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Good Morning Kashmir

17th Year Of Publication

Jagat Prakash Nadda
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Bringing Advanced Healthcare Closer to the People of Jammu & Kashmir! Reviewed the progress and operational readiness of AIIMS Awantipora, with a strong focus on ensuring the early commencement of healthcare services for the people of the region.

Srinagar • Friday 06, November 2026 • Vol: 17 • Issue No: 262 • Pages: 08 • Price: ₹ 2/- (Air Surcharge for Delhi, Jammu & Ladakh 50/- Paisa) RNI No. JKENG/2010/36998

True Education Lies In Building Responsible, Good Human Beings: CM



GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday attended the annual awards ceremony of the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar Education Society (DJSES), titled 'Honour & Excellence 2026', here at the Convention Centre, celebrating academic excellence, dedicated service and the contribution of the Society towards shaping responsible citizens.

The ceremony recognised meritorious students for their outstanding performance in the Class X and XII board examinations, honoured employees completing 25 years of dedicated service and celebrated distinguished alumni of the Society's educational institutions.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister emphasised that the purpose of education must extend beyond academic performance and marks to the development of well-rounded individuals with strong moral values, independent thinking and the ability to distinguish between right and wrong.

Recalling his association with the Diocese's educational institutions, particularly Burn Hall School, Srinagar, where he studied until Class 5, the Chief Minister shared fond memories of his school days and expressed appreciation for the enduring contribution of the institution towards education and character-building.

The Chief Minister lauded the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar Educating Society for its significant contribution to the education sector, stating that the Society manages 24 schools across Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, educating around 28,000 students and providing employment to nearly 1,600 people.

"These schools produce civil service officers, police officers, doctors and business leaders. But more than anything else, they produce successful people who remain good people," he said, adding that the true achievement of an educational • P-06

Combat Terror Networks, Radicalization: LG Directs Officials

Calls For Unified Coordination Mechanism Between Police, Prisons Deptt, Intelligence Agencies

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Directing officials to combat terror networks, radicalization, and law and order threats, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday called for a unified coordination mechanism between the Police, Prisons Department, and intelligence agencies.

Chairing a high-level review meeting of the Prisons Department at the Lok Bhavan here, LG Sinha, discussed ways to strengthen prison security and management protocols across Jammu Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by DGP Nalin Prabhat; DGP, Prisons J&K, Deepak Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Chandraker Bharti; Special DG Coordination PHQ, S.J.M.Gillani; ADG CID, M. K. Sinha; Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Govind Jaiswal; Additional Director IB J&K and Ladakh, Shri Pankaj Kumar Thakur; and other senior officials.

Emphasizing robust jail administration, the Lieutenant Governor called for a unified coordination mechanism between the Police, Prisons



Department, and intelligence agencies. He instructed for regular review meetings and intelligence sharing between the Police, Prisons Department, and intelligence agencies to combat terror networks, radicalization, and law and order threats.

The Lieutenant Governor directed surprise checks of prison premises and surrounding areas, as well as forensic analysis of any seized electronic devices.

Discussions were also focused on formation of dedicated Prison Intelligence Units in jails, biometric systems across all jails, expansion of Tele-medicine facilities for inmates and strengthening of human resources in the Prisons Department.

The Lieutenant Governor also reviewed the progress of the upcoming High-Security Prison in Mahanpur. He directed officials to expedite remaining works within the stipulated timelines.

DISCUSSIONS WERE ALSO FOCUSED ON FORMATION OF dedicated Prison Intelligence Units in jails, biometric systems across all jails, expansion of Tele-medicine facilities for inmates and strengthening of human resources in the Prisons Department.

Foreign Ultras Being Tracked

Local Terrorist Behind 2 South Kashmir Attacks: IGP

REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: A local terrorist was involved in two recent attacks in south Kashmir, while a small number of foreign terrorists continue to operate in the Valley with local support, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Sujit Kumar said on Thursday.

Addressing a press conference at the Police Control Room in Srinagar, Kumar, said it was difficult to determine the exact number of foreign terrorists as they frequently change locations.

"There are some footprints, but there cannot be a certain number because they keep moving from one place to another. Any fixed figure would be an exaggeration," he said.

The IGP said the local terrorist was involved in attacks in Anantnag and Kulgam. The Anantnag attack claimed the life of police official Ashiq Hussain Qureshi, who was on Amarnath Yatra duty on June 22. In Kulgam, two migrant workers from Chhattisgarh, Deepak Ratray and • P-06

Kashmir Drug Crackdown

'Properties Worth Rs 154 Crore Attached'



REHAN QAYOOM

SRINAGAR: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Zone, Sujit Kumar, on Thursday said police have intensified crackdown on drug trafficking and its financial networks, with 1,941 persons arrested and properties worth approximately Rs 154 crore attached across Kashmir Zone during the first 10 months of 2026.

Addressing a press conference at Police Control Room here, IGP Kumar, said tackling the drug menace, cybercrime and traffic violations require coordinated efforts, particularly the active participation of youngsters and civil society.

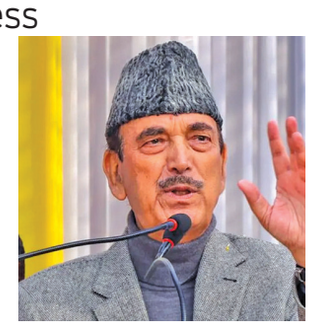
It's in place to mention here that Police have registered 1,651 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act between January 1 and October 31 this year, with 1,711.32 kilograms of contraband seized and cash worth around Rs 1.10 crore recovered.

The Police data reveals that 567 bank accounts linked to NDPS cases were frozen, involving approximately Rs 1.71 crore. • P-06

Azad Dismisses Reports Of Political Realignment

Says Claims About New Party, MP Contest Are Baseless

GMK NEWS NETWORK



NEW DELHI: Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad has strongly dismissed reports linking him to a possible political realignment with other leaders, including Ruhullah Mehdi and Baramulla MP Engineer Rashid, describing the speculation as completely baseless and misleading.

Expressing concern over the circulation of unverified information on social media and news channels, Azad said fabricated claims were being presented as established facts and subsequently put to political leaders for reactions.

"For the past two days, I have received dozens of recordings from people asking what is happening in Kashmir and whether I am forming a party with Ruhullah Sahib or someone else. All this is completely wrong," Azad said.

He categorically clarified that he had neither initiated discussions with any political leader nor received any communication regarding a possible alliance or the formation of a new political outfit.

"I have not spoken to anyone. I am not in touch with anyone regarding any such arrangement. Nobody has approached • P-06

AIIMS Awantipora OPD Services Likely To Begin Before Dec: Nadda

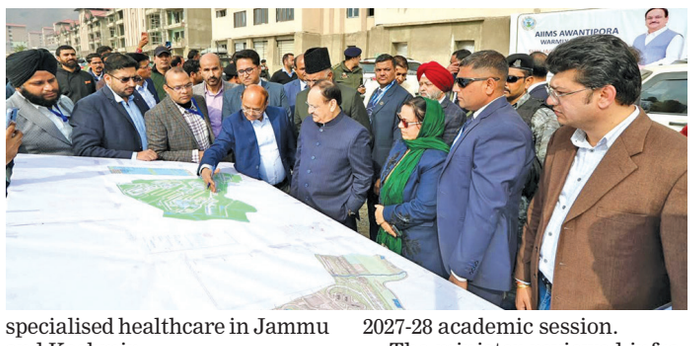
Reviews Progress, Sets March 2027 Deadline For Remaining Works

JAHANGEER GANAIE

SRINAGAR: Union Health Minister JP Nadda on Thursday reviewed the progress of the under-construction All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Awantipora, and directed agencies to expedite the remaining work to ensure early operationalisation of the institute.

During the review meeting, Nadda was informed that all major buildings had been completed, while the remaining infrastructure and operational arrangements were being taken up in phases.

Nadda, directed the concerned agencies to complete the pending construction works by March 2027, describing AIIMS Awantipora as a priority project that will significantly strengthen



specialised healthcare in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to officials, OPD services are planned to begin before December 2026, while IPD services are proposed to start in July 2027, subject to the availability of infrastructure, equipment and manpower. Academic activities, including MBBS classes, are expected to commence in the 2027-28 academic session.

The minister reviewed infrastructure development, procurement of medical equipment and furniture, recruitment of faculty and staff, and preparedness for launching healthcare and academic services.

He also appreciated the efforts of the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) • P-06

ECI To Announce SSR In J&K In Due Course

GMK NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: The Election Commission of India on Thursday said the Special Summary Revision (SSR) of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir will be announced in due course of time.

The Commission said the schedule for roll revision in J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh will be announced later, keeping in view their weather conditions.

"Also, for the 3 States/UTs namely Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, where SIR has not been started so far, schedule for roll revision will be announced in due course of time keeping in view their weather conditions," the ECI said.

The announcement brings clarity on why Jammu & Kashmir has been left out of the ongoing nationwide revision exercise. With winter setting in and large parts of J&K, particularly the higher reaches, becoming inaccessible due to snowfall, the Commission has opted to defer the exercise.

The last revision of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir was carried out in 2024. Since then, no such revision activity has been undertaken in the UT.

The SSR is particularly important in the context of Jammu and Kashmir. It would provide updated electoral rolls for the municipal elections, which have been delayed inordinately.

Urban local body elections in J&K have been pending, leaving municipalities and municipal councils without elected representatives. An updated voter list is a prerequisite for holding these elections—(KNO)

Springs Dry Up In South Kashmir

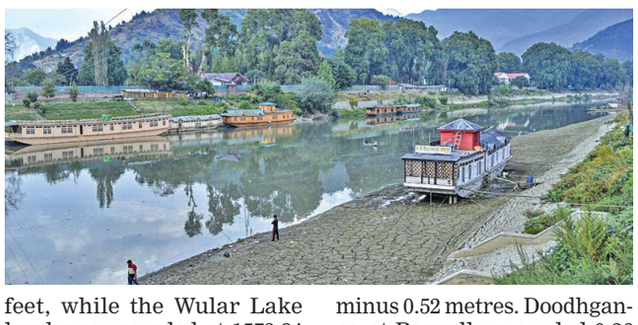
Kashmir's Lifeline River Jhelum, Tributaries Record Low Water Levels

Expert Warns Prolonged Dry Spells Could Affect Drinking Water Supplies

SAJID RAINA

SRINAGAR: As Kashmir heads into winter following prolonged dry spells, water levels in the River Jhelum and several of its tributaries remain low, raising concerns over availability of water in coming months.

Data released by the Irrigation and Flood Control Department, accessed, reveals that the gauge readings recorded at 9 am on Wednesday showed the water level at Sangam at minus 0.64 feet, while the gauge at Ram Munshi Bagh in Srinagar recorded 3.80 feet. At Asham in North Kashmir, the water level stood at 1.19



feet, while the Wular Lake level was recorded at 1573.84 metres.

Among the tributaries, Vishow Nallah at Khudwani recorded 2.41 metres, while Rambiyara Nallah at Wachi stood at minus 0.48 metres and Lidder Nallah at Batkoot at minus 0.52 metres. Doodhganga at Barzulla recorded 0.26 metres, while Sindh Nallah at Doderhama stood at minus 0.25 metres.

Independent weather forecaster Faizan Arif said water levels across the Valley were below normal, warning that another prolonged dry spell could aggravate water scarcity, particularly during the winter months.

"Water levels are below normal, and we have a dry spell ahead in Kashmir Valley. This could trigger shortages of drinking water and affect electricity generation, particularly if water availability continues to decline," he said.

Arif said several local springs in South Kashmir have also dried up following continued dry conditions, adding to concerns over the availability of water for rural communities.

A study published in the journal Frontiers • P-06

Around 30,000 Chinar Trees Geo-Tagged Across J&K

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Around 30,000 Chinar trees across Jammu and Kashmir have been geo-tagged and incorporated into a digital database, while QR-enabled metal plates have been installed on 13,500 prominent Chinar, Peepal and Bargad trees across the Union Territory.

Of the QR-enabled plates installed so far, 10,000 have been fixed on prominent Chinar trees in Kashmir, while 3,500 have been installed on Peepal and Bargad trees in Jammu.

The progress was reviewed during a meeting of the Wildlife Protection Department and J&K Forest Research Institute (JKFRI) chaired by Forests, Ecology and Environment Minister Altaf Ahmad Wani at the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force (PCCF/HoFF) in Jammu.

Officials informed the Minister that geo-tagging • P-06

Fresh Snowfall In Higher Reaches, Wet Spell Ahead

MeT Predicts 'Generally Dry Weather' Till Nov 9



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Higher reaches of the Valley received fresh rain and snowfall on Wednesday late evening as weather conditions turned cloudy across parts of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

Snowfall was recorded at Razdan Pass and several other higher-altitude areas of the Kashmir Valley on Wednesday evening.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather across Jammu and Kashmir from November 6 to 9, while another spell of precipitation is likely to affect the region from November 10.

According to the latest forecast, generally cloudy weather is expected on November 10 and 11, with light to moderate rainfall in plains and light to moderate snowfall over higher reaches at scattered to many places from late evening on November 10 to the forenoon and afternoon of November 11.

Another spell of light to moderate rain and snowfall is likely at many places on November 12, particularly towards the evening and night. The weather is expected to improve on November 14 and 15, with partly cloudy conditions.

Meanwhile, the night temperatures across • P-06

GPO holds awareness programme on POSB, PLI Schemes at J&K Rc

GMK NEWS NETWORK



NEW DELHI: An awareness programme on Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) and Postal Life Insurance (PLI) schemes was conducted by a team from the General Post Office (GPO), New Delhi, at the Office of the Resident Commission, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, New Delhi.

The initiative was aimed at promoting the financial literacy and familiarising the officers and officials with various government-backed savings and insurance schemes.

The visiting team, headed by Aparna Shandilya Assistant Director and her team, delivered an informative presentation on the features, benefits and eligibility criteria of various savings and insurance products offered by the Department of Posts.

During the session, the team highlighted various Post Office Savings Bank schemes, including Savings Accounts, Recurring Deposits (RD), Time Deposits (TD), Monthly Income Scheme (MIS), Senior Citizens Savings Scheme (SCSS), Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY), Public Provident Fund (PPF), National Savings Certificate (NSC) and Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP). The participants were apprised of the prevailing interest rates, investment tenures, financial security benefits and applicable tax incentives under these schemes.

The team also introduced about the Speed Post BNPL Service and detailed overview of Postal Life insurance (PLI) highlighting its competitive premium structure, bonus benefits and insurance coverage available to eligible categories of employees and professionals. Various PLI plans including Suraksha, Santosh, Sumangal, Suvidha and Yugal Suraksha, were explained, along with policy loan facilities and applicable tax benefits under the Income-tax Act.

The programme provided an opportunity to the officers and officials of the Resident Commission to interact with the GPO representatives and seek clarifications regarding savings, insurance coverage, long-term financial planning and investment options.

The objective behind the event was to enhance financial awareness among the employees and encouraging informed financial planning through secure savings and life insurance instruments being offered by the Department of Posts.

Div Com Jammu reviews status of land acquisition cases of BSF, CRPF

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Vikas Kundal Thursdaychaired a meeting to review the progress of land acquisition and transfer cases pertaining to the BSF, CRPF in the Jammu Division.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner reviewed the progress of land acquisition by J&K Police for accommodating BSF companies and the identification of suitable state land for the establishment of five additional BSF battalions in Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur and Reasi districts.

The meeting also discussed land-related issues concerning BOPs, the proposed 135-feet border fencing and pending cases involving the acquisition and transfer of state land to CRPF and other security agencies.

The Inspector General BSF presented a detailed overview of the land acquisition and requisition cases pending at various levels across the districts. The concerned Deputy Commissioners apprised the Divisional Commissioner of the latest status of individual cases and the issues hindering their resolution.

Taking serious note of the pending matters, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned Deputy Commissioners to undertake a case-wise examination of all pending proposals and ensure their time-bound disposal.

He further directed the concerned district administrations and representatives of the security forces to conduct joint field visits for physical verification of the identified land, wherever required, to resolve discrepancies and address site-related issues. The Deputy Commissioners were further asked to personally monitor the progress of cases falling under their jurisdiction and take proactive measures to resolve bottlenecks in coordination with the concerned departments and security agencies.

The Divisional Commissioner also stressed the need for close inter-departmental coordination, timely submission of requisite documents and removal of procedural hurdles to facilitate the expeditious transfer and acquisition of land.

DDC G'bal reviews Power Sector, assesses implementation of key projects



GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: District Development Commissioner Ganderbal (DDC), Shreya Singhal, chaired a meeting Thursday in the VC Room of the Mini Secretariat Complex, Ganderbal, to review the overall functioning of the Power Development Sector and assess the implementation status of various key government schemes and projects across the district.

During the meeting, a comprehensive review was taken regarding the implementation of major power initiatives, including the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Ajowan, Solarization of Government Buildings, and progress under UT Capex/CSS and other schemes. Special emphasis was laid on evaluating winter preparedness to ensure an uninterrupted and reliable power supply to consumers during the upcoming winter season.

A detailed presentation was delivered by the SE, KPDCL Circle Ganderbal, highlighting the physical and financial progress of ongoing projects, along with the status of infrastructure development and upgradation works across the district.

The DDC urged officials to maintain strict quality control, adhere to stipulated timelines, and ensure close coordination among departments for prompt redressal of public grievances related to power supply.

Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament Programme organized at GDC Tral

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: The Viksit Bharat National Youth Parliament Programme was successfully organized at Government Degree College Tral by My Bharat Pulwama, Ministry of Youth Affairs and sports, Government of India in collaboration with Govt Degree College Tral.

The event aimed to promote democratic values, parliamentary awareness, and leadership skills among students. The topic of the youth Parliament programme was "One Nation One Election".

The programme commenced with the National Anthem followed by the National Song.

The chief guest, Principal Prof. Jasvinder Singh Speaking on the occasion, underscored the importance of the programme in nurturing responsible citizenship and thanked all stakeholders associated with its successful conduct. He spoke about various initiatives undertaken by the Government of India to empower youth and provide them with platforms to express their views on national and social issues. He encouraged students to actively engage in constructive discussions and develop leadership qualities. He spoke about the objectives and benefits of "One Nation One Election".

District Youth Officer, Divyanshu Jaiswal, highlighted the significance of the Youth Parliament Programme and outlined its schedule, emphasizing its role in encouraging young people to participate actively in democratic processes. He encouraged the participants to register individually as well as youth clubs.

Prof. Rafiq Ahmad Khan, senior faculty member of the College speaking on the occasion and highlighted the objectives of the programme.

The first session of the Youth Parliament witnessed enthusiastic participation of 16 students representing various colleges of District Pulwama. They deliberated positive as well as negative aspects of the 'One Nation One Election policy'.

Participants presented their viewpoints in a structured parliamentary format before a panel of jury members, who appreciated the high standard of presentations.

After the culmination of the speech competition, certificates were distributed among participants from various institutions, including Government Degree College Pulwama, Govt. Degree College for Women Pulwama, Government Degree College Rajpora, Govt. Degree College Pampore and the host institution, Government Degree College Tral.

NIT Srinagar Organises One Health Youth Engagement Programme

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar organised a one-day programme titled "One Health Warrior – Youth Engagement Program" to sensitise students about the interconnectedness of human, animal and environmental health.

The programme was organised by the Regional Coordinating Institute (RCI), Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), NIT Srinagar, in collaboration with the National One Health Mission (NOHM), Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, and the Centre for Rural Development and Technology. The event was held to mark One Health Day.

The programme was conducted from 3 pm to 5 pm through an online webinar, with a simultaneous gathering at the Common Hall of NIT Srinagar.

The webinar featured distinguished speakers, including Prof. Ajay K. Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, and Dr. Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

Dean Research and Consultancy, Prof. Roohie Naaz Mir; Dean Students Welfare, Prof. Mohammad Abid Bazaz; Dr. Shahid Saleem; HOD IT, Dr. Shabir Ahmad Sofi, Dr. Tanveer Rasool, Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, Technical Coordinator; and other faculty members attended the programme.

The programme focused on creating awareness among young people about the One Health approach, which recognises the close relationship between human health, animal health and environmental well-being.

It also highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary cooperation and youth participation in addressing emerging health challenges.

Prof. Shameem Ahmad Lone, Regional Coordinator, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, highlighted the importance of involving young people in the One Health initiative.

He emphasised that human health cannot be viewed in isolation from animal and environmental health, and stressed the need for greater awareness, interdisciplinary collaboration and community participation.

Prof. Lone further said educational institutions have an important role in preparing students to understand and contribute to the One Health approach.

Around 100 students from various departments of NIT Srinagar attended the programme and participated in the interactive sessions and live One Health quiz competition. The participation reflected students' interest in understanding the links between human, animal and environmental health.

A live One Health quiz competition and interactive session were among the key highlights of the event. Attractive prizes worth up to Rs 10,000 were announced for quiz winners, while participation certificates were provided to registered participants.

ADDC Shopian presides over Mega Gram Sabha to celebrate JJGD

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, the Tribal Affairs Department, District Shopian Thursday organized a Mega Gram Sabha as part of the Jan Jatiya Gaurav Divas celebrations here at Devpora Shopian.

The event was presided over by the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone.

The programme aimed to address crucial tribal issues, focus on the welfare of tribal communities and review key developmental initiatives including AKVs, ASKs, Dajgua, FRA among other tribal affairs.

During the Mega Gram Sabha, local community members, tribal elders and public representatives actively participated and voiced their concerns and demands.

The ADDC interacted with the attendees, listened to their grievances, and assured prompt redressal and implementation of tribal welfare schemes to ensure sustainable development across tribal areas.

Programme Officer ICDS, (Nodal officer for Tribal Affairs), Mohammed Imran, , GM, DIC, Shurjeel Ali, ACD Muzaffar Ahmad, BDO, Tariq Ahmad and officials from line departments, Tribal Affairs Department and a large gathering of community members attended the event.

DC B'pora distributes Aadhaar Tablets among Anganwadi Workers

GMK NEWS NETWORK



BANDIPORA: A convergent programme of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Tribal Affairs Department was Thursday organised at Mini Secretariat, Bandipora, as part of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2026.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib distributed 27 Aadhaar tablets and 27 single fingerprint scanners among Anganwadi Workers, including tribal workers from Gurez, Tulail, Bagtore, Arin, Aloosa, Bandipora, Sumbal and Hajin, to facilitate Bal Aadhaar enrolment of children aged 0–5 years.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed achieving saturation in Bal Aadhaar enrolment and directed that designated Anganwadi Workers be properly notified at the grassroots level, with special focus on tribal areas.

District Programme Officer, ICDS, Bandipora, Yaar Ali Khan informed that the devices were provided to workers who had qualified the CELC Operator examination as per UIDAI guidelines.

During the programme, a presentation of Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) was presented, showcasing handicrafts, traditional products, edible items and other products manufactured by Self-Help Groups across J&K. The presentation highlighted the potential of local products in generating sustainable livelihoods and promoting the spirit of Vocal for Local.

Emphasising that financial independence is essential for self-reliance and dignity, the DC stressed promoting women-led enterprises and strengthening livelihood opportunities. She directed the DPO ICDS to submit an action plan within 15 days and assured that training and capacity-building support would be provided to interested women.

VC LCMA reviews ongoing Works, maintenance of Dal Lake

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: With a focus on assessing the ground realities and taking a first-hand view of the activities being carried out across Dal Lake, Vice Chairman, JK LCMA, Khurshid Ahmad Shah, undertook an extensive tour of the lake today, covering the stretch from Dockyard, Nishat, to Hazratbal, including Bod Dal and other important locations.

The Vice Chairman was accompanied by senior officers of the Authority, who briefed him on the status of various ongoing works and field-level activities at different locations during the tour.

During the visit, the Vice Chairman inspected various sites to take stock of the ongoing works and assess the progress of activities being undertaken by the Authority. He also visited the ablution pond and reviewed its condition, maintenance and overall upkeep.

At different locations, he interacted with the concerned officers and field staff, sought updates on the works in progress and discussed operational aspects requiring attention. The visit provided an opportunity to assess the effectiveness of field-level interventions and identify areas requiring further improvement and focused attention.

With winter setting in and Dal Lake assuming its distinctive seasonal charm, the Vice Chairman emphasized the importance of giving renewed attention to the lake's cleanliness, upkeep and aesthetic appeal. He observed that the lake, set against the magnificent winter landscape of Srinagar, offers a breathtaking spectacle and that sustained efforts must be made to preserve and further enhance its beauty. He stressed that all concerned teams should work proactively to ensure that Dal Lake and its surroundings remain clean, well-maintained and welcoming for residents, visitors and tourists throughout the winter months.

Shopian admin braces up to Host First-Ever 'Jashn-e-Harud'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Charandeep Singh, Thursday visited Sports Stadium, Batapora, to review the arrangements and assess the preparations for the upcoming first-ever 'Jashn-e-Harud', scheduled to be held on November 7, 2026, at the venue.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner took stock of the logistical arrangements and reviewed the preparations for the smooth and successful conduct of the festival, aimed at providing a platform for showcasing local talent, art, culture and creativity.



Detailed discussions were held regarding the installation of stalls and other essential arrangements to ensure effective participation and engagement of the public.

The DC emphasised the importance of active public participation and close inter-departmental coordination to ensure seamless arrangements and make the festival a grand success.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone; Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; Principal, GDC Shopian, Prof. Tariq Ahmed; GM, DIC; DPO; Tehsildar Shopian; and other senior district officers.

DC Pulwama chairs DRAC Meeting

Directs Departments to ensure Financial Discipline

GMK NEWS NETWORK



PULWAMA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, Thursday chaired a meeting of the District Rent Assessment Committee (DRAC) at the Circuit House, DC Office Complex, Pulwama, to review and assess the rental arrangements of various government departments operating from private buildings across the district.

The meeting was attended by ADC Pulwama, Dr. S. M. Ashraf, officers from various line departments having offices or sub-offices functioning in rented accommodations, besides landlords whose properties are currently being utilised by government departments.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation was made before the Chair, outlining department-wise details of rented premises, including the locations of offices and branches, the number of rented accommodations and the rental expenditure being incurred by different departments across the district.

While reviewing the arrangements, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised the need for a thorough assessment of the actual requirement of rented accommodations by each department. He directed the officers to first examine whether hiring private buildings was genuinely necessary or whether suitable alternative government accommodation was available for shifting the concerned offices.

The DC emphasised that every proposal for hiring private accommodation must be supported by proper justification, clearly establishing the necessity of the premises and the reasons for not utilising available government infrastructure. He further directed the departments to ensure that the requisite certificates and supporting documents are maintained to substantiate the need for continuing operations from rented buildings.

AIIMS Awantipora set to start with 100 MBBS seats, says Sakina Itoo

JAHANGEER GANAIE



SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Health Minister Sakina Itoo on Thursday welcomed Union Health Minister J P Nadda's visit to Kashmir and said AIIMS Awantipora is set to begin academic activities with 100 MBBS seats, double the 50 seats announced earlier.

Speaking after Nadda's visit to the institute in Pulwama district, Itoo, said the Union Minister reviewed the progress of the project and its preparedness for launching academic and healthcare services.

"Earlier, 50 MBBS seats had been announced, but now the Union Health Minister has indicated that 100 students will soon begin their studies at AIIMS Awantipora," she said.

The minister also stressed the need to make the Outpatient Department (OPD) operational at the earliest, saying it would provide much-needed specialised healthcare services to people of south Kashmir and reduce pressure on major hospitals in Srinagar.

Itoo said the Omar Abdullah government was keen to see the premier institute become functional without further delay and noted that the chief minister had reviewed the project on several occasions.

Meanwhile, she raised with Nadda the issue of Adnan Ahmad Rather, a final-year MBBS student from Sopore who died in Bangladesh. She said she handed over the student's documents and sought the Union Minister's intervention for the early repatriation of his mortal remains.

"The family is going through an extremely difficult time. His mother, who was accompanying him in Bangladesh, is also in a state of shock. I requested the Union Health Minister to ensure the mortal remains are brought back at the earliest," she said.

According to Itoo, Nadda assured all possible assistance and said he would take up the matter with the concerned authorities.

AIIMS Awantipora is among Jammu and Kashmir's key healthcare infrastructure projects and is expected to significantly improve access to specialised medical services while boosting medical education in the Union Territory—(KNO)

Sagar reviews functioning of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Deptt

Stresses transparency, accountability, effective litigation management

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Revenue, Power Development Department, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction and Elections, Ali Mohammad Sagar, Thursday chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs at the Civil Secretariat, here, to assess its overall functioning, administrative performance, ongoing initiatives and progress achieved in various key areas. The meeting was attended by the Commissioner Secretary Law Achal Sethi, Special Secretary Law, Director Finance in Law Department, Director Litigation and other senior officers of the Department.

At the outset, the Commissioner Secretary Law briefed the Minister about the overall functioning of the Department, its administrative structure and institutional responsibilities. A detailed presentation was given on the sanctioned strength of the High Court and subordinate judiciary, the sanctioned strength of the Advocate General's Organisation, and the engagement and working of advocates representing the Union Territory before the Supreme Court.

The meeting also held detailed deliberations on the existing litigation management system, monitoring of litigation policies, effective handling of court cases and compliance with judicial directions. The Minister reviewed the mechanisms in place for tracking departmental litigation and stressed the need for timely responses, proper coordination and effective representation of the Government before various judicial forums.

The progress of various digital initiatives and online service delivery mechanisms aimed at facilitating public access to legal information and services was also discussed.

The Minister also took a review of the development of judicial infrastructure, including the progress of ongoing works, projects completed and other infrastructure-related requirements. He stressed the importance of timely execution of projects, effective monitoring and close coordination among the concerned departments to ensure that judicial infrastructure is strengthened in a planned and time-bound manner.

Sagar reviewed matters concerning to human resource management in the Department such as career progression, promotional avenues and timely release of service-related benefits to employees.

While reviewing the overall performance, the Minister underscored the need to make the Department more transparent, accountable, responsive and citizen-friendly. He directed the officers to ensure that all legal and administrative matters are dealt with strictly in accordance with the prescribed rules, regulations and established policies.

Sagar stressed that every officer entrusted with handling litigation must remain vigilant about court proceedings, ensure timely filing of responses and compliance with judicial directions, and take appropriate measures to prevent avoidable delays or violations. He further directed that any instance of non-compliance with court orders, violation of prescribed norms or procedural irregularities should be properly monitored.

Javid Dar inspects construction of super bazar in Rafiabad

GMK NEWS NETWORK



BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production, Finance, Mining and Cooperative Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, Thursday visited the site of under-construction Super Bazar at CMS Seelu in Rafiabad constituency of Baramulla district and conducted a detailed inspection of the ongoing construction works.

During the visit, the Minister reviewed the physical progress of the project and interacted with the concerned officers and representatives of the executing agency to assess the pace of execution and quality of construction.

The Super Bazar project is being executed by the Public Works Department (PWD), Roads and Buildings (R&B) Division, Sopore, under the Capex Budget 2026–27, at an estimated cost of ₹196.77 lakh. The proposed double-storey building, covering a plinth area of 2,233 square feet, will comprise of two shopping halls, a washroom, an office, a kitchen, a store and fencing of the land.

While reviewing the progress of work, the Minister instructed the concerned officers and executing agency to maintain the highest standards of construction quality, strictly adhere to the approved design and technical specifications and accelerate the pace of execution to ensure timely completion of the project. He stressed the need for effective monitoring and regular supervision at every stage of construction. He directed the concerned authorities to ensure that the project is completed within the stipulated timeframe without compromising on quality, safety and durability.

Emphasising the importance of public infrastructure in strengthening local economic activity, the Minister said that development projects must be implemented with transparency, accountability and a firm commitment to public welfare. He said that the Super Bazar, upon completion, would provide improved commercial infrastructure, facilitate local traders and create better business opportunities for the people of Seelu and adjoining areas.

Senior officers of the Cooperative Department and other concerned officials accompanied the Minister during the inspection.

CM Omar visits Ahsan Pardesi's residence to offer condolences



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday visited the residence of MLA Lal Chowk, Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed (Pardesi), to offer condolences on the demise of his father, Ghulam Qadir Pardesi, former Member of the Legislative Council (MLC).

Paying rich tributes to the late leader, the Chief Minister recalled his dedicated public service and valuable contributions to public life. He offered Fatiha for the departed soul and conveyed his heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family.

The Chief Minister prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength and fortitude to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

Amid heightened vigil, soldiers celebrate Diwali along LoC, IB in J&K



SAJID RAINA

JAMMU: Amid heightened vigil, security forces personnel deployed at several forward locations along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir celebrated Diwali on Thursday.

According to the details available, Army soldiers deployed in the Akhnoor sector on the outskirts of Jammu participated in prayers and burst firecrackers, while similar celebrations were held by troops stationed in the Nowshera sector of Rajouri district.

"They were seen lighting firecrackers, offering prayers at a temple and celebrating the festival with fellow soldiers while continuing their operational duties along the LoC," witnesses said.

The celebrations were also held against the backdrop of extensive security arrangements along the sensitive border areas, where troops continue to maintain round-the-clock surveillance to prevent any infiltration attempts or suspicious movement from across the border.

Security personnel deployed along the LoC and International Border remain on heightened alert, with surveillance strengthened through modern technological systems, including high-resolution cameras, drone-based monitoring and other electronic surveillance equipment, alongside conventional patrolling and observation posts.

Officials said the security grid remains active throughout the festival period, with personnel maintaining close coordination to ensure that celebrations do not affect operational preparedness.

"Our personnel are celebrating the festival while remaining fully alert and committed to their responsibilities. Security arrangements along the borders remain in place, and surveillance is being maintained round the clock," an official said.

Min Rana participates in Janjatiya Diwas Pakhwada at Kathua

Terms tribal welfare as govt's prime concern

GMK NEWS NETWORK



KATHUA: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Transport, Javed Ahmed Rana, Thursday participated in the Janjatiya Diwas Pakhwada programme organised at the DC Office Complex, Kathua.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister said that the present dispensation is working towards ensuring permanent settlement of tribal communities to mitigate their long-standing hardships and improve their living conditions. He emphasised that focused interventions are being undertaken to address the socio-economic concerns of tribal populations.

Highlighting various welfare measures, Rana said that Forest Rights Committees (FRCs) are being constituted at district and sub-divisional level to facilitate the tribal communities in availing benefits under the Forest Rights Act. He informed that the government is keen to constitute a Tribal Advisory Committee to ensure due representation of the aspirations and concerns of nomadic communities.

The Minister said that the Janjatiya Diwas Pakhwada provides an opportunity to revisit the welfare trajectory of tribal communities. This strengthens the outreach efforts to educate the people about their invaluable contributions, rich cultural traditions and heritage, he added.

Describing Kathua as a symbol of unity and brotherhood, he called for collective efforts by all stakeholders to address the concerns and hardships faced by the tribal communities. He assured that their developmental aspirations would be duly considered while formulating the plans and programmes at all levels.

Regarding the updation of family members in ration cards, the Minister said that the exercise is linked with the completion of the ongoing Census process. He directed the District Administration to work out an exercise for incorporating the details of eligible additional family members. He also assured that adequate ration supplies would be ensured for migrating nomadic groups.

Comm Secy FCS&CA reviews departmental functioning

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department, Sourabh Bhagat, Thursday chaired an online review meeting to assess the functioning and progress of various departmental initiatives being implemented across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Director General, FCS&CA, Jammu, Rajesh Kumar Shavan; General Manager, Food Corporation of India (FCI), Director IT, Sanjay Gupta, Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Directors from each district through VC.

Director General FCS&CA Jammu, along with the Assistant Directors of the respective districts, gave a point-wise presentation on the latest status of departmental activities. These included lifting and distribution of foodgrains, winter stocking for six-month and three-month requirements, Aadhaar-based e-KYC, face authentication, CBDC implementation and other priority issues.

During the deliberations, the Commissioner Secretary directed the concerned officers to ensure expeditious lifting and distribution of foodgrains well before the onset of adverse weather conditions, particularly in view of the approaching winter and the possibility of disruption due to inclement weather. He stressed that both six-month and three-month winter stocking arrangements must be completed within the prescribed timelines. He asked the FCI authorities to ensure supply of quality foodgrains to the department.

Reviewing the status of petroleum products, the Commissioner Secretary directed the respective district administrations to identify the remote and far-flung areas where petrol pump facilities are presently unavailable. He asked for working out suitable modalities, in consultation with the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), for establishing departmental-owned petrol outlets to facilitate the general public, particularly during emergencies and other exigencies.

Altaf Wani reviews working of Wildlife department, JKFRI

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Minister for Forests, Ecology & Environment, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj,Altaf Ahmad Wani, Thursday said that Jammu and Kashmir is blessed with a unique natural heritage and its protection is not merely a departmental duty but a collective responsibility of the government and the people.

The Minister was speaking during a detailed review meeting of the Wildlife Protection Department and J&K Forest Research Institute (JKFRI) at the PCCF / HoFF office, Jammu.

The meeting was attended by Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment; Sarvesh Rai, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, J&K, Vasu Yadav, Chairman, PCC, Dr. Suneesh Buxy, Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K and Director, JKFRI, Regional Wildlife Wardens, DFOs and other senior officers.

Reviewing functioning of the department, the Minister said that J&K is home to some of the rarest species in the world. "Hangul is found nowhere else in the world. It is our pride, our identity. We cannot afford to lose it," he said, directing the department to take up Hangul conservation on mission mode with scientific monitoring and habitat improvement.

The Minister was informed that J&K has a Protected Area Network of 50 Protected Areas covering 4,861.282 sq km across 20 districts including 4 National Parks, 14 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 16 Conservation Reserves and 16 Wetland Reserves. Besides, Eco-Sensitive Zones for 10 Protected Areas including Jasrota, Rajparian, Ramnagar, Hirpora, Surinsar-Mansar, Gulmarg, Kazinag, Kishtwar High Altitude National Park, Dachigam-Overa-Aru and Tral have been notified.

The Minister was apprised that J&K is home to 4,440 plant, 111 mammal, 608 bird, 68+ reptile, 14 amphibian, 308+ butterfly and 100+ fish species. Birds alone account for 44 percent of India's bird diversity. The UT has 10 rare and endangered species including 4 Critically Endangered including Hangul, Kashmir Musk Deer, Markhor and Asiatic Ibex.

Expressing deep concern over human-wildlife conflict, the Minister said, "One human life lost is a tragedy for the family. Protecting human life must come first while also protecting wildlife. Both are possible if we respond on time."

Rana announces ₹7 cr for Girls' Hostel in Samba

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SAMBA: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Transport, Javed Ahmed Rana, Thursday announced the construction of a Girls' Hostel at Samba at an estimated cost of ₹7 crore, aimed at strengthening the educational infrastructure and providing better accommodation facilities to tribal girl students.

The announcement was made during an extensive interaction with the members of tribal communities held at Samba as part of the ongoing Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada, being observed across Jammu and Kashmir from November 1 to 15.

During the interaction, the Minister heard various demands and grievances concerning housing, education, scholarships, healthcare, road connectivity, drinking water, electricity and livelihood opportunities. He directed the concerned officers to examine the issues raised and ensure their resolution in a time-bound manner.

Addressing the gathering, Rana said that Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada is not merely an occasion to celebrate the rich heritage and contributions of tribal communities but also an opportunity to strengthen the delivery of welfare and development schemes at the grassroots level. He emphasised that the Government is committed to ensure that the benefits of development reach every eligible tribal household, particularly those living in remote, inaccessible and underserved areas.

In a significant direction, the Minister asked the sectoral departments to ensure adequate and proportionate allocation of development funds for tribal communities under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), in accordance with the applicable guidelines of NITI Aayog and the Ministry for Tribal Affairs.

He stressed that allocations for tribal welfare must be commensurate with the tribal population and their developmental requirements. The funds earmarked for this purpose should be utilised effectively to address the existing gaps in infrastructure, education, healthcare and livelihood opportunities, he added.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

AIIMS Awantipora

Healing Closer To Home

For decades, the phrase "refer to Delhi" has been a sentence of dread for families across Kashmir. It has meant scrambling for tickets, finding lodging in an unfamiliar city, and navigating the labyrinth of the national capital's hospitals, all while a loved one battles serious illness. The journey itself has often been as daunting as the disease, and finally, there is light at the end of the Jhelum. The upcoming AIIMS in Awantipora promises to change this narrative fundamentally. Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda's recent review of the project brings welcome news, deadlines are being set, and agencies are being pushed to deliver. The timeline is ambitious but achievable, OPD services by Dec 2026, full inpatient care by mid-2027, and MBBS classes soon after. With major buildings already complete and procurement of equipment worth nearly Rs 60 crore underway, the facility is taking tangible shape.

The significance of this cannot be overstated. Kashmir's healthcare infrastructure has long struggled to keep pace with the demands of its population. Tertiary care, specialised treatment for cancer, cardiac conditions, neurological disorders, has remained largely out of reach for ordinary families. The wealthy could fly to Delhi; the poor often simply suffered.

AIIMS Awantipora, once fully operational, will be more than just a hospital. It will be a lifeline. It will mean that a father with a heart condition does not have to board a flight to Delhi. It will mean that a child with a rare ailment can be treated without the family spending their life savings on travel. It will mean jobs, education, and a new generation of Kashmiri doctors trained in their own land.

The people of Kashmir have waited patiently for this institution. They have seen announcements, foundation stones, and photo opportunities. What they need now is concrete, steel, and doctors at their posts. The government must ensure that AIIMS Awantipora is not just a building on a hill, but a functioning sanctuary of healing.

If the deadlines hold, and the promises are kept, the day is not far when a resident of Baramulla or Anantnag will receive world-class treatment within an hour's drive from home. That day will mark a genuine transformation, a moment when healthcare in Kashmir finally comes of age. The wait has been long. The relief, when it comes, will be historic.

Good Morning Kashmir

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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
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Beyond The Courtroom

Why Court Decrees Must Be Reflected In Revenue Records

Obtaining A Favourable Court Verdict Is Only Part Of The Journey Towards Justice. Its Lawful Implementation In Government Land Records Is Equally Important For Protecting The Rights Of Landowners.



MOHD AMIN MIR



Land in Jammu and Kashmir is far more than an economic asset. It represents family identity, inheritance, livelihood and social security. For generations, disputes relating to ownership, possession, inheritance and partition have occupied a significant space in the judicial system. After years of litigation, when a competent court finally determines the rights of the parties and passes a decree, the successful litigant naturally expects the decision to be reflected in the official land records.

This is where the Revenue Department assumes a crucial responsibility. The connection between judicial decisions and revenue administration is essential to ensuring that justice delivered in court is translated into lawful administrative action. Yet, despite the frequent use of the term decree in revenue offices, its legal meaning, scope and implications are not always clearly understood by the general public. A better understanding of this concept is necessary for landowners as well as revenue officials.

What Does a Decree Actually Mean?

Under Section 2(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, a decree is the formal expression of an adjudication by a court which conclusively determines the rights of the parties with regard to matters in controversy in a suit. In simple terms, a decree is the formal legal determination of the rights of litigating parties by a competent court. While a judgment explains the reasoning and findings of the court, the decree formally expresses the legal determination arising from that judgment. Depending on the nature of the case, a decree may declare ownership, determine the respective shares of parties, order partition, recognise certain legal rights or grant other reliefs.

In revenue terminology, a mutation sanctioned on the basis of such a judicial determination is commonly referred to as Ba Hukam Adalat or decree mutation.

Why Is a Court Decree Important for Revenue Administration? The Revenue Department maintains important land records, including Jamabandis, Records of Rights, Khasra Girdawaris and other relevant registers. These documents record ownership particulars, shares, land classification and cultivation details.

Whenever a competent court passes a decree affecting rights in immovable property, the concerned party may approach the Revenue Department with a certified copy of the decree and other relevant documents for appropriate action.

The revenue authorities are required to examine the judicial determination, identify the land involved, verify the relevant survey numbers and revenue particulars, and proceed in accordance with the applicable legal provisions. For instance, where a civil court declares an individual entitled to a particular parcel of land or determines the respective shares of family members, the Revenue Department must examine the decree and take appropriate steps to incorporate its lawful consequences into the relevant records through the prescribed procedure. The purpose is straightforward: a judicial determination should not remain confined to court files while government records continue to reflect an outdated position.

Preliminary and Final Decrees: A Distinction Revenue Officials Must Understand

An important aspect of decree-related cases is the distinction between preliminary and final decrees. A preliminary decree determines the rights or shares of the parties but leaves certain matters for further proceedings. For example, in a partition suit, a court may declare that three brothers are entitled to equal shares in ancestral property without immediately allotting specific portions of land to each of them. A final decree completes the process wherever further determination is required, specifying the actual division or allotment of property.

This distinction has considerable significance for revenue administration. A preliminary decree determining ownership shares should not automatically be treated as a final physical partition of land. Revenue officials must carefully examine the nature and operative terms of the decree before making corresponding entries or carrying out changes in the records. A proper understanding of this distinction can prevent erroneous mutations and avoidable disputes among family members.

Can Revenue Authorities Ignore a Court Decree?

This is a question frequently raised by landowners who approach revenue offices for implementation of judicial decisions. As a general legal principle, revenue authorities cannot sit in appeal over a valid and binding decree passed by a competent court. They cannot substitute their own opinion for the judicial determination or refuse to act merely because they disagree with the court's findings. However, implementation must take place within the framework of the applicable law. Revenue officials are required to examine whether the decree relates to the land in question, whether its operation is affected by any stay or subsequent judicial order, and whether the property is sufficiently identifiable for the purpose of making the relevant entries.

Where the decree contains ambiguities, conflicting descriptions or insufficient particulars, the concerned authority should seek appropriate clarification through the legally permissible process rather than making an incorrect entry. A revenue officer is neither authorised to rewrite a judicial decree nor expected to implement it mechanically without verifying the relevant land particulars.

Mutation Does Not Create Ownership

Another important misconception concerns the legal effect of mutation. Mutation is primarily an administrative and fiscal process intended to keep revenue records updated. It does not, by itself, create or extinguish ownership rights. Merely entering a person's name in a Jamabandi does not automatically establish lawful ownership. However, a mutation based on a court decree has an important judicial foundation. The court determines the rights of the parties, while the revenue entry reflects the consequences of that determination in the official records, subject to the applicable legal framework.

Therefore, the distinction between a judgment, a decree and a revenue mutation must be properly understood. Each serves a different purpose in the administration of justice and land records.

Grassroots Revenue Officials Have a Crucial Role

The Patwari, Girdawar, Naib Tehsildar and Tehsildar have important responsibilities in translating judicial decisions into accurate revenue records. The Patwari, being the grassroots-level revenue functionary, is often the first official required to identify the relevant survey number, examine existing entries and verify the particulars of the land. The Girdawar provides supervisory scrutiny, while the competent revenue authority examines the matter and takes appropriate action under the law. This responsibility has become even more significant following the digitisation of Jamabandis and the introduction of online mutation systems in Jammu and Kashmir.

A decree-related mutation must be accurately connected with the relevant survey number, Khewat, Khata and existing ownership particulars. Even a minor discrepancy in a survey number, spelling of a name or historical entry can create fresh complications, particularly in cases involving old land records.

Digitisation must therefore be accompanied by proper legal awareness, field-level verification and effective coordination between the judiciary and the Revenue Department. Technology can improve the accessibility and management of land records, but its effectiveness ultimately depends on the accuracy of the information entered into the system.

The Need for a Time-Bound Decree Implementation Mechanism

There is a pressing need for a uniform and transparent mechanism across Jammu and Kashmir for processing judicial decrees in revenue offices.

Every decree received by a revenue office should be entered into a dedicated register or digital tracking system. Applicants should receive proper acknowledgements, and cases should be assigned to the concerned field functionaries for verification within a prescribed timeframe.

The competent authority should ensure that such cases are processed without unnecessary administrative delay. Wherever implementation is not possible because of an ambiguity, stay order or other legal impediment, the applicant should be informed through a clear and reasoned communication.

The Government should also explore the integration of decree-related information with the digital land-record management system, subject to appropriate legal scrutiny and safeguards. Such a mechanism would not only benefit landowners but also protect revenue officials by ensuring that every action is properly documented, legally examined and traceable.

Justice Must Reach the Land Records

The ultimate purpose of litigation is not simply to obtain a favourable judgment but to secure the rights recognised by law. When a citizen spends years pursuing a legal remedy and finally obtains a decree, unnecessary administrative delays should not become another hurdle. A court decree represents the bridge between judicial justice and administrative implementation. Courts determine legal rights, while revenue authorities ensure that the consequences of those determinations are appropriately reflected in the records falling within their jurisdiction.

For Jammu and Kashmir, where land disputes frequently involve generations of inheritance, partition and historical documentation, an efficient decree-mutation mechanism can significantly strengthen public confidence in the Revenue Department. The need of the hour is a revenue administration that understands the legal significance of judicial decrees, respects the authority of competent courts and ensures accuracy in the implementation process.

Ultimately, a decree should not remain merely a document preserved in a judicial file. Its lawful consequences must find their rightful place in the relevant government records. That is how the rule of law becomes visible at the grassroots level, and that is how justice moves beyond the courtroom to reach the ordinary landowner.

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Let Diwali Light Up Homes, Not Poison Lungs



LALIT GARGG



Festivals are meant to spread happiness; not poison the very air we breathe. Diwali, the festival of lights, symbolises illumination, joy, celebration and goodwill. But when the brilliance of festivities fills the skies with toxic smoke, when children and the elderly struggle to breathe, and when ordinary citizens are forced to yearn for clean air, it becomes imperative to reflect seriously on our festive traditions and collective social responsibilities. The irony is that even an issue as critical to human survival as pollution has become entangled in the smoke of political controversy. When people's very lives are at stake, viewing such a problem through the narrow lenses of religion, caste or political ideology is not merely unfortunate; it reflects a disturbing lack of social sensitivity.

Actress and environmental activist Dia Mirza recently raised awareness about the air and noise pollution caused by firecrackers. As part of its environment-friendly Diwali campaign, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) released her video message. However, following political controversy, the video was taken down. This naturally raises an important question: How can speaking against pollution become a matter of controversy? How can an artist's appeal for environmental protection be interpreted as opposition to a religion or a festival? The Bombay High Court's direction to restore the video sends a powerful message that voices advocating public welfare must not be silenced under political pressure. Environmental protection is neither the exclusive domain of any individual, political party nor religion; it is a shared responsibility of the entire society.

The example of Mumbai further exposes the gravity of the situation. Traditionally, Mumbai has enjoyed relatively better air circulation than Delhi because of its coastal location and sea breezes. Yet, the city is now increasingly grappling with a serious pollution crisis. According to the BMC's Environment Status Report 2025–26, 13 out of Mumbai's 14 air-quality monitoring stations recorded annual average PM10 levels exceeding the national permissible limit of 60 micrograms per cubic metre. In Chembur and the Bandra-Kurla Complex, the level reached as high as 125 micrograms per cubic metre. These figures are not merely statistics; they raise serious questions about an urban development model in which buildings continue to grow taller while the share of clean air available to citizens keeps shrinking.

It is essential to understand that neither Mumbai nor Delhi can absolve itself of responsibility by placing the entire blame for pollution on Diwali firecrackers. Dust generated at construction sites, accumulated road dust, vehicular emissions, industrial pollution, open burning of garbage and inadequate urban planning are among the major contributors. Firecrackers aggravate the pollution crisis during festive periods, but the sources of pollution remain active throughout the year. Therefore, imposing restrictions only around Diwali and turning a blind eye to the problem during the rest of the year is not a solution; it is merely an exhibition of seasonal activism. The fact that 13 monitoring stations in Mumbai have recorded pollution levels above the national standard makes it clear that environmental protection cannot be left to the mercy of sea breezes.

The situation in Delhi and the National Capital Region is even more alarming. With the onset of winter, falling temperatures, slower wind speeds and the accumulation of pollutants in the atmosphere cause air quality to deteriorate rapidly. Residents of Delhi, Ghaziabad, Noida, Gurugram and Faridabad are compelled to confront this toxic environment year after year. Morning walks, once regarded as a means of maintaining good health, increasingly become a potential health hazard. Children suffer from coughing and respiratory irritation, elderly people experience breathing difficulties, and those with pre-existing health conditions are forced to make repeated visits to hospitals. When the air that should carry the music of life becomes saturated with poison, all claims of development begin to sound hollow.

In this context, the intervention of the Supreme Court is significant. The Court has granted temporary permission in Delhi-NCR for the limited sale and use of certified green firecrackers during Diwali, subject to prescribed timings. For November 7 and 8, the permitted hours are 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Thereafter, a complete ban is scheduled to come into effect again from November 9. The Court has also emphasised strict monitoring to prevent violations and to ensure that conventional firecrackers are not illegally marketed under the label of green firecrackers.

But the fundamental question remains: Why do strict judicial orders on paper so often prove ineffective on the ground? The sale of conventional firecrackers disguised as green alternatives, fireworks beyond the permitted hours and the open trade in prohibited materials expose serious weaknesses in the administrative machinery. Merely framing laws is not enough; their impartial and stringent enforcement is equally essential. If violators continue to enjoy political patronage or benefit from administrative indifference, even the directives of constitutional courts will simply disappear into the haze of pollution.

Diwali can be celebrated with equal enthusiasm through limited use of firecrackers, community celebrations and environmentally responsible alternatives. The true spirit of a festival lies not in the intensity of noise, but in the happiness of hearts and the harmony of society. This is not an interference with anyone's religious freedom; rather, it is an expression of respect for the fundamental right of others to life and good health. The greatest irony is that when an actress like Dia Mirza uses her public platform to promote environmental protection, her message is dragged into a political controversy. On November 3, the Bombay High Court directed the BMC to re-upload her withdrawn video and observed that giving a political or communal colour to an environmental issue was inappropriate. This observation should serve as a wake-up call to our democratic conscience.

What we need today is a collective commitment involving governments, the judiciary, municipal authorities, political parties, the industrial sector, social organisations and ordinary citizens. Dust-control measures must be strictly implemented at construction sites; vehicular emissions must be closely monitored; public transport must be strengthened; the burning of garbage must be prohibited; and industries responsible for pollution must be held accountable. Citizens, too, must act responsibly by avoiding unnecessary use of firecrackers, refraining from burning waste and reducing excessive dependence on private vehicles.

Ultimately, the question is not simply whether firecrackers should be burst during Diwali. The real question is whether we will be able to provide future generations with clean air and a safe environment in which to live. Politics has its own place, just as religion and traditions have their own significance. But no celebration is greater than life, and no tradition can be more important than health. We must remember that pollution does not distinguish between caste, religion, language or political ideology before entering our lungs. The air belongs to everyone, and the crisis threatening it is a shared crisis for all. Let the lamps of Diwali illuminate our homes and courtyards. Let happiness spread and celebrations flourish, but let no one's breath be plunged into darkness. Let us celebrate the festival of light, not turn it into a festival of pollution. This is the call of the hour and the true, enlightened meaning of a celebration rooted in wisdom, compassion and collective responsibility.

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When Sacrifice Becomes An Expectation

SUMAYA HAMID

Society has long celebrated women for their patience, sacrifice, and ability to manage multiple responsibilities. A woman is expected to be a caring mother, a supportive wife, a responsible daughter, a devoted professional, and a dependable member of her family. She is praised for managing everything without complaint, as though exhaustion were a weakness and asking for help were a failure.



There is a woman in almost every home who remembers everyone's needs, notices everyone's silence, celebrates everyone's happiness, and worries about everyone's problems. She knows who needs encouragement, who needs comfort, and who needs a little extra care. Yet, amid all this giving, one question is often forgotten: Who takes care of the woman who takes care of everyone?

Society has long celebrated women for their patience, sacrifice, and ability to manage multiple responsibilities. A woman is expected to be a caring mother, a supportive wife, a responsible daughter, a devoted professional, and a dependable member of her family. She is praised for managing everything without complaint, as though exhaustion were a weakness and asking for help were a failure.

But behind her ability to manage so much, there may be a tired mind, an overwhelmed heart, and dreams that have quietly been put aside. The problem is not that women love their families or find happiness in caring for others. Care itself is not a burden when it is shared, respected, and appreciated. The real problem begins when care becomes an expectation rather than a choice, when a woman's contribution is taken for granted, and when her silence is mistaken for strength.

A working woman may spend her day fulfilling professional responsibilities and return home to another shift of unpaid work. A homemaker may work from morning until night without a formal designation, salary, or weekly holiday. Both may hear that they are doing what women have always done. Their efforts become so familiar that people stop noticing them.

Even more concerning is the emotional responsibility women often carry. They remember birthdays, manage family relationships, worry about children's futures, notice changes in the moods of loved ones, and attempt to keep peace when disagreements arise. This invisible labour rarely appears on a list of household responsibilities, yet it consumes time, energy, and emotional strength.

When a woman finally expresses her exhaustion, she may be reminded of everything she has already been blessed with. When she asks for time for herself, she may feel compelled to justify it. When she chooses her own ambitions, she may be made to feel guilty for wanting something beyond her family's needs. We must ask ourselves why a woman's happiness is so often measured by how much she sacrifices rather than by whether she is also allowed to flourish. The solution does not lie in asking women to become less caring. It lies in teaching families to make care a shared responsibility. Husbands can participate equally in household duties.

Children can learn that helping at home is a life skill, not a favour to their mother. Families can listen without judgement when a woman speaks about her struggles. Workplaces can recognise that women have responsibilities beyond their professional roles and deserve dignity, fairness, and support. Most importantly, women must be reminded that looking after themselves is not selfish. Rest is not laziness. Personal ambition is not a betrayal of family. And asking for emotional support does not make anyone less strong.

Perhaps the change we need begins with a simple habit: asking women how they are feeling and genuinely listening to their answers. Not asking out of courtesy, not expecting the familiar response of "I am fine," but creating a space where they can speak honestly without fear of being judged. A woman does not always need grand gestures or expensive gifts. Sometimes, she needs someone to notice that she is tired, share a responsibility without being asked, encourage a dream she has postponed, or simply sit beside her and listen. We often teach our daughters to be strong, patient, and independent. We should also teach our sons to be considerate, emotionally aware, and willing to share responsibilities. Strength should not mean silently carrying everything; it should also mean having the courage to ask for help and the wisdom to offer it.

A society that values women must do more than praise their sacrifices. It must create conditions in which sacrifice is not the price they pay for being loved and respected. The woman everyone depends on is also a human being with fears, ambitions, disappointments, and dreams of her own. She, too, deserves care without having to earn it through endless giving. Perhaps it is time we stopped asking how much a woman can endure and started asking how much we can do to make her life lighter.

(The author can be reached at sumayahamid1919@gmail.com)

Data For Dignity

Turning UPR Recommendations Into Actionable Evidence

SHOBHA SHUKLA

As the Universal Periodic Review enters another round in November 2026, a new public data platform is helping governments, diplomats and civil society connect human rights recommendations with health outcomes, track state commitments and identify gaps in implementation. Its findings also expose how some of the world's most vulnerable populations remain overlooked.

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a unique process by the United Nations Human Rights Council where the human rights records of all 193 countries (UN member states) are reviewed every 4.5 years. It provides an opportunity for governments to scrutinise one another's performance, make recommendations and encourage improvements in human rights protection.

Human rights commitments are only as meaningful as their implementation. Yet, across countries and regions, a persistent challenge confronts governments, policymakers and advocates: how can they track whether promises made at the international level are translating into measurable improvements in people's lives?

One initiative seeking to bridge this accountability gap is the Health and Rights Observatory, developed by the Global Center for Health Diplomacy and Inclusion (CeHDI). The free, public and interactive platform connects UPR recommendations with health indicators and national legal frameworks, offering users a way to examine human rights commitments alongside real-world health outcomes.

Presenting the Health & Rights Observatory, Rachel Rieille, Data Manager at CeHDI, demonstrated how accessible data can transform the way governments, diplomats, civil society organisations and advocates engage with the UPR process. Rachel was speaking in SHE & Rights session held recently.

Turning UPR recommendations into accessible evidence

While international human rights mechanisms generate thousands of recommendations, the real challenge lies in tracking what happens after governments make their commitments. But navigating the enormous volume of recommendations, identifying recurring concerns and assessing government responses can be challenging.

The Health and Rights Observatory seeks to make this process more accessible by bringing together UPR recommendations and health-related data in one platform. Rieille explained that the Observatory organises UPR recommendations according to health themes derived from the World Health Organization (WHO)'s thematic framework. These include issues such as mental health, gender-based violence and harmful practices, maternal health and the health of older persons.

The platform is designed to serve diplomats, policymakers, civil society organisations and advocates who need evidence to prepare for reviews, monitor state commitments and identify gaps.

Its country-level dashboard allows users to select a country and access recommendations issued to that country. They can examine the number of health-related recommendations, explore the complete set of recommendations and download selected datasets for further analysis.

Users can also filter recommendations by specific health themes and examine how attention to particular issues has evolved across successive UPR cycles.

An especially useful feature is the ability to distinguish between recommendations that governments have supported and those they have merely noted. Through visualisations, users can track whether governments are becoming more receptive to particular human rights concerns over time.

The Observatory is not restricted to individual countries. Its regional and global dashboards allow users to examine recommendations across geographical groupings, compare trends and download data for independent research and advocacy.

Connecting human rights commitments with health outcomes

Beyond tracking recommendations, the Observatory addresses another important question: are human rights commitments reflected in improvements in people's health?

To explore this, CeHDI has incorporated health indicators covering universal health coverage, maternal health, cervical cancer and family planning, among other areas.

The platform also displays relevant national legal frameworks, including socioeconomic provisions and constitutional recognition of the right to health. This helps users understand not only what governments have been recommended to do but also the legal commitments they have undertaken.

Rieille demonstrated this approach in SHE & Rights session through the Observatory's maternal health section. Users can explore a country-level map showing maternal mortality estimates for 2023, compare trends over time and examine neighbouring countries. The dashboard also provides a breakdown of causes of maternal deaths, alongside global averages.

Such information can help advocates examine whether improvements in health outcomes are occurring alongside human rights commitments and where further action may be necessary.

By bringing together recommendations, health indicators and legal frameworks, the Health & Rights Observatory offers a more comprehensive picture of the relationship between human rights obligations and public health performance.

Its usefulness also extends beyond the immediate UPR review process. Civil society organisations can use the data to prepare submissions, identify neglected issues and question governments about implementation.



Importantly, the platform's code is open source and its datasets are publicly accessible, allowing independent scrutiny and further analysis.

The data exposes a glaring gap in older persons' rights

One of the most striking findings from the Health & Rights Observatory concerns older persons - a population group that remains significantly underrepresented in international human rights recommendations.

CeHDI's Rachel Rieille reported that approximately 29,000 health-related recommendations have been issued through the UPR globally. Of these, only 144 address the health of older persons. Among the population groups examined through the Observatory, older persons have received the fewest health-related recommendations. The nature of some recommendations also raises questions about whether older persons are being recognised as rights-holders.

Rieille cited a recommendation made by Venezuela to Chad during the third UPR cycle, calling for the strengthening of national health policy, particularly for women, children and older persons. While older people were mentioned, they appeared as one group in a broader list rather than being the specific focus of a recommendation addressing their health needs.

There are, however, encouraging signs. Governments support approximately 92% of recommendations concerning older persons' health, compared with 82% of health-related recommendations overall.

Attention has also increased across successive cycles. The first cycle recorded seven recommendations concerning older persons out of 2,956. In the ongoing fourth cycle, the number has risen to 76 out of approximately 10,000 recommendations. For Rieille, these trends suggest that states are beginning to recognise the issue, although much more attention is needed.

"When older persons are absent from data and reporting, they are absent from policy priorities. The scale of exclusion of older persons is also evident in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Since its establishment in 2008, only 681 of more than 124,539 UPR recommendations have addressed older persons, representing around 0.5%. This is why we urge the States to fully utilise the Health and Rights Observatory," said a statement made by Shobha Shukla, a person with lived experience, and who spoke at the Inter-Governmental Working Group meeting to draft a legally binding treaty for human rights of older persons. "Human rights of older persons, like those of people in all their diversities, are non-negotiable and must never be treated as an afterthought."

UPR: A mechanism for cooperation, not just scrutiny

Khaled Hassine emphasises that the UPR should not be understood merely as a mechanism for reviewing states' human rights records. UPR is also an important entry point for cooperation, engagement and actionable recommendations that governments can follow up. Because the process involves states reviewing one another, its recommendations can have considerable influence, encouraging governments to engage with human rights concerns raised by their peers.

Khaled Hassine serves as the Secretary, Intergovernmental Working Group on the Human Rights of Older Persons, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

For Hassine, the increasing visibility of older persons in UPR recommendations reflects greater awareness and a more coherent recognition of intersectionality.

He also points to the 2016 report of the UN Independent Expert, which provided the first comprehensive global analysis of the human rights situation of older persons across all regions. The report recommended a global framework of cooperation and a legally binding international instrument dedicated to older persons' rights.

The UPR, he argues, can contribute to building momentum towards such a framework by encouraging more substantive engagement and follow-up.

Indonesia's experience: Taking health commitments to communities

The importance of translating human rights commitments into practical policies is reflected in Indonesia, where more than 35 million people are now aged over 60, representing nearly 12% of the population. Dr Imran Pambudi, Director of Vulnerable Groups Health Services at Indonesia's Ministry of Health, describes ageing as a defining public health and social challenge.

Indonesia has adopted a life-course approach to healthy ageing through its Integrated Primary Care programme (ILP), now being implemented across more than 9,200 government-run Puskesmas community health centres. The programme brings health promotion, prevention, early detection, treatment and rehabilitation closer to communities.

Complementing this is the free health check programme, which has reached more than 12 million older persons. Screenings assess cognition, mobility, nutrition, vision, hearing and psychological wellbeing, helping identify risks early and preserve independence. Dr Pambudi stresses that healthy ageing is not simply about preventing disease or extending life expectancy. Older persons must have opportunities to remain independent, active and engaged in society.

He calls for stronger primary healthcare, sustainable long-term care financing, caregiver support, accessibility for persons with disabilities and greater attention to the voices of older persons themselves.

Human Rights Day: The test is implementation

As the November UPR cycle brings renewed attention to international human rights commitments, the Health and Rights Observatory developed by CeHDI offers a practical resource for examining what governments have promised, how they have responded and where gaps remain.

With International Human Rights Day on December 10 approaching, the challenge is to move beyond declarations and recommendations towards measurable improvements in people's lives.

Human rights commitments must be more than promises on paper. They must translate into dignity, equality, better health and justice for everyone.

Shobha Shukla is a feminist, health and development justice advocate. She can be mailed at bobbyramakant@gmail.com

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True Education Lies

institution lies in nurturing individuals who are able to distinguish between right and wrong and contribute positively to society.

Highlighting the importance of independent thinking and curiosity, the Chief Minister urged students not to hesitate in asking questions and to develop the confidence to challenge ideas and seek answers.

"There are no stupid questions, there are only stupid answers," he remarked, encouraging students to remain inquisitive and explore the 'why' and 'how' behind things.

He said Jammu and Kashmir needs a generation that is willing to question existing practices, understand what is happening around them and explore ways to make things better.

"A generation that is happy to ask questions will make all of us answerable. And if we are answerable, Jammu and Kashmir tomorrow will be a better place," the Chief Minister said.

Emphasising the need to cultivate independent learning, he encouraged students to develop reading habits and use Artificial Intelligence responsibly and ethically. He said technology should serve as a tool to enhance learning and understanding rather than become a substitute for individual effort, critical thinking and intellectual curiosity.

Congratulating the meritorious students, the Chief Minister appreciated their outstanding academic achievements and commended the employees completing 25 years of dedicated service for their commitment to the cause of education.

He also lauded the faculty, staff and management of the Education Society for their stellar contribution towards ensuring that its institutions not only impart education but also nurture well-rounded human beings equipped with values, compassion and a sense of responsibility.

The Society recorded an overall pass percentage of 99 per cent in the Class X and XII board examinations during the 2025-26 academic year.

The Chief Minister also appreciated the Society's efforts in recognising distinguished alumni, acknowledging that the achievements of former students serve as an inspiration for the younger generation.

Encouraging youngsters to strive for excellence while remaining grounded in humanity and moral values, the Chief Minister quoted the famous couplet:

"Khudi ko kar buland itna ki har taqdeer se pehle,
Khuda bande se khud poochhe, bata teri raza kya hai."

He said that beyond all achievements, the most important responsibility is to remain good human beings and treat one another with kindness and compassion.

"Make yourself into that sort of person that when your future is being written, the Almighty will ask you what it is you want to do. We just have to be good people, good human beings, good to each other. Everything else will take care of itself," he said. Minister for Education Shamim Firdous, in her address, recalled the contribution of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in laying a new foundation for the education system in independent India.

She also highlighted the role of late Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, in giving a new direction and vision to the education system in the region.

She expressed hope that educational institutions would continue to uphold these values and contribute towards the development of responsible and valuable members of society.

The Chief Minister also extended his greetings on the forthcoming festival of Diwali, wishing everyone peace, happiness and humanity.

"Given that we are three days away from Diwali, I wish you all the very best for the season, the festival of lights. May it light our lives with the light of peace, happiness and humanity," he said.

Rt. Rev. Ivan Pereira, Bishop of Jammu-Srinagar and President of DJSES, Rev. Fr. Sebastian Nagathunkal, Vice President of DJSES, and other officials of the Society were present on the occasion.

Local Terrorist

Bopinder, were killed at a brick kiln. The accused, identified earlier as Mohammad Lateef Bhat of Kulgam, is allegedly affiliated with Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

On reports of recent infiltration, Kumar said he did not have verified information and would not comment without concrete data.

Referring to the terrorists killed in the Yousmarg-Korag operation in Budgam, Kumar said they had been operating across high-altitude areas, including mountainous stretches of Poonch and Budgam.

He said security forces had established dominance over these areas, leading to the successful operation, while noting that the vast terrain and mobility of terrorists in the mountains continue to pose operational challenges.

On the drug-terror nexus, Kumar said proceeds from narcotics trafficking were being used to fund overground networks. He said police had identified key operators both within Jammu and Kashmir and across the border.

According to the IGP, investigation teams have been sent outside the Union Territory to trace the wider network. He added that probes have revealed links to both cross-border sources and supply chains in other states.

Responding to concerns over restrictions on National Highway-44, Kumar said the security measures were necessary given the continuing threat.

"Threats are still there. IEDs are also being recovered around the highway," he said, adding that concerns regarding public inconvenience would be discussed with senior officers and security agencies.

He also said any technology being used by terrorists was on the radar of security forces.

Responding to concerns over the cost of de-addiction treatment, Kumar said the Police Drug De-addiction Centre was among the most affordable facilities in north India. According to the centre's head, Dr Muzaffar, patients pay only for food, while medicines are provided free of charge.

The IGP cautioned people against using photographs with government officers to project influence or seek favours. He said such photographs are often taken as goodwill gestures and should not be misconstrued as official support.

Kumar also stressed that government jobs are awarded on merit and warned youngsters against individuals claiming they can secure employment through influence. He added that action had been taken against employees whose appointments were found to be irregular—(KNO)

'Properties Worth Rs

Police have also destroyed illicit crops spread over 2,116.3 kanals, registered 260 FIRs related to illegal cultivation and arrested 284 persons.

As part of the disposal of seized narcotics under Section 52-A of the NDPS Act, police destroyed 4,355.74 kilograms of contraband, besides 4,808 bottles of codeine phosphate, 20,163 tablets and capsules, and 482 litres of liquor.

On cybercrime, IGP Kumar cautioned youngsters against becoming part of organised online fraud networks, particularly those using mule bank accounts to facilitate fraudulent transactions.

He said cheating people of their hard-earned money is unacceptable and appealed to youngsters to stay away from such activities.

The police data shows that 12,385 financial fraud complaints involving Rs 54.66 crore were received during the 10-month period.

Rs 7.48 crore, accounting for 13.68 per cent, was recovered or saved through police intervention. Police also registered 93 FIRs, including seven cases involving mule bank accounts.

IGP Kumar also expressed concern over rash driving, reckless biking, speeding and modified motorcycles, saying such violations endangered the lives of drivers, pedestrians and other road users.

He urged youngsters to follow traffic rules, avoid using mobile phones while driving and refrain from creating noise and inconvenience through loud motorcycles during night hours.

During daytime enforcement between September 1 and October 31, police checked 15,47,890 vehicles and 7,65,851 persons. A total of 17,702 vehicles were seized, while 989 persons were arrested or bound down, including 211 bound down.

During the daytime drive, police recovered cash amounting to Rs 7,27,790 (Rs 7.28 lakh) alongside narcotics, which included 13.76 kilograms of charas, 262.5 grams of heroin, 103.51 kilograms of cannabis, 39.65 kilograms of ganja, 17.06 kilograms of bhung, 680 grams of brown sugar and 5.29 kilograms of poppy straw.

Night enforcement was also intensified across districts between October 17 and November 4 (1800 hrs to 0600 hrs). During this night drive, police checked 2,67,214 vehicles and seized 2,211 vehicles, besides impounding 80 outside-registered vehicles.

Legal action was taken against 2,275 instances of helmetless riding, 590 cases of rash driving, 545 instances of triple riding, and 15 pressure-horn related violations. Police also seized 10 pressure horns and recorded 1,480 other enforcement actions.

IGP Kumar urged youngsters recovering from drug addiction to share their experiences through awareness videos, saying their stories could motivate others to stay away from substance abuse.

He assured that those approaching police for assistance or sharing information about drug peddling would have their identities protected, adding that police would facilitate their rehabilitation. The IGP said collective participation of youngsters, families, and civil society was essential to address these challenges and build a responsible society—(KNO)

Azad Dismisses

me, and I have approached nobody," he said.

Rejecting reports suggesting that he had already reached Kashmir for political consultations, Azad said he was currently in New Delhi and had not even planned a visit to Jammu and Kashmir.

"I am sitting in Delhi, and some channels are saying I have reached Kashmir. I have not even made a programme to visit Kashmir or Jammu. Yet they have already sent me there through their channels," he remarked. Azad also dismissed reports suggesting that he was considering contesting the forthcoming parliamentary elections, calling them entirely false and without any factual basis.

He further clarified that his willingness to engage in conversations with political leaders should not be interpreted as an indication of political negotiations or alliance-building.

"I can talk to anyone. I am not an enemy of anybody. But that does not mean the stories being circulated are true," he said.

Azad urged media organisations to exercise responsibility and verify information before publishing speculative reports, cautioning against creating unnecessary political narratives based on rumours rather than facts.

AIIMS Awantipora

and other agencies for completing major structures despite challenging conditions at the site.

Officials informed the meeting that Phase-I infrastructure, including the OPD Registration Block, OPD Block, residential buildings and designated hostels, has been completed, with inventory verification and handover formalities currently underway. The remaining academic, administrative, hospital and residential facilities are being developed and handed over in phases.

Emphasising the need for timely equipment procurement, Nadda directed HITES and the AIIMS administration to accelerate the purchase of medical equipment, laboratory instruments and furniture required for operationalising services.

The meeting was informed that procurement approvals have been issued for 180 medical equipment items worth Rs 59.41 crore, with notices of award already issued for 140 items. Procurement of OPD instruments, laboratory furniture and other essential items is at various stages.

On recruitment, the minister called for expediting appointments of faculty and non-faculty staff to ensure adequate manpower before services commence. The Ministry has approved the engagement of 652 personnel for OPD and related services, including hospital attendants, housekeeping and sanitation workers, and security staff. Of these, 150 posts have been earmarked for security personnel.

Nadda also reviewed campus security, transport connectivity, website development and other operational arrangements, stressing close coordination among AIIMS Awantipora, CPWD, HITES and the local administration to resolve pending issues.

He said the timely completion and operationalisation of AIIMS Awantipora will improve access to tertiary and specialised healthcare in Jammu and Kashmir, while also emerging as a major centre for medical education and reducing the need for patients to travel outside the Union Territory for advanced treatment—(KNO)

Kashmir's Lifeline

in Water, titled GIS-Based Inventory and Utility Assessment of Spring Resources in the Kashmir Himalaya, has also highlighted growing concerns over the region's water security.

The study mapped 649 springs across Anantnag and Kulgam districts during field surveys conducted in 2021 and 2022. It found that 76 springs, accounting for 11.7 per cent of those surveyed, were completely dry, while 8.5 per cent were seasonal and the remaining 79.8 percent were perennial.

The research also found that domestic requirements, including drinking, cooking and washing, accounted for the largest share of spring water use. Researchers noted that local communities had reported declining spring discharge and reliability over the preceding five to 10 years, although the absence of long-term hydrological records prevented independent confirmation of these trends.

The findings underline the vulnerability of communities dependent on natural springs, particularly in rural areas where these water sources support both household consumption and agricultural activities.

Meanwhile, the intense and prolonged dry spells that affected Kashmir over recent seasons have temporarily eased, with the region entering the winter transition marked by occasional light precipitation and falling temperatures.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather from November 6 to 9, followed by spells of light to moderate rainfall and snowfall over higher reaches between November 10 and 13.

The department's figures represent gauge readings at a particular time and should not be confused with seasonal averages or a direct measurement of drinking water availability. However, concerns over declining spring flows and the prospect of further dry periods have brought renewed attention to Kashmir's water security—(KNO)

Around 30,000

of around 30,000 Chinar trees had been completed and a digital database created to document the trees.

The second phase of the exercise will cover the remaining Chinar, Bargad and Peepal trees across Jammu and Kashmir.

Appreciating the initiative, Wani stressed the need to protect the region's natural heritage, saying its preservation was a collective responsibility of the government and the people.

The Minister also directed officials to involve the concerned MLA in development works undertaken in each district, saying elected representatives understood local ground realities and their participation would help ensure transparency and better execution.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sheetal Nanda; Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, J&K, Sarvesh Rai; Chairman, PCC, Vasu Yadav; Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K, and Director, JKFRI, Dr Suneesh Buxy; Regional Wildlife Wardens, Divisional Forest Officers and other senior officers.

Fresh Snowfall

Kashmir remained above the freezing point, with Pahalgam recording a minimum temperature of 1.5 degrees Celsius, followed by Gulmarg at 2.0 degrees Celsius.

Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of 4.0 degrees Celsius, while Qazigund registered 3.3 degrees Celsius, Kupwara 2.1 degrees Celsius and Kokernag 6.1 degrees Celsius, according to the Meteorological Centre's daily weather report.

In the Jammu division, Jammu city recorded a minimum temperature of 15.1 degrees Celsius, while Banihal recorded 5.6 degrees Celsius, Batote 9.1 degrees Celsius, Katra 14.0 degrees Celsius and Bhaderwah 4.8 degrees Celsius.

The weather department also advised farmers to continue harvesting and other agricultural operations until November 10 and ensure the safe storage of harvested crops.

Travellers and transporters have been advised to plan their journeys accordingly and follow traffic advisories issued by the authorities, particularly in view of the forecast precipitation over higher reaches.

The department has asked people to remain updated about the latest weather forecasts and advisories—(KNO)





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'Your story can save others'

IGP urges Kashmir youth to lead fight against drug addiction

REHAN QAYOOM



SRINAGAR: Assuring that police would stand by young people who are willing to bring positive change in the society, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Zone, Sujit Kumar, on Thursday called upon youth to become partners in fight against drug addiction, cybercrime and reckless driving.

In his first media interaction since taking over as IGP Kashmir, Sujit Kumar, said, "Challenges confronting society cannot be addressed through police action alone, these require active participation from youngsters, families and civil society."

"Police are with you. I assure you that my team and the entire Kashmir Zone Police will support you. The youth must come forward and play a positive role in this fight," he said while addressing a press conference at PCR Srinagar.

Focusing on the growing drug menace, IGP Kumar urged youngsters battling addiction not to suffer in silence, assuring them of police assistance in accessing rehabilitation facilities while keeping their identities confidential.

He said those seeking help could approach any police station or the police-run drug rehabilitation centre, where necessary assistance would be provided without exposing their identities.

The IGP also made a special appeal to recovering victims to share their experiences through videos and awareness messages, saying their stories could motivate other youngsters to stay away from drugs and seek help.

He said he wanted more such initiatives in which young people who had overcome addiction could inspire others through their personal experiences.

On cybercrime, he cautioned youngsters against becoming part of organised online fraud networks, particularly those involving mule bank accounts used to cheat people of their hard-earned money.

Describing such activities as a betrayal of one's own people, he urged youth not to provide their bank accounts to fraudsters or become involved in financial transactions linked to cybercrime.

He also called for greater awareness about online fraud and urged victims to report such incidents promptly so that necessary action could be taken to prevent financial losses.

Expressing concern over reckless driving, IGP Kumar said rash driving, speeding, modified motorcycles and loud bikes during night hours were endangering lives and causing inconvenience to the public, particularly elderly people.

He appealed to youngsters to follow traffic rules, avoid using mobile phones while driving, refrain from improper parking and show consideration for pedestrians and other road users.

Referring to a recent initiative by Srinagar Police, IGP Kumar appreciated a youngster who had uploaded a video of reckless driving but later acknowledged his mistake and appealed to other youth not to repeat such behaviour.

He said such positive examples should be encouraged, adding that youngsters could use social media to spread awareness against drug addiction and irresponsible driving rather than promote dangerous behaviour.

Reiterating his appeal for collective action, the IGP said the younger generation had an important role in shaping a responsible society and police would extend all possible support to those willing to contribute positively.

Pertinently, Kumar, a 2007-batch IPS officer of the AGMUT cadre, assumed charge as IGP Kashmir Zone in August 2026, succeeding V K Birdi—(KNO)

Kupwara Police Arrest Man With 1.016 Kg Charas; FIR Registered

GMK NEWS NETWORK



KUPWARA: Police in north Kashmir's Kupwara district have arrested a man and recovered about 1.016 kg of a charas powder-like substance from him during a routine naka checking at Chandigam, officials said.

A police team from Police Station Sogam stopped the man during checking and searched him, leading to the recovery. He has been identified as Ab Rehman Najar, son of Khizer Mohammed Najar, a resident of Chandigam.

A case under FIR No. 50/2026 has been registered at Police Station Sogam under Section 8/20 of the NDPS Act. The accused has been arrested and the contraband seized following due legal procedure.

Police said further investigation is underway to trace the source of the substance and identify others linked to the suspected drug network.

Kupwara Police said it remains firmly committed to rooting out the drug menace from society and urged the public to share information about drug-related activities. The identity of anyone providing information will be kept strictly confidential, police added.

DC B'pora inspects Road, Embankment, Inland Water Transport Works

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, Thursday conducted an extensive tour of various locations to inspect the progress of ongoing road, embankment and Inland Water Transport (IWT) infrastructure projects.

At Pendbouni, Hajin, the DC inspected the ongoing construction of a retaining wall over pile cap on the left side of River Jhelum, upstream of Hajin Bridge. She directed the executing agency to maintain the pace of work and ensure quality execution. She also directed that necessary repairs to the Pendbouni road be undertaken on priority.

The DC also reviewed the restoration of the damaged right-side embankment of River Jhelum at Checki Chandergeer, RD 114.750 km. She directed the concerned agency to expedite the remaining work.

She stressed that work must continue till late night, wherever required, to accelerate progress and minimise delays.

The DC inspected the ongoing improvement of the alternative road at Check Chandergeer and reviewed arrangements for traffic regulation. She directed that no vehicular movement shall be allowed through the stretch during the execution of work to ensure safety and facilitate uninterrupted construction.

The DC also visited Gundipreng, where she interacted with local residents and reviewed the proposed site for the Inland Water Transport jetty station. The residents appreciated the selection of the site and welcomed the initiative.

SWD Srinagar organises Community Outreach Programme at Khayam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Social Welfare Department, SANKALP-HEW Srinagar, organised a community outreach programme in coordination with Mission Poshan-Zone Khanyar, and a facilitation camp at Khayam, Srinagar, with the objective of strengthening grassroots-level engagement and creating awareness among the public regarding various welfare initiatives, financial literacy, and financial assistance schemes.

The community outreach programme at Mission Poshan-Zone Khanyar focused on strengthening the role of Anganwadi Workers in disseminating information about government welfare schemes and ensuring that eligible beneficiaries are made aware of the services available to them.

Anganwadi Workers, being important links between the administration and local communities, play a significant role in identifying eligible beneficiaries, facilitating access to welfare services, and spreading awareness among women, children, and vulnerable sections of society.

During the outreach programme, emphasis was laid on the importance of community participation and effective coordination between field functionaries and the Department of Social Welfare to ensure that the benefits of various government schemes reach deserving beneficiaries. The role of Anganwadi Workers in addressing community concerns, guiding eligible families, and encouraging people to approach the concerned offices for assistance was also highlighted.

In a separate initiative, the SWD Srinagar organised a facilitation camp at Khayam, Srinagar, to provide information and guidance to the public regarding financial literacy and various financial assistance schemes available for eligible beneficiaries.

During the camp, participants were sensitised about the importance of financial literacy, including responsible financial planning, savings, informed financial decision-making, and awareness of available financial services. The need for individuals and families to understand basic financial concepts and make informed choices regarding their financial resources was emphasised.

Four Booked for Posing as Cyber Crime Officials

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Police have registered a case against four persons for allegedly impersonating Cyber Crime Department officials and cheating a man of Rs 50,000 in the Batmaloo area of Srinagar, officials said.

An official said police received a complaint alleging that four persons posed as officials of the Cyber Crime Department and fraudulently took Rs 50,000 from the complainant.

Following the complaint, an FIR (No. 139/2026) under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was registered at Police Station Batmaloo, the official said.

Further investigation into the case is underway, he added.

Training Programme for Tribal Farmers held in Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: A one-day training programme for tribal farmers organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Shopian in collaboration with Regional Fodder Station, Shuhama, ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI) and Department of Social Forestry.

More than 40 tribal farmers from different areas of district Shopian participated in the programme, aimed at creating awareness among farmers about scientific winter management of livestock, fodder production, seed harvesting and sowing, and protection of forests.

Dr. Mir Shabir Ahmad, Head, KVK Shopian, briefed the farmers about the role and activities of KVK and various schemes, trainings and demonstrations being conducted for the benefit of farming community.

Dr. Nazir Ahmad, Associate Professor, SKUAST-Kashmir, delivered a detailed lecture on Winter Management of Livestock-housing, feeding, health care and protection of animals from cold stress during harsh winter months.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR (UT)

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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

PUBLIC WORKS (R&B) DEPARTMENT

CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Subject: Compassionate appointment of Mr. Gh. Nabi Sheikh S/o Late Mohad Ramzan Sheikh (Ex-Road Worker) R/o Frislana, Tehsii Pahalgam, District Anantnag under SRO-43 of 1994 -Notice thereof.

NOTICE

Mr. Gh. Nabi Sheikh, S/o Late Mohad Ramzan Sheikh, R/o Frisian, Tehsil Pahalgam, District Anantnag, is hereby directed to furnish his email ID and mobile/contact number to the Public Works (R&B) Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar, for registration on the designated Employee Verification System (EVS) Portal.

The required details shall be submitted either in person to the Department or through email at clericalhallrnbl21@gmail.com within 15 days from the date of issue of this notice, in terms of Circular No. 18-JK(GAD) of 2022 dated 20.05.2022, issued by the General Administration Department.

In case the required details are not furnished within the stipulated period, it shall be presumed that the individual is unwilling to accept the appointment in the Public Works (R&B) Department under the J&K Compassionate Appointment Rules, 1994, and his claim for appointment may be forfeited without any further notice, as per the applicable rules.

No: PWD-SRO/31/2021 (45282)
Dated: 29.10.2026

DIPK-7410-26
DT: 05/11/2026

(Namrita Wanchoo)
Under Secretary, to the Government

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, SRINAGAR

10-KARAN NAGAR, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR, 190010 (ACADEMIC SECTION)

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

Subject: Advertisement of Posts under National One Health Programme in Government Medical College, Srinagar

Government Medical College, Srinagar, vide Advertisement Notice No. 14-RA of 2026 dated 04.11.2026, is inviting online applications from eligible domiciles of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for temporary engagement against 01 post of Laboratory Technician and 01 post of Data Entry Operator under the project titled "National One Health Programme for Prevention and Control of Zoonosis Diseases (NOHPCZ)" in the Department of Paediatric Microbiology, GMC Srinagar.

The engagement shall initially be for a period of one year or till continuation of the scheme/project, whichever is earlier, subject to the terms and conditions prescribed in the detailed advertisement notification.

Online applications shall be accepted from 06.11.2026 (10:00 AM) to 30.11.2026 (4:00 PM) through the official website of Government Medical College, Srinagar: https://www.gmcs.ac.in/

Interested candidate are advised to visit the official website for detailed Advertisement Notification for eligibility criteria, qualifications, remuneration and other terms and conditions before submitting their applications.

No:GMCS/SR/Adv/7473/ML
Dated. 04-11-2026

DIPK-7389-26
DT: 05/11/2026

Fayaz Ahmad Bhat (JKAS)
Deputy Registrar (Academics)
Government Medical College Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION ANANTNAG

Fresh NIT 125 (2nd Call NIT 153/6) OF R&B/Anantnag/2026-27 /E-TENDERING/9713-22, DATED 05-11-2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders in 02 cover system are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc.(in Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Nandpora near Govt. Girls High School (Crate walling)	34.99 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 29.65 + (18% GST Amount 5.34)	1100	69980/-	60 Days	UT Capex Budget 2025-26	AAY & BEE Class Only

Project Authority : PWD(R&B) Circle Anantnag.
Position of AAA : Accorded vide Order No. 50 of SE/R&B/Ang/AAA of 2025-26, Dated 12.02.2026.
Position of TS : Accorded.

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms-and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental websitewww.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S.No.	Particulars	Dated		
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice		05-11-2026	
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From	05-11-2026	(04:00 PM)
		To	11-11-2026	(04:00 PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From	05-11-2026	(04:00 PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To	11-11-2026	(04:00 PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid(online)		12-11-2026	(10:30 AM)
		In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag.		

1. Bids must be accompanied with a Receipt of cost of Tender document/Tender Fee deposited in a Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account bearing No. 0470010200000099 (Division Name, Bidder Name, NIT No. and Item No/ Name of Work to be mentioned on the Receipt (The Date of transaction should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and Receipt of EMD (2% of advertised Cost), also deposited in a Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account bearing No. 0470010200000099 (Division Name, Bidder Name, NIT No. and Item No/ Name of Work to be mentioned on the Receipt. (The Date of receipt of EMD and Tender Fee should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date). The same EMD/Tender Fee receipt should not be used in more than one Tender/Bid.
2. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost). Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.
3. The Bid security amount of the successful Bidder shall, upon completion of the bidding process be transferred from single Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account to Performance Security Deposit Head on Authorization from HoD during the currency of contract agreement including defect liability period. . In addition, the differential amount of performance security shall be deposited by the Successful Bidder in Performance Security Deposit Head. Failure to produce differential amount of Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.
4. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Anantnag
5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid
6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
f. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

7. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
8. Scanned copy of Receipt of cost of Tender document/Tender Fee deposited in a Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account bearing No. 0470010200000099 (The Date of transaction should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and receipt of EMD deposited in a Centralized Designated Pooling Bank Account bearing No. 0470010200000099 (Division Name, Bidder Name, NIT No. and Item No/ Name of Work to be mentioned on the Receipt. (The Date of transaction should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original receipt of Cost of Tender Document, EMD and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.
9. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
10. Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
11. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
12. All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

DIPK-7415-26
DT: 05/11/2026

(Er. Mohammad Waseem)
Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Anantnag

No dream too big, no challenge too great': PM Modi lauds Asian Para Games 2026 paraticipants

IANS



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday highlighted India's remarkable progress at the Asian Para Games, saying the country's journey from 14 medals in 2010 to 114 in the 2026 edition reflected not just its rise in the medal tally but also the immense potential and talent of the country's athletes.

In a post on X following his interaction with India's Para Asian Games contingent at the Indira Gandhi Sports Complex, PM Modi highlighted the achievements of the athletes at the Aichi-Nagoya Games in Japan and said no dream was too big and no challenge too great when backed by determination. "On one hand, this is a number...a statistic of India's rise in the Asian Para Games. But, importantly, this meteoric rise suggests something else... the immense potential and talent of our athletes," PM Modi wrote.

India registered its best-ever performance at the continental event, with 97 para-athletes winning 114 medals, comprising 30 gold, 35 silver and 49 bronze. The country finished fourth in the overall medal standings.

Highlighting the contingent's achievements, PM Modi pointed out that India won 30 gold medals and also registered five world records and nine Asian records. Indian athletes also swept all three podium positions in four events.

PM Modi further highlighted two statistics from India's campaign, noting that 36 of the 61 athletes making their Asian Para Games debut returned with medals, while 34 of the 56 women athletes in the contingent emerged as medal winners. "Of the 61 athletes making their Asian Para Games debut, 36 came back home with medals. There are 34 medal winners among 56 women athletes!" PM Modi wrote.

The prime minister said the performances demonstrated that determination could help athletes overcome challenges and achieve their dreams. "Our athletes have shown that no dream is too big and no challenge too great when there is determination," he added.

PM Modi also spoke about the changing perception of society towards youngsters aspiring to pursue sports, saying athletes with talent would now receive support and encouragement in the country.

"Those days are long over when society frowned upon youngsters who wanted to pursue sports. Now, if you have the talent, India will support you and cheer for you. Come, play and shine!" PM Modi wrote.

RANJI TROPHY

Tripura stun Saurashtra; Mumbai get fourth win, Hyderabad edge Chhattisgarh

IANS



NEW DELHI: Tripura pulled off one of the biggest upsets in the 2026/27 Ranji Trophy by defeating former champions Saurashtra by 133 runs on the final day of their Elite Group B clash. Set 342 to win, Saurashtra were undone once again by off-spinner Sandip Sarkar.

He followed his first-innings figures of 4-48 with 4-81, and finished with eight wickets in the match. Arpit Vasavada made 89, the only half-century of the second innings for Saurashtra, and was the last man to be dismissed after he was run out by Manisankar Murasingh to seal a famous win for Tripura in Agartala. Sridam Paul was named Player of the Match for scores of 86 and 50.

At the Brabourne Stadium, 42-time champions Mumbai beat Railways by 106 runs to get their fourth straight outright win of the season. Mumbai had to wait until the final session to clinch the victory.

Railways were 250/5 at the last drinks break and seemed set to escape with a draw. Eshaan Goyal and Zubair Ali had rebuilt the innings from 83/5 in the 31st over with a 167-run sixth-wicket stand.

But on the very first ball after drinks, Goyal attempted a paddle sweep off Musheer Khan, and Musheer's brother Sarfaraz, anticipating the shot from first slip, moved swiftly towards leg slip to take the catch.

A couple of overs later, Musheer had Ali caught at long-off. Raj Choudhary and Himanshu Sangwan dug in for a while in an attempt to take Railways to a draw. But Tanush Kotian removed Choudhary, and Musheer came back to dismiss Sangwan and wrap up the win for Mumbai, as Railways lost their last five wickets for 15 runs.

Elsewhere, Hyderabad scraped home by one wicket against Chhattisgarh in a nail-biting chase of 259 at the Gymkhana Ground. At 220/9, Hyderabad looked beaten, but a 39-run last-wicket stand off 104 balls turned the game, and Rakshann Readdi finished it with a six over long-off. The win also took Hyderabad to the top of the Group B table with 20 points.

At the Eden Gardens, Maharashtra thrashed Bengal by 10 wickets in an Elite Group C clash. Bad light had cut into play on three days, but Maharashtra still had time to secure a bonus point. Pradeep Dhade and Hitesh Walunj took four wickets each on day for as Bengal were bowled out for 186 in their second innings, leaving Maharashtra a target of 112 to chase.

Openers Sachin Dhas and Prithvi Shaw knocked it off in just 19.4 overs. While Dhas was unbeaten on 61 off 68 balls with 10 fours, and reached his fifty in 43 deliveries, Shaw made an unbeaten 53 off 50 balls, laced with three fours and four sixes, and got his half-century in 47 balls.

It was Maharashtra's biggest win of the season and their second outright victory. The seven points took them to 19, past previous leaders Bengal, who suffered their first defeat of the season.

Jansen, Minhas, Hope nominated for ICC Men's Player of the Month for October

IANS



DUBAI: South Africa's seam-bowling all-rounder Marco Jansen, Pakistan's young all-rounder Arafat Minhas and West Indies captain Shai Hope have been shortlisted for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for October 2026.

Jansen was the driving force behind South Africa's 2-1 comeback Test series win over Australia, where he finished with 198 runs and 13 wickets. His biggest impact, though, came in the second Test in Gqeberha. Jansen made 85 and returned figures of 5-33 and 1-34 as South Africa won by an innings and 31 runs to level the series.

He then struck another fifty and took three wickets in the decider at Cape Town. Jansen's stupendous performances took him to the top of both the bowlers and all-rounders lists in the ICC Test rankings.

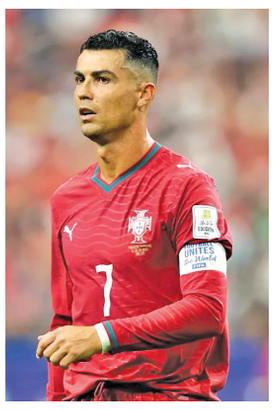
He is also the first South African to lead the Test bowling charts since Kagiso Rabada did so in 2024 and the first from his country to top the all-rounders table since Vernon Philander achieved it in August 2014.

On the other hand, Arafat, 21, was named Player of the Series as Pakistan won the home ODI tri-series, also featuring Sri Lanka and England. The left-arm spin bowling all-rounder made 149 runs from five matches at an average of 29.80 and a strike rate of 119.20. He also picked up nine wickets at 23.22, while conceding just 5.13 runs an over.

He was named Player of the Match in the clash against England for scoring 59 before taking 6-40, the second-best ODI figures by a Pakistan bowler at home. In the final game against Sri Lanka in Lahore, his 61 off 31 balls helped Pakistan chase down 326 to win the tri-series.

Ronaldo announces retirement from international football

IANS



NEW DELHI: Cristiano Ronaldo has announced his retirement from international football, bringing the curtain down on an illustrious 23-year career with Portugal, during which he became the highest goalscorer and most-capped player in men's international football.

The 41-year-old forward confirmed his decision through an emotional video posted on social media, reflecting on his journey since making his senior debut for Portugal in August 2003.

Ronaldo finished his international career with 146 goals in 234 appearances, setting records that have made him one of the greatest players in the history of the game.

In his farewell message, Ronaldo described representing Portugal as the greatest privilege of his career, saying the time had come to hand over the iconic number seven jersey to the next generation.

"To the Portuguese, the day has come to return the number 7 jersey of the national team to all of us. I never felt like it was exclusively mine, but for 23 years I had the privilege and responsibility to wear it, to defend it and to take it with me to the stadiums all over the world. Today the time has come to give it to the future," he said in a video posted on X.

Reflecting on his journey, Ronaldo admitted that his career had been filled with unforgettable victories as well as difficult moments, but insisted that his commitment to the national team never wavered.

"There were perfect afternoons and nights; there were victories that I will never forget, and there were defeats that I still have a hard time remembering today. I also failed, I also suffered, there were also times when I was not able to give the Portuguese what they wanted so much. But I never gave up. And above all, I never stopped feeling proud to represent Portugal," he said.

He also thanked his teammates, coaches, support staff and family for standing by him throughout his international journey.

"To all the coaches, directors, doctors, physiotherapists, dressers, employees, and so many people who have worked with me over the years, thank you. Many of you never appeared in the photos, but without you, none of these photos would have been possible. To my family, thank you for sharing this dream with me," he said.

"Thank you for understanding the absences, sacrifices and moments when the national team had to occupy a space that also belonged to you. If I got so far, it was because we were always at hand," he added.

Ronaldo's departure marks the end of an era for Portugal, with the responsibility of carrying forward the national team's legacy now passing to a new generation.

Bengaluru's winning momentum meets FC Goa's home ambition

IANS



MARGAO: FC Goa will renew their explosive rivalry with Bengaluru FC when they lock horns in a key clash of Gameweek 5 of the Indian Super League (ISL) at the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Fatorda on Friday. The hosts will be eager to assert authority on home soil after securing a vital momentum shift, while Bengaluru will look to gain ground in their chase to the summit.

Bengaluru head into the contest third in the standings with seven points from three matches. After opening their campaign with a 3-2 comeback win over Sporting Club Delhi and a 2-0 victory against Chennaiyin FC, the Blues were held to a 1-1 draw by NorthEast United FC. Vinith Venkatesh came off the bench to score a 93rd-minute equaliser, converting Sunil Chhetri's pass to rescue a point in Guwahati.

FC Goa, meanwhile, are sixth with five points from three matches. The Gaurs began with a 1-1 draw against Chennaiyin FC and followed it with a stoppage-time equaliser to draw 1-1 against Sporting Club Delhi. They registered their first win of the campaign only recently, beating Inter Kashi 2-1 in Pune. Francisco 'Franchu' Feuillassier and Christian 'Chiki' Borrego were on target as Goa came from behind to secure all three points.

History favours the visitors at this venue. The Blues walked away with a 2-0 victory the last time these two sides met at Fatorda in April 2026. Bengaluru talisman Sunil Chhetri and defender Namgyal Bhutia were the goal-scorers that night, handing the Gaurs a home defeat.

Goa will be without coach Gouramangi Singh on the touchline after his late sending-off in the game against Kashi. On the player front, the Gaurs will be without Aakash Sangwan, Harsh Patre, and Ronney Kharbudon.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru will miss the services of Shivaldo Singh due to injury. The Blues are, however, hopeful of receiving a boost in attack as forward Mihailo PeroviC -- who was an unused substitute in Guwahati -- is expected to return to matchday action, subject to passing a late fitness assessment.

Goa Assistant coach Shameel Chembakath stressed the importance of making home advantage count, while identifying the final third and defensive organisation as areas for improvement.

Premier League

Arsenal look to extend winning run; Emery set for milestone in Matchweek 10

IANS



NEW DELHI: Arsenal will look to extend their impressive home record when they host promoted Hull City, while Aston Villa manager Unai Emery is set to reach a significant milestone as the 2026/27 Premier League season enters Matchweek 10.

Emery will take charge of his 200th Premier League game when Aston Villa travel to face Manchester United, who are enduring a difficult run of form with seven consecutive league matches without a win. The Spaniard will become the fifth manager from his country to reach the milestone after Rafael Benitez, Roberto Martinez, Pep Guardiola and Mikel Arteta as compiled by Jio Star.

Arsenal, meanwhile, head into their fixture against Hull with the league's strongest defensive record. The Gunners have conceded just five goals, kept six clean sheets and faced only 24 shots on target this season.

Mikel Arteta's side have won their last seven home league matches and are unbeaten in their last 17 home games against promoted teams. Hull, who will be playing their 200th Premier League match, have gone seven games without a victory.

Bournemouth forward Evanilson will also have an opportunity to create history when his side take on Ipswich Town. The Brazilian has scored in each of his last four Premier League appearances and could become the first Bournemouth player to find the net in five consecutive matches in the competition. He has registered eight goal involvements, including four goals and four assists, in nine league appearances this season.

Elsewhere, Manchester United will aim to end their seven-game winless streak when they welcome Aston Villa. United have managed just one victory in nine league matches this season and are one of only two teams yet to keep a clean sheet, alongside Ipswich Town. However, they have lost only two of their 31 Premier League home meetings against Villa.

Manchester City will look to bounce back from consecutive league defeats when they visit Nottingham Forest. Forest have struggled in front of goal despite registering the second-highest number of shots in the league, having scored just six goals. They are also winless in their last six home league matches.

Liverpool will travel to face Crystal Palace, who ended a 10-game winless home run against the Reds with a 2-1 victory at Selhurst Park last season. Liverpool, however, have won their last three away league matches.

Tottenham Hotspur will look to extend their winning run to four matches when they visit Leeds United. Leeds have taken just five points from their last 13 league meetings against Spurs but are unbeaten in their last eight home league games.

In other fixtures, Everton hosts Coventry City, Fulham takes on Newcastle United, and Brighton and Hove Albion face Brentford, while Sunderland welcomes Chelsea.

Brighton have scored a league-high 24 goals this season, while Brentford remain the only team to have scored in every Premier League match. Sunderland, meanwhile, will look to end their three-game run without a home goal when they face Chelsea.

