knowledge, acquire multidisciplinary skills and work across institutional and professional boundaries. Moreover he stressed that such capabilities cannot be developed in isolation and



require greater networking and collaboration.

He stated that the idea of developing a Multiversity could provide an institutional mechanism for grooming a future-ready generation by bringing together the strengths of different institutions and enabling students to access diverse areas of knowledge.

He particularly emphasised the need to move "from papers to patents", with a clear roadmap for research, innovation and technology transfer. He directed that the proposed framework should define specific milestones, timelines, institutional respon-

sibilities and measurable outcomes to ensure that the concept translates into tangible action on the ground.

Earlier, Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, made a detailed presentation on the concept, its relevance and the possibilities of developing such a model in J&K. He gave out that we need to build an inter-institutional framework today to remain relevant tomorrow. The possibilities offered under NEP-2020 provide us a clear policy direction to move towards such a collabora-

tive model, he maintained.

He highlighted that the region possesses a diverse and rich higher education ecosystem comprising academic and agricultural universities, AIIMS, SKIMS, IIT, IIM and other specialised institutions, along with technical institutions and a large network of colleges.

He emphasised that these institutions could complement each other by sharing infrastructure, expertise and academic resources to create a wider learning ecosystem without necessarily duplicating facilities.

The presentation explored possible academic architecture, interdisciplinary learning pathways, shared courses and facilities, mobility of students and faculty, internships and apprenticeships, industry and public-sector linkages, anchor institutions and measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for monitoring progress.

Satish Sharma Extends Gandhi Jayanti Greetings

Calls for Upholding Values of Truth, Non-Violence, Swachhata

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Youth Services & Sports, and Science & Technology, Satish Sharma, Thursday extended his warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, which will be observed across the country on October 2.

The Minister paid rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his 157th birth anniversary, recalling his profound contribution to India's freedom struggle and the enduring relevance of his ideals of truth, non-violence, self-reliance, Swadeshi, cleanliness and Sarvodaya.

In his message, Satish Sharma said that Mahatma Gandhi's life and philosophy continue to inspire generations and remain deeply relevant in addressing the challenges facing society today.



"Gandhiji showed the world that truth and non-violence are not merely ideals but powerful instruments for bringing about lasting peace, social harmony and positive transformation. His message of Satya, Ahimsa, Swadeshi, Swachhata and Sarvodaya continues to guide humanity," the Minister said.

He called upon the people, particularly the youth, to draw inspiration from Gandhiji's life and work and translate his principles into action in their everyday lives.

Satish Sharma emphasized that cleanliness, social responsibility, compassion

and respect for fellow citizens are essential for building a progressive and harmonious society. He urged people to make cleanliness and civic responsibility a collective movement and contribute towards creating cleaner and healthier communities.

The Minister also underscored the importance of promoting self-reliance and supporting local initiatives, enterprises and products, in keeping with the spirit of Swadeshi and Gandhiji's vision of an empowered society.

"Gandhiji's legacy reminds us that nation-building begins with individual responsibility. Let us reaffirm our commitment to truth, non-violence, cleanliness, social harmony and service to society, and work collectively for a peaceful, prosperous and progressive Jammu and Kashmir," Satish Sharma said.

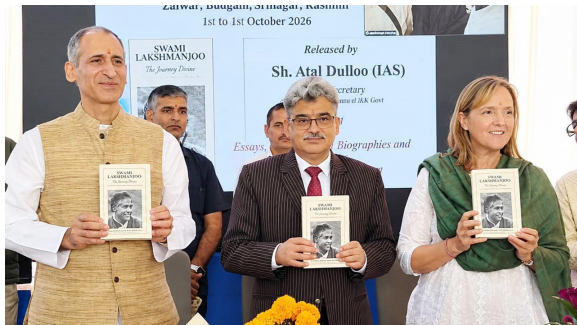
CS releases book on Swami Lakshmanjoo at Ishwar Ashram

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, Thursday visited the historic Ishwar Ashram at Ishber, Nishat and released a book chronicling the life, times and enduring legacy of renowned twentieth-century master of Kashmir Shaivism, Swami Lakshmanjoo (1907-1991).

On the occasion, the Chief Secretary paid tribute to the profound contribution of Swami Lakshmanjoo towards preserving and propagating the rich philosophical heritage of Kashmir, particularly the traditions of Kashmir Shaivism.

He observed that the life and teachings of such eminent spiritual scholars constitute an important part of Kashmir's composite intellectual and cultural heritage and deserve to be documented and made



accessible to succeeding generations.

The Chief Secretary appreciated the efforts behind bringing out the book, describing such works as valuable in documenting the life and contributions of personalities who have enriched the cultural and philosophical landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

During his visit, the Chief Secretary also took a tour of the Ashram and was apprised of its his-

torical significance and activities associated with the preservation of the teachings of Swami Lakshmanjoo.

The visit highlighted the importance of preserving Jammu and Kashmir's diverse heritage and documenting the contributions of its eminent spiritual, literary and intellectual figures for posterity.

Those who were present includes Shanna Huges and Dr. Anusheel Munshi who are the disciples of the saint.

IWMP to take watershed development initiatives to grassroot level on Oct 2

198 Gram Panchayats to disseminate information through special Gram Sabhas

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) in collaboration with Government of India is going to organise Special Gram Sabhas in 198 Gram Panchayats across Jammu and Kashmir on October 2 to create awareness about watershed development initiatives and encourage community participation in the conservation of soil and water resources.

The Special Gram Sabhas will cover 19 Watershed Development Projects and will provide a platform for local communities to learn about watershed interventions, participate in planning and assume an active role in the creation and long-term maintenance of water-harvesting and soil-conservation assets.

The activities will focus on generating awareness

about the benefits of watershed development, including improved water availability, reduced soil erosion, restoration of degraded land, enhanced agricultural productivity and increased livelihood opportunities for rural communities.

Subsequently, similar awareness activities are proposed to be held at around 80 locations at the district and project levels.

Chief Executive Officer, IWMP, Rajnish Kumar, said the Special Gram Sabhas would strengthen community ownership of watershed projects and ensure that development interventions reflect local needs.

"Watershed development can deliver sustainable results only when local communities are fully involved in its planning, implementation and maintenance. Through these Special Gram Sabhas, we aim to take information directly to the people, listen to their priorities and encourage collective responsibility for conserving soil and water resources," Kumar said.

He called upon the district and project-level implementing agencies to activate their field machinery, ensure wide public participation and

explain the various watershed development interventions to farmers and rural households in simple and accessible language.

Under watershed development programmes, approximately 53,619 hectares have been covered in Jammu and Kashmir. Given the Union Territory's hilly and difficult terrain, the financial provision has been enhanced from ₹15,000 to ₹28,000 per hectare, enabling more effective soil and water conservation works.

The project duration has also been reduced from seven years to five years to accelerate implementation and ensure that farmers receive benefits within a shorter period. The programme promotes quality seeds and saplings, improved agricultural implements, crop diversification, horticulture, agroforestry and other interventions suited to local agro-climatic conditions.

Special attention is also being given to springshed development in the mountainous areas of Jammu and Kashmir. More than 550 springs have been rejuvenated or developed, with preliminary data indicating an increase of up to three times in spring discharge and longer availability of water.

No Eligible Voter to be left behind: CEO

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Sanjeev Verma, Thursday chaired a meeting with District Election Officers and EROs for the enrolment of left out and young/first time eligible electors under the process of continuous updation. Special attention was emphasised for left-out eligible electors who have attained eligibility for registration.

The CEO also directed that Booth Level Officers

should undergo House-to-House visits and remain accessible to eligible electors requiring assistance with enrolment or related forms. They were also asked to facilitate the proper filling and submission of forms, particularly in cases where electors face any difficulty, so that no eligible voter to be left behind.

Chief Electoral Officer, J&K reiterated his commitment to ensuring an accurate and inclusive electoral roll.

Inter-state narcotics network busted in Srinagar; 8 arrested: Police



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Police have arrested eight people and seized more than 219,000 tablets and capsules while investigating an alleged inter-state narcotics trafficking network, police said.

The arrests were made during an investigation into FIR No. 135/2026 registered at Safakadal police station, with one of the accused apprehended in Bengaluru, police said in a statement.

Police recovered ₹85.75 lakh in cash and froze bank accounts containing ₹1.07 crore, the statement said.

Gold, Rolex watches, luxury goods and other valuables were also seized.

During searches of two bank lockers, police recovered gold and cash valued at approximately ₹2.20 crore, it said.

A pistol, a dagger and two vehicles were also seized, said SSP Srinagar, Dr. G.V. Sundee Chakravarthy.

Police said the investigation had traced the alleged supply chain to Chandigarh, Panchkula and Ambala. Two other accused remain absconding, and efforts are underway to arrest them.

The investigation is continuing, with police examining digital evidence, financial transactions and supply-chain links to establish the network's wider operations and identify others involved, the statement said.

J&K likely to witness season's first major rain, snowfall spell from Oct 8-11

SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir is likely to witness the season's first major spell of rain and snowfall between October 8 and 11, with a strong Western Disturbance expected to affect the Union Territory, according to a weather forecast.

The weather is expected to remain mostly dry across Jammu and Kashmir until October 5, while indications suggest a significant change in conditions from October 8, according to Kashmir Weather Forecast, which put the current possibility of the spell at around 55 per cent.

Snowfall during the period is mainly expected over the higher reaches, while rain could occur across the plains and lower-lying areas, it said.

The forecast cautioned that the assessment is an early indication and that the exact timing

and intensity of the weather system could change as it moves closer to the region.

"More updates will be shared as the dates come closer," Kashmir Weather Forecast, said.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department's evening weather parameters showed dry conditions across Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, with no rainfall recorded at the listed stations during the observation period.

Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 29.3 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 10.2 degrees Celsius, while Jammu recorded a maximum of 32.6 degrees and a minimum of 20.4 degrees.

Gulmarg recorded a maximum of 20.6 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 7.2 degrees, while Pahalgam recorded 25.5 degrees and 6 degrees, respectively—(KNO)

RUN ACROSS GENERATIONS

Kashmir Marathon draws over 6,000 participants

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: From toddlers taking their first steps into the world of sports to an 84-year-old participant completing the course, the Kashmir Marathon, Run for Unity, brought together people across generations, drawing applause and appreciation at its closing ceremony in Srinagar on Thursday.

Organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the marathon saw participation from more than 6,000 runners across various categories, turning the event into a celebration of fitness, unity and community spirit.

According to details obtained, a two-year-old girl and three-year-old Mohammad Hamza were among the youngest participants and emerged as crowd favourites.

Their presence, alongside young athletes and senior citizens, highlighted the marathon's inclusive spirit and its appeal across age groups. Participants said the involvement of both children and elderly runners made the event especially memorable.

"The participation of children and senior citizens made the marathon particularly special," said Zubair

Ahmed, a resident of Anantnag. Zahid Nadeem of Srinagar's Jawahar Nagar also lauded the initiative, saying such events bring people together while promoting a healthy and active lifestyle.

The elderly participants received special appreciation during the event. A 61-year-old woman was awarded a cash prize of ₹2,500, while 84-year-old Haji

Ghulam was applauded for completing the marathon.

The closing ceremony, held at the Police Golf Course on the banks of Dal Lake, was attended by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat, ADGP Armed Police Nitish Kumar, ADGP CID M.K. Sinha, senior civil and police officers, sports personalities and youth—(KNO)

Good Morning

Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Digital Press Club

Of The Valley

Welcome to the golden age of Kashmir journalism, where the barrier to entry isn't a degree, an internship, or a basic understanding of media ethics; it's a working internet package and a dream. If you have ever felt the urge to hold authority accountable or simply wanted to skip the queue at the local bakery, your moment has arrived. Forget four years of journalism school; you can launch a full-fledged news network before your evening tea gets cold. Here is the three-step blueprint for overnight media mogul status: Step 1: The Hardware Setup. The Mic: Head to the local electronics shop and purchase a microphone. Quality is irrelevant; the heft is what matters. The Logo: Print a brightly colored piece of foam, preferably in neon red or yellow—with an acronym containing at least three of the following words: News, Valley, Express, Times, Voice, Live, or Breaking. Glue it to the mic. The Facebook Page: Create a page named "Voice of [Insert Your Local Locality] Live 24/7." Congratulations, you are now an Editor-in-Chief. Step 2: The Editorial Strategy. Your editorial mandate is simple: hyper-local, hyper-dramatic, and high-frequency. Did a tap leak in the neighbourhood? That's not a plumbing issue; that's a "MAJOR EXPOSE: Water Crisis Looming Over Ward No. 4, Administration Silent!" Has a cow blocked a narrow lane? Stand in front of it, adjust your posture, and yell into the microphone with the cadence of a breaking war report. The key is volume. If you aren't shouting, are you even reporting? Walk into any government office with your mic extended forward like a shield. Watch as junior clerks suddenly find your presence deeply unnerving and local shopkeepers treat you with the solemn deference reserved for visiting dignitaries. A few salutes, a free cup of tea, and a nod of respect from the neighbourhood elders – you've officially made it. Step 3: The Role of the Authorities. Where is the government in all this? Sitting back, enjoying the show, and occasionally issuing a public notice reminding everyone that "unrecognised digital channels" should adhere to guidelines. It is a harmonious ecosystem: the authorities watch the feeds, the "journalists" stream the local traffic jams, and the audience gets endless free entertainment in the comments section. While the proliferation of social media pages has given a platform to hyper-local civic issues, it has also blurred the line between verified journalism and sensationalist content creation. What specific aspect of local digital reporting do you find most concerning or interesting?

Reclaiming Workers' Ownership Over

Artificial Intelligence And Technologies



BHABANI SHANKAR NAYAK

The technological automation led by Artificial Intelligence (AI) is growing on an unprecedented scale unknown in world history, immersing individuals and societies across countries and threatening both the environment and individuals with its negative impacts. It destroys millions of jobs, and human beings and their skills are replaced by robots (dead labour or commoditised human creativity). Technology invades every aspect of human life, where individuals do not have basic choices in life i.e. right to privacy. Therefore, there is growing resistance to AI-led automation, often branded as a "Luddite Renaissance," which demands banning bots and technology and slowing AI down before destroying it. Such technophobia is not an alternative. Contemporary anti-technology movements and different forms of resistance against big technology companies, data corporations, their data centres, and AI are often branded as Luddite movements, creating a historical parallel with the workers' uprising in textile towns of England in 1779. From Manchester to Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Leicestershire, and Derbyshire, textile workers protested against poor wages and inhuman working conditions after the introduction of automated power looms, knitting machines, and other machinery in the textile industries in England. They were also worried about the future of their hard-earned skills. The workers smashed the looms and machines to punish the textile industry owners. These struggles not only challenged ruling-class hegemony and factory owners' domination but also brought nineteenth-century England to its knees. The English ruling classes ruthlessly suppressed these early working-class struggles not only by deploying the brute force of more than 14,000 troops and gunning down workers and their leaders in Huddersfield and Yorkshire but also by imposing laws that made machine breaking illegal and punishable by death. The ruling classes also spread propaganda by branding the workers' struggle against low wages and poor working conditions as an anti-



technology and anti-progress movement. The ruling classes in England also branded these class struggles of the working poor as the "Luddite" movement, as a form of smear campaign that dismissed workers as simple-minded people who lacked foresight and opposed industrial progress in the country. The workers used the ruling-class smear campaign to name their loom-smashing activities and claimed that workers were following orders from "General Ludd," "King Ludd," or "Ned Ludd," a mythical apprentice. So, the working-class struggles in the textile towns of England were branded as the Luddite movement and used as a description for anyone who opposes or dislikes technology. The contemporary ruling classes, represented by the American Enterprise Institute, brand the anti-technology movement as "Luddite legerdemain." In reality, workers were not against technology or technological progress and industrialisation but against poor wages and exploitative and poor working conditions in factories. The textile workers had no technophobia; they demanded better working conditions, better wages, and workers' rights. However, despite the good intentions of environmental protection, workers' rights, and the right to privacy, contemporary anti-technology movements—such as "algorithmic disobedience" led by the Algorithmic Sabotage Research Group, "decomputing society," "decomputing for a better future," "Welcome Spring, Burn a Tesla," the movement for digital sovereignty, the Non-Aligned Technologies Movement, and other movements against big technology companies—show a neo-traditionalist approach to technology

fundamentally opposed to the spirit of the Luddite movements of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. There is no doubt that these movements are central to the humanisation, decentralisation, democratisation, and decolonisation of the technological divide and technological knowledge traditions. These movements caution about the impact of data centres on water resources and the environment and negative impacts of technology led digitalisation society on mental health. These movements remind people to reclaim their individual identity and privacy from big data companies and AI companies that reduce people, their behaviour, and their life experiences to mere numbers, codes and algorithmic models. These cautions are crucial in developing technology that empowers people and destroys all reactionary ideas and practices in society. Humanised technology for greater social good and protection of the planet is crucial, but an uncritical anti-technology movement takes society and scientific knowledge traditions nowhere. It looks backward. From the creation of algorithmic language models and machines to the datafication of human lives, the codification of human behaviour, and the computerisation of human experiences, all are products and creations of human labour. Data collection, data entry, data classification, codification, management and analysis, and every other aspect of the origin, growth, and development of technology, its processes, and its products are the outcome of the creative abilities and human labour of working people. Therefore, it is imperative for working people to claim ownership and control over all AI-led technologies, both in terms of skills and knowledge traditions

and in terms of their operational and organisational aspects. This is the only alternative that can further humanise, democratise, decentralise, decolonise, and decarbonise technology in the service of humankind and the planet. Mere uncritical opposition to technology empowers the ruling class and its reactionary corporate cronies, who make profit by taking away workers' rights from the very product workers produce in the form of creative knowledge and AI-led technology. The corporatisation of AI and commercialisation of knowledge traditions control human beings, their societies, and the planet. The alternative is to own, control, and direct technology to serve the people. Instead of opposing technology and accelerating a culture of technophobia and unfounded fearmongering claims by self-serving leaders of AI companies, it is time to claim workers' ownership over all technologies and AI. The historical trajectory from Luddite technophobia to anti-AI movements is missing the boat by failing to claim workers' ownership over all forms of technology and its knowledge traditions. It is time to own AI before it owns all human beings and the planet under its rent-seeking culture and system of technological and digital slavery. Therefore, it is important to reframe and reorient anti-technology and labour movements from alienation to ownership in order to humanise technology and to ensure people's ownership and control over AI. It is imperative to pursue new frontiers of scientific and secular knowledge traditions in the form of AI-led technologies that are central to empowering and emancipating people, addressing the essence of human needs, and fulfilling human desires by dismantling the fraudulent claims of hyper-consumerism under the individualistic cultures of digital and platform capitalism. The call to ban, slow down, and destroy AI is neither an alternative nor a viable project for the progressive transformation of society and the emancipation of human beings. It only serves the corporate ruling class agenda. Therefore, it is time to reclaim workers' rights and their ownership over AI. The collective ownership can only shape sustainable AI and help AI to survive from the onslaught of corporatisation, commercialisation and weaponisation of AI for profit. The new frontiers of AI and its sustainable development depends on collective ownership of AI.

The author can be mailed at bhabani79@gmail.com

LIVING LEGACY

How Gandhi's Thoughts Shape Today's World

YOGESH KUMAR GOYAL

Born on 2 October 1869 in Porbandar, Mahatma Gandhi remained an ideal hero for the people of India throughout his life. The entire world is well acquainted with his unforgettable contribution to India's freedom struggle. Following the path of non-violence, Gandhi led India towards freedom from British rule and influenced the entire world with his thoughts. Based on his experiences, he wrote several books, which continue to show us a new path in life even today because his experiences and thoughts remain as meaningful today as they were during that era. In the truest sense, Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, continues to be a guide for crores of young Indians. There were three important principles in his life. The first was the use of the broom to remove social filth. The second was to give importance to collective prayer, rising above the barriers of caste, creed and religion. The third was the spinning wheel, which later came to be regarded as a symbol of self-reliance and unity. Gandhi ji often used to say that happiness is the only perfume that, when you pour it on others, a few drops of it also fall upon you. He used to say that a person's identity is not determined by his clothes but by his character. With the aim of sowing the seeds of positivity among those who obstruct the progress of others and those who possess negative thinking, he said, "An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind." Inspiring people to understand the importance of time and make proper use of it, he said that those who save time also save money, and the money saved in this manner is as important as the money earned. He would say that whatever work you do may be of little importance, but the



most important thing is that you do something. Inspiring people to learn something new every day and every moment of life, Gandhi ji used to say, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow, but learn as if you were to live forever." His words had a deep impact on the hearts and minds of the people of India. There was such power in Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts that even his opponents could not refrain from praising him. Several anecdotes also reveal clear glimpses of his honesty, outspokenness, truthfulness and courtesy. Once, Mahatma Gandhi was playing badminton with Mrs. Sarojini Naidu. Mrs. Naidu had an injury to her right hand. Seeing this, Gandhi ji also held the racket in his left hand. When Mrs. Naidu noticed this, she burst out laughing and said, "You don't even know which hand the racket is supposed to be held in?" Bapu replied, "You too are holding the racket in your left hand because your right hand is injured, and I do not want to take advantage of anyone's helplessness. If you cannot play with your right hand because of your difficulty, why

should I take advantage of my right hand?" Once, Gandhi ji was addressing a meeting organized in the locality of the Harijans and the Meman community in Jaitpur. The Meman community is a particular community of Kathiawadi Muslims. In those days, the boys belonging to this community were known to be very unruly, mischievous and wayward. As soon as Gandhi ji began his speech, a boy of about 10-12 years also arrived at the venue. Pushing his way through the people, he reached the front, smoking a bidi and staring rudely at Gandhi ji while blowing out smoke. Gandhi ji noticed the boy and immediately stopped his speech. Looking towards him, he said, "Oh, look, such a small boy is smoking a bidi. Come on, brother, throw it away, throw the bidi away." Gandhi ji's simple words had a magical effect on the boy. He immediately took the bidi out of his mouth and threw it away, then sat politely among the audience and listened very attentively to Gandhi ji's speech. Once, Mahatma Gandhi

was travelling by train from Champaran to Bettiah. As there was not much crowd in the train, he went into a third-class compartment and lay down on a berth. At the next station, a farmer boarded the compartment. Seeing Gandhi ji lying on the berth, he abused him and said, "Get up from here. You are sprawled across the berth as if this train belongs to your father." Without saying anything to the farmer, Gandhi ji quietly got up and sat to one side. The farmer then comfortably sat on the berth and began singing merrily, "Blessed be Gandhi Mahara! Gandhi ji, the one who removes the sufferings of the distressed..." Interestingly, the farmer was actually travelling to Bettiah to have Gandhi ji's darshan, but since he had never seen Gandhi ji before, he failed to recognize him in the train. When they reached Bettiah and thousands of people gathered at the station to welcome Gandhi ji, the farmer realized what had happened and, overcome with embarrassment, lowered his eyes. He fell at Gandhi ji's feet and begged for forgiveness. Gandhi ji

lifted him up and affectionately embraced him. Another anecdote dates back to the time when Gandhi ji was serving a sentence of rigorous imprisonment. One day, after he had completed all the work assigned to him, he sat to one side and began reading a book in his free time. Just then, a prison guard came running to him and told him that the jailer was coming to inspect the prison and therefore he should keep himself engaged in some work so that the jailer could see him working. But Gandhi ji categorically refused to do so and said, "It would be better to send me to a place where there is so much work that it cannot possibly be completed ahead of time." When the Second World War began, most of the leaders of the country were of the view that this was exactly the right opportunity to free the country from the British and that they should take advantage of this golden opportunity by launching a large-scale movement in the country. In fact, they believed that since the British government would be preoccupied with the Second World War, it would not be able to confront such a movement by the people of India and would ultimately be forced to bow before the nationwide movement, thereby compelling the British to grant India independence with relative ease. When the same issue was raised before Gandhi ji, he refused to take advantage of the British government's predicament. Although Gandhi ji did launch a movement against the British during that period, his movement was not a mass movement but one conducted at the individual level.

(Author is a journalist who has been active in journalism for 36 years and is the author of several books, including 'Sagar Se Antariksh Tak: Bharat Ki Raksha Kranti')

IDEAS, OPINIONS AND VIEWS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLES PUBLISHED ARE WRITERS' OWN AND MAY NOT BE FOUND IN ACCORD WITH THOSE OF GOOD MORNING KASHMIR

Good Morning

Kashmir

Editor, Owner, Printer, Publisher

Javed Ashraf Shah

Associate Editors

Suhail Mir

Sulaiman Muhammed Shah

Legal Advisor

Bashir Sidiq

Bureau Chief Jammu:

Harbans Nagokay

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

Regd No: 109555

Office No: 0194-3593724

Email:

goodmorningkashmir@gmail.com

Office Address:

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

Printed at:

Khidmat Offset Printing Press, The Bund, Srinagar

Published From:

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

Layout Designer

Aijaz Ahmad Dar

Tourism Beyond Footfalls

Towards Sustainable And Inclusive Growth



OMKAR DATTATRAY

World Tourism Day, commemorated annually on 27 September, has acquired a significance far beyond the ceremonial celebration of travel and leisure. In an increasingly interconnected world, tourism has emerged as a formidable instrument of economic mobilisation, cultural diplomacy, employment generation and territorial development. It constitutes an intricate ecosystem in which hospitality, transportation, gastronomy, handicrafts, heritage, entertainment and local commerce converge to generate livelihoods and stimulate economic activity.

The contemporary discourse on tourism, therefore, cannot remain confined to the conventional imagery of picturesque landscapes and recreational excursions; it must encompass the more consequential questions of sustainability, inclusivity, cultural preservation, infrastructural preparedness and equitable distribution of economic dividends. The transformative potential of tourism is particularly conspicuous in regions endowed with substantial natural, historical and cultural capital but constrained by limited industrialisation. Unlike capital-intensive industries that frequently necessitate enormous financial investments and sophisticated technological infrastructure, tourism can create an extensive employment multiplier through comparatively decentralised economic activity.

A tourist's expenditure does not terminate at the hotel counter; it permeates a broad chain of economic transactions involving



transporters, restaurateurs, artisans, farmers, shopkeepers, guides, photographers and numerous ancillary service providers. Consequently, a strategically calibrated tourism economy can become an important mechanism for augmenting household incomes, stimulating entrepreneurship and arresting the economic marginalisation of peripheral communities. Yet the expansion of tourism cannot be predicated upon numbers alone. An indiscriminate pursuit of tourist footfall, devoid of adequate infrastructural and ecological safeguards, can prove counterproductive. Destinations overwhelmed by congestion, inadequate sanitation, unregulated construction and environmental degradation may gradually erode the very attributes that initially rendered them attractive. Tourism authorities must therefore transcend the narrow arithmetic of arrivals and adopt a more nuanced conception of destination management, wherein accessibility, carrying capacity, public amenities, safety, conservation and visitor experience are treated as mutually reinforcing imperatives.

The augmentation of tourism infrastructure remains an indispensable prerequisite. Roads, railways, airports, public transportation, telecommunications and digital connectivity constitute the logistical architecture upon which a vibrant tourism economy rests. Equally consequential are seemingly

mundane facilities such as hygienic public conveniences, potable water, waste-disposal mechanisms, parking areas, medical assistance, multilingual signages and emergency-response systems. Such amenities may lack the glamour associated with iconic monuments or panoramic landscapes, yet their absence can profoundly diminish the visitor experience. A destination's reputation is ultimately shaped not merely by what it possesses, but by how efficiently it accommodates and serves those who arrive.

Diversification must constitute another cardinal pillar of tourism policy. Excessive dependence upon a solitary attraction or a narrowly defined tourist season renders destinations economically vulnerable and spatially congested. Heritage tourism, pilgrimage tourism, ecotourism, adventure tourism, rural tourism, wellness tourism, culinary tourism and experiential tourism can collectively broaden the tourism portfolio. The strategic development of integrated tourism circuits can further induce visitors to extend their stays, thereby increasing local expenditure and dispersing economic benefits across a wider geographical canvas. Equally important is the promotion of relatively unexplored destinations, which can alleviate pressure on heavily frequented sites while opening new frontiers of regional development.

The democratisation of tourism revenue

also necessitates the substantive participation of host communities. Local inhabitants should not remain passive spectators to an industry flourishing in their own geographical milieu. Through homestays, community-based enterprises, handicraft cooperatives, local cuisine, cultural performances and professionally trained guiding services, communities can become principal stakeholders in the tourism economy. Such participation can generate a virtuous cycle in which commercial incentives reinforce the preservation of indigenous traditions, architectural heritage and intangible cultural practices. The empowerment of women and young people through entrepreneurial opportunities, vocational training and access to finance can further enlarge the distributive impact of tourism.

The digital revolution has simultaneously transformed the architecture of destination promotion. A location once absent from the international tourism map can now attain global visibility through strategically curated digital content. Official tourism portals, social-media campaigns, virtual experiences, online reservations, digital payments, multilingual interfaces and geospatial applications can substantially reduce informational barriers confronting prospective travellers.

Nevertheless, promotional exuberance must remain commensurate with ground realities. The discrepancy between an idealised digital representation and an unsatisfactory physical experience can rapidly culminate in reputational deterioration. Environmental sustainability, meanwhile, must cease to be treated as an ornamental adjunct to tourism policy. Fragile mountain ecosystems, forests, wetlands, rivers and wildlife habitats are finite ecological assets. Excessive tourist concentration, plastic pollution, indiscriminate construction, water stress and inadequate sewage management can impose irreversible costs upon these ecosystems. Consequently, scientifically determined carrying capacities, responsible land-use regulations, efficient waste management, conservation protocols and climate-resilient infrastructure must become integral

to destination planning.

Tourism should derive economic value from nature without liquidating the ecological capital upon which its longevity depends. Jammu and Kashmir presents an especially compelling case in this context. Its formidable geographical diversity, alpine landscapes, lakes, forests, pilgrimage centres, handicrafts, cuisine and distinctive cultural inheritance provide an unusually broad tourism portfolio. The region's tourism architecture can be further diversified through trekking, skiing, village tourism, heritage trails, culinary excursions, handicraft circuits, safar and horticultural experiences, camping, cycling and other nature-based activities. Jammu possesses considerable potential for pilgrimage, heritage and cultural tourism, while Kashmir can further consolidate its credentials in adventure, winter, rural and experiential tourism.

The systematic development of lesser-known destinations could simultaneously decentralise tourist flows and create new economic opportunities for communities situated beyond established tourist corridors. Ultimately, the efficacy of tourism must be evaluated through a broader developmental prism. The real dividend of tourism lies not merely in swollen visitor statistics, but in its capacity to generate dignified employment, invigorate local economies, preserve cultural inheritance, safeguard ecological assets and foster meaningful human interaction.

World Tourism Day should therefore be regarded as an occasion for recalibrating the global tourism paradigm - from an industry obsessed with volume towards a model predicated upon value, resilience, inclusivity and sustainability. The tourism destinations that will command enduring relevance in the future will be those capable of harmonising economic ambition with ecological prudence, technological sophistication with cultural authenticity, and infrastructural modernisation with the irreplaceable human element of hospitality.

The author can be mailed at onkoul2019@gmail.com

Gandhian Question

Ethics, Power And Democracy In Contemporary India



DR. RATAN BHATTACHARJEE

Mahatma Gandhi occupies a paradoxical position in contemporary India. His portrait remains on the currency, his birthday is observed as Gandhi Jayanti, his name is associated with programmes of rural employment, sanitation and social service, and his ideas of non-violence and truth continue to be invoked across the world. Yet the political and social world of the twenty-first century is often sharply different from the moral universe that Gandhi imagined. We live amid aggressive nationalism, digital misinformation, political polarisation, consumerism, ecological anxiety and technological disruption. In such a landscape, asking whether Gandhi remains relevant is not merely an exercise in historical remembrance. It is an examination of whether truth, non-violence, social responsibility and ethical politics can survive in an age of unprecedented power and communication.

The description of Gandhi as the "Father of the Nation" has a long public history in India, although it is not a formal constitutional title. The phrase is generally associated with Subhas Chandra Bose's 1944 broadcasts from Southeast Asia, when Bose addressed Gandhi as the "Father of our Nation." Gandhi's place in India's national movement, however, cannot be understood through a single honorific. He was one among several major leaders who shaped the struggle for independence. His distinctive contribution was to transform Indian nationalism into a mass movement and to give political resistance a moral and ethical vocabulary.

Gandhi's importance began with his insistence that politics could not be divorced from morality. Truth was not simply an abstract philosophical principle for him. It was a discipline of public life. His concept of Satyagraha—often translated as "truth-force" or "truth holding"—sought to resist injustice without hatred and without violence. The objective was not merely to defeat an opponent but to appeal to the opponent's conscience. This distinction is particularly relevant today. Political disagreement frequently becomes personal hostility. Social media has made it easy to reduce complicated questions to slogans, caricatures and accusations. Gandhi's political method

suggests a different possibility: opposition without dehumanisation. One can disagree profoundly with another person without denying that person's dignity.

His principle of Ahimsa, or non-violence, is perhaps his most internationally recognised contribution. Gandhi did not regard non-violence as weakness. It required courage, organisation, discipline and willingness to endure suffering. His campaigns in India—including Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience and the Salt March—demonstrated how mass political action could be organised without relying upon conventional military power. In the contemporary world, the relevance of non-violence extends beyond political movements. Violence is not confined to physical confrontation. Hate speech, communal hostility, humiliation, online harassment and deliberate misinformation can create social violence even when no physical weapon is involved. Gandhi's insistence upon controlling anger and refusing to turn political opponents into enemies therefore has contemporary significance. But Gandhi's idea of non-violence should not be romanticised. He himself confronted situations in which maintaining complete control over mass movements was extremely difficult. The violence at Chauri Chaura in 1922 led him to suspend the Non-Cooperation Movement. His decision demonstrated that he considered the ethical discipline of a movement more important than immediate political momentum.

Another major Gandhian idea is Swaraj. It is frequently translated simply as independence or self-rule, but Gandhi's understanding was considerably broader. Political independence from Britain was only one dimension. Genuine Swaraj required individuals and communities capable of exercising self-discipline and responsibility. That idea remains relevant because democracy is not sustained by elections alone. A democratic society also requires citizens who can tolerate disagreement, respect institutions, distinguish fact from propaganda and accept constitutional limitations on power. Gandhi's conception of Swaraj places responsibility alongside freedom. Rights matter, but so do duties. His emphasis on the common person is equally important. Gandhi deliberately brought peasants, workers, women and ordinary villagers into the centre of national politics. The freedom struggle could no longer remain exclusively the concern of lawyers, professionals and educated urban elites. The spinning wheel and khadi became symbols of participation, while campaigns around salt, taxation and local grievances connected national politics with ordinary life.

Contemporary democracy faces a different but related challenge: the distance between institutions and citizens. Gandhi's politics reminds us that democracy becomes meaningful when citizens feel that public



affairs belong to them. Participation cannot be reduced to voting once every few years. Community organisation, voluntary work, public discussion, social service and peaceful civic action are also components of democratic life.

Gandhi's concern with Swadeshi also deserves reconsideration in the age of globalisation. His advocacy of indigenous production was not simply an economic rejection of everything foreign. It was closely connected with self-reliance and the dignity of labour. He wanted Indians to recognise their economic dependence and develop local productive capacity. Modern India is far more industrialised and globally integrated than Gandhi's India. His suspicion of large-scale industrial civilisation cannot simply be transferred unchanged to the twenty-first century. Yet his questions remain pertinent: What kind of economic development do we want? Who benefits from growth? What happens to workers displaced by technological change? How should economic progress be balanced against environmental sustainability?

Gandhi's doctrine of trusteeship offers another area for contemporary reflection. He recognised the legitimacy of private property but argued that wealth carries social responsibility. The wealthy, in his conception, should regard themselves as trustees of resources whose benefits cannot be separated from the wider community. This idea becomes significant in an era of enormous corporate wealth and widening economic disparities. Trusteeship is not a substitute for modern economic policy, taxation or regulation, but it raises a fundamental ethical question: what obligations accompany economic power? Perhaps nowhere is Gandhi's relevance more visible than in his attitude toward poverty and the dignity of labour. He repeatedly asked Indians to think about the poorest and most vulnerable person before making political decisions. His famous "talisman" was essentially an ethical test: consider the impact of an action upon the

poorest person one has encountered. This principle can provide a useful framework for public policy. Infrastructure, technology, artificial intelligence, economic reform and urbanisation can produce enormous benefits, but their consequences should also be assessed from the perspective of those with the fewest resources. Development becomes more meaningful when it expands human capability rather than merely increasing aggregate wealth.

Gandhi's campaign against untouchability also remains historically significant. He regarded the practice as a profound moral wrong and worked extensively for the social inclusion of communities subjected to caste discrimination. At the same time, Gandhi's approach to caste and his disagreements with B. R. Ambedkar remain subjects of serious historical and political debate. Ambedkar's critique of caste was much more radical, particularly regarding the structural foundations of caste society. Therefore, invoking Gandhi's social reform record should not erase Ambedkar's distinctive contribution or the continuing complexity of caste. Gandhi's commitment to communal harmony acquires particular importance in a society as diverse as India. His understanding of nationalism was not based upon religious uniformity. He believed that India's civilisation could accommodate multiple faiths and traditions. During the final phase of his life, communal violence became one of his deepest concerns. His visits to violence-affected areas, his fasts and his appeals for reconciliation represented an attempt to place human life above sectarian identity.

Modern India remains religiously diverse. Consequently, the Gandhian question is not whether people should abandon their religious identities. It is whether citizenship can remain equal despite differences of faith. A democratic nation cannot depend upon everyone thinking alike. Its stability depends upon citizens accepting pluralism as a political fact and a social principle. Gandhi's relationship with women presents another com-

plicated area. Women played a major role in his mass movements, and Gandhi actively encouraged their participation in public life. He challenged conventional restrictions on women's political activity and regarded their moral and organisational strength as crucial to the freedom movement. Yet some of his views about gender and sexuality were shaped by the social assumptions of his period and are subject to modern criticism. His historical contribution should therefore be understood without turning him into an uncritical modern icon.

His views on education also deserve renewed attention. Gandhi's concept of basic education sought to connect learning with productive work, social responsibility and practical skills. Today's education system operates on a completely different technological and economic scale. Nevertheless, the question Gandhi raised remains important: Should education merely prepare individuals for employment, or should it also prepare them for responsible citizenship? The same question can be extended to technology. Gandhi could not have imagined smartphones, social media, generative artificial intelligence or the digital economy. But his philosophy provides a useful ethical framework for examining technological power. Technology should be judged not merely by what it can accomplish but also by how it affects human dignity, equality and social relationships.

The environmental dimension of Gandhi's thought has become increasingly significant. His critique of limitless consumption is frequently cited in contemporary discussions of sustainability. Gandhi's famous warning that the Earth provides enough to satisfy human need but not unlimited human greed captures, in broad terms, the ecological concern embedded in his philosophy. The climate crisis makes the question of consumption unavoidable. Economic development is essential for a country such as India, but development cannot mean unlimited exploitation of natural resources. Gandhi's emphasis on moderation, local production and responsible consumption offers a philosophical counterweight to a culture increasingly driven by excess consumption. Yet Gandhi's relevance should not be transformed into Gandhian absolutism. He was not infallible. His political strategies were sometimes controversial. His economic ideas cannot simply substitute for modern macroeconomic policy. His positions on caste, industrialisation and several social questions require historical scrutiny. His disagreements with other national leaders should be studied rather than suppressed in the interests of hero worship.

Author is International Tagore Awardee. He can be mailed at prafatambhattacharjee@gmail.com

JMC holds Stakeholders' meeting to clarify notices

Assures Support and Guidance to Traders



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: In view of concerns arising among the trading community following notices issued by the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) to the Narwal Fruit Mandi and over 200 establishments in different parts of Jammu city, Commissioner JMC Dr. Devansh Yadav today convened a meeting with representatives of various trade associations and elected representatives to clarify the issues and address apprehensions.

The meeting was attended by MLAs representing Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma, Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi, Bahu Vikram Singh Randhawa and Jammu West Arvind Gupta, besides representatives of the business community. During the meeting, all relevant issues were discussed in detail

and the Commissioner apprised the stakeholders of the position of the JMC and the steps being taken to address their concerns.

Dr. Yadav said that some notices issued during the past few days had led to apprehension and concern among members of the public and the trading community.

Clarifying on the matter, the Commissioner apprised that Residential to Commercial violations and notices to Narwal fruit mandi shopkeepers are two separate issues. He informed that the notices issued in respect of the Fruit Mandi were based on an alert note received by the Corporation from ACB. He assured the market representatives that JMC would extend all possible guidance and facilitation for obtaining the required building permissions and completing the process for regularisation of existing

structures, wherever permissible under the rules as per JDA leases.

Dr. Yadav further said that the recently amended Unified Building Bye-Laws provide provisions relating to coverage, FAR and other aspects which can facilitate systematic development of existing markets. He said that wherever technically and legally feasible, vertical expansion could also be explored to accommodate additional shops and meet the growing requirements of established markets.

On the issue of residential-to-commercial use, the Commissioner said that this was a separate and long-standing matter and that several such cases were either pending before Honble courts or involved other disputes. Recently, Honble Supreme Court has issued an order for residential colonies with the aim of preventing their

commercialisation. He said efforts were being made to examine suitable mixed-use provisions under the building bye-laws, particularly in areas where roads have adequate width and other prescribed parameters are met. He assured the business community and other stakeholders that JMC would continue to work in coordination with them and provide all possible assistance, guidance and facilitation within its mandate, while policy-related matters would be taken up positively with the Government.

He urged all stakeholders not to be unnecessarily apprehensive and said that the focus of the administration was on clarity, planned development, regulated growth and creating better economic opportunities for Jammu, while ensuring that development takes place in a positive and conducive environment.

GMC Srinagar mourns the passing of Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Yousuf Bhat

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar has expressed profound grief at the passing of Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Yousuf Bhat, former Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine, who passed away on 1 October 2026.

Prof. Bhat is being remembered as an astute physician, accomplished academician, dedicated teacher and deeply compassionate clinician. Beyond his role as a senior physician and teacher, he was known for the distinctive manner in which he taught, with his theory and practical classes remaining among the most memorable facets of his contribution to medical education.

He was noted for bringing clinical medicine into the classroom and enabling students to understand not merely what to learn, but how to approach a patient and reason through a clinical problem. Generations of students and postgraduate



trainees who attended his classes continue to recall his teaching and the clarity with which he approached medicine.

He also made significant contributions to medical education in the region through his books on emergency medicine and hypertension.

During his long association with GMC Srinagar, Prof. Bhat served the Department of Medicine with dedication and contributed to the academic and clinical life of the institution. As Head of the Department, he discharged the responsibilities of his office with the experi-

ence of a senior clinician and teacher.

In her condolence message, Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan, Principal/Dean, GMC Srinagar, expressed deep sorrow at his demise and conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. She stated that his passing has left a profound void in the institution and among his colleagues, students and patients. Acknowledging his longstanding contribution to the Department of Medicine and to medical education at GMC Srinagar, she said he would be remembered with deep respect, gratitude and affection.

Faculty, administrative staff, residents, nursing and allied healthcare staff, stu-

dents and other supportive staff of GMC Srinagar conveyed their deepest sympathies to the bereaved family and expressed solidarity with them in this moment of profound loss.

For many who knew him closely, his legacy will remain in the classrooms, wards and practical sessions where he spent much of his professional life. The lessons imparted by a good teacher often outlive the years of his service, and Prof. Bhat leaves behind many such memories among his students and colleagues. His distinguished service to medicine, medical education and patient care will remain a part of the institutional memory of GMC Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohd Shafi Bukhari S/o Syed Mohd Yousuf R/o Kreeri, Baramulla, want to inform the general public that my correct and legal name as per my Aadhaar Card is Syed Mohd Shafi, S/o Syed Mohd Yousuf, R/o Kreeri, Baramulla. Now, I am applying for renewal of my Driving Licence and request that my name in the licence records be changed/corrected from Mohd Shafi Bukhari to Syed Mohd Shafi, in accordance with my Aadhaar Card. If any person, institution, or authority has any objection regarding this correction, they may submit the same, along with documentary proof, to ARTO Office Baramulla (HQ Sopore) within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received within the stipulated period, it shall be presumed that no one has any objection to the said correction, and the necessary corrections shall be carried out in accordance.

Syed Mohd Shafi
S/o Syed Mohd Yousuf
R/o Kreeri, Baramulla

CONDOLENCE

With profound sadness, we inform all concerned of the sad demise of my sister

Shareefa Akhtar,
who passed away yesterday on 30 September

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

May Allah (SWT) grant the departed soul Jannat-ul-Firdous, forgive her shortcomings, and grant Sabr-e-Jameel and strength to the bereaved family during this difficult time.

We humbly request everyone to remember the departed soul in their Duas.

Rasme Chah-rum will be held on Sunday at the family residence:

HZ HOUSE, Jalalabad, Sopore

Haji Mohammad Sultan (Brother) & Family

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION OFFICE OF THE, WILDLIFE WARDEN, WETLANDS DIVISION, KASHMIR. ZAINAKOOT, SRINAGAR.

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No. 02 OF 2026-27 Dated: 28/09/2026

(Please read the tender document carefully before submission of bid)

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are hereby invited on percentage basis (in two cover system) from approved and eligible contractors registered with CPWD / PWD / MES / Forest / Wildlife Department / Central / State / UT Governments for execution of below work/s.

S No	Name of Work	Tentative Adv. Cost in lacs.	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs.)	Earnest Money / EMD	Time of completion	Class of Contractor
1.	De-weeding, Removal of floating vegetation and making of clear water pools at Hokersar WLCR 34.1083 N, 74.7177 E	8.00	Rs 100/- online submission. Wildlife Protection Department	2 % of advertised cost, online submission. Wildlife Protection Department	30	DEE
2	Creation of navigational channels / boat ways by way of clearance of vegetation/cutting and removal of peat lands at Hokersar WLCR 34.1087 N, 74.7181 E	7.50	Rs 100/-	2 %	30	DEE
3	De-weeding, Removal of floating vegetation and making of clear water pools at Hygam WLCR 34.2414 N, 74.5331 E	7.00	Rs 100/-	2 %	30	DEE
4	Creation of navigational channels / boat ways by way of clearance of vegetation/cutting and removal of peat lands at Hygam WLCR 34.2355 N, 74.5250 E	6.50	Rs 100/-	2 %	25	DEE
5	De-weeding, Removal of floating vegetation and making of clear water pools at Shallabugh WLCR 34.1604 N, 74.7265 E	7.00	Rs 100/-	2 %	30	DEE
6	Creation of navigational channels / boat ways by way of clearance of vegetation/cutting and removal of peat lands at Shallabugh WLCR 34.1499 N, 74.7456 E	6.50	Rs 100/-	2 %	25	DEE
7	De-weeding, Removal of floating vegetation and making of clear water pools at Pampore Wetlands (Chattlum & Kranchoo) 34.0151 N, 74.9328 E	5.00	Rs 100/-	2 %	25	DEE
8	Creation of navigational channels / boat ways by way of clearance of vegetation/cutting and removal of peat lands at Pampore Wetlands (Chattlum & Kranchoo) 34.0144 N, 74.9374 E	2.00	Rs 100/-	2 %	20	DEE

Position of AA: Accorded.

Position of TS: Accorded.

Position of Funds: Partly Available.

Major Head of Account: CAMPA.

1. Schedule of Dates

No	Event	Date / Time
1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	28/09/2026
2	Period of Downloading of Bidding Documents (online)	01/10/2026 from 10:30 AM to 12/10/2026 upto 06:00 PM
3	Bid Submission - Start Date	01/10/2026 from 10:30 AM
4	Bid Submission - End Date	12/10/2026 upto 06:00 PM
5	Opening of Technical Bids (Online)	13/10/2026 at 03:00 PM (Office of the Regional Wildlife Warden, Rajbagh, Srinagar)
6.	Opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation (Office of the Regional Wildlife Warden, Rajbagh, Srinagar)
7	Clarifications / Q&A	02:00 PM - 04:00 PM on any day between Issue-Date and Closing-Date
8	Submission of Hard-Copy Documents by Lowest-First (L1) Bidder	Within 3 working days of Financial-Bid opening

All dates are subject to change by notice on the e-tender portal.

- Tender & Bidding Documents
- e-NIT (qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms & Conditions, annexures) - download from <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- Complete Bidding Package (drawings, detailed specifications, BOQ, etc.) - download from <https://jktenders.gov.in> as per the schedule above.

Bidders are required to read the e-tender Submission Manual (available under Downloads on the portal) before preparing their bids). Any violation of these conditions shall result in immediate stoppage of work, imposition of penalties as per rules, termination of contract, blacklisting of the contractor, and forfeiture of EMD and Performance Security.

No. WLW(WL)/Accts/2026-27/133-35

Date: 28/09/2026

DIPK-6305-26

DT: 01/10/2026

Sd/-
Wildlife Warden
Wetland Division, Kashmir,
Srinagar

Government of Jammu & Kashmir. OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION-SRINAGAR-CORE

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (BELOW Rs. 2.50 Crores)

NIT No: - 54 of R&B /Sgr-Core/2026-27 | Dated: - 01/10/2026 (E-tendering)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT J&K, e-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt., PW(R&B), CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works: -

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (in lacs, incl GST)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of comp.	M. Head	Ref to Auth/A.A	Ref To TS	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of CFC-Wool at UNDP, BAMK Nowshera.	101.72/-	2600/-	203440	180 Days	IWDP-Wool Processing Scheme	CW/DB/IW DP/ WPS/CF C/ HC&HL/S rinagar/ 24-25/ 16971702 Dated:- 10.10.2024	SE/PWD(R &B)/ Sgr- North/ TS/1 04 OF 2026-27 Dated:- 28.09.2026	AAY

Position of funds =Committed

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	01/10/2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 01/10/2026 06.00 P.M to 09/10/2026 6.00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	01/10/2026 from 06.00 PM
4	Bid Submission End Date	09/10/2026 6.00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	10/10/2026 at 12.00 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Division Srinagar Core.

- All Bidders have to quote the rates in BOQ Inclusive of GST.
- The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://jktenders.gov.in) as per above schedule:

Note: - The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Srinagar-CORE, Safa Kadal Srinagar (The Date of Treasury Challan must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date, also mentioning the NIT No/S.No. / Name Of The Work).
- The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR in favour Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Srinagar-Core (as the case

eNIT NO 54 Of R&B/Sgr-Core/2026-27

DIPK-6328-26
DT: 01/10/2026

DPHQ UDHAMPUR

No: - CB/Look Out Notice/2026/65926-36

Dated: 30.09.2026

LOOK OUT NOTICE

As requested by SDPO Ramnagar that on 24.09.2026, applicant namely Kewal Kumar S/O Suram Chand R/O Village Prey Tehsil Ramnagar District Udhampur lodged a missing report at P/S Ramnagar to the effect that his wife namely Sushma Devi, age 32 years is missing since 20.09.2026. The applicant has conducted her search, but she has not been traced out. Accordingly, a missing report has been entered by P/S Ramnagar vide DDR No. 08 dated 24.09.2026 and search started. The Photograph with descriptive roll of missing lady is as under



Description	
Name:	Sushma Devi
Age:	32 yrs.
Complexion:	Wheatish
Height:	5'-5"

It is therefore requested that a sharp lookout may please be maintained and if traced out or any clue leading to the whereabouts of said missing lady is received an information may kindly be shared on the below mentioned Telephone Nos./Fax/e-mail address for further course of action.

Email: sspoudh@jkpolice.gov.in
Fax: 01992-270027
Phone: 01992-2270210
SHO P/S Ramnagar: 9906124100
PCR Udhampur : 01992-276915

DIPK-6293-26
DT: 01/10/2026

SSP Udhampur

IRANI CUP

J&K bowlers shine as Rest of India bowled out for 237

Sunil Kumar, Nasir Lone clinch three wickets each; BCCI president Mithun Manhas attends

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir produced a disciplined bowling display on the opening day of the Irani Cup, bowling out Rest of India for 237 before ending the day at 21 for one at the Sher-i-Kashmir Stadium here on Thursday.

After winning the toss, J&K captain Paras Dogra elected to bowl first, and his decision paid dividends as the hosts kept the Rest of India batters under pressure throughout the day.

As per the details obtained, Sunil Kumar and Nasir Lone were the pick of the J&K bowlers, claiming three wickets each, while Umar Nazir Mir picked up two wickets. Sahil Lotra and Abid Mushtaq claimed one wicket apiece.

Despite the absence of key players including Auqib Nabi, the hosts' bowling unit put up a strong show to restrict a strong Rest of India side to 237 runs in 68.1 overs.

For Rest of India,



Smaran Ravichandran top-scored with 68, while Shikhar Mohan contributed 60 and Sarfaraz Khan made 45. India wicketkeeper-batter and Rest of India captain Rishabh Pant was dismissed for 10.

Pant's dismissal came when he attempted to attack Umar Nazir but sliced the delivery towards Qamran Iqbal at short cover-point, ending his 36-ball stay at the crease.

Eventually, Rest of India

were bowled out for 237, with J&K's bowlers sharing the wickets and preventing the visitors from building a substantial first-innings total.

In reply, J&K lost opener Shubham Singh Pundir for

one, leaving the hosts at 21 for one at stumps. Qamran Iqbal was unbeaten on 12, while Umar Nazir Mir, promoted as a nightwatchman, was unbeaten on four.

J&K will resume their first innings on Friday, trailing Rest of India by 216 runs.

The match also witnessed the presence of BCCI president and former Jammu and Kashmir cricketer Mithun Manhas at the venue. The Irani Cup, being played from October 1 to 5, marks the first time the prestigious domestic fixture is being hosted in Srinagar, with the 2025-26 Ranji Trophy champions J&K taking on Rest of India.

The Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association has also made free passes available for the general public on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to seating capacity.

Day 1 score: Rest of India 237 all out (68.1 overs); J&K 21/1 (7 overs), trailing by 216 runs—(KNO)

ADC Sopore visits Khushal Stadium; reviews Sports Activities

GMK SPORTS DESK

BARAMULLA: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sopore, Dr S.A. Raina Thursday visited Khushal Stadium Sopore to interact with young athletes, review ongoing sports activities and assess the sports facilities at the stadium.

During the visit, the ADC observed that some poplar trees had been planted at the stadium premises, which could otherwise be utilised for parking, particularly during major sporting events. He observed that the plantation appeared to be an encroachment and directed the Sports Officer to look into the matter and take necessary action.

The ADC also checked the attendance of the staff at the office of the Sports Officer and reviewed the functioning of the sports-



related activities.

Interacting with players from Anantnag and Pulwama, Dr. Raina appreciated their dedication, enthusiasm and sportsmanship. He stressed the administration's commitment to nurturing sporting talent and improving sports infrastructure to provide better facilities to young athletes.

He highlighted the importance of sports in building character, pro-

moting a healthy lifestyle and keeping youth away from social evils, including drug addiction. He also advised the players to pursue their studies diligently and maintain a proper balance between academics and sports.

The players expressed gratitude to the ADC for his encouragement and for taking interest in the development of sports facilities at Khushal Stadium.

Better infrastructure needed to bring international cricket to Kashmir: BCCI Chief



REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: BCCI president Mithun Manhas on Thursday assured full support for the development of cricket infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir, saying improved facilities are essential for attracting more high-profile domestic and international matches to the Union Territory.

Speaking to reporters after the opening day of the Irani Cup clash between Jammu and Kashmir and Rest of India at the Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium, Manhas, said the return of the prestigious fixture to Srinagar after nearly four decades was a significant moment for cricket in the Valley.

"I would like more matches to take place here. A match of this stature is being held here after four decades, which is a matter of great happiness," he said.

Emphasising the need for better infrastructure, Manhas said the newly formed JKCA administration should prioritise stadium development.

"It is important to strengthen basic infrastructure. I hope the new body that has been formed recently will focus on building a stadium here," he said, assuring the association of the BCCI's full support.

Manhas said cricket infrastructure development should not remain limited to Srinagar and

Jammu but must extend to other parts of the Union Territory, including Rajouri and Poonch.

"It is the responsibility of the state association to ensure stadiums and facilities are developed across its jurisdiction," he said.

Backing the current JKCA administration, Manhas said the association had been working for the welfare of players and expressed confidence that it would continue contributing to the growth of cricket in the region.

"We already had talent; we just needed to give it direction," he said, describing J&K's progress in domestic cricket, including its Ranji Trophy performances, as encouraging.

He also acknowledged the support extended by former BCCI secretary Jay Shah towards cricket development in Jammu and Kashmir.

Highlighting the rise of J&K pacer Auqib Nabi, Manhas said the cricketer's journey should inspire aspiring players across the region.

"Auqib Nabi's selection proves that talent can emerge from anywhere. He is from Baramulla, and his story is truly inspiring," he said—(KNO)

District-Level Cyclothon organised under Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign

GMK SPORTS DESK

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS), Anantnag, in collaboration with the District Administration and the Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Thursday organised a district-level cyclothon under the Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign and Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan to promote cleanliness, environmental awareness, healthy lifestyle and drug-free society.

The cyclothon was flagged off by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anantnag, Vikas Ahlawat, from Sarnal Dhadat on KP Road and culminated at Sports Stadium, Mattan. A total of 1,068 participants took part in the district-level activities.

The event aimed to spread the message of Swachhata Hi Seva across the district by encouraging people to adopt responsible waste-management practices, maintain hygienic surroundings and contribute towards a cleaner and greener environment. It also highlighted the role of youth in promoting community participation and environmental protection.

Speaking on the occasion, the ADC emphasised the importance of cycling, sports

and regular physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. He also urged the youth to stay away from drug abuse and contribute towards building a healthy and drug-free society.

The event was attended by officers and field functionaries from the Youth Services & Sports, Rural Development, J&K Police and Health Departments, besides students and youth.

The cyclothon concluded with a renewed commitment to translate the message of Swachhata Hi Seva into collective action, encouraging citizens, particularly the youth, to take ownership of cleanliness and environmental protection. The initiative underscored the importance of sustained public participation in building a cleaner, greener and healthier Anantnag, while reinforcing the resolve to promote a fit, responsible and drug-free society.

INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAYHI RAJI'UN

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF WE INFORM
THE SAD DEMISE OF
MOHAMMAD AZIM BAKKAL

S/O LATE GHULAM NABI BAKKAL
R/O BAKUR SAIDPORA
SRINAGAR

WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE
ON 1ST OCTOBER 2026 (THURSDAY)

IJTIMA FATEH KHAWANI WILL BE
HELD ON SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2026

AT 10 AM AT THEIR ANCESTRAL GRAVEYARD
AT MALKHA OPPOSITE ZAROO GUN FACTORY.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ وَارْحَمْهُ

ایوان صدارت

فقیر شہزاد احمد ولد مراد غلام حسن طالب جناب اقبال انجم ڈاکٹر گلزار احمد راتھر (نائبہ صدارت) (نائبہ صدارت)

گلزار احمد برے ڈاکٹر وسیم اکرم محمد سعید قادری (نائبہ صدارت) (نائبہ صدارت)

رسم رونمایی 10:35 بجے

حضور نقون تعلق لکھنؤ آجود تفسیف : مصنف: غلام حسن طالب

ارض کشمیر میں تھوہور اسلام : مصنف: غلام حسن طالب

جد ٹکاہنگ : مصنف: ڈاکٹر گلزار احمد راتھی

تبصرہ مقالات

عنایت گل، ڈاکٹر محمد یاسین گنائی، یونس وحید

نقل اعزازات 11:50 بجے

نقل شاعر 12:15 بجے

ظہر و قہر آنہ 1:10 بجے

صدارتی کلمات 2:00 بجے

نقل سابع 2:30 بجے

تحریک شکرانہ:

ڈاکٹر عرف احمد رانی

(سرپرست سکالرک لٹچٹ) 3:00 بجے

سوچہ کڑال ادبی کچلر سنگم

سوچہ کڑال میموریل کالج آف ایجوکیشن تہ سکالرک بیرامیدیکل لٹچٹ پلوم

چھو بے اینڈ کے اکیڈمی آف آرٹ کچلر اینڈ لیتو میچور کہ اتھواسم

بہلہ پایہ صوفی بزرگ تہ شاعر

سوچہ کڑال صائینس یادس مٹھر

اکہ ڈیکہ سینمارک سٹھر کران

تاریخ: 3 اکتوبر 2026ء پوار 10 بجے

جائے: سکالرک بیرامیدیکل لٹچٹ پلوم

توہر چھو اتھ تقریر تہ مٹھر شرت کرچ ڈھو ڈھو انجہ دعوت

نچون قن و پچان

غلام حسن طالب (KAS)

سرپرست پکارال ادبی سنگم بریں پکارال ادبی سنگم

Call : 9149846599, 7006016541

INOX
LIVE the MOVIE
SRINAGAR

NOW SHOWING
MOVIES

2 OCTOBER, FRIDAY

DRISHYAM : THE CONCLUSION (UA 16+)

HINDI	ATMOS	01:45 PM	04:45 PM	07:45 PM
HINDI		06:20 PM		

DORAEMON THE MOVIE: NEW NOBITA AND THE CASTLE OF THE UNDERSEA DEVIL (U)

HINDI	04:00 PM
-------	----------

PREM KEETANU (UA 16+)

HINDI	02:40 PM	08:00 PM
-------	----------	----------

VERITY (A)
ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

05:30 PM

CALL 95416 13868
FOR ASSISTANCE WITH TICKETS

TICKETS AT:

www.bookmyshow.com | www.inoxmovies.com
Paytm, Inox App, or directly from the booking counter at the cinema.