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17th Year Of Publication

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Manoj Sinha
@manojsinha_



Visited Base Hospital, Srinagar, to enquire about the health of CRPF Head Constable Sonbir Singh, who sustained serious injuries in the heinous terror attack in Kulgam and is currently undergoing treatment. Praying for his swift and complete recovery.

Search Ops On For Attackers

3 CRPF Personnel Injured In Kulgam Terror Strike



UMAISAR GULL

KULGAM: Alertness, quick response and swift retaliation by the security forces thwarted a major terror attack at Nowpora Akhran, Kulgam in South Kashmir on Wednesday. However, three Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel sustained injuries in the incident.

A top police officer while sharing the details of the terror attack, said, "Police and Security Forces deployment was made in accordance with intelligence inputs regarding suspected movement of terrorists."

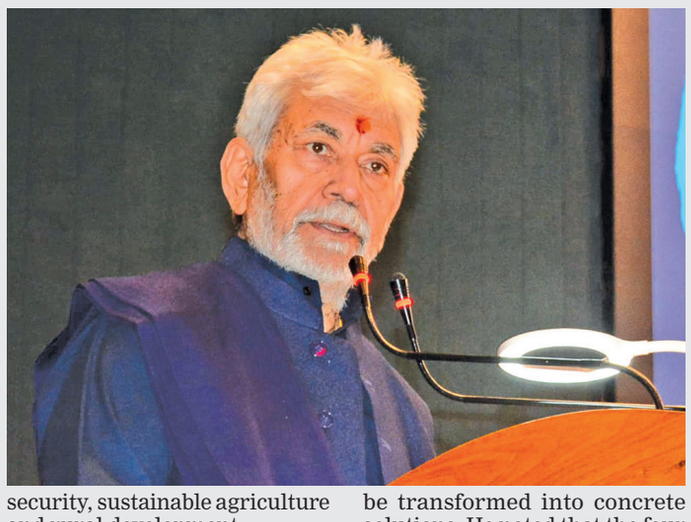
He said, "Two motorcycle borne terrorists approached the area from a cluster of trees located around 50 metres away from the spot. The area has dense vegetation. One of the terrorists opened fire, while the other remained positioned on the road, providing cover. However, the alertness, preparedness and swift retaliation by security forces on the spot effectively frustrated the plans of terrorists."

The officer said, "Prompt and effective response of security forces prevented the attackers from inflicting casualties and damage on the scale they had intended. Consequently, the terrorists were forced to retreat from the spot without • P-06

Become Job Creators, Not Job Seekers: LG Sinha To Agri-Students

Urges SKUAST-K Students To Turn Innovative Ideas Into Ventures

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday urged students of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) to venture into entrepreneurship, saying their initiatives should not only secure their own livelihoods but also create employment opportunities for other youth across Jammu and Kashmir.

"We must make data and technology partners of the farmer. Our goal should be to establish at least 100 student-led enterprises and startups from the SKUAST-Kashmir campus within the coming year," Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said while inaugurating 4 key infrastructure facilities at SKUAST-Kashmir and emphasised the crucial role of agricultural universities in delivering practical solutions to challenges related to food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor said that agricultural universities are unique institutions where concerns and aspirations linked to a nation's food security can be transformed into concrete solutions. He noted that the four facilities inaugurated today collectively reflect a comprehensive vision of smart agriculture and rural advancement.

The Lieutenant Governor inaugurated a solar-powered Internet of Things (IoT)-based irrigation and fertigation system, designed to provide crops with water and nutrients in the right quantity and at the right time. He observed that the technology has significant potential to benefit small and marginal farmers by reducing labour-intensive irrigation practices and dependence on conventional energy sources.

The Lieutenant Governor also inaugurated the Prototype Design and Development Centre, which will help translate innovative concepts into practical agricultural tools and technologies. He expressed confidence that the facility would promote mechanisation and bridge the gap between laboratory research and field-level application.

Highlighting the importance of entrepreneurship, the Lieutenant Governor described the newly established Directorate of Innovation and Entrepreneurship as a • P-06

Fresh Snowfall Blankets Kashmir's Higher Reaches



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Higher reaches of Kashmir, including Gulmarg's Kongdoori, Tulail Valley in Gurez and the Zojila area, received fresh snowfall overnight, while several parts of the Valley, including Srinagar, experienced light rainfall as weather conditions changed ahead of the forecast of the season's first major snow spell.

The snowfall was recorded in Sadna Top, Ferkin Top, Machil, Sonamarg, Zojila, Minimarg and Tulail Valley in Bandipora district's Gurez area, they said.

The Meteorological Department had earlier issued a weather forecast, following which district administrations in snowbound areas issued advisories for the public.

In view of the forecast, travel advisories and precautionary restrictions have been issued for vulnerable areas, particularly high-altitude roads and tourist destinations that could be affected by heavy snowfall.

People have been advised to avoid • P-06

LG Inaugurates Veshow Festival In Kulgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Wednesday inaugurated the Veshow Festival in Kulgam. Addressing a gathering, the Lieutenant Governor said the festival has • P-06



Forces Given 'Free Hand' To Crack Down On Terrorists: LG

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Asserting that security forces have been given a free hand to crackdown on terrorists and their supporters, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that perpetrators of Kulgam terror attack that left three Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel injured will be hunted down and brought to justice.

According to the details available, soon after the Kulgam terror attack LG Sinha reviewed • P-06

Sakina Ittoo Bats For Age Relaxation In J&K Bank Recruitment

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: Health and Medical Education Minister Sakina Masoodi has come out in support of the demand for relaxation in the upper age limit for recruitment in J&K Bank, saying aspirants should not be penalised for delays beyond their control.

In a post on X, formerly Twitter, the minister said thousands of J&K Bank aspirants had lost valuable years waiting for recruitment opportunities and deserved a fair chance to compete.

"Dreams shouldn't have an expiry date! Thousands of J&K Bank aspirants have lost precious years waiting for recruitment opportunities. They must not be punished for delays beyond their control," she wrote.

The minister appealed to the J&K Bank authorities to grant age relaxation up to 40 years for recruitment aspirants. • P-06

Security Tightened Across J&K After Kulgam Attack

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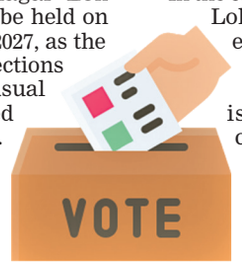
SRINAGAR: Security has been heightened across Jammu and Kashmir following a terrorist attack on a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) checkpoint in south Kashmir's Kulgam district on Wednesday, in which three personnel were injured.

The incident took place at around 2.15 pm when motorcycle-borne assailants allegedly opened fire at a security checkpoint, firing nearly 30 rounds within 15 seconds before fleeing the scene. The Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) is suspected to be behind the attack.

The injured CRPF personnel sustained • P-06

Law Mandates Srinagar By-Election Within 6 Months

AGENCIES



SRINAGAR: The by-election to the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat must be held on or before May 2, 2027, as the law governing elections mandates that casual vacancies be filled within six months.

Under Section 151A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a casual vacancy must be filled within six months from the date on which it occurs.

"Notwithstanding anything contained in Sections 147, 149, 150 and 151, a bye-election for filling any vacancy referred to in any of the said sections shall be held within a period of six months from the date of the occurrence of the vacancy," the Act states.

The law, however, provides that a bye-election is not required to be held if the remainder of the term of the vacant seat is less than one year.

In the case of the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat, this exception does not apply. The current Lok Sabha is scheduled to complete its term on June 23, 2029. As of the date of the vacancy, more than two years and seven months of the House's term remain.

The law also provides another exception under which the six-month deadline may be relaxed if the Election Commission, after consulting the Central Government, certifies that it is difficult to conduct the bye-election within the stipulated period.

The Srinagar Lok Sabha seat fell vacant on November 3, 2026, following the resignation of Aga • P-06

GDA Imposes Complete Ban On Polythene Ban In Gulmarg

AGENCIES



GULMARG: The Gulmarg Development Authority (GDA) on Wednesday announced the enforcement of a complete ban on polythene use in the tourist resort of Gulmarg, warning that violators would face legal action.

GDA Chief Executive Officer Ilyas Ahmad, while speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event, said the authorities had launched a drive to enforce the ban and reduce plastic pollution in the tourist destination.

He said more than 10,000 alternative bags had been procured for distribution among local traders to help them shift away from polythene.

"We have procured over 10,000 alternative bags for traders. Anyone found violating the ban will face strict legal action," Ahmad said.

The CEO urged shopkeepers, traders, tourists, drivers and people • P-06

'Tired Of Long Hours'

Kashmir 'Wazas' Set 10 PM Deadline For Wedding Feasts

AGENCIES



SRINAGAR: Tired of endless wait for the groom's arrival, Kashmir's traditional chefs, known as 'waza', have set a 10 pm deadline on serving wazwan at weddings.

At a conference at a marriage hall in Rajouri Kadal area of the city, wazas discussed the "inhuman conditions" they are made to work under while serving the multi-dish 'wazwan' to guests at weddings and other functions.

The chefs unanimously decided they will not serve food after 10 pm.

Kashmir Waza Association president Ghulam Nabi Waza said his community has suffered in silence for too long.

"It takes several hours to prepare the dishes, and usually we work late into the night. Then we are expected to start serving lunch from around 1 pm till 6 pm, which is followed by dinner, which starts well into the night," Waza said.

And if the chefs are cooking at the bride's home, they must wait for the groom and his entourage to arrive, which usually happens past midnight, he complained.

"There have been incidents where the maulvi left without solemnising the nikah because the groom did not turn up till 1 am. We are also humans. So we now set the 10 pm deadline," Waza said.

He said going late to wedding feasts has become fashionable and appealed to the people to get rid of this bad habit.

"There are so many people attached with the wazwan, and they too have the right to dignified working hours," he added.

Several chefs complained of maltreatment by their clients.

"For example, we are not provided a proper • P-06



Courtesy- Office of District Magistrate, Srinagar
DIPK-7603/26 Date: 11-11-2026

Seven arrested in Shopian apple theft

Police recover 83 stolen boxes, seize three vehicles



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: Shopian Police have arrested seven persons and recovered 83 stolen boxes of apples after intercepting three Tata Mobile vehicles allegedly carrying the stolen produce in Heerpora area of the south Kashmir district.

The theft was reported from an orchard and storage shed belonging to Mohammad Yousuf Wagay, a resident of Amshipora, police said.

Following the complaint, a police team from Police Station Heerpora launched an operation to trace the stolen property. Acting on the information and with assistance from local residents, the team intercepted three Tata Mobile vehicles allegedly being used to transport the stolen apple boxes.

All seven accused were apprehended while allegedly fleeing with the stolen produce. Police recovered 83 apple boxes and seized all three vehicles suspected to have been used in the commission of the theft.

The arrests and recovery have brought the stolen produce back into police custody, while further investigation into the case is underway. [KNT]

Arrangements for JKSSB exams finalised in Budgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK



BUDGAM: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Budgam, Mehrajud-Din Shah, Wednesday chaired a meeting to review and finalise arrangements for the smooth, fair and transparent conduct of the OMR-based examination for the posts of Accounts Assistant (Finance Department), scheduled to be conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) on November 15.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Secretary, JKSSB, ASP Budgam and all conecrend officers and officials.

During the meeting, a comprehensive review of the arrangements was undertaken, including the deployment of Centre Superintendents, Magistrates, Invigilators and security personnel at all designated examination centres.

The deployment of videographers was also finalised to ensure proper documentation and monitoring of the examination proceedings. It was further informed that CCTV cameras have been installed at the examination centres to facilitate live monitoring and enhance transparency.

The ADC also reviewed arrangements for the secure transportation and handling of both sensitive and non-sensitive examination material, besides security arrangements, traffic management, seating capacity and availability of essential facilities at all examination centres.

Emphasising the need for effective inter-departmental coordination, the ADC directed all concerned officers to ensure that their respective arrangements are completed well in advance and responsibilities are discharged with utmost diligence.

He stressed strict adherence to the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), examination guidelines and security protocols at every stage of the process.

The ADC further directed that all personnel deployed for examination duties be properly briefed and sensitised about their roles, responsibilities and the prescribed procedures to ensure efficient and coordinated execution of duties.

Heads of Institutions and Centre Superintendents were directed to ensure adequate seating arrangements, drinking water, sanitation, cleanliness and other essential facilities for candidates at all examination centres.

The ADC underscored that foolproof security arrangements, continuous monitoring and close coordination among all stakeholder departments are imperative for ensuring the smooth, orderly and transparent conduct of the examination across all centres.

All concerned departments were directed to remain fully prepared for the successful conduct of the examination across the district.

Warehouse Market Fire

LG orders prove into possible lapses

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has constituted a high-level inquiry committee to investigate the devastating fire at Warehouse, Nehru Market in Jammu on November 8, directing it to examine possible lapses or negligence and fix responsibility within 15 days.

According to an announcement by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the committee comprises Inspector General of Police, Jammu, Tejinder Singh, and Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Vikas Kundal.

The committee has been tasked with ascertaining the cause and circumstances of the fire, probing any lapses or negligence connected with the incident and identifying those responsible, if any. It has been directed to submit its findings within 15 days.

The inquiry follows the major fire incident at the Warehouse-Ne hru Market commercial area, which caused substantial losses to traders and triggered concerns over the emergency response and firefighting arrangements.

The probe is expected to examine the circumstances surrounding the incident and establish whether any negligence or shortcomings contributed to the damage. [KNT]

DLSA Budgam celebrates National Education Day



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam, celebrated National Education Day at Al Asma Educational Institute, with the objective of creating awareness among students about the importance of education, its role in shaping responsible citizens and its significance in promoting an informed and empowered society.

On the occasion, Advocate Feroz Ahmad Khan, Resource Person from District Legal Services Authority, Budgam, interacted with the students and highlighted the importance of education as a fundamental tool for individual development, social progress and nation-building.

He also emphasised the role of education in creating awareness about constitutional values, fundamental rights and duties, equality and access to justice.

The programme witnessed active participation from the students and staff of Al Asma Educational Institute, officials and staff members of DLSA Budgam and Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of DLSA Budgam.

The programme aimed at sensitising students about the importance of education, awareness of their rights and responsibilities and the role of educational institutions in building an inclusive and just society.

The event concluded with a renewed commitment to promote educational awareness and legal literacy among students and the general public through such awareness programmes.

SDM Karnah inspects Farmer ID Generation Camps

GMK NEWS NETWORK



KUPWARA: Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Karnah, Firdous Ahmad Qadri accompanied by Tehsildar Karnah Wednesday inspected the Farmer ID Generation Camps being organised at various locations across the Karnah Sub-Division to review the progress of the ongoing registration process and assess the arrangements being made for facilitating farmers.

During the inspection, the SDM interacted with the officials and field functionaries deployed at the camps and took stock of the progress achieved in generating Farmer IDs. He emphasised the importance of ensuring that every eligible farmer is covered under the registration exercise so that they can avail the benefits of various government schemes and agriculture-related services.

The SDM directed the concerned Revenue and Agriculture Department officials to maintain close coordination and ensure that the registration process is carried out smoothly, efficiently and without causing inconvenience to the farming community. He stressed the need for special attention towards residents of remote and far-flung areas, ensuring that no eligible farmer is left out due to geographical constraints or connectivity-related issues.

Special arrangements are also being coordinated for residents of remote villages, including Jabdi, where the absence of mobile network connectivity poses challenges to online registration. Accordingly, a dedicated camp has been facilitated at Toli with the support and cooperation of the Army authorities stationed there. Residents of Jabdi have been informed to reach the designated location to complete their Farmer ID registration.

The SDM appreciated the coordinated efforts of the Revenue, Agriculture and other concerned departments, along with the support extended by the Army authorities, in facilitating the initiative in the geographically challenging areas of Karnah.

He reiterated that the administration remains committed to ensuring saturation of eligible beneficiaries under the Farmer ID initiative and directed the concerned teams to complete the exercise in a time-bound manner with due diligence and accuracy.

DDC Pulwama reviews progress of Mission YUVA

Banks to clear all pending cases within specific timelines

GMK NEWS NETWORK



PULWAMA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, Wednesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting on the implementation and progress of Mission YUVA at Circuit House, Pulwama.

The meeting was convened to review the overall progress of the scheme, assess the status of applications at different stages and address issues affecting timely processing, sanctioning and disbursement of financial assistance to aspiring entrepreneurs.

During the meeting, a detailed review was undertaken of various aspects of Mission YUVA, including district-wise applications received, application verification, DLIC approvals, bank-wise pendency, age-wise analysis of cases pending with banks, reasons for rejection of applications by banks, and the status of cases reprocessed after rejection. The meeting also examined cases pending with banks for the second time, sanctioned cases awaiting disbursement, and output tracking, including progress reports, completion reports and their verification by the concerned authorities.

Taking note of the pendency of cases at various bank branches, the DDC directed the Lead District Manager and concerned bank authorities to undertake regular monitoring and ensure expeditious disposal of all pending cases. He observed that unnecessary delays and prolonged pendency, particularly cases remaining unresolved beyond two to three months, would not be acceptable.

The DDC stressed that the scheme must be implemented in mission mode, with focused efforts to clear all pending cases and achieve substantial progress within the current month. He directed all concerned officers and bank representatives to ensure that every eligible case is processed, with particular emphasis on timely disbursement and completion of entrepreneurial units.

SWD Srinagar commences Career Counselling Programmes across Govt Schools

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Social Welfare Department (SWD), Srinagar, through the SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women under Mission Shakti, started series of Career Counselling Programmes in Government High Schools and the first session was commenced today at Government Girls High School, Malla Bagh, Srinagar, with the objective of guiding and empowering students in making informed decisions about their future careers.

The Resource Person from the Office of the Chief Education Officer (CEO), Srinagar, who provided valuable guidance to the students regarding various career opportunities, educational pathways, skill development initiatives and professional avenues.

The students were sensitised about the importance of career planning, higher education, vocational training and skill enhancement. The Resource Person also highlighted the need for identifying individual interests and strengths while choosing suitable career paths and encouraged the students to pursue their academic and professional aspirations with dedication and confidence.

The programme aimed to create awareness among girl students about the diverse opportunities available to them and motivate them towards becoming confident, independent and self-reliant individuals. The programme was interactive and students came up with their doubts and questions on-spot to seek guidance from the resource person.

DC G'bal presides over Public Outreach Programme at Sherpathri

GMK NEWS NETWORK



GANDERBAL: The District Administration Ganderbal Wednesday convened a Public Outreach Programme at Block Headquarters Sherpathri in order to listen to the grievances of the general public.

The camp was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shreya Singhal, accompanied by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Ganderbal, Harshal Rajesh Mahajan, Additional District Development Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Chief Planning Officer, Assistant Commissioner Development, Divisional Forest Officer Sindh Forest Division, and other district and sectoral officers.

The camp witnessed overwhelming participation of ex-PRI members, and locals of Block Sherpathri, who apprised the administration of various long-pending demands and issues pertaining to their respective areas, seeking intervention for timely redressal.

On the occasion, the locals and PRI members raised various demands and issues like upgradation of water and power infrastructure, development of roads, electricity supply, better healthcare and other issues of public importance. The locals also demanded strict measures to curb the menace of drug abuse.

The Deputy Commissioner gave a patient hearing to the grievances and demands raised by the participants and appreciated their active participation in highlighting issues concerning their communities. She assured that all genuine grievances would be addressed in a time-bound manner and directed the concerned officers to take prompt and necessary action to resolve the issues before the next Block Diwas.

National Education Day celebrated with enthusiasm at GDC Sopore

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: The Sub-Divisional Administration Sopore Wednesday celebrated National Education Day 2026 with great enthusiasm at Government Degree College (Boys), Sopore, commemorating the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, India's first Education Minister.

The programme was organised under the theme "The Power of Youth in Co-Creating Education," highlighting the importance of youth participation, educational innovation, inclusive learning, skill development and leadership in shaping the future of education.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sopore, S.A. Raina, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering, he emphasised the importance of quality education in shaping the future of society and called upon students to actively participate in transforming the education system through innovation, creativity and leadership. He encouraged the young generation to make the best use of educational opportunities, develop new skills and contribute meaningfully towards nation-building.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing various schools and colleges, besides principals, teachers, faculty members, research scholars and other educational stakeholders.

Addressing the gathering, Principal Government Degree College (Boys), Sopore, Dr. Shahid Muzaffar Ahmad, delivered an insightful address, highlighting the role of education in shaping character, nurturing responsible citizens and preparing the younger generation to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

JKEDI Pulwama launches two batches of Entrepreneurship, Skill Dev Programme



GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Pulwama, launched two batches of the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme at ITI Pulwama.

The programme was inaugurated in the presence of Raiyees Manzoor, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Pulwama; Showkat Anwar Rather, Superintendent, ITI Pulwama; Waseem Ahad, Project Manager, JKEDI; Muzaffar, Senior Faculty, ITI Pulwama; and Yasir Ahmad, Assistant Faculty, JKEDI.

Officials outlined the objectives of the RAMP scheme and its role in promoting entrepreneurship at the grassroots level in Jammu and Kashmir. They said that the programme aims to equip participants with practical skills in business development, financial planning, and market awareness.

SWD Srinagar organizes Community Awareness Programmes on Scholarships

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Social Welfare Department (SWD), Srinagar, through SANKALP–Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW), organized Community Awareness Programmes at Tailbal, Srinagar to sensitize and inform the public, particularly women and girls, about various welfare initiatives and government schemes aimed at promoting social and economic empowerment.

During the programme, participants were sensitized about various scholarship schemes, sponsorship support, skill development courses and social security schemes available for eligible beneficiaries. Detailed information was shared regarding the eligibility criteria, application procedures, benefits and the process of accessing these schemes. The initiative aimed at ensuring that deserving beneficiaries are aware of the available opportunities and are able to avail themselves of the benefits extended by the Government.

In another initiative, the Department organized awareness programme in collaboration with Mission POSHAN, focusing on the welfare and empowerment of women, adolescent girls and other community members in Zone Tailbal. The programme provided a platform to disseminate information on various women-centric welfare initiatives, Scholarships and social protection measures, while encouraging community participation and awareness.

The programmes witnessed active participation from community members, particularly women, who were encouraged to seek information about available schemes and make informed use of the opportunities provided by the Government.

CM chairs review meeting of Udhampur District, e-inaugurates several projects

Directs fortnightly review of SASCI works, faster execution of projects

GMK NEWS NETWORK



UDHAMPUR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Wednesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting in Udhampur to assess the district's developmental scenario, progress of ongoing projects and delivery of essential public services, directing officials to accelerate project execution and ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach people in a timely manner.

During the visit, the Chief Minister e-inaugurated four developmental projects of the Rural Development Department (RDD), completed at a cumulative cost of 5.06 crore, strengthening grassroots development infrastructure in the district.

The inaugurated projects include the District Development Council (DDC) Building at Udhampur, constructed at a cost of ₹235.76 lakh; Block Development Council (BDC) Building at Parlidhar, costing ₹80.17 lakh; BDC Building at Jaganoo, completed at a cost of ₹84.41 lakh; and BDC Building at Sewna, constructed at a cost of ₹106.32 lakh.

The projects have been executed under the CAPEX budget and cater to Udhampur East, Ramnagar and Chenani constituencies.

During the review meeting, the Chief Minister directed all departments to accelerate the execution of ongoing developmental works, with particular emphasis on improving physical progress and ensuring optimal financial utilisation. He stressed that developmental projects must move forward in a coordinated and time-bound manner, with accountability at every level.

Calling for closer monitoring of projects being executed under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI), the Chief Minister directed that their progress be reviewed fortnightly to identify bottlenecks, address implementation-related issues and ensure timely completion. He emphasised the need to maximise utilisation of allocated funds and ensure that the district derives full benefit from the available financial assistance.

The Chief Minister also stressed the timely release of funds under various development and relief schemes, particularly the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), observing that delays in fund disbursement should not impede public works or deprive beneficiaries of timely assistance.

On issues concerning project implementation, Omar Abdullah directed district authorities to expedite pending forest clearances in accordance with prescribed rules and procedures, while ensuring close coordination with the concerned departments to avoid unnecessary delays in developmental works.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Ananth Dwivedi gave a detailed presentation on the district's overall developmental profile, sector-wise achievements, ongoing projects, financial and physical progress, and preparedness for the winter season.

Reviewing major infrastructure initiatives, the meeting was apprised of the progress of the Government Medical College (GMC), Udhampur, at Baili, which has achieved 88 per cent overall physical progress. Updates were also shared on national highway projects along NH-244, NH-44 and NH-1A, besides the Mantalai tourism development project being undertaken under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, for which the Request for Proposal (RFP) is scheduled to close in November 2026.

Winter preparedness also figured during the meeting. The Deputy Commissioner briefed the meeting on the comprehensive road clearance mechanism covering 124 roads spanning approximately 775 kilometres, supported by the deployment of requisite machinery. The arrangements also include buffer stocks of power poles and transformers, availability of water tankers and medical supplies, and advance stocking of ration in snow-bound areas to ensure uninterrupted essential services during winter.

The meeting also reviewed progress under the District and UT CAPEX budgets, tribal affairs initiatives, PMGSY road connectivity, MGNREGA employment generation and completion of houses under PMAY-G.

In the water and power sectors, discussions covered implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission, urban water supply projects under AMRUT 2.0, smart metering and infrastructure augmentation under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). The Chief Minister emphasised the importance of reliable public utilities, particularly during the winter months.

The health and social welfare sectors were also reviewed, with the presentation covering PMJAY-SEHAT coverage, efforts towards TB elimination, institutional deliveries, social security pension coverage and initiatives under Mission Shakti.

Saffron Mission to Be Revived Under JK-SIPP: Javid Dar

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government is working on a plan to revive the saffron development mission under the Jammu and Kashmir Saffron and Integrated Production Programme (JK-SIPP), Agriculture Minister Javid Ahmad Dar said on Wednesday, admitting that the earlier mission had not been implemented as envisaged.

Dar said the government was identifying areas requiring intervention and consulting agricultural scientists and experts to address the challenges faced by saffron growers and improve cultivation.

"It is true that the mission was not carried out as it should have been. There are several problems, and I would not like to go into the details," the minister said.

He identified limited landholdings among farmers and difficulties in managing agricultural activities as some of the challenges affecting the implementation of the earlier programme.

The minister said consultations were under way with senior scientists from the Agriculture Department and the concerned university to identify measures for reviving the sector. The government also planned to discuss the matter with the concerned MLA before formulating a comprehensive policy to address the problems faced by saffron growers.

"We are trying to rejuvenate it under JK-SIPP. We have identified some areas under the programme and are making efforts to improve the situation," he said.

Dar said the proposed revival efforts would draw on scientific inputs and modern technology to improve agricultural productivity.

On agricultural research and innovation, he said the government was providing financial support to the Agriculture Department and the university to strengthen research and promote modern technologies among farmers.

He added that special camps were being organised to familiarise farmers with new agricultural innovations and ensure that institutional research translated into practical benefits at the grassroots level.

Highlighting the university's achievements, Dar said its patents had received international recognition and its research performance and rankings had improved considerably over the past four to five years.

On farm mechanisation, the minister said the government had received a considerable number of applications from farmers and was working to meet the demand through available schemes. He added that a five-year scheme was being implemented to achieve the targets in the sector.

National Education Conclave 2026 held at GCoE Srinagar

Experts, policymakers, academicians deliberate on NEP-2020







GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Innovation and Action Research Cell of the Government College of Education (IASE), Cluster University Srinagar, organized the National Education Conclave-2026 Wednesday.

Conceived as a premier platform for policy dialogue, instructional reflection, and actionable recommendations, the conclave aimed to bridge the visionary framework of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 with the implementation realities and strategic priorities of Jammu & Kashmir.

The event brought together eminent policymakers, educational administrators, and scholars from across the country to deliberate on two pivotal thematic tracks: "How far have the structural and curricular reforms envisaged under NEP 2020 translated into institutional practice?" in Higher Education, and "Competency-Based Education, Holistic Progress Card and Learner Development" in School Education.

The inaugural session commenced with the solemn rendering of the National Song and the National Anthem, and was attended by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, J&K Higher Education Council; Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Mobin, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar; Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz, Principal of the host college, Nodal Principal, Kashmir Division Colleges; Prof. (Dr.) Syed Wilayat Hussain Rizvi, Registrar, Cluster University Srinagar; Prof. (Dr.) Khurshid Ahmad Mir, Controller of Examinations, Cluster University Srinagar; Prof. Aarti Srivastava, Professor & Head, Department of Higher & Professional Education, NIEPA; Prof. Sharad Sinha, Head, Department of Teacher Education, NCERT, New Delhi; and Prof. Amit Kauts, Dean, Faculty of Education, GNDU, Amritsar.

The Chief Guest, Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, Higher Education Council, J&K, delivered an inspiring keynote address reflecting deeply on the real meaning and purpose of education. He observed that true education is achieved when an individual begins to hear their own "inner drumbeat" and learns to march in tune with it. Drawing vivid examples from the lives and journeys of Mahatma Gandhi, Sachin Tendulkar, and Amitabh Bachchan, he shed light on how tuning into one's inner calling and cultivating intrinsic passions is what ultimately guarantees enduring excellence and success in life. While accentuating the philosophy behind progressive academic frameworks, Prof. Singh urged educational institutions to orient students toward real-world problems. He emphasized that students must acquaint themselves directly with societal and industry challenges, stressing that learning to work collaboratively in groups to confront and solve these challenges constitutes the true essence of 21st-century education.

GMC Srinagar Mourns Demise of Dr Mohammad Akbar Bhat



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the demise of Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Akbar Bhat of the Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, who passed away on Tuesday morning after a prolonged illness.

Administrator (AAH) Massarat Hashim and Medical Superintendent LD Hospital Dr. Muzaffar Jan joined Principal/Dean Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan and other senior faculty members in mourning the loss of the distinguished surgeon. His passing has been described as an irreparable loss to the medical fraternity and the institution.

A dedicated surgeon, committed teacher and distinguished academician, Prof. Bhat made invaluable contributions to patient care, medical education and the growth of cardiovascular surgery in the region. His professional commitment, compassion for patients and long association with GMC Srinagar will be remembered with great respect and affection.

In their condolence message, Administrator (AAH) Massarat Hashim, Medical Superintendent LD Hospital Dr. Muzaffar Jan, Principal/Dean Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan, Heads of Departments, Medical Superintendent Super Speciality Hospital Dr. Rubeena Shaheen, Medical Superintendent SMHS Hospital Dr. Andleeb Bashir, faculty members, administrative staff, students and other employees prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

They also extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prayed that Almighty Allah grants them strength and patience to bear this irreparable loss.

SMC Commissioner reviews Winter Preparedness

Directs Field Teams to remain alert and ensure Swift Response

GMK NEWS NETWORK



SRINAGAR: Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Dr. Basharat Qayoom, Wednesday reviewed the Corporation's preparedness for the prevailing weather forecast and took stock of the follow-up action on directions issued during the previous review meeting.

The meeting, held at the SMC Central Office, Karan Nagar, focused on the availability of men and machinery, snow clearance arrangements and the functioning of field and monitoring teams.

The meeting was attended by Joint Commissioner, Works, Joint Commissioner, H&S, Chief Accounts Officer, Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineers of various wings, Purchase and Procurement Officer, Chief Sanitation Officer, Stores Officer and other concerned officers.

Reviewing the arrangements across the city, the Commissioner directed all concerned officers to ensure that field teams, machinery and essential equipment remain available for immediate response to any situation arising from adverse weather conditions. He stressed the need for close coordination among the concerned wings so that issues on the ground are addressed without delay.

With regard to snow clearance, Dr. Basharat directed that both manual and mechanised arrangements be maintained across all municipal wards. Major roads and important public routes are to be cleared on priority, particularly those connecting hospitals, ration depots, shrines and government institutions. He also called for adequate manpower to undertake manual clearance in interior lanes, narrow streets, footpaths and areas inaccessible to snow clearance vehicles.

The Commissioner took stock of the SMC snow clearance fleet and was informed that vehicles which had been sent for repairs have now been repaired and are ready for deployment. He directed that all available vehicles and machinery, along with the required manpower, be kept ready to respond to snowfall as and when required.

It was also informed that zonal-level and ward-level teams have been constituted and are ready to attend to situations arising from adverse weather. The Commissioner stressed that these teams must remain in touch with their respective officers and monitoring mechanisms to ensure timely intervention at the ground level.

Reviewing dewatering arrangements, he directed that all permanent dewatering stations be kept functional and that high-capacity mobile pumps be positioned at vulnerable and low-lying locations to deal with waterlogging caused by rainfall and snowmelt.

Elections Authorities Ban Dharnas, Protests In Leh, Kargil Ahead Of Polls

AGENCIES

LEH- The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Ladakh on Wednesday prohibited political dharnas, protests, rallies and similar collective activities that are likely "to impact the peaceful conduct of elections" within the municipal limits of Leh and Kargil during the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) for the upcoming local polls, according to an official order.

Panchayat and municipal elections in Ladakh are scheduled for November 11, while elections to the eight Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDCs) are scheduled for December 4.

In the order issued here, Chief Electoral Officer Rahul Sharma said the MCC, which came into force on October 23, will remain in force till the completion of the election process.

The order, issued in exercise of powers under Section 282 of the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act, 2000, read with the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Committee (Election) Rules, 2003, bars activities that have the potential to intimidate voters, disturb public order and vitiate the atmosphere necessary for free and fair elections.

"No political party, candidate, worker, supporter or any other person shall organise, hold, or participate in any dharna, protest, demonstration, sit-in, hunger strike, rally or any similar form of collective political activity within the municipal limits of the Municipal Committee, Leh and the Municipal Committee, Kargil, which is likely to impact the peaceful conduct of elections during the entire period the Model Code of Conduct remains in force," the order said.

It further added that all political parties, candidates and their agents are directed to strictly adhere to the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct and to ensure that no activity is undertaken by any "political party, candidates, agents or any other individual, organisation which may intimidate, coerce or unduly influence the electors in any manner".

The District Election Officers (Deputy Commissioners) of Leh and Kargil, along with the police authorities, have been asked to ensure strict compliance with the order. Any violation will be dealt with firmly in accordance with the relevant laws and provisions of the MCC, it said.

The order directed the District Election Officers to give wide publicity to the restrictions through print and electronic media and display copies at prominent public places, including municipal committee offices and notice boards of the Deputy Commissioners.

The CEO said the directions have been issued to maintain the purity of the electoral process and ensure free, fair and peaceful conduct of the municipal elections.

GMC Handwara Cancels Provisional MBBS Admissions of Five Candidates

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC), Handwara, has cancelled the provisional admissions of five MBBS candidates under the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) category for the 2026–27 academic session, following communications from the Jammu and Kashmir Board of Professional Entrance Examinations (JKBOPEE).

The cancellation was ordered by the Principal of GMC Handwara through Office Order No. 234-GMCH of 2026, dated November 10.

The admissions, which had been granted conditionally in August 2026, have been cancelled ab initio (from the beginning) in pursuance of five JKBOPEE notifications issued on November 10.

According to the order, the affected candidates include Mir Mubashir Manzoor, son of Manzoor Ahmad Mir, from Lolab, Kupwara; Morifat Reyaz, daughter of Reyaz Ahmad Khan, from Lalpora, Kupwara; and Sadia Hasseen, daughter of Zaffar Iqbal, from Darhal, Rajouri.

The other two candidates are Suhail Ahmad Wani, son of Wali Mohd Wani, from Drugmulla, Kupwara, and Aqsa Nisar, daughter of Nisar Hussain, from Dodasan, Rajouri.

As per the order, Mir Mubashir Manzoor and Sadia Hasseen were granted conditional admissions on August 29, while the admissions of Morifat Reyaz and Suhail Ahmad Wani were granted on August 27. Aqsa Nisar was also admitted conditionally on August 29.

The cancellations follow JKBOPEE Notifications No. 257, 258, 260, 261 and 262 of 2026, all dated November 10, concerning the withdrawal of admissions granted under the PWD category.

Swachh Survekshan Awards

Jammu secures prestigious 2nd Rank Nationally in Clean Himalayan City Category

GMK NEWS NETWORK



JAMMU: In a monumental recognition of its relentless sanitation reforms, civic mobilization, and infrastructure modernization, Jammu has secured the national 2nd rank in the Swachh Himalayan City category at the 10th edition of the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2025–26.

The national awards were conferred by President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu, at a glittering ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi today, celebrated under the inspiring theme "Swachhata Ki Nayi Pehel–Badhayein Haath, Karein Safai Saath."

Accepting this prestigious national honor on behalf of the city were Ayushi Sudan, Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban and Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation; Abdul Sattar, Joint Commissioner, Health and Sanitation, Jammu Municipal Corporation and Dr. Shahid Hussain, Health Officer, Jammu Municipal Corporation. Their presence at the national capital underscored the strong administrative leadership and dedication driving Jammu's urban transformation.

The prestigious accolade reflects Jammu's exemplary strides in sustainable solid waste management, door-to-door four-stream segregation, single-use plastic eradication and intensive community-led cleanliness drives.

Spearheaded by the Jammu Municipal Corporation in close coordination with the Housing and Urban Development Department and active civil society participation, the city successfully transformed its urban landscape through rigorous sanitation protocols and innovative IEC campaigns.

The municipal leadership dedicated this landmark national honour to the sanitation workers, frontline Safai Karamcharis and conscious citizens of Jammu whose unwavering daily dedication made this achievement possible. The administration emphasized that this award serves as a powerful testament to the success of Jan Bhagidari, proving that collaborative municipal teamwork and citizen ownership can achieve exemplary benchmarks in urban cleanliness.

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

SMHS

An Institution That Has Served Generations

SMHS Hospital is not just the oldest hospital in Kashmir; it is an institution that has become part of the Valley's history and people's lives. Since its inception, it has stood by generations of patients, witnessed the rise of some of the finest medical professionals Jammu and Kashmir has produced and played a defining role in shaping healthcare in the region. It has seen good times and difficult days, but its doors have continued to remain open to those in need.

For millions of people, SMHS is more than a place of treatment. It is where families turn when illness strikes and where patients from distant villages arrive with the hope of getting relief. The hospital caters to an enormous number of patients every day, often beyond its available capacity. Despite the pressure, limited resources and several odds, it continues to provide medical care to people who have few alternatives.

The contribution of doctors, nurses, paramedics and other employees who have served here over the decades deserves recognition. Many renowned doctors and medical stalwarts of Jammu and Kashmir have been associated with this institution. Their dedication and service have helped build the reputation that SMHS enjoys even today.

But institutions cannot survive on their past glory alone. The challenges before SMHS are growing with every passing year. The rising patient load demands better infrastructure, modern equipment, adequate staff and improved facilities. An institution serving such a large population cannot be left to manage its affairs through the dedication of its employees alone. It needs consistent government support and serious administrative attention.

There is also a need to understand that patients coming to SMHS are often distressed and vulnerable. They expect timely treatment, proper attention and a humane response from the system. Every effort must be made to ensure that their experience does not add to the suffering they are already going through. The government and health authorities must give this historic institution the attention it deserves. Regular upgradation, better management, adequate manpower and proper maintenance should be priorities rather than occasional announcements and temporary measures.

SMHS has served Kashmir through generations of hardship and change. Its contribution cannot be measured merely in the number of patients treated or operations performed. It lives in the countless families who have found hope within its walls. The institution that has stood by the people for so many decades deserves to be strengthened, respected and protected.

Preserving SMHS is not simply about saving an old hospital; it is about protecting a legacy of public service that Kashmir cannot afford to lose.

Good Morning Kashmir

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

Beyond Love And Sacrifice

Mothers Deserve More Than Admiration



DR RIZWAN RUMI



Motherhood has been discussed, celebrated and described in countless words. Poets have compared a mother's love to the purest form of affection, writers have portrayed her sacrifices as immeasurable, and societies across generations have placed mothers on a pedestal of respect. Yet, despite all this admiration, an important question remains: do we truly understand what it means to honour a mother?

Islam offers an answer that goes far beyond emotional appreciation. It does not treat motherhood merely as a beautiful human relationship; it places the rights of parents, particularly the mother, within the framework of faith, moral responsibility and accountability before Allah.

One of the most remarkable aspects of the Quran is the manner in which it places kindness towards parents immediately after the command to worship Allah alone. In Surah Al-Isra, Allah says that He has decreed that people worship none but Him and show kindness to their parents. The verses go further, instructing believers not even to express irritation towards them when they reach old age, nor to speak harshly to them, but to address them with honour and humility.

This instruction carries a profound message. Respect for parents is not limited to occasions, family gatherings or public expressions of affection. It is reflected in everyday behaviour, in the tone of our conversations, in the patience we demonstrate and in the way we respond when their age makes them dependent upon us.

The Quran also draws particular attention to the mother's physical and emotional journey. In Surah Luqman, Allah describes how a mother carries her child through hardship upon hardship and reminds humanity to be grateful to Him and to their parents. This is not an ordinary reference to motherhood. It is a divine acknowledgement of the pain, vulnerability and sacrifice associated with bringing another human being into the world.

The teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) make this responsibility even more meaningful. In a well-known narration recorded in Sahih Muslim, a man asked the Prophet who deserved the best companionship from him. The Prophet replied, "Your mother." When asked again, he repeated, "Your mother." He gave the same answer a third time before mentioning the father (Sahih Muslim, Hadith 2548).

The repetition was significant. It was a reminder that a mother's contribution to human life carries a responsibility that cannot be reduced to occasional gratitude or verbal appreciation. But perhaps the most important dimension of this teaching is how we translate it into our daily lives.

We live in a time when people are increasingly occupied with professional commitments, social engagements, financial ambitions and digital interactions. We can spend hours communicating with people across the world but sometimes struggle to spare a few meaningful minutes for the mother sitting in the next room. We remember birthdays, anniversaries and social occasions, yet may overlook the quiet expectation of a mother who simply wishes to speak to her children.

There is a difference between celebrating a mother and being present for her.

A photograph shared on social media, a beautiful message or an expensive gift may express affection, but none of these can replace companionship, patience and practical care. A mother who has spent years listening to her children's problems should not have to struggle to find someone willing to listen to hers.

The real test of our relationship with our mothers often begins when they grow older. The hands that once held ours may begin to tremble. The voice that comforted us may become weaker. The woman who managed countless responsibilities without complaining may now need assistance with the simplest tasks.

At that stage, Islam asks us to respond with humility rather than irritation. The Quranic instruction not even to say "uff" to ageing parents becomes particularly relevant. It teaches that dignity must not diminish with age, and dependence must never become a reason for disrespect.

There is another important dimension that deserves attention. Honouring mothers should not remain an individual family responsibility alone; it should also be reflected in the values we cultivate as a society. A society that claims to respect motherhood must create an environment where women receive dignity, security, emotional support and recognition for their contributions. The responsibilities of motherhood should not become an excuse to overlook a woman's own identity, aspirations or wellbeing.

Islam's emphasis on kindness towards parents also teaches us that respect does not depend upon convenience or agreement. Even when differences arise, the Quran instructs believers to maintain good companionship and speak with kindness. Such guidance establishes a moral standard in which disagreement does not become an excuse for cruelty.

And what about those whose mothers are no longer alive? Their responsibility does not end with the final farewell. They can continue to remember them through sincere prayers, charity and good deeds. The Quran itself teaches believers to pray: "My Lord, have mercy upon them as they brought me up when I was small" (Surah Al-Isra, 17:24). It is a prayer that connects gratitude, memory and faith in a single expression.

Ultimately, the greatness of Islam's message about mothers lies not simply in the elevated position it gives them, but in the responsibilities it places upon their children. It asks us to move beyond admiration and embrace action; beyond words and demonstrate care; beyond occasional remembrance and practise everyday kindness.

Perhaps we should reconsider how we measure our love for our mothers. It should not be measured by the number of times we describe their sacrifices, but by the patience we show when they repeat a question, the time we give when they need companionship, the respect we maintain when they become dependent and the prayers we make for them when they are no longer beside us.

Respect for parents is not limited to occasions, family gatherings or public expressions of affection. It is reflected in everyday behaviour, in the tone of our conversations, in the patience we demonstrate and in the way we respond when their age makes them dependent upon us.

A mother does not necessarily ask for extraordinary things. Often, she seeks a little time, a gentle conversation and the reassurance that she has not become a forgotten part of the lives she once devoted herself to building. Islam has already given us the lesson. The question is whether we are living by it. A mother's place is not secured by the words we write about her, but by the dignity, kindness and companionship we offer her throughout her life.

Dr Rizwan Rumi is a columnist and educationist. He can be mailed at rizwanroomi2012@gmail.com

Rising Air Pollution And Winter Smog May Increase Risk Of Stroke



DR. BIPLAB DAS



As winter approaches, deteriorating air quality and rising pollution levels across northern India have become a major public health concern. While the immediate effects of polluted air are commonly associated with respiratory problems, their impact extends much further, affecting cardiovascular and neurological health. Growing scientific evidence suggests that prolonged exposure to air pollution, particularly fine particulate matter, can significantly increase the risk of stroke. With stubble burning, industrial emissions, vehicular pollution and construction dust contributing to the worsening air quality, the growing pollution crisis deserves serious attention from a stroke prevention perspective.

One of the most concerning pollutants is PM2.5, comprising extremely fine particles that can penetrate deep into the lungs and enter the bloodstream. Once inside the body, these particles trigger inflammation, oxidative stress and damage to the inner lining of blood vessels. They can also increase blood pressure, disturb normal blood clotting mechanisms and accelerate the progression of atherosclerosis, a condition in which fatty deposits accumulate inside arteries. These changes can increase the likelihood of blood clots forming or existing plaques becoming unstable, potentially obstructing blood supply to the brain and triggering an ischaemic stroke.

The sources of pollution during the winter months are numerous and often overlap. Stubble burning in neighbouring agricultural states releases large quantities of particulate matter and harmful gases into the atmosphere. Industrial emissions add another layer of toxic pollutants, while the increasing number of vehicles contributes nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide and fine particulate matter. Construction activities, road dust and demolition work further increase airborne particles. As temperatures fall, wind speeds decrease and atmospheric conditions become unfavourable for the dispersion of pollutants. The formation of winter smog traps these emissions closer to the ground, resulting in prolonged exposure to hazardous air.

The relationship between air pollution and stroke is particularly concerning for individuals who already have risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol, obesity, smoking and existing heart disease. However, pollution-related vascular damage is not restricted to these groups. Even individuals without a known history of cardiovascular or neurological conditions may face increased risks with sustained exposure to polluted air. Research has associated both short-term increases in pollution and long-term exposure with a higher incidence of stroke.

Recognising the warning signs of stroke is equally important. Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg, particularly on one side of the body, difficulty speaking or understanding speech, sudden vision disturbances, loss of balance or an unexplained severe headache should never be ignored. Every minute matters during a stroke, as nearly 1.9 million brain cells can be lost every minute when an untreated stroke progresses. Immediate medical attention and access to a stroke-ready hospital can significantly influence treatment outcomes and reduce long-term disability.

While tackling air pollution requires coordinated action by policymakers, industries, farmers and communities, individuals can take practical precautions. Checking daily Air Quality Index (AQI) levels, limiting outdoor physical activity during periods of severe pollution, using well-fitted N95 masks when stepping outdoors and keeping indoor environments adequately ventilated when outdoor air quality permits can help reduce exposure. People with hypertension, diabetes and other vascular risk factors should be particularly vigilant about managing their underlying conditions.

Air pollution is no longer just an environmental issue; it is an emerging risk factor for brain health. As winter smog becomes an annual challenge, reducing exposure and strengthening awareness about stroke symptoms must become an integral part of public health efforts. Protecting the air we breathe is also an important step towards protecting our brains.

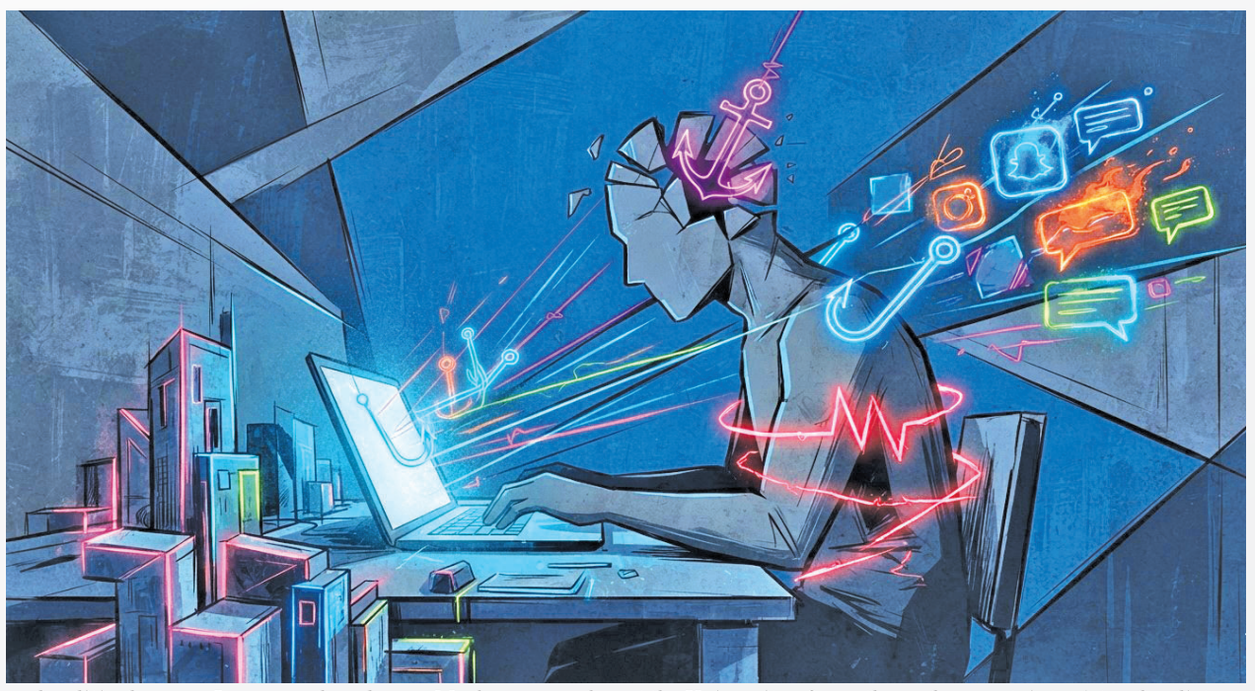
Author is Organising Secretary, Stroke & AI 2026 and Director – Neurology & Interventional Neuroradiology, Batra Hospital

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

The Rise Of Attention Economy



NAVEED QAZI



Attention has become one of the world's most valuable resources, yet it is among the least protected. A person moves from a news alert to a work message, from a short video to an advertisement, and from private conversation to public outrage without leaving the same screen. Together, these transitions create a day in which the mind is repeatedly summoned but rarely allowed to settle. Is this constant demand changing how we think and respond?

Almost every digital service depends on time spent looking at it. Social networks, video platforms, search engines, shopping applications, games and messaging services compete for daily attention. Simon Kemp's Digital 2025 report for DataReportal estimated that people used an average of 6.83 social platforms each month. The figure shows how widely social life is spread and reflected across platforms. Their business models reward repeated visits, longer sessions and frequent interaction. Attention is measured and sold to advertisers and subscribers.

The screen in our world is designed to make leaving difficult. Notifications suggest an immediate response is needed. Autoplay removes the pause between videos, while endless feeds offer no natural point of completion. Recommendation systems on social media applications customise what one needs to see and what holds a person's interest. This can help users find information, but it can also narrow the day around whatever keeps them watching and give them a cognitive fatigue.

The cost is not measured only in lost minutes. Doomscrolling, the repeated consumption of distressing news, turns information seeking into anxiety. Someone may check an important development and end by absorbing a stream of violence, natural disaster and political anger. In research published in Applied Research in Quality of Life in October 2022, Seydi Ahmet Satici and colleagues found associations between doomscrolling, psychological distress and poorer wellbeing. The study does not prove that scrolling alone causes distress, but it shows why constant exposure to alarming material deserves academic attention.

Social media also leaves emotional baggage. Users encounter other people's achievements, arguments, tragedies and carefully arranged images within minutes. These updates on social media invite comparison, envy, competition and other forms of feelings without context. Public disputes on social media also follow people into private life. An online argument viewed at breakfast online may occupy the mind at real life work. Even after the phone is put away, a disturbing headline can remain. The screen is off, but attention has not necessarily returned.

Simultaneously, the effect on concentration is more complicated than saying the Internet has destroyed attention. Attention depends on the task, on person's traits like focus, time management and environment. Switching between screens also does not prove someone cannot read a book or complete difficult work. Gloria Mark, a researcher at the University of California, Irvine, reported that people spent an average of about 47 seconds on one computer screen before switching, in a research discussed by the university in January 2023. This measures screen behaviour, not the mind's full capacity. The time spent online therefore shows how often the work is interrupted, becomes fragmented, as it adds to a certain disorientation.

Also, different forms of short-form videos have made fast-changing entertainment a normal part of daily life. Within minutes, viewers move from one clip to another, watching jokes, personal stories, political events and myriad images. This constant change can make it harder to remain interested in activities that require more time and patience. A systematic review by Sara Arouch and colleagues, published in BMJ Public Health in September 2026, found possible links between frequent short-form video use, difficulties with concentration and emotional problems among young adults. Although, the researchers also pointed out that more evidence is needed to establish whether these videos directly cause such problems.

This matters in professional life, where good work requires focus, goal setting, and long term dedication. A researcher often follows evidence through uncertainty. A teacher listens carefully. A doctor notices details. A journalist reads documents and tests claims. A musician practises a difficult passage and learns repetitions and mistakes. When every quiet interval invites a phone check, staying with an unfinished task becomes harder. Work can thus become shallow, often without passion, or at times frustrating.

The same pressure reaches hobbies and the arts. Reading asks people to remain inside a story. Painting requires patience. Singing and writing demand attention to rhythm, detail and revision. These activities rarely offer instant rewards. Their pleasure often arrives after effort. If online behaviour changes every few seconds, slower pursuits or hobbies may become harder to begin. In Dopamine Nation, Stanford University's Dr. Anna Lembke reinforces this argument. Her belief is that constant exposure to instant digital rewards artificially raises our dopamine baseline, causing the brain to interpret slow, effortful tasks as painfully boring.

Interestingly, reading for pleasure in current times is under pressure as well, although digital media is not its only cause. UK's National Literacy Trust's report on children and young people in 2024, published in June 2025, found that only 34.6 per cent of those aged eight to eighteen enjoyed reading in their free time. This was the lowest level recorded since the organisation began asking in 2005. Family habits, school pressures and access to books also matter. Still, the finding should trouble global societies that want young people to develop patience, imagination and independent thought.

The ability to concentrate may be becoming a social privilege now and in near future. People with quiet rooms, secure jobs, childcare and control over working hours and better living conditions are better placed to protect uninterrupted attention. Those working several jobs, living in crowded homes or relying on digital platforms for income may have fewer choices. For some, the phone is the workplace itself. Telling everyone to switch off ignores these differences.

The answer is not to reject technology outright. Digital tools connect families, widen access to knowledge and give artists new audiences too. Their use must become more constructive, their design less demanding and only when needed.

Platforms can provide stopping points, clearer recommendation controls as social friendly features as well as fewer prompts designed to pull users back. Schools can teach digital judgement. Employers can protect focused work instead of treating instant replies as commitment. Individuals can create phone-free routines for meals, reading and real life conversation.

Attention is the beginning of thought. What we notice shapes what we remember, fear and value. A society that allows every spare moment to be captured for online dissemination risks weakening the patience required for knowledge, skilled work, art and democratic judgment in public life.

In an attention economy, the conflict extends far beyond a basic clash between individuals and mobile devices. It fundamentally centers on who dictates the environments necessary for people to process thoughts, increase focus, and execute decisive actions. Ultimately, the definition of modern liberty may evolve into the hard-won right to direct our uninterrupted awareness toward what truly matters.

Naveed Qazi is an author of fiction and non-fiction books. He serves as Editor at Large for Science Matters India. Feedback at naveedqazi@live.com

Geothermal Energy

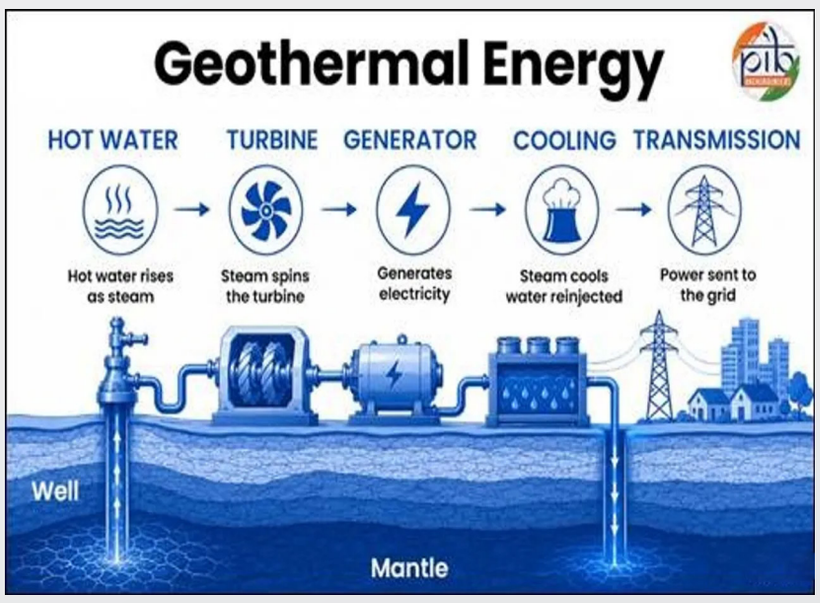
A New Chapter In India's Clean Energy Journey

Geothermal Energy Is Steady, Low-Carbon And Not Affected By Weather. Unlike Solar And Wind, It Is Available Throughout The Year

Puga valley, a place located at 14,000 feet above sea level in southeastern Ladakh's Chanthang is known for its hot springs and underground heat reserves. This place is completely redefining the geothermal story of the country.

In July 2026, the ONGC Energy Centre commissioned the country's first two geothermal wells in the Puga valley. For a nation of 1.4 billion people that has long looked to the sun and wind for its renewable ambitions, the heat of the Earth itself is now entering daily conversations.

The two wells, each 1,000 metres deep, will support reservoir evaluation. They also pave the way for India's first one-megawatt demonstration geothermal power project, marking the country's entry into geothermal power generation. Though the scale is modest, what it implies is more important.



India is moving from resource assessment to field demonstration, and Puga valley is where that shift becomes visible. Geothermal energy is steady, low-carbon and not affected by weather. Unlike solar and wind, it is available throughout the year.

The concept of Geothermal Energy

India is moving from resource assessment to field demonstration, and Puga valley is where that shift becomes visible. Geothermal energy is steady, low-carbon and not affected by weather. Unlike solar and wind, it is available throughout the year.

This matters for a large, densely populated country that wants to add reliable, home-grown sources to its renewable energy mix. That is why regions like Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Chhattisgarh become important.

Science states why the Earth's interior is hot because it is driven by the radioactive decay of elements like "uranium, thorium and potassium", along with residual heat from the planet's formation. In geologically active regions, faults and fractures let hot material travel closer to the surface, creating reservoirs of hot water and steam trapped within permeable rock.

Deep wells bring these resources up. The steam drives a turbine connected to a generator, a process resembling conventional thermal power, except that naturally occurring underground heat replaces fuel combustion. The used water is condensed and reinjected into the reservoir, supporting replenishment and continued production.

Importance of Puga

What makes Ladakh's milestone critical is the policy framework behind it. In September 2025, the government notified the National Policy on Geothermal Energy. The policy aims to establish geothermal energy as a major renewable pillar enabling systematic exploration and deployment of the country's resources.

While prioritising research, drilling, reservoir management and direct-use applications, and supports Ground Source Heat Pumps for heating and cooling.

A clear regulatory framework encourages both public and private sector participation. It facilitates repurposing abandoned oil and gas wells, builds toward a national geothermal data repository, and supports pilot projects and Centres of Excellence.

Alongside this, MNRE is implementing the Renewable Energy Research and Technology Development Programme through research institutions and industry partners, aiming at indigenous, cost-effective technologies. Internationally, geothermal energy has been identified as a key area of cooperation with Australia and Iceland, and as a focus area in an MoU with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Future

The Geological Survey of India has mapped 381 hot springs and identified 10 geothermal provinces, from the Himalayan province to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the West Coast and the South Indian Cratonic regions. India's theoretical geothermal prospect stands at nearly 10.6 GW, and 42 sites have been recognised as promising for power generation and direct heat use.

Technology could widen this further. Enhanced Geothermal Systems and Advanced Geothermal Systems will expand exploration opportunities, so suitable projects can arise anywhere geothermal resources exist. Inactive oil and gas wells could be repurposed, subject to technical and operational feasibility, building on existing drilling expertise, well data and infrastructure.

Beyond electricity, geothermal heat supports district heating, agriculture, aquaculture, and space heating and cooling. Possibilities include geo-tourism too. For a high-altitude region like Ladakh, such direct uses are worth watching closely. Other projects are already adding experience. Gujarat's Gandhinagar has demonstrated electricity generation of 50 to 90 kilowatts from fluid at 70 to 80°C.

Ankleshwar in Gujarat is evaluating retrofitted oil and gas wells, Tawang in Anuranchal Pradesh is studying five geothermal sites, Hyderabad is developing a geothermal cooling system, and a pilot study is modelling shallow systems with Borehole Heat Exchangers.

An honest account must note that commercial-scale power generation is yet to be established. What exists today is a foundation: expanding well fields, demonstration activities and research initiatives strengthening the ecosystem.

The world offers proof of concept, with global installed capacity reaching 15.67 GW by the end of 2025, led by Indonesia, the US, the Philippines, Türkiye and New Zealand, together holding around 67%. India, by comparison, is only at the starting line.

The government's larger purpose is clear. India is driving towards Net Zero by 2070, and the policy seeks to make geothermal energy a key part of the nation's renewable energy story. The aim is energy security and sustainable growth, through a steady, indigenous pillar of the energy transition.

From the cold, thin air of Puga Valley, that aim feels both distant and tangible. The wells are only 1,000 metres deep, and the demonstration plant is only one megawatt. But every large energy system begins with a first well.

If policy, research, partnerships and patient field work continue to align, the heat beneath Ladakh may help power the journey to 2070.

(COURTESY - PIB SRINAGAR)

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

3 CRPF Personnel

achieving their desired objectives."

"One of the CRPF jawans, who sustained injuries, opened fire in retaliation, forcing the attackers to retreat. Three CRPF personnel were injured in the attack, but prompt action—also captured on CCTV footage—turned the situation around. A swift call was made to the CRPF camp just meters away from the spot," he added.

He said, "The incident reflects the growing frustration and desperation of the terrorists, who are finding it increasingly difficult to achieve their objectives due to the heightened alertness, preparedness and effective area domination by Security Forces. The alertness and professional response of our SF personnel deserve appreciation."

"This could have escalated into a major attack had the fire not been immediately returned. Intelligence inputs had suggested that terrorists might attempt an attack to cause maximum casualties to project their presence following a prolonged lull in the valley," the officer said, adding, "A few weeks earlier, an alert had been sounded following intelligence inputs indicating suspected terrorist movement. Jammu and Kashmir Police and deployed security forces were updated accordingly."

The officials identified the three injured CRPF personnel as Constable Rakesh Dass, Head Constable Somveer Singh and Constable Santosh Chandru belonging to the 46th Battalion of the paramilitary force. "They were rushed to Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag for treatment from where Santosh Chandru was airlifted to 92 Base Hospital Srinagar for advanced treatment," he added.

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Dr Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat and Inspector General of CRPF, Inspector General of Police Kashmir Sujit Kumar visited GMC Anantnag and enquired about the health of the injured personnel. IGP Kumar and IG CRPF visited the attack site and took stock of the situation.

A top officer SAID that terrorist Mohammad Lateef Bhat, of Khrewan Chader of Kulgam district is believed to have carried out this attack. "He (Bhat) carries a reward of Rs 15 lakh on his head and was reportedly involved in the killing of a police constable and a non-local labourer earlier this year. He joined terrorist ranks last year."

The officer said that security forces have cordoned off the entire area and launched massive search operations to trace Bhat and his accomplice believed to be involved in the attack.

Meanwhile, forensic teams collected samples and other evidence from the attack site as part of the ongoing investigation.

Later, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited Base Hospital, Srinagar, to enquire about the health of CRPF Head Constable who sustained serious injuries in the terror attack and is currently undergoing treatment. He prayed for his swift and complete recovery—(KNO)

Forces Given

the security situation with senior officials at Lok Bhavan here, and later visited the Base Hospital in Srinagar to enquire about the health of CRPF Head Constable, who sustained serious injuries in the attack and is undergoing treatment.

After chairing the meeting LG Sinha wrote on X: "Have reviewed the security situation with senior officials in Lok Bhavan, Srinagar. Security forces have been given a free hand to crack down on terrorists"

"Visited Base Hospital, Srinagar, to enquire about the health of CRPF Head Constable Sonbir Singh, who sustained serious injuries in the heinous terror attack in Kulgam and is currently undergoing treatment. Praying for his swift and complete recovery," he wrote.

"Two other injured CRPF personnel, Constable Rakesh Das and Constable Santanu Chandra, are in stable condition and recovering at 46 Bn CRPF Unit Hospital, Kulgam. I strongly condemn this cowardly act of terror and assure the people that those responsible will be hunted down and brought to justice," he added.

Meanwhile, Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma also condemned the attack, describing it as an act of desperation and frustration by terrorists amid what he termed the final push against terrorism.

"After a long time today, a sudden terrorist attack took place on a CRPF patrol party at a checkpoint in Kulgam, in which three CRPF personnel were injured," Sharma said.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary termed the attack unfortunate and said terrorism had caused immense damage to Jammu and Kashmir.

"We pray that those injured recover as quickly as possible and return to their homes and duties," he said, adding that terrorism was a disease that had entered Jammu and Kashmir and caused immense destruction.

Health Minister Sakina Itoo also condemned the incident, saying such attacks should not happen and stressing the need to strengthen security arrangements to prevent their recurrence.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti also condemned the attack, describing such acts of violence as unacceptable and deserving unequivocal condemnation. She also wished the injured CRPF personnel a speedy and complete recovery, saying there could be no place for violence in a society yearning for lasting peace, stability and dignity.

J&K Congress president Tariq Hamid Karra condemned the attack but questioned the security situation, alleging that the incident reflected a failure on the part of the Government of India.

J&K BJP president and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma also strongly condemned the attack, asserting that terrorism and its sponsors would face an uncompromising response from India. He said there would be no tolerance for terrorism, no safe haven for terrorists and no escape for those threatening innocent lives.

BJP spokesperson Altaf Thakur also condemned the attack and said no leniency would be shown towards terrorists under the ongoing zero-tolerance policy against terrorism. He warned terrorists and Pakistan against attempting to revive terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) J&K president Vivek Bali also condemned the attack, expressed solidarity with the injured personnel and prayed for their speedy recovery—(KNO)

Become Job

transformative initiative. He encouraged students to become job creators by establishing enterprises in areas such as seed testing, cold-chain management and soil health services. He asked the university to develop the directorate into a platform that provides mentoring, guidance and assistance in accessing capital for young entrepreneurs across Jammu Kashmir.

The Lieutenant Governor also inaugurated the Health and Wellness Centre, describing it as an important addition to the university's infrastructure for the well-being of students and faculty members.

Calling for sustained action, the Lieutenant Governor asked SKUAST-Kashmir to take the new irrigation technology to villages within the coming year and actively involve farmers in its improvement. He stressed the need to convert data collected through sensors into simple agricultural advisories in local languages and deliver them to farmers through digital platforms.

The Lieutenant Governor further encouraged the university to facilitate the establishment of at least 100 student-led start-ups, strengthen linkages among laboratories, cooperative societies, farmer-producer organisations and farmers, and place youth and women farmers at the centre of future programmes.

he University must become a strong bridge between laboratories and cooperative societies, between farmer-producer organisations, and between researchers and small and marginal farmers. I want youth and women farmers to be at the centre of every programme," he said.

Emphasising the growing challenges posed by climate change, the Lieutenant Governor called upon the university to make sustainable development and environmental stewardship central to its identity. He underlined that the true measure of progress lies in improving farmers' incomes, strengthening their economic security and expanding opportunities in rural areas.

"The identity of Jammu Kashmir lies in its hardworking farmers, artisans, and its rich traditions of agriculture, horticulture, and handicrafts. HADP's projects and farmer-centric policies in the past 6 years have played an important role in strengthening Jammu Kashmir's rural economy and creating new opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship among youth.

The real success of any modern technology or modern tools will come only when their benefits reach the small farmers in villages and bring about a real increase in their incomes.

I believe that the greatest test of any change is how much positive difference it makes in a farmer's life. The true measure of our progress should be the rising income of farmers, their economic security, a better future for their families, and the new opportunities emerging in rural areas," he said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor released a coffee table book highlighting the achievements and institutional journey of SKUAST-Kashmir. A Multi-Tier Data Management and Accreditation Workflow System, aimed at strengthening institutional data management and accreditation-related processes was also launched.

Shri Javid Ahmad Dar, Minister for Agriculture Production, Finance, Mining and Cooperatives; Prof. Nazir Ahmed Ganai, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-Kashmir; Prof Mohammad Ashraf Ganie, Director, SKIMS; Shri Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar; Prof Azmat Alam Khan, Registrar SKUAST-K, HoDs, senior officials, faculty members and students attended the inaugural ceremony.

LG Inaugurates

emerged as a symbol of the intellectual, literary and cultural consciousness of Jammu Kashmir.

In his address to scholars, writers, poets, artists and literary enthusiasts, the Lieutenant Governor said that since its launch in 2023, the festival has evolved into a vibrant and widely recognised forum for dialogue, creativity and cultural exchange.

"The growing participation of writers and readers demonstrates that ideas and creative expression transcend geographical boundaries," he said.

Speaking on Kulgam's rich civilisational heritage, the Lieutenant Governor said that the district represents a unique cultural tradition where spirituality, creativity, nature and humanity have long coexisted in harmony.

Highlighting the influence of the Rishi-Sufi tradition, the Lieutenant Governor recalled the contributions of Yogini Lalleshwari, Nund Rishi, Sayyid Hussain Simnani and other saints and thinkers who laid the foundations of compassion, simplicity, brotherhood and spiritual awakening in the region.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the universal human vision of the Rishi-Sufi tradition places humanity above divisions and dialogue above discord. He described the Veshow Literary Festival as a modern expression of this living legacy and a celebration of ideas, creativity and future possibilities.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the festival's unique design, which brings together literature, art, heritage and livelihood. Besides literary discussions and book launches, the festival showcases traditional craftsmanship and cultural heritage, including an antique village highlighting the region's history and traditions.

"In this festival, books, art, and livelihood stand together, conveying the message that, along with dialogue with writers and poets, book launches, and mutual discussion, the craftsmanship of artisans will also be showcased. Between these two is an antique village, a symbol of our heritage. I hope everyone will leave having learned something from one another," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also proposed a five-point agenda for the future growth of the festival. These include the creation of a "Veshow Archive" to document oral traditions, folk tales and folk poetry; the use of modern language technologies to promote multilingual translations; expansion of mobile libraries to remote villages; integration of the festival with tourism, handicrafts and homestays; and establishment of a "Veshow Writers' Residency" to attract authors and poets from across the country.

"We must connect the Veshow Festival directly with tourism and handicrafts. By leveraging the branding of the festival, homestays and offbeat destinations in the region can be promoted. This festival must be transformed into a cultural movement," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also encouraged youth to use digital platforms and podcasts to document and promote the stories, traditions, literature and crafts of Kulgam.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed confidence that the festival would inspire young minds, support artisans and strengthen Jammu Kashmir's emergence as a national cultural hub.

"Let us preserve the rich heritage, promote culture, and shape a new Jammu Kashmir," the Lieutenant Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor felicitated the 'Keepers of Veshow Heritage'. He also visited the Exhibition on Veshow Traditions and released the Festival Magazine.

Shri Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, Member of Legislative Assembly from Kulgam; Shri Mohd Afzal Parray, former Chairman, District Development Council Kulgam; Shri Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Shri Sujit Kumar, IGP Kashmir; Shri Javed Iqbal Mattoo, DIG South Kashmir; Shri Shahzad Alam, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam; Shri Anayat Ali Choudhary, SSP Kulgam; prominent personalities from literary field, youth and people in large number were present.

Fresh Snowfall

unnecessary travel to higher reaches and strictly follow advisories issued by the district administrations and traffic authorities, officials said.

Law Mandates Srinagar

Syed Ruhullah Mehdi.

The by-election may be held independently or clubbed with Assembly elections scheduled in several states early next year—(KNO)

Sakina Ittoo Bats For

"Give our youth a fair chance. Their future cannot wait," she added.

Sakina Masood Ittoo is the first minister in Omar Abdullah-led cabinet who has come out in support of the demand—(KNO)

GDA Imposes

associated with tourism-related activities to stop using polythene and cooperate with the enforcement drive.

He said the move was aimed at addressing pollution caused by improper waste disposal and protecting Gulmarg's environmentally sensitive surroundings.

The Municipal Committee Gulmarg-Tangmarg has also assured its support to the GDA in implementing the ban.

Authorities have appealed to residents, businesses and visitors to comply with the restrictions and adopt alternatives to polythene.

The GDA, however, did not specify the penalties applicable to violations or provide details about the monitoring and enforcement arrangements under the drive. (KNS)

Security Tightened

gunshot wounds to their legs and spine and were shifted to a hospital for treatment.

Following the attack, security arrangements were significantly strengthened across several districts, including Kulgam, Samba and Ramban, as well as other parts of the Kashmir Valley.

Additional checkpoints and barricades have been established, while security forces have intensified vehicle checking and frisking at several locations in Srinagar, including MA Road.

Vigilance has also been stepped up along the Jammu–Srinagar and Jammu–Pathankot National Highways and in sensitive border areas. Additional security personnel and armoured vehicles have been deployed at several locations, while search operations have been intensified in north and south Kashmir to track down the attackers.

Security has also been tightened in Katra and along the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage route as a precautionary measure.

Health Minister Sakina Itoo condemned the attack, saying there was "no place for such attacks here", and called for continued stringent security measures to ensure the safety of people.

Kashmir 'Wazas'

place to sleep. We work long hours and need some time to rest before we prepare ourselves for the next day's gruelling routine. The hosts should take care of that aspect," said one of the chefs.





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DC Pulwama reviews arrangements for Accounts Assistant examination

GMK NEWS NETWORK



PULWAMA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, Wednesday chaired a review meeting at Circuit House, Pulwama, to assess the arrangements for the smooth, fair and transparent conduct of the OMR-based written examination for the post of Accounts Assistant (Finance Department), scheduled to be conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) on November 15, 2026.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation was made before the Chair on the preparations undertaken for the examination, covering the deployment of staff, Magistrates and Observers, management of examination centres, security arrangements and adherence to the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The presentation also covered the procedures for collection, transportation, opening, sealing and deposition of examination-related material on the day of the examination.

The meeting was informed that the requisite training for examination staff had already been conducted at Government Degree College Boys, Pulwama. Arrangements being put in place by various stakeholder departments, including Education, Jal Shakti, Transport and other concerned departments, were also reviewed.

Emphasising the importance of impartiality and compliance with examination protocols, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure proper management and sanitisation of all examination centres, including verification of deployed personnel and adequate arrangements for drinking water and washroom facilities. He further emphasised that candidates with disabilities must be provided all necessary assistance, with their examination rooms preferably allotted on the ground floor to ensure ease of access and avoid inconvenience.

Reviewing the security arrangements, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised that the fairness, credibility and confidentiality of the examination must be maintained at all costs. He directed the Police Department to ensure adequate security inside and outside every examination centre and maintain strict vigil throughout the examination process. At the same time, he stressed that security protocols must be implemented professionally, without causing unnecessary inconvenience or harassment to candidates.

He further directed that frisking arrangements be conducted in a systematic and dignified manner, with separate provisions for male and female candidates. Female candidates shall be frisked by designated female security personnel, with assistance from female staff of the respective institutions wherever required. Entry into examination centres shall be strictly restricted to candidates possessing valid admit cards.

The Deputy Commissioner also emphasised strict adherence to the prescribed SOPs governing the handling, opening, sealing and transportation of examination material. He directed all concerned officers and Centre Superintendents to thoroughly familiarise themselves with their assigned duties and responsibilities. He made it clear that mobile phones and other unauthorised items shall not be permitted inside the examination centres. He also directed that all examination-related instructions and necessary information be prominently displayed at the centres.

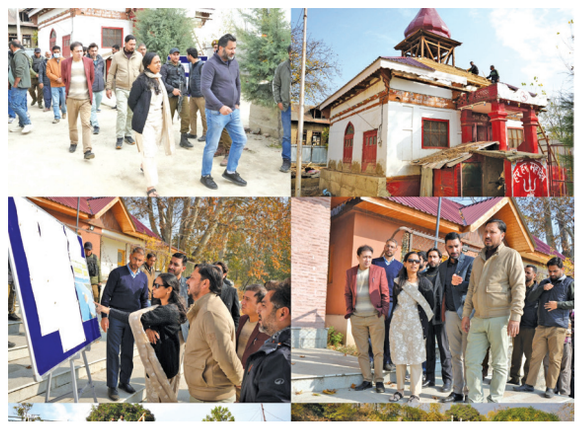
The meeting was further informed that JKSSB officials would be deployed at each examination centre as well as at the district headquarters to monitor the arrangements and ensure effective coordination. The Deputy Commissioner directed all line departments to put in place the requisite arrangements well before the commencement of the examination and maintain close coordination to address any issues arising during the process.

Concluding the review, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised that ensuring a fair, transparent and hassle-free examination is the collective responsibility of every officer and official associated with the conduct of the examination. He directed all concerned to thoroughly go through the prescribed SOPs and discharge their assigned responsibilities with utmost diligence, adding that any negligence or violation of examination protocols would be viewed seriously.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioners of Pulwama, Tral and Awantipora, senior officers of the Police Department, district and sectoral officers, representatives of the JKSSB, heads of concerned educational institutions, Centre Superintendents and other officials associated with the conduct of the examination.

DC G'bal inspects Heritage Preservation, Restoration Works

GMK NEWS NETWORK



GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shreya Singhal, Wednesday undertook an extensive inspection tour of various heritage sites across the district to review the progress of ongoing preservation, restoration and conservation works being executed under the scheme "Revival, Restoration, Preservation & Maintenance of Architecture & Heritage."

During the tour, the DC inspected the ongoing developmental and restoration works at Ghat Temple, Prayag Raj, Narayan Bagh. She also visited Roop Bhawani Temple at Waskura to assess the progress of roof restoration and other conservation works.

Later, the DC visited Jarokabagh to take stock of the ongoing restoration and conservation of historical remains at the site.

During the inspection, the DC directed the concerned executing agencies and officers to ensure strict adherence to prescribed quality standards and timely completion of the works.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner Revenue Ganderbal, Chief Planning Officer Ganderbal, Executive Engineer, PW(R&B), Ganderbal, and other concerned officials.

SWD organises Awareness Programme on Dowry Prohibition Act



GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Social Welfare Department (SWD), Budgam, through Sankalp–Hub for Empowerment of Women (Sankalp-HEW), Mission Shakti, organised an awareness programme on the Dowry Prohibition Act at Marriage Hall, Kokerbagh, with the objective of sensitising frontline workers about the legal provisions of the Act and strengthening awareness regarding women's rights and legal safeguards.

During the programme, Advocate Ishfaq Rasool, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) spoke on the Dowry Prohibition Act and elaborated on its key provisions, legal implications and the need to eradicate the practice of dowry from society. He emphasised the importance of legal awareness and highlighted the role of frontline workers in educating communities, discouraging dowry-related practices and promoting gender equality.

Yaqoob, Protection Officer, Mission Vatsalya, also addressed the participants and provided an overview of Mission Vatsalya, highlighting its objectives, key interventions and important schemes aimed at ensuring the care, protection and welfare of children. He elaborated on various child protection mechanisms and emphasised the importance of coordinated efforts at the grassroots level to safeguard the rights and interests of children, particularly those in need of care and protection.

The programme witnessed participation from frontline workers associated with Mission Poshan and the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM). The District Mission Coordinator and Gender Specialists of Sankalp-HEW, Budgam, were also present during the programme.

The programme provided a platform for knowledge-sharing and interdepartmental coordination, focusing on strengthening the capacities of frontline workers to disseminate awareness about legal safeguards for women, prevention of dowry and child protection initiatives at the community level.



ADC Handwara inspects Examination Centres ahead of JKSSB exams

GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, Wednesday inspected all examination centres across Handwara Sub-Division where the written examination for the post of Accounts Assistant in the Finance Department is scheduled to be held on November 15.

During the visit, the ADC took stock of the arrangements put in place at the examination centres to ensure the smooth, transparent and hassle-free conduct of the examination.

The inspection focused on the availability of basic facilities, seating arrangements, security measures and other necessary preparations for the candidates.

The ADC stressed upon the concerned officials to ensure that all requisite arrangements are completed well in advance and that candidates do not face any inconvenience on the day of the examination.

DC Pulwama chairs grievance redressal camp at Tenghar Payer

GMK NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, Wednesday chaired a Public Outreach-cum-Grievance Redressal Camp at Tenghar Payar in Block Pulwama, providing residents of Tenghar, Payar, Mughalpora, Chandgam, Trichal, Mashpora, Nowhar Mallapora and adjoining villages an opportunity to project their grievances and developmental demands.

Various departments, including Health, Education, Social Welfare, Revenue, Jal Shakti, Rural Development, Horticulture, Sheep Husbandry, District Industries Centre and J&K Bank, established stalls to facilitate on-the-spot service delivery, disseminate information about government schemes and interact with the public. The DC inspected the stalls and reviewed the services being provided.

A major focus of the camp was the SSS Campaign (Skill Development, Self-Employment, Sports and Studies), under which household-level skill mapping and registration of individuals aged 18–59 years is being undertaken.

The DC urged residents to ensure registration of all eligible household members, particularly unemployed youth and women, to facilitate access to skill training, entrepreneurship support, sports coaching and educational opportunities. He said the initiative aims to identify individual skills and aspirations and connect eligible persons with suitable opportunities and institutional support.

During the interaction, village delegations projected demands relating to flood protection, drinking water, irrigation, healthcare, road connectivity, electricity, education and sports infrastructure. Key issues included flood protection and diversion of the Nallah at Chatripura, restoration of water supply and filtration facilities, construction and upgradation of roads, establishment of health and veterinary facilities, development of playgrounds and public parks, irrigation facilities for karewa land and orchards, and provision of a modern library and reading hall.

The DC gave a patient hearing to the delegations and individuals and issued specific directions to the concerned departments for field inspections, feasibility assessments, preparation of estimates and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), and necessary follow-up action.

The DC also urged farmers to generate their Farm IDs through the concerned Revenue, Agriculture and Horticulture offices to facilitate access to various government schemes and benefits.

Addressing the gathering, the DC said that public outreach camps aim to bring governance and essential services closer to people by providing a direct platform for interaction with the administration and prompt grievance redressal. He stressed that all officers must remain accessible, ensure close interdepartmental coordination and adopt a result-oriented approach so that grievances raised during the camps translate into tangible outcomes on the ground.

He emphasised that his doors remain open to the public and assured residents that their genuine concerns would receive due attention. He also urged people to make optimum use of departmental stalls and actively participate in such outreach initiatives.

J&K Police Warn Against Fake Loan Apps Used for Blackmail

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police have warned people against fraudulent loan applications that misuse personal photographs, contact lists and other sensitive information to threaten, intimidate or blackmail users. In an advisory shared on social media, police cautioned that certain fake loan applications seek access to users' personal data and may exploit photographs, contacts and other information to intimidate individuals.

Police urged people to verify the authenticity of loan applications before downloading them and exercise caution while granting permissions to mobile applications. Users have specifically been advised against allowing unnecessary access to their contact lists, photographs and other personal information, particularly when such permissions are not essential for an application's functioning.

The advisory comes amid concerns over the misuse of personal data by fraudulent digital lending platforms. Police have stressed the need for greater vigilance while downloading loan applications and sharing sensitive information.

Javid Dar expresses profound grief over demise of Shivraj Singh Chouhan's mother

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Minister for Agriculture Production, Finance, Mining and Cooperative Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar has expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Kaushalya Bai Ji, mother of Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

In his condolence message, the Minister conveyed his heartfelt sympathies to Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and the bereaved family describing the loss of a mother as an irreparable personal tragedy. He said that a mother's love, blessings and guidance remain an enduring source of strength and inspiration for the family.

Javid Dar prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and sought strength, courage and fortitude for the bereaved family to withstand this profound loss.

GOVT. OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION & F C DIVISION

BARAMULLA - 193101

EXTENSION/CORRIGENDUM-III

Subject: Extension Notice.

Reference: This office e-Bid Notice No. 01 of 2026-27 Dated: 14/10/2026 issued under endorsement No: I&FCDB/4925-40 Dated: 14-102026. Read with Corrigendum II issued vide endorsement No. I&FCDB/CS-33/5202-22 Dated: 05-11-2026.

In view of Nil response for Tender Id No. 2026_IFC_328184_1, & 2026_IFC_328184_3 advertised vide this office e-Bid No. cited above, the date for bid submission end is hereby extended as per following schedule:

S No.	Particulars	Previous Date	New Date
01.	Bid Submission end date	09-11-2026 upto 1800 Hours.	13-11-2026 upto 1800 Hours.
02.	Bid opening date	10-11-2026 at 1400 Hours.	14-11-2026 at 1400 Hours.

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the original e-Bid.

I&FCDB/CS-33/ 5232-52
Dated: 10-11-2026
DIPK-7584-26
DT: 11/11/2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Irrigation & FC Division
Baramulla

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION KASHMIR

Samanderbagh- S.P College Road Srinagar-190001

Email: dsek-jk@gov.in | website: http://dsek.jk.gov.in

(NON-TEACHING SECTION)

Subject: **Final Seniority list of MTS (Laboratory Bearers) appointed under Hon'ble Prime Minister's Special Package for Kashmiri Migrants as it stood on 01/09/2026.**

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Tentative Seniority List of MTS (Laboratory Bearers) appointed under Hon'ble Prime Minister's Special Package for Kashmiri Migrants as it stood on 01-01-2025, was notified vide this office Notification No: DSEK/NTS/641 /2025/PMP/2966-80, dated: 21-11-2025 for inviting objections; and

Whereas, (06) six objections were received from CEO Srinagar, Kupwara and Budgam and have been accordingly updated in the seniority list; and

Whereas, in order to verify the particulars MTS (Laboratory Bearers) appointed under Hon'ble Prime Minister's Special Package for Kashmiri Migrants, this Directorate vide letter No: DSEK/NTS/641/2025/403 Dated: 03-02-2026 sought personal files of these officials from concerned CEOs; and

Whereas, personal files in respect of MTS (Laboratory Bearers) appointed under Hon'ble Prime Minister's Special Package for Kashmiri Migrants have been received from respective CEOs and necessary correction/updation in particulars have been incorporated in the seniority list; and

Whereas, this Directorate vide letter No. DSEK/NTS/641/2025/979 dated 04.04.2026, requested the Administrative Department for providing the merit scores of the MTS (Lab Bearers) appointed under the Hon'ble PM's Package in terms of Government Order No. 878-Edu of 2010 dated 28.12.2010 and Government Order No. 37-Rev/MR(GR) of 2015 dated 19.02.2015 for preparation of Seniority list of MTS (Lab Bearers); and

Whereas, the Administrative Department vide No. Edu-NGK/139/2026-01 (7747154) dated 06.08.2026, has forwarded copies of Government Order No. 878-Edu of 2010 dated 28.12.2010 and Government Order No. 37-Rev/MR(GR) of 2015 dated 19.02.2015, with directions to finalize the seniority list in accordance with the provisions contained in the aforesaid Government Orders; and

Whereas, upon examination of the aforesaid Government Orders, it was observed that the Selection Serial Numbers are available in respect of the incumbents appointed under Government Order No. 878-Edu of 2010 dated 28.12.2010, whereas, in respect of the official(s) appointed under Government Order No. 37-Rev/MR(GR) of 2015 dated 19.02.2015, no Selection Serial Number is available; instead, only a Simple Serial Number is indicated;

Whereas, the tentative seniority list was notified vide this Directorate's Notification No. DSEK/NTS/641/2025/2882-2901 dated 29.10.2026, inviting objections within 07 days from the date of issuance; and

Whereas, one objection was received from Srinagar District in respect of Nishu Bhat, MTS (Laboratory Bearer), regarding correction of her present place of posting from GHSS Kupwara to Boys High School Badamibagh, Srinagar, and the said correction has been incorporated. No other objections have been received; and

Now, therefore, the Final Seniority List of MTS (Laboratory Bearers) appointed under the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Special Package for Kashmiri Migrants is published. The seniority particulars have been arranged on the basis of the selection serial numbers reflected in the relevant selection lists, as advised by the Administrative Department.

No.: DSEK/NTS/641/2025/3014-20
Dated: 11-11-2026

DIPK-7574-26
DT: 11/11/2026

Director
School Education Kashmir

Unadkat to lead Saurashtra in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Jackson joins coaching staff

IANS

RAJKOT: Veteran left-arm pacer Jaydev Unadkat will continue to lead Saurashtra in the 2026/27 Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, with the state's senior men's selection committee on Wednesday naming a 16-member squad for the domestic men's T20 competition.

Harvik Desai and Harvansh Singh Pangalia, who was a member of the India U-19 team winning this year's World Cup, are the two designated wicketkeepers in the side. Unadkat will spearhead a bowling line-up comprising left-arm pacer Chetan Sakariya, all-rounder Prerak Mankad, Parth Bhut and Krains Fuletra.

Sheldon Jackson, who was a long-time stalwart of Saurashtra's batting line-up across all formats, has joined the side as a coach for the tournament. He will be a member of the support staff alongside head coach Niraj Odedra and team manager Narendrasinh Jadeja.



Since his retirement from the game, Jackson has worked mainly as a broadcaster in the BCCI organised tournaments and is all set to have his first coaching stint with the Saurashtra side.

In the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Saurashtra have been placed in Elite Group B alongside Bihar, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Railways and Tamil Nadu and will play all their league fixtures in Indore. Despite winning the Ranji Trophy previously, Saurashtra is yet to win the title.

Unadkat and his men will begin their campaign against Bihar at the Holkar Stadium at 11 am on November 14. Two days later, they will head to the Daly College Cricket Ground for a 1:30 pm game against Haryana on November 16.

Saurashtra will return to the Holkar Stadium to face Jammu and Kashmir on November 18, in a match that begins at 4:30 pm. After a break of three days, Saurashtra take on Railways in an early 9 am start at the Daly College Cricket Ground on November 22. Their last two group games are both at the Holkar Stadium - against Punjab at 11 am on November 24 and against Tamil Nadu at 4:30 pm on November 26.

Saurashtra squad: Jaydev Unadkat (captain), Harvik Desai (wicketkeeper), Jay Gohil, Prerak Mankad, Vishvarajsinh Jadeja, Sammar Gajjar, Ruchit Ahir, Chetan Sakariya, Parth Bhut, Harvansh Singh Pangalia (wicketkeeper), Siddhant Rana, Krains Fuletra, Yuvraj Chudasama, Luckyraj Vaghela, Devang Karamta and Ankur Panwar.

Rahmat Shah becomes first Afghan to enter top 10 of ICC Test rankings

IANS



DUBAI: Afghanistan captain Rahmat Shah has scripted a piece of history by becoming the first cricketer from his country to break into the top 10 of any category in the ICC Men's Test Player Rankings, rising to seventh among batters following his impressive performance against Zimbabwe in Sharjah.

Rahmat climbed six places after scoring 173 in the opening Test of the two-match series, earning a career-best rating and moving ahead of several established names, including India captain Shubman Gill, South Africa's Aiden Markram and Sri Lanka's Kamindu Mendis.

The 33-year-old's knock was his fifth century in Test cricket and his second of the year. His rise marks another landmark moment for Afghanistan cricket, which has enjoyed a productive period on the international stage. Earlier this month, the team reached its highest-ever position in the ICC Men's ODI Team Rankings, moving to sixth after winning a tri-series involving Zimbabwe and Bangladesh.

Zimbabwe's Craig Ervine was another major beneficiary of the latest Test rankings update. The veteran batter surged nine places to 48th after remaining unbeaten on a double-century in the second innings of the drawn Sharjah Test.

The conclusion of the ICC World Test Championship series between Bangladesh and the West Indies also brought significant movement in the batting rankings. West Indies' Kavem Hodge climbed 12 places to 52nd, while Bangladesh's Towhid Hridoy moved into the top 60 at 60th. West Indies batter Amir Jangoo gained 28 positions to reach 62nd.

Among bowlers, West Indies spinner Jomel Warrican recorded a career-high rating after his Player of the Series performance against Bangladesh. He moved up 11 places to equal 19th in the Test bowling rankings and climbed four spots to 31st among all-rounders. His teammate Justin Greaves also advanced, moving up one position to share eighth place in the Test all-rounders' list.

The latest update also brought gains for several players in the ODI rankings following the opening two matches of the India-New Zealand series.

India spinner Axar Patel rose 23 places to 21st among ODI bowlers after taking 2/28 in the second match in Wellington. Left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh moved up 11 spots to equal 31st following his four-wicket haul in the series opener in Auckland.

Pacer Gurnoor Brar, currently the leading wicket-taker in the series with seven scalps, made one of the biggest jumps, moving from outside the top 100 to 48th in the ODI bowling rankings.

'I'd like Head at No.5, push Smith up to No. 3: Hussey calls for Australia's batting shake-up

IANS

NEW DELHI: Australia consultant Mike Hussey has called for Travis Head to move back to the middle order and push Smith to No.3, while also stating that Alex Carey is best placed at No. 7 in Tests ahead of the upcoming series against New Zealand.

Labuschagne was dropped from the Test team for the second time in the space of 17 months when selection chair George Bailey confirmed that the incumbent No. 3 will not hold his place for Australia's series opener against New Zealand, starting December 9 in Perth.

Smith's return to the side will likely be the first piece of the puzzle after he missed the decider in Cape Town with a neck injury, as the selectors pick the Test squad to take on New Zealand at the end of the next round of the Sheffield Shield.

While selectors will weigh up whether Cooper Connolly holds his spot, Hussey wants Smith to bat No. 3, allowing Cameron Green to remain No.4.



"I am not sure what the selectors will do. For me, I would like Travis Head to move back down to No.5, push Steve Smith up to three, Cameron Green at four, have Josh Inglis at six, and Alex Carey at seven.

"That's the way I'd personally go, I feel like that's a really strong middle order in particular. Now there's going to be some questions over that. We've been told Steve Smith would prefer not to bat at No.3. But (if) it was up to me, that order looks good to me, and I think it's an opportunity for an opener to come in," Hussey said at Kayo's summer of cricket launch in Sydney, as quoted by cricket.com.au.

Meanwhile, Hussey said he preferred Carey at No. 7 after a move to No. 6 last summer. "He bats so well with the tail, it's not an easy role ... And you are quite often contending with the second-new ball. He can do that. Plus, it gives you a little extra respite if he's been out keeping for a long period of time," he added.

Labuschagne has opened up about his Test omission for the second time in over a year and said he has no doubt he will be back in the national Test team, adding that his "path back to the Australian team will work itself out."

Root stresses adaptability as key to England's World Cup ambitions ahead of Australia ODIs

IANS

PERTH: England batter Joe Root believes his side must become more adaptable and gain experience in different playing conditions if they are to challenge for the upcoming World Cup, with the three-match ODI series against Australia providing another opportunity for the young squad to develop.

Speaking ahead of the opening ODI, Root emphasised the importance of learning to handle different surfaces and match situations as England look to build a more rounded team.

"We're a team that wants to be more adaptable. If we are going to challenge that World Cup, we're going to have to be able to adapt our games," Root told reporters in Perth on Wednesday.

"We're quite young and inexperienced in many ways. So the more experience we have on different surfaces, different situations in games... the more we'll learn, develop and become a more rounded team.



"We've come from Pakistan. We've learned a huge amount there. Over the course of this series, we're going to have to be really clear on how we want to get the best out of these three games. So that's the challenge for us."

England arrive in Australia after a tri-series involving Pakistan and Sri Lanka, in which they managed just one win from four group matches.

Root, however, expressed confidence in the younger members of the squad, highlighting their talent and energy while backing them to make the most of the conditions in Australia. "They're very exciting. They've got huge amounts of energy, huge amounts of talent," Root said of his younger teammates. "They've done very well domestically, and they've got great skill sets.

"I'm sure they'll be desperate to try and utilise the surfaces after coming from Pakistan, where you might not have the bounce. They've been great in this lead-up phase, and I'm sure if they get that opportunity, they'll put the best foot forward," Root added.

England drop women's Test against West Indies, line up four red-ball games for Ashes build-up

IANS

LONDON: England Women's tour of the West Indies next April will go ahead without a Test match, said the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), which added that the fixture has been done away with, making room for four red-ball games at home before the Women's Ashes against Australia takes place at Headingley in 2027.

The trip to the Caribbean, which takes place after the English domestic season begins, will now consist of three T20Is and three ODIs. According to the ECB, the calendar no longer had room for the Test that had originally been planned.

As per the ECB, Cricket West Indies (CWI) has agreed to the request, and the ECB praised the board for its cooperation during the talks. England last played a Test match against India at Lord's, which they lost by 270 runs.

"We appreciate the constructive conversations with Cricket West Indies that have enabled us to look forward to an exciting tour of the Caribbean before focusing our attention back on our home summer," ECB chief executive Richard Gould said in a statement on Wednesday.

The ECB said the CWI will confirm the dates and venues later, with the tour to take place after the first round of the One-Day Cup, in which all England players will feature. The space created will go into the Ashes build-up. England will play three intra-squad 'best versus best' red-ball matches in home conditions, followed by a three-day fixture against Australia A shortly before the Test begins at Headingley on June 24.

Before that, the red-ball squad will spend 10 days at a red-ball camp in Bengaluru in January, ahead of the inaugural ICC Women's Champions Trophy, to be played in Vadodara and Mumbai from February 14-28.

