



PM Modi remembers sacrifices made by Hazrat Imam Hussain

NEWDELHI: On the 10th day of Muharram being observed as Ashura, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said that the sacrifices made by Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) emphasise his commitment to righteousness.

He inspired people to uphold truth in the face of adversity, the PM added.



"The sacrifices made by Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) emphasise his commitment to righteousness. He inspires people to uphold truth in the face of adversity," PM Modi posted on X.

Congress MP and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Sunday, appealed to follow the path shown by Hazrat Imam Hussain, leading toward humanity, peace, and unity.

In a post on X, Rahul Gandhi shared, "On this day of Muharram, we should resolve to follow the path shown by Hazrat Imam Hussain, which, through struggle, sacrifice, and dedication, leads us toward humanity, peace, and unity."

Muharram holds significant religious importance for Shia

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Youth Must Follow Imam Hussain's (AS) Path Of Selfless Service: LG Sinha

FE NEWS NETWORK

Joins Youm-e-Ashoorah's Zuljinah procession at Downtown, Srinagar

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday joined thousands of Shia mourners at the traditional Zuljinah procession here on the solemn occasion of Youm-e-Ashura.

The procession commenced from Botakadal's Ali Pora area to Zadibal amid tight security and elaborate arrangements.

"Upon his arrival, the Lieutenant Governor offered water to the mourners and ceremoniously draped the Zuljinah with the traditional chaddar before the procession commenced," witnesses told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer.

LG Sinha said that Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) gave the message of selfless service and guided the humanity to care for those who are less fortunate. Young generation must learn from the life and virtues of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and walk on the righteous path shown by him, he said

Top officials including IGP Kashmir, SSP Srinagar Deputy Commissioner Srinagar were also present on the oc-

is expected to remain packed throughout the day as mourners remain would engaged in chest-beating and recitation



casation.

The procession began this morning with mourners, including men, women and children, all marching alongside the symbolic Zuljinah, representing the horse of Imam Hussain (AS).

Stretch from Botakadal to Zadibal

of nohas to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions in Karbala.

Moreover, with the traditional observance continuing this year too, multiple stalls were set up by

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ON THE SOLEMN OCCASION OF YOUM-E-ASHURA, LG SINHA JOINED ZULJINAH PROCESSION AT BOTAKADAL, SRINAGAR'S DOWNTOWN and paid rich tributes to Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions.

Over 21,000 pilgrims visit Amarnath shrine on 4th day of pilgrimage

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: More than 21,000 devotees had a darshan of the naturally formed ice Shivling inside the holy cave shrine of Amarnath on the fourth day of the annual pilgrimage on Sunday, officials said.

A total of 21,512 pilgrims paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre high holy cave shrine on the Himalayas in south Kashmir on Sunday, they said.

The pilgrims included 15,758 males, 4,723 females, 300 children, 129 sadhus, 17 sadhis, three transgenders and 582 security forces, officials said.

The total number of pilgrims who visited the cave shrine in the first four days of the 38-day yatra has risen to 69,484,

they added.

Meanwhile, the death toll in the ongoing pilgrimage has reached three as a pilgrim from Uttar Pradesh died due to cardiac arrest, they said.



Rakesh Kumar Soni, 49, a resident of Pant Nagar in Uttar Pradesh, fell sick at Baltal. He was referred to a hospital in Srinagar where doctors declared him dead on arrival, according to officials.

Heatwave Persists Srinagar Records 33.7 Deg Celsius

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Kashmir Valley experienced a fresh spell of unseasonal heat today, with Srinagar recording a maximum temperature of 33.7°C, three degrees above normal for this time of year.

Several districts in the valley report-

ed higher-than-average temperatures, signalling persistent hot and dry condi-



tions across the region. Kokernag was among the hottest spots after

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Mookerjee Key to Kashmir Being Integral to India: Shah

FE NEWS NETWORK

Gujarat: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday paid rich tributes to Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee and remembered his contributions



and sacrifices for the country, especially Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a gathering in Gujarat's Anand, Shah asserted that Mookerjee sacrificed himself for Jammu and Kashmir, adding that the territory would never have become

an integral part of India without him.

Mookerjee strongly opposed the special status and autonomy granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Indian Constitution. He advocated for the complete integration of J-K with the rest of India.

Shah said, "Today is a very important day. On this day in 1901, Syama Prasad Mookerjee was born. Born in the land of West Bengal, he was a nationalist leader... The people of the nation are associating him with Jammu and Kashmir. That is correct because Kashmir would never have become an integral part of India without Syama Prasad."

"He sacrificed himself for Kashmir, raising the slogan 'Ek desh mein do Vidhan, do Pradhan aur do Nishan nahi chalenge'. The entire credit for West Bengal being a part of our nation today goes to Syama Prasad and Swami Pranavananda..." the Union Minister said..

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Syama Prasad Mookerjee sacrificed his life for unification of J&K with India: LG

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SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha attended the

niversary, the Lieutenant Governor recalled his immense contributions as one of the key architects of modern India.



125th Birth Anniversary celebration of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, at Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

Paying rich tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his birth an-

"Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was a visionary statesman, educationist and fearless parliamentarian whose ideals continue to shape the destiny of India. His profound

knowledge, and resolute commitment to social cohesion and harmony will always be remembered," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said the achievements of J&K post-August 2019 are guided by the dream of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the resolve of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the J&K has launched the 2-year celebratory campaign to honour the life and legacy of

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Muslims should unite against evil: Farooq Abdullah

SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday urged the Muslims to unite against evil for peace as he attended a Muharram procession in the Union Territory capital.



"Muslims should unite against all evil. That's the only way the world will see peace," Abdullah told reporters after taking part in a procession in Old Srinagar city.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister called Islam a religion of peace and brotherhood. "Islam teaches peace and brotherhood and that is the message Hussain (grandson of Prophet Muhammad) carried ... to fight against tyranny and to fight against evil," he said.

Donning a 'keffiyeh,' an Arab

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Bottimline

Kashmir Will Fight Back, No Mercy for Terrorists: Union Min Goyal

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Union Minister Piyush Goyal, during a press conference in Srinagar on Sunday, firmly stated that Kashmir is moving steadily on the path of



progress and will not be derailed by acts of terrorism. He emphasized the significant efforts of the central government and the local administration in revitalizing industry, trade, and tourism across the region.

According to KNS, Goyal said that despite past challenges, including terrorist attacks aimed at harming the economy, Kashmir has shown resilience. "Kashmir is not

going to stop. It will answer the terrorists," he declared, noting that the attacks weren't just on tourists, but on the economic backbone of the region.

He praised the success of democratic processes in J&K and the revival of in-

and business leaders.

He also spoke about Operation Sindoor, calling it a strong response to terrorism supported by neighboring countries, and appealed for public unity in the mission. "Just as we are ending Naxalism, we will

He also spoke about Operation Sindoor, calling it a strong response to terrorism supported by neighboring countries, and appealed for public unity in the mission. "Just as we are ending Naxalism, we will also defeat terrorism with the people of Kashmir," Goyal added.

also defeat terrorism with the people of Kashmir," Goyal added.

The Union Minister concluded by congratulating the people, the government, and the media of Kashmir for

'Tricolour flying high in Kashmir'

Chouhan pays tribute to Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his birth anniversary

FE NEWS NETWORK

BHOPAL: Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Sunday described Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee as an "ardent" nationalist leader and noted that the tricolour is now "flying high" in Kashmir.

"We pay our respects at the feet of the ardent nationalist leader and founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee. It was Dr. Mukherjee who established Bharatiya Jana Sangh as a new political party based on Indian culture, values, and traditions, as an alternative to Congress," Chouhan said in Bhopal in his tribute to Shyama Prasad Mookerjee on the occasion of his birthday.

Recalling Mookerjee's protest against Article 370, Chouhan said, "The Jana Sangh proclaimed that there cannot be two flags, two con-

stitutions, and two heads in one country... He made the supreme



sacrifice, and today, by paying our respects at his feet, we feel satisfied that under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, his resolve has been fulfilled. The tricolour is now flying high in Kashmir."

Syama Prasad Mookerjee was the founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the ideological parent organisation of the BJP.

Born on July 6, 1901, in Calcutta, was a multifaceted

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Govt Yet to Decide on Summer Break Extension, Final Call Today

SRINAGAR: Amid rising temperatures, the Jammu and Kashmir administration is monitoring weather conditions and is likely to decide any decision on the school vacation extension today (Monday) after assessing weather conditions.

A senior government official said that no final decision has been taken yet, adding that weather forecasts indicate a strong possibility of rainfall beginning tonight, Monday and also the day after tomorrow, which is most likely to bring temperatures down.

"As far as the weather forecast is concerned, we have reports suggesting there are very high chances of rain tonight, tomorrow, and the day after tomorrow," the official said, adding it is a positive sign.

"We are closely monitoring the situation. A final decision regarding any vacation extension will be taken tomorrow after assessing the actual weather conditions," he added.

Currently, summer vacations in government and private schools across the Kashmir division are scheduled

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Ashura procession held with religious beliefs at Chanderkote, Ramban

FE News Network

RAMBAN: The solemn occasion of Youm-e-Ashoora was observed with deep religious reverence and peace at Chanderkote, Ramban, where hundreds of mourners participated in the traditional Zuljinah procession, commemorating the supreme sacrifice of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions.

The procession commenced from Imambara Ali Nagar Kunfer Chanderkote under the patronage of Anjuman-e-Imamia, passed through the main market of Chanderkote and culminated at the symbolic Karbala.

Religious scholars addressed the gathering at Imam Bargah, highlighting the historical and spiritual significance of the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (AS) and his 72 companions at Karbala more than 1400 years ago.



Rich tributes were paid to the martyrs for their unwavering stand for truth, justice

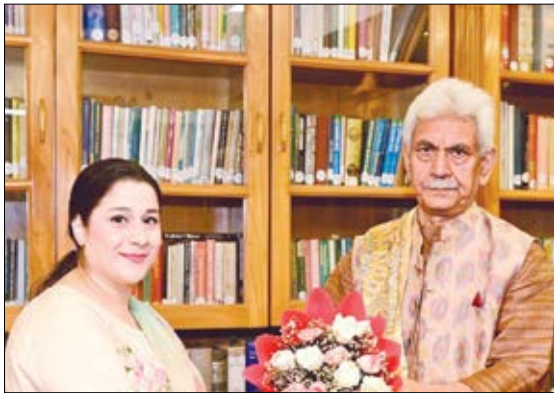
and righteousness—values that continue to inspire generations and uphold the core principles of Islam.

The District Administration Ramban, led by Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan, ensured the smooth and peaceful conduct of the procession by putting in place elaborate arrangements for security, medical assistance, water supply, electricity and sanitation in the Shia-majority area of Chanderkote in the Chenab Valley.

Senior officers present included DC Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan, SSP Kulbir Singh, ACR Shokat Hayat Mattoo, CMO Dr. Kamal Je Zadu DySP (Hq) Om Prakash, along with health department teams, ambulances and other concerned officials.

MLA Ramban Advocate Arjun Singh Raju and several distinguished citizens also participated in the procession expressing solidarity and paying their respects.

Advocate Heena Sultan calls on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha



FE News Network

Srinagar: Advocate Heena Sultan, President, J&K Women Lawyers Association called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha.

Subsequently, a delegation of Baramulla Sports Association also called on the Lieutenant Governor and apprised him of various issues pertaining to the development of sports infrastructure in the district.

Satish Sharma attends Ashoora procession at Alamgari Bazar

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, attended the Ashoora procession at Alamgari Bazar, Srinagar, to pay homage to the martyrs of Karbala. He expressed solidarity with the Shia Muslim community on the solemn occasion of 10th Muharram.

Former Chief Minister Dr Farooq Abdullah, Legislators Tanvir Sadiq, Mushtaq Guru and other prominent representatives of various religious organizations and community elders were also present.

The Minister joined thousands of mourners as they paid tribute to the supreme sacrifice of Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions, highlighting the universal message of justice, sacrifice and truth. He termed the day as a powerful reminder of standing firm against tyranny and upholding the values of righteousness.

Speaking on the occasion, Satish Sharma said, "Ashoora is not only a day of mourning but also of reflection, reminding us of the eternal message of Imam Hussain (AS) who stood against injustice and oppression. His legacy continues to inspire the generations across the world, cutting across religions and regions."



The Minister appreciated the coordination between the administration, local volunteers and religious leaders in ensuring smooth conduct of the event.

He further directed the officials of the concerned departments, including FCS&CA, Transport and Health, to ensure all necessary arrangements of essential supplies, mobility and emergency medical support throughout the Muharram period. The Minister also emphasized the need for communal harmony and respect for all faiths, stating that unity in diversity remains the cornerstone of Jammu and Kashmir's pluralistic ethos. Senior officers of the district administration were also present on the occasion.

Dy CM flags off bus service from Jammu to Kalasara via Sunderbani



FE News Network

JAMMU: Acting promptly over the long pending demand of people living in far flung area of village Kalasara regarding transport facility, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary flagged off a bus from Jammu to Daddal Kalasara via Sunderbani Bajabhain.

While speaking on the occasion, the Dy CM said that this daily bus service will benefit thousands of people who faced difficulties in up-down travel from the designated area

earlier. He said that the service will cater to the transportation needs of the people travelling to the far flung areas of the constituency.

Surinder Choudhary emphasized that J&K government is committed to establish a sustainable public transportation system in UT.

He also exhorted that the government intended to improve transportation in Jammu, especially in far flung and border areas with the aim to enhance mass mobility, providing increased safety and sustainability, along with greater access and convenience for commuters.

10th Day of Muharram; Ashoora procession taken out on in Poonch

FE News Network

POONCH: With utmost religious devotion and reverence, Ashoora processions were held across Poonch district to mark the 10th day of Muharram, commemorating the martyrdom of Imam Hussain and his companions in the Battle of Karbala.

MLA Haveli Aijaz Jan, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal, Senior Superintendent of Police Shafket Hussain Batt, Additional Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik, Tehsildar Haveli, DySP, besides other officers from civil administration and police, besides civil society members, religious heads took part in the procession. The Ashoora procession in Poonch town, organized under the patronage of the Anjman-e-Jaffria president was attended by a large gathering of men and women mourners, as well as renowned ulemas of the Shia sect. The procession highlighted the significance of the Karbala tragedy and the great sacrifice of Imam Hussain, with speakers emphasizing the

moral lessons drawn from the martyrdom.

The procession began at Talya Pehalwan Shah and passed through the main market area of Poonch town, culminating at Imam Bargah Poonch in the evening. Thousands of mourners participated, displaying immense devotion throughout the route.

The district administration had made extensive arrangements for the smooth conduct of the procession. These included sanitation measures along the procession route, first aid medicare services with ambulances and water tankers for the comfort of the mourners. Comprehensive traffic and security management plans were implemented by the police to facilitate an orderly procession.

Anjuman-e-Jaffaria extended their heartfelt gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor (LG) Administration, Deputy Commissioner Poonch and other district authorities for their dedicated efforts in ensuring the safety, security and overall comfort of the participants in the procession.

Police Arrest 3 Drug Peddlers, Including Woman, in Kulgam

Kulgam : In a major crackdown against drug trafficking, Kulgam Police arrested three individuals, including a woman, and seized a significant quantity of contraband from their possession. Acting on specific inputs,

a police team led by Incharge Police Post Nehama and supervised by SDPO DH Pora established a checkpoint near Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pombay. During routine checking, a load carrier auto (registration number JK18D-9075) was intercepted with three occupants onboard. On searching the vehicle, the police recovered 8.15 kilograms of poppy straw-like substance. The accused

were identified as Mudasir Ahmad Bhat, son of Abdul Gani Bhat, resident of Watigam, Kulgam (driver); Raju Singh, son of Gurbaksh Singh, resident of Ludhiana, Punjab; and a woman from Moga, Punjab. All three have been taken into custody and are lodged at Police Station DH Pora. A case under FIR No. 49/2025 has been registered under relevant sections of law, and further investigation is

underway. According to news service, associated news bureau, the police have appealed to the public to report any suspicious activities or drug-related crimes by contacting the nearest police station or dialing 112. Authorities reiterated their commitment to take strict action against drug peddlers and urged community cooperation in the fight against the drug menace. ANB

J&K people confident of statehood bill in upcoming Parliament session: NC leader

FE News Network

JAMMU: National Conference provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta on Sunday said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are confident that the BJP-led government will table a bill for restoration of statehood to the Union Territory in the upcoming parliamentary session.

The Monsoon session of Parliament is scheduled to start on July 21 and continue till August 12.

Addressing the day-long party convention here, Gupta said the present dual power structure is not in the interest of the people of the UT and has only created "administrative confusion and chaos."

"This arrangement



undermines democratic accountability and delays redressal of public issues," he said.

He said the people have confidence that the Modi government will bring the statehood bill for J&K in the upcoming Parliament session.

The NC leader assured that

once statehood is restored, the Omar Abdullah-led J&K government will implement promises made in the party's manifesto.

"Our roadmap for equitable development, safeguarding the rights of the people, and ensuring democratic empowerment will

be activated without delay," he said, reiterating party's stand on the full statehood issue.

Meanwhile, J&K Pradesh Congress Committee chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma asked the party workers to intensify the ongoing movement for statehood. "Any further delay by the centre to restore full statehood would be detrimental to democratic culture and vitiate the peaceful atmosphere in the region,"

he said while speaking to prominent Congress workers at Nowshera in Rajouri district. The Congress leader also accused the BJP of running a "proxy government" despite people not giving a mandate to them to rule. (PTI)

BRO improves pathway to Amarnath for ease of devotees: Director General Lt General Raghu Srinivasan

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Director General (DG) Lieutenant General Raghu Srinivasan on Sunday informed that the statutory body under the Defence Ministry has been tasked to improve the stretches taken by the devotees for the Amarnath yatra. The tracks for the two approaches – Chandanwari and Baltal – taken by the devotees to the Amarnath yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, which were merely three to four feet wide, have been widened to 12 feet, he added. "We are very fortunate and blessed as the BRO to be associated with the projects involving religious destinations in the extreme parts of our northern borders. The Amarnath Yatra has two approaches: one from Chandanwari and one from Baltal.

The tracks of both these approaches were initially just three to four feet wide. We were honoured that the LG, Manoj Sinha, had tasked the Border Roads Organisation with improving the 45 km long stretches of the Amarnath Shrine. The stretches have been widened to 12 feet," Lt General Srinivasan told ANI.

He further stated that the BRO had taken effective measures to ensure that the geological conditions were not disturbed in the eco-sensitive region. He added that handrails for 32 kilometres along the Amarnath route have been installed for the ease of devotees.

"What has also been done is that considering the extreme religious significance of this location, extreme care has been taken to ensure that the geological conditions are not disturbed, the eco-sensitivities are

maintained, and that whatever work we had to carry out was done by prudent technical means. We are very grateful that we got this task, and we are hopeful that the Amarnath yatra, with its due reverence, is completed," Lt General Srinivasan said.

The pilgrims undertaking the annual Amarnath Yatra have expressed appreciation for the security forces and the overall arrangements along the Pahalgam route, saying that they feel safe and supported in their spiritual journey to the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnath Ji. Earlier on Saturday, Union Minister Jitendra Singh stated that around 26,000-27,000 pilgrims have visited the Amarnath Yatra since the start of the annual pilgrimage, dispelling the misconception that the enthusiasm of pilgrims would decrease following the Pahalgam terrorist attack.

J&K to soon have Centre of Excellence for Packaging, Design: Goyal Addresses Traders' Conclave in Srinagar

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, addressed the Traders' Conclave – 2025, organised by the Federation of Trade and Industry of India (FTII) at SKICC Srinagar today. The conclave celebrated the vital contribution of traders, entrepreneurs, and business leaders in strengthening the economic landscape of Jammu & Kashmir and the nation.

The event was attended by Sunil Singhi, Chairman of the National Traders Welfare Board; and Satish Sharma, Cabinet Minister, Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

Prior to the conclave, Piyush Goyal held key interactions with representatives from the MSME Development Forum and the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The discussions focused on local trade challenges and policy solutions, including GST on handicrafts, the promotion of horticulture-based value chains, and packaging and R&D infrastructure.

In his address, Goyal began by remembering Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, India's first Commerce Minister, and paid tribute to the democratic spirit reflected in the recently concluded general elections. He expressed heartfelt gratitude for the love and warmth

he received from the people of Kashmir, noting the spiritual significance of the holy month of Muharram and the cultural harmony reflected in Ekadashi festivities across India.

Speaking on the theme of the conclave, Goyal said, "Vocal for Local is not just a slogan. It is the guiding philosophy for India's rise as a manufacturing power and a trusted trading partner. From the local shopkeeper to our global exporters, everyone has a role in building a Viksit Bharat."

He shared that during his earlier meetings, delegations raised concerns regarding GST on handicrafts and the need to integrate packaging technologies with handlooms, handicrafts, and horticulture. The Minister assured that he would take up the matter with the Indian Institute of Packaging, and fast-track the establishment of a regional centre in Kashmir.

On the suggestion for setting up a Centre of Excellence for Startups and Innovation, Goyal offered support through a public-private partnership model, and encouraged collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture to enable research and development in agri-entrepreneurship.

He also responded positively to the idea of establishing a solar power project in Lassipora Industrial Estate, highlighting its



potential for green-certified production and clean energy adoption.

Addressing concerns from apple growers, Goyal acknowledged the importance of balancing demand and production to ensure remunerative prices for local growers. He assured that the government would examine the matter in consultation with stakeholders in Delhi.

Highlighting the global recognition of Kashmir's craft heritage,

the Minister said, "Wherever we go, there is a growing norm to gift 'Made in India' products. Kashmir's GI-tagged Pashmina shawls stand out every time. Just recently, our Prime Minister gifted one to the President of Ghana, showcasing India's soft power and the global journey of our artisans."

Condemning the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, Goyal said the unity shown by Kashmiris in the aftermath sent a powerful message to the world. He reiterated that peace, safety, and solidarity are the foundations of progress, and tourism will remain one of the region's greatest strengths.

He applauded the commencement of the Vande Bharat Express in Kashmir and the completion of strategic infrastructure such as the Chenab and Anji bridges, Peer Ki Gali tunnel, and the USBRL railway corridor, terming them game-changers for regional connectivity and commerce.

Calling for sustained tourism promotion, the Minister said that cultural events, yatras, and conclaves like today's should be organised regularly to invite the nation and the world to witness Kashmir's peace and progress. He also commended the growing network of homestays in Kashmir, which provide employment while offering visitors an immersive cultural experience.

10th Muharram Processions held with profound religious significance in Budgam

Remember the significance of 10th Muharram and the message it gives us – of sacrifice, patience and standing for truth: DC Bilal



FE News Network

BUDGAM: The 10th Muharram (Ashoora) procession was today held in Budgam with deep religious reverence and solemnity.

The main Zuljana Sharief procession began from Bab-UL-Ilem Imambara in Mirgund early in the morning

and culminated late in the evening at Daar-UL-Mustafa, Budgam.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat, along with SSP Budgam, Nikhil Borkar, actively participated in the procession from Mirgund. They were also accompanied by Director Health Services Kashmir, ADC Budgam, CPO Budgam, CMO Budgam, and

other concerned district officers.

As a mark of respect and solidarity, DC and SSP Budgam also carried the Alam and walked alongside the Taziya procession. They personally participated in serving water and refreshments to the mourners at various points, including the district administration's refreshment stall set up outside Behishte Zehra Park Budgam.

District administration had made elaborate arrangements for smooth observance of Ashoora processions across the district. Medical camps, water distribution stalls, sanitation services, and police deployments were ensured at all major locations.

DC, who was continuously monitoring and reviewing the arrangements on the ground, reiterated the importance of the day and said, "Remember the significance of 10th Muharram and the message it gives us – of sacrifice, patience and standing for truth."

He expressed gratitude to all departments, volunteers, and the local community for their coordination and support in maintaining the sanctity and smooth conduct of Ashoora across Budgam.

Islamia College Organises Sabeel at Alamgari Bazar on Ashura

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: In a heartfelt gesture of community service and interfaith harmony, the NSS Unit of Islamia College of Science and Commerce, Srinagar, set up a Sabeel (facilitation camp) at Alamgari Bazar Chowk on the eve of Youm-e-Ashura.

As part of its regular outreach initiatives, the camp served refreshments including fruit juices, water, lassi, tea, and coffee to the mourners participating in the Ashura procession. Additionally, a mobile charging station was established at the site to assist attendees during the religious gathering.

The initiative was conducted under the supervision of NSS Programme Officer and saw enthusiastic involvement from NSS volunteers along with the college's supporting staff.

Commending the initiative, Prof. (Dr.) Tehmina Yousof, Principal of Islamia College, lauded the team for their thoughtful planning and dedicated service to the community.

She appreciated the NSS Unit's role in fostering a spirit of unity, empathy, and volunteerism among students.



Speaking on the occasion, NSS Programme Officer underscored the importance of such facilitation camps, describing them as integral to the institution's sustained commitment to social welfare. He noted that Islamia College has consistently led by example through similar community outreach drives.

As a follow-up, the NSS Unit also plans to undertake a cleanliness campaign in the area immediately after the culmination of the Ashura procession.

Treasury office Bandipora organizes orientation programme on SNA-SPARSH

FE News Network

BANDIPORA: District Treasury Office Bandipora under the directions of Finance department conducted an orientation programme on the Single Nodal Account Samyochit Pronali Aakakrit Shigr Hastantaran (SNA-SPARSH), model for efficient management of funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).

The programme was attended by Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) associated with the District Treasury Bandipora and its subordinate Treasuries, aimed at familiarizing them with the SNA-SPARSH system for seamless financial operations.

The session began with a comprehensive introduction to the model by the District Treasury Officer Bandipora, who highlighted the role of SNA-SPARSH in strengthening the financial governance at the grassroots level. A Power Point Presentation on SNA-SPARSH and a demo on bill generation on JKPaysys from DDO maker to checker login were presented by the experts of NIC Bandipora.

The SNA-SPARSH model integrates critical financial platforms, including JKBEAMS, PFMS and eKuber of RBI, facilitating real-time fund transfers directly from the central and state consolidated funds to the implementing agencies. On the occasion, DTO Bandipora said that this reform is part of a broader financial transformation under the Finance department, complementing the systems like BEAMS, JKPaysys, Treasury Net and e-Kuber, aimed at ensuring timely, transparent and efficient release of funds to the beneficiaries.

"Heat Doesn't Justify Halting Education, It Demands Sensible Solutions And Bold Decisions: PSAJK President

"Online Education Is No Substitute For Real Schooling": G.N. Var

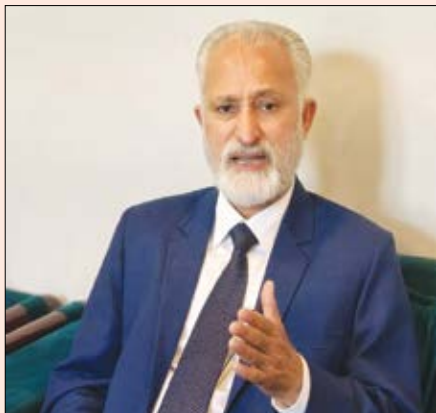
FE News Network

SRINAGAR: In response to the ongoing debate surrounding the extension of summer vacations due to heat waves in Kashmir division, the Private Schools' Association Jammu Kashmir (PSAJK) has issued a strong, research-backed statement urging the J&K government to adopt academic and logic-based solutions. The Association advocates for early morning school timings as a practical, globally practiced measure to ensure both student well-being and academic continuity.

In a statement issued to the press, PSAJK State President G.N. Var said, "This isn't merely about the heat, it's about how we respond to challenges without compromising the academic and mental health of our children's. Heat is a global issue, not a reason to paralyze the education system. Smarter decisions, not shutdowns, is the way forward."

The Association's suggestion to start schools as early as 6:00 Am or 7:00 Am is not arbitrary but is based on input from leading education experts, parents and teachers. It aligns with models already practiced in several hotter Indian states and across the world.

Var also expressed concern that decisions on



school closures are often driven by media narratives or administrative perceptions, rather than careful educational planning and meaningful dialogue with key stakeholders."

The PSAJK President further said, "Research shows that even a single day of school absence can double the learning loss. We've already lost valuable academic time due to prolonged winter breaks and frequent summer

vacation extensions in recent years. Children's from poor families are the worst affected they don't have access to fans, coolers or safe alternatives at home."

The Association rejected online education as a practical alternative, particularly for little children's and warned about the long-term negative effects of too much screen time. "Online schooling leads to screen addiction, emotional underdevelopment and social disconnect. It cannot replace real schooling".

Var also questioned the selective logic applied in Kashmir, stating, "Children's in Madrasas wake up much earlier. In other parts of India and the world, students attend school despite similar or worse heat conditions. Why does heat become a school issue only in Kashmir? The same children tolerate the heat while traveling, playing and enjoying elsewhere. This selective outrage is illogical."

Reaffirming its position, the Private Schools' Association Jammu Kashmir emphasized that early morning classes remain the most practical and safe solution, protecting students' health while maintaining academic progress and discipline. "Education is not a luxury; it is a fundamental right and we must uphold it with seriousness and commitment".

Satish Sharma advocates digital empowerment, youth led entrepreneurship at FTII Traders Conclave 2025

Calls for Integration of IT, Consumer Welfare, Skill Development for stronger trade ecosystem



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Youth Services and Sports, and Information Technology, Satish Shrama, underlined the importance of digitally empowering the local traders and integrating youth into entrepreneurial initiatives.

He was speaking at the FTII Traders Conclave 2025.

The conclave organized by the Federation of Trade and Industry of India (FTII) at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar, was held under the banner of "Vocal for Local", to promote indigenous trade and entrepreneurship.

The conclave was also attended by Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal; Chairman National Traders Welfare Board, Sunil Singhi; Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Ghulam Ali Khan; Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Vikramjit Singh and other senior officers.

"The convergence of trade, digital technology and youth innovation holds the key towards building a self-reliant and prosperous Jammu & Kashmir. Through our IT initiatives, we aim to simplify trade processes and ensure transparency in consumer services. At the same time, we are

working to encourage our youth to become job creators instead of job seekers," Satish Shrama mentioned.

He highlighted that the Department of FCS&CA is actively modernizing the public distribution and consumer grievance redressal mechanisms using IT tools. He added that improved digital infrastructure is also enabling the department to empower both consumers and traders alike.

Satish Shrama emphasized the critical need to create a youth-driven economic culture through entrepreneurship cells, skill training under sports and youth welfare programs and digital skilling platforms. "We must tap into the potential of our youth to transform the border districts and trade hubs into innovation centres," the Minister added.

The Minister reaffirmed the government's commitment towards safeguarding the consumer interests, streamlining digital services and expanding platforms for youth engagement in business and sports sectors. He also lauded FTII for hosting the conclave in Kashmir and fostering a platform for local voices to be heard nationally.

The program featured interactive sessions with policymakers, business leaders and youth entrepreneurs followed by networking and business linkage facilitation.

Javid Dar pays tributes to sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS)

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Minister for Agriculture Production Department, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, today paid rich tributes to the sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and other martyrs of Karbala.

In a message, the Minister said that the day reminds us that Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions sacrificed their lives for upholding the high values of truth, justice and righteousness. He said their martyrdom reminds mankind of the high principles of human dignity and morality.

Javid Dar also added that the Ashoora is also a day to rededicate ourselves to equality, brotherhood, compassion and justice as epitomized by Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS). The Minister prayed that on this day, let all of us resolve to work together to build a peaceful, just and equitable society.

TRAFFIC POLICE HEADQUARTERS, J&K, JAMMU/SRINAGAR

- From 05-07-2025, 1700 hrs. to 06-07-2025, 1600 hrs., there was slow movement observed on NH-44 due to breakdown of 03 HMVs, single lane traffic at Nashri-Dalwas and between Marog & Kishtwari Pathar.
- Commuters belonging to Reasi, Katra, Udhampur, Patnitop, Doda and Ramban town are requested to keep their photo ID card to prove their identification after cut off timing from Jammu/Udhampur so that their movement can be facilitated smoothly.
- Passengers/LMVs operators are advised to undertake journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW during day time due to apprehension of shooting stones between Ramban and Banihal.
- Goods carrier (HMV/LMV) Operators carrying fresh perishable/live stock are advised to load their vehicle as per advisory issued by Traffic Police Headquarters time to time as there is single lane traffic and poor condition of road at Nashri-Dalwas and between Marog & Kishtwari Pathar on Jammu-Srinagar NHW.
- Fruit growers/ Load carrier (HMV/LMV) Operators carrying fresh perishable from valley towards Jammu are advised to load and park their vehicle timely (every morning before 9:00 am at designated place between NAWYUG Tunnel and Ledwora) so that their movement can be facilitated smoothly.
- HMVs Operators/Owners are requested to desist from overloading and carry sufficient fuel during journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW. It is further requested that vehicle owners must double check the fitness of their vehicles and carry sufficient fuel before undertaking journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW.
- HMVs with only 06 and 10 tyres shall be allowed to ply through Dhar road.
- Commuters are advised to avoid unnecessary halts between Ramban and Banihal especially near landslide/shooting stone area.

TRAFFIC PLAN & ADVISORY FOR 07-07-2025:-

Subject to fair weather and better road conditions SANU Convoy/LMVs/Passenger/Private Cars shall be allowed from both sides on Jammu-Srinagar NHW (NH-44) viz from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice-versa. However, HMVs shall be allowed on alternate days. TCU Jammu/Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing this traffic.

SHRI AMAR NATH JI YATRA 2025

Please refer to Yatra Advisory No. 01 dated 27-06-2025

CUT OFF TIMINGS FOR LMVs/PASSENGER/PRIVATE CARS:-

To be released from:-

- Nagrota (Jammu) towards Srinagar: from 0600 hrs. to 1200 hrs.
- Jakhni (Udhampur) towards Srinagar: from 0700 hrs to 1300 hrs &
- Qazigund towards Jammu: from 1130 hrs to 1400 hrs.

TCU Jammu and TCU Srinagar will inform all concerned about the traffic advisory and cut off timings. No vehicle shall be allowed to move before and after cut off timings.

HMVs/Load Carriers:-

Subject to fair weather and better road conditions, HMVs shall be allowed from NAWYUG Tunnel (Qazigund side) towards Jammu after assessing the road and traffic situation on NH-44 and no HMV shall be allowed after 1900 hrs. TCU Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing the HMVs.

Moreover, in view of ongoing Shri Amar Nath Ji Yatra 2025, to provide hassle free movement of trucks carrying fresh/perishable goods on NH-44, UT administration has decided, all tankers of Petrol, Diesel, LPG bulk gas, all trucks carrying empty LPG cylinders; all empty vehicles of FC; any other vehicle loaded/empty upto 10-tyres shall use only Mughal Road while returning to Jammu, as per advisory issued by DIVCOM Kashmir vide No. Divcom/Dev/120/2025/7055-75 dated 01-07-2025

Kishtwar- Sinthan- Anantnag NH-244:-

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, after getting green signal from NHIDCL, LMVs/HPSVs shall be allowed from both sides viz from Anantnag towards Kishtwar and vice-versa on Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road. These vehicles shall be allowed from PP Parana towards Anantnag from 0800 hrs to 1600 hrs and from PP Daksam towards Kishtwar from 0900 hrs. to 1500 hrs. No HMV other than designated HPSVs shall be allowed as per order issued by SDM Chhatrovi vide No. SDN/C/2025-26/146-53 dated 16-05-2025 and SDN Kokernag vide No. SDN/RNG/665-71 dated 16-05-2025.

SSG ROAD

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, (after getting green signal from the BRO) traffic movement shall be allowed on regulated manner on Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumari road, LMVs followed by HMVs shall be allowed from Sonamarg towards Srinagar at 0500 hrs. to 1000 hrs. Similarly, LMVs followed by HMVs shall be allowed from Sonamarg towards Kargil at 1130 hrs to 1730 hrs. No vehicle shall be allowed after cut off timing.

S/Ss Convoy, plying from Srinagar to Kargil and vice versa shall plan their movement in such a manner so that they convey both UP and DOWN) don't get disturbed.

Mughal Road:-

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, after getting green signal from Road maintenance agencies (GRE), LMVs/Passenger/Private Cars shall be allowed from both sides on Mughal road viz from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice-versa via Poonch. However, HMVs (upto ten tyres only) shall be allowed from Shopian towards Poonch. These vehicles shall be allowed from Behramgalla (Baffla) and Herpora (Shopian) at 0700 hrs. upto 1800 hrs. as per advisory issued by DIVCOM Kashmir vide No. Divcom/Dev/120/2025/7055-75 dated 01-07-2025.

ADVISORY :-

People are advised to undertake journey only after confirming status of the road from Traffic control units as under:-

- Jammu (0191-2459048, 0191-2740550, 9419147732, 103)
- Srinagar (0194-2450022, 2485396, 18001807091, 103)
- Ramban (9419993745, 1800-180-7043)
- Udhampur (941928625)
- PCR Kishtwar (9906154100)
- PCR Kargil (9541902330, 9541902331)

DIPK-3352/25
Dt: 06-07-2025

25th Mahaan Gurmat Samagam concluded at Gurdwara Khari Dharamsal



FE News Network

POONCH: The 25th Mahaan Gurmat Samagam, a month-long spiritual journey rooted in the timeless teachings of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji concluded with deep devotion and humility at Gurdwara Yaadgar Sant Bhai Bahadur Singh Ji Dehri Sahib, Dharamsal Khari, nestled near the Zero Line at Chakkan Da Bagh in district Poonch.

MLA Haveli, Aijaz Jan, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal, Senior Superintendent of Police, Shafkat Hussain, Additional DDC Mr Pankaj Magotra, Lt Col Mandep Singh 10 Bdg, CO 6 Madras, CO BRO / GRE, Tehsildar Haveli and other officers

from defence forces, whose presence symbolized communal harmony and shared reverence.

The Samagam saw the blessed presence of Singh Sahib Gyani Harmiter Singh, esteemed religious preacher from Sri Darbar Sahib, Amritsar and Hazoori Raagi Bhai Sandeep Singh, whose divine kirtan filled the atmosphere with spiritual bliss.

The Samagam resonated with soul-stirring kirtan by Bhai Sandeep Singh supported by local raagis and parcharaks,

who shared the timeless messages of Gurmat with heartfelt devotion. A special 12-day spiritual camp for children was also organized, nurturing the next generation with moral, spiritual and cultural values.

A special Ardas (prayer) was solemnly offered in remembrance of the innocent lives lost in recent shelling incidents, seeking peace for the departed souls and strength for their families.

The Gurdwara Management Committee extended heartfelt thanks to Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Sangat, district administration, Army authorities and all volunteers whose tireless support ensured the success of the Samagam.

Chairperson DDC Kulgam visits Shahoo Sachan Kulgam in 10th Muharram Procession

FE News Network

KULGAM: Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Kulgam, M Afzal Parrey visited Shahoo Sachan Kulgam today and participated in the solemn procession marking the 10th Muharram, a significant day of remembrance for the Muslim community.

His presence highlighted the administration's dedication to fostering unity and supporting the community during this sacred occasion.

During the visit, DDC Chairperson interacted with local residents, religious leaders and participants of the Muharram procession, ensuring that all necessary arrangements were in place for a peaceful and dignified observance.

He directed the concerned departments to provide essential services, including security, healthcare and sanitation along the procession routes to facilitate mourners.

On the occasion, DDC Chairperson also visited blood donation camp organised in collaboration with local health authorities and voluntary organizations. The camp, reflecting the spirit of sacrifice and compassion central to Muharram, witnessed active participation from the community.

Editorial

Looming Water Crisis

The world is facing an unprecedented water crisis, and its effects are already being felt across the globe. Today, nearly half of the world's food production is at risk due to worsening water shortages. If current trends continue, this figure could escalate to a staggering 80 percent within the next twenty years, jeopardizing global food security and triggering widespread humanitarian and economic consequences.

Closer to home, the situation in Srinagar serves as a microcosm of this global challenge. Long queues outside water supply offices and dwindling reserves in local water bodies paint a grim picture. With Kashmir's population projected to reach 22 million by 2050, ensuring consistent water access will require immediate and coordinated efforts.

Regions with dense populations, including north-western India and parts of southern and eastern Europe, are particularly vulnerable. These areas are already grappling with the fallout of poor water management, a problem that will only intensify if left unchecked. The ramifications of water scarcity extend beyond human suffering, they threaten economic stability. According to the same report, the combined effects of climate change and persistent mismanagement of water resources could slash global economic growth by an average of 8 percent, with low-income nations suffering nearly double that loss. Such a downturn would deepen inequalities, disrupt supply chains, and destabilize societies.

Yet, within this crisis lies an opportunity, a chance to revolutionize how we value, manage, and distribute water. Recognizing water as the finite and precious resource it is must be the first step toward sustainable solutions. Governments, industries, and communities must prioritize policies that promote conservation, efficient usage, and equitable distribution.

Water is not just a commodity; it is the foundation of life. Preserving it demands collective responsibility, from policymakers implementing robust water management frameworks to individuals adopting mindful consumption habits. The time to act is now, before scarcity turns into catastrophe. Let us not wait for the wells to run dry before we realize the true worth of every drop.

AI - Human Aid Or Intellectual Raid?



PRIYANKA SAURABH

One of the biggest technological leaps of the twenty-first century is generative artificial intelligence – a computer brain that can create everything from stories to news reports, pictures to poems, and court decisions to dialogues. But the question is whether the foundation of this machine creativity rests on someone else's hard work? Is this new technology silently making the material created by composers, writers, journalists, painters and musicians a part of its knowledge – without their permission, without giving them any credit?

Recently, two courts in the US decided on similar cases. These decisions have provided relief to tech companies for the time being, but the issue is still not completely settled. These decisions have sparked debate across the world – and India is no exception.

Generative artificial intelligence models – such as OpenAI's ChatGPT or Meta's Llama – are trained by studying billions of books, websites, songs, news stories, and images. They are trained in the same way as a student acquires knowledge by reading books, but this student neither takes permission from the author before reading that book, nor gives credit or remuneration to the author. This is where the controversy begins.

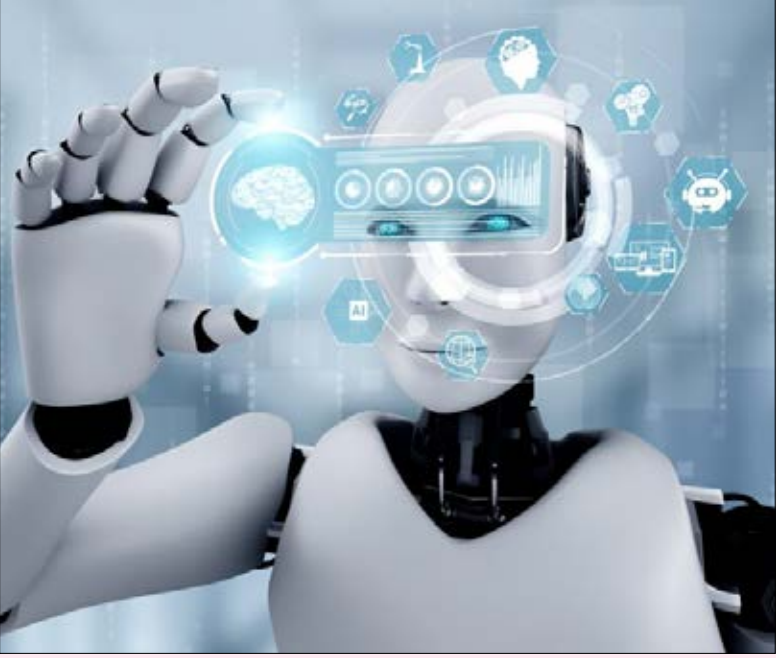
In 2024, the first case came in the US in which some novelists accused the company 'Anthropic' of using their books to train its artificial intelligence model. The authors said that this was a violation of their intellectual property. But the court ruled that the new content this model is generating is different, new and changed from the original work. Therefore, it falls under the category of 'fair use' and the company cannot be considered a criminal.

In the second case, the company Meta was accused of using literary and journalistic material without permission. The court held that the company had indeed read the protected works, but its purpose was to learn and create something new, so Meta was acquitted, considering this also a 'transformative use'.

One message from both these decisions is that the courts are currently giving priority to technological innovation, but the

question that is growing in the minds of the writers' community and intellectual workers is that if this is 'fair use', then what about their hard work, originality and rights?

Now let's turn our attention to India. In 2024, news agency ANI accused OpenAI of copying the language, style and content of their news stories through dialogue-based models (such as ChatGPT). Publishers' associations also alleged that these AI companies were commercially exploiting Indian content by ignoring copyright registration in India.



OpenAI's argument was that it neither runs its servers nor has a permanent office in India. It argued that its technology creates something new, transformative and useful in the public interest - and this does not amount to intellectual theft.

The case is now pending in the Delhi High Court, and its hearing is scheduled in the first week of July. This makes it clear that in India this debate has now reached the judicial corridors.

The question is whether India's existing intellectual property law is ready for this new technological challenge? The Copyright Act, enacted in 1957, has the concept of 'fair use', but it does not clearly define cases like artificial intelligence. Neither does India have a mechanism to check whether the materials an AI model is using for training are covered under copyright or not.

Today writers, poets, painters, musicians, photographers and journalists are realizing that their creative work is being fed into machines, and in return they are getting neither credit nor remuneration. This is not only a matter of legal but also moral

concern.

The debate on this topic is not about stopping technology. Innovation and technological progress are necessary, but that progress should not swallow human creativity. If a writer works for ten years to create a novel, and a machine copies the style in two seconds and creates a new 'product', it is neither fair nor respectable.

The responsibility of the courts is no longer limited to resolving disputes between companies and individuals, but they must also ensure that future technological devel-

opment is equally beneficial to all. If someone's intellectual labour is being usurped for free on the basis of only capital and technology, then it is a violation of democratic and moral values.

India should re-draft its copyright laws – especially in the age of artificial intelligence. A system should be created in which creators should be paid, their names should be mentioned, and their permission should be mandatory if their works are being used by technology.

It is not just a matter of justice, it is a matter of protecting literature, culture and creativity. If we ignore the creators of our time, future generations will inherit technology – but no sensitivity, no soul.

Gave flight to machines, but snatched the sky from the pen,

If knowledge is without credit, then what kind of science is it?

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The Healing Power of Forgiveness



Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Global Forgiveness Day is observed on July 7th. It's a day dedicated to promoting the act of forgiveness, both towards others and oneself, and recognizing its positive impact on mental and emotional well-being. To forgive and be forgiven is a chance we take in life to set things right. The day serves as an annual reminder that peace often begins with small personal acts of forgiveness. Forgiveness isn't a weakness, it's a proactive choice to reclaim one's emotional needs. It is said that "Forgiveness offers the possibility of two types of peace: peace of mind – the potential healing of old emotional wounds, and peace with others – the possibility of new, more gratifying relationships in the future." Forgiveness is the key. It allows us to lay down the right to claim retribution (openly or inwardly in our hearts and minds). Forgiving allows us to deal with, and then look past all the hurt and consequences of the offense. Forgiving pardons the offender and the offense. This does not mean to forget, in fact, we must remember as a way to remind ourselves that we too might be guilty of the same offense. Many people think of forgiving as a reconstruction of a relationship with the person who did you wrong, but its understanding the situation and moving past it. I feel forgiving is important for us to continue with our daily life, it makes us healthier, even happier.

Usually when we hurt another person or ourselves it is unconscious, the act of forgiveness is always a conscious decision. The act of forgiveness allows unconscious actions to come into the light of awareness. Forgiving others does not fix their mistakes; we forgive them to release ourselves from the heavy burden of holding grudges and carrying bitterness in our heart. It

accomplishes something even greater than that, it allows us each the space to let go of past mistakes while helping to cultivate a deeper sense of compassion for ourselves (and others). For-

heals. Forgiveness transmutes poison into medicine. We lament the wars and conflicts across the globe yet what about the battles in our own lives and the battles inside each of us?

to develop when we remember that we are all doing the very best we can. And someday we, too, will need forgiveness.

Forgiving others not only frees those we for-



giveness is for the strong, it shows how much strength you have, and how you managed to pull through a hard time. Holding a grudge always makes us feel bitterness and hatred when you can leave that behind and move on, your life will change and you will see everything differently. In the word of Jonathan Human "Forgiveness is an inherent virtue of being human, a prerequisite for a healthy human society and a central component to every religion. To forgive is to liberate one's self from the bondage of blame and recrimination. When we forgive, the trauma

What we need is to release our negative emotions and forgive others. Understand others' perspectives and cultivate compassion. Don't we think that every time we forgive someone we learn a thing from not only that person but from ourselves too. This demonstrates that moving on will be good for the both of you, but mainly for yourself, showing yourself you're strong enough. Sometimes when we are unwilling to forgive, it helps to remember that we, too, may someday require another person's forgiveness. An attitude of forgiveness is a little easier

give; it frees us from the poison of resentment and anger. Let us rebuild and strengthen relationships through forgiveness. Forgiving is not only healthy but it makes us happier, and it takes a weight off our shoulders we hadn't noticed was there.

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The act of forgiveness allows unconscious actions to come into the light of awareness. Forgiving others does not fix their mistakes; we forgive them to release ourselves from the heavy burden of holding grudges and carrying bitterness in our heart.

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Beyond Faith: The Triumph Of Humanity



Syed Majid Gilani

Life often teaches us its most valuable lessons in simple, everyday moments. Sometimes, something we quietly witness in a forgotten corner of this restless world leaves a deeper mark on our hearts than any long speech or sermon. Yesterday, I experienced one such moment, an incident so ordinary on the surface, yet it made a lasting impression on my heart and mind. It happened right here in Srinagar, and I feel it is my duty to share it, because within its simplicity, lies a lesson for us all.

It was an ordinary day when I visited one of the largest trading firms in the city. The business is run by a young businessman from a faith different from the majority community here. He carries forward a family business established by his forefathers, non-Kashmiri speaking by background. But what I saw in his office reminded me once again that humanity, discipline, and respect have no religion or boundary.

We sat in his spacious, well-lit office, casually talking about some work. Though he was a busy man, he still made time to sit with me over a cup of coffee. On one wall, an LCD screen quietly displayed live footage from his various offices around the city. As we talked, a young girl, modestly dressed in an abaya, quietly entered the room. With lowered eyes and a soft voice, she asked for permission to leave work early, as she had something important at home.

What the businessman did next deeply touched me. Despite our important discussion, he immediately turned to her with fatherly kindness, called her "Beta", and said gently but firmly, "No problem, beta, but first call your parents, I need to speak to them." The girl left, made a call, and soon returned, saying softly, "Sir, please speak to my mother."

He took the phone, spoke respectfully to the lady, calling her "Auntji", and asked whether it was fine for her daughter to leave early. The mother agreed without hesitation.

I thought the matter was over, but what happened next revealed the young businessman's true character. He then turned to the girl and said, "Beta, your mother's permission alone isn't enough. Please call your father too. I need to hear his consent before I allow you to leave."

I was surprised. This wasn't a normal boss and employee conversation. This was a man taking personal, moral responsibility for someone's daughter, as if she were his own. The girl quietly nodded and made another call. A short while later, she returned with the phone in her hand. "Sir, my father is on the line."

The businessman spoke to him with the same warmth and respect, addressing him as "Uncleji". He explained the situation and asked for his permission. The father also agreed. But it didn't end there. He politely requested, "Uncleji, please call me again after 15 minutes. By then, your daughter should have reached home. If she hasn't, let me know immediately."

Hearing this, my heart silently saluted the businessman. This wasn't just discipline, it was guardianship, the kind of moral responsibility our restless and often careless society needs so badly today.

a rule here, no outsider can meet or approach these girls directly. The moment they enter my office, I consider myself responsible for them. Until they return home safely, I feel I am answerable to God for their dignity, respect, and security."

That day, without preaching or delivering a lecture, this young businessman taught me a lifelong lesson. He proved that real guardianship, discipline, and respect for women need no slogans or speeches. They require sincere, quiet and fearless



I couldn't hold back and asked him, "Sir, I truly admire how you look after your staff. Was there something special about this girl's situation that made you insist on speaking to her father?" He smiled gently, picked up the remote, and pointed to the LCD screen where scenes from his other offices appeared. In each office, young women could be seen modestly dressed, focused on their work with grace and dignity.

He said, "Look, sir, I have many offices, and most of them are managed by young girls like her. Around 50 to 60 girls work with me. They are hardworking, educated, and many of them support their families. In today's world, anything can happen at any time. I feel it's my duty to take every possible step for their safety and honour."

Then, he shared something even more touching, "I've made

I sat there, quietly watching him, my heart filled with warmth and respect for a man from a different faith, teaching a lesson many among us have forgotten.

I asked him one more thing, "Sir, you have male staff and managers. Why do you take this responsibility upon yourself personally?"

His reply was simple, yet unforgettable, "When someone truly wants to protect women's dignity and uphold discipline, they don't think about position, workload, or status. They take responsibility for themselves. Most mothers, out of love, can sometimes become emotionally swayed by their daughters. A father, however, thinks more cautiously about his daughter's safety, especially when she leaves work early. That's why I always confirm with the father too."

His words stayed in my heart long after I left his office.

actions by genuine human responsibility.

Yesterday, I didn't just walk out of a businessman's office, I stepped out of a place where humanity still lives, where faith makes way for character, where a man showed that in this careless and distracted world, true guardians still exist. And in doing so, he left behind a lesson for all of us, a lesson for our society, our business owners, our homes, and for each one of us.

Syed Majid Gilani is a government officer by profession, and a writer by passion. He shares heartfelt thoughts on family, values, and human emotions. You can reach him at syedmajid6676@gmail.com.

The Dark Side of Social Media



ER AAUSYF IBN FAROOQ

Self-styled social media influencers have a moral responsibility. They are being followed by thousands and must be careful about what they post. They will be accountable before ALLAH (SWT).

It's plain to see that Kashmir has fallen into the grip of a digital storm that's spiraling out of control. With the COVID-19 boom in smartphone usage and internet accessibility, especially among children and teens, the region has witnessed a dramatic shift in the way people consume and create content. What began as a window to the world has now become a double-edged sword, especially in the hands of some self-styled social media content creators and YouTubers who misuse these platforms to spread vulgarity, irrelevant content, and mindless challenges; all in the name of views and fame. This content, instead of uplifting the community, is corroding the social fabric of Kashmir and planting seeds of irresponsibility among the youth. These content creators, knowingly or unknowingly, are steering young minds away from education, discipline, and cultural values, pushing them toward shallow entertainment that offers no long-term benefit. Children, once given phones for online classes, are now glued to screens chasing viral trends, often neglecting their studies and personal development.

Even more alarming is the normalization of tasteless content, with accounts getting banned and then recreated, gaining massive followings in no time. This growing appetite for vulgarity and negativity stands in direct opposi-

tion to the teachings of Islam and the traditions of Kashmir, both of which emphasize modesty, dignity, and purpose. The silence of society only adds fuel to this fire. If we don't speak out now, we risk losing not just our values, but also an entire generation.



Fortunately, voices like Advocate Muneer Najar, have risen to counter this wave, reporting offensive accounts and calling for a more responsible digital culture. His efforts need our full support. It's not about pointing fingers, but about saving our community from a dangerous path.

A true Muslim should never spread indecent speech, use foul language, or insult others much of what is seen in

today's toxic influencer culture. We need Islamic scholars, preachers, parents, teachers, elders, and even the youth themselves to wake up, reflect, and act. We should promote content that educates, uplifts, and reflects our faith and culture. It is imperative to report content that pollutes

and rethink their content. Social media is not a playground; it's a platform that can lead to either reward or ruin. As

A true Muslim should never spread indecent speech, use foul language, or insult others much of what is seen in today's toxic influencer culture. We need Islamic scholars, preachers, parents, teachers, elders, and even the youth themselves to wake up, reflect, and act. We should promote content that educates, uplifts, and reflects our faith and culture. It is imperative to report content that pollutes minds and hearts.

an Ummah, we must hold ourselves and others accountable, spread awareness, and encourage content that brings khair (good), not fitna (chaos).

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Youth Must

volunteers, civil society groups, and government departments to serve water, tea, and food to the devotees.

Additionally, security personnel were deployed in strength and traffic diversions were put in place to ensure the smooth conduct of the procession.

Top police and civil administration officials are overseeing the arrangements. “All necessary arrangements have been put in place,” said an official.

The Zuljanah procession will conclude at the Zadibal Imambargah in the afternoon—(KNO)

PM Modi

Muslims. In India, the 7-8 crore Shia Muslim community, along with people of different religions, participate in large processions and tazias.

With Muharram processions and the ongoing Kanwar Yatra taking place across several districts in Uttar Pradesh, including Sambhal, Lucknow and Moradabad, the state administration has stepped up security measures to ensure peace and prevent any untoward incidents.

A large number of people participated in the Muharram processions in various parts of the state. In view of the Kanwar Yatra happening at the same time, police forces have been deployed in sensitive areas, with drones and CCTV cameras monitoring the situation.

Speaking to ANI, Sambhal District Magistrate Dr Rajender Pensiya said, “We have held various peace committee meetings at the village, neighbourhood, and district levels. In these discussions, people from all sides were invited. All communities were called, and their issues related to electricity, water, and other problems were addressed... Clear instructions have been given to inform us if any issues arise.”

He added, “We have appointed magistrates at every location, accompanied by police officers. Any procession, whether for Kanwar Yatra or Muharram, will be conducted in a box format, with our officers stationed on all four sides. Continuous monitoring is also being carried out through drones. Currently, we have over 13,000 CCTV cameras integrated. All necessary arrangements are in place, and action is underway to ban more than 900 persons. Section 163 is in effect. We are confident that everything will be conducted peacefully.”

In Lucknow, the police have taken extra precautions in the western zone, also known as Old Lucknow, which is considered highly sensitive during Muharram.

DCP Lucknow West Vishwajeet Srivastava told ANI, “During Muharram, Lucknow’s western zone, also called Old Lucknow, remains highly sensitive. There is always a zonal sector system 24/7 here. Separate arrangements are made for the processions held in this area.”

He explained that security during processions is arranged in three layers.

“The first moves with the procession in a box formation, the second handles route arrangements, and the third is stationed at key locations of the procession. CCTV cameras have been installed at 82 locations. Volunteers from the Civil Defence Organisation are also present. Three types of drones have been deployed. Our social media team is fully active, and we are in constant communication with religious leaders,” Srivastava added. (ANI)

Srinagar

Srinagar, touching 30.8°C, which was 3.5°C above normal. Tourist destinations like Pahalgam (28.2°C) and Gulmarg (22.6°C) also experienced warmer-than-usual conditions, with both recording temperatures 2.0°C and 0.8°C above the seasonal norms, respectively.

Kupwara recorded 31.9°C, about 0.8°C above normal, while Qazigund registered 30.0°C—1.4°C above the average.

In contrast, parts of Jammu region recorded below-normal temperatures. The city of Jammu reported 31.6°C, nearly 3.8°C below normal, a noticeable drop due to recent cloudy spells and moderate rainfall in some areas. Katra also saw a decline, registering 30.2°C, which was 2.0°C below normal.

However, other parts of the Jammu division remained warmer, with Batote recording 30.7°C (3.2°C above normal), Banihal at 30.8°C (1.5°C above), and Bhaderwah at 32.0°C (1.0°C above).

In Ladakh, temperatures remained relatively high, with Leh recording 31.6°C, while Kargil turned out to be the hottest location in the wider region at a scorching 35.6°C.

Weather experts attribute the rising temperatures in Kashmir to a temporary dry spell and weak western disturbances. However, a moderate dip in temperatures is expected over the next few days, according to Kashmir Weather, which predicts highs settling near or below 31°C for much of the coming week.

The heatwave conditions have prompted health advisories, especially for the elderly and children. Authorities have urged residents and tourists to stay hydrated and avoid prolonged exposure to the sun during peak hours. (JKNS)

Muslims

headgear and a symbol of Palestinian resistance, Abdullah said, “We express solidarity with the Islamic world, with the Palestinians, and with Iran for the Islamic war they are fighting.”

He added, “And it is Karbala that gave Islam hope that we will survive against all odds and nothing will beat Islam.” (PTI)

Syama Prasad

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and his role in strengthening national unity and advocating ‘One Nation, One Constitution’ for a brighter future of Jammu Kashmir.

“Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee sacrificed his life for unification of J&K with India. He was a proponent of “One Nation, One Constitution” and opposed Article 370. His martyrdom in Srinagar while fighting for J&K’s complete integration, remained defining moment in the nation’s history.

Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi fulfilled Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee’s dream 66 years after his martyrdom. Today, India is making exponential strides in its development journey to achieve his other resolves of building a strong, united, and developed India,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said the achievements of J&K post-August 2019 are guided by the dream of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the resolve of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

“Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was guided by the vision to build a discrimination-free J&K and to change its destiny by complete integration with India. He wished active participation of the people of Jammu Kashmir in the mainstream of development and nation building. With the inspiration of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the commitment of the Hon’ble Prime Minister, Jammu Kashmir is setting new records of development,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the influence of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on the intellectual, political, educational, industrial and cultural landscape of India.

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was the chief architect of India’s industrialisation. He laid the foundation of a self-reliant India, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor impressed upon the Departments of Culture, School and Higher Education to organise exhibitions and lectures on the life and work of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee in every school, every college and every university from July 2025 to July 2027.

“Dr. Mookerjee breathed his last in Srinagar. The entire Jammu and Kashmir is indebted to him. The new generation should actively engage in honouring his legacy. Week-long exhibitions in educational institutions, and theatrical performances depicting his life’s journey should be organised.

The monumental contribution of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee should be spread to every village though grand commemoration events. Our new generation should know that without the visionary leaders like Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Jammu and Kashmir would never have been able to realize its aspirations,” he further added.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor released the translation of new Criminal Laws in Kashmiri language. An exhibition on life and works of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was also organised by the IGNECA Regional Office and Culture Department.

Shri Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Shri Vikram Randhawa, and Shri Satish Sharma, Members of Legislative Assembly; Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board; Shri Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Shri Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Ms Harvinder Kour, Secretary JKAACL; political leaders, senior officials of Police and civil administration and prominent citizens from all walks of life attended the commemoration event and paid their tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee. (DIPR)

Govt Yet

to conclude Monday, July 7, with schools set to reopen on Tuesday, July 8.

The statement comes amid growing demand from students, parents, and teachers for the extension of the break, citing severe heat and high overnight temperatures. The Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK) has already proposed adjusting school timings instead of extending holidays further.

Meanwhile, the Meteorological Department has predicted moderate to heavy showers at many places across Jammu and Kashmir from July 6 to 8, potentially offering some relief from the persistent heatwave. (JKNS)

Chouhan

personality – patriot, educationist, parliamentarian, statesman, and humanitarian. He inherited a legacy of erudition and nationalism from his father, Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee, an esteemed Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University and Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

In 1940, he became the acting President of the Hindu Mahasabha and declared complete independence for India as its political goal.

Mookerjee resigned from the Bengal Cabinet in November 1942, protesting against the Governor’s interference in administration and criticising provincial autonomy as ineffective.

His humanitarian efforts during the Bengal famine of 1943, including relief initiatives, highlighted his commitment to serving society.

Post-Independence, he joined the interim government under Jawaharlal Nehru as Minister for Industry and Supply, where he laid the foundation for India’s industrial growth by establishing iconic institutions like the Chittaranjan Locomotive Factory, Sindri Fertilizer Corporation and the Hindustan.

However, ideological differences led to his resignation, after which he founded the All-India Bharatiya Jan Sangh (1951) to champion nationalist ideals.

According to the BJP’s official website, on the issue of the Delhi pact with Likayat Ali Khan, Mookerjee resigned from the Cabinet on April 6, 1950. Later on October 21, 1951, Mookerjee founded the Bharatiya Jana Sangh in Delhi and became its first president.

Mookerjee went to visit Kashmir in 1953 and was arrested on May 11. He died under detention on June 23, 1953. (PTI)

Shah

Expressing pride, the BJP leader stated that Bharatiya Jana Sangh, started by Mookerjee with just 10 members, has now become the world’s largest political party.

Shah stated, “He had resigned from Jawaharlal Nehru’s Council of Ministers in protest against the policy of appeasement, after which he formed Bharatiya Jana Sangh, a party that was dedicated for India’s soil, culture and interest. The party he started with 10 members has today become the world’s largest political party with a membership of 12 crore people. On this occasion, I bow my head to pay tributes to Syama Prasad Mookerjee.”

Syama Prasad Mookerjee was the founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the ideological parent organisation of the BJP.

Born on July 6, 1901, in Calcutta, was a multifaceted personality – patriot, educationist, parliamentarian, statesman, and humanitarian. He inherited a legacy of erudition and nationalism from his father, Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee, an esteemed Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University and Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

Post-Independence, he joined the interim government under Jawaharlal Nehru as Minister for Industry and Supply, where he laid the foundation for India’s industrial growth by establishing iconic institutions like the Chittaranjan Locomotive Factory, Sindri Fertilizer Corporation and the Hindustan.

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Mookerjee went to visit Kashmir in 1953 and was arrested on May 11. He died under detention on June 23, 1953. (PTI)

Piyush Goyal

showing the world that progress and peace in the region cannot be stopped.(KNS)

Stray Dog Attacks Leave Five Injured in Budgam’s Khag Area

Budgam: Five people sustained injuries after being attacked by stray dogs in the Dadoora Poshkar area of Khag in Central Kashmir’s Budgam district, triggering widespread panic and fear among local residents.

Local sources told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that the victims were quickly shifted to the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Khag, where they were administered first aid and anti-rabies treatment. However, two of the injured, deemed to have sustained more serious wounds, were referred to JVC Hospital in Srinagar for specialized care. Their condition is said to be stable.

The incident has sparked concern in the area, with residents demanding immediate intervention from the district administration to address what they describe as an escalating threat from stray dogs.

“This is not the first time such an incident has occurred. Stray dogs have become a growing danger, especially for schoolchildren and the elderly,” a local said.

When contacted, the Block Medical Officer (BMO) Khag confirmed that the injured were provided timely medical attention, including vaccination, and that two patients were shifted to Srinagar for further treatment. [KNT]

Multiple Hydraulic Excavators, Vehicles Seized in Two Separate Anti-Mining Operations in Kashmir

SRINAGAR: In a decisive action against the unlawful extraction of minerals, the District Mineral Officers (DMOs) of Pulwama and Bandipora districts carried out separate but significant raids, leading to the seizure of heavy machinery and vehicles involved in illegal mining activities.

In South Kashmir’s Pulwama district, a team from the Geology and Mining Department, led by District Mineral Officer Dr Khurshid Ahmad, conducted a nocturnal raid in the Khrew Bathyn area of Pampore town. During the operation, four heavy-duty L&T (Larsen & Toubro) excavators, also called hydraulic excavators and one dumper were seized while being used for unauthorized

sand mining.

The operation was launched following reports of illegal extraction in the ecologically sensitive zone. Officials told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that the activity posed not only an environmental threat but also violated the Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Concession Rules.

Meanwhile, in a separate operation in North Kashmir’s Bandipora district, another raid was carried out by the Geology and Mining Department under the leadership of District Mineral Officer Mumtaz Ahmad. The raid took place in the Gund Sadarkote area, with the active assistance of the Ajas Police Station. The team seized one L&T excavator and a tipper that was loaded with illegally mined quarry stones.

According to officials, the raids are part of an ongoing crackdown against mineral smugglers who exploit natural resources in violation of government norms. The concerned DMOs reiterated their commitment to protecting the mineral wealth and warned of stringent action against violators.

“The department will continue its vigil and intensify field inspections both during the day and night. No one will be spared, no matter how influential,” an official told the news agency Kashmir News Trust.

The Geology and Mining Department appealed to the general public to report any instances of illegal mining to help preserve the fragile ecological balance of the region. [KNT]

Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital Honoured for Excellence in Patient Care and Community Healthcare Initiatives

SRINAGAR : Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital, part of the esteemed Ujala Cygnus chain of 28 hospitals in North India, has been honored with the prestigious Vyapar Ratna Award for its exemplary patient care and community healthcare achievements. The award was presented by Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal, Ministry of Industries and Commerce, Government of India, at SKICC Srinagar. Dr. Pervez Sofi, Managing Director of Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital, accepted the honor.

This esteemed recognition highlights the hospital’s unwavering commitment to delivering outstanding healthcare services, aligning with its mission to provide seamless access to quality medical care. As a fully NABH-accredited institution, Ujala Cygnus adheres to rigorous quality and safety standards, ensuring the highest level of care for its patients.

Notable Achievements:

Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital has achieved several notable milestones, including:

Being the first hospital to be empaneled with ECHS, CGHS, and ESIC, expanding healthcare access to a wider population.

Successfully conducting over 20,000 surgeries under the Ayushman Bharat scheme in the last two years, providing life-changing care to thousands of patients.

Treating over 1.9 lakh patients in OPD and 30,000 patients in IPD, demonstrating its commitment to delivering compassionate care.

Achieving financial profitability within the first six months of establishment, showcasing its operational efficiency and sustainability.

Conducting over 312 free medical camps under “Sehat Chaupal”, screening over 12,000 patients and promoting healthcare awareness in the community.

Providing 76 Basic Life Support (BLS) trainings to Traffic Police, Fire and Emergency Services, and CAPF Forces, empowering them with life-saving skills.

Organizing two women’s cricket tournaments in collaboration with Chinar Corps, leading to the selection of one female cricketer for the Women’s IPL, fostering talent and empowerment.

The Vyapar Ratna Award validates Ujala Cygnus’s efforts in transforming healthcare in the Kashmir valley through advanced medical infrastructure and compassionate care. The hospital’s commitment to delivering exceptional patient care and contributing to the community’s well-being has earned it a reputation as a leading healthcare provider in the region.

With a team of experienced doctors, nurses, and support staff, Ujala Cygnus Kashmir Super Speciality Hospital is dedicated to providing high-quality healthcare services to the people of Kashmir. The hospital’s commitment to excellence is reflected in its rigorous adherence to quality and safety standards, ensuring the best possible outcomes for its patients. As part of the Ujala Cygnus chain of 28 hospitals in North India, the hospital is well-positioned to make a significant impact on the healthcare landscape in the region. (KNS)

Ashok Koul, Participates in 10th Muharram Procession at Alamgari bazar Zadibal Srinagar & Gangoo Pulwama

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (Org.) Jammu & Kashmir, participated in the 10th Muharram procession at Alamgari Bazar Zadibal Srinagar



and Ganngoo Pulwama extending a gesture of solidarity with the Shia community. During the procession, he also distributed water and fruits to the participants as a mark of respect and service.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Koul said, Muharram is a time of deep reflection and remembrance. It teaches us about sacrifice, truth, and standing up for justice. Today, we stand with our Shia brothers and sisters in honoring the legacy of Imam Hussain (AS), whose message transcends religion and speaks to all of humanity.

Ashok Koul was accompanied by the BJP State Team including Incharge Kashmir, Spokesperson, Media Incharge, and Social Media Incharge, Morcha Incharges, Prabharis, Senior Leaders and all office bearers and Constituency Zadibal and Pulwama. (PR)



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Dr Jitendra inaugurates 'National Biobank', cites gene related personalised treatment regimens in future

NEWDELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Vice President of CSIR, Dr. Jitendra Singh, inaugurated the state-of-the-art Phenome India "National Biobank" at the CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) in the capital.

The newly launched facility marks a significant stride towards building India's own longitudinal health database and enabling personalised treatment regimens in future.

The Biobank will serve as the backbone of a nationwide cohort study, collecting comprehensive genomic, lifestyle, and clinical data from 10,000 individuals across India. Drawing inspiration from the UK Biobank model, the Indian version is tailored to capture the country's unique diversity—across geography, ethnicity, and socio-economic backgrounds. Researchers believe the initiative will aid early diagnosis, improve therapeutic targeting, and bolster the fight against complex diseases such as diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular ailments, and rare genetic disorders.

"Today, we hold the promise of a future where every Indian may receive individualised treatment tailored to their genetic makeup, lifestyle, and environment," Dr. Jitendra Singh said while

addressing the scientists and researchers at IGIB. "This transition to personalised healthcare is no longer theoretical—it is becoming reality,



driven by indigenous innovations."

Reflecting on the unique health challenges faced by Indians, Dr. Jitendra Singh noted the high prevalence of central obesity, a risk factor often underestimated. He highlighted past research showing that seemingly lean Indians may carry disproportionate fat around their waist, underlining the need for population-specific health strategies. "Our conditions are complex and deeply heterogeneous. This is where the Biobank becomes vital—it allows us to decode that complexity," he said.

The Minister emphasised that India's scientific landscape is evolving rapidly, citing recent advances in quantum technology, CRISPR-based genome editing, and the fight

against antimicrobial resistance (AMR). "India is no longer lagging behind—we are among the early adopters, sometimes even ahead," he said. The Biobank, he added, will complement these efforts by generating the kind of high-resolution data that can power AI-driven diagnostics and gene-guided therapies.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also called for deeper collaboration between research institutions, government departments like the Department of Biotechnology, and industry partners, particularly in areas such as AMR and drug development. "Research must extend beyond the lab—it must find takers in the market and beneficiaries in society," he noted.

The Phenome India Project, under which the Biobank has been launched, is designed to be a long-term, data-rich study tracking the health trajectories of individuals over several years. It will help scientists uncover disease patterns, gene-environment interactions, and response to therapies—all within the Indian context.

Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Director General of CSIR and Secretary, DSIR, commended the launch of the Biobank as a bold step toward India's self-reliance in healthcare data. Describing the initiative as a "baby step" with the potential to evolve into a global benchmark, she noted that the diversity

and depth of the Indian cohort data could one day rival or even surpass global counterparts like the UK Biobank. Dr. Kalaiselvi highlighted CSIR's holistic efforts in areas like sickle cell

Dr. Jitendra Singh also called for deeper collaboration between research institutions, government departments like the Department of Biotechnology, and industry partners, particularly in areas such as AMR and drug development. "Research must extend beyond the lab—it must find takers in the market and beneficiaries in society," he noted.

anaemia through indigenous CRISPR-based therapies, affordable diagnostics, and collaborative interventions with tribal communities, while urging IGIB scientists to continue setting national examples in data-driven, people-centric research. **(PIB)**

Ship attacked in Red Sea taking on water: UK military

DUBAI: A ship set ablaze by a series of attacks in the Red Sea began taking on water Sunday night as its crew prepared to abandon the vessel, the first serious assault in the vital corridor for trade after a months-long campaign by Yemen's Houthi rebels there.



Suspicion for the attack immediately fell on the Houthis, particularly as a security firm said it appeared bomb-carrying drone boats hit the ship after it was targeted by small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. The rebels' media reported on the attack but did not claim it. It can take them hours or even days before they acknowledge an assault.

A renewed Houthi campaign against shipping could again draw in US and Western forces to the area, particularly after President Donald Trump targeted the rebels in a major airstrike campaign.

And it comes at a sensitive moment in the Middle East, as a possible ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war hangs in the balance and as Iran weighs whether to restart negotiations over its nuclear program following American airstrikes targeting its most-sensitive atomic sites amid an Israeli war against the Islamic Republic.

The British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre first said that an armed security team on the unidentified vessel had returned fire against an initial attack and that the "situation is ongoing".

It described the attack as happening some 100 kilometres southwest of Hodeida, Yemen, which is held by the country's Houthi rebels.

"Authorities are investigating," it said. It later said the ship was on fire after being "struck by unknown projectiles".

Ambrey, a private maritime security firm, issued an alert saying that a merchant ship had been "attacked by eight skiffs while transiting northbound in the Red Sea".

Ambrey later said the ship also had been attacked by bomb-carrying drone boats, which could mark a major escalation. It said two drone boats struck the ship, while another two had been destroyed by the armed guards on board.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre said the ship was taking on water and its crew were abandoning the vessel.

The US Navy's Mideast-based 5th Fleet referred questions to the military's Central Command, which said it was aware of the incident without elaborating.

There's conspiracy to thwart my Bihar entry, but I will contest assembly polls: Chirag

SARAN: Claiming that there was a "conspiracy" to thwart his foray into Bihar politics, Union minister Chirag Paswan on Sunday asserted that he would, nonetheless, contest the upcoming assembly polls in the state.

The Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) president, who is a junior NDA partner in the state, made the statement at a rally in Saran district.

"I want to take Bihar to new heights. I visual-

42-year-old, who has been denying that he had his eyes on the CM's chair.

He, nonetheless, voiced "concern" over incidents like the murder of top industrialist Gopal Khemka a couple of days ago, and said it raised doubts over the ability of the Nitish Kumar government "which we support and which has so far enjoyed a reputation for good governance".

"The upcoming elections are crucial. After winning these, we shall strive to create an atmosphere in which people can step out of their homes at any time without fear and security concerns," said Paswan.

He also appeared peeved at his estranged uncle Pashupati Kumar Paras getting a toehold with the offer of entry into the opposition INDIA bloc. Without mentioning the younger brother of his late father Ram Vilas Paswan by name, he recalled "I was expelled from my own party and made to vacate my own house".

Paras had split late Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party in 2021, leaving Chirag, the then national president, isolated, and grabbed a berth in the Union cabinet. Before he was redeemed in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls of 2024, Chirag had to suffer the ignominy of vacating the 12, Janpath bungalow, that his late father had occupied for several years and which also served as the LJP office.

The BJP's decision to make peace with Chirag had caused Paras to resign from the Union cabinet ahead of the Lok Sabha polls and, in April this year, quit the NDA.

Chirag Paswan also trained his guns at RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav by mocking the 'Chhatra Yuva Sansad' drive, where free pens are being distributed among the youth.

"Those who had snatched away people's land with the promise of jobs are now distributing pens," said Paswan, in an obvious reference to the railway scam involving Yadav's father, Lalu Prasad, the RJD president.

The Union minister also said, "I am fully in support of Bihar youth's demand for a domicile policy. The rights of our young men and women must be protected. But it must be pointed out that the domicile policy, brought in 2006, was scrapped in 2023, when the RJD was sharing power, its de facto leader was the Deputy CM, and another senior leader was the education minister."

Paswan also referred to the "inheritance tax" proposed by the Congress, an RJD ally, in its manifesto for the Lok Sabha polls, and urged the people to be wary of the opposition coalition. **(PTI)**



ise a future in which our boys and girls will not need to go outside in search of greener pastures; rather, people from other states will come here in search of better education and employment opportunities," said Paswan.

He claimed that his passion made many people uneasy.

"These people are content with having secured their own future, and they worry about my vision of Bihar First, Bihar First catching public imagination. So they are involved in a conspiracy to hinder my involvement in state politics. They are trying to create confusion in the minds of the people by asking whether Chirag Paswan will contest the assembly polls himself," Paswan.

"I want to put an end to such designs by proclaiming, from this glorious land of Saran, yes, I will contest the assembly polls. I will contest in all 243 seats. Every segment will see Chirag Paswan fighting with full intensity," said the

He also appeared peeved at his estranged uncle Pashupati Kumar Paras getting a toehold with the offer of entry into the opposition INDIA bloc. Without mentioning the younger brother of his late father Ram Vilas Paswan by name, he recalled "I was expelled from my own party and made to vacate my own house".

JP Nadda distributes appointment letters, flags off Ayushman Bharat registration vans in Delhi

NEWDELHI: Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda distributed appointment letters to newly recruited nursing officers and paramedical staff, and flagged off Ayushman Bharat Registration Vans in the presence of Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta at an event held at Vigyan Bhawan.

Describing the occasion as momentous, Nadda noted that this is the first time in 15 years that Delhi's nursing officers and paramedical staff have received appointment letters. He emphasized that this recruitment marks a major step in strengthening Delhi's healthcare system by inducting a specialized workforce.

Nadda highlighted that Delhi bears one of the highest healthcare burdens in the country, with patients from across India seeking treatment in the capital. He credited the current Delhi government for prioritizing healthcare, improving infrastructure, and effectively implementing flagship schemes such as the Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) and the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM).

He further said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme was introduced to provide healthcare access to senior citizens above the age

of 70. In Delhi, four lakh Ayushman Cards have been issued so far, including two lakh under the Vay Vandana initiative. Nadda urged stakehold-

He further said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme was introduced to provide healthcare access to senior citizens above the age of 70.

ers to work towards the full implementation of PM-ABHIM in Delhi, including the target of establishing 1,100 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs) by March 31, 2026.

Reflecting on the evolution of national health

policy, Nadda noted that the 1997 Health Policy was focused largely on curative care. In contrast, the National Health Policy 2017, introduced under the Modi government, embraces a philosophy of



comprehensive care, with emphasis on preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative healthcare, particularly for the elderly.

He stressed the importance of Ayushman Arogya Mandirs in delivering equitable, affordable, and accessible healthcare. Under the government's preventive healthcare push, extensive screenings have been conducted: 18 crore for hypertension, 17 crore for diabetes, 15 crore for oral cancer, 7.5 crore for breast cancer, and

4.5 crore for cervical cancer. These efforts aim to diagnose diseases early and limit their spread.

Nadda also outlined progress in maternal and child health. He stated that Ayushman

Arogya Mandirs are supporting mothers from conception to early childcare, with improved access to regular checkups and immunizations. The Maternal Mortality Ratio has dropped from 130 to 88 per lakh live births, Infant Mortality Rate has declined from 39 to 26, and the Under-Five Mortality Rate has fallen by 42%, significantly higher than the global average of 14%. Neonatal mortality has also declined by 40%, compared to the global rate of 11%. He added that India has also made remarkable progress in reducing

TB incidence by 17.7%, more than double the global decline rate of 8.3%, as per the WHO Global TB Report 2024.

On medical education and infrastructure, Nadda said that India had only seven AIIMS until 2014. Today, 20 AIIMS are operational. The number of medical colleges has grown from 387 to 780, and medical seats have increased from 51,000 to 1,18,000, with a target of adding 75,000 more seats in the next five years. **(PIB)**



Authorities did not identify the vessel for hours. However, the description of the vessel targeted matched against the Liberian-flagged bulk tanker Magic Seas, which had been broadcasting it had an armed security team on board in the vicinity the attack took place and had been heading north. Its owners did not respond to a request for comment.

Houthis have attacked shipping in support of Hamas

The Houthi rebels have been launching missile and drone attacks against commercial and military ships in the region in what the group's leadership has described as an effort to end Israel's offensive against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

The group's al-Masirah satellite news channel acknowledged the attack occurred, but offered no other comment on it as it aired a speech by its secretive leader, Abdul Malik al-Houthi. However, Ambrey said the vessel targeted met "the established Houthi target profile", without elaborating.

Between November 2023 and January 2025, the Houthis targeted more than 100 merchant vessels with missiles and drones, sinking two of them and killing four sailors. That has greatly reduced the flow of trade through the Red Sea corridor, which typically sees USD 1 trillion of goods move through it annually.

The Houthis paused attacks in a self-imposed ceasefire until the US launched a broad assault against the rebels in mid-March. That ended weeks later and the Houthis haven't attacked a vessel, though they have continued occasional missile attacks targeting Israel. On Sunday, the group claimed launching a missile at Israel which the Israeli military said it intercepted.

Meanwhile, a wider, decade-long war in Yemen between the Houthis and the country's exiled government, backed by a Saudi-led coalition, remains in a stalemate.

The Yemeni Coast Guard, which is loyal to the exiled government, has engaged in a firefight with at least one vessel in the Red Sea in the past as well.

Pirates from Somalia also have operated in the region, though typically they've sought to capture vessels either to rob or ransom their crews. But neither the Yemeni Coast Guard nor the pirates have been known to use drone boats in their attacks. **(PTI)**

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Max Span Limit	Used RHS Section	% saving in SMARTSPAN™ vs RHS Cost	Additional Saving in Primary RHS supporting members
2500	60 X 40 X 2.0	18.1%	8%
3000	60 X 40 X 2.6	36.3%	0%
3000	80 X 40 X 2.0	31.7%	0%

Max Spanning For TS6010: 3000mm

Max Span Limit	RHS Section	% saving in Purlin Cost	Additional Saving in Truss
2500	60 X 40 X 2.0	-18.0%	19%
3000	60 X 40 X 2.6	8.3%	9%
3000	80 X 40 X 2.0	1.6%	0%
4000	96 X 48 X 2.0	19.3%	0%

Max Spanning For TS9010: 4300 mm

*Subject to the following parameters:
Standard Load Consideration:
1. SPACING: 1.2 m; c/c; 2. DEAD Load: 0.12 kN/m²; 3. WIND SPEED: 44m/s;
4. Live: 0.75 kN/m²; 5. Lap: 0.151.6, Design Code: AS/NZS 2001 METHOD 4-50

SMART SPAN™

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Benefits of SMARTSPAN™ over Ordinary Rectangular Hollow Section (RHS)

Details	SMARTSPAN™	RHS
Durability	Long Life	Limited Life
Corrosion Resistance AZ Coating	AZ150 (ZINCALUME® steel)	No
Strength to Weight Ratio	High	Low
Post Painting	Not Required	Yes (Additional Cost)
Welding	Not Required	Yes (Additional Cost)
Screw Fixing	Yes	No
Overlapping	Yes	No
Maintenance	Not Required	Yes

The above product is subject to the guidelines available on www.tatadurashine.com and this shall not be construed as warranty or guarantee of the product of any kind whatsoever.

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